



# NEWSLETTER

## District 31-E



# **We Serve**

*"Share Success Through Service"*

Volume No. 8

International Association of Lions Clubs

February 2005

[www.lions31e.org](http://www.lions31e.org)

### GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

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Greeting to each of my fellow Lions. This great Lionist year is slowly slipping away. I have certainly enjoyed serving and working with each of you, whether individually or at the Club level. January has certainly been a most busy month for myself and I am sure each of you in our Lions work and programs.

First of all, just as we were getting over Christmas, we jumped right into the start of our next 6 months of Lions work. After attending a great Mid-winter convention of Districts G-H-J at Henderson in early January, we in District 31-E were ready for ours. Led by Chairperson VDG Dale and Co-Chair Cabinet S/T Bennie, A great convention was planned, set up and carried out to a "T". Many workers made the greatness of a good time for all on Jan. 21-22, at the Holiday Inn, Salisbury. Although we kept an eye to the sky on the weather, all turned out okay.

As our most special guest, ID Lion Walter "Bud" Wahl and his lovely wife, Lion Jama arrived, we were most pleased and enjoyed the company these two lovely people. The Friday night Fun night was enjoyed by all, ending with a program by the Grove Singers.

Saturday was a great day, good breakfast, fast moving auction, with lots of money collected for White Cane. After a good Cabinet meeting, we then were ready for our District Governors Banquet, Led by yours truly.

The Banquet was suited to each and every one present. A very inspirational talk was given by our honored guest, Lion "Bud". Several special presentations were given by the ID, as good-bys were said.

It is very hard to put into each and every newsletter all the info that I feel is necessary, to keep each member abreast of what is happening within our District. In the four remaining newsletters, I hope to include articles of enjoyment and entertainment to one and all..

District Governor Fred Plummer

*District Theme:*

*Share the "Pride"*  
*Share the "Service"*



## 31-E MID-WINTER CONVENTION

### GREAT-GREAT – GREAT

No other way to describe our Mid-Winter, just completed on Jan 21-22. The thoughts of inclement weather was on our minds all weekend, but mother nature spared us the entire three days.

Many preparations started taking place on Friday Am as the convention workers assembled to begin preparing for all of our Lions and guest who would begin arriving shortly at our Hotel, the Holiday Inn of Salisbury. At approximately 12 Noon, your District Governor, Lion Helen, and NCLF President Lion Harvey departed to the Charlotte airport to meet and greet our incoming International Director Lion Walter “Bud” Wahl and his lovely wife, Lion Jama. After their plane arrived, just a few minutes late, we then traveled to Salisbury, where we were met by many Lions of our District and also in the greeting delegation was PID Lion Sid Scruggs and his wife Judy.

Lion Bud was unable to arrange a flight to arrive any sooner than Friday, so we were not able to visit and escort he and Jama to Camp Dogwood. After returning to the Hotel on Friday evening and a short rest, we were ready to get started on our Friday night Fun Night. Beginning at 6:30 PM a Hot Dog buffet was enjoyed by all present. We had approximately 245 on hand for this event and the evening was enjoyed by all. An evening of entertainment was presented by the Grove Singers, led by our own Lion Butch Conrad of the Davis-Townsend Lions Club.

Saturday, it all started over again. At 8:00 AM the call to order was issued by District Tail Twister Lion Andy Darr. After a delicious breakfast, the Lions got down to real Business. (Monkey that is). Many door prizes and gifts were given away to many of the 166 that were present. (Many won and some did not.) Oh well you can't win all the time.

After the Breakfast was completed, the auction led by Lion Joe Silvers was started and many great donated items were auctioned to all present. Collected at this point was \$3,482 for White Cane, the break down being Friday loose change offering, \$160.52, Saturday Tail Twister Breakfast door prize tickets \$614.00 and the auction itself was \$2,601 and Honorarium for Lions Bud was \$107.00. This has not been verified so the exact final total could vary slightly.

At 10:30 AM, we then moved into our seminar program led by our own Harvey Whitley, PDG and NCLF President. Lion Harvey led all in a program patterned after “Who wants to be a Millionaire. Several Distinguished Lions were contestants with all winning Dogwood tickets. This program was concluded at Noon with all present giving high marks and great comments to Lion Harvey.

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## **31-E MID-WINTER CONT'D**

Since District 31-E is designated a transitional district by LCI, a special LCI mandated session of the District PDG's was formed and called to order at 1:15 by PDG Diane Whitley for the purpose of selecting a Lion to recommend to the LCI Board for District Governor for the year 2005-2006. I am happy to announce that VDG Lion Dale Dupree won the voting, by receiving all votes as cast by those present. Congratulations Dale.

