



District 31-I News

Service From the Heart

Douglas X. Alexander



District 31-I Newsletter

October 2021

Issue 4

Member News

NEW MEMBERS!!!!

Joseph Zacarolo
Patricia Case

Concord
Davidson

IN THIS ISSUE

- * Member News Page 1
- * DG Page 2
- * 1 VDG Page 3
- * 2 VDG Page 4
- * Convention News Page 5
- * Nominee Form Page 6
- * Calendar Page 7
- * NAMI Page 7
- * Global Service Page 7
- * Ad Form Page 8
- * DG dates Page 9
- * Con. Reg Form Page 10
- * Club News Page 11

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

-Martin Luther King Jr.

District Governor — H. Wayne Kennerly

Having been to 6 National Conventions over the years I had no idea that the USA/Lions Leadership Forum would be so much more interesting than a National Convention. The General Sessions were excellent with top notch facilitators each day. There were over 80 seminars that could be visited during the three days, and you had to choose the one that you wanted to visit.

During the Friday luncheon we were fortunate enough to hear Jessica Cox best known for becoming the first armless pilot in aviation history. She believed in a future where people passionately pursue their dreams with the resilience to overcome any challenge, and her address really did inspire most everyone in the crowd that thinking that any challenge can be achieved even the seemingly impossible. One of the most impressive challenges that she showed on stage was opening a can with her toes, can you imagine that? We were spellbound by the different things that she was able to do with no arms.

During the Saturday luncheon Douglas X. Alexander, our International President shares the impact of service from the heart, and highlights the global priorities of compassionate service, membership growth and engagement, communications & L C I F.

On Saturday night closing Michelle Ray was the keynote speaker and she talked about her new book *Leading in Real Time*. She said that the world is changing at a rapid pace, and at this presentation Michelle was trying to help us learn how to expand and shift our thinking around leadership practices to become more effective leaders in real time. Many bought this book, and you can go on line to purchase.

If anyone is going to be a leader in the Lions organization, they really need to go to the USA Canada Lions leadership Forum which I highly recommended!

On November 5th and 6th our fall convention District I will be held at the Village Inn Hotel & Event Center in Clemmons North Carolina. Have you sent in your registration and your unsung hero from your club yet? Remember this person should be a person that works on all your projects is not President, Secretary membership chairman or any of those titles we want someone who works all the time on projects but doesn't expect a pat on the back. First Vice District Governor Bill Mathers is wanting the name from your club and a picture of that person. November will be here before we turn around, please get these in ASAP.

Several clubs are behind in paying their dues to Lions International; please try to catch up.

Have you asked anyone to visit your club lately? We need more members in our District. We are now under 1000 members. Think of that one person you can invite to your club.

Remember, Each Person Counts, Why Not Share Lionism.

H. Wayne Kennerly
District Governor 31 I

Peace Poster

This past year due to the Covid pandemic, participation in the Peace Poster Contest was incredibly challenging. I would like to encourage each club to participate in this year's Peace Poster Contest.

This year's theme for the Annual Peace Poster contest is **We Are All Connected**. The kits are available for purchase from Lions International until **October 1**. Your club should purchase a kit for each contest you sponsor. The contest is opened to children ages 11-13, in local schools or organized, sponsored youth groups, such as Scouts and Boys & Girls Clubs. Club poster winners must be postmarked and sent to the District Governor by **November 15**. A major benefit of the contest is the positive publicity that is generated for clubs and districts. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to your clubs.

District Peace Poster Chair - Lion Dianne Culp dhculp@windstream.net 704-792-5394

1st Vice District Governor — Bill Mathers

We are about 30 days or so away from our District I Convention. November 5th and 6th in Clemmons, NC. Last year due to Covid, we held our convention by a Zoom Meeting. This will be the first time we will be able to attend the District Convention in 2 years. My how time flies. Your convention committee has been working very, very, hard to put on the best convention ever. And I believe they are succeeding. We will be honoring our Lion Unsung Heroes for the very first time at this convention. Our theme for Friday Fun night is Super Heroes Night. Dress up as your favorite Super Hero for the night and come and be prepared to party. My wife, Lion Susan and I will be a pair of Super Heroes. I will give you a small hint as to who we will be for the night. Let's just say we will look Incredible....

