

Lions of Georgia



PLEASE – Presidents/Secretaries = send in the name of your Club and the Name and Email address only of all club members who have DSL so we can send the StateMag to each of those members. Send to edmcionh@bellsouth.net or lionga@bellsouth.net



State News



Council received reports or comments as follows:

PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT – LION JAMES E. “JIM” ERVIN:

PIP Ervin discussed the International Board Meeting in Savannah the last week of February and the first week of March. He stated that he has assumed the responsibility for the Board Meeting. He will be going to Savannah and now that the Board has approved the Agenda for the meeting, and he has talked with some of the staff and Dr. Yamada, there was not an evening lined up for them to have a free night in Savannah, so it was agreed that rather than the Lions of Georgia putting on a full dinner, that the Lions would put on a cocktail reception at the Westin with light hors d'oeuvres. Because there will be some training sessions which are required for the spouses, there will be a program on the Lighthouse, and then the Camp will put on a session on the Camp which will be two different sessions for the spouses of the Board and that meets the IRS requirements. Other than the host night, the MD will need to have staff at the Airport when the Officers and Directors come in, to help get their luggage off the carousels, put them on carts, etc. There is a company in Savannah that will do the transportation. Lions will be needed in the hotel and the Convention Center to give information about Savannah or to help with whatever they might need. PIP Ervin stated that a letter will be sent out to the Clubs to see if they can donate and support the Board Meeting. The cost has been cut to about \$10,000.00. The Reception will be on Wednesday, March 2nd.

Lions will be expected to pay for their drinks and food. PIP Ervin stated that he is asking the committee to wear their parade shirt so that they will be identifiable to the group. There will be no hat. He stated that he will get back with the Council should funds from the International Expense Fund be needed to host the International Family.

PIP Ervin stated that he is on the Centennial Action Committee; PID Haynes Townsend is over the area east of the Mississippi; PID John Walker is west of the Mississippi, and PIP Jim works with both and trying to coordinate the funding and getting coordinators to share with their communities and the world what Lions have been doing for 100 years.

Through meetings with Roberta and Grace and the Peach Bowl, the Lions of Georgia and Lions International will sponsor the Peach Bowl Parade. We will be in the magazine and program and well publicized. He discussed this opportunity to publicize the Lions, the Lighthouse and the Peach Bowl.

PIP Ervin stated that he has lined up Bob Corlew for the 2017 State Convention. ID Kembra Smith is working on obtaining a speaker for the 2016 Convention.

PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR – LION HAYNES TOWNSEND:

PID Townsend commended PIP Jim Ervin for all the work he does on the International level. He commended PCC Mark Miller for his work on the USA/Canada Forum.

PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR – DR. JOHN PEARCE:

PID Pearce stated that he did not have any comments at this time, but would make his comments when his report came up on the agenda.

REPORT OF COUNCIL SECRETARY and STATE CONVENTION – LION HANNAH FLYNN, DG 18-0:

A. Lion David McDonald, Convention Treasurer, discussed the Callaway Gardens Convention in 2016. He distributed two reports to the Council. He pointed out that currently the balance on hand in South Crest Bank, Thomaston, GA, is \$21,010.00. There are currently 196 people registered for the Convention. The second handout was a listing of all those persons registered from each District. CC May stated that during the months of November and December he would work with the Council and State Office to finalize the agenda for the Convention, and have it ready by the first of the year. Lion McDonald stated that he and General Chair Forrest ask that there be no ads in the convention program this year. He suggested that if Council wanted ads placed by the clubs, that a separate program be made up just for ads.

B. CC May stated that the 2015 Tifton State Convention General Chair, PDG Georgia Taylor, had turned in a check in the amount of \$800.00, representing additional ad sales income. Check was turned over to the State Office Secretary for deposit.

C. 2017 State Convention: PCC Mark Miller stated that he had asked Council at the last meeting to consider an A la carte method of registering for the convention. There would be a base Registration fee of \$25 to \$28 per person. To that amount, each person could pick and choose which other events (MJF Luncheon, Breakfasts, Banquet, etc.) would be added. There would be a discounted rate for purchase of the entire package. Committee cannot begin work on a budget until Council decides on whether the a la carte method of registering is approved. DG Varnadoe, 18-N, made a motion that Council allow PCC Miller to set up the a la carte program. Motion seconded by DG Flynn, 18-O, and motion carried.

D. DG Flynn reported that PCC Grace Clower is working on a bid for the 2018 State Convention to be in District 18-I. CC May stated that Committee needs to be looking at the following year to line up a convention site, hopefully in 18-N. DG Flynn stated that she had been contacted by someone at the Convention Center in Macon and that site would be available also.

REPORT OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CHAIR – LION FRED CARLSON, DG 18-L:

Southeastern Breakfast. The Tennessee MD chose not to host the Southeastern Breakfast for next year. So Georgia will be the host for the Breakfast. PIP Ervin stated that he has discussed the Southeastern Breakfast with staff at LCI. During their inspection site of Japan at the Headquarters Hotel, they will get some menus so that Council can select a menu. After that, the State Office will put out a letter to all of the Southeastern Multiple Districts. State Office will print tickets for the event. Once the information is available a letter will be sent.

DG Carlson stated that the Council will partner with the Lighthouse to put on the Georgia Jamboree this year. This event will be a little more formal. Roberta Green, Executive Director of the Lighthouse, stated that she felt this would be a great opportunity to highlight some of the unique things done in Georgia, and this could be expanded into the Centennial year celebration in Chicago.

DG Carlson stated that Georgia will participate in the parade. He suggested that anyone needing a shirt should contact Rick Mizell to make sure the size needed is available. There is some discussion about changing the parade uniform for the centennial year rather than this year.

REPORT OF MD 18 LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIR – LION PDG MARK RICE:

The Long Range Planning Committee meet on 12 October 2015 at the Georgia Lions Lighthouse. Those in attendance were: PCC Olin Newby, Roberta Green, PCC Bill Craig and Ruthie Stevens. A discussion of the following topic was conducted with respect to the new MD 18 Lions Museum: Ownership, Management, Insurance, Maintenance and Operation, Ownership of Donations/Gifts to the Museum, Promotion, Tax Reporting, Development of Policy Manual, and Placement of Donation Box in the Museum.

A more complete report of the recommendation will be forth coming after additional discussion with committee members who were not available to attend.

REPORT OF MD 18 CHAIR, CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE – LION C. MARK MILLER, PCC:

PCC Miller stated that next Wednesday there will be a meeting of the MD Constitution and By-Laws Committee. Per directions received from Council, the Committee recommends adopting a consolidated document where the Constitution and By-Laws will be the standard LCI recommended Multiple District Constitution. The By-Laws will be a standard District Constitution and By-Laws with a few minor tweaks.

PCC Miller stated that there are three positions currently in the Constitution that are not part of the Standard MD Constitution. These are elected either by the Council or Lions. He stated it was his recommendation to let the Lions of Georgia decide whether they want to continue to have and fund a Lion Tamer, a State Historian, and also the Council Advisor position is not a standard position. He anticipates a resolution being presented at the Convention this year with four items on the ballot. One to approve the overall rewrite and separate ones on whether to continue the Historian position, the Lion Tamer position, and the Council Advisor position.

DG Flynn, 18-O, made a motion to allow the Constitution and By-Laws Committee to move forward with these recommendations. Motion seconded by DG Varnadoe, 18-N. Motion carried.

PIP Ervin stated a lot of work has gone into the proposal. He encouraged Council to be sure that this information is placed in the hands of the Lions Clubs so that everyone has a chance to study it and be prepared to vote on the issue. If there are problems, he asked that these be handled within the state of Georgia. He stated that recently he has received two calls from LCI where someone in the state has called LCI complaining about something in the State, and he knew nothing about it. He felt that issues should be handled here in the state without involving LCI.

PCC Miller stated that the committee plans to have this ready to present at the District Conventions. He asked that Governors include their Constitution and By-Laws Committee member on the business agenda at the district convention so that there will be the opportunity for the district to see what changes are being made, understand them and ask questions so that they are fully informed about this document.

The current Constitution says that only the Constitution and By-Laws Committee can present amendments without a petition type situation, to be presented at a State Convention. The committee will be

preparing changes and recommendations. They will bring these changes back to the Council for their endorsement. A resolution would be presented at the State Convention.

REPORT OF STATE MAGAZINE EDITOR AND MD 18 LCIF CHAIR – LION ED HASHBARGER, PDG:

Lion Hashbarger discussed committees, and perhaps having a training for the committees on what they are supposed to do.

State Magazine was discussed. DG Carlson, 18-L, stated that as discussed last night, each Governor will have something put in the District Newsletter regarding how many people receive a hard copy of the State Magazine, and do they want to continue to do that, and try to move toward going strictly electronic.

PDG Hashbarger called attention to a printed LCIF report: “What we’ve got here is Failure to communicate “. Again, I found that not all clubs know about many of the other Lions projects we have and never received any programs on these projects. I highly recommend to the District Governor’s and Vice District Governor’s that they make sure that they take 2 minutes to say something about LCIF and ask each club to give a donation - \$20.00 minimum surely this is not too much to ask for and set yourself a goal at being a 100% District. At present, if your District meets its goal — you and the District Coordinator will get the LCIF Chairperson’s Medal. You can also get a Certificate if your District is 100%.

Congratulations to PDG Vicki Hubbard and District Coordinators PDG Richard Henderson and Lion Gay Bradley (District 18-I) on being the first recipient’s to receive the 2014-15 LCTF Chairperson’s Medal who has demonstrated exceptional dedication to the foundation and as recognition of exemplary giving within a district or multiple district.

Also, I will be presenting a Certificate to a Lions Club within District 18-N for being a 201415 TOP FIVE CLUBS as recognition of exemplary giving to LCIF from a given club. I will ask if the District Governor or one of the Vice District Governor’s and District Coordinators could be present for this presentation.

You all should know by now that the Macon Lions Club is working on a major project within their community. I contacted the President and encouraged him to get with another club or two and submit for a Standard Grant from LCIF on this project. This project is something that many Clubs should be looking at within their communities. The main attraction is providing a handicap playground.

I know some of the clubs have been worried only about what is going on within their own communities — this is fine — but they have to realize that sometime in the future — monies might be needed to help restore their community. Much has been given and we have received a good amount in return. Please find attached your District Recap as of 30 September and past yearly history.

Each District will still have to push Melvin Jones Fellowships (along with Progressive) and Contributing Member Pins. I gave out Contributing Member Pins to your District Coordinators. We still have many clubs that have money on account —all they have to do is fill out an application and submit it for a member of their club. I will contact each of those clubs as I usually do each year. Please find attached an LCIF Melvin Jones Application that can be filled out — each DG should do one for themselves and CHALLENGE other members of your team to do the same.

I have been working for a couple of years on trying to get Certificates from LCIF in helping clubs provided eye care within their

communities. LCIF has partnered with VSP (Vision Service Plan) in providing these certificates and has picked District 1 and 0. This could mean that Clubs could save hundreds of dollars and readjust their budgets. I will be working with the District Coordinators on this major project.

“COMMUNICATION is the KEY”

For general info — at the end of 30 June 2014 = Multiple District 18 Totals: Melvin Jones 2,509 (Increase +59) Progressive Melvin Jones 188 (increase +2) Again, if there is anything you wish to know about or need— please do not hesitate in contacting me.

PIP Jim Ervin reported on the Lions Carter Center SightFirst initiative. In November he has been asked to represent LCIF and the Association back in Ethiopia to celebrate the five hundred

REPORT OF STATE LION TAMER AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CHAIR – LION RICK MIZELL, PDG:

CC May called attention to a report in each file from the Lion Tamer, who was unable to attend the meeting: Attached is the latest Inventory report for the store. I understand there is a discussion about closing the store. Since most Districts do not want to expend the time to provide a location for the store, there are fewer opportunities to sell the Lion's merchandise. Adding to the issues is the fact we have a large left over supply of last year's towels. This has caused an increase of retail value of the store and probably a net loss on the books for last fiscal year. To get rid of this item, I will probably have to deeply discount these towels. I have cut back on the quantity of towels for this year.

I have also held back on ordering additional Parade Shirts. I am out of Ladies Large and X-Large Sizes. We can sub Men's sizes if needed and the purchaser is willing to accept. It would be helpful to know in advance, how many will need shirts. I had quite a few Lions request shirts after the State Convention. This is a cost out of pocket and not everyone has paid for the shirts. In the future, I am not willing to mail shirts out after State Convention.

Over the past several years, the inventory of the store has decreased. This has been noticeable to some Lions. I have always been able to move the product at all District Conventions and State Convention.

Before you decide to close the store, please consider bring the idea before the Lions of Georgia at State Convention.

For my Information Technologies Report. Tonight, I have published a total rework of the state website. This has been a project in the works for over 4 months and a ton of hours. The only item left to update is the State Directory. This should be complete by this weekend. The reason for the rework is the old site was developed and maintained by Microsoft Web Expressions which is manufacturer discontinued. The new software is Adobe Dreamweaver. This will allow more devices such as smart phones to access the website.

REPORT OF MD 18 CENTENNIAL CHAIR – LION PDG CATHY THREATT: PDG Threatt reported that Clubs are getting

REPORT OF MD 18 YOUTH CAMP AND EXCHANGE – LION HANNAH FLYNN, DG, 18-O:

DG Flynn called attention to a printed report (shown below). *I have one student coming from Australia to MD18 from December 6 through January 4. Lion Raye Reed, president of the McDonough Lions Club, and I will split the visit between us. There has been an inquiry from Finland about students coming to Georgia and MD18 in June 2016. Would the District Governor teams from each district please get the word out to all their clubs in the near future?*

REPORT OF STATE HISTORIAN – LION CHIP NEDZA:

Printed report in each file:

Still using a cane till mid-November. Doctor's orders "take it easy". Will not be able to attend COG. Can't wait to get back to Lions work.

REPORT OF MD 18 ALERT CHAIR – LION PEGGIE CHAPMAN:

CC May called attention to a printed report in each file from Lion Chapman:

District 18 has been fortunate during the first quarter of 2015-2016 year. There have been no reports of storms or other disasters requiring our response.

Now is the time to prepare! I would like to put together a booklet for each district with ALERT teams identified. As soon as I have a copy of the State Directory, I will begin to obtain any of the information that is missing, and go from there. District Governors, if you have not already sent that information please be sure to do so as soon as possible. We don't want to wait until we NEED the information—which would be after the response is needed!

My contact information is given here if you need to reach me—either to send me information or to let me know of a need in your district.

