



District 31-I News

United in Kindness and Diversity
International President,
Dr. Jung-Yul Choi



District 31-I Newsletter

September 2020

Issue 3

Member News

In Loving Memory

Of Lions who have passed this past month:

Member	Club
Mary S. Pierce	Harrisburg
Ralph A. Smith	Harrisburg
Edith B. Clark	Linwood

NEW MEMBERS!!!!

Member	Club
Sergey Melnikov	Charlotte Southern
Vadim Melnikov	Charlotte Southern
Frances Christian	Denton
Timothy Suggs	Denton
John Frasier	Mint Hill
Monica Sharpe	Mint Hill
Patrick Holton	Mint Hill
Elizabeth Jeffers	Mint Hill
Cassie Spiker	Mint Hill
Tina Dotson	Mint Hill

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ANNOUNCEMENT

DG Donald has mailed a box of materials to club presidents that includes district directories, an NCLI directory, Camp Dogwood raffle tickets, Brighter Visions brochures, and possibly some other items.

Be sure to share these materials with the appropriate individuals in your club.

"Don't even question the value of volunteers. Noah's ark was built by volunteers, the Titanic was built by professionals." Unknown

Volunteers Creating a Future — DG Donald Cobb

How Much Are You Worth?

You may have noticed that I continue to talk about Lions being volunteers. That’s what we as Lions do, volunteer our time as we serve our visually impaired individuals, our communities, our district, and our world. Lions have about 1.4 million members around the world who volunteer their time and the impacts they have in their communities are great. But when you get right down to it, how much are we as volunteers really worth?

There are several organizations that calculate the value of volunteer time, usually on an annual basis. I found one, the Independent Sector, that just updated their statistics on the value of volunteers as of July 2020. They have calculated the value of volunteer time as being \$27.20 per hour. That means that for each hour you give Lions as a volunteer, you are contributing \$27.20 as a volunteer to society. We have 1,070 Lions Club members in our District as of today. When all the Lions in our District volunteer one hour to our Lions projects, the value of that hour is \$29,104. Think of all the hours you volunteer as a Lion. That makes a pretty impressive dollar contribution to our society especially when you multiply that by 1,070 members. But don’t stop there, think what our value would be if we had 1,200, 1,500, or even 2,000 members in our district?

Let’s go even further. If there are 1.4 million Lions across the world, what is the value of an hour of Lions volunteer time? According to my calculator, when each Lion around the world volunteers one hour, that would be equal \$38,080,000 using the U.S. value of a volunteer hour. Quite an impressive figure (even though I realize the value of volunteer time around the world is not equal to the value of a volunteer hour in the U.S.) still, that illustrates the contributions Lions make in every community in which they serve.

Now, we have 1,070 Lions in our district and each hour our 1,070 members volunteer is worth \$29,104. If we increased our membership, the value we contribute to society would increase as well as our efforts in our communities. Is that an incentive to increase our membership? You bet it is!

You might say, we can’t increase our membership now. We are in the middle of a COVID-19 crisis. Many of our clubs aren’t meeting. How can we expect to get new members at a time like this when we can’t do what we usually do as Lions? Guess what? We are still increasing our membership, even at a time like this! Lion Michelle Gregory, our District Cabinet Secretary, sent me an email the other day that said we have had 10 new members join Lions in our District in the past month. Ten new members at a time like this. Who would have thought such a thing would happen? I believe it is because people have seen what Lions have done at a time like this. You continue to serve your communities, maybe not in the way you would have served in “normal” times, but you continue to volunteer your time and make a difference. Others see what you are doing, and they want to be a part of it. As Lions, you are creating a future in your communities. Others are seeing it and they want to be a part of it. Let’s continue to serve our communities, ask others to join us, and make a difference.



DG Donald has not scheduled any club visits due to many clubs not meeting.

Please send him an email

at dwcobb@skybest.com to let

him know when your club will next meet, so he can begin to schedule club visits for the year.

