



<u>District Governor</u> Ron Bennetti

Hi Fellow Lions of District 18-D,

On January 31st, I attended a zone meeting of **Region II Zone II** that was sponsored by the **Dahlonega Lions Club**. This meeting again showed what clubs were doing in their community. We have truly accepted the programs of our **International President Sid Scruggs** and put these programs into our community.

As the months of my district governorship continues, I find myself not looking forward to the end of this time. I have truly enjoyed being your *District Governor* of this wonderful district. As the months continue seeing the projects of the various clubs truly gives me a warm feeling inside on what Lions can do.

The month of February, I have been attending the different district conventions all over the state. Right now, I am writing this newsletter, while at *District "C"* convention at *Lake Seminole State Park* in *Donalsonville, GA*. I'm sharing a cottage with *District Governor Jesse Powell* of 18-B and his wife 2nd VDGE Pat and PID Meyers Banister. These conventions give the governors a good insight on what happening in all the districts. I have already attended *District 18-E* convention in *Griffin* and next weekend I will be in *Milledgeville* attending the convention for *District 18-F*. The last convention that I will attend will be *District 18-A* in *Alpharetta* the same weekend as our third cabinet meeting. The main business that is done at these conventions is to elect the future officers have for each of the districts.

I guess the next information to pass on to you is that our *IstVDG Chip Sweatte* has re-signed his position and will not run for the position of *District Governor*. We are looking at all the steps we need to take to replace him. With the officer elections, only weeks away, our district needs to find a new candidate to fill the position of district governor, so I ask all previous district governors and members of the district to step up and help us fill this important position. If you know of anyone that is qualified and would like to serve district 18-D, please contact me or *Council Chair Grace Clower* with this information.

Our *District Election Convention* and *3rd cabinet meeting* will be held on *March 13 at 2:00PM* at *Dawson County High School*. The *Club Excellence Program* (*CEP*) will be held starting at 1:00PM at the high school. I urge all clubs to send a representative to this program; this program will help our clubs with some of the issues that we are facing today in Lionism.

As of now I only have a few more clubs that I need to visit, and I will be making appointments to visit them. This month, I visited only one club the *Lavonia Lions Club*. I know I mentioned this in the previous newsletter; this club has a great program in which they supply rebuilt computers to people of their community. Many thanks *Lavonia Lions Club* for the great work that they are doing in their community.

Both Deanna and I would like to take this time to thank all the clubs in 18-D for the services they perform in their communities and to continue with the great work that you're doing.

Remember, "WE ARE KNIGHTS OF THE BLIND and WE SERVE"

Thanks for all you do for Lionism, Best wishes, DG Ron

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

13 March = District 18-D Convention:
2:00 pm followed by the 3rd Cabinet
Meeting to be held at
Dawson County High School,
1665 Perimeter Road in
Dawsonville

Take 400 North to Highway 53 turn left and go to Perimeter Road turn right at Perimeter Road school is just down the street on the right.

At 1:00PM we will have a "Club Excellence Program (CEP).

Doors will open at 12:30 PM (1230) Meeting Time: 2:00 PM (1400)



"Relieving the Hunger" Campaign ORGANIZE A FOOD DRIVE TO ALLEVIATE HUNGER

Club Secretaries – place year-end awards and gift presentation order with Club Supplies

March – Prepare Club Elections and PU-101 forms YOU CAN DO THIS EARLY.

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



Check Last page for Registration Form

President's Blog

President's Service Blog: 50th Anniversary of Lions

in Zambia

March 1, 2011 by Sid Scruggs

I am so often humbled by the people I meet during my travels. I have had the chance to speak with amazing people, such as the dedicated Lions of Zambia.

Judy and I recently traveled there to mark the 50th anniversary of Lions in Zambia. We were greeted warmly in a festive ceremony marked with dance and song. We also met Kenneth Kaunda, the first president of Zambia. He is actively involved in a campaign to stop the spread of AIDS in Africa, for which Judy and I presented him with the Lions Medal of Distinction. Lions Clubs International Foundation also made a US\$10,000 donation to the cause.

Photo of the Week: Shakopee Lions Club Raises a Cool \$22,500 at Annual Ice Golf Tournament

February 28, 2011

The Shakopee Lions Club recently hosted a very "cool" event - the eighth annual Ice Golf Tournament. We received this week's photo from club board member Jon Balvance.



This photo shows some of the estimated 550 golfers who brought their clubs to putt around frozen ponds in Shakopee, Minnesota. The Lions raised \$22,500 at the event, and donated \$2,500 of the total to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation.

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 "

HIGHLIGHTS

Calendar of Events

Review upcoming Lions events your club can promote locally.



A Beacon of Hope is the International Theme for the Lions Year 2010-2011.



P2010 COMMEMORATIVE "BEACON OF HOPE" SPECIAL LAPEL TACK



TO: All Districts and Clubs Subject to United States Tax Laws

FROM: Legal Division

RE: *Tax Information Available* on LCI Website

Lions clubs and districts are required to file tax forms in accordance with the United States tax laws. Information and filing requirements and instructions are available on the **Lions Clubs International** website in the Tax Information section.

In this section you will find: detailed information concerning the requirements for filing Form 990, 990-N (E-Postcard), 990-EZ; a sample Form 990-EZ, with explanations; a blank Form 990-EZ; guidelines for disclosures regarding nondeductibility of contributions or gifts to Lions districts and clubs; and a summary of provisions concerning possible tax liability for Unrelated **Business Income Tax (UBIT). Additional information** concerning United States tax laws may be obtained from the **IRS** website. Please review this information at your earliest convenience. We trust that this information will be helpful to vou.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, please email the Legal Division or call (630)571-5466, ext. 360.

Boy from India Wins 2011 Lions International Peace Poster Contest



We're pleased to announce that Raj Phairembam, an 11-year-old boy from Moirang, Manipur, India, created this year's grand prize winning poster in the Lions International Peace Poster Contest. Judges chose his poster for its artistic merit and portrayal of the theme, "Vision of Peace." During this year's international level of judging at the Loyola University Museum of Art in Chicago, many judges expressed how honored they were to take on this task - and how difficult it was to narrow down the posters from so many wonderful images. Read blog.

Eye Donor Awareness Month in March

Each year in the United States, cornea transplants help restore the eyesight of more than 52,000 people – and Lions Eye Banks play a major role! Lions eye banks also help save eyesight by supporting important research to find cures for other blinding diseases. If your club would like to plan a community activity to promote eye donation during March, please contact the Lions Eve Bank near you.

Light Keeper Awards

Two new awards are available to recognize district governors for high club involvement in service campaigns and growth due to service. The Silver Level: Harbor Light Master Award will recognize districts where 50 percent of clubs participate in two of the four Global Service Action Campaigns. The Gold Level: Light Keeper Master Award will recognize districts that meet the requirements for

the Harbor Light Master Award, and also exceed membership growth of two percent or more from July 1, 2010 through April 30, 2011. Learn more.

Book Early to Secure the Best International Convention Tour Package Price



E-Z Travel, Clipper Vacatio ns and Pleasan

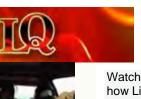
t Holidays are offering Lions members a wide variety of pre- and post-convention tour packages at discounted rates to compliment your convention stay. Destinations include Alaska, Las Vegas, Vancouver, Victoria, the Canadian Rockies and more! Book early to lockin the best package price. Lions can also choose from a wide variety of local Seattle tours with SH Worldwide. View tour descriptions.

To register, click on the following link, or type the address in your browser window:

http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/newsandevents/ international-convention/for attendees/ news-conv-register.php

View Dues Discounts and **Gender of Members by Club and District**

Now there's an easier way to identify dues discounts and the gender of members. The new Summary of Membership Types and Gender by Club Report gives you access to information on Student, Leo Lion and young adult membership information for your club and district. To view this new report, click Summary of Membership on the Reports List.





HIGHLIGHTS

New LQ Subtitles

See the latest edition of LQ, which includes subtitles for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Lions Clubs Blog

Read our blog to get news updates during the month.

CONTESTS

International Contest

Enter your Newsletter, Trading Pin, Banner or Web Site today.

Environmental Photo Contest

Submit Multiple District photo entries by March 1, 2010.

Peace Poster Contest

Sponsor a 2011-2012 Peace Poster Contest in your city

EVENTS

Calendar of Events

Review upcoming Lions events your club can promote locally.

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE















Dear Lion,

It is a great pleasure to speak about something to my heart - Lions Quest. Some of you may n about Lions Quest and others of you are already very involved. So why is Lions Quest so important to us as Lions and so important to me personally? It gives hope to youth. It gives hope to communities. Most importantly, it gives hope for a better tomorrow.

With our Lions Quest program, we deliver values to live a



healthy life. We give answers to questions such as - What does violence mean? What is frustration? How can I say NO to drugs? What is personal responsibility? It is not enough to deliver facts only in school, but also life skills for more harmony and success.

