



District 18-D Bulletin

We Serve

Gold



Standard

MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR LIONS OF NORTHEAST GEORGIA

June 2009



District Governor

Dick Smith

Dear “Gold Standard” Lions of 18-D,

In one month and one day and we’ll start a new year with a new District Governor, new district officers; new club presidents, new club officers, etc. June is the month we’ll celebrate our current year and pass on our year to those Lions who have accepted leadership for next year. How is our district and its Lions clubs going to be for those who have accepted our district and club leadership positions?

We ended April with the first net increase in our district membership this year! Yeah! Based on the May membership reports of 26 of our 36 clubs, we will be down in numbers as June begins. Boo! However, unless June is an extremely bad membership month, you will have stopped the major membership loss in our district for at least one year. Will your club be a club that experiences a net membership gain this year? If so, then you need to begin working this month is determine which of the three Gold Standard Club

Excellence Awards your club is going to qualify for? I am looking forward to receiving your applications and traveling to your clubs next year to hand you your awards!!!

In May we did take a couple of actions in the district to reverse our membership loss trend. On Saturday, 16 May, PDG Beverly Shirley, MERL team Extension Chair, and her Lion husband, PDG Connie Shirley, set up a tent at the Lula Railroad Days festival to provide Lula residents with Lions information to encourage them to join the prospective Lula Lions club. With the help of PDG Thoïs Masters, PDG David Sargent, Bryon “the Lion,” Toccoa Lions Club President Elect, and your DG, we were present all day long and talked to several Lula residents. The future sponsoring Lions club, the Clermont North Hall Lions Club, held a Lula Lions meeting on Tuesday, 19 May.

The other May action was our work with PCC Jim Canon, one of LCI’s New Membership Consultants, to form a new Lions club in Dacula. On Tuesday morning, 19 May, we began training at the Winder Lions Clubhouse. After a half a day of training, four teams from the nine Lions who volunteered to help form this club, PCC Dan Stuart, Lion Wayne Turnbull, Lion Lyndol Cain, PDG Allan Stalker, DGE Grace Clower, Lion Pete Stamsen, PDG Beverly Shirley and 2nd VDGE Ken Fuller, started going door-to-door recruiting new Lions. For the next two days a similar pattern continued as training was held in the mornings and recruiting was done in the afternoon. Lions Allan Stalker and Dan Stuart agreed to be Certified Guiding Lions and the Snellville Lions Club agreed to sponsor the club. The first meeting was held on Thursday, 28 May.

Will we have one or two new clubs in 18-D by the end of June? Will we know when we get together for our MD-18 Lions Convention on Jekyll Island, 5 – 7 June? If not, I am certain that next year’s District Governor, DGE Grace Clower, will pass the information on to everyone as soon as it happens! In the meantime, I want to thank all of the Lions in District 18-D for your willingness to accept Lions’ work to perform “Miracles through Service.” It has been a very challenging year and I have enjoyed working with you!

Yours in “Miracles through Service,”

Dick





"Will you not help me hasten the day when there shall be no preventable blindness; no little deaf, blind children untaught; no blind man or woman unaided? 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?"

Helen Keller



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

June – Installation of Club Officers.

1 June – Helen Keller Day in 1971, LCI declared 1 June as “Helen Keller Day” in honor of this amazing woman who holds a special place in the hearts of Lions everywhere. At a Lions convention in 1925, Helen Keller personally challenged Lions to become “Knights of the Blind” and since then Lions have conducted countless sight conservation efforts. We encourage Lions to take this opportunity to conduct blindness related service activities in their communities.

5 June – World Environment Day

**18 July – Lions Day at
Camp for the Blind**

If you have not been in the past; you can mark your calendar now. Please let them know how many is in your group. This also can be used as a regular Club meeting event.



Planning Ahead

**President/Secretary/Treasurer Training
By Region**



**Region I – Sat., 13 June at 9:30am
Colbert Lions Clubhouse**

Check out page 9



June – Installation of Club Officers

1 June – Helen Keller Day

**12 June = 75th Anniversary for the
Clarksville Lions Club**



**92nd
International
Convention,
Minneapolis,
Minnesota**

Join with Lions from around the globe as we gather together for LCI's **92nd Annual International Convention** in **Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA** - from **Monday, 6 July through Friday, 10 July 2009.**

88th State Convention



5-7 June 2009
Jekyll Island, Georgia

Friday: Registration and Exhibits;
Organizational Meetings – Lighthouse and
Camp meetings; Opening Ceremony + Two
seminars – one of which would be Lions
working with LEOS.

Saturday: District Breakfasts; First
Business Session; Melvin Jones Luncheon
(\$25.00), State Awards; District Governor's
Banquet +

Sunday: District Breakfast; Necrology
Service; Second Business Session

For June 2009, Partial Ocean Guestroom:
\$109 or **Oceanfront Guestroom: \$119**
Clarion Resorts/Oceanfront Resort
800-736-1046

Days Inn Hotel, 60 S. Beachview Drive, Jekyll
Island. 912 635 9800 Room rates: \$115

HOSPITALITY BOOK ORDER FORM

Hospitality Books only \$85.00

1 April to 27 May

**YOU WILL FIND A LETTER AND
HOSPITALITY BOOK FORM FOR THE 2009
GEORGIA LIONS STATE CONVENTION
SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 5-7, 2009 AT
JEKYLL ISLAND ON **THE DISTRICT WEB**
SITE. PLEASE SHARE THIS
INFORMATION WITH YOUR CLUB
MEMBERS. THANKS AND WE LOOK
FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!**



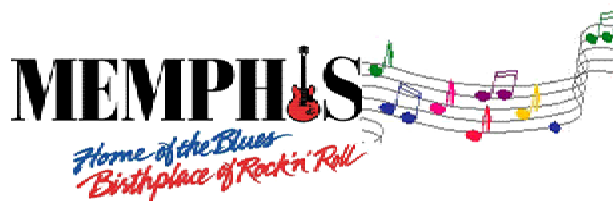
USA/CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUM

33rd Annual USA/Canada Lions

Leadership Forum
September 24-26, 2009
Memphis, Tennessee

The February/March 2009 Forum Newsletter can
be found in PDF format at the following link:
<https://usacanadalionsforum.org/februarymarchedition.pdf>

For all the information on the Forum, go to:
<http://usacanadalionsforum.org>



Move to Grow - Lions Leading Through Service



READY GEORGIA


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

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

Also find it on your web site under
GA LIONS ALERT



Where in the World

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NEW YORK, NEW YORK, USA MARCH 9-14, 2009

1. Toronto, Ontario, Canada was chosen as the site for the 2014 International Convention.

http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/con tent/pdfs/exec_summary_mar_09.pdf

Online Convention Launches June 1

Interested in following the excitement and pageantry of the 92nd Lions Clubs International Convention? [Visit Online Convention](#) to see contest results and view photos from each day's events. Also, learn more about keynote speaker Colin Powell and Humanitarian Award winner Father Chris Riley – all at Online Convention.

LION Magazine Headquarters Edition Photo Contest

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

Reminder: New Transfer Form For Club Secretaries

Attention Club Secretaries:

A new [transfer form](#) is now available for your use. The form contains vital information for both clubs commonly involved in the transfer process and also contains a contact us section for the MMR/WMMR user.

Family Cub Program Coming Soon and How You Can Help

The new Family Cub Program, in connection with the Family Membership Program, is being introduced at the 92nd Lions Clubs International Convention in Minneapolis. Formulated especially to encourage families to volunteer together, children under the age of 12 will have the opportunity to build a lifelong dedication to helping those in need. Cubs will be distinguished with age-specific patches and Lions clubs will be equipped with a guide full of age-appropriate activities. Here is where we need your help. Cubs will be divided into three age categories: under age 3, ages 4-7 and ages 8-12. Lions Clubs International is looking for a series of names to give to each of the three age categories. Submit your Cub name ideas at the Extension & Membership Booth at the Minneapolis convention or to the [Membership Programs and New Clubs Marketing Department](#). Look for more information on the Family Cub Program in July.

