



District 18-D Bulletin

We Serve



MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR LIONS OF NORTHEAST GEORGIA

October 2009



District Governor
Grace Clower

Dear Lions of 18-D,

I am amazed at the Lions work that is being done in our district. In visiting all the clubs, I hear the reports of all the activities in each club. You are a great example of our motto, "We Serve".

In addition to club visits, I attended the Joint Camp for the Blind and Lighthouse Meeting in Tifton in September. It was great to see our two Lions projects working so close together to make a weekend like that happen. It was very satisfying to hear the success stories from both our projects. These successes would not be possible if it were not for the support we give them. If your club has not made a donation to the Camp and/or the Lighthouse, I would urge you to do so as soon as possible. They need our support NOW.

I was saddened to have to attend the funeral for our Past International Director George Crumbley. Lion George was the founder of the Peach Bowl football classic, which is now the Chick-Fil-A Bowl. He was also a tireless worker for our Lighthouse. To say he will be missed, is a gross understatement.

As Council of Governors representative to the Lighthouse, I attended a Board of Directors Meeting. The services our Lighthouse provides have increased sharply in the past year. That is reflected by the 362 eye surgeries that were performed last year. With strong leadership, the Board of Directors voted to move forward with the concept of a capital campaign to secure a larger facility for the Lighthouse. You will be hearing more about this in the future.

We all watched as parts of our district and the State were decimated by flood waters. Some of my club members were affected by flood waters. The damage was nothing compared to that in DeKalb, Fulton, Cobb, Douglas and many other counties. You will be hearing from our Lions ALERT Chair PDG Ken Thurmond about a campaign to collect items for clean-up to help those affected. Please respond where needed.

I urge all members to attend Zone Meetings, Cabinet Meetings, and our District Rally in November. These are opportunities to come together with other Lions, learn more about Lionism, and make new friends. Don't forget to make your reservation for the Hall of Fame Dinner on November 13. The cost is \$18.00 per person. Send checks, payable to DG Grace Clower - at 2929 Sandra Drive, Snellville, GA 30078 no later than Oct. 24th. You may also make reservations for the District Rally Luncheon at \$18.00 per person by sending the form your club received to Lion Herman Jones. I look forward to seeing you in Gainesville for these two events.

I look forward to celebrating with the Gainesville Lions Club their 75th Anniversary. It is amazing that their club is still strong after being chartered June 29, 1934. What about your club? Will it still be strong 75 years after your charter date? The only way we can stay strong is to "move to grow". As of today, District 18-D has added 36 new members; but we have dropped 38 members. Keep working hard to recruit "good" Lions members and keep the members we now have. If we all work together, we can grow Lionism in 18-D!

Yours in Service, Grace

18-D District Rally

13-14 November = Hall of Fame night and District Rally

Now is the time to be thinking about the upcoming District Rally. Inform all of your members to mark their calendars for this day.

There will be a Friday Night Reception/Hall of Fame dinner starting at 6:30 pm reception to meet the ID and 7:00 pm dinner at a cost of \$18.00 each. Dress for this event will be **Sunday Dress**. Location will be at Elks Club on 1547 Riverside Drive, in Gainesville, GA.

The 54th District Rally will be held at noon (12:00) and our speaker will be ID Art Marson from La Crosse, Wisconsin. The 2nd Cabinet Meeting will start at 2:00 pm. This will take place at the Gainesville Civic Center on Green Street in Gainesville.



There will be a seminar from 9-10:30 am followed by a Panel Discussion with ID Art and a couple of other dignitaries from 10:45 to 11:45. The Rally will start at Noon till 2:00 PM.

This is a good time to ensure that all new members are invited to attend. Cost will be \$18.00 per person. Come one, come all... **Club tables can be reserved on a first-come/first serve basis for \$144.00.**

Check out the Editor's section of the Bulletin for more INFO

Check your mail box

For more info will come – stay tuned.

Planning Ahead

**Council of Governors Meeting
21 November – Wingate Hotel,
Clairmont Road, Decatur**

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

October 2009

Exemplifying "We Serve"- Lions World Sight Day 2009

Each year hundreds of Lions clubs around the world hold vision screenings, community education programs, eyeglass collections and other special projects to mark Lions World Sight Day, which is October 11 in 2007. Partnering with local eye care professionals or organizations to conduct vision, glaucoma and cataract screenings

- Offering to work with local schools or preschools on vision screenings or providing information about eye health to students
- Conducting a diabetes screening and awareness program in conjunction with a local
- Distributing Lions Eye Health Program material at a health fair, library or community center
- Launching or expanding a community-wide eyeglass recycling program

Now is the time to plan your club's activities for **Lions World Sight Day 2007**. There are a number of resources that will help. For suggestions about what your club can do to mark Lions World Sight Day, download The Lions World Sight Day [Activity Guide](#).



Plan for Sight Night 2009. What do we do?

Decide who is going to organize and collect eyeglasses for your Sight Night activity. Consider partnering with your Leo Club, Boy or Girl Scouts, Children Church Groups, schools, etc. Confirm the date for trick-or-treat in your community.



What a challenge.....

Work with kids.....



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 



Lions on YouTube, MySpace, Twitter and More

Did you know Lions are all over the Web? Social networking is a great way to keep in touch with Lions around the world and to see what LCI is doing. Watch Lions videos on [YouTube](#), see photos and network with others on [Facebook](#) and get the latest LCI news on [Twitter](#), all from the comfort of your computer.



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.



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](#).



Sight Night – Have Fun, Collect Eyeglasses

Have fun, get noticed in the community and collect eyeglasses for those in need by joining Lions and volunteers in Sight Night. A partnership between OneSight and Lions Clubs International, Sight Night has had more than 165,000 collect more than 1 million pair of eyeglasses in the last 10 years. [SightNight resources](#) are available to help you get started with your collection.

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

Community Eye Care

In thousands of communities across North America, OneSight volunteers work with local charitable partners to provide free eye care and eyewear to those in need. To date, more than 3.57 million children and adults have been helped through these community partnerships.

In-Store Programs: People in need are served in several retail brands including LensCrafters, Pearle Vision, Sears Optical and Target Optical.

OutReach: OneSight volunteers often go out into their local

communities to provide vision screenings, eyewear adjustments and cleanings to those in need.

For information, call 1-888-935-4589.



E-Clubhouse Gives Lions Free Web Site

Lions clubs around the world can find a new home on the Internet with the e-Clubhouse. The [e-Clubhouse](#) enables clubs to build a Web site and enhance their presence on the Web. Located in the Member Center on the Lions Clubs International Web site, the e-Clubhouse provides fill-in-the-blank fields and pre-formatted templates to simplify the process while providing clubs with a Web site possessing a polished and tech-savvy appearance. The e-Clubhouse also gives consistency to the new Lions branding while enabling clubs to preserve their individuality. And the best part – it’s free.

The site template includes a club calendar, club projects, photo gallery and contact us page to help tell others about their Lions club. Up to five more pages can be added.

In the coming development phases, the e-Clubhouse will be equipped with social networking tools and a password-protected member only area. All official languages will also be supported.



Lions Clubs International Wins Web and Video Awards

Lions Clubs International and Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) [recently earned honors](#) from two professional media associations for their new Web site and videos featuring global volunteer efforts and an appeal for disaster relief in China. [Watch LQ](#).

Submit Lions Club Activity Reports for 2009-2010

Encourage your club secretary to include your monthly club accomplishments in the online [Lions Club Activity Report](#).

Club secretaries should submit their club's activity report information on-line every month from July 16, 2009 through July 15, 2010. A final report at the end of the year creates a global overview of Lions club activities. If you have questions about the Lions Club Activity Report, e-mail: activityreports@lionsclubs.org.

