



# District 18-D Bulletin

**We Serve**



MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR LIONS OF NORTHEAST GEORGIA

November 2009



District Governor  
Grace Clower

Dear Lions of 18-D,

It is an exciting time for Lions in District 18-D. Thanks to the hard work of several Lions, including Guiding Lions Allan Stalker and Dan Stuart and PDG Dick Smith, we will soon submit a charter application for the new Dacula Lions Club. This process has taken approximately 6 months, and we will continue to grow this new club. As we continue to form new clubs in our district, we need more Guiding Lions. Please consider helping us grow new clubs. We are planning an Extension Workshop in January in hopes of forming new clubs in Cleveland and Helen. If you are willing to help as a Guiding Lion, let me know.

Recruiting new Lions is something we all need to be doing for our own clubs. Since July 1, our district has added 41 new members. If you have not invited someone to become a new Lion, do it NOW! Be proud to be a Lion and invite others to join us. In addition to adding 41 new Lions, we have also dropped 43 Lions from our clubs. Let's work hard to keep our members. Take a look at your club. Do your members have a reason to stay involved in Lions? District 18-D now has 1,091 Lions Club members. To be a certified district, we must have 1,250 Lions. If we work hard, I know we can reach this goal!

We are very excited about our Hall of Fame Dinner and District Rally. We will be inducting 12 new members into our District 18-D Hall of Fame at the Gainesville Elks Club on November 13<sup>th</sup>. The Rally will be held November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Gainesville Civic Center. We will be having a MERL Team presentation at 9:00 a.m. At the same time, Lion Steve Helwig will be hosting a LEO Leadership Seminar. At 10:30 a.m., we will hold a Panel Discussion, so any Lion present can ask any question they wish. The featured speaker at our luncheon will be International Director Art Marson from LaCrosse, Wisconsin. At 2:00 p.m., we will hold our 2<sup>nd</sup> Cabinet Meeting. As you can see, there will be something for everybody. Come and help us celebrate our great District.

Our Council of Governors will be meeting the weekend of Nov. 20-21 in Decatur. We are planning a Lions Day in Georgia in January. Start planning now so your club can hold a community service/public relations event in conjunction with our Lions Day in Georgia.

I am completing my official visits to all the clubs in our district. It has been my pleasure to meet Lions all over Northeast Georgia who are faithfully serving their communities.

Our Motto, "We Serve", is being lived out all over our great district!

We all are blessed, and I wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving!

Yours in Service, Grace



# UPCOMING EVENTS

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

## **November - Recognize World Diabetes Day**

World Diabetes Day, November 14, aims to highlight the rising prevalence of both type 1 and type 2 diabetes in children and adolescents. It is estimated that 70,000 children under age 15 develop type 1 diabetes each year (almost 200 children a day). Begin organizing your diabetes awareness event now:

- Plan a diabetes screening or organize a [Strides Walk](#) for children and adults
- Show the new film presentation, "Protect Your Vision: The Dilated Eye Exam," to promote the importance of an annual eye exam and prevention of diabetic retinopathy. A DVD is available by [order](#) in English and Spanish
- Use public relations tools such as [Public Service Announcements](#) to promote diabetes awareness
- Learn more about [World Diabetes Day](#) and visit the [National Diabetes Education Program \(NDEP\)](#) Web site for additional community awareness ideas and educational materials—a Lions Clubs International partner.

## **Peace Poster Contest Judging Deadlines.**

Lions clubs sponsoring the 2008-09 "**Peace Begins With Me**" must mail posters advancing to district judging by 15 November. Be sure the sticker (PPC-4) included in each Peace Poster Contest kit is affixed to the back of the poster.

**November – Annual LCIF Contributing Member Month.** Lions who become Contributing Members receive distinctive lapel pins and the satisfaction of knowing they help restore vision, bring food, and clothing to victims of disasters and provide vocational training for the disabled plus much more. Get involved.



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

## **18-D District Rally**

**13-14 November = Hall of Fame nite 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 7:00 pm at a cost of \$18.00 each. Dress for this event will be casual. Location will be at Elks Club on 1547 Riverside Drive, in Gainesville, GA.

The 54<sup>th</sup> District Rally will be held at noon (12) and our speaker will be ID Art Marson from La Crosse, Wisconsin. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Cabinet Meeting will start at 2:00 am. 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*

## **Planning Ahead**

**January is Glaucoma Awareness Month.**

**13 January is Melvin Jones' Birthday**

**24 January: World Peace Day**



## 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](#) 📧?

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## **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 #LionsInSight in your tweets – to raise the visibility of your club and its activities.

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## **'Tis the Season for Giving**

The upcoming holiday season is a perfect opportunity to give back to those who need humanitarian aid most around the world with a [donation to LCIF](#). By contributing to LCIF you are making a commitment to better the life of someone, somewhere. [Visit the LCIF Web site](#) to learn how your donation makes a difference.

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## **Foundation Awarded Highest Ranking**

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) recently [received the highest ranking possible](#) from Charity Navigator, demonstrating LCIF’s commitment to being a leading foundation. An updated review from the independent charity evaluator awarded LCIF four stars. The top ranking means that LCIF exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in its cause. More than 5,400 of America’s largest charities are ranked on the Web site. Rankings are based on a number of factors related to organization efficiency and capacity.

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## **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 special theme, "Lions Move to Grow Green." Submit your winning club and district photos (by January 15, 2010) to the multiple district competition. Winning multiple district photos will appear at the 93rd Lions International Convention in Sydney, Australia. [Contest rules and details](#) are available on the Lions Clubs International Web site.

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## **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 mark Lions Diabetes Awareness Month and increase your club’s visibility in the community. Organize a Strides walk. It's an enjoyable and exciting event that can attract families, community residents and prospective members to your club while promoting diabetes awareness in your area. You will find educational materials online that you can download and print, or [complete an order form](#) to receive by mail.

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## 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

### OneSight Special Price Voucher

Across North America, millions of people suffer from poor vision because they cannot afford basic vision care. OneSight offers a Special Price Voucher for Lions to provide eyeglasses from a Lenscrafters store at a reduced cost for those with a financial need. A book of 10 vouchers is available for US\$500. Individual vouchers can be purchased if your club does not receive a large volume of requests. [Read further](#) to learn more about the voucher program or obtain a book of vouchers.

Through our OneSight Special Price Voucher Program, we want to work with you to provide free eyewear to those in need in your local community. Each book will enable us to help 10 people see their world more clearly.

Your Obligation: Screen potential recipients for financial need before issuing the OneSight Special Price Voucher. Inform recipient of terms of OneSight Special Price Voucher.

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### 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.

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### 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.

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### Seminar Resources Online

Available [seminar resources](#) and PowerPoints presented during Lions Clubs International Convention in Minneapolis are online. Access these materials from the Online Convention to share with your club members.

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### 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](#).

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### 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](#).

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### 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.



Dear Lion,



## Helping the Vision Impaired the World Over

Vision loss is a global health issue but one organization has taken major strides to prevent and reverse blinding eye disease in the world's poorest countries and in the United States. Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is the official charitable arm of the renowned 1.3 million-member Lions Clubs International, the largest volunteer organization worldwide. Based in Oak Brook, IL, since its inception in 1968, LCIF has awarded 9,300 grants totaling over \$660 million for vision-related and variety of other human service projects. The organization is best known for its SightFirst program that prevents blindness worldwide.