Email: peggiechapman@me.com

Phone(s) H 706 692 2258 C 770 367 0281

REPORT OF MD 18 ETHICS COMMITTEE CO CHAIR – LION DR. JOHN F. PEARCE, PID:

Dr. Pearce stated that he would like to say a few words on ethics. This includes not only the Council, but every person present here today and all of our Lions. The 8th point in the Lions Code of Ethics says “To be careful with our criticism, be liberal with our praise, and to build up and not destroy.” Council has appointed co-chairs for the Ethics Committee in the Multiple District. The Co-Chairs are PID Dr. Beverly Roberts and PID Dr. John Pearce.

Dr. Pearce stated that he thought for many years there was no need for an Ethics Committee, certainly not in Georgia, and as he traveled and spoke in other Multiple Districts, he found out that there were ways of looking at that Code of Ethics that he had never thought of, and that Lions do not realize how applicable it is to each one of us as a Lion. He stated that he wanted the Lions in Georgia to start thinking about how we conduct ourselves, and on that 8th point in the Code of Ethics, where are we in Georgia?

Dr. Pearce stated that he and Dr. Roberts have the four names who will serve on the Ethics Committee. They tried to get everyone together for a meeting this weekend, but it did not work out. They plan to have an orientation and training session for the Ethics Committee before the next Council Meeting.

Old Business:

Georgia Lions Pins 2016. Lion Don Wagner stated that this year has been the smoothest ever in getting the Lions Pin approved and ordered. He delivered the pins for delivery to Rick Mizell. CC May stated that if anyone wanted pins now, they could get them and have Lion Mizell bill them.

New Business:

State Awards Committee. DG Mundy, 18-I, made a motion that the State Awards Committee do a review of the Awards Program, and come back to the Council with their recommendations to either consolidate some of the awards, or drop some of the awards. Motion seconded by DG Varnadoe, 18-N. Motion carried.



Fred Carlson
DISTRICT "L"

Woodstock Lions Club



We were proud to host the Woodstock Fall Festival this past October. Our service project for December was to bring Christmas gifts for the ladies in the Family Violence Center.

Welcome to the Woodstock Lions website. Please take a moment to look around and get to know a little about our service organization.

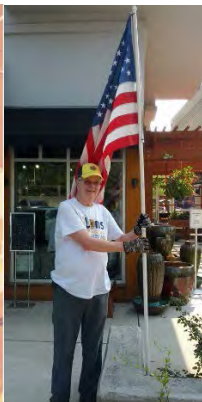
As Lions we strive to make our community stronger, safer, and an environment for all to be successful. We are addressing the concerns of our community such as: blindness, hearing loss, drug abuse, diabetes awareness, training for the deaf, disabled, underprivileged, and elderly. In fact, whatever our community needs to make life better, we're there to help.

We are the oldest major service organization, yet we have grown to be the world's largest. We are succeeding because we have embraced all those committed to building a brighter future for the world and for themselves.

Thank you for your interest in Lions. If you are the kind of person who likes to nurture others and make meaningful changes in your community, then Lions is the place for you! As a club we are always seeking volunteers! Please come and have dinner on us and find out more about Woodstock Lions. We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1208 Rose Creek Drive, Woodstock, GA 30189 at 7:00 PM. We request you RSVP so we may have dinner for you 770 906 2958. We look forward to your visit!

The ongoing projects for Woodstock Lions Club are:

- **Eye Exams** for those without insurance and assistance for uninsured persons needing eye surgeries through Georgia Lighthouse.
- **Eyeglass Recycling**~ The eyeglasses secured through donation boxes are sent to Georgia Lighthouse for refurbishing and distribution in Third World Countries.
- **Recycling**~ hearing aid and cell phones
- **" Fly the Flag"**~ Woodstock Lions ask local business to participate in showing their patriotism by flying the American Flag on eight national holidays each year. The Lions will provide a bracket on your building or ground stand, pole, flag, hang the flag, and store it for your business. The costs \$40.00 annually. If you would be interested in participating, then please call Woodstock Lions. (February~ President's Day, May~ Memorial Day, June~ Flag Day, July~ Independence Day, September~ Labor Day and Patriot's Day, November~ Veteran's Day)
- **White Cane Day** ~This is the day set aside each year to raise funds for the Georgia Lions Lighthouse. Approximately one-third of the budget for Georgia Lions Lighthouse will be earned during White Cane Day.





Anne Mundy
DISTRICT "T"

West Jackson Lions Club

Working to make a positive difference in the Braselton-Hoschton community...

Chartered in 1971, the West Jackson Lions Club was sponsored by the Jefferson Lions Club. This club has a history of service to the Braselton-Hoschton community, the State of Georgia, and the world.

Local Community Service

Community Outreach

Provides eye exams and eye glasses for those who cannot afford them. Helps sponsor diabetes education, conducts hearing programs to name just a few. Collect eye glasses, eye cases, cell phones, and hearing aids for individuals in Georgia that are in desperate need of these resources.

Another project was to help provide an artificial eye for a young Braselton girl, then again when she outgrew the first artificial eye.

Dictionary Project

Through a grant from the Jackson EMC Foundation this club provided every 3rd grade student (county, city, private school, and home schooled children) in the county with a student dictionary to use during the school year.



School Program

Conducts a "Patriotism Essay Contest" for 4th & 5th graders which enables our young people to express their definite ideas about Patriotism. We need to hear what they are thinking.

Eagle Ranch

Provides a Christ-centered home for boys and girls in crisis and in need of hope and healing.

Fund Raisers

Raises funds by selling brooms and mops, selling food during events in Braselton and Hoschton, and sponsoring garage sales.

Our club actively supports charities that makes a differences to our community, our country, and our world in keeping with the LCIF goals for a better world.

Our motto "We Serve", the club uses profits from its fundraisers to help those in need. The club meets the first and third Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm at the Community Center in Braselton by the park.



Hannah Flynn
DISTRICT "O"



WE SERVE

Helping those in need around our community – read more below =



It's that time again! We all know that these are the best Boston Butts Around. Boston Butt Fundraiser. Also other items we do thru out the year –

Watermelon Classic Cornhole Tournament. Gun Raffle the Crisp County Lions Club had with a beautiful Remington rifle.

Crisp Co Lions having fun at the Tater Festival in Ocilla Ga. Crisp Co. Lions are selling Brooms & Mops. Brooms \$9.00 Mops \$7.00 Made in USA.

One of our Lions received a call from a parent asking for help to get her son a pair of glasses before school started. The Crisp County Lions Club member very quickly pulled the community together to receive the money to get the child his glasses before school. We Serve. Now Weston Spires is going to school and seeing in a whole different way. A Special Thanks goes to Lion Harold Dickerson for all you do for our club. We received our patch for Centennial Service Challenge Vision for this year with this project. Also would like to thank the community for helping with all our projects. We Serve.

Lion Timmy took a Check to Mrs. Gerri Stillwell to help out with the expenses of damage to her home from a tree falling in it. Mrs. Gerry is a well know Nanny that has been taken care of kids for years she is a sweet and caring nanny. She even took care of Lion Timmy when he was small. I know allot of people in this community knows and cares for her. Thank you for all you do for the lions club. This is some of the things we do in return.

Ok everyone! [Pickers In The Park](#) is coming this weekend we have a lot in store for it. Please do not miss it. Admission is free. We have a great line of Gospel music going on all day. We have a lot of vendors, A Corn Hole Tournament, Kids Play Area, A Book Signing, R2 H20 Expeditions Inc. A woman astronaut will display a underwater robot / drone. We have new stuff adding daily. Please do not miss this event. How about you all?

CORDELE MAIN STREET: Free event at the Downtown Spectacular this Thursday at SAM Shortline. Lots of sponsors, face painting, candy, music, dancing & costume contests FOR KIDS, ADULTS & DOGS. Please sponsor the Crisp County Lions Club Cancer Stomp. What is raised in this region stays in this region. Any amount is greatly appreciated. The Crisp County Lions Will be stomping on Sept. 12th. Also if you would like to Join our team we would be Glad to have you. Other items going on in November and December = Coordinating Peace Poster contest // Volunteering with Thomas the Train at Veterans Memorial State Park // Selling Tickets for Boston Butt fundraiser // Working on Christmas Parade Float.



Larry Varnadoe
DISTRICT "N"

Liberty Coastal Lions Club



Here is a little bit about our club

As mentioned earlier, The Liberty County Lions Club is located in Midway, in Southeast Georgia, approximately 40 miles Southwest of Savannah. Our club is 42 years old and some of our members are charter members of the club.

As of the 2013 Census, Midway had a population of 2065. It is largely a bedroom community but has recently had increases in its Industrial and Commercial sector as well. When we speak of a Lions Club and the Community it serves, we are not speaking only of the specific location of that Lions Club. The community that the Liberty Coastal Lions Club serves stretches beyond the city of Midway. The "community" for our club stretches into the surrounding communities of Riceboro, Colonals Island, Fleming, Lake George, and Sunbury. All of these are in Liberty County District 1. Except for Riceboro (pop.803), the other areas are unincorporated and no population figures are available for them. We therefore serve a population of more than just 2868

Our community service has included activities at a local Nursing Home, volunteering at a local food bank (including distributing food), performing Low Vision Screening, volunteering at a clinic in Brunswick, Ga., collecting clothing for a local church drive, collecting food for various community food drives, partnering with the local American Legion post and with the Midway Middle School. To learn more about our community service, click on a link supplied on the left side of this page.

Members of our club are also active in the two Lions State Projects of Georgia. They are the Georgia Lions Lighthouse and the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind. Members of the club have held positions on their committees.

We are continually looking for opportunities to serve our community and that includes possibilities to partner with other organizations. We presently partner with the local American Legion Post and the Boy Scouts. We are anticipating future projects. As more opportunities present themselves we look forward to getting involved with them.

Meetings of our club go beyond discussions of service. Lionism is also about fellowship. We meet at the Capt. Joes restaurant in Midway at 7 PM on the fourth Thursday of each month, enjoy a nice dinner (dinner is optional) and, besides business, enjoy each other's company. Meeting times and places often change for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Also over the winter months as our older members do not like driving at night. Approximately every two months we have a guest speaker. Past speakers have included the head of the Liberty County Development Authority, the head of the county EMA, the Midway Police Chief and a nurse practitioner at a local dermatology clinic, just to name a few.

To journey through our website, simply click on one of the links provided on the left side of our pages. This will either replace the page you are viewing with another one or open another window while leaving the present window open. If another window opens, be sure to close that second window before proceeding.

And now we will let you begin your journey into Lionism. This website is designed and maintained by Lion Jerry Leland of the Liberty Coastal Lions Club. Please e-mail any comments, suggestions or questions to him at gbruce2006@yahoo.com.



2015-2016 Global Membership Team and Global Leadership Team

The Global Membership Team (GMT) and the Global Leadership Team (GLT) work together to enhance membership growth and leadership development. The GMT is responsible for overseeing membership development through new members and clubs and improving club success by way of membership retention. The GLT is committed to seeking out potential new leaders, maximizing leadership development by striving to enhance the quality of leadership training, and promoting and delivering relevant training and development programs to Lions at all levels.

Together these two teams have three basic goals:

- Continued membership growth
- Improved club success
- Enhanced leadership quality

We are grateful to these dedicated [2015-2016 Lions leaders](#), as well as the Multiple District and District GMT and GLT, and encourage Lions around the world to take advantage of their assistance and enthusiasm to maximize the success of all your leadership and membership efforts.



Lions Clubs International



Membership = *Now is the time for all good quality adults to be asked to join your Lions Club.*

<http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/member-center/membership-and-new-clubs/index.php>



"Ask One" Begins At Home

Lions volunteering with family is a great way for families to have fun and feel closer. It is even better when family members become Lions! If you ask one, you should ask your closest friend, the person you trust most – your loving spouse and partner. Share your commitment and enthusiasm for Lions with your family members. Families that serve together as Lions establish a family tradition of serving others.



The Ask One membership campaign starts at home. If Lions families are on the front lines serving their communities, the word will spread wider and faster. We will gain the recognition we deserve as the greatest service organization in the world.

Membership Webinars

Membership webinars provide an opportunity for Lions to learn about various membership programs and discuss membership topics. Panelists are made up of Lions from around the world and Membership Development Division staff. Below contains a list of webinars with the link.

<http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/resources/webinars/membership-webinars.php>

Dear U.S. Lion,

We are pleased to share that Lions Clubs International is extending the *Involve a U.S. Veteran* pilot program through **June 30, 2016**. This program waives the charter or entrance fee for U.S. Veterans joining a Lions club in the United States.

Eligible veterans include retired U.S. military personnel or honorably-discharged members of the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard Services, Marines, National Guard, Navy or Reserves. Those currently serving in the National Guard or Reserves are also eligible. Lions Clubs International will provide an entrance fee waiver of \$25 (\$30 for charter members) to qualified U.S. veterans that join a local Lions club.

Veterans have made so many great contributions and sacrificed so much to serve our country. As service members return home from serving in the military, let's offer them an opportunity to get involved in their communities.

Visit the **Involve a U.S. Veteran** web page to download a fact sheet, promotional flyer, certification form and a sample press release.

[Learn More](#)

http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/lions/invite-members/us-veteran-program.php?utm_source=RealMagnet&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=5803%20Veterans%20Prog%20extension%20EN



Make plans now to reach out to veterans in your community and offer them the opportunity to make a difference and change lives as Lions.
Membership Development Division, Lions Clubs International



Invite the whole family to serve your community.

Family Membership

Invite your family to participate in your club's next community event, because as a family unit, you can receive a dues discount when volunteering together.

Go to this web site for more info =

<http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/lions/invite-members/family-membership.php>

As a Lions family unit you can:

- Increase quality family time
- Be a role model
- Help your community

The Family Membership Program applies to family members who are (1) eligible for Lions membership, (2) currently in or joining the same club, and (3) living in the same household and related by birth, marriage or other legal relationship. Common household family members include parents, children, spouses, aunts and uncles, cousins, grandparents, in-laws and legal dependents.

To be part of the Family Membership Program, your club secretary must complete the [Family Unit Certification Form](#) or [file online](#).

Resources:

- [Family Membership Brochure](#)
- [Family Friendly Lions Club Concept "How to Guide"](#)
- [Planning a Family Event](#)
- [Family & Women's News](#)
- [Family & Women's News Archive](#)
- [Family & Women's Specialist](#)
-

LCI awards clubs adding 10 or more new family members at the time of charter with the Family Membership Banner Patch.

See the [Family Membership FAQ](#).

Bring the Kids

The new [Cub Program](#) helps support family-friendly clubs. Formulated special to encourage families to volunteer together, children under age 12 have the opportunity to build a lifelong dedication to helping others.