November – Lions Diabetes Awareness Opportunities

Diabetes prevention is proven, possible and powerful. Eating healthier and getting 30 minutes of physical activity five days a week are two simple lifestyle changes that can delay or prevent diabetes.

In November, Lions have two special opportunities to promote diabetes awareness: November is Lions Diabetes Awareness Month and November 14 is [World Diabetes Day](#). [Learn more](#) about activities to commemorate Lions Diabetes Awareness Month and increase your club's visibility in the community. Organize an enjoyable and exciting event that can attract families, community residents and prospective members to your club while promoting diabetes awareness in your area. Learn how you can make a positive difference through the [Strides Walk Program](#). You will find educational materials online that you can download and

print, or [complete an order form](#) to receive materials.

Lions Quest 25th Anniversary

In recognition of Lions Quest's 25-year anniversary, Lions Clubs International Foundation will support a number of exciting activities throughout the upcoming year. The celebration started at the 92nd Annual Lions Clubs International Convention in Minneapolis, where Lions had many opportunities to learn more about the positive youth development program and show their support for Lions Quest. Anniversary materials, including buttons, brochures and a [new Lions Quest DVD](#) will be available throughout the year. At the beginning of the school year, Lions Quest will launch the "Heroes in the Community" contest, joining Lions and Lions Quest classrooms together in service. As Lions Quest embarks on an exciting year of celebration, share the great success of the program with your fellow Lions and communities. For more information, please visit [Lions Quest online](#).

Strides: Promote Diabetes Awareness

Would you like to increase your club's visibility in your community? Would you like to organize an enjoyable and exciting event? A Strides Walk can attract families, community residents and prospective members to your club while promoting diabetes awareness in your area. Learn how you can make a positive difference and raise awareness for your club membership through the [Strides Walk Program](#). Your club or district can organize a walk at:

- Lions district or multiple district convention
- Community health fair or other event
- Special health awareness day, such as World Diabetes Day (November 14) or Lions Diabetes Awareness Month (November)

A Strides Information Packet contains all information necessary to plan a successful walk. Complete the [Strides Walk Materials order form](#) to obtain a kit or other educational materials. For more information the program, contact [Health and Children's Services](#).

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.

Great website for evaluating your preparedness for an emergency. Lots of good information. This will also let you know about the current swine flu status.

<http://ready.ga.gov/>

**Also find it on your web site under
GA LIONS ALERT**



Dear Lion,

LCIF DONOR SERVICES Status of Installments

	\$	Name	
ATHENS	4,950.00		5
ATHENS CLASSIC CITY	2,600.00		3
CLARKESVILLE	450.00		1
CLAYTON	420.00		1
CLERMONT NORTH HALL	790.00		1
COMER	2,970.50		3
COMMERCE	402.00		1
DAHLONEGA	296.00		1
ELBERTON	250.00		1
GAINESVILLE	1,630.00		2
HARTWELL	1,705.00		2
JEFFERSON	684.00		1
LAVONIA	400.00		1
LAWRENCEVILLE	3,252.00		4
LOGANVILLE	1,410.00		2
MARTIN	5,361.00		6
OCONEE	5,005.00		5
ROYSTON FRANKLIN	845.00		1
TOCCOA	200.00		1
TOWNS COUNTY	7,354.11		8
UNION COUNTY	2,200.00		3
WINDER	767.00		1
WINDER NOON	375.00		1

The above figures show what is on account waiting for someone to be named a Melvin Jones Fellow within your Club. Add to the total indicated to make an even \$1,000 and you can name a Melvin Jones Fellow. Clubs that can name a Melvin Jones Fellow NOW should submit an application to clear the books. Those clubs that have money on file should send the remaining funds in order to name a Melvin Jones Fellow. Any questions – please contact your LCIF District Coordinator Lion Steve Hart, PDG for more info. Have you submitted an application???

Sight for Kids Screens 10 Millionth Child

In September, [Sight for Kids](#), a program of Lions Clubs International Foundation and partner, Johnson & Johnson, will screen its 10 millionth child. The program, established in 2002, screens children for refractive error and other vision problems, including myopia (nearsightedness), which causes significant vision loss in more than 15 percent of children under the age of 15 in many Asian countries.

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One Million Children Screened through Preschool Vision Screening Program

In the beginning of August, the Preschool Vision Screening Program screened the [one-millionth child](#) helped through the foundation-based program. The milestone screening is part of [United We Serve](#), a nationwide call to participate in community service. Lions were encouraged to coordinate a project during Health Week to support the summer long initiative. Register your local project [on-line](#).

New Videos Available

Several new videos are now available about the foundation, including Jimmy Carter Recognizes Lions, LCIF Partnering for Service, Lions Quarterly: LCIF Highlights, and Lions Quest: Skills for Life. All videos can be viewed [on-line](#).

Grants Approved

At the Board Meeting in Minneapolis, 57 grants were approved. During fiscal year 2008-2009, 453 grants were approved by the Foundation, totaling more than \$28 million in humanitarian support worldwide.



Editor's Note

Fellow Lions:

Dear Club Presidents & Secretaries,

I hope your club is having a great Lions year. I appreciate all you are doing for Lionism. I wanted to mention a few reminders as we progress in our Lions year.

1. District 18-D Hall of Fame Dinner - Friday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m. Gainesville Elks Lodge, 1547 Riverside Dr. Gainesville - \$18.00 per person. We will have a time of fellowship at 6:30 p.m. Since this is a special recognition for our inductees, instead of casual dress, I think it would be appropriate if we all wear Sunday dress.

2. District 18-D Rally - Gainesville Civic Center - 830 Green St., Gainesville

9:00-10:30 a.m. - MERL Team Program (All Lions encouraged to attend)

10:30-11:30 a.m. - Panel Discussion (Will include visiting International Director and representatives from the Camp for the Blind and Lions Lighthouse)

12:00 Noon - Rally Luncheon - \$18.00 per person - Reservations must be made by October 24th - Let's see which club in the district will have the largest number of Lions attending. We are asking each club to donate 2 door prizes for the Rally. We will also hold the drawing for the Lions quilt to be given away.

2:00-3:30 p.m. - Second Cabinet Meeting - We will be recognizing all Lions who have sponsored a new member since July 1 and also the new member.

3. Club Websites & Directory Changes - If your club has a website, please see that your website is updated. Also, if you have changes to the District Directory, please send them to Cabinet Secretary-

Treasurer Steve Hart (email: peng77@bellsouth.net)

4. Donations to Charities - If your club wishes to make donations to any of our projects, please mail your check directly to them or to the District Chair of that project. They all need the funds NOW!

5. Peace Poster Contest - Please notify me by Oct. 15th if you will have an entry this year. Your entry must be postmarked no later than Nov. 15th.

6. Lions Day in Georgia - In conjunction with International President Wirf's program, Lions in Sight, the Council of Governors are proposing a Lions Day in Georgia in January. We hope to have a proclamation signed by Governor Perdue, and we will be asking each club to have a community service project

sometime around the date of Melvin Jones' birthday (January 13th) More details to come!

7. Membership - Many clubs are having membership meetings in October. We need to keep recruiting new members, especially families and women. At present, since July 1, our district has added 36 new members, but we have dropped 38 members. Please consider forming LEO Clubs, Branch Clubs, and Campus Clubs. Secretaries, thank you for submitting your Monthly Membership Reports timely.

Please remember to submit a report even though your club may not have added or dropped any members for a particular month.

8. Lions Programs - Please remember to invite any of our District Chairpersons to present a program for your club. There are many good presentations being made at different clubs.

