



# District 31-I News

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



District 31-I Newsletter

May 2021

Issue 11

## Member News

### In Loving Memory

Of Lions who have passed this past month:

Member	Club
Allen Lowrance	Mooresville
Patsy Shumake	West Iredell

### NEW MEMBERS!!!!

Member	Club
Scott Lee Parrish	Cleveland

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"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve."

Albert Schweitzer

## Volunteers Creating a Future—District Governor Donald Cobb

### Our Service is Alive

I am writing this article as we have just finished our 2021 Lions state convention. As with many other things this year, the convention was different as over 100 individuals met by Zoom instead of in person. I have come to realize that this year should be called the “year of Zoom” and perhaps I should be called the “COVID district governor. I think both of those phrases describe the year we’ve had.

One of the highlights of the state convention this year was the recognition of newly inducted North Carolina Hall of Fame members as well as the presentation of LCI Presidential Leadership Awards. PDG Bob Loeblein from the Salisbury Lions Club was inducted into the N.C. Hall of Fame as a recognition of his service to Lions in his club and district along with his service to his community. PDG George Culp was awarded a Presidential Leadership Award for his service to Lions in his club, district and across the state and the leadership he has provided at each of these levels. Both of these individuals are extremely worthy of this recognition. Congratulations to both of you and thank you for being Volunteers Creating a Future!

If you look at the calendar, you see there are only two more months left in this Lions year. It seems time has flown by even when everything seems to have come to a standstill due to COVID. As more and more people get vaccinated for COVID, many of us are getting anxious for things to get back to “normal.” We have more clubs beginning to meet, but some still do not feel comfortable meeting. No matter what your club’s situation is, I hope you will take time to remember what our purpose as Lions is, and that is to serve and to help people.

To remind us of how important the service of Lions is to our communities, our guest speaker at the state convention, LCI 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Brian Sheehan, suggested that because of COVID and the changes it has brought, we would have 40% more people needing assistance across our country. 40%, that’s a big number, and that’s 40% more people that can potentially benefit from the service we as Lions can provide.

Are we in a position to provide this service? Do we have the members to provide this additional service? I hope all of us can see the potential we have for increased service in our communities and I think we all realize we need members to provide this service. Instead of focusing on how many members we may have lost, let’s focus on reaching out to others in our community and asking them to help us with our service. That may be one way we can look to increase our membership.

Finally, I want to focus on some ways our district has continued to provide service to others, especially our VIPs. As of April 23<sup>rd</sup>, our district has turned in \$18,800 in Camp Dogwood ticket sales and at this point, our district leads the state in the amount of ticket sales reported. That’s good news in that this money goes for the upkeep and improvements needed at Camp Dogwood and we can be proud of our efforts in this area. Our Brighter Visions contributions continue to grow as clubs have contributed \$73,932 as of April 23<sup>rd</sup>. While our district is the second highest contributor to Brighter Visions at this point, we still have until June 30<sup>th</sup> to contribute to this worthy cause. We need to remember that our purpose in contributing to Brighter Visions is to support our VIPs and others through the programs we as Lions provide across our district and across the state. Let’s provide all the support we can to the programs WE Lions provide.

The need for our service never stops and there will always be those who need our assistance. Will we be there to provide this needed service? Let’s do all we can to continue our work and keep our motto of “We Serve” alive. Let’s be those Volunteers who Create a Future!

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](mailto: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!!



## 1st Vice District Governor — H. Wayne Kennerly

Hope your yard is covered with lots of flowers this year! With all the early rain this spring, everything looked wonderful, and the yards are very green.

This year we all need to rethink the way things are done. Be open to new ideas and possibilities. Try to connect with people outside of Lions, maybe a young person that does not even know what Lions do. Tell your story and tell things that have been successful in the past that your club or district achieved. Don't get stuck doing the same old things just because they've always been done that way. Encourage innovative thinking, as you enlist people unfamiliar with the subject you are trying to tell them and be sure to let them ask any questions that no one else thinks to ask. We all need to think like we are the potential new member. What made you want to be a part of the world's largest service organization?