Saturday we will get down to the serious business of District I by having past International Director Harvey Whitley as our keynote speaker. Our Luncheon will be to honor all, of our Unsung Heroes. That will then be followed by our District Cabinet Meeting. All Lions are welcome to attend the Cabinet Meeting. Following that meeting, we will head to the Hospitality Suite sponsored by my Mint Hill Lions Club and party and socialize until you cannot handle anymore excitement. Yes this will be the biggest convention ever in District I..

However, I NEED YOUR HELP!!!

Some of your clubs have not yet sent me the information about which of your members will be honored as your Unsung Hero. I need the name of the name of your nominee. I will also need 2 or 3 sentences explaining why he is your unsung hero. Last, I will need a JPEG photo of your nominee.

Let's honor our nominees. Get this information to me. You may send it to me at: billmathers13@yahoo.com

Or mail it to me at:

Bill Mathers

c/o Mathers Realty

4335 Matthews Mint Hill Rd Ste B

Matthews, NC 28105

See you at the Convention...



2nd Vice District Governor — Kathy Poirier

The Lions of District 31-I had the opportunity to attend the Brighter Visions Kick-Off in August to make their initial contribution to the North Carolina Lions, Inc. (NCLI) annual fund drive for Brighter Visions. Every year Lions are asked to support NCLI through this fund drive.

Some Lions may ask themselves why they should support NCLI and Brighter Visions. First, North Carolina Lions are automatically members of NCLI. Just as we support our own clubs and the projects we offer; Lions need to look at the bigger picture and be sure we support NCLI as the official charitable organization for the Lions of North Carolina. Secondly, NCLI along with our community-based Lions Clubs work together to help those who are blind and visually impaired to have a better quality of life. We also provide services to individuals who are less fortunate in our communities and encourage ongoing support of research for health-related issues that deal with vision and the overall well-being of all our citizens.

How many services are supported by the Brighter Visions fund drive and what are they? There are 12 programs and services supported by the funds raised. These services and programs are divided among four areas. The first area is **Blind & Visually Impaired**. This area supports Camp Dogwood (our premier recreational facility for the blind and visually impaired, located on Lake Norman), Support & Mobility Canes (offered free of charge to any blind or visually impaired person in NC), Educational Grants (for sighted children of visually impaired parents seeking support in attaining higher education), the North Carolina VIP Fishing Tournament, the Deaf Blind Retreat (provides support to the deaf blind for their annual retreat at Camp Dogwood) and Low Vision Aids (in partnership with the NC Assistive Technology Program loans magnification devices free of charge to those individuals who could benefit from such devices).

The second area is **Prevention of Vision Loss**. This area includes our Mobile Screening Unit (which includes the new mini mobile screening van in our District), Clinical Eye Research and Lions Eye Health Program (LEHP). The third area supports **Aid for Our NC Citizens**. Funds for this area include Matching Grants for local Lions Clubs (used to help people in financial need with the cost of purchasing glasses, exams and eye surgeries) and Organ & Tissue Donation. The fourth and last area covers **Recycling Programs**. Items that are accepted for recycling are used eye glasses, hearing aids, magnifiers and low vision aids and inkjet and laser cartridges.

With all these programs and services, it is easy to see our contributions to the Brighter Visions fund drive are certainly well spent. However, to continue and maintain these important programs and services, we as NC Lions should also continue our financial support to the best of our ability. Whatever funds we can provide will be appreciated by our NC citizens served by these programs.

Brighter Visions Boutique

One exciting part of the convention for me is the Brighter Visions Boutique (BVB). Not only is the BVB an opportunity for each club to raise funds to assist our VIPs, it also is an opportunity to purchase great Christmas gifts, many of them handmade by Lions and/or VIPs. I love seeing what creative ideas my fellow Lions come up with. Here is your chance to put your skills to work—whether you are a knitter, a crocheter, a quilter, a seamstress, a woodworker, a card-maker, a metal worker, a jewelry maker, a baker, a canner, a candlestick maker or any other kind of crafter. If your skill is bargain shopping, we would love to have whatever you would like to donate also.