**North Carolina Lions have a
NEW Facebook Group!**

Check it out at:

NC Lions MD-31

1st Vice District Governor — H. Wayne Kennerly

The coronavirus pandemic has reminded each of us how fragile life is. What can we do to stop it? We wear our mask and stay at a distance from each other in hopes that we have done enough. For most Lions the outbreak has brought to light the unforeseen danger and actions that we all face worldwide as we are International and not just a local group or a national group.

My main concern is membership as you are aware of by now. Each time we recruit a new member we hope they will become actively involved and will develop a long-term bond to your club and to all the services that we provide. How do we turn new members into valuable members? How do we keep our long-term members interested and committed? When we all get to meet once again in our dens and start up our programs? We need to look at what keeps most Lions happy. Do we have good speakers come to our meetings like Brighter Visions, etc.?

This year we all are going to have to think out of the box, and now is the time to start making plans for the future. Have you started a list of possible prospects? If not the time has come to do so before we start meeting again.

Remember, each person counts, why not share Lionism?

Find us on the web at: NClions31I.org

Send items you would like posted on the webpage to
Lion Elizabeth Rummage at lionrummage@gmail.com.



****Directory Correction****

Please note that in a few places Cabinet Secretary Michelle Gregory's phone number was listed incorrectly. Her correct number is:

336-971-1766

Exciting News From Lions Clubs International:

Until December 30, 2020 all entrance fees are WAIVED!

No charter entrance fees, no fee to join an existing club, no fee to transfer clubs.

Now is the time to invite friends, family, and neighbors to join the world's largest service organization!

2nd Vice District Governor — Bill Mathers

As I sit here writing this letter for our District I monthly newsletter, I am amazed at all the things that are going on around the country and the world today. First, it is a very rainy day here in Mint Hill. Therefore, I will try and wax poetically this article.

We are heading into the 7th month of the Covid crisis with no end in sight. Things have changed. In 60 days or so we will elect the next president of our country for the next 4 years whether it is a democrat or republican. The country is angry and very divided over this election. We have had one devastating hurricane already this year, forest fires in California, even an earthquake here in our District near the home of our District Governor in Sparta, NC. Protests, shootings, schools trying to re-open and all sorts of other problems in the world.

The amazing thing about all of this is Lions... Lions Clubs all over our District are doing some fantastic things. Many of these things are a bit different then what we are used to. Many are now having Zoom meetings to keep the clubs moving forward, some have had social distancing in person meetings, and some are doing both at the same time. Very, very, creative.

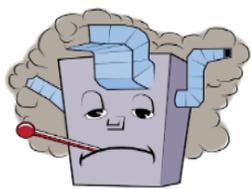
Clubs are having food drives for local foodbanks. Some are raising money in other ways. My club is having our annual 5K race in two weeks to raise money. Unfortunately, the town of Mint Hill would not allow us to run it in town. The town of Oakboro, NC has allowed us to run the race on Saturday, September 12, at 8:00 AM. We are running the race in a park in Oakboro, so it will be like a cross country run. A church in Oakboro has even offered to help us. This will be different but very interesting. Come join us.

I heard the other night that one club will be hosting a social distancing bowling tournament to raise money. Lions Clubs are getting creative.

What is your club doing? Tell us your stories in this newsletter. This makes me so proud to be a Lion. WE SERVE... and we are doing it well.

Be safe... Bill

P.S. The last weekend of September is the USA/Canada Leadership Forum, which will be held on Zoom. It is a 3 day event open to all LIONS and only costs \$20.00 to attend. Plan on attending. The moderator for this event is North Carolina's own PID Harvey Whitley. I am sure we will learn a lot. Hope to see you there.



Camp Dogwood HVAC Fund Drive

Camp Dogwood needs our help!

They need \$38,000 for several new HVAC units.

