

# *Lions of Georgia*



*Out with the Old*



*In with the New*

*Winter Meeting 23-24 January 2010 Check inside for schedule*

*Winter Meeting 6-7 February 2010*



**PLEASE – Presidents/Secretaries = send in the name of your Club and the Name and Email address only of all club members who have DSL so we can send the State Mag to each of those members. Send to [edmcionh@bellsouth.net](mailto:edmcionh@bellsouth.net) or [lionga@bellsouth.net](mailto:lionga@bellsouth.net)**



Get ready to come out of your dens and roar!

**Lions In Sight** is fast approaching.

## What is Lions in Sight?

Most people know Lions very well for our work in sight, but too often we are not 'in sight' of the public. Some Lions even say we are a 'best kept secret'. So to increase our visibility, I have asked all clubs and districts worldwide to organize public awareness events during the last two weeks of January 2010 in a special campaign called Lions In Sight.

The goal is very simple -- to raise public awareness to who we are and what we do.

To help you get ready, a special [Lions In Sight](#) section on our web site has suggested activities, promotional ideas, and helpful tools such as sample press releases, downloadable posters, newspaper ads, a new billboard advertisement, and other materials.

## Lions In Sight

Lions have gained worldwide recognition for our work to improve sight. But we are not always "in sight" of the general public. That's why International President Eberhard J. Wirfs is asking every club, district and multiple district to organize a major public relations activity during the last two weeks of January 2010. Make yourself visible – while making a difference in your community. Read the Lions in Sight press release, showcase your favorite service project or review a list of suggested activities on the [Lions in Sight Web page](#).

### Suggested Activities

Make yourself visible – while making a difference in your community! Showcase your favorite service project – or use one of these suggested activities to do a project in your community.

- Display 2009-2010 Peace Poster entries and finalists.
- Host an award program to recognize your local/district/ multiple district Peace Poster winners.
- Plan a [Lions Crew at Work project](#) to paint or repair a community center, camp or seniors home.
- Arrange a [cultural event](#) such as a dance, music program or international food fair.
- Schedule a [Green Team project](#) to clean up a park, plant trees or recycle.
- Organize a [vision screening](#) to promote Glaucoma Awareness Month.
- Sponsor a hearing aid or [eyeglass collection](#).
- Work with youth groups to organize a community shoveling event or snowman building contest or to help seniors clean up their yards.

You can also [add the Lions Clubs International Twibbon to your Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) profile – and include #Lions-In-Sight in your tweets – to raise the visibility of your club and its activities.

### Promoting Lions In Sight Activities

During your Lions In Sight activity, be sure to spotlight your project by using Lions signage and banners. And, invite the public to participate. Districts may use [public relations matching grants](#) to help fund this program. The following resources are also available to help you promote your Lions In Sight activity:

- [Lions In Sight Material Order Form](#)

#### MATERIAL ITEMS TO REQUEST

Better Communities. Changed Lives.	EX511
Family Membership Brochure	MPFM8
LCI Fact Sheet	PR799
LCI History	PR800
LCI Pocket Card	ME33
Pocket Invitation/Application	ME6B
Lions in Sight Poster	PR806

- [Lions In Sight Poster \(A4 version of poster\)](#)

#### We are Lions.

Many of us seek opportunities to pursue our personal growth. Today, we're finding those opportunities as Lions. We're meeting new people, learning new skills, and doing the kinds of volunteer work shown by research to promote better health and greater longevity. We're improving the lives of others and, as a bonus, we're improving our own. It's a win-win for all.



- [Lions in Sight News Release](#)
- [Sample News Releases](#)
- [PSAs](#)
- [Ads](#)
- [Billboard Artwork](#)
- [Club Public Relations Chairperson's Guide](#)

## State News



### Georgia Lions State Convention



**28-30 May 2010**  
**Tifton, Georgia**

**Friday:** Registration and Exhibits; Organizational Meetings – Lighthouse and Camp meetings; Opening Ceremony + Two seminars – one of which would be Lions working with LEOS. (Friday Night Meal Tickets \$20.00).

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

**Sunday:** District Breakfast; Necrology Service; Second Business Session

### HOSPITALITY BOOK ORDER FORM

Hospitality Books only \$75.00 till 30 November.  
1 December - \$80.00 and 1 April - \$85.00.

**YOU WILL FIND A LETTER AND HOSPITALITY BOOK FORM FOR THE 2010 GEORGIA LIONS STATE CONVENTION SCHEDULED FOR 28-30 May 2010 AT TIFTON ON THE [STATE WEB SITE](#). PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR CLUB MEMBERS. THANKS AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!**



WHEREAS: Since their founding in 1917, the Association of Lions Clubs International has grown to more than 1,300,000 members in over 45,000 local Lions Clubs in 205 countries, with its members volunteering their time and talents to meet needs wherever and whenever they exist;

And

WHEREAS: The founder of the Lions; a Chicago insurance man named Melvin Jones, whose birthday is celebrated on 13 January, believed that local business clubs should expand their horizons from purely professional concerns to the betterment of their communities and the world at large. Lions has become the largest service organization in the world and the United Nations has named Lions as the number one Non Governmental Organization.

And

WHEREAS: Lions came to the great state of Georgia in 1920, with the chartering of a Lions Club in Atlanta. Since then, Lions has grown to 6,500 members in 245 Lions Clubs, diligently serving the needs of their communities throughout the state. The Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind provides a camping experience to physically challenged Georgia youth and shows them that they are not alone and that they have abilities and opportunities that they never realized that they had. The Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation provides vision screenings, eye exams, surgery and eyeglasses to thousands of Georgians each year as well as hearing exams and hearing aids. And the Georgia LEO Clubs, scattered throughout our state, introduce our youth to the concept of "giving back" to their communities while providing them opportunities to learn organizational skills, teamwork, and to grow into our leaders of tomorrow. The Lions of Georgia are proud to include former President of the United States; Jimmy Carter and Lions Past International President Jim Ervin in its membership.

WHEREAS: The Lions of Georgia have improved the quality of life by devoting their time and efforts to fulfilling the needs of their fellow Georgians for 90 years, with a wide array of programs and projects involving vision, hearing, drug abuse, diabetes, disaster relief, guide dogs, aid to the elderly, scholarships, citizenship, recreation, international youth exchange, environmental projects and many other needs that their local community may face.

THEREFORE: In recognition of the very significant service provided by the Lions to our citizens, I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim January 13, 2010, as LIONS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this thirteenth day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand ten.



## **Chairman, Georgia Lions Council of Governors**

**Press Release - Thursday, 14 January 2010**

For further information, contact  
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860-367-7549  
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### **Governor Perdue proclaimed 13 January as “LIONS Day in Georgia”**

Atlanta -

The Georgia Legislature has passed a resolution declaring January 13<sup>th</sup> 2010 as “Lions Day in Georgia” and presented the resolution to Governor Perdue for his signature. Governor Perdue read the Proclamation to a gathering of Lions officials and the media in the State House and presented the Proclamation to Georgia Lions Council Chairman Ron Zeppieri of Darien. On this day, all Georgia Lions are recognized for the enormous effect that the volunteer services of the 6,500 Lions in 248 Lions Clubs in Georgia has on the well being of the citizens of Georgia.

Since their founding in 1917, the Association of Lions Clubs International has grown to more than 1,300,000 members in over 45,000 local Lions Clubs in 205 countries, with its members volunteering their time and talents to meet needs wherever and whenever they exist

The founder of the Lions; a Chicago insurance man named Melvin Jones, whose birthday is celebrated on 13 January, believed that local business clubs

should expand their horizons from purely professional concerns to the betterment of their communities and the world at large. Lions has become the largest service organization in the world and the United Nations has named Lions as the number one Non Governmental Organization.

“Campaign Sight First” set a goal of eliminating all curable and preventable blindness *in the world* and Lions set about raising over \$400 million to achieve this goal. Through this effort, cataract surgeries have restored the sight of 7.5 million people and prevented serious vision loss for 30 million. Lions have provided 115 million treatments for river blindness, built or expanded 300 medical facilities, upgraded 372 eye centers with modern equipment and trained 345,000 medical professional, eye care workers and village health workers. This project has been hailed as the world’s most successful humanitarian service project and Lions Clubs International was nominated for a Nobel Prize.

Lions came to the great state of Georgia in 1920, with the chartering of a Lions Club in Atlanta. Since then, Lions has grown to 6,500 members in 245 Lions Clubs, diligently serving the myriad of needs of their communities throughout the state. The Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind provides a camping experience to physically challenged Georgia youth and shows them that they are not alone and that they have abilities and opportunities that they never realized that they had. The Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation provides vision screenings, eye exams, surgery and eyeglasses to thousands of Georgians each year as well as hearing exams and hearing aids. And the Georgia LEO Clubs, scattered throughout our state, introduce our youth to the concept of “giving back” to their communities while providing them opportunities to learn organizational skills, teamwork, and to grow

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The Lions of Georgia have improved the quality of life by devoting their time and efforts to fulfilling the needs of their fellow Georgians for 90 years, with a wide array of programs and projects involving vision, hearing, drug abuse, diabetes, disaster relief, guide dogs, aid to the elderly, scholarships, citizenship, recreation, international youth exchange, environmental projects and many other needs that their local community may face.

The Lions motto is simply; “We Serve”.





