

Lions of Georgia



Lions Day at the Camp = 24 July 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 or lionga@bellsouth.net



State News



Georgia White Cane Laws

Georgia Laws 1953, p556, sec 80

Sec. 1 = No person except those wholly or partially blind shall carry or use on the street, highway or in any other public, a walking cane or stick which is white in color or white (in color) tipped with red.

Sec. 2 = Any driver of a vehicle who approaches within three feet of a person is in the roadway or at an intersection and who is carrying a walking cane or stick white in color or white tipped with red shall immediately come to a full stop, and before proceeding, take such precautions as may be necessary to avoid accident or injury to the person wholly or partially blind.

Sec. 3 - Any person who shall violate any of the provisions above shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Georgia Code 40-6-94 = The driver of every vehicle shall yield the right of way to any blind pedestrian who is carrying a walking cane or stick that is white in color or white tipped with red or who is accompanied by a guide dog.

Hopefully, this information will help you alert members of your club to the importance of the White Cane, the people who use them and the laws regarding their use.

For further information contact:

J. C. Coefield, Jr.
MD 18 Sight Conservation and
Work with the Blind Chair
478-922-9023
Email: coefield@cox.net

Georgia Lions State Convention



10-12 June 2011
Duluth, Georgia

Friday: Registration and Exhibits;
Organizational Meetings – Lighthouse and Camp meetings; Opening Ceremony + Seminars –
(Friday Night Meal Tickets TBA).

Saturday: District Breakfasts; General Convention Business Session; Melvin Jones Luncheon (\$30.00); Seminars; State Awards; District Governor's Banquet +

Sunday: District Breakfast; Necrology Service; Final Convention Business Session; Sunday Surprise (Baseball Game?)

HOSPITALITY BOOK ORDER FORM

Hospitality Books only - \$95.00.

Reservations are due no later than May 15, 2011.

Books purchased by NEW LIONS as of 1 June 2010 - \$85.00.

Hotel Info:

Atlanta Marriott Gwinnett Place
1775 Pleasant Hill Road
Duluth, GA. 30096
770-923-1775

Toll-free Reservations 866-339-3132



International President
Sidney L. Scruggs III

"When the raging storms
of life rush in,
bringing darkness
When the dream fades
and despair takes its
place
Then like a faithful
lighthouse on the
distant shore
A Lion stands as a ray of
light to show the way."

State Awards at Convention

Report of the State Awards presented at the Tifton State Convention:

There were 112 entries in 45 awards listed in the State Directory from over the state with 64 plaques given including ties and LEO's. ONLY 17 Lions Clubs entered from the state that has over 225 Lions Clubs?

Recap of state Awards by District:

District 18-A =

Chattanooga Valley – 1 First Place, 2 Second Place
Atlanta – 1 First Place
Jasper – 1 Second Place, 1 Second Place LEO Club
Sawyer Henderson's Essay from Pickens County
LEO Club won First Place

District 18-B =

Liberty Coastal – 2 First Place

District 18-C =

Cordele – 12 First Place, 3 Second Place
District Bulletin First Place – DG Clinton Holloway

District 18-D =

Jefferson – 3 First Place, 2 Second Place
Athens – 2 First Place, 1 Second Place,
1 First Place LEO

Toccoa – 1 First Place
Winder Noon – 1 First Place, 3 Second Place
Union County – 2 First Place, 1 Second Place
Dawsonville – 4 First Place, 1 Second Place
Clarke Middle School LEO Club – 1 First Place
Scrapbook

District 18-F =

Centerville – 5 First Place, 7 Second Place
Hephzibah – 1 First Place, 2 Second Place
LaVista – 1 First Place

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Words from PID Ed McCormick

PID McCormick stated that he and Linda were excited to be in Georgia at the Tifton State Convention. He thanked the Lions of Georgia for the outstanding leadership sent to the association over the years. All have done an outstanding job. He challenged everyone in the room to encourage

outstanding Lions around the state to step forward and serve in Leadership positions.

PID McCormick shared the following story: He stated that there was a young man in an Indian tribe who was being inducted into adulthood. The Elder called him forward and handed him a simple twig and told him to break it in half. The young brave took the stick and easily broke it in half. The Elder then handed him a bundle of twigs and told him to break the bundle of sticks. No matter how hard the young brave tried, he could not break the bundle of sticks. Lion McCormick stated that this story reminds him of Lions...if Lions work together as a cohesive team, as a family of Lions, trying to make life better in their communities, Lions cannot and will not be broken. Lions will become much stronger, help more people in need, and do what Lions were originally challenged to do, which was to serve their communities. He asked Lions to remember that as they approach service in their communities.

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Georgia Council of the Blind has set the date of their Convention for 5-8 August 2010.

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O! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved home and the war's desolation!
Blest with victory and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

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Retired Airline and Military Pilot Elected President of Lions Clubs International

Our International Convention ended today with the election of Sid L. Scruggs III as our 2010-2011 International President. Sid, a Lion from Vass, North Carolina, USA, is a retired military and commercial airline pilot and a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy.



- **Second place:** Sophie Rosa, United Kingdom, representing Europe
- **Third place:** Aaron Chan, China, representing the Orient and Southeast Asia

Lions International Peace Poster Contest Winner Honored at Convention in Sydney

We were pleased to have the Grand Prize winner of our 2009-2010 [Peace Poster Contest](#), Yu-Min Chen, at our International Convention today. International President Eberhard J. Wirfs welcomed Yu-Min during today's opening Plenary Session.



Lions Clubs International Global Youth Music Contest Winners Selected in Sydney

Wednesday night in Sydney, Lions Clubs International convention attendees enjoyed the Global Youth Music Competition.



Lions Environmental Photo Contest

Name: Curtis Murray
Lions Club: LaCrescent Lions Club
Country: USA



Congratulations

International Web site Contest – **Multiple District**

Honorable Mention: MD 18, Georgia, USA

Senior Master Key (25 Members)

LION DAVE GILBERT, LA FAYETTE, GEORGIA
(April/2010)

- **First place:** Brian Jeremy Allen, USA, representing the United States of America, its affiliates, Bermuda and the Bahamas

2010-2011 PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS

LIONS INTERNATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST

Contest Rules:

Contest is open to students who are considered visually impaired according to their national guidelines and will be 11, 12 or 13 years of age on November 15.

Only a Lions club can sponsor the contest. The contest may be sponsored in a local school(s) or organized, sponsored youth group(s), or individuals may be sponsored as well. *A Lioness club can sponsor the contest through its sponsoring Lions club.*

The contest theme is "Power of Peace." Essays must be no longer than 500 words in length, submitted in English, type-written in black ink and double-spaced.

Each essay should be submitted with a completed entry form. Essays submitted without completed entry forms will be automatically disqualified. Only one entry per student per year, and each entry must be the work of only one student.

Essay entries cannot have already been published. Any essays found to be plagiarized will be automatically disqualified and the student will be prohibited from entering any future Lions competitions.

One grand prize winner will receive an award and US\$5,000. They will be notified by June 1. The postmark deadline for a club to send one winning essay to the district governor is February 15. *Note: A participating club should notify its district governor in advance of sending an entry.*

Bright START awards

FIRST LIGHT AWARD:

Two new clubs OR positive membership on September 30, 2010

BRIGHT LIGHT AWARD:

Five new clubs AND positive membership on September 30, 2010

CLUB excellence award

To qualify the club must further the objectives of the association, adhere to the association's constitution and by-laws and policies, and meet each requirement noted below during the fiscal year.

CLUB IN GOOD STANDING – International per capita taxes and new member entrance fees are paid in full and there is no outstanding balance of US\$50 or more that is ninety (90) days or more past due.

SERVICE – The club must conduct at least three service projects.

CONTRIBUTION – The club has either contributed a minimum of \$10 for each club member to LCIF or awarded a Melvin Jones Fellow or a progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

MEMBERSHIP – The club achieved a net growth in membership (including branch club members when applicable) or sponsored a new club. The new members attended an orientation and were properly inducted into the Lions club.

COMMUNICATION – The club has publicized the club's service activities to the public through local media and effectively communicated activities to club members.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT – All officer positions were filled in accordance with the constitution and bylaws by qualified Lions, a majority of the club officers participated in a leadership training program at the zone, district, multiple district or international level and the club was represented at zone meetings.

CLUB DEVELOPMENT – The club has hosted regular and meaningful club meetings and submitted the Monthly Membership Report, the Service Activity Report, and the Club Officer Report (PU-101) in a timely manner.

TEAM excellence award

The District Governor Team Excellence Award recognizes district team members who achieve membership growth and excellence in district leadership. The award will be sent to the 2011-2012 District Governor for presentation.

LION recognition award

An appropriate medal shall be presented by the International President (or an appointee of the International President) to Lions who have set themselves apart in a disaster relief effort, lifesaving endeavor, or a service activity deemed otherwise appropriate by the International President. The medal will consist of a gold medallion, with the Lions Clubs International logo in the center, and the words "Lion Recognition Award" framed around the top of the medallion, and laurel leaves framing the bottom rim. The medallion hangs from a blue (Pantone 287) chest ribbon.

A nomination letter, with a brief narrative outlining the respective achievements of the nominee, shall be submitted to the President's office at Lions Clubs International headquarters. Nominations will only be accepted from Executive Officers, International Directors and Board Appointees.

Peace Poster Contest

Each year, Lions clubs around the world proudly sponsor the Lions International Peace Poster Contest in local schools and youth groups. This Contest encourages young people worldwide to artistically express their visions of peace. The theme of the 2010-11 Peace Poster Contest is "**Vision of Peace.**" Students, ages 11, 12 or 13 on November 15, are eligible to participate.



