



We Serve

District Bulletin 18-D



MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR LIONS OF NORTHEAST GEORGIA

January 2010



District Governor
Grace Clower

Dear Lions of 18-D,

After six months as your District Governor, it is great to see what we have accomplished in District 18-D. We will be celebrating the chartering of the new Dacula Lions Club on January 30th. I invite you to share this great event at Dacula. I'm sure Dacula Lions would appreciate any gifts or donations your club would like to present to them. Please contact Lion President David Buice of the sponsoring club, Snellville, if you wish to present a gift. You can reach him at 404-754-1823 or email him at dwb26@yahoo.com. This new club has held a food drive as their first project. Congratulations Dacula Lions!

There will be a LEO gathering at our Camp for the Blind January 29-31. State LEO Chair Lion Steve Helwig is asking for donations from clubs to cover the cost of the food for the weekend. This will be a great opportunity for our LEO's and Lions to get together.

Exciting things are happening at the Lighthouse also. At their winter meeting on Jan. 23rd, they will be rolling out the Capital Campaign to purchase a larger building and add another van and equipment for our eye clinics all over the State. This will enable the Lighthouse to service more people all over the State. You will be receiving information and asked to make club and individual pledges, that would be paid over a 2 ½ year period of time. We are all aware of the economic hard times we are experiencing; but Lions have always helped others, and I know we will continue to do that.

With the addition of our Dacula Lions Club members, we have grown our district; but we continue to lose members. I hope you are all recruiting new members, and I also hope you are trying to stop this loss of our current members. Our District Chairs of Membership, Extension, Retention, and Leadership stand ready to help you. Please contact them and let them help you.

To build more new clubs in the District, we are holding an Extension Workshop in Helen, GA January 18-20. We will have an LCI consultant coming in to train us to recruit new members and train those who wish to become Guiding Lions. After this training, we will be recruiting members for a new club in Cleveland. The training we will receive will also help us recruit new members for our existing clubs. Please consider this opportunity and let me know if you will be attending this workshop.

Our Peace Poster contest was very successful this year. Our district winner was sponsored by the Norcross Lions Club, and the entry was sent on to the State level. After entries from all districts in the State were judged, our entry was chosen as the winner also and was sent on to Lions Clubs International for judging. Congratulations to Norcross Lions Club for sponsoring this state-wide winning entry.

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas, and I wish you a Happy New Year! I hope you will make a New Year's resolution to "Move To Grow". Let's make 2010 a record-setting year for District 18-D. Thank you for all you do for Lionism.

Yours in Service, Grace



UPCOMING EVENTS

You know how time flies when you're having fun -- mark your calendars for:

13 January is Melvin Jones' Birthday



24 January: World Peace Day

January is Glaucoma Awareness Month.



To learn more check out this web site:
www.aoa.org

Millions of Americans are at risk of losing their eyesight to glaucoma, a leading cause of blindness in the United States. During Glaucoma Awareness Month in January, community leaders and health professionals are encouraged to provide sight saving information to those who are at higher risk. The National Eye Institute (NEI) offers a variety of resources and materials that Lions clubs can use to plan and conduct successful campaign activities. www.nei.nih.gov.

Planning Ahead

22-23 January 2010



Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation
Better Vision. Better Hearing. Better Georgia.

Georgia Lions Lighthouse Meeting at
Clairmont Presbyterian Church
Decatur, Georgia
Check out page 20

FELLOW LIONS: GOOD NEWS!

District 18-D has been approved for an LCI Extension Workshop to form a new club in Cleveland. **The workshop will be January 18-20.** We will have a New Club Consultant from Conroe, Texas by the name of Art Drouin to help us form the new club.

I am sending this to various Lions in leadership positions and near the area of Cleveland. The workshop will actually be held in Helen. As soon as the consultant gets in touch with me with times and schedules, I will let you know. Some of you have said you will attend the workshop. I would ask that you all encourage other Lions to consider helping us out; either to attend the workshop and/or help us recruit for any period of time you have available.

Please let me know if you will be attending. Let's work hard to form a second new club in our district! Thanks for your help.

The entire workshop, including the Guiding Lions training, will take 3 days. If you can participate in any part of this workshop, please let me know right away. Please check with the members of the clubs in your area to recruit some other participants. PDG Beverly Shirley has agreed to be a Guiding Lion for the club, but we need other Lions to help us recruit members for the Cleveland club.

Please think about this opportunity we have, and let me know as soon as possible the names of any Lions willing to help. Thanks!

DG Grace

6-7 February 2009



**Camp For The Blind
Warner Robbins**

Check out page 23



Where in the World

Have you ever checked the Lions Web site – click on Lions Newswire or check out = [Lions News Network](#) • [LQ-Lions Quarterly](#)



Important Lions Dates this Month

View the [Lions Clubs International Calendar of Events](#) to find out about upcoming events and programs that your club can promote locally.



Lions In Sight

Lions have gained worldwide recognition for our work to improve sight. But we are not always “in sight” of the general public. That’s why International President Eberhard J. Wirfs is asking every club, district and multiple districts to organize a major public relations activity during the last two weeks of January 2010. Make yourself visible – while making a difference in your community. Read the Lions in Sight press release, showcase your favorite service project or review a list of suggested activities on the [Lions in Sight Web page](#).

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Watch January LQ Online

[In the January edition of LQ – Lions Quarterly video magazine](#), soar into Sydney, Australia to preview the upcoming international convention; discover how the Lions band is an eye-opening experience for many young musicians; look at how Lions are building a better

future for school children in India; learn how Lions in Canada transformed a rundown rail yard and watch as Lions in South Africa put food to good use at a wildlife sanctuary.



New Peace Poster Theme Announced

The theme for the 2010-2011 Lions International Peace Poster Contest will be "Vision of Peace." Peace Poster Kits will go on sale on January 15 from the Club Supplies Sales Department. See the [order form \(PR 785\)](#) for more details.



Plan Your STRIDES Walk for Diabetes Awareness

This program is an excellent way for Lions to promote diabetes awareness in their communities. Find out more about how your club can make a positive difference in your community by holding a [Strides: Lions Walk for Diabetes Awareness](#).



Lions Service through Diabetes Camps

Lions, [learn more about getting involved with diabetes camp programs for children or improving your existing Lions camp](#).



Hadley: A Resource for Lions

The Hadley School for the Blind “promotes independent living through lifelong, distance education programs for people who are blind or visually impaired, their families and blindness service providers.” This international, accredited school offers tuition-free programs to the

blind (age 14 and older) and their families. Lions have the opportunity to share this educational resource with people who may benefit from the Hadley courses. [Learn more about Hadley, and the “distance education” courses it offers.](#)



LION Magazine Headquarters Edition Photo Contest

The Headquarters edition of LION Magazine is holding a photo contest for readers. [Download the contest rules and instructions](#), start taking pictures and send them to the editorial staff for a chance to win a great new Sony digital camera.



Organize a Lions Environmental Photo Contest

Organize a club-level contest to select the best photo in the categories of animal, plant, landscape, weather phenomena or this year's special theme "Lions Move to Grow Green." Submit your winning club and district photos (by January 15, 2009) to the multiple district competition. Winning multiple district photos will appear at the 93rd Lions International Convention in Australia, 2010. [Read contest details](#).



Enter the Lions Clubs International Contest

Clubs, districts and multiple districts are encouraged to submit their entries for this year's Lions Clubs International Contest. The four categories include: Newsletter (Bulletin), Trading Pin, Friendship Banner and Web site. See the [official entry form \(PR 763\)](#) for more information.

Lions and DECA – A New Partnership for Diabetes Awareness

Lions Clubs International and the Diabetes Education and Camping Association (DECA) recently entered into a partnership to further lend support and resources to Lions who sponsor, organize or assist with diabetes camps or who want to become more involved. DECA serves as the worldwide voice to advance diabetes camping programs. A “Lions Clubs Only” section of the DECA Web site, which Lions may access free of charge, is coming soon to provide a variety of resources for Lions involved with diabetes camps. Learn more about [DECA](#) and the Lions [Diabetes Awareness and Action Program](#).

Create a Free Web Site for Your Lions Club

If you're looking for a free and easy way to create a Web site for your Lions club, the [e-Clubhouse](#) is for you! LionNET is proud to provide this resource to help Lions Clubs build a useful, professional looking Web site. Designed with fill-in-the-blank fields for even the least Internet savvy, the e-Clubhouse allows you to:

- Build and maintain a Web site for your club using a simple set of tools.
- Keep your members – and community – up-to-date on the projects the club is working on.
- Promote your club's activities – and recruit new members.

If you have comments, questions or suggestions, please contact the District and Club Administration Division at 630-468-6828 or districtadministration@lionsclubs.org.

Add Your Lions Club's Web Site to the LCI Club Locator

Great news! You can now add your club's Web Site to the Lions Clubs International Web Site. To have your site added to your club's Club Locator page, please e-mail the URL of your club's Web site to our [Club and Officer Record Administration department](#).

Vision Van

OneSight's Vision Vans, "Seemore and Iris" travel across North America providing free eye exams and new eyewear to thousands of children in need each year. Staffed by local doctors and volunteers, these 40-foot vans are the equivalent of an optical lab on wheels, equipped with everything needed for an eye exam and new pair of eyewear.

Atlanta, GA

Jan 21 - 23

Did you know that in May 2010, *half a million nonprofits could find themselves stripped of their exempt status*. The IRS estimates that is the number of small organizations that have failed to file a Form 990-N. Small clubs with gross receipts under \$25,000 can simply go online and file Form 990-N. There are no amounts required.

All you have to do is provide a contact person, mailing address and check a box saying the organization is still alive.

So BE SMART and get your records up to date and file the required tax returns before you lose your tax-exempt status.

READY GEORGIA

Southeast Lions Leadership Institute PID Beverly Roberts has announced the location of the next SELLI in 2010. It will be at Hickory Knob State Park in South Carolina on April 15-18, 2010. Hickory Knob State Park is located on the South Carolina / Georgia state line, northwest of Augusta.

Additional information will be published when available. This is an excellent resource for anyone who wishes to advance to club or district leadership.

General Electric

General Electric has a policy of matching some donations to non-profit organizations for most of their employees and retirees. The camp has been approved by General Electric and I have the information on how to handle this.

