


## Signal Mountain Lions Raffle


Over twenty years ago, a group of Signal Mountain Lions were looking for a major project to raise funds for their Charitable endeavors. They journeyed to South Pittsburg to observe their annual truck raffle and took notes. It was clearly a program that could be reapplied on Signal Mountain. As some wise person said (paraphrased), "imitation is the sincerest form of admiration", so the Lions on the mountain copied the South Pittsburg program. The South Pittsburg Club donated to our club a large tumbler with which to orchestrate the drawing each year. It is a treasured artifact in our Lions Club equipment and other clubs have borrowed it to start their own raffle.




**ANNUAL LABOR DAY GIVE-A-WAY**

**2003 Ford Ranger  
XL Pickup**

*\$50 Donation - Limited to 400 Tickets*



*Forrest Cate*  
MOTOR CO., INC.



US Highway 127S • Dunlap, TN 37327  
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In 2000, a Pickup Truck was raffled by the Signal Mountain club, and 400 tickets were sold at \$50 a ticket. For almost a decade, this process was repeated each year, and the number of tickets were gradually increased to keep up with the escalating price of the grand prize.

In the early years, the State of Tennessee decided to require all forms of "games of chance" to be regulated. The state instituted a process to restrict such events to Not-forProfit organizations. Consequently, the raffle took a sabbatical while the SM Lions applied to become a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, and after the application was approved, restarted the raffle. The first prize was changed to a compact sedan in 2009, and if the winner does not want a new car, an alternate first prize of \$13,000 may be substituted.

Meanwhile, as the cost of the first prize continued to grow, the number of tickets to

be sold also gradually increased. We now sell about 800 tickets each year. As the number of tickets to be sold increased, our local businesses stepped up their strong support for our community providing more secondary prizes. This year 50 different "secondary" prizes were awarded.

What does the club do with the proceeds? The Charity account in the club has no overhead because we are all volunteers. All the funds accumulated in the raffle, and the community picnics, are returned to worthy recipients.

The largest bequests are made in the form of 4-year College needs-based scholarships, awarded each year to students from Signal Mountain. The club is currently providing tuition and fees support to 14 different students at a range of institutions of higher learning.

In addition, funds are allocated to a number of different organizations, including the Signal Mountain Social Services, the Signal Mountain Library, the Lone Oak free Clinic, the Lions White Cane program (which includes The Tennessee School for the Blind, Tennessee School for the Deaf, the Leader Dog Program, the Tennessee Low Vision Program, Sight Restoration, Inc, Learning Ally, and World Services for the Blind) and Hamilton County Sight Services, furnishing eyeglasses to indigent individuals. The donations made by raffle ticket purchasers are put to good service.



The poster features the Signal Mountain Lions International logo at the top. Below it, the title "Signal Mountain Lions 2020 Labor Day Car Raffle" is displayed. The poster is divided into sections for prizes. The 1st prize is a blue car, with text stating "Win a car, OR trade up for a different car/truck, OR take the \$13,000 cash equivalent!". The 2nd prize is a 1-18 BTU unit from Superior Heating & Air, with text stating "Approximately 50 additional prizes will be awarded!". At the bottom, it says "Car supplied by Mountain View Auto Group, 101 East 20th Street - Chattanooga, TN 37406" and "\$50 Donation".



2020 was a year of challenge. Because of the pandemic cars were in short supply and their cost became prohibitive. It was also noted that in recent years the winner of the raffle preferred to take a cash payment instead of the car. The club decided to change to a cash raffle in 2021 with multiple cash winners. Now first prize is \$10,000, second prize is \$2,000 and third prize is \$1,000. There is also over 50 alternate prizes of \$50 value or more.

Lions can be found on the weekends of July and August selling tickets at a booth at the mountain Recycle Center.

# LABOR DAY CASH RAFFLE!



**1ST PRIZE - \$10,000**  
**2ND PRIZE - \$2,000 3RD PRIZE - \$1,000**  
*Plus a chance to win over \$6,000 in other prizes!*

The Signal Mountain Lions Club thanks our donors listed below.

## Attractions/ Entertainment

Adventure Sports Innovation  
\$50 Gift Certificate (3)  
Aquarium/Imax  
Aquarium/Imax Ticket  
(\$47.95 value) (4)  
Fantasy Mountain Board Gaming  
6 month Board Game Library  
Subscription (\$50 value)  
Mountain Arts Comm. Center  
3 hr Intro Pottery Class (\$70 value)  
National Medal of Honor  
Heritage Center  
Museum Pass (value \$16.95) (4)

## Automotive

Above And Beyond Detail  
Carwash (value \$25) (4)  
Maples Automotive  
\$50 Gift Card (10)  
Scenic City Cars  
\$25 Walmart Gift Card (4)  
Surfs Up Car Wash  
\$20 Gift Certificate (4)  
Tire World & Auto Service  
Oil Change (\$49.95 value) (4)

## Gifts/Hobby/ Special Occasion

All Creatures Great and Small  
Candle (\$32 value)  
Mike Deming Antiques & Art  
\$25 Gift Certificate (4)  
Mountain Top Toys  
\$10 Gift Certificate (6)  
Summerfield Studio  
Floral Design  
\$25 Gift Certificate (2)