Cubs are divided into the following age groups:

- Level I: Age 3 and under
- Level II: Age 4-7
- Level III: age 8-12

The [Lions Family Cub Program Activity Guide](#) and [Family Cub Program Activities](#) are filled with age-appropriate activities. Clubs may also wish to [order](#) distinguishing Cub patches by age level to help Cubs feel like part of the club and get them excited to participate.

For additional information, [contact the Membership and New Club Programs Department](#).

Membership Publications Download forms and publications that help strengthen your club's membership.

<http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/resources/publications-forms/membership.php>

Strengthen Membership

Go to this web site <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/lions/strengthen-membership/index.php>

you just might learn something different.

REPORT OF MD 18 GMT CHAIR – LION JANE PRICE, PDG:

Annual membership goals are in place for each of the four districts. All District GMT Coordinators are active and publicizing membership resources available on the LCI website. Also, efforts are being made to support the older clubs that are struggling. The District GMTs are still reporting general membership apathy, lack of new club officers, low participation in district events and many clubs with low membership.



The Global Leadership Team (GLT) Webinar Tutorial – How to Be a Participant

Go to this web site: <http://lions.alkonhosting.com/EN/webinar/player.html>

Upon finishing this tutorial you will be able to register, log in and actively participate in a webinar

Webinars are virtual trainings generally one hour long that are conducted online with a group of participants and instructors. Participants use the Internet to connect the group members with the instructors. To register and login, participants are directed to an Internet address. Please [review our Guide to Register/login](#).

Leadership Development Webinars

Webinar Description

Dates/Times

Across the Table and Across the World: Building Lions-to-Lions Relationships

Explore the many ways to build relationships within the Lions world including club service project cooperation, club-to-club visits and club twinning. Includes a discussion of the role of club leaders in facilitating club and district partnering and current successful examples.

Social Media as a Lions Leadership Tool

Widen your Lions sphere of influence by strengthening your understanding and application of social media as you connect to Lions at the club, community and global level. Learn how to leverage social media to promote and strengthen your club, zone and district service activities, membership, and fundraising. Latest social media trends and best practices included.

Two 1-hour sessions

[Wednesday, January 6 and 7, 2016 at 1:00pm](#)

One 2-hour session

[Friday, January 15, 2016 at 8:00 to 10:00pm](#)

[Wednesday, February 3, 2016 1:00pm](#)

[Friday, February 12, 2016 8:00pm](#)

New Zone Chairperson Self-guided Training Modules Available

Zone Chairpersons: You are indispensable to the clubs you serve! Your District Governor chose you to encourage and promote:

- Healthy and active clubs
- Informed leaders at the club and district level
- Collaborative committees addressing membership, leadership development and administrative goals

To function effectively, each Zone Chairperson must keep all aspects of the role in mind, prepare and plan for success, implement that plan, and communicate important information to all relevant groups along the way. This is a complex role, so take advantage of the resources available to inform and assist you. First, if you have not already, contact your GLT District Coordinator for information about training. Next, complete the newly revised, online, self-guided Zone Chairperson training modules available on the Leadership Resource Center, [Training Materials/Resources page](#).

The self-guided modules provide:

- A concise summary of your roles and responsibilities
- An overview of the resources, both human and informational, available to you
- Key questions for reflection as you plan for and carry out your responsibilities
- Strategies to deal with common challenges

All of these are packaged into four short presentation modules of about 10 minutes each that you can review at your leisure - as many times as needed! Along with these modules are workbooks that you can print and use for your reflections, notes and reminders of key points.



Southeastern Lions Leadership Institute 2016

[An LCI-Sponsored Regional Lions Leadership Institute](#)

Received a web site for the Regional Institute to be held in Fruitland, FL, April 7-10, 2016. I think this is great to have a web site where we can register for this event. The web site is <http://selli2016.com>. I am also attaching a brochure that can be sent out or copied and given out at meetings.

Global Leadership Team



Area 1 E

Lions Clubs International

Southeastern Lions Leadership Institute

Life Enrichment Center
4991 Picciola Rd.
Fruitland Park, FL 34731

April 7 – 10, 2016
(Check In after 3:30 pm Thursday – Depart noon Sunday)

Name: _____

Badge Name: (if different) _____

District: _____ Club: _____

Highest office held _____

Current office (if any) _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone: Home: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Have you ever attended a RLLI? Y___ N___

Institute Topics:

- Working in Teams
- Diversity
- Public Speaking
- Time Management
- Member Motivation
- Lions Fundamental
- Goal Setting
- Personal Mission Statement

Registration \$145 includes:

- Lodging 3 nights
- Seven Meals
- Instructional Materials

Check payable to: **"Lions of Florida MD-35 RLLI"**

Mail to: **Umi Larry Feldman**
11 Magnolia Ave
Yarflowtown, FL 34488

Tel: 352-447-0808
Email: glm35.lion@comcast.net

Accommodations

Motel Accommodations
Double Occupancy
(Single Occupancy available – add \$60)

Roommate (if applicable) _____

Check in at the Lobby/Dining Hall
(3rd Bldg. on Right, inside the Gate)

REPORT OF SOUTHEAST AREA GLT COORDINATOR – LION MARK MILLER, PCC:

PCC Miller stated that three Zone Chair Training Courses were completed since the last Council Meeting. Also was the first weekend of First and Second Vice District Governor Training. Tomorrow, he will be conducting a workshop with the GMTs, GLTs, and First Vice District Governors. First Vice District Governors have to prepare goals to be turned in by December 15th to LCI relating to both Leadership Development and Membership Development for their year. They are supposed to work with their GMT and GLT. They will work on setting those goals tomorrow, along with the District GMT and GLT, to make sure they are coordinated.

He reported that last night we talked about and submitted a "Second Century Leadership Model" that we are recommending to Council to be developed and implemented next year with training on that program to occur at each District Convention this year. That program will streamline the way Cabinets work; it will focus two key teams that are hybrids of GLT and GMT. One team will be specifically focused on existing clubs, called the Quality Club Team that the Zone Chairs will morph more into "Coaches" and be accountable for what is happening with existing clubs. Are clubs growing or staying where they are. The second team would be focused on new club development, and developing and putting in place Certified Guiding Lions. A much more streamlined structure in order to get the state on board with that, he is requesting Council approval so that 1st VDGs can start recruiting and training at the District Convention this year on this new program. A Motion to accept this "Second Century Leadership Model" (copy attached) made by DG Mundy, 18-I. Motion seconded by DG Varnadoe, 18-N. Motion carried.

PIP Ervin stated that the new 2.0 GMT program that was just approved by the Board will also have some specific training different than what we have been doing. Mark has not received everything yet, but it will be coming. There will be specific training for the GMT Coordinators, Zone Chairs more specifically as it relates to the position and there will be funding available to help the Multiple District do this. This should be beneficial.

Looking ahead for Future Events Coming = Lions Leadership Institute of the South in Florida, April 7-10, 2016 and in Mississippi, June 2-4, 2016.

International President *Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada*



Peace, hope, determination, teamwork and uniting people through service are central elements of my presidential theme –

*“Be kind. Be open. Be curious. Be strong. Be generous. Be sincere.
Be loyal. Be honest. **Be a Lion.**”*

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada

“Dignity. Harmony. Humanity.”

EXCERPTS message - Dear Lion,

I am sharing my December message to district governors with you. I also want to thank you for your hard work and dedication throughout the first half of our Lions year. I would also like you to encourage clubs in your area to host a service project to impact hunger and poverty in their communities over the holiday season. On behalf of Lions Clubs International, thank you for your support throughout the year and have a wonderful holiday season!

We committed to strengthening our communities and bringing dignity to others through service, and we're putting our commitment into action through the Centennial Service Challenge. Be sure to encourage your clubs to continue to lead through service by supporting this international challenge that's changing lives and making communities stronger.

We made membership growth a priority, and we're adding new members who are increasing our service impact and positioning our clubs for ongoing success thanks to your commitment to building membership in your district.

We identified chartering new clubs as a key to growth and success, and we're starting new clubs in new communities that are ushering in a new generation of Lions dedicated to serving those in need.

I am proud of what you've accomplished. I'm looking forward to recognizing those district governors who achieved their goals in Period One of the Lions Dignity Award, and I know we can achieve even more together.

Thanks to you, our communities are stronger. Lions are leading through service and making a real impact in the lives of those who need us most. Your commitment to service and your support of the Centennial Service Challenge have helped Lions around the world impact the lives of more than 60 million people.

Thanks to you, our clubs are stronger. Lions are inviting new members who are increasing our service impact in our local communities. Lions and clubs around the world are earning limited-edition recognition in the Centennial Celebration Membership Awards for strengthening their clubs and communities. I hope you will continue inviting new members to serve with you as Lions.

Thanks to you, we're looking forward to another great year. We will continue to invite, serve, and celebrate our upcoming Centennial in 2017. On behalf of Lions Clubs International, Thank you for bringing dignity to others through service, and have a happy holiday season with family and friends!

Sincerely,

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada
Your International President

Bring Dignity to the Holidays

The holidays are a time of celebration and joy, but for those who are hungry, it's an especially difficult time of year. I encourage your club to host a service project over the holidays to help children, families or elderly neighbors who are struggling to put food on their tables.

And be sure to join Lions around the world for the [Worldwide Week of Service to Fight Hunger and Poverty](#) on **January 10-16**. It's a great opportunity to fight hunger in your community and earn special Centennial recognition for your club when you report your service on the MyLCI Service Activity Report.

http://lions100.lionsclubs.org/EN/programs/centennial-service-challenge/worldwide-week-of-servicehunger.php?utm_source=RealMagnet&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=5603-5617%20FORWARD%20Yamada%20Club%20Message%20Dec%20EN

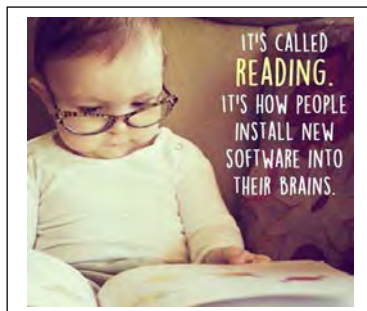
Shape the Future of Service

You have a special opportunity to help determine our service priorities for our next century of service. **This January, Lions Clubs International will be sending a survey to all Lions** around the world asking what kinds of service are important to you and your community.

Please tell your Lions they will be receiving the important survey email in January, and encourage every member to respond. We want to make sure you and your Lions have a voice in shaping the future of Lions and our global service efforts.



where great stories begin™
New Tradition



Dear Friends of Reach Out and Read Georgia,

We're writing today to begin a new tradition. We will be reaching out on a regular basis to communicate the impact **Reach Out and Read Georgia** (<http://www.reachoutandread.org/georgia>) is having across our state, helping primary care providers prescribe books to children, encouraging a love of reading and supporting parents in instilling the importance of early literacy beginning at birth. We look forward to keeping you up-to-date on the amazing things your support is enabling us to do.



First, we want to highlight some of our milestones and goals as we start a new fiscal year. Over the past three years, our medical providers in Georgia have given more than **413,598 new, age-appropriate books to children, along with literacy guidance**. Empowered by this support, parents are reading aloud with their infants and toddlers more often, making a lifelong difference in children's development.

Reach Out and Read Georgia is poised to serve **83,398 children and families at 77 medical sites throughout the state, including 31 hospitals, clinics and doctor's offices in Fulton, DeKalb, Cobb, and Gwinnett counties**.

Our vision is to reach all children in Georgia beginning with the **240,000 who live at or below the poverty line**. We target clinics with a **40% or higher Medicaid population**, through a concerted expansion strategy to engage clinics and healthcare alliances on behalf of the region's most disadvantaged families.

Amy Erickson, Executive Director, Reach Out and Read Georgia

Service Activity Webin

Webinar Description	Dates/Times
<p>The Family and Community Engagement Webinar Join us for a special one-hour webinar to learn about our partnership with Scholastic under the Reading Action Program and how your club can work with schools, families, and communities to make sure that every child has an opportunity to reach their full potential. Special Guest Presenter: Jackie Harvey, Director of Community and District Wide Partnerships at Scholastic Intended Audience: U.S Lions</p>	<p>Recording https://vimeo.com/82578403</p>
<p>Working Together to Relieve Hunger (Australia and United States) In this webinar we share ideas, stories, and best practices for working together with our food banking partners to relieve hunger. We discuss the purpose, resources and project ideas for the Lions Relieving the Hunger Campaign, and we will feature special guest presenters from Feeding America, Foodbank Western Australia and Foodbank Australia. Intended Audience: Australia and US Lions</p>	<p>Recording https://vimeo.com/80896413 Participant Workbook http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/WorkingHunger_workbook.pdf Frequently Asked Questions http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/WorkingHunger_qa.pdf</p>

Atlanta Vision Seminar – join the Foundation Fighting Blindness and members of your community for a **FREE** vision seminar on Saturday, 6 February from 9:00am – 1:00pm at the Decatur Conference Center at the Courtyard Marriott, Decatur – 130 Claremont Avenue, Decatur, GA

10th Anniversary Atlanta VisionWalk

Date: Sunday, April 30, 2016

Location: Turner Field, Field Level Concourse ****NEW LOCATION!!!****

For more information or to register, contact: Lesley Ireland 919-781-8014 ■ LIreland@FightBlindness.org

Walk Chair: Laurie Johnson

Join the Atlanta VisionWalk as we celebrate 10 years of fighting blindness in Atlanta!

Register your team today and help us make this our biggest and most successful VisionWalk yet!



Excerpts from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Peach Bowl**, officially known as the **Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl** for sponsorship purposes, is an annual [college football bowl game](#) played in [Atlanta, Georgia](#) since December 1968. The first three Peach Bowls were played at [Grant Field](#) on the [Georgia Tech](#) campus in Atlanta. Between 1971 and 1991, [Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium](#) hosted the game. Since 1992, the [Georgia Dome](#) has played host. [Mercedes-Benz Stadium](#) is planned to begin hosting the game in the 2017-18 season.



Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl Enhances Commitment with Original Charity Partner

Lions Clubs International becomes presenting sponsor of game day parade

ATLANTA (Dec. 4, 2015) - The Peach Bowl was originally founded in 1968 as a fundraiser for the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation. Today, 47 years later, the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl has come full circle and is returning to its roots by announcing a recommitment to its relationship with Lions Clubs International (LCI) and the Georgia Lions.

The enhanced relationship with Lions Clubs International and the Georgia Lions is a result of the Bowl's commitment to its local community and an extension of its Peach Bowl Cares initiative.

