Lions of Georgia



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 edmclionh@bellsouth.net or lionga@bellsouth.net





Time for Travel

Vice District Governor's and District Leader Dog Chair travel to Lions International and Leader Dog School:





June, Alan, Carole and I went to Chicago to visit LCI on the 13th, and then went to Leader Dog on the 14th. Tim went directly to Leader Dog. They are all VDG's, and I'm a mere pawn, as a District Chair for Leader Dog. (and, the answer to "Why are you wearing a Louisiana Lions shirt?" is... it's a good shirt, and I can't afford to throw it away. Plus, the Georgia folks would probably rather everyone thought I wasn't from Georgia.) I'll bet if my old club knew I was still wearing a Louisiana shirt, they'd buy me a Georgia one.

While they went north the District Governor's took a tour of Southeastern Guide Dog in Florida:





Preview the Lighthouse's New Home!

The Campaign Committee, led by Honorary Chair Atlanta Braves Pitcher Brian McCann & Campaign Chair Dick LoPresti, cordially invite you and your guests to preview our new facilities during construction.

Thursday, 14 October 2010, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. NEW Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation 5582 Peachtree Road Atlanta, GA. 30314

Please RSVP to Michelle and confirm the number in your party – mhan@lionslighthouse.org or 404-325-3630 ext 322

Georgia Lions State Convention



10-12 June 2011 Duluth, Georgia

SPECIAL Thursday Event: For those coming in early, Thursday, 9 June, we will have "Night Out at Stone Mountain with International President Sid Scruggs". Transportation will be provided to Stone Mountain. The cost will be \$30.00 – this includes getting into Stone Mountain Park, a reserved pavilion, a meal, talk with the International President and watch the Laser Show.

Friday: Registration and Exhibits; Organizational Meetings – Lighthouse and Camp meetings; Opening Ceremony + Seminars – OPENING Ceremonies you will enjoy – for those who have not been able to go to an International Convention we will have an International Flair. (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





Lions:

One of our Lions in the newly formed Dacula Lions Club, Lion Jeff Wolfe, has obtained information on an 80-minute documentary film by producer/director Joseph Lovett, who suffers from sight-robbing glaucoma himself. This film covers preventing, treating, and coping with vision loss. If you will review the attachment, you can see all the details. Lion Jeff is working on holding a screening of this film in Metro Atlanta. We also hope to get the Lighthouse involved.

This is a great opportunity for Lions all over Georgia and all over the world to make the public aware of vision loss and all that is involved by holding screenings of this documentary film. This is a perfect time to use this opportunity to alert the public, since IP Sid Scruggs' emphasis is on "community service".

WHAT IS GOING BLIND?

Going Blind is an 80-minute documentary film by Peabody Award-winning producer/ director Joseph Lovett, who suffers from sight-robbing glaucoma himself. The film is a look at each aspect of vision loss: preventing, treating and coping with it.

HOW TO USE GOING BLIND?

Screen the film locally to inform the public about the many issues concerning blindness and visual impairment. Anyone can become involved and raise awareness in their community.

Check out the outreach toolkit which can be downloaded from

www.goingblindmovie.com



ABOUT THE FILM



Going Blind is a unique documentary film that increases public awareness of sight loss and low vision issues profoundly affecting the lives of more and more people and those who love them.

Documentary film director and journalist Joe Lovett has glaucoma, a disease that robs 4.5 million people of their vision world-wide. Over the years, Joe has lost a significant amount of vision and in his concern about how to deal with more vision loss, he has started to talk with people who have already lost theirs; people who have lost their sight through blinding diseases like diabetic retinopathy and macular degeneration, others through infection and accidents.

Some of the people he meets on the street, stopping to ask if they have time to talk. Each one has a fascinating story about dealing with the loss we fear most, the loss of sight.

Going Blind interweaves Joe's story, his mission to do what he can to slow down the course of his disease through medication and surgeries, with the stories of others whom he looks to for guidance in a darkening world.

Jessica Jones, a neighbor of Joe's, is one of the people participating in the film. They met on the street when Jessica was training her seeing eye dog Chef, a black lab.

A young, beautiful and talented artist who had been teaching in the New York City public school system, Jessica was exasperated by the lack of encouragement and opportunities after she had lost her sight to diabetic retinopathy in just 8 months at age 32. During the process of filming Jessica secured a job teaching art at a school in the Bronx for blind children with multiple disabilities.

Another is eleven-year old Emmet Teran. Emmet has low vision from albinism, a condition he inherited from his father who also has to deal with extremely low vision. Emmet works with a comedy troupe after school and uses humor to dismiss some of the hurts a child encounters from his peers.

These compelling individual stories provide the sighted with a glimpse into the world of low vision and blindness. Worldwide, 37,000,000 people have lost their vision. In the United States alone, Lighthouse International reports that 10 million people are legally blind (1.3 million) or visually impaired (8.7 million).

Given our aging population and the increasing prevalence of low vision in our society, it is of paramount importance that we understand sight loss and work towards a better future. Going Blind encourages and inspires people to take action to preserve, prolong, and maximize the precious gift of sight – for themselves, their loved ones, and society.

Alstrom patients, families gather at Unicoi



It was like a family reunion that spanned the globe. About 240 visitors from six continents gathered at Unicoi Lodge for an international conference on Alstrom syndrome, a rare genetic disorder with fewer than 700 known cases worldwide.

That's why some families were willing to travel vast distances to be there. Kylie Read of Tasmania, Australia, spent 28 hours on a plane to bring her 8-year-old daughter Taylah to the conference.

"You can't put words to it how much this means to us," Read said. "There are only two families in Australia that have this condition, and we're on of them."

Last winter, Then District Governor Grace Clower received an email from an individual in Maine asking for Lions to help with a cook-out at Unicoi State Park on 27 June.

The first sign of Alstrom syndrome is a loss of vision. Most children are completely blind within a couple of years from the onset of the illness. Because Alstrom affects how cells work, it can strike every system in the body. Patients have diabetes, congestive heart failure, liver or kidney disease, breathing difficulties, urinary problems and hearing impairment.

If symptoms start in infancy, the child may not live very long. But some patients have a later onset and are still able to function well in their 20's or 30's. When both parents carry the Alstrom gene, each child they conceive has a 1 in 4 chance of getting Alstrom. Scientists don't know what causes the gene to malfunction, and there is still no treatment for the disorder. Most of the world's top Alstrom researchers gave presentations at the conference.

The Alstrom conference, which is held every three years, offers special programming for this older group, dubbed the "A-Team."



Holding the conference was entirely the result of one child's dream. Chelsea Gilliland, an Alstrom patient from northwest Georgia attended her first conference in 2001 and began insisting that a meeting should be held near Helen, her favorite place to visit. Unfortunately, she died in 2006, at age 17. Her mother fulfilled her daughter's wish and brought the conference to Helen.

Lions from Snellville Lions Club, Cleveland Lions Club, Union County Lions Club, Towns County Lions Club and Blue Ridge Lions Club came together that Sunday afternoon at Unicoi State Park and cooked hamburgers and hot dogs for this wonderful group of people. We were able to talk with children and parents from all over the world. We also met Lions from Kansas and Pennsylvania. They were so grateful for the help that the Lions gave them.



We came away from that cook-out as the ones who were truly blessed by this courageous group of people. These Lions had never heard of this illness, but we lived out our motto, We Serve, that summer day at Unicoi State Park.



Scott Warren

Twenty Six Lions from the Atlanta Metro, Cartersville, East Cobb, Kennesaw, Sandy Springs and West Cobb Lions Clubs helped the Muscular Dystrophy Association on Labor Day September 6 by manning the phone bank and raising money for Jerry's Kids.



CANTON LIONS CLUB - Riding the Canton Express at Riverfest

Each year on the fourth weekend in September the Lions Club of Canton, GA builds and operates our Express passenger railroad at Boling Park. The occasion is Cherokee County's annual Riverfest, which is sponsored by the Service League to raise funds for local agencies which help children.

On Friday afternoon seven to ten Lions meet in a large, level, smooth field and in 5 to 6 hours:

- *Lay track in a 140' by 210' oval,
- *Mount and test the 800 pound engine and passenger cars.
- *Erect a small scale train station with ticket office and waiting benches.



Lions spend Saturday and Sunday providing rides to small children and their parents. With their tickets children receive a plastic train whistle. While old time railroad music plays in the background, a conductor punches the tickets. When everyone is safely seated, the conductor shouts "All Board" and the train leaves the station for two trips around the oval track. We enjoy repeat business from children who ride more than once, and comments like, "I'll remember this for the rest of my life!"

In recent years, a small team of Canton Lions have helped fellow Lions setup and run our Express at a local festival with a railroad theme in Collins, GA. If your Club has a suitable location, and is interested in assembling and operating the railroad over a long weekend, we are willing to discuss helping other Lions run our Express on <u>a case-by-case basis</u>. George Murphy, Tommy McFarland, and David Shirley of the Canton Club are points of contact. They may be reached at (678) 340-3770, or by email to <<u>cantongalions@gmail.com</u>>. Additional photos of the Canton Express in operation may be found at <<u>http://lionsofcanton.org</u>>.



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.

