Greetings to all of you as our second quarter begins. No one can say it has been boring around 31-0! After a hugely successful FIGHT HUNGER event, Florence devastated the eastern part of our beautiful state the following week. The work began and continues.

Our Zone Chairs were called into action and reported on areas in 31-0 that needed help. Thanks to an initial $10,000 Emergency Disaster Relief Grant from LCIF, Lions of 31-0 were serving those in need. Initially, the McLeansville and Gibsonville areas collected supplies that were taken to Smithfield to help Districts 31-N and S….that was a day or two before Florence decided to stay. Lions of 31-0, especially Zone Chairs Neal Watkins, Becky Landon, Eric Braun and David Kennedy, Lions Melissa Ewing, Trudy Watkins, and PCC Ron Kelly were instrumental in making contacts for us. We provided meals, food, hygiene supplies, and baby supplies for hundreds in Richmond and Anson counties. We assisted families in a shelter in Greensboro, who were forced to evacuate their homes. The cleanup continues as families move back into their homes. Our Lions are supplying cleaning buckets for many. We worked with many local organizations, serving and proud to be Lions.

LCIF awarded North Carolina a $100,000 Catastrophic Disaster Grant and a task force was named to distribute funds. Our Council Chair PDG Terry Cauble is the grant administrator and we are thankful for all who serve on this committee.

One of our own clubs, the Moncure Lions Club sustained over $25,000 worth of flood damage to their Lion hut. Clubs and Lions in our District sent donations to help them, and our District also sent a donation from our disaster relief fund. A donation was also sent from our district to Boys and Girls Home to help with damage and needs.

Whew….so much happening!! But when we work together, we make things happen.

Just a few reminders…..our next Cabinet meeting is November 4, 2:00 pm at Mt Pleasant United Methodist Church in Greensboro. Our Mid Winter Convention Team is pulling everything together and a meeting is coming up shortly. Once again, we are looking for sponsors and donations. Remember to complete your posters for our HALL OF SERVICE at the convention. We will also be having a Brighter Vision Boutique, Zone baskets and lots of surprises. None of our goals and ambitions are complete without your help….please don’t be the missing part of our puzzle!!

Thank you for all your service, kindness and friendship.

As always…..I am so proud of you all and humbled to be your District Governor.

DG Susie

IF YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW ABOUT “CHANGING LIVES WITH KINDNESS”, ASK 1ST VDG PAUL SILVERMAN. HE HAS AN INCREDIBLE STORY TO SHARE!
A Conversation with Sid (continued)

“Lions, Leos, and Lessons Learned” by Rebekah King Sykes

From the available life ready to serve, many unforgettable stories flow. Yes, those glasses really do get recycled and change lives! From the local drop boxes, the glasses are sent to Camp Dogwood, then onto a cleaning and calibrating place in Virginia; from there, the glasses are sent all over the world. Sid tells of being in Mexico wherein they distributed 1,500 pair in 4 days. “When you see a person who can’t see and all of a sudden they put on a pair of glasses, it’s unbelievable!”

In Mexico, the Mayor came up and said he wanted the fanciest pair of glasses we had. “Okay.” He asked for ones with rhinestones or pink. He said the men needed glasses, but if they got ones that looked like women's glasses, then they wouldn’t wear them. He wanted to show them that he would wear a pair of glasses that belonged to a woman.”

When a short heavy-set grandmother with a long braid down her back came for help, the team gave her a pair of glasses. She couldn’t speak English, but she kept saying “Gracias.” Sid remembers, “The first thing she did after she put the glasses on, was she pulled out her prayer book and pulled out a picture. It was the first time she had seen her grandchildren.”

“We had a woman bring in her son whom she thought was autistic; he wouldn’t talk or do anything. Upon receiving a new pair of glasses, he put them on and then asked if he could go outside and play. His other glasses had been scratched so badly, almost like with a nail, that he couldn’t see through them. He thought his mother was punishing him because she made him put on his glasses every day, but he simply couldn’t see! When you see a simple pair of glasses change a life—it’s amazing!”

Understanding that diabetes is one of the largest contributors to blindness, the Lions are beginning to work with diabetes’ awareness. Sid explains, “For many years, we’ve provided dialysis machines and education, but now we’re involved with DAPS: Diabetes Awareness Peer Support Group in NC. Statistically, almost 50% of the population today is not even aware that they have some form of diabetes.”