"Our philanthropic relationship with the Lions is the longest and most meaningful such relationship in our history," said Gary Stokan, Peach Bowl, Inc. president and CEO. "The Peach Bowl was created as a charitable initiative and we have continued that legacy as college football's most charitable bowl game. We owe it to the Lions to have a deep and meaningful relationship that pays tribute to that great history."

"The Peach Bowl's re-commitment to Lions builds on our storied history together and enhances the service provided by Georgia Lions," said Jim Ervin, Past International President of Lions Clubs International. "Lions Clubs International is proud to be working with the Peach Bowl to support and celebrate the work of Lions, who have been making a difference in their communities and around the world for nearly 100 years."

As a staple of this relationship, LCI will take over presenting sponsorship of the Bowl's game day parade. The **Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl Parade presented by Lions Clubs International** will march through downtown Atlanta the morning of Dec. 31 - entertaining tens of thousands as it makes its way through Centennial Olympic Park on its way to the Georgia Dome. Lions Clubs members will be prominently featured throughout the parade's elements including the Grand Marshall, LCI's First Vice President, Chancellor Bob Corlew of Milton, Tenn.

"I am pleased and honored to be the Grand Marshall of this year's Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl Parade presented by Lions Clubs International," Corlew said. "Lions have a tradition with the Peach Bowl going back to its origins in 1968 and we are proud to continue that tradition."

Peach Bowl, Inc. has committed to continue in perpetuity a \$50,000 donation to the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation. This donation will go to help the Lighthouse provide vision and hearing screenings to Georgians in need. To date, Peach Bowl Cares has provided the Georgia Lions with more than \$500,000 in support for Lighthouse programs.

In addition to the donation, the Bowl will provide the Georgia Lions Lighthouse with opportunities to conduct vision screenings for fans at the FanFest event on game day and to students in Atlanta public elementary and middle schools over the next several months.

"Our long-standing relationship with the Peach Bowl has really been a blessing to the Lighthouse and has helped us provide so many necessary services for underserved Georgians," said Roberta Green, Executive Director of the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation. "Our legacy with the Peach Bowl has allowed thousands of adults to live independent lives and children to thrive and learn in schools. We are proud of our legacy together and look forward to our opportunities for service in the years to come." As part of its mission as a service organization, the Georgia Lions has committed to help support the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl by activating its member network to sell Bowl tickets throughout Georgia.

Your Peach Bowl Ticket Purchase Will Benefit the Lighthouse!

New Partnership with Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl Brings Game Day Excitement to Lions Clubs International

Ticket Proceeds Benefit Legacy Charity Partner, Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation

The Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl and the Lions have a long history together. In fact, the Peach Bowl was founded in 1968 by an Atlanta Lion and philanthropist, George Crumbley, as a way to raise money for his favorite charity, the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation. Keeping true to this spirit of the game, your ticket purchase will help continue support of the Lighthouse—a non-profit providing comprehensive vision and hearing services for Georgia's underserved residents.

New History in the Making

Atlanta is a fabulous destination any time of year, but even more so during Peach Bowl week and New Year's Eve! All of the action takes place downtown, starting with the Peach Bowl Parade at 8 a.m. Long regarded as the official kickoff for game day, the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl Parade, sponsored by Lions Clubs International, spreads football festivity throughout downtown Atlanta. Come watch the pageantry of floats, classic cars, cheerleaders, mascots, award-winning marching bands, dynamic dance groups and much more! The fun then moves to FanFest, an indoor tailgating experience unlike any other in the Georgia World Congress Center, culminating with the start of the game in the Georgia Dome at 12:00 noon.



THANKS to all Lions who gave support and also participated in the parade.
We can't wait to see you all again in December 2016.



**Georgia Lions
Lighthouse Foundation**

Providing vision and hearing services to Georgians in financial need



Dear Georgia Lions! (Excerpt before the Council)

Many exciting things have been happening at our GA Lions Lighthouse. Our annual Taste of Chamblee fundraiser was a great success. It was a good opportunity to strengthen our partnership with the City of Chamblee and the local businesses.

The Lighthouse Board hosted a joint Board training event with the GA Lions Camp Board and the Council of Governors at Callaway Gardens. We hope the training was beneficial to all who attended. The world of nonprofits is totally different from our Lions world. It is quite an accomplishment that we have been able to blend the two together over the years. The Lighthouse also hosted a reception for the Georgia Optometric Association. The Exam Rooms were dedicated to the Georgia Optometric Association for their support of the Lighthouse. These are the doctors who partner with us to provide vision services. We had several doctors to say that they wanted to get involved with the Lighthouse and offer their services.

We took the GA Lions Lighthouse on the road to Michigan to the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in September. In addition to having an exhibit at the Forum, Lion Roberta Green and I presented a 1 hour seminar on Partnerships. There were 85 Lions from the U.S. and Canada attending. At the closing banquet, Lion Roberta Green, PIP Jim Ervin, and I made a short presentation on the Lighthouse before an audience of 2,000 Lions and guests. We would like to thank PCC Mark Miller, Chair of the 2015 Forum, for giving us the opportunity to showcase the Lighthouse nationally and internationally. Part of the presentation at the Forum was about Lions' new involvement with the Peach Bowl. Hopefully, we can involve Lions associated with the two college teams who will be playing in the Peach Bowl game on December 31st. We are planning eye screenings in conjunction with the game also. Our challenge is to sell 2,500 tickets to the game. Even if Lions don't purchase the tickets, we need Lions to encourage individuals, businesses, and corporations to purchase the tickets. The Peach Bowl Committee is excited about our involvement. They gave us the opportunity to have a display at Fan Fest at the Chic-Fil-A Kickoff football game. We are working hard to continue the legacy of PID George Crumbley, who founded the Peach Bowl in 1968 to benefit the GA Lions Lighthouse.

With all of this going on, we are still serving Georgians in need. Since July 1, there have been 526 eye exams performed and 1,191 eyeglasses provided. We have served 405 patients through our Framekit Program and 187 surgical procedures have been done. We have also provided 687 hearing aids. All of this has been accomplished with several vacancies in staff positions. A new position has been created at the Lighthouse, and that is Lions Liaison. That position has been filled by Ruthie Stephens - PCC Clower introduced the group to Ruthie Stephens, who is the Lions liaison at the Georgia Lions Lighthouse. If you call the Lighthouse for anything, you should choose Ruthie's extension; and she will be glad to help you. She also introduced Lion Morgan Alexander, and Lion Peri Finch.

The Lighthouse Development Department is busy submitting grant applications and seeking funds from other donors. Our Lions giving totals \$36,285, which is just 14% of last year's total giving. We hope the Lions will step up and continue to support the Lighthouse. As I have said before, we are very fortunate to have Lion Roberta as Executive Director and all the other Lions on staff at the Lighthouse. To be able to operate a nonprofit, founded by Lions, and serve so many Georgians is a monumental task. "We Serve" on!

Last week we were honored to present our dedicated partner, Dr. Bret Wagenhorst, O.D. of [Tifton Ophthalmology](#), with the Beacon of Hope Award, an award presented each year to an Ophthalmologist who provides an outstanding commitment to vision healthcare for the uninsured in their community. Since 2007, Dr. Wagenhorst has provided 1,227 vision services and 50 sight surgeries to Lighthouse clients in his community.



Summer Service Numbers 1Jul12015 – 30Nov2015

District L

*Eye Exams: 753
Eye Glasses: 1,851
Eye Surgeries: 278
Hearing Aids: 636*

District I

*Eye Exams: 565
Eye Glasses: 1,284
Eye Surgeries: 114
Hearing Aids: 389*

District O

*Eye Exams: 292
Eye Glasses: 436
Eye Surgeries: 157
Hearing Aids: 346*

District N

*Eye Exams: 544
Eye Glasses: 863
Eye Surgeries: 106
Hearing Aids: 239*

Fiscal Year Totals:

***Eye Exams: 2,154
Eye Glasses: 4,434
Eye Surgeries: 655
Hearing Aids: 1,610***

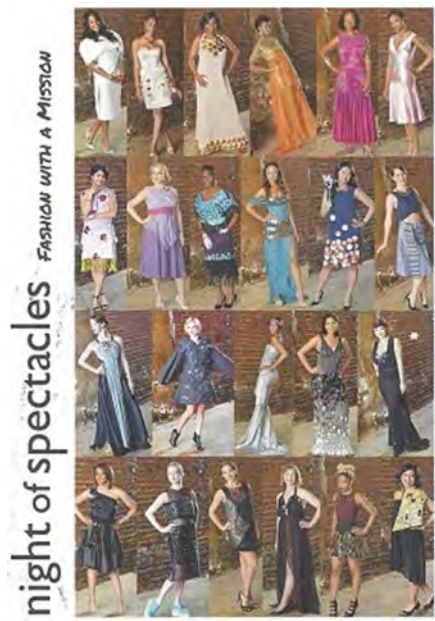
Service Numbers

Service Numbers have hit all-time highs in the past several months! With over 6,500 services projected by year end, our goal for 2014-15 is over 7,000.

**"When you give a little,
you get a lot."
-Lion Bret Wagenhorst, M.D.**



Save the Date!



Our premier fundraising event, Night of Spectacles, will return to Atlanta on 2 April 2016 with a new venue – The Foundry at Puritan Mill. Fashion Design students from schools throughout Georgia will once again design unique high fashion apparel embellished with recycled eyewear.

Visit = www.nightofspectacles.org for updates and join the event on Facebook – www.facebook.com/nightofspectacles.

Georgia Lions Lighthouse Staff

Main Line: 404-325-3630

Executive Director

Roberta Green, Ext. 301

Director of Finance =

LaShaundra Ruby, Ext 302

Community Engagement Coordinator –

Ruthy Stephens Ext. 315

Program Services – Patient Care, Vision Clinics and General Questions =

Director of Programs Morgan Alexander, Ext. 309

Hearing Services - Questions, Patient Care

Hearing Services Manager, Shetera Reaves, Ext. 313

Eye Surgery Services - Questions, Patient Care

Eye Surgery Director – Victoria Jordan, Ext. 303

Optical Service – Frame Kit, Eyeglass Orders and Optical Lab

Director of Optics – Peri Finch = Ext 328

Development Opportunities - Fundraising, Club Giving, Donations

Chief Development Officer – Ext. 322

Marketing Opportunities - Club Materials, Promotions, Website, Social Media

Marketing Director – Alison Kuhlke, Ext. 306

Volunteer Services - Questions, Scheduling,

Recycling Center and Rentals of Vision Screeners

Outreach Director - Marsha Marshall, Ext. 345

Volunteer Manager –

Lion Harold Walker - Phone: 404-376-2126

Volunteer Assistant Manager –

Lion Albert Green - Phone: 404-861-4371

Lions section on website password: **bingham1**



Please visit our website before making your donation to ensure you are meeting our recycling center standards.

(<http://LionsLighthouse.org/get-involved/Recycling-Program/>)

We need regular volunteers to dedicate their time in the Recycling Center! Duties includes: Sorting, reading and packaging glasses for mission trip shipments.

Contact Marsha Marshall MMarshall@lionslighthouse.org to schedule a time for you or your group to volunteer.

GREAT STORY WATCH = Our new video tells the story

Visit our YouTube Channel Lions Lighthouse or Copy and Paste this link:

<https://youtu.be/zU4P8Xtkytl>



REPORT OF MD 18 SIGHT PRESERVATION AWARENESS & ACTION CHAIR – LION J.C. COEFIELD:

Lion Coefield reported that on January 30 at the Galleria Mall will be hosting a glaucoma, diabetic, cataract and blood pressure screening. He pointed out that if there is an active blind lion in a district, they are a great source to increase membership by inviting them to join a Lions Club. CC May thanked Lion Coefield for his work in the area of Sight Preservation Awareness.

GOALS:

1. To increase Georgia Lions' knowledge, support, and participation in sight related projects throughout the state.
2. To encourage the Lions of Georgia to accept the marching orders originally given them by Helen Keller in 1925.

"I appeal to you Lions – you who have your sight, your hearing –

You who are strong and brave and kind. Will you not constitute yourselves Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness."



Relieving the Hunger Centennial Service Challenge

◀ December	~ January 2016 ~					February ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>Membership Focus: Special Interest Clubs</i>			1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	Notes:					

◀ January	~ February 2016 ~					March ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Membership Focus: Women</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6 Council Meeting joint with Camp and Lighthouse – Warner Robins
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Dist O = 3rd Cabinet Meeting/ Convention - Fort Gaines
28	29	Notes:				

Eye Donor Awareness Month

◀ February ~ March 2016 ~ April ▶						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>Membership Focus: Women</i>	1	2	3	4	5 Dist I = 3rd Cabinet Meeting/ Convention – TBA
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Dist N = 3rd Cabinet Meeting/ Convention Statesboro
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Dist L = 3rd Cabinet Meeting/ Convention, Cartersville
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Notes:	

Protecting Our Environment Centennial Service Challenge

◀ March ~ April 2016 ~ May ▶						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>Family & Friends Month</i>		<i>Leo Club Awareness Month</i>		1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Club Excellence Award ENDS

Recycle for Sight Month

◀ April	~ May 2016 ~					June ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Strengthen Membership Month</i>	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Annual Leo Club Officers and Membership Report Form (Leo-72) due Deadline for filing Officer Reporting Form (PU101)	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	Notes:			

◀ May	~ June 2016 ~					July ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>Helen Keller Day</i>	2 Council of Governors Mtg	3 MD-18 State	4 Convention
5 Callaway Gardens, GA	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 99 th International	25 Lions
26 Convention	27 Fukuoka	28 Japan	29	30	Notes:	



NOTE = This is the report from the last Council Meeting held in October – Since then a few changes have developed – check next page -----

REPORT OF GEORGIA LIONS CAMP FOR THE BLIND – LION SCOTT EISENHART:

Georgia Lions Camp End of Year Report 2014-2015

On 01 October 2015 at approximately 10:25 PM, our Executive Director, Brian Blackburn was arrested in Moultrie, Georgia for driving under the influence of alcohol. This is a matter of public record. I was notified at approximately 4:25 PM on 11 October of the incident. The reason for the delay in notification was based on a recommendation of Brian's legal counsel. The Camp Attorney and the Personnel Chairman were each notified of the situation. The Board was notified of the situation via email dated 19 October. The Personnel Committee was also informed via email and telephone; they were asked to provide a recommendation to the board regarding the employment status of the Executive Director in light of negative publicity. The Personnel Committee came back with the recommendation to place the Executive Director on administrative leave for a period of 30 days with pay pending adjudication of the court. It was deemed prudent to take immediate action and as such, I placed Brian Blackburn on Administrative leave effective 18 October. The Executive Board met via teleconference to discuss the motion and to solicit support for said motion.