## Generation Give

**From the president of the United States to our national survey to these generational experts, the good news is out: Today's teens are helping others in record number.**

A survey was taken by the by the USA Weekend with the help of partners = the YouthNoise.com and Key Club International. More than 21,700 students in grades 6-12 took the USA Weekend's 18<sup>th</sup> annual teen survey and the results were posted in the April 2005 edition. The results were as follows:

The results of the Annual Teen Survey are in. This year's topic was Teens and Volunteering. Thirty-seven percent of respondents say they volunteer 20 to 39 hours per year. Sixty-four percent say they volunteer through school, while only 4% say they don't volunteer at all. The largest group, 22%, say that visiting with sick kids in the hospital is their top choice for service. A whopping 93% say they plan to volunteer as adults, too. It may be fun to have your class answer the survey questions online and to compare the percentage of responses with the published ones. Last week, students began assembling notes in a reporter's notebook to help them develop a thesis and topic sentence for an editorial encouraging teens to volunteer locally. This week, they can get ready to write the editorial by studying how they are written. They should use the two editorials they chose from last week and analyze them.

## Full Survey Results: Teens & Volunteering

### 1. About how many hours a year do you volunteer?

Fewer than 20 hours per year 15%  
20 to 39 hours per year 35%  
40 to 59 hours 13%  
60 to 80 hours 7%  
More than 80 hours 30%

### 2. Which of the following best captures your attitude about volunteering? (Pick only one.)

I have found a way to volunteer that combines my interests and my talents. 38%  
I enjoy all kinds of volunteering and expect to do it all my life. 36%  
I have had mixed experiences volunteering. 11%  
I volunteer because it looks good to college admissions officers. 10%  
I volunteer because it's required. 4%  
I think volunteering is a waste of time. 1%

### 3. Many schools require volunteering. How many hours of volunteering a year do you think schools should require?

10 to 20 hours a year 32%  
21 to 30 hours 23%  
31-40 hours 13%  
More than 40 hours 12%  
Should not be a requirement 20%

### 4. Do you feel pressured to volunteer?

Yes 17%  
No 83%

### 4a. If yes, from whom do you get the most pressure to volunteer?

My teachers/counselors 39%  
My parents 29%  
Myself 13%  
Other 9%  
My friends 6%  
My church/temple/mosque 4%

### 5. What percentage of your peers do you think volunteer?

Less than 25% 47%  
Between 25% and 50% 40%  
More than 50% 12%

### 6. At what age do you think volunteering should begin?

10 years old 22%  
12 years old 16%  
13 years old 14%

### 7. Do your parents volunteer?

Yes 74%  
No 26%

**8. Do you belong to an organization that requires volunteering?**

Yes 54%  
No 46%

**9. What kind of volunteering do you do? (Pick all that apply.)**

Volunteer through church/temple/mosque 50%  
Volunteer through school 64%  
Volunteer through community groups 47%  
Volunteer through Scouts 14%  
Other 31%  
I don't volunteer 4%

**10. Which of the following examples of volunteering appeals to you the most? (Pick only one.)**

Visiting with sick kids in the hospital 22%  
Feeding the homeless 17%  
Tutoring 16%  
Helping to build affordable houses 12%  
Soliciting pledges and walking, running or biking to raise money for a charity 12%  
Cleaning up a park 10%  
Visiting one-on-one at a nursing home 8%  
Stuffing envelopes for a charity 3%

**11. What do you think is the primary purpose of volunteering?**

It opens me up to new experiences and new people. 32%  
It could highlight and develop my talents. 3%  
There's a social need for people to pitch in. 13%  
It's a moral responsibility to help others. 22%  
It makes me look good. 1%  
It makes me feel good. 22%  
Other 6%

**12. If you don't volunteer on a regular basis, it's because ... (Pick only one.)**

I'm too busy with other activities 60%  
I haven't had opportunities to volunteer 14%  
Volunteering doesn't interest me 3%  
I've had a bad experience volunteering 1%  
I don't know how to get started volunteering 6%  
Other 16%

**13. Do you expect to volunteer as an adult?**

Yes 93%  
No 7%

**14. In general, would you characterize your volunteering efforts as ...**

Highly rewarding 44%  
Rewarding 39%  
Somewhat rewarding 14%  
Somewhat unrewarding 1%  
Unrewarding 1%  
Highly unrewarding 1%

**14a. If it was generally rewarding, it was because ... (Pick all that apply.)**

It was well organized and efficiently run. 42%  
I believed in the overall effort. 52%  
I could see the immediate impact of my efforts. 53%  
I made friends and met interesting people. 51%  
I discovered I had a talent for something. 29%

**15. Have you ever had a dissatisfying experience volunteering?**

Yes 32%  
No 67%

**16. Looking back on your volunteering experiences, how often, in general, would you characterize your experience as dissatisfying?**

Zero percent of the time 56%  
25% of the time 34%  
50% of the time 4%  
75% of the time 4%  
All of the time 2%

**DEMOGRAPHICS:**

**Sex:**

31% Male  
69% Female

**Race:**

76% White  
6% Hispanic  
3% Multiracial  
8% Black  
4% Asian  
3% Other

**Grade in school:**

7% 6<sup>th</sup>-grade  
11% 7<sup>th</sup>-grade  
15% 8<sup>th</sup>-grade  
16% 9<sup>th</sup>-grade  
15% 10<sup>th</sup>-grade  
17% 11<sup>th</sup>-grade  
19% 12<sup>th</sup>-grade





**18-A**

## **The Ins and Outs of an LCIF EMERGENCY GRANT**

### **By: Berry Broach, DG 18-A**

The rains came in September, and before they stopped we heard reports of sever flooding in Douglas, Cobb, Paulding Counties and the City of Trion. I thought of an Emergency Grant for those areas of 18-A. I had never been involved with an Emergency Grant before and the more people I turned to for advice, the more confused I got.

At last resort I called Oak Brook and talked with Erin Crouch in the LCIF Department. Erin was very helpful because she had all of the answers. She let me know that the Grant would be given to the District and we in the District would have to make the call as to which of the areas in the District would get the money and how much money they would get. She e-mailed me the proper forms to make the request and told me to make sure that I had good and detailed information to back up my request. The largest reason for this was to help them make the decision as to just how much money we should receive, \$5000 or \$10,000.

Since I was leaving for the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum the next day, I contacted the Zone Chairs in the flooded areas of the district and asked them to get the backup material I needed for the request to LCIF. I asked them to have their reports to me on the next Sunday. I also called Peggie Chapman, Chair of the 18-A Alert Team Committee, and let her know what I was doing and that I wanted the Alert Team to be the Administrator of the Grant, if we got it. While in Memphis, I went by the LCIF booth and was able to talk with Erin Crouch who was there. She again told me how important it was for me to have good back up material for the request for the Grant.

The first of the next week, with Zone Chair reports in hand, I was able to complete the request forms and get them sent to LCIF. Within a day and a half I received an e-mail notifying me that we had been approved for a \$10,000 Emergency Grant. With the notification was a list of things that the money could purchase and a list showing things that could not be purchased. There was also a request to let LCIF know how we wanted to receive the money. Our options were a check mailed to the District Treasurer or a Bank Transfer. If we wanted the bank transfer, we had to give them the routing information and account name and number. I selected the bank transfer, which proved to be the wrong choice because it took two additional days to get the proper information to LCIF.

The restrictions on the use of the money were very harsh. The money could only be spent for food, clothing, medical items, clean up materials, diapers and baby formula, bedding and personal hygiene items. The things the money could not be spent for was extensive. It could not be used for any building materials, tools, gas for automobiles, dumpsters, rent for houses or motels, contractors, rental equipment and the like. We also were restricted from giving the money to other organizations such as the Red Cross or local Pantry type outlets.

We had decided that the best way to distribute the money was to purchase Wal-Mart gift cards. We decided on buying \$25.00 gift cards and the size of the family would determine the number of cards a family would get. We made a form that the family head would read and sign stating that he/she had read and understood what the card could purchase. We also gave them a list of things that were restricted by LCIF. We kept a list of those receiving the cards, number of cards and size of the family.

The Alert Team had contacted the FEMA and GEMA people on site in the flood areas and had asked for them to give us a list of those people in the flood areas who were qualified for aid. They also established a place for our distribution and notified those to receive the aid of the time and the location. This was a great help to the Alert Team.

We had taken so much time in getting started that FEMA and GEMA were closing down their operations about the time that we were starting ours. This forced us to have to go to local organizations in the communities to get the names of those flood victims and to set up distribution times and locations. This was done, but we did not feel as sure of the eligibility of those folks as we had with those supplied by FEMA and GEMA.

We have learned much from this project, and if we have need for another Grant I would do things a little different. I would get the application done much faster, have the information on the bank transfer ready to go and get it to LCIF faster, get on site and take advantage of all FEMA and GEMA have to offer before they pull out.

It took the Alert Team the full 60 days given by LCIF to distribute the funds and make a final report to LCIF. The final report was to include pictures, newspaper articles and any other PR used or received.

LCIF acts very quickly and will get the money to the District very fast. It is up to the DG to get the application there as quickly as possible, and have it documented fully.





It is very important to electronically submit your Monthly Membership Report (MMR) on time each and every month BEFORE the end of the month. This reflects an accurate count of our membership numbers with Lions Clubs International. If your Club mails your report, it must be mailed by the 15th of the month. If you need any help with this, please contact your Zone Chairman or my office. Remember to support the eye clinic in your area when asked to volunteer. Beginning the month of July, you will get a beautiful 60th anniversary pin for volunteering six hours or more.

**18-B**

### **Bellville Lions Club =**



**Sausage Suppers**

Bellville Lions Club sponsors two Sausage Suppers each year, one in November and another in February. These suppers have had a long history with our club and the community. The supper includes fresh southern sausage, grits, eggs, biscuits, juice and coffee. The sausage suppers are held in the Bellville United Methodist Church Social Hall and are a good time for all.



**B-B-Que Chicken Dinners**

The sausage suppers are major fund raising events for the club. Each year the Bellville Lions Club sponsors two BBQ Chicken Dinners, one in September and another in April. These dinners are held at the Bellville United Methodist Church Social Hall and are major fund raising events for our club. The dinners consist of half a BBQ chicken, potato salad, green beans, rolls, desert and a beverage.

