

DISTRICT 31-I NEWS



We serve through diversity, creating harmony through service with
102nd International President, Dr. Jung-Yul Choi



District 31-I Newsletter

March 2020

Issue 9

Membership News



SEE PAGE 2

In Loving Memory of Lions who have died this past month

Member	Club
Robert F. Cole	Boone
Peggy M. Barrier	Mt. Pleasant
Betty Young	North Charlotte
M. Frances Eller	Rockwell
Ottis Honeycutt	Thomasville

Information obtained from MMRs submitted to LCI



VAVS Schedule 2020

Date	Lions Club
3/23/2020	Churchland
4/27/2020	Hasty
5/18/2020	Harrisburg
6/22/2020	Mt. Pleasant

Cleo Zemke -VAVS-District Co-Chair
704-785-4478

Welcome New Lions

Member	Club	Sponsored by
John C. Snellings	Bethlehem	Charles Bethany
Connie M. Burchette	Denton	Edith Myers
Keesha C Kearns	Denton	James Kearns
Kimberly Y. Lambert	Mocksville	Carl Lambert
Kathy H. Black	Mooresville	Kelly Johnson
Anthony S. Casper	Mooresville	Allen Lowrance
Perry S. Matthews	Pilot	Bobby Hendrick
Stacey F. Matthews	Pilot	Bobby Hendrick
Linda Poole	Taylorsville	Gail Jolly

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Important Deadlines

March 1, 2020	Leo of the Year nominations due
March 20, 2020	Last date to register for VIP Miniature Golf Tournament
March 22, 2020	Last date for price break on State Convention meals
March 31, 2020	Last date for ads for State Convention program
March 31, 2020	Last date for regular Int'l Convention registration fees
April 10, 2020	Last date for hotel rate for State Convention
April 14, 2020	Last date to mail State Convention registration

Join Lions! Make a Difference! - DG Jimmy Myers

Greetings Fellow Lions,

In March, we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. St. Patrick was a young Englishman who was enslaved by the Irish as a young man. He escaped and became a priest. He returned as a missionary to the people who had previously enslaved him, a true example of love. He was so effective as a missionary that he was able to convert the country to Christianity. He is famous for using the shamrock to teach the doctrine of the Trinity. Today the shamrock is the symbol of Ireland much like the bald eagle is a symbol of the USA, so be sure you wear green on March 17.

The District has a lot coming up in the next two months. On March 8, we have a Cabinet meeting at Camp Dogwood at 2 PM. If you come early you can participate in "Lunch on the Lake." Call Tammy at Camp Dogwood to reserve a meal for \$8 at 828-478-2135.

April 27-29 we have our State Convention at the Doubletree by Hilton in Asheville. The International President Dr. Choi from South Korea will be the keynote speaker. I have met Dr. Choi, and when I was in the military I served in South Korea at the headquarters of their Marine Corps which they pattern after our US Marine Corps. Rooms are going fast. Don't wait. This will be an outstanding event that you don't want to miss.

Also this is the last month for our efforts to see which district can raise the most food for local food pantries. When you go shopping, buy an extra can of food. Record the weight, and report it to your secretary who will report it to the Cabinet Secretary. Remember to donate the food item to a local food pantry to feed the hungry. This is our District project for our Lion focus on hunger.

Thank you for all that you do. Keep up the good work. Remember our Brighter Visions efforts. We are leading the state in raising the money to fund our programs in the state. Also let's all try to make a donation to our Campaign 100. Make this donation to our International Foundation. The Foundation funds our international and national efforts especially in disaster relief and other programs throughout the world. Bill Mathers is our Brighter Vision Chair, and PDG Butch Conrad is our Campaign 100 chair. Invite them to your club for a program.

