

# The Roarin' Lion

Newsletter for the South Pittsburg Lions Club

PO Box 413

South Pittsburg, TN 37380

Web-Site: **HYPERLINK "http://southpittsburglionsclub.com" <http://southpittsburglionsclub.com>**

## Club Officers

President – Barbara Blansett | 1st Vice President – Judy Werp | 2nd Vice President – June Moss | Bill Norman  
Secretary – Ann King | Treasurer – Sam Warren  
Lion Tamer – Sue King | Tail Twister – Nancy Humphreys

## Newsletter Committee

Sam Warren – Chairman | Suzanne Adcock | Barbara Blansett | Jerry Don Moss | Judy Werp

April 2011

## **SOUTH PITTSBURG LIONS HONORED AT STATE**

Several members of the South Pittsburg Lions Club attended the Tennessee Lions State Convention at the Choo-Choo in Chattanooga on April 14<sup>th</sup> – April 16<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations are in order to **all members** of the **South Pittsburg Lions Club** which was recognized as a **Superior Club** in the District 12-O Contest. This was presented at the District Break-out Session where District Governor Carol Rhines also presented **Immediate Past President Elise Hooper** with a **100% President Award** for the 2009-2010 year. Only two presidents out of forty clubs in District 12-O received this recognition. At the State Business Session on Saturday afternoon our club was recognized as **Tennessee State Club of the Year for 2010-2011**. There are approximately one hundred and sixty clubs of our size in the state of Tennessee. This plaque is on display in our meeting room at Western Sizzlin. We should express our appreciation to Lions Elise Hooper and Ann King for their efforts in reporting our activities each month. Excellent work!

## **NATIONAL CORNBREAD FESTIVAL**

South Pittsburg Lions Club members participated in the very successful 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Cornbread Festival the week-end of April 29<sup>th</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup> for the fifteenth consecutive year. Committee Chairman Lion Judy Werp and spouse Lion Michael manned the photo shop and this was again a great success. Lion Chuck Mehan of the East Ridge Lions Club worked with Michael and Judy modeling hats and did a great job of selling. Brooms and mops were sold and again the small sets of a broom and a mop were very popular. The weather

was great after the severe storms earlier in the week. It appeared that the attendance was a little off from our best years, but officials said that vendors and visitors were very pleased. Even though this is an opportunity to raise funds for the support of our sight services; **and** we did very well with our sales, our main purpose is to participate, show support for our town and give visitors a sample of the hospitality that our community has to offer. The Lions who worked photographing and/or selling merchandise and/or distributing diabetes awareness literature deserve kudos for a job well done.

**Adopt-A-Highway Litter Pickup** was held April 23<sup>rd</sup> in conjunction with South Pittsburg's Sparkle Day to prepare for the National Cornbread Festival. The South Pittsburg Lions Club adopted Cedar Avenue (Old Highway 72) from 1<sup>st</sup> Street to the Tennessee/Alabama state line many years ago. This is the main thoroughfare in downtown South Pittsburg and it is important that it be maintained and appears inviting. Members participating were Lions Ed Elliott, June Moss, Jerry Don Moss, Jeff Powers, PDG Bill Stuart, Mike Blansett, King Leo Barbara Blansett and children. The city looked great for the festival thanks to these Lions and other members of the community.

**TCAP Tests** (Tennessee Comprehensive Achievement Program) were administered at South Pittsburg Elementary School the week of April 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>. **Proctors** were needed and the **South Pittsburg Lions Club** was “Johnny of the Spot” again with volunteers. These proctors are needed to monitor classes where the regular classroom teacher is administering the test to their regular students. Monitors assist the teachers in keeping students on the correct page, encouraging them to be alert and observing the clock for those timed portions of the test. The students feel more comfortable in this environment and our members support this concept.