PCC George Culp is working on our training sessions for this year's officers. If you want to have a successful year, it would be a smart move to attend this meeting!

Remember, Each person counts, why not share Lionism?

Wayne Kennerly District Governor Elect

## Find us on the web at: [NClions31I.org](http://NClions31I.org)

Send items you would like posted on the webpage to Lion Elizabeth Rummage at [lionrummage@gmail.com](mailto:lionrummage@gmail.com).

## VIP Fishing Tournament Cancelled

The 2021 NC Lions VIP Fishing Tournament, scheduled for this fall, has been cancelled due to public health concerns related to the coronavirus. The tournament's governing board made the difficult decision in the interest of protecting its vulnerable participants and volunteers.

If you have already submitted for application and paid for your registration, you will receive a refund. The decision was not made easily or lightly. After consultation with officials at the Dare County Health Department, along with social service workers, group leaders from across North Carolina, and statewide Lions, tournament organizers expressed concern that the safety of our participants and volunteers could not be guar-

anteed due to the large number of people who typically attend the event.

The tournament was scheduled for Oct. 18-20. "To host an event of this magnitude takes months of planning, preparation, and fund raising," said Gwen White, executive director. "While we are deeply disappointed with the decision to cancel the event for a second year in a row, we must keep the health of everyone involved foremost in our concerns." Billed as the world's largest fishing tournament for the blind and visually impaired, the event typically attracts more than 900 from across North Carolina, along with visually impaired participants from seven other states and Canada.

## 2nd Vice District Governor — Bill Mathers

Every time I write one of these articles, I find it is not too difficult to prepare a topic of interest. This month is no exception.

### Let's talk Brighter Visions.

By the time you read this we will only have less than 60 days to complete our goal as a District. Unfortunately, we are still almost \$72,000 for hitting this year's goal of \$145,000. That is about 50 percent still left. Let us talk about this serious situation.

District I has always been the leader in NC with raising the most money for Brighter Visions across the state. Brighter Visions needs us more than ever this year. All 5 districts are behind in their goals by a large measure. Let me break it down to the ridiculous. For only \$75.00 per Lion in our District, we can reach our goal. I know that some clubs wait to donate during the last month. Assuming we receive about \$35,000 from late donations from clubs, we could still reach our goal by each Lion in our District paying about \$30.00 a piece. That would work out to one less dinner out over the next 2 months for each Lion.

Or, if you hold off getting a haircut for the next 2 months and send \$30.00 to Brighter Visions we hit our goal and will have the shaggiest Lions in the World. Last year I shaved off my beard when we hit our goal... This year, let's GROW OUR HAIR for Brighter Visions... GROW OUR HAIR... GROW OUR HAIR...(Chris Beck you will have to come up with something more unique since you have no hair and yes I am a bit crazy)... Please support Brighter Visions...

Lastly, I want to thank all of you who voted for me to be your 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor Elect. I will try to be the best possible officer for our District... Have a great month of May...

Bill Mathers; 1st Vice District Governor Elect

## District Brighter Visions Goal

# \$145,000



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Statewide Marketing Campaign to Begin

In the next few days, your 2020-2021 North Carolina MD 31 Council of Governors will begin a statewide awareness and branding marketing campaign throughout North Carolina. The Council of Governors understand that more awareness and understanding of our impressive organization is a vital factor for the continuous growth of our clubs statewide. Our own PDG Paul Bledsoe of Bledsoe Advertising/Productions has developed the campaign.

The campaign includes a mix of social, streaming and digital marketing. We are marketing to an age group of 25-54 adults, men and women within our state. This demographic is the most populist group within North Carolina where the overall average age of our population is 38.6.

If you would like to see a preview of the marketing clips that will be used, go to the following link: <https://vimeo.com/524442538>. Additional information regarding the campaign will be coming soon.

