



“ We Serve ” MTLSS Fund-Raising 2010



Fellow Lion,

As I'm sure you're aware, the need for the services provided to Middle Tennessee through Lions Sight Services (MTLSS) has been affected by 3 major factors:

- 1) Increased number of applications for services due to the high unemployment rate, loss of insurance, and decreased health care funding.
- 2) Increased cost of services. While the doctors, nurses, and anesthetists typically do these surgeries pro bono, the cost of medicines and supplies has increased at an alarming rate.
- 3) Donations to White Cane and MTLSS has remained stable, but have not increased to keep up with the demand.

All this creates a problem where the effect is the same... we are having to turn people away, or provide reduced services. An example of this has been the recent decision to provide cataract surgery on only 1 eye to help provide at least partial vision to more people.

Even typing those words above pains me... as I'm sure it does you. But can you imagine having to give that news to someone who is depending on us for help?

To try to combat this dilemma, MTLSS is doing the following:

- 1) Asking clubs to increase their donations to White Cane. Remember that the largest portion of MTLSS funding comes through White Cane.
- 2) Seeking to raise money from outside Lions in the various forms such as grants or corporate partnerships.
- 3) Lastly, fund-raisers by the MTLSS organization itself. You'll read more about the latest "small" fundraiser we have started in just a bit, but soon we'd like to start a larger annual project like a charity concert or event.

Please keep all 3 of these solutions in mind. #1 above requires no real thought, just action. If you or anyone in your club has ideas or contacts on #2 and #3, please contact anyone in the MTLSS organization or your Zone, Region, or District Lions representative, or give me a call or text message at 931-434-1751

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Taking into account that there are over 2,000 Lions in Districts 12-I and 12-S , there must be Lions who have personal contacts in the entertainment business. If we could put on a charity concert to help fund charity surgeries at Vanderbilt with a "STAR" as the draw, think of what could be done to help provide the services that we now must postpone or wave away.

Please think big.... please be generous... please rise to the call!

Now for the project at hand... Attached you will find a flyer for a immediate project that Lion Tom Irwin (Southside Lions, and MTLSS PP) has graciously offered to chair for MTLSS. To help make this project easy to administrate we have elected to use standard 2-part roll tickets like many clubs already use. Any color ticket will work as long as the collected side of the ticket has the name and phone number of the participant. If your club does not have any ticket stock, it can be purchased inexpensively from any office supply company.... or you can contact Tom at 615-683-7363 or Gary at 931-434-1751 and we will get you blank tickets by mail or personal delivery.

Please make sure that you inform everyone, including participants and fellow Lions, that this event is a **"Game of Skill"** and that **the 5 dollars is a DONATION** to help fund surgeries at Vanderbilt through MTLSS. **The skills portion of this event will be fun, simple, direct, and is required to make this event legitimate.**

Thank you for your service as a Lion and thank you in advance for the consideration in helping MTLSS.

MTLSS President, Board of Directors, and the Fundraising Committee

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Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service Annual Game of Skill

\$5 Charity Donation (or \$20 for 5)



John Deere Gator CX

Must be 18 years old to participate.

Winning participant does not have to be present.

Winning participant must pay all applicable taxes.

Participant must answer simple question to claim.

To be given away on July 29th , 2010

The main purpose of the MTLSS is to provide financial assistance for vision related medical treatment to those who do not qualify for other public or non-public resources. Without this service, many would suffer and blindness would be the outcome for many. Teamed with Vanderbilt Hospital, we operate solely from donations of our Lions members and the generosity of the public. Additionally, Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Services loans equipment to help the vision impaired. This service is provided to qualified individuals as well as public access locations such as libraries and schools. Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service serves Middle Tennessee from the Kentucky border to the Alabama state line, from the Tenn. River to White Co.

For info call: _____