9. Club Excellence Award - Please remember to send your Club Excellence Award reports to Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer Steve Hart monthly. You also need to go back and construct a report since May 1.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you, again, for the great job you are doing to make 18-D the best district in the State!

DG Grace

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RALLY RAFFLE FOR THE BELOW QUILT

In addition to what you see in the picture, the quilt will also have "Lions of Georgia 2009 - 2010" embroidered across the top. Raffle tickets for \$2.00 a ticket or 3 tickets for \$5.00. Drawing will be at the Rally



"Opportunity lies within Lions." Unknown



Dear Lion,

As we know, growth requires movement -- but not just random movement! Movement without a plan wastes time and energy, and because time is short and our responsibilities are great, we can afford to do neither.

As leaders we must focus our energies and coordinate our movements in specific areas, especially the critical task of increasing membership in existing clubs and improving the retention of members. While we have had a great start to our Lionistic year, with a record number of new clubs and an overall net growth of 3,750 members worldwide through August, I have just now challenged our DG Teams to focus on increasing growth in existing clubs between September and December of this year. Let me share some ideas with you because it is you - our club leaders - who know the challenges and how to succeed.



A good place to start is the Family Membership Program which has had great success. The program has done much to invigorate existing clubs and help form new ones, but sometimes clubs need help in implementing the plan. So below you will find some excellent guidelines and new materials.

Just imagine if our 45,000 clubs grew by only one or two members in the next four months? It would not only make history for our great association, but it would also create a brighter future for the millions who need our service. I know you can do it.

With gratitude and best wishes for success in all you do.

With cordial regards,

Eberhard J. Wirfs, International President
Lions Clubs International

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.

DGs should complete the report response pages and return them to the appropriate GMT leaders. Remember, GMT area leaders are here to help build on membership strengths, and to help identify challenges and areas of opportunity.

Club presidents and membership and retention chairpersons are encouraged to stay in close contact with district membership and retention chairs and district governor teams - sharing membership successes and concerns that can be passed on to the GMT.

Keeping GMT area leaders informed helps to bring your local picture into focus in a global organization and helps your voice to be heard.

Move to Grow



"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.

Move to Grow Special Highlights

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.

Qualified Lions

You may ask: How can we be sure that we are bringing qualified members into our clubs? Using the tried-and-true Lions Clubs International [recruiting methods](#) should ensure that prospective members will be persons of quality and achievement. Remember, not everyone can or should be a Lion! Lions Club membership has always been and always will be a privilege. As Lions we enjoy the privilege of serving our communities in truly effective ways and in fellowship with like-minded people. That is what truly qualifies someone to be a Lion -- the sincere desire to help and embrace the "We Serve" spirit.

Important Information

President's Ginkgo Awards

Recognition and motivation are essential components of leadership in Lions Clubs International. This year [President's Ginkgo Awards](#) will be presented to 100 special Lions in recognition of excellence in public relations, service projects, fund raising, leadership development and selfless service to the association. Being aware of these and other opportunities for recognition can help inspire outstanding performance from your fellow Lions.

October Membership Growth and Membership Awards

October has long been Membership Growth Month in Lions Clubs International. While we now recognize that membership growth must be an ongoing, year-round priority, October is still a good time for your club to put extra emphasis on recruiting new members. As in past years, recruiting success will be recognized through the October Membership Growth Award Program. [Learn more](#) about qualifying for a club banner patch award.

In addition to the October awards and the longstanding [Membership Key](#) program, [year-round growth](#) will be recognized with its own awards including the Membership Excellence banner patch for clubs and the Year-Round Growth Constitutional Award International Clock for three outstanding Lions in each constitutional area.

Lions Clubs International provides these and many other tools to support you in your membership growth efforts. I hope you will take advantage of many of them.

Region/Zone Meetings

Region I = 2 November at Rocky Ford Recreation Center, at 7:00 pm in Carnesville, GA.

*Region II – Zone 1 meeting is on 12 November, at 7:00pm, in Blairsville at the Blairsville Civic Center,
189 Welborn Street, Blairsville, GA 30512*

Zone 2 meeting is on 3 November at 6:30 pm at Ryan's in Dawsonville, GA on Hwy 400.

*Region III = Combined Region Meeting --- Thursday, 29 October 2009, 6:30 p.m. Go through the line to eat,
7:00 p.m. – Meeting, Golden Corral Steakhouse , 163 E. May Street, Winder, Ga.*



RETENTION

RETENTION: NEVER A GOOD REPORT

When I gave the Council of Governor's my MD-18 Retention Report earlier this month I first asked everyone to "boo" me. I did not get a very loud "boo," but I'm going to ask you to go ahead and add you're "boos." Over time I'm sure the "boos" will get louder. The point is that I will never be able to provide a **good** report. Therefore, let me provide you the gist of the report I gave your District Governors.

Unlike my last article, I will from now on only focus on retention. Although there are other membership issues, you have other MERL team chairs to address them. However, I will again assert that it is our retention of members that is the major membership challenge facing us! Not that you are going to like my reports, what I am going to start reporting is only the number and percentage of our members lost each month and how that loss accumulates over time.

Our Lions' starting point this year was 6,652 members. So far the following losses have occurred: July losses, 99 Lions (1.49%); August losses, 192 Lions (2.9%); to date losses: 291 Lions (4.37%). We are always going to be losing Lions. This is the reason my reports are never going to be good. Indeed, as the MMRs your club secretary's send to LCI each month acknowledge, Lions move, transfer, and, unfortunately, Lions eventually pass on. For the most part though, there is little that we can do about these losses and a transfer is not an actual loss of a Lion except for one club.

The types of Lions' membership losses that I will be focusing on as your MD-18 Retention Chair are those of: Resigned in good standing, Dropped for non-payment, Dropped for non-attendance, Dropped for non-attendance and non-payment, and Other. Based on the MMRs posted on the LCI web site, here is the percent of losses we experienced in MD-18 in August: Resigned in good standing (32.9%), Other (25.6%), Dropped for non-attendance and non-payment (14.6%), Dropped for non-payment (3.6%), and Dropped for non-attendance (3.6%).

Slightly over 80% of our August Lions membership loss does deserve our attention. I may never have a good report, but my goal, which is going to require your dedicated support, is to reduce this loss! Stay tuned in. I'll be back with some suggestions.

Yours in Lionism,

Richard "Dick" Smith
MD-18 MERL TEAM RETENTION CHAIR



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

MOVE TO GROW

Family and Women Membership Development

The participation of women and families are the two largest potential avenues for growth in our organization. Volunteering together allows families to share precious time with each other. The tradition of giving back to the community is passed from one generation to the next. During the next three years, we will be working toward holding symposiums of interest to women and families which will be geared to encouraging the development of new family clubs or the expanding family participation in existing clubs.

Women have always played an integral part in the success of Lions Club International programs and initiatives. Young women with families are often torn between a desire to help the community and strengthen familial bonds. Family clubs will offer them a solution to this dilemma. There are many projects that clubs may participate in that are suitable for the whole family.

As District Family and Women's Membership Development Chairperson, I am asking you to consider creating for your club ideas for community service or fund raising activities that will allow participation of family members of all ages. Also, I hope you will be looking forward to our upcoming symposiums.

Lion Marlene Gillman, District Family &
Women Membership Development 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.

Auburn-Carl Lions Club = Plans are for a take part in the Community Fest in October by passing out flyer information on the Lions Club and selling apples, ham and egg supper on November 14, and annual senior citizen Christmas Dinner and also providing door prizes on December 5

Commerce Lions Club = Fall Pancake Supper – Commerce United Methodist Church from 5:30 thru 7:00 pm. Tickets will be available during the last meeting in September. Membership Drive – Once again our club will endeavor to reach out to prospective members and invite them to our meeting on 13 October – you must know someone.