Albert Brandel, the Foundations' chairman, urges early detection and treatment of vision impairment. "One child goes blind every minute," Brandel notes, "but 80 percent of the world's blindness is preventable or treatable." To further its global efforts LCIF works with the World Health Organization (WHO) and corporations such as Johnson & Johnson to provide eyeglasses, eye checkups, and medications. Together, the WHO and Lions Club have provided 100 million children with eye care services.

SightFirst, LCIF's primary eye care initiative, has treated hundreds of millions of children around the world for preventable blindness. Launched in 1990, SightFirst has since awarded \$235 million. The organization recently completed a major fundraising campaign, raising an additional \$200 million to continue and expand sight programs. Mr. Brandel notes that six dollars is often enough to treat a variety of cases and even restore a patient's sight. He explains that another important SightFirst initiative, the Preschool Vision Screening Program, has screened one million American preschool children for lazy

eye, a condition best detected and treated before a child enters kindergarten.

In another major initiative, LCIF funds enabled distribution of 131 million doses of Mectizan to combat river blindness in 15 South American and African countries. The drug suppresses further spread of the disease, which is transmitted by the bite of black flies that breed in fast-moving water.

In addition to the LCIF's work, Lions Clubs around the world support innovative local preventive and remedial eye care projects. They include eye banks that provide tissue for intraocular surgery for congenitally blind patients, Braille and other assisted-reading materials, vocational schools and self-help groups for the visually impaired. Local clubs also organize medical mission trips such as a team of eye surgeons that visited Honduras to treat nearly 100 adults and children, and a team that visited the Navajo in Arizona, providing treatment for diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma.

Together, LCIF and local Lions Clubs work tirelessly to prevent and treat conditions leading to blindness and to screen and correct children's vision problems for less than the cost of a newspaper. by: Kirk Van Hyning



Lions Clubs

Lions Clubs International Foundation, the official charitable Foundation of Lions Clubs International, provides grant funding Lions districts worldwide for large-scale humanitarian projects that address community needs. The Foundation helps people to lead healthier and more productive lives, nurtures the potential of youth, promotes health, serves the elderly, empowers the disabled and helps victims of disasters.

### 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](#).

ATHENS \$4,950.00	Name	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
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
TOWNS COUNTY 7,354.11		8
UNION COUNTY 2,200.00		3
WINDER 767.00		1

Has  
your  
Club  
done  
anything  
as  
of  
yet?



## Editor's Note

Fellow Lions:

Here we go again: From Clark Howard = Oct 12, 2009 -- Zenni Optical spawns competitors

Clark is into wearing cheap prescription glasses that don't skimp on style, as you may know if you've ever seen him on TV.

Many years ago, a listener shared a tip about [ZenniOptical.com](http://ZenniOptical.com), which offers prescription glasses at \$8 (\$12 with shipping) for complete frames and lenses.

Clark's progressive lenses with some additional add-ons cost him a whole \$37 -- nothing compared to what it might have cost in the past.

Yet Zenni has created so many Clark Stinks postings. One of the chief gripes is that Zenni doesn't offer any customer service after the sale. Even more vocal criticism came from people who are in the eyeglasses business themselves. But Clark had his Zennis vetted by a professional and the optometrist could find no fault with them!

In reality, Zenni has been an industry changer. Now you have competitors like [EyeBuyDirect.com](http://EyeBuyDirect.com) and [GlassesUnlimited.com](http://GlassesUnlimited.com) offer prescription glasses at similar price points. It's a wide open field.

**ARE YOU GOING TO PAY ATTENTION THIS TIME????**

## 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.

### FAMILY UNIT CERTIFICATION FORM

Members that joined before the Family Membership Program was established are still eligible to take advantage of the family membership dues structure (first member pays full dues and up to four subsequent family members pay 1/2 dues). There must be one full paying member in the family unit. Family members must live in the same household and belong to the same Lions club.

For family members to start taking advantage of the dues discount, the attached Family Unit Certification Form (tk30) must be completed.

[tk30.pdf \(109KB\)](#)

More information on the family membership dues structure is in the attached form.



“Opportunity lies within Lions.” Unknown

## Statue of Helen Keller to be installed in Capitol

WASHINGTON — A bronze statue of Helen Keller was unveiled at the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday as lawmakers praised her as a trailblazer and an inspiration for those with disabilities.



The Helen Keller statue depicts the moment when Anne Sullivan spelled "W-A-T-E-R" into the child's hand

Some are still dismissed and cast aside for nothing more than being less than perfect," Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Kentucky, said at the unveiling ceremony. "The story of Helen Keller inspires us all."

The statue shows Keller -- who lost her sight and hearing to illness when she was 19 months old -- standing at a water pump as a 7-year-old, a look of recognition on her face as water streams into her hand. It depicts the moment in 1887 when teacher Anne Sullivan spelled "W-A-T-E-R" into one of the child's hands as she held the other under the pump. It's the moment when Keller realized meanings were hidden in the manual alphabet shapes Sullivan had taught her to make with her hands.

"W-A-T-E-R," said Alabama Gov. Bob Riley. "Five simple letters that helped rescue 7-year-old Helen Keller from a world of darkness and a world of silence.

"It is this defining moment that we celebrate today. And in time, this moment so vividly depicted by this statue helped the world to understand that all of us, regardless of any disability, have a mind that can be educated, a hand that can be trained, a life that will have meaning."

Keller learned to speak and earned a degree from Radcliffe College and the women's branch of Harvard University. She traveled the world as an adult, wrote 12 books and championed causes including women's suffrage and workers' rights.

Carl Augusto, president and CEO of the American Foundation for the Blind, told the crowd he thinks Keller, who worked for the foundation for the last 44 years of her life, "would have loved this impressive statue of herself and the symbolism attached."

## Best Buy® + You. We're Greener Together.

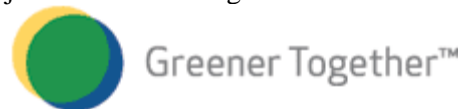


You trust us when it's time to buy the latest electronics. You can also trust us to help you safely dispose of your old ones.

In fact, many of your broken, obsolete, or unwanted gadgets are just waiting to be e-incarnated. So bring them to us. And we'll make sure they're properly and safely recycled, so they have the chance to perhaps come back as something even cooler in the future. It's all part of our Greener Together™ program.

And we'll take just about anything electronic, including TVs, DVD players, computer monitors, cell phones and more. You can bring in up to two items a day, per household, and most things are absolutely free. However, there is a \$10 charge for TVs 32" and under, CRTs, monitors and laptops — but we'll give you a \$10 Best Buy gift card to offset that cost. It's just a little e-incarnation appreciation.

So do it for the Earth. Do it to get rid of some old junk. Or just do it for some good Karma.



### What We Take

Two items per household per day.  
Nearly everything electronic, including TVs, computers, DVD players, monitors, or cell phones.  
We charge \$10 for TVs under 32", CRTs, monitors and laptops. But you receive a \$10 Best Buy gift card.  
Desktop or laptop computers with the hard drive removed. See this [Geek Squad video](#) for Do-it-Yourself instructions, or we will remove it for \$19.99.

### What We Don't Take

Internal & External computer hard drives.  
Console TVs, or TVs and monitors larger than 32". Use our [haul-away](#) or [pickup](#) programs for these items.  
Electronics containing Freon, like mini refrigerators or air conditioners. Please contact your local waste disposal department.  
Appliances. Use our [haul-away](#) or [pickup](#) programs for refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, washers and dryers, ranges and microwaves.



Dear Lion,

We are having an excellent start to our year, with a plus 4,080 membership growth for the first three months, compared to a minus 1,271 for the prior year. But what's even more exciting is that we are bringing Lionism to new areas and reaching out to new target markets.