After the special meeting was concluded, DG Fred Plummer called the regular scheduled cabinet meeting to order. With all the necessary business having been disposed of, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45PM.

At 6:00 PM, the District Governors banquet was called to order by PDG Robert T. Loeblein of the Salisbury Lions Club. After a delicious buffet dinner was enjoyed by all, Governor Fred Plummer called the occasion back to order. In special recognition Ms. Brittany Stilwell of Indian Trail was presented as our District 31-E Peace Poster contest winner. Brittany and her family were our special guest, as the District presented Brittany with a Plaque and a \$100.00 bond for winning the District. Brittany also won the State contest and will be recognized later at the State Convention in May. (See additional article on Brittany elsewhere in this newsletter.) Governor Fred also presented PDG Diane Whitley with an International Certificate of Appreciation for serving as DG In 2003-2004 from Past International President Dr. Tae-Sup Lee. Lion Bennie Pugh, C/ST presented DG Fred Plummer with a Bill Woolard Progressive Fellowship.

PID Sid Scruggs was formally introduced who in turn introduced and presented International Director Lion Walter "Bud" Wahl from Illinois. Lion Bud gave a presentation of interest to all expanding upon Lionism with great enthusiasm to all present. Upon completing his presentation, Lion Bud presented two International Presidents Certificate of Appreciation to Lions Billy Southern of the Pilot Club and Gordon McAdams of the Fair Grove Club. Neither were present due to inclement weather but they will be presented at a later date. At this time Lion Jama was presented a small gift of appreciation by Lion Helen Plummer and Lion Bud was also presented a gift of appreciation by DG Fred. District Governor Fred also announced that a contribution would be made to LCIF in honor of Lion Bud by District 31-E.

At this time, thanks was given to all who had participated in this years convention, with a special thanks to the entire convention committee led by Convention Chair VDG Dale Dupree. Convention Co-Chair PDG Lion Bennie Pugh and to each and every one serving this year. The attendance was great with 232 attending the banquet despite the inclement weather with some having to cancel their reservations.

The Banquet was completed at 9:30 PM and at the same time a successful 31-E Convention was brought to a close. 62 Clubs were represented, all 9 NC Districts, 35 Clubs in Dist. E, with Salisbury having 23 registered.

## **PEACE POSTER**

Peace Poster goes in conjunction with Recognition. We as Lions use this Program to recognize young students for their talent in art. Each Lions Club is encouraged to submit Posters from their area schools. Indian Trail Lions Club is one that has certainly did this with great pride. Much of this is due to long time member, Lion John Leister of the Indian Trail Club. This is Lion John's 5<sup>th</sup> year as Chairperson of the Peace Poster Contest. Over 130 Posters were submitted to the Indian Trail Club for judging. With such a large task to consider, Lions John and his fellow Lions did a magnificent job.

After much deliberation, Ms. Brittany Danielle Stilwell was declared the winner. At the time of winning, Brittany was a 13 year old, who lives with her father and step-Mother, Ken and Liz Stilwell of Indian Trail. Brittany's mother and step-father are Kim and Gary Moore. She is the older sister to Bailey and Bryson and her brother Brandon Stilwell graduates this year from Sun Valley High School.

Brittany is a student at Sun Valley Middle School. She is president of the Spartan Gardeners Club. Brittany plays on the school soccer team and also plays for A Classic Team with the Union Soccer Club. Brittany maintains high grades and is an honor student at her school. This is the first year that she has taken art at school. She worked on her painting for several weeks and spent many of her lunch periods working to complete it on time. In addition, she was permitted to work on the art work during her gym class in order to complete it.

Brittany's Poster was submitted to the District 31-E Governor for judging. Along with seven other entries, it was a very hard decision. After much deliberation, it was decided that this particular Poster was the one to be forwarded on to the State Council Chairperson for additional judging. Having been notified that Brittany's Poster had won the State contest, the poster was then forwarded on the LCI for judging on the International level.

Brittany and her family were the guest of District 31-E at our Mid-Winter in Salisbury, where she was presented as our District winner. She was given a plaque and a \$100.00 saving bond in recognition for her achievement. Brittany will be honored and recognized at the State Convention in May in Raleigh.

One of International President Kusiak's points for the year is recognition for Lions.