Cornelia Lions Club = The Annual Children's Film Festival is coming up in November! Ticket are being sold via the telephone, so when a Lion Representative calls you please give generously! This year's big event will again be held at the Habersham Hills Cinemas on Highway 365! We'll pass along other information on the exact date, time, and what movies will be shown soon!

Forsyth County Lions Club = Three hard workers reflect at the end of the long day at the Forsyth Family Festival. Lions Tom Connor, Tony DiCarlo and Ron Young. Lions Elaine Reid and Clara Kell wrapped sandwiches all day! The Forsyth County Lions Club had the opportunity to hold a special fundraiser during the recent Forsyth Family Festival hosted by several area churches and featuring Will Graham as the guest preacher. Over 6000 folks were fed during the day-long event. The **FAIR – 8-18 October**, Various - 11 days, Gate \$5.00 Cumming Fairgrounds - Rides, music, Old time town, fun and games. Our club will serve homemade soups, cornbread and sandwiches.



Jefferson Lions Club = Committee Reports = Eyeglass: Lion Jerry Legg has collected 339 lenses, 107 eyeglasses, 4 sunglasses, 15 cell phones and 10 chargers. **CALENDARS:** Lion Jim Smith collected about \$3000 to date; another \$800 is outstanding, \$500 of which is for ads. **Adopt-A-Road:** We picked up litter on one mile of adopted road September 29. Eight (8) Lions participated (Dwayne Ansley, Ken Brand, Edna Briggs, Mac Cates, Bob Friedlander, Buddy Hunt, Dot Hunt, Lyle Robins). Total man hours 10. **Vision Screening:** Jefferson Lions (Jo and John Longo, Jimmy Mock, and Edna Briggs) performed Vision Screening at the Health Fair of the Jackson EMC Annual Meeting Thursday, September 24. A total of 108 people were screened. 88 of them were adults -- 31 failed the test, and 20 children -- all passed. Total 30 man hours counting travel time. **Awards:** District Governor Grace Clower gave a "shining light award" to Eyeglass Committee Chair, Jerry Legg, and to Calendar Fundraiser Project Chair, Jim Smith, and thanked them for what they do. **NEWSPAPER articles this month:** One. The Jackson Herald, September 23, 2009, included a picture of District Governor Grace Clower, together with Zone Chair, Dot Hunt and Jefferson Lions President, Jimmy Mock. An article accompanied the picture, a copy of which is attached hereto.



DISTRICT GOVERNOR VISITS
Pictured with District Governor Grace Clower (C) is Dot Hunt, 18D Region 3, Zone 1 Chair, who introduced the governor; and Jimmy Mock, president of Jefferson Lions Club.

District Governor visited the Lions Club

ON SEPTEMBER 14, the Jefferson Lions Club had the honor of hosting District Governor Grace Clower, as honored guest and speaker for the evening. Lion Grace has served as a Lion for 23 years, a charter member of the Snellville Lions Club and then a member of the Stockbridge Lions Club where she served as president before becoming elected district governor.

She related her theme to the Jefferson Lions Club, "Service Shines Through."
She stated that the club's service is making a difference in a hurting world. She also said that the club faces the challenge of helping more people in need than ever before, and that she had no doubt that the Lions of District 18 and the Jefferson Lions would meet the challenge.

Loganville Lions Club = The Loganville Lions were privileged to have Kristen Picus from the Georgia Camp for the Blind as their speaker at a recent meeting. Ms. Picus talked about the activities at the camp at Waycross which lasts for 8 weeks each summer. One hundred vision impaired campers enjoyed the camping experience this summer. Campers are of various ages and degree of impairment, many totally blind. According to Kristen, the campers are encouraged to perform challenging activities in which sighted people normally engage, such as wall climbing, horseback riding, swimming and other activities. Pictured are Lion President Ben Johnson, Picus, Randy Broner (guest and potential member) along with his sponsor Lion Wayne White.



Norcross Lions Club = Norcross Art Fest 3-4 October. Honored a Norcross High School Student Mary Ann during month of September.



Snellville Lions Club = Presented 29 Perfect Attendance Pins to members. 27 October concession trailer to be used at the Autumn on the Green for a fund raiser. **Service Project:** Turned into the Lighthouse -- 532 used eye glasses, 54 pairs of loose lens and 5 cell phones. 5 members worked on eye screen testing at the Lilburn Day of Service. **Annual Elisha Winn Festival October =** Visit our trailer and tents where you are guaranteed to enjoy our great hot dogs, hamburgers, funnel cakes, drinks, and snow cones.

Toccoa Lions Club = October 3rd Pancake Breakfast - Toccoa Elementary School - 6:00a.m. -10:00a.m. (Sight Conservation). **Sage Market** – 10 October Brooms & Walking Sticks, Flower Bulbs Sale - 8:a.m. – Noon. **November 7th Toccoa Harvest Festival - Lions Rest Area, Health Screening** - Food Concessions, Walking Sticks, Mop & Broom Sales. **Remember** - Local doctors including Lion Dr. Kay Royal, Lion Dr. Kevin Vanderhoef, Dr. Ralph Reed, Dr. Kenneth Schneider and Dr. Jack Harris serve as medical consultants to Toccoa Lions Club. Pharmacist, Steve Spruill, offers valuable information regarding availability of pharmaceuticals, and Registered Nurse Ruth Payton gives insight on important issues such as Diabetes.



Towns County Lions Club = 9-17 October - Fall Festival – Fairgrounds. 10 November - 6:30 P.M. - Spouse & Visitor's Meeting - Anderson Music Hall - Auction for "Give-a-Christmas" Veteran's Day Recognition.



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



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.

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.

Winder Noon Lions Club = Mobile Food Pantry continues to feed families



The monthly mobile drives are another way for the Barrow County Cooperative Benevolence Ministries to work with the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia to help combat hunger in these economic times.

It was an overcast, cool day, but that was a good thing for the people who were waiting to receive a food donation from last Thursday's Mobile Food Pantry distribution. According to Gwen Hill, president of the Barrow County Benevolence Ministries, 561 households were served. "There's no signs of slow down," she said, remarking on the number of people who attended to receive part of the 30,000 pounds of food. The Winder Noon Lions Club sponsored a Mobile Food Pantry on Aug. 27 at Holly Hill Mall. Lion Al Brown, manager of the Barrow County Food Pantry, is in charge of the mobile food pantry with Gwen Hill, president of the Barrow County Benevolence Ministries. Gwen Hill is also a Winder Noon Lions Club member. The mobile food pantry is provided from the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia. Each month 30,000 pounds of food is provided for volunteers to distribute to households in Barrow County. The Winder Noon Lions Club provided funds, and members volunteered to distribute the food at the August drive. Food for 561 households was distributed. The Winder Noon Lion Club members volunteering time to this project, in addition to Lions Gwen Hill and Al Brown, were Laura McColley, Kerry Lipscomb, Dottie Reynolds, Joan Mathews and Lion President Bob Long. The next food distribution will take place on Thursday, Sept. 24 at 10 a.m. at the Holly Hill Mall, with the Winder First United Methodist Church Seekers Sunday School class sponsoring the event.

Union County Lions Club = Sight Conservation: 4 applications for eye glasses & exams approved. **Lion Mints:** No report. **Lion and friends and family volunteer hours: 321 hours.** **Raffle Drawing:** Following Lions met 11AM at Lions picnic shelter at Chamber of Commerce to draw the winning ticket from our 50/50 fund raiser: President Lisa Little, Jim Wentworth, co-chair of fund raiser, and Arthur & Betty Gurr. President Lisa drew out the ticket which belonged to Heather Hulsabus of the Dawsonville Lions Club. Amount that she

Guest speaker Lion Gary Vaughters gave information concerning the Lions Lighthouse. New Lion Jack Gross inducted as sponsor Lion Gary Williams looks on. Father and son have total of 67 years in Lions Club – meet Lions Elmer and Michael Thompson.



