



We Serve

District 18-D Bulletin

Gold



Standard

MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR LIONS OF NORTHEAST GEORGIA

September 2008



District Governor Dick Smith

Dear “Gold Standard” Lions of 18-D,

I hope that all of you have had a great Lions’ August. The month has been extremely interesting to me, so I will go in reverse order.

On Sunday, 24 August, I attended an inspirational birthday celebration. Winder Lion Roy Rice, a Lion for 56 years, according to his wife, Lion Ruth, celebrated his 100th birthday at his lions club house. Lion Roy had a huge turn out of friends and family. What I find especially inspirational is that Lion Roy is a very active member of the Winder Lions Club! Not only is he serving as a club director this year, but every Friday night you can go play BINGO at the Winder Lions Club House and buy hot dogs to eat from Lion Roy. Using ID Al Brandel’s motto, it is certain that the Winder Lions Club has a very special “every day hero” who is performing “miracles through service!”

Over the weekend of 15 – 17 August, I visited *Leader Dogs for the Blind* in Rochester, Michigan. For 70 years, *Leader Dogs*, founded by Lions, has been

providing dogs to blind adults that give them a new life of independence. In the past Lions’ year 252 dogs were given to grateful blind adults and someone living in north Georgia is getting a Leader dog in the next few days. From seeing puppies being trained to being guided by a dog with my eyes covered, I was given an opportunity to see how the funds your clubs contribute to Leader Dogs providing sight services. In fact, I also saw two of Leader Dogs newest initiatives: GPS for blind adults and computer training that allows blind adults to qualify for office jobs and other positions. VDG Grace Clower and Leader Dogs Chair Diane Wall will also soon visit Leader Dogs, so adding Lion Diane to your club programs would be an excellent idea.

Camp Kudzu was in session just north of Cleveland the first week of August. Two hundred and fifty teen and pre-teen campers were present during this session; a 2nd session was held in June. A dance was on the schedule for the night I visited, but during the day the campers was doing everything any summer camp attendee can imagine doing! The only things different are the reminders that most of the campers suffer from Type I diabetes, so there is a lot of blood checking and the giving of insulin shots. Your financial support of Camp Kudzu is appreciated and several staff members especially thanked the *Gainesville Lions Club* for helping them handle the camper’s luggage.

Other than the above events, I visited LCI, had a Council of Governor’s meeting at the site of our state convention on Jekyll Island, attended three zone meetings, made four official visits to clubs, and met with our district MERL team. Not counting the miles I put on a rental car in Michigan and Illinois, I added approximately 1400 miles to my personal vehicles. As I said at the start, it was a very interesting month.

Yours in “Miracles through Service,”

Dick



**32nd Annual USA/Canada
Lions Leadership Forum**



**18-20 September 2008
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada**

We hope that all of you will invite a first timer to attend the Columbus Forum. Those of you who do invite a new attendee will receive a special Forum Pin, stating the year 2008 and the words FORUM MENTOR.

We feel that the real growth of the Forum will come by getting new people to attend. We are targeting all Lions, Lioness and Leos, although most of the seminars will be geared to Lions. They don't have to be current or past officers, as we want everyone to come discover a new world of leadership and service.

To develop leaders, motivate and educate attendees, provide an open exchange of ideas, and support programs and goals of Lions Clubs International.

Thank you for helping us reach new people. Together we can make the Columbus Forum the best Forum ever!

Discover a New World of Leadership & Service

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

14-15 November = Hall of Fame nite and District Rally – MARK your calendars – more info to follow.

**September 2007
Send A Kid To Camp Day**

Planning Ahead



**GEORGIA LIONS LIGHTHOUSE
FOUNDATION
SEPTEMBER MEETING
SEPTEMBER 6-7
MACON, GA**



Mark your Calendars for the Lions Lighthouse Fall Meeting. The meeting falls in September this year and will include:

- Board of Directors Meeting (open to all Lions)
- Vision and Hearing Screening Training
- Information on how to get great deals on eyeglasses and exams in your community
- Fundraising Ideas
- And much more...

And hang on to your hats for a fun activity on Saturday Evening (details to follow). Hotel Accommodations

Group Rates are available at:

Comfort Inn: 1-478-788-5500, \$72/night
Hampton Inn: 1-478-757-9711. \$95/night

Both of these hotels are very close to Macon State, at the same exit off of I-475 and include breakfast. Please use the reference word "Lighthouse" to receive the group discount and please book before the end of August.

Plan for Sight Night 2007. What do we do?
Decide who is going to organize and collect eyeglasses for your Sight Night activity. Consider partnering with your Leo Club, Boy or Girl Scouts, Children Church Groups, schools, etc. Confirm the date for trick-or-treat in your community.





What a challenge.....

Work with kids.....

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



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** 

Participate in Lions World Sight Day Check out page 6

Make your plans now for [Lions World Sight Day](#) – October 9. Lions are encouraged to take part and hold a sight event during the month of October. President Al Brandel will preside over the international Lions World Sight Day event to be held on the Navajo Reservation in Arizona, USA. Lions will screen for diabetes and other diseases over three days. This year marks the 10th anniversary of Lions World Sight Day.

Collect Eyeglasses for Sight Night

This October, volunteers across the U.S. and Canada will gather to collect thousands of eyeglasses during trick-or-treat. Plan to participate in Sight Night and join with Leos, Scouts and other community groups. It is easy to get involved--visit www.sightnight.org for materials to get started with your collection. Sight Night is sponsored by Lions Clubs International and Give the Gift of Sight Foundation.

International Hero Awards

International President Brandel’s program emphasizes how Lions are everyday heroes, providing miracles through service every day. The International Hero Awards will recognize these

heroes for their selfless acts of kindness. Nominations are sought for the International Hero Awards and finalists will be recognized in July 2009 during the international convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. To learn more about the Hero Awards, download the [nomination form](#).

Macular Degeneration Information Resource for Lions

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is a leading cause of vision loss affecting approximately 25-30 million people worldwide. Lions may wish to participate in “AMD Week,” September 21-27. Visit the [AMD Alliance International Web site](#) for more information and materials.

New Lions Sought for Magazine Profiles

THE LION Magazine wants to profile young, interesting and active Lions who have joined an existing club within the last four to eight months. One such Lion will be highlighted each month in the magazine starting in January 2009. Please [e-mail a brief description](#) of the impact the Lion has made on the club along with person’s name, club name, location and contact information (phone, e-mail) along with your contact information for consideration.

Leo of the Year Awarded

The [Leo of the Year Award](#) recipients demonstrate outstanding leadership skills, achieve a superior record as a Leo in implementing successful service projects, make an identifiable contribution to the development and growth of the Leo Club Program, achieve distinction in community or school activities

outside of Leo club commitments and demonstrate high ethical standards and personal integrity. Congratulations to all the [2007-08 award recipients](#).

Environmental Photo Calendar Available

Purchase a [2009 Lions Environmental Photo Contest calendar](#) featuring 25 multiple district photos from the 2008 contest. This multi-lingual calendar, 11" x 17" (27 x 43 cm), is available for US\$5 each. To order 2009 calendars, contact programs@lionsclubs.org.

Two New Club Programs

Two new hands-on club programs have been introduced for the betterment of the environment and beautification of the community:

[Lions Green Team](#) - Organize a high-visibility environmental project, such as a community clean-up, tree planting or recycling effort.