Newly formed Brunswick Lions Club goes into action by helping with Daughter's love sparks help for others - The Brunswick News

Sometimes the saddest circumstances bring the richest blessings.

Arlene and Preston Kunda's daughter, Miranda Faith Kunda, was diagnosed with auto-immune hepatitis at age 5. After fighting the disease for two years, Miranda died Jan. 6, 2006. She was 7 and a first-grader at Satilla Marsh Elementary School. Miranda was a typical little girl, with two very special passions - Jesus Christ, and helping the less fortunate. After her death, her parents established the Miranda Faith Foundation for Children, which is currently holding its annual "Operation Backpack" school supply drive.





For the next couple of weeks, a large room in the Education Building of the First Baptist Church of Brunswick, will be a swarm of activity as the Kundas, their two younger children, Alex, 8, and Timothy, 2, friends and others gather to stuff 700 backpacks for schoolchildren. Five hundred backpacks will go to Glynn County students while the remaining 200 will go to McIntosh County pupils.

This is not your ordinary backpack stuffing operation. "There is a Bible in every backpack," said Arlene Kunda, explaining that they come from different sources and are reminders of Miranda's love for Jesus and others. Kunda explained that all of the new items have been donated by people and organizations in the community. So far, the group has collected enough pens, pencils, glue and other supplies to fill 250 backpacks.

Enthusiasm for the project is contagious. The newly formed Brunswick Lions Club will conduct its own drive to benefit the collection effort. "This is the first time a civic organization has come on board," Kunda said of the 32-member club. Frank Lane, president of the Brunswick Lions Club, said Jordan Griffis, a member of the club, suggested Operation Backpack as the club's first service project. Griffis said that while going back to school is exciting for some children, it's disheartening for many others who cannot afford all new things at the beginning of each year.

So, Lane said, with distribution being done by the foundation, the Lions' role was limited to collecting the items in additional locations. On Aug. 12 Lions will park a yellow school bus outside Target to accept donations, and then move it to Office Depot on Aug. 13 and Staples on Aug. 14.

The foundation is collecting items at area Coastal Bank locations, in Brunswick at Salon Sensations, Atlas Brunswick Chiropractic, J Tire, Glynn Place Stadium Theater, Staples, Strike Zone and Wellman Family Health Care, on St. Simons Island at St. Simons Community Church and Island Cinemas, and in Darien at Darien Pharmacy and St. Anne's Yard Sale Store.

The family is touched by the way the community comes together each year to support Operation Backpack. "This is a way Miranda would want to be honored," Kunda said.



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

Tifton Lions Club is 75 Years Old

On Saturday, October 2 the Tifton Lions Club celebrated its 75th Birthday with a banquet at the Tifton Elks Lodge. The affair was organized by President, Bonnie Livingston and Past President, Marge Chalfant. Speakers included Past District Governor, Georgia Taylor and District Governor, Jack Taylor. Four lions with the longest service were recognized and received framed copies or the original 1935 charter. They were as follows:

- Donald R. Sumner. 43 years
- Richard B. Chalfant, 41 years
- Charles Douglas, 41 years
- Billy Selph, 40 years

A History of the Tifton Lions Club

On June 7, 1917 Melvin Jones, a Chicago businessman, called a special meeting of a group of other unaffiliated businessmen and formed a charter under the name of "Lions". A meeting was held October 9-11 in Dallas, Texas to ratify the charter. This was the first annual meeting of Lions International. Later under the encouragement of Helen Keller, Lions took on work with the blind as its primary service focus.

The Tifton Lions Club was organized on November, 1922 with 30 members. The club was disbanded on May, 1929 due to falling membership. The club was reorganized with 30 members on April 15, 1935.

The first meetings were in Mrs. Walkers Boarding House, later in the "Lions Den" over Kent's Furniture Store. The meals were brought over from the Copper Kettle. During these two years the club almost went under until it moved to the Myon Hotel in 1937. The club then grew rapidly.

From 1935 to 1955 we organized 4-H clubs in the Tift County Schools, backed the establishment of Tift General Hospital, suggested railroad-crossing signs and sponsored a Boy Scout troop.

From 1946 to 1955 The club began managing the polls during elections, joined Georgia Lighthouse for the Blind, sponsored Georgia State Patrol teenage driving rodeos, purchased playground and athletic equipment for schools, organized school safety patrols, operated eye clinics, began selling mops and brooms made the blind, sponsored Little League Ball, Cub Scouts, and a Circus, and began staging minstrel shows.

Beginning in 1955 we began purchasing eyeglasses for the needy and aided in eye exams for school children and indigent adults. We made sight conservation our main focus by support of the Georgia Lions Lighthouse, Georgia Camp for the Blind and the Vision Clinic.

With our 14 active members and help from nearby Lions Clubs, Moultrie and Lake Seminole, we had a very successful 2010 State Convention at Tifton on the last weekend of May. Special recognition goes to Convention Co-chairs, Georgia Taylor and Billy Weldin and Convention Secretary, Jan Sinclair.



Ron Bennetti

18-D

Clarksville Lions Club



Clarksville Lions Club starts each new Lions year with the Mt. Laurel parade and Festival the third weekend in May. This has been a continuous festival for almost 50 years and Clarksville Lions have been there from the beginning. The free Parade showcases the Beauty Pageant winners selected earlier. Both the Beauty Pageant and the concessions sold are a good fund raiser for us.

The August Antique Car Show has been collaboration with the Northeast Georgia Antique Car Club for many years. Our concession trailer is there for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. We take up tickets and man the gates for a ten percent Stipend from the receipts.

The Chattahoochee Mountain Fair is our next money maker. For ten days we take turns meaning the trailer, while thousands tour the animal barns, Carnival rides, booths of arts & crafts, sign up for free gifts, homemade items, Canned goods, petting zoo and wild cat shows. Music is continually being played and enjoyed while everyone enjoys a wide assortment of food and drinks.

In the fall we begin selling pecans. Last year we sold 100 cases of 24 each. People call for them even before we have them ordered each year.

Fall also brings Cody Wood Works which is a scratch and dent sale where we feed hamburgers and hotdogs to the workers who cannot leave due to the mass selling of handcrafted primitive and rustic furniture.

Thanks for traveling through a year with us. Each place we go, we have collection boxes for used glasses and the Lion's emblem is always displayed on the concession trailer. We always wear vests, shirts, caps or aprons letting everyone know that we are there. One reason the Clarksville clubs is so successful is due to the fact that we have nine new YOUNG members gotten in the last two years. They make it easier for the membership to get out in the area. We have almost 30 members of a fun filled club who care for each other and the community.

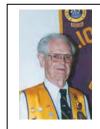
Every year we donate \$500 to feed the less fortunate at Thanksgiving and we help pack the boxes. On World Service Day we donate toiletries to the Circle of Hope – a home for battered women. Last year we gave scholarships to five seniors who were deserving. White Cane has suffered some the last few years due to the economy, however, we still give over\$3,000. Our dues and Governor's goals are always paid on time.

We find belonging to Lions very fulfilling, friendship making and a feeling of achievement in making this world and our community a better place.









In memory of R. L. Bittick who set many records in Lions, One being the longest number of years a Lion; 1948-2008. Sixty (60) years all perfect attendance until he could no longer attend for health reasons his last 2 years. He always made up missed meetings. No one will match his record. And he lived to be 96.

Bob Smith

FORSYTH LIONS CLUB

There has been a Lions club in Forsyth since 1926 except for a short period of 1933-36. The present charter dates from May 1936, when four of the original members plus 16 or 18 others formed the present club. The early club was instrumental in approving and locating the National Guard Armory, the High School a hospital and other civic endeavors. At one time (before Forsyth had a recreation dept.) the club sponsored a summer recreation program. And for many years sponsored the Boy Scouts, and later the Girl Scouts as well as other youth activities such as sponsoring 4-H club projects.

The charter president William B. (Bill) Freeman was an attorney and legislator, serving as Speaker of The House during the administration of Gov. Marvin Griffin. Bill Freeman died of cancer at a rather young age, but left a sizable family, part of which still live in the Forsyth area. Bill's widow, Merle, joined the club in 1989 and has chaired and (or) worked on several committees since. She had perfect attendance each year, until a year ago, when for health reasons, she had to go inactive. She will be 98 on Sept 24, and keeps a keen interest in club activities. In 2001 she nominated a candidate, who won the State Outstanding Blind Award.

Over the years the club has sponsored other clubs; the Griffin Lions being an early one and in 1999 sponsored the Yatesville club. The club has furnished district and state leadership on many occasions. District Governors include William Freeman in 1941-42, R. L. Williams, 1946-47, and Cecil Daniels, 1994-95. PDG James Webb, 2003-04 (18D) was once a member of Forsyth Lions.

The Forsyth Lions have a long tradition of serving their community. One of the longest is that of sponsoring the Community Birthday calendar. It is considered both a service and a fund raiser. The other is the involvement of The Georgia Lighthouse "White Cane Day". No one in the club can remember when we did not do White Cane Day. Maybe since its inception. We budget annually to support our two big Ga. Lions projects, the Lighthouse and the Camp for the Blind, as well as other Lions sponsored projects.







Local need is our first priority so we budget for sight and hearing needs Scholarships, ongoing projects as well as many others that may happen on a sudden basis.