### **Savannah Lions Club =**

What a Great Tree Sale – 657 trees sold in record time for an all time profit of \$17,793.96. The lot opened the Monday before Thanksgiving and by the Sunday after we had sold half of the trees. The Friday after Thanksgiving was an all time record sales day with 109 trees sold – one every 6 minutes. Thanks to everybody who helped with special thanks to John McKenna and Steve Thompson who planned so well and were there every day of the sale.



**Lion Chip carries tree**



**Lion Silver trims a tree**

Many others put in many long hours to make the sale a great success. The lot is cleared and the trailer safely stored until next year.

### **Lyons Lions Club =**



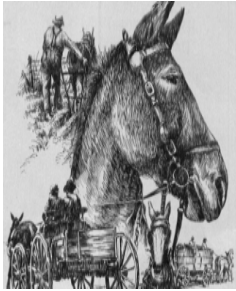
Lyons Lions Club did their part to keep Georgia Green and to keep the land fields empty. On the last day of the year the club set up a Christmas Tree Recycling Center and provided a pick up and mulch service for the City of Lyons. The workers were very happy with the number of trees recycled. Pictured L to R: Club President Stan Bazemore, Darriel Nobles, Johnny Griggers, Hardy Thomas, Jimmy Alexander. Not pictured: Howard Sharpe assisted with tree collection.



## MULE DAYS

18-C

Back in 1973 the CREATIVE processes were at work with the Lion's Club members when they came up with the idea of having a "Mule Day" to be held the first Saturday in November of that year. The mule was chosen because of its significant contribution to the area's agriculture.



Planning for the first Mule Day not only gave club members a project to tackle, it attracted new members and the club grew in size. Much credit should be given to the Lions Club and also the Calvary community for their efforts in planning, preparation, and promoting that first Mule Day, which attracted four to six thousand people.

Over the many years since Mule Day has seen a growth in attendance and a myriad of activities, some still active and others just memories....Some of the past activities included a greased pig contest, chicken throwing, performances by a diving mule, a fishing contest where a prize was given for the smallest fish caught, and the barn and street dance. Some of the original activities like the parade continue with many more being added over the years.

What has not changed is the enthusiasm by the Lions, the volunteers or the thousands of participants that come year after year. This tiny little town with a population of about 300 draws people from many parts of the country for this special festival. It is a day of family fun where all ages can enjoy a day of interesting activities. Best of all, the admission is the same as day one, FREE. Pre-Mule Day activities have been added over the years. You can tell that Mule Day is close when you see the "Syrup Today" sign at the corner gas station. The community begins to gather on the grounds just to hang around and discuss old times while watching the syrup being made the old fashioned way. The Mule Day Golf Tournament is held the Saturday before Mule Day at the Golden Leaf Golf and Country Club.

Friday night, or Mule eve, has multiple events with Lion Carey VanLandingham holding an auction at the Mule Arena, followed by some great entertainment. Along with all the hustle and bustle of the vendors getting ready for the morning crowd, Lion Nancy Vine and our valued volunteers assisting Glenda Shepard and the Hen House Chicks with the annual Chicken Pilau. Cooked in old wash pots, this dish is a favorite of many of the locals and revisiting guests. Just about the time the line for the Pilau begins to thin out the entertainment begins on the main stage, next to the Mule Day Museum.

Sunrise on Saturday (Mule Day) will begin with two locations serving breakfast. A country breakfast behind the Lion's Den and a pancake breakfast next to the syrup shed. In the crisp morning air 450 arts and craft booths are waiting for browsing. Art work, T-shirts, handmade crafts, Christmas items, and everything else imaginable is available. Food vendors offer multiple selections of great vittles. The Mule Day and Maxwell Museums are opened to remind those of days gone by. The petting zoo is ready for the children to get acquainted with a furry bunny or baby goats. Nobody should leave the grounds without a sack of freshly ground corn meal.

At 11:00 a.m. the Mule Day Parade begins on the west side of the pond. It's always a great parade with bands, animals, fire trucks and all the neat things that make up a good parade. There is a great deal to see in one day, but it is a great day for all. The end results of all the work and preparations that have gone into Mule Day come from the lives that are changed for the better by the Lions Club. The dollars that are raised for sight programs, local charities and civic projects make it all worth it.



Calvary Mule Day—Report from Calvary Mule Tamer Carey Vanlandingham: This year's Mule Day was another huge success **WITH THE LARGEST ATTENDANCE EVER RECORDED.** Lion Carey reported that over 165 entries were present for the mule exhibits. The Saturday festival began with breakfast, invocation, and a parade with **OVER 135 units.** The Mule Show was the biggest yet. 450+ arts and crafts vendors set-up with 75 food booths. All of Calvary's famous cane syrup was sold. 2150 pounds of corn were ground and sold. The sling shot shoot was enjoyed by nearly 600 participants. Preliminary estimates of this year's attendance was 100,000. Carey said places had to be found to accommodate the exhibitors and vendors.







**18-D = DG Grace**

Here we are half-way through the 2009-2010 Lions year. It has been a great 6 months for me as District Governor. I have had the privilege of visiting all 36 clubs in the District. District 18-D had our Rally in November. Twelve of our deserving Lions were inducted into our Hall of Fame. International Director Art Marson and Lion Jo from LaCrosse, Wisconsin were our guests for the weekend. It was great to hear firsthand what's going on in Lions Clubs International from one of our International Directors.

The next week after our Rally, I was notified that our newest club, the Dacula Lions Club, had been chartered by Lions Clubs International. We will celebrate with our new club at their Charter Night on January 30, 2010.

Yes, it is true, the Toccoa Lions are doing a tele-marketing project. We started calling businesses and individuals in Stephens County on Monday, November 2nd. We are asking people and businesses to make a donation to provide free passes for disadvantaged children to attend our puppet shows on Saturday, January 30, 2010. Two Lions and six of their friends are making the solicitation calls for our club.

You may get an inquiry from business people in your community like Margaret Ayers did today about these calls to see if it is a scam or for real. I told our callers that they could call businesses outside our county if they were advertising in the publications that circulate on the streets of Toccoa. The only people in adjoining counties who receive calls from the Toccoa Lions are advertisers soliciting business in Stephens County. It would be good PR for a business to have their name on free passes to the puppet show in Toccoa.

The Toccoa Lions Club used to do a Children's Film Festival every September but we suspended it at the end of 2007. We did not like the way the professional tele-marketing company we hired was treating our club or the public. At a cabinet meeting last year I discovered that the Gainesville Lions Club had a very similar situation with their Children's Film Festival operation. The Gainesville Club had a member who was formerly a tele-marketer and they formed their own tele-marketing committee and started offering live stage productions a couple of years ago. The Gainesville Lions are hosting a puppet show on Saturday, November 21st at Riverside Baptist Church in Gainesville.

The Toccoa Club is way down on fund raising the last couple of years and we have cut back on the services we offer the community. I used to be a professional tele-marketer myself and thought the Gainesville Club had a good idea. So the Toccoa Club has "cloned" the Gainesville Clubs Children's Theater Project. If this works for Toccoa I will share the business model at a future zone meeting.



***Presidential Certificate of Appreciation to:***



***Lion Roy Rice at age 101***

***Most active Lion with Winder Lions Club***



***Lion Mike Higgins – Forsyth Lions Club***





It's a brand new year in Lionism! I'm really looking forward to enjoying our work as Lions this year. I'm excited because this new Lions year brings with it new opportunities and fresh ideas. Our district leadership team will be introduced to not only a new theme for our district program, but also a new way of thinking. We will be asking all our fellow Lions members throughout the district to embrace this new way of thinking as a way to help make our Lions programs at the club level much more effective and enjoyable. We want to learn how to "SERVE" each day and enjoy every moment of it!

## 18-E = DG Scott

### Greater Butts County Lions Club

Some of the older (more mature!) clubs in the District (or Multiple District, for that matter) could take lessons from the newest club in District 18-E. The Greater Butts County Lions Club was just chartered in June 2009, but they have already been hard at work with fundraisers and service projects since day one.

Since the club was chartered they have donated 48<sup>th</sup> Brigade insignias to the High School football team to wear on their helmets; they held a successful Texas Hold Em Tournament, they sold pocket calendars, set up a humanitarian site for collecting and distributing food, clothing and furniture to those in need, and raffled off a 1997 Ford F-150 Pickup Truck in order to raise money for their services projects. Way to go GBCLC!

### Byron Lions Club

**KEEPING VISIBLE AND BUSY!** The holidays are a busy time for everyone, but the Byron Lions Club seems to be doing just a little more. Since November, they have had something going on almost all the time. First was their successful annual Turkey Shoot, headed up by Lion Jim Harden, Melvin Jones Fellow and organizer extraordinaire. The Club Sponsors the local Boy Scout Troop, and several members spent the evening at a recent Court of Honor, helping provide refreshments for the boys and their parents.

Next on the agenda was the Byron Christmas Parade. The Byron Lions Club is always the last float in the parade, as they carry a sleigh with Santa and Mrs. Santa. The beautiful decorations were headed up by Dee Harden and Kristi Bowden, with the help of several of the Lions.

The next day, the Lions Club continued a tradition that had been begun by the Byron Lioness Club, which disbanded in early 2009. A beautiful Love Light Tree ceremony was held, in which local residents honored and memorialized their loved ones by purchasing lights to go on the tree in front of the Public Safety Building in Byron. An Invocation and Benediction were provided by a local minister, and musical entertainment was provided by the local elementary school music teacher, who had spent time working for Disney World prior to her teaching career. Chairperson PDG Marlene Humphry and other Lions members read the names of all those honored and memorialized, and the lights were lit. All proceeds from the event are going to the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind.

