



# LINKING LIONS newsletter

July, 2022 Edition

DISTRICT  
**31-0** | OUTSTANDING LIONS  
*Outstanding service!*



## Governor's Message

**H**ave you ever wanted to belong to something so special that it's memorable from the very beginning? Well, I am promising you a year to remember with Lions in 2022-23.

It starts at the top. Take a moment to watch the "Outside The Box" video with International President Brian Sheehan: [www.lionsclubs.org/en/lions-video-center](http://www.lionsclubs.org/en/lions-video-center). We're coming out of the box this year on our far-reaching service projects. *Together We Can*. We're coming out of the box on our ample fundraising projects. *Together We Can*. We're coming out of the box on our outstanding membership growth. *Together We Can*.

This year we have challenges from our District 31-0 International Family. PIP Sid and Judy Scruggs are challenging us as a district to recruit 50 new members age 40 and under.

Sound impossible? Not this year! Working together, we can reach and exceed this goal to such levels that it could only be accomplished by an energized districtwide membership.

PIP Harvey and Diane Whitley are challenging our clubs to undertake even more new service projects. We'll watch your reports in MyLION and let you know how well you're doing!

These efforts will succeed because of your dedication to the spirit of Lionism. We need positive and optimistic Lions who will look at our local communities and gladly tackle the needs of that community. Offer up those new service projects. You need more hands to implement? Recruit new Lions who say "together we can" do this.

I am privileged to serve. I am honored to serve with you. Together we can accomplish much!

**Gary Greene** | 31-0 District Governor

## A message from the desk of Susan O'Brien

**O**ver the past year or so, many of us heard Past International President Sid L. Scruggs, III and others talk about their Lions "Aha Moment" – that split second when they went from being a person in a Lions club to becoming a true Lion.

Everyone's Aha Moment will be different, but the feeling is common. It's that split second of insight when your brain lights up and you have an unexpected understanding of something. Like that time when you found the hidden figure in a puzzle drawing or got the punch line of a joke.

So now I ask you to take a moment and

reflect on your experiences as a Lion, a time when you had the same type of jolt or flash of insight while serving others. Maybe, like DG Gary, it was when you piled dinner on a plate for a VIP and suddenly recognized how much trust they put into you to serve the right food and right portions. Or maybe, like me, it was while wrapping gifts for children in the cancer center and realizing each book or game might be the only bright spot in their day or week.

And for those who may be new on their Lions journey, maybe your awakening is yet to come. Just know that researchers tell us we all house spiritual truths deep

down inside of our being. Sometimes those truths are repressed or dormant, but with time and focus everyone can bring them to the surface so they can grow and inspire you.

Each flash of understanding is your opportunity to become more creative, more positive, more connected, and more awake. Embrace the power of your Aha Moment to begin living life in a whole new way – *and know what it feels like to be a true Lion!*

**Susan O'Brien**  
First Vice District Governor  
Waxhaw Lions Club



July, 2022 Edition

**UNIONVILLE LIONS CLUB**

The Unionville Lions Club recently named its Piedmont Leo Scholarship Awards. The Piedmont Leo Club was chartered in 2000 in Monroe. *Congratulations to the recipients!*

-  **Ally Nielsen**  
Donald E. Price Scholarship Award (\$1,000)
-  **Sydney Wingo**  
Jim and Rachel Walker Scholarship Award (\$800)
-  **Vincent Pope**  
Jerry and Betty Hinson Scholarship Award (\$800)



**LINUS THE LION**

Cabinet Treasurer Laraine Dupree, PDG, shared a story about Linus her Lion:



“I took this picture of the lion we bought on our trip to our first USA/Canada Forum in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in September 2001. Linus sat in our back seat on a pile of luggage and other stuff we would need for the trip; he was fully visible to anyone who passed us. He guarded our belongings in the parking lot at the Forum.

On the way home we stopped at a full service gas station in Maine where the owner’s wife brought him a plate of dog biscuits, thinking he was a live dog. His current home is on the top of a “memory” case in our living room where we see him every day!”