There is no other youth program in the world that is in more than 60 countries offering life skills to youth. This is

why we have set a goal of expansion to more than 10 additional countries. Just last month 14 new grants were approved which will continue supporting our goal of expansion. Through our efforts, 12 million youth have received health benefits and skills for life. Half a million educators have been trained to deliver the Lions Quest curriculum. Do you agree with me that these are truly incredible results? We must continue working together to achieve even more.

Lions in countries throughout the world have experienced the

positive sensations of Lions Quest first hand. For the first time ever, I was present with our Lions Quest Team at every Lions' Constitutional Forum, where we received a very encouraging response. This month I traveled to Bhutan and



Nepal to share the sensations of Lions Quest with Lions interested in starting the program. It is truly exciting and promising that so many Lions are engaged in Lions Quest.

I ask that you join in helping expand this amazing program to make a better life a reality for youth around the world. The youth of today is the future of tomorrow. We need your help. With your support, we will turn our goal into a reality. I count on you. We truly rely on you. I challenge you all to be our ambassador in these months to come. Make sure to help us in our efforts.

With cordial regards,

Eberhard J. Wirfs Chairperson LCIF

Lions Quest Growth

The Lions Quest program continues to grow worldwide. New countries implementing Lions Quest this year include Bulgaria, Malawi, Mauritius and the Philippines. In addition,



four new countries recently received funding to support implementation, including Egypt, Indonesia, Moldova and Uruguay.

New Grants Approved

At the January SightFirst Advisory Committee Meeting, 18 grants were approved for US\$5,430,891. This includes a grant to expand the Childhood Blindness project over the next two years to 18 additional centers in eight new countries or areas. Additionally, 14 grants were approved totaling US\$540,000 at the Lions Quest Advisory Committee Meeting. More information about all the recently approved grants is online. To date, LCIF has awarded 10,057 grants totaling US\$708 million.

New Publications Available

LCIF has a number of new publications for download online and in hard copy by request. The 2009-2010 Annual Report is now available. Additionally, there are two newly created pieces available, LCIF By the Numbers and International Lions Quest How to Guide. More resources on LCIF are available online.

Distribution of Contributing Membership Pins

Make sure you bring your \$20.00 to the 3rd Cabinet/Convention Meeting

100% of every donation to LCIF goes to help those in desperate need worldwide. Since only US\$6 is needed to save someone's sight, every dollar raised is precious. You do not need to be a major donor to be a hero. The Contributing Membership program is a great way to acknowledge and thank almost any undesignated donation to LCIF.

Contributing Membership and the Melvin Jones Fellowship are both recognition programs for unrestricted donations to LCIF. The Contributing Member program is for those donors making smaller, but not less significant, donations. If a donor is planning to give larger donations to LCIF (at least US\$1,000 over the next five years) the Lion donor should be acknowledged through the MJF program.

To clarify, contributing member donations do not receive MJF credit and vice versa. If the donor is unsure of the level of funds they will donate, the recognition can be applied at a later date.

There are three types of Contributing Member donation Pins (see picture to the right):

- ✓ Gold for a US\$100 donation
- ✓ Silver for a US\$50 donation
- ✓ Bronze for a US\$20 donation



Are you interested in increasing the number of Lions and clubs that contribute to LCIF? If you want to increase participation, the Contributing Membership program is the perfect way to introduce members to the impact of just US\$20.

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Relief Following Disasters

Following devastating flooding in Australia, LCIF provided four emergency grants totaling US\$50,000 to aid local Lions in their relief efforts. LCIF also awarded



US\$10,000 to Lions in Brazil following massive flooding. Funds helped purchase relief supplies for those who have been displaced by the flooding, including food, water and medicines. Lions wishing to help in relief efforts can make a <u>designated donation</u> to LCIF for Australia or Brazil. Additionally, LCIF provided <u>relief</u> for other recent natural disasters, including in Sri Lanka, Philippines and elsewhere. When disasters strike, Lions are often first on the scene to provide immediate relief and the last to leave. Each year, LCIF awards nearly US\$2 million in funds to support both immediate and long-term relief. These humanitarian efforts are a direct result of Lions' generous support from around the world.

Support UNICEF's School-in-a-Box Program

In 1996, Lions Clubs International began working with UNICEF to support the School-in-a-Box program. For 15 years, the Lions/UNICEF School-in-a-Box program has provided educational supplies to teachers in areas affected by civil unrest and natural disasters such as earthquakes, hurricanes and tsunamis. To commemorate this program, a special check presentation to the U.S. Fund UNICEF is planned for Lions Day at the United Nations in March. Lions can support this program by donating to LCIF. Donations in any amount are welcome. Each UNICEF School-in-a-Box costs approximately US\$257. Lions clubs, Leo clubs, districts or multiple districts that wish to support the purchase of a School-in-a-Box kit should donate to LCIF, noting "School-in-a-Box" in the comments section. Contact LCIF Donor Services for assistance with donations. Clubs, districts or multiple districts that contribute US\$500 or more in each fiscal year can receive a Lions/UNICEF School-in-a-Box banner patch.





Golden Chain—District Chair

Lion Roberta Wagner:

Golden Chain Deadline April 30 -- It is not too late to qualify. The most important and hardest part is to sponsor a new member. If you have a new member, please review the other qualifications and apply for this award through your club president and secretary.—The Order of the Golden Chain MD-18 is a proud group of Lions who have "linked together" their service and leadership in Georgia.

Qualifications are really easy with 5 mandatory activities (club attendance, sponsoring a new member, attending BOD, attending a Zone / Region / cabinet meeting, and being an active committee member) along with 11 or 24 other options in Lionism (including chairpersonship, officer, public relations, attending conventions, assisting the Lighthouse and Camp, participating in district and state efforts). Again, if you are an active member, you probably have already accomplished the above. The main criterion is the new member. And you can do it. Join the Golden Chain this year!

State Awards—District Chair

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Lion Bryson Tanner:

The State Awards Committee oversees 45 awards sponsored by the Council and Lions Clubs within the State. The criteria for each award is listed is the State Directory. All clubs are eligible for submission. There are many clubs who deserve to be recognized. Please submit your applications through your district chair.

Your club can also receive kudos. Please submit your applications one week prior to the State Convention!

Anne Sullivan Award — District Chair Lion Margaret Johnson:

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This Award, sponsored by the Macon Cherry Blossom Lions Club, is presented for recognition of outstanding achievement in working with handicapped children. Recommendations must be made by a Lions or Lioness Club, giving full biographical data on the Nominee and stating clearly the basis on which the Club is making its nomination. All informational material must set out plainly the depth and scope of the accomplishment or services and the period the services have been rendered or the general effect on the Community of the achievement. The original of the recommendation must be <u>sent to the Chairman</u> of the Anne Sullivan Award Committee (listed below); AND

One copy to your District's Committee Member; One copy to your District Governor; One copy to the State Office;

Outstanding Blind Award—District Chair Lion Isaac Trotter:

This Award is presented to a blind person (not necessarily a Lion) for some outstanding achievement or unusual Services performed for his Community or Club. Recommendations must be made by a Lions or Lioness Club, giving full biographical data on the Nominee and stating clearly the basis on which the Club is making is nomination. All informational material must set out plainly the depth and scope of the accomplishment or services and the period the services have been rendered or the general effect on the Community of the achievement. The original of the recommendation must be sent to the Chairman of the Outstanding Blind Award Committee (listed below); AND

One copy to your District's Committee Member; One copy to your District Governor; One copy to the State Office;

Outstanding Deaf Award District Chair Lion Kasey Trotter:

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This Award is presented to a hearing impaired person (not necessarily a Lion), residing in the State of Georgia, whose outstanding achievements and contributions are an inspiration to others. Recommendations must be made by a Lions or Lioness Club, giving full biographical data on the Nominee and stating clearly the basis on which the Club is making its nomination. All informational material must set out plainly the depth and scope of the accomplishments or services, and the period the services have been rendered or the general effect on the Community of the achievement.

The original of the recommendation must be <u>sent to the Chairman</u> of the Outstanding Deaf Award Committee (listed below); AND

One copy to your District's Committee Member;

One copy to your District Governor; One copy to the State Office;

Going Blind Documentary

available to all clubs in District 18-D! District 18-D will soon have a new tool at its disposal, for providing education and assisting with recruitment across the district. Educational / Institutional licensing for *Going Blind*, a documentary produced by Lovett Productions, will be donated to the district, along with a copy of the documentary.



Lion Jeff Wolfe, of the Dacula Lions Club will present District 18-D a copy of *Going Blind*, on behalf of FlexMarketing Solutions, at the upcoming District Meeting on March 13. Previews throughout the district will be announced soon! To learn more about Going Blind and how it may benefit outreach for your club visit www.goingblindmovie.com

Dear Lion Leaders,

With three Global Service Action Campaigns completed and one to go, I could not be more pleased with the results. These campaigns have energized clubs and districts around the world, making them shining lights in their communities, lights that will attract service-minded people who now see a Lions Club as the idea

The year's final Global Service Action Campaign,

Protecting our Environment, not only gives clubs and districts the opportunity to demonstrate Lions commitment to a healthy planet, but will help districts to qualify for the newly-created Light Keeper Awards. Districts in which 50 percent of clubs participate in two of four Global Service Action Campaigns will receive the Silver Level: Harbor Light Master Award. Districts that achieve the requirements for the Harbor Light Master Award and also exceed membership growth of two percent or more from July 1 through April 30 will receive the Gold Level: Harbor Light Master Award.

