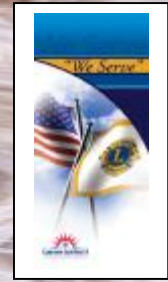




**We Serve**

# District 18-D Bulletin



MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR LIONS OF NORTHEAST GEORGIA

April 2008

Dear Lions of 18-D:

I heard that Lion Anne Mundy made it short, sweet and to the point as she ably administered the election process of our new officers for District 18-D. The new officers are: DGE Richard “Dick” Smith of the Oconee Lions Club; VDGE Grace Clower of the Snellville Lions Club; and District Librarian Lion Sam Catanzano of the Dawsonville Lions Club. We again congratulate Lion Bill Mundy on becoming a 2 year Director for the Georgia Lions Lighthouse and to his surprise, PDG Joe Hirsch appointed as a Trustee for the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind. I CONGRATULATE each and every one of you. I know that next Lions Year will be Lionrreffic.

4 May is just around the corner and everyone is invited from Lion to non-Lion; from children to grandchildren; from neighbor to a known stranger; and from District 18-D and the other Districts throughout the state. This is your day to celebrate Friendship Day and Lions Day. We shall have the pleasure of having Bennetti’s Spaghetti at the LIONFEST HAUS (or the Oktoberfest Haus) in Helen. I am planning to be there – how about you!



District Governor Ruth Payton

I would like for each of you to look in the State Directory and turn to our District and check out the Committees that are listed. If you think that you have the ability to fill one of these positions – please contact DGE Dick Smith and let him know that you are VERY interested in helping him out during his Lion Year as District Governor. I know it has been extremely hard trying to find volunteers to volunteer for an important task – but please check things out and speak up and be heard.

I am proud to hear all of the activities the Clubs within our District are doing. Each one has stepped up to the plate (if I might say) and hit a home run in providing assistance to someone special. I CONGRATULATE each and everyone for doing the best that you have been doing. I am also encouraged to see that you are trying to add new members to your clubs. This makes me extremely happy – but please – continue the increase. The more members we gain, as you know, only provides you with more help to gain more donations to help others.

Also, to get back to the LION FAMILY PICNIC, I plan to give out towels and awards to the Chairs, especially to those who might not be able to make it to the State Convention. So, if you have completed the requirements for a Golden Chain Award – make out the application and forward it to Lion Roberta Wagner and I will present your Golden Chain at the picnic. I will also repeat from last month that time is getting short and 30 June is right around the corner – if you or your club have not made your commitment to Campaign SightFirst II, please do so immediately. Our District has a goal we would like to exceed that goal.

I wish to thank each and everyone who has sent me flowers and cards. Bless you. I am thinking of each club and am encouraged on what you are doing. Keep up the great work.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

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

*Planning Ahead*



## *Fests Halle in Helen, GA*

***Come one – Come ALL***

***– bring the whole family***

***– kids, grandkids,***

***prospective members, new***

***members, etc.....***

***You've done your job now***

***let's chow down.....***

***Mark 4 May 2008 on your calendar***

**We will eat at 1:00 p.m.**

**Spaghetti by Bennettti**

**Lion Ron Bennettti graciously volunteered again to provide his famous Dawsonville treat**

**Three areas will be provided for food setup –**

**Region 1 will provide Deserts;**

**Region 2 will provide Vegetables and Salads;**

**Region 3 will provide Drinks;**

**We will not have the full agenda.**

**Pledge and invocation and awards will be presented for cabinet members after the meal.**

**4th Cabinet to start at approximately 2:00 p.m.**



**April – Did you do your Club Elections and fill out your PU-101 forms??? Clubs should receive the 2006-07 Lions Clubs Officer Reporting Form (PU-101) by mail in early April. Or, you can download a PDF of the PU-101 on line Or you can report on line.**

**May is Recycle for Sight Month**

**May is also Lions Family Month**

**June – Installation of Club Officers.**

**1 June – Helen Keller Day**

***87<sup>th</sup> State Convention***



***16-18 Mary 2008  
Marietta, Georgia***

**Friday:** Registration and Exhibits; Organizational Meetings – Lighthouse and Camp meetings; Opening Ceremony World-renowned Acoustix to be the headline entertainment for Friday's colorful opening ceremony.

**Saturday:** District Breakfasts; First Business Session; Melvin Jones Luncheon (\$25.00) WSB-TV's Monica Pearson will be the featured speaker at the annual Melvin Jones Luncheon that is open for attendees , Special Training Sessions; District Governor's Banquet.

**Sunday:** District Breakfast; Necrology Service; Second Business Session Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue will conclude the 90th birthday celebration of Lionism on Sunday morning.

Doubletree Hotel Atlanta NW – (770) 272-9441 these rooms will be released after 1 May – Book NOW.

Hospitality Book - \$85.00 2 April and on.

Check out [www.18alions.com](http://www.18alions.com)

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



## **Where in the World**

**Have you ever checked the Lions Web site – click on Lions Newswire or check out =**

- **Lions News Network** 📺
- **LQ-Lions Quarterly** 📄?

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**Peace Poster Finalists Awarded**  
[View the grand prize and 23 merit award winners for the 2007-08 Peace Poster Contest online.](#) In March Grand Prize Winner Ming Yang Soong, sponsored by the Bidor Lions Club in Malaysia, was given his award during Lions Day with the United Nations in New York City. [Learn how](#) to get involved in the 2008-09 Peace Poster Contest, with the theme “Peace Begins With Me.”  
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**April Is Leo Club Awareness Month**  
 Is your club looking for an opportunity to help the youth in its community? Consider sponsoring a [Leo club](#) during Leo Club Awareness Month. Leo clubs provide youth with an opportunity to serve their community and gain leadership skills.

Does your club already sponsor a Leo club? Show your support and celebrate with them. During April, plan to do a special service project with your Leo club or team up with other local clubs to recognize Leos for their commitment to improving their community.

We want to hear how your club celebrated Leo Club Awareness Month. [E-mail](#) your stories and pictures to Youth Programs.