If you will mention this in your programs and district newsletters, I will get it into the state magazine. If someone that is qualified is a member of the century club, they can get an additional donation to the camp and it is all done online.

I am the point person right now so have them contact me and I will explain it to them. Best bet is my cell phone, 404-444-2064 or e-mail

ron_zeppieri@juno.com



Greetings Dear Lion,

As you gather this holiday season with your family and friends, I ask that you take a moment to reflect on all the good work LCIF has done worldwide over the last year. Together, we have brought joy and happiness to so many people who would have otherwise gone without. I would like to share a story about how Lions' good will has changed the life of a little girl from Texas and her family.



Good will in Texas, USA

Emelly was born with a chromosome disorder that resulted in her being intellectually disabled, unable to move and afflicted regular with seizures, she was unable to sit upright and indicated little, or no, awareness of activity or people.

With grant funding made possible from LCIF, Emelly attended a program at the Houston Therapeutic Equestrian Centers, whose mission is to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities through therapeutic horseback riding and related activities.

Since participating in the therapeutic riding program, Emelly has developed sufficient strength to sit upright. Her breathing has improved and the seizures are much less frequent.

"We're so grateful to the Houston East End Lions in Texas who helped make this program possible for our darling Emelly. I know that Lions do so much to help children," said Maria, Emelly's mother. "It really is difficult to describe the benefits of the therapy, but quality of life for Emelly and all our family members, has improved so much. We anticipate continued improvement with this invaluable therapy."

Give the Greatest Gift This Year

This holiday season you can [give the greatest gift](#) of all- the gift of sight. A donation of US\$1 will provide river blindness medication, US\$15 cataract surgery or US\$50

low vision adaptive devices. Please help us help more people in the coming year. I hope you'll also consider sharing this [video on the impact](#) of our SightFirst Program with your friends and family. After they see all we've accomplished and that there is still a great need, I know they'll want to support the work we're doing together.

Learn More about LCIF

I often get asked a number of questions about LCIF. Make a resolution this year to learn more about the great work of your Foundation. You may be aware of the recently created LCIF District Coordinator position. This individual in your district has been trained on the types of grants and programs available as well as how to submit funds or Melvin Jones Fellowship applications. Please invite them to your club meeting or district convention to educate others about LCIF. E-mail the [LCIF Development Department](#) with the date of the event, and they will help you in contact with your local coordinator.

I would like to offer my most sincere thanks to all of you who help LCIF make miracles happen every day. Its through the generous support of Lions like each of you that Emelly and her family have found a sense of hope for the future. She is just one of the millions of people LCIF helped this past year. Cataract surgery helped Huang in China to see his 14-year old grandson for the first time. Yanatou in Cameroon will not go blind from river blindness like her parents due to receiving bi-annual medication. Mikael in Norway learned to say no to drugs through Lions Quest. You have the power to help us help many more people this coming year.

In appreciation of the holiday spirit, Maureen and I are making a personal contribution to LCIF to help those in need worldwide. We ask that each of you consider helping someone during this season of giving, as many of you have done before.

On behalf of everyone at LCIF, Maureen and I wish you much joy this holiday season.

Thank you for your continued support.

Al Brandel
LCIF Chairperson



Editor's Note

Fellow Lions:

I know you are all busy with the Christmas holidays, and I do wish for you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I wanted to share the following information with you so our club Presidents will be able to share it with their clubs when meetings begin again in January. If you received this, and you are the club Secretary; please share this with your President if he/she does not have an email address. A couple of these items have deadlines in January, so please let your club know about them.

Lions Environmental Photo Contest

DEADLINE: January 15, 2010. Any Lion can submit an original, unaltered, black-and-white or color photo (without people) of the environment of their Lions club in these categories: animal life, landscape, plant life, weather phenomenon, and the special annual theme category (Lions Move To Grow Green) - photos of Lions in action implementing a Lions environment project. Submit photos to me no later than January 15th.

Lions in Sight Program

International President Eberhard Wirfs is encouraging all clubs to hold a public relations event or community project sometime in January to publicize Lions all over the world. Please plan an event or a community project and let 1st VDG Ron Bennetti know what your project will be. I hope every club in the District will participate. State-wide, we are hoping to have a proclamation, signed by Governor Perdue, declaring a Lions Day in Georgia. Let your community know who the Lions are with this great publicity campaign.

Georgia Lions Lighthouse Capital Campaign

You will be hearing from key leaders in our district about the upcoming Lighthouse Capital Campaign to secure a larger building and another clinic van and equipment. The official kick-off will be at the Lighthouse Winter Meeting on Jan. 23rd. We would like to secure club and/or individual pledges prior to this date. PDG David Sargent is heading up our district campaign. If you have questions, please contact him at 770-536-5509-Home or 770-538-2611-Work.

Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind Raffle

I hope we are all selling the raffle tickets for the all-terrain vehicle or \$5000 that will be given away on February 7, 2010 at the winter meeting in Warner Robins. All proceeds will go to the Camp. Please return all ticket stubs and money to PDG Thois Masters, District VP for the Camp.

Nomination of Candidates for Second VDG

DEADLINE: February 12, 2010. Any qualified Lion must send nomination to District Governor by February 12, 2010. At the District Convention on March 14th, we will be electing DG, 1st VDG, and 2nd VDG. We will also elect our Lighthouse District Director.

New Member Doubler Pins

Please remember that we are awarding sponsoring Lions a Doubler Award pin at Cabinet meetings. We awarded several pins at our Cabinet Meeting at the District Rally in November. If you have Lions who sponsored a new member prior to the District Rally on Nov. 14th, and they did not receive a Doubler Award pin, please let me know, so we can be sure they receive their pin. All Lions sponsoring a new member from Nov. 14th through March 14th will receive their pins at the Cabinet Meeting on March 14th. Please encourage your members to ask someone to become a Lion!

First Annual District 18-D Sing-Off

I know that we have some talented singers in our district. I would like to hold a competition at our final Cabinet Meeting in May, 2010. Clubs may enter the competition by forming a singing group of two or more Lions. They will perform one song at the Cabinet Meeting in May. We will have donation jars for each group. The Lions attending the Cabinet Meeting will contribute to their favorite group, and the group with the most money collected will win the First Annual District 18-D Sing-Off. Start now forming your group and practicing. I think we can really have a good time with this. Let me know if you will have a group to enter the competition.

*You are cordially invited to attend the
Charter Night Ceremony For
The Dacula Lions Club*

*January 30, 2010
6:00 P.M.*

*Christ The King Church
258 Rabbit Hill Road
Dacula, GA 30019*

*Please RSVP by January 15, 2010
Cara.Karnes@gmail.com / mail4jkl@yahoo.com
/ 404-510-6528
Jennifer Khaleel
2303 Carlton Chase Road
Dacula, GA 30019*

Thanks for all you do!
DG Grace

Lions In Sight

Lions have gained worldwide recognition for our work to improve sight. But we are not always “in sight” of the general public. That’s why International President Eberhard J. Wirfs is asking every club, district and multiple district to organize a major public relations activity during the last two weeks of January 2010. Make yourself visible – while making a difference in your community. Read the Lions in Sight press release, showcase your favorite service project or review a list of suggested activities on the [Lions in Sight Web page](#).

Suggested Activities

Make yourself visible – while making a difference in your community! Showcase your favorite service project – or use one of these suggested activities to do a project in your community.

- Display 2009-2010 Peace Poster entries and finalists.
- Host an award program to recognize your local/district/ multiple district Peace Poster winners.
- Plan a [Lions Crew at Work project](#) to paint or repair a community center, camp or seniors home.
- Arrange a [cultural event](#) such as a dance, music program or international food fair.
- Schedule a [Green Team project](#) to clean up a park, plant trees or recycle.
- Organize a [vision screening](#) to promote Glaucoma Awareness Month.
- Sponsor a hearing aid or [eyeglass collection](#).
- Work with youth groups to organize a community shoveling event or snowman building contest or to help seniors clean up their yards.
-

You can also [add the Lions Clubs International Twibbon to your Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) profile – and include #Lions-In-Sight in your tweets – to raise the visibility of your club and its activities.

Promoting Lions In Sight Activities

During your Lions In Sight activity, be sure to spotlight your project by using Lions signage and banners. And, invite the public to participate. Districts may use [public relations matching grants](#) to help fund this program. The following resources are also available to help you promote your Lions In Sight activity:

- [Lions In Sight Material Order Form](#)
MATERIAL ITEMS TO REQUEST

Better Communities. Changed Lives.	EX511
Family Membership Brochure	MPFM8
LCI Fact Sheet	PR799
LCI History	PR800
LCI Pocket Card	ME33
Pocket Invitation/Application	ME6B
Lions in Sight Poster	PR806
- [Lions In Sight Poster \(A4 version of poster\)](#)

We are Lions.

Many of us seek opportunities to pursue our personal growth. Today, we’re finding those opportunities as Lions. We’re meeting new people, learning new skills, and doing the kinds of volunteer work shown by research to promote better health and greater longevity. We’re improving the lives of others and, as a bonus, we’re improving our own. It’s a win-win for all.



- [Lions in Sight News Release](#)
- [Sample News Releases](#)
- [PSAs](#)
- [Ads](#)
- [Billboard Artwork](#)
- [Club Public Relations Chairperson’s Guide](#)



Dear Lion,

I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits as we celebrate the holiday season. Margit and I wish for you and your family much happiness, great prosperity, and continued success as you share this special time with those you love - your family, your friends and fellow Lions.

It's a natural time for reflection, a time for giving thanks and for counting blessings, and of course a time for thinking about what we hope to accomplish in the New Year ahead.

Personally, I have so much to be thankful for, most especially the opportunity to serve as your international president in 2009-10. As Margit and I have traveled the world since July, we have been constantly humbled and amazed by the selfless service of Lions in bringing hope to those in need and a future to those who don't know what tomorrow may bring.

I am also extremely grateful for the way you -- the Lion leaders of the world -- have responded to this year's **Move to Grow** theme. Our results continue in a very positive direction midway through December. The strength of our service has grown by the addition of more than 12,500 net new members, the best results in more than a decade. And our network of service and fellowship has grown with the addition of 610 new clubs compared to 399 last year at this time - a 71% improvement. These are simply fantastic and remarkable results. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

We are also seeing good results in reaching out to women and family members - with a wonderful 8,074 net increase in women members since July, and with Lions serving as a family now exceeding 13% of our members. And if I count all the young faces of new members I have inducted this year in my travels, I am convinced we are also making progress in reaching out to the younger generation and tomorrow's leaders.