The club is a member of the local chamber of commerce and takes part in many of its activities; one big one being the Forsythia Arts and Crafts Festival held in March. In recent years the club has partnered with the local horse riding club to put on (sponsor) a sanctioned rodeo for the high school age youth in the Georgia National Rodeo. And finally still for youth, the club has sponsored since 1991, the Lions International Peace Poster Contest. Currently the club is sponsoring three contests with the local middle schools and home school students. The club has had numerous district and MD winners to go on to International; resulting in two international merit level winners; one in 2002 and one in 2004.

At present the club is planning a "Womanless Wedding" which should be a fun fund raiser. The club did one many years ago in which charter president Bill Freeman was the "Bride". That one made quite a stir in the community which resulted in at least two showings.



Paul May

Covington Lions Club - On The Go...

The Covington Lions Club is 70 strong, including 1 honorary member and 18 affiliate members. They come from all walks of life—doctors, lawyers, plumbers, electricians, management personnel, carpenters, teachers, executive assistants, farmers—some are still working and others retired. They meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. for their regular meeting and dinner. The Board meets on the 2nd Monday of each month. They meet at their pavilion at Academy Springs Park on Convers Street in

The Club has tried many fundraising activities including womanless beauty pageants, haunted houses, raffles, Cracker Jack sales, etc. In February, every Lion is asked to bring 2 gallons of Homemade Chili, 1 gallon Iced Tea and a Dessert to the **Chili Supper**. All guests can't wait to eat a bowl or two of their "secret recipe" chili. And, actually, to be honest, it works out like a "secret recipe" because everything is thrown into ONE pot. For a donation, the dessert table was abundant. You can't beat this \$5 All-You-Can-Eat dinner, not to mention great fellowship.

This April, the **Annual 37th Chicken BBQ** sold 3,200 plates of a BBQ half chicken, cole slaw, chips, a slice of bread and iced tea—not bad for a \$7 plate. Again, for a donation, the dessert table was abundant. They are famous for their BBQ Chicken and tickets are bought from miles around.

In May, the Single Action Shooting Society sponsors the **Mule Camp Shoot Out**. Participants come from all over the U.S. to compete. The mandatory attire is the "Old West" and it is certainly something to see. The Lions assist with shuttle (using a tractor and a make-shift trailer for sitting) to and from the parking lot and competition sites, Pistol raffle and a concession stand. On a hot day, they can really sell drinks and ice pops. They hope SASS will find sponsorship for next year—the reason they did not have this event this year.

In October, the "Sherman's Last Burning" Fall Festival & BBQ Cook-Off is held. This 2-day event includes lots of entertainment, arts and craft, kiddie korner, Miss Hazzard Beauty Pageant, a snake show, a Sponsor's IRON CHEF Cook-Off (this one is lots of fun – each sponsor is given a box of mystery ingredients for them to concoct a recipe), a Backyard BBQ Contest for amateurs and the Professional BBQ Cook-Off sanctioned by KCBS (Kansas City Barbeque Society) and the GA BBQ Champion. However, this year (October 8 & 9), the Lions have partnered with civic groups to focus all attention and proceeds to **The Miracle Field**—a specialized rubber-turf baseball field for handicap children. Entertainment on Saturday will also include a Talent Show by our handicap children. Lions will be cooking and selling BBQ Pulled Pork Plates for \$8 and BBQ Rib Plates for \$10 with iced tea. If you go to their website www.covingtongalions.org, under Fall Festival, you can learn more about their efforts. Clicking on The Miracle League of Newton County logo also gives you more information. Gate fee is \$3, under 12 FREE. It will be held at Legion Field on Mill Street. They ask everyone to start looking for parking on Newton Drive (at the school) and walk to the Field.

And, the first Saturday in December at 11 a.m. is their **Christmas Parade**. Last year's event included 150 floats. It was hard work, but they got it done. The perfect place to watch the parade is at the Covington Square. They have had Christmas music by the Covington UMC and the U.S. Army Quintet at the stage. The three Newton County High School marching bands also perform.

Before the downturn of the economy, the average charitable donation was \$28-\$30,000 per year. Currently, the contributions to **Lions charities** include: \$4,200 to eye care, Camp for the Blind, Georgia Lighthouse, (3-year pledge) to the Georgia Lighthouse building fund, Leader Dog, Recording and Dyslexics, 6 Newton County Scholarships, Georgia All State Band, Georgia Council for the Blind, Newton County Sheriff Department for bulletproof vests, Newton County Humane Society and other miscellaneous donations. We have collected food for the Food Bank, collected items for Operation Sandbox, and donated monies for supplies for a scout trying to earn his Eagle Scout Badge, and all leftover food is given to the Porterdale Homeless Shelter. We have also given mattresses to the Camp for the Blind.

Special Awards were given this year. Fourteen year old Jack Treadwell was recognized on June 24 at their New Officer Installation Banquet for his active role in our events. For several years, Jack has moved wood for the Chicken BBQ, taken trash to receptacles at the Fall Festival, given the handicap rides in a golf cart at the Fall Festival and assisted in moving supplies for all their events. All Lions recognize Jack as one of their own. Roger Pflug was awarded Lion of the Year. Doreen Stallworth and Ken Royston were awarded the prestigious Melvin Jones Fellow presented by Sandy Mercer and Richard Brown.

Gee, what did you miss? Next time, you might want to plan ahead and attend a Camp or Lighthouse meeting.





GMT - GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM

It has been said "you cannot have membership growth without new clubs." I say you cannot have membership growth without new clubs and membership growth within existing clubs.

Multiple District18 has been experiencing new club growth thanks to the district governors for the past 4 years. However, there has been little or no growth by the clubs. Four of our six districts ended the last Lions year with negative growth even though eleven new clubs were begun.

We all hear the number 1250. A district, to be viable should have 35 clubs and 1250 members. District A is the only district that qualifies as a viable district. Right now I am not worried about the 1250 membership number. It would take over 950 new Lions for all districts to reach the 1250 number. What I would like to see is for the district governors to continue building new clubs and for all existing clubs to begin a membership program with a net gain goal of at least one new member. Do not forget you need to account for the Grim Reaper. He comes in when you least expect it. Along with the new clubs, this will carry our membership growth far into the future.

Sandy Mercer Global Membership Team Liaison



USA/CANADA FORUM

September 22 - September 24, 2011

Anchorage, Alaska

What did you miss at last Forum in Milwaukee, Wisconsin





Start planning now to attend the next USA/Canada Forum in Anchorage, Alaska. There will be great seminars to attend and many friends you will meet and/or make new friends. Also, imagine the tours that you will be enjoying if you take a couple more days to explore one of the last frontiers.

MD 18 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR - LION C. MARK MILLER, PCC:

Club Excellence Process: The Club Excellence Process ("CEP") is a new program developed by LCI as part of the efforts to increase membership. It is designed to be a course in which Club Leaders take a good long look at their own club, and develop at least one action plan for making their club a brighter beacon of hope in their community. How is this going to work? In Georgia, we are asking each District to be responsible for putting on at least one CEP session. District Leadership Chairs and their CEP faculty are invited to attend a training session on the program on November 20, 2010 in Centerville. At that session, they will be given the materials and coached on holding successful training events. The GaLT has taken the material provided by GMT, streamlined it a bit, and produced a DVD for the District Teams to use to put this program on. The result is a half-day program that looks very polished and professional. Past International President Jim Ervin and International Director Haynes Townsend helped put this DVD together, and we are proud of the resulting product. Who should attend? The success of these workshops depends on who comes---this is geared toward a group of club officers coming and working together through the workshop. As this program is promoted in each District, club officers should be encouraged to come as a group to the workshop. If they attend as a group, then they leave the workshop with a working action plan for a great project.

Thriving Club Retreat: Many folks may remember the Dynamic Club Workshops that were held a few years ago. Well, think of the Thriving Club Workshop as the Dynamic Club Workshop on steroids. Below is a draft schedule for the two day event. This workshop will focus on the Lions Club. Whether you have a strong or weak club, this workshop will help Club Leaders develop their personal leadership skills to build and strengthen their club. No, this is not just an officer training school: this course is about the dynamics of building a quality club program...and sustaining that club by building and keeping quality members. As of this printing, the dates and logistics are subject to change. That said, here is what we hope the arrangements to be:

Dates: 2-3 April 2011

Location: Kingwood Resort, Clayton, Georgia Costs: Rooms (put to 4 per room) \$89 per night

Registration of \$30.

SCHEDULE

Saturday, 2 April 2011

12:00-1:00 Registration

1:00-1:45 Is Your Club Hanging By A Rope?

2:00-2:45 Dealing With Change

3:00-3:45 Club Meetings

4:00-4:45 Managing Speakers

5:00-5:45 Handling the Business of Your Club

6:00-7:00 Dinner

7:00-9:30 WE SERVE: more than a motto

9:30-10:15 Vision Experience

Sunday, 3 April 2011 7:00-7:45 Breakfast

8:00-8:45 Winning in Conflicts 9:00-9:45 Community Image

10:00-10:45 Recruiting New Members 11:00-11:45 Keeping the Lions You Have

12:00-1:00 Lunch

1:00-1:45 You are Our Beacon of Hope

State Convention Training: A training matrix for State Committee members and chairs will take place prior to State Convention so that they could be trained at the State Convention as well as have the opportunity to meet with the outgoing chairs of those committees. This would require three consecutive three hour sessions during the State Convention.