Several units need replacing and gutters for the Utvich dorm are needed. Cost estimates are \$4900 for Duplex (4); \$6400 for White Dorm; \$20,000 for Utvich and Lineberger Dorms; and \$6200 for gutters on Utvich Dorms.

Please consider making a donation directly to Camp Dogwood for these important repairs. For questions please contact PDG Wayne Faber at wfaber100@hotmail.com or 919.780.8819.

Make the check to NCLI c/o Camp Dogwood and mark "for heating/air repairs".

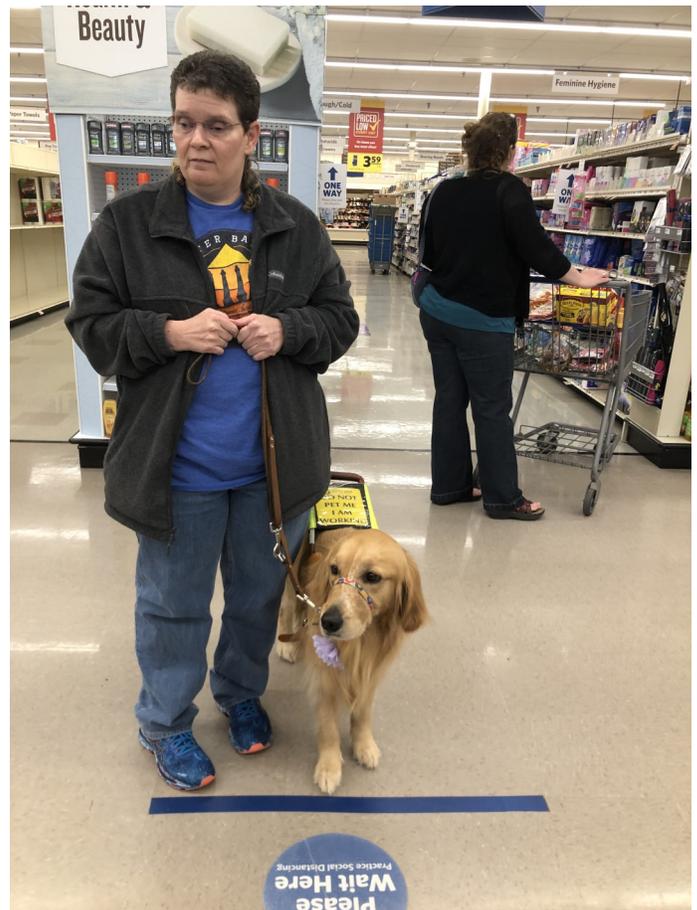
Calendar

TBD		District Training	New Member Orientation
Sept. 2	7pm	NAMI– Build a Team & Build a Vision	Zoom Training; All district officers and club presidents encouraged to attend ; Email Lion George Clup for an invite
Sept. 9	7pm	So You Want to Be a District Governor?	Email LionGeorgeCulp@gmail.com for an invitation to the Zoom Meeting

CALLING ALL CLUBS!! CALLING ALL CLUBS!!

We are asking each Club to donate 1 or more auction items for our Tail-Twisters Auction on Nov. 7 @ 9 am., with the proceeds going to Brighter Visions. Each item should have a value of \$25 or more. PLEASE do not have a few items that total the amount listed as they are usually harder to auction off.

Your Club will get the credit for the auctioned price. An example is, if you buy or donate a item that's valued at \$50, but sells for \$100, your Club is credited with \$100 contribution to Brighter Visions, thus the better the item, the higher the bid & the credit for your Club. We would love to have all 53 Clubs in our district to have 1 or more items to auction. Feel free to contact me for any questions/concerns at 704-213-0891 or email me, Chris Beck aka THE IDIOTT, at c.beckster@hotmail.com.



Lion Autumn knows how to social distance!

She stops at every Blue line and if Lion Christie goes the wrong way Lion Autumn turns her around and they go the right way.

Maybe one day we will find something or someone to keep Lion Chris Beck in line?!?! Tail twisters are a different “breed”...