18-A

Scott Warren

DGE Scott has selected his Cabinet to serve the District. It is made up of good, strong Lions who will serve our District, State and International very well. With DGE Scott Warren as District Governor, we will also have: 1st VDG Alan Bethel; 2nd VDG Thurmon Morris; Cabinet Secretary Jody Napoletino; Cabinet Treasurer David White; District Librarian Ron Crow; District Cabinet Adviser PDG Berry Broach; and, District Bulletin Editor Leslie Miller. The names of the other officers will follow later.

We can look forward to an exciting and busy year.
Our first Cabinet Meeting will be held on August 7th at the New Victory Baptist Church in Woodstock. The time of the meeting will be announced at a later date.

Chattanooga Valley Lions Had An Extra Busy May

Chattanooga Valley Lions Club members were busy Lions during the month of May. They began the month on May 1st with a project. The club partnered with Modern Woodman of America's Tiny Tot Club. The Tiny Tot Club bought flowers and potting soil and beautified the Chattanooga Valley's clubhouse ground. The project was done on May 1st which celebrates Modern Woodman of America's annual "Join Hands Day."



On May 4th the club participated in Chickamauga's Down Home Days. They did not get onions in time to sell but the club took orders. But, they did sell lots and lots of meat skins. Their newest member, Lion Greg Arthur, was in front of the club's booth giving out samples and selling bags full of skins. The club sold more meat skins in Chickamauga than they ever sold anywhere. Lion Greg was presented a 1st place ribbon at the club's May 4th meeting. Lion Nadine Carden says that Lion Greg has been given a job for life as "The Meat Skin Salesman."

And then, on May 5th, Lions Eddie Burgess and Leon Ellis left at 5am on Wednesday going to Vidalia to pick up onions. After driving 759 miles, they arrived back in Chattanooga Valley at 7:30pm. They picked up 4,200 pounds of onions which were all sold out by noon the next day. There were some members and customers that didn't get their onions so the pair went back to Vidalia and got 2,850 more. The onions completely sold out, again. Chattanooga Valley Lions Club sold a TOTAL OF 7,050 POUNDS OF ONIONS!!! What an accomplishment.



WDEF-TV asked the Chattanooga Valley Lions to help them at their Senior Life Expo which was held at Chattanooga Choo Choo on Saturday, May 22nd (from 9am-3pm), providing eye screenings. A large number of senior adults were screened at the Expo. While there, they met a man who told them that he had been diagnosed with macula degeneration and needed a white cane, especially when he rides the bus. He said that the bus driver will be more attentive and helpful when he has a white cane. The club just so

happened to have had a cane at their clubhouse so they immediately delivered it to the man at his apartment in Patton Towers in Chattanooga. This man who was having a hard time before he came in contact with this great club, was so appreciative and thanked the members over and over, again. What service!

Chattanooga Valley Lions Club lives up to our motto, "WE SERVE!"



18-B

Jesse Powell

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.

Looking to the Future



On behalf of all the Lions of District 18-B, I want to welcome you to our web page and I hope you will take a few minutes to surf what we have to offer.

Our great district is a diverse blend of hospitable Lions extending from the eastern lowlands of the Atlantic coast to the Savannah River in the north and the Florida border in the south. To the west we include the fertile farm lands and timber country of south central Georgia. Important features in our district include the Kings Bay Naval Base which is home to the finest nuclear submarine fleet of the US Navy and Fort Stewart, the largest military reservation east of the Mississippi River and home to the 3rd Infantry Division of the US Army. Savannah is the hub of the Coastal Empire and also home to two full universities, Armstrong-Atlantic State University and Savannah State University. Statesboro and Bulloch County are home to Georgia Southern University and their national champion Class AA football team while Douglas is home to South Georgia College. Vidalia is the center of the famous Vidalia Sweet Onion growing area and Kingsland hosts an annual crawfish festival drawing people from all over the southeastern United States.

Our district covers 27 counties, has 46 clubs, 3 Leo Clubs, and over 1,200 Lions and Leos. We are the home district of the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind which is located next to beautiful Laura S. Walker State Park just outside the city of Waycross.

We are proud of our southern heritage and our hospitality. We welcome you to view our sparkling beaches, stately oaks, towering pines and cypress and our gorgeous azaleas, magnolias and dogwoods. We extend to you a warm and sincere welcome to visit at any time and we would be pleased for you to stay and become one of us! It's a great time to be a Lion in District 18-B!



18-C

Jack Taylor



I am proud that we have very active LEO clubs, advisors and Lion volunteers working with our LEO's within our District.

Clubs and Members need to set goals for the coming year.

We are Lions year round. Does everyone know you are a Lion? Do people recognize your Lions Pin? Do you even wear your pin other than club meetings?

Although, the International Association of Lions Clubs is known throughout the world as “the greatest service organization in the world” in over 200 countries and geographical locations. Why are we also the “the best kept secret?” Many Lions have asked this question, many, many times. And with the all the fantastic work and wonderful achievements Lions accomplish every day; helping with eye care, surgeries, eliminating preventable eye diseases, providing glasses, educating people about diabetes: when you say to someone “I am a Lion” most of the time they just look at you with a blank look and/or expression like, “You are a What?”

While starting new clubs in the district this year, most people were aware of the Lions club, but were not aware of the all the great services provided by our organization.

In the year of “Move to Grow” wouldn't it be wonderful if we could let other people know who we are and what we do? As Lions we need to reach out to our communities and make sure the signs of Lions are in place. Make that extra effort to be certain that organization signs are displayed prominently (very few signs are posted to the entrance to cities). Contact local papers for free advertising, contact radio and TV stations for free time to inform people of work and services we are able to offer.

Our clubs have events to raise money for our Lions project. We should make sure the public is invited. Keep in mind that public participation not only advertises who we are and what we do, but is among the greatest of opportunities to acquire new members.

This time of year we have elected new officers for the coming Lions year. We need leaders with the desire to communicate Lionistic knowledge, to operate their club in a business-like manner and accept those responsibilities inherent to their respective position in the club.

We need leaders who will enthusiastically support our projects, which accomplish so much in so many places, and are willing to work diligently achieve the greatest goals of service to their community and on a larger level, to the world.

Clubs and Members need to set goals for the coming, year, without a goal, you don't have anything to shoot for or achieve. Remember we are “Knights for the Blind”

Jackie D. Taylor
DGE



18-D

Ron Bennetti

Toccoa Lions Work to Build a Better Community

The Toccoa Lions Club believes in helping the local community through the Open Arms Clinic. This free medical clinic started in February 2007 with initial funding from the Toccoa Lions Club. A member of the Toccoa Lions Club saw a need and brought it to the leadership of the club. The Toccoa Lions endorsed the idea and quickly enlisted others in the community to join in the mission. The Open Arms Clinic was formed as a separate non-profit corporation and does its own fundraising.

Our club provided \$4,500.00 in seed money to start this independent non-profit corporation. It started with three Toccoa Lions on the board of director's, PDG Ruth Payton who is a retired nurse, Dr. Rev. Jim Nelson, and Dr. Kay Royal an optometrist. Past president Steve Spruill, a pharmacist, volunteers two days a week at the Open Arm Clinic as does PDG Ruth Payton. Past president Kay Royal continues to serve on the board of directors of the Open Arms Clinic and volunteers at least one day a week. The Toccoa Lions are committed to the continued support of this clinic with an annual pancake breakfast in February. Many Lions donate to and attend a silent and live auction in May each year for the benefit of the clinic.

Last year the Toccoa Lions provided over eighty Stephens County residents in need with eye examinations and eye glasses. The Toccoa Lions Club local sight conservation program is the club's main focus each year. Over the past three years ending June 30, 2009 the Toccoa Lions have provided glasses to 250 Stephens County residents at no charge to the recipient. Many of these clients were referred from the Open Arms Clinic.

The Clinic has served over 550 needy residents in Stephens County to date. For the past two years, the Toccoa Lions Club has held a pancake breakfast with all the proceeds from those two events going to the Open Arms Clinic. Several members of the Toccoa Lions volunteer their time at the clinic on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



The Open Arm Clinic operates out of this house on Big A Road across the street from the Toccoa Clinic in Toccoa. The Open Arm Clinic received a check from the Toccoa Lions Club on May 6, 2010 at their auction at the Elks Club. The Lions gave the clinic \$3,300.00 which was the proceeds off the Lions pancake breakfast in February at the Toccoa Elementary School.. Pictured l-r, are Lion Steve Spruill, Lion Kay Royal, Michelle Jamieson, who chairs the board of directors at the clinic, and Bryan Gordon, Lions club president. Lions Steve and Kay volunteer at the clinic every week and are both past presidents of the Toccoa Lions Club. I have also attached a picture of PDG Ruth Payton working as the receptionist - in-take person at the Open Arms Clinic on Tuesdays. She is pictured with board chair Michelle Jamison and clinic director Sherry Beavers. Ruth and Sherry are both nurses and Michelle is an accountant. l-r Michelle Jamison, Ruth Payton and Sherry Beavers.



18-E

Bob Smith

Villa Rica Golden City Lions Club

Villa Rica, Georgia

The Villa Rica Golden City Lions Club took up the challenge presented by one of its members to work with and support OPERATION RAKKASANS and program which supports the soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division locate in Afghanistan.

The concept was simple – purchase items that you can find at your local Dollar Store or at Wal-Mart, personal notes to soldiers, personal care products and packing them up in flat rate shipping boxes and sending them to three Sergeant Majors who will then distribute these boxes to soldiers who do not receive any boxes from home.

Yes...soldiers who never received packages from home! Hard to believe but it is true...we at the Villa Rica Golden City Lions Club could not refuse this request and collected enough items to pack 13 boxes to the rim with food, socks, books, tooth brushes, cards and more! Know that this will be opened by a young man or woman who has put their lives in Harm's Way so that we here at home can continue to enjoy the freedom that so many before these and the many that will follow will continue to serve our great Nation!

God Bless America and God Bless our men and women serving in all branches of the military!





Paul May

18-F

By the time you read this, I will have been “trained” and installed as your District Governor for 2010-2011. My wife, Mary Anne, and I are excited about our trip to Australia to attend the Lions International Convention. I look forward to my return so that I (we) can continue the work of Lionism in District 18F.