But as a young Lion in Finland told me earlier this year, "*President Eberhard, I wish that Lions can Move to Grow even younger.*" What he really meant is that we need to keep moving in new directions, and indeed we are. As highlighted below, clubs all over the world are moving into the future by launching modern new web sites; we are breaking new ground with [Global Youth Music Contest](#); and we are getting ready like never before to advance our identity globally with the upcoming [Lions In Sight](#) public awareness campaign this January.

As I've mentioned in my recent emails, to keep our momentum going we must continue to work even harder over the months ahead. We are nearing the halfway point of what truly could be a remarkable year in Lions history - a year in which we will serve more people than ever, grow our network when few others are growing, and move into new directions that will ensure our position as the world's premiere service organization for decades to come.

Please see the special highlights below and share this important information with your fellow Lions. Meanwhile, I am counting on you for your continued leadership ... but please also know you can count on me. I would love to hear from you if I can help you in anyway.

With cordial regards and best wishes as you **Move to Grow**,

Eberhard J. Wirfs
International President



Global Membership Team Update

Communication, motivation and direction - GMT area leaders continue in their commitment to share information, energy, and focus with Lions leaders around the globe.

The District Governor Quarterly Membership Activity Report and the District Governor Quarterly Tracking Report will arrive in early October. These reports were developed to assist District Governors in assessing current membership status and to help guide decisions on whether to continue with current growth plans or rethink and reorganize for more positive results.

[Extension workshops](#) and new club consultants are ready to help your district in forming new clubs and club branches - so sign up now for a workshop if you haven't done so already.

Clearly we have the tools and the 'know how' -- all we need is continued leadership from you, the Lion leaders of America. I know I can rely on you, and please know I will continue to be with you, moving alongside you, as we strive to make this year the beginning of a new era for Lionism.

What you do in the next couple months will be critical to our overall success. So if you need any assistance from me, please let me know. I

Move to Grow

Get ready to come out of your dens and roar! **Lions In Sight** is fast approaching.

What is Lions in Sight?



Most people know Lions very well for our work in sight, but too often we are not 'in sight' of the public. Some Lions even say we are a 'best kept secret'. So to increase our visibility, I have asked all clubs and districts worldwide to organize public awareness events during the last two weeks of January 2010 in a special campaign called Lions In Sight.

The goal is very simple -- to raise public awareness to who we are and what we do.

To help you get ready, a special [Lions In Sight](#) section on our web site has suggested activities, promotional ideas, and helpful tools such as sample press releases, downloadable posters, newspaper ads, a new billboard advertisement, and other materials.



It's easy - 3 steps is all it takes for a successful Lions In Sight event:

1. Tell the public about your club by placing an ad in the newspaper, putting club posters in shop windows or public places, or by issuing a press release to your local newspaper or television station.
2. Hold a community open house or set up a Lions information table at a public place where Lions can greet people and inform them about Lions activities and who we are.
3. Organize a project to which the public can be invited to see Lions in action and experience our kind of fun and service.

Above all, be creative and use your network of Lion friends to generate ideas for interesting events and winning promotions.

Let Us Spotlight Your District's Campaign

I am asking district governors to contact the public relations division manager, Dane LaJoye, during the month of November with an overview of your Lions In Sight activities. The most creative and unique activities will be prominently featured on the association's web site, and some will be selected for special public relations support from LCI. [Contact Dane by email](#) or by phone at 630-468-6764.

As an incentive, district governors who achieve over 50% club participation will receive a specially designed Presidential Certificate and will be recognized on the LCI web site.

By raising our visibility in the 45,000 communities we serve during this special campaign, we can introduce our great organization to thousands and thousands of service-minded people like us.

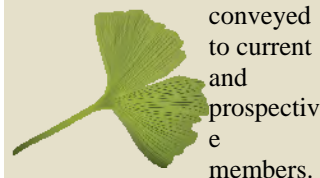
So again, Lions, let's together come out of our dens and roar... as we "Move to Grow".



will do everything in my power to support you, just as I know you will do everything in your power to MOVE TO GROW our great association.

"We need you"

We will need our children to become the members of the future but, in fact, we need your family members right now. ["We need you"](#) is the message that must be



conveyed to current and prospective members. We need members to invite their partners and spouses to become Lions Club members and we need these new members to energize our clubs and open-up new avenues of service. The best place to look for qualified members may also be the closest -- right in our own homes.

There are many strategies that can help existing clubs grow, such as:

- Inviting more spouses and women through the We Need You campaign.
- Organizing recruiting campaigns using Lions Clubs International's "Best Practices."
- Forming club branches
- Identifying clubs below 20 members in need of special assistance.

Move to Grow Special Highlights

Global Youth Music Competition

The Global Music Youth Contest is gaining great momentum. Finalists for Europe and ISAAME have been selected and the USA and Canada are planning an online contest to select their finalists in February with submissions growing each day. Latin America and OSEAL areas will be selecting their finalists soon. So get ready and get excited for LCI's first ever Global Youth Music Contest in Sydney against the backdrop of the world famous Sydney Opera House. View the [latest information](#) on this year's contest or contact Dane.Lajoye@lionsclubs.org for more information.

Important Information

E-Clubhouse

All clubs are being encouraged to develop a web site or update their existing site. Now any club can build a web site very easily using LCI's [E-clubhouse](#) platform, a new service of LionNET and Lions Clubs International. E-clubhouse enables your club to establish a sophisticated Web presence at no cost and with very little effort.

We know there are Lions ready to respond. All we need do is ask.



RETENTION

ORIENTATION PLUS NEW MEMBER LIONS' GOALS

We are at the half way point in this Lions' year. I can't tell you what our MD-18 membership retention loss will look like, but I do know that after five months, i.e., November 2009, we have lost a total of 1330 (20%) of our Lions. Indeed, since the monthly loss rate has been increasing every month, 6.4% of our members in November, I'm inclined to predict that we'll have lost over 25% of our members by the end of last year. I'd be delighted to not see this happen, but I'll know fairly soon and let you know next month in your District Bulletin.

The question I have for you is the same question I will repeatedly ask you: What is your club doing to help stop this significant loss of members every month? And, no, I am not asking you whether you are recruiting new members! Recruiting new members is extremely important, but my focus is exclusively on retention. Although the membership loss I report each month is an MD-18 retention rate loss, the fact is that it really is an individual club by club loss of members that is the retention problem. What is your club doing to retain the members you currently have and to retain the new Lions you recruit?

In the past two District Bulletins I have singled out two actions. The first action I mentioned was that after you have inducted your new member or members, you need to provide a Lions' Orientation Program. New Lions need to fully understand and internally support what it is that Lion Clubs do locally and world wide. The second thing I singled out was more leadership related. That is, who is responsible for ensuring that a club's orientation action is routinely done? In this case I noted that a few years ago LCI created an elected Membership Committee structure, which includes a Retention Chairperson. If your club only has a Membership Chair, then this Lion is also your Retention Chair. However, if you don't have a three person elected Membership Committee, then you need to add this to your up-coming elections.

In the next State Lions Newspaper, you will find that in addition to a Lions Club Orientation Program, I have identified eight more club actions to reduce the loss of members. Over the next several months I will be discussing these actions. However, Action # 2 is very simple and could easily be a part of your Orientation Program. This action requires that you ask each new Lion what he or she wants to do as a member of your club? After you ask the question, record it, and then pass it on to your club president and your retention chair. Implementing this action requires that a club allow its new members to accomplish the community service they want to do as a Lion. Why is this important? Behavioral science research has discovered that volunteers who do not get an opportunity to accomplish their club goals will likely leave a club. Matching Lion goals to Lion Club actions should increase the retention of Lions.

Yours in Lionism, Richard "Dick" Smith



*"We're the New Generation of Lions...
Join Us Today!"*

THE CONTINUING SAGA OF MEMBERSHIP!

It is hard to believe that it is the middle of December. Our Lions year is almost one-half over. Remember those goals that were established by each District Governor at the beginning of his/her term of office? Well, I guess they are kind of like New Year's resolutions—easy to make, and hard to follow through with. But the difference with the goals is that they are not just for the DGs who made them, they are for all of us. And our District Governors need all of our help to reach those goals.

At the end of November, District A was at 1,340 members—a decrease of 10. This is after an increase of 15 during the month of October. District B was a plus 28—bringing them up to 1,145. Keep it up! District C is at 1,019. The new clubs are helping, but the drops continue. District D is up 15 to 1,109. Way to go, District D! District E had a plus 3, but are still only at 954, and have quite a way to go to reach that magic 1,250! District F remains at 1,077. As a whole, the Multiple District is now at 6,644.

What is the importance of these numbers? They reflect the efforts of the clubs to increase the ability of Lions to provide needed services in their communities. If each of the 244 clubs in Georgia added only one member each, what a wonderful thing that would be, and what a way to make a difference in the community.

Every District has a MERL team that is ready and willing to help any and every club within their district to strengthen their existing clubs, to branch out, and to start new clubs. With the help of Guiding Lions, every club, every District, and the entire Multiple District has the opportunity to Move to Grow.

If you do not know how to improve your club or your District, contact your MERL team members, or contact me. We are all ready and willing to do whatever it takes to make MD 18 a better and stronger place to be. And if you have been successful in helping your club or your District to grow, share your secrets of success with others. That is what Lionism is all about.

Yours in Lionism,

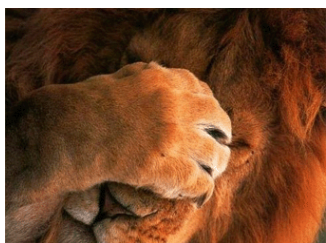
Marlene Humphry
MD 18 Membership Chair



CLUB REPORTS



This is another way of getting Lions in your club, new members and prospective members interested in doing something new and different. Getting involved is another word for **WE SERVE**.



Certain things can happen when your Lions Club gets involved. If we have to find something new – go for it – because the more we raise – the more we can give. Also, the more members who get involved also create a bundle of fun and more money raised. The information that appears may benefit another club – for here is where we get ideas and we might be able to use those ideas within your own club.