From the local Club to serving as an International President, Sid has seen all dimensions of the Lions. From their headquarters in Oakbrook, Illinois, around 300 full time staff manage a $68 million organization. Sid remembers, “The year I was President, Judy and I were only home 40 days out of the entire year as we visited 70 countries meeting the heads of state. I had a private meeting with the Pope along with meeting kings, queens, and sultans to thank the government for their support.

Influencing the world as a Lion holds great opportunity; however, being a Lion influences the giver just as much, if not more, than the receiver. Pondering the impact, Sid tells, “When you’re working with people, you have an opportunity to see how much you have received and how much is required of you as a good steward. Billy Graham reminded, “God has given us two hands, one to receive with and the other to give with,” And I think that’s really what it’s all about. It’s a lifestyle. It’s not what I got, but how I can help someone.”

As for the locals, if you have a heart for service, then there is a need. Through the local and international organization, the Lions can channel your efforts and multiply the results. Visit a local Lions Club and see what’s happening!

With so many ways to get involved from donating used eye glasses, to donating time and money, check out the local Lions Club in your neighborhood whose motto simply remains, “We Serve.” Changing lives forever, the Lions embody their mission and become “Loving Individuals Offering Needed Services.”

The final segment will be in next month’s edition...November
Fellow Lions,

We have had a difficult weather month in our country, our state and our individual communities. Many of us have been fortunate to escape the full fury of these two killer hurricanes, but many have had their lives permanently altered. LCIF and the Lions of North Carolina have stepped up with financial and material grants and donations that have allowed us to help alleviate some of the pain of lives disrupted in the most severely affected areas in the Piedmont, Sandhills and Coastal regions of our state. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to help expedite a donation of a friend, not a Lion, but someone who wanted to help by donating a vehicle, but he did not know how to make sure that it went to someone in need with no strings attached. I told him about Lion’s efforts in disaster relief and told him that we had boots on the ground in all the areas that had been affected. He gave me the go ahead to try and find a family in need. I made a call to Governor Susie and she made a call and I was given the contact information of Lion Robert Block in the New Bern club who is heading up their disaster relief efforts. We exchanged a few calls and in the span of five days my conversation with my friend Gary culminated in delivery of the mini van to the Lions of New Bern who surprised the recipient, a single mom with two young daughters who had lost everything in the flooding of the Neuse river, three days later on Friday October 12. Lion Bob told me that this was going to be life changing for this family.
I have recently returned from Columbus, Ohio and the 2018 USA/Canada Lion’s Leadership Forum. Over 1900 Lions from all over the US and Canada were in attendance. I wish everyone who is or wants to be in a leadership role in their clubs could be motivated to attend a Forum. While both the International Convention and the Forum are great opportunities to learn more about Lions, the training opportunities at a Forum are substantially greater. The Forum provided over 80 different seminars of which a participant could go to ten over the three days of the Forum. Amazingly, the next two Forums are being chaired by Lions from North Carolina. Next year’s event in Spokane Washington is being led by Lion Paul Bledsoe and the 2020 Forum in Louisville, Kentucky is headed up by PID Harvey Whitley. I know both of these Lions would be thrilled for District 31-O to be well represented at these events. One of the touching moments of this year’s forum was a collection taken up from the attendees for NC disaster relief at which over $7,000 was given. In addition, it was announced that LCIF approved a $100,000 grant for hurricane relief in NC. It is great to be part of an organization that cares.

Unfortunately, events in NC with a lady named Florence prevented DG Susie from attending this year’s forum. It goes to show, however, what a tremendous heart of service our District Governor has. She stayed in the district, completing the paperwork for and securing an emergency grant, and began the process of determining where funds should be allocated. She is a “hands-on” governor and is a great example for those who will follow her. If your area was affected, be sure Susie knows the need and the district will try to assist. Don’t just ask for money, however. Look for opportunities to serve. Where can you help? What organizations can you partner with to serve your community?