New Issue of ForSight Available

The newest edition of ForSight, a publication that highlights the achievements of the SightFirst program, is now available in all languages. The publication can

be [downloaded](#) or delivered by mail. [Contact the LCIF Communications department](#) for more information about publications offered by the Foundation.

“To Do” This Summer: Plan a Strides Walk for Diabetes Awareness

Diabetic eye disease is one of the leading causes of irreversible blindness in the world today. The primary objective of the Lions Diabetes Awareness Program is to reduce the number of cases of blindness caused by diabetes through awareness, early detection and treatment, and support of research. Lions are especially encouraged to conduct awareness activities in their communities throughout the year. Now's the time to plan a [Strides: Lions Walk for Diabetes Awareness](#) community event and take advantage of mild temperatures.

New!!! Strides Walk Banner Patch Lions clubs and districts that have organized a [Strides: Lions Walk for Diabetes Awareness](#) may apply to receive the new Strides Walk Banner Patch award. Read more about the criteria and download the [application](#).

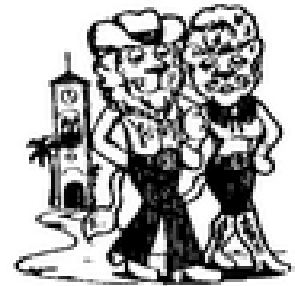
New Lions Quest Video

A new Lions Quest video is available free of charge from Lions Clubs International Foundation. The DVD is available in all official Lions languages. It spotlights successful Lions Quest programs around the world. Lions Quest is the life-skills program for kindergarten through 12th grade. [View and order](#) the video online or [contact Lions Quest](#) to learn more.

New Parade Shirt Proposed

white golf shirt that we have used since 2003. The proposed shirt is a “Camp” style shirt made by Port Authority. The shirt color is Celery and is available in ladies and men’s sizes. Men’s sizes are XS- 4XL and has a Patch Pocket. Ladies sizes are XS-XXL, Plus 1X, Plus 2X. Gently contoured silhouette, no patch pocket, front and back darts. Each shirt includes a embroidered emblem on the left front of the shirt.

A light green short-sleeved button-down shirt with a small embroidered patch on the left chest. The patch features a circular design with a cross and some text. The shirt is laid flat against a white background.



Southeastern Lions Leadership Institute held on April 16th through 19th a Beersheba Springs, TN. Forty seven Lions attended as students from NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, MS and TN. Georgia had the most students with fifteen total. District 18-D had the most students of any district with seven students. Nearly half the students from Georgia were from our district.

Students from 18-D were Warren Anderson from Norcross, Marlene Gillman from Snellville, David James and Marty Horne from Dawsonville, Ken and Carol Fuller from Towns County and Bryan Gordon from Toccoa.

In the group picture attached are the Lions from 18D. Pictured from l-r are Bryan Gordon, Ken Fuller, Carol Fuller, John Pearce, David James, Marlene Gillman, Marty Horne and Warren Anderson.



Exclusive Rewards for SignatureCardholders:

Spring is in the air, and now is the perfect time to start using the Lions Club International Signature Visa® Card! And if you apply now you'll receive a \$25 statement credit when you spend just \$30 in the first 90 days. The Lions Club Signature Visa Card is a perfect way to support the efforts of Lions Club International, while you earn great rewards and privileges. [Click Here to Apply Now!](#)

Earn one reward point for each dollar of net purchases**

1,000 bonus points with your first purchase

No pre-set spending limit, and no limit to the number of points you can earn

Redeem points for free air travel, merchandise, gift certificates and more

24-hour concierge service

VIP access to special entertainment, dining and sporting events like the Super Bowl and the Olympic Games

Signature privileges, including merchant upgrades, offers and savings!

Other Benefits Include:

No annual fee

Auto Rental Collision Damage Waiver and Travel Accident Insurance, 100% Fraud Protection, Warranty Manager, Travel and Emergency Assistance

And more!

Benefits to the Lions Club:

Every time you make a purchase with your Lions Club Signature Visa Card, you'll help support the efforts and programs of Lions Club International. [Apply Now!](#)

* You will earn a \$25 statement credit when you spend \$30 with the card in the first 90 days.

** Accounts must be open and in good standing (not past due) to earn and redeem points.

Click product name for terms and conditions: [Signature](#). We may change APRs, fees, and other Account terms in the future based on your experience with other creditors or U.S. Bank National Association, N.D. and its affiliates according to the Cardmember Agreement and applicable law. The creditor and issuer of the Visa Platinum card is the U.S. Bank National Association ND.



GET YOUR CHOICE OF ALMOST ANY REWARD

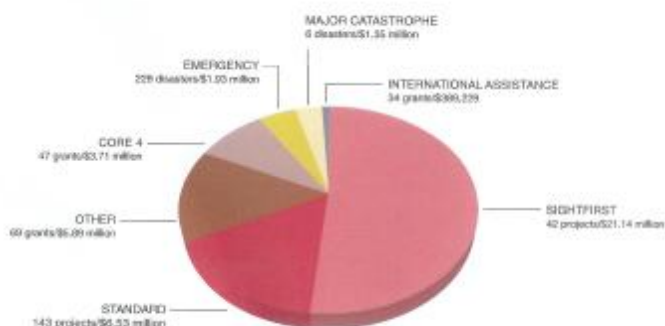
RECEIVE 1,000 BONUS POINTS WITH YOUR FIRST PURCHASE

EVERY PURCHASE BENEFITS LIONS CLUB PROGRAMS!

HURRY! OFFER ENDS JUNE 30th!



Melvin Jones Fellowship



MAJOR CATASTROPHE = 6 disasters/\$1.35 million
EMERGENCY = 229 disasters/\$1.93 million
CORE 4 = 47 grants/\$3.71 million
OTHER = 69 grants/\$5.89 million
STANDARD = 143 projects/\$6.53 million
INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE = 34 grants/\$389,229
SIGHTFIRST = 42 projects/\$21.14 million

We're #1. As the global leader in humanitarian service, Lions Clubs International Foundation helps Lions members serve their community and the world community. Named the number one non-governmental organization in the world with which to partner, LCIF is the official charitable organization of Lions Clubs International.

We Serve. Grants fund large-scale Lions humanitarian projects for sight, youth, disability, health and disaster. In fiscal year 2007-2008, LCIF awarded \$40.93 million for 570 projects.

We Provide. Since LCIF began in 1968, it has awarded 9,000 grants totaling \$640 million.

We Give 100 Percent. Every dollar donated to LCIF goes directly toward a grant.

We Partner. LCIF works hard to leverage all donations through partnerships with local and international organizations, governments and corporations, stretching each contribution substantially beyond its original value.

You Gave. In fiscal year 2007-2008, LCIF received \$78.46 million in donations, including historic support for CSFII. This was an increase of \$24 million over the previous year.* Thank you for your support!

*Donations include cash received and pledges.

**All funds reported in US\$.

LCIF's Unprecedented Opportunity

LCIF is in a position of unprecedented opportunity. Now, more than ever, Lions worldwide are engaged in the work of LCIF. The unwavering efforts of Lions throughout CSFII have further established the SightFirst program as a leader in the fight against preventable blindness, and solidified LCIF as a prominent global foundation. There is a better understanding of the need for the humanitarian service that only LCIF and Lions can provide.

LCIF has provided a wide range of humanitarian service to those in need for more than 40 years. The SightFirst program is only one aspect of the humanitarian work of the Foundation. LCIF also combats disability, provides disaster relief and supports the health and education of youth. Through LCIF, Lions develop projects that address the immediate and long-term needs of their local and global communities.