**DEAR LIONS DISTRICT 31-0**



On behalf of Mira Foundation USA, I would like to thank you for your donation. The volunteers, staff, and the children we serve thank you for your kind donation. Your generous gift allows us to continue our mission as the first organization to pair blind American children with guide dogs, free of charge, throughout the contiguous United States. Your gift does indeed make a difference. Again, we thank you for your support and help in succeeding with our mission.

**mira**USA

**Richard Chatham**  
Director, Mira Foundation USA



Future Leader Dogs get out there so someday they can do the same for a person blind or visually impaired. You helped with that training.

Your gift helps support future Leader Dogs like Sequoia become comfortable in everyday environments so they can confidently serve clients from across North America and your hometown. Thanks to you, your partnership with Leader Dog gives more people who are blind or visually impaired the confidence to walk out their front door and engage with the families, friends, and communities.

We invite you to read more stories of the people your gift has empowered at our website [www.leaderdog.org](http://www.leaderdog.org).

**Lion Sue Daniels**  
President & CEO, Leader Dogs for the Blind



**BRIGHTER VISIONS**



“Wow, it is the beginning of a new Lion’s year and many of you are saying, “Oh my here we go again with the give me program.”

That is true! But have you really checked out what and how these programs you have been requested to provide money and time to really affect the ones that these programs are there for? You need to check that out!

The student and family that receive a scholarship. The family that struggles to make ends meet. The person that has not been on a vacation or been able to have a break from the norm of everyday life and get to come to Camp Dogwood. The person who becomes blind and needs a cane or needs a new cane.

The results of a person finding out that they need to go to an eye doctor because of their getting checked when attending a Kid Sight event or the Mobile Screening Unit event in their community. Then finding out Lions can help them with visit to the doctor and taking care of the results of that visit.

Think about all of that and put yourself in the shoes of those folks. What would you do if you were blind or become blind?

The programs that we support with Brighter Visions Funds helps others, but we might need it one day ourselves. What would you think of people then?

**Lions PCC Dale Dupree and Gene Hassell**  
District 31-0 Co-Chairs, Brighter Visions



**LINKING  
LIONS**  
calendar



**SATURDAY  
JULY 23<sup>RD</sup>**

**DISTRICT AWARDS AND INSTALLATION**

Hosted by the Sanford Lions Club

Sanford Lions Club Fairground  
505 N 7<sup>TH</sup> Street | Sanford

- 10AM 2021-22 Awards
- 12PM Lunch \$10  
Noon (RSVP to PDG Barbara Thompson by July 16<sup>TH</sup>)
- 1PM District Installation by PIP Sid Scruggs and PID Harvey Whitley



**SATURDAY  
AUGUST 6<sup>TH</sup>**

**DISTRICT CABINET MEETINGS  
AND BRIGHTER VISIONS KICKOFF**

Hosted by McLeansville Lions Club

Mt Pleasant United Methodist Church  
5120 Burlington Road | Greensboro

- 9:30 -10AM Registration
- 10-12PM Cabinet Meetings
- 12 -1PM Lunch (Contributions accepted to cover costs)
- 1 -2PM Brighter Visions Kickoff



# QUARTERLY COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING



Lions Clubs International

All North Carolina Lions are encouraged to attend the quarterly statewide meetings of the state leadership. Learn more about the wonderful service work accomplished statewide and internationally!

NC Lions Council of Governors and North Carolina Lions Inc. Board Meeting

**August 12-14, 2022**

Camp Dogwood – The Jewel of North Carolina Lions  
7062 Camp Dogwood Drive  
Sherrills Ford, NC 28673

Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Room reservation: \$75 nightly

Friday night \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday night \_\_\_\_\_

Friday dinner – On your own

Cost

Late Registration (after 8/5/22)

Saturday breakfast – 7:30-8:30 a.m.