God bless you in all that you do.
Jimmy Myers, District Governor

GOVERNOR JIMMY'S CHALLENGE

- Collect extra non-perishable food items.
- Report number of items and weight of food to the Club Secretary.
- The Club Secretary will report the number served via MYLION to International and the number of items and the weight to the Cabinet Secretary.
- Deliver the items to any food bank, soup kitchen, etc.

Project continues until April 2020

Here Comes the Judge

Official Club Visit Schedule



- 3/2 Cleveland
- 3/9 Pilot
- 3/10 King
- 3/16 Davidson
- 3/23 Pinnacle
- 3/24 Odell
- 3/26 Walnut Cove
- 4/2 Creston-Riverview
- 4/7 Sparta
- 4/13 Troutman
- 4/14 South Iredell
- 4/28 Arcadia

DISTRICT CABINET MEETING

MARCH 8 at 2 p.m. - Camp Dogwood

*"Lunch on the Lake" will be served
beginning at noon*

Contact Tammy for Meal Reservation

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 Rd, Lexington, NC 27292 by the 20th of each month. Send those great pictures too!

1st VDG Donald Cobb — We're Different, We're the Same

We're different, we're the same. Yes, if you've read the Winter 2020 issue of the Lion Magazine, you may have noticed that I used the same title for this article as Dr. Choi, our International President, used for his article in this magazine. Let me tell you a story that illustrates why I thought it was appropriate to use his title.

Dr. Choi goes on to say and I quote, "Sometimes we focus on how different another culture is. How their food is flavored, how they dress, how they celebrate, how they mourn. But while the diversity of cultures across the world is truly astounding, what I've learned from years as a Lion is how much we are all the same."

A couple of weeks ago, I had the opportunity to be in St. Charles, Illinois, for my district governor training. You may know that District Governor Elects spend three days in training at St. Charles and one day of training at the International Convention. There were over 700 DGEs attending; however, we were broken into groups for our primary training. The group I was fortunate enough to be in had 24 individuals from the U.S. and around the world. While we were from different countries, we quickly became one group sharing similar ideas, similar problems, and similar approaches in addressing the issues each of us faces as Lions. We also worked in smaller groups within our group. I was in a small group with an individual from New York, India, and Egypt. Again, our thoughts, ideas, problems, and Lion experiences, were the same. I'm sure if you listened to the discussion at our table you would have thought we all lived in the same neighborhood! We were different, but we were the same.

During the final day of our training, we had an exercise where each small group was given a scenario related to an issue within Lions Clubs and we were asked various questions as to how we might address the scenario. Once we were finished, we were joined by members of another group who were primarily French speaking and who had been given the same scenarios as we had been given. The idea behind this mingling of groups was to allow members of the French speaking group to report their work on a particular scenario and then members of our group report on our work with the same scenario. The reporting had to be done through a translator since many of those from the French speaking group could not speak English.

What did we learn as the French speaking groups reported and then the English groups reported? Once again, in spite of our language difference, all of the ideas presented during the reports were basically the same! There was no real difference in the responses as to how we would address the scenarios. No matter what language we spoke, what countries we were from, what our cultural differences may have been, we were basically the same. We were all Lions!

Now I know I have talked about our differences when individuals are from other countries and other cultures and that in spite of these differences, we were all the same. But doesn't the same hold true for people in our communities? We may look different, we may talk differently, and we may have different mannerisms. But the same holds true, we are all the same! By joining together as Lions, we can all be Lions and work together to strengthen our communities. By embracing our differences and working together as Lions, we are all the same!

HELP WANTED
ALL POSITIONS
APPLY WITHIN

District Governor-Elect Lion Donald is preparing for next year. Many opportunities to serve in leadership positions are available.

If you are interested in getting more involved in Lions or you would like to stretch into a new area, Lion Donald wants to know.

There is a place for YOU in Lions Leadership!

Lion Donald Cobb
District Governor-Elect

2nd VDG Wayne Kennerly

Well, somehow, we made it to a new year! Now it's 2020. It seems that just yesterday we were trying to figure out if all the high tech phones, clocks and computers would make the change from 1999 to 2000 without crashing our banking, stock market and other high tech applications.

