

DISTRICT 31-1 NEWS



NEW RECORD MEMBERSHIP WORLDWIDE—1,445,591—AND COUNTING



District 31-1 Newsletter

July 2017

Issue 1

Planting Seeds with DG Lion George Culp

There is a time for planting....Tend and Befriend thru Service

Tend and Befriend – July is “Plant a seed” month. It is time to get the ground ready and determine what to plant. As the ground is readied, we begin to plan our garden of service.

I remember vividly my father: barefoot, shorts, shirtless, and with a Tampa Nugget cigar hanging gingerly from the corner of his mouth, as he prepared the soil in his small garden. Small yes, compared to a farm field of today, but large in that it was 75% of our back yard.

His annual garden tasks began in late winter as a neighbor Mr. Pethel turned the ground with his 8N Ford Tractor. As a boy, I longed to drive that tractor! Several weeks later, Dad would ‘crank’ the rope-starting Merry Tiller as he wrapped the rope and pulled until it finally started. Once underway, he proceeded to ‘work’ the ground methodically, continuing over and over again until the clods were broken and the ground was smooth from corner to corner. Now it was time to read the Almanac.

The Almanac gave Dad information, as he explained to me, “When the signs are right”. Then and today, I’m not sure what that meant, except it apparently was important to the farmers of his day. While he awaited, most years until Easter Monday, he and I would visit the local hardware and seed store. Apparently, the Almanac indicated that we could plant the garden after Easter. I always enjoyed seeing the ‘Peeps’ and rabbits, all dyed in bright Easter colors of yellow, green and purple. Yes, through the years, several went home with me. The point of our visit was not to shop, but to buy seeds for the garden.

Even though Dad knew what to buy, based upon past garden experience, he was always looking for new crops to try. (Thank goodness, he finally tried okra, one my favorites still today.) At the feed store, seeds were scooped, weighed, and dropped in a small paper bag, ready to take home and be planted. There he purchased seeds for green beans, limas, corn, tomatoes, okra, and others. There were potatoes with little sprouts and onion sets as well.

(Continued on page 4)

“Gathering Times”

- JUNE 30-** International Convention
- JULY 4** - *Chicago*
- July 15** Awards & Installation
First Cabinet Meeting
- *Camp Dogwood*
- July 16** 11am Dock Dedication
- *Camp Dogwood*
- July 19** 3pm 50th Anniversary
- *Camp Dogwood*
- July 22** 9-11am Officer Training
-Third Ward Community House, 1015 Margaret Brown St, Charlotte
Pay District and International Dues
- AUGUST** First Zone Meetings
- Aug. 11-13** Council and Board Mtg.
- *Chestnut Tree Inn, Cherokee, NC*
- Aug. 31** Brighter Visions Kickoff
- *Mayflower Seafood, Rural Hall, NC*



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First Vice District Governor - Carolyn Sprinkle...

I have had the opportunity to work with Lions for twenty years. My husband Bob joined Sparta Lions Club in 1997 and I became a Lion in spirit. I joined the club in 2002 having spent four years working with other non-profit organizations in our community. For the past fifteen years I have served in many offices and worn many hats in my Lions journey. I am excited about the next year as I serve as 1st VDG. I have learned from the best leaders and that has helped me grow and become a stronger leader while serving others in so many capacities. My community is not densely populated so it is easy to see the needs of our friends and neighbors. Many of these needs are met by non-profit organizations and community service clubs such as Lions. Other needs are not being met – here or elsewhere. Through our association with Lions Clubs International we are part of an organization with 1.4+ million members, in 200 countries serving their communities as part of 46,000 clubs. There are many of us that serve but just not enough of us. When I first became involved in our NC Lions, we were 14,000+ members. Currently our membership is less than 6,300+/-, which gets me to my point (finally you say).

Governor George Culp asked the VDGs to share our projects for the 2017-2018 Lions year with you. Mine is to increase the number of volunteers and hopefully Lions members in order for us to remain the largest non-profit service organization in the world. We are all volunteers, we believe in Lionism and give 100% of our time and talents. What we don't do with any enthusiasm is to share this opportunity with others. During the next few weeks, I will develop a

“volunteer needs assessment” for us to use in our clubs. Once we have that completed, we will have a tool to help recruit the folks who have the
(continued on page 4)

Don't forget
Awards and Installation
First Cabinet Meeting
July 15—Camp Dogwood
 Registration for lunch required—see page 6

New "Roads" to Tend

Where in the district is DG George?