I hope that you will encourage your clubs to assure that at least 50 percent of the clubs in your district participate in the Protecting our Environment Global Service Action Campaign and one of the previous Service Action Campaigns if not already completed. It will give me great pleasure to award as many Light Keeper Awards as possible.

Best wishes,

Sid L. Scruggs III International President

Global Service Action Campaigns

Protecting our Environment

One of the most effective ways that Lions can help preserve the environment is by shining a light on the problem of waste and pollution. Clubs can raise awareness in their communities about eco-friendly practices by:

Developing an awareness campaign around environmental issues;

Hosting seminars regarding simple practices that "Protect our Environment;"

Raise awareness about the benefits of "going green;"

Recognizing a local environmental leader;

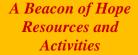
Sponsoring a nature camp to teach youth about environmental preservation;

Sponsoring an environmental preservation training program in partnership with park/forestry authorities for residents, or

Working with a local school to organize a contest that will challenge students to offer creative solutions to solving environmental issues.

Shining a light on the environment means setting a good example and using effective communication techniques to ensure that as many people as possible hear the message. For publicity tips and help planning an event, visit

"Protecting Our Environment" Global Service Action Campaign.



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

A Beacon of Hope brochure: Read about our international theme, A Beacon of Hope.

A Beacon of Hope logo: Download a logo to use on club communication and promotional materials.

Beacon Awards: Find out about the Beacon Awards - and how they will recognize outstanding achievement by clubs and districts in the area of service.

"The Power of Peace"
Essay Contest: Sponsor
a blind or visually
impaired student to
compete in "The Power
of Peace" Essay
Contest.

Shine a Light on Your Activities

Club secretaries please remember to report your club activities through the Service Activity Report to help your district qualify for the Light Keeper Award and to nominate your club for the Beacon Awards.

Clubs currently using EMMR should contact their District Secretary for electronic submission guidelines.

Beacon of Hope Highlights

Relieving the Hunger

The Relieving the Hunger campaign concluded in January and reports to date show an outstanding success. In 879 projects reported to date, Lions Clubs have provided food and other necessities to more than 620,000 people worldwide.

Clubs have until March 31 to report their Relieving the Hunger activities.

Please visit Lions Global Service Action Campaign Projects for updates on the progress of the campaigns.

Set Your Sights High

Lions Worldwide Induction Day

The 13th annual Lions Worldwide Induction Day on April 9, 2011 will be an ideal opportunity to raise community awareness about Lions and to invite quality new members to join Lions Clubs.

Clubs and districts can use the event to:

Celebrate new members and recognize their commitment with a special commemorative certificate signed by the international president;

Join Lions worldwide, and together induct thousands of new members;

Demonstrate the importance Lions clubs have in helping and serving the less fortunate;

Launch a membership campaign and reward membership recruitment;

Strengthen member retention, or

Initiate a public relations campaign to raise awareness for your club.

For help planning and publicizing a Worldwide Induction Day event or to order commemorative certificates visit the <u>Lions Worldwide Induction Day web page</u>.

On the Horizon

Global Leadership Team

The great success that the Global Membership Team has achieved in membership worldwide has provided a model for enhancing an equally critical function of our association -- leadership development. Solid leaders who provide vision, guidance and motivation will be needed in coming years to sustain membership growth and assure that Lions Clubs International continues to fulfill its mission of providing quality, relevant service to communities around the world.

A new Global Leadership Team has been established to identify and cultivate effective Lion leaders through new and existing training and leadership development programs. With similar structures and methods of operation the GMT and GLT will work as a mutually supportive team designed to more closely integrate the association's membership and leadership development functions. As of July 1, 2011 the GMT and GLT will replace the MERL program.

In January, a group of 57 experienced and knowledgeable Lions gathered at international headquarters for a three-day GLT orientation. This group, appointed by Lions Clubs International executive officers, has already begun its task of developing the next generation of Lion leaders.



Extension

District 18D Extension Chairman PDG Lion Allan Stalker

The last two new clubs formed in District 18D were chartered in November 2009 (Dacula) and January 2010 (Cleveland). These clubs were formed by two groups of dedicated District 18D Lions each using a Lions International consultant and the Lions International technique for new club formation. District Governor Richard Smith was the driving force to get these two new clubs started in the waning days of his administration and carried over into District Governor Grace Clower's term. I was recruited by DG Dick Smith to be a member of the Dacula team. The Snellville club agreed to be the sponsoring Lions club. The technique is fairly simple. The consultant comes in for a 3 day period. The team is trained and practices the approach technique in the morning. Several, two to three, person teams then canvases the businesses of the chosen area for community minded individuals that would like to provide service to their community through the chartering of a new Lions Club. The team explains that there is a \$30 Charter fee due when they sign up and then there will be a monthly fee of \$5 to \$7 to cover International. District, and Club dues that will start once the club is chartered. It takes at least 20 members to charter a new Lions Club, however meetings will start immediately, within one week of the canvassing campaign. The date, time and location of the meeting must be set up before the campaign starts so that each person contacted can be given this information. There are three key Lions that will be appointed by the District Governor for each new club. They are the Club Organizer and two Guiding Lions. The Club Organizer is responsible for handling all of the money collected and completing the Charter Application. The Guiding Lions will be working with the new club for the next two years. Each new club comes with its own set of challenges. Lions International reports that about 40% of the clubs that are formed fail within the first two years. I have personally been involved in the attempted formation of 7 clubs, 6 in District 39E in Idaho, and the Dacula club. Of the six clubs we attempted to form in Idaho, we were successful with three, two of which are still active clubs today, and one failed after 1.5 years. The key to a successful club formation in a community is to find a few individuals in the community that really want the club to succeed and are willing to work to see that it happens. Finding a community that will support a Lions club requires local knowledge, which may be provided by nearby Lions clubs. Contacting mayors, county commissioners, school administration, Business Associations, church organizations, and other civic leaders is essential to the formation of a successful club.

The district needs your help in identifying areas that might be worthwhile to attempt forming a new club. We also need clubs that would be willing to be a new club sponsor, members that would be willing to assist in the effort, and members willing to be Guiding Lions. It takes a lot of work to form a new club, but the results are worth it. Give this some thought. Talk to your club. I can be reached at 770-725-9938 or email (allanstalker@bellsouth.net).



Thriving Club Retreat:

Dear Lions Leader,

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 \$35 per person

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, 4 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.



For more information about the retreat, visit www.lionstraining.us. From there, you may also register online for the event. For more information about the Kingwood Resort, visit their website at

www.kingwoodresort.com.







This is another way of getting Lions in your club, new members and prospective members interested in doing something new and different. Getting involved is another word for **WE SERVE**.



Certain things can happen when your Lions Club gets involved. If we have to find something new - go for it - because the more we raise - the more we can give. Also, the more members who get involved also create a bundle of fun and more money raised. The information that appears may benefit another club - for here is where we get ideas and we might be able to use those ideas within your own club.

Clermont North Hall Lions Club = In February we continued to work events parking cars at the Georgia Mountains Center. We parked cars for a gospel singing and for a kick-boxing event during the month. We also had a member attend the dedication of the new Lighthouse building and two members attend the Lighthouse training and meeting followed by the Open House of the new building. All left enthused about the Lighthouse and its work. We also had two members attend our Zone meeting. During the month we worked on our plan for White Cane and our nominating committee worked on a slate of officers for the new Lions year.

We serve!

Elberton Lions Club = Club President Johnny Lutz presented a letter from International President Sid Scruggs to Lion Anri Konfino – "On behalf of the International Association of Lions clubs and the nearly 1.35 million men and women, worldwide, who volunteer their time to humanitarian causes, it is a pleasure to congratulate you on attaining your 50 year Monarch Milestone Chevron award. Your contributions are appreciated by your Lions Club, the people you serve and the Global community".



Lion Konfino was in a German forced labor work camp during World War 2, after which he and his wife, Fika, went to Israel, then to the U.S. in 1959. He joined the Elberton Lions Club in December 1960 and has been a faithful and dedicated member since.

Lawrenceville Lions Club = We have 2 new members brought in by President Pete Stamsen. We did 74 vision screenings at Phoenix High School with 20 that need further vision exams. We sponsored and donated pizzas and deserts for several mentally challenged clients of Creative Enterprises - six members and 2 guests volunteered and a good time was had by all. We had 3 members attend the Lighthouse Open House/meetings. We have vision screenings at Health Fairs at 3 locations planned for March. We collected 256 pairs of used eyeglasses and 6 cell phones.