Pictures from our Raffle drawing and Zone Meeting hosted by Clayton Lions Club





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/>

Upcoming Clinics in District D

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.

The following clinics are coming up in District D:



September 19th
 Good Samaritan
 1015 D.L. Hollowell Pwy
 Atlanta, GA 30318
 9am—3pm

September 16th
 Lions Lighthouse Found
 1775 Clairmont Rd.
 Decatur, GA 30102
 9am—2pm

September 29 or 30th
 Ben Massell
 700 14th St.
 Atlanta, GA 30318
 9am—2pm

October 3rd
 Good Samaritan
 1015 D.L. Hollowell Pwy
 Atlanta, GA 30318
 9am—3pm

October 21
 Lions Lighthouse Found
 1775 Clairmont Rd.
 Decatur, GA 30102
 9am—2pm

October ?
 Ben Massell
 700 14th St.
 Atlanta, GA 30318
 9am—2pm

August Service Numbers



170 Georgians received care at one of our 13 eye clinics. Fourteen (14) of those people live in District D.

22 sight-saving surgeries were performed by the Lighthouse's volunteer doctors.

For State and Federal Employees

If you are a state or federal employee, you can now have donations to the Lighthouse taken directly out of your paycheck through the Combined Federal Campaign. Because of the Lighthouse's partnership with Georgia doctors, every dollar you donate results in \$5 in care for a Georgian in need. Thank you!

GA State Number: 112000

Federal Number: 52771



73 people received hearing aids through our digital hearing program. Six (6) of them are District D residents.

Has your club set a White Cane goal?

If your club has not yet set a White Cane goal, please add it to the agenda for your next meeting! Setting a goal and writing it into the budget helps your club determine the best ways to fundraise for the White Cane campaign. Once you have a goal set, please send it to Kim at kfletcher@lionslighthouse.org or at 404-325-3630 x313.

Does your club have a White Cane chair?

Your club may want a chair for your White Cane campaign who is separate from your Associate Director. The White Cane chair will receive a packet from the Lions Lighthouse with fundraising ideas and other information to help run a successful campaign. They are responsible for setting White Cane into the club budget, organizing the fundraisers, and ensuring that the funds are designated for White Cane when they are sent to the Lighthouse. When you have a White Cane chair designated, please send his or her name and contact information to Kim at kfletcher@lionslighthouse.org or at 404-325-3630 x313.

Do you know the difference between regular club giving and White Cane giving?

Gifts to the Lighthouse that are designated for White Cane are used only for our eye surgery program. On the other hand, regular club gifts can be used for any of the services the Lighthouse provides. These include vision clinics, eye glasses, and digital hearing aids for low-income Georgians. If a club gift is not designated, it is automatically considered a "regular" donation. When your club donates to White Cane, be sure to designate it as such so it gets credited the way you intend.

Thank you!

Help Us Use our Recycled Glasses

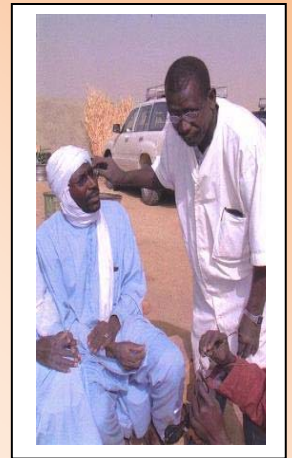
Every year over 100,000 glasses are donated to the Lions Lighthouse Foundation. With the help of the Lions clubs we take in prescription glasses, reading glasses, and non-prescription sunglasses.

The prescription glasses can only be distributed outside the United States, so we have trouble getting them out as quickly as we get them in. Are you going on a mission trip soon? Do you know someone who is? If you would like to bring glasses with you, please let us know! Also, please tell us whether you want the prescriptions included with the glasses. If you just want to bring the glasses for people to try on and see whether they can see out of them, there is no need for a prescription. However, if you are bringing an optician, optometrist, or ophthalmologist who can test what prescriptions the people will need, we can measure the prescriptions here and include them with the glasses.

If you have any glasses to donate, or if you have a mission trip coming up and would like to bring glasses with you, please contact your recycling committee representative.

District D

Judy Stamsen
770-995-9274 or eskiemom@bellsouth.net



eBay "Giving Works"



get more bids and go for a higher selling price than regular eBay items. To learn more or to get started, please visit

http://donations.ebay.com/charity/charity.jsp?NP_ID=33501

October is Vision Screening Month

Prevention of vision loss is crucial in the population. Visual impairment is one of the most feared disabilities in America. The leading causes of vision problems in the US are primarily related to age-related eye diseases. These problems include macular degeneration, cataracts, glaucoma, and diabetic retinopathy. The Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation Screen Across Georgia Program is dedicated to identifying people at risk for these problems.

Patients are issued a questionnaire in which they answer questions related to their visual health. The answers to the questions are then used to assess the patient's risk of developing age related vision problems. After the risk assessment is completed, patients are then screened for visual acuity using the Titmus Vision Screening Machine. Patients with visual acuity of 20/50 or higher fail the test and need to follow up with an eye doctor. The Lighthouse has 11 Vision Screening Machines to use at different venues and settings. We encourage Lions Clubs to train to do vision screenings in their local community.

If you would like to reserve a vision screening machine for your event, contact the Georgia Lions Lighthouse at 1-800-718-7483.

Thanks for all you do as Lions of Georgia,

OCTOBER OPPORTUNITIES FOR SIGHT AND SAFETY

LIONS WORLD SIGHT DAY OCTOBER 8, 2009

Lions World Sight Day was created in 1998 to spotlight the importance of eradicating preventable blindness and improving sight. Get involved – Now is the time to plan your clubs activities for Lions World Sight Day 2008. Lions are encouraged to plan events to celebrate this day. They can be done on October 9th or any other day during the month. For ideas on activities and more information go to www.lionsclubs.org, Click on Vision Programs, Sight Services, then World Sight Day.

NATIONAL WHITE CANE SAFETY AWARENESS DAY OCTOBER 15, 2009

October is National Disabilities Month as well as National White Cane Month. Not to be confused with our Lighthouse fundraiser, White Cane Project, this month reminds us to be aware of those using white canes as tools to help with their mobility. The red-tipped white cane is a symbol indicating that the user is blind or visually impaired.

Lions should help increase the awareness of the use of the white cane and the laws governing its use. In the United States, laws vary from state to state, but in all cases, those carrying white canes are afforded the right of way when crossing a road or when in a public place.

In Georgia, the laws require that only those people that are wholly or partially blind are allowed to carry or use a cane that is white with a red tip. The law also states that any driver that comes within 3 feet of an individual using a white cane must come to a complete stop and proceed only after taking necessary precautions to avoid accident or injury to the person with the cane. As in all states, drivers must yield the right of way to any blind pedestrian who is carrying a white cane or is accompanied by a guide dog.

Let's pay attention to those around us and keep all us visually impaired people safe.

Lion J. C. Coefield, Jr.
MD18 Sight Conservation and Work with the Blind Chairperson

WHITE CANE

White Cane had its beginning in Georgia in 1980 as White Cane Day. We no longer limit White Cane to just a day in the year. White Cane donations equal about 1/3 of the Georgia Lions contributions to the Lighthouse. The goal for White Cane 2010 has been set for \$167,500. Over the past few years, the Lions of Georgia have contributed an average of about 156 thousand dollars yearly.

