

# DISTRICT 31-I NEWS



World Diabetes Day Is November 14!



District 31-I Newsletter

November 2017

Issue 5

## *Planting Seeds with DG Lion George Culp*

**There is a time for nurturing...Tend and Befriend Thru Service**

**Tend and Befriend** – November is **Count your Many Blessings** month. This month includes a special holiday for our families. It is a time to come together, enjoy our early harvest and give thanks for our blessings.

Many of our District Lions and VIPs just returned from the NC Outer Banks, or as seen on bumper decals and license plates, OBX. The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual VIP Fishing Tournament is a five-day event and was attended by over 800 persons.

This event is a favorite of our VIPs and every year more can attend due the efforts of Lions Clubs in their communities.

This year there were 312 VIPs with 208 assisting. Another 180 volunteers served meals, poured drinks, set up tables, removed garbage and cleaned the area for the next event. There were even volunteers to cut blood worms into bait! Another 350 local volunteers were also involved. The weather was beautiful every day except the fishing day, when a cold front, heavy seas, and a cold wind made for an uncomfortable day of fishing. Many of the VIPs stuck it out and over 100 fish were caught with the largest being twenty-one inches.

As your District Governor, I am proud of the district's representation at the event. More pleasure came from the number of our Lions who attended for the first time. Of those I spoke with, this will not be their last. Each of them, as well as returning ones, were blessed by being a part of this event. I overheard several times, "This is why we are Lions!"

Lions, this is what we do. "We Serve" to enhance the lives of those we serve.

Thanksgiving reminds us of the story of how the Native Americans taught the settlers to use fish to fertilize their crops. While we released our catches, the settlers were dependent on their catches and crops to feed their families and survive. Sadly, that need remains today in your community.

I hope each of our 57 clubs will pursue a hunger relief project during November. Whether it be a canned food drive, adopt a family, meals on wheels, or a community free meal, there is a need in your community that is looking for a Lion to serve.

*(Continued on Page 7)*

## **"Gathering Times"**

### **NOVEMBER 31-I Convention -**

- 3-5 *Camp Dogwood*
- 10-12 *NCLI  
Hilton Garden Inn  
Charlotte*
- 11-13 *Emerging/Advanced Lions  
Leadership Inst-Denver, CO*
- 17-18 *31-L Convention Lake  
Junaluska*

### **DECEMBER**

- 5 *Mobile Screening Unit -  
Salisbury*
- 8 *Mobile Screening Unit -  
Charlotte South Park*



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## 2ND VDG JIMMY MYERS

On Sunday morning November 5<sup>th</sup> our District I is having a Rise Up Against Hunger event at Camp Dogwood. I recently participated in such an event at my church. Thirty-three of us gathered together on a Saturday morning, and in two hours we boxed over 10,000 meals. These meals are sent all over the world mostly to schools and orphanages. There are six meals per package. The recipient adds water and heat, and has a meal that includes rice, soy, and vitamins.

I hope all who are coming to Camp Dogwood for our District Convention will stay and join us on Sunday morning to help package these meals. Even if you don't come to the convention, come on Sunday and join us in this effort.

I would like to challenge our clubs to try to have such an event. The cost for the event is \$3,000, but you will be doing a world of good.

Lion *Jimmy Myers*—2nd Vice District Governor

## Brighter Visions

### Did you know?

In the past three years, Brighter Visions has provided funding for the following programs and services in North Carolina:

- 2,001 campers attending Camp Dogwood
- 3,108 eye exams and 6,017 eyeglasses purchased through Matching Funds
- 3,759 support and mobility canes provided
- 41 N.C. Lions education grants to children of visually impaired parents
- 38,155 exams through the Mobile Screening Unit
- 477,772 eyeglasses recycled
- Deaf Blind Retreat
- Low Vision Aids
- Clinical Eye Research
- Lions Eye Health Program
- Organ and Tissue Procurement
- 375+ VIPs, 130 sighted individuals, and 300 volunteers per year at the VIP Fishing Tournament

*"Sharing*

*the Harvest"*

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

**\$187,500**

*Follow our progress  
each month*

**\$49,139**

**26.21%**

**0%**

### New "Roads" to Tend

*Where in the district is DG George?*



Wednesday, November 1, 2017	North Charlotte
Thursday, November 9, 2017	Walnut Cove
Monday, November 13, 2017	Southmont
Tuesday, November 14, 2017	Mint Hill
Thursday, November 16, 2017	Gold Hill
Monday, November 20, 2017	Hickory Grove
Tuesday, November 21, 2017	Lake Norman
Monday, November 27, 2017	Mooreville
Thursday, November 30, 2017	Thomasville

These programs and services would not be possible if Brighter Visions funding was not available.

