



We Serve

District 18-D Bulletin



MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR LIONS OF NORTHEAST GEORGIA

September 2007



District Governor Ruth Payton

Fellow Lions:

Though the weather doesn't indicate it, summer is coming to a close, children are returning to school, the days are getting shorter, and family vacations are history for this year. Time goes on and we welcome the changes that we know will occur. Our beautiful mountains will be clothed in brilliant color, the weather will be cooler if not colder, and businesses are preparing for Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Being prepared for the changes we know will come is second nature to us. We can't ignore it because we know it is going to happen regardless of what we do or think.

How does this apply to us as Lions? Should we not be prepared for changes that are coming? Our leadership at LCI is telling us that if we continue at the rate we are going today, in 20 years there will be no Lions. Why? Because quite frankly, membership is down. Our loss of older members is not being replaced

by younger ones. We see this coming as a matter of common sense, yet some of us are surprised when it happens. Clubs are losing vital hard working 50+ year members and it is taking two or three members to fill the gap of what all they did. This shouldn't be happening, yet it is a trend not just in District D, but in most of the US and Lionism. What can we do to be on top of the situation?

First, we must recruit new members. Invite them to come to your meetings and make sure your meetings are attractive to guests who are "checking us out". Invite them back and ask them to join. No one can join a Lions Club unless they are invited.

Second, find out what their interests are and put them to work. Make them a part of the club. Our members are often leaders in their own right, motivated to make an impact on their community.

Include a good orientation program as part of your club objectives. Invite them to Zone, Region and District functions. Introduce them to our websites both local, districts and international. Encourage questions and be prepared to answer them. I know from visiting your clubs, that you are doing this already. But why aren't we growing? Are we meeting the needs of our community? These change as everything else does. Are we meeting the needs of our younger members? What do they see as commitment and involvement?

Please put November 9th and 10th on your calendar now. Friday evening will feature a meal, entertainment and induction into the Hall of Fame. (Clubs need to make their recommendations to the Past District Governors Assoc for their candidates)

Saturday, the 10th will start out with a Dynamic Club Workshop in the morning. This is free and very valuable for leadership and club growth. The afternoon will be our 2nd cabinet meeting which will include reports from zone and region chairs. The banquet Sat evening will feature as our guest speaker, International Director, Joseph Gaffigan from Maryland. Details in making your reservations will be forthcoming. Check our website for details.

I look forward to meeting more of you as I make my official visit. Please check your directories for my schedule.

My intention is to serve you the best way I can in club growth and community outreach.



Planning Ahead



Plan for Sight Night 2007 = What do we do?

**Organize a Sight Night Collection
of Used Eyeglasses and
Cell Phones**

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



What a challenge.....

Work with kids.....

Give the Gift of Sight – is another way of letting the community know who and what you are. Just imagine having a kid walk up to your door on Halloween with two bags and saying “Trick or treat – Thank you – By the way, do you have any old glasses, hearing aids or cell phones

18-D District Rally

10 November – Now is the time to be thinking about the upcoming District Rally. Inform all of your members to mark their calendars for this day. This is a good time to ensure that all new members are invited to attend. Saturday can be an all day event. In the morning Dynamic Work Shop is planned. The Rally starts at 6:30 p.m. and cost will be \$15.00 per person. Come one, come all... **Club tables can be reserved on a first-come/first serve basis for \$120.00.** ID Joseph Gaffigan will be our guest speaker from Silver Springs, Maryland. He is currently a sector coordinator for Campaign SightFirst II and chairperson of Lions Clubs International's Constitution & By-Laws Committee.

More info will come – stay tuned.

Check out District 18-D web site = <http://edmclion.com> than find **18-D Bulletin and Hot Topics** four new articles of interest to some and important for others:

LCIF Ranked Best NGO Worldwide
Southeaster Lions Leadership Institute
MMR Problems
Bugles Across America.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

September 2007

Send A Kid To Camp Day



September 23 to 30 = AMD Week 2007:

"The Face of AMD"

During AMD week each year, AMDAI member organizations and patients around the world



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** 📄?