So you see, Peace Poster and Recognition go together. We as Lions have recognized Brittany Stilwell for her achievement in art. In return, through her art, Brittany by winning the Indian Trail contest, the District 31-E contest, the State contest and now on to LCI for a higher level of judging, Brittany has given all Lions in North Carolina much recognition for her talent to us in the form of Art. We thank Brittany for her contribution to us as Lions and wish her much success in the future.

## **TRAVELING WITH GOVERNOR FRED**

Feb. 03.....Aquadale Lions Club Visit  
Feb. 05.....Pilot Lions Club BBQ  
Feb. 05.....District C Mid-Winter  
Feb. 15.....Concord Lions Club/Peace Poster Banquet  
Feb. 08.....Norwood Lions Club Visit  
Feb. 11-13.....Council of Governor's/NCLF Board/Raleigh  
Feb. 17.....Misenheimer Lions Club Visit  
Feb. 22.....Oakboro Lions Club Visit  
Feb. 24.....Stanfield Lions Club Visit  
Mar. 03.....Marshville Lions Club Visit

### **4<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT CABINET MEETING:**

Notice to all: 4<sup>th</sup> District Cabinet meeting will be held at Jay's Fish House, Albemarle, Wednesday, March 23, 2005, beginning at 6:30 PM: A primary point of business will be the election of a Vice District Governor for the year 2005-2006. PDG Bill Udovich, District Nominating Chairperson will be in charge of this part of our business,

### **CONDOLENCES:**

Condolences to the family of Mrs. Elizabeth Abernathy Whitley who passed away on January 8, 2005. Mrs. Whitley was the husband of Lion Paul Whitley, secretary of the Landis Lions Club and the mother of Lion Harvey Whitley, NCLF President and President of the Benton Heights Lions Club.

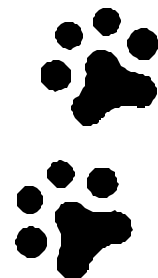
Condolences to the family of Mr. Jack C. King, who passed away February 14, 2005. Mr. King was the father of Lion Allen King, District 31-F District Governor.

The Oakboro Lions Club lost a very dear and valued member. Lion Helen Austin passed away on January 10, 2005. Lion Helen will be missed by all who knew her and our condolences are sent to her family.

### **CONGRATULATIONS:**

Congratulations are in order to a Lion of our District who wears many hats, of Lionism and the Community. Lion Bennie Pugh, District 31-E Cabinet S/T was named Thomasville CITIZEN OF THE YEAR for 2004 by the Thomasville Chamber of Commerce at their 56<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting on January 6, 2005. Congratulations to Lion Bennie for a job well done and to an award well deserved.

***THE BEST THING TO DO BEHIND A FRIEND'S BACK IS TO PAT IT.***  
(Ruth Brillhart)



## **LINUS T. LION HAS PASSED:**

PDG Ron Staley submitted an obit on the passing of Linus T. Lion. (Elsewhere in this Newsletter), please let your emotions be governed by what you read and give thanks for Linus' past. No further comments will be offered by this writer

## **POINTS CONTEST-SECRETARIES**

All secretaries, in regards to our District Points, points will be counted from June 2003 and through May 2004. (Inclusive) Added will be double points for large Ink Jet Cartridges and 100 points per cell phone send to camp Dogwood. A copy of the Dogwood receipt should be shown to get credit for same. ALSO: please excuse a previous statement by your Governor. As I stated, points would be shown in the Feb. newsletter. Very sorry, no room, a lot going on in Jan. (I will really try to put them in the March newsletter so Clubs and Secretaries will know where they stand before the May 31 deadline.)

## **REMINDERS OF PAST NEWSLETTER:**

**Bob Timberlake Prints:** All proceeds to Clinical Eye Research, so each Lions is urged to sell tickets for this great cause.

**White Cane:** We are leading the State in contributions, but we all need to keep up the good work, much money is still needed to support this most worthwhile cause.

**Governors Capsule Program:** As reported earlier, a small donation from each Club will put your name in the pot for a much needed cause. If you have not done so yet, please consider giving to this great cause to help, Camp Dogwood, Diabetes in the Youth, and Southeast Guide Dog. A \$50.00 donation will go along way.