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**Change to MMR Reporting**  
 Beginning in April 2008, there will be a change in the submission dates for clubs to submit their monthly membership reports (MMRs and WMMR). These reporting changes will apply both to clubs that report their membership transactions online (through the online WMMR system) and for clubs that submit paper MMRs to International Headquarters. [Read further](#) about the new process (effective April 2008) for clubs’ monthly membership reporting, including dates to submit each month’s report.  
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### **LCI & LCIF Programs on Starfish Network**

Lions Clubs International is happy to announce LCI and LCIF video programs have a regularly scheduled time on Starfish Television Network at 8:30 pm Eastern Time on Thursday nights (programs may be seen at additional times as scheduling allows). Starfish is a nonprofit organization and is providing LCI & LCIF with this television time at no cost. We encourage you to let your members, friends and family know about this programming and benefit to LCI and LCIF. To watch Starfish on a DISH 1000 system, go to channel 9408. If you do not have DISH 1000, go to [www.starfishtv.org](http://www.starfishtv.org) and select the “Watch Live Starfish TV” link.  
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**Promote Lions Clubs in Your Community**  
 Lions public service announcements (PSAs) are available to help raise awareness of Lions clubs in your community. [PSAs](#) are available online for both radio and television formats. "Get In Step with Your Community" is the newest PSA. Contact the public service or community affairs director at your local station and ask that they play a PSA. You can refer them directly to the [television](#) or [radio](#) PSAs online to download.

Dear Lions of 18-D,

We managed to not be seriously hit by last weekend's tornado, but it is obvious that the Georgia tornado season has arrived. Therefore, if your club has not taken time to do a bit of preparation, it is time to do it. Your starting point should be to open up our district web site, which is maintained by PDG Ed Hashbarger: <http://www.edmclion.com/> and then select "GA LIONS ALERT." You will find some very useful information posted, including mention of the fact that should there be tornado damage or some other type of community wide damage, the president of your club or your club's ALERT chair needs to communicate the estimated damage to me. If the damage meets what LCI refers to as level two damage, DG Ruth Payton will be able to request up to \$10,000 in funds from LCI. The latter funds will end up being distributed in your community and your club will be involved in the distribution decisions. Another source of information is to examine LCI's ALERT posting: [http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/alert\\_program.shtml](http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/alert_program.shtml).

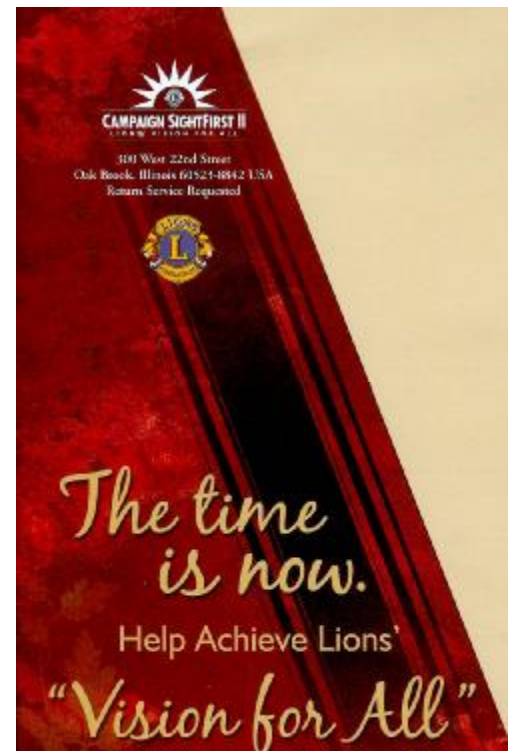
I hope that we do not have any reason to be directly involved in the ALERT program in District 18-D, but the Americas, Georgia, Lions did not want what they experienced last year. You may recall that we sent emergency items to Americas and, yes, they did qualify for a \$10,000 LCI grant.

Richard "Dick" Smith  
 18-D VDE and ALERT Chair



**Gifts of US\$1,000+ are eligible for a Melvin Jones Fellowship.  
All gifts of US\$100+ are eligible for Campaign SightFirst II recognition.**

| Total Gift | Annually   | Monthly    | Daily    |
|------------|------------|------------|----------|
| US\$10,000 | US\$2,000  | US\$166.67 | US\$5.48 |
| US\$5,000  | US\$1,000  | US\$83.33  | US\$2.74 |
| US\$2,500  | US\$833.33 | US\$69.44  | US\$2.28 |
| US\$1,000  | US\$333.33 | US\$27.78  | US\$ .91 |
| US\$500    | US\$166.67 | US\$13.89  | US\$ .46 |
| US\$400    | US\$133.33 | US\$11.11  | US\$ .37 |



*Pledges of US\$5,000+ may be fulfilled over five years.  
Pledges of US\$4,999 and below may be fulfilled over three years.*

**Why Not make your own PERSONAL contribution of \$200 or why not become a Melvin Jones Fellow - \$100.00 down and \$300.00 a year for 3 years. (Don't forget - this is TAX Deductible)**



**The next person you save from blindness could be you!**

**In developed countries...**

- 1 in 9 people 65 years or more will develop irreversible vision loss
- 3% of people 40 years or more are blind or visually impaired
- 40% of people with diabetes have at least mild signs of diabetic retinopathy
- Age-related macular degeneration is a leading cause of vision loss in people 60 years or more
- About 10% of the population 40 years or more has elevated eye pressure, a precursor to glaucoma

*Some statistics provided by the National Eye Institute.*

**So far through CSFII, Lions have provided funding for....**

- Low-vision services
- Childhood-blindness programs
- Eyeglass-recycling centers & programs
- Diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma-control programs
- Cataract surgeries
- Trachoma-control programs
- River-blindness treatments

**By raising an additional \$50 million, some of the programs that may be funded in YOUR community include:**

- \* Early training for blind children and their families
- \* Regional education centers to produce Braille and large-print materials for visually impaired children
- Major research initiatives that could help people afflicted with macular degeneration
- Vision care for people with developmental disabilities through Special Olympics' Opening Eyes Program
- Mobile-eye units to offer services in inner cities and for the working poor

*Remember, through SightFirstII - \$6 saves one person from blindness. A gift of \$180 from every Lion in the world will not only help us reach our \$200 million challenge goal, but also enable SightFirstIII to save 37 million people from blindness.*

**It takes more than hospitals, screenings and medicines to  
Save -- sight it takes Lions**



## Editor's Note



Fellow Lions:

### *Children*

**“Lionism in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century depends upon our commitment to our children of today – for today’s children will be our future Lions of tomorrow.”**

Now what do you think can happen within your community and/or District?