**CLUB VISITATION PROGRAM** continued with some members of the South Pittsburg and East Ridge Lions Clubs meeting with the Signal Mountain Lions Club on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Members attending were King Leo Barbara Blansett, Lions Mike Blansett, Elise Hooper, Sue King, June Moss, Jerry Don Moss and PDG Bill Stuart. Remember that we will be meeting with the Red Bank Lions Club on May 26<sup>th</sup>. Meeting will be at 6:30 PM EDT and the dinner price is \$6.50 each. If you have been unable to attend these meetings, you have

missed a special opportunity to watch the operations of other active clubs. Please make a special effort to attend and visit with great Lions at these other clubs.

**Marion County Mayor John Graham** visited with our club on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Mayor John presented a positive outlook for Marion County even though he said that we face challenges just as do other areas of the country. He gave credit to past Mayors for the work that they had done and spoke of changes he was making. One change was the completion of a data base of available properties in Marion County for sale and suitable for industry. These are cataloged to indicate size, number of owners and improvements. It seems that Marion County is positioned to grow as the economy improves.

**4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY TRUCK DRAWING** is around the corner. Bid letters for a 2011 pick-up truck were mailed and Moss Motor Company presented the best bid on a 2011 Ford Ranger. The consolation prizes have being confirmed and tickets are being printed. They will be assigned and distributed at the second meeting in May (May 16<sup>th</sup>). Please plan to do your part in this very important fund-raiser.

**New Officer Training** will be held the third weekend in June (9:30 AM EDT on June 18<sup>th</sup>) at the Red Bank Lions Club House in Red Bank. All presidents, secretaries and membership chairmen are urged to attend. This training is also available to Vice Presidents and Treasurers and they are also encouraged to attend. Even though you may have attended before, there is always new material presented and the information you receive at these training sessions will be invaluable to you as you prepare to lead our club during 2011-2012.

**SPOTLIGHT:** Our Lions Spotlight this month features another great new member, Dr. Steve Powers. Steve is married to Candace Powers, who is the Librarian at South Pittsburg Elementary School. They have two children, Hunter and Meredith Lee. (Of course Jerry Don and June agree they have wonderful sons-in-law and delightful grandchildren.) Dr. Powers is a Veterinarian and has his own clinic in South Pittsburg, "The Pet Clinic." Steve graduated from South Pittsburg High School and Chattanooga State where he received an Associate Degree in Engineering. He also graduated from Middle Tennessee State University with a B. S. Degree in Animal Science. He has a double major with degrees in chemistry and biology. Steve attended and graduated from Auburn University with a degree in Veterinarian Medicine. After graduation, he and Candace moved to Social Circle, Georgia where he worked at a veterinarian clinic. They moved to South Pittsburg and Steve was employed as a Veterinarian at the Animal Clinic in Chattanooga for several years before opening his own clinic. He and his family attend Pine Grove Baptist Church. Steve is an avid sportsman and he coaches Little League Baseball and

Football. He states that he loves to play golf-when he has the time and he is a "War Eagle"-Auburn fan. (Sorry, father-in-law). And he has a right to be proud of the "War Eagles"-particularly, this year. Steve serves on our Lions Drug Awareness Committee. He is already a faithful attendee of our South Pittsburg Lions Club meetings. Steve, thanks for joining our great club. We need "Young Lions" as they bring wonderful ideas and enthusiasm!!

**District 12-O Eye Bank and Sight Service** is providing quality eye tissue for corneal transplants, research and other medical purposes. **If you know of someone in need of these services, please Contact** Sandra Freeman, Executive Director at 423-778-7327 or a member of the South Pittsburg Lions Club. The Eye Bank is always in need of tissue for transplants. **Please review your donor position and consider donating your eye tissue if you haven't done so.** Donor cards are available through our Lions Club or you can register to be an organ, eye and tissue donor at [HYPERLINK "http://www.TNDonorRegistry.org"](http://www.TNDonorRegistry.org) [www.TNDonorRegistry.org](http://www.TNDonorRegistry.org). The **Sight Service** is still in need of funds. The economy is improving, but requests for aid are still high. Please consider making a personal donation to this service.

**Membership and Retention** is a problem. Four of the five districts in Tennessee are below the numbers needed to remain a separate district. Our club does tremendous work with the number of members that we have, but we can do more. Contact **all** prospective members. Many people in the community say they would have considered joining if they had only been asked. Each of us has friends or acquaintances who are potential Lions. Give them a South Pittsburg Lions Club Brochure and invite them to a meeting so that they can observe the community service that we provide.