It is indeed an exciting time for LCIF and Lions worldwide. The Foundation has not only been very successful in helping Lions serve others, but with expansion comes new opportunities for service. LCIF is dedicating more resources to expand the Foundation, and a stronger LCIF that is committed to a core mission has the power to transform all aspects of Lions.

"The quality of life you offer is like night and day to see once again. I so appreciate everything you are all doing. Your programs and assistance are desperately needed and so very much appreciated."

Christine, Oregon, USA



Editor's Note



Fellow Lions:

Children

“Lionism in the 21st Century depends upon our commitment to our children of today – for today’s children will be our future Lions of tomorrow.”

Now what do you think can happen within your community and/or District?

What have you done to get children involved within your community?

Just imagine if you were able to get children started while they were in elementary school. How do you ask – hmmm:

Leader Dogs for the Blind has a program that combines educating children on Leader Dog and visual impairment with raising funds to "Help Send a Leader Dog to School."

They have materials to accompany the program such as posters, container labels for coin collection, certificates of generosity, etc. If you give any presentations to youth groups (schools, scouts, etc.) that participate in this program, they will forward required materials to you or directly to the group.

Contact the Kids N' Coins (KNC) program coordinator Kathleen Breen at 888-777-5332 ext. 2052 or at kbreen@leaderdog.org to receive a KNC Speakers Packet.

Now, once they graduate and go into Middle School, they might be looking for something to do – hmmm. Have we ever heard of something called a LEO CLUB. Gee, what a great idea. Also, there is something called a PEACE POSTER CONTEST that just so happens every year. They can continue to do the Kids N' Coins and also try other different ideas that will help YOUR Lions Club to generate money for needed projects.

In fact, one smart idea is to raise money in order to buy 3rd graders Dictionaries. Just imagine the Middle School helping the children in Elementary School.

Guess what – now they will have graduated into High School. Hmmm – a LEO CLUB there also?

Gee, will wonders never cease. Here again, we are getting young teens involved. There are so many programs that Lions have at their fingertips – it is just amazing.

It would be great if every LEO Club (as well as the Lions Club that sponsors them) hold an event, or do a special project together to raise awareness. Here are some suggestions for ways that Lions and LEO's can work together:

**White Cane Month (Lighthouse)
Send a Kid to Camp (Camp)
Spotlight on Children
Record-a-Thon (RFB&D)
Liberty Day
Kids 'N Coins (Leader Dog)
Any local-needs project
Georgia Lions All-State Band**

If there is no LEO Club in your area, organize one today!

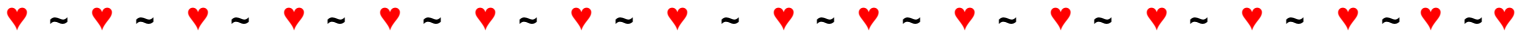
This could even be carried on to something called a New Century Lions Club. A Flexible Club Format Designed for Young Adults - New Century Lions clubs give adults, age of majority through age 35, the ability to create a Lions club that fits their lifestyle and need for flexibility.

So now – what do you think? Can we start teaching our children something of the benefits of what we were taught?

A new Lion year is coming – start thinking of our future



“Opportunity lies within Lions.” Unknown



== NOW – GO TO THESE WEB SITE's AND CHECK IT OUT ==



<http://ca.youtube.com/lionsclubsorg>



<http://www.myspace.com/lionsclubsorg>



twitter

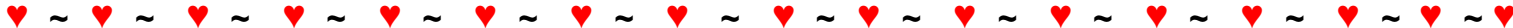
<http://twitter.com/lionsclubsorg>



facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lions-Clubs-International/27922222491>



Officer Training in Clermont and Loganville the past two Saturdays



Dear Lion,

Last month I asked you to think about the legacy we would leave for the Lion leaders who follow us.

I am happy to tell you that the legacy of many district governors will be the large number of new clubs chartered during their leadership year. By the end of April, 1188 new clubs had been formed this year -- more than 240 than last year at the same time.

Likewise, many club presidents are leaving their clubs with a legacy of larger, stronger more diverse membership. Through April 30, more than 42,061 new women and 28,115 new family members have brought new spirit and energy to clubs throughout the world.

I cannot imagine a greater legacy! Congratulations to every Lion leader who helped make this possible.

I am particularly pleased by our success in bringing more women and family members into our clubs because I strongly believe that Lions Club membership should be a multi-generational family tradition. Please read more about this in "My Travels," and take note of these upcoming events: U.N. World Environment Day and Recycle for Sight Month.

I get a chance to talk to lots of people while traveling. Two flight attendants told me their fathers had been Lions. I gave them my card and told them to call me if they wanted to be Lions. They were thrilled. One said her father would be so proud if she were a Lion. The other told me that following in her father's footsteps would be a great way to honor him.

All clubs have lost beloved members through death. These Lions could not have served as well as they did without the strong support of spouses and other family members. Their families know how important Lions were to their loved one. Asking them to become Lions probably would be appreciated and in many instances they may choose to become Lions.

My wife Maureen belongs to a club in which Tony, a longtime Lion diagnosed with terminal cancer, sponsored the membership of his wife, Alice. It was very important for both of them to do this. Today Alice is an active, enthusiastic Lion. It's one way she is keeping Tony close to her heart and keeping in touch with the Lions family.

Sincerely,

President Al

Membership Updates

Lions, Leos and now Lion Cubs. The Lions family keeps growing! At it's March meeting in New York, the membership development committee of the international board of directors approved the Lion Cub program. This will enable family-oriented clubs to include children under the age of 12 in their activities.

The committee also approved extending the entrance fee waiver from six to 12 months for transfer and reinstated members who resigned in good standing.



RETENTION

Ideas Clubs Use To Get And Keep Members Involved

Strike up a friendly rivalry with another service club on a community service project. One club does this by seeing which club can raise the most money ringing the Salvation Army bell. They even have a song to motivate the members to participate and a joint meeting to share in the fun.

Invite Children to participate in fund raising and community service projects AND TO CLUB MEETINGS. Market the club as a family oriented group. Have a Leo or a scout care for the children at meetings.

Let newer members (1-5 years) come up with a project and let them run it.

Have an occasional joint meeting with another service club. This helps with networking and lets Lions know they are not an island unto themselves.

Hold a family outing. Be sure to include the kids – including grandchildren. Make it fun with maybe just hot dogs and burgers. Have fun games for both kids and adults.

Set aside one meeting to brainstorm new ideas for community service and/or fund raising projects. Have a newer member act as a facilitator and an experienced Lion as scribe.

**MD18 Retention Chair
DG Kenneth Moore Jr.**



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

A Direct Approach to Membership Growth

As a Lion, your task is to encourage growth in club . Much like any business, you search for new ways for your club to gain new “customers” or members. Why not try direct marketing?

Direct marketing is a method of influencing a target audience using available media such as ecommunication, a mail campaign, or phone calling.

Successful direct marketing campaigns follow certain best practices such as: using targeted lists, creating an effective message, and following up after distribution.

- Minding the contact list. A targeted list should be developed and maintained including former members, those in the area who have been positively affected by Lions, and other influential or active members of the community.
 - Creating and distributing the message. A communication piece should be produced that can be used to contact those on the target list. Incentives to join can be offered, new programs and improvements can be highlighted, and a brief explanation of the importance and impact of Lions locally and worldwide should be included. The message can be distributed via e-mail, postal service, or by phone call utilizing a pre-written script.
 - Follow up. After the mailing or distribution of the direct marketing piece, it is important to follow-up with prospects and to encourage their attendance at upcoming events. Offer to meet prospects before meetings and to save them a seat. Update them on planned service projects and activities.
- Does your club have a direct marketing plan? What other marketing ideas are right for your club?