I also spoke with PIP Jim Ervin concerning the situation. PIP Jim stated that he felt the situation was being addressed appropriately but warned me not to rush to a decision. PIP Jim stated that it was vital to get all of the information prior to a decision being made. I assured him that I would attempt to do such. PIP Jim was also made aware of the motion by the board to terminate. When PIP Jim specifically and directly asked who made that motion, he was told the motion was made by PCC Olin Newby and seconded by Carey Van Landingham. PIP Jim thanked me for calling him and stated that if there was anything that he could do to assist, to please let him know.

On Thursday, 22 October, the board met to discuss the recommendation of the Personnel Committee. After a question and answer session with the Personnel Chairman and with consent of legal counsel, the board voted to place Brian Blackburn on 30 day paid leave pending adjudication.

This brings up the subject of Christmas Camp which will be held on December 4 through 6 at the camp. Let there be no mistake, Christmas camp will continue! We cannot and will not cancel camp this year. If we do so, we will have done irreparable harm to the camp and the program. I simply will not allow that to happen! What does that mean for us? That means that the Lions of Georgia will be doing camp that weekend! I will be at the camp conducting camp and I am asking for your assistance. There are several counselors that will be coming back to assist, along with the older Leo's from the Moultrie club. The invitations have already gone out and there have been several applications already received at the camp. The show must go on!

Now for a difficult question that needs asked: Are the Lions of Georgia willing to keep the camp as a state mandated initiative? Donations are down and it is getting more difficult to keep the bills paid. Donations statewide are at 19% according to the numbers I received by my Treasurer for last month. This trend simply cannot continue. What must we do in order to light the fire under our collective backsides and support the camp?

The apathy of the Lions of Georgia is quite disheartening. Everyone is willing to complain about the program, however no one is willing to step up and put words into action. Example: A 31 consultant offered to do a fundraiser for the camp. She made a very popular item available at 25% off retail, tax and handling included in the discounted price. Retail price was \$50.00; she sold at the discounted price of \$38.00. For each bag purchased, she donated her commission, which was \$9 per bag. This sale was publicized on multiple Facebook pages including the camp's Facebook page, the Savannah Port City page, Georgia Blind Lions page and multiple personal pages as well as the consultant's personal group page. Invitations were sent out to over 300 Lions concerning this fundraiser. A considerable number of those Lions "liked" the sale, a total of THREE Lions participated, and myself being one of them, the other two were Mike/Gail Williams and Brian Blackburn, both from the camp. What is wrong with this picture? I would love to see the camp receive the same support statewide that the Lighthouse receives.

In Lions Service, Scott Eisenhart

The Camp is continuing to sell the Memorial Garden bricks as a fund raiser for the Camp. If we can sell at least 100 bricks per year, we can generate about \$7,000 for the General Fund at no cost to the Camp. The Memorial Garden is completely paid for by grants that we received. The Camp continues to be in need of (and depends upon) your individual and club donations. Please consider this as we continue this Lions year. Please contact us if you know of any corporations, foundations, or programs which could help with support and funding.

Georgia Lions Camp under new Leadership

To the Lions of Georgia from PCC Olin Newby:

On Sunday December 6 the Ga Lions Camp Board elected PCC Olin Newby to serve as Acting President of the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind / Georgia Lions Camp for the balance of this Lions Year. The Camp Board seeks all Lions and others support as we move forward to grow the camp to the point that All will take pride in what we have as " WE SERVE" the Blind in the State of Georgia.

We are working on several options that, if successful, will enhance the camp's ability to serve more blind people. If any Lion has ideas that will enhance the camp's ability to improve, let me know as well as any Board Member. My email address is olinnewby230@gmail.com or newby@wildblue.net. My telephone is 706-401-2639

The Camp Board would like to thank Scott Eisenhart for his service as Camp President for the past 2 years.

*Thanks for all that you do as a Lion,
Olin Newby Camp President*

Camp Is For the Camper Christmas 2015

Hello Lions,

Well, another year has come and gone. Our attendance at summer camp was a little down compared to previous years, but not as low as some other times.

Christmas camp was a huge success. We had 36 campers to sign up but a couple did not get to make it, so that put us at 34 total campers. All have asked me to give you, the Lions of Georgia, a big Thank You!!

They say thank you for allowing them to spend this time of year with friends that they have come to know and love over the past years. This includes a lot of you Lions that they have been able to meet here at the camp. Also a thank you goes out to those who haven't had the chance to personally meet them but have contributed to the funding of such activities like Summer camp and Christmas camp. Many, excuse me, All, of the campers look forward to Christmas camp. Only a few did not attend summer camp because of other commitments. Even though this is a short three day event, it is jam packed with fun activities. Here are the activities that were provided:

Cinema and popcorn night, Crafts, jingle bell necklaces, Christmas cards, Horseback riding,
Walk the Duck, Yes a real duck named Bo Duck, Hay ride

This year Mr. Carey Vanlandingham pulled the campers around the camp with the tractor. No worries, he was going so slow, all the campers were out of breath from singing so many songs. They always enjoy the hay ride.

Our First Ever Christmas Party. Which was the highlight of the weekend. As far as we can tell by what the campers tell us, and some of them have been coming here for many years. This was their first ever actual party.

A Huge shout out to Mrs. Dimple Forrest and her helper, Mr. Dave Forrest. She coordinated the Christmas party, decorated the Activity building, set up all the tables and when it was all finished, put everything back in its appointed place

During this time, all the campers socialized with each other, the staff, and volunteers that were involved. They played, "Twas the Night Before Christmas" game, which is a game where they all sit in a circle and each one is given a pre-wrapped present and the story is read to them. Every time the word right is mentioned they pass their gift to the right and when the word left is said they pass it back to the left. You should have seen them; they would examine the wrapped gift every time they got a new one. Trying to figure out what was inside the package. (Remind you of something you may do at this time of year??) When the story is finished they get to keep the gift that they have. Laughter, you just had to be here. They had a ball with this game. I would like to give a big Thank You to the Leos of Colquitt County for providing the Campers with all these gifts. After the game all the campers were given the opportunity to examine the gifts that were purchased for children from the Angel Tree at the Salvation Army. We usually take the campers to Wal-Mart and let them actually participate in the purchases. Due to time and lack of transportation we had to do things a little different this year. 6 children were provided gifts and each camper was able to touch and inspect all the gifts. They understand that there are children out there that only ask for a little something for Christmas and that's what we all are here for. To put a smile on a child's face; a child they will never actually get to meet. The campers know they have done something good for someone else.

Now it is time to eat finger foods, and yes Heidi, veggie plate, sweet treats and water. Heidi is an 8 year old camper that asked me what we were eating at the party and I told her we were going to have a veggie plate. She said to me, we don't eat veggie plates and I told her it was for the old people. She answered back, well I Ain't Old!! We did not have the usual full blown talent show this year, it was decided to save that for summer camp. However some of the campers that could play the piano did so and the rest of us sang along. After all of this, we stopped for a bit and gave each camper a gift bag that had their Christmas Camp shirt inside along with some fruits and candy. The campers are still talking about the party.

After the party we headed out to the campfire to sing a few more Christmas Carols and say good night. We were going to roast marshmallows but they had already had plenty of sweets!!! Thanks to Johnny Barrentine for having the fire ready just in case. These are just some of the things that happen during the weekend. You really have to be here to experience it all first hand. Maybe you can make plans to attend next year. Oh Yeah, did I mention the Food! It was great! Thanks to the cooks, Mrs. Gail (my wife), our son Randy, and his wife Jodi, and our granddaughter Devin. Thanks to Mr. Luis Keene for coming over on Saturday to grill the chicken for that nights supper meal. His helper was Mr. Olin Newby and Johnny. Thanks to Mr. Joe Bill Brannon of Statesboro, for providing the camp with food donations to help keep the cost down. Others I would like to thank for making this a weekend the campers will remember for a long time are,

Scott Eisenhart, Carey Vanlandinham, Olin Newby, Johnny Barrentine, Brenda Arnold, Leos of Colquitt Cty., Roselbia and Maggie, Mrs. Marsha Herrod, Bob and Marsha Farrow, Ansley Jackson, Camry Chapman, Jessica Lanier, Ken Dukes, Jennifer Taylor, Caddie Taylor, Wendell Hinson, Previously mentioned, Dave and Dimple Forrest, Randy, Jodi, and Devin Williams, Mrs. Gail Williams.

Thanks again for all of you who made this Christmas Camp a memorable one. Especially to those who don't want to be mentioned.

Mike Williams
Acting Director, Georgia Lions Camp Inc.



FINANCIAL STATUS

Due to very low available cash, \$22,000 was transferred from the Investment fund to the Operating Fund. Total Operating Income for Dec. was \$17,207 and the Total Operating Expenses were \$15,871 for a positive gain of \$1,336 for the month. The Year-to-Date Net Operating **Losses** are **\$59,686** excluding the \$47,000 that has been transferred from the Investment Fund. The total of all bank accounts is \$39,436 of which \$10,605 are restricted leaving \$28,831 for Operational Funds.

A summary of the Lions Clubs' Contributions are:

18-L:	11 of 51 (22%) Clubs	for \$17,712
18-I:	24 of 58 (41%) Clubs	for \$11,801
18-O:	18 of 57 (32%) Clubs	for \$13,732
18-N:	26 of 63 (41%) Clubs	for \$10,532
Total MD 18:	79 of 229 (34%) Clubs	for \$53,777

Last year at this time the totals were: Total MD 18: 87 of 236 (37%) Clubs for \$65,862.

Paul May
Ga. Lions Camp Treasurer

NOTE: CAMP Elections to be held on 6 February 2016

The Georgia Lions Camp will have its winter meeting on February 6, 2016. The Meeting will begin at 3:15 P.M. at the Hilton Garden Inn in Warner Robins, Georgia. At this meeting the President, Secretary, and Treasurer will be elected for a 2 year term. It is important that all clubs be represented at this meeting in order to have a part in the election of these 3 officers for the camp. Also, after the election is held there will be a general discussion of what direction the Camp needs to be headed.

Also, those people wanting to be a candidate for one of these offices, let Sylvia Masters P.O. Box 446 Mountain City, Ga. 30562 email tstmasters@windstream.net (18-I), Johnny Barrentine (18-O) 3705 Old Ga Hwy 3, Camilla, Georgia 31730, Email dhbarrentine@live.com or PCC Stan Blakemore 163 Victory Drive, Lyons Georgia 30436 email js_bazemore@yahoo.com (Dist 18- N) Fred Carlson (Dist 18-L) 151 McCaskey Creek Road, Cartersville, Georgia 30121, email benchmarkcontrol@gmail.com know by January 6, 2016 by written notice by the regular mail service or by email. I will appoint Johnny Barrentine as Chairman of this Committee at this time. You can send a copy to the Camp as well.

The schedule for the meeting will be as follows: 3:15 Meeting of all Lions for the purpose of electing a President, Secretary and Treasurer for a two year term beginning July 1, 2016. General discussions as to what direction the camp will follow in the future will be held.

4:00 Recess of General meeting for committee meetings of the Camp
5:30 Camp Board meeting (Called back into session) for the purpose of discussing items concerning the Camp
7:00 adjourn the meeting



Fellow Lions - go to this web site and learn more =
<http://lions100.lionsclubs.org/EN/index.php>



Centennial Promotion and Advertising Center

Publicize our Centennial with "how to" information, merchandise, logos, artwork and more.
<http://lions100.lionsclubs.org/EN/toolbox/centennial-promotion-advertising/index.php>

- [Centennial Videos](#)
- [Centennial logos](#), including Service Challenge, Membership Awards, and Historic
- [Social media and the #Lions100 hashtag](#)
- [Lions public relations tools and resources](#)
- [Centennial Club Supplies](#)
- [Centennial posters and ads](#) (English only)
- [Lions Branding Photo](#)



Centennial Merchandise



[Men's Centennial Polo](#)
 US\$34.95-39.95



[Women's Centennial Polo](#)
 US\$34.95-39.95



[Centennial Caps](#)
 US\$14.95



[Centennial Silk Ties](#)

US\$24.95



[Gray](#)



[Blue](#)



[Yellow](#)



[Gray](#)



[Centennial Blue Glass Mug](#)
 US\$14.95



[Centennial Banner](#)
 US\$9.95



[Centennial Full Color Lapel Pin](#)
 US\$2.95



[Centennial Banner Patch](#)
 US\$5.95



[Centennial Gold Lapel Pin](#)



[Centennial Silver Lapel Pin](#)

US\$9.95



[Deluxe Patch](#)
 Deluxe 5" (12.7 cm) Centennial logo patch with metallic thread is perfect for your Lions blazer.
 US\$8.05



Aluminum Logo Sign

Update your club's identity with the newly designed Centennial Highway sign. Single-faced. Enhanced with reflective Scotchlite® for increased visibility. Allow at least 3 weeks for delivery.

[18" \(45.72 cm\) Diameter](#)
 US\$48.95

[30" \(76.2 cm\) Diameter](#)
 US\$92.95

For nearly 100 years, Lions have served their communities with dedication and contributed to the development and well-being of millions of people around the world. As we look toward our centennial celebration, **Lions are encouraged to help reach the Centennial Service Challenge goal of serving 100 million people by June 2018 by planning projects through the following Centennial Service Challenge Campaigns:**



August – Engaging our Youth



October – Sharing the Vision



December/January – Relieving the Hunger



April – Protecting our Environment

#LIONS100 website

If you have any questions about the Centennial Celebration Membership Awards, please contact us at: CentennialMembership@lionsclubs.org.

CPR ON YOURSELF

> Maybe at least one life may be saved by simply reading and heeding the message below...

>

> 1 Let's say it's 7.25pm and you're going home (alone of course) after an unusually hard day on the job.

>

> 2 You're really tired, upset and frustrated.

>

> 3 Suddenly you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to drag out into your arm and up in to your jaw. You are only about five miles from the hospital nearest your home.

>

> 4 Unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far.

>

> 5 You have been trained in CPR, but the guy that taught the course did not tell you how to perform it on yourself.

>

> 6 HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK WHEN ALONE?

> Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack without help, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness.

>

> 7 However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously. A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest.

>

> A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let-up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.

>

> 8 Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to a hospital.

>

> 9 Tell as many other people as possible about this. It could save their lives!

>

> 10 A cardiologist says If everyone who gets this mail, kindly sends it to 10 people, you can bet that we'll save at least one life.

A faithful friend is the medicine of life.

The explanation: Brains of older people are slow because they know so much...

People do not decline mentally with age, it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains, scientists believe. Much like a computer struggles as the hard drive gets full up, so to do humans take longer to access information, it has been suggested.