Did you know that since 1983 Lion’s across the United States have been decreasing in numbers each year? That can be changed and Lions leaders are working had to reverse that trend. As of mid-September, there are MORE Lions in the United States than there were on June 30, 2018. What can your club do to sustain this growth? Can you add at least one member for the year? Will you set that as a minimum goal for the year? Let’s do our part and invite guests to our meetings. It is a great time to be a Lion!
The 4th Annual District 31-O
Mid-Winter Convention
January 25-26, 2019
Greensboro High Point Marriott
Greensboro, NC

International Guests:
International Director A. Geoffrey Wade
PDG Debbie Cantrell

Hall of Service
Friday Fun Night
Tail Twisters’ Breakfast
“New Voices” Seminar
Exhibits
Brighter Visions Boutique
Raffles
3rd District Cabinet Meeting
Club Banners Parade
Service of Remembrance
Friday – January 25
Family Fun Night (Food and Entertainment) …………………………………………………………… 6:30PM - 9:00PM
Saturday - January 26
Tail Twisters Breakfast (meal served from 8:00AM - 8:45AM) …………………… 8:00AM/Entertainment to Follow
Hospitality Room Open for lunch
Seminars, Delegate Certification. District Cabinet Meeting…………………………………………… Times to be announced

International Guest PDG Debbie Cantrell will present “New Voices” program

GSO-HP Marriott Airport  Lions Room Rate: Make check for meals payable to:
One Marriott Drive  $105.00 plus tax NC Lions District 31-O
Greensboro, NC Rooms and Lions Room Rate will be available until Make check with bottom portion of this form to:
December 27th.  PDG Laraine Dupree
Make room reservations directly with the hotel: P.O. Box 485
Call (336-852-6450 or 800-228-9020) and ask for Wingate, NC 28174
NC Lions 31-O Mid-Winter Convention. Do Not Mail after January 15, 2019
Reservation link to make online reservations:

Return this part of the form with your check – Copy as needed
Club: _______________________________ District: ____________

Names: (PRINT first and last names & circle title and honors that apply)

Food Allergies:
Contact phone number or email____________________________ ____________________________
________________________
Function
Meals Number Attending
___________________________________________________________
By 12/15/18 After 12/15/18
Family Fun Night $20.00 $25.00 x ______ = $________
Tail Twisters Breakfast $15.00 $20.00 x ______ = $________
District Banquet $28.00 $33.00 x ______ = $________
Total Cost $_____________

Reminder: Please Select Banquet Meal Preference and Specific Food Allergies Above.
No meals can be guaranteed with on-site registration at convention.
The Troy Lions Club met on October 3 for their regular meeting and recognized members for their years of service. Three of our members have over 165 years collectively in the club. Lion Joe Huntley, Jr. has 57 years of service. Lions James Hurley and James Spivey have 54 years of service each. Lions Hazel Spivey, Jim Ray, Steve Hair and Ruth Hair have 15 years of service. The Troy Lions Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month.
Uwharrie Mountains Pickleball Tournament
Saturday, October 20, 2018
9:00 AM  5:00 PM
Age Group Doubles Tournament

3 Age Categories:  U50, 51-69, 70U

3 Doubles Formats:  Men’s, Women’s, Mixed Doubles.  You can play down in any age category.

Entry Fee: $35 + $10 for 2nd Event, + $5 for 3rd Event

Where: Stanback Park Mt. Gilead. (6 Outdoor Courts)

Rain Date: October 21st

For more information, contact John: John07865@hotmail.com or text 704-787-2014
The North Carolina Lions is sponsoring the Celebrate Liberty Essay Contest, with the state winner receiving a $250 cash prize and an expense paid trip to attend the 2019 N.C. Lions State Convention in Greensboro, where they will be invited to read their winning essay to our membership during the general business session.

The contest is open to high school juniors enrolled in a North Carolina public, private, or charter school. Essays must be no longer than 750 words and sponsored by a local Lions Club in each district. Judging should be done on the club and district level before one entry being submitted to the state Celebrate Liberty chairman for final judging. The deadline to submit an entry to the state chairman is Feb. 10th, 2019. Therefore District contests must be completed prior to that deadline.

Students should base their essay on this John Adams quote:

“A Constitution founded on these principles introduces knowledge among the people, and inspires them with a conscious dignity becoming freemen; a general emulation takes place, which causes good humor, sociability, good manners, good morals to be general. That elevation of sentiment inspired by such a government makes the common people brave and enterprising. That ambition which is inspired by it makes them sober, industrious and frugal.”