\$9.50 x \_\_\_\_\_

\$14.50 x \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday lunch – 12 noon

\$11.00 x \_\_\_\_\_

\$16.00 x \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Dinner – 6 p.m.

\$25.00 x \_\_\_\_\_

\$30.00 x \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday breakfast – 7:30-8:30 a.m.

\$9.50 x \_\_\_\_\_

\$14.50 x \_\_\_\_\_

Meal Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Room Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Meal payment must accompany reservation. **Meals are non-refundable.**

**Instructions:**

Make check payable to N.C. Lions Inc.

Mail to: N.C. Lions Inc., P.O. Box 39, Sherrills Ford, NC 28673

**Credit card usage:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

Card type (please circle one): MasterCard    Visa    American Express

Credit card number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

3 Digit Code \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize my credit card to be charged in the amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

For room reservations, call Michelle Annas (828) 478-2135 ext. 250.

Fax: (828) 478-4419

Email: michelle@nclionsinc.org

*\* Recommended CDC Guidelines for Covid at time of the event will be followed.*

Hospitality Room will be available Friday from 5-8 p.m. and Saturday from 2-4 p.m. with light refreshments.



## KINDNESS MATTERS SERVICE AWARD

The prestigious Kindness Matters Service Award is given annually by Lions Clubs International to a handful of Lions and Leo Clubs for performing an outstanding service project in one of our global cause areas. Nominated at the club level, the Kindness Matters Service Award is a challenge for Lions and Leos to develop exceptionally innovative and creative service projects with the aim of leaving a positive impact in their communities. [www.lionsclubs.org/en/kindness-matters-service-award](http://www.lionsclubs.org/en/kindness-matters-service-award)

To qualify for the Kindness Matters Service Award (KMSA) your club must meet the following eligibility and criteria:



### Eligibility

- Are in active status
- Reported their project(s) in MyLion
- Did not receive the award within the last three fiscal years



### Criteria

- Addresses needs within Lions International and LCIF's causes:  
Diabetes, Environment, Vision, Childhood Cancer, Hunger, Disaster Relief, Youth, Humanitarian
- Demonstrates creativity and innovation
- Achieves impact of scale and long-term sustainability
- Uses Lions International's values to shape positive experiences and create engagement and connection with the Lions brand (this is also known as "elevating the Lions brand")



### Deadlines

- August 15

Deadline for club service chairs and Leo Club presidents to submit one nomination to the District Global Service Team chair, Diane Whitley [dipcc2@aol.com](mailto:dipcc2@aol.com).

## FEEDING THE HUNGRY 2022

Lions Clubs throughout North Carolina are being encouraged to hold a service project to address local hunger issues on Saturday, September 24. Do what makes sense for your club at the local level and then report it on MyLCI!

Hunger is one of Lions Clubs International's five global causes:

- 815 million people affected by hunger in 2016: 11% of the global population
- 155 million children under age five are stunted due to chronic malnutrition
- 1/3 of annual food production is lost or wasted throughout the supply chain
- 33% of women of reproductive age suffer from anemia

*What can you do in your community to combat hunger?*

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINES



Our newsletter deadlines are the 25th of each month.  
Send your club news to [lions31newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:lions31newsletter@yahoo.com).  
Please be sure to identify people in photographs.



### LIONS SPOTTED AT WHITE OAK MANOR IN WAXHAW

Earlier this year, with cold weather hindering the Waxhaw Lions Club from doing much outdoors, they turned their attention to the seniors at White Oak Manor in Waxhaw.

The idea started as a card-writing campaign for sending inspirational and uplifting messages to the residents. But in February it expanded to include small gift bags - first for Valentines and then for Springtime goodies. Lions are embracing each simple act of saying hello and bringing a smile, knowing it can do wonders for someone having an off-day or feeling lonely.

Members participating in these ad hoc projects enjoy their moment of reflection while composing a note almost as much as the club camaraderie while putting together the gift bags. Jackie Emerman, the Life Enrichment Director at the Manor, says the White Oak Manor residents love the unexpected treats and expressed her appreciation to the Waxhaw Lions.