For the past several months, I have been very busy planning and organizing for my year as your governor. All officers, zone chair and committee chairs are now in place, cabinet meetings set and my objectives written. I have already shared my detail objectives and action plans with the officers, zone chairs, and the MERL Team. Attached are my District 18F Goals and Objectives and the 2010-2011 Club of Excellence Award. In order to reach the goals and for your club to obtain the Excellence Award, we all need to start our work now.

The District has been divided into two regions: Your First Vice District Governor, June Phillips, will cover Zones 1, 2, 3 & 6. Your Second Vice District Governor, David Murray, will have Zones 4, 5, 7 & 8. Hopefully the new State directory will be handed out at the first cabinet meeting; however, by July 1, you can go online to view the new District directory at our district web site: www.galionsdistrict18f.org under District Information.

We are currently working on a new club in Conyers. Plans for establishing new clubs in Waynesboro and Decatur are also being considered. We are developing a **PRIDE BUILDING TEAM** that will be available to assist existing clubs in our district.

My objective is to visit all the clubs in our district within 6 months. Some clubs have already scheduled my visits. If your club has not, please email me at pafastphoto@windstream.net two possible dates by the end of July. If I have not heard from your club by the end of July, I will schedule my visit to your club.

My theme this year is **GROWING IN SERVICE**. My hopes are the District Cabinet and Committees will **GROW IN SERVING** all the clubs in District 18F and that all the clubs will **GROW IN SERVING** their communities.

CABINET MEETING DATES

Sat., August 21 in Sandersville



ID HAYNES DRESSING
DOWN OR DRESSING UP
D18F RED NECK GOVERNOR
HARVEY WARE



ARE WE KEEPING HAYNES
UP PAST HIS BEDTIME?

MILLEDGEVILLE LIONS CLUB = Our 25th annual “Kids Fishing for Sight” Fish-a-thon was held Saturday, May 15th. Special thanks go Lion Terry, who did the judging and with Lion PDG, Don, supplied the Certificates, Lion Edward Powelski, our main fish measurer and pole fixer [with his dad-in law, Lion Ed], Lion Herbst, our bucket keeper and sign maker/distributor and Lion Arnold, our bait getter/donor. Lion Self participated for the first time and helped “distribute” bait. Lion Wright distributed snacks and drinks from a previous event [and modeled his hat]. As always, the Milledgeville Fire Dept was a great help. We hope to have raised funds for our projects as well.



Lion David
Self, our
newest
member
seems to have
acquired a
taste for worm



Lion
Pres
Gene
Arnold
poses at
Fish-a-
thon



Kids pose with
their trophies and
certificates while
Firemen look

RETENTION ISSUES FOR THIS YEAR'S GEORGIA LIONS LEADERSHIP

Congratulations on your election as a Lion leader of the clubs in Georgia! Similarly, congratulations to those of you who were elected to serve as Georgia's District Governors. Finally, congratulations to those Lions who were appointed to Lion leadership positions in your clubs or in our districts. Officially, you will be the Lion leaders for this Lions' year. (For the other readers of this article, please provide the support these leaders are going to need from you for the next twelve months.)

As district and club leaders you are going to have numerous challenges, but as your MD-18 MERL Team appointed Retention Chair, I am going to argue that retention of the members in your clubs is one of the key challenges facing you. There are two recent reasons this has again come my attention. The first occurred at our state convention in Tifton when the MD-18 PDG Association held a Special Leadership Discussion Session, which all Lions were invited to attend and participate in the discussion. Several topics were discussed, including the lack of VDG candidates, too few Lions willing to fill club and district leadership positions, possible redistricting to allow Georgia to continue to get future international leaders, etc. Membership retention was the foundation problem for most of these topics.

The second reason membership retention is one of your major leadership issues directly relates to my previous remarks in that our membership statistics reflects our inability over the past few years to stop the loss of Lions in our clubs. Shortly after your leadership year starts Lions Clubs International will post our June membership stats to their web site, but we already have evidence that shows that we will predictably lose more members this past year than we did the previous year! That is, as of the end of May 2010, we had already lost 14.5% of our members and this is exactly equal to the total percent loss of members in our previous year (2008 – 2009). Only if we lose no Lions in June will our statistics reveal that we lost no more members this year.

In the January 2010 newsletter, available on our MD-18 web site, I posted nine club retention action items. As I indicated then and have discussed since then, these action items are based on behavioral science research of membership retention in volunteer organizations in the USA. Lions are not the only volunteers in the United States experiencing membership retention problems! Importantly though, based on the results of this research, these actions should reduce the loss of our club members.

Will the adoption of these actions really reduce the loss of Lions in Georgia? I'll continue to examine our MD-18 retention statistics and I'll even do more research, but if our clubs don't adopt these actions then we can predict that our membership loss this year will be equal to or greater than it has been for the past few years. Moreover, adopting these actions means that clubs need to start doing so immediately! This is where your leadership comes in. None of these actions will occur unless you accept them and get your clubs to begin to implement them.

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

The New Way Ahead

Expanding the Global Membership Team (GMT) and creating a parallel Global Leadership Team (GLT) to replace MERL

After many, many months of careful planning and deliberation, your board has developed an innovative plan to replace MERL beginning in 2010-11. It involves three important steps:

Expanding the Global Membership Team down to the multiple district and district level. This will create, for the first time, a complete bottom-to-top team, touching from the club level all the way up to the international president. Also to further clarify roles and responsibilities, the DG Teams will lead the GMT unit at the district level with the help of a GMT Coordinator and a surrounding support team.

Consolidating the Membership, Extension, and Retention (M-E- and R) chairs and their functions into a 'one team approach' where all three functions are integrated in order to enhance accountabilities and reduce overlapping roles in the previous M-E and R positions.

Separating the Leadership function from M-E & R and elevating the function into its own parallel structure known as the **Global Leadership Team (GLT)**, to work alongside GMT at all levels in a very highly integrated and interdependent fashion.

The overall purpose of expanding GMT and creating GLT seeks to address three basic goals: continued growth, improved club success, and ultimately better leadership development to ensure that LCI remains the world's global leader in community and humanitarian service. [Read the executive summary for further information.](#)

The Path Forward

This upcoming year will be one of transition. I know that some districts may not be fully ready to move in the new way right away. That's understandable, but we must at least begin taking the first steps. For those districts and multiple districts with active and hard-working MERL teams, of course they may continue to use them in 2010-11 while preparing a transition to the new structure by 2011-12. But those with inactive or expiring MERL teams can, and should, move more quickly to the new approach.

Be assured there will be many more communications coming out in the weeks and months ahead. But I wanted to share these highlights with you as Lion leaders because it's important that you see the road map and be kept informed.

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Lions:

The Link to the Forum Newsletter can be found at:

<https://usacanadalionsforum.org/forumnewsletter012010v1a.pdf>

Seminar List now available:

<https://usacanadalionsforum.org/2010seminarspeakersspreadsheet.pdf>

Information on Local Tours can be found at:

http://www.milwaukeeforum.org/Milwaukee_Tours.htm

Need to register before June 15th to keep price break:

<https://usacanadalionsforum.org/registration.html>

If you have any questions, please contact the Forum Office at:

forum@spe.midco.net

Don't forget to check out the Forum Video on YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Un8cs0RJcpA>

The Forum is also on Facebook and Twitter.



USA/CANADA FORUM
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
23-25 September 2010

Lions Clubs International Revised Suspension Policy

In April, 2010 the Board of Directors approved an amended policy, effective July 1, 2010 that affects Clubs that have not paid their club balances on time. The policy is as follows:

A Club which has an unpaid balance in excess of US\$20 per member or US\$1,000 per club, whichever is less, outstanding past 120 days will be automatically suspended including the charter, rights, privileges, and obligation of the Lions Club. In the event, the Club does not reach an active status by the 28th of the following month the club's charter would be automatically canceled.

Suspension is the temporary deferment of the charter, rights, privileges and obligations of a Lions club due to an unpaid balance.

Clubs on suspension shall not:

- (a) Conduct service activities
- (b) Conduct fund raising activities;
- (c) Participate in district and multiple district functions or seminars;
- (d) Participate in any voting procedures outside of the club
- (e) Endorse or nominate a candidate for district, multiple district and international office;
- (f) Submit Monthly Membership Report and report forms;
- (g) Sponsor a Lions club, or organize a Leo or a Lioness club.

Clubs on Suspension shall:

- (a) Hold meetings to discuss the future of the club and identify the steps needed to regain an active status.
- (b) Make payments to clear the existing outstanding balance, or request a payment plan.

This revised policy has serious consequences for clubs that are in arrears in paying their club balances. This policy could affect Clubs that have as little as two per-capita billings or less unpaid at 120 days. Clubs placed on suspension may regain an active status by sending payments sufficient to pay the balance. A re-activation report will not be required to regain an active status, however, officers should immediately review and update the membership roster after a Club is released from Suspension.

Dues are the primary source of income used to support the programs and services provided to our membership. Regular and prompt payment is expected to ensure continued support of this great operation.

Please feel free to contact us at membershipbilling@lionsclubs.org should you require additional information. We hope all clubs will review their statements regularly, and will send the necessary payments to ensure their good status is protected.

Membership Billing and Accounts Services

300 W. 22nd Street
Oakbrook, IL 60523-8842 membershipbilling@lionsclubs.org
Phone: 630-203-3820
FAX: 630-706-9108



Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation

Providing vision and hearing services to Georgians in financial need

Blindness Is a Family Crisis: Miriams' Story



Miriam Davison's blindness was difficult for Miriam and everyone who loves her. Without insurance to cover cataract surgeries, needed in both eyes, Miriam and her family thought their only option was to learn to work with permanent blindness.