CLUB NEWS

Lexington Downton Club

have made the difficult decision to cancel the 40th Anniversary Dave Conrad Lions Memorial Golf Tournament due COVID-19. They still need business and civic organizations to help their annual fundraising.

This year offers a unique opportunity! For a donation of \$100, your sponsorship sign will be displayed for 5 business days at Breeden Insurance Services Inc., located at the heavily traveled road of West Center Street, Lexington. Those supporters who have already confirmed their annual hole sponsorship will be displayed as outlined in the offer above.

If you are interested in supporting the Lexington Downtown Lions Club, please contact Lion Mark Breeden at 336-309-0530.



Mt. Pleasant Club

Members of the Mt. Pleasant Lions Club held an outdoor officer installation on Saturday, August 8th. They were honored to have District Governor Donald Cobb as the installing officer and Zone 6 Chairperson Kathy Poirier to help to preside over the installation ceremony.



We Serve

Kernersville Club

presented 3- \$1500 scholarships to local high school students. Pictured below are Lion President Edwin Walker presenting the checks to the 3 outstanding students.

Top left: Melissa Aquino; Top right: Abigail Herrera-Leal; Bottom: Rachel Cronin



Winston– Salem Twin City Club

will host the 2020 Bill Bowman Memorial Golf Challenge again this year. The Bill Bowman Memorial Golf Challenge will be the primary fundraiser to support the club's many service projects throughout the year.

This year's Golf Challenge will be held at the Reynolds Park Golf Course on October 5. All donations raised will be used to support children and adults here in the community. For more information, please contact Lion Larry Freeman at: lfreeman96@triad.rr.com.



The Boom of Zoom

In previous articles I encouraged clubs to seek new ways to meet and more importantly, provide service to your communities. As I look back to last thirty days, I find that have I participated in sixteen Zoom meetings. One meeting stands out. While in Zone Chairperson training, each participant was asked to contact each of the clubs in their Zone and ask a couple of questions. Here is a summary of their reports.

What did you learn about your zone that most surprised you?

Clubs are trying to find ways to hold fund-raisers, meet and provide service.

Older Lions are afraid to attend meetings and activities.

What is going well in your Zone?

Projects that require minimal personal contact. Examples are pen-pal-projects, blood drives, food drives, mailing packages to our military overseas, and care packages to VAVS.

What opportunities exist for you to offer support to the clubs?

We must get and keep members active, discover, and create opportunities for Service, Membership, and Leadership.

As we are faced with these issues, Lions International encourages us to participate in an effort to rejuvenate our district with new clubs, revitalize clubs with new members, and re-motivate our members with new fellowships and exciting service to our communities. This effort will require changes in how we meet and serve.

Our district has begun this process and need Lion leaders to join the effort by being involved in the North American Membership Initiative (NAMI). The NAMI process contains four phases; Build a Team, Build a Vision, Build a Plan, and Build Success. Our district is moving into the Build a Team phase as we prepare to Build a Vision. This is where you can participate.

DG Cobb is reaching out to club officers to join us in this effort. Contact me to be included in this process. Let me know your area of interest; new clubs, new members, motivating current members, and new fellowships and service ideas. The meetings will be online and limited to less than one hour and at convenient times.

And, should you have a desire to become a District Governor, you may want to join our seminar “**So you want to be a DG, What were you thinking?**”. The Zoom discussion will be September 9th at 7PM. Contact me if you would like to join us.

Please join us in this effort. Contact Lion PDG George Culp for details.

Stay Safe and remember to find ways to provide service in your communities. Please contact me if I can be of assistance.

PDG George Culp GLT District 31-I liongeorgeculp@gmail.com 704 906 8568



District 31-I now has a Zoom Pro!!