Jefferson Lions Club = ACTIVITIES: Leo Club Organization Report mailed to LCI on December 10, 2010. (There are 16 originating members for Kings Bridge Middle School Leo Club). Collected: EYEGLASS RECYCLING: 15 sunglasses, 17 eyeglasses, 9 cell phones and 4 chargers Donations: \$775 to GA Lions Lighthouse for the capital campaign, \$500 for eye exams and new eyeglasses, \$50 to Pendergrass Baptist as a memorial to Lion Calvin Gee. Awards: Lion Mack presented Jack Rushton a certificate for five (5) years of loyalty and dedication to the Jefferson Lion Club. First Vice President Jim Smith presented President Mack Cates a plaque and chevron for 30 years of faithful service to the Club. Fund Raising: ANNUAL PANCAKE SUPPER COMING UP SATURDAY, MARCH 19 AT JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA, FROM 5 PM TO 7:30 PM. COME JOIN US.

MEETINGS: February 14th Michelle Han, from the Georgia Lions Lighthouse, presented updates on the Lighthouse's programs and new facilities. Michelle came to the Lighthouse in July 2010 upon graduation from college via AmeriCorps. She receives a stipend (poverty level wages) to volunteer at the Lighthouse and live the way the people do who are served by the Lighthouse. February 28th Amy Grace Patterson was the guest speaker. Amy Grace won the American Legion's High School Oratorical Contest at the local level in competition against three other girls, and she won again at the next level. She is scheduled to compete again next week in Loganville. The speech must be on some aspect of the U. S. Constitution with emphasis on the duties and obligations of a citizen to our government. The purpose of the contest is to instill a better knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution in high school students. It develops leadership qualities, the ability to think and speak clearly, and prepares for acceptance of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship. It also assists students in paying the high cost of a college education. Zone Chair Bob Long was in attendance and announced the March 13 Cabinet Meeting and the March 24th Zone Meeting. The club approved the expenditures needed to build two handicapped ramps in the local area.

Loganville Lions Club =



Snellville Lions Club = Fund Raisers: Club Annual Pancake Breakfast, again this was successful event, good turnout of people wanting a good breakfast and also workers from the club. Meeting: PDG Ed Hashbarger gave a very interesting talk and also show DVD on Leader Dog program. Membership: No report. Donations: Gave to LCIF and Camp for the Blind.

Toccoa Lions Club = NEW BUSINESS: Recruitment Meeting: Will be at Gate Cottage at our noon meeting on Thursday March 24th. White Cane Day: We need better participation from the members. Henry Fields will talk to Rex Patterson about getting the Boy Scouts to help. The date has not been set but we will plan to do two days, a Friday and a Saturday. Lion Forrest Connelly is reporting that our annual White Cane Days as been set with Wal-Mart. We will be collecting donations on Friday, April 15th and Saturday, April 16th. The white canes have been ordered and our club goal is to exceed \$1,000.00 in collections from the public. Golf tournament: The Chilly Open will be on FRIDAY May 20th, at the Victoria Bryant State Park. More than likely it will have a shotgun start at noon and a picnic with a variety of chilly at the completion of the round. Adaptive rules for visually impaired golfers will be in play. The State and International dues have been paid. Lion President asked the board to meet prior to the next board meeting to develop a budget for 2011-2012 Lion Year. This is at the request of the incoming president. Lion Bill explained a program called "First Giving". This program allows public donations through websites. Lion Steve made the motion to allow the club to participate in this, seconded by Lion Bill. The board approved. permission to explore the potential for a Leo Club at the Stephens County High School. The Toccoa Lions would be the sponsoring club. The cost, benefit, time and personnel from both club and school is to be considered. Lion Bill will report back to the board. Our new Lion Shelia Rousey has hit the ground running. Just after joining the Toccoa Club, Sheila offered to look into a joint venture with our local chapter of the GCB for a possible fund raiser in the near future. If this proves successful, we may explore other opportunities. The board supports her in this venture. She is to gather information and report back to the board. Lion Bill requested permission to ask members to volunteer "Driving Services" for members of the club that are visually impaired. We have three members that would like to participate more fully in Zone, District and State activities but cannot due to lack of transportation.



Toccoa Lions attending grand opening celebration of new GA Lions Lighthouse building are, I-r, Bryan Gordon, Flo Gordon, Shelia Rousey and Bill Graham.

They toured the new building pictured here on Saturday, January 29, 2011 in Chamblee, GA

Lions Share Romance and Love at Gate Cottage















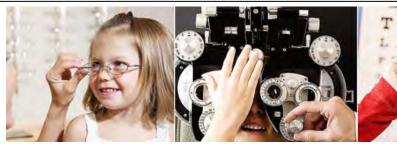
Union County Lions Club = Lion Mints: No Report. Social Concerns: Sarah Chumbley sent Birthday and Anniversary cards to members for the month of February. Lion and friends and family volunteer hours: 506 hours. Membership: No applications. Donations: No Report. Sight / Hearing Conservation: 2 applications for eye glasses approved for February. *Meetings:* February 10 meeting held with 26 members and 7 guests, and 77% in attendance. Our guest speaker was Mitch Griggs, Executive Director of the Union County Development Authority. He recruits new businesses to the county and talked about what industries would be good for the county. Since this was our Valentine meeting all the ladies names were put in a pot and Karen Clarks name was drawn to be the Valentine of the night. Lion Gene & Louise Little reported on the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Lighthouse building. February 12- Union County Lions Club held its first Trash to Treasure sale fundraiser and it was a huge success with over 300 lion hours worked with preparation, the event and cleanup. We sold space in the Civic Center for community vendors in addition to our own donated items for sell. We sold raffle tickets for a \$100 gift certificate from Alexander's, a unique retail store and a \$50 gift certificate from Food Land, a community grocery store. Our Lion men helped the vendors unload and set up their spaces and that was a special added touch that did not go unnoticed by the vendors. February 23 regular meeting held with 22 members and 9 guests, with 72% in attendance. Our guest speaker was Emily Ridgeway with the Lighthouse. Emily went over statistics and services provided by the lighthouse during 2010 that included 2500 pairs of glasses, 1600 eye exams, 600 vision screenings and many more services. She said there had been a 30% increase in requests, mostly due to the economy. Lion Arthur Gurr talked to the club about volunteering for officer positions for the coming year, reminding everyone as to why we joined the club.

Winder Noon Lions Club = Committee Reports: Boys & Girls Club – School supplies are always welcome – bring them to Lion Derek at next meeting; Fund Raising - Lion Carol announced that brooms & mops are now available at Ouzts and start talking up our golf tourney and ask teams to sign up now – WNL Golf Tournament, Chimneys Golf Course on 29 April; LCIF – time to pay your \$20.00 annual contribution for the Foundation; Peace Poster – Theme for 2011-12 – Children Know Peace – kits are now available from International; Public Relations – Turn in all information that you want publicized to Lion Dottie. **Student of Month:** Outstanding Awards were given to Juniors Shaquilla Harrigan and Jessie Walls. **Activities:** 4 Lions worked the Blood Drive in January. **Program:** Lion Shelia Hawthorne – the Dictionary Lady, talked about her success in getting dictionaries in the hands of all county third graders for the last 9 years.



GA. Lions Lighthouse VP Lion Mike Higgins, PDG jmhpdg@windstream.net Check out the new Lighthouse Video Click here to view the Lighthouse Video!

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





After a year's worth of planning, rallying, fretting, and hoping, the Lighthouse is proud to announce a successful move to our new home in Chamblee!

None of this would have been possible without your support throughout the Capital Campaign, purchase of the building, and transition to our new offices. Thank you for your time, generous donations, and all the many contributions that have made this move a success!

In our new facilities, we will be able to provide expanded services, including weekly vision clinics, and an optical lab which will allow us to produce our own glasses at much reduced cost.

The Lighthouse will hold an official open house for the new building during the Lighthouse conference on January 29, 2011. Come to tour the space, hear more about what the future holds for the Lighthouse, and find out how you can stay involved as we continue to grow!

Our new address:

5582 Peachtree Road Chamblee, GA 30341 (404) 325-3630





Service Numbers From July to December 2010

2,214 people have better vision after receiving a pair of **glasses** at a \$135,559.73.

137 recipients were from 18-D

180 eye surgeries were performed. at a cost of \$1,196,724.06 – **Lighthouse cost** - **\$217,578.22. 24** were from 18-D

568 Georgians received hearing aids through the dispensation of 1040 hearing aids.

74 were from 18-D



Help Us Use our Recycled Glasses

18 D District Chair:

Judy Stamsen - 770-995-9274 eskiemom@bellsouth.net

Lighthouse Awards Deadline: **April 30, 2011**

WHITE CANE 2011: White Cane 2011 is just around the corner. It is not to early now to begin making plans to have a successful White Cane Day. I understand that the Dahlonega Lions Club is planning on putting on a Country & Western Concert with a big name entertainer in order to increase their contribution. Last year MD18 raised \$118,346.57 through White Cane 2010 for the Lighthouse. District 18D, with 32 Clubs out of 38 Clubs participating, raised \$44,616.00 for White Cane 2010. The Goal for White Cane 2011 statewide is \$132,470.00. Can District 18D raise \$50,000 for the Lighthouse with White Cane 2011? The answer is YES if all 38 Clubs participate this year.