With all of this high tech around us we still require batteries for flashlights, cars, cell phones, hearing aids and the list goes on and on.... It would be nice to have a new battery for my almost 77 year old body! After two back surgeries it is hard to get back in the groove, especially for my golf swing!

As Lions, we need to charge our batteries and try to recruit one new Lion per person this year. All of our clubs are becoming a little small, and our young people don't seem to want to join in anything new these days. Most civic clubs as well as churches are having these problems, facing the same decline in membership. We all need to try to bring in a friend, a church member, a work colleague or anyone who would benefit from the great feeling that comes from helping others.

If you wait for someone to come knocking on your door and ask to join, it will rarely or never happen. We need to spread the word of all the activities that we as Lions offer both locally and statewide such as Camp Dogwood, educational grants to students whose parents are our VIPs, white canes for VIPs, the blind fishing tournament at the Outer Banks and many more. Too many in our clubs are just "knife and fork" members who only show up to eat but do not contribute to the many opportunities available to us as Lions. Won't you do your part this year and charge your batteries for the good of Lionism?

All clubs could benefit from watching the program that Bill Mathers gives on "Brighter Visions." This program explains where all the money raised in our district is spent and the benefits it provides. If you only have one speaker this year, this is the speaker for you! Contact Bill. Believe me, you will have a new perspective on Lionism. This program will charge your batteries like no other!

Each person counts, why not share Lionism!
Lion Wayne Kennerly - 2nd Vice District Governor

Editors Note: If you missed Lion Wayne's words of wisdom in the February newsletter, his column apparently disappeared into an email black hole. Fortunately it reappeared in time for this month's newsletter. Enjoy!

DIRECTORY UPDATES

P 12 - change Ron Huber phone 828-263-3489 C
P 38 - change - Lexington Downtown Club President
Michelle Atkins
535 Greensboro Street Ext
Lexington 27295
336-470-5661
miatkins@brookdale.com

2ND ANNUAL
NC PAST DISTRICT GOVERNORS' ORGANIZATION
**CAPTAIN'S CHOICE
GOLF TOURNAMENT**
FRIDAY, APRIL 24
ETOWAH VALLEY GOLF CLUB
470 BRICKYARD ROAD, ETOWAH, NC

\$50 PER PLAYER
INCLUDES GOLF, CART & GIFT BAG

FIRST, SECOND & THIRD PLACE TEAM AWARDS

COURSE CONTESTS
LONGEST DRIVE, CLOSEST TO PIN & HOLE IN ONE

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM
TELEBRATIONS, THE BEE & HOLE

VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR APPLICATIONS, SPONSORSHIP FORMS & TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

TOURNAMENT INQUIRIES
FDG GEORGE SINGES
gsing@past.org

PROCEEDS BENEFIT
NCLH BRIGHTER VISIONS CAMPAIGN
NC LIONS VIP FISHING TOURNAMENT



The Surry Central High School Leo Club (Chartered in 1968) recently completed the Purse Project in which a carload of donated items was sent to The Ark, which is a women's shelter in Elkin. Pictured from left: Alan-Martinez-Childress, Michael Avalos-Beltran, Breana Avalos-Beltran, and Emily Avalos-Beltran after a shopping trip to Walmart to purchase items for the project. The project had great community and school support with a special thank you being extended to the Dobson Lions Club and the Mount Airy Church of God.

Our Leo Club will also be assisting the Dobson Lions Club during the Dobson Spring Folly at the Dobson Town Park where they will be selling Camp Dogwood tickets, Lion brooms and promoting Lions Clubs by handing out Lion information on membership, Camp Dogwood for the Blind and Visually Impaired (Summer weeks available), plus our VIP Fishing Tournament Week at Manteo/Outer Banks and various other programs available thru their local Lions Club.