Whether it's our new Lions club in northern Iraq, the 20 new clubs in China, or the increasing number of family, spouses and women at Lions, we are indeed working to MOVE TO GROW like never before. I am very proud of our early progress, and I owe thanks to you - the Club Leaders of the World - for your contributions to making it happen.



But while we have grown at the global level, the fact remains we are an organization of clubs. And we need to ensure that all our clubs, and all our Lion members, are being cared for, and nurtured, if we are to remain the world's largest and most effective service club organization in the years ahead.

The club is like the ginkgo tree which I adopted as the symbol of my MOVE TO GROW theme. Like the ginkgo, a club needs to be nurtured and cultivated to continue growing, it needs to stretch and move to receive sun light, and it needs to adapt to the environment around it to survive. Yet sometimes change happens slowly enough where we don't even notice it, and then we find ourselves behind.

This can also be true for clubs, especially older ones, where ways of working and meeting may have become routines, where activities and projects may have become a bit out dated, and where membership might have been going slowly down as a result.

But such challenges can be addressed, if you - the Club Leaders - create a plan and commit to action. Sometimes it's as simple as adopting a new project, or recruiting a few younger members to bring a spark of new ideas, or changing the format of your club meetings and activities to liven things up. So during the next three months, I'm humbly asking all clubs to adopt at least one new strategy to make your club even more vibrant.

And please, if you have seen more members leaving than joining in recent years, please get together with your board, or even hold a retreat with your club, to see if the reasons for this can be simply addressed. Please take note of tools outlined below that can help your club MOVE TO GROW.

I look forward to hearing about your success stories about planting a new ginkgo in your club. And I wish you all the best in the meantime.

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.



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.

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

## 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.

### Get Ready for "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 I am 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. Showcase your favorite service project. Visit the [Lions in Sight Web page](#) for more information, including a list of suggested activities. More resources, including sample press releases, will be added to the Lions in Sight web page in the weeks ahead.

### Global Youth Music Competition

Music is something shared by all the peoples of the world. Never has a culture existed without it in some form. The Lions International [Global Youth Music Competition](#) is a unique cultural event that will bring young people from around the world together around this common interest. We have planted a seed with this new program but we are counting on you to help it move and grow! Please encourage young people in your community to take part in local competitions organized by your district. The first prize for the winner of the international finals to be held at the Sydney convention in 2010 is US\$10,000. Please contact [Dane LaJoye](#) at LCI for more information.

### Best Practices

Perhaps the most important ideas we share are success stories that have worked in other clubs. See the "[Best Practices](#)" for membership recruiting drives from clubs around the world.

### 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

### 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.



# RETENTION

## (A Retention Issue)

On Sunday afternoon, 27 September 2009, Lions Clubs International's Multiple District MERL team seminar began. Over the following two and a half days your MD-18 MERL team identified a large number of items we intend to address in the hopes of assisting all clubs with your Membership, Extension, Retention, and Leadership challenges. Based on the sessions we attended and the discussions we had among us, our starting point will be Membership Orientation.

No doubt there are several clubs in MD-18 that satisfactorily provide new club Lions orientation within one month of their induction. However, the reason orientation is so important is that new Lions need to know what they joined. That is, new members need to begin to understand what civic minded actions the clubs they joined do and they need to understand what kind of volunteer organization their clubs are a members of.

As Lions Clubs International states in their first paragraph of their online **Orientation Guide**:

“The importance of a proper, thorough new member orientation cannot be emphasized enough. Imagine belonging to an organization and having only a vague idea of its goals, the responsibilities of membership, its programs, history or traditions. Would you feel like you belonged? Would you be motivated and committed to help the organization reach its goals? Of course not! **You'd likely be wondering why you joined the organization at all.**” (Page 4, emphasis added)

The bottom line is that we want all clubs in MD-18 to provide Lions orientation to every new Lion that becomes a member. Failing to do this means that you have increased the likelihood that new members will leave your club. This is not to suggest that Lions of several years couldn't also benefit from updated membership orientation. Nor are we going to suggest that having every new Lion complete an orientation session will ensure that he or she will remain a Lion, but orientation is an important initial action to keep new members as Lions.

Over the next several weeks you will begin to see other MERL team issues discussed and our proposed action on orientation implementation.

Yours in Lionism, Richard “Dick” Smith



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

## ARE YOU STUCK IN A RUT?

I know you have all heard the expression “If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got.” But did you ever stop to think just how true that expression is? You can't expect a change in results if you continue to do things the same way, without ever considering a change. Now I am not one of those advocates of change just for the sake of change. I believe we often need to make changes in order to make progress or see different results. This is true whether we are talking about your family, your job, or your Lions Club.

Most of us (be honest, now!) are usually perfectly happy to keep doing what we have always done. We get a feeling of complacency based on our comfort level. We think that if something different happens, that will be okay, but we never do anything ourselves to make that difference. Membership in your Lions Club is a perfect example of this situation. Most of us say, “Well, we've got a membership chair, or a membership committee, let them worry about getting new members.” Or, we vote year after year to continue the same officers, the same fundraisers and the same service projects, because “That's the way we've always done it.”

Guess what, folks? Membership is everyone's job. If each of us took on the commitment to bring in one new member this year, and one new member next year, our club, District and Multiple District membership would be wonderful, and we would never even hear a whisper of the dreaded word “redistricting.” Don't be afraid to ask your friends, your neighbors, your Church friends, yes, and even your family members, including your spouse to come to a Lions Club meeting! And don't be put off if they say no. Statistics show that people often have to be asked several times before they try something new or different. Joining the world's largest service organization is no different. Just ask. And look to the Lions Club International website for helpful hints and methods for successful membership campaigns. You and your club can use the same techniques for gaining new members for an existing club as the Extension teams use when trying to charter a brand new club. Give it a try! Questions? Contact your District Membership Chair, or call me. We are all there to help. The successful growth of our Clubs and Districts is in our hands.

I don't want to step on the toes of the District and State Retention Chairs, but just a quick reminder that we can make some changes within our clubs that will liven them up. If your club is doing what they've always done, you may be boring your members at the least, and driving them away at the worst. Remember why you became a Lion in the first place? It was probably for a combination of things—fun, fellowship, and a feeling of satisfaction derived from the opportunity to render service to those less fortunate than ourselves. Does your club still provide these things to your members? If not, maybe it's time to make a change. Provide orientation to new members, re-educate your existing members to what Lions Club is all about. Make your meetings fund and interesting. Then, if you build it, they will come. Let's all work to make stronger clubs our goal for the year. Don't hesitate to make that call.

Marlene Humphry, Multiple District 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.**

**Auburn-Carl Lions Club** = Collected over 500 used eyeglasses. Took part in Community Fest in October. Ham & Egg Supper will be on 14 November. Senior citizen Christmas Dinner with prizes will be on 5 December. Paid for 14 eye exams and glasses this calendar year.

**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!

**Clermont/North Hall Lions Club** = Recently, we have been involved in a number of different activities. We teamed with the Greater Hall Chapter of the Visually Impaired for their fund-raising project. We provided their concession stand at a gospel singing they had to raise funds for scholarships. We also hosted our District Governor for her official visit. We completed our community calendar project and parked cars at several events at the Georgia Mountains Center, including the weekend of Gainesville's Mule Camp Market. In November we will participate in the America Recycles Day sponsored in Gainesville and Hall County by Keep Hall Beautiful, a local nonprofit. For our part of this multi-organization endeavor we will collect eyeglasses to "recycle." We serve.