John Adams was one of the Founding Fathers of the United States, and the second President.

For more information about the Celebrate Liberty Essay Contest, or to obtain a copy of the contest brochure, contact your District’s Chairperson.

Barbara Beltran
Celebrate Liberty State Chair
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dearest Lions of 31-O:

Once again we are hosting the State Convention. Anyone interested in being a part please let me know. There are committees, jobs and positions for everyone. Meeting date will be scheduled after the new Lion’s year starts. The need for individuals is GREAT!!! Please call me at 336-498-1117 (home number) or email me at PDGTG31-O@gmail.com.

PDG Lion Terrie Grooms

need to get information out to district O lions???
put it in the newsletter! contact:
Lion Jennifer Clapp
resume@brginc.com or
call (336) 697-9770.

get involved!

remember…
“ark”...
“random acts of kindness”. just one small one a day… it makes a difference for someone!
DISTRICT GOVERNOR TEAM
CLUB VISITATION SCHEDULE

October 18    Vass Lions Club    DG Susie Dailey
October 18    Troy Lions Club    2nd VDG Paul Marth
October 20-24 VIP FISHING TOURNAMENT
October 25    Coleridge Lions Club    DG Susie Dailey
November 5    Greensboro Host Lions Club    DG Susie Dailey
November 8    West Stanley Lions Club    DG Susie Dailey
November 12   Wingate Lions Club    DG Susie Dailey

What’s Happening in the “O” Zone
Moncure Lions Club is located in an old general store building situated next to the Deep River. We experienced about 4 feet of flooding within the club as a result of Hurricane Florence. We have been assessing damage and doing cleanup this past week. We are ready to start major repairs to the building and need help from our fellow Lions in District 31o. We have setup a gofundme page to help cover repair cost. We currently estimate our repair cost to be about $25,000. We are also hosting two workdays on upcoming Saturdays. If you would like to help monetarily our gofundme page can be found here

https://www.gofundme.com/manage-moncure-lions-club-flood-fund

We are hoping to get the Club kitchen back up and running as soon as possible to host community fundraisers.
Pancake Breakfast

Sponsored By: Liberty Lions Club

Date: Saturday, October 27, 2018
Time: 7:00 – 10:00 AM

Place: Liberty American Legion Post 81
604 S. Greensboro St, Liberty, NC

Cost: $7 – Eat-In or Take-Out
Children Under 5 Eat Free

Pancakes, Eggs, Bacon, Neese’s Country Sausage,
4th District 31L Fall Convention
New Horizons in Service
Clarion Inn, Airport Road, Asheville, NC
November 16 - 17, 2018

Fall Convention registration and/or meal

Club ________________________________ District ____________

Name(s) (Print first and last names & circle title and honors that apply)

1. __________________________
   PIP ID PID DG PCC PDG 1st VDG 2nd VDG Lion Guest MJF JSF WLW BOH HOF

2. __________________________
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3. __________________________
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Make check for meals payable to 2018 District L Fall Convention

Registration deadline November 12, 2018. You need to fill out and send registration form if you are going to attend to receive a book and goodies.

Mail check and registration form to: William Barnwell
222 Beehive Rd
Hendersonville, NC 28792-5666

Hotel Room and Deadline

For hotel room contact: Clarion Inn
550 Airport Rd
Fletcher, NC 28732
828-684-1213

Room rates:
- NK1 - King Bed $89.00 + taxes
- QQ - Queens $94.00 + taxes

Convention room rates are good only until October 15, 2018

Room reservations must be made with the Inn.

No registration will be completed without check attached.
October 20th, 2018 12:00-6:00pm

The Tournament/Dinner will be held at the Lions Building, behind the Elementary School in Candor. Two person Cornhole teams will use standard Cornhole contest rules, which will be posted at the event.

$20.00 per 2 person team entry fee for the Cornhole Tourney

All Donations accepted for Spaghetti Dinner
On Wednesday, October 3rd, three members of the West Stanly Lions went to Camp Dogwood to help sort eye glasses for shipment to Indiana.