## LCI Dues Proposal

The International Board of Directors of Lions Clubs International has voted to approve an international dues adjustment resolution that will be voted on at the International Convention in June. After careful consideration, the Directors approved the resolution calling for a \$7.00 dues increase over a three year period. Under the proposal, dues would be adjusted according to the following schedule:

- \$3 increase on July 1, 2022
- \$2 increase on July 1, 2023
- \$2 increase on July 1, 2024

LCI dues have not been adjusted since 2011 and several cutbacks have been made during this time. The dues adjustment is needed so LCI can continue to support Lions and the global initiatives of the more than 1.4 million members in 50,000 clubs around the world. It is important to note that there will be no change in the LCI dues rate for the coming 2021 – 2022 year.

## Camp Dogwood Summer Camp Volunteers

Join us for Summer Camp 2021. Volunteers are needed to assist with activities and events during each session. Private rooms are available this year and of course you will enjoy dining with a lake view. Volunteering is a very rewarding experience.

If you are interested in becoming a summer camp volunteer, please contact Tammy at [Tammy@nclionsinc.org](mailto:Tammy@nclionsinc.org) or 828-478-2135 ext 229



# Calendar

May 13th	8:30pm	NAMI Meeting	Contact Lion George Culp for a Zoon Invite
June		Officer Training	More information to come!

## GST Corner

Greeting fellow lions, Now that we have 10 months of this lion year behind us and have elected the club officers for the next lion year, I have a request. If there are any presidents or secretaries not familiar with the "Mylion website", I would like to assist them in registering and using this site to report your club activities. By doing this before the new lion year starts, this would able your club to be ready on day one. I would also like to mention, if your club has a club global service chair (G.S.T.), they may also report your club activities. This is valuable information your governor and International uses to further the causes of Lionism.

Lion Ron Rich; District G.S.T.

Casper101@windstream.net



### Suggested Service Projects for April thru June

1. Cookout for VIPs
2. Tree Planting (Earth Day Project)
3. Volunteer at a soup kitchen or help deliver food for Meals on Wheels
4. Collect School supplies
5. Maintain a "Little Free Library"
6. Give or Present a scholarship award
7. Food Drive
8. Adopt a creek, highway or Police Officer
9. Volunteer at Camp Dogwood's Cleanup day in April or summer camp
10. Participant in a Stride Walk
11. Vision / Diabetes Screening
12. Donate books for a summer Reading program
13. Collect can tabs for the Leader Dog Program
14. Collect used pill bottles for poor countries in need

## Camp Dogwood HVAC Project Update

Thank you for those that helped get the other units done in our other buildings however the biggest & most dire need is the cates room which is where OUR meetings and dances etc are held down at camp dogwood. They are hanging in there but need replacing. We are asking clubs, districts and for personal donations. Nothing is too big and nothing is too small ☺

We have about \$9,000 towards the roughly \$24,000 needed for the project to remove the 5 ton unit and replace with a 10 ton unit, install in storage room, new ductwork, line set, connect to existing grills and additional electrical work.

PLEASE MAIL CHECK TO CAMP DOGWOOD  
7050 Camp Dogwood Dr., Sherrils Ford, NC  
28673 \*\*MARK check FOR HVAC UNIT PROJECT)  
Question: Contact PDG Wayne Faber at 919.780.8819 or  
wfaber100@hotmail.com.

# 2021-2022 District Governor Visits

Here is the proposed District Governor club visit schedule for the 2021-2022 Lions year. Please take a look at and save your clubs date. Remember that there are no other programs or events during this planned DG visit. The District Governor and Zone Chairperson will be in attendance. The Club President and Secretary will receive an email reminder 2 meetings prior to the visit. If the scheduled date is not on your meeting date and needs to be rescheduled please contact Wayne at [wkennerly@aol.com](mailto:wkennerly@aol.com) or Elizabeth Steele at [lrsteele@hughes.net](mailto:lrsteele@hughes.net).