Shining Light on Haiti: Volunteers See Eyeglass Recycling Start to Finish

Ask 17 year-old "Shockley" Nunnery for his wish-list and you might be surprised. Baseball cards and video games? Think used glasses, cell phones, and hearing aids—supplies Shockley has collected

for the Lighthouse recycling program for the past two years.

After years of hiding his poor vision, John-Jordan "Shockley" Nunnery decided to start helping the Lighthouse after getting his first pair of glasses. Recruiting friend and classmate Kelle Sheppard, he put an ambitious plan into action: using flyers and drop boxes to collect 1000 pairs of glasses for the Lighthouse.



Their efforts paid off when Shockley's older brother Trey, a medical student at Emory University, flew to Haiti this June with nearly 300 pairs of Lighthouse glasses, including the first 153 pairs his brother and Keller had collected, cleaned, and read.

Treating Haitians in Port-au-Prince, Trey found that glasses were amazingly popular, giving tangible hope to the patients receiving them. He was able to test over 300 patients and distribute hundreds of reading glasses, an experience which has inspired him to pursue future aid opportunities. "It was life changing for me to go down there and show the Haitian people that they mattered," he says. "It's definitely not a hopeless place."

The Lighthouse Foundation relies on the efforts of volunteers like the Sheppards and Nunnerys to make our programs possible. Please consider donating your time and resources to help the Lighthouse bring sight and sound to those in need. For more information, contact Laura Griffin at lgriffin@lionslighthouse.org.









Summer Service

Numbers

July 1—Aug 31, 2010

District A

Eye Glasses: 81 Eye Exams: 28 Eye Surgeries: 11 Hearing Aids: 103

District B

Eye Glasses: 150 Eve Exams: 60 Eye Surgeries: 2 Hearing Aids: 43

District C

Eye Glasses: 61 Eve Exams: 49 Eye Surgeries: 8 Hearing Aids: 49

District D

Eve Glasses: 33 Eye Exams: 31 Eve Surgeries: 5 Hearing Aids: 52

District E

Eve Glasses: 41 Eye Exams: 25 Eye Surgeries: 10 Hearing Aids: 55

District F

Eye Glasses: 128 Eve Exams: 49 Eye Surgeries: 8 Hearing Aids: 41

Fiscal Year Totals:

Eve Glasses: 494 Eye Exams: 242 Eye Surgeries: 44 Hearing Aids: 343

Dates Set for 2010-2011 Meetings and Conventions

Lighthouse Winter Meeting: January 22, 2011

Lighthouse Awards Deadline:

April 30, 2011



Leave a Legacy with the Lighthouse



Planned Giving

Planned giving means leaving a legacy of service.

Lion William "Bill" Mundy of the Dahlonega Lions Club has been a pillar of support for the Lighthouse Foundation, serving terms as Associate Director, Lighthouse Director and Committee Chair, and sitting on the Executive and Ten Million Dollar Committees.

Bill's dedication to the Lighthouse comes from his belief in the impact our organization makes on the daily lives of underprivileged Georgians. "The Lighthouse does a tremendous job that is worthy of support," he says. "There are things in life you need besides money, and the Lighthouse provides some of these things."

Creating a giving plan will help ensure your work with the Lighthouse endures. To learn more, go to

lionslighthouse.org/planned_giving or contact Sarah Epting at 404-325-3630 x 306.



NAUGHTY OR NICE

2nd Annual Holiday Fundraiser He checks it twice! Nominate friends to be on the list and give the gift of sight and sound to Georgians in need! Your tax deductible donations starting at \$20 includes a personalized email from Santa to your nominee, festive holiday pins for the "nice" and lumps of coal for the "naughty". All proceeds benefit the vision and hearing programs of the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation.

Grady Partnership Makes Ear Care Accessible

The Lighthouse is thrilled to announce a new partnership with Grady Health Systems, our latest effort to bring hearing care to the underserved.

Partnering with the Lighthouse Foundation will allow Grady to distribute hearing aids for the first time in ten years. Patients will now be able to receive hearing tests, get ear-molds and fittings, and receive follow-up care from a central location.

"I'm grateful to make Lighthouse services available to my clients," says Dr. Spyies, a volunteer with Lions Lighthouse since 2009.

"When you're working with the underserved, you're able to help a person who's really in need and hasn't been educated about their health due to other pressing concerns. It's extremely gratifying."

Grady Health Systems and the Lighthouse share a strong commitment to serving the pand disenfranchised. The Lighthouse looks forward to working with Grady to ensure the our clients have access to quality hearing healthcare.



Building a Better Lighthouse:

Capital Campaign Update

On July 28, 2010, the Lighthouse Foundation received the keys to **our new 14,000 square foot facility**, thanks to the generosity of innumerable individuals and organizations. Renovations to the building, which will house an optical shop and fully-equipped eye clinic, will be complete by late November. The clinic will be in operation by early 2011.

Challenge Grant:

As of August 2010, the capital campaign has nearly \$2.5 million in pledges. An anonymous "Friend of the Lighthouse" has offered to give a \$350,000 gift if we successfully meet our \$2.75 million goal. In this final stretch, your support is more critical than ever—please consider a pledge today to help the Lighthouse reach its goal and build for the future.

To pledge to the Capital Campaign or watch Atlanta Braves Catcher Brian McCann talk about why he supports the Lighthouse foundation, visit **lionslighthouse.org/give/capital_campaign**



Champions for Sight: September Joint Meeting in Duluth

This Fall 2010 joint meeting for the Georgia Lions Lighthouse and Camp for the Meeting was a tremendous success!

Attendees at the September 10-12 meeting in Duluth learned about the Lighthouse's progress, as well as how to continue fundraising and volunteering as our organization grows.

After White Cane brainstorming, screening workshops, and updates galore, we turned back the clock on Saturday night with an ole'- fashioned sock hop—featuring home-style cooking, hula-hooping, and good times all around.

The weekend closed with a client speaker, Albert Streete, who received an emergency Operation from the Lighthouse when a torn retina threatened not only his vision, but his ability to keep his job and support his family. His story was a striking reminder about the critical need for Lighthouse services.



Much thanks to Grace Clower for helping to orchestrate the meeting, and to everyone who made the weekend possible. See you at the next meeting in January!

October 2010	Canwapekasna Wi – Moon of Falling Leaves	

SUNDAY	MOND	TUESDAY	WEDNESD	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
18-A = 2 nd Cabinet Meeting 18-C = 2 nd Cabinet Meeting,	TBA 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 Waniyatu Wi – Moon of Starting Winter

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 Tahecapsun Wi – Moon of Shedding Horns

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
					Christmas Eve	Christmas Day
26	27	28	29	30	31	
2	draw				New Year's Eve	



Yes, Virginia, There Is a Human Lion

In honor of Lion Joe Molony –is a Lion's version of a letter written by Frank Church of the New York Globe to Virginia O'Hanlon, 8, in the early 1900's

Dear Editor: I am eight years old. Some of my little friends say there is no such thing as a human Lion. They say a lion is an animal. Please tell me the truth. Is there a human Lion?

Virginia: Your little friends are wrong. Just because the word "lion" generally refers to the king of beasts, Virginia, this doesn't mean that humans can't be Lions. Virginia, there are 1.4 million Lions dedicated to stamping out treatable and reversible blindness in the world through their SightFirst efforts. Throughout the world, 40 million people are blind. And this could double in 25 years. These people are going blind because of diseases caused by the lack of sanitation and a need for vitamin A.

Yes, Virginia, there are men and women called Lions. Their motto is "We Serve." These Lions represent something you cannot touch, something your friends may not understand because of their skepticism. But they represent feeling – love, dedication, service. They give freely of themselves without compensation or recognition.

Jim Ervin, the past international president and the only Georgian ever to hold this office, personifies the dedication of our Lions of Georgia. He has ample support from International Director Haynes Townsend, past international directors Myers Banister, John Pearce, Buddy Ouzts, Beverly Roberts, the Council of Governors and the Lions of Georgia.

In short, these Lions are dedicated toward serving their fellow man. They are striving to live up to the challenge the noted deaf and blind Helen Keller gave in 1925 "to be her knights of the blind in a crusade against darkness."

Virginia, these Lions surely are not animals. They are keeping the faith with their founder, Melvin Jones, who said: "I hope there will always be a land of the beyond for Lions, a goal that will keep growing larger and larger as we approach it, yet will keep just out of reach, challenging us to run faster, work harder, think bigger and give more."

Alas, how dreary would be the world if there were no Lions! There would be no hope for the blind or the deaf. For you see, Virginia, since our beginning in 1917 we have been involved in such things as: sight conservation and work with the blind....hearing conservation and work with the deaf....citizenship, educational, health, youth and social services, drug education and prevention, diabetes detection and research and work for international cooperation and understanding.

Virginia, we became known as Lions because of the four outstanding qualities of the lion – courage, strength, agility and fidelity; The Lion symbol, a two-headed lion looking forward and behind, stands for loyalty to a friend, loyalty to a principle, loyalty to a duty, loyalty to a trust.