Dacula Lions Club - All: It is with great pride that I report the Dacula Lions Club conducted its first community service project yesterday. Over half of the club's members participated by collecting over 80 grocery bags full of needed food items for the Quinn House, a food bank and homeless shelter located in Lawrenceville. Needless to say the Quinn House staff was delighted to receive the donations as they were in the process of preparing holiday food boxes for the needy. I want to take this moment to thank all of the Lions that were involved. We are off to a great start as a club due to the outstanding efforts and genuine concern all of you have to enrich the lives of others. It is an honor to be a part of such a selfless group. Special thanks are also due to Lion Jeff Matkin who originally conceived of the food drive and to Lion Stephanie Wolfe who led the effort as project chairperson by providing the leadership and guidance needed to make it a real success. I hope it is clear to all that the Dacula Lions are gathering momentum to become an even bigger force for good in our community. Consequently, I urge all club members to please join us for our next regular meeting at Stars and Strikes on Tuesday January 5th at 7pm. And I ask that all of you that have considered joining the club to do so! Contact Lion Jennifer Khaleel or me for further information or simply come to our next meeting. The more members we have, the more good we can do for our community. Now is the time to become a member, in fact a Charter Member, if you join before our Charter Night celebration scheduled for January 30th. Thanks again Dacula Lions – great job everyone! Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season!

Scot Addis Charter President

Auburn-Carl Lions Club = Lions Terry Dover, Roger Smith and Jerry Ellington present dictionaries to 3rd grade students at Auburn Elementary School. The Auburn-Carl Lions purchased the dictionaries as part of a larger community project involving other civic groups in the community. Every 3rd grader in each of the eight Barrow County Elementary Schools received a dictionary.



Clermont/North Hall Lions Club = We didn't exactly experience the "Twelve Days of Christmas" but the month was busy for our club. At our first meeting we received an update on Eagle Ranch, a home for troubled kids in Hall County. At our second meeting we had our Christmas program. We were honored by the presence of DG Clower, and PDG's M.C. Stowe, Don Wagner, and Dick Smith. During the month we made our financial contributions and met the District Governor's goals. We also made a financial contribution to the local elementary school sports council to assist in purchasing uniforms for the basketball team. And we donated the food left over from our banquet to a local non-profit which provides food and support to those in need. We worked one weekend handling the parking at the Georgia Mountain Center. We also rented our building multiple times during the month to various families and groups.

We serve.

Elberton Lions Club =



Dahlonega Lions Club = Collects used glasses, hearing aids, and cell phones. For Lion year 2009-2010, 797 items have been contributed as of November 11, 2009. **EYE EXAMS AND GLASSES:** Lion year 2009 -2010: **20**

Forsyth County Lions Club = FUNDRAISING GALORE!!

Final fundraiser for this year - Friday, Dec. 4th at Vickery Village on Post Road. The neighborhood has a special Christmas Lights street and allow us to collect donations. We will serve hot chocolate. 5 - 7 and 7 - 9 are the time slots. Bring a chair. Christmas Party - Our annual Christmas meeting will be Dec 1 at The Station House in downtown Cumming. Bring your date, your dancing shoes and a big appetite!

Lawrenceville Lions Club = We had a very successful Pecan Sale fundraiser this year. We collected 309 used eyeglasses 223 lenses. We donated several cans of food items to the Lawrenceville Co-Op. Three members have been transferred to the new Dacula Club:

Kay Tuggle, Charlie Tuggle, Jennifer Khaleel

Merry Christmas to all and a
Very Happy Healthy New Year

Jefferson Lions Club = ACTIVITIES: Calendar Sales fundraiser ongoing. \$2700 net profit to date.

Selling tickets for GA Lions Camp for the Blind: Ongoing. Club members have been asked to sell at least 10 tickets each. **Jefferson Christmas Parade:** The Jefferson Lions Club participated in the Jefferson Christmas Parade December 5th, a very cold and windy day. Chaired by Teddie and don Lohmeier, the Club helped with crowd control, mainly on the square. Those working included Lyle Robins, Ed Swinson, Mack Cates, Edna Briggs, Jimmy Mock and Teddie and Don Lohmeier. Total man hours for this community service project by club members: 14 **Procuring and giving toys for children at Christmas** (more details below under "Newspaper articles"): Total man hours for this community service project by club members: 20 **Eyeglasses collected:** 212 used eyeglasses, 36 sunglasses, 362 lenses, and 3 cell phones. **December 7 was a combined Rotary-Lions Christmas banquet, held at the Jackson EMC auditorium.**



December 7 was a combined Rotary-Lions Christmas banquet, held at the Jackson FMC auditorium.



The Club was treated to a musical program by the children of Hoshton First Baptist Church, led by Ms. Amy Brock. The children who sang were Summerlin and Langley Courchaine and Anna Grace and Hank Brock. The Club enjoyed the special Christmas presentation

Lavonia Lions Club = A check was presented to Police Chief Lion Bruce Carlisle to help with the annual Night Out which stresses community safety. The event, sponsored by the Lions and the Police Dept. includes games, food, dancing, and demonstrations by the Canine force. The winners of the playhouse drawing were Eli and Samuel Roach. Their winning ticket was drawn at the Halloween Festival by Marina Ramey. Plans for next year's playhouse are already under way.



Check given to Lavonia Police Chief for community safety



Marina Ramey drew the winning ticket for Playhouse

Loganville Lions Club = The Loganville Lions had their annual Christmas Banquet on Dec. 7th with spouses and guests in attendance. Lion Walter Stearman and the Gospel group Midnight Praise provided the evening's entertainment. Lion Stearman, a Lion of over 50 years, presented four Christmas stories, one of which was about the origin of the poem "The Night Before Christmas" which is over 200 years old. Midnight Praise is a local gospel music group and entertained with Christmas and Gospel music. It was an enjoyable evening for all and set the Spirit of Christmas early for the Club members and families. Pictured are Stearman in the Santa hat and Midnight Praise members Tommy Forrester, Donna McElhannon and Albert Dailey.



Norcross Lions Club = The Norcross Lions Club provided cookies, coffee, and hot chocolate for the Christmas tree lighting in Thrasher Park. This was also an opportunity to talk to people about joining our Lions Club. We continue to work on the 2010 Norcross Art Fest with our co-sponsors the Norcross Woman's Club. We hosted a Christmas party for both the Lions and the Norcross Woman's Club and their spouses. We collected non-perishable food to give to the Norcross Cooperative Ministry. We donated funds to the following: LCIF, GA Lions Lighthouse, GA Lions Camp for the Blind, Leader Dog, RFB&D, Canine Companions for Independence, Camp Kudzu, GA All-State Band, GA Special Olympics, Norcross Cooperative Ministry, the School Care Fund of the five elementary schools in the Norcross cluster, and Meals on Wheels. We voted to give our Peace Poster contest winner \$100 since she also won at the district and state levels. We hope that her poster goes all the way to be a merit award or grand prize winner. We continue to sell raffle tickets for the GA Lions Camp for the Blind.



Snellville Lions Club = The Club held their annual Christmas dinner at the Delmar Gardens in Lawrenceville after the show, club members were treated to two short plays by the Atlanta Theatre To Go. Club members handed out programs at the annual lighting of the City of Snellville Christmas Tree. Members helped with the annual Christmas luncheon at the New London Nursing Home. Our Tail Twister Lion Randy Collins did a excellent job playing Santa Claus giving candy canes to all. Food items were also collected for the food bank in Snellville and Lilburn. **Annual Benefit Breakfast** - February - You will be served a wonderful breakfast of eggs, sausage, grits, toast & pancakes. Drinks include juice and coffee. A bake sale will also be part of this event.

Toccoa Lions Club = Lions Secretary advised of 2 new applications for membership. Lion Ruth is sponsoring Ann Person, who is assisting at the Open Arms Clinic. Lion Bryan is sponsoring Margo Harper who lives in Gainesville and is assisting the club with the phone solicitation for our Lions Kids Day Magic Show in January. Lion Ray made the motion to accept these two as new members and a second was made by Lion Ruth. The board approved. OLD BUSINESS: (1) A report was given on the October 2009 Pancake Breakfast. In addition to the \$900.00 from sales Lion Claud Smith received a donation of \$1200.00. Discussion was held on the need to change to begin and end time for our future breakfasts. The board approved a change with our serving time to be from 7:00 am until 11:00 am. (2) The District Rally is to be held in Gainesville on Nov 14, 2009. The Toccoa Lions reserved 2 tables with a seating of 16. (3) The Christmas Dinner will be on Dec 10th, 2009 at 7:00pm at the GA. Baptist Assembly. We have 28 members signed up. (4) The Magic Show phone Banks are set and have begun calling and will call thru Jan 6 2010. (5) The Chilly Open is set for the Pines Golf Course on Mar 20, 2010. (6) We will have a recruitment drive meeting on Jan 20, 2010. (7) The club will set up two tents in front of Dr. Kay Royal's office for the Harvest Festival. We have cooks and Lion Bryan will be calling for additional assistance. As there was no other business to act upon the meeting adjourned. Several **announcements were made.** Members were reminded to turn in money for the Gator Raffle benefiting the Camp for the Blind. Harvest Festival Results were given. We did eye screenings on 70 people, and we raised over \$400 for sight conservation. Children's Theater Project: Phone calls are now being made to sell tickets for the puppet show which will be held on January 30th 2010.



Bryan Gordon, MaryAnn Mojica & Bill Graham in the tents



Gary Patrick & Chrystal Coker Vision Screening on Sunday



Flo Gordon, Barb Lolley & Ken Fewell



Russ Paxton, Dave and Ashley Stancil

The following Lions are the hero's of the Rest Area and the activities on Harvest Festival weekend. Lions Dave Stancil, Ken Fewell, Bryan Gordon and friend of the Lions Lyle Lolley worked three days on this event. Lions Drew Taylor, Bill Graham and Mary Ann Mojica worked two days on this event. Lions Margo Taylor, Henry Fields, Wayne Carpenter, Russ Paxton, Chrystal Coker, Flo Gordon, Nick Thomas and friends of the Lions Gary Patrick, Ashley Stancil, Dale Graham, Barb Lolley and Jannie Jones. This event was in large measure successful because we had so many "friends of the Lions" working for us and our community.

Towns County Lions Club = 70th Anniversary Night, Saturday, April 10, 2010.