Lastly, the Club held their annual Christmas Party at the home of Lions Club President and her husband Lee and Ken Brown. Wonderful food, fun, fellowship and festivities were shared by all present. Over \$200 of toys were donated to be given to Kids Yule Love, a local charity providing holiday cheer to those in need.

The holidays may be over, but the Byron Lions Club is now hard at work getting ready for their first annual Ride for Sight, a Horse Show to be held April 9-11 at the Southeastern Arena in Unadilla GA. Keep up the good work, Byron!

### Macon Lions Club

'TIS THE SEASON - Members of the Macon Lions Club held their annual Christmas Party Dec. 11. In the spirit of the season everyone brought grocery items for the local food pantry. Pictured above are Lions Club members (l to r) Jim Stevenson, Charlie Roberts and Dale Bagley loading a pickup truck with the donated food items.





**18-F = DG Harvey**

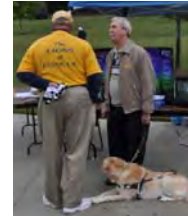
#### Move to Grow

Our international president said "Move to Grow".  
Let's stop playing around and let the world know.  
That Lions have been around for a very long while.  
Their purple and gold vests are always in style.  
The thing that they do to serve fellow man.  
Deserves a long parade, with a loud band.  
So march in our parade and tell others out loud.  
We're Lions who help others and that make us proud.  
Move out of our shell and let people know.  
Lions are always around where ever they go.  
Always ask others to come join the fight.  
We all need new members to help us save sight.  
So in closing I say put on a good show.



**Evans Lions Club Activities:** Dog Walk Oct 17 – Evans Lions Club partnered with the Columbia County Humane and held its third annual Dog Walk and Family Festival. Live music was provided and the activities for the kids included play zones, face painting, and other games. For the dogs the events included the walk around the pond, a t-shirt race, bobbing for hot dogs, and lots of socialization. The event raised \$1000 each for the Humane Society and National Leader Dogs for the Blind.

29 Oct - First Responders Appreciation Night. The club held a chili dinner in honor of the Columbia County Sheriffs Office and the Columbia County Fire Department at the Fire Department headquarters. The event was attended by several guests, county commissioners and of course the First Responders. The club presented another 100 stuffed lions to the First Responders to use to encourage traumatized children. Called Project Courage this activity was the clubs first community support effort first started in 2006 when the club was formed. Annual Toys for Tots collection drive in support of the Marine Corps Reserve. This year the club has expanded to 28 collection boxes throughout Columbia County. The toys will be presented to the Marine Corps Reserve at the first meeting in December.



**Conyers Lions Club** = As seen in the picture above, Conyers Lions Club members have been busy volunteering hours of their time in the community. The group pictured above, Lion Tom Linek (left) and Lions Scott and Mary Michael recently participated in the **Rivers Alive** community cleanup project at Lake Oconee. Using their scuba diving skills, Lion Tom and Lion Scott brought up trash from the bottom of the lake, while Lion Mary helped clean the beach area. By cleaning up the lake and beach area, these Lions not only helped save the fish, but also helped prevent injuries to future visitors to the lake. This motivated group gave twelve hours of volunteer time to this worthy project.

**Hephzibah Lions Club** = In November, canned goods and non-perishable food items were collected for the Golden Harvest Food Bank. In December, the members collected new toys and donated them to the local Toys for Tots.

**Monroe Lions Club** = Club provided eye examinations and purchased new eyeglasses for three approved applicants during the month.

**Madison Lions Club** = 4 eye exams and vision therapy given to individuals in need by Lion Dr. Ken.

**Decatur Lions Club** = Collected and turned in to the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation Year to date total 1,308 pair. Purchased, delivered and donated to the Decatur Emergency Assistance Ministry DEAM) the following: 4 cases of individually packaged sugar, 1,500 per case (6,000 packs total) 12 cases of shelf milk, 12 quarts per case (144 quarts total).

**Centerville Lions Club** = **Items collected for the Lighthouse:** Regular glasses – 138, Sun Glasses – 28, Frames – 8, Lens – 66, Hearing aids – 2, Cell phones – 21. **Publicity** – (a) Articles in three different newspapers about the VIEW (a joint clubs project). Also an interview with local radio station about this project (b) Article in District news letter.

## **RETENTION VISION STATEMENT: “Lions for Life”**

\*What this statement does is specify a viable retention goal. That is, once Lions are recruited, our goal should be to keep them as members for the rest of their lives.

### **PRIORITIZED RETENTION ACTION ITEMS**

Based primarily on behavioral science research of volunteers, club adoption of the following nine action items should improve our Lion membership retention:

1. Increase the number of clubs holding new member pre-orientation and orientation training. (New members are less likely to remain Lions if they do not learn what Lions do and accept their club actions.)
2. Increase the number of clubs that will ask new members what they want to do as Lions and then match these desires with club activities. (Research has shown that new volunteers who do not quickly begin to do what they want to do will soon resign.)
3. Increase the number of new Lions that become more closely linked to club mentors and/or their sponsors. (New members need to become more closely related to other Lions, but especially important is increasing the strength of their relationships to their sponsors and club mentors.)
4. Increase the attendance of members at club meetings, fundraising events and service projects. (Research has shown that those members with the highest attendance are the volunteers who remain members the longest.)
5. Increase the number of clubs that recognize the volunteer efforts of all of their members. (Individual recognition of **ALL** volunteer efforts by members is directly related to retaining membership in clubs.)
6. Increase the percentage of club members who know the names of Lions in their clubs. (This action is related to increasing the strength of new member relationships to Lion sponsors and mentors. However, this part is increasing the strength of being a member of a club by becoming more knowledgeable about all Lions in their clubs.)
7. Increase the number of clubs that recognize the spouses and friends of their Lions. (Research has shown that volunteers that do not have the support of their spouses and friends are less likely to continue being club members.)
8. Increase the number of clubs that equalize the volunteer labor of their members. (Research has shown that volunteers who become too intensively involved in the actions of their clubs are members who are more likely to become non-members.)
9. Decrease the number of negative relationships between club members. (This is another member relationship issue except this one can potentially destroy club retention.)

Yours in Lionism,  
Richard “Dick” Smith, PDG  
MD-18 MERL TEAM RETENTION CHAIR



## THE CONTINUING SAGA OF MEMBERSHIP!

It is hard to believe that it is the middle of December. Our Lions year is almost one-half over. Remember those goals that were established by each District Governor at the beginning of his/her term of office? Well, I guess they are kind of like New Year's resolutions—easy to make, and hard to follow through with. But the difference with the goals is that they are not just for the DGs who made them, they are for all of us. And our District Governors need all of our help to reach those goals.

At the end of November, District A was at 1,340 members—a decrease of 10. This is after an increase of 15 during the month of October. District B was a plus 28—bringing them up to 1,145. Keep it up! District C is at 1,019. The new clubs are helping, but the drops continue. District D is up 15 to 1,109. Way to go, District D! District E had a plus 3, but are still only at 954, and have quite a way to go to reach that magic 1,250! District F remains at 1,077. As a whole, the Multiple District is now at 6,644.

What is the importance of these numbers? They reflect the efforts of the clubs to increase the ability of Lions to provide needed services in their communities. If each of the 244 clubs in Georgia added only one member each, what a wonderful thing that would be, and what a way to make a difference in the community.

Every District has a MERL team that is ready and willing to help any and every club within their district to strengthen their existing clubs, to branch out, and to start new clubs. With the help of Guiding Lions, every club, every District, and the entire Multiple District has the opportunity to Move to Grow.

If you do not know how to improve your club or your District, contact your MERL team members, or contact me. We are all ready and willing to do whatever it takes to make MD 18 a better and stronger place to be. And if you have been successful in helping your club or your District to grow, share your secrets of success with others. That is what Lionism is all about.

Yours in Lionism,

Marlene Humphry  
MD 18 Membership Chair

### *Southeast Lions Leadership Institute*

PID Beverly Roberts has announced the location of the next SELLI in 2010. It will be at Hickory Knob State Park in South Carolina on 15-18 April 2010. Hickory Knob State Park is located on the South Carolina / Georgia state line, northwest of Augusta. Additional information will be published when available.

This is an excellent resource for anyone who wishes to advance to club or district leadership.

Now WHO plans to attend next year's Southeastern Leadership Institute???

I asked a friend who had just returned from a long walk in the woods what she had observed. "Nothing in particular," she replied.

How was that possible, I asked myself. I, who cannot hear or see, find hundreds of things to interest me through mere touch. I feel the delicate symmetry of a leaf.

I pass my hands lovingly about the rough shaggy bark of a pine. Occasionally, if I am very fortunate, I place my hand gently on a small tree and feel the happy quiver of a bird in full song.

**Helen Keller**



## Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation

*Providing vision and hearing services to Georgians in financial need*

The Lighthouse is a wonderful program. It helps a whole lot of people who wouldn't have that chance to see again, and it gives them a second chance at life. I'm so grateful to have my sight back."  
~ Cheryl Tisdale

### **A Second Chance: Cheryl Tisdale**

In 1991 Cheryl Tisdale was working at a manufacturing plant when the thick rubber banner surrounding a packing crate snapped off and struck her left eye. The blow damaged her cornea, and she received a transplant in an attempt to save her sight. The surgery required a year-long recovery that limited her at work and at home. After the period of recovery she was more independent and could start working again, but the visual acuity in her left eye was still only 20/200.