As everyone knows, prices have been on the rise and the services offered by the Lighthouse are no exception. The present economy is creating additional needs at the Lighthouse to help those who have lost their jobs and subsequently, their health insurance. The money collected through White Cane is instrumental in changing people's lives. While it is usually no problem for a local club to purchase a pair of eyeglasses for a needy person, it would be literally impossible for a club to provide eye surgery needed to restore someone's sight. The money raised throughout the state for White Cane can be combined to offer services to people who, without the Lions of Georgia, might have no hope.

The Georgia Lions Lighthouse is depending on us to help them help others. All money collected for White Cane is sent to the Lighthouse to work toward accomplishing this task. One hundred percent of all money collected for White Cane goes directly to sight services. We need to make every effort to make White Cane 2010 the best ever. Lions get an excellent return on their investment in the Lighthouse. The Lighthouse is now able to get \$5 in services for every dollar.

Not only is this a time to raise funds for the Lighthouse, it also gives us an opportunity to be out in our communities and to educate people about the services that we, as Lions of Georgia, can offer. A chance to put hands and feet to our motto, "We Serve".

Please feel free to contact me for further information.

J. C. Coefield, Jr.
MD-18 Honorary White Cane Chair
478-922-9023
coefield@cox.net



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



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



To Our Fellow Lions:

“What did you learn while at camp?”



“Don’t give up”



“Overcome my fears”

“How to live”

“Not to be scared”

How can we help support the Camp and these kids?

The Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind has kicked off its annual raffle fundraiser. This year you can win a John Deere Gator CX or \$5,000 in cash. Tickets were sent or given to every Lions Club. Each Lion has 10 tickets to either sell or purchase. If every ticket is sold, Don’t stop at selling 10 tickets!



I was told that one of the Lions in our District has already sold over 100 tickets. Just phone or email your respective District Vice President if you need more tickets. Two clubs have already asked—one needs 500 more tickets. As soon as you sell your tickets, forward the stubs and money to your District Vice President. Set a club goal to sell or purchase 100% of the tickets sent—of more! Drawing for the Gator will be at the winter Camp meeting on February 7, 2010. All stubs and money need to be returned to me not later than February 1—sooner if possible. Call if you need more tickets or just more information about our Camp.

Ms. Carolyn Jude is a lady whom we here at the camp have come to love. She has a hereditary disease that has slowly taken not only her eyesight but her ability to be mobile. We asked her about her favorite part of camp. Here is her response.

“Horseback riding takes first place. I would have never thought that I’d be riding a horse for the first time at 55 years old! Second place was the fishing. I caught the most fish- Nine!! And that Ms. Kristen she caught the biggest one. She was just a screaming and laughing. She made me laugh and laugh hard, all week long. Picking all those blueberries and eating them right there; I ate two bowls of them. And that mud pit- I can’t remember playing in a mud puddle with a lot of friends and having that much fun. The bubbly foam had all of us laughing, squealing like a bunch of children. All those people climbing that rock wall so-o-o high. I just couldn’t believe they’d do it. Just being outside in the country, away from the telephone, TV, sirens, and all those loud city noises it was so peaceful just being there with folks who were just like me. I’ll be ready to go back to the camp every time I get a chance.”



So, from the depths of my heart, thank you for providing such an amazing, life altering place!

Upcoming events are: Winterfest 09 – December 4-6, 2009

Camp Meeting – February 5-7, 2010

Work Weekend - March 26-28, 2010

Work Weekend - April 16-18, 2010





Leader Dog Chair Lion Diane Wall
liondianewall@bellsouth.net

o **Trekker Camp Goes to the Dogs** By Guest Writer Jaret Bozigian



LDB Employee Sarah Johnson and Camper Justin Louchart enjoy kayaking at a local lake. Photo by Tracy Dreslinski

If the founders of Leader Dogs for the Blind were here today, Koby Cox would have something to say to them. “I would tell them that they created the neatest dog guide school there could ever be.” This is high praise from a 16 year old.

In today’s world of electronic gadgetry, the Trekker GPS, which normally takes an adult about a week to learn, gets mastered by teenagers much sooner. After just two days of using the Trekker, the kids were out and about using it to its full potential - sometimes teaching the instructors a thing or two about the system.

The speed at which the kids learn the GPS system allow the campers to do a variety of other activities during the week including biking, kayaking, and learning about life with a Leader Dog. The kids met all these challenges with positive attitudes and enough laughter to make this experience an all around success.

“I think that my experience here has been the most freeing and liberating,” said Justin Louchart, 16. “Everyone here works because they are passionate about it and they teach in a practical manner and know what they are doing.” This course was taught with a charisma that was memorable. “Even the studying was turned into a social gathering and its fun,” Justin said. “Far better than other establishments.”

Katie Kelel, 17, attended Trekker Camp last year and returned this year to be a counselor. “I really liked that the suggestions we made last year were taken into account this year,” said Katie. “We actually got to hang out with the dogs for a day and that is something that we didn’t get to do last year, and I really think that was my favorite part.” Not only did this opportunity provide Katie with a Trekker and teach her how to use it, but it opened up new doors as well...kennel doors. “I want to come back to get a dog,” Katie said. “I am going to wait until I really need one, maybe when I go to college.” Katie is hoping to attend Michigan State University next year.

Koby Cox also wants to come back for a Leader Dog. “The most important thing I took from this is to come back and get a dog.”



Trekspedition campers Jim, Brandon, Raven and Rochelle take a rest with Leader Dog PR Dog "Jasmine."

Summer Youth Programs Gaining Skills and Making Friends

Trekspedition campers Jim Walton and Aarius White found the 'foam ball' exercise to be rather humorous. In order to not use his remaining vision to aid the group, Brandon Schiafone wore a blindfold.

Summer is a time for fun, excitement, learning new things and making new friends. This is the basis for Leader Dog's summer youth programs for teenagers ages 16-19 years. This summer we ran two new programs – one highlighting life with a Leader Dog, and one with more traditional camp experiences.

Both camps have one very important component in common; they teach the kids how to use a Trekker GPS system. Not only do they learn how to use the handheld GPS device, they receive a free unit to take home with them! These camps are gaining popularity, and with good reason.



Old Piece of Leather *By Carroll Jackson, in memory of Leader Dog "Jack" January 31, 1996 – June 1, 2009*

I have an old piece of leather that's long and brown and smooth,
with metal clips and a ring that form a leash so strong and true.
One side has a brand that boldly says LEADER DOG with pride.
On the edge are nip marks, he put there on our very first day,
as if to say this leash now is mine.

I have an old piece of leather that's soft and warm and strong,
it carries all the memories of miles we walked along.
Curbs and doorways that were found and hazards avoided,
streets safely crossed and airports we smartly traversed.
Most of all I will remember the joy that comes from independent
mobility.

I have an old piece of leather that means the world to me, because
it was Jack's, my first LEADER DOG, who surrendered his eyes,
his intelligence, his love and loyalty.
Dedicated to his calling, eager to be going and steadfast to the end,
he gave me his skills, his focus and his eagerness to please.
These are the memories that will always remain with me.
I have an old piece of leather that I will always keep,
for when I hold it I feel him there, so warm and so strong.
Forever linked through a bond, that only he and I will share.



Carroll Jackson and Leader Dog "Jack"



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

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Level	# Audiobooks	Typical # Students Served	Annual Fee
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Plus 3	50	\$475
Plus 4	100	\$900

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For information and assistance on our state and institutional programs, please contact James Higgins, Vice President of Programs and Services at jhiggins@rfd.org or by phone at **609-243-7092**.