This is available for use by Lions in our District. If you have a meeting that you need more than the 45 free minutes on Zoom, please contact Lion Kirby Matthews about reserving the use of the District Zoom. Lion Kirby is keeping a calendar for the Zoom and can tell you if it is available on the date and time you wish to use it.

You can reach Lion Kirby at:

kirby@minutemansupply.com

Peace Poster Contest

This year's theme for the Annual Peace Poster contest is **Peace Through Service**. The kits are available for purchase from Lions International until **October 1**. Your club should purchase a kit for each contest you sponsor. The contest is opened to children ages 11-13, in local schools or organized, sponsored youth groups, such as Scouts and Boys & Girls Clubs. A major benefit of the contest is the positive publicity that is generated for clubs and districts. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to your clubs.

Lion Dianne Culp dhcp@windstream.net 704-792-5394



Brighter Visions Kick-Off

At our Brighter Visions Kickoff, clubs contributed/pledged a total of \$35,020.00. We also received \$650 in individual contributions and memorials/honorariums. As of August 26th, we have a total of \$35,670.00 toward our goal of \$145,00!!!

We are off to a GREAT start!!!!



Hello Fellow Lions,

As we kick off our 2020/2021 Brighter Visions Campaign, I wanted to remind everyone exactly where the funds go. First and foremost, the funds directly support Camp Dogwood. Every summer over 800 campers enjoy a weekly overnight stay. They will get to experience many opportunities such as recreational activities, entertainment and developing lifelong friendships. All while having tons of fun in an environment created just for them. Without Camp Dogwood, these individuals would not be able to experience these life changing opportunities.

Your funds also help the Mobile Screening and Hearing Unit. It travels all over NC providing much needed vision and hearing screenings for children and adults. In my experience, I have seen many individuals come to the Mobile Screening and Hearing Unit that have never before been to an eye doctor. I have personally seen individuals made aware of medical issues they did not know existed until they visited the Mobile Unit. They did not have insurance and had no means to see a doctor otherwise. For some, it is truly life changing.

While I understand this year presents unprecedented challenges, I know we can meet our District Governor's goal of \$145,000.00. I know many clubs are not meeting in person yet. If anyone has any suggestions on how clubs can raise funds for Brighter Visions, please feel free to reach out to me. We can and we will do this!!!

Thank you!

Lion Christie Kestler

Suggested Service Projects for July thru Sept

1. Gather school supplies, including hand sanitizer for teachers
2. Collect clothes for a local children's home
3. Partner with a school, Scouts, or another community organization.
4. Maintain a "Little Free Library"
5. Collect used pill bottles to send to an organization that fills them for poor countries in need
6. Vision / Diabetes Screening
7. Assist Meals on Wheels deliveries
8. Join or start a reading program at a school or library
9. Food drive
10. Join a local parade or host a festival booth
11. Adopt a highway or a police officer
12. Collect can tabs for the Leader Dog program
13. Visit nursing homes, maybe bring a treat (make sure to contact them ahead of time to find out any visitor restrictions)
14. Recycle eyeglasses
15. Collect shoes, socks, and underwear to restock school closets

Lion Ron Rich
District Global Service Chair (GST)
Contact: casper101@windstream.net

Let us know about club events, fundraisers, service projects and honors received so that we can share them with our Fellow Lions. Email to diannamwald@gmail.com or mail to Lion Dianna Wald, PO Box 1260, Denton, NC 27239 by the 20th of each month.

As always, we love your pictures too!!



District 31-I Convention

District Governor Donald Cobb and 1st Vice District Governor Wayne Kennerly invite you to come to the Convention of District 31-I on November 6-7, 2020 at the Village Inn Hotel and Event Center in Clemmons. This year's theme is *Unsung Heroes*. A big change this year is a less formal and more affordable Saturday afternoon luncheon instead of the traditional formal evening banquet. Our hospitality room will continue into the evening so we can continue to socialize!