It's true. A Lion who feels welcome in their club is more likely to maintain their membership than a Lion who feels overlooked or unappreciated. Encourage your club leadership by suggesting the following:

- Member visits to Lions who have missed meetings or are losing interest.
- Introductions when Lions may not know one another.
- Recognition for participation in events.

Lil Shurtleff, MD Membership Chair



“Change the World”

CLUB REPORTS



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



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

Auburn-Carl Lions Club = The Auburn-Carl Lions Club arranged a huge donation of eyeglass frames and lenses to the Lions Lighthouse in Decatur. It is estimated we delivered over 50,000 frames (46 boxes full) that were donated by the National Vision Center. The Auburn-Carl Lions packed and delivered this donation and received a nice write-up in our local newspaper.

Lions Lighthouse receives 50,000 eyeglass frames through Auburn-Carl Lions Club

POSTED May 8, 2009 7:29 p.m.

Since 1949, the Georgia Lions Lighthouse has provided vision and hearing services through prevention, detection and treatment to those in financial need. Operating on donations and fund-raisers, the Lighthouse provides examinations, surgery and eyeglasses in addition to a mobile vision clinic and other vision-related programs.

Over the years, the impact of the Lighthouse has expanded from serving Georgians to reaching across the United States now into developing countries around the world. National Vision, Inc. is the fourth largest retailer in the United States, operating over 500 retail locations in 44 states, including Wal-mart Vision Centers, National Vision Eye Care Centers and optical centers on select US military bases. Recently, the two were brought together by the Auburn-Carl Lions Club of Georgia District 18-D. Through the efforts of Merchandising Manager Trish Moynihan and Senior Vice President of Merchandising Des Taylor, the Lawrenceville-based company donated 46 boxes of eyeglass frames and lenses to the recycling program at the Georgia Lions Lighthouse. An estimated 50,000 pairs of frames were packed by the Auburn-Carl Lions and delivered to the Lighthouse in Decatur where they will be used in Lions-sponsored sight projects. Moynihan stated, "National Vision is happy to donate these frames and lenses to the Lions Lighthouse for their use. We needed to clean out our storage and had no further use for them.

We really appreciate the Auburn-Carl Lions Club who stepped in to pack the glasses and give us back this needed space." Lions President Terry Dover thanked the local Lions members who took part in packing and delivering the donation. "When we first heard of the donation, we were thinking a couple of boxes," said Dover. "Then we saw the volume and were a little apprehensive, but our members jumped right in and had them packed and ready to go in just a couple of hours. With this donation, the Lighthouse will be able to help a lot of needy people through its many vision services." The Auburn-Carl Lions meet the second and fourth Monday nights at 7 p.m. in the Lions Bldg. at 23 County Line Road in Auburn. Membership is open to anyone interested. For more information, contact President Terry Dover at (770) 962-0210 or Secretary Jackie Evers at (678) 376-2351.



These were the Lions in attendance at the district cabinet meeting in Helen on Sunday, May 3rd. Bryan Gordon, Florence Gordon, PDG Ruth Payton, May Ann Mojica of Toccoa and Herman Mooney of the Martin club.



Some named Sargent from Clermont, the Shirley's from Clarksville and Dick Smith were at a tent during Railroad Days on Saturday, May 16th with a Lions display and recruitment literature. They have a meeting set at the city hall in Lula for Tuesday the 19th.

Clermont/North Hall Lions Club = Does a program by a local cemetery manager sound interesting? If you said "no," you are incorrect. The program at our first meeting included the history of a local government-owned cemetery and a listing of a few of the notable individuals buried there. We discovered things we didn't know about individuals and more about the history of Gainesville and Hall County.

We moved our second meeting to Lula to meet with individuals interested in starting a club in Lula and PDG Beverly Shirley, District Extension Chair. We discussed some actions we could take to help the formation of this club.

We also used our building for officer training by DGE Grace Clower and her trainers. We also worked one of our parking events at the Georgia Mountains Center.

Dahlonega Lions Club = EYE EXAMS AND GLASSES: January 2001 thru June 2008: 643 = Note - Lion year 2007-2008: 101 and Lion year 2008 -2009 (4/30/2009): 32

USED GLASSES, HEARING AIDS AND CELL PHONES: The Dahlonega Lions Club collects used glasses, hearing aids, and cell phones. Please donate these items to the Club. Dahlonega Lions you may bring any used glasses, hearing aids, or phones you have to any Club meeting for turn in. In Lion year 2007-2008, the Club contributed 1656 recycle items (used glasses, Cell phones, hearing aids) to the Ga. Lions Lighthouse. This year through March 29, 2009, a total of 1257 items have been contributed. VISION SCREENING: The Club conducted Vision Screening at the Free Health Clinic, Community Helping Place on May 13, 2009. A total of 12 adults were screened. There were 8 acuity failures and 12 risk assessment failures. The Dahlonega Lions Club will provide assistance to the 8 acuity failures. Nine Dahlonega Lions assisted in the screening project. Training for a member of the Dahlonega Lions club in the screening process was conducted... Training for those who may be interested but have not been trained can be arranged. Since July 1, 2008 a total of 18 members have been trained on the screening process. The next screening date at the Community Helping Place will probably be in August 2009. As soon as the date is determined it will be posted to this site. Club members be proud of the fact that you are involved in a process that restores and/or improves vision of those who might otherwise lose it.

Jefferson Lions Club = *Regular Meeting May 11:* The annual Spring picnic was held at the Jefferson Club House. President Cates recognized Lions Alice and Bill Rosenberg for their outstanding performance as co-chairs of White Cane Day. No meeting was held on May 25 because of the Memorial Day holiday. **Club Board of Directors Meeting:** The monthly board meeting was held on May 11 after the picnic. The board agreed to ask several members who have not been able to attend meetings if they wished to resign from the club. President Cates will ask the club if they wish to change the By-Laws so that the treasurer collects the dues instead of the secretary. *Cabinet Meeting May 3 in Helen, Georgia.* Three Lion Club members attended. **Public Relations:** The Jefferson Lions Club obtained one articles and/or picture in the *Jackson County Herald* during the month of May.

Lavonia Lions Club = Club members participated in: Senior Expo Health Fair, Lavonia Spring Festival, broom and mop sales, and collected used eye glasses, White Cane Day, Lavonia downtown clean up, Helped Boy Scouts build a log cabin. Computer Project: Provided computers for the Middle School for students with impaired vision. Provided computers for Opportunity House, a facility for young adults with mental and physical handicaps who have finished school but still need further training. Provided glasses for 1 adult and 2 children. Helping with Habitat build with the Franklin County Habitat for Humanity. Total volunteer hours: 220

Norcross Lions Club = The Norcross Lions club dropped 4 members for non-payment of dues. (They also don't attend meetings or help with projects. One is no longer living in Norcross.) Our membership is currently 23. The Norcross Lions Club held an Open House at our clubhouse to attract new members. We have three prospective new members. We delivered 25 eyeglasses and 12 cell phones to the GA Lions Lighthouse. We provided eyeglasses for 4 people this month. In the future we may have to pay a co-pay for the doctor's eye exam. We voted to do this when necessary. We honored a Norcross High School Student of the Month with \$100 gift card to any Simon mall and a framable certificate. She and her parents attended our meeting. We worked at the Norcross Car Show maintaining the barricades to keep other cars off the streets. We continue to work on the Norcross Art Fest. PDGs John Rudert attended the District 18-D cabinet meeting in Helen. Lion Secretary Trudy Rudert attended the club officer training in Loganville.

Lawrenceville Lions Club = District 18D Leader Dog Chair, Diane Wall was our guest speaker. We had a very successful Vidalia Onion Sale as a fundraiser. We had 4 members attended the New Officers Training Session. We had 1 member attending the formation of a new Dacula Club and attended orientation to become a Certified Guiding Lion. Eyeglasses collected - 204, Lenses - 95, Cell Phones - 19
Volunteer Hours 79

Nacho Cheese Machine
\$300 or best offer.