Yours in Lionsim,  
Elizabeth Steele  
Assistant to  
H. Wayne Kennerly



Visit Date	Club	Visit Date	Club
7/7/21	Salisbury	10/4/21	Elkin
7/8/21	Bethlehem	10/7/21	Denton
7/12/21	Taylorsville	10/12/21	Kernersville
7/15/21	North Wilkesboro	10/14/21	Linwood
7/20/21	Boone	10/26/21	South Iredell
7/22/21	Walnut Cove	10/28/21	Thomasville
7/26/21	Pinnacle	11/2/21	Wallburg
8/3/21	Sparta	11/4/21	Midway
8/5/21	Creston River-view	11/8/21	Pilot
8/10/21	Dobson	11/11/21	Southmont
8/12/21	West Iredell	11/15/21	Davis-Townsend
8/16/21	WS Konnoak Hills	11/16/21	Lexington Downtown
8/17/21	West Jefferson	11/22/21	West Lexington
8/24/21	King	1/3/22	Cleveland
8/26/21	Churchland	1/4/22	Concord
9/2/21	WS. Twin City Host	1/11/22	Hasty
9/7/21	Yadkinville	1/13/22	Mt. Pleasant
9/14/21	Mt. Airy	1/18/22	Rockwell
9/16/21	Mocksville	1/20/22	Odell
9/20/21	Fairgrove	1/25/22	North Davidson (County)
9/21/21	Lake Norman	1/28/22	Charlotte Central
9/27/21	Mooresville	2/1/22	Harrisburg
9/28/21	Troutman	2/2/22	North Charlotte
		2/4/22	Charlotte South Park
		2/7/22	Davidson
		2/8/22	Mint Hill
		2/14/22	Charlotte Southern
		2/21/22	Hickory Grove
		2/28/22	Derita

## April Flowers Bring May Flowers and Officer Elections

Hard to believe that there are only two months remaining in our Lions' year. Sadly, it has been a tough year for our members and clubs. I did see from our neighbor district a new theme that I find encouraging. It is quite simple and worthy of repeating; "Looking Backward, Moving Forward".

The month of May is the time to nominate and elect your officers for 2021-22. Your Global Leadership Team (GLT) is readying plenty of opportunities to receive useful information and training on their officer positions.

Here is the chain of events we hope your club will follow:

- Appoint a Nominating Committee and discuss possible nominees.
- Contact your selections and insure they understand the responsibilities of the position.
- Schedule an Officer election.
- **MOST IMPORTANT** – post the officers in MYLCI as soon as possible.
- Encourage the officers (even if they have previously served) to attend the training session for their office.

Using the information posted in MYLCI, we will email the officers information regarding training dates and self-learning opportunities. Remind the officers that

Lions Resources offer multitudes of training materials including "How to Run a Meeting" and "Public Speaking". We will also send information regarding the Zoom meeting time and the invitation to join. Our team is also available to assist a club in the use of Zoom for meetings.

Here are the training opportunities currently scheduled for the first two weeks of June. Watch for the actual dates and time.

President Training – Instructor is PDG Tim Williams – Vice Presidents are encouraged to attend as well.

Secretary Training – Instructor is PDG Gary Steele

Treasurer Training – Instructor is Cabinet Treasurer Kirby Matthews

Tail Twister Training – Lion Chris Beck – self-appointed IDIOTT

Zone Chair Training – PDG George Culp

Our team can help in these most important steps to begin the new year. Let us know if we can assist.

PDG George Culp GLT District 31-I  
[liongeorgeculp@gmail.com](mailto:liongeorgeculp@gmail.com) 704 906 8568

## Did you know??

NC Lions collect and recycle used ink cartridges to raise money to offset the cost of the annual Deaf/Blind Retreat held each fall. You can now link yourself or your business and mail those ink cartridges directly to the recycler at no cost to you.

Go to the web address below to get more information about what cartridges are taken and how you can mail yours in.

<http://www.fundingfactory.com/goal/camp-dogwood>



## Do you order from Amazon.com?

Did you know that your order can benefit NCLI?

All you need to do is use the address of Smile.Amazon.com and select NCLI as the beneficiary. Amazon will donate a portion of every order made using that web address to NCLI.



# CLUB NEWS



## Bethlehem Lions Club

recently have helped a small assisted living facility in Taylorsville, NC called A New Outlook. The patients living there are 'special' as described by one of the nurses. We provided supplies for a Valentines party including paper products, candy- including sugar free and regular and cookies- unsweetened and cake. We even provided a floral arrangement and large cans of various foods for their kitchen.