[Lions Crew at Work](#) - Invite Lions and other community members to help clean, paint or repair a local facility such as a community center, shelter, camp, playground or nature trail.

During these events, Lions are encouraged to post a Lions sign or banner and to wear Lions hats, shirts, jackets to identify the club in the community. Invite the community to join your club’s efforts and contact your local media.





Editor's Note



Fellow Lions:

Kids N' Coins
Help Send a Leader Dog to School!



I will have more word on the above logo next month – be prepared.

N O W = Each time you go to a Lions meeting – I would like for each of you to turn around and take a look at the LIONS that are in the room.

Do you know what they do to support your club? Do you remember the fun times of years past? Do you remember those LIONS who seemed to do an outstanding job but are no longer there? Do you miss some of those LIONS who might have passed away? Has someone filled the shoes of a fallen LION? Whose shoes did you fill?

N O W = What have YOU done to replace those LIONS?



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

It is up to you.....

World Diabetes Day – November 14:

Begin planning for World Diabetes Day and other diabetes activities during November, Lions Diabetes Awareness Month. Here are some ways for clubs and districts to get involved and provide awareness of diabetes, a growing world epidemic:

- Organize a [STRIDES: Lions Walk for Diabetes Awareness](#) in your community
- Visit the International Diabetes Federation for ways to become involved in the [2008 World Diabetes Day](#) campaign focusing on “Diabetes in Children and Adolescents”
- Promote awareness of diabetic retinopathy by showing a DVD entitled, “[Protect Your Vision: The Dilated Eye Exam](#)”
- Visit helpful diabetes Web sites for educational information and handouts, such as the [National Diabetes Education Program](#), the [American Diabetes Association](#) or other professional diabetes associations in your area
- Provide support to your nearest Lions diabetes camp for children and adults
- Participate in the American Diabetes Association Library Program for Lions. E-mail to the [Health & Children’s Services Department](#) for more information on this program.



Miracles Through Service – 2008-09 International Program

Watch the International Program video, “[Everyday Heroes](#),” online. The video brings to life 2008-09 International President Al Brandel’s program “Miracles Through Service,” illustrating the everyday acts of Lions that make them everyday heroes. This inspiring video is an excellent resource to share with your club members. The DVD is available to purchase from Club Supplies in all official languages. For additional information, [read the written program](#).

RETENTION!



**“Membership Retention –
Routine Maintenance,
Not Rocket Science”**

New Information for You in Lions Year 2008-2009

The Membership Operations Department will have at least three different resources for your club to use in 2008-2009. If you are interested in increasing your rate of retention, we will have an exit interview (also known as a Former Member Satisfaction Survey) for your use. We will also have two separate resources on recruiting within your community. Ensure that you receive these resources as well as other communication from the Extension & Membership Division by reporting e-mail addresses correctly.

To report updated email addresses, District Membership Chairs may write to memberops@lionsclubs.org and District Retention Chairs may write to retention@lionsclubs.org.

The Power to Print

Your Lions club can print material directly from the Lions Clubs International Web site. By printing directly from the Web site, you can:

- **introduce concepts to your members**
- **conduct a membership drive in a hurry**
- **offer Lions information without having to wait**

Materials on membership development, new club formation and club management can be easily accessed from the right-hand side menu of the [Membership Development Web page](#). Printing on your own has never been easier!



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

Three Ways to Strengthen Lions' Service Mission

International President Brandel's theme of Miracles Through Service and the role of Lions as Everyday Heroes will be emphasized on his visits to clubs and districts, in his written messages to Lions and through the materials and events coordinated by Lions Clubs International including THE LION Magazine, LCI's Web site and seminars/ conferences. He also encourages every club to incorporate his theme in their newsletters, Web sites, press releases and even banners and posters. Feel free to appropriately borrow ideas and materials from LCI.

Renewing pride in being a Lion starts with a full awareness of Lions' activities. And from pride will come greater retention and stronger, more heartfelt recruitment efforts.

To help spread the message of Miracles Through Service and Everyday Heroes and to simply strengthen Lions clubs, President Brandel also is emphasizing three objectives: teamwork, humanitarian services, and expanded advocacy/fundraising.

Humanitarian Service (Hands-on!)

Go ahead—pick a descriptive phrase. Lions are workers bees. We're in the frontlines. We're in the trenches. We roll up our sleeves. We're not afraid to get our hands dirty. We do service, whether it's running a vision testing machine, making sandwiches for disaster victims or driving an elderly person to a doctor's appointment. Lions sincerely believe that no act of kindness is too small.

So in 2008-2009 Lions are urged to increase their hands-on service. They should especially focus on Lions Alert (emergency response planning – a great way to partner with local governments), Lions Quest (a schools-based life skills program), Leo clubs and other direct-impact programs. A Lion who gives his or her time and talent to others is a donor whose gift is priceless.

Expanded Advocacy/Fundraising

Last year Lions Clubs International Foundation was named as the best non-governmental organization worldwide, according to London-based Financial Times. LCIF came in first for its execution of programs, accountability and other factors. Lions enjoy highly productive relationships with many highly regarded partners: The Carter Center, Habitat for Humanity, Lenscrafters, Special Olympics, Eli Lilly, Johnson and Johnson, the National Eye Institute, the U.S. State Department and others. LCI does not go it alone. It leverages its reputation and resources to form partnerships in order to further its service goals.

Under the leadership of International President Brandel in 2008-2009, and the assistance and dedication of Lions around the world, LCI will deepen its ties with current partners and form new relationships. Lions will be able to utilize the expertise, funds and resources of our partners, and thereby expand the scope and reach of our service.

“Change the World”

Dear Club Officers:

World Sight Day 2008 to be held in Arizona, USA

The 2008 international event will be held in Arizona October 15-17, 2008. Albert Brandel and Maureen Murphy will preside over the events. Lions in Arizona and New Mexico will hold vision screenings in the town of Window Rock on the Navajo reservation to test for glaucoma, diabetic eye diseases and other eye diseases, and provide glasses to those who need them. Lions are also planning a diabetes screening and screenings at the Lions Vision Center, both to be held in the Phoenix area, the capital of Arizona. Local and state dignitaries are expected to participate in the events.



Get Involved

Now is the time to plan your club's activities for **Lions World Sight Day 2008**. Lions are encouraged to plan events on Lions World Sight Day or sometime during the month of October to

coincide with the event.

There are a number of resources that will help. For suggestions about what your club can do to mark Lions World Sight Day, download The Lions World Sight Day [Activity Guide](#). To order new Lions Eye Health Program material, [click here](#). For information about recycling eyeglasses, [click here](#).

Get Involved

Is your club planning an activity? Activities that local clubs can do include:

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

2008-2009 District Goals for the Vision & Hearing Screening Committee

As District Chairman for the Vision & Hearing Screening Committee, my goal in 2007-2008 was to have 100% of the Clubs in District 18D to provide a Vision Screening in their Communities. I would have liked to have had District 18D, Director Bill Mundy report at the State Convention in May that all the Clubs held a Vision Screening. At the State Convention he reported 34 Clubs out of 36 Clubs or 93% of the Clubs had a Vision Screening in their Communities. I want to thank you, and congratulate all the Clubs for holding a Vision Screening program last year.