Recognize World Diabetes Day

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

- Plan a diabetes screening or organize a [Strides Walk](#) for children and adults
- Show the new film presentation, "Protect Your Vision: The Dilated Eye Exam," to promote the importance of an annual eye

exam and prevention of diabetic retinopathy. A [DVD is available](#) by order in English and Spanish

- Use public relations tools such as [Public Service Announcements](#) to promote diabetes awareness
- Learn more about [World Diabetes Day](#). The Empire State Building in New York will be lighted in blue to mark the first United Nations-observed World Diabetes Day
- Visit the [National Diabetes Education Program \(NDEP\) Web site](#) for additional community awareness ideas and educational materials—a Lions Clubs International partner

Lions Services for Children Program

How can you provide assistance to the children and young adolescents in your area who are living in adverse circumstances? The Lions Services for Children [Community Needs Assessment](#) will help your club or district to determine the services that will most benefit these

mobilize to create awareness of AMD through media campaigns, public activities, and community outreach.

- Generating awareness and understanding of age-related macular degeneration.
- Promoting the importance of education, early detection, and knowledge of treatment and rehabilitation options, with the objective of increasing the number of people over age 50 who receive regular eye examinations.
- Preserving vision and improving the quality of life of individuals affected by AMD and increasing the percentage of people with AMD who receive treatment and rehabilitation.

children. It will also help to identify opportunities to collaborate with health care professionals, educators and local organizations concerned with meeting the health and education needs of children. [E-mail](#) the Health and Children's Service Department for more information.

For Immediate Release

American Soldier and Wisconsin Lions Clubs Team Up to Give Iraqi Girl Chance to See Lions Clubs, Aspirus Wausau Hospital and Lions Eye Bank Donate Corneal Transplant to 7-Year-Old

<http://www.wsaw.com/home/headlines/9432386.html>

Your Eyes: The Windows of Your Health

Prescription for Health: Dr. Manny goes in for an eye exam
http://www.foxnews.com/video2/player06.html?030607/030607_health_eyes&Dr_Manny&Your%20Eyes%3A%20The%20Windows%20of%20Your%20Health%20&acc&Health&-1&News&118&&&new

Peace Poster Kits On Sale



"Celebrate Peace"
2006-07 Grand Prize Winner

"Peace Around the World" is the theme of the 2007-08 Peace Poster Contest. Lions clubs can sponsor the program in their community for children in local schools or organized, sponsored youth groups. Students, ages 11, 12 or 13 on November 15, are eligible to participate. Through the contest, students are encouraged to visually depict their interpretation of the contest's theme.

LIONS CLUBS SUPPLY STORE

Dear Lion,

We are proud to offer a new and exciting selection of writing instruments brought to you by Lions Clubs International and Waterman. To find out more and order these writing instruments, and other fine Lions Clubs International merchandise, we invite you to visit us at www.lionsclubs.org and link to order Club Supplies. Please be sure to share this information with your fellow club members.

Thank you,
Wayne Lau
Merchandise Manager
Club Supplies Division
Lions Clubs International



What is CSFII?



Gifts of US\$1,000+ are eligible for a Melvin Jones Fellowship.
All gifts of US\$100+ are eligible for Campaign SightFirst II recognition.

Total Gift	Annually	Monthly	Daily
US\$10,000	US\$2,000	US\$166.67	US\$5.48
US\$5,000	US\$1,000	US\$83.33	US\$2.74
US\$2,500	US\$833.33	US\$69.44	US\$2.28
US\$1,000	US\$333.33	US\$27.78	US\$.91
US\$500	US\$166.67	US\$13.89	US\$.46
US\$400	US\$133.33	US\$11.11	US\$.37

Pledges of US\$5,000+ may be fulfilled over five years.
Pledges of US\$4,999 and below may be fulfilled over three years.

