



LINKING LIONS newsletter

September, 2022 Edition

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



DISTRICT GOVERNOR GARY GREENE COLUMN

It is amazing how busy our clubs are this summer with their service projects. Simply amazing.

You should see the list of projects. Greensboro Lions had a book bag donation. The Jamestown Lions recycled plastic. The Vass Lions worked on their school garden. The Oxford Lions Clubs work at Meals on Wheels. The Greater Monroe Lions held a breakfast for Rocky River Elementary School staff. And the list goes on and on. You'll see it in this newsletter!

This list comes from club secretary submissions to MyLion on the web. To me, the primary benefit is learning from each other what is possible. The service projects of a Lions Club are limited only by your imagination. Other benefits to service reporting include:

- Accurately measure our global impact
- Identify the best ways to work together
- Bring attention to the great work of Lions
- Ensure clubs' service is supported in the best ways possible

We have several Lions in the district who are faithful and knowledgeable about their service reporting. In the pre-computer days, it was all done by paper and U.S. mail. Today, it takes five minutes to report a service project on MyLion for all to see. Please make sure this is part of your secretary's monthly checkmarks!

The resulting list of Lions projects is amazing! [Together We Can](#) accomplish so much!

Gary Greene | 31-0 District Governor

DISTRICT 31-0 SERVICE REPORTING – AUGUST 2022

Durham	Art Access Inc.	Madison	Western Rockingham Middle School project
Greater Monroe	KidSight training, Rocky River Elementary School staff breakfast; Camp Dogwood ticket sales; VIP Support Group "Out of Sight"; food donation to Rocky River Elementary School	McLeansville	\$200 gift card; Community yard sale
Greensboro	Plastic bag recycling; Donated eyeglasses; Book bag donation	Oxford	Meals on Wheels; Goody bags for diabetic children
Greensboro Hamilton Lakes	Wiley Elementary Food Pantry stocking; Wiley Elementary School Back To School night; Backpack beginnings	Pleasant Garden	Meal distribution, Assistance to individuals, Recycling, Community & cultural activity; Food bank; Clothing collection; Eyeglass collection; Blood collection
Hamlet	Vision project	Rockingham	Funds for VIP transportation
High Point	Bingo for VIPs at Senior Center; pancake breakfast	Vass	School garden; Kids vision screening; Reverse raffle; Field pea gleaning RAG time; Stuff the bus
Indian Trial	Back To School Bash	Wadesboro	Environmental recycling; Home repairs for needy family
Jamestown	Recycle plastic	Waxhaw	KidSight screening planning
Liberty	Liberty Area churches food pantry, CARS rides		



SHARE OUR STORY

Take pride in the incredible work that your Lions are doing and encourage them to share their Stories of Pride and other stories from the Lions Blog on social media using the hashtags [#LCIFLions](#) and [#WeServe](#).



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SUSAN O'BRIEN 1VDG CORNER | STRATEGIES FOR BOOSTING CLUB MEMBERSHIP

And just like that, Summer Falls into September! I hope you are enjoying the small break from the heat, meeting friends outdoors, and embarking on at least one of the three new service

projects that PID Harvey and Diane Whitley have challenged for your clubs!

Last month I wrote about creating your club's Five-Year Plan and hope you have given this some thought and – even better – put pen to paper toward your first-year goal. If increasing membership is in that plan, then you are not alone. Below are a few of my favorite suggestions from Lions University with a little bit of my own viewpoints and updated spin:

Publicize your club's activities on social media. Post eye-catching photos and short blurbs to your club's Facebook page, Twitter, or Instagram account every time you get together for a service project, fundraiser, or meeting. Make sure the postings are shareable to spread the word or go viral! Printed media is great, but people under 40 generally don't read much printed material. So, transform those social media photos and blogs into short stories, and email these regularly to the editors of your local online news outlets. Your stories should always conclude with, "Contact xxx for more information on how to become a Lion"!

- Always have your club's brochure or business card available at public events, and make sure it contains contact information.
- Schedule an "Invite a Friend" night during one of your club meetings. Encourage every member to bring someone to the event to learn more about what you do. Keep the agenda light and social, but make sure you are highlighting both old and new business. Just like our Lions logo, let them see your club reflect on its past but look forward to its future!
- Allow members to bring a prospect to help during one of your club's service activities or fundraisers. This will give outsiders a first-hand experience of your club in action.