Not believe in Lionism? You might as well not believe in cataract surgery, glaucoma screenings, eye banks, corneal transplants, leader dogs, camps for the blind, lighthouses and a myriad of other services provided by the Lions. Is a Lion human? Ah, Virginia, in this entire world there is nothing else more human. This was proved when Lions joined with other humanitarian groups to stamp out treatable and reversible blindness through SightFirst.

Thank God we have Lions, Virginia. A thousand year from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now Lions will continue to make glad the hearts of mankind through their humanitarian service.

December/January – Relieving the Hunger

January 2011 Wiotekika Wi – Moon of Hard Times

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Melvin Jones Birthday	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2011 Cannapopa Wi – Moon of Popping Trees

		2011	саппарора 111	1.1	2	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3		Council of Governors Meeting /Camp for Blind Meeting Warner Robins, GA.
6	7	8	9	10		18-E 12 Convention Griffin, GA
13	14	15	16	17		18-B 19 Convention Port Wentworth, GA
20	21	22	23	24		18-C 26 Convention Donalsonville, GA
27	28					





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.

I just got back from a wonderful weekend spent with many Lions from across this state. This year's Joint Meeting was a success. I am always amazed that Lions would chose to come on their own time and dime to meet with their respective committee or spend time learning about the different opportunities through the Lighthouse. Thank you for giving of yourself; thank you for serving.

This past weekend I was asked "Why have you seen an increase in campers?" At first, I was surprised, and I gave the answer that came to my mind first. I talked about how we had implemented a wonderful camping program and how we had changed how we went about planning the summer. While my answer was true, I think there is more to it. The question, though, really struck a chord with me. I have not been able to get it out of my brain... Really, "Why have we grown?"

I believe that the reason we are seeing such a growth in our campers is because we are making camp for the camper. When I started here, I began with the mission that we would make camp for the camper. I believe that, as a whole, we are doing that. For me, sometimes I see it come through when a Lion chooses to serve even though they are physically sick and tired, as evidenced by our fearless leader Frank. Sometimes I see it play out when a camper is carried up the Tower on a counselor's shoulders. Sometimes it can be seen by a secretary who stays till midnight to get a mailing out. We are making camp for the camper and that is making all the difference in the world. Don't grow weary in your labor... What you are doing matters!

Kristen

Dear Georgia Lions, Our Camp seems quiet now that Campers are gone, but the office has been abuzz with the preparation for the Joint Meeting held in Duluth this past weekend. The Lighthouse and Camp related great success stories, inspiring Lions statewide to return to their Clubs with renewed vigor to make 2011 an even greater year! Our Send-A-Kid-To-Camp (SAKTC) campaign is well underway during this month. A reminder will be sent very soon to each Club to support this most worthy Fund. A few Clubs have already sent in their donations.

Just a Few Important Reminders:

- All Clubs were sent new Memorial/Honorary cards & envelopes during the first week of August. *Please be sure to complete both sides of the card!!*
- <u>A request for all Camp VP's</u>: PLEASE work out a process with your District for all "ATV Raffle" donations to be mailed to the Camp on a frequent basis, preferably every 3-4 weeks.
- Again, ALWAYS indicate on each check what Fund or Category the monies are intended for so your club can get the proper credit.
- FOREVER STAMPS is all I need from my "Office Wish List" that went out earlier in the year. These stamps will be saved until January 1, 2011, when the cost goes to 46¢ per stamp. We have to use lots of stamps!!

Thank you for all your cooperation in these matters. If there's anything you need from us, please call or email me at glcblindsec@accessatc.net.

"All I want for Christmas are Forever Stamps",

Carolvn Tavlor-Music. Camp Secretary

Dear Friends of the Camp,

My mind is moving this evening; I am setting here in my room at the hotel in Duluth on a Friday just before our Joint Meeting. I am so excited and can't stop thinking of what a great weekend this is going to be!

"A couple weeks ago I got an e-mail from a new Director who I will call Lion Betty Lou from District 18G. She wanted to know just what she was going to be doing in her new role and was asking how to perform her new duties as well. I have attached a copy of my response to Lion Betty Lou.

Lion Betty Lou,

Yes indeed, you are a Director for the GLCB. You are also a Committee Member on a Committee. So first off –



THANK YOU FOR SERVING!

To help clear up what your duties are - I have attached a copy of our Camp's Constitution. Please refer to Article V, Section 1 and Article VI, Section 1. When you read Article VI, Section 1 you will see that you are very important; and your job along with all other Directors is to run the Camp!

So now my question to you is, what do you want to do? I have been a member of the Board of Directors now for 15 years. I choose to get involved in all Committees, Chair a Committee, run and serve as a Vice President (two times) and thus serve on the Executive Committee. As you know, I am just starting my second term as President and as such I Chair the Board of Directors. But then, that is just what I do....

Here is what I think you should be doing:

Come to the Joint Meeting in September. On Saturday the 11th attend Part 1 of the Executive Committee Meeting so you will be better informed. Attend your Committee Meeting and then choose two other Committee Meetings to attend. Get involved with these Committees and work to help them perform their functions. You can read about their duties in the Constitution as well. On Saturday evening attend the Banquet and help celebrate the service given to and by our Camp and our Lighthouse. On Sunday morning attend Part 2 of the Executive Committee Meeting and follow that up with the Board Meeting.

So I say it is up to you. Be involved as much as you want, you know you skill set better than I do. Help where ever you can, WE SURE CAN US THE HELP!

I hope I have answered your question. If not give me a call and I will do the best I can to clear up anything I can. Call any evening after 6:00PM at (706) 592-5618.

Thank you again for serving and for asking this very good question. I think there may be more Lions out there that have that same question. I'm going to copy the Executive Committee with this e-mail and the Vice Presidents in turn can forward it to all their Directors.

Take Care and I'll see you in Duluth for the Joint Meeting.

Frank"

Lion Betty Lou is going to be an outstanding Member of our Team in service to our Camp. I look forward to working with her for years to come. As we start the work for 2010-2011 we might all ask the same question Lion Betty Lou asked. Follow what your heart tells you and your answer can not be a wrong one!

As always – Thank you for all you do for our Camp and those "We Serve". I'll see you soon.

Take Care and God Bless!

Frank

YOUR IDEAS WANTED!!!!



UNDRAISING IDEAS for the Camp – Do **you** ave any? IF you attended the recent GLCB oard Meeting held in Duluth, GA, you were minded how the Camp really affects the lives



of the people we serve. IF you were not there, you missed a terrific presentation by Camp Director, Kristen Picus. The excitement and enthusiasm she spreads is making our GA Lions Camp one of the best around – one that is growing, even in these economic times. As GA Lions, we all have a vested interest in supporting our amp thru our dedication to service - as well as doing our part financially.

The financial support is the point of my writing. We, the Fundraising Committee, met for our normal committee meeting on September 11th as did the other Committees. We have an enormous challenge, one that affects the future of our Camp and the lives of the many people and families currently served, as well as those who can/will be served in the future.

My purpose is to appeal to all interested Lions for assistance – and, if you are reading this, I do believe you are interested. The Fundraising Committee is only 6 people – one representative from each of the Districts in MD18. We realize there are many Lions over MD18 who are very supportive of the Camp - and would love to assist us in helping to find ways to financially support our Camp.

We are **not**, at this time, asking you for MONEY (although money would NEVER be turned down if you would insist on giving). We **are** asking you for some workable and usable FUNDRAISING IDEAS as to how we could EARN the MONEY to support our Camp so we can continue serving others through it.

IF you, the Lions of Georgia, would submit some Fundraising Ideas with a **brief** description as to how the idea might work (some ideas may be self-explanatory, but some won't) we would greatly appreciate your effort. **We ask that you...**

- Keep the idea(s) brief and to the point.
- Include your name, address (email is preferred because of speed, but regular mail works), and phone number, just in case we need to contact you for clarification.

Two ways to get the ideas to us...

- Send the ideas to David White, <u>dapat@bellsouth.net</u> preferred, but my home address is 2662 Whitehurst Dr., Marietta, GA, 30062 if you prefer regular mail. I will get them evaluated by the Fundraising Committee.
- OR -
- Send the ideas to Kristen at the Camp, <u>glcftb@bellsouth.net</u> (again, email preferred, but regular mail to the Camp's normal address works) she will then forward them to me for evaluation by the Fundraising Committee.

I want to thank you in advance. I feel sure some good, usable ideas will start coming in from across the State to help support our Camp.

Submitted by...

Lion David E. White, GLCB Fundraising Committee September, 2010



2010 Wish List

* * * * * * * * *

Carolyn's Office List

Forever Stamps

Copy paper

Tablecloth with our emblem on it*

Cute get well cards

2 large planter containers

Bobby's Building and Grounds List

 $Paint \ for \ buildings*$

Ant Poison

Cases of tractor grease Air conditioning vents

22 Blue rug junipers

White paint

Angled paint brushes

John Deere Gator

Kristen's List

Foam Juice*

Outdoor Sound System*

\$ for a CD/DVD Duplicator* (\$800.00)

Things We Always Have to Buy

Hand sanitizer

Toilet paper

Paper towels Lysol

Paper plates
Bleach
Gift Cards
W

Bleach Wal-mart 55 gallon yard trash bags Amazon

Yellow legal pads Lowes 15 3" Clear View Binders* Staples

Permanent markers

Pennies from heaven. . . In 1999, Amicalola EMC made a decision that would benefit the

communities served by the cooperative for years to come. That decision was to participate in the Operation Roundup® program. By asking members of the cooperative to "roundup" their power bills to the next dollar amount, Amicalola EMC has been able to donate over \$1.3 million to individuals and charitable organizations right here at home. For just pennies a month, pocket change that won't be missed, members of Amicalola EMC are making their community a better place to live. Please call 706-253-5200 for information on how to turn your pocket change into "pennies from heaven".