Lions Wayne Polk, Phyllis Smith and I spent most of the day there along with about 35 other volunteers. The 5 Lions at Phyllis and my table "touched" 4132 pairs of glasses. At Wayne’s table which had more people, they "touched" 9200 pairs. It was a great day….and very tiring! Even with all that was done, they still had boxes and boxes left to sort through. See pictures below!

We had no idea that the 63 glasses and 9 ink cartridges we took with us from the Locust/Stanfield community would be just the tip of the iceberg as they say. A job well done by Tammy Thomas and all the Lions in attendance!

This was a rewarding experience and I would recommend it for a club project they next time they schedule this activity.

Frances Almond
Zone 2 Chairperson
What can 100’s of Lions across our District and the State accomplish in one day?

WE – the Lions of District 31-O, collected food, made contributions, provided groceries, collected for Backpack programs, contributed to homeless shelters, donated to local food pantries…..the list goes on and on as Lions SERVED!

I want to say THANK YOU to all the Lions who served on September 8th and other days during September. Your time and efforts will definitely make an impact on the food insecurity in our District.

So…….as your Global District Chair I have a favor to ask!

Keep collecting food, making contributions, providing groceries, collecting for Backpack programs, contributing to homeless shelters, donating to local food pantries – whatever your club can do monthly to assist the hunger needs in your community – because hunger is real.

It’s real to the family trying to provide food for their children…….it’s real to the elderly who can’t get out to get food…….it’s real to the single Mom or Dad who struggle…….HUNGER IS REAL!

THANK YOU again for your commitment to SERVE your District but most of all YOUR community!

Barbara Thompson
District 31-O Global Service Chair
Richmond Senior High School JROTC helped our members place 52 American flags along-side Hwy 74 East in Rockingham for Labor Day and Patriot Day.

Members voted to contribute $400.00 to help with transportation expenses to the VIP Fishing Tournament and bought a Golfball Drop ticket.

DG Susie Dailey visited the Rockingham Lions on Sept.10th. We completed our collection of over 100 pounds of canned goods for Our Daily Bread as a part of the Lions' effort to FIGHT HUNGER.

DG Susie Dailey returned following Hurricane Florence to search for areas of need in District O. She brought food, toiletries, baby items for local collection agencies with funds donated by Lions International. Receiving the items were Place of Grace, Our Daily Bread, the Richmond County Site for Disaster Food and Nutrients, and the Pee Dee Pregnancy Resource Center, all in the Rockingham area. Recipients were so grateful for the assistance.

Rockingham Lions held a successful annual fall Pork BBQ Plate Sale on Thursday, September 27th.

Two new members joined our club on September 10th: Gary and Janet Weyant. We now are 19 members strong.

Practice fields in our Lions' Community Park are being used by soccer, softball, and baseball teams. ⚽️ ⚼️

Lion Trudy D. Watkins
From PDG Howard Wallace
GMT Chairman

Many Clubs in attendance and talking about their community involvement.

My plan is to visit each of the Zones during this Lions year -- not to give a speech, but rather to understand what is being done by the respective Clubs and how the District can assist.

It's encouraged that members 'just ask' prospective members, advertise by wearing Lions emblems, use local TV stations, radios, newspapers, participate in local events (of course advertise), and get involved in local High Schools.

Please let me know when you are planning a new member's induction and it'd be great to have a picture and information regarding the new Lion for publication in our Newsletter.

From David Kennedy
Zone 5 Chair

Farmer Lions is hosting a fishing tournament 10-20-2018 and also raffling a Remington 1100 12GA shotgun.

Liberty Lions is hosting Pancake breakfast on 10-27-2018.

Coleridge Lions is raffling a Remington 1100 410GA shotgun.

LET IT BE KNOWN THAT YOU ARE A LION!
The Oak Ridge Lions have been extra busy this fall. We have several events happening right through December. This Saturday (29th), we participated in the Oak Ridge Heritage Day festival. We try to have a presence at everything the town does as public events. We have had business cards printed up, as well as brochures about the club. We hand them out at these events, and sell brooms as well. We even have a few games that we bring, designed mostly for kids. As the kids play the games, it gives us a chance to speak to the parents about what Lions do.

Anyway, the two pictures attached are from the Oak Ridge Heritage Day festival. I was honored by the festival committee when asked to sing the National Anthem, as the Oak Ridge Military Academy color guard presented the colors at the opening ceremony. Our booth was manned by other members of our club, which allowed me some time to bring an entry for the pie baking contest being held that morning. Your Oak Ridge Lions Club President took first place in the pie baking contest, giving the club some additional exposure at the event and in the local paper.