- Hold a membership open house. Ask each member to invite at least five people and open the event up to the public. This can be held at a town festival or anywhere you can set up a tent, table or reserve a room where there's plenty of foot traffic. Create visuals that highlight your club's contributions to the community and have members on hand to answer questions.
- Devise a friendly recruitment competition among your members and have a year-end party honoring the Lion in your club who sponsors the most members for the year.
- Wear buttons, shirts, vests, or other items that show your pride as you interact with the community, whether it be a service project or marching in a parade.

One of the most overlooked recruitment ideas is to see if there are club members bonded together by another interest, like church groups, vintage cars, sports, or mahjong. And don't forget the people you work with regularly – town board members, public servants, teachers, healthcare professionals, and others who help you set up your service projects or support your fundraisers. In some cases, all you have to do is Just Ask.

"Recruitment is like fishing. You may think that there is a shortage of fish, when the real problem is where you fish and what bait you use." ~ Dr. John Sullivan

Susan O'Brien
First Vice District Governor
Waxhaw Lions Club



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A NOTE FROM THE CABINET TREASURER

Thank you to all the club treasurers who have submitted your first half annual dues and convention fees payments. Invoices were either emailed or sent via USPS August 10, 2022. 65% of clubs have paid dues by August 31. Please contact me if your club's dues invoice has not yet been received.

Club treasurers are reminded that all clubs must file income tax forms with IRS by November 10, 2022. Following is the link for filing by November 10, 2022. "Form 990-N Guide" is available to download and assist you with the filing.

www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/annual-electronic-filing-requirement-for-small-exempt-organizations-form-990-n-e-postcard

Lions Clubs International requires that each club keep separate accounts for administrative funds received from Lions and charity funds received from public sources. The best method (and encouraged) is two separate checking accounts. The next best practice is to keep funds separated in ledgers and statements if the cost of maintaining two accounts is prohibitive due to fees from the banking institution.

Any money received from the public cannot be used to pay international or district dues, meal costs for members, office expenses (examples: stamps, post office box fees, printing for club meetings) or any other expense that is not related to humanitarian services.

Good practices include but are not limited to:

- Timely deposits for any funds received.
- Receipts for all money received, especially cash.
- Monthly financial statements for club review.
- Separate accounting for administrative and charitable funds
- Timely payments for any invoices from LCI (invoices due within 30 days)
 - Member dues invoices are billed semiannually in July and January
 - Purchases from LCI
 - Nonpayment can result in club's status change when balance is overdue 90 days.
- Timely payment of District dues (billed in August and February)
- Annual filing with IRS
- Annual audit

Treasurers, yours is an important job for the smooth running of your club!
Thank you for accepting and completing this responsibility.

PDG Laraine Dupree, Cabinet Treasurer

(704) 292-3163

laraine.dupree1967@gmail.com



APPLY FOR A GRANT

Help your district and clubs make a bigger impact with the right grants. Visit the LCIF Grants Toolkit page to learn more about grants and how to apply: www.lionsclubs.org/en/lcif-grants-toolkit





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ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS


One of the five primary causes for Lions Clubs International is Environment. Many clubs participate in this!

 **THE OAK RIDGE LIONS CLUB**
Doing its quarterly road cleanup this month (Linville Rd.)

 **THE SANFORD LIONS CLUB**
Still collecting plastic grocery bags. They are having a collection drive at the Lee Regional Fair Sept. 14-18 and in November will participate in the County Collection of House Hazardous Waste.

 **THE MADISON LIONS CLUB**
Has planted flowers and bushes for Western Rockingham Middle School.

 **THE HAMILTON LAKES LIONS CLUB**
Continues to reuse and recycle plastic shopping bags, and they go to Backpack Beginnings to deliver collected food to kids who otherwise might not be fed on weekends.

 **THE ASHEBORO LIONS CLUB**
Contributed \$300 to the Asheboro Community in Schools Backpack Fund for the upcoming Lions year. This is their contribution to The Worldwide Hunger initiative for the coming year.