2011 Red Circle Calendars are here!

(Available only through February 2011)



Must be ordered in multiples of 25 Available with two different cover designs (see below) Quantities of 25-100 US \$0.80 each



US \$0.70 each

Top Sheet A

Top Sheet B

To place your order please visit our online <u>Lions Shop</u>. If you choose not to order online, you may submit the <u>Red Circle Order Form</u> by mail or fax to the Club Supplies Sales Department at Lions Clubs International.

Red Circle Order Form by mail or fax to the Club Supplies Sales Department at Lions Clubs International.

If you would like to share this information with your Lions Club members, a <u>printable flyer</u> is available for download, with a full description and pictures of the 2010 Red Circle Calendars!

Unfortunately, due to the fact that this is a personalized item, we are unable to accept orders over the phone.

Start your holiday shopping now! These products and more are available in our online Lions Shop. Additional products are available for purchase directly through our Official Licensees.



Dress Up Your Club Name, Add Flair and Color

What a way to make a statement with this new line of product finished with designer graphics!

Paint Splatter T-Shirt and Ceramic Mug

Add pizzazz to your club name with a splash of color in blue and gold with "Sir Lion" and two-color Lions emblem.

Limited Time Offer Don't miss out on these fabulous gifts.



24% Lead Crystal Oval \$17.95 ea.



Jade Glass Tree \$10.95 ea.

Prices include laser imprinting of Lions emblem, holiday message and year, gold bow for hanging and gift box.

Other Project News



John Fritz - Getting Out More at 61

Since he is finding it easier to get out more, John is considering taking Mack into the schools to teach children about people who are blind and dog guides. "I get so many questions every time I take him out. People are just naturally curious."

John's one regret is that he didn't go to Leader Dog sooner. "I honestly don't know what I was waiting for," John said. "But now that he's here, I have a new best friend."

A new best friend that is "always within arm's reach." Whether the Detroit area native is watching the Lions or Red Wings on TV, playing with his three grandchildren, or enjoying a documentary on the History Channel, Mack is always by his side. "He's like a new appendage to me now," John said. "And I honestly don't know how I got by without him."



When training with Mack, John uses a cane because he is recovering from an injury to his foot.

Gini Fritz - A Wife's Point of View

When word got out that John would be getting a Leader Dog, "it felt very much like we were bringing a new child into the family," said Gini, John's wife. "Everyone was so excited, asking when he would be home, what we knew about him, what his name was."

And when Mack arrived at his new home in Georgia, he did not disappoint. While he may be John's dog officially, "he really, really loves his Mama too," said John, referring to Gini.

Gini whole-heartedly returns the sentiment. "He's just a wonderful dog. He's very friendly and very smart," she said. "He gives John something to take care of and be responsible for. They actually nurture each other."

Since John got Mack, Gini says he is "happier and much more confident. Mack makes his world so much easier. He helps John in ways that people can't." Gini would encourage anyone who is visually impaired to get a Leader Dog. "They won't regret it. Having a Leader Dog has been such a blessing to our whole family."



14th Annual Tales & Tails Gala, Saturday November 20, 2010

This is a consistently sold-out event! Tickets are already on sale at www.cci.org/talesandtailsgala

Volunteer puppy raisers and foster sitters are in high demand right now. If you or someone you know may be interested in this highly rewarding volunteer position, please contact Ed Burger, Puppy Program Manager, today at 407-522-3304 or eburger@cci.org.



Puppy classes are held every Saturday for current puppy raisers in the Orlando area. Keep a copy of the <u>class</u> schedule handy for date and times.

Tours will be given of the campus every Tuesday at 10:30 am and 2:00 pm. Reservations are required at least **two** weeks in advance. Click <u>here</u> for more information and to fill out a tour request form. Some blackout dates may occur. Be sure to review the calendar for special notes.

School Tours will be offered on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 2:00 PM and are reserved for school groups only. Please contact us directly for more information or fill out the tour form to reserve your place.

Presentations are also offered for schools, civic groups, meetings and the like. Check out the <u>presentation page</u> for more information and to submit your request. Please allow four weeks before your scheduled meeting date to allow us time to find a presenter in your area. Be sure to review the calendar for special notes.





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

lionfredsmith@gmail.com

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic Announces National Achievement Award Winners

Special Honors Winners - \$2,000 Andrew Covington, 19, St. Simons Island, GA; has Dyslexia; graduated from Frederica Academy in St. Simons Island, GA; plans to attend University of Georgia and major in Business



A Lady and Her Trumpet posted in Blind/Visually Impaired

Blind since birth, RFB&D member *Chela Robles* has navigated through many obstacles while maturing into a determined and dedicated musician. Her

love of the trumpet is as natural as breathing, and joins with a deep religious faith, bold spirit and persistent work ethic. We caught up with her in California to have a conversation about life and music.

The Best Kind of Paybac posted in Learning Disabilities



Check out this remarkable testimonial from Gail Dalton, M.D., who volunteered for RFB&D decades ago and is now mother to a teenage daughter with a learning disability. This

comes courtesy of our friends at <u>Camp Academia</u>, a Georgia-based educational consulting firm which believes that all children's learning experiences can be enriched.



Hope and Healing

U.S. Army Sgt. **Joel Tavera** was injured and blinded by a rocket attack in Iraq on March 12, 2008 -- two days before he was scheduled to come home. He suffered burns on 60 percent of his body,

lost his right leg, and has endured many surgeries and incredible challenges on his road to recovery. At the 65th annual **Blinded Veterans Association** Convention in Washington, DC, we were honored to meet Joel and his wonderful parents, Jose and Maritza.



MELISSA EDLUND

LUCK, LEARNING AND AN UPBEA T ATTITUDE



One morning ten years ago, Melissa Edlund woke up blind. She was 13 years old and had perfect vision the day before. It was hard for her parents to believe, and it took a month for doctors to figure out what had happened. An undiagnosed condition resulted in detached retinas and instant vision loss.

Melissa's reaction was most unusual. "I was lucky to have vision for 13 years," she says cheerfully. "Doctors thought I should have lost my vision by age five."

How many people are so positive, focusing on the lucky side of losing their vision? "My family took it harder than I did," she continues. "It sounds strange, but I was totally fine with it. I love learning things, so now I had a bunch of new things to learn. I learned Braille and mobility training. Everybody else felt sorry for me. But there's always hope for a better tomorrow."

Melissa recently graduated from college with a B.S. in communications. She has applied for graduate school, but wanted to gain experience using her new degree. So she applied for an internship with Southeastern Guide Dogs. She also applied for a guide dog, and will soon attend our school as a student. On campus, Melissa works as a development intern and also volunteers at the front desk.

"On work days, I am excited when I get up in the morning. Not everyone has that. I'm enjoying what I'm doing a lot and get excited about it every day."





The Mission: Camp Kudzu educates, empowers, and inspires children living with diabetes.

Camp Kudzu is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization providing education, recreation and peer-networking programs for Georgia's children and youth living with diabetes and their families.

Led by dedicated volunteers, medical professionals and a small professional staff, Camp Kudzu offers three weeklong overnight summer camps, family camps and other diabetes education and management programs throughout the year.

Camp Kudzu was founded in 1999, by parents, physicians, healthcare professionals and community leaders who joined forces to establish a program in Georgia that would support the special medical and emotional needs of children living with type 1 (insulin-dependent, juvenile) diabetes in a fun, safe environment. The first summer camp was hosted in June 2000 with 96 children in attendance. This summer, approximately 550 children will attend camp.

It is our hope that after a week at camp, campers will... Be able to establish proactive patterns for living with diabetes. Know how to build friendships to have a social support network.

Have at least one positive role model intersection with type 1diabetes that they engaged with during the Camp Kudzu experience.

Show improvement in a health skill area as identified by the checklist from a family member as a result of his/her

experience at Camp Kudzu.



Fun Day at Camp Kudzu

On August 3, 2010, Lions from across North Georgia enjoyed an amazing visit to Camp Kudzu outside of Cleveland, Georgia. From District A: PDG Berry Broach, First VDG Alan and Carole Bethel; from District D Council Chair Grace Clower, Lisa Little, Demetrius Davis, and Bonnie Linscott. For six of us it was a first time visit, and it was an awesome experience. The Camp Kudzu's staff and 125+ volunteers oversee the 188 campers who were at the Camp from Sunday, August 1, through Saturday, August 7. We took a tour guided by Amber Medley who showed us the many amenities and activities at the Camp. These are great kids that all have diabetes. Here they do not have limitations because of diabetes – they are just like everyone else at camp and if they have a minor problem, they don't have to go home, but are treated and get to return to camp activities. The Camp is for education of diabetes: testing blood sugars and knowing what the numbers mean, learning to give yourself injections, changing port pumps, eating good food that is also good for you and seeing how different food affects the body. --- BUT IT IS ALSO LOTS OF FUN with an array of fun activities: Puppetry Art, pottery, tie dying, painting, wood working projects, water slides, fishing, canoeing, music and that is only some of the many activities for the kids. The volunteers are amazing: from Chief Pediatric doctors, Endocrinologists, RNs, LPNs, crafters, and other caring individuals to keep the camp running from kitchen to cabins; and it all seemed to run like clockwork. They volunteer their time and make this wonderful experience possible. It was a very hot day, and we were happy to arrive back at the cafeteria for lunch. Doctors and nurses meet with each child prior to and after lunch to check blood numbers. We joined them for a great lunch: huge salad bar, salsa and chips, and make your own soft tacos with rice, beans and fixing's.

