

CLINTON LIONS CLUB NEWSLETTER



UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Club Meeting:

April 21, 2014
6:30 p.m.

May Club Meeting Dates:

May 5 and 19, 2014
6:30 p.m.

All meetings are held at Los Caballeros Restaurant, behind ORNL on Charles Seviars Parkway in Clinton, TN.

Clinton Antique Festival:

May 2-3, 2014

Anderson County Fair:

July 14-19, 2014

FAMILY AND FRIENDS MONTH

Invite family and friends to learn, serve and celebrate with your Lions Club in April. Organize a service project, plan an open house or host a lunch or picnic – you decide how to introduce your family and friends to the club you love!

Here are some great ways to make your Family and Friends Month a success:

- **Participate in the Lions World Lunch Relay.** Invite family and friends to lunch or dinner to learn more about your club and the difference you're making in the community.
- **Go Green.** Consider planning a service project, such as planting trees, recycling or cleaning up a park.
- **Share the Gift of Literacy.** Think about a fundraiser or project that will promote the power of reading to children in your community.
- **Sponsor a Leo Club.** April is Leo Awareness Month, so it may be a great time to get involved and learn more about the Leo Club Program.
- **Host a Picnic or Barbecue.** Celebrate with family and friends after your successful service project or fundraiser.

Remember, family and friends receive a special membership discount!

CLINTON LIONS CLUB



Would you like to learn more about us?
Would you like to become a Lion?
Check us out at

clinton.tnlions.org



Jelmi's Journey

CLINTON LIONS CLUB ACTIVITIES

SPRING 2014

For the second season, The Clinton Lions Club is hosting a team with the **Clinton Baseball League**. Our team won the championship last year with a perfect season! We are proud of all our Lions Club kids!

In 2014, Clinton Lions will not only sponsor a team, but will assist with the operation of the concession stands during the spring baseball season. When you see the familiar yellow Lion aprons at the ballpark, you'll know that the Clinton Lions are always serving, always helping, and always protecting our local community.

LOOKING AHEAD:

The Lions will again be selling food, including the famous "Lion Burger", at the annual spring **Antiques Festival** in downtown Clinton. As always, 100% of the profits stay right here in our local community.

HONDURAN GIRL WITH DAMAGED EYE FINDS HEALING IN GEORGIA

It was a small thing, the first time Jelmi Zepeda was fitted with her new eye. But for Steve Micham, it was beautiful. He first saw Jelmi four years ago, on a mission trip to Choluteca, Honduras, with his non-profit, the Way and the Truth Ministry.

He says, "It struck me the fact that she was sitting all by herself. All of the kids were together, just effortless interacting, and Jelmi was just sitting on a curb. Very quiet."

At 13, Jelmi was hit by a rock and blinded in her right eye. That's when something broke. She became isolated, teased so badly by the other students, she dropped out of school.

Micham decided he had to help Jelmi. But when he went back the next day, he says, "She wasn't there. And the next year, she wasn't there. And the year after that, she wasn't there. Finally, we were there (last summer), and she was back! And she was standing there holding a baby."

The missionaries asked Jelmi's pastor, Fidel Bardales, to ask Jelmi if she'd be willing to come to Georgia, to be fitted for an artificial eye. Bardales says, "When they told me that, I saw the open door."

To Micham, this was about more than an eye prosthesis. He says, "She'll never have the sight back in that eye. But she won't be seen as a disadvantaged person."

Jelmi, speaking through a translator said, "I feel so happy because the people who treat me bad, they will not treat me bad anymore." **The Lions Club of Alpharetta paid Jelmi's travel expenses, to come see ocularist Tal Cox.** He specializes in creating and custom-fitting artificial eyes. For Jelmi, he's creating a "sclera shell," a curved prosthetic that will fit – like a very thick contact lens – right over the front of her blind eye. Cox says, "We try to do an exact match of the fellow eye." The sclera shell doesn't hurt, and Jelmi will gradually learn to move it like her other eye, with her eye muscles.

Continued on next page...

"I FEEL SO HAPPY BECAUSE THE PEOPLE WHO TREAT ME BAD, THEY WILL NOT TREAT ME BAD ANYMORE." JELMI



LIONS CLUB FACTS

Lions are the world's largest service club organization. We have 1.35 million members in more than 46,000 clubs worldwide.

Lions are everywhere. We're men and women who are active in community projects in over 200 countries and geographic areas.

Lions do more than providing eyeglasses. Although we are best known for fighting blindness, we also perform volunteer work for many other community projects – including caring for the environment, feeding the hungry and aiding seniors and the disabled.

Lions serve youth. Our community projects often support local children and schools through scholarships, recreation and mentoring.



HEALING IN GEORGIA, CONTINUED

Cox wants it to look exactly like the real thing. So he shapes it, attaches tiny red fibers to create veins in the white of the eye, and tweaks the color to get the exact brown gold mixture in Jelmi's iris. Then he matches her pupil size. The whole time, for hours, he's constantly checking his work against the real thing.

As he finished, and cooks the acrylic shell, he says, "It's going to be a big change, just to see her face, the initial fitting." When the eye is put in, Jelmi looks in the mirror and smiles.

A year of waiting. The 1,300 mile trip. It was all worth it. Pastor Fidel says, "I think this is the beginning..." Because Jelmi Zepeda can look people in the eyes again, proud, and knowing, Steve Micham says, "That she is loved, that people really do care about her, and that she's beautiful."

Cox donated his time and materials – to create an artificial eye that would typically cost about \$2400. Jelmi will fly home from Georgia Thursday morning. In the meantime, Micham says, she can't stop staring at her reflection in her living room mirror.

Read more: <http://www.myfoxtatlanta.com/story/25147282/hondouran-girl-with#ixzz2zXtValGj>



A man walked into a bar and asked the bartender for a Martini. When he got the drink, he took an empty jar out of his pocket, placed it on the table and put the olives from the martini in it. He then went on to order one martini after another, and every time he put the olives in the jar. After a couple of hours, the bartender couldn't take it any longer, and asked the man why he was saving all of his olives. The man replied: "My mother-in-law is coming over, and my wife sent me out for a jar of olives."

I'm a Lion because...

"You see the joy in people's hearts and they say thank you, and the smile of a child. It's all those things that make you realize you've done something for your community." Viv Grater, South Africa

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Lions meet the needs of local communities and the world. Our 1.35 million members – who perform community service in 208 countries and geographic areas – are different in many ways, but share a core belief: community is what we make it.

When you join Lions, you join a global service network. So, at the same time you're doing local community service, you can also contribute to Lions volunteer efforts around the world.

If you are interested in learning more about Lions, or would like to join the Clinton Lions Club, email us at Clinton Lions Club, or contact us through our website at: clinton.tnlions.org



CLINTON LIONS CLUB
Clinton, TN 37716

LIONS CLUB FAN
555 Street Address
City, STATE 55555

“We are friends. We are Neighbors. We are Lions Club International.”