Snellville Lions Club = Fund Raiser: Club work the annual Snellville Day's on May 2nd. & 3rd. This year was one of the best. **Programs** May 7th. PDG Steve Hart and 3 other members talk about the work weekend at the Camp for the Blind May 21st. Lion Marlene Gillman talk and show slides on her time at the Southeast Training center in Tennessee last month and all good information and fellowship she received. **Service Projects:** Club work the annual Relay for Life on May 8th. And all profits donated to this worthy cause total funds given \$1,151.75 Purchase eye glasses for a lady in Loganville Following items turn in to the Lighthouse 1181 used eye glasses 417 pr. Loose lens 31 cell phones **May 15th**. Club used their concession trailer to cook funnel cakes for the employees at the New London Nursing Home, this was for the Nursing Homes employees appreciation week **Scholarship:** Club awarded two \$2,500.00 scholarship to students this month, one from Brookwood High School and one from Grayson High School. **White Cane:** Total funds collected and forward to the Lighthouse \$1,100.00. **Membership:** Club induced new member Joshus Morris his sponsor was Godfrey Stephens, this brings the total membership to 48

Towns County Lions Club = MEETING TIME has been changed for the future to 6:30 PM. Next meeting program, May 26, is not yet settled. June 9 - Annual Picnic, Spouse Night; THURSDAY, June 25 - Officer Installation - Spouse Night.

Every Member of the Towns County Lions Club is a stock holder in the Georgia Mountain Fair, Inc. It is our baby. Every member needs to take a keen interest in the Fair and attempt to volunteer in some way. Without the loyal support of the Club Stock Holders the Fair cannot function as it should.

Georgia Mountain Roots & Music Festival June 5 & 6, 2009 Come listen to 2-days of traditional and contemporary Bluegrass, Americana and Folk music in the Anderson Music Hall.

2009 4th of July Independence Day Fireworks Celebration 9:45 P.M. Gather your friends and family this summer and celebrate Independence Day at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds with a Fireworks Extravaganza! In participation with United Community Bank, the Fairgrounds will shoot off thousands of pyrotechnics. This is sure to be a show that will light up the mountain sky and end your 4th of July with a bang.



Towns County Lions Board in Regular Meeting, May 5th NEWS: Due to the increase in meal costs, the Board voted to increase dues for the first time in many years to \$55 a quarter beginning in May in order for the Club to break even. Spouse night meals are \$9.50.

Toccoa Lions Club = Treasure Kay advised the White Cane balance was incorrectly reflected previously and is corrected to reflect \$1,020.26 collected at Wal-Mart. The club will apply for a matching grant. Sight Conservation Report- Lion Nick reported he had four people referred for service in May 2009. Lion Steve gave a brief report on a suggestion concerning the clubs use of the Toccoa Elementary School for our Pancake Breakfasts. He brought before the board the suggestion that the club do something to show its appreciation for use of their facility. The suggestion was made to investigate the potential need of a machine for use by students who have reading disorders. An inquiry will be made to the school to determine need and a report to the general membership is to be given and brought before it for a vote. A discussion took place concerning our Little League Team. We need to know the coach and game times as members may wish to attend. Lion Kay Reminded everyone about the Open Arms Clinic Auction. It will be at the First Methodist Church on May 14th and tickets are \$15.00.



Lion Past District Governor Willard Kimsey proudly displaying his "Lifetime Achievement Award" bestowed upon him by the Toccoa-Stephens County Chamber of Commerce. Lion Andy Crawford was selected by the Chamber to make the presentation at an awards luncheon at the Georgia Baptist Conference Center on April 30th. The Chamber cited Willard's work over many years at Citizens Bank the Broad River Conservation District and the Toccoa Lions Club. Willard joined the Toccoa Lions club in 1951. He served as club president in 1955-56 and again in 1997-98. He was district governor in 1958-59 and was president of the past district governors association. He is a member of Lions Hall of Fame.



Lion Past District Governor M. C. Stowe proudly displaying his "Senior of the Year Award" bestowed upon him by the Toccoa-Stephens County Chamber of Commerce. M.C. received the award at a luncheon at the Georgia Baptist Conference Center on April 30th. The Chamber cited M.C.'s work with the National Active and Retired Federal Employees chapter in Toccoa and the Toccoa Lions Club. M. C. joined the Toccoa Lions club in 1974. He served as club president in 1986-1987. He was district governor in 1990-91. He has faithfully served as district Leader Dog chair and White Cane Days chair locally. He is a member of Lions Hall of Fame.



Wendi Bailey, President of the Toccoa-Stephens County Chamber of Commerce spoke to the Toccoa Lions on May 14th at TFC campus.

Lion Judy Stamsen, speaks to Toccoa Lions at their luncheon meeting on April 23rd about Canine Companions for Independence a Lions Project



Union County Lions Club = Sight Conservation: No applications for eye glasses & exams, however Lion Les Meyers reported one application for hearing aid sent to Ga. Lions Lighthouse. **Lion Mints:** No report. Following U.C. Lions attended 75th anniversary of Clayton Lions Club: Gene and Louise Little, Arthur and Betty Gurr and Sarah Chumbley. Annual Club Picnic at Meeks Park attended by 5 guests and 28 Lions for attendance percentage of 70%. Guest speaker, a 7th grade student of Union Co. Schools will be a part of a student trip to Australia this summer learning of their language and culture. NOTE: Lion Andy Kives presented a \$350.00 check from his family company to Pres. Gene Little to be applied to Ga. Lions Lighthouse White Cane Fund. Annual club auction with 8 guests and 28 Lion members attending with attendance percentage of 70%. Lion Jeff Neal was auctioneer and did an excellent job. Funds raised here were for our Administrative Fund.

Lion and friends and family volunteer hours: 113 hours.



Lions Arthur Gurr and Gene Little presented a very informative Lion orientation program. Check out the background – great for any Orientation and proud Lions Club



District Leader Dog Chair gave one of the most thorough and best Leader Dog programs the club has ever had



Who are these Lions who Attended the 3rd Cabinet meeting



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

Did you submit yours?

E-mail = edmcionh@bellsouth.net or

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



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

Check out the new **Lighthouse Video**
Click here to view the Lighthouse Video!

<http://www.eventstreams.com/lighthouse/010fst/>

What would you do if you couldn't afford your eye exam or eyeglasses?
What if you needed a sight-saving eye surgery?

\$50 pays for a dilated eye exam

\$500 pays for a diabetic laser treatment

\$1500 pays for a cataract surgery

Will you help someone see again today?

* * * * *

Register for Lighthouse 60th Birthday Party!

Celebrate with us!

**Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation
announces its 60th Birthday Bash**

Join Us!

Friday 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

June 5, 2009

Georgia Lions State Convention

Jekyll Island Convention Center

On Patio outside of the Atlantic Room

On March 24, 2009 our Lighthouse turned 60 years old. We are going to celebrate this monumental occasion Friday night at this year's state convention. Max Parker, the Lighthouse's first client will speak and we will celebrate all we have accomplished in the last 60 years.

Tickets are \$25 and can be bought at the door.

Ticket price includes country buffet dinner.

(If you already registered for Friday Evening's meal when you registered for the convention you are already on our guest list!)

RSVP by calling the Lighthouse or visiting www.lionslighthouse.org.

**Also don't Forget to Apply for
End of the Year State Lighthouse Awards!
Call the Lighthouse with Questions at 404-325-3630.**

The **Children's Eye Care Center at Emory University** was started by the Lions of GA in 1995. It has become one of the top Centers in the United States in the field of Pediatric ophthalmology. The Children's Eye Center provides a team of Specialists for the care of our children's vision. It is hard to get such Quality Care anywhere else in the Southeast. At the present time there are 3 research projects underway that will have direct effect on the health of children's eyes.