Miriam's brother and sister-in-law took her everywhere she needed to go, even guiding her through doors and down hallways. Fearing that she would fall downstairs, her adult son

insisted on living with her. And a granddaughter daily cooked and delivered meals. When Miriam learned the Lighthouse was going to help her, she cried and cried with joy. But no less than her brother did when she came out of surgery.

Before losing her sight, Miriam had always taken care of others. She had worked for 15 years as a professional home-health caregiver and, in recent years, had been taking care of her aged mother. She had also befriended a neighbor with Alzheimer's, who could not grasp Miriam's blindness and inability to continue visiting.

"When I couldn't see, my mother told me to come live with her so that she could take care of me. But she needed as much help as I did. It means everything to now be able to share my mother's care with my sister-in-law. Mama made a good life for us. Now that I can see, I can give her the help she deserves.

"This Christmas, I gave my six-year-old grandson a basketball. What excited him most was that I was able to watch him play with it! My daughter had a baby in March and words can't express how grateful I am that I was able to see my grandchild's face. My family and I will never forget the Georgia Lions Lighthouse."

Summer Service

Numbers

July 1—May 31, 2010

District A

Eye Glasses: 782
Eye Exams: 379
Eye Surgeries: 56
Hearing Aids: 528

District B

Eye Glasses: 792
Eye Exams: 563
Eye Surgeries: 31
Hearing Aids: 207

District C

Eye Glasses: 360
Eye Exams: 186
Eye Surgeries: 44
Hearing Aids: 244

District D

Eye Glasses: 191
Eye Exams: 167
Eye Surgeries: 52
Hearing Aids: 195

District E

Eye Glasses: 284
Eye Exams: 164
Eye Surgeries: 48
Hearing Aids: 274

District F

Eye Glasses: 529
Eye Exams: 317
Eye Surgeries: 51
Hearing Aids: 243

Fiscal Year Totals:

Eye Glasses: 2,938
Eye Exams: 1,776
Eye Surgeries: 282
Hearing Aids: 1,691



Better Vision. Better Hearing. **Better Georgia.**



Dates Set for 2010-2011 Meetings and Conventions

Fall Meeting:

September 11-12, 2010 in Duluth, GA.
The meeting will take place at the Atlanta Marriott-Gwinnett Place. Rooms are \$95/night, and include a full breakfast for two.
Ph: 770-923-1775

Lighthouse Winter Meeting:

January 22, 2011

Lighthouse Awards Deadline:

April 30, 2011



Leave a Legacy with the Lighthouse



You can provide now for a future gift to the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation by including a bequest provision in your will or revocable trust. Planned gifts provide valuable resources that will help sustain the Lighthouse as we strive to provide all Georgians with vision and hearing care. Some of the benefits of a bequest are:

- Your assets remain in your control during your lifetime.
- You can modify your bequest if your circumstances change.
- There is no upper limit on the estate tax deduction for charitable bequests given to the Lighthouse Foundation.
- You can have the satisfaction now of knowing that the legacy of your bequest is our continued work that will help change lives for years to come.

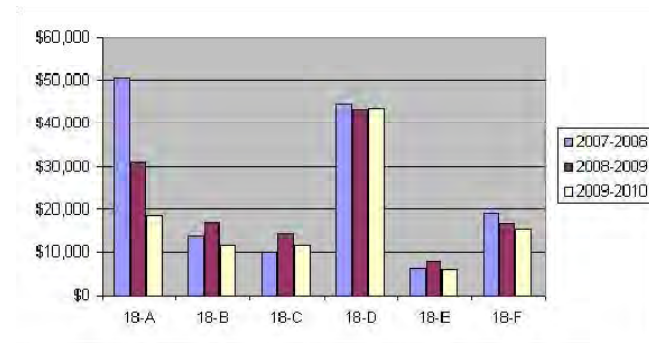
You may also consider making a gift of appreciated securities. For more information, please consult your tax advisor and contact Sarah at 404-325-3630 x 306.

The Lions' Den

White Cane Donations this past Fiscal Year!

We truly appreciate every Lion and every Lions Club that has worked to fund sight saving surgeries for Georgians in financial need. This year, White Cane fundraisers have brought in \$115,000. Without those funds, hundreds of Georgians would not have received surgery. However, if we do not meet our goal, there will be eligible clients who do not receive surgeries in the future.

If your Lions Club has not yet donated to White Cane, please encourage them to give any amount that is meaningful to them. To date, 112 of the 247 Lions Clubs in the state have given. Over the last three years, the number of clubs giving and the amount of the donation has decreased in many districts.



The graph at the left represents giving in each of the last three years for each district.

Any contribution, no matter the amount, is greatly appreciated. A \$1,000 gift would change a life dramatically by making a cataract surgery possible. But a \$25 gift could also improve someone's quality of life and help them find or keep a job by making a pair of glasses available.

What can you do to help prevent Georgians from having to use a white cane?

New Fiscal Year Checklist: The new fiscal year is about to begin! Is your club prepared? You can help operations at the Lighthouse run more efficiently and effectively by making sure the following are taken care of:

Submit the name and contact information for your associate director (AD), even if it's the same person as last year. The AD will serve as the liaison between your club and the Lighthouse.

Submit the name and contact information for your White Cane Chair, even if it hasn't changed from last year.

Determine and submit your 2010- 2011 goal for White Cane fundraising. You do not need to meet your goal, but knowing how much you think you can raise helps us set our budget for the year.

Ensure that the LCIF's information for your club is up to date. We use LCIF for everything from contact information to club size for awards.

The information above can be sent to Kim Fletcher. It can be submitted over the phone at 404-325-3630, via email at kfletcher@lionslighthouse.org, or through postal mail to the.



Brian McCann
Honorary Campaign Chair
Atlanta Braves Catcher

Brian McCann's Lighthouse Video

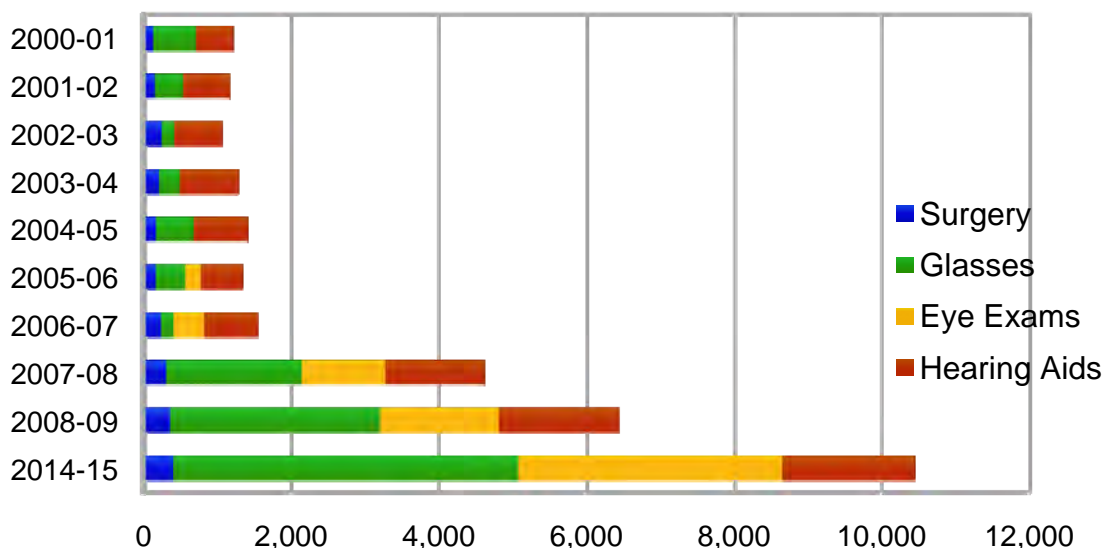
It is great that this last email I send out as Lighthouse Board Chair is exciting news.

First, the Lighthouse closes a historic year. We increased the number of Georgians that received direct Lighthouse serves by almost 30%. This does not count the number of people that received screening through our eye screening program---that program had over a 100% increase over last year! Over 6,000 Georgians are seeing or hearing better today because your Lighthouse.

Second, financially the Lighthouse is in good shape. Many charities are suffering from the weak economy---and have had to scale back services as a result. As noted above, we have been expanding our services. Thanks to the our Lions Clubs and other financial supporters, the Lighthouse met its budget. Given the economy and the fact that we are in a capital campaign, that is an amazing accomplishment.

Third, our capital campaign! We have gotten pledges of over \$1.8 million toward our goal of \$2.7 million. We are in a position to close on the building next month. So, we have a new home. Speaking of the campaign, check out the attached link to a video of Atlanta Brave Brian McCann endorsement of our Lighthouse.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=10jFAZNkJBA>



Lions State Convention a Success

The 2010 Lighthouse meeting at the Lions' State Convention was an emotional event. Mark Miller gave his final address as Lighthouse Board Chair, and he passed the torch on to Gary Vaughters. Mark also presented a picture of a bear to several people for the work they have put into the Lighthouse over the last year. The Lighthouse staff very much appreciate all the work the board members have put into the foundation this year. You all are wonderful!

Three Lions Clubs—LaGrange, Cartersville, and Dalton—pledged a total of \$20,000 to the Lighthouse Capital Campaign. Those funds will be put to great use helping fund the Lighthouse's expansion. We are grateful to all the Lions, Lions Clubs, and friends of the foundation who are helping us bring the future into focus!

The Lighthouse's guest for the evening was Tommy Mullis. Tommy and his wife Mary both received hearing aids through the Lighthouse in March. He is a retired farmer, and the two currently run a daycare out of their home in Tifton. It is work they certainly could not do without the ability to hear the kids. While Tommy complains that he may now be able to hear his grandchildren too much, he is grateful for the problem. He also appreciates that he is able to hear the sermon in church again, an impossible feat six months ago.