**Why Not make your own PERSONAL contribution of \$200 or
why not become a Melvin Jones Fellow - \$100.00 down and \$300.00 a year for 3 years.
(Don't forget - this is TAX Deductible)**



Editor's Note

" WE SERVE"

HOT



In the news: The below information may or may not help your club.....take a look and take full advantage of these items I will tell you about. It could save YOUR club \$\$\$\$\$\$

FIRST:



The Clark Howard Show = ASK CLARK:

Cheap prescription eyeglasses

Zennioptical.com is a website where you can get a simple pair of prescription glasses for \$8. It is going to cost you a decent amount more if you have special requirements for your glasses but you can get glasses in a fairly short amount of time at a great price. If you look at reviews online you will see that most of the people that have used the website are pretty happy with the service and product that they have received. So check out Zennioptical.com, type in your prescription, and get your glasses on the cheap.

Web sites/phone numbers mentioned:

- zennioptical.com - \$8 eyeglasses

SECOND: Lions Affordable Hearing Aid Project

I am happy to announce a new program of Lions Clubs International Foundation.

LCIF has affordable, high-quality hearing aids available to Lions clubs in the United States for low-income members of the their communities. The two types of digital hearing aids from Rexton, Inc. can be purchased for \$200 per aid from the Lions Affordable Hearing Aid Project (Lions AHAP).

Ninety-five percent of individuals with hearing loss can be successfully treated with hearing aids yet 30 percent are unable to afford hearing aids. Seven million people in the U.S. cannot afford to purchase hearing aids. In 2005, the average cost of a hearing aid was \$1,900, and most people need two hearing aids. Hearing is critical to communication, so when there is even a minimal loss, it affects all aspects of a person's life. For example, people with untreated hearing loss make an estimated 50% to 70% less in wages than their hearing peers.

The two types of aids offer Lions clubs the opportunity to help with almost any type of hearing loss. Reducing communication breakdown for one person creates a ripple effect that touches everyone in the community. And, based on feedback from the program so far, many clubs are revitalized and often recruit new members committed to the new service.

Please consider participating in this program.

To learn more about Lions AHAP, please visit http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/lcif_gr_ahap.shtm or contact the office at 630-571-5466, ext. 615. The e-mail address is LionsAHAP@lionsclubs.org.

THIRD:

More Americans than ever are facing the threat of vision loss. As the population ages, it is estimated that the number of people with vision loss in the United States will double over the next twenty years. Raising awareness of eye health can help millions of Americans avoid disability, loss of independence, and a diminished quality of life. More than \$22 billion is spent annually on care and services for people who suffer from vision loss. These costs include treatment, education, loss of personal income, and associated costs, such as, Social Security disability benefits.

Not cheap and surely coming our way in the States = if we try to ignore Campaign SightFirst 2 we could be looking at disaster for our own people here. Contact Ed Hashbarger on what YOU CAN DO.....

**We are the greatest secret in the world
and it's up to you to spread the word.**

It is up to you.....

"I am your opportunity."

Helen Keller

"Opportunity lies within Lions."

Unknown



**90th Anniversary of the Association
(June 1917)**

**50th Anniversary of Leo Clubs
(December 1957)**

**75th Anniversary of Dhlonega Lion Club
(29 June 1932)**

**LIONS have discovered that the INTERNET is a
useful TOOL for conducting club and district
BUSINESS.**

**Please encourage the Lions in your club to check
out the WEB site that Lions International has.**

<http://www.lionsclubs.org>

**They have been trying to update their site to not
only help Lions, but also provide information to
non-Lions. How many Lions have check out the
Lions WEB site and/or your own District WEB
site.**

<http://edmcion.com>

You might learn something NEW.....

RETENTION!

**Let's think about it.....and ask, what have I done
to close the backdoor?**

Sponsor/Mentor:



**How is your Retention Program – are you keeping
GOOD LIONS???**

Union County Lion Steve Cochran is shown receiving his twenty-five service pin from long time member, Lion Arthur Gurr at a recent Union County Lions Club meeting.