As of October 6, 2017, 23 clubs (40%) in our district have not contributed to this year's Brighter Visions campaign. At the same time, 21 clubs (37%) have contributed over \$1,000 to Brighter Visions. Where does your club stand?

Make sure your club contributes to the Brighter Visions campaign so we can reach our goal and continue to provide programs and services to our VIPs!

Lion Donald Cobb  
District **Brighter Visions** Chair

## G.S.T. Corner

Hello fellow Lions. We are entering our fifth month of this Lion year. Time seems to go by fast when you are busy and having fun.

November would be a great month to honor our vets. I hope you would consider a service project for the vets in your neighborhood.

Presidents and secretaries, if you are having trouble navigating MYLCI website, I would be glad to assist you in learning to use this tool. If you are looking for a program for an upcoming club meeting, I would love to visit with your club.

Lion Ron Rich

District G.S.T.

email : casper101@windstream.net

### Suggestions "Gifts in Kind" for November

Hearing Aid Donations

Backpacks to Schools

School Supplies

Food for Thanksgiving dinners

Hair Dryers for Camp Dogwood

## Suggested Service Projects

for **November** thru December

- Collect can tabs for Leader Dog program
- Hold a food drive
- Recognize an outstanding citizen
- Host a V.I.P. Christmas party
- Hold a vision and/or diabetes screening
- Partner with Operation Christmas Child
- Help fill North State military Christmas boxes
- Maintain a "Little Free Library"
- Partner with Angel Tree
- Collect for a toy drive such as Toys for Tots
- Partner with Toy Store for Jesus
- Visit nursing homes and take treats
- Collect used pill bottles for poor countries in need
- Recycle eyeglasses
- Distribute personal-need bags for those in shelters

Continue with ongoing service projects

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

## Sell \* Sell \* Sell

Keep selling those Camp Dogwood Tickets. Funds are needed more than ever. Although there are no extra drawings this year, please remember to turn in your sold tickets at the Fall Convention.

In spite of drastic measures to reduce the budget for NCLI, contributions to Brighter Visions have not kept up with expenses for many years. Now, with reserve funds dwindling, the very survival of Camp Dogwood is at stake. Dig deep, do an extra fundraiser and look for potential partners in your community.

## For the Love of Kids



### Boys and Girls Home

### Capital Campaign

Raffle tickets for a chance to win a 7-night stay at Courtyard Carolina Beach valued at >\$1750 need to be turned in by Nov. 15.

Contact District Chair for Boys and Girls Home, Glenda Everhart at gbeverhart@yahoo.com for tickets or more information.