July 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Lions Int'l Convention Sydney, Australia	2 Lions Int'l Convention Sydney, Australia	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 MD Zone/Reg Chair, MD MERL, and District MERL train In Centerville First Baptist Church in the Gym, 108 Church Street, Centerville.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 CAMP FOR THE BLIND Summer CAMP Lions Day
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August 2010

SUNDAY	MOND	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 18-C Cabinet Meeting, Moultrie, GA	2	3	4	5	6	7 18-A Cabinet Meeting Woodstock, GA. 18-E Cabinet Meeting Byron, GA.
8 18-B Cabinet Meeting Baxley, GA	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 18-F Cabinet Meeting Sandersville, GA.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESD	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Council of Governors Mtg. Marriott Gwinnett, Duluth, GA	11 Council of Governors Mtg. Joint Georgia Lions Lighthouse and Camp for the Blind Meeting, Duluth, Georgia
12 Joint Ga. Lions Lighthouse and Camp for the Blind Meeting	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 USA/	24 CANADA Milwaukee,	25 FORUM Wisconsin
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2010

SUNDAY	MOND	TUESDAY	WEDNESD	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
18-A = 2 nd Cabinet Meeting TBA 18-C = 2 nd Cabinet Meeting, Albany, GA.					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Sight Night – Collect Glasses
31						

November 2010

SUNDAY	MOND	TUESDA	WEDNESD	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Mule Day Calvary, GA.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 55th District 18-D Rally, Gainesville, GA.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Council of Governors Mtg, Macon, Georgia
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	18-B Cabinet Meeting, Baxley, GA. 6Nov 18-E Cabinet Meeting, Butts County, GA. 6Nov 18-F Cabinet Meeting, Thomson, GA 6Nov			

December 2010

SUNDAY	MOND	TUESDA	WEDNESD	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	29	30	31	



From Kristen Picus, Camp Director:



"RIPE FOR CHANGE"

I have been busy planning for the upcoming Camping Season. We have had numerous meetings with our Program Director and they are well on the way from transitioning from "The Flip Side" to "Ripe for Change". A big addition to our program this summer will be the Low Ropes Course. We are anticipating a 25% increase in Campers this summer.

The Campers Are Here!

What a wonderful month this has been. I started off with some fantastic visits to several local clubs followed by a smashing time at our annual state convention. I thoroughly enjoyed seeing so many of you. I always love meeting new friends and hugging the necks of old!

This past week the summer staff arrived for their training. They spent a grueling week being trained in, providing care for a person with disabilities, evening programs, CPR & First Aid, Facilitator training, basic counseling and so much more. They worked tirelessly to gain the knowledge needed to provide the best experience for each and every camper. We closed out our week ready and excited about all the possibilities.

By the time you read these words, I will have gone and picked up the first round of campers in Macon. The camp will be all a bustle with no turning back. Songs will be heard all over the camp. Laughter will be contagious and smiling will be a staple to daily life. Today though, I sit here on Camper Eve and feel the butterflies start to creep back in. I can't wait to spend time with them and to get to know them. I can't wait to see them try things that they never dreamed they could do. I can't wait to hear their laughter. I simply can't wait. Tonight as I go to bed, I will lay down with a smile on my face knowing that the blessing of a years' worth of toil begins tomorrow. It is my hope that as you think about the campers being here, you too will have a smile on your face. **We've done it; We have provided the ultimate stage for "Ripe for Change" to play out...Thank you for giving**

Kristen

* * * * *



Foundation Director Gary Helton presenting a check to the Georgia Lions' Camp for the Blind to help sponsor campers from Cherokee, Dawson, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Hall and Lumpkin Counties. The Suwanee Electric Membership Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations that provide service in their service areas. These funds are generated from donations members of the Suwanee EMC through Operation Roundup.

My Fellow Lions,

WOW – This sure is a busy - but fun time!

We just had our last Board Meeting at the State Convention. We had our Budget for 2010-2011 approved and we had some cosmetic changes to our Constitution approved as well. As always it was wonderful seeing many of you there at State. The fellowship is always great and getting to celebrate our successes is very important. Thank you all for a great 2009-2010!

Thank you as well for the Basket Auction at the State Convention. We had over 50 baskets that generated over \$4,000.00 in revenue for the Camp. To all the Clubs that delivered baskets, to the committee that pulled this together and to all the Lions that participated in the auction – this event was a big success. You are the reason why!



As mentioned a Month ago, Kristen has been busy prepping for the upcoming Camping Season. It takes months of work up front to ensure a successful Camping Session and today the Camping Season kicks off at our Camp. We are poised to have the best Camping Season ever and those “We Serve” deserve nothing less. Thanks to Kristen and her staff, the Camper’s experience this summer will be the very best!

On July 24th we will be having Lions Day at our Camp. Within this Newsletter you will see a letter inviting you to attend the event, a brief agenda and hotel information for your stay in Waycross. If the application for your attendance is ready by the time we send this out it will also be enclosed. If not it will be posted on the Web Site and sent out by the end of the week. Please join us for a day of fun, a day of fellowship, and a day of love at your Georgia Lions Camp. Yes love – your Camp is alive and it will pull at your Heart Strings!

A new Lion Year and a new year for you Camp start off on July 1st. The work never stops; the Board, the Staff and you have a lot more work to do. We can start by ensuring the best possible line of communication to your Lions Club from the Camp and back to the Camp. That line of communication is the Associate Director position at your respective Lions Club. Please ensure that position gets filled and that the appointment gets sent to the Camp. If you have any questions at all on this important process, please contact your District Vice President to the Camp for assistance. That is exactly what they are there for!

The Grand Tour of Georgia is well under way. Carolyn has been doing an outstanding job of coordinating this effort from the Camp and she is pushing for each person that is riding to find one more participant. That sound like a good plan to me – please see what you can do to get us some more riders. By the end of next weekend (if all goes as planned) I will have been to all 19 locations on the Grand Tour and will have the 2010 GTG wrapped up.

I hope that you enjoy these Newsletters from your Camp and that we are keeping you up to date on all that is happening at your Georgia Lions Camp. If there is something else you would like to see, please let Kristen and/or I know.

As always – Thank you for all you do for our Camp and those “We Serve”. I’ll see you at the Camp on Lions Day. Take Care and God Bless!

Frank

* * * * *

2010 Schedule

Session 3: Young Adults (ages 18-25) June 27-July 5, 2010

Session 4: Adults (ages 26-50+) July 9-16, 2010

Session 5: Teens (ages 14-17) July 19-30, 2010



Lions Day July 24th



(This is a reminder to go immediately and place this date on your calendar. You won’t want to miss it)

2010 LIONS DAY SCHEDULE

9:00 AM	TOURS OF THE CAMP GROUNDS FROM THE OUTSIDE FRONT OF THE ACTIVITIES BUILDING
9:30 – 10:15 AM	FISH-A-THON WITH CAMPERS CLIMBING TOWER
10:30 - 11:00 AM	A CAMP ACTIVITY
11:00 – 11:40 AM	GOAL BALL COMPETITION CAMPERS VS. LIONS
11:40 – 12:15	CAMPER COOL-DOWN TIME
12:30	LUNCH IN ACTIVITIES BUILDING
1:00 – 2:30 PM	PROGRAM IN ACTIVITIES BUILDING
DINNER IS ON YOUR OWN UNLESS YOU ARE A DISTRICT GOVERNOR	
7:00 PM	CAMPER TALENT SHOW IN ACTIVITIES BUILDING

* * * * *

“The Dog Days of Summer”

“Fun!” “Awesome!” Those are some of the words that long-time Georgia Lions Camp attendee Courtney Bolan uses to describe her experience at the Leader Dogs for the Blind Trekker Camp, which ran from June 25 – July 2, 2010 at the Leader Dog campus in Rochester, Michigan.

Dubbed “The Dog Days of Summer,” this summer adventure for teens 16 to 18 provided Courtney and eleven other teens from around the country the opportunity to experience what it is like to live and work with a Leader Dog. In addition, each camper took home a free Trekker GPS unit and individualized assistance with white cane travel. Additional activities included a rope course, canoeing, tandem biking, and movie night.

Going to Leader Dogs for the Blind’s “Dog Days” was a surprise for Courtney. She has been attending the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind since she was six years old and hopes to be a counselor next year. She was delighted when Director Kristen Picus asked her to go and learn about Leader Dogs for the Blind’s Trekker audible GPS program so that Courtney can teach others at the Georgia Lions Camp the skills she learned at Leader Dog.

Overall, Courtney rated her experience as lots of fun and said that she likes working with a dog better than a cane. She was paired with a female black lab named “Misty” for two days and loved the experience. Courtney looks forward to teaching others about the advantages of Breeze and Trekker GPS travel when she returns to the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind this summer.



Picture of Courtney with a black lab named “Misty”



2010 Grand Tour Of Georgia hosted by the Georgia Lions' Camp for the Blind, Inc.

Ride your Motorcycle*, see the great State of Georgia and help a blind child go to Camp! Enjoy a summer of riding experiences and help that same child gain a lifetime of confidence and experiences as well!

Purchase a Passport Book for \$25.00. This Passport Book is loaded with 19 scenic and historical locations throughout the great State of Georgia.

Ride to 15 of 18 optional locations and one mandatory location between April 1, 2010 and September 30, 2010. Record each visit with a photo, submit your record of visits and you will receive a Grand Tour Pin/w 2010 Year Tab and a Certificate of Completion. Those successful riders will also be able to purchase a 2010 Grand Tour of Georgia Tee Shirt.

* Those wishing to partake in the Grand Tour of Georgia that do not ride motorcycles may do so. The same rules will apply.

To obtain a Grand Tour of Georgia Application visit the Georgia Lions' Camp for the Blind's Website at GLCB.org or call (888) 297-1775 (Ga. Only) or (912) 283-4320 from 8am – 5pm Monday – Friday.

Ride Safe – Ride to Help Others!

Other Project News



Raise a Puppy



During a puppy outing in Downtown Detroit, Puppy Raiser Carrie Krausmann and Future Leader Dog “Lola” share a connection that extends beyond the leash.