Morgan Fadely
Siler City Lions Club
District Environment Chair

BRIGHTER VISIONS THERMOMETER




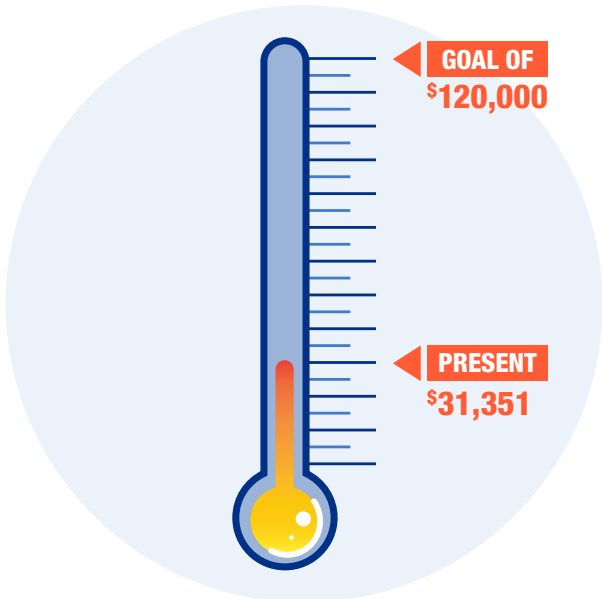
Thank you to the following clubs who have made contributions thus far:

- Aberdeen
- Archdale Trinity
- Gray's Chapel
- Greater Monroe
- Greensboro
- Greensboro Hamilton Lakes
- Indian Trail
- Pleasant Garden
- Rockingham
- South Chatham
- Jamestown
- Julian
- Liberty
- Madison
- Troy
- Unionville
- Vass
- Wadesboro
- Waxhaw
- West Stanly
- Wingate

??? **HOW CAN YOU EXPAND AND ENHANCE GIVING FOR OUR VIPs AT CAMP DOGWOOD?**

Use the corporate donation form found here in the newsletter! Setup a club or zone fundraiser specifically for Brighter Visions! Ask your friends and family to consider a tax deductible donation to Brighter Visions!

 Please see next page for form.





Thank you for making a difference. North Carolina Lions, Incorporated is a 501c3 charitable organization, has helped change the lives of many Individuals through the support of people just like ***you***. Your contribution helps provide daily assistance for the blind and visually impaired people across our state. White canes, mobile screening units for adults and children, scholarships for the sighted children of visually impaired parents, summer camping experiences for the blind and visually impaired, funds to assist with eye exams and eyeglasses are just a few of the services provided by North Carolina Lions, Incorporated through your donation.

Company/Corporation Name: _____

Contact person: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Best contact phone number: _____

Donation amount: _____

Please give credit to _____ Lions Club.

Thank you once again for your support of the blind and visually impaired people
across North Carolina! Lions of District 31-O

Make check payable to: NCLI

Mail to: North Carolina Lions, Inc.
PO Box 39
Sherrills Ford, NC 28673



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CAMP DOGWOOD TICKET SALES THERMOMETER

GOAL OF \$32,250

3 BOOKS PER MEMBER



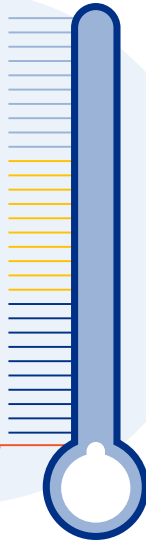
GOAL OF \$27,252

5% INCREASE FROM 2021-22

CLUBS PARTICIPATING

ABERDEEN & SANFORD

CURRENT: \$280



PEACE POSTER CONTEST DEADLINES

Students ages 11, 12, or 13 as of November 15 are eligible to participate in the International Peace Poster Contest. *Entries not meeting the following deadlines will be disqualified.*



October 1: Deadline to purchase kits from the Club Supplies Sales Department at International Headquarters.



November 15: Postmark **deadline** for a club to send one winning poster (per contest sponsored) to the district governor.



December 1: Postmark **deadline** for a district governor to send one winning district poster to multiple district council chairperson.

PEACE ESSAY CONTEST DEADLINES

Your club can sponsor visually impaired students in the Lions Clubs International Essay Contest! The contest is open to students who are considered visually impaired according to their national guidelines, and will be 11, 12, or 13 years of age on November 15, 2022. *Eligible birthdates are November 16, 2008 through November 15, 2011.*

- One grand prize winner will receive an award and US\$5,000. The contest theme is **“Lead with Compassion.”**
- Only a Lions club can sponsor the contest. The contest may be sponsored in a local school or organized, sponsored youth group, or individuals may be sponsored as well.
- Essays must be no longer than 500 words, submitted in English, typewritten in black ink and double spaced. Each essay must be submitted with a completed entry form. *Essays submitted without completed entry forms will be disqualified.*
- Only one entry per student per year, and each entry must be the work of only one student.
- Essay entries cannot have already been published.