What have you done to get children involved within your community?

Just imagine if you were able to get children started while they were in elementary school. How do you ask – hmhhh:

Leader Dogs for the Blind has a program that combines educating children on Leader Dog and visual impairment with raising funds to "Help Send a Leader Dog to School."

They have materials to accompany the program such as posters, container labels for coin collection, certificates of generosity, etc. If you give any presentations to youth groups (schools, scouts, etc.) that participate in this program, they will forward required materials to you or directly to the group. Also in the packet are the following:

Kids N' Coins Program Speaker Packet  
Kids N' Coins Presentation Talking Points  
Presentation Hints  
Frequently Asked Questions  
(from Children)

Feedback Form  
Sample form Letters  
Coordinator Information Sheet  
Program Checklist  
Related Reading Materials  
Related Lesson Plan Sites and Fundraising Ideas  
Related Web Site List

Contact the Kids N' Coins (KNC) program coordinator Kathleen Breen at 888-777-5332 ext. 2052 or at [kbreen@leaderdog.org](mailto:kbreen@leaderdog.org) to receive a KNC Speakers Packet.

Also, if I might be of any further help - please do not hesitate in contacting me at 770-995-0405 or at [edmclionh@bellsouth.net](mailto:edmclionh@bellsouth.net) - I am only a finger away.

Now, once they graduate and go into Middle School, They might be looking for something to do – hmmm. Have we ever heard of something called a LEO CLUB. Gee, what a great idea. Also, there is something called a PEACE POSTER CONTEST that just so happens every year. They can continue to do the Kids N' Coins and also try other different ideas that will help YOUR Lions Club to generate money for needed projects. In fact, one smart idea is to raise money in order to buy 3<sup>rd</sup> graders Dictionaries. Just imagine the Middle School helping the children in Elementary School.

Guess what – now they will have graduated into High School. Hmmm – a LEO CLUB there also? Gee, will wonders never cease. Here again, we are getting young teens involved. There are so many programs that Lions have at their fingertips – it is just amazing.

This could even be carried on to something called a New Century Lions Club. A Flexible Club Format Designed for Young Adults - New Century Lions clubs give adults, age of majority through age 35, the ability to create a Lions club that fits their lifestyle and need for flexibility.

So now – what do you think? Can we start teaching our children something of the benefits of what we were taught?



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

It is up to you.....



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

## Dear Club Officers:

Unless you are an accountant or a mathematician, you may think that numbers are boring. Most people think they have better things to do than listen to someone quote a string of statistics – and if you are a Lion, you do!

But I have some numbers to share with you that I think are very exciting and I think you will, too. For the first time in many years, all measures of [recruitment](#) and [retention](#) show a positive trend. Through January 2008, LCI shows a net membership increase of 4,283, which is the best first six-month period we have experienced in many years. Most importantly, all constitutional areas and most districts are showing great improvements over historic trend.

Due to the many community service projects that are conducted in the first half of the calendar each year, membership traditionally grows by the thousands between January and June, it will be truly exciting to watch the membership total as it is documented by our new, [timely reporting system](#). With your help, I believe that we will be able to have an increase in overall membership. What an outstanding legacy that would be for our leadership year!

But achieving this goal will not be easy and it requires that you take action immediately. The next two months have traditionally been a time for club recruitment drives. I urge you to take the next two months as an opportunity to intensify your efforts to bring high quality new members into your club. By now I am sure that you realize that the projects you have identified and planned will benefit greatly from additional hands to share the work. A successful effort this month will enable your club to take part in [Worldwide Induction Day in April](#),

which in turn will be an excellent way to create even more interest within your community.

As you work to strengthen your membership, please remember that we have successes on which to build.

- The number of [women](#) and [family members](#) has reached an all-time high of 240,000, due largely to the innovative family membership program. These groups should remain a primary focus of your recruitment efforts.
- I am proud to say that more districts will be receiving awards for establishing new clubs than any time in recent memory. Through January, the number of new clubs worldwide stood at 570. Keeping in mind that the majority of [new clubs](#) are reported in between January and June, I am confident that we can establish more than 1,250 by the end of our leadership year. Nurturing the potential for new [Lions Clubs](#), [Club Branches](#), [Campus Club](#), and even [Leo Clubs](#) is an important part of contributing to our worldwide extension. The excitement surrounding the formation of new clubs can also help to energize and expand your own club.

These are wonderful numbers and clear evidence that our membership initiatives are achieving results. But even more important is what the numbers represent. They show that Lions and Lions Clubs are brimming with new confidence, eager to accomplish our mission and proud to show the world that, “We Serve.”

I am grateful for the part your leadership has played in establishing this new confidence.