Our volunteer puppy raising program places puppies in host homes for approximately one year in preparation for their lives as dog guides. Raisers teach puppies house manners, basic obedience and socialize the dog by taking it into the community on a regular basis.

Questions that you and your family should consider before [applying to raise a puppy](#) for Leader Dogs for the Blind include:

- What facilities are available for the dog? Do you have a fenced in yard? Puppies are never allowed off leash unless in a fenced area.
- Where will you keep the puppy while you are at work and on vacation?
- Are you willing to see your [puppy counselor](#) and attend monthly meetings, if available?
- Are all members of the family willing and able to welcome a new puppy into the home?

If you are interested in raising a puppy, complete our [Puppy Raiser Application](#) or call 888-777-5332 for more information.



Summer, 2010, Dates

July 31/August 1 - August 8, Camp Barney, Cleveland, GA

On-line and paper applications available now.



Camp Kudzu is now organizing a committee to plan all aspects of its 5K race and family fun run, the Kudzu Clipper. We are particularly in need of individuals to recruit \$500 - \$2,500 sponsorships from small to medium sized companies. If you enjoy party and event planning, raising funds in support of Camp Kudzu's programs, want to get to know other Kudzu volunteers, or have race management experience, this is the committee for you! For more information, contact Amber Medley at 404-250-1811 or

amedley@campkudzu.org

5K and Family Fun Run!
Saturday, August 21, 2010
Presented by:
Camp Kudzu and Midtown Athletic Club
at Windy Hill

THE KUDZU CLIPPER: **A Fun Event for the Whole Family!**

Hosted by Camp Kudzu and Midtown Athletic Club, the Kudzu Clipper will raise funds to send children with diabetes to summer camp. Camp Kudzu has week-long overnight camps only for children with diabetes. They learn to manage their disease and meet other kids *just like them*. After the race, stick around to take advantage of MAC's world-class facilities or visit MAC's food and vendor fair! **We invite the Atlanta community to join us as we fight to improve the health and well-being of our youth!**

For more information, visit:



Midtown Athletic Club
at Windy Hill

www.campkudzu.org

www.midtown.com/windyhill



Dogs help autistic kids interact with adults

June 14th, 2010 @ 10:10pm

By Ed Yeates

LEHI -- Utah children with autism are talking and learning to interact with adults through dogs. The highly-trained animals are opening a new door for therapy -- allowing adults, often for the first time, to enter their world.



9-year-old Jordyn Pusey pets and plays with Gamee, a dog that is helping in Jordyn's treatment for autism.

Lying on the floor at a learning center called Autism Journeys, KSL watched as 9-year-old Jordyn Pusey petted a dog named Gamee.

Autistic kids often don't like others touching them, but Jordyn enjoyed the gentle pressure of this special dog. She was calm, relaxed and coming out of her shell.

"It makes me happy," Jordyn said.

Kate Andersen, president of Autism Journeys, told KSL, "Jordyn had a difficult time even knocking on my door, and she's known me for a year and a half. But once Gamee was in the mix, she comes right in and says, 'Miss Kate, can I have a turn with Gamee?'"

By definition, these dogs are more highly-trained than therapy dogs. They're service dogs, and in this case work directly with kids in the facility.

More children will be diagnosed with autism this year than with AIDS, diabetes and cancer combined. -Autism Journeys

The animals come from Wasatch Companions, the Utah chapter for Canine Companions for Independence. Their breed -- a cross between Labradors and golden retrievers -- offers a low-reactive and safe alternative for the highly-reactive children.

"It's temperament. These dogs are especially bred for temperament," said Melanie Dutcher, with Wasatch Companions.

Autistic kids who normally wouldn't talk in full sentences, or look an adult in eye, or take turns playing with other children now have a new kind of motivation.

"She loves the feel, the thought of her being able to pet the soft dog, and the fur makes her really comfortable," says Jordyn's dad, Chris Pusey.

Outside, KSL watched Cobi Dickinson trying to take her 2-year-old son, Hagen, for a walk.

Autism affects 1 in 110 children and 1 in 70 boys. - Autism Journeys

"It's terrifying going outside," Dickinson said. "I'm always on edge and have anxiety because it doesn't take more than a second for him to take off; he's gone and in the road."

But now, walking and holding Gamee, Hagen is learning how to stay with mom. Hopefully, he'll eventually do it on his own.

"A dog is completely nonjudgmental and unthreatening," Dutcher said. "It provides non-threatening, unconditional love. The dog doesn't care who you are or if you're disabled."

As subtle teachers, some say dogs are the only animals that love you more than they love themselves -- something the kids can really sense.

Some of the trained animals end up in homes as permanent companions. One autistic child who had to be pre-medicated before going to the dentist doesn't need it anymore because his dog Hal goes with him and simply lays his head on the boy's lap.



The SER campus was named in honor of a \$1 million dollar gift from the Anheuser-Busch/SeaWorld Orlando organizations.



From the desk of State RFB&D Chair Lion Fred Smith

lionfredsmith@gmail.com

Success Stories - Jasmine C.

Not long ago, Jasmine received "millions of Fs" and attended special education intervention classes. But after discovering RFB&D, those Fs became As. In fact, this dynamic young lady who now loves to read has raised a whopping \$600 to date on www.firstgiving.com/rfbd!



Thank you for helping me read – and for helping me get a good education so I can be a doctor and an actress! – Jasmine

[Watch Jasmine and her mom on YouTube.](#)

Fortunately, Jasmine's school is an RFB&D institutional member.

Now Jasmine can listen to her math book, "a big math book that I can't even carry," and enjoy fun reading like *Captain Underpants* both directly accessible through RFB&D's library. In fact, Jasmine downloads her books directly to her MP3 player. She tells us, "I feel good about reading now; I used to feel bad. I thought it was boring . . . and because it was hard, I felt like I failed all the time. But now I can focus in class. I'm reading the big *Harry Potter* book, and next I'm going to read *Twilight*!"

Jasmine's mom Katie is a regional development director for RFB&D – and the philanthropic apple doesn't fall far from the tree. Jasmine increased her goal to \$500 after she exceeded her \$150 goal in one day. According to Jasmine, "It was easy. I sent texts and emails to my mom's friends." Jasmine discovered creative ways to raise money: she regularly collects recyclables – and even briefly considered leasing out her twin brother for \$1 as a "boyfriend for the day" to benefit RFB&D!

Jasmine's hard work, educational success, and passion for helping other students receive the help they need serves as a great example for kids and adults alike. Her efforts are proof positive that it's the size of one's giving heart, and not the size of the person, that matters.



**Hug a Puppy,
Help a Guide Dog**

Courtesy of PawNation.com.

Written by Josh Lopper. Published June 1, 2010

Good news! There's finally a way to get your daily dose of puppy love, even if you aren't able to have one of your own. A guide-dog school in Palmetto, Fla. has instituted a program that allows the public to help socialize its pups by letting dog lovers shower them with displays of affection. For five mornings each week, Southeastern Guide Dogs opens its doors to public. "We call it Puppy Hugging," says Southeastern Guide Dogs' PR Specialist Jennifer Bement. "We basically invite anybody in the neighborhood to come into our puppy playroom and sit on the floor, and then we let one of our litters out into the room." Who wouldn't like to spend an hour or two each morning hugging puppies that are six- to nine-weeks-old? Sure, the love-fest would probably be embarrassing if it ever ended up on YouTube, but heh, it's for a good cause. "It's great for their guide-dog training," Bement tells Paw Nation, "It builds their confidence by getting the puppies used to different sights, smells, sounds and most importantly, different types of people." So not only can you get all the commitment-free hugs you can handle, but you can feel all magnanimous afterward. As you might imagine, these puppy-hugging sessions are well attended by a wide range of dog lovers. "Yesterday a mother and her 18-month-old daughter came in to hug the puppies. Last week, a group from an assisted living facility came to visit the puppies, almost like a therapy session," says Bement. In fact, the puppies are highly therapeutic for the staff as well. According to Bement, "If we're ever having a bad day, we go down to the puppy kennels and hug the puppies and everything is right with the world." So what if you wanna hug puppies, but you don't live in Southern Florida? According to Jennifer, "There are 12 guide-dog schools in United States and I believe we're the only one that offers a puppy-hugging type program." However, most guide-dog schools have what are called "puppy raisers." In fact, Southeastern Guide Dogs has volunteer puppy raisers all over the Southeastern United States. These raisers take in guide-dog puppies during their socialization phase and are responsible for basic obedience training, as well as exposing them to all the environments that a visually-impaired owner may wish to go. "That includes parks, movie theaters, shopping malls, you name it," Bement tells Paw Nation.



Treatment of Gum Disease May Lower Blood Sugar Levels in Type 2 Diabetes

20-May-2010

May 2010 - A study to be published in the latest issue of The Cochrane Library and led by researchers at the University of Edinburgh and supported by colleagues at the Peninsula Dental School, the University of Ottawa and UCL Eastman Dental Institute, suggests that the treatment of serious gum (periodontal) disease in diabetics with Type 2 diabetes may lower their blood sugar levels.

The research team analyzed randomized controlled trials of people with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes who had also been diagnosed with periodontal disease. The team looked at 690 papers and included seven studies in the review that fulfilled pre-specified criteria for inclusion.

Their findings suggest that the treatment of periodontal disease can reduce blood sugar levels in Type 2 diabetes, although there was not enough available evidence to support the same benefit for those with Type 1 diabetes.

Current belief is that, when bacteria infect the mouth and cause inflammation, the resulting chemical changes reduce the effectiveness of insulin produced in the body, thus making it more difficult for diabetics to control their blood sugar.

The findings are key because many patients and health care professionals do not necessarily make the association between the treatment of gum disease and the control of blood sugar levels. The study suggests that the effective treatment of gum disease could have a positive impact on diabetic patients, especially those with Type 2 diabetes, because it good blood sugar control contributes to lowering the risk of serious complications linked to the condition, such as eye problems and heart disease.