Each club is being asked to name an *unsung hero* to be honored at the Saturday luncheon. Club presidents/secretaries are to fill out the form included in this newsletter and return to DGE Donald. The "Unsung Hero" is the Lion who goes above and beyond for their club and community without expectation of accolades -- in other words the hardest working Lions that quietly go about upholding "We Serve." Clubs may have president/board of directors name this Lions or have a vote of the club, however the club decides to name the hero. Clubs are also asked to consider paying for the luncheon fee for their honored Lion.

At the back of this newsletter you will find the registration form, program ad form, and nomination form for the *Unsung Hero* chosen by your Lions Club.

We hope to see you there!



And now a word from our Head IDIOTT...

CALLING ALL TAIL-TWISTERS

(& WANT TO BEZ !!!)

I need YOU to be @ our District 31-I Convention on Nov. 7 & to be part of a FANTABULOUS FUNDRAISER for BRIGHTER VISIONS, @ our Tail-Twisters Breakfast/Auction starting @ 9 am! We will provide, at no cost to you, ON THE JOB Training, to help display, model & encourage our fellow Lions to bid on items provided by other Clubs. Dressing up in a costume is encouraged, but not mandatory! So, if you IZ or if you AIN'T a Tail-Twister, we'll deputize & make you one for the day!! PLEASE contact me @ my cell 704-213-0891 or email me, Chris Beck aka THE IDIOTT, at c.beckster@hotmail.com to volunteer or ask questions!! I'm looking forward to hearing from YOU!!



District 31-I Lions Fall Convention Registration Form



Village Inn Hotel & Event Center, Clemmons, NC - November 6-7, 2020

Friday - November 6 (Registration: 3:00PM-7:00PM Hotel Lobby)

Hospitality Room Open.....	3:00PM - 5:00PM
Exhibits, BV Boutique, Zone Basket Raffle	3:00PM - 6:00PM
Family Fun Night (Dinner and Entertainment) Super Hero Fun & Games	6:30PM - 9:00PM
Hospitality Room Open	Following Fun Night

Saturday - November 7 (Registration: 7:00AM-12:00PM)

Breakfast (All Lions and Guests)	8:00AM-9:00AM
Tail Twister Auction.....	9:00AM
Exhibits, BV Boutique, Zone Basket Raffle	9:00AM - 4:00PM
Town Hall Meeting with International Director Justice Shea Nickell	10:30AM - 11:30AM
Delegate Certification.....	11:30AM-12:00PM & 3:00 - 3:30PM
Lunch Banquet Honoring Unsung Heroes (Lions and Guests).....	12:00PM - 3:00PM
District Cabinet Meeting and Officer Elections	3:30PM
Hospitality Room Open for evening	4:30PM

Hospitality Room open all day Saturday for refreshments and snacks

Badges must be worn at all meal functions (including Fun Night)

Village Inn
6205 Ramada Dr
Clemmons, NC 27012

Lions Room Rate:
\$89.00 plus tax

*Lions Room Rate will be available until OCT 26.
Hotel Reservations after October 26 will be provided
on a space available basis.*

*Make room reservations directly with the hotel:
Call (336-766-9121 or 800-554-6416) and ask for
Lions Group.*

Make check for meals payable to:
NC 31-I Lions Clubs

Mail check with bottom portion of this form to:
Lion Liz Steele Phone: (704)798-3471
2252 Baker Mill Rd
Cleveland, NC 27013
Email: LRSteele@hughes.net

Do Not Mail after October 26, 2020
Phone registration only between Oct 26 & Nov. 2
No refunds after Nov. 2