West Jackson Lions Club = I have entered my reports. Our oldest Charter passed away yesterday. Mr. Henry Edward Braselton. At our December meeting we had a visitor Chuck Johnson, who is living at Deaton Creek Retirement Center. He called me early on December, 3rd and said he looked up my phone number on the computer and would like to visit our meeting. I told him we would be very happy to have him come. This was our Christmas Party meeting. We took Christmas Tree ornaments to exchange, so I took an extra one for him. He was a District Governor in New York where he lived previously. We told him we would like to have him join our club. He gave us his phone number and told us to call him. Hopefully he will join. He had a lot of fresh ideas on how to raise funds.

Winder Noon Lions Club = ACTIVITIES: Dictionaries were purchased and given to 170 3rd graders at the County Line Elementary School. Eight members worked with members of the Winder Lions Club to coordinate set-up activities at the Winder Christmas parade. The Winder Noon Lions Club co-sponsored a Christmas Party for the Boys and Girls Club of Winder. Twelve bikes were donated to the Boys and Girls Club for the party. Thirty four bikes were donated to the Winder Fire Department's 2009 Empty Stocking Drive. These bikes were obtained through a partnership with Wal-Mart. Members attending the December 9th meeting brought toys for the Winder Fire Department's Empty Stocking Drive. Twenty-six people (members and spouses) attended the 5 club Christmas Party at the Winder Lions Club building. Bob Long, president of the Winder Noon Lions Club, is serving on the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club of Winder.

PROGRAM: Our speaker was Lion Harold Walker, district chairman for the Lions Opportunities for Youth. He talked about how to get Youth involved in Lions Club activities.



**We're Waiting =
have you ASKed?**

Did you submit yours?

E-mail = edmclionh@bellsouth.net or

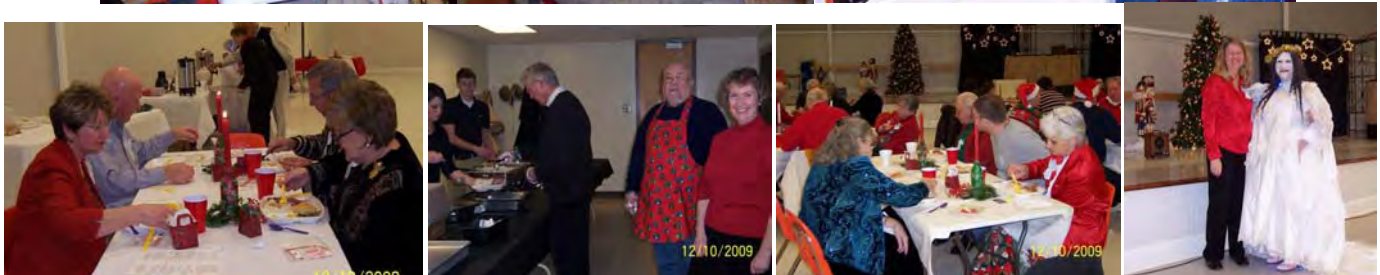
Go on-line = www.edmclion.com/ or

Union County Lions Club = Sight Conservation: 4 applications for eye glasses & exams approved. **Lion Mints:** No report. **Social Concerns:** 9 cards sent, this includes 3 B'day, 2 'thinking of you', 2 Anniversary and 2 encouragement. **Lion and friends and family volunteer hours:** 244 hours. **Membership:** Two previously approved, will most likely be inducted at the Lions Christmas Party on Dec.10th as regular members. **Donations:** \$100.00 to Young Harris College, \$440.00 paid for 4 pairs eye glasses & exams. **Don Enzmann was presented his 55 year Chevron at our Rally ~ What an honor!**

For those of you that didn't get out in the cold today ~ I wanted you to see what you missed! What a wonderful display of Lionism presented by several Lions in Blairsville's Christmas Parade. I saw braving the cold in their convertible Lion Les Myers & wife Marjorie ~ Right behind them was Lion Alice driving a wonderfully decorated truck with Lion Jeff in the back ~ (Not sure but Lion Jim Hinton might have been in the truck with Alice) Confession: It was so cold out, I waved snapped these pictures and ran back to the heater in the car! Thank you to these dedicated Lions you make us proud!!!



Lions played the following parts: Mildred & Michael Thompson as Mary and Joseph with the Thompsons' baby Grandson, Samuel as 'baby Jesus.' Lion Jeff Neal, Gene Little, Jack Gross as shepards/wise men Lion Alice Neal as a most beautiful angel dressed in flowing white with wings & halo! Lion Elmer Thompson[Great Grandfather of Samuel] read the Christmas story from Luke chapter 2 after which Lion Betty Gurr sang 'Silent Night' accompanied by Lion Paul Clark who played his Dulcimer. There was a Christmas card table for those desiring to exchange cards. There were gift baskets for widow of deceased Lion who was a guest as well as for Byrdie Murray, also a guest, whose husband, Lion Bill Murray is resident of local Nursing Home as well as baskets for several Lions who were unable to attend & they would be delivered. Lions attending this meeting also brought toys for our annual SAFE House project who furnish toys for about 60 to 80 children who come through SAFE House each year. Lion members also brought can goods for several food baskets to be delivered. All together, a most memorable evening!



Fellow Lions

The main purpose of this event is publicity. To inform the people of GA of what the Lions of GA are doing, the extent to which we're doing it and the impact that what we're doing has on our communities and on our citizens. I have drafted a proclamation that will be used by Governor Perdue to recognize the GA Lions by a formal presentation at the State Capitol at 1030 on Wednesday, 13 January (Melvin Jones' birthday). The appointment was arranged by Gov. Scott and Lion Tim Bearden. This is a photo op and (hopefully) there will be media present. So lets wear our Lions uniform.

We will need to gather information from each district summarizing what we are doing, have done and plan to do in order to prepare a press release that should be widely distributed to all of the state and community newspapers, and radio & TV stations. The event is just around the corner so I'm recommending that we do several things in preparation.

-Get a summary to me by 10 January so I have time to write the press release and distribute it.

We have some very impressive statistics from our Lighthouse and Camp that I would like to have submitted to me.

-Involve any Lions who have experience in publicity and/or have strong media knowledge and contacts.

-Notify your State Senators and Representatives of the event and ask them to support it.

-Notify your media contacts of the upcoming event in the hope that they will cover it.

-Chairman, PDG Kenneth Moore - please publish direction to the event and be there to meet and organize us.

-Send me a list of those planning to attend.

After the event -

-Provide your media contacts with the press release and pictures that will be taken at the event.

-Publish the news in all of your district and club newsletters.

-I will send appropriate documents to the LCI Publicity Department in the hope that we can get our news into the Lions Magazine.

If anyone has any good ideas, let me know. Let's make this the BIG DEAL that it should be!!

Thanks - CC Ron

* * * * *



Lions on YouTube, MySpace, Twitter and More

Did you know Lions are all over the Web? Social networking is a great way to contact and keep in touch with Lions around the globe and to share what Lions are doing to make the world a better place. [Visit the online community](#) to connect with other Lions on MySpace, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube and Flickr.



GA. Lions Lighthouse
VP Lion Mike Higgins, PDG
mhpdg@windstream.net

Check out the new **Lighthouse Video**
 Click here to view the Lighthouse Video!
<http://www.eventstreams.com/lighthouse/010fst/>

The Lighthouse has thirteen clinics throughout Georgia where patients can come to get an eye exam and pick out a pair of glasses. If you would like to help by taking patient histories or assisting patients in choosing their glasses, we would love to have you! In order to help at a clinic, you will need to fill out a volunteer form. To request the form, please contact Tiffany Ellerbee at 404-325-3630 or at tellerbee@lionslighthouse.org. Don't worry if you are not familiar with our clinics, you will receive training on anything that needs to be done.



Save the Date!

The winter Lighthouse meeting will be held on
Saturday, January 23rd at
 Clairmont Presbyterian Church in Decatur.

Open House at our Present Home = 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Continental breakfast will be provided.

Breakout Meetings = Clairmont Presbyterian Church = 10:00 a.m.

Vision and Hearing Program Q & A:

Ask any questions you have of your Lighthouse's program managers.

Board Meeting: This year's Board Meeting will be open to the public!

Elections and Capital Campaign Kickoff

Clairmont Presbyterian Church = 11:30-1:00 p.m.

Be there for the beginning of a new chapter at your Lighthouse as we kick off our Capital Campaign! Lunch is \$10. Please RSVP if you plan to eat lunch at the church.

Breakout Meeting = 1:30 p.m.

White Cane

Breakout Meetings = 2:30 p.m.

Planned Giving Luminary Society



Tour the Proposed Office and Clinic 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, and 4:30 p.m. See the proposed future home of the Lighthouse. There is limited space available for the tours, so please RSVP with the time you would like to tour the building. A complete brochure will be sent out soon!

August Service Numbers



Service Numbers

From July to October 2009:

978 people have better vision after receiving a pair of **glasses**.
54 recipients were from **18-D**

539 Georgians have received a **free eye exam**, **38** were from **18-D**

86 eye surgeries were performed. **13** were from **18-D**

311 Georgians received hearing aids through the dispensation of **564** hearing aids. **29** were from **18-D**

Demand for all services is up **30 percent** over last year.



Ask the Lighthouse

We are working on a fundraiser or press release for the Lighthouse. Where can we get success stories about clients in our area?

If you would like a client success story related to your county, please contact Kim at 404-325-3630 or email kfletcher@lionslighthouse.org. Leave your name, city, contact information, and what kind of story you are looking for (eye surgery, clinic, glasses, or hearing). If you do not live in or near a major city, please allow at least two weeks in case we need to collect the story.

Thank you!

Help Us Use our Recycled Glasses

District D
 Judy Stamsen
 770-995-9274
eskiemom@bellsouth.net

60th Anniversary Pin



In celebration of your Lighthouse's 60th anniversary, we have made a special edition pin. There are two ways to receive a pin:

1. You may honor someone you know by purchasing a pin for them. They will receive the pin, a letter letting them know you honored them, and a special 60th anniversary certificate.