District 31 I DASHBOARD As of 10/23/2017												
	Service		Members			Leadership			District	District Dues	Brighter	Camp Dogwood
Lions Club	Zone	Activities	July 1	Current	To Date	Pres	Sec	Treas.	Goals Met	Current	Visions	Tickets
Arcadia	4	2	13	14	1	Y				Y	1,000.00	0.00
Bethlehem	1	24	21	21	0			Y		Y	0.00	0.00
Boone	2	6	23	23	0		Y			Y	0.00	0.00
Charlotte Central	10		7	7	0		Y	Y		Y	0.00	0.00
Charlotte South Park	10	7	23	23	0	Y	Y			Y	25.00	0.00
Charlotte Southern	10		10	11	1	Y	Y			Y	0.00	0.00
Churchland	5	3	13	12	(1)		Y	Y		Y	1,000.00	0.00
Cleveland	6	18	30	30	0		Y	Y		Y	1,000.00	0.00
Concord	9	10	25	29	4		Y			Y	2,550.00	0.00
Creston Riverview	2		17	19	2					Y	1,000.00	30.00
Davidson	8		31	25	(6)	Y			Y	0.00	0.00	
Davis Townsend	5	6	28	28	0		Y	Y	Y	20.00	0.00	
Denton	5	3	40	39	(1)		Y		Y	1,070.00	0.00	
Derita	9	1	10	15	5	Y	Y		Y	1,100.00	260.00	
Dobson	3	17	32	32	0		Y	Y	Y	20.00	0.00	
East Iredell	8		6	6	0				Y	0.00	0.00	
Elkin	1	1	8	8	0					Y	880.00	0.00
Fair Grove	4		17	14	(3)	Y				Y	600.00	0.00
Franklin Ellis	6	2	5	5	0		Y	Y		Y	300.00	0.00
Gold Hill	6	16	12	12	0					Y	200.00	0.00
Harrisburg	9		11	11	0			Y		Y	300.00	0.00
Hasty	4	5	9	9	0					Y	1,700.00	0.00
Hickory Grove	10		6	6	0					Y	0.00	0.00
Huntersville	8	4	15	15	0					Y	2,000.00	0.00
Kernersville	7	29	58	60	2					Y	6,148.00	0.00
King	3	3	16	16	0				Y	Y	1,600.00	0.00
Konnoak Hills	7	4	20	19	(1)					Y	3,000.00	0.00
Lake Norman	8	6	26	29	3	Y	Y			Y	0.00	0.00
Lexington Downtown	5	1	27	26	(1)		Y			Y	0.00	0.00
Linwood	5	5	23	24	1	Y	Y			Y	1,160.00	0.00
Midway	4	3	13	12	(1)					Y	0.00	0.00
Mint Hill	10	4	32	36	4	Y				Y	0.00	0.00
Mocksville	7	18	24	24	0					Y	4,100.00	0.00
Moorestville	8	38	31	29	(2)	Y	Y	Y		Y	0.00	0.00
Mount Airy	3	3	18	18	0		Y	Y		Y	100.00	0.00
Mount Pleasant	9		59	59	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	3,500.00	0.00	
North Charlotte	9		15	15	0				Y	100.00	0.00	
North Wilkesboro	1		44	40	(4)				Y	0.00	0.00	
Odell	9		12	12	0		Y	Y	Y	500.00	0.00	
Pilot-Davidson	4	1	35	36	1	Y	Y		Y	1,000.00	0.00	
Pinnacle	3		12	12	0	Y	Y		Y	0.00	0.00	
Rockwell	6	57	21	21	0	Y	Y		Y	500.00	0.00	
Salisbury	6	7	62	54	(8)	Y			Y	1,270.00	0.00	
South Iredell	8		19	17	(2)				Y	0.00	0.00	
Southmont	5		11	10	(1)				Y	0.00	0.00	
Sparta	2	101	41	35	(6)	Y	Y		Y	2,183.44	0.00	
Taylorsville	1	6	24	27	3	Y	Y		Y	0.00	0.00	
Thomasville	4	15	44	45	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	3,000.00	0.00	
Troutman	8	20	16	16	0	Y	Y		Y	0.00	0.00	
Wallburg	4		14	13	(1)				Y	0.00	0.00	
Walnut Cove	3	1	11	11	0				Y	0.00	0.00	
Welcome	1	9	15	15	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	1,025.00	0.00	
West Iredell	5	19	18	18	0				Y	0.00	0.00	
West Jefferson	2	22	27	27	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	4,090.00	0.00	
West Lexington	5	1	14	13	(1)			Y	Y	0.00	0.00	
Winston Salem Twin City H	7		32	31	(1)	Y			Y	0.00	0.00	
Yadkinville	1		14	14	0		Y	Y	Y	550.00	0.00	
Misc										372.56	0.00	
District 31I Total		498	1,260	1,248	-12	22	29	17	3	56	48,964	290

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

James Worth Bentley	North Wilkesboro
Gladys Johnson*	West Lexington
Etta Ward**	Columbia Lions Club
Dave Grana***	First Flight Lions Club

\* Life Member

\*\* Mother of International Director Gwen White  
PO Box 140  
Columbia, NC 27925

\*\*\* Past President ; Director Emeritus - VIP Fishing Tournament  
Information obtained from MMRs submitted to LCI

**REMEMBER ALL LIONS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS  
WHO ARE IN NEED OF PRAYERS AT THIS TIME**

## District 31-I Fall Convention Nov. 3-5 Camp Dogwood ~~~ Information

**Friday night FUN NIGHT** – Lions & guests are welcome to dress in farmer/ gardener attire. Think **“Hee-Haw”**.

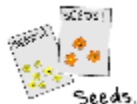


District Tail Twister, Kirby Matthews encourages all club Tail Twisters to arrive by 7 a.m. Saturday and be prepared to tail twist when the annual **Tail Twisters breakfast** starts at 7:30.

**Lions, bring those AUCTION** items- Clubs are asked to bring items that we can auction off to raise money for Brighter Visions. Remember to tag the items with your club name to get credit for any money the items you donate raises.