Please don't be shy about asking friends and family to share their skills, too.

To receive Brighter Visions credit for your donations, please tag each item with:

1. The **name** of your **club**
2. The **price** we should charge for the item. (**Prices should be in whole dollar amounts PLEASE!!!!**)

Don't forget to bring cash to buy boutique items.

Please make sure that every person in your club knows about the Brighter Visions Boutique.

Thank you for all the help you have given and will give to make the BVB a success!!!!!!

Contact me if you have any questions:

Debbie Williams

(336) 225-4987 debw84483@gmail.com



CONVENTION NEWS

UN Sung HEROS

At the District-I Convention on Nov 5th and 6th, we will be honoring one member of each club at the luncheon banquet. We need each club to nominate your “Unsung Hero” for this honor. We are looking for someone in your club that has always been great at helping your club, but does not necessarily get the normal recognition, or even seek the normal recognition for their accomplishments. We are asking each club to pick their own nominee. These UnSung Heros will be honored with an award.

So that we may honor your club nominee, each club to send in a JPEG photo of the nominee along with the nomination form (on next page). Due to time restraints, we can only accept 1 nomination per club. The form is due October 1st so we have time to prepare our presentation.

I have one more request: I ask that at least 1 of your club officers be present to present the award to your nominee at the luncheon.

Please send all nominee information to me by email at billmathers13@yahoo.com.

Thank you! -Bill Mathers, Convention Chair and 1st Vice District Governor



Another highlight of the District Convention will be the Zone Basket raffle. Each of the seven zone chairs are preparing a “basket” with a value of at least \$100.

Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20. After you purchase, you distribute your tickets as to which baskets you want to be eligible to win. Winning tickets will be drawn during the cabinet meeting Saturday afternoon.



Clubs are reminded to bring auction items for Saturday morning of the Fall District Convention November 6 at the Village Inn in Clemmons.

Popular items include gift baskets, garden and tool items, regional items, etc. Selling value should be at least \$25. Please bring all items by 8 am on Saturday, marked with name of donating club.

Proceeds from the auction will go to Brighter Visions and each club will get Brighter Visions credit for the selling price of their items.

TO THE RESCUE!

Calling all Super Heroes for Friday Fun Night on November 5 at the District 31-I Fall Convention.

The Convention Committee invites you all to represent your favorite Super Hero for Fun and Games that night. The District is honoring our Clubs' UnSung Heroes at the convention and what better way to kick off the celebration than with Super Heroes – It can be comic book, cartoon, TV characters or even our Hometown Heroes – law enforcement, first responders, medical personnel.

And beware the Tail Twisters – their antics are sure to be outstanding as usual. Plan on some audience participation to keep the party moving. It will definitely be Fun and “Games” all night.



District 31-I Fall Convention
UNsung HERO SELECTION FORM

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

Convention Date: **November 5 - 6, 2021**
Village Inn Hotel & Event Center, Clemmons NC

DEADLINE is October 1st

Selected Lion _____

Club _____

Address/Phone _____

How long a Member (Years) _____

Favorite Club Project _____

Reason for Selection _____

Submitted by Club President or Secretary _____

Address/Phone _____

**Clubs are encouraged to pay for your Clubs Hero's luncheon meal
Please consider an Ad to honor your Unsung Hero.*

Mail Form to: 1VDG Bill Mathers
4335 Matthews Mint Hill Road Ste. B
or E-mail Mint Hill, NC 28227
Form with Photo to: billmathers13@yahoo.com

For questions: 704-756-0046 C or billmathers13@yahoo.com

Calendar

All Day	Nov 5 and 6	District Convention “Unsung Heros”	Village Inn
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LEADER DOG UPDATE:

We are looking forward to another successful year with our district supporting Leader Dogs for the Blind as we did last year! We worked together to provide support and encouragement for our VIPs and blind friends and I encourage each club to continue their work with those we serve!