The other image is one of the games we use all year to attract people to our booth. As you can see by the look on their faces, they are having a good time. We had players that ranged in age from toddlers, to a battle between two seniors who were well into their 80's!

- Upcoming events include The Great Pumpkin event on October 27th,
- Running a hot dog booth at the local Persimmon Festival in Colfax, NC (11/03)
- Diabetes Awareness Day event being held on (11/10) where we will be featuring "Walk with a Doc" who will talk about Diabetes while leading a short hike through Cascades Preserve in Oak Ridge.
- Delivering holiday food to "shut-ins" for Thanksgiving, our annual nursing home visit with snacks, stocking stuffers and holiday songs in December.
- The great luminary event in our town park, also in December.

We wrap up our year with our annual holiday party to thank all members and supporter guests for their efforts this year.

We are a very small club, that some how finds the time to do an incredible amount of activities for our community. We love being out there!

Regards,

Lion Danny Yanusz
CAMP DOGWOOD WALK-THROUGH

On September 10", State Volunteer Chair Lion Robert Carroll and Properties Co-Chair Lion Jim Chandler joined Lion Tammy Thomas, Properties Manager, for inspection of the camp in preparation for the Spring Clean-up Week. The usual problems were found plus a few new things that Tammy pointed out. The following is the preliminary list and additional information will be provided later in the Lionistic year.

Duplex—update furniture and remodel bathrooms
Build platform/deck beside shelter for grills
Erect shelter over outside patio between lodge and water
Erect fence between Lineberger and lodge Clean gutters and unstop down drains
Repair ceiling in Udovich Pressure washing (this was not done last year)

Painting

One major project being considered is the removal of trees from the camp that are in danger of falling on the buildings. This precautionary job will be contracted to an outside company as it will require cutting all limbs on the trees near the buildings up to 30 feet high and removal of all trash and debris.

Once the work list is finalized, it will be sent to all the District Governors, District Property Chairs and District Volunteer Chairs.

Submitted by Properties Co-Chair Jim Chandler
“Our jaws dropped when we saw how much food was collected”. This was the reaction Reverend Brad Cunningham and the volunteers at the Common Cupboard had when they saw the boxes of food collected by the Waxhaw Lions Club on Saturday, September 8. Side by side, the boxes covered five fellowship tables at Union United Methodist Church and were filled with a variety of non-perishables including cereal, peanut butter, canned vegetables, canned fruits, pasta and rice. “This is exactly what our clients want to have in their kitchen, but we normally don’t get enough of”, said one volunteer who was close to tears.

The food drive was organized by the Waxhaw Lions in response to a call for “Fighting Hunger Together”, a service project promoted by Global Service Team Chair Barbara Thompson of North Carolina’s Lions District 31-O. About ten club members and friends set up a tent in the parking lot of the Food Lion on Broome Street at 9 a.m. and invited shoppers to add a few items to their grocery list. “The generosity of the local community was overwhelming”, said Michael O’Brien, president of the Waxhaw Lions. In just four hours, volunteers organized and packed over 20 large boxes to fill one pickup truck and one SUV. The items were immediately delivered to the Common Cupboard located at the Union United Methodist Church on Newtown Road in Waxhaw. This pantry is part of the local nonprofit Common Heart and provides food for families in need. Those who are registered with the program are able to take home about a week’s worth of groceries once per month. “Last week, each client took home an extra bag of food because of the extraordinary amount of donations”, said Reverend Brad. If you are interested in more information please email Keith@CommonHeart.org.

Lions Clubs International is the world’s largest service club organization with more than 1.4 million members in 200 countries across the globe. Here in Waxhaw, members are very active in programs that increase access to eye care services, including KidSight™ eye screening for children and the collection of used eyeglasses. 100% of funds raised by Lions Clubs are used to benefit charities and local community programs. If you are over 21, service-minded, and enjoy great comradery, email us at waxhaw.lion@gmail.com to RSVP for our 6:30 p.m. dinner meeting, held the first Thursday of each month at the 701 Main Restaurant in downtown Waxhaw.