Terry Simpson, lead author at the Edinburgh Dental Institute, said: "It would be wise to advise patients of the relationship between treating periodontal disease and the possibility of lowering their blood sugar levels. Additionally, an oral health assessment should be recommended as part of their routine diabetes management."

David Moles, Professor of Oral Health Research and Director of Postgraduate Education and Research at the Peninsula Dental School, added: "In this study we have helped confirm a link between the effective treatment of gum disease and lower blood sugar levels in those with Type 2 diabetes.

Now what are required are larger randomized trials to further study dental treatment and its long term outcomes for those with diabetes, including the possibility of marrying dental care for diabetics with wider diabetes support and treatment networks and closer collaboration between doctors and dentists."

Type 1 diabetes is the type of diabetes that typically develops in children and young adults. In Type 1 diabetes the body stops making insulin and the blood glucose level go very high. Treatment to control the blood glucose level is with insulin injections and a healthy diet. Other treatments aim to reduce the risk of complications and include reducing blood pressure if it is high, and to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Type 2 diabetes occurs mainly in people aged over 40, although it is affecting a growing number of younger people. The 'first-line' treatment is diet, weight control, and physical activity. If the blood glucose level remains high despite these measures, then tablets to reduce the blood glucose level are usually advised. Insulin injections are needed in some cases. Other treatments include reducing blood pressure if it is high, lowering high cholesterol levels, and also other measures to reduce the risk of complications.

Source: The Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry

* * * * *

Diabetes Forecast *The premier magazine for all the latest diabetes information*



Monthly subscription included with ADA membership.

Go to the following web site:

<http://forecast.diabetes.org/june-2010>



["The Power of Peace"](#)
[2009-10 Grand Prize Winner](#)

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.

* * * * *

NOTE: It must be noted that the Levy the MD 18 Leo Council recommended will have to be viewed and approved at the next Council of Governors meeting to be held on 11 September.



To: Lions of Georgia
From: Gabby Harrell
MD18 Leo Secretary
Re: 5/29/10 Leo Council Meeting

Start: Saturday May 29, 2010 12:30 p.m. UGA
Conference Center Tifton, Georgia

President Samantha Turner called the MD18 Meeting to order and recognized those present.

- Brandon Sheu- Chinese-American Club (18-F):

7 members present

- Aaron Rognstad- Seminole County Club (18-C): 10 members present
- Caroline Pike- Pickens County Club (18-A): 1 member present
- Brandon Massey- Colquitt County Club (18-C): 10 members
- Numerous Lions, including 18-A :Leo Chair Lawton Baggs, 18-C Leo Chair Reed Rognstad, 18-D/MD18 Leo Chair Steve Helwig, and Brenda Arnold (Moultrie)

First order of business was the approval of the proposed Meeting Agenda , then the Final Report for the 2010 Leo Gathering, then the proposed budget. Treasurer Stephan Rolle gave the Treasurer's report then pointed the Council to the proposed budget. Vice President Johnelle Simpson made the motion that the proposed budget be accepted as is and to reimburse Lion Helwig for final Gathering expenses. After brief discussion, Treasurer Stephan Rolle seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

Brandon Massey (standing in for Membership Chair Victor Trejo) presented the Membership report. No items were needed from the Council.

The Council reviewed the Standard Constitution and By-Laws and approved the following:

- All Officers will serve terms concurrent with the Lion year (July 1 to June 30)
- Any actions of the MD18 Leo Council that are rejected by the MD18 Lion Council and/or Lions International Board of Directors shall be in writing, stating reason(s)
- Offices of Parliamentarian, Historian, Chaplain, and Membership Chair were approved. Alex Gay made a motion and CJ Jackson seconded that the annual Leo Gathering conduct elections for all offices to the Council, including the addition of Parliamentarian, Historian, and Tail Twister with the President appointing them to the elected position to comply with the Constitution.
- The Georgia Lions Lighthouse and Camp for the Blind were adopted as official charities
- A levy per Leo member as required by the Standard Constitution was discussed. An amount of \$1.25 was submitted in the form of a motion by CJ Jackson and was seconded by Aaron Rognstad. The motion passed after discussion and input from Lions advisors. This levy will be based on each club's membership as of October 31 of each year. The Council agreed that a statement will be sent to the Lions club sponsor.

The respective district's Leo Chairs will be responsible for compiling accurate membership information for each club and reporting to the MD18 Leo Council Secretary and Treasurer no later than October 15 of that year to ensure that statements are sent by the deadline.

- The Constitution and By-Laws will be reviewed and, if necessary, updated every five (5) years. A C&BL Committee will be appointed comprised of Leos and Lions and any proposed alterations will come from this committee
- The motion to approve the bank account at Oconee State Bank was made by Stephan Rolle, and seconded by Brandon Massey. The motion was approved without any discussion.

MD18 Lion Council Advisor Komura Smith addressed the Leo Council concerning the Lighthouse Capital Campaign. MD18 Leo Chaplain Alex Gay then made the motion that MD18 Council pledge to have the Leo clubs of MD18 support the Georgia Lion's Lighthouse for their Capital Campaign by raising \$2,500.00, with a stretch goal of \$5,000.00, to be paid by June 2012. Brandon Massey seconded and after considerable discussion the motion was carried unanimously.

Alex Gay was then appointed to chair the meeting committee to make recommendations for a possible MD18 LEO fall meeting. Locations, dates, frequency, and menus were discussed. Justin Wang, Brandon Sheu, and Chris Fu are on the committee. One option is to meet in conjunction with the fall Camp/Lighthouse meetings.

The following items were discussed by the Council:

- 2010-2011 Leo Calendar
White Cane Month
Send a Kid to Camp
Ways to help charities and organizations Lions and Leos support
- MD18 website
Possible additions include link to Facebook
- State Leo uniform and pin
No decisions were made
- All clubs were encouraged to apply for awards annually
- Leo Awareness Month activities

MD18 Leo President Turner then outlined some of her goals for this year.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Leo President Turner at 4:00 p.m.

CHINESE-AMERICAN LEO CLUB

The Chinese-American Leo Club is hard at work in trying to support the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Capital Campaign.



Hard at work cleaning up a local playground area



On tour of the Doraville Police Department





Lions Quest

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Children are our greatest hope and our richest resource. That truth has been understood since time began. Their potential is limitless, their energy boundless, and their minds and hearts open books waiting to be written. It is up to us to see that they inherit the future they deserve and enter it with knowledge, confidence, and character. Never have our challenges been greater. Never must our determination to succeed be more resolute.

About Lions Quest

Lions Quest is a global positive youth development and prevention program of Lions Clubs International and the Lions Clubs International Foundation. Lions Clubs International is the largest service organization in the world, with approximately 1.35 million members in 196 countries and territories. Since 1984, we have become a world leader in life skills, character education,

prevention, and service learning education. Our programs serve young people ages 5 through 19 in school-based and community settings.

8 Key Principles

Eight underlying principles guide all of Lions Quest research and development efforts.

Programs are comprehensive and age-appropriate

Parent involvement is integral

Training-certification is required for implementation

Home-school-community collaboration is essential

Program implementation must be culturally relevant

Evaluation and accountability are required

Programs are value-based

Programs are community-based

Lions Quest Program Results

Evaluation studies continue to report significant evidence of the positive effects Lions Quest programs have on student performance and behavior.

Of 500 randomly selected Lions Quest teachers:

95% noted increased problem-solving by students

77% saw reduced discipline problems in their classrooms

Of more than 1,200 school principals surveyed:

79% said that students developed more positive peer relationships

64% thought that students accepted more responsibility for their actions as a result of Lions Quest programs

In a random survey of parents with children in Lions Quest programs:

87% reported that their child was more aware of the consequences of drug and alcohol use

95% believed that schools should address positive youth development skills such as those taught in Lions Quest programs

Supporting Organizations:

US State Department, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL)

Organization of American States, Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)

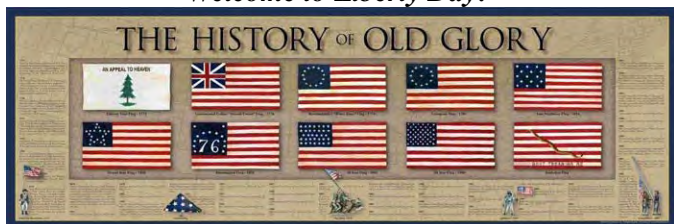
Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA)

Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning

National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices



Welcome to Liberty Day!



Liberty Day offers a variety of educational materials and "America Supplies" for all ages! Take a look at the fun and educational items we offer at our online shop.

Also available is the Liberty Day Teacher's Packet, which contains a full, educator-approved lesson plan, two evaluation forms, and a multiple choice pre-test and post-test.

If you have any questions or would like to order a copy of the Liberty Day Teacher's Packet, feel free to give us a call anytime between 8a.m. and 4p.m. MST at 1.866.718.3434.

Allow 5-7 days for standard delivery. For rush delivery or larger orders, please call for availability at 1.866.718.3434. (Stated prices do not include shipping.)

Liberty Day Kids Kit

Complete Kit Includes: 1 "Liberty Day Kids" t-shirt (Youth Large/Adult Small), 1 canvas flag bag, 10 copies of the Liberty Day pocket-sized booklets containing the US Constitution & Declaration of Independence, 1 separate set of Q&A flashcards, and 10 "I got quizzed!" stickers.



Complete Educational Resource Package

Our proven, signature education product for teachers and volunteers! Contains **28** copies of the Liberty Day Constitution booklets with 24 Q&A flashcards and 1 Teacher's Packet (evaluation survey, lesson plan, multiple-choice assessment, and three-branches diagram)



"Liberty Day Kids" Patch

Perfect for Girl Scout or Boy Scout uniforms!



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 ?

Go to the following web site to download what you think is of importance:

<http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/common/convention/seminar-resources.php>

Seminar Resources

Download available PowerPoint presentations and handouts from seminars given during international convention.