FIRST is the Infant Aphakia Treatment Study. This is a significant national study that is headed by Dr. Scott Lambert, who runs the Eye Center's pediatric section. There are 11 patients at Emory and 125 nationwide. Babies born with cataracts have to have them removed. In this study, they are randomized to either intra-ocular lenses or contact lenses. They will be followed until 5 years of age and the visual outcomes between the two groups will be compared.

SECOND is Pediatric Eye Disease Investigator Group. In this study it is comparing the corneal thickness in children with their intraocular pressure, a key indication for glaucoma. This will be wrapping up soon.

THIRD is study with this group involves children who need a procedure for tear duct obstruction. They are randomized to an immediate in office procedure versus delaying treatment for 6 months, then it in the operating room (The goal will be to avoid those OR visits if we can). Dr Phoebe Lenhart, the fellow in pediatrics, will be presenting a research project on vision screening at the annual Academy of Pediatric Ophthalmologists meeting.

These are important steps on helping the young babies overcome vision problems. If your Club has not contributed to the Lions Children's Eye Care Center I encourage you to do so. Make the Check to the GA Lions Lighthouse Foundation and mark on the check for the Children's Eye Care Center. Also place the name of your club on the check where your club will get credit for the donation. Thanks to all that supported this project.

* * * * *

Mother and Son Surgery Recipients Use Vision to Create Artwork

IN HER OWN WORDS *I had perfect vision all my life. I never set foot inside an eye doctors' office except when I went with my parents on their visits. My eyesight is something I just took for granted. Then I had a son who was born with ptosis of the eye. Being a single parent with no health insurance or child support I was in a struggle to pay for my son's needed surgery. The Lions Lighthouse came to the rescue.*



Several years later, in my early 40s, I was diagnosed with toxic cataracts. As an artist it was devastating to be unable to see. Still unable to afford health insurance the Lions Lighthouse came to the rescue again and saved my eyes and career.

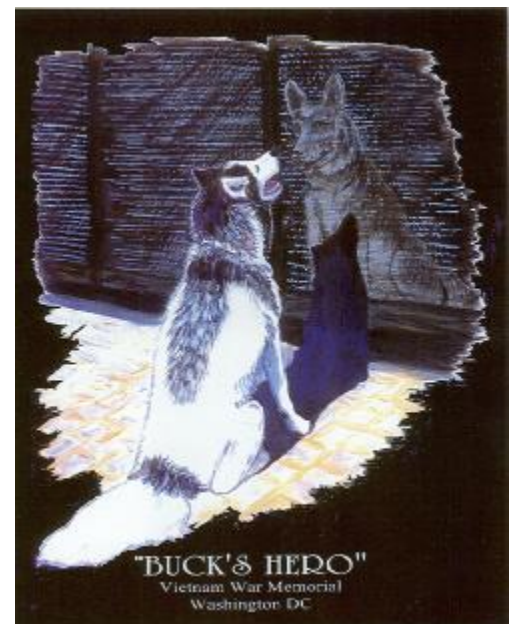
Never take your eyesight or your loved one's for granted. Please support and give to the Lions Lighthouse to save the precious gift of

sight-it is not to be taken for granted. Help everyone see the light!

Tonia and her son, are both artists and have studied at the Ringley School of Design, one of the top design schools in the country. Tonia was commissioned to illustrate a book called "Buck's Heroes," about Vietnam War Dogs just before she had a rapid decline in her vision due to cataracts. Some of the artwork from that book is pictured left.

Tonia teaches seniors to paint in her community. She tells them that she is going to teach them to see things in a whole new way. She would not be able to show people to look at things differently had it not been for the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation.

Gable now in his early twenties, will be graduating soon with a degree in computer animation. Graduates are often recruited to companies such as Pixar.





GA. Lions Camp for the Blind
VP Ken Thurmond
eyebank@alltel.net



From Kristen Picus, Camp Director:

The LEO Gathering at the Camp is scheduled for Friday through Sunday, February 13-15, 2009. Kristen will attend the American Camp Association (ACA) Conference and training the week of February 16th. The Winter Work Weekend is scheduled for March 20-21, and the Spring Work Weekend will be on April 17-19.

Summer Camping Sessions are scheduled and the theme for this year's Camping Season is

“On the Flip Side”. Dates for the sessions are as follows:

May 31-June 5 Counselor Orientation
June 7 – June 12 Family Camp (4-9 year old campers)
June 14-June 19 Adult Camp
June 21 -26 Pre-teen Camp
June 28-July 3 Young Adult Camp (18-25 year olds)
July 18 Lions Day at the Camp

Casino Night for the Camp

The date is set for October 3, 2009. The place will be Doubletree Hotel at Windy Hill. The time for the event will be 6 PM to 11 PM and gaming will be from 7 PM to 10 PM, expecting to begin cashing out between 9:30 and 9:45. This event will be an up-scale affair with a quality party company to generate funding for the Georgia Lions Camp. We all know our Camp needs funding to operate and offer our campers a safe and fun time during their stay. Our Camp requires nearly \$300, 000 annually to run without any fringe benefits, this covers our normal expenses only without any room for a major emergency.

Game Table Sponsors

\$ 300 – slots, Cards, Roulettes

\$350 –Craps Table Each Side

Make Checks Payable to Georgia Lions Camp

Send to Ed Ressler
3935 Admiral Drive
Atlanta, Ga. 30341



What can you do? We need Lions help with the tables, ticket sales and collection at the door, during the auctions, during the raffle, general set-up and take down, hosting our guests, and generating gifts for the silent auction and raffle items. If you can help contact: Ed Ressler - 404-444- 2064 or 770-986-4185 or Steve Humphry - 478-225-8121 or 478-956-3854.

You are cordially invited to attend

GEORGIA LIONS' CAMP FOR THE BLIND, INC LIONS' DAY AT THE CAMP

"ON THE FLIP SIDE"



SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2009

Activities begin at 9:30 a.m.

LUNCH & PROGRAM AT 12:00 NOON

COST: \$8.00 per person in advance

RESERVATIONS PLEASE TO:

***Lion Doy Barks
614 Todd Circle
Warner Robins, GA 31088
(478) 923-5649
E-Mail: hankbarks@msn.com***

SEE YOUR CAMP IN ACTION!



Leader Dog Chair Lion Diane Wall
liondianewall@bellsouth.net

Trekker Breeze Program for Dog Guide Students



Leader Dogs for the Blind provides a free Trekker Breeze GPS unit to dog guide program students living in the United States and Canada. The Breeze is a simple-to-use, handheld GPS that enhances dog guide travel by verbally announcing the names of streets, intersections and other clues.

Students participating in the Breeze program will receive:

- a Trekker Breeze configured with a pre-loaded map of their home state
- instruction and practice while training with their Leader Dog
- the opportunity to participate in two teleconference workshops

Eligibility

Students electing to take part in the free Trekker Breeze program are required to participate in pre-class and post-class surveys.

Other eligibility requirements include:

- participating in training, as well as question and answer sessions, during class
- actively using Breeze during outdoor training
- demonstrated knowledge of basic Breeze functions
- safe and independent use of the Breeze while working with their dog guide

Recipients of the Breeze also participate in a voluntary contract. The contract asks recipients to return the device if it is not being used so that it may benefit future Leader Dog users.

For more information on our free Trekker Breeze program, please contact Consumer Services at 888-777-5332 or consumerservices@leaderdog.org.



Do not forget = 70 for 70:

In celebration of Leader Dog's 70th anniversary, Lions Clubs making a donation \$70 more than your regular club contribution will receive a commemorative "70 for 70" patch for the club banner and a pin for each club member. Have you sent in your \$70.00 separate from your normal contribution?



