

MAY 2026

THE MANE EVENT

Mid-South Lions Monthly Newsletter



From The Desk of The CEO

MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU ...

We all recognize the Star Wars reference when we hear this. In the movie, “May the Force be with you” is a recurring theme. If you’re not familiar, the Force is a mythical metaphysical, omnipresent energy field created by all living things makes a powerful positive impact (the Jedi or Light Side) or negative impact through “the Dark Side” to make things happen, sometimes miraculous things.

That’s great for the movies, but in reality, YOU are the FORCE that helps Mid-South and many other organizations make a positive difference in the lives of those in need. Whether it’s through your leadership, your monetary donations, or finding and helping patients get care, YOU are what moves the needle in granting the gifts of sight and hearing to those in need.

As we move out of spring and into summer, Mid-South looks toward our annual membership meeting, our next Cataract-A-Thon, and our golf tournament. The membership (YOU) will decide where we trek to next in the search to provide more miracles. The membership (YOU) will elect our leaders for next year and beyond.. The membership (YOU) will decide how our finances will be gathered and spent through the budget process. And the membership (YOU) will ultimately decide how many people we will be able to help in the coming months.

Our staff will work diligently to make the golf tournament, meeting, and CAT highly successful. But it will be the membership (YOU) that make the difference.

A person does not have to be a good golfer to play in our tournament. They just have to be able to pay the entry fee LOL. You do not have to be wealthy to become a CHAMPION or to support ads in our annual meeting program, but we hope you and your club will take advantage of the opportunity to BRAG about your club, your district, people who you want to honor or remember. You do not have to be medically trained to come and help with the June 6 Cataract-A-Thon. You can volunteer to assist a patient throughout the process and actually witness a real miracle for yourself! You do not have to be a board member, officer, trustee, or elected official to attend the annual membership meeting. But your presence can make a difference in how we move forward.

So in the coming weeks I hope YOU will use your power to make a positive difference in all things Mid-South.. Just as the Jedi used the Force to overcome the evil empire, your force can help the sight and hearing impaired overcome their situation and give them back the ability to add something more to themselves, their family, their community so they too can become a greater Force for good.

Use the power of the force YOU have to continue helping Mid-South.
IT’S TRULY UP TO YOU!

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For more information on Mid-South Lions NEW informative newsletter, or for questions on how you can get your club news posted HERE, please contact **Bianca Gibson** at biancag@midsouthlions.org.

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'Putt' Your Team Together Today!



The **2026 Mid-South Lions Golf Tournament** is just around the corner and in order to make a TRUE impact in the lives of our patients, WE NEED TEAMS! On Friday, June 5 at the Cherokee Valley Golf Course in Olive Branch, MS, we will have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the vision and hearing impaired AND have a great time doing it! Registration and lunch will begin at 11am and Tee Time is at 1pm. This year's tournament features 4-person teams, lunch, games, prizes, goody bags, etc.! Be a part of the solution to vision and hearing impairment AND have a little fun with your fellow Lions, supporters, family and friends! Scan the QR code, print the registration form and return it to biancag@midsouthlions.org and find out how you can register a team for the upcoming 2026 Mid-South Lions Golf Tournament. So, let's represent true lionism and Swing Big for a GREAT Cause!



LAST PUSH TO SAVE HEARING & SIGHT

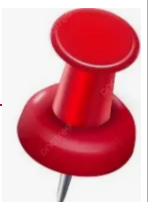
Donate Today!



We are nearing the end of our fiscal year and we would like to make **ONE LAST PUSH** to boost our club contributions for 2025-2026! We can do it! We have a little over a month and a half to log in

record numbers of donations towards patient care! You all create miracles everyday and we are asking you to just hang in there, push a little bit more and let's cross into next year with the highest numbers ever!

UPCOMING EVENTS



5/21—Madison Golf Tournament

5/26—2026 Speaking Tour—Water Valley Lions Club

6/5—2026 Mid-South Golf Tournament

6/6—Quarterly Meeting & Annual Membership Meeting

6/6—HEI Cataract—A—Thon

2026 Annual Meeting & HEI Cataract-A-Thon

Saturday, June 6 will be an exciting and busy day filled with fellowship and service.

Physicians at the Hamilton Eye Institute (HEI) at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center will donate their services to restore sight to individuals during the Ivan Marais Cataract-A-Thon Saturday, June 6. Their services are estimated to be worth \$72,000. The all-day outreach, organized and led by HEI residents, offers free cataract surgeries to individuals who otherwise could not afford the procedure. Since the first Cataract-A-Thon in 2017, more than 150 individuals have had their sight restored during the event.

Scan Me



The Fourth Quarterly Board and Membership Meeting will be held, also at The Hamilton Eye Institute on June 6. Please scan the QR code to register and to receive information about the agenda. For this year's Annual Membership Meeting, Mid-South Lions is offering the opportunity to purchase ads in the meeting's program. Not only does the purchasing of ads help curb the production costs of the program, it also goes towards patient care! We must do all we can. These ads are a great way to offer congratulations, condolences and to make announcements. If you would like to purchase an ad in the upcoming Annual Membership Meeting's program book, please contact Bianca Gibson at biancag@midsouthlions.org. **DEADLINE IS MAY 29TH.**

COMING TO THE STAGE...

THE 2026—2027 CHALLENGE COIN!

This sleek and colorful coin is a gorgeous upgrade from last year's challenge coin and features the colorful Fab Lion on the front and boasts Mid-South Lions' logo on the back. Each state has their own coin, which encourages Lions, friends, and supporters to want to collect the entire set! Get ready, because the coin will officially be available at our Annual Membership Meeting on June 6, 2026. Price will remain the same, \$25.



ENTER TO WIN!

Visit our website to enter the race and view prizes!



Top 15 Ducks from Each State
Advance to the
CHAMPIONSHIP RACE!

MidSouthDuckRace.com