**Forsyth County Lions Club** = Hope this comes through. Our two new members are on the official LCI list now. - 1 transfer, 1 re-joiner. 4 Lions participated in a health clinic for the county employees in September, providing vision screening. Our fundraiser with the Forsyth Family Festival was very successful. We hope the same enthusiasm spills over to the Cumming Fair which begins tonight through the 18th of Oct. Exams, eyeglasses and collections continue. We look forward to DG Grace's visit on Oct. 20th. We may hold a foot rubbing contest!

## Best Civic Club

### Dahlonega Lions Club

Readers of The Dahlonega Nugget voted the Dahlonega Lions Club as the county's Best Civic Club in the 2009 Readers Choice Poll.

The local chapter of the international service organization was chartered Sept. 29, 1932, and has been serving the community ever since.

"The Dahlonega Lions Club was born during the worst part of the Depression," says Brad Tyson, president of the local chapter. "Times were hard ... a dollar would buy a great deal, but few had dollars. A meal at the Tate Hotel cost 50 cents. Cadets at North Georgia College built their own fires to heat their rooms, and the town square and walks were unpaved and the county's only pavement

was a one-lane strip that led to a muddy, dusty road in Hall County."

The club wasted no time in beginning its service to the community. It purchased Dahlonega's first fire truck, helped build the Community House and maintained it for a number of years, established the chamber of commerce and helped bring industry to the city. It also sponsored the Boy Scouts, school band, 4-H and little league, donated money to the PTA and set up and continued to support a soup kitchen to provide a warm lunch for hungry children.

The local chapter of the Lions Club also participates in the national club's endeavor to provide glasses to those

in need. Over the years, hundreds of glasses have been provided to the community, as well as arrangement for eye surgery and hearing aids.

Today the local Lions Club is 45-members strong, and continues its support of the community.

"It has often been said that no group works so hard to make money just so they can give it away," Tyson says. "And it could not be done without the support of the people of Lumpkin County."

The Dahlonega Lions Club meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at North Georgia College & State University, 6 p.m., in the dining hall. For more information, contact Tyson at



## Dahlonega Lions Club



The Dahlonega Lions Club, serving Dahlonega and Lumpkin County for the past 77 years, wish to thank the readers of the Nugget for voting for the Lions as the "Best 2009 Civic Organization" in Lumpkin County. It is due to your generosity and support that we are able to provide valuable services to our community. To learn more about the Dahlonega Lions Club, visit our website at: [www.dahlonega.lionwap.org](http://www.dahlonega.lionwap.org).

Membership Info  
706-265-5892

**WE SERVE**

P.O. Box 293  
Dahlonega, GA 30533

**Jefferson Lions Club = EYEGASSES COLLECTED:** 70 eyeglasses, 54 contact lenses, 8 cell phone and 11 chargers. **New Eyeglasses purchased this month:** 7 **Vision Screening:** Worked at Jackson EMC annual meeting on 24 September and checked 108 people. **CALENDARS:** \$2700 net profit to date. **Annual Car Show:** Had 149 entries – netted over \$2800.00 with 32 Lions working in the show. **Adopt-A-Road:** 8 members participated in picking up trash for Adopt A Road, Keep Jackson County Beautiful program.



**Lavonia Lions Club** = Lavonia Lions have had a busy month. We collected 237 glasses, 17 lens, 4 frames, 125 cases, 14 cell phones, which were turned in to chair Judy Stamsen when she gave us a program on the eye glass program and Canine Companions. We have completed our Lions Calender for 2010. DG Grace has visited our club and installed our newest member. We co-sponsored Night Out Against Crime with the Lavonia Police Dept. Our playhouse raffle ended on October 30. We participated in the downtown Halloween costume contest and gave out candy. Mop and Broom sales are doing well.

**Loganville Lions Club** = The Loganville Lions 2nd Annual Golf Tournament was held on September 25th at Bear Creek Golf Club and was a successful fund raiser for the Lions, netting nearly \$6,000. Ninety-nine sponsors supported and 67 golfers participated in the event on a beautiful Friday morning at Bear Creek. Major sponsors included Silver and Archibald Attorneys, ABBA Optical, Maxie Price Chevrolet, BB&T, Suntrust Bank, Neal Byrd & Associates Real Estate, Moore Business Comm., Black Ink Signs, Chick-fil-A, Bojangles, Papa Johns Pizza and Starbucks. All sponsors were included in an ad book which will be distributed in the community as well as to all participants. All net proceeds will go to support Lions Charities, including The Lions Lighthouse Foundation, Leader Dogs for the Blind, Georgia Camp for the Blind, eye exams and glasses for local needy and college scholarships for deserving high school graduates. Pictured are Stephen Meadows, Kevin O'Shea, Ryan O'Shea and Jake Jenkins, invited by the Club from Loganville High School.



Lion Diane Wall of the Cumming Lions Club and District Chair for Leader Dogs for the Blind takes questions from members of the Loganville Club after her informative presentation at a recent meeting. Leader Dogs for the Blind is located in Rochester, MI and provides a free service to the blind around the world to train dogs and recipients in the use of a leader dog to assist them in achieving independence. The leader dog program has participants across the US In raising dogs with the appropriate temperament, primarily Labrador Retrievers, for the program. Dogs are transferred to Rochester at 11 months of age for final training and preparation. Recipients of dogs are provided with transportation to Rochester and spend a month at the facility in training with a dog before returning home with their dog.

Pictured are Wall and Loganville Lions President Ben Johnson.



**Lawrenceville Lions Club** = We are having our Annual Pecan Sale as a fundraiser. We had 2 members attend the 2nd Zone meeting in Winder. Used Eyeglasses collected: 162

**Norcross Lions Club** = Had another successful Norcross Art Fest, but had less sponsors which resulted in lower funds. Worked Friday and Saturday for past two weeks of October serving hot chocolate and cookies to those attending the Ghost Tour in Norcross. We support a Student of the Month from Norcross High School. Endorsed PDG John Rudert to be Treasurer of the Georgia Lions Lighthouse – elections will be held in January at the Lighthouse meeting.

**Snellville Lions Club = Annual Elisha Winn Festival** – Held fund raiser with our trailer and enjoyed serving our great hot dogs, hamburgers, funnel cakes, drinks, and snow cones to all. **Service Project:** Used club trailer to prepare funnel cakes, hot dogs and hamburgers for the Walton EMC employees appreciation day for all the help that Walton EMC does for the Snellville Lions Club. **Programs:** Had two good programs one of which was given by Brian Spencer (son of Lion Patsy Spencer) on Braille. He even brought a large box which held the Bible in Braille and gave a history concerning the Braille system of printing and writing.

**Toccoa Lions Club = Sight Conservation:** Lion Nick is making changes in the information being reported for the months activities. He will submit the number of clients requesting services, the number receiving services and the cost of glasses. Lion Kay has been made aware of a new source for the frames and lenses made available to patients. She will explore this and report at the August board meeting. The board discussed the need for a new source of funding. **Toccoa Harvest Festival** - November 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 2009 Lions Rest Area, Health Screening, Food Concessions, Walking Sticks, Mop & Broom Sales; **Lions Kid's Day** = January 30<sup>th</sup> 2010 - Puppet Show - 10:00a.m. & 11:30a.m. Schafer Center In Toccoa

**Towns County Lions Club = 10 November - 6:30 P.M. - Spouse & Visitor's Meeting - Anderson Music Hall - Auction for "Give-a-Christmas" Veteran's Day Recognition. IT'S GIVE-A-CHRISTMAS TIME AGAIN!!** 1. Volunteers needed, call Julie. 2. Obtain Auction Items; 3. Attend the Auction Meeting and bring a guest, November 10. 4. Plan to assist at the Give-A-Christmas Day, Sat., Dec. 12; 5. Give as generously as you can. We will need an average of \$100 per Lion Club member.