As Lions, we all know the best keep secret is – Who are the Lions, and what do they do? Many citizens in our Communities know us as a group of men and women asking them to support our Raffles, Dinners, etc. The time has come that we need to give back to our Community. What better way than to have a Vision & Hearing Screening at a Health Fair or Dinners your Club is having.

The goals are as follows:

1. 100% of the Clubs in District 18D have a Vision Screening and Hearing Screening.
2. District 18D as a whole will screen at least 2000 individuals for Vision.
3. District 18D as a whole will screen at least 1200 individuals for Hearing.
4. Clubs will have at least 6 members trained for a Vision Screening.
5. Clubs will have at least 2 members trained for a Hearing Screening.

These goals are high, but are attainable if every Club in District 18D joins the bandwagon, and becomes involved.

The Georgia Lions Lighthouse meeting is scheduled for September 5 thru the 7, and will be at Macon State College. On Saturday, September 6th between 3:30- 5:00 p.m. there will be a seminar on Vision & Hearing Screening to show those interested how the Screenings are done. Make plans to have your Club members who need to be trained to be in attendance. Let's have a good representation, and show MD18 that District 18D is leading the way in the Vision & Hearing program.

I would like to know when your Club schedules a Vision & Hearing Screening in order to reserve one of the machines for you that day. In addition after the screening if you would, please let me know the number of individuals you screened for Vision, and the number of individuals you screened for Hearing this Lions year 2008-2009.

My e-mail address is as follows: jmhpdg@windstream.net (all lower case), and my phone number is 706-216-8873.

Mike Higgins PDG

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.

Clermont/North Hall Lions Club

June 2008 Activities

At our first meeting Bimbo Brewer of the Hall County Sheriffs Office told us of the Victim Assistance Program of the department. The program provides assistance to victims of crime and helps them through the different stages of the justice system. We also worked at our parking project during the month.

“We serve”

Dahlonega Lions Club = September 25, 2008: FUTURE MEMBER NIGHT. The membership committee is designing a special program that will inform and enlighten potential new members. Make your plans to attend and bring a guest. Why not share Lionism with others. Some one shared it with you. Give some one the opportunity to get that great feeling that one gets when they help someone. If you are bringing a guest, please let the membership chair (Gary Vaughters) know so that proper arrangements for guest may be made. For the record - in Lion year 2007-2008, the Club contributed 1656 recycle items (used glasses, Cell phones, hearing aids)to the Ga. Lions Lighthouse. This Lions year to date 348 items have been contributed.

Elberton Lions Club = Get ready for Annual Ham and Egg Supper coming in November and get served by Lion Andri Konfino – he is waiting for you.



Dawsonville Lions Club = 16 volunteer hours fulfilled toward mentoring and sight/hearing services plus diabetic education and other health services. You raised over \$370.00 dollars last Saturday at Ingles raffling tractor tickets, great job. Thank-you to those that were able to help out. NOTE: This Saturday we are selling tickets at Kroger. Please contact Katie Hulsebus to volunteer. Our road signs are in the process of changing. With the closing of Gold Creek we need to update our road signs. With the approval of Lorena we will update the meeting location on our signs to read, Lorena's Restaurant. Thanks Jason for all of your hard work on this.



Dawsonville Lion's Club Wishing Wells have been installed in Wal-Mart and Kroger. Pictured above, Lions Mike Berry, Greg Hicks and Tom Hicks meet with Wal-Mart staff at the installation at Wal-Mart on GA-400 in Dawsonville. .



Dawsonville Lions President Chip Sweatte presents a Community Service Award to Mike Berry for his volunteer work with autistic children in the Dawsonville area. Great work Mike - seriously!

Forsyth County Lions Club = Helped over 100 local folks with eye exams and eyeglasses this past year! We continue to collect used eyeglasses, hearing aids and cell phones for the Georgia Lions Lighthouse. Coaches and Buddies are needed for the Miracle League teams. Visit the website at www.cfcml.com

Lavonia Lions Club = One new member Gene Lewis sponsored by Lion David Howell. 2 new eyeglass applications accepted and processed. We will have a booth at the Lavonia Fall Festival on 27 September to sell mops and brooms and raffle tickets.



Work on the playhouse completed – Raffle Tickets are \$1.00 and the drawing will be on 31 October at the Halloween celebration at the Gazebo in downtown Lavonia.

Lawrenceville Lions Club = We have a new meeting place effective August 01, 2008 GARDEN PLAZA, 230 COLLINS INDUSTRIAL WAY, LAWRENCEVILLE. We are busy getting our Golf Tournament underway for October 1, 2008 at Trophy Club of Apalachee. We plan a vision screening at Rhodes Jordan Senior Center on September 19, 2008 Lion Jacque Al-Azawi led a tour of the facility for The Blind and Dyslexic in Athens for her teacher's trip. One member visited a Lions Club meeting in Gualala, California. We have 2 new members brought in by President Lion Bill Phyfer.

EYEGLASSES COLLECTED: 512 VOLUNTEER HOURS: 78

Jefferson Lions Club = Community Service

Projects: Adopt a Road Clean-Up; Built 5 wheel chair ramps; 9 eye exams and 3 pending. **Fund Raisers -** Mops and Brooms - netted \$159.00; Classic Car Show - netted \$2480.70. **Upcoming Events:** Lion Mark Bradley asked members to sell hole sponsorships and recruit teams for The Golf Tournament on Sept. 20

Lion Angel Wickman with kids serving beverages at the Annual Lions Club Pancake Supper.



Lacie Bradley Guiding Leo the Lion around entertaining people at the Annual Lions Club Pancake Supper.



This shot is an aerial view of the Aug 9 JLC Classic Car Show. It was taken by me from my airplane "Skylark."

This one is of one of the many rows of antique/classic cars on display



Twenty-eight Jefferson Lions turned out on August 9, 2008, to work in the Jefferson Lions eighth Annual Car Show. We had 109 entries in the show, gave out 58 trophies that day to some owners who had beautiful cars, and netted \$2480.70 for our Lions sight conservation program. A total of 490 man-hours for this endeavor, which included hours worked before the show, going to a lot of car shows, advertising the Lions Car Show. Total number of service hours for this month: 540



Lawrenceville
Lions Club

10th

Annual Charity
Golf Tournament
Trophy Club of
Apalachee

Dacula, GA

1008 Dacula Road

Wednesday

October 1, 2008

Entry Deadline September 26, 2008

No Raindate

If Rainout, Cash & Prizes will be awarded by drawing. Must be present to win.



Automobile (Hole-In-One)
And Much More

Sponsored by Colonial Pontiac
Buick GMC

Martin Lions Club = Hosting a Drug Awareness Program to be presented at 7pm, Thursday, 18 September with Danny Yearwood and also featuring K9 Dog from Toccoa Police Department and Robot Cop from Lavonia Police Department.

Royston Franklin Springs Lions Club = Get ready for the annual Royston Fall Festival and the Lions serving Pizza – to be held on 12 October.



NORCROSS ART FEST HAS WHIMSICAL PERSONALITY



NORCROSS ART FEST 2008

Norcross Lions Club - Leadership and

Administrative: Filed this MMR Reports and Addendums postmarked on 28 July. **Activities:** We held vision and hearing screenings as part of the Hopewell Baptist Church Health Fair. We did 45 vision screenings and 20 hearing screenings using machines from the GA Lions Lighthouse. We delivered 24 glasses, 62 lenses and 5 cell phones to the GA Lions Lighthouse. We paid for glasses for another person.