2. In the 2009-2010 Lion's year, give 6 hours of your time as a volunteer to the Lighthouse by: serving at a vision clinic, hosting a vision or hearing screening, collecting eyeglasses for recycling, working in our eyeglass recycling center, participating in your club's White Cane campaign,

White Cane Butter Mints
45.00 per 1000
Miniature Plastic White Cane
65.00 per 500
Punched Card
14.00 per 500

Order from Lions of Michigan
(517) 887-6640



If you have any questions about White Cane, or would like materials such as posters or bookmarks for your fundraiser, please contact Kim at 404-325-3630 x 313 or at kfletcher@lionslighthouse.org
Thank you for supporting your Lighthouse for all the effort you put into White Cane!

White Cane: It's not just bucket drives anymore!

Curtis Thompson lost his job as a skilled craftsman due to his deteriorating eyesight. He later discovered his vision problems were caused by cataracts, but he could not afford surgery unless he returned to work, and he couldn't return to work until he had the surgery. Seemingly trapped, Curtis turned to the Lighthouse for help. He was back to his job soon after the surgery was complete.

More than 1,500 Georgians lost their health coverage each week of this year, and your Lighthouse is one of the few places they can turn for sight-saving surgeries. We rely on the White Cane fundraisers held by the Lions clubs of Georgia to support the eye surgery program.

The traditional method of fundraising through bucket drives is becoming more difficult each year. Fewer people are out buying, and those who are shopping don't carry cash as often. A number of clubs have found alternative ways to fundraise. They are recycling soda cans and bottles, writing and hand-delivering letters to small businesses, hosting pancake breakfasts and barbecues, putting on car shows, and ushering at local sporting events. The Tifton Lions Club put in a lot of work and pulled off a very successful male beauty pageant (see previous page).

Not only do White Cane activities help the Lighthouse, they also provide an avenue for spreading the word about the amazing work Lions do in the community. In addition, they are a great opportunity to get new club members actively involved in Lionism.



WHITE CANE EMPHASIS IS APRIL, but don't wait until then to start planning your club's participation. A few clubs report they are too small, or they are rebuilding, or not sure how to hold a White Cane Drive. NO club is too small (or too large) to participate. A White Cane Drive can be a terrific incentive for a rebuilding club. So how about some ideas on how to begin or improve your club's efforts.

Here are some ideas:

- * Place plastic jars on check-out counters of convenience and fast food stores. This could be done 4-6 weeks in April and can be handled by 1 or 2 Lions. Special jar lids and decals are available through White Cane Days, Inc.

- * Write letters to businesses of your community soliciting donations. Then follow up with a personal visit.

- * Hold a pancake breakfast, chili supper, chicken BBQ, or other project designated for White Cane.

- * Get publicity through having a community leader (mayor, administrator, or commissioner) sign a proclamation declaring your club's White Cane Drive and publishing it in your local newspaper.

- * If you have a Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Kroger's, or some other large retail outlet, approach management about a matching grant for White Cane.

- * Utilize your White Cane efforts to educate your community about the Georgia Lions Lighthouse in general, and your club in particular. You may be able to recruit a few new members.



GA. Lions Camp for the Blind
Tohis Masters, PDG
tstmasters@windstream.net



To Our Fellow Lions:

Why are we the best camp built for the visually impaired?

The Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind is like no other camp in Georgia. Here, disabilities fade into the background. We empower those who are struggling; we encourage the pursuit of dreams. We play like there is no tomorrow while providing a physically and emotionally safe environment at all times. We do it because we are the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, and together, that's our mission.



We are looking forward to seeing each of you for this very special weekend! Please call with any questions, or visit our website at www.glcb.org for further information and a schedule of events.

Sincerely,
Kristen Picus
Camp Director

Upcoming events are:

- Camp Meeting – February 5-7, 2010**
- Work Weekend - March 26-28, 2010**
- Work Weekend - April 16-18, 2010**





The President's View

I am now spending a wonderful weekend at our Camp celebrating the birth of our Lord with some very special Campers. WOW – How blessed I am to be able to do that. Once again, Kristen and her Team are doing an outstanding job in facilitating the needs of our Campers. Kristen will tell you all about this great weekend!

Here are some upcoming dates that are important to us:

- January 9th @ 1100AM – Special Meeting of the Finance Committee and Executive Committee to draft the 2010-2011 Budget. This will be a working meeting that will last numerous hours.
- January 29th-31st – LEO Gathering at the Camp. The Camp is proud to host the LEOs of Georgia and we look forward to a great weekend. Lion Steve Helwig will have more information on this for you.
- **February 6th and 7th – The Winter Board Meeting of the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, Inc. The Standing Committee Meetings will be held at the LaQuinta Inn on Saturday, February 6th. The Board of Directors' Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 7th at the Centerville Lions' Club House.**
 - At this Board Meeting we will be voting for the President, Secretary and Treasurer that will serve our Camp for the next two years. It is very important for you to attend this Meeting and cast your vote for the Lion you want to serve in these positions.
 - If you wish to run for one of these positions; you must submit your name and qualification in writing to the Nominations Committee Chair by January 8th. The Committee Chair is Lion Wade Hodges and his contact information is located on the GLCB.org Web Page.
 - The qualifications for the above positions are laid out in the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind's Constitution. Please contact Lion Wade or myself if you have any questions about the positions being voted on or the process for applying.

Since the Fall Joint Meeting I have been a very busy guy:

- I got to attend the District D Rally in Gainesville, GA on November 14th. District Governor Grace and her Team put on a great event and I thank them for their hospitality.
- On Sunday the 15th of November I was in Centerville for a Fundraising Committee Meeting. It was a very long meeting and we left that meeting with some actions plan in place to try and stimulate some income for our Camp. Please join me in thanking Lion David White and his Committee for their dedication to serving our Camp.
- Prior to that - I had been focused on getting my health back where it needed to be. The surgery went well and it looks like we got all the cancer. I am healing well, working through some post surgery issues and getting stronger each day. Thank you to all the Lions throughout the State that sent me cards, e-mails, put me on their prayer lists. My Lions Family is very special!

Giving to others is what makes this season so special. We the Lions of Georgia are so blessed to be able to give and serve others year round. I thank you for giving to our Camp and for helping us live up to our Lions motto of "WE SERVE". Your continued support of our Camp is appreciated and I ask you now to continue and yes even increase your support in 2010. What better gift can you give the Visually Impaired Youth of Georgia than an opportunity to attend our Camp? Camp gives them the opportunity to grow, gain trust in themselves and others and prepares them for the lift ahead. WOW – I am amazed each and every time I am at our Camp, to see what we the Lions of Georgia are doing for those "WE SERVE" at OUR CAMP!

In closing, I wish you a Happy New Year.

God Bless!

Frank

Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, Inc.
GATOR GIVEAWAY



John Deere Gator Compact CX Series
Ideal for turf, property tasks and easily fits in tight spaces.

You could win this Gator or \$5,000 Cash

Drawing to be held on February 7, 2010 at Warner Robins, GA

You do not have to be present to win

Funds from this raffle will help send blind children to camp and benefit

The Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, Inc. in Waycross, GA

The Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, Inc. is a 501(c)3 corporation

Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a ticket



Contact any Georgia Lion for tickets

The GA Lions Camp for the Blind

www.gacftb.org



A MAJOR SERVICE PROJECT OF THE LIONS OF GEORGIA. MULTIPLE DISTRICT 18.



Leader Dog Chair Lion Diane Wall
liondianewall@bellsouth.net

Fellow Lions:

I want to thank all my Lions clubs in 18-D for allowing me to receive the 100% District Chair from Leader Dog School. They continue to do great and innovative things to help sight impaired folks gain more independence. Your contributions help make this possible. Thank you, and may I wish you all a safe and blessed Christmas.

Lion Diane



Leader Dogs for the Blind Receives the Alfred P. Sloan Award

Leader Dog is proud to be a 2009 recipient of the Alfred P. Sloan Award for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility. This prestigious award recognizes employers across the country that are successfully using flexibility to meet both business and employee goals.

Applicants are measured against national data from the Families and Work Institute’s National Study of Employers in the areas of workplace flexibility programs, policies and culture. Those ranking in the top 20% become finalists and an extensive survey on the organizations practices is sent to all employees. Winners are chosen based on a combined score of both employer and employee survey responses.

Some of the practices that lead Leader Dog to receive the award are:

- o Many team members choose their own starting and quitting times and flex their daily work hours and weekly work schedules.
- o Employees can work as few as 32 hours per week while retaining their benefits and opportunity for upward mobility within the organization.
- o Work resources are provided for team members choosing to work from home 1-2 days each week eliminating their commute time and making their kids school and sports events more accessible.
- o Personal/sick days are taken or scheduled with ‘no questions asked’ so the employee uses them as needed in order to have the flexibility to manage personal and family responsibilities.
- o Team members can bring their pet canine to work which reduces the time spent away from their pet and enhances their workday.



Everyone deserves the opportunity for success...

Rejected. With good intentions etched into every ounce of his puppy body, Finn still managed to start out on the wrong paw. He was dismissed from another assistance dog program due to a dental problem that kept him from doing some essential tasks—like plucking a dropped credit card off the floor.

But Finn’s potential wasn’t lost on us. Seeing what every parent sees in a kid’s crooked smile—which we fixed with canine orthodontia—Finn came to Leader Dog while still wet behind his floppy ears.

As most of our dogs do, Finn spent his first year with a family of devoted puppy raisers who focused on prepping him for his career. The McBride family had only a year to love the furry little puppy, and to be loved unreservedly and enthusiastically in return. A year to socialize Finn with people and animals, to teach basic obedience, to attend after-school games and enjoy weekend trips to the cabin. Always hovering on the horizon was the knowledge that Finn would not be theirs forever. The five McBrides witnessed in Finn the characteristics that would eventually make him good at his job. “He is adventurous and friendly,” Finn’s human mom Janet remembers. “A quick dash to the grocery store turned into an hour-long event because everyone had to meet him.” Finn proved himself to be fearless and sportsmanlike as he learned that soccer balls on the field

“My Eyes. My best friend. My inspiration.”



The connection is obvious. You see it in the young man's face and in his long, sensitive fingers stroking the head of the big yellow dog. And you see it in the dog's body pressed against his master's leg, and in his alert expression with eyes scanning his environment, ready for anything. 'Finn is my eyes, inspiration, the other half of my heart,' Fernando Benitez says. 'He completes me, and, together, we're going to experience a new life.'