If your Club needs help or ideas on how to get involved in White Cane 2011, let me encourage you to contact our District White Cane Co-chairs – Lions Gene and Louise Little. They can be reached at 706/374-6638 or e-mail: genelittle@hotmail.com They are anxious to meet with your Club in order for you to have a successful White Cane 2011.

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

Here are some ideas:

- * Place plastic jars on check-out counters of convenience and fast food stores. This could be done
- 4-6 weeks in April and can be handled by 1 or 2 Lions. Special jar lids and decals are available through White Cane Days, Inc.
- * Write letters to businesses of your community soliciting donations. Then follow up with a personal visit.
- * Hold a pancake breakfast, chili supper, chicken BBQ, or other project designated for White Cane.
- * Get publicity through having a community leader (mayor, administrator, or commissioner) sign a proclamation declaring your club's White Cane Drive and publishing it in your local newspaper.
- * If you have a Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Kroger's, or some other large retail outlet, approach management about a matching grant for White Cane.
- * Utilize your White Cane efforts to educate your community about the Georgia Lions Lighthouse in general, and your club in particular. You may be able to recruit a few new members.



WHITE CANE

White Cane had its beginning in Georgia in 1980 as White Cane Day. We no longer limit White Cane to just a day in the year. White Cane donations equal about 1/3 of the Georgia Lions contributions to the Lighthouse. The goal for White Cane 2011 has been set for \$167,500. Over the last 3 years White Cane donations have averaged over \$144 thousand dollars per year.

As everyone knows, prices have been on the rise and the services offered by the Lighthouse are no exception. The present economy is creating additional needs at the Lighthouse to help those who have lost their jobs and subsequently, their health insurance. The money collected through White Cane is instrumental in changing people's lives. While it is usually no problem for a local club to purchase a pair of eyeglasses for a needy person, it would be literally impossible for a club to provide eye surgery needed to restore someone's sight. The money raised throughout the state for White Cane can be combined to offer services to people who, without the Lions of Georgia, might have no hope. The Georgia Lions Lighthouse is depending on us to help them help others. All money collected for White Cane is sent to the Lighthouse to work toward accomplishing this task. One hundred percent of all money collected for White Cane goes directly to sight services. We need to make every effort to make White Cane 2011 the best ever. Lions get an excellent return on their investment in the Lighthouse. The Lighthouse is now able to get \$5 in services for every dollar.

Not only is this a time to raise funds for the Lighthouse, it also gives us an opportunity to be out in our communities and to educate people about the services that we, as Lions of Georgia, can offer. A chance to put hands and feet to our motto, "We Serve".

Please feel free to contact me for further information. J. C. Coefield, Jr. MD-18 White Cane Chair 478-922-9023 coefield@cox.net * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Contributions from 18-D Lions Clubs:

Club: \$9,450.00

White Cane: \$600.00

Luminary: \$1,300.00

Other: \$1,325.00

Total: \$12,675.00



Register with the Lighthouse at dogoodgetrewards.com to earn rewards for your service. Questions?

Contact Laura at lgriffin@lionslighthouse.org

Night of Spectacles Coming April 30

Each year the Lions Lighthouse receives over 100,000 eyeglasses and lenses to be recycled, and a portion of these glasses are scratched or broken beyond repair. Rather than throw out the glasses, they are given to local design schools and artists and turned into wearable dresses. The artists show off their work and compete for a scholarship at our annual Night of Spectacles. The evening includes a silent auction, hors d'oeuvres, and an open bar. For more information about Night of Spectacles, please visit www.nightofspectacles.org.







White Cane Butter Mints **45.00 per 1000**

Miniature Plastic White Cane **65.00 per 500**

Punched Card 14.00 per 500

Order from Lions of Michigan (517) 887-6640



Chairpersons, please share this important message with the clubs in your area.

What is "Diabetes Alert Day"?

It is a one-day wake-up call to inform the American public about the seriousness of diabetes.

By participating in Diabetes Alert Day, Lions can help many people.

In America, diabetes affects 25.8 million people:

Diagnosed: 18.8 millionUndiagnosed: 7.0 million

Diabetes is a serious disease, particularly when it is left undiagnosed or untreated -- it is the leading cause of new cases of blindness among adults in the US.

How can Lions participate in "Diabetes Alert Day"?

- Utilize information, resources and suggested activities at NDEP Diabetes Alert Day 2011, including:
 - o Diabetes Risk Test
 - o News Release (customizable)
 - o Feature article (add to your newsletter or Web site)
- Reduce new cases of blindness caused by diabetic retinopathy! Select and send an e-card
- . Join the nationwide effort!

LCI is interested to know about YOUR Diabetes Alert Day

We ask that Lions let us know how they participated in Diabetes Alert Day 2011. Please have your club secretary report via the <u>Lions Club Service Activity Report</u>. We will appreciate receiving your reply on or before Friday, April 8th.

Flo Gordon and Shelia Rousey, Toccoa Lions, examine one of the garments on display at the new Lighthouse building, from the Night of Spectacles design competition. The Savannah School of Art and Design students has several of their garment designs mounted on manikins throughout the new Lighthouse building.



Lucy Zhou, Americor volunteer, and Toccoa Lion Bill Graham. His handle "Bill the Blind Lion"





Sarah Epling and Laura Griffin at open house with Christina Lennon and John Rudert in background.







Both Gary Vaughters and Mark Miller addressed the gathered crow in the waiting room at the new Lighthouse building in Chamblee. This was after everybody had toured the building and gathered for a little party with refreshments.



GA. Lions Camp for the Blind Thois Masters, PDG tstmasters@windstream.net



To Our Fellow Lions:



"It is no use saying, 'We are doing our best.' You have got to succeed in doing what is necessary."

Sir Winston Churchill

Dear Friends of the Camp,

I read this quote again today and it struck me again at just how applicable it still is. Very often I find myself thinking "I am doing my best." or "I can't give any more." I speculate that I am not the only one who thinks that way sometimes. In truth, I often find myself thinking those thoughts in relation to my job as director of the camp. It is not enough though. We have to give more. We have to do what is necessary.

I am one who asks myself a lot of questions. I refuse to let mediocrity be the normality, so I push myself. No, I am not crazy; I am introspective. Now I would like to ask you a couple of questions that I have asked myself.

What can I do to get 1 more camper to camp?

Are you doing what is necessary to make camp successful?

What does a successful camp look like to you and what will you do to help us reach that?

What will you do in 2011 to make "camp for the camper"?

These are tough, honest questions, and I ask them from a place of love for our camp. Our camp is on the brink of something big, but we will have to step up as an entire entity and move toward the same goals. Will you join us not only in words but also in actions? I am excited about what lies before us.

Ascending

I love the first few months of a new year. It is a reminder of where we have come from and the promise of things to come. So, with that thought in mind, let's travel down memory lane for a few moments to see how far we've come.

In the last year:

We have begun a \$419,000 capital improvement project. We have increased our number of summer campers by 40% for the last two years. We have had an overflowing Christmas camp. We have had representation at many meetings in every district. We have tried new things and made ourselves "Ripe For Change."

We have met financial uncertainty head on and sought ways to build revenue. Lions of Georgia, you have done great things in the past year!

March 18-20, 2011 – Work Weekend at the Camp. March 25, 2011 - LEO State Gathering

April 29-May 1, 2011 – Work Weekend at the Camp.

Pre Camp June 3-12, 2011

State Convention/Board Meeting June 10-12, 2011

Family Camp June 13-18, 2011

Pre-Teen Camp June 20-25, 2011

Older Adult Camp June 27-July 3, 2011

Young Adults Camp July 9-15, 2011

Teenage Camp July 18-29, 2011

Lions Day July 23, 2011 – Lion Day at the Camp, 35th Anniversary Celebration!

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I hope this letter finds you doing well on all fronts and ready to finish out our Lion's Year with a sprint to the finish line. This time of year always seems like a sprint to me as every weekend for the next two months I'm on the road representing our Camp at one function or another. It is a tiring process but at the same time it is a very exciting time.

That sprint started last weekend at our Annual Winter Board of Directors Meeting. It was great seeing my Lion Friends there in support of our Camp and the Council of Governors. We are always honored to host the Council at this Meeting. A lot of work was accomplished this last weekend and we had a lot of FUN as well. Isn't that what Lionism is all about – helping others while enjoying each other's fellowship? Some key things that took place last weekend were:

Work on the Constitution and By-Laws and we made some changes. These will be voted on at the Annual Board Meeting at the State Convention.

The 2011-2012 Budget was presented to the Executive Committee and will be voted on at the Annual Board Meeting at the State Convention as well.

A great job by many Standing Committees.

Once again the Centerville Lions and Lioness Clubs hosted us with an outstanding Steak Dinner on Saturday night. They have been doing this for years and we thank them and love them for all they do for our Camp

We also got to say thank you to our Camp's Secretary Carolyn Taylor-Music who just retired. But as Kristen so well put it "Carolyn is like a bad check – she just keeps coming back"; well we just love that. Carolyn will be a fixture at our Camp for years to come as a great volunteer. I think we could not keep her away. She loves our Camp and as she says - "It is Hallowed Ground"!