Lion Steve joined the Union County Lions in March of 1982 and served as President of the club for the Lion year of 1987/1988 and was very active in the past; however, as his business has grown, he is currently an "affiliate" member. This category allows Lion Steve to attend meetings when he can and certainly, he continues to support Lions by other means.

Lion Steve is the President of Cochran Funeral Homes, Inc., and spends much of his time in the Blue Ridge, Ga., office, when he is not traveling about.

Lion Steve resides in Fannin County with his wife, Debbie and three sons. Congratulations, Lion Steve Cochran for twenty-five years in Lions and your continued support of not only your home club, but the world's largest civic service club. Remember the Lions Motto: We Serve.



Lions Steve Cochran (left) and Arthur Gurr.



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**.

Look around:



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 meeting has changed from Aug 13th to Jan. 28th.

Clermont/North Hall Lions Club

August 2007 Activities

Our club had two excellent meetings and programs this month. At our first meeting Georgia's Agriculture Commissioner, Tommy Irvin, presented us with information on the responsibilities and challenges of his office. His department focuses on the safety of our food supply, from the farm to the market and our homes. Other responsibilities include weights and measures, fuel and gasoline mixes and safety, animals, and ethanol innovations and products.

DG Ruth Payton made her official visit to our club at our second meeting. She challenged us to access "where we are" and be willing to change to grow and meet the needs of our community.

During the month we worked over 70 hours parking cars at the Georgia Mountains Center. Members of our club were also involved in preparing for "Clermont Days" which will occur in September. Our members volunteered a total of 165 hours

Cornelia Lions Club

Our food booth is open at the Chattahoochee Mountain fair in September!

Dahlonega Lions Club

= Will hold its 75th Anniversary on Thursday, 27 September with guest speaker Lion Austin P. Jennings, PID

Dawsonville Lions Club

Wednesday
September 12, 2007
Gold Creek Golf Club
Dawsonville, GA

Registration Begins
10:00am

Shotgun Start
12:00 Noon

**12th Annual
John Gardner Memorial
Lions Charity
Golf Tournament**

or see our web site at
www.dawsonvillelions.org/golf.htm



Elberton Lions Club

Recently presented a \$1,000 scholarship to a recent Honor Graduate of Elbert County Comprehensive High School. She will be attending Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville.

Forsyth County Lions Club

Be ready to give up 11 days for the Cumming Fair October 4th - 14th. Please schedule lots of time to work at this biggest fundraiser we have.

Busy! Busy! Busy! Food Fundraisers and a Health Fair have kept the Forsyth County Lions Club members very busy this summer.

Grace Baptist Church hosted the first club sponsored Health Fair on Saturday, August 18. Out of 32 people checked, 17 failed the vision and/or hearing test, 4 failed the Diabetes test, and others failed the Blood Pressure test. Families without insurance were thankful to get these simple medical checks to know what to deal with. Used eyeglasses, cell phones and hearing aids were collected, and potential club members were invited to join us.

Our thanks to Dawsonville Lions Club members, PDG Joe Hirsch and Marilyn and RC Ron Bennetti for helping us with blood pressure and diabetes testing.

It was too hot to eat the many hot dogs and hamburgers prepared by the club for a youth football rally, so the club turned a fundraiser into a service project by distributing the food to various shelters, the jails and nursing homes in the area. Gotta be flexible with opportunities when you're a Lion!



Lawrenceville Lions Club = We collect 63 used eyeglasses and 1 hearing aid. We are planning a special Membership Meeting on 25 September. Our annual Gold Tournament will be held on 3 October.

Norcross Lions Club = Preparing for the Annual Norcross Art Fest. Check out the web site at <http://www.norcrossartfest.com> we might have something you are interested in.

Check below ===



Home Artists Sponsors Live Entertainment Kids' Activities General Info Media Center Contact Info

Norcross Art Fest 2007 showcases the arts and celebrates historic downtown Norcross with music, food, and entertainment. We are delighted to share the charm and magic of our beautiful town with you – our Main Street will bustle with the excitement of more than 100 artists. Norcross Art Fest is presented by the Norcross Woman's Club and the Norcross Lions Club. The festivities are hosted by the City of Norcross. Proceeds from this great event are distributed to charitable and community projects. See you in Norcross!