Cheryl later moved to north Georgia looking for a better career, and she found it at Georgia Mountain Community Services (GMCS). Every day she drove more than 80 miles to work, helping mentally handicapped adults. She was a job coach, secretary, chauffeur, and did anything else that was needed. Cheryl was learning, growing, and enjoying her career when the company moved an additional 20 miles away. She decided the commute would be too much and it was time to move on. She left the job at GMCS thinking she wouldn't be out of work long, but then the economy took a turn for the worse.

Last November Cheryl was unemployed and had no insurance when her left eye started to hurt. The pain was debilitating; she describes it as "like having a migraine, all the time." Seventeen years after the initial transplant her body was rejecting the graft. Friends stepped in to help take care of her daily needs, but the pain was so intense it was difficult to function. An optometrist told Cheryl to see a specialist, but she knew she would not be able to afford the \$8,000 for a second surgery. She went to a former doctor for help and was referred to the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation. Cheryl submitted her application at the end of July, and by early September received her surgery. She has been pain-free since then.

With her new cornea Cheryl's comfort and safety driving have improved immensely. She is back to reading her favorite thrillers and love stories, but she also reads with a new purpose. At forty-four, Cheryl is going back to school and studying business. She plans to open her own clothing store in Lithonia. Cheryl credits the Lighthouse and its supporters for her new life. "The Lighthouse is a wonderful program. It helps a whole lot of people who wouldn't have that chance to see again, and it gives them a second chance at life. I'm so grateful to get my sight back."

## **Summer Service**

### **Numbers**

**July 1—November 30, 2009**

#### **District A**

Eye Glasses: 295  
Eye Exams: 144  
Eye Surgeries: 14  
Hearing Aids: 127

#### **District B**

Eye Glasses: 387  
Eye Exams: 240  
Eye Surgeries: 17  
Hearing Aids: 45

#### **District C**

Eye Glasses: 120  
Eye Exams: 90  
Eye Surgeries: 15  
Hearing Aids: 63

#### **District D**

Eye Glasses: 64  
Eye Exams: 48  
Eye Surgeries: 17  
Hearing Aids: 32

#### **District E**

Eye Glasses: 76  
Eye Exams: 56  
Eye Surgeries: 19  
Hearing Aids: 53

#### **District F**

Eye Glasses: 200  
Eye Exams: 115  
Eye Surgeries: 26  
Hearing Aids: 54

#### **Fiscal Year Totals:**

**Eye Glasses: 1142 Eye  
Exams: 693  
Eye Surgeries: 108**

## 60th Anniversary Pin



In celebration of your Lighthouse's 60th anniversary, we have made a special edition pin. There are two ways to receive a pin:

1. You may honor someone you know by purchasing a pin for them. They will receive the pin, a letter letting them know you honored them, and a special 60th anniversary certificate.
2. In the 2009-2010 Lion's year, give 6 hours of your time as a volunteer to the Lighthouse by: serving at a vision clinic, hosting a vision or hearing screening, collecting eyeglasses for recycling, working in our eyeglass recycling center, participating in your club's White Cane campaign, or performing administrative tasks for the Lighthouse.

White Cane Butter Mints  
**45.00 per 1000**  
Miniature Plastic White Cane  
**65.00 per 500**  
Punched Card  
**14.00 per 500**

**Order from Lions of Michigan**  
**(517) 887-6640**



If you have any questions about White Cane, or would like materials such as posters or bookmarks for your fundraiser, please contact Kim at

404-325-3630 x 313 or at  
[kfletcher@lionslighthouse.org](mailto:kfletcher@lionslighthouse.org)  
Thank you for supporting your Lighthouse for all the effort you put into White Cane!

## White Cane: It's not just bucket drives anymore!

Curtis Thompson lost his job as a skilled craftsman due to his deteriorating eyesight. He later discovered his vision problems were caused by cataracts, but he could not afford surgery unless he returned to work, and he couldn't return to work until he had the surgery. Seemingly trapped, Curtis turned to the Lighthouse for help. He was back to his job soon after the surgery was complete.

More than 1,500 Georgians lost their health coverage each week of this year, and your Lighthouse is one of the few places they can turn for sight-saving surgeries. We rely on the White Cane fundraisers held by the Lions clubs of Georgia to support the eye surgery program.

The traditional method of fundraising through bucket drives is becoming more difficult each year. Fewer people are out buying, and those who are shopping don't carry cash as often. A number of clubs have found alternative ways to fundraise. They are recycling soda cans and bottles, writing and hand-delivering letters to small businesses, hosting pancake breakfasts and barbecues, putting on car shows, and ushering at local sporting events. The Tifton Lions Club put in a lot of work and pulled off a very successful male beauty pageant (see previous page).

Not only do White Cane activities help the Lighthouse, they also provide an avenue for spreading the word about the amazing work Lions do in the community. In addition, they are a great opportunity to get new club members actively involved in Lionism.



**WHITE CANE EMPHASIS IS APRIL**, but don't wait until then to start planning your club's participation. A few clubs report they are too small, or they are rebuilding, or not sure how to hold a White Cane Drive. NO club is too small (or too large) to participate. A White Cane Drive can be a terrific incentive for a rebuilding club. So how about some ideas on how to begin or improve your club's efforts.

Here are some ideas:

- \* Place plastic jars on check-out counters of convenience and fast food stores. This could be done 4-6 weeks in April and can be handled by 1 or 2 Lions. Special jar lids and decals are available through White Cane Days, Inc.

- \* Write letters to businesses of your community soliciting donations. Then follow up with a personal visit.

- \* Hold a pancake breakfast, chili supper, chicken BBQ, or other project designated for White Cane.

- \* Get publicity through having a community leader (mayor, administrator, or commissioner) sign a proclamation declaring your club's White Cane Drive and publishing it in your local newspaper.

- \* If you have a Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Kroger's, or some other large retail outlet, approach management about a matching grant for White Cane.

- \* Utilize your White Cane efforts to educate your community about the Georgia Lions Lighthouse in general, and your club in particular. You may be able to recruit a few new members.



Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Open House at our Present Home** = 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Continental breakfast will be provided.

**Breakout Meetings** = Clairmont Presbyterian Church = 10:00 a.m.

**Vision and Hearing Program Q & A:**

Ask any questions you have of your Lighthouse's program managers.

**Board Meeting:** This year's Board Meeting will be open to the public!

Elections and Capital Campaign Kickoff

Clairmont Presbyterian Church = 11:30-1:00 p.m.

Be there for the beginning of a new chapter at your Lighthouse as we kick off our Capital Campaign! Lunch is \$10. Please RSVP if you plan to eat lunch at the church.

**Breakout Meeting** = 1:30 p.m.

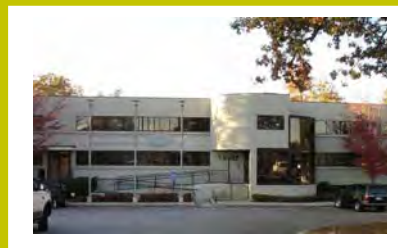
White Cane

**Breakout Meetings** = 2:30 p.m.

Planned Giving

Luminary Society

**Tour the Proposed Office and Clinic 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, and 4:30 p.m.** See the proposed future home of the Lighthouse. There is limited space available for the tours, so please RSVP with the time you would like to tour the building.



### Tifton Lions Find Creative Ways to Fundraise

The Tifton Lions Club found a new and creative way to fundraise: An all-male "beauty pageant." The men dressed up in outrageous costumes and their wives helped with the make-up. The contestants included Tifton's mayor, city manager, county manager, and Business leaders. They were judged on talents, a question and answer session, and evening wear. The club raised funds by selling tickets, finding sponsors for each of the contestants, and creating a calendar of the men. If your club has any fun fundraising ideas you would like to share with others, please let us know! We would love to hear from you!



**Dr. Nikki  
DeGeorge,  
Lighthouse  
Audiologist  
Partner**

Sharifa Peart,  
Lighthouse  
Hearing Program  
Director





From Kristen Picus, Camp Director:



### *Why are we the best camp built for the visually impaired?*

The Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind is like no other camp in Georgia. Here, disabilities fade into the background. We empower those who are struggling; we encourage the pursuit of dreams. We play like there is no tomorrow while providing a physically and emotionally safe environment at all times. We do it because we are the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, and together, that's our mission.



We are looking forward to seeing each of you for this very special weekend! Please call with any questions, or visit our website at [www.glcb.org](http://www.glcb.org) for further information and a schedule of events.

Sincerely,  
Kristen Picus  
Camp Director

#### Upcoming events are:

**LEO Gathering:** 29-31 January  
**Camp Meeting:** February 5-7, 2010  
**Work Weekend -** March 26-28, 2010  
**Work Weekend -** April 16-18, 2010



# The President's View

I am now spending a wonderful weekend at our Camp celebrating the birth of our Lord with some very special Campers. WOW – How blessed I am to be able to do that. Once again, Kristen and her Team are doing an outstanding job in facilitating the needs of our Campers. Kristen will tell you all about this great weekend!