**West Jackson Lions Club** = Recognition program and dinner was provided for local EMT's, Sheriff's Department employees and Fire Department employees. Took part in the Hoschton Fall Festival. Purchased 6 pairs of glasses. Plans to provide funds for local schools as the budget has been cut.

**Winder Lions Club** = Club has provided over 19 pairs of eyeglasses. We also continue to have Bingo each Friday as our main Fundraiser. We also are improving and remodeling the Club House which is requiring a large amount of funds. The club is sponsoring 2 youth groups.

**Winder Noon Lions Club** = The Club has received their first grant (\$1,000) from Wal-Mart for their Mobile Food Pantry. In August, 561 households received Food from this project. We have collected over 40 new bikes for kids to be given at Christmas. Had 7 members assist in the local Blood Drive. Had 15 members attend the Remembrance Day Memorial Service and handed out Flags to the attendees. Collected 650 glasses and 10 cell phones.

**Union County Lions Club = Sight Conservation:** 4 applications for eye glasses & exams approved. **Lion Mints:** 109 rolls of Lion Mints placed. **Social Concerns:** 10 cards sent, this includes 6 B'day, 2 get well & 2 Thinking of You. **Lion and friends and family volunteer hours: 679** hours. **Membership:** One application, Gerry Bailey, former Lion approved and his sponsor is Lion Gene Little. **Donations:** \$200.00 approved to Union/Towns Volunteers for Handicap. \$100.00 approved to GA. Mtn. Research & Education Center for the Arts Foundation. Paid out \$440.00 for 4 pairs eye glasses & exams. October 10 & 11 and 17 & 18: Annual Sorghum Festival at Meeks Park for the second year as old Fort Sorghum closed down. There were 27 Union County Lions who manned our food booth with 326 volunteer hours as well as 17 family & friends who assisted & gave 95 hours. See total Lion hours else where in this report. President Lisa Little closed the meeting with this quote from Guide Post: "Don't think about what others have. Think about what you have that you can give." **NOTE:** 35 of these 134 hours were for a Union County Lion packing 'care boxes' for Troups, Inc. to go to our men & women in service in Iraq and Afghanistan!



At 1<sup>st</sup> Zone Meeting



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

**Did you submit yours?**

E-mail = [edmcionh@bellsouth.net](mailto:edmcionh@bellsouth.net) or

Go on-line = [www.edmcion.com/](http://www.edmcion.com/) or

## Create a Free Web Site for Your Club

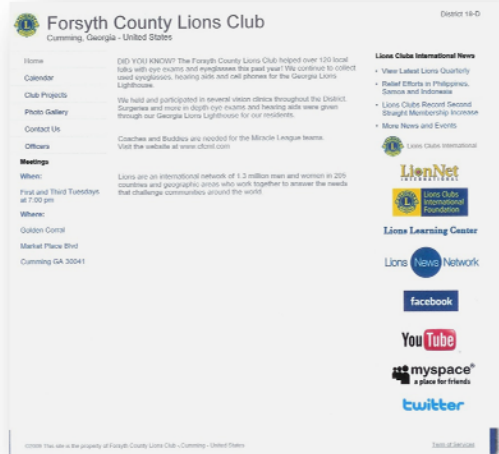
If you're looking for a free and easy way to create a Web site for your Lions club, the e-Clubhouse is for you!

**LionNET** is proud to provide this resource to help Lions Clubs around the world 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.**

### For More Information

We hope you find the service useful, and welcome your feedback. If you have comments, questions or suggestions, please contact us today.



## *Information for Young People, their Parents, Host Families and Lions Clubs*

Lions of District 18-D please consider hosting a young person (15-22) next summer in your home. For details go to the Lions Club International website, choose Our Work from the menu above the picture, choose Youth Programs from the menu on the left, choose Youth Camp and Exchange Program from the menu on the left, and choose Host Families from the menu on the left. Read about what is required of host families. Get your questions answered there or contact the District or MD Youth Exchange Chair to ask questions. Fill in a host family application. The District Youth Exchange Chair is one person who needs a copy of the completed host family application.

If you know a young person 15-21 who is interested in adventuring to another country, invite them to apply and have your Lions Club sponsor them. Details and applications are on the same website at Youth Camp and Exchange. The youth application needs the sponsoring Lions Club information and the signature of the District Youth Exchange Chair.

If you need help with this, contact District 18-D Youth Exchange chair, Lion Trudy Rudert at [trudert@comcast.net](mailto:trudert@comcast.net) or 770-446-1428. Her address is listed in the district and state Lions directory which is also available on the District 18-D website.

**Lions**, their friends, and other local volunteers can serve as Lions youth exchange host families. It is not mandatory for host families to have children the same age as the Lions youth exchangee. However, host families should enjoy the company of young people. Host families agree to provide meals and lodging for the young person. In exchange, the young visitor agrees to participate in daily family activities. This may range from learning how to weave fabric to partaking of daily saunas.

After residing with a host family for a week or two, exchangees may relocate to a second host family. Some exchangees may attend a local Lions international youth camp.



## LCI Legal Division

The USA/Canada Forum had many terrific sessions, but the most informative was the one presented by LCI Legal Division. The presentation and discussion items were related to the most frequently asked questions that LCI Legal receives from clubs and Lions.

First, what Information does the legal division provide to Lions? Legal provides information on the LCI Program of Insurance, Constitution & By-Laws, Board Policy, Parliamentary Rules, Trademarks, Dispute Resolution, and Corporate Governance.

The majority of questions to the Legal Division concern forming a corporation, the use of funds, insurance, and trademarks. All of these are covered in depth on the LCI website/Member Resources/Legal Division. From the questions asked by the participants, I would say that funds are the No. 1 issue with most clubs. Here are some of the points covered:

1. Clubs are 501(c)4 according to tax laws. They are not charities. Any checks made payable to a club cannot be used as a charity deduction for tax purposes. If a club wishes to incorporate as a foundation or a 501(c) 3, then the checks would be payable to the foundation and would be a charity deduction. Of course, all funds collected by the foundation must be used for public projects/activities and cannot be used for the administrative purposes of the club.

2. Clubs must keep their funds separate. Clubs are to maintain an administrative account and a public projects/activities account. The administrative account receives all dues, rental fees of buildings, fines, advertisements in Lions newsletters etc. These funds may be used for the administrative expenses of the club or public projects/activities. The Activities Account receives any funds collected from the public, public contributions, and fundraising events open to the public. These funds must be used for public projects only. They cannot be used for conventions, trips, expenses of the club, or dues.

The other area of discussion was insurance. LCI provides a general liability policy to all Lions Clubs. It contains \$1 million liability coverage for bodily injury and/or property damage per occurrence; \$2 million aggregate liability coverage; and \$1,000 limited medical expense. This policy pays to a third party providing the Lions Club is negligent. The policy excludes employment related liability, automobiles owned by a named insured, watercraft and aircraft, pollution and asbestos, and liquor liability. LCI also recommends that clubs do not engage in hazardous activities such as dunk tanks, carnivals, circuses, rodeos, amusement rides, races, rock concerts, fireworks displays, tractor pulls, demolition projects, and swimming pools. Would you believe that the No. 1 claim reason occurs at bingo games? Seems people get excited when they win and have accidents. If you contract to have a company do an event in the name of your club, you should ensure that your club is included on their general liability policy. For more information on the use of the Lions logo and name, creating your own foundation, or detailed information on funds and insurance, check out the LCI website.