Snellville Lions Club = During the month of August, the club collected 638 used glasses, 223 pairs of lenses, 1 hearing aid and 94 cell phones. Participated in the Car Show in Loganville, good turn out and proceeds from this event was good. Plans are underway for the upcoming annual Spaghetti dinner on 13 October at the Snellville Methodist Church. The club still has some concession equipment to sell or donate to some other group. Please contact Lion Norm Masters, PDG for more info.

Juliann Lytle receives Outstanding Deaf Award



Front row, left to right: Louise Little, Betty Gurr, Gene Little, and Ann Castle. Back row left to right: 1st VP Lisa Little, Juliann Lytle, President Ken Castle, and Arthur Gurr.

What an honor! Eighteen year old Juliann Lytle did receive the Outstanding Deaf Award at the recent annual Georgia Lions State Convention at Callaway Gardens. Union County Lions own First Vice President Lisa Little is shown as she presented the prestigious award plaque to Juliann.

The annual Georgia Lions State Convention always starts with the Parade of Flags from many of the 200 countries and geographic areas around the world where there are 45,000 plus Lions Clubs. It is a sight to behold!

Among the 500 plus Lions, friends, and family present that Friday evening was Juliann's own proud Mother, Jan Lytle and of course, seven members of the Union County Lions Club. We might add that Georgia's own James "Jim" Irwin, a Past International President, was also present. Lion Jim's home club is the Albany, GA Noon Club.

Congratulations Juliann



Juliann and Jan Lytle

Lytle for the well deserved recognition. You have overcome great obstacles in your young life, however, with your courage, faith, and determination, you have much yet to attain.

Remember the Lions Motto: We Serve.



Lion Lisa Little and Juliann Lytle

Union County Lions Club

The club has kept busy – for the last two months they have approved eye glasses & exams for 8 people, dispensed 619 rolls of Lion Mints, sold 81 brooms & mops, inducted two new Lions in August, collected 276 eye glasses, 42 pair of lenses, 40 BTE hearing aids, 23 unused hearing aid batteries and 6 cell phone. They worked the Ga. Mtn. Fair at Hiawassee, delivered Meals on Wheels, spent time at the Ga. Mtn. Health Center, helped at the American Legion Auxiliary, performed eye screening, was able to submitted articles in the local newspapers and fulfilled other needy accomplishments that earned them way over 1,000 volunteer hours enjoying what they do for Lionism and gaining much respect from within the community. Not only were Lions involved, they also had the support of family members – young adults – they might not be LEO's, but they gave much needed support. With an increase of membership over the years, Union County has been able to increase their activities and thus increase needed funds to support Lions projects and the community as a whole.

Did you submit yours?

E-mail = edmclionh@bellsouth.net or

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



We're Waiting = have you ASKed?





GA. Lions Lighthouse
VP Bill Mundy
billmund@alltel.net

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

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

Dear Lions,

Lions of 18-D contributions to the Lighthouse topped all Districts this past Lions year. Your contributions totaled \$108,420.21 which was thirty percent of the total Lions Contributions for Lion year 2006-2007. Your contributions over the past three years have totaled over \$323,000.00. I applaud you for your generosity and on behalf of those who received vision or hearing services I THANK YOU.

I assure you that your contributions were used wisely. Remember only 10% goes for overhead cost and 90% for vision and hearing service. Over 1300 needy Georgians received assistance with either vision or hearing restoration. Services provided statewide included 225 surgeries, 586 received glasses and hearing aids were provided to 498 individuals. Over 1300 humans can again enjoy the sights and sounds of the world.

121 of those receiving vision or hearing restoration were from our District. Total value of services provided to those with need was in excess of \$245,000.00 while the actual cost to our Lions Lighthouse was less than \$56,000.00. I ask what would those with needs have done if it were not for our Lighthouse and the contributions of they receive.