Camp Kudzu receives no funding from national organizations or other diabetes nonprofits. Camp Kudzu is NOT part of JDRF or ADA. Camp Kudzu has a big heart, a big mission, limited resources, and can use your help! Maybe your chapter can consider supporting this wonderful organization and their mission.









"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.

Leo members also have a lot of fun. Leo members have chance to meet Ms. Michelle Han /lighthouse and Ms. Laura Griffin/ the Volunteer Coordinator from Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation.





"LEO of the Year" Award

LEO CJ Jackson, a member of the Seminole County LEO Club and pictured here with Lions Club International Director Hayes Townsend and State LEO Chair Steve Helwig, receives the "LEO of the Year" Award from Lions Club International for the State of Georgia. CJ is a native of Seminole County and graduated from Seminole County High School, with honors, in May of this year. He chose to remain a Seminole County LEO and is Parliamentarian for the State LEO Multiple District while currently majoring in pre-med at college in Dahlonega, GA. CJ achieved this great honor through many hours of service and charitable work in the Seminole County LEO Club, where he served as President his Senior year. CJ also had to exhibit exemplary leadership and public speaking skills to achieve this award. CJ is a shining example of the talented, hardworking, fun-loving students that our LEO Clubs produce!



Lions Children First

Lions Children First can provide your club with resources to develop hands-on service projects for children in need, with a focus on three key areas: food and shelter; health; and education/literacy. Children need today's Lions more than ever. You can make life better for a child who may be in need of food, shelter, health care and/or educational assistance.



- Your food or clothing drive reduces the time children are hungry or cold
- Your visit to children at a hospital lessens their time to think about illness
- Your vision or hearing screening project helps children to see, read and learn
- Your befriending children with disabilities gives them more time to feel included

How Lions Clubs Can Help

Your club can organize and implement a successful children's service project in your community. The **Lions Children First Program Kit (KITCF)** includes materials and resources to implement successful Lions Children First projects.

Lions Children First Program Kit (KITCF):

- Materials Order Form (IAD 251)
- Activity Guide (IAD 252)
- Program Brochure (IAD 253)
- Community Poster features photo of small girl at mealtime (IAD 254A)
- Community Poster depicts child in need of shoes and clothing (IAD 254B)
- Certificate of Appreciation (IAD 255)
- <u>Sample News Release</u> (IAD 256)
- <u>25 Project Ideas to Serve Children</u> (IAD 257)

In addition, Lions may also download the following **project idea sheets**:

- Organize a Food Drive to Alleviate Hunger (IAD 258)
 - Get involved in "Relieving the Hunger" -<u>Global Service Action Campaign</u> for December and January!
- Organize a Children's Clothing Drive (IAD 259)
- <u>Collect Suitcases for Foster Care Children</u> (IAD 260)
- Organize a Hearing Screening for Preschool and School Age Children (IAD 261)

To place an order for the Lions Children First Program Kit please <u>contact us</u>.

Youth Camp and Exchange

On August 23 the last of our four exchange students left Georgia to return to their homeland. Two students were from Finland, one from Italy and one from The Czech Republic. This was the second trip for Jay Minarik from The Czech Republic. Jay hopes to attend a University here in another year or two. Jay accompanied us to lions Day at The Camp for the Blind, the Turin Day Tractor Pull and got his picture in the local paper. He enjoyed attending several Club meetings and assisted our club in trash pick-up on Temple Avenue.

This past summer was the most difficult to obtain Host Families I have encountered in my three years being Exchange Chair. Two of the Host Families were not even lions. These two families I personally know and they had a wonderful time getting to know their students. I am preparing a certificate of appreciation for them. The one "lion" Host Family who accepted a Student was Matthew and Melissa Udell from District D. Lion Melissa will also receive a framed certificate and I cannot thank her enough for hosting.

There was absolutely no interest in US students going to other countries, which I do not understand. My goal for next spring is to have at least two students attend one of the excellent Camps with time at the homes of families available for them in other countries. They do not have to speak the language of the other country.

Solutions -I suggest, Representatives from all Districts in MD1S contact High Schools, friends, family, Church friends, Sunday School Classes and people they work with, to inform them about our exchange program and what it provides for a student. Write-ups in local newspapers with information also would stimulate interest. I will be happy to assist Exchange reps in every way possible. I am at this very time receiving calls from Youth Exchange Chairs, in Brazil, Germany and France inquiring about students to travel there and students to send here. The need for Host Families is great.

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Lions Quest

September 2010 LCIF Coordinator Update Celebrate 25 Years with Lions Quest

At the 93rd Lions International Convention in Sydney, Lions Quest celebrated its 25th Year Anniversary. Since 1985, Lions have supported this teacher training and lesson based curriculum for children ages 5-18 that teaches young people the skills needed for success in school and life. The program provides for children's mental health needs by encompassing drug and violence prevention, character education and social and emotional skill building. Teaching these skills to children not only impacts their self confidence and relationship skills but also increases academic achievement. Lions Quest has been translated into 30 languages and is implemented in over 50 countries worldwide.

Lions Quest makes a difference. One of the administrators in Maryland, USA commented - "I made a decision to implement the Lions Quest curriculum as our exclusive After School intervention offering. The results have been overwhelmingly positive... Our young people have been able to read [Lions Quest materials] and understand that they are not alone in the challenges that they face as teenagers. I believe it is important to note that we have seen a marked decrease in student referrals and institutional violations among the students enrolled in the After School program."

James I. Scofield Principal Eager Street Academy Baltimore City Public School System

Support today's youth by investing in their future. Make a designated gift to LCIF or contact your LCIF District Coordinator to learn how the Quest program can be implemented in your area.

To learn more details about the Quest program and its impact, visit the website at www.lions-quest.org.

Lions Quest Around the World

Worldwide Impact

Educators from more than 50 countries have been trained to implement Lions Quest, making it one of the most widely-used life skills programs in the world. To date:

- More than 420,000 educators have been certified worldwide
- Materials have been translated into 30 languages
- Nearly 12 million young people have benefited from Lions Quest programs

International Implementation

To begin implementation in a new country, all stakeholders (Lions, educators, government officials, etc.) should review Lions Quest materials. Often, language and cultural adaptations are necessary before the pilot phase can proceed. If the curriculum is appropriate for the local school system, teachers and schools should be selected for initial piloting of the program. A steering committee of all relevant stakeholders should be formed, and funding should be secured for the first teacher training workshop.

LCIF is available to help Lions Clubs and other stakeholders begin pilot projects and expand existing programs. The Lions Quest Department can help establish an initial implementation plan and arrange logistics for the training workshop. In some cases LCIF can also provide you with information about how Lions Quest correlates with national curriculum frameworks and standards.



Connecting the Community

Lions Quest brings the school, family and community together to promote the development of healthy and responsible young people by supporting social and emotional learning (SEL), character development, negative behavior prevention and a commitment to community service.



Welcome to Liberty Day!



Q: How do you go about educating America's vouth?

A: We have "Liberty Day Kids." Our kids come from various places – public or private schools, home schools, Scouts, youth organizations. A Liberty Day kid can come from anywhere! They are normally in the age range of 9-18 years old. Our most successful Liberty Day Kids events involve the children learning a set of Q&A cards taken directly out of the U. S. Constitution (no interpretations, just facts). Then the children go to different venues such as State Houses, 4th of July festivities and baseball games, schools, Post Office – anywhere.

Each child has some pocket-sized Liberty Day Booklets, which contain the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of independence. The child will then ask a person if they would like to be quizzed on their knowledge of our founding documents, the people being quizzed can range anywhere from Legislators, law enforcement, citizens, to patrons/visitors/clients of the venue they are visiting.

If the person being quizzed does not know the answers they are encouraged to look up the answers in their copy of the book (for each question the child can tell you which page to find it on). *This leads to a fun and informative exchange!* When the quizzing is being done, the child will thank them and let them know they can keep their copy of the Liberty Day booklet. Some of the kids go above and beyond and will add some of their own questions, or even turn the tables around and ask the person if they'd like to be the one quizzing! At the end of the exchange, the person being quizzed gets an "I got quizzed" sticker.

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.



ATTENTION ALL SCOUT LEADERS

Did you know that Lions who are Scout leaders—Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts—can qualify for the Lions Club Scouting Service Award?

This honor is to recognize an individual Lion who acts as a role model and renders distinguished and dedicated service to Scouting through active service, leadership or other exemplary contributions to the Boy Scouts of America or the Girl Scouts USA as an active Lion.