We introduced our new Building and Grounds Manager Mike Wilson and his beautiful wife Gail. We also met our new Camp Secretary, Merri Blount. They are all a great addition to our Team!

You have heard about the \$419,500.00 donation for Capital Improvements to our Camp; well, we are not sitting on that money at all. We currently have five Contractors on site doing lots of great work. Here are some of the things being done:

New metal roofs on all buildings.

New energy efficient windows on all buildings.

Vinyl siding on all the wood framed buildings.

Upgrade of the pool.

Reconstruct the interior of the dorm to meet ADA Standards.

And much, much more.....

So as you can see, we are very busy at your Camp. Mike is doing a fantastic job in overseeing all this activity. We are so lucky to have Mike there on site.

I'll see you soon at your individual District Cabinet Meetings. As always, I look forward to seeing my friends in Lionism and making new ones.

Take Care and God Bless!

Frank 20

Lions Work Weekend March 18-20, 2011

* Projects that are starred are those which we believe have the highest importance. Those that are underlined are projects that we believe can be done on Leo Weekend.

Projects

- *1. Exchanging the Directors office with the Conference room
- *2. Cutting an opening in the main lobby wall for the installation of a door to the conference room
- *3. Installation of a 36" office door with a one way visual glass (all hardware included)
- *4. Relocate white cabinets in Conference room to wall located next to ladies rest room.(Patch holes where needed and paint)
- *5. Remove hanging lights in conference room and install adequate florescent lighting
- 6. Replace weather damaged siding at the stables with hardy-board
- 7. Replace weather damaged 1x4's at the stables
- 8. Pressure wash sidewalks
- *9 The ceiling in the staff lounge's kitchen area has dropped down from the trusses about 2 to 3 inches due to previous water damage. The sheetrock will need to be taken down and replaced with new materials.
- 10. Replace tin above bleachers at the riding rink
- 11. Walk guide ropes and repair any damaged 2x4,s
- 12. Repair and weatherize all picnic tables
- *13. Scrape and sand wooden patio furniture located at the activities building.

After this is done, we then re-stain and varnish

- *14. Paint railing at the activity building (hunter green)(paint needed)
- *15 Rocking chairs located at the arts and crafts building also need to be scraped, sanded, and painted (exterior gloss white) (paint needed)
- 16. Paint restroom doors in the activity building (interior gloss white) (paint needed)
- *17. Paint foyer in the activity building (off white) (paint needed)
- 18. Clean area around the tree house
- 19. Clean up the nature trail
- 20. Clean up all along the tree line where mowed area meets woods
- *21. Rebuild little wooden cross walk at the beginning of the nature trail located next to the director's house
- 22. Clean the PVC guardrails running down to the boat dock
- 23. Repair door at the canoe house (comes off the tracks)
- *24. Clean and organize the Arts and Crafts Building
- 25. The Arts and Crafts Building will have a hole cut in the bathroom for attic access to the air handler unit; this will need framing up and inserting a removable access door
- *26. Paint hallway and bathrooms in the dining hall (interior off white) and paint the doors and all trim (interior gloss white) (paint needed)
- 27. Need 3-3'x3' NO TRESSPASSING signs, professionally made for the Lower Ropes Course, must be treated exterior materials
- 28. Signs will need to be framed and mounted on 4x4 post
- 29. Need two 4x4 post placed in the ground at the water tank to mount the drain flow hose (not to be any higher than 2' above the ground) (paint the post hunter green) (paint needed)
- 30. Paint the dumpster fence to match the rest of the newly renovated structures (hunter green and linen white) (paint needed)
- 31. Place 4x4 post around All Air conditioner units for protection from lawn mowers (suggest to paint them a highly visible color (exterior gloss white)
- 32. Securely hang door at water treatment building
- 33. Move concrete blocks from the pool area to the field out behind the maintenance shop
- 34. Repair fences where railings are down and replace the ones that are broken
- 35. Repair water damaged wood on the pump house out at the pond
- 36. Clean up around pond and the picnic shelter located at the pond
- 37. Fascia boards on picnic shelter need to be replaced
- 38. Area around the Adirondacks needs to be cleaned up
- 39. Adirondacks need to be cleaned
- *40. Run an electrical line from pole barn to the horse riding rink
- 41. Install 2 outdoor fans above the bleachers at the horse riding rink
- *42. Install 2 thermal controlled fans in the refrigeration room





Leader Dog Chair Lion Diane Wall liondianewall@bellsouth.net

Thank you for everything you do to support our mission to enhance the lives of people who are blind and visually impaired.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

In the days prior to receiving his first Leader Dog, Fernie, Tom Moritz admits to feelings of anxiousness, uncertainty and inadequacy. After just six months of working together, his fears have faded away and the team has become well-seasoned travelers.

Tom Moritz travels quite a bit for his job as a medical research biostatistician. Trains, airports, hotels and restaurants are very much a part of his life. Luckily, Leader Dog Fernie has quickly proven herself to be a polite, competent traveler. "When we fly," says Tom, "if we enter the plane first, Fernie feels obligated to greet every passenger as they pass by our seat.

She sits politely with her tail wagging waiting for a comment regarding how beautiful she is and for a pat on the head. If we enter the plane last, she just lies down and goes to sleep as soon as I take my seat."

"This is how Fernie spends her day at work, unless we have a meeting, in which case she is the time keeper. If she rolls over on her back or starts to groan, we usually decide the meeting has gone long enough," laughs Tom.

Fernie's good behavior does not go unnoticed. Once, in an upscale restaurant, her politeness earned her a silver tray of ice cubes. Yet another time when Tom attended a Great Leaders Training meeting, Fernie was acknowledged during a strength-finding exercise. "During the final session, the presenters gave Fernie an ID badge that included her top five strengths," Tom recalls proudly. They were: 1. Includer: Being accepting of others; 2. WOO (Winning Others Over): Loving the challenge of meeting new people and winning them over; 3. Adaptability: Going with the flow and taking life one day at a time; 4. Empathy: Sensing the feelings of others; 5. Responsibility: Being committed to stable values such as loyalty.

To date, Tom and Fernie have traveled to Washington DC, Boston, Milwaukee and Omaha. "When we went to Omaha," Tom admits, "we walked over a pedestrian bridge to Iowa—just so Fernie could say she'd been there too."



Tom received Fernie as a "home delivery." This is when an instructor takes a dog to the client's home for training instead of the client coming to Leader Dog.

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Liberating Canes

Marisa Postlewate's AMP Adventure

When Marisa Postlewate arrived for her stay on Leader Dog's campus, she felt the same mix of excitement and nerves that clients often feel. Unlike most clients, she did not leave with a new canine companion but with a new set of skills that would greatly enhance her life.



Street crossings were particularly challenging for Marisa due to her hearing loss.

Marisa had come to Leader Dog to take part in the Accelerated Mobility Program (AMP). AMP is an intensive seven-day course that teaches the orientation and mobility (O&M) skills needed to travel independently with a cane. Taught by certified O&M instructors, the one client to one instructor ratio and the condensed format of the course allow clients to learn in a week what could take several months with conventional training.

For years, Marisa had two canes buried in the back of her closet gathering dust. She knew that as her Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP) progressed, she would eventually need more than just her husband's arm to help her get around, but her attempts to find training close to home were unsuccessful. "I left my name and number with several organizations," said the retired University of Texas at Arlington professor, "But if you're not working, they don't make an effort to train you. No one called me back."

Eventually, Marisa reached out to her online RP support group for help. It was there that she met two Leader Dog graduates, Mary Dignan and Megan McHugh. "Mary and Megan both had dogs, but they knew that Leader Dog offered O&M training as well," she said. Marisa applied for the program and was thrilled when she was approved for training.

Marisa found the training to be challenging from the start. For eight hours a day, she practiced using a cane in a wide variety of settings. Training began indoors, where she tackled one of her biggest fears: the stairs. "I was always so afraid of falling, but now I feel very comfortable using the cane on stairs," she said.

Marisa and her instructor also ventured out to a grocery store, a coffee shop and a large, crowded shopping mall. "We worked on the moving sidewalks and escalators, which are always tricky because people with RP, even if they have some sight left, have trouble with depth perception," she said.

When the training moved outdoors, she traveled to different locations that would expose her to a variety of terrains. She practiced on dirt and gravel roads, sidewalks, curbs without sidewalks and even crossed railroad tracks. At one point, she was blindfolded and had to orient herself by listening to the flow of traffic. This was particularly challenging for Marisa because in addition to being legally blind, she also suffers from moderate hearing loss. "Being able to orient myself this way will give me much more confidence traveling at night," she said. "When you have night blindness, you become like Cinderella and run home when it gets dark outside."

In the midst of her training, Marisa even had a chance to work with a guide dog for the first time. She spent an hour walking with Leader Dog-in-training Sophie and was amazed to see what a well-trained guide dog can do. "It was a great experience, and I know that when the time comes, I will definitely go back to Leader Dog to get a dog," she said.