Researchers say this slowing down it is not the same as cognitive decline.

The human brain works slower in old age, said Dr. Michael Ramscar, but only because we have stored more information over time. The brains of older people do not get weak. On the contrary, they simply know more.

Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is NOT a memory problem, it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

SO THERE!!



Hmmmm = Does your Lions Club have this Highway Sign outside of your city limits?
Show your PRIDE and let people know you do exist and alive and well.



REPORT OF MD 18 REPRESENTATIVE TO LEADER DOGS – LION BILL GRAHAM:

Lion PDG Ed Hashbarger stated that Lion Bill Graham was unable to attend the meeting today. PDG Hashbarger reported that there is a K9 unit at Leader Dogs now and they are trying to get contributions to finish that project. He encouraged all clubs to look at Leader Dog and support this project.

Great story



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WdNu0Yh85bM&feature=youtu.be>

When Enhamed was 8 years old, he became blind.

He likes to call that moment "winning his blindness," because it was the beginning of his incredible journey.

As an accomplished athlete, he has won four gold medals at the Paralympic Games and set world records. Wanting to push himself in other arenas, he climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro and was the first blind Spanish athlete to complete Ironman Lanzarote, widely recognized as one of the toughest Ironman courses. Recently, he competed in the NYC Marathon after relocating to the U.S.

Through it all, his Leader Dogs have been at his side. His first Leader Dog, Gayla, is retired, and now lives with him and his new Leader Dog, Adele. Enhamed, Gayla and Adele are featured in this touching video, presented by BuzzFeed and Purina.

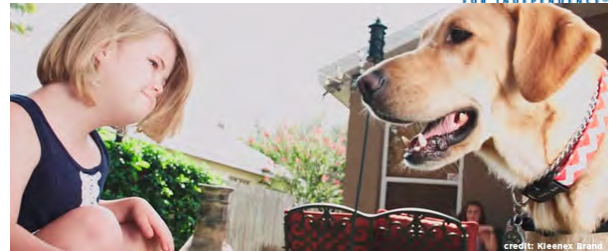
Share this email with your friends and family to brighten their day too!

"Our beliefs affect what we achieve or don't achieve. If we believe something is impossible, we will never make it. But if we believe we can do it, we will think about the million ways to do it, we will find the time, we will manage to get the resources we need, we will work tirelessly until we finally show that it was possible... just as we believed it was."

- Enhamed, from his book *Ironmind*



Follow us

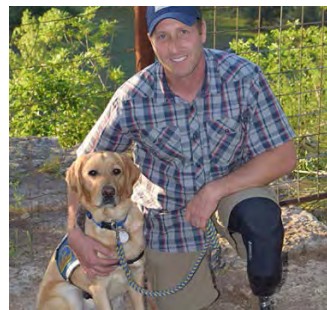


Grab Your Kleenex for This Story

Barley is more than a pet. He is the key to Andi's new life. "Andi was born with Down syndrome," explains Andi's mom, Maureen. "What made me decide to get her an assistance dog was the fact that Andi really loves her sister, but her sister is getting older and starting high school soon. Then she'll be off to college and it hit me - whose Andi's friend going to be? I wanted Andi to have a dog that could always be there for her and to help her."

Barley helps motivate Andi to get ready in the morning and is teaching Andi to be independent. "He only sees the beautiful things about Andi," says Maureen tearfully. "He doesn't see her disability. He just sees her." [Grab your Kleenex and watch this video about Andi and Barley.](#)

<http://www.cci.org/site/c.cdKGIRNqEmG/b.4010997/k.C5CA/Videos.htm?msource=1015enews&aud=16123189>



[Visit cci.org/veterans to learn more about Canine Companions Wounded Veterans Initiative and read more veteran stories.](#)

<http://www.cci.org/site/c.cdKGIRNqEmG/b.4011033/k.D44E/Veterans.htm?msource=115enews&aud=16198456>

Independence and Peace of Mind

Seven years ago this month, Major Yancy Baer of the United States Army was being medically evacuated from Iraq. After several reconstructive surgeries, his leg had to be amputated. Additionally, Yancy had injuries to his right arm, back problems and memory and hearing loss. While attending recreational therapy after his amputation, he learned about Canine Companions for Independence.

Yancy was matched with Service Dog Verbena, affectionately called Beanz now. "Beanz's positive effects on me started immediately after we were matched together," says Yancy. "I no longer rely on sleeping medication to help me sleep. I'm less stressed and overall a much happier person!"



State RFB&D Chair Lion
Fred Smith
lionfredsmith@gmail.com

REPORT FROM LEARNING ALLY MD 18 CHAIR – LION ANGELA HELWIG:

I recently met with the Studio Director Stacie Court to discuss the many ways that Lions and Learning Ally can work together.

We will be sending out information to every Lions Club laying out several goals for the Learning Ally partnership:

- Increased awareness about Learning Ally
- Increased support for its events
- Increased access for Lions to Learning Ally information through weekly emails and Facebook
- Increased financial support (with hoped for 100% club participation)
- Involvement of LEO Clubs
- Continued free production of the audio CD of *The Lion* magazine
- On-site training for Learning Ally District Chairs

When I spoke with Stacie, I also learned of a new program (not yet on the Learning Ally website) called the College Success Program. It is for blind and visually impaired college students who need help adjusting to college life where there is plenty of support but little information on how to get along. This program pairs students with other more experienced students with similar majors and similar impairments.

I am so excited by all the work of Learning Ally including the software that makes it possible for anyone to record books from their own home. This is a way that Lions can participate and take a personal role in making the lives of blind, visually impaired or learning disabled students as successful as they can be.

Thank you for your time! I look forward to working with you to promote Learning Ally. Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions for me.

The Secret Ingredient to College Success

Find out what AFB had to say about successful college experiences for students who are blind



We were honored when the American Foundation for the Blind shared their opinions of our [College Success Program](#), a research-based curriculum for college students who are blind or visually impaired.

Read more

https://go.learningally.org/the-secret-to-college-success-for-students-who-are-blind/?utm_source=Learning+Ally&utm_campaign=866ce1a277-December+Together+Newsletter+MASTER&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_17f8452e67-866ce1a277-170963577



REPORT OF MD 18 REPRESENTATIVE TO SOUTHEASTERN GUIDE DOGS – LION GEORGIA TAYLOR, PDG:

PDG Taylor asked each Governor to send her information on their District Southeastern Guide Dogs Representative. Two districts have not submitted this information and she would like to be able to send them information on SEG D. She called attention to a report from SEG D, and asked Governors to encourage their clubs to donate to this organization.



A Champion and George

We first met retired LTC Kathy Champion when she received her first guide dog, Angel. Kathy lost her vision from a virus contracted in Iraq, and also suffered from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. When Angel retired, Kathy spent four months alone before getting her new black Lab, George.

“I found out how lonely and isolated I became without a dog,” she shares. “I didn’t go anywhere or do anything. George is more than a guide. He’s emotional support in crowds. When I have issues with anxiety and claustrophobia, I can reach down and touch George.”

Since meeting George, Kathy has hiked in Peru, cycled in Colorado, and raced sailboats, all the while helping connect other veterans to the freedom she found through our dogs.

Kathy also pays it forward through our Heritage Society. “I cannot financially sponsor a dog; I can’t write a check for \$60,000,” she explains. “But I can make Southeastern Guide Dogs the beneficiary of my life insurance policy. When I move on, there will be a way to sponsor and provide dogs for someone else.”



REPORT OF MD 18 DIABETES AWARENESS CHAIR – LION DEDE DEMARKS:

CC May stated that Lion Demarks was unable to attend the meeting today. He reported that at the Forum, there was the first Diabetes Strides Walk. There was a lot of participation, and this will be continued each year. Governors were asked to encourage club participation in hosting a Strides Walk. Contact Dede DeMarks for more information.

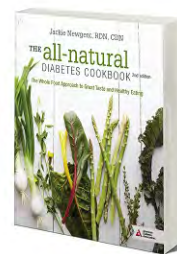
PDG Vanessa, 18-L Diabetes Chair, is on sick leave, and Lion Dede will fill in for her district during her absence. Lion Dede is working on collaborating with the American Diabetes Association, and will provide an update at the next Council Meeting.

The All-Natural Diabetes Cookbook, 2nd Edition

Jackie Newgent, RDN, CDN

The All-Natural Diabetes Cookbook puts the spotlight on fresh, natural foods and diabetes-friendly cooking methods—for meat-eaters and vegetarians alike. Delight your taste buds with over 150 delectable, natural dishes and learn how to lose those artificial ingredients and let amazing flavor shine through.

SAVE 20% when you order online at ShopDiabetes.org. Enter promotion code **NOVBOOKS** at checkout to receive special sale prices on all books featured in this message.



Follow the American Diabetes Association® Books on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/ShopDiabetes) for updates on the best in diabetes cookbooks and resources!

Sale Price: \$15.96
Original Price: \$19.95

BUY NOW ►

http://shopdiabetes.org/1881-The-All-Natural-Diabetes-Cookbook-2nd-Edition.aspx?utm_source=email&utm_medium=consumer-book&utm_content=112015-btn&utm_campaign=BOOK&s_src=email_consumer-book&s_subsrc=112015-btn

The American Diabetes Association leads the effort to prevent and eliminate discrimination against people with diabetes at school, at work and in other parts of daily life. If you need help, call 1-800-DIABETES or visit

<http://diabetes.org/gethelp>.

“The theme of World Diabetes Day (November 14) is “Healthy Eating,” and this campaign will continue for a whole year. This is also in alignment with our “Relieving the Hunger” Centennial Challenge in December and January. Work with your local organizations, food banks, food pantries and places of worship to learn how you can supply healthy perishable and non-perishable foods for people in need who are living with diabetes. It’s important for those in need, who are living with diabetes, to have access to healthy foods to prevent or manage their disease.”

Our diabetes committee standby to assist each district.

L – Dede deMarks liondede@msn.com (representing PDG Vanessa Stanley’s district)

I – Kathryn Higgins klhiggins07@aol.com

O – Clinton Holloway drcmholloway@yahoo.com

N – Laurie Lane laurie1013@yahoo.com

Thank you!

Lion Dede

State Diabetes Chair



MD 18 winning entry of the 2015 **"Share Peace"**



Peace Poster Contest. It was drawn by Henry Logan, Malcom Bridge School and submitted by the Oconee Lions Club, District I.

Other entries are below -



Coming - New 2016-17

"A Celebration of Peace"

Peace Poster Contest

Each year, Lions clubs around the world proudly sponsor the Lions International Peace Poster Contest in local schools and youth groups. This art contest for kids encourages young people worldwide to express their visions of peace. For more than 25 years, millions of children from nearly 100 countries have participated in the contest.

The theme of the 2016-17 Peace Poster Contest is **"A Celebration of Peace."** Students, ages 11, 12 or 13 on November 15, are eligible to participate.

Peace Poster Contest Judging

Each poster is judged on originality, artistic merit and expression of the theme. Posters advance through several judging levels: local, district, multiple district and international. At the international level, judges from the art, peace, youth, education and media communities select one grand prize winner and 23 merit award winners.

Peace Poster Contest Awards

International winners will be notified on or before February 1.

- One international grand prize winner will receive US\$5,000 and a trip to a special award ceremony.

- Each of the 23 merit award winners will receive a cash award of US\$500 and a certificate of achievement.

Peace Poster Contest Participant Information

To learn more about the Lions International Peace Poster Contest, please view our [brochure](#), [contest rules](#) and [deadlines](#), call 630-203-3812 or contact the [Lions Clubs Audio Visuals & Events Department](#).

Lions International Essay Contest

Lions clubs around the world are encouraged to sponsor students in the Lions International Essay Contest. This essay contest was created to offer an opportunity to visually impaired young people to express their feelings of peace. The theme of the 2015-16 Peace Poster Contest is **"A Celebration of Peace."** Students who are visually impaired and who are ages 11, 12 or 13 on November 15, are eligible to participate.

Work with your fellow Lions, local schools and area families to identify young people who are interested in participating and who could benefit from this program. One grand prize winner will receive an award and US\$5,000.

Lions International Peace Poster Contest Kits

<http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/serve/contests/peace-poster-contest/index.php>

REPORT OF MD 18 LEO CHAIR – LION STEVE HELWIG:

CC May called attention to a printed report in each file. Once again my work will keep me from attending your meeting or the Camp/Lighthouse activities but I will be with you in spirit. I do have a few items to report.

Please join with me in congratulating the Lawrenceville Lions club and Moore Middle School for chartering their new Leo club! I am looking forward to attending their Charter Night and seeing all the thing they do. I applaud Pete Stamsen and the other committee members for all their hard work getting this accomplished!

I will be working with them as they get this new club chartered! At the USA/Canada Forum I spoke with DG Hannah regarding getting a Leo club chartered in Greenville (O) and know they will get it going soon!

I also want to congratulate the Towns County Leo club for achieving the Leo Club Excellence Award from LCI! This is the highest award available and I am VERY proud of their accomplishment! FYI-one (1) club per district is eligible each year for this award if it meets the criteria and I will continue to encourage all Georgia Leo clubs to apply as merited.

I am in the process of emending/simplifying the Georgia Leo Club Service Award application with a goal of getting more clubs to apply and will send to the Council when completed.

The tentative dates for the 2016 MD18 Leo Gathering/Conference are February 19-21. At this time it is planned for our Georgia

Lions Camp. The Leo Council and named committees will be working with me on the details and I will advise as they become available.

As of the date of this report I have not received the Administrative expenses funds from the Council. Please let me know if there is anything I need to address. I have also asked past Councils to audit the books for MD18 Leo and recommend this be done by the end of this Lions year. All records are in order but I feel this needs to be done for transparency and because it has not been done since we formed MD18 in 2010.

Angela and I attended this year's USA/Canada Forum in Grand Rapids. We had a wonderful time, enjoyed ourselves, learned a lot, and met friends old and new. I was particularly honored to be a Presenter at the first Leo Day at the Forum. My seminar (one hour) was titled "Working With Your Leo Team" and I believe it was well received by the Leos and Lions in attendance. The four Presenters were recognized at the banquet Saturday night. The event must have been well-received as I understand they are planning to hold it again next year - will let you know if I am asked to present again.