For Fernando, that new life means more freedom. Increased independence. Getting places faster than he could with a cane. For Finn, that new life means learning the hilly streets of Xalapa, Mexico, and Fernando's far-from-routine life as a university student, concert pianist and composer.

This is the next chapter in Finn's life, a life made possible by supporters like you.

Fernando has wanted a Leader Dog since, as a 12-year-old, he watched an older friend with a dog guide. 'I was amazed she could say, 'Find the door,' and her dog would. And she walked so fast with her dog.' Fernando applied for a dog of his own as soon as he was 18, the minimum age we require for students from outside the U.S. 'Now, it is just my music and Finn,' Fernando says. 'He will make it possible to do all I've dreamed of. We are inseparable. Finn's unconditional love for me fills up an empty space in my heart.'

Finn will help Fernando do his shopping. Travel between home and class. And accompany him as he plays at night in local jazz clubs. 'The people at Leader Dog are the best,' Fernando enthuses. 'They have given me eyes, and an opportunity to be in charge of my life.' We believe that everyone who needs a Finn should get one. Everyone deserves the opportunity to be in charge of their own lives—lives full of freedom and mobility. We have a 70-year commitment to respecting people and dogs, and ensuring that thousands of them get to build fuller lives together. Our commitment is made possible by the consistent support of contributors like you.

Fernando has waited for Finn since he was 12, and the power of their new relationship is undeniable. Fernando says Finn completes him. Finn, he says, is his eyes, his heart, his best friend, and his inspiration. Together all dreams are possible. By making your contribution, you have helped us continue to make dreams come true—dreams of lives full of possibility, independence and opportunity.

With deep appreciation,



Fernando Benitez

* * * * *

Leader Dog "General" Meets His Match



On Wednesday, November 18th, Leader Dog "General" was issued to his new master, Donald Bowman. General was sponsored by, and named after, General Motors Corporation. Coincidentally, Don retired several years ago from General Motor's Lansing Assembly Plant where his first Leader Dog, Lyle, accompanied him to work for seven years.

During his puppy year, General attended several events representing GM and Leader Dog. Here he poses with a classic Chevy GTO at the Woodward Dream Cruise.

"Between my connection with GM and General's connection with GM, it's kind of like we were meant to be together," says Don.



Don and General several hours after they met for the first time.



From the desk of State RFB&D Chair Lion Steve Helwig lion.swampthing@gmail.com

Helping Bring Textbooks to Life

Subject-Matter Experts Needed



RFB&D is seeking individuals to become part of our nationwide volunteer community. You can help bring textbooks to life for students with print disabilities, such as visual impairment or dyslexia.

We are currently in need of volunteer readers with expertise in school subjects like Accounting, Mathematics, Medicine, and Spanish. [Read the full list of subject areas](#) and [studio locations here](#).

As the nation's largest audio textbook and literature library,

RFB&D's full collection are all

recorded by volunteers and each year thousands of new titles are added in every subject and grade level.

RFB&D's success in serving people with print disabilities is due largely to our dedicated and talented volunteers. Their knowledge, combined with a steadfast dedication to our mission, have made RFB&D's extensive library the most unique and valued resource of its kind.

Volunteering at RFB&D is a [very fulfilling experience](#). Become a part of our exciting community of volunteers. [Visit our Nationwide Locations page](#) to contact a studio near you. Or, email us at volunteer@rfd.org to have someone contact you.

Subject Areas

RFB&D needs volunteers specializing and proficient in the following areas:

- Accounting/Finance
- Biochemistry
- Chemistry
- Computer-end user
- Computer Programming
- Economics
- Mathematics
- Medical/Alternative Medicine
- Microbiology
- Spanish
- Statistics
- Theology



How many children in America are not taught to read?

The answer is 90 percent if the children are blind.

Most Americans are shocked to hear this statistic. And we should be. The blind read and write using Braille, so why is our educational system failing to teach Braille to so many children? Why are these children being denied the opportunities that come with a proper education? What if you could not read and write? Where would you be today?



There are three primary reasons for this educational crisis: (1) there are not enough Braille teachers; (2) some teachers of blind children have not received enough training; and (3) many educators do not think Braille instruction is even necessary.

To bring critically-needed attention to this educational crisis, the United States Congress authorized the minting of the 2009 Louis Braille Bicentennial Silver Dollar with a portion of the sale of each coin going toward a revolutionary and comprehensive Braille literacy campaign.

Learning to read and write is fundamental to education, which in turn is paramount to full and equal participation in American society. This coin, the first U.S. coin to have proper tactile Braille, symbolizes independence, opportunity, and the potential of blind people to make significant contributions to society when they are taught to read and write using Braille. To learn more, read our report [The Braille Literacy Crisis in America](#), or watch our video [Change With a Dollar](#).

[Please purchase this unique and beautiful coin now](#) and help solve this educational crisis for blind children in America.

The law authorizing this 2009 silver dollar requires that any coins not sold by midnight on December 31, 2009, be melted down. Time is of the essence--a 90 percent illiteracy rate is not acceptable and the opportunity to purchase this coin will soon be gone.

Be part of the solution. Give the gift of literacy. Create new opportunities. [Buy the Louis Braille Bicentennial Silver Dollar today](#).



Southeastern Guide Dogs
Harness the power of freedom.

Robinson, PDG, SE Guide Dog
706-548-8719
bobcat8233@aol.com



Kathy Champion Finds Her Angel

After a Successful, 27-year career in the united states army as a civil affairs officer R, 44-year-old Kathy Champion is about to retire. The Lieutenant Colonel and PhD of Biological Sciences has served our country as a medical advisor and technician in foreign countries including Iraq, Afghanistan, and Bosnia.

In October 2007, Kathy was diagnosed with optic neuritis as a result of a virus she contracted while serving in Iraq. Her diminished eyesight has rendered her legally blind and impinging on her ability to continue her fiercely independent life.

But Kathy is a fighter, and she recently came to Southeastern Guide Dogs from her home in Gulfport, Florida, with the goal of reclaiming her freedom. Her new journey began the day she met her guide dog, Angel.

Kathy has always referred to her two children as "angels" so when we told her she was being matched with a dog named Angel, she knew it was fate. The bond began to grow before they even met and becomes stronger every day. Today, Kathy and Angel walk side by side with confidence and dignity. We are proud to play a role in their Forward Together journey.



Judy Stamsen CCI Chair
eskiemom@bellsouth.net



Canine Companions Service Dog Caspin helps Wallis live independently.

"He can retrieve my phone and other dropped items, pull my wheelchair and open doors for me," she continues.

Wallis has a condition known as dystonia, a disease that causes her muscles to spasm spontaneously. She was at the pharmacy when a "dystonic attack" came on and she could not move. Caspin helped her pay the cashier, get the bag from the cashier and gracefully exit the store.

Wallis wanted to learn more about a career in the assistance dog world, and is currently participating in a summer internship at Canine Companions headquarters in Santa Rosa, CA.

Robin knew an assistance dog would help her son Braden, challenged with autism. She contacted several organizations who expected her to do a great deal of fundraising before receiving a dog.

"I had basically given up hope, then I learned that Canine Companions for Independence was training dogs for autistic children," says Robin.

In May 2007 Robin and Braden graduated from Team Training with Skilled Companion Camille, free of charge and free of fundraising. Since then, Camille has changed Braden's life.

"Braden is much more social, calmer in public, and is developing empathy," Robin continues. "Camille gives Braden acceptance and love, without expecting him to be like everyone else."



Lion Kathryn Higgins
 Diabetes Awareness Chair
Klhiggins07@windstream.net

Diabetes on the Rise in U.S

A new Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index survey found that cases of diabetes are rapidly increasing in the United States, with the disease now affecting 11.3 percent of U.S. adults, up from 10.4 percent in the first quarter of 2008.

The survey found that approximately 26 million people in the U.S. have diabetes, and if the trend continues more than 37 million people will be living with the disease by the end of 2015. The survey also found that the U.S. obesity rate is up about 1 percent over last year. People who are obese are almost three times as likely to be diagnosed with diabetes than those who are not obese, according to the survey. "The upward trends in obesity rates almost certainly play a substantive role in the increase in diabetes rates over the same time period," the survey's report says.

Between January and September 2009, the Gallup-Healthways survey also found a significantly higher incidence of diabetes among those who did not exercise at least a half hour on any given day in the previous week. The survey found that 8 percent of people with diabetes exercised at least 30 minutes a day four to six times per week, 9.5 percent exercised at least half an hour daily in the previous week, and 15 percent did not exercise at least 30 minutes in the week before they were surveyed. The 10 states with the highest increases in obesity from 2008 to 2009 also had a related 0.5 percent increase in diabetes incidence.

Diabetes Drug Helps Obese Adults Lose Weight

Obese adults may shed more weight with the diabetes drug liraglutide than with the weight-loss drug orlistat (Xenical, Alli), suggests a study in *The Lancet* this week. The finding that liraglutide was superior to orlistat was "unexpected," Dr. Arne Astrup, from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, told Reuters Health.

Until now, liraglutide has only been tested for its blood sugar-lowering abilities in people with type 2 diabetes. "This is the first state of the art trial to test its weight loss properties" in obese adults without diabetes, Astrup said.

The biggest findings with liraglutide, Astrup said, were the "clear-cut" dose-response relationship with weight loss (the higher the dose, the greater the weight loss), "the nice reduction in blood pressure, and the "cure" of patients with "pre-diabetes" - that is, poor blood sugar control not yet bad enough to qualify as diabetes.

In the study, 564 obese adults without diabetes were randomly assigned to receive liraglutide at one of four doses (1.2, 1.8, 2.4, or 3.0 milligrams), placebo, or orlistat (120 milligrams). Liraglutide and placebo were given once daily as an injection, while orlistat was given three times a day in pill form.

All participants in the study increased their physical activity throughout the trial and followed a calorie-restricted diet, which contained approximately 500 calories less than they needed each day.

People who took liraglutide lost significantly more weight than people who took placebo or orlistat, Astrup and colleagues found. Liraglutide contains a satiety hormone that helps curb appetite. Average weight loss with the lowest liraglutide dose (1.2 mg) was 4.8 kilograms (10.6 pounds); with 1.8 mg liraglutide, subjects lost an average of 5.5 kg (12.1 pounds); with 2.4 and 3.0 mg liraglutide, subjects lost an average of 6.3 kg (13.9 pounds) and 7.2 kg (15.8 pounds), respectively.