Let me encourage you to continue your financial support of our Lions Lighthouse. The need is too great and failure is not an option. With the approval of a new constitution for the Lighthouse this past June the Board of Directors has been involved with developing Committee Structure and composition and soon will start on the formulation of a strategic plan. The transition team has attempted to move with deliberate speed but not with haste. The attitude has been let's do it right the first time.

A number of items will be presented at the fall membership and board meeting in October. This meeting will be held in Macon on the 20th and 21st of October. Let me encourage you to attend. It is planned to roll out a new meeting format for the weekend.

Let me also encourage you to continue to collect used glasses, cell phones and hearing aids and send them to the Lighthouse. Have you ever wondered how the glasses that you collect and send to the Lighthouse are used? Read on. From the Lighthouse web site comes this story on the use of recycled glasses.

"In the spring of 2006, Rev. Ross led a group from Dahlonga on a mission trip to El Salvador. He, along with 17 members of the Dahlonga United Methodist Church, went to El Magdalena to help with a medical mission, lead a bible school for the village children and help build a church.

As part of the mission trip, Ross took glasses provided by the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation. Ross and his group put glasses out on tables for the villagers to try on. After waiting in line for their turn, villagers would hold a book open, try on a pair of glasses, and then try to read. If they could not read with that pair of glasses, they would keep trying on glasses until they found a pair that worked. Smiles and tears were on the faces of villagers and missionaries alike. Ross commented that to see the joy that a simple pair of glasses gave to these people was deeply moving.

The people of El Magdalena have no regular health and vision care. Some of the villagers have been unable to see and therefore unable to work. Glasses have given many of them their sight back. Several of the village women sew for a living. They do delicate, intricate stitching which had become difficult and even painful to do because of failing vision. Glasses from the Lighthouse will help these women work and earn a living for their families. The Lighthouse receives donations of used prescription eyeglasses, over the counter readers and sunglasses. Lighthouse volunteers wash, read, label and pack the donated glasses to get them ready to go overseas"

Also remember it is not too early to start your White Cane planning.

Remember I all ways welcome and opportunity to present a Lighthouse program to your club and/or zone meetings.

Lions Lighthouse fund distribution



Ken Massingale Won the TBS Pathfinder Award! Now he will be featured on TBS. Be Sure to Watch! The program will air: Thursday, 6 September at 8 pm and again on Friday, 7 September at 12 pm.



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



From the desk of Vice-President of the Camp for the Blind

Volunteers needed to clean up when called – if you have never been to the Camp here are a couple of pictures – now Contact the Camp for more information.....>



Dormitory



Inside of Dorm



Arts & Crafts Building



Activity Center Outside

Georgia Lions' Camp for the Blind 2007 Winter Programs

The camp is pleased to announce two off season programs available for our summer participants and families. It is our hope that this will provide an opportunity to share time with friends and staff, missed during the canceled 2007 summer programs. These programs are open to all age groups with family members optional for both weekends, based on space availability.

Fall Festival

This event will begin October 12, with check-in in Macon at Noon and Waycross at 5:00 pm. Campers and staff will enjoy activities designed to celebrate the fall season. Checkout will be between Noon and 1:00 pm for both Macon and Waycross on October 14.

Christmas Camp

Campers may begin to check-in on December 14 at Noon in Macon and 5:00 pm in Waycross. This time is designed to share the holiday season with special friends from the summer. Campers should plan to checkout at Noon on December 16 in both locations.

Registration

The application (required only for campers who turned in no paperwork for the 2007 summer program), may be printed from www.glcb.org and mailed to the camp.

Fees

Campers who waived the refund option for last summer need only contact the office to register for either or both the Fall Festival and Christmas Camp. In the event, the remaining funds will be deducted from the 2008 summer program. The fee for both the Fall Festival and Christmas Camp is \$50 and a \$25 transportation fee for campers who will ride the camp van from Macon, and \$25 for each additional family member, who attends with the camper. T-shirts are \$5 each. All health information and documentation completed for the 2007 summer will be applied to both weekends.