Return this part of the form with your check – Copy as needed

Club: _____ **District:** _____

Check all that apply

<u>Names:</u> <i>(PRINT first and last names & circle title)</i>	*Food Allergies	Awards						Meals		Banquet		
		MJF	JSF	WLW	BOH	AMB	HOF	FN	B	Pork	Chic	Veg
1. _____ ID, PIP, PID, DG, PCC, PDG, 1VDG, 2VDG, Lion, Leo		<input type="checkbox"/>										
2. _____ ID, PIP, PID, DG, PCC, PDG, 1VDG, 2VDG, Lion, Leo		<input type="checkbox"/>										
3. _____ ID, PIP, PID, DG, PCC, PDG, 1VDG, 2VDG, Lion, Leo		<input type="checkbox"/>										
4. _____ ID, PIP, PID, DG, PCC, PDG, 1VDG, 2VDG, Lion, Leo		<input type="checkbox"/>										

<u>Function</u>	<u>Number Attending</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Family Fun Night <i>Burger Bar</i>	\$20.00	_____	_____
Breakfast <i>Plated Breakfast</i>	\$20.00	_____	_____
Lunch Banquet <i>Veg Lasagna, Herb Roasted Pork Loin or Southern Fried Chicken</i>	\$25.00	_____	_____

Reminder: Please Select Banquet Meal Preference and Specify *Food Allergies Above **Total Cost \$** _____



District 31-I Fall Convention
Gold Sponsor/Ad Order Form

Convention Date: November 6 – 7, 2020
Village Inn Hotel and Conference Center, Clemmons NC

DEADLINE is October 16

Date: _____
Name of Club, Business, or Individual: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone & Email Contact: _____

Approval Signature: _____

Convention Gold Sponsorships Available \$500
Banner Recognition at all Events

Ad Size: Full Page (8 1/2 x 11) \$75 _____
Half Page \$50 _____
Quarter Page \$25 _____
Business Card \$15 _____
RAH Card \$10 _____

Make Checks Payable to: NC 31-I Lions Clubs

Mail Check & Form to: Liz Steele
2252 Baker Mill Rd
Cleveland, NC 27013

Please Include Payment with Ad Copy and Form
For questions: cell 704-798-3471

Email Ad copy in .jpg or Word format to: Liz Steele
LRSteele@hughes.net



District 31-I Fall Convention
UNSUNG HERO SELECTION FORM

To recognize a Lion who goes "above and beyond " for their club
and community at the Convention Luncheon Banquet.

Convention Date: November 6 – 7, 2020
Village Inn Hotel and Conference Center, Clemmons NC

DEADLINE is October 16

Selected Lion _____
Club _____
Address/Phone _____

How long a Member (Years) _____

Favorite Club Project _____

Reason for Selection _____

Submitted by Club President or Secretary: _____

Address/Phone _____

Mail Form to: DG Donald Cobb
3 Coleman Drive
Sparta, NC 28675

For questions: 336-372-2577 H or dwcobb@skybest.com

District 31-I Newsletter is published monthly.

DEADLINE for inclusion of articles is the 20th of each month if by email. Cost of producing and distributing this publication is paid from member dues received.

Newsletters sent by email are available on the day of publication. USPS mailings are received a week after publication and cost a minimum of \$.50 to mail; and depending on the number of pages in each edition, could cost \$.71 to \$.92 cents per issue to mail.

All articles, announcements, etc. for inclusion in the District 31-I Newsletter should be sent to:

Lion Dianna Wald

PO Box 1260

Denton, NC 27239 or diannamwald@gmail.com.

Please send all submissions as a Word Document and pictures in a separate .jpg file. Mail to arrive by the 20th of the month.

Address corrections or additions for USPS or email should be sent to

Lion Susan Mathers

6700 Pine Lake Lane,

Mint Hill, NC 28227 or susancmathers@gmail.com.

Can you find me?!?!?



Somewhere in this newsletter is this historical Lions Clubs International emblem from 1918. The first person to find it and email Lion Dianna at diannamwald@gmail.com WINS a prize!!

CONGRATS to Lion Kathy Poirier, Zone 6 Chair and member of Concord Lions Club for winning August's contest!

International Association of
Lions Clubs
Lion Donald Cobb
District Governor, 31-I North Carolina
3 Coleman Drive
Sparta, NC 28675