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Thanks to major funding from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, Grant #H327D090001 and support of private donors, RFB&D Individual Membership is now free to individuals with proper [certification](#)*.

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* * * * *

RFB&D Connects with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

The 2004 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) ensures that students with disabilities are provided a free and appropriate public education. There are three specific areas of this law within which RFB&D can be of assistance.

1. Individual Education Programs (IEP): During the IEP planning process the team must consider whether a child needs assistive technology or services, and then add the identified needs to the IEP. RFB&D's Learning Through Listening programs and services are an affordable, research-based accommodation that provides students with print disabilities access to educational materials.

Read RFB&D's Effectiveness Research Summary in either a PDF or RTF Format.

[Download in PDF format](#)

[Download in RTF format](#)

2. Transition and the Summary of Performance: When a student is due to graduate from high school, the IEP team must provide a summary of the student's academic achievement and functional performance, including any recommendations for assistance or services that the student will need in meeting his postsecondary goals. RFB&D provides access to educational materials to students with print disabilities enabling them to pursue their academic, personal and professional endeavors.

Read more about RFB&D on its website at www.rfd.org

3. Response to Intervention (RtI): The 2004 revisions of IDEA give authority to the local educational agency to use a procedure termed "Response to Intervention" as one form of evaluation when determining eligibility for students with learning disabilities. RtI requires the school to evaluate a student's response to scientific, research-based interventions. RFB&D is a research-based intervention that provides students with print disabilities access to the printed word.

- o RFB&D supplements nearly any reading intervention program. RFB&D's AudioPlus® and AudioAccessSM books complement the independent reading, vocabulary development, comprehension and language development portions of any reading program.
- o RFB&D enables students to access all other subject areas, such as social studies, science and math, by providing the necessary textbooks in audio format.
- o RFB&D provides students with audio-versions of authentic literature, i.e. *Catcher in the Rye*, *A Raisin in the Sun* and *Holes*.

Again, we encourage you to read more about RFB&D on its website at www.rfd.org.

Additional Resources

US Department of Education Home Page:
<http://www.ed.gov>

IDEA Partnership:
<http://www.ideapartnership.org/>

* * * * *

Lenora Martin
RFB&D
Southeast Region
Regional Executive Director
lmartin@rfd.org
Phone: 706-549-1313



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



Lady

Robert Wright and Guide Lady

48-Year -old –Robert enjoys a life of activity through kick boxing, swimming and working out. But the softer side of Robert loves to garden and grow coconut palms.

After losing his vision in a fire, Robert found himself relying heavily on his wife to get him where he needed to go. He recently decided to change that - for both of them. Now with his new guide, Lady, he will be able to ride the bus to and from his job at the Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota, Florida, providing both Robert and his wife with freedom and time.

ROBERT SAYS LADY IS SWEET, “JUST LIKE HIM” and likes to “kick back and relax.” But don’t let this laid back team fool you. The commitment and hard work each has put into their new partnership has positioned them to start their new journey together on the right foot.



Judy Stamsen CCI Chair
eskiesmom@bellsouth.net

My Art II Independence is a Service Dog!



by Rhonda Clark on July 20, 2009
This is a guest post on the [EasyStand Blog](#) by [Rhonda Clark](#), who has Cerebral Palsy.

Independence has always been a big deal and very important to me being the person that I am. Art II opens doors for Rhonda, both literally and figuratively.

Until I was matched with my first service dog, Art II from Canine Companions for Independence, I really didn’t know how much more independent I had become. Since Art II (or “Handsome Man” as I often call him) came into my life, we have become a team. I don’t have to rely on two-legged humans as much when I need assistance with such things as picking up dropped items from the floor, turning on and off light switches, pushing elevator buttons, etc. Art is no ordinary dog. He knows 40 different commands. He was trained specifically to live with a person who has a disability.

[Canine Companions for Independence](#) is 501c3 nonprofit organization that was founded in 1975 to provide individuals with disabilities with assistance dogs. Canine Companions for Independence provides four types of assistance dogs. A **facilities placement** may be in settings such as classroom with special education students. Physical therapists and occupational therapists may use them when treating students in schools or residents in rehabilitation facilities. A **skilled companion assistance dog** assists children with disabilities and in some cases adults with disabilities under the supervision of a parent, spouse, or caregiver. A **hearing assistance dog** assists people who are deaf or hard of hearing and alerts them to many different sounds such as a doorbell, danger, etc. A **service assistance dog** (which is what Art II is) can assist with many physical activities of daily living. I remember, after I went through the two weeks of training in Orlando, FL, when Art first came to my home. I was making out bills when my phone rang, I jumped and my checkbook fell off the table onto the floor where I knew it couldn’t be accessed with my reacher. So I said to Art, “Art Get” and he picked up my checkbook and brought it to me. It was so cool! I live by myself, so if that would have happened

before I got Art II, I would have had to wait until one of my neighbors came home from work.

Art II has opened so many doors for me. I mean that both literally and figuratively. There are people that actually stop and talk to me now when I'm in public instead of just staring or avoiding me all together.

The bi line that Canine Companions for Independence uses is *Exceptional Dogs For Exceptional People*. I believe that the volunteers, donors, trainers, are the exceptional people raising and training exceptional dogs! The dogs are provided to the recipients free of charge once the recipient completes the two week training course.

If you would like more information on Canine Companions for Independence go to: www.cci.org or call 1-800-572-BARK (2275).



Lion Kathryn Higgins
Diabetes Awareness Chair
Klhiggins07@windstream.net

Diabetes Forecast Offers "10 Tips" to Save Money and Improve Your Health

Diabetes has so many costs -- to your health, your emotions, and of course, your wallet. The October issue of Diabetes Forecast, the consumer magazine of the American Diabetes Association, features ten ways to save some money and improve your health. With a little know-how, you can save big bucks on screenings, supplies, and preventive treatments. Here are a few of the cost-cutting ideas Diabetes Forecast recommends:

-- Head to a Health Fair or Expo -- Hospitals, universities, churches, towns, and community groups often set up health fairs to provide a wide range of screenings and health information. Health expos offer even more by bringing together medical experts and exhibitors for screenings, seminars, workshops, and demonstrations.

-- Get Screened -- Staying on top of your health and preventing diseases or their complications before they become major problems makes a significant impact on your budget. Besides regular examinations by your health care team, you often can get screened for different conditions at clinics, pharmacies, and local health departments, among other places.

-- Attend a Cooking Demonstration -- Want to make sure you're getting the most out of your meals? Need a little extra inspiration to get back on track? Stop by a cooking demonstration at a farmers' market or grocery store.

-- Flex That "Flexible" Spending -- If you have a flexible spending account through your benefit program at work, you can use the money you set aside (before tax is withheld) on a variety of non-reimbursable medical costs, from co-pays to over-the-counter medications and supplies.

Try these money-saving tricks to help manage diabetes and other things that cause your health care costs to creep up. Best of all, many of these proactive moves may keep you healthier, too! The October issue also brings you information about "Cracking the Case": A federal jury finds diabetes discrimination at the FBI. Veteran lawman Jeff Kapche had heard from FBI field agents that he would be a great addition to the bureau, so when he applied and was denied a job, he knew something was up. It wasn't the grueling physical exams, tough aptitude tests, or extensive interviews that kept him from landing the job -- it was his diabetes. Learn how Kapche fought this discrimination and, after seven years of legal battles, finally won his lawsuit against the FBI.

More in the newest issue of Diabetes Forecast:

-- Diabetes at 100 mph: Catching up with race car driver Charlie Kimball about his type 1 diabetes

-- Antioxidants: Sifting through the hype about the value of antioxidants, in foods and in supplements

-- Topping It Off: Need a little help in adding flavor to your dishes? The secret is in the sauce!