If you would like to learn more about the Waxhaw Lions Club and their random acts of kindness, please visit our website at [www.waxhawlionclub.org](http://www.waxhawlionclub.org).

**Jordan Richardson**  
Waxhaw Lions Club Publicity Chair

### KIDSIGHT SCREENINGS BY WAXHAM LIONS CLUB

The Waxhaw Lions Club has been screening children for vision problems since 2018. Our vision screening program, called KidSight™ is for children ages 2 – 8 years old.

Trained volunteers are ready to schedule appointments at local preschools and grammar schools in North Carolina, and even travel across the state line to schools in SC. The portable KidSight equipment screens for anisometropia, astigmatism, hyperopia, myopia, corneal reflexes, and anisocoria.

Recently, our Lions have been promoting early awareness of color blindness. We can connect children with a new lens company that offers corrective color blindness technology which will change their visual perspectives.

**Jordan Richardson**  
Waxhaw Lions Club Publicity Chair

### GUILFORD COUNTY WOMEN CYBER CLUB PROJECTS

Service projects for the Guilford County Women Cyber Club include working a lot with local elementary schools. We provided an ice cream party for the class that collected the most food during their food drive at Madison Elementary School.

The Jefferson Elementary School Beta Club is always volunteering to help with our club events, so when we heard they finished second in the whole state for ALL schools, in volunteer hours, we gave them a pizza party!

We donated gift cards to a family who lost their home in a fire and are still collecting clothing for the family. We worked with our zone on a food drive and vision screening, donated mosquito spray, flashlights, can openers and body wipes to our homeless community, donated money toward the cost of the mobile screening unit coming to our zone event, and started a new project called Lions Love to Read.

We will be contacting local day care centers and our Lions will be bringing books for the children to take home as well as reading a book to the children. Our first reading was done this week with more readings already scheduled throughout the summer.

**PDG Susie Dailey**

### ROCKINGHAM LIONS SERVICE PROJECTS

The Rockingham Lions Club donated a box of assorted snacks to accompany the VIP group from Richmond and Scotland counties who have been sponsored to attend summer camp at Camp Dogwood. They also prepared food for the Place of Grace in Rockingham to help feed homeless and troubled individuals.

The club collected 277 pairs of eyeglasses, 9 empty ink cartridges, and 2 sets of hearing aids.

**Trudy Watkins**  
Rockingham Lions Secretary



**OXFORD LIONS SERVICE**

Congratulations to the Oxford Lions Club for an outstanding year of service. Their service activities included buying eyeglasses for VIPs, collecting canned goods, collecting school supplies, donating \$100 to Credle School, donating \$500 to a local person's ramp, preparing bags of treats for students who have a diabetic emergency at school, presenting 80 Amazon gift cards for teachers, preparing and delivering fruit baskets to 30 VIPs at Christmas, and collecting eyeglasses for recycling.

**PDG Dr. John Owens**  
[Oxford Lions Club](#)

**VASS LIONS SPOT VISION SCREENER**

The Vass Lions Club purchased a Spot Vision Screener for the purpose of screening students in Moore County. We will begin with second and fourth graders in September and our hope is to screen other ages when those two grades are completed in October.

- It will affect 1300-2600 children in the 2022-2023 school year.
- All Moore County School nurses have approved this.

District 31 provided a grant for some of the funds (\$1,937) while the Vass Lions provided the rest from our annual budget. We currently have 24 volunteers from the Vass, North Moore and Aberdeen Lions Clubs to administer the tests in schools.

All data and HIPAA information will be handled by the school nurses. The only additional action required by the Vass Lions is whether eye exam or eyeglass referrals require Lions funding. The Vass Lions Spot Vision committee is busy working through the processes of certification, training and scheduling for the upcoming school year.