Here are some upcoming dates that are important to us:

- **January 9<sup>th</sup>** @ 1100AM – Special Meeting of the Finance Committee and Executive Committee to draft the 2010-2011 Budget. This will be a working meeting that will last numerous hours.
- **January 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>** – **LEO Gathering at the Camp.** The Camp is proud to host the LEOs of Georgia and we look forward to a great weekend. Lion Steve Helwig will have more information on this for you.
- **February 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>** – **The Winter Board Meeting** of the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, Inc. The Standing Committee Meetings will be held at the LaQuinta Inn on Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. The Board of Directors' Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at the Centerville Lions' Club House.
  - At this Board Meeting we will be voting for the President, Secretary and Treasurer that will serve our Camp for the next two years. It is very important for you to attend this Meeting and cast your vote for the Lion you want to serve in these positions.
  - If you wish to run for one of these positions; you must submit your name and qualification in writing to the Nominations Committee Chair by January 8<sup>th</sup>. The Committee Chair is Lion Wade Hodges and his contact information is located on the [GLCB.org](http://GLCB.org) Web Page.
  - The qualifications for the above positions are laid out in the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind's Constitution. Please contact Lion Wade or myself if you have any questions about the positions being voted on or the process for applying.
  -

Since the Fall Joint Meeting I have been a very busy guy:

- I got to attend the District D Rally in Gainesville, GA on November 14<sup>th</sup>. District Governor Grace and her Team put on a great event and I thank them for their hospitality.
- On Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> of November I was in Centerville for a Fundraising Committee Meeting. It was a very long meeting and we left that meeting with some actions plan in place to try and stimulate some income for our Camp. Please join me in thanking Lion David White and his Committee for their dedication to serving our Camp.
- Prior to that - I had been focused on getting my health back where it needed to be. The surgery went well and it looks like we got all the cancer. I am healing well, working through some post surgery issues and getting stronger each day. Thank you to all the Lions throughout the State that sent me cards, e-mails, put me on their prayer lists. My Lions Family is very special!

Giving to others is what makes this season so special. We the Lions of Georgia are so blessed to be able to give and serve others year round. I thank you for giving to our Camp and for helping us live up to our Lions motto of "WE SERVE". Your continued support of our Camp is appreciated and I ask you now to continue and yes even increase your support in 2010. What better gift can you give the Visually Impaired Youth of Georgia than an opportunity to attend our Camp? Camp gives them the opportunity to grow, gain trust in themselves and others and prepares them for the lift ahead. WOW – I am amazed each and every time I am at our Camp, to see what we the Lions of Georgia are doing for those "WE SERVE" at OUR CAMP!

In closing, I wish you a Happy New Year.

God Bless!

*Frank*





## John Deere Gator Compact CX Series

Ideal for turf, property tasks and easily fits in tight spaces.

**You could win this Gator or \$5,000 Cash**

Drawing to be held on February 7, 2010 at Warner Robins, GA

You do not have to be present to win

Funds from this raffle will help send blind children to camp and benefit

The Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, Inc. in Waycross, GA

The Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, Inc. is a 501(c)3 corporation

Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a ticket

\$1.00 Donation per ticket



Contact any Georgia Lion for tickets

The GA Lions Camp for the Blind

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



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

## *January 2010*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 <i>Melvin Jones Birthday</i>	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 <b>GA Lions Lighthouse Winter Meeting</b>
24 <b>GA Lions Lighthouse Winter Meeting</b>	25	26	27	28	29 <b>LEO Gathering</b>	30 <b>LEO LEOLYMPICS</b>
31 <b>LEO Gathering</b>						

## *February 2010*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 <b>Council of Governors Mtg/Camp for Blind Mtg Warner Robins, GA.</b>
7 <b>Camp for Blind Mtg Warner Robins, GA. Election of Officers</b>	8	9	10	11	12	13 <b>18-E Convention, Columbus, GA</b>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 <b>18-B Convention, Port Wentworth, GA.</b>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 <b>18-C Convention, Cordele, GA.</b>
28						

## March 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 <b>18-F Convention, Warner Robins, GA.</b>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 <b>18-A Convention, Roswell, GA.</b>
14 <b>Atlanta VisionWalk Start – 1:00pm</b>	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 <b>Camp Work Weekend</b>
28 <b>Camp Work Weekend</b>	29	30	31			

## April 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>White Cane Month</b> 				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 <b>Camp Work Weekend</b>
18 <b>Camp Work Weekend</b>	19	20	21	22	23	24 <b>Council of Governors Mtg Tifton, GA.</b>
25	26	27	28	29	30	



## May 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Council of Governors Mtg Tifton, GA	28 Georgia Lions State Conv., Tifton, GA	29 Georgia Lions State Conv., Tifton, GA
30 Georgia Lions State Conv., Tifton, GA	31					

## June 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Lions Int'l Convention Sydney, Australia	29 Lions Int'l Convention Sydney, Australia	30 Lions Int'l Convention Sydney, Australia	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> of July  Lions Int'l Convention Sydney, Australia		

## Other Project News

\* \* \* \* \*



Everyone deserves the opportunity for success...

Rejected. With good intentions etched into every ounce of his puppy body, Finn still managed to start out on the wrong paw. He was dismissed from another assistance dog program due to a dental problem that kept him from doing some essential tasks—like plucking a dropped credit card off the floor.

But Finn's potential wasn't lost on us. Seeing what every parent sees in a kid's crooked smile—which we fixed with canine orthodontia—Finn came to Leader Dog while still wet behind his floppy ears.

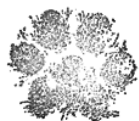
As most of our dogs do, Finn spent his first year with a family of devoted puppy raisers who focused on prepping him for his career. The McBride family had only a year to love the furry little puppy, and to be loved unreservedly and enthusiastically in return. A year to socialize Finn with people and animals, to teach basic obedience, to attend after-school games and enjoy weekend trips to the cabin. Always hovering on the horizon was the knowledge that Finn would not be theirs forever.

The five McBrides witnessed in Finn the characteristics that would eventually make him good at his job. "He is adventurous and friendly," Finn's human mom Janet remembers. "A quick dash to the grocery store turned into an hour-long event because everyone had to meet him." Finn proved himself to be fearless and sportsmanlike as he learned that soccer balls on the field weren't for him. "My favorite part," says Finn's human brother Andrew "was coming home. He'd be there wagging that tail like a flag."

Janet knew that Finn's real potential outweighs how much her family will miss him. "He's going on to bigger and better things," she states confidently. And he is. Finn moved into the training program, and a more disciplined lifestyle. Instructor Linda Fisher trained Finn, and says that guide work is his true calling. "He wants to be out with people, conquering the world," she says.

Every Leader Dog has his day, and Finn is soon to have his. He'll be paired with a person who is blind, to whom Finn will be more than a companion—He will provide mobility, freedom, access and independence. We will keep you updated on his story in the coming months.

With deep appreciation,



Finn



Andrew and Finn take a minute for a picture with the 'famous' German Shepherd statue.



Canine Companions Service Dog Caspin helps Wallis live independently.

"He can retrieve my phone and other dropped items, pull my wheelchair and open doors for me," she continues.

Wallis has a condition known as dystonia, a disease that causes her muscles to spasm spontaneously. She was at the pharmacy when a "dystonic attack" came on and she could not move. Caspin helped her pay the cashier, get the bag from the cashier and gracefully exit the store.

Wallis wanted to learn more about a career in the assistance dog world, and is currently participating in a summer internship at Canine Companions headquarters in Santa Rosa, CA.

Robin knew an assistance dog would help her son Braden, challenged with autism. She contacted several organizations who expected her to do a great deal of fundraising before receiving a dog.

"I had basically given up hope, then I learned that Canine Companions for Independence was training dogs for autistic children," says Robin.

In May 2007 Robin and Braden graduated from Team Training with Skilled Companion Camille, free of charge and free of fundraising. Since then, Camille has changed Braden's life.

"Braden is much more social, calmer in public, and is developing empathy," Robin continues. "Camille gives Braden acceptance and love, without expecting him to be like everyone else."







Though raised as a savvy New Yorker, 58-year-old Robert Gladstone is a softie when it comes to his new guide dog Simba. "I give him more kisses than I give my girlfriend," says Robert, a retired restaurateur and realtor.

He has retinitis pigmentosa, a progressive condition that recently limited his vision and mobility. "I need to be able to get around," he says. "It was either get a cane or a dog, and I love dogs." So he applied to Southeastern Guide Dogs and arrived in June from his home in Boca Raton for four weeks of rigorous training with Simba.

After learning the rules and systems of guide dog use from our trainers and practicing together with his new guide on the school's walking paths and in nearby cities like Tampa, Robert is eager to greet the world. "I'm looking forward to walking to a restaurant or the mall and feeling comfortable," he says. "I now have companionship and eyes to guide me. I'll feel confident with my girlfriend in one hand and Simba in the other."

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

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

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

All of Our Eyeglass Orders Including our \$8.00 Eyeglasses Have

- High quality stylish frame
- Thin and Light 1.57 index lens
- Anti Scratch Coating
- Full UV Protection
- Lens edge polishing and beveling
- Quality Hard Eyeglass case
- Microfiber Lens Cleaning Cloth

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

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

In reality, Zenni has been an industry changer. Now you have competitors like

[EyeBuyDirect.com](http://EyeBuyDirect.com)

Our fantastic offer includes:

- Quality frames and lenses
- Free case and cloth
- Free shipping for second pair
- 100% satisfaction guarantee
- Professional and friendly service

And [GlassesUnlimited.com](http://GlassesUnlimited.com) offer prescription glasses at similar price points. It's a wide open field.

Here's your chance – it does not cost anything to try. In fact, it might save – I know you have maybe a special doctor you go to, but – why not save them for special needs and just take care of the small needs yourself.

**Challenge for Change is hard to do!**



## Diabetes Myths

There are many myths about diabetes that make it difficult for people to believe some of the hard facts – such as diabetes is a serious and potentially deadly disease. These myths can create a picture of diabetes that is not accurate and full of stereotypes and stigma.

Get the facts about diabetes and learn how you can [stop diabetes](#) myths and misconceptions.

### **Myth: Diabetes is not that serious of a disease.**

Fact: Diabetes causes more deaths a year than breast cancer and AIDS combined. Two out of three people with diabetes die from heart disease or stroke.

### **Myth: If you are overweight or obese, you will eventually develop type 2 diabetes.**

Fact: Being overweight is a risk factor for developing this disease, but other risk factors such as family history, ethnicity and age also play a role. Unfortunately, too many people disregard the other risk factors for diabetes and think that weight is the only risk factor for type 2 diabetes. Most overweight people never develop type 2 diabetes, and many people with type 2 diabetes are at a normal weight or only moderately overweight.