## Health/Beauty/Sports

Area Podiatry Center  
Podiatric Product, Books &  
Foot Care Products (\$30 value)  
Balanced Studio  
5 Class Passes (\$60 value) (2)  
Blazes Of Glory  
\$25 Haircut (4)  
Method Medspa  
Dermaplaning House Facial,  
Colorescience products  
(\$358 value)  
Mountain Creek Chiropractic  
Free 1st Visit: Exam, Xray,  
Adjustment (up to \$320 value)  
Nail Bar at Signal Mountain  
\$25 Gift Certificate (2)  
Nudo's Family Hair & Skin Care  
Man's Haircut (\$35 value)  
Woman's Haircut (\$45 value)  
Peak Salon  
Haircut & Blow-dry (\$40 value)  
River Valley Dentistry Signal  
Opalescence Go! Whitening Kit  
(\$75 value)  
Signal Mountain Athletic Club  
1 month Family Membership -  
\*New member (\$80 value)  
Signal Mountain Country Club  
Round of Golf (\$50 value) (2)  
Signal Mountain Nutrition  
\$10 Gift Certificate (5)  
Signal Mountain Pharmacy  
\$15 Gift Certificate (4)  
Split Ends Salon  
\$50 Gift Certificate (2)  
The Salon at Seven Sixteen  
\$25 Gift Certificate (2)  
YMCA  
3 month Individual Membership

## Home/Garden/Pets

Ace Hardware  
\$25 Gift Certificate (4)  
Animal Hospital  
of Signal Mountain  
\$25 off (2 or more nights  
boarding) (2), \$50 Gift Certificate  
Champion Cleaners  
\$25 Gift Certificate (2)  
Cutting Corners Framing  
\$25 Towards Custom Framing (2)  
Gas Appliances  
BBQ Cooking Set  
(\$50 value)  
Signal Mountain Nursery  
\$10 Gift Certificate (10)  
Xtrax Dry Carpet Cleaning  
\$50 Gift Certificate (2)

## Service

Casey Houston  
State Farm Insurance  
\$20 Lupri's Pizza Pies Gift Card (5)  
Citizens Tri-County Bank  
\$50 Gift Certificate  
Steve Eddinger LLC  
Farmers Insurance  
\$10 Southern Star Gift Card (5)  
Trust Bank  
\$50 Gift Certificate  
UPS Store  
\$25 Gift Certificate (2)

## Clothing/Shoes /Accessories

Accents Boutique  
\$10 Gift Card (4)  
Chattanooga Jewelry Co.  
\$50 Gift Certificate (2)  
North Star Boutique  
\$25 Gift Certificate (2)  
Threads  
\$50 Gift Certificate

## Restaurants/Treats

517 Subs  
6" Combo Meal (\$11 value) (6)  
Baskin-Robbins  
\$20 Gift Card (2)  
Bread Basket  
Gift Basket (\$50 value)  
B's Sweets  
\$25 Gift Card, \$45 Gift Card  
Chattanooga Seafood Co.  
1lb Smoked Salmon  
& Key Lime Pie (\$50 value)  
Cookie Lady  
\$15 Gift Certificate (3)  
Dunkin' Donuts  
1 Dozen Donuts (4)  
El Agave  
\$20 Gift Certificate (5)  
El Metate  
\$20 Gift Certificate (5)  
Food City  
\$50 Gift Certificate (1),  
\$25 Gift Certificate (4)  
Guthrie's at Signal Mountain  
\$10 Gift Certificate (6)  
Mervs  
\$25 Gift Certificate (2)  
Nooga Q  
\$25 Gift Certificate (3)  
Pizza Place  
Large Pizza with 5 toppings  
(\$21.50 value) (2)  
Pruett's Market  
\$25 Gift Certificate (4)  
Rallo's Bar & Grill  
\$25 Gift Certificate (4)  
River Drifters  
\$25 Gift Certificate (2)  
Sam & Ad Store  
\$25 Gift Certificate (4)  
Southern Star  
\$25 Gift Certificate (2)  
Sweet Merry Berry  
Culinary Class  
(up to \$125 value) (3)  
Zaxby's  
Sandwich Meal  
(value \$10) (5)



The drawings will be held at the  
**Lions Club Labor Day BBQ**  
 on Monday, September 4th at Althaus Park,  
 behind the Signal Mountain Country Club.

The BBQ will run from 11am to 2 pm  
 and the drawing will be held at 1 pm.  
 Winners need not be present to win, and are  
 responsible for all applicable taxes and/or fees.

**\$50 Donation**

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We were successful far more than we had any right to be, and the last few tickets were sold on Labor Day, as we served the Bar-B-Q as a drive thru operation. That day, at noon, Lion **Jim Field**, ably supported by a dedicated assortment of Lions, drew the tickets from the tumbler one at a time, saving the best for last, the winner of the car.

We would also like to thank all the businesses and individuals who contributed to the success of this, our largest annual fund raiser. Your support will allow us to continue our mission of giving back to our community.

To find out more about the Signal Mountain Lions Club, go to [SMTNLIONS.ORG](http://SMTNLIONS.ORG) or join us for a chapter meeting at 6:30 on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at Bachman Community Center.

By J. Pala, 2023