**Tony Cianchetta**  
[Vass Lions Club](#)

**VASS LIONS RAG TIME SERVICE PROJECTS**



**2022-06-28 Strawberry Gleaning RAG Time**

The Vass Lions conducted their initial Gleaning project at the Karefree Farm in Carthage. On short notice four Vass Lion volunteers showed up and managed to pick 82 pounds of strawberries in about two hours. In addition to this, Karefree Farm also donated another 35 pounds of melons to the cause.

The event was planned by Tricia Lounsberry of the Society of St. Andrews out of Fayetteville. All the fruit was donated to the Vass Food Pantry at the First Baptist Church of Vass.

**Tony Cianchetta**  
[Vass Lions Club](#)



**2022-06 Veterans Coat Drive RAG Time**

In June the Vass Lions conducted a month-long Veterans Coat drive in Moore County. In addition to coats, other clothing was collected and donated to the Veterans Empowering Veterans organization in Fayetteville whose mission is to:

“To create a community for homeless veterans as well as all veterans, assisting them to successfully transition back into civilian society through job training and self-empowerment skills.”

After running this RAG Time project for 1 month 121 jackets/sweaters, 31 pants/shorts, 26 belts/hats/socks were delivered to the organization.



**VASS LIONS RAG TIME SERVICE PROJECTS**

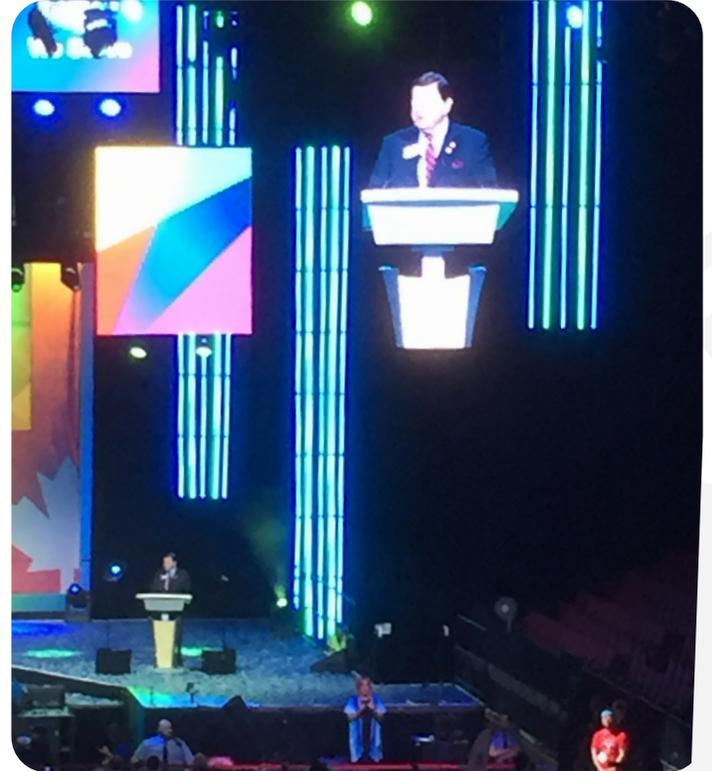


**2022-07-02 Corn Gleaning RAG Time**

On July 2nd the Vass Lions conducted their 2nd Gleaning RAG Time at the White Hill farms in Carthage. Although it was a holiday weekend 14 Vass Lions, family members & friends showed up to pick corn.

In about 45 minutes the total fresh corn accumulated was *1,303 pounds!*

The event was planned by Tricia Lounsberry of the Society of St. Andrews out of Fayetteville. All the corn was donated to the Vass Food Pantry at the First Baptist Church of Vass.



Past International President Sid Scruggs of the Vass Lions Club served as Elections Chair at the Lions Clubs International Convention in Montréal, giving his report to the convention delegates.

**LION LEGACY**



Lion Davis Clark (left), immediate past president of the Aberdeen Lions Club, presents the coveted Melvin Jones Fellowship from the Lions Clubs International Foundation to Club President Eric Braun at the club's July meeting. Lion Davis received the award in 2021.