Sincerely,  
Mahendra Amarasuriya  
**International President**



***“I am your opportunity.”***

Helen Keller

***“Opportunity lies within Lions.”*** Unknown



## “Boomers” Print Ad

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

**Provide Opportunities.** Keep Boomers involved by providing them with ample opportunities. Utilize their vast experiences, talents, and energy. Match them with meaningful activities through a “menu” of volunteer options that includes considerable variety in the kinds of activities that are available, the days and times when they are scheduled, and the number of hours they require. Here are samples of activities that may be of interest to them:

### Youth Activities

- Volunteering at local schools to tutor children in reading and math
- Mentoring young people to help them plan and achieve goals
- Assist with Lions vision and hearing screenings
- Accompanying youth to help with local mission projects

### Aid to the Elderly

- Deliver meals to the homebound elderly
- Provide medical assistance and equipment to impoverished residents
- Assist with elder programs at local retirement communities and hospitals
- Help to make home repairs for the elderly

### Environmental

- Paint, plant and pitch in to improve neighborhood schools, parks, and community centers
- Participate in a clean up and beautification project
- Join a recycling project
- Sponsor a tree planting day

### Missions

- Participate in Lions health care missions locally and globally
- Participate in Habitat for Humanity partnerships

### Fundraising

- Sponsor a “Boomer” sock hop
- Sponsor a midnight walk for a local charity
- Plan a “Boomer” prom night



“Change the World”

For more information, email [boomers@lionsclubs.org](mailto:boomers@lionsclubs.org)

# RETENTION

**Let's think about it.....and ask, what have I done to close the backdoor?**

**How is your Retention Program – are you keeping GOOD LIONS???**



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

Cut the Red Tape. A certain amount of policy and process are necessary to making a club run smoothly. However, their effect is precisely the opposite when they are treated not as means but as ends in themselves. The result is the waste of time and energy that comes to the minds of Boomers when they hear the word “bureaucracy.” Here are some ways to avoid a preoccupation with process:

*Keep your eyes on the prize.* Be driven by the club’s goals, using these as the touchstone by which every activity is measured. Devote your energies to activities that have a direct and visible impact on your club’s mission. Focus your priorities on what you do and why – not how.

*Run a “flat” organization.* Minimize hierarchy. Give individuals and committees a large measure of independence. Insist that their work be designed to serve the community, not the club itself.

*Run “tight” meetings.* Devote minimal time to the past (rituals, old business) and maximum time to the future (new business, volunteer activities, measurable results).

*Talk less and do more.* Keep the emphasis on action. To that end, reduce meeting time by publishing important information in your newsletter or on your website.

*More info – [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) CHECK IT OUT!*

# CLUB REPORTS



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



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

**Clarksville Lions Club** – The club's forefathers helped build Habersham Medical Center in Demorest, and to carry on with tradition the club members met with the Hospital Authority and donated \$1,000 per member ( \$33,000) for the badly needed helipad that is included in the hospital's expansion plans. Clarksville Lions are conjectured to be the only club to be 100% members of both the Ten Million Dollar Club and Tom Bingham Fellows.

**Cornelia Lions Club** - Having a yard sale at the Depot in Cornelia on April 12, and at Brenda's Home Fashions on Hwy 365 on April 19 for White Cane. Also, be celebrating their 50 Anniversary on June 4.

**Lawrenceville Lions Club** = We planning our Annual Vidalia Onion sales for the end of April. White Cane Day will be on 11 & 12 April.  
*EYEGGLASSES COLLECTED: 318*  
*CELL PHONES COLLECTED: 7*

*VOLUNTEER HOURS: MONTHLY*  
79

**Martin Lions Club** - Placing reading machines from the Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic in Stephens Co. elementary and middle schools.

## **Clermont/North Hall Lions Club** **February 2008 Activities**

February was a month of planning and preparation along with another parking event at the Georgia Mountains Center. Work continues on White Cane Day and our Nominating Committee is hard at work.

This month our building was used weekly for a meeting of volunteers undergoing Special Emergency Response Team training. These individuals are preparing themselves to assist in the community in the event of any type of emergency event. As you would expect, some of our Lions members are participating—another way to serve the community.

**Forsyth County Lions Club** = is very busy gearing up for April and May activities. April 19 will be the culmination of seven years of work toward the club's Lions Legacy project with the grand opening of the new Mondo coated Miracle League field. Festivities at Coal Mountain Park will begin at noon and former Braves pitcher, Phil Niekro, will throw the first pitch to begin the new spring ball season. A Spaghetti dinner and bake sale is planned in conjunction with a local church as well as Belk Charity Days on May 3rd, so our members will be spread out in the county. Donations are already being solicited for April 26th White Cane Day at Wal-Mart. A membership dinner is also being planned.



**Sight Services:** Collected used eyeglasses – 51; sun glasses – 5; cell Phones – 4; hearing aids – 2. Campaign SightFirst II – 6 club members continue to provide on-going donations.

**Community Service Projects:** Lion Vice President Gay Bradley has worked a total of 242 hours year to date through the month of March on the clubs scrapbook, documenting the clubs service to the community. A total of nine (9) Lions from the *Jefferson Lions Club* worked Cooperatively with members of the *Unity Masonic Lodge* on the Georgia Masonic CHIP (Child Identification Program) during the community's Easter Egg Hunt program. A total of 207 children were registered during this activity. The Jefferson Lions Club funded the cost of the materials provided each family participating in this program. This represented an outlay of approximately \$417. A total of sixty (60) man hours was worked by the nine Lions.

**Fundraising Project:** Mops & Brooms \$7.50 turned in along with \$5.00 from Gum Ball machine..

**Pancake Supper:** Club's Annual Pancake Supper: The club's *Annual Pancake Supper* was held on March 19, 2008 at the Jefferson High School. A total of thirty-six (36) Lions worked the event for a total of 184 1/2 man hours. *Interim figures* reflect a profit of approximately \$2,100.

**Ride for Sight:** Project Chairman Lion Andy Wickman distributed flyers to advertise the event which will occur on Saturday, April 19, 2008. He indicated that the ride will begin and end at *Spirit Cycles*.

**White Cane Day:** Chair Lion Alice Rosenberg indicated that the letters to area businesses were done and stamped and were located adjacent to the entry door. Alice asked the members to select five letters and add a personal note on the top of those letters.

**Jefferson Lions Club** = The *Board of Directors* met Monday March . 24th at *Chili Dawgs*. The BOD reviewed both completed and on-going and upcoming activities of the club. Approved the presentation of a plaque to Dr. Kurt Treu for his 15 years of service to the club's eye glass program, discussed the upcoming *Ride for Sight*, membership enhancement program utilizing Business Cards as invitations to prospective new members inviting them to dinner, the club's May picnic, the State Convention, and a minor restructuring of the clubs programming.