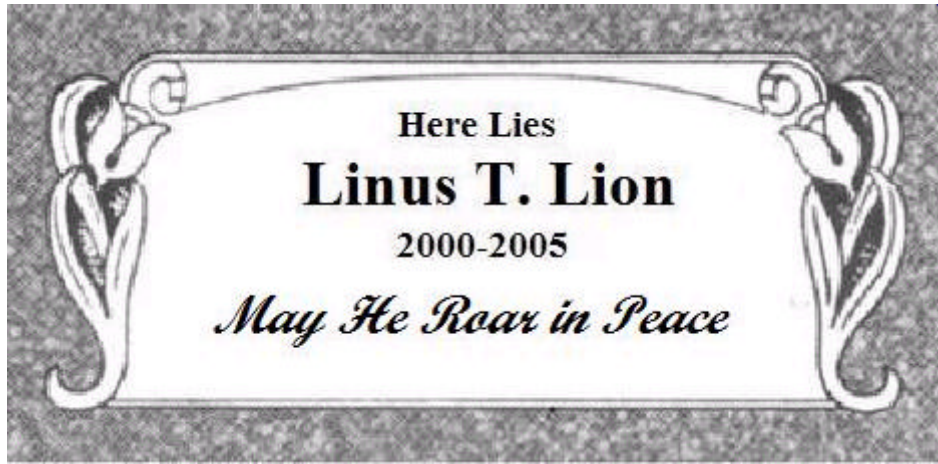
**Membership:** This is one item that I ask all members and especially Club officers to make a special effort to increase and support. We are not really doing too bad but an increase will help the situation for all Clubs and especially the District.

**State Convention:** The State convention is quickly approaching and each Club is asked to make some type of contribution to the promotion of this great event for the Lions of North Carolina. Dates are May 27-29, 2005 Raleigh

## **TSUNAMI DISASTER**

**Tsunami Disaster:** This is one thing that we all cannot and should not forget. Help is absolutely necessary for the people of the countries so devastated by this great natural disaster. All Clubs and Lions are reminded to give to this great relief effort being spear-headed by Lions International. Your donations to LCIF will go along way and bring each Lion the satisfaction of knowing, we help and, WE SERVE.





**Linus** The Lion died January 22, 2005.

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Linus T. Lion. Linus began his career five years ago after serving an extended internship with PDG Jerry Bates of Lexington, NC. Under the tutelage of PDG Bates, Linus learned the true meaning of hardshell Lionism. Following his internship, Linus was left homeless when Lion Jerry "Ebenezer" Bates dismissed him for repeatedly showing up late at Lions meetings. With no position, no purpose and no home, Linus sought safe haven with various Lions in District 31-E. Over the next several years Linus was often seen in the company of numerous Lions in the District. He attended many Lions meetings and his goal was to not burden his hosts. Linus often roared that he was saddened to see his generous hosts bending under the weight of the responsibility he placed upon them.

His sad demeanor, notwithstanding, Linus was dedicated to serving the Lions of District 31-E. Lion Theresa Matthews was one of Linus' strongest supporters. She repeatedly said, "Despite his hard, thick skin, somewhere inside of Linus there had to be a soft heart." Another supporter of Linus, PDG Jim Walker, said, "Having Linus as a companion and houseguest was an experience I will never forget. Linus really made me aware of my responsibilities as a Lion and he never let me forget how heavy my responsibilities were. Linus was a real heavyweight in our District." One of Linus' more enduring relationships was with Lion Jim Gulledge of the Benton Heights Lions Club. Lion Jim and Linus spent almost a year together. Lion Jim, an avid bass fisherman, remembers Linus well. "He wasn't not much of an angler", Lion Jim said, "but he could anchor a bass boat better than anyone I have ever known."

Linus' last days were spent with PDG Ron Staley of Concord. Although their time together was brief, Lion Ron found Linus to be both personable and colorful. "A real solid personality." Linus' demise came quickly following the District Tail Twister's Breakfast on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Linus was overjoyed by the walker Lion Ron purchased for him at the Tail Twister Auction. He would finally be mobile and not have to depend upon other Lions to help him get around. Unfortunately Linus, in his exuberance, failed to use the seatbelt and was killed when he collided with a hit and run driver at the Holiday Inn.

District Governor Fred Plummer is asking the Lions of District 31-E to remember the contributions made by Linus by sending memorials in his name to NCLF. It is also reported that Lion Chris Beck has found a statue which is an exact likeness of Linus and will place it in the VIP Art Museum at Camp Dogwood in his memory. As a lasting tribute, a paving stone with Linus' name will be placed in the VIP Garden at Camp Dogwood near the statue of his mentor, PDG Jerry Bates.





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*Share the "Service"*