November 15: Postmark **deadline** for a club to send one winning essay to the district governor. Note: A participating club should notify its district governor in advance of sending an entry.



**LINKING
LIONS**
calendar



OCTOBER 13TH
World Sight Day

Helen Keller inspired Lions at our 1925 convention to take a leadership role in serving and advocating for the blind and visually impaired. Plan your club’s activities in recognition of World Sight Day:

www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-global-causes/vision



NOVEMBER 14TH
World Diabetes Day

Lions serve in the cause of diabetes which afflicts more than 464 million people worldwide and causes more than 4.2 million deaths annually. Plan your club’s activities for World Diabetes Day:

www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-global-causes/diabetes/world-diabetes-day



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IN MEMORY OF RICKY CREECH



In July, Ricky Creech, the CEO at Boys and Girls Homes, died in a house fire. Additionally, two therapy dogs used on campus perished.

In Ricky’s memory, Boys and Girls Homes is seeking funds to cover the cost of replacing the two service dogs. Boys and Girls Homes was founded by a Lion and has been a statewide Lions project since its beginnings in the 1950’s. Leading the effort on behalf of the Lions of

North Carolina is Lion Mary Lockhart of the Pleasant Garden Lions Club who is the State Chair for the Lions Boys and Girls Homes Committee. Joining her is District 31-0 B&GH Chair Lion Carle Hall of the Asheboro Lions Club.

“In the near future, you will be receiving more information on this worthwhile project,” wrote Lion Carle. “We definitely need your involvement and support in making this happen. Please send all donations to the following.”

BGHNC Memorial Fund c/o Marie Kelly
PO Box 127
Lake Waccamaw, NC 28540

SPECIAL NOTE: Include your District, Club on the documents sent to BGHNC so that your club and the district can receive appropriate credit. If you have questions about the Lions help to B&GH for this effort, please contact **Lion Carle** at **(336) 953-1627**.

PIP SID AND JUDY SCRUGGS MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

50 members recruited age 40 and under



CURRENTLY RECRUITED 3

PID HARVEY AND DIANE WHITLEY SERVICE CHALLENGE

Clubs undertake at least three new service projects

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES



Our newsletter deadlines are the 25th of each month. Send your club news to lions31newsletter@yahoo.com.

Please be sure to identify people in photographs.

FALL FESTIVAL VIP RETREAT



NOVEMBER



November 15-17 | Tuesday – Thursday
3 Days, 2 Nights / \$200 per person
For more info, call North Carolina Lions Inc. at **(828) 478-2135**
Lions Volunteers Needed!

NEW YEAR’S EVE VIP RETREAT



DEC/JAN



Friday – Sunday | December 30 – January 1
Ring in the new year with us
Food, games, music, dancing / \$200 per person
For more info, call North Carolina Lions Inc. at **(828) 478-2135**
Lions Volunteers Needed!



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
November 11-13, 2022

Camp Dogwood – The Jewel of North Carolina Lions
7062 Camp Dogwood Drive | Sherrills Ford, NC 28673
Check in 3PM / Checkout 11AM

Attending _____

Room reservation: \$75 per night per room. Please check which night’s accommodations are needed and how many will be staying so we can properly towel each room for guest(s).

Friday night _____ people Saturday night _____ people

Meal reservations are due by 11/1/2022. A \$5 per meal late charge will be added to all reservations made after 11/1/2022

	Cost	Person/Persons
Friday Dinner – 6PM	\$15	_____
Saturday Breakfast – 7:30AM	\$11	_____
Saturday Lunch – 12 NOON	FREE	_____
Saturday Dinner – 6PM.	\$15	_____
Sunday Breakfast – 7:30AM	\$11	_____

Meal Total: _____

Room Total: _____

Total: _____

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

CREDIT CARD USAGE (info is not kept on file):

Name: _____
Street address _____
City _____ ZIP Code _____
Card type (please circle one): MasterCard | Visa | American Express | Discover
Credit card number _____
Expiration Date _____
3 Digit Code _____

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

Signature _____

TO USE A CHECK

Make check payable to N.C. Lions Inc.®

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

For room reservations, please return form to **NC Lions Inc., P.O. Box 39, Sherrills Ford, NC 28673**
You may also email: michelle@nclionsinc.org or fax **(828) 478-4419**