### **Myth: Eating too much sugar causes diabetes.**

Fact: No, it does not. Type 1 diabetes is caused by genetics and unknown factors that trigger the onset of the disease; type 2 diabetes is caused by genetics and lifestyle factors. Being overweight does increase your risk for developing type 2 diabetes, and a diet high in calories, whether from sugar or from fat, can contribute to weight gain. If you have a history of diabetes in your family, eating a healthy meal plan and regular exercise are recommended to manage your weight.

### **Myth: People with diabetes should eat special diabetic foods.**

Fact: A healthy meal plan for people with diabetes is generally the same as a healthy diet for anyone – low in fat (especially saturated and trans fat), moderate in salt and sugar, with meals based on whole grain foods, vegetables and fruit. Diabetic and “dietetic” foods generally offer no special benefit. Most of them still raise blood glucose levels, are usually more expensive, and can also have a laxative effect if they contain sugar alcohols.

### **Myth: If you have diabetes, you should only eat small amounts of starchy foods, such as bread, potatoes and pasta.**

Fact: Starchy foods are part of a healthy meal plan. What is important is the portion size. Whole grain breads, cereals, pasta, rice and starchy vegetables like potatoes, yams, peas and corn can be included in your meals and snacks. The key is portions. For most people with diabetes, having 3-4 servings of carbohydrate-containing foods is about right. Whole grain starchy foods are also a good source of fiber, which helps keep your gut healthy.

### **Myth: People with diabetes can't eat sweets or chocolate.**

Fact: If eaten as part of a healthy meal plan, or combined with exercise, sweets and desserts can be eaten by people with diabetes. They are no more “off limits” to people with diabetes than they are to people without diabetes.

### **Myth: You can catch diabetes from someone else.**

Fact: No. Although we don't know exactly why some people develop diabetes, we know diabetes is not contagious. It can't be caught like a cold or flu. There seems to be some genetic link in diabetes, particularly type 2 diabetes. Lifestyle factors also play a part.

### **Myth: People with diabetes are more likely to get colds and other illnesses.**

Fact: You are no more likely to get a cold or another illness if you have diabetes. However, people with diabetes are advised to get flu shots. This is because any illness can make diabetes more difficult to control, and people with diabetes who do get the flu are more likely than others to go on to develop serious complications.

### **Myth: If you have type 2 diabetes and your doctor says you need to start using insulin, it means you're failing to take care of your diabetes properly.**

Fact: For most people, type 2 diabetes is a progressive disease. When first diagnosed, many people with type 2 diabetes can keep their blood glucose at a healthy level with oral medications. But over time, the body gradually produces less and less of its own insulin, and eventually oral medications may not be enough to keep blood glucose levels normal. Using insulin to get blood glucose levels to a healthy level is a good thing, not a bad one.

### **Myth: Fruit is a healthy food. Therefore, it is ok to eat as much of it as you wish.**

Fact: Fruit is a healthy food. It contains fiber and lots of vitamins and minerals. Because fruits contain carbohydrates, they need to be included in your meal plan. Talk to your dietitian about the amount, frequency and types of fruits you should eat.





LIONS QUEST



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

**2008-09 Finalists** = checkout all 24 pictures go to:  
[http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/youth\\_peace\\_poster.php3#](http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/youth_peace_poster.php3#) = look for 2008-09 Finalists on right Side

\* \* \* \* \*

District Bulletin Editors,

Dear Lions,

My telephone is already ringing from other countries with students who want to come to Georgia . This requires Host Families who will take them. Also, our exchange students can travel to other countries and stay with Host families there. I will be glad to explain how the program works to you. E-mail me ([faye smith@hotmail.com](mailto:faye smith@hotmail.com)) or call 770-683-0038. Bottom line, we need Host Families to enable us to serve the youth.

Please think about this "adventure" and let me know if you can participate by being a Host Family or giving a teen-ager the opportunity to go to another country and learn another culture, make new friends, broaden their outlook on the world, and allow another country to learn about ours.

Many Thanks,

Lion Faye Smith  
MD 18 Youth Camp and Exchange Chair

**Lions Family Cub Program** — A frequent question is: How do we keep the children interested and involved? The answer is the Lions Family Cub Program which comes complete with a [30-page activity guide](#). The guide offers complete, step-by-step procedures that will help make Lion Cubs an integral part of your club. The [Lions Family Cub Program](#) will be an important part of making family membership a positive experience for parents as well as children. Please consider it as a part of our responsibility as Lion Leaders to serve our members and put their needs first. Remember that our Lion Cubs are the greatest potential source of Lions Club members in the future.



## Leo Club Excellence Award Winners 2008-2009

*EARLY COUNTY 18 C USA*

*CLARKE MIDDLE SCHOOL 18 D USA*

Out of over 5700 Leo clubs worldwide only 47 in the world, 22 in the U.S., and 2 in Georgia were selected to receive the most prestigious award given to a Leo club.





**Lanier County High School = Participating in club activities and school projects**



**Pickens High & Pickens County Middle School Leos**



**Ridgeland High School Leos**



**Creekland Middle Schools Leos  
cleaning cemetery**







## GLASB Mission

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

Contact Lion Lynn Infanger, GLASB Chair at 706-280-8360 or [peter.infanger@windstream.net](mailto:peter.infanger@windstream.net). Also state and international information is ready on the internet – go to [www.harmonyinternational.com](http://www.harmonyinternational.com)



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



*Youth Becoming  
Music Ambassadors  
To The World*



## Welcome to Liberty Day!

Liberty Day is a program for our youth. It is a way to strength citizenship in our youth through a program based on the Constitution of the United States.

This is a program started by the Lions Clubs of Denver. Georgia adopted this program in the late 1990s. There are several ways a Lions Club can sponsor a Liberty Day program.

The first way is through a school program. Lions Clubs should arrange a speaker who would be interesting to the students. This speaker could be an elected official or someone who could speak on the rights and responsibilities of citizens as granted by the Constitution. Once you have your speaker, you can receive permission of the school system to sponsor a Liberty Day event to a class or a group of students. I have found that 8th grade and up is ideal. Then order the number of Liberty Day booklets you need from me. The cost is \$.60 each and includes shipping. Also work with the teacher(s) so that they reinforce what the speaker has said through an essay or other classroom work. The students could even write a letter of thanks to the speaker/Lions Club on the subject.

Another project is with a Boy Scout troop. Boy Scouts must earn the Citizenship in the Nation merit badge as a requirement for rank promotion. Again, use the speaker and the booklets. The Liberty Day project has been endorsed by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America. A third project is when a group of youth work a project in a public place to promote the Constitution. There are a series of questions that they can use. They would ask an adult the question--whether it is right or wrong, the adult receives either a flag pin or flag sticker. The booklets are used to coach the youth on the Constitution so that they are more confident in asking the questions as they know the answers themselves. They should work under the guidance of adults and in a place that has given permission for them to be there.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

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





## LCI NEWS



### 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 ?**

**= NOW – GO TO THESE WEB**

**SITE's AND CHECK IT OUT ==**

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

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

**<http://twitter.com/lionsclubsorg>**

**[facebook](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lions-Clubs-International/2792222491)**

**<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lions-Clubs-International/2792222491>**

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### Create a Free Web Site for Your Lions Club

If you're looking for a free and easy way to create a Web site for your Lions club, the [e-Clubhouse](#) is for you! LionNET is proud to provide this resource to help Lions Clubs build a useful, professional looking Web site. Designed with fill-in-the blank fields for even the least Internet savvy, the e-Clubhouse allows you to:

Build and maintain a Web site for your club using a simple set of tools.

Keep your members – and community – up-to-date on the projects the club is working on.

Promote your club's activities – and recruit new members.

If you have comments, questions or suggestions, please contact the District and Club Administration Division at 630-468-6828 or [districtadministration@lionsclubs.org](mailto:districtadministration@lionsclubs.org).

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### Add Your Lions Club's Web Site to the LCI Club Locator

Great news! You can now add your club's Web Site to the Lions Clubs International Web Site. To have your site added to your club's Club Locator page, please e-mail the URL of your club's Web site to our [Club and Officer Record Administration](#) department.

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**IRS and Tax** Did you know that in May 2010, *half a million nonprofits could find themselves stripped of their exempt status*. The IRS estimates that is the number of small organizations that have failed to file a Form 990-N. Small clubs with gross receipts under \$25,000 can simply go online and file Form 990-N. There are no amounts required.

All you have to do is provide a contact person, mailing address and check a box saying the organization is still alive.

So BE SMART and get your records up to date and file the required tax returns before you lose your tax-exempt status.

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### Submit Lions Club Activity Reports for 2009-2010

Encourage your club secretary to include your monthly club accomplishments in the online [Lions Club Activity Report](#).

Club secretaries should submit their club's activity report information on-line every month from July 16, 2009 through July 15, 2010. A final report at the end of the year creates a global overview of Lions club activities. If you have questions about the Lions Club Activity Report, e-mail:

[activityreports@lionsclubs.org](mailto:activityreports@lionsclubs.org)

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### Important Lions Dates this Month

View the [Lions Clubs International Calendar of Events](#) to find out about upcoming events and programs that your club can promote locally.

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### New Peace Poster Theme Announced

The theme for the 2010-2011 Lions International Peace Poster Contest will be "Vision of Peace." Peace Poster Kits will go on sale on January 15 from the Club Supplies Sales Department. See the [order form \(PR 785\)](#) for more details.

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### General Electric

General Electric has a policy of matching some donations to non-profit organizations for most of their employees and retirees. The camp has been approved by General Electric and I have the information on how to handle this.