### ***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](mailto: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](mailto: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:

**Lighthouse Open House**

**November 5th at 7:30 am**



Invite your friends and fellow Lions to learn more about the Lighthouse.

**Who:** Everyone!

**What:** An Open House

**When:** Thursday, November 5th at 7:30-9:30am. Come and go as you please!

**Where:** Your Lighthouse  
 1775 Clairmont Rd  
 Decatur, GA 30033

**Why:** So you can learn more about what your Lighthouse does and why it matters in your community.

**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



**August Service Numbers**



**Service Numbers**  
 In September 2009:

207 Georgians were seen at our mobile eye clinic.

137 eye exams were performed.

208 Georgia residents received a pair of eyeglasses.

75 Georgians received hearing aids. This represents a 25% increase over September of last year.

21 eye surgeries were performed.



## Ask the Lighthouse

When is The Beacon published?

There are currently two versions of our newsletter, The Beacon. One version is electronic, and it is sent out every month. The other version is a hard-copy, and it is issued 3-4 times per year and is sent to every Lion in the state.

If you currently do not receive the Beacon but would like to, please send your name and contact information to Kim at 404-325-3630 x 313 or [kfletcher@lionslighthouse.org](mailto:kfletcher@lionslighthouse.org)

What is the difference between the content the Lighthouse puts in the district newsletters and that in The Beacon?

Every month the Lighthouse publishes information to be included in each district's newsletter and in the electronic Beacon. The Beacon is sent to a wide audience, including Lions and non-Lion volunteers, donors, doctors, and others who are interested in Lighthouse news. The district newsletters, as you know, are only distributed to Lions in each district. Therefore, the information in each district newsletter addresses the ways in which the Lighthouse is operating in each Lions' district. The information in The Beacon tends to be much broader, focusing on what the Lighthouse is doing throughout the state, and how others can get involved.

How can I submit my question to "Ask the Lighthouse?"

If you have a question about the Lighthouse, or if you recently discovered something you think other Lions should know, please contact Kim at **404-325-3630 x 313**, or at [kfletcher@lionslighthouse.org](mailto:kfletcher@lionslighthouse.org)

## Help Us Use our Recycled Glasses

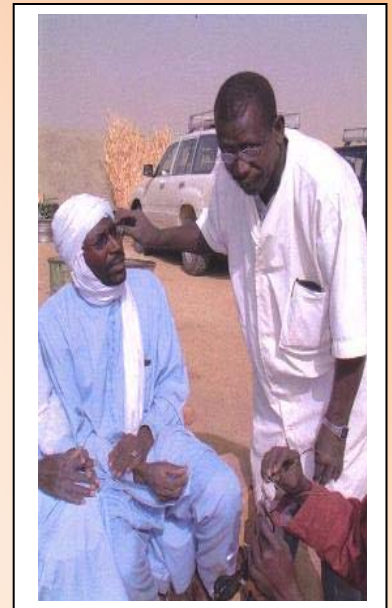
Every year over 100,000 glasses are donated to the Lions Lighthouse Foundation. With the help of the Lions clubs we take in prescription glasses, reading glasses, and non-prescription sunglasses.

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  
[eskiemom@bellsouth.net](mailto:eskiemom@bellsouth.net)



## eBay "Giving Works"



The Lighthouse is now part of eBay's "Giving Works" program. If you sell an item on eBay, you can opt to donate 10 to 100% of the proceeds to the Lighthouse. Giving Works items are given a special icon, and are searchable on the Giving Works page, so they tend to 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](http://donations.ebay.com/charity/charity.jsp?NP_ID=33501)

**Lighthouse 60th Anniversary Pin** There are two ways you can receive the Lighthouse 60th anniversary pin. You can give six hours of your time as a Lighthouse volunteer, or someone can donate to your Lighthouse on your behalf. To learn more, go to <http://www.lionslighthouse.org/ll/index.php?q=reslions> The following people have met the requirements to receive a pin:





**GA. Lions Camp for the Blind**  
**Thois Masters, PDG**  
[tstmasters@windstream.net](mailto:tstmasters@windstream.net)



## To Our Fellow Lions:

Dear Campers and Parents,

It is hard to believe that it is the middle of September already and that the summer days of 2009 are turning into the chill of the holiday season. The administrative personnel of the Georgia Lions' Camp would like to take this opportunity to invite all campers who wish to attend Christmas Camp to send in your applications by November 20 to ensure your reservation.

Check-in will begin Friday, December 4, at 1:00 pm if arriving in Macon; if arriving in Waycross, 5:00 pm. Departure is scheduled for Sunday, December 7 at 12:00 noon from the camp. We will arrive in Macon at 3:00pm and promptly start releasing the campers into your care. The total cost of the camp will be \$60 which will include a t-shirt. If your camper is planning on riding the bus, there will be a \$25 transportation fee, making their total camp fee \$85.00.

Many staff members from the summer of 2009 will be present to spend this enjoyable event with you. Bedding and bathroom linens will not be provided during this weekend. The deadline for all application materials is November 20, 2009.

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.glcgb.org](http://www.glcgb.org) for further information and a schedule of events.

Sincerely,

*Kristen Picus*

Kristen Picus  
Camp Director

**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**



**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](http://www.gacftb.org)



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



**Leader Dog Chair Lion Diane Wall**  
[liondianewall@bellsouth.net](mailto:liondianewall@bellsouth.net)

**Leader Dog graduate visits the Oval Office**



On June 26th, a group of young adults who are deaf-blind had an opportunity to meet with President Barack Obama in the Oval office – including Leader Dog graduate Jason Corning. The young adults were in D.C. to celebrate Helen Keller Deaf-Blind Awareness Week 2009, and by their example, to show that “Deaf-Blindness Didn’t Stop with Helen Keller” - the theme of this special week.



**Caspian the Leader Dog in training gets a closer look at the camera as trainer Sarah Rankin of Listie looks on.**

**Listie teen trains guide dog**

**By PATRICK BUCHNOWSKI**  
The Tribune-Democrat



LISTIE — Caspian is a social animal.

Well-mannered in public, he visits restaurants, attends church, sleeps in hotels and hangs out at shopping malls. And he’s only 7 months old.

Caspian Tyler Leader Dog is a cuddly chocolate Labrador retriever in training to become a guide dog for the visually impaired. Fifteen-year-old Sarah Rankin of Listie and her family will spend a year preparing Caspian to become all the dog he can be. She has been a puppy raiser for Leader Dogs for the Blind for more than two years.

The Rochester, Mich.-based organization trains dogs after volunteers help them to develop social skills. Sarah is one of nearly 400 puppy raisers in the U.S. and Canada. Her knack for training dogs is indicative of her keen affection for the animals.

“This dog is a ham,” said Sarah, a sophomore at Somerset Area High School. “He likes to show off for people, roll on his back and paw at the bottom of chairs.

“We were in Wal-Mart for a long time, and he got tired and cranky like a little kid,” she said. “But all the local stores in Somerset are fine with him.” Puppy raisers travel to Michigan to pick up a puppies 7 to 8 weeks old. The dogs are returned when they are a year to 15 months old and given to the visually impaired.

Caspian is the third dog the Rankin family has trained. Sarah got the idea after seeing a TV show, “Animal Adventures,” on the subject. A black Lab named Sweet Pea was 6 months old when she was diagnosed with elbow dysplasia. She experienced a “career change,” and is now the pet of a nearby family in Friedens. After Chester was trained, the yellow Lab was taken back to Michigan, where he was tested by Leader Dog officials. It was there that Sarah received her biggest surprise.