As always, you may feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions at (888) 297-1775 or (912) 283-4320. We are always looking for new ways to improve the services that we provide to our campers. e-mail glcblind@accessatc.net



Leader Dog Chair
PDG M.C. Stowe
mcstowe@alltel.net



Your Continuing Support Brings Success and Independence **Teaching a new dog old tricks**



How, Which, Why = Questions Instructors are asked everyday

How do Leader Dogs know when to cross the street?

A common misconception is that Leader Dogs can read traffic signals; but dogs are color blind, so they can't recognize red, green and yellow. Our dogs know when to cross the street by receiving the command "forward" from their owner. A person who is visually impaired decides when to cross the street by listening. Auditory signals, such as hearing when cars are driving in front of you versus on the side of you, are used by people who are blind on a daily basis.

However, sometimes a car makes a turn directly in the path of the Leader Dog team. In this instance, the dog's ability to "traffic check" comes into play. When "traffic checking," a dog stops walking when a vehicle is moving in their direction. The dog will not begin walking again until the car has safely passed and their owner commands them "forward."

Which breed/gender makes the best Leader Dog?

Though we train specific breeds to be Leader Dogs, such as Labradors, golden retrievers, German shepherds, collies, and standard poodles; the best breed is the one that fits the student's needs. If someone lives in a very cold environment, a dog with a heavier coat is preferable. If someone has allergies, a poodle may be preferred because they have less dander and may be less likely to cause an allergic reaction.

In terms of gender, both male and female dogs make great Leader Dogs. We are more concerned about the right fit in terms of body size and personality, than about the dog's gender.





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

The Next
Frontier in
Learning
is... Hear!



RFB&D Announces a New Learning Through Listening Website that Offers Unique Advantages for Educators

- **Content is educator-developed and reviewed.**
- **Complete lesson plans.**
- **Engaging listening activities.**
- **Support for educators.**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 23, 2007 (Princeton, NJ) - Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D®), the nation's educational audio book library for students of all ages who cannot read standard print effectively because of a learning disability, visual impairment or other physical disability, in an innovative collaboration with the Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST), announces the launch of a new, fully accessible educator support website at www.learningthroughlistening.org.

The free service, entitled Learning Through Listening, is offered 24/7 as a powerful resource to assist all educators seeking to integrate listening skills into their classrooms, and is not limited to educators whose schools have RFB&D institutional memberships or whose students are enrolled as RFB&D individual members.

"As multimedia technologies bring listening back to a central role in literacy, this website provides educators with the practical ideas and resources they need to prepare diverse learners for success in a multimedia world," says David Rose, Founder and Chief Education Officer of CAST.

To learn more about RFB&D go to:
www.rfbd.org/Units/Georgia_Unit.htm



Lion Grace Clower
Diabetes Awareness Chair

CAMP KUDZU

It was a hot day in July when I traveled to the North Georgia Mountains to visit Camp Kudzu. As 18-D District Diabetes Awareness Chairperson, I wanted to know all about Camp Kudzu. My Lions Club has been supporting the camp for years, but I really never knew much about the camp.

The new Director of Development for Camp Kudzu, Amber Medley, contacted me to invite someone from Lions to visit during camp week. My club President, his wife and their granddaughter visited with me on Tuesday of camp week. Amber was so glad to see us. She wanted me to let all the Lions Clubs know how grateful Camp Kudzu is for the support we give them. She, like all the children at camp that week, are Type diabetics. Amber explained to us that she has an insulin pump and how it works. She took us on a tour of the camp. It was an amazing sight. There were 255 children, ages 8-18, along with 190 adult volunteers, having the time of their lives. The volunteers, 100 of the 190, all had medical backgrounds. We had lunch with one of the doctors who helped establish Camp Kudzu. He is an endocrinologist at Scottish Rite Children's Hospital in Atlanta. We also spoke with a young man who was a counselor. He had volunteered with a friend last year and had such a great experience that he came back this year. You don't have to have a medical background to volunteer. They need volunteers for all kinds of jobs.