The requirements are simple. "Keeping with the objectives and principles of both Lions International and Scouting, the nominee must have encouraged character development, leadership, citizenship, and personal growth for scouting youth."

- The Lion must be in good standing with his/her local club, a current registered Lion for five years, and be nominated by the current president of the Lions Club and/or the District Governor.
- Be registered in a Scouting position at a unit, district, or council level for a combination of five years.
- Be fully trained in his/her scouting positions and his/her Lions Club/district leadership positions
- Have strengthened the relationship between local Lions Clubs and Scouting
- Assisted Lions Clubs in forming new units
- Exemplifies the BSA/Girl Scout Law and Lions Motto

For more information and the nomination form, go www.lionsclubsscoutingserviceaward.com.





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?

December/January – **Relieving the Hunger**



Organize food drives and projects to feed the hungry. With the downturn in the global economy, many hunger relief organizations are finding it difficult to keep up with demand. Help alleviate hunger by planning events around the end and beginning of the calendar year to collect and distribute food.

2011 International Convention

More than 12,000 Lions attended



our 2010 convention in Australia. And now. we're looking forward to

our 94th annual International Convention in Seattle. Washington, USA. Lions from around the world will come together from Monday, July 4, 2011 through Friday, July 8, 2011, to enjoy this exciting four-day event filled with fellowship,

learning and fun. To learn more about convention events, registration and official hotels, please visit the Convention section of our Web site.

How to Host a Local Peace Poster Contest



Some children learn about war and strife first hand in their homeland. Many others view the unsettling images on television. That's why Lions clubs around the world sponsor local Peace Poster Contests to give children a way to artistically express what peace means to them. Learn more about our annual Peace Poster Contest. And get "Tips and Tools" you can use to host a local Peace Poster Contest in your community.

Lions, Special Olympics Celebrate 10 Years of Changing Lives through Opening Eves

This month, we're celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Lions Clubs International-Special Olympics Opening Eyes program. During the recent 2010 Special Olympics Europe/Eurasia Regional Games in Warsaw, Poland, LCIF Chairperson Eberhard J. Wirfs joined Dr. Timothy Shriver, Chairman and CEO of Special Olympics, to celebrate this partnership. Lions members also reached a major milestone during this event - screening the 200,000th Special Olympian as part of the Opening Eyes program. Read blog.

Enter the Power of Peace Essay Contest

Clubs are encouraged to sponsor blind or visually impaired students, ages 11 to 13, to compete in The Power of Peace Essay Contest. To learn more about the contest, download the Lions International Essay Contest Rules.

EVENTS

Calendar of Events

Review upcoming Lions events your club can promote locally.

2011 International Convention

Get all the details about our 2011 convention in Seattle.

LIONS QUARTERLY



Watch LQ video magazine to see how canines become life-changing companions.

HIGHLIGHTS

Lions Clubs International Blog Read our blog to get news updates from Lions Clubs International during the month.

Service Commitment Pledge

Pledge to make a difference in someone's life this year.

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE















WE ARE COMPASSIONATE AND CARING - enriching lives in communities all over the world.



YOUR DONATION CAN PROVIDE:

• Water, Food and Clothing:

US\$25 - US\$50 – Provides water, food rations, clothing and shoes to keep a family or several individuals fed, protected and sustained for at least one week or more

• First Aid/Medicines:

US\$100 - US\$250 – Provides first aid and medical supplies for one shift of emergency first aid for the backlog of injured

• Re-build and Establish Community Infrastructure:

US\$500 - US\$1,000 – Helps provide a portion of the funds used in rebuilding homes. LCIF establishes long-term plans to provide shelter for individuals displaced or left homeless following disasters

• Help Our Long-term Rebuilding Efforts:

US\$5,000+ – Helps provide a portion of funds necessary for the construction of schools, clinics and hospitals that will serve the community for many years. Following disasters, LCIF has built entire Lions villages to house, educate and assist those who lost everything

Building Hope by Building Homes

Six hundred Haitian families will move into new homes thanks to an initiative between LCIF, the Lions of MD 111 Germany, and HELP, an international non-governmental organization (NGO). This is the first of many reconstruction projects to receive support from LCIF thanks to the generous response from the international family of Lions following the devastating earthquake in Haiti. Through the project, homes will be erected directly

on a family's plot of land, thus avoiding the hardship of further displacement and any potential property disputes. The building of these homes is an important first step toward reestablishing normal life for families who lost their homes and so much more after the earthquake.

LCIF continues to support the Haitian Lions as they serve the neediest in their communities with many other initiatives:

- 3,000 people continue to live and receive their basic needs in three Lions-sponsored tent cities in the communities of Delmas, Blanchard and Carrefour-Feuille.
- The Haitian Lions operate a house in Port-au-Prince that serves as temporary housing for skilled volunteers. For example, medical volunteers and doctors providing free surgery to burn and trauma patients from HumaniTerra stay in the house.
- Haitian Lions are at the forefront of high-level planning meetings for the redevelopment of Haitian eye care services. In May, Haitian Lions attended a meeting of the Haitian Eye Care NGO Collaboration Group and representatives of the Haitian Ministry of Health to prioritize needs within the Haitian eye care system. A follow-up meeting of the group is scheduled for November.

Distribution of Contributing Membership Pins



Bronze Contributing Membership pins, which are distributed in return for a donation of \$20.

If you would like to receive Silver (for a donation of \$50) or Gold (for a donation of \$100) Contributing Membership pins, please contact your LCIF Coordinator and they will send you one.

All LCIF Multiple District and District Coordinators have and will distribute Contributing Member pins to all who wish to donate – please see or contact your LCIF District Coordinator.

Dear Lion.

Lions, you are helping to save sight and prevent blindness, for people down the street, but also around the world. It doesn't matter that these are people we may never meet. They need us! And Lions roll up their sleeves and respond. I would like to

encourage all Lions to participate in a sight project, particularly in October, as we focus on sight.

Just last week I attended the Special Olympics Europe/Eurasia Regional Games in



Warsaw, Poland. There, we celebrated the 10th year of our Opening Eyes partnership with Special Olympics. At <u>this event</u> we screened the 200,000 athlete. Isn't this an impressive accomplishment in such a short time? This partnership is giving hope-hope for a brighter tomorrow and hope that these athletes will run faster, jump higher and throw farther.

At this event I took great pride in fitting a pair of glasses onto the smiling face of Tomasz, a badminton player from Poland. All of us experience what we call "the touching moments in life." You know what I mean. For me, one of these moments was to give these glasses to Tomasz. Due to the tremendous cooperation of Lions Clubs International and Opening Eyes, Tomasz's new glasses helped him score gold in Doubles Badminton and a silver in Singles Badminton.

October is also Lions World Sight Day, an opportunity to celebrate our many accomplishments through our SightFirst program. We've restored sight to 7.6 million people through cataract surgeries. Every one of these individuals has an improved quality of life, thanks to you. But we aren't content to stop there, are we? We must ensure their children and grandchildren will also have improved vision and the chance at a better life.

Lions, I ask you to join me in making a commitment to continue, and expand, our efforts to save sight.

With my cordial regards,

Eberhard J. Wirfs Chairperson LCIF

Celebrate Lions World Sight Day

Lions Clubs International will mark Lions World Sight Day (LWSD) in Osaka, Japan on October 7-8. Lions members from District 335-B, Japan, will sponsor several events, marking the first time LWSD will be held in the country. A number of projects will be conducted through a SightFirst grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). Additional activities are planned locally and

globally around LWSD to educate communities about the need to prevent blindness and preserve sight.

Generosity to LCIF Continues

The commitment of Lions to providing aid long after disasters strike is unparalleled. Some examples of Lions' generosity in recent weeks include US\$500,000 from MD111, Germany, to rebuild lives in Haiti and US\$81,000 from Lions in Norway, US\$66,000 from Lions in Sweden and US\$47,000 from MD105, British Isles and Ireland, for relief in Pakistan. Additional examples of Lions' generous support to LCIF for these disasters are listed online, and photos are also posted online. Through Lions' generosity, LCIF continues to bring hope to those in need.

Supporting Cataract Surgery in Mexico

The Edith Walters and Kenneth E. Behring Operating Theater was inaugurated in August in the town of Guadalupe, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. The event marks the successful completion of the first project funded by the Global Health and Education Foundation (GHEF) through a US\$250,000 gift to LCIF. The clinic will provide free cataract surgery to 140 people monthly and is an integral part of a larger clinic campus that includes a diabetes clinic, substance abuse clinic, soup kitchen and physical therapy clinic.

Lions Ouest Expands to Three New Countries

Next month, the Lions Quest program will be implemented in three new countries: Bulgaria, Malawi and the Philippines. All three will be conducting their first workshops to promote and educate people about this positive youth development program. The program will now also be in two additional languages: Bulgarian and Filipino.

Special Olympic Testimony

Aphiwe, a Special Olympics athlete from South Africa, was far sighted and unable to read in class. When he was screened through the Opening Eyes Program, it was the first time he tried on glasses. Receiving glasses allowed him to read words and numbers in books for the very first time. Because of Lions, Aphiwe is now a better student and athlete alike.





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http://galions.org/md18.html