DGE Seminar

Lions Clubs International Foundation - PowerPoint

Monday, June 28

Keynote Speech - Global Leo Conference Opening Session - PowerPoint

Modern Technology and Your Leo Club - Alpha Session - PowerPoint

Leading for Life - Enhancing Your Leadership Skills Omega - Omega Session - PowerPoint

Tuesday, June 29

2010/2011 GMT & DGE Meeting Flyer – PDF

2009-10 Global Membership Team (GMT) Roster - PDF

Wednesday, June 30

Lions Quest 25th Year Anniversary Seminar - PowerPoint

Certified Guiding Lion Seminar - PowerPoint

Club Excellence Process

Thursday, July 1

e-Clubhouse -- A free Web Site for Your Club - PowerPoint

Your Service Projects Can Attract New Members – PowerPoint
Lions Mentoring Program

Family Cub Program Helps Children Learn the Value of Volunteering

Early exposure to volunteering cultivates a lifelong dedication to helping those in need. That's why we offer the Lions Family Cub Program to enable your family to get involved in your club. Several program resources are available, including an activity guide you can use to integrate children under age 12 into your club. A Cub Brochure to promote the Program to other members. And distinctive Cub Patches featuring a paw for each Cub level. Visit our Family Membership page for more information.

A Beacon of Hope in 2010-2011

Our 2010-2011 Presidential theme, A Beacon of Hope, expresses the thought that there are more than 1.3 million lighthouses in 205 countries – Lions members who will continue to light the way, and serve as beacons of hope. The key to our success is through service and impactful projects.

A Beacon of Hope Resources and Activities

Use the following resources to help your club – and our association – be A Beacon of Hope in 2010-2011:

- [A Beacon of Hope logo](#): Download a logo to use on club communication and promotional materials.
- [2010-2011 Presidential Theme brochure](#): Read about our international theme, A Beacon of Hope.
- [2010-2011 Presidential Awards brochure](#): Find out about recognition programs for outstanding achievement by clubs and districts in the area of service.

EVENTS

Calendar of Events

Review upcoming Lions events your club can promote locally.

Online Convention

See highlights, results and photos from our 2010 event.

LIONS QUARTERLY



LQ

Watch the [July LQ video magazine](#) to see how Lions are bringing joy to the visually impaired.

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE





FOUNDATION OVERVIEW

Case Study: Lions Club International Foundation

By Andrew Jack

Published: July 5 2007 09:23

It should be no surprise that an organisation funded by business people for business people is highly rated in a poll of business partners. Lions Club International Foundation ranks at the top.

One explanation for its popularity and influence is history. Ever since 1917, Lions clubs have been expanding across the US and around the world, bringing together business men and women committed to change in their communities through fundraising programmes and volunteering.

Another factor is the organisation's sheer size. Lions clubs claim 1.3m members in 200 countries – outranking Rotary, Kiwanis and other similar associations. That has allowed them to generate \$56m in income a year.

“The fact that we have been able to stay around for a long time and continue to progress and raise millions of dollars is testament to what we do,” says Lisa Hellman, development manager for North America and Europe.

She also stresses the importance the organization gives to regular communication with its members, through magazines and its website, “to showcase where the money has gone”. Lions Club's predominant programme focus – the fight against preventable blindness – dates to 1925, when Helen Keller, the early campaigner for the deaf and blind, addressed its convention in Ohio, challenging the Lions to become “knights of the blind in this crusade against darkness”.

In 1968, the year of her death, the Lions formally created the International Foundation, with a remit to help tackle global causes and more local challenges too big for individual clubs to take on alone.

The foundation's first grant was \$5,000 to address the consequences of flooding in 1972, and to date, it has given out \$583m, becoming a significant international humanitarian organization. It is active in work with the elderly, homeless and children in crisis; youth development; disabilities; and disaster relief.

But blindness prevention remains the foundation's principal focus, boosted by the launch of its SightFirst programme in 1990, which has spent \$202m for 841 projects in 90 countries.

The money has provided 7.1m cataract operations, 80.5m treatments for river blindness, upgraded 325 eye centres and trained 305,000 ophthalmologists.

Much has been done in cooperation with corporate partners, including a 15-year link to Merck, the pharmaceutical company which donates its drug Mectizan for river blindness. Other important long-term links have been established with Johnson & Johnson, Eli Lilly and Allergan.

A more recent logistics partnership, the creation of Lions Clubs Lens Finishing Labs, allows Essilor to supply lenses and equipment at cost, train Lions Clubs members to make new glasses, and find customers to purchase recycled glasses. Now it is in the process of raising \$150m for SightFirst II, a new programme designed to help reduce the risk of preventable blindness rising from 37m to 74m people worldwide by 2020.

But Ms Hellman stresses that there is still room for improvement in its partnerships with companies. They have traditionally come to the foundation, which she wants to see taking a more active effort in establishing and fostering long-term links.

“Very often the benefits to our partners have been haphazard,” she says. “Now we are thinking more about branding and PR. We are looking at recognition events at our annual international convention, and trying to be a better steward and just a little bit more professional.”

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Port Lions, Alaska



Port Lions is a city located on [Kodiak Island](#) in the [Kodiak Island Borough](#) of the [U.S. state](#) of [Alaska](#). As of the [2000 census](#), the population of the city was 256.

Port Lions was built to house the inhabitants of [Ag'waneq](#) from the neighboring island of [Afognak](#) and [Port Wakefield](#) from [Raspberry Island](#), after their villages were destroyed by the [Good Friday Earthquake](#) in 1964. Port Lions was built with help from the United States government and the [Lions Club](#). It was named in honor of the club.

New LCIF Partnership with Bausch + Lomb Early Vision Institute Aims to Prevent Childhood Blindness

Sydney, Australia, June 28, 2010 – Lions Clubs International Foundation announces a new partnership program with the Bausch + Lomb Early Vision Institute. The partnership program will be formally launched during the Lions Clubs International Convention in Sydney, Australia during the first plenary session on Wednesday, June 30. Representatives from the Bausch + Lomb Early Vision Institute will join Lions Clubs International Executive Officers in announcing the new partnership program aimed at treating pediatric cataract.

The Pediatric Cataract Initiative will seek out and fund innovative, replicable programs to prevent and treat cataract in infants and children and promote early childhood vision screenings. Bausch + Lomb is contributing US\$350,000 in the pilot year to launch the partnership program. The Pediatric Cataract Initiative will utilize the resources of both organizations to identify, fund and promote innovative methods of overcoming this challenge for the long-term benefit of children, their families and their communities.

“Lions Clubs International Foundation remains committed to saving the sight of millions of people worldwide,” said Al Brandel, Chairperson, Lions Clubs International Foundation. “We’re excited about the prospects of the Pediatric Cataract Initiative and this new partnership with the Bausch + Lomb Early Vision Institute.”

Pediatric cataract is a clouding of the eye’s natural lens in children. Left untreated, it quickly becomes a critical cause of childhood vision loss and blindness. This new partnership program will help treat and prevent pediatric cataract.

“Too many newborns afflicted with pediatric cataract have a lifetime of vision loss and blindness ahead of them – an untenable prospect in today’s world,” said Paul Sartori, corporate vice president, Bausch + Lomb. “With more funding and attention placed on research, prevention and treatment, we’ll be making an impact in the lives of children worldwide.”

The rate of pediatric cataract in Australia and other developed nations is one to four children per 100,000 births. However, in underserved countries, the rate can be 10 times greater. As such, during its first year, the Initiative will primarily focus on aiding children within China, where an estimated 40,000 children suffer from pediatric cataract.



“The Lions organization has made a tremendous impact on more than 80 million lives. Without the Lions, we would not have been able to bring the drug for river blindness to those who need it most.”

Vlad Hogenhuis, Merck & Co., Inc.

For additional information, visit
www.PediatricCataract.org.

Promotional Materials

Looking to raise awareness about your Lions club, district and multiple district support of LCIF or a grant project? There are many online PR tools and resources to help you get started. LCIF is happy to provide assistance with your public relations efforts. And we always want to hear of successful radio, newspaper and television placements on stories about your club's support of LCIF. For questions or additional information, [e-mail](#) or call 630-468-6887.

DVDs

The LCIF videos are a powerful way to show the value of LCIF. They can be shown to Lions at club meetings and district conventions as well as provided to local programming television stations or shared with non-Lions to educate them about the impact of LCIF. The programs are available in DVD format in all official languages, except for the Lions Quest DVD. (The DVDs will work on DVD players in the United States and Canada and on region-free players elsewhere.)

[Lions Are ... LCIF](#) provides an overview of the many programs of Lions Clubs International Foundation, including SightFirst, Lions Quest and other humanitarian initiatives. Running time 12 minutes. All languages.

[SightFirst II: Looking Forward](#) highlights LCIF's SightFirst program which is saving sight and preventing vision loss through the successful fundraising of Campaign SightFirst II. Running time 10 minutes. All languages.

[Making a Difference Together](#) is a message from the Executive Officers and Lions who have contributed to Lions Clubs International Foundation or received support from LCIF, demonstrating the importance of support from Lions in order to LCIF to continue and expand to fund humanitarian projects worldwide. Running time 4 minutes. All languages.

Powerpoints

LCIF Impact

[Download PowerPoint Presentation](#)

15 slides. Shows LCIF's impact worldwide through numbers. Good presentation for both Lions and non-Lions.

LCIF Overview

[Download PowerPoint Presentation](#)

21 slides. An overview of LCIF and the future of LCIF.

Lions Quest

[Download PowerPoint Presentation](#)

26 slides. A summary of LCIF's schools-based life skills program.

Eye Health for Seniors

[Download PowerPoint Presentation](#)

29 slides. An educational overview of eye diseases that afflict seniors and preventative measures.

Eye Health for Children

[Download PowerPoint Presentation](#)

24 slides. Eye health habits for children in order to protect their sight before it's too late.



Georgia Lions Magazine

1441 Burycove Circle, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043

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



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