**The Brighter Visions Boutique** will be open throughout the convention. Please bring items, tagged with your club name and the price (whole dollars, please). In addition to great craft/gift items, don't forget the new Lions' Corner which will feature all things Lions. A great opportunity to pass on Lions memorabilia and clothing items to others. Contact Lion Debbie Williams if you have any questions. [djwms@triad.rr.com](mailto:djwms@triad.rr.com)

**New**



*in the Garden*

### Welcome new Lions & thanks to their sponsors

Club	New/Transfer Lion Sponsor	
Charlotte Southern	Bill Shefte	Steve Waddell
Kernersville	Scott Dunn	Marvin Bare
Lake Norman	Marlene Stowe	Maureen Sabbagh
Mint Hill	Ashley Robinson	Bill Mathers
	John Robinson	Bill Mathers
	Keith Rose	Bill Mathers
	Scarlette Rose	Susan Visbeck
Taylorsville	Kathy Jones	Johnny Davis
Thomasville	Patricia Hall	Charles Hall

### Directory Changes

P 24 - Hasty Lions President  
E: [shk50@live.com](mailto:shk50@live.com)  
P 38 - Mooresville Lions Secretary  
E: [LionAngieBKaiser@gmail.com](mailto:LionAngieBKaiser@gmail.com)

### Where to find it on the web:

[nclions31i.org](http://nclions31i.org) to find links to meeting and convention forms  
<https://www.classy.org/blog/21-creative-fall-fundraising-ideas/> to find new fund-raising ideas  
<https://www.lcif.org/EN/support-our-work/members-donate.php> to donate to LCIF disaster relief in TX,,FL,& PR

## Club News and Events

**The Davidson County Lions Council** will hold two VIP Christmas parties. The Thomasville area party will be Dec. 5 at Bethel UMC and the Lexington area party will be Dec. 14 at the YMCA.

**The Gold Hill Lions** coat drive for homeless veterans continues through November 1st. Contact PDG Morris VanVleet at 704-279-9358 home, 704-783-5164 cell, e-mail gpooobar@twc.com or USPS PO Box 1406 Rockwell, NC 28138 to help.

**Mooreville Lions Club** is working hard at collecting prescription & OTC bottles. Mooreville High School football season has begun and so has our scholarship fundraiser. We sell Houston's Roasted Peanuts during all home games using all money raised for our \$1000 scholarship to a lucky senior.



In honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness month, the **Mt. Pleasant Lions Club** invited the Thompson family to share their experiences with pediatric cancer. Angel, an 8th grade Leo from the Concord Leo Club and survivor of brain cancer, shared her story with the club. Club members also brought in over 60 board games and books to donate to area children's hospitals via Angel's "Gifts From Angels" ministry.



**Pilot Lions Club** will again be having their first Saturday barbecue fundraisers. Chicken and pork are served until they run out.

**Thomasville Lions Club** will be sponsoring the Embers Christmas Show on Sunday, December 3 at the Finch Auditorium. The cost is \$12 per person. VIPs are admitted for FREE. Contact PDG David Smoot (email: csmoot@triad.rr.com) for more information.

*More club news on page 7*

### Important Deadlines

- Nov. 14 Deadline for **Boys and Girls Home** raffle ticket \$ & stubs
- Nov. 15 Deadline to submit **Peace Poster** entries to District Governor
- Nov. 15 **Boys and Girls Home Raffle**
- Dec. 1 Deadline to submit winning **Peace Poster** entry to Council Chair
- Dec. 15 Deadline to submit multiple district **Peace Poster** winner to LCI



## ***LEADER Dogs FOR THE BLIND***

THANKS to all of you who have continued to collect TABS and Quarter Cards and for the generous donations from local clubs and individuals. We are excited to hold this record and ask that you bring your TABS and Quarter Cards to our Fall convention Nov. 4-5 at Camp Dogwood. Look for a display table manned by our State Leader Dogs Chairperson, Lion Tom Snivley. He will have lots of great information about our program plus have a container there to collect your TABS. Lion Ron Rich from the Troutman Lions Club will be responsible for the TABS collection.

I enjoy presenting our programs to your clubs and meeting with Lions throughout our district. Please invite me to come to your club and let me share how we, as Lions, are making such a difference in the lives of our visually impaired and blind people.