“They did an evaluation and then came back and said, ‘He’s really, really, good,’ ” she said. “ ‘Can you raise 50 more puppies like him?’ ” Now the family has Caspian, a friendly dog they named after a character in “The Chronicles of Narnia” books by C.S. Lewis.

The pup is being taught basic commands such as “sit,” “come,” “stay” and “heel.”

Caspian slept in a hotel room with family when they recently traveled out west and is acquainted with employees of local stores and restaurants. Sarah said that, when she visits a store without the dog in tow, the workers jokingly ask, “Where’s the puppy? Caspian?” The job of socializing Caspian is shared by the whole family – Sarah, parents Paul and Debbie and brother David.

“He goes to church with us,” Debbie Rankin said. “It’s a family effort, but she’s the main puppy raiser.” Sarah’s work hasn’t gone without notice.

Without caring volunteers like Sarah, the program would not succeed, Leader Dogs spokeswoman Beverly Moody said. “It says a lot about how much she cares for puppies – turning them into leader dogs – and how much she cares for people she’s never met,” Moody said by telephone from Michigan. “She’s such a wonderful inspiration for people her age.”

Sarah hopes to pursue a career working with animals. But for now she will continue as a puppy raiser until she graduates from high school. She offers advice for those who may be interested: Don’t get too attached to the pup.

“You have to love them, train them, care for them,” she said. “And when they are a year old, you have to give them away.”

For more information on Leader Dogs for the Blind, call (888) 777-5332 or visit [www.leaderdog.org](http://www.leaderdog.org)

\* \* \* \* \*



Michael Hutchison and Leader Dog "Jeb" graduated October, 2009. This is Michael's 1st Leader Dog.

"I can already tell a difference with Marnie. I used to have a lot of anxiety. I kept to myself because it was safer inside. I'm already much more confident and can get out by myself – not by myself, with Marnie."



Tammy "Ally" Ader, Deaf-blind graduate and her 1st Leader Dog "Marnie"



From the desk of State RFB&D Chair Lion Steve Helwig [lion.swampthing@gmail.com](mailto:lion.swampthing@gmail.com)



## RFB&D Reaches Out to Veterans with Print Disabilities

As many of you may know, RFB&D® was founded in 1948 to help wounded WWII veterans gain an education under the GI Bill. Today, our commitment to veterans remains as strong as ever. This summer, staff members again attended the National Convention of the Blinded Veterans Association (BVA), providing information about RFB&D's history and services for veterans and others with print disabilities.

Also, in August, a video news crew from *The American Veteran* visited RFB&D. Produced by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the show airs on the Military Channel and the Pentagon Channel and focuses on the needs and interests of veterans. The crew shot a day's worth of footage at our headquarters and New Jersey facilities. Airing is expected in November, in time for Veterans Day.



A compelling video, *It's Been a Long, Hard Road* is now posted to RFB&D's YouTube channel. In it, we meet Cpl. Michael Jernigan, USMC, Ret. An Iraqi war veteran, Mike was seriously wounded in a roadside explosion. Among his numerous injuries was the loss of both eyes. Mike tells us about his recovery, and how he is getting on with his life and his education using RFB&D's audiobooks at Georgetown University. To view the video, [visit RFB&D's YouTube channel](#).

Other exciting news about our Veterans Outreach:

- The July 2008 issue of the Veterans Administration's *Visionary Newsletter* featured an article about RFB&D titled *Returning to its Roots*.
- The June 2008 issue of *Exceptional Parent* contained the article *Sixty Years of Serving Veterans* in its special military family insert.
- Our Metropolitan Washington Unit is working with the Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC) to provide membership to service members stationed at WRAMC and their immediate family members.
- Our Philadelphia Unit provided suburban Coatesville VA Medical Center with copies of the Mike Jernigan Public

Service Announcement to run on its internal television channel at the 365-bed facility. The Philadelphia VA Medical Center is also partnering with the Unit to provide RFB&D services to veterans with visual and print disabilities. The Unit is also working with local legislators to participate in events for veterans and their families.

In keeping with our founding roots in helping veterans, we are continuing to spread the word that we were here for them then, *and we are here for them now*.

[For more information or to support our service to veterans, visit www.rfbd.org/vet](http://www.rfbd.org/vet)

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Some of you might remember his face from *Saved by the Bell: The New Class* (he played "Weasel"). But since then, Isaac Lidsky made history by working as the first blind law clerk for the Supreme Court. Isaac was 13 when he was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa.

Despite the changes in Isaac's vision, he continued his education to its pinnacle, graduating from Harvard University and Harvard Law School. He describes the clerkship that he began with the Supreme Court in July 2008 as an "incredible and just phenomenal experience ... a dream."

Isaac credits RFB&D with allowing him to continue reading for leisure, as well as educate himself on literally any topic of interest. "RFB&D helps keep me enriched as I continue to learn. I know I can get any book for leisure, or if I'm interested in a subject and need to research it." Isaac is now in London for a year working remotely for a law firm (Akin Gump) while his wife works toward a graduate degree.

With friends and family, Isaac also founded an organization in 2005 called "Hope for Vision" ([www.hopeforvision.org](http://www.hopeforvision.org)), which raises millions of dollars to develop treatments and cures for blinding diseases.





**Robinson, PDG, SE Guide Dog**  
**706-548-8719**  
[bobcat8233@aol.com](mailto:bobcat8233@aol.com)



**Walter Daniel and Duchess**

**A Terrific Teacher And Teacher's Aide**

**Walter Daniel recently retired after 30 years of teaching** 3rd and 5th graders in some of Alabama's best schools, but he still works daily as a math and reading tutor at Minor Elementary School near his home in Birmingham.

Walter was born with no vision in his left eye and with partial vision in his right eye. "I went through the Birmingham public schools with assistance from some great teachers," he says. "That's why I became a teacher."

Walter arrived at our campus last July and met his first-ever guide dog, Duchess, a day later. "The trainers took into account that I work with children," he says. "They matched me with a kind, petite, and gentle dog."

After training with Duchess for 25 days, Walter returned to Minor Elementary with his new four-pawed assistant.

"Life with Duchess has exceeded my expectations," he says. "She has boosted my trust in myself - and she makes a great teacher's aide!"



**Judy Stamsen CCI Chair**  
[eskiemom@bellsouth.net](mailto:eskiemom@bellsouth.net)

**Welcome home. We're here for you.**



Nico served in the United States Marine Corps for 14 years. After he returned from his second Iraq deployment in 2007,

Nico was diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The experience prompted him to dedicate his life to serving injured troops. Now, Nico runs a program through the Challenged Athletes Foundation called Operation Rebound, which provides post-rehabilitation support to American service members who have suffered permanent physical injuries in recent conflicts.

"My goal is to hopefully help the healing process for veterans coming home," Nico explained. "I don't want anyone else to suffer." Nico's wife, Lisa, has also dedicated her life to serving others. She works at a hospice and skilled nursing facilities where some of her clients are military veterans. Together, Lisa and Nico decided to apply for a CCI Facility Dog to offer comfort to their clients.

Now, a sweet, black Labrador/Golden Retriever cross named Tali regularly brings smiles to injured troops in San Diego County. She brings a sense of calm to members of a PTSD support group in the evenings and provides a welcome distraction to hospice patients during the day. On weekends, she takes part in athletic events with physically challenged military/veteran athletes. She is also a CCI ambassador, providing an example to injured troops of how a CCI assistance dog can make life a little easier.