Reading With Max Benefits Leader Dog



Author Anthony M.T. Majewski is donating a portion of his book sales about Max to Leader Dogs for the Blind.

Max is an English Labrador who shares stories about his real-life experiences and is dedicated to helping children manage experiences in their own lives. *In Dogs Move Too!*, the first book of the *Read With Max* series, Max finds out that his father has lost his job and his family will have to move. After reading the book, children will know that if Max can move, they can move, too.

Visit readwithmax.com to preview the book, ask questions,

shop and share your own adventures.



LDB is currently on track to impact more lives in 2009 than we have in the past five years. Our combined programs – dog guides, accelerated mobility, Trekker and youth camp – are doing well and filling up.

| GEORGIA | New | Replacement | Domiciliary | AMP |
|---------|-----|-------------|-------------|-----|
| 18-A | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 18-B | | 1 | | 1 |
| 18-D | 1 | | | 1 |
| 18-E | 2 | | | |
| 18-F | | | | 1 |



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

RFB&D on Facebook

Join RFB&D's page on

Facebook and you can have fun talking with people all across the country that have had their lives improved by RFB&D. Learn about our nationwide events, view photo galleries and watch videos.



* * * * * Product Promotions / Specials

FREE AudioAccessSM Individual Membership For Any Qualified Student!

We are pleased to announce that you may be eligible to receive one year of digitally recorded audio books, including children's literature and textbooks, **FREE**, from **RFB&D^{®*}**.

Beginning on January 26, 2009, through January 25, 2010, any student with a qualified learning or print disability in the U.S. can sign up for 12 months of free access to RFB&D's CV Starr Learning Through Listening[®] Library of more than 46,000 textbooks and literature, via Internet download.

This special offer, in celebration of RFB&D's 60th anniversary, is made possible by the generous contributions of RFB&D's donors and major funding from the U.S. Department of Education.

Signing up is easy. [Just apply online at https://custhub.rfbd.org/Registration](https://custhub.rfbd.org/Registration)

For more information on AudioAccess visit www.rfbd.org/audioaccess

Download our Letter To Parents as a [Word document](#) or a [PDF document](#)

Download our Free Membership Factsheet: as a [Word document](#) or a [PDF document](#)

RFB&D's Free Individual AudioAccess Membership in brief

Who is eligible?

- Any student in the U.S. with a certified print disability such as a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability.
- Grades K-12, post secondary education program (college, graduate or professional school, trade or vocational school).
- Public, private or home-schooled.

How do you enroll?

- Visit <https://custhub.rfbd.org/Registration>
- Students under 18 must be enrolled by a parent or guardian.

What is the term of membership?

Students can enroll between January 26, 2009 and January 25, 2010; the membership period will be one year from date of enrollment.

What does a student receive?

- 12 months of 24/7 access to RFB&D's CV Starr Learning Through Listening[®] Library of more than 46,000 textbooks and literature titles.
- Download delivery via the AudioAccess service

How much does it cost the student?

FREE, available to any eligible student in the U.S.
What special equipment is needed?

- No specialized playback equipment is required.
- With AudioAccess, audiobooks can be easily downloaded onto Microsoft Windows[®] - based computers with Windows[®] Media Player version 10 or higher.
- Digital files sync easily between a computer and portable media players.

Eligibility required. Limited time offer. Enrollment period subject to change without prior notice. Parent or guardian must apply for students under 18.

See www.rfbd.org/membership_3.htm for more details.

RFB&D's number of digitally recorded titles available: **53,234**



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

Robert and Essie



**Robert Christie, II
and Essie
A Bright Future
Helping Others**

First-time guide dog user Robert Christie, II, loves his new guide dog Esther (aka Essie) and is excited to get on with his life plans. Robert, 24, lost all his vision four years ago in a car accident, but he still sees a bright future ahead.

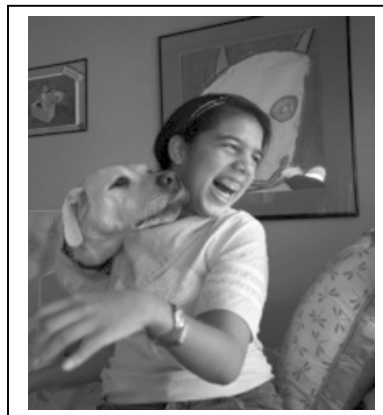
"I want to use my life experiences to help others," he says. "If I could tell other blind people one thing it's don't be overly dependent on others. We need our independence. We're normal but we just have our eyes shut."

Robert is currently living in Kissimmee, Florida, where he is majoring in social work at Valencia Community College. From there, he'll go to Flagler College in St. Augustine, where he'll pursue a master's degree and become a mental health counselor.

Although Robert has fully mastered cane use, with Essie he anticipates a safer, easier time navigating his future. "I'm loving working with her," he says. "I was trusting a stick and now I'm trusting a dog. I'm looking forward to getting out, to exploring more and moving faster. I can't stand going slow!"



Judy Stamsen CCI Chair
eskiemom@bellsouth.net



Working Life

Canine Companions for Independence recently retired assistance dog Cary, a Labrador Retriever partnered with Sara Elizabeth Solomon of Nashville, Tennessee was honored at the 2008 American Kennel Club Awards

for Canine Excellence in the Service Category.

Cary, a 10-year-old Labrador Retriever has been 14-year-old Sara Elizabeth "Lizzy" Solomon's friend and constant companion for the past eight years. Lizzy, who was diagnosed with quadriplegic cerebral palsy, relies on Cary to assist her in daily activities and challenges such as opening doors, picking up dropped items, carrying her lunch box, and even helping bring clothes so she can get dressed. With Cary by her side, she has gained a greater sense of self-reliance and has been able to live a more active lifestyle. Lizzy describes her relationship with Cary that, "Cary is more than a best friend; he is a part of me. He is a constant companion and helper."

Cary has completed an amazing life of assistance and is now retired and living with Lizzy.

Assistance dogs aren't just born, they're raised.



Volunteer puppy raisers provide these specially-bred puppies a safe home, take them to obedience classes, serve up a healthy diet, provide socialization opportunities and give lots of love.

Each hour spent caring for a CCI puppy is vital to its development as a future assistance dog. The puppy raising program provides a unique opportunity for volunteers to assist CCI with its very important mission. To learn more, contact:

Ed Burger, SER Puppy Program Manager
407-522-3304 or email him at eburger@cci.org



Lion Ron Bennetti
Diabetes Awareness Chair
rbennettisr@windstream.net

Fact Sheet Diabetes and eye disease

Diabetes-related eye complications are common. If left untreated, they lead to the deterioration of vision and, ultimately, blindness. There are two eye diseases that result from diabetic microvascular complications: diabetic retinopathy and macular oedema.

Diabetic retinopathy

Diabetic retinopathy is caused by damage to the small blood vessels of the retina in the back of the eye. The small vessels can be damaged by high blood glucose and high blood pressure.

The main stages of diabetic retinopathy are:

- § *non-proliferative* - background diabetic retinopathy, characterized by the development of occasional small blisters (microaneurysms) caused by enlarged capillaries and small haemorrhages on the surface of the retina. Moderately severe to very severe non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy is also known as pre-proliferative diabetic retinopathy.
- § *proliferative* - symptoms of which include: blurred or double vision; reduced vision; and dark or floating spots.

In the non-proliferative stages, abnormal blood vessel permeability results in the leaking of water, blood cells, proteins and fats into the surrounding retinal tissue. At this stage, diabetic retinopathy is usually without symptoms unless accompanied by diabetic macular oedema.