Lion Antha Reid - District Guide Dogs Chair



## *Happy Thanksgiving*

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](mailto:ebc4986@yahoo.com) or mail to Lion Elizabeth Conrad, 1270 Beck's Nursery Rd, Lexington, NC 27292 **by the 20th of each month.**

**Send those great PICTURES too!**

## *More Club News and Events*

**North Wilkesboro Lions Club** was honored by two of its own, PDG Mike Reid and Lion Bob Thompson. PDG Mike donated monies to Leader Dogs for the Blind in honor of District Guide Dogs Chairperson, Lion Antha Reid in recognition of dedication and commitment to her continued collection of TABS for the Blind for the past 12 years during which time several tons of TABS were collected. Lion Antha was presented a beautiful plaque, the Leader Dogs for the Blind Founders Tribute, from Leader Dogs for the Blind. Lion Bob Thompson donated monies for two 8"x8" bricks to be placed at the new walkways at the facilities in Rochester Hills, Mich. One of these bricks was in honor of him and his family and the other one in honor of North Wilkesboro Lions Club. He received two miniatures that show the inscriptions that were written on each brick. North Wilkesboro Lions received credit for both of these donations.



**DG George***continued from page 1*

Lions can also jump-start this effort by joining the Rise Against Hunger project on November 5. The event will close our convention on Sunday morning at 9AM at Camp Dogwood. There, we will pack 10,000 meals.

As your families gather, take time to be thankful for your blessings. Know that your efforts to tend and befriend are appreciated by those served.

We hope to see many of you at our District Convention. Help us show NC Lions that we can have a great convention at Camp Dogwood.



Above: DG George and Lion Richard Rogers at VIP Fishing

### **Lion Dianne and I wish your families a Happy Thanksgiving.**

Lion George Culp DG NC Lions 31-I

[Liongeorgeculp@gmail.com](mailto:Liongeorgeculp@gmail.com)

**World Diabetes Day** is coming up on Tuesday, November 14. That's when Lions and Leos around the world will elevate the fight against diabetes.

We're asking your club officers to schedule a club meeting on that date, or during our Worldwide Week of Service for Diabetes from November 13–19.

Every Lions Club should start talking about diabetes during this week. Please encourage your officers and fellow club members to get involved.

In the meantime, follow us for updates and info to share with your friends on World Diabetes Day:

Contact District 31-I co-chairs for Diabetes Awareness, CC Gary and Lion Liz Steele. They are willing to come give a program for your club most any time.



Check out the **N.C. VIP Fishing Tournament** Facebook page for more great pictures from the tournament.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/312080143914/>





The **2017 VIP Fishing Tournament** is now one for the history books. 312 VIPs plus their sighted assistants were served by 130 volunteers who received extra assistance from 350 local folks, including LEOs. Meals were served at the Manteo gym and fishing locations; fishing, by those who braved the elements, occurred on 3 piers and 2 boats; speakers inspired; entertainment provided music for dancing; Lions received recognition and VIPs were rewarded for their fishing success. There was also time for touring the local sites and shopping both at the gym and away from the VIP home base.



This year's VIP Fishing Tournament was dedicated to the memory of two amazing Lions, ***Esther Presnell*** and ***Pat Silvers***. Shown to the right are their spouses, PDG Joe Silvers and PID Lacy Presnell, who along with other family members were not only special guests of the tournament but who joined the other volunteers to make sure that the VIPs enjoyed the event.



Left: PCC Allen Reinhardt sharing the big chair with Lion VIP Christy Poteat and Autumn.

Right: PIP Sid Scruggs sporting his "Lions at Work" shirt.

*More pictures on page 8.*





In spite of a cold, blustery fishing day, a good time was had by all.

Displaying their Lacy and Esther Presnell VIP Ambassador awards, pictured above l-r: Roger Eudy, **Terry Cauble**, **Sydney Eudy**, Bob Walton and PID Lacy Presnell. Sidney was honored by Zone 9 and Terry by the Eudys and all the amazing VIPs who ride their bus to the tournament.



Below: Look who's chipping in with her contribution to VIP. Do you recognize any other familiar faces on this page?



**The 2017 Lions National VIP Fishing Tournament** was held on October 18 at Jennette's Fishing Pier. Participants represented Canada, Connecticut, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina and West Virginia.



WINNER OF THE  
2017 David C. Grana AWARD  
and STILL CHAMPION OF  
THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT  
NORTH CAROLINA'S Rodney Turner



Left: Guest speaker, International Director Nicolin Moore and her spouse, Lion Rudy, from Trinidad-Tobago eagerly stepped up to help serve the VIPs.

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](mailto: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](mailto:rstaley@carolina.rr.com)



International Association of  
Lions Clubs  
Lion George Culp  
District Governor, 31-1 North Carolina  
134 Eastcliff Drive, SE  
Concord, NC 28025