But for now, Marisa is happy to have returned to her Texas home with her new set of skills. "I feel much more confident now because I know that I can use the cane to help me find those curbs, get around in crowds and travel with more ease at night and in low lighting," said Marisa.



Marisa is followed closely by O&M Instructor Meredith Newhouse.

Her canes have finally been liberated from the closet, the dust blown off, and she confidently takes one with her wherever she goes.

On the Web

The U.S. Department of Justice—Civil Rights Division has a document called "Commonly Asked Questions About Service Animals in Places of Business" available on their website at www.ada.gov/qasrvc.htm.

The American Foundation for the Blind has launched a Job Seeker's Toolkit on their website. This is a free resource for people who want to learn about the diversity of jobs performed by adults who are blind or visually impaired throughout the U.S. and Canada. The toolkit is a self-paced online course that allows job seekers to travel through the employment process while being guided by specific lessons. Go to www.afb.org, click on "Career Connect," then "For Job Seeker's Toolkit," or just search for "Job Seeker's Toolkit" from the home page.





From the desk of State RFB&D Chair Lion Fred Smith lionfredsmith@gmail.com



Welcome
PLEXTALK:
National Studios Sponsor
of Record-A-Thon 2011

We are gearing up to kick off RFB&D's annual volunteer Record-A-Thon from February 28th through March 5th, where we raise funds, raise awareness and try to keep the recording booths 100% full. This year we join hands with national Read Across America Day and are pleased to announce our national studios sponsor, PLEXTALK.

Help us reach more students in need by supporting the *different* ways students read and learn. Visit our easy giving site and



support Record-A-Thon's *Different Ways* to Read Across America today!

About PLEXTALK

PLEXTALK is the registered trademark of Shinano Kenshi Co.,Ltd. and a brand name covering Digital Talking Book players and recorders we design and manufacture for the print disabled including the blind and dyslexic.

PLEXTALK offering better reading environments to people with visually impairment or print disability in the world by supplying accessible digital talking book players or recorders that comply with DAISY(*) standard.



* DAISY

DAISY is the abbreviation of Digital Accessible Information System, adopted by more than 60 countries worldwide. DAISY does meet talking book reader requirements by providing access to the talking book that access and navigate from point to point within the book. For more information on DAISY, please visit http://www.daisy.org/



Judy Stamsen CCI Chair eskiemom@bellsouth.net

Skilled Companions, partners.



MeiMei Skilled Companion Yana II Kelley Atlanta, GA



Nykiah Skilled Companion Carol III Paul & Paula Savannah, GA

Enhance quality of life.

People with disabilities might have trouble reaching a light switch, picking up a dropped pencil or opening a door. Imagine having a dog that could do all of that, and more.

Our Skilled Companion Dogs are trained to work with an adult or child with a disability under the guidance of a facilitator. A facilitator is typically a parent, spouse or caregiver who handles and cares for the assistance dog, encourages a strong bond between the recipient and the Skilled Companion Dog, and is responsible for the customized training needs of the dog.

Disabilities served include but are not limited to, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, autism and Down's syndrome.





A loyal friend.

Bred to be calm and reliable, a CCI Skilled Companion is trained to perform tasks such as picking up dropped items.

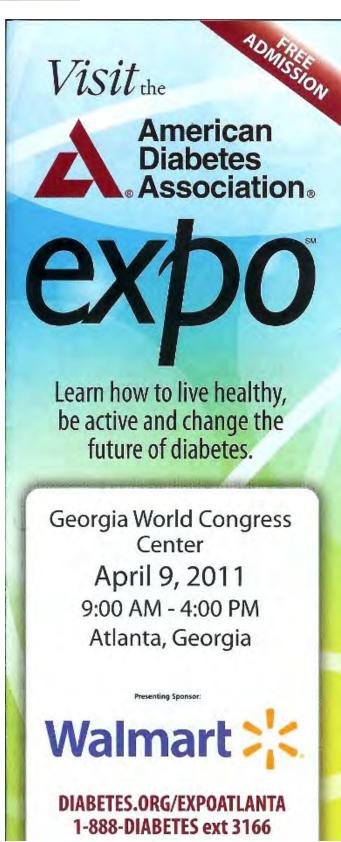
A CCI Skilled

Companion can also serve as a social bridge to people who are not used to relating with a person with disabilities.

Not only does this kind of assistance make their physical lives easier, it boosts confidence and feelings of self-sufficiency.



Lion Kathryn Higgins Diabetes Awareness Chair Klhiggins07@windstream.net





Did you know?

If present trends continue, one in three Americans born today will develop diabetes in the lifetime – one in two if African American or Latino.

Since 1987, the death rate due to diabetes has increased by 45%, while the death rates due to heart disease, stroke and cancer have declined.

Each year, diabetes kills nearly 300,000 people in the U.S. – that's more than AIDS and breast cancer combined.

Diabetes can be a devastating disease. If it's not properly managed, it can lead to amputations, kidney failure, blindness, heart disease and stroke.

Together we can Stop Diabetes, read on to learn more.

Share in the EXPO experience!

The EXPO is FREE and includes **health screenings**, **cooking demonstrations**, **product and service exhibitors and leading experts** talking about diabetes management and prevention. Get the latest information on preventing and managing diabetes and its deadly complications to help keep you and your family healthy.

Visit the American Diabetes Association Experience

Diabetes can take a devastating toll on you and your loved ones. Visit the American Diabetes Association Experience to learn how you can help Stop Diabetes. Find out what is happening locally in your community and get involved with local programs and activities to help change the future of this devastating disease.

Make Healthy Food Choices

Cooking demonstrations
Healthy food sampling
Tasty and healthful recipes

Get Active

Visit our "Active Living Area" and learn how to work fitness into your everyday life.

Fitness demonstrations Exercise tips

Free Health Screenings

While supplies last take advantage of free health screenings. EXPO offers:

A1C (measure of estimated avg. blood glucose) Hearing Screening Blood Pressure Foot Screenings Diabetes Risk Assessment Eye Screenings BMI













"Vision of Peace"
2010-11 Grand
Prize Winner
Raj Phairembam, a
11-year-old boy from
Moirang, Manipur,
India.

"Children Know Peace" Peace Poster Contest Theme Announced

For more than 20 years, the Lions International Peace Poster Contest has given young people a chance to express their visions of peace. And now, we're excited to announce the theme for our 2011-2012 Contest—"Children Know Peace." If your club would like to sponsor a contest in a local school or youth group, Peace Poster Contest Kits will go on sale on January 15, 2011 from Club Supplies.

LEO GATHERING AND CONFERENCE 25-27 March 2011

FELLOW LIONS,

THIS YEAR'S STATEWIDE LEO GATHERING IS SCHEDULED FOR March 25-27, 2011 AT OUR CAMP FOR THE BLIND IN WAYCROSS. THIS YEAR'S THEME IS "THE LEO RODEO" SO WE WILL HAVE ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND AROUND THIS THEME. AS WE HAVE DONE EACH TIME THE GATHERING HAS BEEN HELD AT THE CAMP WE ARE ALSO PLANNING TO TACKLE WORK PROJECTS ASSIGNED BY THE CAMP STAFF. THE MD18 LEO COUNCIL WILL ALSO BE MEETING DURING THE WEEKEND.

WE ARE EXPECTING 75-100 LEOS, LIONS, AND OTHER ADULTS THIS YEAR (AND, OF COURSE, HOPING FOR MORE!) FROM FRIDAY EVENING THROUGH SUNDAY MORNING. THE LEO GATHERING COMMITTEE IS PROVIDING FOUR MEALS (3 SATURDAY AND BREAKFAST SUNDAY), DRINKS, AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS. THERE ARE NUMEROUS OTHER EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH PUTTING ON AN EVENT OF THIS SCOPE AND THE TOTAL COST USUALLY

I AM RESPECTFULLY ASKING EACH CLUB AND/OR INDIVIDUAL LION TO CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO HELP FUND THIS YEAR'S LEO GATHERING. ALL MONIES WILL BE PUT IN A SPECIAL LEO GATHERING CHECKING ACCOUNT AND A DETAILED REPORT SHOWING ALL EXPENDITURES WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE COUNCIL AFTER THE GATHERING. IF THERE IS A BALANCE AFTER EXPENSES IT WILL BE CARRIED OVER FOR NEXT YEAR'S EVENT.

IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN TO A LEO GATHERING PLEASE CONSIDER COMING – WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU AND YOU'LL HAVE A GREAT TIME WITH OUR LEOS AND LIONS! LET ME KNOW AND I'LL GET THE INFORMATION AND FORMS TO YOU.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR HELPING TO PROVIDE OUR LEOS WITH A GREAT EXPERIENCE!

2010 STATE LEO GATHERING and CONVENTION

Friday, March 25

5:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Registration

Note: Members of the Gathering Committee and/or MD18 Leo Council will be at the Gazebo to assist attendees. All attendees must stay together with their group until their representative has properly checked in. Vehicles must park in the main parking lot until otherwise directed. Attendees will be responsible for their dinner Friday as the kitchen will not be open but we will try to have snacks. Sleeping arrangements will be assigned only after everyone has arrived to avoid any potential difficulties; however, every consideration is being made to give preference to the males being in the bunkhouses since the females were there last year so prepare accordingly. If arriving after 8:30 p.m. please call Steve Helwig on his cell phone (706)340-2018 for arrangements.