This compares with an average weight loss of only 2.8 kg (6.2 pounds) with placebo and 4.1 kg (9 pounds) with orlistat. Moreover, 76 percent of subjects taking the highest dose of liraglutide lost more than 5 percent of their body weight compared with only 30 percent on placebo and 44 percent on orlistat. Liraglutide also lowered blood pressure at all doses.

At the start of the study, about a third of subjects in each group were considered "pre-diabetic." At the higher doses, liraglutide cut the number of pre-diabetics significantly -- by 84 to 96 percent. Nausea and vomiting were reported more often with liraglutide than with placebo, but side effects were usually transient and seldom led to discontinuation of treatment.

Astrup, who is a member of the Liraglutide Obesity Advisory Board of Novo Nordisk, the company developing the drug, noted that "liraglutide has to pass phase III trials before it can reach the market in the coming years. However, the drug is available for the treatment of type 2 diabetes in Europe."

Dr. George A. Bray, from Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, comments in a related editorial: "Whether long-term use of an injectable drug is palatable as a treatment for obesity is yet to be established."

SOURCE: *Lancet*, online October 23, 2009.

GET INVOLVED!
 FIND OUT HOW ►

About ADA/Diabetes Camp/Family Link/Planet D/Schools

The American Diabetes Association's Family Link is your connection to expert information about living with diabetes, managing diabetes at school and to other families who understand.



CHECK OUT PLANET D

A WEB SITE JUST FOR KIDS AND TEENS WITH DIABETES.



Ask the Expert go to <http://www.diabetes.org/home.jsp>



"Peace Begins
With Me"
2008-09 Grand
Prize Winner



Lions Family Cub Program — A frequent question is: How do we keep the children interested and involved? The answer is the Lions Family Cub Program which comes complete with a [30-page activity guide](#). The guide offers complete, step-by-step procedures that will help make Lion Cubs an integral part of your club. The [Lions Family Cub Program](#) will be an important part of making family membership a positive experience for parents as well as children. Please consider it as a part of our responsibility as Lion Leaders to serve our members and put their needs first. Remember that our Lion Cubs are the greatest potential source of Lions Club members in the future.

New LeoMMR Membership Web Site Is Live [LeoMMR](#) is a new monthly membership Web site just for Leos. This site gives Leo clubs, Leo districts and multiple districts the ability to maintain Leo membership data and run monthly reports. It also allows International Headquarters to communicate directly with all Leo members. Leo officers received passwords on November 3. For more information about the LeoMMR [contact the Youth Programs Department](#).

Leo Club Program Debuts on Facebook
The Leo Club Program announces its new Facebook Fan Page. Become a fan of [the official Leo Club Program Fan page](#) to get updates from LCI – and network with other Leos from around the world.

LEO STATE GATHERING @ CAMP FOR THE BLIND

29-31 January 2010

“THE LEOLYMPICS”

THIS YEAR'S STATEWIDE LEO GATHERING IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 29-31, 2010 AT OUR CAMP FOR THE BLIND IN WAYCROSS. THE THEME IS “THE LEOLYMPICS” SO WE WILL HAVE ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND AROUND THIS (WITH SOME SPECIAL SURPRISES!). AS WE HAVE DONE EACH TIME THE GATHERING HAS BEEN HELD AT THE CAMP WE ARE ALSO PLANNING TO TACKLE WORK PROJECTS ASSIGNED BY THE CAMP STAFF.

WE ARE EXPECTING 75-100 LEOS, LIONS, AND OTHER ADULTS THIS YEAR (AND, OF COURSE, HOPING FOR MORE!) FROM FRIDAY EVENING THROUGH SUNDAY MORNING. THE LEO GATHERING COMMITTEE IS PROVIDING FOUR MEALS (3 SATURDAY AND BREAKFAST SUNDAY), DRINKS, AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS. THERE ARE NUMEROUS OTHER EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH PUTTING ON AN EVENT OF THIS SCOPE AND THE TOTAL COST USUALLY EXCEEDS \$1,000.00.

I AM WRITING TO ASK EACH CLUB AND/OR INDIVIDUAL LION TO CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO HELP FUND THIS YEAR'S LEO GATHERING. ALL MONIES WILL BE PUT IN A SPECIAL LEO GATHERING CHECKING ACCOUNT AND A DETAILED REPORT SHOWING ALL EXPENDITURES WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE COUNCIL AFTER THE GATHERING. IF THERE IS A BALANCE AFTER EXPENSES IT WILL BE CARRIED OVER FOR NEXT YEAR'S EVENT.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A LIST OF ITEMS NEEDED POSTED ON THE MD18 LEO WEBSITE (www.georgialeos.com) BY NOVEMBER 20TH. ANY HELP WITH THIS LIST WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED! IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN TO A LEO GATHERING PLEASE CONSIDER COMING – WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU AND YOU'LL HAVE A GREAT TIME WITH OUR LEOS AND LIONS! LET ME KNOW AND I'LL GET THE INFORMATION AND FORMS TO YOU.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR HELPING TO PROVIDE OUR LEOS WITH A GREAT EXPERIENCE!

IN SERVICE,
STEVE HELWIG
MD18 LEO CLUBS PROGRAM CHAIR
MD18 LEO GATHERING CHAIR



100 WAYS WE AS LIONS CAN HELP CHILDREN (AND OURSELVES FOR THAT MATTER):

- _ Provide opportunities for interaction between children and the elderly so that both groups can learn to communicate across generations.
- _ Teach children simple life skills such as how to make a sandwich, fry an egg, make a bed, or clean the dishes.
- _ Give children an allowance to teach them how to manage money.
- _ Ask a child for his or her opinion.
- _ Share stories from your life with a child.
- _ Donate your old eyeglasses to the Lighthouse.



Lions Services for Children Projects

The problems children face vary in degree from country to country, but the need for health and education services is constant and universal. Lions clubs help address these needs by developing projects with specific, attainable goals, including:

- **Collecting food, clothes or books**
- **Organizing a vision or hearing screening**
- **Providing immunizations through a vaccination drive**
- **Starting a literacy program with a local school, library, community center or [Leo club](#)**
- **Supporting a nutritional program for undernourished children**
- **Securing wheelchairs for disabled children**
- **Sending a child with diabetes or physical challenges to a specialized camp**

Lions have also constructed hospitals, schools, orphanages and children's centers throughout the world to serve youth in need.



Leo Facebook Fan Page

The Leo Club Program announces its new Facebook Fan Page. Become a fan of the official [Leo Club Program Fan page](#) and get updates from LCI and talk with other Leos from around the world!

Life Lessons Across Cultures and Around the World

Each year, the Lions International Youth Camp and Exchange Program introduces young people to life in other cultures by helping them travel abroad. Each Youth Camp and Exchange includes an extended stay hosted by one of our many international clubs.

As a participant, you will:

- **Live with a family in another country**
- **Meet people your age from around the world**
- **Learn about the bonds we all share – and the differences we respect in each other no matter where we live**



Youth Camp and Exchange Types

An **Exchange** can be arranged in hundreds of countries and geographic locations where there are Lions clubs. Most exchanges last between four and six weeks during which the participants (ages 15-21) stay with one or more host families in another country.

Camps are one or two weeks long and bring together young people (ages 16-22) from around the world. Camps usually include a family stay that lasts between one and four weeks. More than 100 Lions camps are held each year in about 39 countries. Activities include visits to places of cultural or natural interest, sporting events and country presentations by the camp participants.

101 Ways to Teach Youth How to Cope with Stress (and these will help adults as well)

- ** Set priorities in your life.
- ** Avoid negative people when you can. (And you don't be negative either.)
- ** Use time wisely.
- ** Always make copies or save files of important documents.
- ** Anticipate your needs.
- ** Repair things that don't work properly.
- ** Ask for help with the jobs you dislike.
- ** Break large tasks into bit size portions...





Welcome to Liberty Day!

Liberty Day is a program for our youth. It is a way to strength citizenship in our youth through a program based on the Constitution of the United States. This is a program started by the Lions Clubs of Denver. Georgia adopted this program in the late 1990s.

There are several ways a Lions Club can sponsor a Liberty Day program. The first way is through a school program. Lions Clubs should arrange a speaker who would be interesting to the students. This speaker could be an elected official or someone who could speak on the rights and responsibilities of citizens as granted by the Constitution.

Once you have your speaker, you can receive permission of the school system to sponsor a Liberty Day event to a class or a group of students. I have found that 8th grade and up is ideal. Then order the number of Liberty Day booklets you need from me. The cost is \$.60 each and includes shipping.

Also work with the teachers) so that they reinforce what the speaker has said through an essay or other classroom work. The students could even write a letter of thanks to the speaker / Lions Club on the subject. Another project is with a Boy Scout troop. Boy Scouts must earn the Citizenship in the Nation merit badge as a requirement for rank promotion. Again, use the speaker and the booklets. The Liberty Day project has been endorsed by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America. A third project is when a group of youth work a project in a public place to promote the Constitution. There are a series of questions that they can use. They would ask an adult the question-- whether it is right or wrong, the adult receives either a flag pin or flag sticker. The booklets are used to coach the youth on the Constitution so that they are more confident in asking the questions as they know the answers themselves. They should work under the guidance of adults and in a place that has given permission for them to be there.

If your Lions Club is interested in sponsoring a Liberty Day project with a Scout group, please contact your District Liberty Day Chair or Lil Shurtleff, MD Liberty Day Chair.



**LIBERTY DAY GEORGIA
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE/U.S.
CONSTITUTION**



GLASB Mission

The Georgia Lions All State Band is a Georgia Lions supported youth activity with the goal of providing a great opportunity for middle and high school musicians from across the state of Georgia to enjoy a rewarding musical experience with some of the best directors in Georgia.



Participation allows the student the opportunity to showcase their musical talents with other gifted musicians from across the state. The band each year performs before the Lions of Georgia each year at its State Convention and travels to the Lions International Convention (US Convention).



*Youth Becoming
Music Ambassadors
To The World*

**Georgia Lions All-State Band 2010
Application for membership
Go to www.edmclion.com**

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*Have All Lions
Received the
Word?*

*Make A Copy of
This Bulletin*

*So We Can All Be
Heard.*