Congratulations to Mooresville Lions Club and their new Mooresville High Leo Club, chartered October 8, 2019. Pictured are School Advisor Cathy Black and Leo President Allison Dobbins accepting their new club charter which was presented by DG Jimmy Myers during their December meeting.

Club News and Events

Lexington Downtown Lions Club surprised long-time and now retired Treasurer LeGrande Skinner with William L



Woolard "Partner-in-Service" Founder, Supporter and Friend levels certificates and pins. He is pictured on the left, receiving the awards from Lion Melissa Egelnick.

The highlight of **Kernersville Lions Club's** Spouses Night was the awarding of Melvin Jones Fellowships to Lions Larry Martin, Bill Maurer and Marvin Bare. All three have contributed to the club in many ways. Lion Larry has chaired the Spring Folly project for many years as well as many other activities. Most notably he and his wife, Jeanie partnered with the club to form the Lions Club Foundation. Lion Bill has served in many capacities and most notably establishing the club's eye screening program which has grown each year. Lion Marvin has been very active in all activities, but most of all as the club secretary for many years. This is possibly the most important office in the club.

During January the **Salisbury Lions Club** conducted vision screenings at North Hills and Sacred Heart schools, utilizing the SPOT vision scanner. Since July the club has screened 876 people, resulting in 165 recommendations for professional evaluation. If you have a school group, a pre-school group, etc. that might benefit from early detection of potential visual problems, please message us on Facebook at Salisbury NC Lions Club. We will be happy to conduct a screening for you.



At a recent meeting of the **Thomasville Lions Club** District Governor-Elect, Donald Cobb, inducted three new members who are pictured below with their sponsors.

West Iredell Lions Club is preparing for its 3rd annual Vision 5K and 1 mile walk/run. Make plans to join them on Tuesday, April 7th at 6:30 p.m. at the Statesville Soccer Complex.

Winston-Salem Konnoak Hills Lions Club donated \$100.00 to Camp Dogwood to have their club name placed on the campers' shirts this coming camping season. If you or your club is interested in supporting this effort, contact Tammy at Camp Dogwood.



Upcoming Happenings

Lions and Friends



**Gold Hill Lions Club
invites you to a get-acquainted dinner
and cake bake auction
March 19, 2020**

6:30 PM

**Russell/Rufty Shelter at
Gold Hill Park**

735 St. Stephens Church Road Gold Hill, NC
28071

Please join us for dinner

**Please let us know how many
to expect by March 18th**

Call: Linda or Morris at 704-279-9358

32nd Annual VIP Miniature Golf Tournament

for individuals who are blind/visually-impaired.

Saturday, April 4, 2020 10am-2:30pm
Dan Nicholas Park, 6800 Bringle Ferry Rd., Salisbury.
Check-in from 9:00-9:15am

Entry fee is \$5 per VIP participant. Free lunch to all participants & volunteers. Spectators, family/friends, staff, etc. may purchase lunch for \$5 at shelter #4. Registration deadline: March 20, 2020. Please mail registration form & fee(s) to Therapeutic Recreation Division, 3541 Old Mocksville Rd., Salisbury NC 28144. Make checks or money orders payable to Rowan County Parks and Recreation-TR Division
Contact us at: 704.216.7780

TherapeuticRecreation@rowancountync.gov
www.rowancountync.gov/VIPminigolf

Welcome Lions Club will serve their famous country-style steak dinner Saturday, March 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Center United Methodist Church in Welcome. Tickets are \$12 per plate and must be purchased in advance.

Odell Lions Club Spring BBQ - Saturday March 21 from 10:00 AM til 3:00 PM (or sold out)

Fair Grove Lions Club has scheduled their reverse raffle Tuesday, March 24 at 6 p.m. at Memorial Methodist Church in Thomasville. The event will be in honor of long time member and cook for the event, Lester Clodfelter, who is battling cancer. Tickets are \$60 and include two steak dinners and a chance to win \$1000.