If you will mention this in your programs and district newsletters, I will get it into the state magazine. If someone that is qualified is a member of the century club, they can get an additional donation to the camp and it is all done online.

I am the point person right now so have them contact me and I will explain it to them. Best bet is my cell phone, 404-444-2064 or e-mail

[ron\\_zeppieri@juno.com](mailto:ron_zeppieri@juno.com)





## By the Numbers

**6** - On average, the LCIF SightFirst initiative requires a donation of only US\$6 to save a person from blindness – or restore their sight.

**9,550** – The number of grants by LCIF since it was founded in 1968. To date, LCIF has awarded grants totaling more than US\$680 million.

**131,000,000** – The number of doses of Mectizan distributed by LCIF to people in 15 countries around the world to treat and control river blindness.

**53,000,000** – The pounds of newspapers that did not end up in landfills because Lions in Prescott, Arizona rise before dawn to collect, sort and recycle newspapers from local residents. Lions in Prescott have been recycling newspapers for more than 30 years.

**10,000,000** – Number of children screened by Sight for Kids – joint initiative of LCIF and Johnson & Johnson Vision Care – that provides vision screenings, eyeglasses and other treatments.

**50** – The number of countries where Lions Quest – a school – based life skills program – is helping young people learn how to tackle tough issues as drug abuse and violence.

**1,000,000** – Children screened by Lions and LCIF Preschool Vision Screening Program that prevents blindness through early detection and treatment of lazy eye and other vision disorders.

**4,000,000** – The number of from nearly 100 countries who have participated in the Lions International Peace Poster Contest during the last 20 years. Through their art, they have learned to express their feelings about peace in the world.

**35** – Number of need-based Lions Eye Care Centers opened with the World Health Organization to deliver eye care services for 100 million children worldwide.

**120** – The number of villages in Mali that received access to clean water as a result of a joint project involving Lions in Mali and France, with help from LCIF.

**150,800** – Number of athletes the Lions Clubs International – Special Olympics Opening Eyes program has screened at Special Olympics sporting events worldwide.

**60,000** – The number of people near Capetown, South Africa who receive food collected and distributed by local Lions. Lions provide food to more than 65 soup kitchens and nearly 400 community organizations 363 days a year.

**72** – The number of thriving premature children who attended a 2008 birthday party sponsored by Lions in Elkart, Indiana, who funded equipment for the neonatal unit at the local hospital.

**10,000,000** – The number of doses of the sight-saving drug azithromycin dispensed to Ethiopians at risk of trachoma in the first 18 months of a program supported by Lions of Ethiopia, the Ethiopian government, LCIF, Pfizer, Inc., the Carter Center and other organizations.

**7,600,000** – The number of cataract surgeries performed as part of the SightFirst program, bringing sight to millions of people.

**400,000** – The number of eyeglasses recycled each year as part of a Lions recycling project at the Westville State Correctional Center. To date more than 3 million pairs of eyeglasses recycled at the facility have been distributed by Lions around the world.

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## *Melvin Jones Fellowship*

**Seventy percent (70%) of LCIF's donations come from Melvin Jones Fellowships**

- The MJF Program was established in 1973
- There are more than 280,000 MJFs and PMJFs as of September 2008. These Fellowships represent US\$338 million in LCIF funding.
- The names of all Melvin Jones Fellows are displayed on a rotating computer list in the LCIF Recognition Room at International Headquarters in Oak Brook, Illinois, USA
- Each year, Fellowship recipients are invited to attend the Melvin Jones Fellows Luncheon at the International Convention
- Districts, clubs and individuals can donate to LCIF through the Melvin Jones Fellowship Program, but only an individual can receive the recognition
- Melvin Jones Fellowships can be named in honor or in memory of an individual
- Only unrestricted donations are eligible for Melvin Jones Fellowships unless otherwise approved by the LCIF Executive Committee.
- The MJF donation does not need to be paid at once; minimum installments to LCIF of US\$100 can be paid over a five-year period to total US\$1,000, at which time donor applies for the MJF

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Dear Lion:

**I'm writing to share with you something that we as Lions often hear: "Thank you."**

Recognition and thanks are not the reasons we serve, but they are important words that I want to relay from the individuals who have been reached by support like yours. As LCIF's Chairperson, it has been an honor in the last six months to visit LCIF projects aided by your support – two have been particularly humbling and moving for me, as a Lion.



A woman in Hawaii whose struggling family was devastated by a flood wrote to express her thanks to LCIF:

*"We didn't have flood insurance and had been living on one small income...It's hard as a parent to tell your kids that you only have some rice to eat for dinner. But I left the Lions relief station in tears – I didn't expect to leave with so much food, and because it was a miracle when we needed one most."*

On the other side of the world, I visited a SightFirst cataract ward in India. When a man recovering from surgery noticed I was a Lion, he knelt down and put his hands together in a gesture of thanks. **I was speechless. More so, I humbled to receive his gratitude for the work we do through LCIF.**

I'll never forget these two individuals – and I know they'll never forget Lions. We U.S. Lions, too, know how important LCIF projects are. **In fact, one of every four grants (125 of 453) LCIF distributed in 2008-09 went to communities in either the U.S. or Canada.**

Your service matters and so does your support of LCIF. I realize that a gift to LCIF may be a sacrifice, and one that you have made already as a Melvin Jones Fellow or as a Progressive MJF. But to the individuals who benefit from your support, your gift is a miracle.

**This year, I ask one thing: please consider becoming or taking the next step toward your Melvin Jones Fellowship or Progressive MJF. You can ensure that LCIF delivers a miracle to someone in need of sight, disaster relief, an opportunity to thrive as a young person, and the tools to overcome disability.**

I look forward to each day of the next six months I can represent you as LCIF's Chairperson and meet the individuals to whom we are providing miracles. Above all, **Thank You for all you do** – both for our association and for LCIF, our Foundations.

Thank you,

Al Brandel  
2009-2010 LCIF Chairperson

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## Make A Donation

Thank you for supporting Lions Clubs International Foundation's humanitarian work worldwide. US\$20 can provide cataract surgery to restore an individual's sight, US\$100 will provide low vision exams and glasses and US\$2,000 can build a water well to provide clean water. Every dollar donated goes directly to a humanitarian project that will improve the lives of thousands of people. Administrative costs are paid by interest earned on investments.

Ways to donate:

- [Donate Online](#)
- [Check](#)
- [Wire Transfer](#)
- Over the phone, by calling 630-468-6954

The Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation, as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax deductible, as allowed under the Internal Revenue Service code.

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Season's Greetings Lion Webmaster,

As we approach the coming of a new year, Lions Clubs International Foundation would like to express its promise to staying informed on growing technology trends. With countless channels to reach Lions around the world through on-line vehicles, LCIF is always working to better develop our on-line capabilities.

Still, it is through committed Lion Webmasters like yourself that LCIF is often able to reach the most Lions. The Web sites handled by Lions on a local level are often the first places members visit for Lion's information, providing news, offering updates and educating Lions about happenings in both their local and global community.

Your role as a Webmaster is invaluable to helping LCIF, and by working together, we are able to accomplish so much more. Please assist us in our efforts to further advance LCIF's mission of preventing vision loss, combating disability, serving youth and providing disaster relief.

In efforts to make the process of supporting our great Foundation as easy as possible, the on-line donations process has been refined. Lions can contribute to any of the four donation categories, including [Humanitarian](#), [Sight](#), [Disaster](#) and [In Honor/In Memory](#).

I also hope that you will consider sharing our new video, [The Gift of Sight](#), to demonstrate the impact of our SightFirst program. After Lions, friends, family and community members see what LCIF has accomplished and that there is still a great need, I know they will want to support the work we are doing together. If you wish to share this video, please include this link on your Web site during this holiday season. Through the dedication of Lions like you, LCIF is able to continue its service to those who need it most.

Al Brandel  
Chairperson, Lions Clubs International Foundation

# Lions Clubs International Foundation is #1!



## LCIF:

- is ranked the number one non-governmental organization (NGO) with which to partner by the *Financial Times*.
- is a 4-star rated charity – the highest rating given by Charity Navigator.
- is responding to the world's needs - more than \$680 million in LCIF grants have improved the lives of people worldwide.
- is meeting needs in North America - one in four LCIF grants are awarded to Districts in the US and Canada.
- was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for its remarkable humanitarian efforts.
- uses 100% of every gift to support vital humanitarian programs.

LCIF  
is Your  
Foundation!

## Network with Other Lions Online

As Lions, we are in good company. We have fun in our clubs. And when we meet fellow Lions for the first time, we treat them like old friends. And now, there are some exciting new online communities to help you connect with other Lions.

### New Online Communities for Lions

Join one or more of these online communities to network with other Lions. Share information, ideas and videos. And let the world know you're proud to be a Lion!



Subscribe to our channel on [You Tube](#) – the world's premiere video sharing Web site  
– to be the first to see our latest videos



Follow us on [Twitter](#) for up-to-the minute news updates from International Headquarters –



Become a fan on [Facebook](#) – a popular Web site that connects users to friends, family and associates.



Be a friend of Lions Clubs International on [MySpace](#) to connect with other members and clubs around the world.



Join a network of Lions club members – and experienced professionals – from around the world on [LinkedIn](#).



See photos from Lions around the world on [Flickr](#) – the world's most popular online photo sharing site.

**Add Our Twibbon to Twitter and Facebook** profile to help spread the word about Lions – and to help you connect with other members and clubs around the world.

To participate in our online community, you need to join one or more of the official Lions Clubs International (LCI) social networks listed above. Please be aware that LCI does not own any of the above sites, and we are not responsible for comments posted by other members on these sites.





## *Georgia Lions Magazine*

1441 Burycove Circle, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043

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



# WE SERVE