Attendance: Lion President Warren Anderson, Lion Secretary Trudy Rudert and PDGs John Rudert and Ed Hashbarger attended the first cabinet meeting. Lion Secretary Trudy Rudert gave the club secretary training prior to the cabinet meeting. **Activity Report:** We continue to plan for the Norcross Art Fest the first weekend in October. We are working to attract more members. We continue to make plans for the Norcross Art Fest, the first weekend in October. **Norcross Art Fest 2008 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!**



We plan to attend the District 18-D Rally on Nov. 15. We discussed possibly doing Kids-N-Coins program to collect funds for Leader Dog so we can use the Art Fest funds for other charities. We have secured Peace Poster kits to use at schools.

Snellville Lions Club = Guest Speakers: Service Projects: Collecting used eye glasses & etc Used Glasses – 458, Cell Phone – 14, Loose Lens - 56 prs. **Non Lions Volunteer Hours: Associate Directors:** The following Associate Directors were appointed and forward to the proper groups and District Governor Lighthouse Lion Norm Masters Camp Lion Nick Brigham Recording Blind Lion Marlene Gillman.

Social Night

A recent club meeting was billed as a “Social Night” where everyone was to bring desserts. Jean Masters was surprised at the event as she found herself to be the Guest of Honor. She has spent somewhere around 11-15 years, depending on who’s counting, serving our club cakes, pies, cobblers, or whatever at each club meeting. Several club members were called upon to let us know that Jean is more than “fluff and icing.” She is well versed in Lionism, it’s by-laws, history, and services. After the Snellville Lioness’ Club was dissolved, Jean joined the Snellville Lions Club. Jean accepted her presents and awards with a mixture of poise, grace and humor. Her “presents” included an LCI medallion, an Appreciation Certificate from the Snellville Club, a personalized engraved bake pan with a handsome cover, Jiffy Corn Bread Mix and dried pinto beans, (a long-standing joke between good friends) and a framed collage depicting a nostalgic trip down memory Lions Lane. A “Thank you” to everyone who participated in bringing desserts to the last meeting. Goodies of all kinds were brought to this event in celebration of the goodies that Jean Masters always provided. *Too good a time was had by all.* Pass the Tums and the diet coke, please.

Jimmie J. Powell Scholarship Winners

Brian Duke and (William) David Collister III were the recipients of the annual Snellville Lions Club Scholarship Awards. Each young man received \$2500.00 to be used for his college education. Brian graduated from Grayson High School and plans to attend Georgia Tech. William graduated from Brookwood High School and has his eye on Troy University in Alabama. Both Brian and David had family members attend the scholarship presentation. After hearing personal stories from both student’s mothers, one must conclude that these young men are an asset to their proud families and have done much to assist them in their various situations.



A Significant Asset to Our Club The Snellville Lions Club (SLC)

has been blessed this past year by having the assistance of a strong-minded young man, Raul Yahuitl. Raul, a junior at Brookwood High School, is determined to be of service to his community in any way he can. Being too young to become a Lion and without a nearby Leo Club to benefit from his energies, he has “joined” our club to avail us of his services in whatever manner we see fit. Raul has worked with SLC at many fundraising functions. He doesn’t complain about his assignments and always comes back for more. Club President, Jimmy Dallas, presented Raul with an official Lions shirt. I am sure he will wear it proudly as he helps us serve our community. Raul Yahuitl is a unique teenager who parents must be very satisfied with and proud of his accomplishments. Thank you, Raul, for all the help you have given the Snellville Lions Club and thank you Mr. Yahuitl for bringing him to activities and meetings.

Toccoa Lions Club = Eyeglasses collected by Secretary Ray Cornell are as follows: Total pairs of glasses: 332, frames: 61, sunglasses: 43, sunglass lenses: 36, hearing aids: 2, cell phones: 5. **Fund Raisers: Candy Vending Machines:** Bryan Gordon submitted a written report (attached) We have four machines in use at this point, one at The Pines Golf Course Pro Shop, one at Shirley's Soul Food Cafe, one at the Century 21 Realty Office, and one at Perez's Barber Shop. **Mops & Brooms:** Bryan Gordon submitted a written report (attached). We have located a new vendor, Industries of the Blind in Greensboro, NC. A motion was made, seconded and passed that we order more inventory since we are completely out of household brooms. Daybreak Fax will advertise mops and brooms for us. **Walking Sticks:** Ken Fewell found a vendor for walking sticks and whistles. He purchased a few of them and attached a beaded cord. The board members were agreed that this could be a good seller. The motion was made, seconded and passed that we order two boxes of 24. **Harvest Festival:** Bryan Gordon submitted a written proposal (attached) for the Lions to provide a rest area on the porch of Family Eye Care, provide vision screening and sell mops, brooms and walking sticks, hamburgers, hot dogs and cold drinks. Mary Ann Mojica added that we could also take orders for Brecks flower bulbs at this event. **Pancake Breakfast:** We will do a Pancake Breakfast on October 4th to benefit the Open Arms Clinic.



Candy Machines Picture: Lions Matt Osborne left and Ken Fewell right. Matt is our newest member he is 24 years old. He was sponsored by Dave Stancil our immediate past president. We placed four candy machines in service on July 26th in public locations in Toccoa. We are selling honey roasted peanuts, peanut covered M&M's and Mountain Trail Mix. The candy machines are in the test market phase and the club will order more if the initial results are good.

Dave_Matt_Boys_Picture: On August 3rd three members of the Toccoa Lions took the entire little league baseball team that the club sponsors on an outing to an Atlanta Braves game at Turner Field. They had a tail gate picnic for the boys in the parking lot at Turner Field. Pictured are two of the little league boys in their jerseys and Lion Matt Osborne left and Lion Dave Stancil right. Lion Luis Mendez, the chairman of the Little League team was not pictured. The Toccoa Lions Club has sponsored a "Lions" team for over fifty-five years.



MaryAnn_Ruth_Camp picture: I did not have room in our newsletter for this picture. But District Governor Dick Smith, Vice District Governor Grace Clower and Past District Governor visited Camp Kudzu near Cleveland, GA on Tuesday, August 5th. The lady in the glasses next to Ruth is Mary Ann Mojica from Toccoa and the lady next to Grace is a member of the Snellville club. Others are members of the staff at camp Kuduz.



TOWNS COUNTY LIONS = Newst Melvin Jones members from Towns County Lions are Ralph Grady, Michael Annast, and Gerry Gutenstein, Progressive Melvin Jones members are PDG James Webb, John Richards, Leonard McConnell, and Dr. Lanier Nicholson.



"FLAG POLE AT FAIRGROUNDS ENTRANCE"

A 66' Flag Pole has been erected at the entrance to the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds to accommodate the 15' x 25' American Flag that had been on the smaller flagpole closer to the highway. Seen putting up the huge flag on the new pole on the opening morning of the Fair are Lions Leonard McConnell, Dewaine Olson, Bud Parker and Georgia Mountain Fair Manager Hilda Thomason. They said they would like to thank Lion Bob Cloer for his generosity in donating \$6,000 for the purchase of the pole.