Denton Lions Club announced the return of their Shrimp Boil Saturday, March 28 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Denton Masonic Lodge. All-U-Can-Eat shrimp, kielbasa and the usual accompaniments plus dessert. Mark your calendar for the Miss Denton Pageant Thursday, May 7 and the Spring Fling/5K Run Saturday, May 16.

Davis-Townsend Lions Club will be having their spring barbecue chicken from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Apr. 4.

Denton Spring Fling



Presented by
Denton Lions Club



Saturday, May 16, 2020

10a-2p



Join
Disabling Disabilities
For the Fun Run

7a-10a



Disabling Disabilities

Music
Performances
Arts and Crafts
Vendors
Food & Games

Would you or your group like to be a vendor or perform?

Contact Nathan with Denton Lions Club at:

336.804.4478 or dentonncionsclub@gmail.com

Or find us on Facebook at Denton Lions Club - NC

Club Officer Elections

All clubs should be in the process of nominating their officers for 2020-21. If I can be of assistance with information about each office, please contact me, George Culp. I'm here to help.

Continue to encourage your members to consider being an officer. Ask them for new and innovated ideas to boost your club's activities and membership. Encourage them to participate in club visits and district activities including the District convention in November.

District Officer training will be provided in two areas of our district. Please plan to attend one of these events in the area near you. There are some pre-requisite online courses that should be completed prior to June 1. The info will be emailed to all club officers. Training will be provided for Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurers. There will also be a New Member Orientation and Tail Twister Workshop available at both sites.

North America Membership Initiative (NAMI)

As the District Global Leadership Chair (GLT), allow me to introduce you to an exciting effort to increase membership in your club and our district. The initiative has a mission to make LIONS the global leader in community and humanitarian service. Their mission is to empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions Clubs.

District Governor Elect Donald has accepted the challenge to begin this effort in our District. As your GLT, preparation is underway to share this exciting program with Lions within our district. The process includes building a team, a vision, a plan, all leading to a success. Key words here are *TEAMWORK makes the DREAM WORK!* John C Marshall

Briefly here are our areas of focus:

NAMI has three objectives: rejuvenate districts with new clubs, revitalize clubs with new members and re-motivate members with new fellowships and exciting service. Each of these is a NAMI Area of Focus, along with providing training and support for our Lion Leaders. Without them, none of the other objectives are possible.

You'll see the four Areas of Focus summarized as New Clubs, New Members, Member Satisfaction and Leader Support. The dedication and hard work of teams like ours will light up District 31-I as we inspire Lions across our district with new clubs, new members, new fellowship and exciting service.

Stay tuned for more on this effort. Our current plan is to kick-off this effort in April. Please plan to join the North America Membership Initiative.

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

Global Service

Greeting Fellow Lions,

Have you noticed, Lions International has a new version of Mylion for the internet. It is easy to use and it has reduced the amount of information you need to enter. The website also has drop down windows if you need to add any additional information.

Lions International is recommending using Google Chrome or Firefox search engines but will work with other applications. If you are registered to use the mobile app, your password will work with the internet version.

I hope you will embrace this method of reporting service projects to assist the Governor and International in promoting Lionism.

Continue Suggested Service Projects

- Visit or volunteer at a local hospital
- Maintain a "Little Free Library"
- Collect used pill bottles to send to an organization that fills them for poor countries in need
- Hold a vision/hearing or diabetes screening
- Hold a food drive-remember to record the weight!
- Collect can tabs for the Leader Dog program
- Visit nursing homes and distribute treats
- Recycle eyeglasses
- Distribute personal need bags for shelters
- Assist with Meals on Wheels
- Volunteer at a school
- Sponsor a blood drive
- Plant some trees



Budget Meetings

April 17-18

Camp Dogwood

Do you want to learn more about the financial needs of NC Lions? Where does the money raised go? Don't miss the opportunity to participate in 2020-2021 budget discussions.