**Snellville Lions Club** = ACTIVITY REPORT February 2008 = Fund Raisers: February 9<sup>th</sup>. Club Annual Benefit Breakfast at the Snellville United Methodist Church which was very successful again this year Awards: Past President Leon Taylor received the "Year-Round Growth Award for 200-2007 banner patch from Lions International Lion Joe Roth Received membership Excellence pin from "Year Round Growth for year 2006-2007 for new members Lion Harold Walker was awarded the Quarter Century Certificate and pin fro 25 years dedicated services as a member of Lions International. **Guest:** Also attended this meeting was 9 students and 1 teacher of the Beta Club at the Brookwood High School, they do volunteer work , presented the club with 135 used eye classes they collected, and will continue to collect used eye glasses for the club.



**Service Projects:** The following items were turn in at the Lions Lighthouse this month. 289 Used Eye Glasses 53 pairs of loose lens 6 hearing aids 16 cell phones. Met the District Governors goals. Snellville Lions Club members who volunteered at the American Diabetes Association Diabetes Expo at the World Congress Center on March 8th.

**Toccoa Lions Club = Chilly Open** Sponsor money is coming in. We had an ad in the Toccoa Record.  
**Pancake Breakfast** We had an excellent response this year. Unfortunately we still have the problem of everyone coming at once and having to wait in line too long. It was decided that we need to purchase two more griddles.

**Sight Report** There is no sight report since Nick Thomas was absent.

**New Fundraiser** Mary Ann Mojica presented information on fundraising from Breck's flower bulbs. There was some discussion about how we would go about selling these. No decision was made.

**White Cane Day** April 12 is the tentative date. The Martin club usually does it with us but they have a conflict with that date. We may have to change the date.

**Eyeglass boxes** We have the new ones at Family Eye Care, Toccoa Clinic Optical, the Library, Dr. Schneider's office, Open Arms Clinic, and Kevin Vanderhoef's office.

**Sight First II** We gave \$500. They have asked for a commitment, but we have already done that.

**Junior League** We got the bill for our sponsorship. Luis Mendez is checking into taking the team to a Braves game.

**Viet Nam Traveling Memorial Wall** They want volunteers for March 27-30. The volunteers will sit at a computer, and people can come and look up a name. Someone will come to our next meeting to present the project to the club.

Dr. Irv Hellenga, PDG was recognized for fifty-five years of service in the Toccoa Lions Club at a luncheon at Gate Cottage Restaurant on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Hellenga was sponsored into the Toccoa Lions Club in 1953. During his many years in the Toccoa Lions Club Irv has held almost every office in the club and was district governor responsible for over forty Lions Clubs in northeast Georgia. He is currently assistant chaplain to the club and sits on the board of directors.



**Union County Lions Club =** Six applications for glasses & exams were approved. 22 brooms and mops sold. **WORKING LIONS** - Lion Betty Gurr, 10 hours with secretary's reports & 45 min hand delivering letters to business' for White Cane donations. Lion Ann Castle, 8 hours with treasurer reports. Lion Jean Hamburger, 2 1/2 hours sending cards & shopping for cards for Lion members & their families. Lion Mike Thompson: 11 hours with White Cane preparation; 5 hours with brooms/mops; 11 hours nominating committee; 3 hour club visit to Towns County Lions. Lion Mildred Thompson: 3 hours club visit to Towns County Lions. Lion Louise Little: 6 1/2 hours 18-D Cabinet & Convention meeting, 3 1/2 hours club visit to T.C.L., 4 1/2 hours to Clayton Lions for Tri- State event. Lion Gene Little: 3 1/2 hours club visit to T.C.L., 6 1/2 hours 18-D Cabinet & Convention meeting, 6 1/2 hours selling mower raffle tickets Lion fund raiser, 4 1/2 hours to Clayton Lions for Tri-State event. Lion Sam Weissberg: 8 hours 18-D Cabinet & Convention meeting, 6 hours selling mower raffle tickets Lion fund raiser. Lion Marilyn Chapman: 8 hours 18-D Cabinet & Convention meeting. Lion Nita Elliott: 4 hours with Lions news letter. Lion Moe Gustafson: 1 1/2 Lions news article for paper, 10 hours with Lions news letter, 3 hours with White Cane preparation. Lion Ted Gustafson: 5 hours White Cane preparation. Lion Les Myers: 2 1/2 hours investigating 6 applications for eye glasses, etc. **NON-LION COMMUNITY HOURS** - Lion Louise Little: 3 hours GA. Mtn. Health Center. Lion Betty Gurr: 2 1/4 hours with food pantry. Lion Ted Gustafson: 3 hours food pantry, 1 hour trash pick up Towns County[ this is where he resides even though member of Union County Lions]. Lion Moe Gustafson: 16 1/2 hours with Friends of Library, 1 hour & 35 minutes with food pantry. Lion Mary Arnold: 4 hours volunteer American Legion. Lion Les Myers: 8 hours Meals on Wheels, 4 hours transporting meals from Hospital to Branen Lodge. **This is how the club keeps busy = Total volunteer hours: 181. Membership Excellence Awards were also presented to Lions Jean Hamburger, Fran Kirkland and President Lisa Little.**

**West Jackson Lions Club** = West Jackson Club has had some good planning meetings and good speakers. We are working with the elderly on awareness of Olive Branch Personal Care Home and Hospice. We have developed a brochure for our club which will be used for new members. We are working heavy on trying to recruit. Have a strong possibility of two new members. We are getting ready to approach businesses for donations using the brochure and upon a substantial donation presenting the business with an appreciation plaque which one of our members designed. We may try this approach with White Cane Day. Our date for White Cane will be April 19th. We have gotten started back up on the Dictionary Project. We will be sending Jackson EMC a grant application in March. Once again THANKS to our fellow lions in Jefferson and Commerce in their distribution help. (for 2007, 1020 Dictionaries were given out to all 3rd grade students, including home-school students, in Jackson County). Actively working on a Recipe Book to sell - hope to send to printers in March. The Club also made and increased our donations to 9 foundations and organizations.