WIN A BRAND NEW KUBOTA RTV 900

(Valued at \$11,999) **Presented By** Georgia Mountain Fair

Kubota Features Include: 3-Range Variable Hydro Transmission Hydraulic Bed Lift System · Power Steering Advanced Suspension · High Ground Clearance

Drawing will be held November 29th, 2008

at the GA Mtn. Fairgrounds Mel & Pam Tillis

Christmas Show Winner need not be present to win. All proceeds, less cost of Kubota RTV, go to the Georgia Mountain Fair.

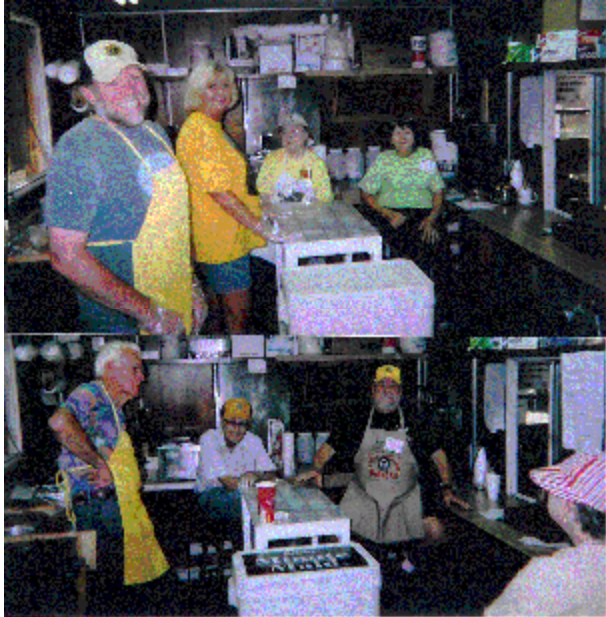
Tickets: \$25.00 Each Only 1000 Tickets Will Be Sold

Make check payable to "Georgia Mountain Fair"

The Neil McCoy Christmas Show was a hit with the audience. Make plans and buy your tickets NOW for this year's Christmas Show with Pam and Mel Tillis Nov. 29.



Union County Lions Club = Sight / Hearing: Five applications for eye glasses and exam approved. **Lion Mints:** 205 roll of mints dispensed. **Brooms / Mops:** 27 sold - Note: When current supply of brooms & mops are sold, Union County will no longer be having the fund raiser due to shipping cost. **Volunteer Hours:** 216. **Collections:** 81 used eyeglasses, 22 shade glasses, 91 glasses in cases, 49 frames only, 12 cell phones, 6 chargers, 72 hearing aid batteries. **Activities:** 30 Lions and 18 family members and friends of Lions assisted in our food booth at the Georgia Mountain Fair. Hosted first Zone meeting of the year with District Governor Dick Smith and Vice DG Grace Clower in attendance. **Membership:** Two transfers Paul & Karen Clark accepted from Lexington, Ky. Lions Club.



Winder Lions Club = Secretary report--all dues paid up. Ten eye glasses and eye exams were provided. Hosted the District Cabinet Meeting.



1st Cabinet Meeting held in Winder – pictured was the Winder Kitchen Crew: Lions Jimmie Horton, Roy Rice, Johnnie Wendel and Ruth Rice. NOTE: Lion Roy Rice is still active which also includes the BINGO sessions that the Winder Club does – not bad for him being 100 this past August. District Governor Dick Smith at the 100th birthday party for Lion Roy Rice.

West Jackson Lions Club =
 Activity Report: We planted a Japanese Maple tree in memory of Col. William L. Kinney, who was one of the founding members of our club. Past President Dave Hill purchased a plaque which was installed in front of the tree and unveiled by Mrs. Bobbie Kinney his wife in a brief ceremony outside our building. We also sold refreshments at the Movie in the Park in Braselton and made a profit of \$110.00. We would have made more but it rained (thank goodness). We are making plans to have a float in the Hoschton Fall Festival Parade. I will send you more information and hopefully pictures. They have received a grant and will be doing the Dictionary Program again this year.

Winder Noon Lions Club = FUND RAISERS: Ongoing sales of Mops & Brooms; Ongoing sales of Food & Flavorings
ACTIVITIES: Collect glasses, frames, cases, hearing aids, cell phones. Served refreshments in Blood Drive at Barrow Medical Center. 6 members participated from 11:00 - 7:00 August 15, 2008. Donated to Winder Barrow Boys & Girls Club \$600. 11 Members attended zone meeting 8/2/08 at Golden Corral in Winder. Will be providing Dictionaries to elementary students again this year. Will take part in the Peace Poster contest.
UPCOMING EVENTS: On September 20, will take part with Winder Fire Station No. 1 in the unveiling of a 1940 fire truck that was restored. Will take part in "Operation Patriots" with 48th Regiment reenactment. Co-sponsor with Winder Police Department to sponsor vests for police and the SWAT team.
MEETINGS/PROGRAMS: Aug. 13, Ray Mattison gave program on City of Winder Fire Department upcoming Centennial Celebration in September.

We're Waiting = have you ASKed?

Did you submit yours?

E-mail = edmclionh@bellsouth.net or
 Go on-line = www.edmclion.com/ or



HOT – HOT

2009 = State Convention Jekyll Island

For June 2009, all rates \$99 per night

Clarion Resorts/Oceanfront Resort

800-736-1046

Villas by the Sea – over flow.

800-841-6262

800-841-6263

Days Inn – 18B and Band

HOSPITALITY BOOK ORDER FORM

Hospitality books for the only \$70.00 each **till 30 November**

\$75.00 from 1 December to 31 March

\$85.00 from 1 April to 27 May

Check out DATES TO REMEMBER on the web site and copy, paste, print your Order Form

The **KEY WORD** to all of this is **ASK**
 Any further questions – just ask!



H O T !!!!!

You Tube



We Give We Share We Inspire We Serve

[Videos](#) | [Favorites](#) | [Groups](#) | [Friends](#) | [Subscribers](#)

== NOW – GO TO THIS WEB SITE AND CHECK IT OUT ==

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



Family & Women Membership

Want to make your club stand out? Need fresh ideas? Do you want to show your family and children the importance of volunteering and helping others? Are you interested in connecting with other families to improve the area in which you live?



Lion Gay Bradley,
District 18-D Family & Women Membership Chairperson
706-983-9215 cell
706-654-5693 home
Or email me at mglbradley@alltel.net

In many clubs, children are welcomed at special club events and activities. Sharing the volunteer experience first-hand with you child will foster a life-long dedication to helping those in need. Our children are our future! Your family can make a difference.

Clubs adding 10 or more new family members between July 1st 2008-June 30, 2009 will receive the family membership banner patch.

What is holding you back? Let's make a difference! If not now, when?

Need help getting started? Invite me to your club as your next guest speaker and find out how.



Attention Club Presidents and Secretaries:

Please enter the number of Used Eye Glasses, Hearing Aids and Cell Phones that were collected each month on your Monthly Report to District Governor Dick Smith. Information is being compiled for the year-end report for the Lighthouse. I would like the information sent to me also by e-mail or snail mail for my records.