People progress from pre-proliferative to proliferative diabetic retinopathy when new blood vessels grow from, and across, the retina in response to lack of oxygen delivered by the original vessels. This is called neovascularisation. However, these new vessels are very weak and are even more likely to break and bleed into the clear gel (the vitreous) that fills the back cavity of the eye, blocking vision. Scar tissue may also form near the retina, detaching it from the back of the eye and resulting in blindness.

Diabetic macular oedema

This is a common complication associated with diabetic retinopathy. It corresponds to a swelling in the macula, one of the areas of the retina. When some of the small

blood vessels in the retina become blocked, the surrounding ones dilate to compensate for this. The dilated vessels are generally leaky and fluid builds up in the macula, which in turn causes the macula to swell and cease to function. It is the most common cause of visual impairment in patients with non-proliferative retinopathy. Loss of vision can occur suddenly and treatment is not as successful.

Treatment

There is no pharmaceutical therapy available at present that stops the progression of diabetic retinopathy by treating the underlying process of microvascular damage.

Current treatment options (generally reserved for late stage pre-proliferative and proliferative diabetic retinopathy and sight-threatening diabetic macular oedema) include two different forms of laser surgery:

- § pan-retinal photocoagulation for diabetic retinopathy.
- § focal photocoagulation for diabetic macular oedema.

Laser therapy seals the leaking blood vessels in the macula, slowing the swelling that causes impaired vision. This procedure does not improve blurred vision but it can prevent it from worsening. While laser surgery can usually prevent vision from deteriorating, in most cases it cannot restore vision that has already been lost.

Facts

- *Diabetic retinopathy is the leading cause of vision loss in adults of working age (20 to 65 years) in industrialised countries. It is estimated that more than 2.5 million people worldwide are affected by it.
- *74 percent of people who have diabetes for 10 years or more will develop some form of diabetic retinopathy.
- *Approximately 14 per cent of people with diabetes have diabetic macular oedema and prevalence increases to 29 per cent for people with diabetes who use insulin for more than 20 years.
- *Left untreated, 25 per cent of people with diabetic macular oedema will develop moderate vision loss within three years.
- *Estimates of the rate of annual eye exams vary greatly by country and study, but the rate of screening is generally fairly low (from 40 to 65 percent).

Worldwide guidelines recommend annual screenings with a dilated eye exam from an eye care specialist for people with diabetes.



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

2008-09 Finalists = checkout all 24 pictures – go to:
http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/youth_peace_poster.php3# = look for 2008-09 Finalists on right side



Today's Children Need Lions More Than Ever

Millions of children suffer from poverty, homelessness, hunger, abuse, neglect, disease and disabilities. Tragically, these children often must live without essential health and education services that would alleviate their distress – and give them hope for the future. That's why the **Lions Services for Children Program** continues Lions Clubs International's long tradition of helping the world's future generations.

Lions Services for Children Projects

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

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

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

Learn More

To learn more about the global health and educational needs of children, please visit the [World Health Organization](#) (WHO) Web site. Read about the [United Nations Millennium Development Goals](#) that relate directly to children. Or contact our [Health and Children's Services Department](#).

Joining Forces to Help Youth

To help local Lions fulfill the needs of the children and adolescents in their communities, Lions Clubs International (LCI) maintains partnerships with several outstanding organizations that provide assistance to youth.

Scouts

LCI has worked in cooperation with the [Girl Scouts of America](#) and the [Boy Scouts of America](#) for decades. Around the world, Lions clubs have sponsored thousands of Scout troops. And today, Lions clubs sponsor more Scout troops than any other non-religious organization in the USA.

America's Promise

LCI is part of [America's Promise](#) – a consortium of 250 businesses, organizations and government agencies. America's Promise strives to provide the five fundamental resources children need to succeed – caring adults, safe places, a healthy start, an effective education and opportunities to help others.

Youth Service America (YSA)

[YSA](#) increases the quality and quantity of volunteer opportunities for young people, ages five to 25, to serve locally, nationally and globally. LCI supports YSA by encouraging Lions clubs and members to participate in National Youth Service Day (USA) and Global Youth Service Day.

The Hadley School for the Blind

[Hadley](#) provides free distance education for blind or visually impaired individuals who are at least 14 years of age – and for relatives/family members of the blind or visually impaired. Lions work with Hadley to help enroll people who can benefit from these free courses. LCI also supports the [UNICEF School-in-a-Box program](#) and has several [partnerships to help children with diabetes](#).

Around The World



Saluting our Heroes

Special Olympics says thank you to police officers around the world, and also says goodbye to an officer who was a true friend to the movement



The Risk of Trying

It didn't seem likely that Special Olympics would be different from the other events Susan Senator tried with Nat. Turns out it was.

To find out more about the above = go to your Lions web site



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

* Provide life-skills training like Lions Quest to school children in your area.



NOTES FROM SCHOOL:

While visiting an elementary school, I was interrupted by a little girl about 6 years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked "Are you a cop?"

"Yes," I answered and continued writing the report.

"My mother said if I ever needed help I should ask the police. Is that right?"

"Yes, that's right," I told her.

"Well, then," she said as she extended her foot toward me. "Would you please tie my shoe?"



LIBERTY DAY—YOUR LIONS CLUB AND SCOUTING PROJECT

The National Council of the Boy Scouts of America has recognized Liberty Day as a citizenship project. Older Cub Scouts (Webelos 4th and 5th grade), Boy Scout troops, and Venturing crews are encouraged to undertake a project at least once a year under the BSA program, Good Turn for America. Liberty Day is now listed as one of the suggested projects.

Liberty Day Kids is the ideal method of a Webelos den, Boy Scout troop or Venturing Crew to complete a Good Turn for America project using Liberty Day. For Liberty Day Kids, the scouts learn a set of questions and answers directly out of the Constitution. They then take these questions and answers out to the public in a mall, post office, or other gathering place and ask adults the questions. Every adult questioned is given an "I Got Quizzed" sticker or an American flag lapel pin along with a pocket Liberty Day booklet.

This is a great way for a Lions Club to be involved in Scouting. The relationship between Lions and Scouting goes back to the beginning of both organizations in the United States. The cooperation between Scouts and Lions benefits both organizations. Young people need the guidance and mentoring of quality adult role models—Lions. For more information, read the section on Scouting in the "Lions of Georgia Handbook" (pp 148-149).

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



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



GLASB Mission

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



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

*Youth Becoming
Music Ambassadors
To The World*

Georgia Lions All-State Band 2009

Application for membership

Go to www.edmclion.com

**scroll down and look for GA Lions All-State Band
below RFB&D.**



NEW BOOK DETAILS HISTORY OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

OAK BROOK, IL, USA, February 2, 2009 –

“Lions Clubs in the 21st Century,” a newly released book detailing the history and success of Lions Clubs International, is now available for purchase through the association and select online retailers.

Written by Paul Martin and former LION Magazine senior editor Robert Kleinfelder, the book traces the development of Lions Clubs International from its birth in 1917 at Chicago’s LaSalle Hotel through its growth into a globally recognized humanitarian and service organization of 1.3 million members.

“This book is the story of the world’s largest voluntary service club organization, but it’s also a story of the human spirit,” said Kleinfelder. “The compassion and self-sacrifice of Lions for 90 years are an inspiration. That’s what this book is about.”

Published by AuthorHouse in late 2008, the 396-page book also delves into the success of the Lions Clubs International Foundation and the SightFirst program and SightFirst II campaign, as well as the advent of family, cyber and other new types of clubs.

“Lions Clubs in the 21st Century” is available for purchase through the Club Supplies Department of Lions Clubs International by visiting the [Lions Store](http://www.lionsclubs.org) or calling 630-571-5466, and through select online retailers.

Lions Clubs International is the world’s largest service club organization with 1.3 million members in 45,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas around the world. Since 1917, Lions clubs have aided the blind and visually impaired and made a strong commitment to community service and serving youth throughout the world. Learn more at www.lionsclubs.org.

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