THU THU THU THU

**KEEP PLOWING
TILL SOMETHING
DECIDES TO GROW.**

thorgeorge@ncgpc.com

Monday, July 10	Derita
Monday, July 10	Taylorville
Wednesday, July 12	Salisbury
Thursday, July 13	Bethlehem
Monday, July 17	Winston-Salem Konnoak Hills
Tuesday, July 18	Lexington-Downtown
Thursday, July 20	Winston-Salem Twin City Host
Thursday, July 20	Creston Riverview
Monday, July 24	Pilot
Tuesday, July 25	Mt. Airy
Tuesday, July 25	Dobson
Thursday, July 27	Huntersville
Monday, August 7	Elkin
Monday, August 7	Davis-Townsend
Thursday, August 10	Linwood
Tuesday, August 15	Yadkinville
Monday, August 21	Hickory Grove
Tuesday, August 22	King
Friday, August 25	Charlotte Central
Friday, August 25	Charlotte South Park
Monday, August 28	Pinnacle

"Sharing
the Harvest"

*Our 2017-2018 District 31-I
 Brighter Visions Goal is*

\$187,500

**Brighter Visions
For All of North Carolina**

Hello! I'm Donald Cobb, a member of the Sparta Lions Club since 2013. I'm also honored to work with you this year as our district Brighter Visions chair.

Brighter Visions is important to our district and state. Did you know funds from Brighter Visions supports 12 different services offered to VIPs by North Carolina Lions? Much of the money raised by our district supports services our clubs provide within our district.

Our district Brighter Visions goal for 2017-2018 is \$187,500. This is a goal we can easily reach if we all work together.

Something new this year is a goal to provide 3 names of individuals or businesses per zone who can be visited in order to share the Lions story in hopes that they will donate to the Brighter Visions Fund. Hannah Earnhardt, Director of Development for N.C. Lions Inc., will share the Lions story with these contacts.

You'll hear more about Brighter Visions in the coming months. In the meantime, plan to join us for our district Brighter Visions kickoff on August 31, 2017, at the Mayflower Seafood Restaurant in Rural Hall.

Tell us about your club events: fundraisers, service projects and honors received so that we can share them with your fellow Lions.

Email the details to ebc4986@yahoo.com or mail to Lion Elizabeth Conrad, 1270 Beck's Nursery Road, Lexington, NC 27292 **by the 20th of each month.**

Send those great PICTURES too!



New

in the Garden

Welcome new Lions & thanks to their sponsors

Club	New Lion	Sponsor
Boone	Gerald Traudt	Susan Cole
Denton	Taylor Beal	Kirby Matthews
Denton	Kandi Bremer	Theresa Matthews
Denton	Sid Loflin	Cheree Loflin
Denton	April Mesimer	Kandi Bremer
Mt. Pleasant	James Phillip Dempsey II	Tim Mauldin
Troutman	Maureen Ladimir	Thomas Keels

**BRIGHTER VISIONS
KICK-OFF**

**THURSDAY, AUG 31—MEETING 7 P.M.
ARRIVE EARLY FOR MEAL**

**MAYFLOWER SEAFOOD
665 MONTEROYAL RD.
RURAL HALL**

*In loving memory of Lions
who have died this past month*

Charles Coombs - Davidson

*Information is obtained from MMRs
submitted to LCI*



Introducing our newest Lion. Here is Lion Christy Poteat from Bethlehem Lions with Autumn. Autumn came from Leader Dog in Rochester, MI where VIP Christy spent several weeks training so that both of them would be comfortable in their new roles.

Sprinkle—(Continued from page 2)

talents to serve those in need. This exercise will help us to determine if we are truly serving the needs in our communities or if we only need to continue with some of our current service projects.

Remember, volunteers do not charge for their time but that does not equate to free or of no value. Current IRS rate for volunteer workers is \$23.76 per hour. Like employees, we recruit volunteers based on their knowledge, hands on experience, professional and educational training. Set goals and performance standards and then let go of the Cinderella syndrome and empower these recruits to do the work. We all will share with them pride and enthusiasm for a job well done through team work and dedication.

So, all that being said, I need your help. Once the draft of this document is completed, I will email it to each club President along with a critique sheet. Please work as a club and share your thoughts with me as we become stronger and more effective in living up to our motto **“We Serve”**. This is a District I project. Let’s work as a team.