Judy Stamsen

Used Eye Glasses and Hearing Aid Chair

2343 Cedar Valley Court

Lawrenceville, GA 30043

770-995-9274

eskiemom@bellsouth.net for e-mail

Attention Club Presidents

Have you filed your Form 990-N (Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations not Required to File Form 990 or 990-EZ for Tax Year 1Jul07 – 30Jun08? If you made less than \$25,000 during the past Lions Year – you must submit. It is as easy as saying your ABC's. You can go on-line to www.epostcard.for990.org and follow the instructions.



Membership Programs

[Membership development and new club formation](#) is essential to insuring that Lions around the globe continue working together to make the world a better place. Information and resources are available to assist Lions in their membership endeavors.

International Relations

Lions are members of an international network of men and women making a difference. Numerous Lions programs focus on [international relations](#) such as [Lions Day with the United Nations](#), [club twinning](#), the [ALERT emergency response program](#) and many more.

Community and Environment

[Lions cultural and environmental programs](#) help us to understand, celebrate and protect our planet and its inhabitants. These programs include the Lions Green Team, Lions Crew at Work, [Lions Annual International Performance Festival](#) and [environment projects](#).

Grants [Grants](#) are available from LCIF to assist Lions with many projects. In addition, the Public Relations Department offers a [Public Relations Matching Grant](#), matching a district's funds up to US\$1,500 for their promotional and advertising needs, and a [Public Relations Grant](#), designed to assist in media and community promotion of strong multiple/single district wide programs.

Go to LCI's web site and scope out the [Online Activity Report Results from 2007-08](#)



Every Lion (from a club in good standing) can enter a photograph of his or her immediate surroundings into the club-level **Lions Environmental Photo Contest**. The purpose of the photo contest is to showcase the beauty of nature. Lions can enter photographs of their environment (without people) in one of the following five categories:

- animal life
- plant life
- urban or natural landscape
- weather phenomenon
- a special annual theme



Winning club-level photographs will advance to the district, multiple district, and international competitions. Registered attendees of the Lions international convention will vote for the six (includes Best of Show) international photo contest winners.



**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/>

Fellow Lions,

Your Lighthouse has been working hard for Georgians in need. In the last Lions year, they helped 306 people receive eye surgery, dispensed 1342 hearing aids, and provided over 2000 people with eyeglasses and/or exams. Take pride in these numbers and the service that your Lighthouse is able to provide because of your club's support.

There are more ways for you and your club to get involved. That's why, this year we have decided to change the format of the Lighthouse fall meeting, which will be held in September.

You will notice there opportunities to be trained on how to volunteer with the Lighthouse and fundraise for the Lighthouse. Please take advantage of this unique opportunity and learn much about how we can serve Georgians in need even more!

Yours in Lions Service,
C. Mark Miller, PCC

Lighthouse Business Board Meeting Saturday September 6, 2008
9:00 –10:30 a.m.

All are invited to attend this meeting in which the board will discuss and decide on issues facing the Lighthouse.

Saturday September 6, 2008

Recycling 101

10:30-11:30

Learn what the Lighthouse needs more of and how to boost your recycling efforts.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

11:30-12:30

Lighthouse Eye Clinics

12:30 - 2:00

Get hands on training of how to volunteer at a Lighthouse clinic. Learn about what these clinics are doing and how your club can help!

How to Get Deals on Eyeglasses and Understand Medicaid/Medicare/PeachCare Coverage

2:00-3:30

Did you know that Georgia Medicaid covers the Cost of an eye exam but not glasses? Want to learn How the Lighthouse How the Lighthouse purchases glasses for under \$35 a pair? Come to this session to see how your club can help more people and help the Lighthouse.

Vision and Hearing Screenings

3:30-5:00

Learn how to screen people in your community. This is a great way to help people with high risk factors for eye disease and recruit new members.

Sunday, September 7, 2008

White Cane Training

9:00—10:00

Plan a great White Cane this year! Learn the alternatives to bucket drives and projects that have worked for other clubs!

Luminary Society 101

9:00—10:00

Learn all about this Society and the Lighthouse's individual giving campaign.

Refreshments!

10:00—10:30

**Lighthouse Report and Informational Meeting
10:30-12:00**

Learn about what your Lighthouse has been doing in the last year and hear from a Lighthouse client!



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



My first month as President of our Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, Inc. has been fast paced, a learning exercise, heart wrenching, and a joy. Following is the status of our Camp:

- We completed the Camping Season on 7/25/08 with a total of 94 Campers. This number is low as compared to 2006 but this is always the case when we transition Directors. My number one goal was to have a successful camping season and we achieved that goal. An outstanding effort on the part of Lion Ed Ressler and Kim to pull the season off.
- Lions Day was a great success this year and it was our pleasure to host the Council at our Camp. We have been getting nothing but positive comments from Lions throughout the State. What a fun day that was!
- On 7/23/08 Kimberly Miller and I set through 11.5 hours of audit by the American Camp Association and we did outstanding. The outcome is that we are re-certified for another 3 years by ACA.
- My number two goal was to get us a new, highly qualified Director for the Camp on board as soon as we could. I asked Lion Ed Ressler (then President) to appoint a committee for this process. That committee was Chaired by Lion Stan Bazemore with Lions Mel Redman, Doy Barks, Jim Lapham and I serving. The outcome of a very intense process is that we have a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee to hire Kristen Picus as our new Executive Director of our Camp. I am so excited, and proud of our Hiring Committee and Executive Committee for putting forth a great effort. I will meet with Ms. Picus at the camp on 8/16/08 to start her on-boarding process. Goal #2 MET!

Just one week ago our Camp and indeed the Lions of Georgia lost a dear friend. With Lion Mel's passing we lost an advocate for service to our Camp and a great deal of knowledge. The transition of Treasurer from Lion Mel to Lion Debbie was not as clean as we would have liked and there were gaps. Lion Debbie, Lion Mel and I met on Sunday 7/27/08 and closed many gaps but still there are a few items to work out. The good news is that Lion Debbie is outstanding at her job and we are catching up.

When I met with the Council on the 20th the Camp, we discussed our financial situation. We were \$140,000 short on income for Lions Year 2007-2008. We had at that time \$39,000 in our checking account. When I met with Debbie today we have just \$8,000 in our account. We are in a financial lull as we expected we would be and are going to need to borrow from the Trust Fund to pay bills for this past Camping Season. I have asked Lion Debbie to contact Lion Ed Ressler and start the process of borrowing the funds to cover those costs and for payroll for the month of August. We are going to have to borrow \$35,000 from the Trust Fund to cover this. It is our hope that funds start rolling in to help us out of this situation.

A couple notes of interest that came out of the Council's Orientation at the Camp:

- I have sent an e-mail to Lion Haynes Townsend requesting a slot in his training program for the Vice District Governors. Per your request this would be a good opportunity to brief them on what our Camp is all about.
- I have contacted CC Kembra and PCC Mark Miller via e-mail to start the dialog on having a joint meeting of the Lighthouse and Camp. I would love to take a proposal to our Board of Directors for vote at the November 1st Meeting. I look forward to working with Lions Kembra and Mark to make this happen.

I look forward to seeing you all once again in Warner Robins when we get to host the Council once again.

Frank Spinney

President, Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, Inc.