Then there were the children. Some of them were playing on the water slide at the lake; others were making tie-dyed t-shirts or woodworking projects. They were having fun. You couldn't tell by looking at them that they were diabetic. The miracle of Camp Kudzu is that these volunteers teach the children that they can deal with diabetes and learn how to manage the disease. They enjoyed a lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, cole slaw, and fruit. I was expecting food that was sugar-free and restricted in nature. Amber told us that there are no special diets. The children check their blood sugar before they eat and again after they eat.

What they learn at Camp Kudzu is that, in real life, if they are invited to a friend's birthday party, they can have birthday cake even though they are diabetic.

It warmed our hearts to see the children cheering for each other when they received the "Golden Syringe" Award at lunch. These awards were given to children who had given themselves an insulin shot for the first time or who had changed their insulin pump site for the first time. Amber told us that the cost for one child for that one week is \$1200-\$1500. This year, they used \$108,000 in scholarships, for children whose families could not afford to pay the full amount. A large part of that was Lions dollars. I now know that every dollar our Lions Clubs have donated to Camp Kudzu has been used to do a lot of good. To see the smiles on the children's faces was so gratifying. I would encourage all Lions to volunteer or make donations to Camp Kudzu. It is just another example of our Lions motto, "We Serve".



Every Leo club is sponsored by a Lions club. Sponsoring Lions clubs maintain close rapport with Leo clubs.

LEO CLUBS: Look soon for information concerning the Georgia LEO Club of Service award. This award will be coordinated by the Youth & Children's Chair, LEO State Committee, and the Council of Governors.

The Georgia LEO Club of Service will parallel LCI's LEO Club of Excellence but will emphasize our Georgia projects, district activities, and local school and community services. Our goal will be all-inclusive in that if a LEO Club is active, it will meet the criteria for the award. This will be a State award with honor and worthy recognition. Remember, we need to provide the opportunity for our young people to serve and, if accomplished, reward them for their efforts.



Youth Opportunities—District Chair Chris Sumner: Youth Opportunities is a part of the Lions International pro-grams for Youth & Children. Several projects and activities fall under the Youth Opportunities umbrella including Young Ambassadors, Young Leaders, Sight Night, and Cooperative Lions-LEO partnerships. At the State level, the Youth Opportunities chair is responsible for the MD-18 Georgia Young Ambassador program and for the promotion of all Youth & Children's projects.

"We serve"

PDG Chris Sumner, MD-18 Youth & Children Projects Chair.

Lions Opportunities for Youth

[NEW! Lions Services for Children Program](#)

The mission of Lions Opportunities for Youth is: To provide the young people of the world with opportunities for achievement, learning, contribution and service, individually and collectively, through sponsorship of activities identified as best practices in the field of youth development

Lions Opportunities for Youth Committees include:

- [Lions International Peace Poster Contest](#)
- [Lions International Youth Camp Program](#)
- [Lions International Youth Exchange Program](#)
- [Lions Youth Outreach Program](#)
- [Leo Club Youth Programs](#)

Committees are organized at the club, district and multiple district levels. The committee includes chairpersons from all Lions youth programs.

www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/youth_index.shtml

District Governor

Lion Ruth Payton (John)
706-491-4562
paytonmd18@alltel.net

Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer

Lion Trudy Rudert (John)
770-446-1428
trudert@comcast.net

Vice District Governor

Lion Dick Smith (Marilynn)
706-224-0676
volvo12@hotmail.com

Bulletin Editor

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

1441 Burycove Circle
Lawrenceville, GA 30043
Return Address

TO:

“We must have the courage to do what is right and the courage to change if we are to succeed.”



**Lions of Georgia
Doing the**



***Have All Lions
Received the***

Word?

***Make A Copy of
This Bulletin***

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