Diabetes Forecast has been America's leading diabetes magazine for more than 60 years, offering the latest news on diabetes research and treatment to provide information, inspiration, and support to people with diabetes.

The American Diabetes Association is leading the fight against the deadly consequences of diabetes and fighting for those affected by diabetes. The Association funds research to prevent, cure, and manage diabetes; delivers services to hundreds of communities; provides objective and credible information; and gives voice to those denied their rights because of diabetes. Founded in 1940, its mission is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes. For more information, please call the American Diabetes Association at 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383) or visit www.diabetes.org. Information from both these sources is available in English and Spanish.



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

The theme of the 2009-10 Peace Poster Contest is **"The Power of Peace."** Students, ages 11, 12 or 13 on November 15, are eligible to participate.



- ** LEO LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS WILL BE PRESENTED IN EACH DISTRICT FOR LEO CLUB OFFICERS, ADVISORS, FACULTY ADVISORS, AND LIONS
- ** UPDATING ALL MD18 LEO CLUB OFFICER/ADVISOR/FACULTY ADVISOR CONTACTS
- ** LCI IS LAUNCHING A NEW LEO BRAND CAMPAIGN FOR 2009-2010 USING A RESEARCH-ORIENTED APPROACH TO MORE EFFECTIVELY PROMOTE LEO CLUBS
- ** OCTOBER IS LEO CLUB GROWTH MONTH
- ** OCTOBER IS ALSO TIME FOR SIGHT NIGHT TO COLLECT USED EYEGLASSES, CELL PHONES, AND HEARING AIDS (Early County LEOs were the first in the State to participate in Sight Night)
- ** PLANS ARE TO HAVE A STATE LEO WEBSITE SOON
- ** THE INITIAL PLANNING PHASES FOR THE 2009-2010 MD-18 LEO GATHERING/CONVENTION AT THE CAMP FOR THE BLIND HAS BEGUN WITH THE INITIAL DATE OF THE LAST WEEKEND IN JANUARY. THIS YEAR'S THEME WILL BE "THE GEORGIA LEO-LYMPICS." PLAN FOR A LOT OF FUN EVENTS AND COMPLETION OF CAMP PROJECTS. START MAKING LEO PLANS NOW!



We are in the process of planning a Leo Leadership Seminar for the Saturday morning of the District Rally in Gainesville. It will begin at 9 a.m. and be over in time for the Rally, which we are encouraging Leos and Lions to attend. This seminar will be of interest to Leos, Advisors, Faculty Advisors, AND Lions who want to strengthen their clubs or are interested in chartering a new Leo club. I am asking anyone interested to contact me via phone or e-mail by no later than September 15th so we can plan accordingly. I will send you the Agenda when it is finalized and if the seminar is being held. **THANK YOU!**

Please spread the word about the Leo Leadership Workshop I am hosting in Gainesville November 14, 2009 from 9-11 a.m. 18-D is sponsoring this Workshop but it is available to all districts. It is open to Leo club Officers, Advisors, Faculty Advisors, and Lions-PARTICULARLY those that are interested in starting or re-activating a Leo club-and will have information and materials that should be beneficial to all who attend. I **ESPECIALLY** want to encourage our Leo leaders-and future leaders-to attend. This Workshop is the same day as the 18-D District Rally. Registrants will have the opportunity to attend the Rally (starts at noon) at the regular price. Lion Herman Jones is the Rally Chair (see 18-D Directory for contact information). Lion Herman has asked that I get pre-Registration for the Workshop (room size) and Rally (meal #). I am setting a registration deadline of October 15th, which should allow enough time. Please spread the word and encourage attendance. The number of Leo clubs in MD18 is growing each year and I want to continue to encourage that but we also need to give our Leos the tools they need to be confident, well-prepared leaders - both of their clubs now and in their adult service lives (hopefully as Lions!).

In Service,
Steve Helwig
MD18 Leo Clubs Chair and Leo Gathering Coord
Home:770-725-7422
Cell:706-340-2018
lion.swampthing@gmail.com

NOTES FROM SCHOOL:

The ABCs of Teaching

- A is for Attitude
- B is for Balance
- C is for Courage
- D is for Dedication
- E is for Enthusiasm
- F is for Fairness
- G is for Generosity
- H is for Heart
- I is for Initiative
- J is for Joyfulness
- K is for Knowledge
- L is for Leadership
- M is for Motivation

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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.

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

- _ Hug your child every day.
- _ Support children's programs in our community.
- _ Create a mentoring or shadow program for children and youth.
- _ Counsel those that have already experienced some concerns or disabling conditions in their life space.
- _ Volunteer at a crisis center.
- _ Donate computers and provide classes in computer skills to the students at low-income schools.
- _ Provide opportunities to bring together children and youth from different backgrounds.

Around The World



Leo Club Program Update

The Leo brand rejuvenation project is almost complete! To best meet the changing needs of youth and young adults throughout the world, several programmatic components have been reviewed and modified to enhance the Leo Club Program. When the new brand rolls out in July, you will see a fresh new look, along with two separate and distinct tracks for Alpha and Omega Leos. Part of this fresh look includes a modification of the Leo age ranges to most effectively address the needs of each track and its members. Starting July 1, 2009:

- Alpha club membership will be for youth between 12-18 years of age and will focus on individual and social development.
- Omega club membership will be for young adults between 18-30 years of age and will focus on personal and professional development.

These new age ranges better match the current membership of Leo clubs across the globe. In a recent survey conducted by the Youth Programs Department, 88% of survey respondents said their Omega club membership consisted of Leos from 19-30 years of age, while 83% said their Alpha club membership consisted of Leos from 12-18 years of age. Furthermore, the new age ranges also better reflect the current practices of other service organizations like Rotary International and Kiwanis International.

Both tracks will continue to be connected through a larger Leo community, united by its common purpose of Leadership, Experience and Opportunity.

Leo Club Excellence Award Winners 2008-2009

*EARLY COUNTY 18 C USA
CLARKE MIDDLE SCHOOL 18 D USA*

Out of over 5700 Leo clubs worldwide only 47 in the world, 22 in the U.S., and 2 in Georgia were selected to receive the most prestigious award given to a Leo club.



LIBERTY DAY—YOUR LIONS CLUB

Our two most successful programs involve teaching 8-11 year olds questions & answers about the Constitution and planning a fun, interactive event where they get to quiz adults about what they have learned at locations such as state capitols, post offices, universities, and municipal forums.

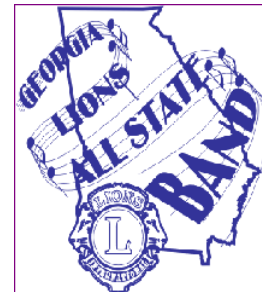
The second program involves scheduling speakers with civic service and government experience into classrooms, then students complete assignments related to the Constitutional message. Liberty Day is a registered trademark. Our goal is to help future generations of leaders understand the nature of our government as intended – these documents belong to the people. Our slogan is “A Constitution in every pocket.” We have no political agenda. Educating Americans is our future.

Young people need the guidance and mentoring of quality adult role models—Lions. For more information, go to <http://www.libertyday.org>

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

District Governor

Lion Grace Clower
404-694-0413
graceclower@bellsouth.net

Cabinet Secretary

Lion Steve Hart, PDG
678 232-6687
peng77@bellsouth.net

Bulletin Editor

Lion Ed Hashbarger, PDG (Yoriko)
770-995-0405
Edmclionh@bellsouth.net

1441 Burycove Circle
Lawrenceville, GA 30043
Return Address

TO:



*Have All Lions
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*So We Can All Be
Heard.*