Leader Dog Chair Lion Diane Wall
liondianewall@bellsouth.net



From the Desk of LION GREG

Thank you! I know this is the most fitting way to start this communication. Donations from Lions Clubs were up for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and I've had many Lions contact me to provide feedback, suggestions and encouragement during my first seven months at Leader Dog. Thank you! Without the support of Lions, Leader Dog couldn't continue the great work we do together.

You see, it always comes down to people – the people whose lives have been made better this year through your generosity. We do very much rely on your continued support to be able to offer programs that have such a sustaining impact in the lives of others:

The 240 individuals who have gained new independence by being paired with a Leader Dog

The 35 people, including 11 teens, who have come to our facility to learn how to use talking GPS “Trekker” devices to navigate their way literally around the world.

The 80 Orientation & Mobility (O&M) specialists from around the country who have traveled to our campus to study how to teach others in the use of this ground breaking technology.

The 25 people who have received intensive O&M training, resulting in greater independence.

The 20 people who are visually impaired that have gained truly marketable communications and job skills through our computer training sessions.

The 6 individuals who are deaf and blind that have been paired with a specially trained Leader Dog, in the only dedicated dog guide program in the world for people who are deaf and blind.

The 150 people visited in their homes by our Consumer Services team members who have delivered dogs, assisted with adjustment issues, and provided follow-up instruction.

Your efforts make a real difference! The excitement is building as we finalize plans for **Summer Visits** with District Governors, Vice District Governors and District Leader Dog Chairs. We are ready to wow! You with an overview of our new initiative **“Growing the Dream”** which will allow us to help more of the 10 million people in the United States who are visually impaired and in need of our assistance.

You will be seeing **new recognition programs** along with fundraising ideas and a **new website** with an area dedicated to our Lions supporters. Communication will be key in reaching our “Growing the Dream” goal set for the upcoming year, so we'll continue to send information to clubs via The Mane Event and quarterly reports. But we're not stopping there. On the new website that is launching in late summer, there will be a section devoted solely to Lions. This will allow us to communicate in a fast, cost effective manner that will benefit us all.

I know that together,, Leader Dog and Lions can continue to grow the dream that the Uptown Lions Club visualized so many years ago. Partner with us as we push forward to continue to provide free, life enhancing services that allow people who are visually impaired to experience more freedom and independence. **Join us in “Growing the Dream.”**



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

**RFB&D® INTRODUCES NEW AUDIOACCESSSM
August 4, 2008 (Princeton, NJ) –**

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic® (RFB&D®), the nation's educational library for students of all ages who cannot effectively read standard print because of a learning disability, such as dyslexia, visual impairment or other physical disability, introduces AudioAccessSM, a new downloadable audio textbook that plays on the widely available Microsoft Windows® Media Player (version 10 or above) and can be synchronized with most Windows-compatible portable media players.

AudioAccess expands the choices RFB&D offers students with print disabilities, such as dyslexia. Now RFB&D members can select to receive their accessible textbooks, literature and other supplemental educational materials in any of three formats: AudioAccess, AudioPlus® or NIMAC files. Each provides students with complete and unabridged audio versions of the textbooks they need to level the academic playing field.

"AudioAccess is a great step forward in the use of new technologies to make the written word accessible to students with dyslexia and certain other disabilities that cause reading to be difficult or impossible," said RFB&D's President and Chief Executive Officer John Kelly. "AudioAccess allows these students to access their textbooks using the software that comes bundled with most computers, and synchronize those textbooks with a portable media player so they may learn in school, at home and on the go."

On Monday, August 4, 2008, enrolled members can not only order the books they need from RFB&D's fully accessible online catalog of more than 46,000 educational titles, but can now download those books directly to their Microsoft Windows-compatible computer. No longer will students need to wait for their books to arrive in the mail. RFB&D's new online order fulfillment walks members through the ordering process, installs the free RFB&D *Download Manager* software and quickly organizes the books members order on their computer for easy use. The *Download Manager* allows

members to download an entire book or just the sections they need.

"The members we serve have been asking for this technology, and we are proud to be delivering a solution. AudioAccess will provide the same high-quality audio textbooks our members have come to rely on," said Julia Freedman, Senior Vice-President of Programs and Services at RFB&D. "This innovation will allow students with dyslexia and certain other print related disabilities to build reading confidence, independence and success."

**IMAGINE WHAT YOU MIGHT LEARN BY
CHECKING OUT RFB&D's WEBSITE**



Canine Companions for Independence placed its 3000 assistance dog team on August 16. This is a milestone for CCI who has been providing highly trained assistance dogs and ongoing support, free of charge, to adults and children with disabilities since 1975.



Emily is a bright and beautiful 12-year-old girl challenged with cerebral palsy that requires her to use a wheelchair.

"I wanted a dog to help me open the refrigerator and other doors," explains Emily.

Her mom Kelly expands, "We knew that having an assistance dog would increase Emily's independence and also act as a social bridge for her as she enters junior high."

Never having been a "dog person", Kelly wasn't sure what to expect from their experience at CCI or from assistance dogs.

"Everything, person and dog at CCI has exceeded my expectations," shares Kelly.

As the Chair person for Lions Project for Canine Companions For Independence for 2008-2009, I am available to be a guest speaker at your club for a presentation. Canine Companions assist those with disabilities so they may function in their every day

life. I am excited to be a part of this program and I also would like for every club to contribute to Lions Project for Canine Companions For Independence as I have set my goal for 100% club contributions this year. If you haven't already, please add Lions Project For Canine Companions For Independence, to your budget for this year.

Judy Stamsen eskiemom@bellsouth.net



The foundation of every Southeastern program is respect and trust. Southeastern Guide Dogs is dedicated to the loving and humane training of dogs to become eyes for visually impaired individuals. Adaptability through flexible programs ensures Southeastern's guide dogs will always meet the ever-changing needs of our applicants.

Please contact Bob Robinson, PDG, 18D SE Guide Dog District Chairman, 706-548-8719 or email – bobcat8233@aol.com if you'd like him to present a program at one of your future club meetings.



New Website

Launched in March, the school's new website features a fresh look and updates on all of our programs and work. Check it out at www.guidedogs.org.



Lion Ron Bennetti
Diabetes Awareness Chair
rbennettisr@windstream.net

A Recent Expedition to Where? Camp Kudzu!

Sitting in a wooded area beyond Cleveland, Georgia you will find Camp Kudzu taking root on the grounds of Camp Barney Medintz, a resident summer camp of the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta. An amazing adventure awaits every child from 8 to 18 with Type 1 diabetes who bravely ventures beyond its gate and explores it more than 100 acres. The camp is full of fresh air and laughter, forest and starry skies, and a feeling of refuge for the children and teens. Families of first-time campers often feel trepidation upon leaving their child "alone" but come to view the experience of Camp Kudzu as a blessing for them and their child. The camp offers a wide array of activities including mountain biking, water skiing, horseback riding, canoeing, arts and crafts, sailing, kayaking, hiking, swimming, sports, vertical challenge course, soccer, tennis and much, much more! Besides summer camp there are family week-ends and teen retreats.