I was so pleased with the collection of TABS we received at our district meeting in Salisbury and Cleveland. This is our ongoing easy way of helping meet the needs of others. THANK YOU, CLUBS that met our Governor’s Goals set for Leader Dogs this past year and trust we will continue on the path of helping our special friends by sending in our fair share this year.

PDG Mike and I plan to attend our Fall Convention and will have a table set up for Leader Dogs there. Please bring your TABS with you and we will have a place there to collect them. We have made a huge difference, over the years, with this project and will continue this easy fundraiser throughout this year. There will also be pamphlets and handouts for you on the table and I trust you will learn more about our continued work through Lions in helping meet the needs of our VIP’s and blind people.

I will continue to keep you informed of our activities using our district newsletters and I look forward to the time we can begin our meetings with you in your clubs to share new information which I have from the home office of Leader Dogs for the Blind.

DLDC Antha Reid

It’s Happening

Hello Lions of District 31-I. First, I want to thank District Newsletter Editor Dianna Wald for communicating to our members the busy activities of our district. Communication is foremost to the success of our efforts to assist those in need. As the bulletin editor for my own club, I know the work that must occur to publish a monthly newsletter. Please take time to look at her editions and pass the information to your members.

RLLI begins September 23!

It’s happening! Last month I wrote of the special event happening at Camp Dogwood September 23-26. Lions of our district as well as the remainder of the state have a unique opportunity to hone their skills and prepare for their future endeavors as a Lion Leader. The leadership event has been made possible by a Lions International Leadership Grant.

What is the purpose of RLLI?

Twenty-four Lions from Murphy to Manteo have enrolled in the event. Their highest office served ranges from Club Director to 2VG. The Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI) will prepare Lions for leadership positions at all levels. The enrol-

lees are ready to pursue leadership roles within their Lions communities. Those attending will benefit from attending and familiarizing themselves with leadership skills and a deeper understanding of how to better serve clubs.

What classes will be offered?

Lions who attend will spend three days at Camp Dogwood where they will participate in leadership courses including Lions Fundamentals, Goal Setting, Personal Mission Statements, Member Motivation, Public Speaking, Diversity, Working in Teams, and Leadership Responsibilities and Expectations.

Attending from District I are President Solomon Hall (Concord), President John Robinson (Mint Hill), Cabinet Secretary Michelle Gregory (North Davidson), Zone 6 Chair John Nunn (Concord) and VP Craig Campbell (Mint Hill).

In the November newsletter, I will provide you with a synopsis of what occurred.

Leadership enhancement is available through the GAT program. Contact me if you need more information.

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



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

Convention Date: **November 5 - 6, 2021**
Village Inn Hotel & Event Center, Clemmons NC

DEADLINE is October 15th

Date: _____

Name of Club, Business, or Individual _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone & Email Contact _____

Approval Signature _____

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

Ad Size: Full Page (8 ½ x 11) \$75 _____
 Half Page \$50 _____
 Quarter Page \$25 _____

Please consider an Ad to honor your Unsung Hero.

Make Checks Payable to: NC 31-I Lions Clubs

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

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

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

2021-2022 District Governor Visits

Please review and confirm your District Governor's Visit date works for your club, If the date is not on your normal meeting day please let Elizabeth Steele know ASAP at lrsteele@hughes.net or text at 704-798-3471.

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

Directory Corrections:

Joe Poirier - pg. 59 - his email is incomplete. It should read as follows:

pdgjoe23a@sbcglobal.net

Kathy Poirier - pg. 11 & pg. 51 - email should be

lionkathypoirier@gmail.com

pg. 12 - first name is spelled incorrectly (a "c" instead of a "k" for her first name)