We're Waiting = have you ASKed?

**Did you submit yours?**

E-mail = [edmclionh@bellsouth.net](mailto:edmclionh@bellsouth.net) or

Go on-line = [www.edmclion.com/](http://www.edmclion.com/) or



## Time to Prepare for the New Year

**Happy New Year! For some Lions who may have been taking it slow, it is already 2008! Actually January 2008—only 3 months from club election of officers for the 2008-2009 Lions year!**

**Your club's PU-101 reporting the 2008-2009 Officers is due not later than April 15 to the District Governor and to Lions Clubs International. Club should plan to have their elections in late March or early April so that the secretary has sufficient time to submit the report. Backing up, this means that the president should be appointing the nomination committee in January, and the nominating committee then prepares the slate of active Lions in good standing for each elected office. The secretary then notifies each club member of the slate of nominees and the election date at least fourteen days before the election meeting. That means that the nominating committee must have the slate ready by the middle of March. Whew! All this comes from the LCI Guidelines to Club Elections. Who should be elected? Of course, the President. Usually this nominee is the current 1st Vice President.**





GA. Lions Lighthouse  
VP Bill Mundy  
[billmund@alltel.net](mailto:billmund@alltel.net)

Check out the new **Lighthouse Video**  
Click here to view the Lighthouse Video!

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

Fellow Lions, **GEORGIA LIONS LIGHTHOUSE UPDATE:**

**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.

**That time of year – WHITE CANE is APRIL**

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.



*"Everyone has the right to see and hear." By working together, we can give others the opportunity to see the beauty of nature or hear the song of life that we may take for granted.*

J.C. Coefield  
MD18 White Cane Chairman

Check out the Lighthouse web site for - White Cane Information Available for Download  [2008 White CanePacket \(6.7MB\)](#)



**GA. Lions Camp for the Blind**  
**VP Ken Thurmond**  
[evebank@alltel.net](mailto:evebank@alltel.net)



**Work Weekend**  
**April 25-27, 2008**

**2008 Summer Schedule**  
 Session 1: Family Camp (age 6-9) June 15-20  
 Session 2: Adults (ages 26-50+) June 22-27  
 Session 3: Pre-Teens (ages 10-13) June 29- July 4  
 Session 4: Young Adults (ages 18-25) July 6-11  
 Session 5: Teens (ages 14-17) July 13-25

"Lion Carolyn Craig is shown with the Signature Quilt she graciously created for the Camp for the Blind. Attendees to the 30th Anniversary celebration during Lions Day signed a strip of material. Carolyn used her quilting talent to sew this beautiful quilt. She presented it to the Camp at the recent meetings in Warner Robins. This piece of wonderful history will hang in the new Office. Everyone has a talent to help the Camp in their own way."



February has been a very busy month indeed. The Winter Board of Directors Meeting was and I did get elected President of our Camp and will take office on July 1, 2008. Thank you for your support during the election and for your vote. I am going to need all of your support and that of all the Lions in the State of Georgia as we move forward. I have always believed that this is Our Camp and we have a lot of work to do before Camping Season. A lot has happened since I was elected and I have been working very closely with Lion Ed and in communication with the Executive Committee on the following:

- We have accepted Kim's resignation as Director of our Camp. Kim has been taking classes towards obtaining her PhD. She is now moving on with her career. I thank Kim for her hard work and many accomplishments and I wish her and her family the very best going forward!
- First and foremost Lion Ed and I are working very closely to ensure we have a successful Camping Season.
- Lion Doy and I are starting the process of lining up a Great Lion's Day for all.
- We have hired a very qualified Maintenance Manager named Charles Lisenby on a part time basis. He is doing a fine job for us. Our new Camp Secretary's name is Lois Saunds. Call them up and make them feel welcome.
- We are currently looking for candidates for the Camp Director position. We want to take our time with that and ensure it is done correctly and that we put the best person in place.

We have one Work Weekend which is fast approaching on April 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. There is a lot of work to be done at our Camp. This Work Weekend plays a key role in getting our Camp ready for the upcoming camping season. Please take advantage of the great opportunity to meet new friends and see old friends that have the same interests as you do. I will be working both of these sessions and look forward to seeing and working with many of you there at Our Camp! I have not been invited to give a program since the middle of January. Please ask me to attend one of your meetings to share the excitement of our Camp with you. My e-mail address is [LionSpinney@aol.com](mailto:LionSpinney@aol.com) or you can call me at home (706) 592-5618 or on my cell at (706) 551-1179.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the District Convention on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March and keeping you informed about our Camp.

**Yours in Lions Service,**  
**Frank Spinney**



Leader Dog Chair PDG M.C. Stowe  
[mcstowe@alltel.net](mailto:mcstowe@alltel.net)



## Future Leader Dog Visits Toccoa Lions

Ann and Ron Bowman traveled to Toccoa from Sharpsburg, GA to share their experiences with The Leader Dogs for the Blind School. The Bowman's traveled to Rochester, Michigan four months ago to pick up Maggie when she was seven weeks old.

Maggie was breed at the school and weaned from her mother at six weeks old. She then spent a week in evaluations at the school with the veterinarians and staff to see if she would be a good candidate to be a leader dog.

Maggie will live with the Bowman's for a year at their home before they take her back to the school in Michigan. The Bowman's main objective is to teach Maggie how to socialize with people. Maggie will not be given table scraps, or soft plush toys, or balls, or Frisbees to play with. She will not be allowed to jump on people. She will be coached by the Bowman's with the same command language used at the leader dog school. Maggie wears a special vest to let people know she is in leader dog in training.

When Maggie returns to The Leader Dog for the Blind School she will spend up to three months training with the staff. She will be tested on the streets of Rochester in heavy vehicular traffic. Then if she passes all her tests she will be matched with a blind person or student.

Maggie and her person will train at the school together for twenty-six days. Then they will have a graduation ceremony at the school. The new graduates will go about a live together. The Bowman's have attended all the graduations of their puppies and meet the new person in their dog's life. The Bowman's have kept in touch with everybody who has one of their babies.