The Camp is a non-profit organization and is not affiliated with any other diabetes association. It is staffed by caring, dedicated trained volunteers, medical professionals, and a small administrative staff. Camp Kudzu was started in 1999 by parents, healthcare professionals, community leaders, and physicians who wished to provide for the special medical and emotional needs of children with insulin-dependent juvenile diabetes. Each year, volunteers arrive from as far away as Illinois, California, and Colorado. They are from such diverse professions as an officer from Forsythe County's Sheriff's Department, a Chemistry Professor, and a Photographer. there are three volunteer pediatric endocrinologists rotating staff duties, 190 adult volunteers, a clinician for every two cabins, and one paid staff person. Apparently word has gotten out that Camp Kudzu is the best medically equipped and professionally staffed diabetic camp in the United States. It has an over-night sick room with IV capabilities, 120 staff members carrying backpacks prepared with everything needed to assist a child in distress.

Many parents are so pleased with the camp that they often volunteer their services the following camping season and many teens return to be trained as counselors. 60% of the volunteers return year after year. 10% of the volunteers work both the Camp in Cleveland, GA as well as one located in Rutledge, GA. Many of the camp attendees return to train as counselors.

Camp Kudzu's goal is not only to make available to the children educational and recreational activities but also to offer networking with their peers and a place where they feel "normal". It is comforting to know that your new friends are experiencing the same day to day struggles and understand what you are going through. It is critical to the diabetic child's long-term health to learn and retain the self-management skills taught at Camp Kudzu. For many, it is the first time that they checked their own blood sugar levels, counted carbohydrates, changed a pump injection site, or gave themselves an insulin injection. "Golden Syringe" and "Golden Pump" awards and certificates are given to those who experienced "firsts"- the first time they took their blood sugar levels; the first time they moved a pump site, and so on. Encouragement around the camp abounds. Eager campers share their enthusiasm.

This summer at Camp Kudzu, 250 diabetic children and teens learned that they are not alone in their struggle with diabetes. Approximately 220 children attended the camp in Rutledge, GA. It is the hope of Camp Kudzu to be able to provide another camping experience in South Georgia by next season or to offer the camp for two weeks instead of one. This would increase the number of campers to more than 540. This is a huge increase from the original camping session that began in June, 2000 with 90 children.

As the number of children and families grow, and the number of volunteers increase, so does Camp Kudzu's needs. It is funded by contributions given through the generosity of corporations, foundations, friends and family. Pharmaceutical companies donate \$180,000 of goods and services each year. The camper fee for one child for summer camp is \$500. Scholarships are available to ensure that every child with juvenile diabetes can benefit from all that Camp Kudzu has to offer.

What role do Lions Clubs play in helping Camp Kudzu reach its goals? The Gainesville Lions Club volunteers its time and services at the start and finish of every camp season. They are available to transport the camper's luggage to and from the meeting area at White County High School to and from Camp Kudzu. This is a sizable task as there are three buses of parents and children bringing all their camp needs. That is a lot of

luggage to be conveyed!

Most of the Clubs in District 18-D contribute monetary funds to the Camp each year. The cost of sending one diabetic child for one week to Camp Kudzu is over \$1400. Various Lions Club donate \$500.00 per sponsored camper to be used as a scholarship fund for those who need the assistance. The Snellville Lions Club donates \$1000.00 each year. Camp Kudzu is requesting from Lions Clubs International Foundation a grant of \$150,000 in order to expand their facilities and volunteer base.

Last year 426 children attended Camps. That amounted to 30,000 finger pricks, 5,000 injections, and 1000 pump site changes. Remember those backpacks that 120 volunteers carry with them? Each one is fully equipped by hand. Volunteers are needed year round to help sort and bag these supplies. Jill Sax, who works in the Infirmary, needs help with this project.

You may contact Medical Director, Jill Sax, R.N., C.D.E. at:
Camp Kudzu, Inc.
577 Concord Road, SE
Suite B
Smyrna GA 30082
Tel: 404-250-1811 Extension 24
Fax:: 404-250-1812
e-mail: jsax@campkudzu.org



Millions of children suffer with poverty and hunger, abandonment, poor water and sanitation, poor health care, chronic illness, disabilities, lack of education, lack of immunization and many more life-threatening conditions. **The Lions Services for Children Program** (adopted in 2003) aims to improve the lives of children and young adolescents in adverse circumstances through health and education services, locally and internationally.

Lions' participation in the program can begin by assessing the needs of children in the community. These needs may include:

- Food, shelter or clothing
- Vision and hearing screenings
- Immunizations

- Assistance in coping with illnesses or disabilities
- Information about proper nutrition
- Drug and alcohol abuse education
- Literacy programs
- Vocational training

The Lions Services for Children Community Needs Assessment form (IAD-304) is a valuable resource to help every Lions club or district identify local children living in adverse circumstances. Lions are encouraged to consult with specialists such as administrators at hospitals, schools, youth service organizations and local health care professionals to determine the most serious needs of children and young adolescents

Lions Services for Children Projects



Lions can improve the lives of children and young adolescents by developing projects with specific, attainable goals in the areas of health and education.

Projects may include:

- collecting food, clothes, or books
- organizing a vision or hearing screening
- providing immunizations through a vaccination drive
- conducting a literacy program in cooperation with a local school, library, Leo club or community center.
- supporting a nutritional program for undernourished children
- providing wheelchairs for disabled children
- establishing a children's center to serve the needs of underprivileged youth

Program Resources:

Lions Services for Children Worldwide Symposium Program

Beginning July 1, 2008, four grants will be issued each fiscal year in each constitutional area. The symposium grant offers up to US\$1,000 expense reimbursement assistance to help alleviate program costs. Grants will be approved for the organization of a symposium or conference that will promote activities supportive of Lions' health and education services for children in need. Learn more about the symposium program and the [application](#) process.

Lions/UNICEF School-in-a-Box

UNICEF and Lions clubs, districts or multiple districts can team up to ensure the continuation of children's education when earthquakes, hurricanes, civil unrest and other disasters suddenly disrupt their daily lives. To find out how your club, district or multiple district can make a donation.



Lions Emergency-Non-Emergency Database

This LCI database provides Lions with an effective way to communicate locally and internationally, enabling them to collaborate on emergency or non-emergency humanitarian projects for children and other projects and exchange information. [Learn more](#) about this easy-to-use database developed for Lions.

THE ABCs TO CONSIDER WHEN INTERACTING WITH A CHILD (OR ANYONE ELSE FOR THAT MATTER):

- ▷ M—PRAISE THEM FOR HOW MARVELOUS THEY ARE
- ▷ N—RECOGNIZE THEM AS NOBLE BEINGS
- ▷ O—RESPECT THEM FOR THEIR OPENMINDEDNESS AS YOU REMAIN OPEN MINDED
- ▷ P—VALUE THEM AS THEY ARE PRECIOUS IN HIS SIGHT
- ▷ Q—ENCOURAGE THEM (NOT SHUSH THEM) FOR BEING CONSTANT QUESTIONERS. WE LEARN BEST BY ASKING QUESTIONS.
- ▷ R—SUPPORT THEM FOR BEING RESOURCEFUL



District Governor

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

1441 Burycove Circle
Lawrenceville, GA 30043
Return Address

Cabinet Secretary

Lion Angela Helwig
770-725-7422
angelahelwig@yahoo.com

TO:

Vice District Governor

Lion Grace Clower
770-972-9989
graceclower@bellsouth.net

Bulletin Editor

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



*Have All Lions
Received the
Word?

Make A Copy of
This Bulletin

So We Can All Be
Heard.*