David Smoot - correct phone number is 336-991-8731

****Please send any further corrections to Liz Steele and Dianna Wald****

To be Rescheduled	WS. Twin City Host
9/7/21	Yadkinville
9/14/21	Mt. Airy
To be Rescheduled	Mocksville
9/20/21	Fairgrove
9/21/21	Lake Norman
9/27/21	Mooreville
To be Rescheduled	Troutman
10/4/21	Elkin
10/7/21	Denton
10/12/21	Kernesville
10/14/21	Linwood
10/18/21	Sparta
10/26/21	South Iredell
10/28/21	Thomasville
11/2/21	Wallburg
11/4/21	Midway
11/8/21	Pilot
11/9/21	Dobson
11/15/21	Davis-Townsend
11/18/21	Lexington Downtown
11/22/21	West Lexington
1/3/22	Cleveland
1/4/22	Concord
1/11/22	Hasty
1/11/22	Odell
1/13/22	Mt. Pleasant
1/17/22	WS Konnoak Hills
1/18/22	Rockwell
1/25/22	North Davidson (County)
1/28/22	Charlotte Central
2/1/22	Harrisburg
2/2/22	North Charlotte
2/7/22	Davidson
2/8/22	Mint Hill
2/14/22	Charlotte Southern
2/21/22	Hickory Grove
2/28/22	Derita



District 31-I Lions Fall Convention Registration Form



Village Inn Hotel & Event Center, Clemmons, NC - November 5-6, 2021

Friday - November 5 (Registration: 3:00PM-7:00PM Hotel Lobby)

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

Saturday - November 6 (Registration: 7:00AM-12:00PM)

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

Hospitality Room open all day Saturday for refreshments and snacks (Except During Lunch)

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

**Village Inn *
6205 Ramada Dr
Clemmons, NC 27012**

**Lions Room Rate:
\$94.00 plus tax**

*Lions Room Rate will be available until OCT 5th.
Hotel Reservations after October 5th will be provided
on a space available basis.*

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

**Trademark Collection by Wyndham*

Make check for meals payable to:

NC 31-I Lions Clubs

Mail check with bottom portion of this form to:

Lion Liz Steele Phone: (704)798-3471
2252 Baker Mill Rd
Cleveland, NC 27013
Email: LRSteele@hughes.net

Do Not Mail after October 29, 2020

Phone registration only between Oct 29 & Nov. 1
No refunds after Nov. 1

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

Club: _____ **District:** _____

Check all that apply

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

<u>Function</u>	<u>Number Attending</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Family Fun Night Burger Bar	\$22.00	_____	_____
Key Member Breakfast Plated Breakfast	\$20.00	_____	_____
Lunch Banquet Veg Lasagna, Herb Roasted Pork Loin or Southern Fried Chicken	\$30.00	_____	_____

Reminder: Please Select Banquet Meal Preference and Specify *Food Allergies Above

Total Cost \$ _____

CLUB NEWS

On behalf of Lion Susan Mathers,
wife of 1st Vice DG Bill Mathers,
And the Mint Hill Lions Club

You are invited to the Hospitality Room of the District 31-I Convention
on Friday, November 5, and Saturday, November 6

Friday, November 5: 3 pm to 6 pm

Saturday, November 6: Light refreshments all day except during Luncheon.

4:30 pm – After the cabinet meeting join us for socializing with old and new friends for the evening.

The fellowship of Lions has been sorely missed over the last two years. We all hope that our Fall Convention will give us time to refresh and renew our friendships.

Thomasville Club

Steak Dinner and Raffle

Saturday, October 16; 5p-8p

Tickets are \$60; includes steak dinner
for 2

\$1500 GRAND PRIZE

Contact David Smoot at
csmoot@triad.rr.com



Hickory Grove Club

is having a 50/50 Drawing on December 20, 2021 to raise funds for the small programs to assist others in need and they need your help to make this fund raiser a success. The tickets are \$10.00 each. All monies collected from the sale of the tickets will be split 50% to the winner of the drawing, and 50% for the club's treasury. Most of the funds being raised will be used for the Visually Impaired Golfing Program that our club has had in place for many years.

For more information please contact: Lion Sherrie Thompson, 980-236-1061; sthomp44@gmail.com

District 31-I Newsletter is published monthly.

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

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

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

Lion Dianna Wald

PO Box 1260

Denton, NC 27239 or diannamwald@gmail.com.

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

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

Lion Susan Mathers

6700 Pine Lake Lane,

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

International Association of
Lions Clubs
Lion H. Wayne Kennerly
District Governor, 31-I North Carolina
435 Pepperstone Drive
Salisbury, NC 28146