REPORT OF MD 18 SERVICES FOR CHILDREN CHAIR – LION CHRIS SUMNER, PDG:

CC May called attention to a report in each file:

Youth Opportunities and Children's Services

- 1) I will be writing an article for the districts and state newsletters in November 2015.
- 2) I will also be e-mailing all state and district chairs across all Y&C projects with information and possible goals.
- 3) I am already working with State LEO Chair Steve Helwig on several activities and projects including the Gathering.
- 4) Remember that Y&C's goal as stated from LCI is to promote all Youth Opportunities and Children's Services projects.
- 5) Peace Poster activities within each district are well under way.
- 6) As you meet today on October 31, several LEO clubs are participating today in Sight Night activities.
- 7) Upcoming Dates = 1/11-17 – Worldwide Week of Service for Lions & LEOs; 2/1 – International Peace Poster winners announced.



Centennial Recognition for Leos

As an integral part of the Lions family, Leos are sharing in the Centennial excitement. New materials are available to recognize Leo clubs during this special celebration. Leo clubs organized during the Centennial Celebration through June 2018 will receive a limited edition Certificate of Organization and Centennial Leo Club Extension Certificates. Lions may also recognize Leo clubs for their support of the Centennial Service Challenge with a downloadable certificate. Join us as we celebrate 100 years of service and recognize the next generation of service leaders!



Important Dates For Your 2015 Calendar

We're excited about all the events in store for 2016, which is just around the corner. Please mark your calendar for these important dates and events in the coming year:

Polar Plunge February 20



Announcing the return of the plunge, the 2016 Polar Plunge, Saturday February 20, 2016 at Lake Lanier Islands. Prepare yourself for the season of "Freezin' For A Reason!" The seventh-annual Polar Plunge is the largest fundraising effort benefiting Special Olympics. Participants collect pledges from friends and family in exchange for the opportunity to jump into icy waters in the middle of winter. Prizes are awarded in several categories, including best costume, highest individual fundraiser, highest team fundraiser and many more. Go to www.plungega.org for complete event information and registration.

Over The Edge May 7

Ever wondered if you had what it takes to be fearless and face new challenges head-on? Well, here's your chance! The fifth annual **Over the Edge** will be Saturday, May 7! Join other "edgers" who are brave enough to raise \$1,000 to rappel over the edge of a 22-story building for Special Olympics Georgia. Over the Edge is the largest fundraising effort benefitting Special Olympics. Last year alone, the event made over \$183,000! SOGA is looking for a few good men and women to experience the challenge, the bravery and the exhilaration of participating in an event that takes you out of your comfort zone and ultimately changes your life forever - the same thing our Special Olympics athletes experience every day. If you are interested in participating, becoming a sponsor or would like more information, please contact [Kristin Hill](#) at 770-414-9390 ext. 105.



State Summer Games
May 20-22
Atlanta

AND

State Masters Bowling
August 26-28
Warner Robins

Volunteers are needed to help at venues and be fans in the stands. To apply to volunteer, copy and paste = <http://www.specialolympicsga.org/volunteers/>



LCI NEWS

Where in the World

Have you ever checked the Lions Web Site?
– click on Lions Newswire or check out
Lions News Network

International President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada



LCICon



Make plans for fun
and fellowship
with Lions from
around the globe at

the [99th International Convention](#) in
Fukuoka, Japan, June 24-28, 2016. Join
your fellow Lions in Fukuoka for an
experience to remember.

New Leo Club Program Training and Orientation



Do you sponsor a Leo club or
work closely with Leos? The Leo Club
Advisor Training and Orientation is
designed to provide Lions with a clearer
understanding of the Leo Club Program
and the role of the advisor. The training
includes six PowerPoint modules that cover
important tools and resources to help Leo
club advisors serve effectively and
confidently. All six modules are [available
for download](#) =
(<http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/leos/leo-club-sponsors/advisor-training.php>) from
the LCI website.

Celebrate Young Leaders on International Leo Day



Last month, Leos around the
world participated in a video
contest as part of the
#RaiseYourVoice campaign.
Check out the [Leo Club
Program Facebook page](#) to

see the winning submissions on December
5 – International Leo Day – and celebrate
young leaders with opinions and ideas that
matter! Go to and sign in =

<https://www.facebook.com/leoclubs/>

Or go to here =

<https://storify.com/Leos1957/international-leo-day-2015>

Peace Poster Contest Kits on Sale January 15



The theme for the 2016-17 Peace Poster
Contest is “A Celebration of Peace.”
Sponsor a Peace Poster Contest in your
community and encourage local boys and
girls (ages 11-13) to celebrate peace
through art. Resources for organizing and
promoting your club’s contest are included
in the Peace Poster Contest Kit, which may
be purchased from the Club Supplies Sales
Department starting January 15. [Visit the
Club Supplies Store](#) and enter “Peace
Poster Kit” in the Search Box. [Visit the
LCI website](#) to learn more about the Peace
Poster Contest, see past winning posters,
[watch the Peace Poster Contest video](#) and
more.

Lions in the Tournament of Roses Parade on New Year’s Day

Once again, LCI will have a float featured
in the annual Tournament of Roses Parade
on New Year’s Day. The theme of the
2016 Rose Bowl is “Find your Adventure,”
which will celebrate the 100 years of the
National Park Service. The theme of our
float is “Camps for All Abilities.” This year,
our float will be the 54th unit in the parade,
roughly 1/3 of the way through the line-up.
Placement in the parade is determined by a
lottery. The parade is telecast in the US on
the three major networks (NBC, ABC, CBS).
Cable station HGTV televises the parade in its
entirety and without commercial
interruption. Watch this video above to see
how Lions camps around the world are
making an impact on young people of all
abilities. Go to this web site to watch
video -

<http://lionsclubs.org/blog/2015/12/30/lions-in-the-tournament-of-roses-parade-on-new-years-day/>

Download Centennial Celebration Resources



The [Lions Centennial
Toolbox](#) has the tools
you need to celebrate
100 years of Lions
service and make an
even greater impact in
the next 100 years.

Find a Relieving the Hunger planning
guide, call-to-action flyer and customizable
press release to promote your event. The
toolbox also includes Centennial
Membership Awards resources, Centennial
club supplies and newsletters, logos,
posters, historical videos and more.
Go to Centennial Toolbox =
<http://lions100.lionsclubs.org/EN/toolbox/index.php>

LIONS QUARTERLY



Watch [LQ](#) to see how Lions have grown
into the world’s largest service club
organization.
<http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/news-media/videos/lq.php>

HIGHLIGHTS

Digital LION Magazine

The LION Magazine (Headquarters
Edition) is available online with added
content, videos and links.

Lions Blog

Stay up-to-date on Lions programs and
stories from around the world.

CONTESTS

Peace Poster Contest

The 2016-17 theme is “**A Celebration of
Peace.**”

<http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/serve/contests/peace-poster-contest/index.php>

EVENTS

Calendar of Events

Review upcoming Lions events your club
can participate in locally.

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE





Dear Lions,

The end of the year is such a busy time for so many people. Preparing for the end of one year and the beginning of the next takes a lot of work. Even so, you Lions continue to serve your communities. Well done, Lions!

I recently saw some of the work Lions are doing in Cuba. Lions Clubs International Foundation's (LCIF) SightFirst program is alive and well there. In partnership with Christian Blind Ministries, the German Lions and the Churches of Cuba, LCIF continues to support services for babies born with retinopathy of prematurity (ROP). Fighting childhood blindness is a priority for SightFirst and increasing the number of eye care personnel available to screen and treat ROP is one way to do that.



Every day, we are realizing International President Yamada's theme of "Dignity, Harmony and Humanity." We provide dignity to those we serve, we work together in a spirit of harmony, and we serve humanity by helping those in need.

Lions around the world are united by a great spirit of giving and dedication to helping others, proving that "Where there is a need, there is a Lion." LCIF is here to support your compassionate works by providing grant funding for your local and global humanitarian efforts.

As 2015 comes to a close, please [consider supporting your Foundation](#) so that we can continue improving lives for years to come.

Sincerely,

Joe Preston
Chairperson, Lions Clubs International Foundation

Combating Measles = A Message to Lions from Bill Gates

Published on Oct 19, 2015

LCIF has committed to raising US\$30 million by 2017 to improve access to vaccines through Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance. The funds raised will be matched by the United Kingdom's Department for International Development and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, bringing the total to US\$60 million. Bill Gates, co-chair and trustee of the Bill &

Melinda Gates Foundation, has an encouraging video message for Lions.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y6L8F8BP_FU&feature=youtu.be



Making Progress in the Fight against Trachoma



[Trachoma](#) is the leading infectious cause of blindness in the world, and LCIF has been fighting the disease, in partnership with The Carter Center, since 1999. Recently, LCIF partners, the International

Trachoma Initiative, Pfizer and others celebrated the donation of the 500 millionth dose of azithromycin, an antibiotic used to treat the trachoma in certain countries. The milestone marks significant achievement in global efforts to help eliminate this preventable eye disease as a public health threat by the year 2020. The Lions of Ethiopia, under the active leadership of Past District Governor, Hon. Dr. Med., World Laureate Tebebe Y. Berhan, remain committed to the elimination of trachoma.

See more on page 36 and 37 that includes PIP Jim Ervin Involvement.

New LCIF Chairperson's Medal

Goals of Establishing Recognition:

1. Recognize District Governors and Coordinators for exceptional support of LCIF
2. Create an incentive for district leaders to promote LCIF
3. Bring additional visibility to the foundation

District Governors and District Coordinators

Districts raising US\$30,000 or more plus a minimum increase of 10% over the previous year

Districts raising US\$100,000 or more automatically receive the award

Multiple districts where 50% or more of the districts reach or surpass their target (as defined above)



Lions Quest Continues to Expand



LCIF and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) have worked together since 2012 to bring Lions Quest to the Balkans region. In 2014, a pilot program was launched in

Serbia. This year, the program expanded into Macedonia (FYROM) and Montenegro. This expansion will allow for the training of 150 teachers and will positively impact more than 2,000 students in 50 schools. An evaluation of the Serbian program shows that Lions Quest improved drug and alcohol refusal skills and increased risk perception among students. Visit lions-quest.org to find out how your club can bring Lions Quest life skills to your community.



Melvin Jones 1879 - 1961



Melvin Jones and Fort Thomas

Located at Fort Thomas, Arizona, the Melvin Jones Lions International Memorial was erected and dedicated in 1965. This came years after a movement by the Arizona Lions to find a way to honor Melvin Jones, founder of one of the largest humanitarian service organizations in the world, "LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION."

Melvin was born on January 13, 1879, at Fort Thomas Arizona at a time when the west remained unsettled because the Apache Indians were making their last stand against the White man's encroachment on their land.

While visiting his birthplace he related a memory of a spanking received at age three for running away from home with his dog to the nearby Gila River. In an interview for an article in the Lions Magazine, Melvin recalled that he was either seven or eight years old when his family moved from Arizona Territory, and his boyhood memories were of horses, blue clad troopers, bugles and war cries, wagon trains, gaunt settlers and dust."

Part of Melvin's schooling was at the Union Business and Chaddock Colleges of Quincy Illinois.

At age 33 he was the sole owner of his own insurance agency in Chicago, Illinois and became a member of the local business circle. After two years, he felt that as influential businessmen, their talents could be better utilized in other areas of community life.

In 1917 after pursuing this thought for four years they formed what is now known as LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL, with 20 delegates representing 27 clubs from around the United States.

The Association became international in 1920, when the Lions of Detroit chartered the Windsor Ontario Lions Club, in Canada, In 1950, Melvin Jones, who was born on a cavalry outpost in Camp Thomas Arizona was conferred the title of SECRETARY GENERAL of LIONS INTERNATIONAL for life.

Since that time Lions organizations have grown to over 1.4 million members in over 45,000 clubs.

Lionism's dedication to aiding the blind grew out of a speech by Helen Keller in 1925, when she challenged the Lions to become "Knights of the Blind in the crusade against darkness." In today's Lion world Lions not only dedicate themselves to the visually impaired but to programs for preventable and corrective eye diseases, and have moved to dedication of the hearing impaired, youth programs, Diabetes and aid in disaster programs all over the world.

Melvin Jones the founder of this great service organization, died in 1961. His philosophy of life, "you can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else," lives in our motto "WE SERVE."

In 1961 the International Board of Directors proclaimed January 13 (the birthday of our founder, Melvin Jones) as a day of memory each year though out the world of Lionism. Founders and Rededication month traditionally observed in January, shall thereafter be designated as Melvin Jones Memorial month.

Thereafter every year on the Saturday closest to the 13th of January, Lions though out the world gather to pay tribute to Melvin Jones who said, "Dreams are the fool ideas of day before yesterday that become the commonplace miracles of today."

In June 1999 the Lions International Board gave this prestigious fifty foot spire recognition as an International Shrine. On several occasions before his passing, Melvin visited the site of his birth and participated with the Arizona Lions groups that laid the foundation for the memorial now honoring his name.

All donations of \$250, \$500 and \$1000 are suitably recognized on the Wall of Fame, which is mounted in the Melvin Jones Lions International Memorial Building for all to view.

If you are visiting the southwestern United States, take the opportunity to visit your founder's birthplace.



Trachoma partners celebrate exceptional progress

16 Nov 2015

ICTC, The International Trachoma Initiative (ITI) and Pfizer Inc. are today marking exceptional progress in global efforts to eliminate trachoma, the world's leading cause of preventable blindness, with the announcement of Pfizer's 500 millionth dose of Zithromax® (azithromycin) Tablets, an antibiotic used to treat trachoma. The milestone marks significant achievement in global efforts to help eliminate this infectious and preventable eye disease that can lead to permanent blindness, as a public health threat by the year 2020.

Today, delegations from the UK and US governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and Pfizer are gathering in the Woliso region of Ethiopia to celebrate the donation of the 500 millionth Zithromax dose and a significant expansion of the national trachoma elimination program in the country.

"This milestone highlights what is possible when partners work together toward a common goal and signifies remarkable achievement in our fight to eliminate trachoma globally," said ICTC's Chair Virginia Sarah, "Collective efforts are helping to reduce the impacts of this ancient, preventable disease on affected individuals, families and communities."

The burden of trachoma remains highest in Ethiopia, with 75 million people at risk, and the Federal Ministry of Health is working with Alliance partners to significantly expand the number of people in Ethiopia who are treated.

"The expansion of the SAFE strategy across Ethiopia is vital in alleviating the sufferings of millions of our people and ultimately eradicating trachoma from our soil," said His Excellency Dr. Kesetebirhan Admasu, Minister of Health of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. "The burden of trachoma is too high, but with the implementation of SAFE strategies, including Pfizer's donation of Zithromax, and efficient partnership with international partners, we are determined to achieve this goal."