**Recycling** program is continuing to expand and **Lion Scott Collier** has asked for additional volunteers. This would involve about four (4) hours on a Saturday every three or four months. The **South Pittsburg High School LEO Club** is participating each Saturday. If you are recycling items, please collect and take these items to the old National Guard Armory in South Pittsburg between 9:00 AM and 12:00 Noon on any Saturday. This **South Pittsburg Recycling Program** is important and we must get serious about saving our planet!

**Food Bank:** The **Marion County Food Bank** continues to serve the many people in our community who are still experiencing great difficulty in providing for their families. Monetary donations can be used to purchase food at greatly discounted prices or you can still purchase bags of food at Kirkland's Foodland that will help stock this program. Our club is discussing a collection or donation similar to our flower fund donation to buy non-food products such as toilet tissue, soap, toothpaste, etc. This will be discussed at our next Board Meeting. If the Board recommends this project, please give your support. This is a very rewarding project so, if you have two hours each month to donate to this project,

please do so. The time is 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon and can be a Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday.

**BINGO:** Group 3 was responsible for BINGO at Rivermont Nursing Home or “The Bridge” in April and Group 1 will be responsible in May. BINGO is scheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup> & May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Members of Group 1 are Lions Elise Hooper, Mike Blansett, Mickie Harmon, Sue King, Tom Landers, Mark O’Leary, and Bill Stuart. Remember that we are providing this service for the enjoyment of the residents. If you are a member of Group 1, please help in this rewarding service project at “The Bridge.”

**Newsletter Committee:** This is your newsletter and we want it to be informative and interesting. We will be glad to publish any articles that our members think newsworthy. Please forward suggestions, comments or criticisms to HYPERLINK "mailto:jymoss@msn.com" [jymoss@msn.com](mailto:jymoss@msn.com), phone 423-785-6037 or contact any member of the newsletter committee.

**Educational Mentoring Program** at South Pittsburg Elementary School will be discontinued during the summer months. But the program will continue during the fall. These children need help with their writing skills, letter recognition, vocabulary words and spelling. As stated in earlier newsletters, the extra attention that we give encourages the students to perform better. Anyone wishing to participate in this rewarding program can contact Lion June Moss.

**Sight Conservation** continues to be the primary focus of the South Pittsburg Lions Club. Vision Screenings with the Ortho-raters and Sure-Sight Screenings with the Sure-Sight instrument have been completed for the school year. We will start screenings at the first of next school year. This is one of the most rewarding projects that we have and I’m sure that it would warm your heart. Even if you can’t participate in a screening, stop by to observe how the screenings are conducted and the great work that Lions are doing.

**Eye Glasses Collection** is an on-going project for the South Pittsburg Lions Club. These glasses are distributed in under-developed nations around the world. Please use the boxes located in various businesses and public buildings for disposal of your used glasses and recommend that others do the same. The locations of these collection points can be found on the Lions Club International Website or you can ask a member of the collection committee. Remember that we will deliver our collected glasses when we meet with the Red Bank Lions Club on May 26<sup>th</sup>, so check your boxes and give Lion Hooper time to clean and box the glasses before that date.

Lion June pitches Mops and Brooms for Sale

Lion Elise accepts District 12-O 100% President Patch from Points Chairperson Joy Callahan

**MAY MEETINGS:**

Remember our regular meetings on **May 2<sup>nd</sup>** and **May 16<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 PM. Also plan to attend our Board Meeting on **May 9<sup>th</sup>** at 5:00 in the Senior Citizens' Activities Center. The club needs your attendance and assistance.

Lion Judy prepares Photography Tent

***We Serve***

May Calendar: Distribute Truck Drawing Tickets and Awards Dinner May 16<sup>th</sup>

**MAY BIRTHDAYS:**

Terry Case – May 30<sup>th</sup>

**MAY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIEIS:**

Bill Norman – May 2<sup>nd</sup>