The Bowman's have raised eight dogs prior to Maggie for the school. Six of their dogs have become leader dogs. Two dogs had career changes, one is working in drug enforcement and one is a pet to a family. The Bowman's have dogs in Europe, Mexico and Michigan.

The school has over 300 dogs in training at all times. Most are Labradors, and then Golden Retrievers and German Shepherds. A blind person can obtain a leader dog from the school nearly free. The only expense is international travel and incidents while in the dormitory. The school was started by three Lions and is largely supported today by Lions Clubs throughout the nation. Visit [www.leaderdog.org](http://www.leaderdog.org)



*She is the ninth puppy that the Bowman's have raised for a career as a guide dog for blind people.*





Learning Through Listening®

From the desk of State RFB&D Chair Lion Steve Helwig [lion.swamphing@gmail.com](mailto:lion.swamphing@gmail.com)

## Welcome to Listen Up!, RFB&D's Bimonthly Electronic Newsletter for Members



In this first *Listen Up!* of 2008, we offer some helpful resources for our members who are thinking about continuing their education beyond high school and wondering how to begin their planning, what questions to ask and what resources are available to them.

**Have You Heard?** also lists opportunities, events and information of interest to RFB&D members. As always, we welcome your story input — you can e-mail any story ideas, comments or suggestions to our newsletter editorial staff at [media@rfd.org](mailto:media@rfd.org). For more information on submitting the name of a member for a profile, refer to the **Wanted: Your Success Stories** section in this and every edition of *Listen Up!*

## RFB&D's Librarian's Choice Audiobooks

### Recommended Reading and Special Collections



As a service to RFB&D members, our reference librarians prepare reading lists that they feel may be useful or enjoyable to our members, their parents, and teachers, for in-classroom or independent reading.

Each month, **Librarian's Choice** will feature a new list of recommended titles; in addition, special bibliographies may appear from time to time. These bibliographies may be pertinent to a current event, or may be a collection of books sponsored by a generous donor.

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



Lion Grace Clower  
Diabetes Awareness Chair

## Oats and Other Foods to Boost Your Health

Knowing what to eat can be confusing. Everywhere you turn, there is news about what is or isn't good for you. Some basic principles have weathered the fad diets, and have stood the test of time. Here are a few tips on making healthful food choices for you and your entire family.

- Eat lots of vegetables and fruits. Try picking from the rainbow of colors available to maximize variety. Eat non-starchy vegetables such as spinach, carrots, broccoli or green beans with meals.
- Choose whole grain foods over processed grain products. Try brown rice with your stir fry or whole wheat spaghetti with your favorite pasta sauce.
- Include dried beans (like kidney or pinto beans) and lentils into your meals.
- Include fish in your meals 2-3 times a week.
- Choose lean meats like cuts of beef and pork that end in "loin" such as pork loin and sirloin. Remove the skin from chicken and turkey.
- Choose non-fat dairy such as skim milk, non-fat yogurt and non-fat cheese.
- Choose water and calorie-free "diet" drinks instead of regular soda, fruit punch, sweet tea and other sugar-sweetened drinks.
- Choose liquid oils for cooking instead of solid fats that can be high in saturated and *trans* fats. Remember that fats are high in calories. If you're trying to lose weight, watch your portion sizes of added fats.
- Cut back on high calorie snack foods and desserts like chips, cookies, cakes, and full-fat ice cream.
- Eating too much of even healthful foods can lead to weight gain. Watch your portion sizes.

**Now the Most Important Nutritional Discovery in 25 Years = This seasoning, which you probably have in your spice cabinet right now, has a hidden power to cut blood sugar that has only been revealed in recent research.**

**CINNAMON** – As little as a half-teaspoon a day – to get the cinnamon working for you try “sticking” a stick of cinnamon in the water you boil for tea. That is all you need. To get more details about what else is so amazing about cinnamon – do some research.

Other foods of interest for better health are **OATS, GARLIC, FLAXSEED and FISH OILS**. Do more research about these items also. It is your health you and others should worry about.

**If you would like for me to present a program to your club, please contact me at [graceclower@bellsouth.net](mailto:graceclower@bellsouth.net)**



#### **Q. What is Canine Companions for Independence?**

Canine Companions for Independence is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that enhances the lives of people with disabilities by providing highly trained assistance dogs and ongoing support to ensure quality partnerships.

#### **Q. What types of assistance dogs does Canine Companions for Independence train?**

**Service Teams** - People with physical and/or developmental disabilities who work with a Canine Companion to enhance their ability to perform practical tasks such as retrieving dropped items, opening doors, and turning on and off light switches.

**Hearing Teams** - Adults who are hard of hearing or deaf who use a Canine Companion to alert them to everyday sounds such as telephones, alarm clocks, and smoke alarms.

**Skilled Companion Teams** - Adults and children with disabilities who benefit from the social, interactive, and functional commands of a Canine Companion. This type of placement increases the communication, range of motion, and interactive skills of some recipients.

**Facility Teams** - Adults who work as professional care givers, educators, or in other settings that can utilize a Canine Companion to improve the mental, physical, or emotional health of individuals, young and old, in those settings.

#### **Q. What does it cost to receive a Canine Companion?**

Canine Companions for Independence graduates pay only a \$100 Team Training registration fee that is reimbursed in supplies; there is no charge for the dog. Individual participants in our program are not responsible for any of the substantial costs involved in the lengthy process of breeding, raising, and training each Canine Companion.

#### **Q. How is Canine Companions for Independence funded?**

Canine Companions for Independence is funded by private **contributions**; gifts from businesses, civic groups, and service clubs; grants from corporations and foundations; and ongoing fundraising activities such as special events and mailings. Canine Companions for Independence receives no government funding.

#### **Q. Where does the money go?**

Canine Companions for Independence is proud that 83.5 cents of every dollar spent goes directly to program services. These services include breeding and puppy raising, canine and participant training, graduate follow up, public information and veterinary care. There is no charge to individuals or families for these services.