Trachoma is an infectious disease, which can develop into a condition in which eyelids turn inwards and eyelashes scrape the eyeball, causing great pain, corneal ulcers and irreversible blindness. There are 232 million people in 58 countries at risk, with more than 80 percent of the global burden of the disease concentrated in 14 countries, mostly in Africa. Trachoma is responsible for the visual impairment of approximately 2.2 million people, 1.2 million of whom are irreversibly blind. It threatens entire socio-economic infrastructures and as a result, is estimated to cause USD \$3-6 billion in lost productivity per year across affected countries.

"I am extremely grateful to Pfizer for having donated 500 million doses of Zithromax in the fight against blinding trachoma to date," said former US President Jimmy Carter, founder of The Carter Center, a pioneer and partner in disease elimination activities. "The Carter Center is proud to have distributed more than 25 percent of those doses in the Amhara region of Ethiopia, the most trachoma-endemic area of the world, along with our partners Lions Clubs International Foundation and the Federal Ministry of Health. Together, we remain committed to eliminating blinding trachoma and reducing unnecessary suffering."

Partners celebrating today are working as part of The World Health Organization (WHO) Alliance for the Global Elimination of Trachoma by 2020 (GET 2020). The Alliance is a unique collaboration of more than 100 governments, NGOs and private sector partners implementing a WHO-recommended strategy called 'SAFE' that combines:

- Surgery to treat the blinding stage of the disease,
- Antibiotics to treat infection, particularly administration of Zithromax,
- Facial cleanliness to help reduce transmission, and
- Environmental improvement, particularly improving access to water and sanitation.

This integrated strategy ensures that the positive impacts of antibiotic treatments are sustained through improved hygiene, while surgery ensures that those who cannot be cured are still treated to alleviate their discomfort and improve their quality of life.

"At Pfizer we believe that access to quality healthcare and the opportunity to lead healthy lives is an extremely important social goal," said Ian Read, chief executive officer, Pfizer. "The power and value of collaboration between public and private organizations in achieving that goal cannot be overstated. We are proud to work with our international partners on this mission to help end trachoma by 2020."

Since the Alliance was formed in 1998, partners have treated more than one hundred million people in 33 countries. In 2012, Oman became the first country to achieve WHO validation of trachoma elimination. In addition, China, Gambia, Ghana, Iran, Morocco, Myanmar and Vietnam have all reported the achievement of elimination goals to WHO, and are awaiting the outcome of the validation process.

"As we celebrate our great progress, it is critical that we remain steadfast in our efforts to eliminate trachoma from the lives of everyone it affects," said Dr Paul Emerson, Director of ITI, the ICTC member organization that manages Pfizer's Zithromax donation. "We have the partners, tools and momentum to beat this debilitating disease, and we are driving toward 2020 with a sense of urgency and determination. Together we can help ensure that all people of all nations will never have to endure the horror caused by trachoma."

The Sydney Morning Herald

The girl who has 500 million reasons to live with hope: the global battle against trachoma



E-mail excerpts =



Greetings from Atlanta! On behalf of Kelly Callahan, I'm pleased to share with you the following documents and photos related to the Ethiopia Pfizer ITI Celebration which took place earlier this week:



1. Event Press Release;
2. Trachoma Advertisement that was published in multiple US and International Newspapers on November 16.
3. Photos from Event (taken with Kelly Callahan's camera)

We are delighted that the event was such a success, and that the Lions/Carter Center SightFirst Initiative was such a prominent part of the celebration!

Warm regards,

The Carter Center

2 other e-mails -
Dear all



I hope this finds you well. It was a pleasure to partner with many of you in Ethiopia this week (and from afar), and thank you to all for helping make this milestone such a tremendous success! Attached please find some quick highlights from Monday's exciting celebration activities on the ground and media and social amplification around the globe. Please also see the Storify that The Carter Center put together for our milestone hashtag: <https://storify.com/CarterCenter/international-trachoma-initiative>

Thank you for all of your continued support to amplify this milestone – if you need anything from us, please don't hesitate to reach out. We will follow-up in the coming days with further updates, and we look forward to your updates as well.

Please find attached an updated PowerPoint featuring additional highlights from the Nov. 16 celebration in Ethiopia. The attached reflects new metric numbers as well as additional media coverage in The Ethiopian Herald, Outbreak News Today and Vaccine News Daily.

Additionally, we are excited to share the first-person LinkedIn perspective from Pfizer CEO Ian C. Read. The story highlights the urgent need to eliminate trachoma as well as the important role partnership has played in accomplishing the 500M Milestone. Please see link here: <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/refusing-turn-blind-eye-trachoma-ian-c-read?trk=hp-feed-article-title-publish>.

Thank you again for all of your continued support to amplify this milestone – please don't hesitate to reach if you need anything from us. Hope you have a lovely weekend.

The Task Force for Global Health,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Other home town news = Things like this is what we do

The Lawrenceville Lions Club was instrumental in providing assistance to Timothy – in turn – all the Lions Clubs within Gwinnett County also got together and provided some assistance to help Timothy – Please read the following email message and then the full story on the next page:

Hi Mr. Stamsen:

I hope you and yours are all well. Timothy and we his parents remember you with much gratitude and affection, and wanted you to know about his progress at Mercer, which your kind support helped make possible.

There's only one misprint I saw—they had written that we discovered Timothy was blind when he was 3 *years* old, when actually it was when he was 3 *months* old.

I thought you, and other Lions' Clubs who have helped support him all these years, would like to see the fruit of your labors and investment. Please forward this on to any other Lions contacts you have or wish to whom you think might be interested in it. We are all so grateful to all of you for what you have done for him.

Thanks,
Nancy Jones

Walking by faith, not by sight

Timothy Jones is a 22-year-old organ major at Mercer University. He one day dreams of being a church organist and hosting concerts where he'll share his testimony. Marin Guta Center for Collaborative Journalism

At 8 a.m. each Wednesday, a time when many Mercer University students already have pressed their snooze alarms several times, freshman Timothy Jones is in McCorkle Music Hall perfecting his rendition of Claude Debussy's "Clair de Lune." For four hours, Jones' hands glide over the piano keys in a practice room there until his class at noon.

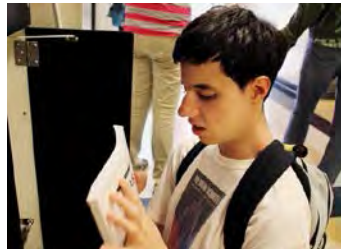
From outside the room, he sounds like any gifted musician. Jones, however, doesn't have sheet music, and he never glances down at his keyboard. He has memorized the entire performance. He is legally blind. The 22-year-old is an organ performance major at the Mercer's Townsend School of Music. His road hasn't been easy.

When Jones was 3 years old, his mother, Nancy, learned that he had Leber's congenital amaurosis, a rare, hereditary eye disease. But Jones, who began trying to play Twila Paris' "Lamb of God" on the piano at age 2, has always had a passion for music. When Jones was growing up, he would attend traditional church services with his parents and two brothers. There, the precocious talent heard a choir singing accompanied by a thunderous organ.

"I thought, 'Wouldn't it be cool to play an instrument like that and play for a choir and congregation?'" Jones recalled. "I knew from then on that I would want to study to become a church organist."

Though Jones was excited to study the organ at Mercer, he decided to defer his acceptance for a year because he would have to learn some new technology and software before beginning. During Jones' deferment year, the Townsend School of Music offered him organ and piano lessons free of charge, which astonished Jones and his family.

The summer before Jones began his freshman year, he memorized the basic layout of the campus. At first, the task was daunting because of the campus' size. He also tried to convince Mercer's disabilities service coordinator, Carole Burrowbridge, that he would need Braille books for his music classes. Burrowbridge thought Jones would get most of his books through an electronic database, but Jones said it wasn't possible.



Jones started his first week of freshman year without any textbooks, but he still had assignments to complete under deadline. At the time, the anxiety of having to complete certain assignments but not having textbooks took a toll on Jones. He considered packing his bags and going home. "I was thinking 'this isn't going to work. I sense disaster coming, and I'm going to flunk,'" he said.

Once the music faculty became aware of his situation, they called a meeting and tried to find a way to help Jones. The professors agreed to give Jones an extension on his homework until his books arrived. The dean of the music department even read some of his music textbooks aloud to him so he could turn in his assignments.

In many of Jones' classes, he's learning the theoretical side of music, and his textbooks use musical symbols. Burrowbridge had to find a way to present this visual information in a way Jones could use, so her office ended up ordering all of Jones' textbooks in Braille. Learning music theory is only half the battle for a music major, though. Jones also has to find a way to learn the music he is expected to perform.

When Jones is learning a new piece, his professors will record themselves playing sections of the piece with the left and right hand played separately. The professors will then upload the file onto Dropbox -- a file sharing and storage site -- and Jones will download and listen to the file.

Since Jones has perfect pitch -- the ability to identify a musical note without hearing any other tone -- he is able to teach himself to play what he hears without the benefit of sheet music. He repeatedly listens to specific sections and practices them until it's memorized. Playing classical music is a challenge in itself, but the fact that Jones can play blind makes it a "physical phenomenon," said Ian Altman, a piano professor at Mercer.

Although being blind makes life more difficult, Jones said his disability serves a spiritual purpose.

"As far as faith goes, I have learned that we don't know what's ahead of us, and in a way each one of us is blind," Jones said. "We don't know what's on the road ahead, and that's where it takes trusting in an eternal creator." Disabilities won't stop the aspiring musician from pursuing his dream of one day hosting his own concert and sharing his testimony at the end of it.

"I did get some challenges when I came here, and I'm still getting challenged. But who knows what's on the road ahead?" Jones said, "I'll just be trusting the Lord that he will direct my path."

By MARIN GUTA - is a Mercer University student in the Center for Collaborative Journalism.

There's a ball and a bat. There are fielders, a pitcher, a catcher and a batter at the plate.

But it sure doesn't sound like baseball. The ball beeps and the bases buzz. Spectators don't cheer until the end of the play. This is beep baseball, an entirely original competitive sport that lets visually impaired athletes suit up for a special version of America's favorite pastime.

Beep baseball also builds the players' mental and physical confidence and creates a bond between sighted and the visually impaired.

In 1964, Charlie Fairbanks, an Engineer with Mountain Bell and a Telephone Pioneer developed the first beep baseball. There in Colorado he implanted a beeping device in a softball as a recreational and educational tool. By the spring of 1975, the Minneapolis Telephone Pioneers had presented this "beeping" baseball to a blind athlete in Minneapolis. There in Minneapolis he put together the 1st Beep Baseball team. Then, across the Mississippi River in St. Paul another team was formed. Finally, these 2 teams played each. By 1976 Beep Baseball rules were created and the game began to spread across the country. In that same year, The National Beep Baseball Association (N.B.B.A.) was created in Chicago. Dedicated volunteers form the backbone of the NBBA's program, including the annual World Series.

Today, there are many visually impaired athletes enjoying the benefits of playing a sport that used to belong exclusively to the sighted. With the help of sighted volunteers, blind athletes dive onto the ground to stop a beeping baseball or run full speed toward the sound of a buzzing base to score a run!!

Perhaps beep baseball's greatest contribution is the important bridge it is creating between the sighted and visually impaired. Sighted people go away from a beep baseball game with a new appreciation of what blindness is all about. They know they just witnessed a prime example of overcoming a physical handicap. A blind person goes home with the deep satisfaction of knowing with the assistance of a sighted person, that they too can play the great "American Pastime".

Atlanta Eclipse Beep Baseball Team

In March of 2010, the first practice of the Atlanta Eclipse Beep Baseball Team took place with about 15 players and 8 volunteers, most of whom knew little to nothing about beep baseball. We all joke about it today, recalling that it was definitely the blind leading the blind!

To see videos and learn more about how beep baseball is played, go to our [Facebook Page- Atlanta Beep Baseball](#). You can also go to the website for the National Beep Baseball Association at www.nbba.org. If you would like to help us keep this sport and worthwhile organization alive, contact me at 770-317-2035 or by e-mail at JudyByrd@gmail.com.

Athens Timberwolves Beepball Team | Facebook

Location: Southeast Clarke Park in Athens, GA

If you wish to make a contribution, you can [Donate](#) online or make checks payable to AIRS and mail it to 110 Emerald Drive, Athens GA 30605

706-353-7463

10 Canine Commandments



1. *My life is likely to last 10 to 15 years. Any separation from you will be painful to me.*
2. *Give me time to understand what you want from me.*
3. *Place your trust in me. It's crucial to my well-being.*
4. *Don't be angry with me for long and don't lock me up as punishment. You have your work, your entertainment and friends. I only have you.*
5. *Talk to me sometimes. Even if I don't understand your words, I understand your voice when it's speaking to me.*
6. *Be aware that however you treat me – I'll never forget it.*
7. *Remember before you hit me – I have teeth that could easily crush the bones of your hand, but I choose not to bite you.*
8. *Before you scold me for being un-cooperative, obstinate or lazy, ask yourself if something might be bothering me.*
9. *Take care of me when I get old. You will grow old too.*
10. *Go with me on difficult journeys. Never say "I can't bear to watch it", or "Let it happen in my absence." Everything is easier for me if you are there.*

Remember that I love you



LIONS OF GEORGIA

2016 MD 18 CONVENTION

Callaway, Gardens

June 3-5, 2016

EVENT REGISTRATION / Hospitality Book Registration

NAME (check boxes that apply) Each person receiving a hospitality book must be listed - PLEASE PRINT	Number of Hospitality Books	MJF Luncheon tickets	Lion Highest Office	Meetings only	Guest (check)	(Select One) Chicken Pork Vegetarian

Club:		District:	
Address:		City, State, Zip:	
Email Address:			

\$50.00 Registration Convention non meal meetings only.

\$95.00 at 2015 Convention

\$110.00 May 18, 2015 to Sept. 30, 2015 \$125.00 Oct 1, 2015 to Jan 31, 2016

\$140.00 Feb 1, 2016 to April 30, 2016 \$150 May 1, 2016 to Convention.

Convention only/OR Hospitality Books	#	@	each	Total Amt.:	\$
MJF Luncheon	#	@	\$30.00 each	Total Amt.:	\$
Make Checks Payable To: Lions of Georgia MD Convention				Total Amount Due:	\$
Check #/Cash:		Date Paid:		Amount Paid:	\$

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Callaway Gardens
17800 U. S. Highway 27
Pine Mountain, GA 31822
706-663-2281 - 800-543-7121
Make Reservations Directly with Hotel

Room rate is \$121.00/ night plus tax
Tell them you are with the Lions Convention!

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECKS TO:

Lion David McDonald
1624 Hannahs Mill Road
Thomaston, Georgia 30286
H: 706-648-3950
Email:
dmcDonald@charter.net



Georgia Lions Magazine

1441 Burycove Circle, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043

<http://galions.org/md18.html>