Carolyn Sprinkle

1st. Vice District Governor



DG George - (continued from page 1)

With our ground readied, seeds and plants purchased; it was now time to ‘cut the rows’. Dad would start with his push-plow at one end of the garden and begin with vertically cutting the first row or two. Next, he was dependent on me to cut the rest as he laid off the garden, marking the remaining rows. He taught me to put my sights on the rock he had placed on the end of the row. My goal was to focus on that rock, not look down, and push on to the finish. His goal was a straight row parallel to the others.

As we begin our new Lions year, your club should be planning their activities for the year. What service projects will you be doing? Where will you get your funds to support your efforts started in previous years such as Brighter Visions? What innovative new ideas might your members have?

It is a new year, a time for planting. Is your ground ready?



Club officers – July is the time to meet with your officers, set goals and action plans. How else will you know you are successful without a goal? Included in this newsletter is a brief article about S.M.A.R.T. goals. Also included, on page 7, is a blank form that you can use.

I look forward to meeting with your clubs. I especially look forward to hearing about your activities. Now is the time to plant seeds of service.

Tend and Befriend – Coming to you in August. **“Befriend and Nurture”** month. It will be time to water, weed and feed, and do the things necessary to ensure our seeds begin to grow.

Lion George Culp DG NC Lions 31-I

Liongeorgeculp@gmail.com

Mark your calendars:

- Oct 23-26 VIP Fishing Tournament
- Nov 3-4 31-I Convention
- Nov 10-12 NCLI
- Nov 17-18 31-L Convention

Club Updates & Events

A NEW FIELD TO TEND—WHAT IS A G.S.T.?

This Lions year (2017-2018), Lions International is placing emphasis on five Service Areas. They are: Diabetes, Environment, Hunger Relief, Pediatric Cancer, and of course, Vision. **The Global Service Framework** focuses the efforts of Lions and Leos on these five service areas with the goal of tripling our humanitarian impact by serving 200 million people per year by 2021. The Global Service Framework complements all of the great ways clubs serve locally, and gives Lions and Leos new opportunities to help meet the growing challenges facing humanity.

No matter how you choose to serve, Lions matter now more than ever!

Lions International has created a new position; “Global Service Team”. Governor George has asked me to chair this committee. During the Zone Chair training/planning meeting, we developed a list of service projects and divided them into each quarter of the Lion year. These are suggested projects and are only a guide to what could be done. We will leave that up to the individual clubs. The Governor is asking each club to do at least one service project a month and report it to the District using MYLCI as you have done in the past. If your secretary does not have access to the internet, these reports can be sent to me.

I am available for club visits or to help your club resolve any issues that may arise. During the first cabinet meeting, I will discuss the suggested service projects in more detail. Each month, the District newsletter will feature the suggested projects for that quarter.



STOP - if you are looking for a service project for your club. Here are some great suggestions from GST leader Ron Rich.

RIVERVIEW – Welcomes you to “Do It Best” Rubber Duck Race and Festival by the river, Saturday, **August 19**, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rain or Shine. Duck race at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5 or 5 for \$20. Grand prize \$1000, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100. Food by Appalachian Senior Companion Program. Free admission-kids’ activities-parking-live music-local craft vendors. Riverview Community Center, 11719 NC Hwy 88W, Creston, NC

Lions Tim and Debbie Williams did an awesome job leading **ZONE 8** Club Officer’s Training on June 17 with 18 Lions representing 6 of the 8 Clubs in our Zone plus one from Fair Grove in Zone 4. Thanks to both trainers and to Lake Norman Lions Club for the use of their clubhouse. DGE George Culp and Lion Donald Cobb who will be the 2017-2018 District Chair for Brighter Visions were present. Prayer request for Lions Ellen Richardson (Mooresville) and Patsy Shumake (West Iredell). – Zone 8 Chair-Angie Kaiser

TROUTMAN LIONS CLUB - CENTENNIAL LEGACY PROJECT: Little Free Library at the Depot in Troutman. Take a book, Leave a book. Just in time for the children’s summer reading program. Troutman Lions will replenish the little library with books as needed. It is an eco-friendly design with solar lighting in the roof.

Lions Charlene Overcash and Sheryl Glase helped fill it for the first time.