#### **Q. Who is eligible to apply for a Canine Companion?**

People with physical or developmental disabilities who can demonstrate that a Canine Companion will enhance their independence or their quality of life are qualified to apply. Also eligible are professionals working for organizations that provide physical or mental health care to clients who will benefit from interaction with a facility dog.

#### **Q. What is the application procedure?**

Contact the **regional center** nearest you and ask for an application information packet. This packet includes an overview of Canine Companions for Independence's team programs and an Application Request Form that you need to complete to be considered for an assistance dog. The applicant coordinator in your region will review your completed request and assist you throughout the application process.



## Peace Poster Contest

To get involved in the 2008-09 contest "Peace Begins with Me" order a kit today. Lions clubs can order Peace Poster Contest kits (one kit per contest sponsored) from Club Supplies Sales. Kits are US\$7.95 each, plus shipping and handling. Please note the deadline to purchase kits is October 1, 2008. For details and to view the winning posters, contact the Public Relations Department at International Headquarters or visit the Lions Web site:

[http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/youth\\_peace\\_poster.php3](http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/youth_peace_poster.php3).



## Leo Program News

**Leo of the Year Award** – applications for the 2008 Leo of the Year Award are due June 1, 2008 to the Youth Programs Department at International. One Leo from a Lions multiple district can be nominated or one Leo from a single district that is not part of a multiple district.

**Leo Club Excellence Awards** – applications for the 2008 Leo Club Excellence Awards are due August 15, 2008. All districts (single or sub-districts) may endorse one Leo club per district to receive the prestigious Leo Club Excellence Award patch.

Applications for both awards were mailed to district and multiple district chairpersons in February. Applications and award criteria are available on [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org), click: *Youth Programs, Leo Clubs, Awards and Recognition, Leo and Leo club awards and recipients*.

## Youth Camp and Exchange Program Update

### New and Improved Directory

The new Youth Camp and Exchange Program Directory is organized in alphabetical order by country (USA is broken down by state) and includes all reported camp and chairperson details (from submitted Annual District/Multiple District Youth Camp and Exchange Reports). The directory is updated bi-monthly and lists youth camps, and names and contact details of youth camp and exchange (YCE) chairpersons.

Youth Camp and Exchange Chairpersons are able to use the new directory in order to establish direct contact with chairpersons in other districts and multiple districts. To update or include your camp or chairperson details in the directory, please submit the Annual District/Multiple District Youth Camp and Exchange Report form (sent to all district governors and council chairpersons in July/August) to the Youth Programs Department. For more information contact [ye@lionsclubs.org](mailto:ye@lionsclubs.org).

### Youth Camp and Exchange Program Participant Application

The revised participant application (formerly "youth exchange visitor application") is available in two formats, Excel and as a PDF. The PDF can be used as in the past. The Excel version allows the form to be filled out electronically and e-mailed to youth camps and exchange chairpersons, host Lions clubs.

A European version of the application is also now available on-line, as some countries require a European version of the application. You can find all three applications on the Youth Programs Web page by clicking: *Youth Programs, Youth Camps and Exchange, Youth, participant application form*.



### 2008 World of Children Awards

The World of Children recognizes and elevates selfless individuals who make a difference in the lives of children across the globe. Each year they honor select leaders, and grant them funds to support the proven, high-impact programs they have created. Visit [www.worldofchildren.org](http://www.worldofchildren.org) for more information about the awards, past honorees, and to access the online nomination form.





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

Southeastern Guide Dogs' mission is to offer free of charge, a unique opportunity to achieve independent travel with safety and dignity to blind men and women, through the use of professionally and humanely trained guide dogs.

**Please contact Jerry Dupree, 18D SE Guide Dog District Chairman, if you'd like him to present the SE Guide Dog program at one of your future club meetings.**

**Jerry Dupree**  
[dupreek@bellsouth.net](mailto:dupreek@bellsouth.net)  
 (770)844-9121-home  
 (404)312-0723-cell



## Lions Join Coalition

Lions Clubs International has joined the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) as a sustaining member and partner to enhance the work of local communities and help youth resist alcohol and other drugs. Lions will support their mission to build stronger capacity for anti-drug efforts through the 5,000 community coalitions nationwide. Through Lions Quest, Lions can teach youth how to avoid drugs and make responsible decisions. A letter announcing the partnership was sent to the 500 other organizations in the coalition encouraging these organizations and communities to work with their local Lions club on drug-free programs. LCIF also had a booth at CADCA's annual convention this month, the largest training conference in the U.S. for community coalition activists and substance abuse professionals.

## New Giving Publication

A new publication, For Sight in Gift Planning, is available to those Lions wishing to increase their support to LCIF. It provides an overview of various donation programs, news updates and stories of those helped through Lions' contributions. The publication is available online or by contacting LCIF Development Staff.

## Milestone in Trachoma Treatments

LCIF reached a major milestone in trachoma treatments January 23 when LCIF Chairperson Jimmy Ross distributed the 10 millionth dose of azithromycin (Zithromax®) to 16-year-old Messeleche Tilahun. The antibiotic, donated by Pfizer Inc, is a main strategy in the fight against the blinding disease in poor, rural areas. Messeleche lives in the Awi Zone in Ethiopia, the most trachoma-endemic part of the country, where an estimated 18 million are at risk. Representatives from The Carter Center, Lions clubs of Ethiopia, Pfizer, the national trachoma program, government of Ethiopia, and other partner organizations joined the celebration and are a part of the coalition working toward elimination of trachoma in the region by 2012. Lions in Ethiopia have been integral to achieving remarkable results in the country. The 10 millionth dose comes after just 18 months of full scale intervention and points toward meeting the elimination target date. Through SightFirst, LCIF has awarded numerous grants for trachoma control, outreach and training projects in Ethiopia and elsewhere in Africa.



**District Governor**

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**Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer**

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**TO:**

**“We must have the courage to do what is right and the courage to change if we are to succeed.”**



**Lions of Georgia  
Doing the**



*Have All Lions  
Received the*

*Word?*

*Make A Copy of  
This Bulletin*

*So We Can All Be  
Heard.*