"We know of several veterans who decided to apply for an assistance dog after watching Tali in action," share Nico and Lisa. "I tell my guys that having an assistance dog is kind-of like having a battle buddy. You help each other, rely on each other," Nico continues.

Nico's guys, the physically challenged veteran athletes at the Challenged Athletes Foundation, have found a tremendous support from Tali. She brings a sense of calm to the athletes as they prepare to do things like triathlons. She can also support them by performing tasks like bringing them their prosthetics. To read more stories of how Canine Companions assistance dogs are helping veterans visit [cci.org/veteran\\_stories](http://cci.org/veteran_stories).



Lion Kathryn Higgins  
 Diabetes Awareness Chair  
[Klhiggins07@windstream.net](mailto:Klhiggins07@windstream.net)

### World Diabetes Day – November 14:

This November, join the American Diabetes Association in a national movement to *Stop Diabetes*<sup>SM</sup>. November is American Diabetes Month®—a time to shine a spotlight on a serious disease that leads to potentially life-threatening complications such as heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, blindness, and amputation.

This year, we need to take a bolder, more audacious approach to American Diabetes Month. Consider that:

- 24 million children and adults in the United States live with diabetes
- 57 million Americans are at risk for type 2 diabetes
- 1 out of every 3 children born today will face a future with diabetes if current trends continue

We ask you to join the American Diabetes Association in launching a national movement to *Stop Diabetes*—help us confront it, fight it, and most importantly, stop it.

Check back for more information on this new movement. In the meantime, learn how you can become involved:

- **Share.** Inspire others to join the movement by sharing your personal story. Beginning November 2, visit [stopdiabetes.com](http://stopdiabetes.com) and join us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to learn about all the exciting ways to be a part of the *Stop Diabetes* movement. Invite your family, friends, and co-workers to join this effort as well.
- **Act.** Whether you want to [walk](#), [bike](#) or simply tell a friend, there will be many ways to help us build momentum for the *Stop Diabetes* movement.
- **Learn.** The American Diabetes Association has many resources throughout the country to help *Stop Diabetes*. If you, or a loved one, already [have diabetes](#) or are [at risk](#) for developing it, we can provide medical, lifestyle and motivational information to prevent this disease from taking control of your life and the lives of those around you.
- **Give.** Sign up with your [local American Diabetes Association office](#) to help raise money for diabetes research, federal and state advocacy and public education.

**You also can join the movement to Stop Diabetes now.** Text JOIN to 69866. The American Diabetes Association will text you with simple actions you can take that will make a real difference.

To unsubscribe, text STOP. For information, text HELP. Message and data charges may apply.

### Find out what's happening near you.

Find out what programs and activities are happening in your local community during American Diabetes Month.

**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.

In **Diabetes in the Family**, learn how to help your child live with diabetes in everyday life situations and activities as a family.

In **Diabetes at School**, learn how teamwork between families and schools can ensure a safe learning environment for a student with diabetes. Find information about legal protections and other tools to help keep a student safe at school.

**Find a Family Link Near You!** In over 50 local communities, the Association offers opportunities for families of children with diabetes to get to know each other and learn more about diabetes.

Diabetes in the Family



Diabetes in School



Find a Family Link Near You



 **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

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.



***Blueprint: Clarke Middle's LEO Club pitches in at Brooklyn Cemetery***

A group of Clarke Middle School students have dedicated themselves this year to cleaning up a 19th-century cemetery for working-class blacks and trying to preserve some of the tangled history underneath the weedy, overgrown graves. Students in the school's LEO Club - it stands for Leadership, Experience, Opportunity - will visit Brooklyn Cemetery behind the school each month to continue the cleanup work they began Saturday.

They also plan to create an interactive Web site featuring interviews with relatives of some of the people who are buried there, said Jamie Tuttle, school counselor and LEO Club sponsor.

"That's going to be our next major goal or effort with Clarke Middle LEO Club. Part of the job will be trying to track down and find some of these relatives," Tuttle said Saturday as he led a team of students into the brush-filled cemetery behind the school to trim branches, uproot weeds and pick up discarded bottles that lay among the headstones.

The cemetery is the final resting place of many working-class blacks from the Westside Hawthorne neighborhood, with graves dating to 1880. The cemetery holds at least 1,270 graves - half of them unmarked - including 61 people who lived during the time of slavery, according to Meriwhether Rhodes of Friends of Brooklyn Cemetery. Rhodes and other members of the friends organization have spent three years trying to identify some of the graves in Brooklyn Cemetery, Rhodes said.

Dozens of volunteers, including Clarke Middle School students, have worked to remove tons of debris from the cemetery, clearing the way for some of her discoveries, she said. About 45 LEO Club students plan to hold a cleanup each month and later this year start taping interviews with relatives.



"We're making it more pleasant and trying to maintain the area, because it's a part of Athens history," said Paul Eckhardt, an eighth-grade LEO Club member. "I think it would be nice to kind of find out about the people in here and know more about it."

Each year, LEO Club members pick three major service projects, and this year decided they wanted to do something with the cemetery, Tuttle said. Some of the interest was ignited five years ago by Karl Scott, a science teacher at Clarke Middle who had to cut across the cemetery to get to the school as a youngster, Tuttle said.

Scott encouraged students to learn more about the history of Brooklyn Cemetery. He even worked with members of a local Boy Scouts troop to mark headstones using a global-positioning system device. Much of the work that's led Rhodes to identify graves successfully involved extensive research in the library, pulling information and details from old directories and funeral home records.

Other finds came from interviews with relatives - the kind of information students could learn and find out about, too, she said. "There's just all kinds of information they can find," Rhodes said. "Then it would not only be a graveyard to them, but a place full of real people who lived here."



District Chair Reed Rognstad from 18-C stated: "District Chairs and Leo club advisors around the world contribute to the success of the Leo Club Program. When working with young people, chairs / advisors fill the role of motivator, mentor, counselor and role model. Chairs / advisors guide Leo club members to develop effective community service projects and help increase confidence and leadership abilities. Chairs / advisors also provide Leos with recognition for their achievements."

\* \* \* \* \*

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 so we can plan accordingly. I will send you the Agenda when it is finalized and if the seminar is being held.

THANK YOU!

In Service,  
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MD18 Leo Clubs Chair and Leo Gathering Coord  
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\*\* 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

\*\* 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!

MD18 LEO Clubs  
Annual LEO Gathering

The date has been set for the 2010 MD18 LEO Gathering Friday through Sunday, January 28 - 30, 2010 at Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind Waycross, Georgia

This year's theme is the "LEOlympics"

Registration packets will be sent out soon!

## NOTES FROM SCHOOL:

### The ABCs of Teaching

- N is for Never-ending Ideas
- O is for Optimism
- P is for Preparation
- Q is for Quest for Learning
- R is for Responsibility
- S is for Sensitivity
- T is for Trustworthiness
- U is for Understanding
- V is for Versatility
- W is for Warmth
- X is for eXcellence
- Y is for Your Best
- and Z is for Zeal.

\* \* \* \* \*

**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):

- \_ Offer to coach a local children's sports team.
- \_ Volunteer a few hours a week at your school and other children's agencies.
- \_ If you have a special skill, share it with children.
- \_ Give a child a tape recorder, sketch book, camera, or musical instrument and encourage them to develop their creativity.
- \_ Challenge a low achiever to work for good grades by providing incentives.
- \_ Smile at children that you see. **Yours** may be the only one they see today.



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 teacher(s) 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](http://www.edmclion.com)**

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