Suggested Service Projects for July thru September

- Donate school supplies to a local school or hand sanitizer and hand tissue for teachers
- Collect clothes for Children’s Home
- Partner with a school, scouts or another community organization.
- Maintain a “Little Free Library”
- Collect used pill bottles to send to an organization that fills them for a poor country in need
- Vision / Diabetes Screening
- Assist Meals on Wheels deliveries
- Join or start a Reading program at a school or Library
- Hold a Food Drive
- Join a local parade or host a Festival Booth
- Adopt a Highway or a Police Officer
- Collect can tabs for the Leader Dog program
- Visit Nursing Homes, Take treats.
- Recycle Eyeglasses

Any questions or concerns may be sent to:
Lion Ron Rich / email –
casper101@windstream.net



50th Anniversary - Camp Dogwood

Celebrate July 19 at 3 p.m.

Open Time Capsule—Bury new one!

Make reservations with NCLI Director

or online at nclionsinc.org

S.M.A.R.T. GOALS

It is January 1st, and you decide that you would like to lose weight. You are seeing ads for gym membership and weight-loss programs. You decide to make a goal. “I am going to lose weight!” That is doable, however it is not a S.M.A.R.T goal.

S.M.A.R.T goals are:

Specific
Measurable
Actionable
Realistic
Timely

A S.M.A.R.T goal for losing weight might be something like, “I am going to lose 10 pounds by June 1, 2017.” It allows you to set a goal that is achievable and that you will know when it is reached. S.M.A.R.T goals are followed by an Action Plan.

The action plan lists specific action steps necessary to achieve the goal and most importantly WHO is responsible for completing each action step. The following actions steps are to lead us to our weight-loss goal:

Action Step 1) Inquire and select gym with trainer.

Action Step 2) Adjust schedule to allow gym time from 6AM to 7AM four days a week.

Action Step 3) Replace soft drinks with water until June 1.

You probably get the picture by now. Action Steps will also identify others who may be responsible for tasks that will make your goal possible. All that is left is to set the target deadline for completing the goal and how you will know the goal has been accomplished. In our example, simply said, it is to weigh less on June 1st.

If you need help with setting goals, contact DG George Culp. A blank Goal and Action Plan template is included on page 7 in this newsletter.

Be S.M.A.R.T when it comes to planning your club’s year of Tending and Befriending!

DISTRICT AWARDS/INSTALLATION AND CABINET MEETING – JULY 15, 2017

Meal Registration

For ALL Lions and guests

All Club and District Officers
of District 31-I should attend

Awards 11:30 AM

Lunch 1:00 PM

Installation and Cabinet Meeting 2:00 PM

July 15, 2017

Camp Dogwood

DEADLINE: July 5, 2017

Name: _____
 Name: _____
 Name: _____
 Name: _____
 Name: _____
 Name: _____

Number for Meals ___ X \$10.50

Amount Enclosed _____

Please make checks payable to:

District 31-I Lions

Mail payment to:

Lion Ron Staley
7935 Altacrest Drive
Concord, NC 28027

S.M.A.R.T. Goal and Action Plan Template

Use this template to create your S.M.A.R.T. goals and action plans. Document one goal and action plan per page. S.M.A.R.T. = Specific, Measurable, Actionable, Realistic and Time Bound

NAME: _____

DISTRICT: _____

S.M.A.R.T. Goal Focus (check one)

- Leadership Development
- Membership Development
- Service
- Other: _____

1) S.M.A.R.T. Goal Statement:

2) Action Plan:

a. List the specific action steps necessary to achieve this goal and who will be responsible for completing each action step.

Action Steps	Who Is Responsible

b. When is the target deadline for completing this goal?

c. How will we know this goal has been accomplished? (Be specific)

The template to the left can be found at <http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/>

If you are not familiar with the Lions Clubs International Website, please check it out. It is a repository for all things "Lions." Use the search feature to locate anything you might be specifically interested in, or just surf the site and find things you never would have even thought to ask about.

www.lionsclubs.org

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 e-mail are available on the day of publication. USPS mailings are received a week after publication and cost a minimum \$.47 cents to mail; and, depending on the number of pages in each edition, could cost \$.60 to \$.81 cents per issue to mail.

All articles, announcements, etc., for inclusion in the District 31-I Newsletter should be sent to: Lion Elizabeth Conrad, 1270 Beck's Nursery Road, Lexington, NC 27292 or ebc4986@yahoo.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 e-mail should be sent to Lion Ron Staley, 7935 Altacrest Drive, Concord, NC 28027 or rstaley@carolina.rr.com

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International Association of
Lions Clubs