8:30-10:00 p.m. (Activities Building) Opening Ceremonies Introduction of MD18 Leo Council, Camp President, Director, and staff, Lions, Leo club representatives. Review of activities of MD18 Leo from last year's Gathering to present. Overview of weekend's activities and projects

Icebreaker. Group assignments and project assignments (for Sunday). Overview of MD18 Offices and procedures Leo Leadership seminar - Part 1. Breakout sessions. Icebreaker, Announcements, Adjournment

Note: MD18 Leo Council will hold pre-meeting at this time in Dining Hall

11:00 p.m.-11:30 p.m. Settle in and wind down.

11:30 p.m. Lights out!

Saturday, March 26

7:00 a.m. Wake-up bell

7:00-7:30 a.m. Final registration/Late arrivals

7:30-8:30 a.m. Breakfast Camp Staff - go over projects and assign (by group)

8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Camp Work projects

12:15-12:30 Clean-up (Proects AND us!)

12:30-1:30 p.m. Lunch (Sit by group)

1:30-3:00 p.m. Complete work projects and get ready for FUN! (Note: The MD18 Leo Council will hold their Council meeting at this time)

3:00-4:30 p.m. LEO Rodeo (Clubs)

4:30-6:00 p.m. Clean-up and Rest

6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Second Breakout sessions

6:30-7:30 p.m. Dinner (Sit by club)

7:45-9:00 p.m. Leo Leadership Seminar Part 2

Slate of Officers nominated (by Office)

Q&A for candidates (by office)

8:30-10:00 p.m. MANE EVENT Talent Night!

(Note: This year - by popular demand - we will have judges and awards!)

10:00-11:00 p.m. Campfire S'mores Other activities

11:00-11:30 p.m. Settle in and wind down.

11:30 p.m. Lights out!

Sunday, March 27

7:00 a.m. Wake-up bell

7:00 -7:30 a.m. Non-denominational sunrise service (Optional but recommended)

7:30-8:30 a.m. Breakfast (Sit by group)

8:30-9:30 a.m. Clean-up Load-up LEAVE CAMP BETTER THAN WE FOUND IT!!!

9:30-10:00 a.m. Candidate speeches (by office - limited to 2 minutes each)

10:00-11:00 a.m. Team Presentations

11:00-11:45 MD18 Leo Elections

(Note: Officers elected for 2011-2012 will be installed at the MD18 Leo Council Meeting at the State Convention in June 11:45-? Awards

Closing Ceremonies

Dismiss SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

The MD18 Leo Council and Leo Gathering/Conference committee will need volunteers for a number of things - PARTICULARLY keeping the bunkhouses, Dining Hall and Activities Building cleaned and straightened but also helping with the Leo Rodeo and other things so please let me know if you'd like to help.

Connect with Us Online

- Facebook <u>facebook.com/leoclubs</u> & <u>facebook.com/lionsclubs</u>
- Leo Zone <u>lionsclubs.org</u> click: Member Center/Planning Projects/ Youth/ Leo Zone

FOR EVERY LEO WHO HAS EVER THOUGHT ABOUT BEING A TEACHER: CHARACTERISTICS OF A GREAT TEACHER

- □ You have 25 students that accidently call you "Mama" or "Daddy" at one time or other during the school year.
- ☐ You can eat a multi-course meal in under twenty minutes or you don't eat at all because your monitoring the student who are.



Youth Exchange & Youth Camp—

Two applications from Finland students desiring a family to host them have arrived...

Another application from France is on the way. Italy has asked for four families. At the present time, there are two Lions who are considering the girls from Finland.

Solutions and Comments - I plan to run an article in the local paper with information about our Lions Youth Exchange program. If this generates interest, it will be for outgoing students to other countries. We will still have the problem of needing families for incoming students.

I have solicited the District Governors to place emphasis on this invaluable program.

* * * * * * * * * *

SERVICE LEARNING for LEOs, YOUTH, and CHILDREN (and these will help adults as well) *** Components of Service-Learning: Community Partnership—
Partnerships with community agencies are used to identify genuine needs, provide mentorship, and contribute assets toward completing a project. Both sides will give to and benefit from the project. In order for this partnership to be successful, clear guides must be implemented as to how often a student engages in service to a particular community agency. (Check back each month for the 411.)

Dates to Remember

April - Leo Awareness Month

April 15 – Suggested election date for next year's Leo club officers





Volunteer Initiatives

Throughout our 14 years teaching young Americans about the U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, Liberty Day has partnered with a number of service clubs and organizations to recruit Americans across the country to visit 5th and 6th grade classes and teach the kids about the contents of the Constitution.



The beauty of Liberty Day's Volunteer Initiatives lies in the fact that these students do not typically experience visits from outside speakers. By an attorney, elected official, service club member, or anyone else taking the time to talk to the kids, it spices things up for their learning experience and really underscores for the kids the importance of the documents they're learning about.



Here it's not just their teachers telling them about something from 230 years ago—it's someone else who cares enough to come in and engage them in the learning process. Want to open up the hearts and minds of young people to what it means to be an American? This is how you do it.



Improving Local Communities and the WorldLions Clubs Easter egg hunt

The West Linn & Riverview Lions Clubs are having their 56th annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 3rd at West Linn High School's football field. The hunt begins at 10 a.m. sharp -- you don't want to be late! This event is free for children ages 1-10. The West Linn Lions and the Riverview Lions put this on as a thank you to the community for supporting our fund-raisers all year.

LaGrange Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt

Keystone Pointe Hits a Home Run with the LaGrange Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt! Keystone Pointe Rehabilitation Center is lending a hand to the community of LaGrange Saturday, April 3rd, by donating 2,000 candy-filled Easter Eggs to the LaGrange Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt. In addition, Keystone Pointe is also donating 3 sets of Lake Erie Crushers tickets and have arranged for a special visit from Stomper, the Lake Erie Crushers mascot. Stomper, and of course the Easter Bunny, will delight and entertain the children before the hunt. Once the hunt begins, the children will scour the park for the candy-filled eggs while keeping an eye out for special Lake Erie Crushers baseballs. The baseballs, also donated by Keystone Pointe, signify that the child has won a set of the Crushers baseball game tickets to enjoy with their friends and family. The event will take place from noon to 2:00 pm with the Easter Egg Hunt at 1:30 pm. This event is open to the public and lunch will be offered for \$1.00. Come on out and join in the fun!

Greendale Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt

The annual Greendale Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 3, 2010 at Greendale High School for Greendale children, ages toddler through 8 years old. Promptly at 10:00 AM a siren will mark the beginning of the search for candy Easter eggs. Specially marked candy eggs will be redeemable for prizes. Children ages toddler through 4 will meet in front of the High School on the upper level. 5 and 6 year olds will meet at Brinkman Field I (near the High School parking lot-lower). 7 and 8 year old children will gather at Brinkman Field II (near the baseball diamond).

In case of inclement weather the hunt will be moved into the High School. The candy eggs and prizes for this free community event are provided by the Greendale Lions Club. An questions can be directed to Lion Jerry Braun, 421-4318.

LIONS OF GEORGIA **2011 MD 18 STATE CONVENTION GWINNETT COUNTY, GEORGIA** JUNE 10 - 11 - 12, 2011

HOSPITALITY BOOK AND EVENT REGISTRATION FORM

Hospi Melvin Stone

Name	Book	Jones	Night	LION	LEO	Guest	Dietary Restrictions	
Club:		District:						
Address:			City, State, Zip					
Email Address:								

Hospitality Book includes two district breakfasts and District Governors' Banquet Saturday Night. Cost of Hospitality Book \$95.00 through April 30, 2011; After April 30, 2011 Cost is \$120.00. New LIONS joining after May 31, 2011: Cost \$85.00

Hospitality Boo	oks	#	@	/each	Total Amt. \$
Melvin Jones I	_uncheon	#	@	30.00 / each	Total Amt. \$
Thursday Night w/ Internations	tone Mountain – nt June 9 th al President Sid Scruggs Show, Transportation	#	@	30.00 / each	Total Amt. \$
,			TOTAL AMOUNT DUE		\$
Check No. /Cash	Date Paid		AMO	UNT PAID	\$

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Lion Bonnie Linscott 2836 Abilene Trail Snellville, GA 30078 Telephone: 770/972-4291 (Home)

404/680-3291 (Cell)

Email: bonhome@bellsouth.net

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Atlanta Marriot Gwinnett Place 1775 Pleasant Hill Road Duluth, GA 30096

Local Telephone: 770-923-1775 Toll Free Reservations: 866-339-3132

Included is a reservation web-link for your June conference for those who prefer to make their guestroom reservations online. The below website will take you to the Marriott Reservations website with your conference dates, group code and rate already entered. The dates can then be modified to fit the individual's needs.

District Governor

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TO:

Have All Lions Received the Word?

Make A Copy of This Bulletin

So We Can All Be Heard.