Global Membership

Contact Lion Judi Seymour
for a program on membership
whootietoo@yahoo.com



Calendar of Events

March 2020

March 7		42nd Annual Lions Day	United Nations New York City, NY
March 8	2 p.m.	District Cabinet Meeting / Fall Convention Planning	Camp Dogwood Sherrills Ford
Calling all Presidents, Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, Zone Chairs and Tail Twisters!			
May 16	11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	District Training	Wilkesboro United Methodist Church 309 W. Main Street Wilkesboro, NC 28697
June 6	9 a.m.– noon	District Training	Davidson County Community College 297 Davidson Community College Rd, Thomasville, NC 27360

Brighter Visions

I want to personally thank the Mt Pleasant Lions Club for their wonderful reception of my Brighter Visions presentation. They are very supportive of Brighter Visions and as of this writing they were planning on hosting the annual Brighter Visions Auction at their club this week... all the auction sales will go to Brighter Visions. What a wonderful club... Thank you Mt Pleasant Lions...

On another note, February was not a great month for Brighter Visions fundraising in District I. Come on everyone, I know that all the Lions money raising efforts are extremely important, but Brighter Visions is the most important fundraiser we, as North Carolina Lions, have. It is the lifeblood of all of the fundraising projects. District I has always been the leader among all 5 of our Districts. We only have four months left, and we still need a little over \$50,000 to meet our District Governor's Goal. PLEASE, PLEASE get your donations in to the Brighter Visions Campaign.

Thank you greatly to the clubs that have already made their Brighter Visions donations. However, there are many clubs who have not.

The best part of being the Brighter Visions Chair is getting to go to different clubs and meet so many Lions across our District. I have several openings in the next four months to come to your clubs and make a 30-minute presentation. Please call me at 704-546-0046 to get me on your schedule.



2019-2020 Goal
is
\$150,000

July			100%
June			91.67%
May			83.33%
Apr			75.00%
Mar			66.67%
Feb	\$94,107	62.7%	58.33%
Jan	\$93,602	62.4%	50.00%
Dec	\$85,006	56.7%	41.67%
Nov	\$78,222	52.1%	33.33%
Oct	\$67,350	44.9%	25.00%
Sep	\$63,040	42.0%	16.67%
Aug	\$44,264	29.5%	8.33%
July	START		

To learn more about Brighter Visions and why your club should be supporting this effort, contact 2VDGE Bill Mathers, Brighter Visions Chair
billmathers13@yahoo.com



What's New at Camp Dogwood!

A big thank you to Lowe's for their donation of baseboards and one mini fridge.



Camp rooms are beginning to have all the amenities of hotel rooms.

All rooms now have a mini-fridge thanks to a gift from the Kenansville Lions Club.



TVs Are Next

DG Jimmy has issued a **new challenge** to follow his lead. For a \$100 donation, you too can purchase a TV for one of the rooms at the camp.



Almost there!

\$28,000 of a \$40,000 goal

Please help Camp Dogwood get our mini bus by May 1st



Please make checks out to Camp Dogwood

Mail to: NC Camp Dogwood
7050 Camp Dogwood Dr
Sherrills Ford NC 28673

Thank you, PDG Wayne Faber
(Camp Dogwood Chair)

KEEP SELLING THOSE CAMP DOGWOOD TICKETS

All proceeds go to camp maintenance

	Members	Raffle Sales	Books /member
L	1,088	11,614.00	1.07
I	1,138	10,634.00	0.93
O	1,193	13,915.00	1.17
N	1,139	8,675.00	0.76
S	1,055	13,889.00	1.32
Totals	5,613	58,727.00	1.05

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 \$.50 cents 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 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.



Lions Clubs District 31-I

International Association of
Lions Clubs
Lion Jimmy Myers
District Governor, 31-I North Carolina
P. O. Box 2071
Advance, NC 27006