In March - we worked on their wish list which included sheets, blankets, pillows, razors, lighters, shampoo, body wash, lotion and hand sanitizer. On March 19 we delivered a van full of wishes!



## DENTON CLUB

will be hosting our Welcome Spring Golf Tourney at 9AM May 3rd at McCanless Golf Course, Salisbury NC. The tourney will be 4 man captains choice \$200 per team with each golfer able to purchase 2 mulligans and 2 red tees for \$20. There will be a special prize for the lowest LIONS team. A lions team must consist of at least 3 LIONS. Lunch after the tourney will be provided.

Contact Kirby Matthews at 336-803-1544 or [kirby@minutemansupply.com](mailto:kirby@minutemansupply.com) for more information.

We are holding our famous Shrimp Boil on May 15 from 5:00 to 7:30PM. This will be a take out event with presold tickets. Each plate will consist of 1 lb of shrimp, Kielbasa, Baked Potato, Slaw and homemade dessert. Tickets are \$20 each. Contact Theresa Matthews at [mkmsales@mindspring.com](mailto:mkmsales@mindspring.com) to order tickets.



Join North Carolina Lions

on Facebook:

**NC Lions MD-31**

## International Convention Will Be Virtual

Due to the continuing concerns about COVID-19, the LCI Board of Directors have voted to move the 2021 International Convention to a totally virtual convention. This decision was made with the health and safety of Lions, staff and vendors in mind as limiting international travel and large gatherings is key to global containment strategies.

Here are some important details about the 2021 virtual convention:

- **Everyone's invited** – The 2021 convention will be a virtual event that's open to all Lions and Leos around the world.
- **Registration fees** – The registration fee will be US \$50 until March 31, then US \$75 beginning April 1. The registration fee for Leos will be US \$30 regardless of date. Convention is currently scheduled for June 25-29. Additional event and registration details will be provided soon.
- **Current registrants** – Lions who are currently registered for convention will receive an email soon with more information about their registration options.
- **Elections** – Executive officer and international director elections will be conducted electronically and voting procedures will be forthcoming.

**Convention updates** – Check the convention website [LCICon](http://LCICon) for convention updates and details as they become available.

## New Mini– Mobile Eye Screening Van

The North Carolina Lions Eye Screening Program is excited to introduce our new mini Mobile Screening Van. We want to thank the Foundation for the Carolinas grant program for providing the funding for the van and eye screening equipment as well as Lion Neal Alexander for making the grant possible.

Our goal is to eventually have a fully equipped van in each of the five NC Lion Districts. By having a screening van in each district it will allow us to perform 5 times as many screenings as we are currently doing in a cost efficient way. We are putting an emphasis on early childhood screenings by expanding our partnership with the national “Lions Kid Sight Program” so that we can catch eye problems early in a child's life. We will also continue to screen adults and seniors as always. Thank you all for your support of NCLI and all the great things you do as Lions in your communities! Stay Safe & Healthy!

PDG W. Durden Dean

Executive Administrator North Carolina Lions, Inc.  
828-478-2135 ext.223 [durden@nclionsinc.org](mailto:durden@nclionsinc.org)



Hello from the  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governors of MD 31,  
We are pleased to announce that **PDG Dale Dupree** has been selected as our Council Chair for the 2021-2022 Lions year!  
And we're excited to continue our journey together serving the Lions of North Carolina. We encourage all Lions to reach out to us with any suggestions as to how we can serve you in the coming Lions year!

Happy New Year to you all and we're looking forward to a fabulous year!

Respectfully, MD 31 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governors

L Kenneth Beach  
I Wayne Kennerly  
O Barbara Thompson  
N Robert Block  
S Randy Oxendine

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 susanmathers@gmail.com.

# LIONS TRIVIA

## What year did Lionism come to North Carolina?

Send the answer to this question to  
[diannamwald@gmail.com](mailto:diannamwald@gmail.com).

First one with the correct answer  
wins a prize!

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

