



District 31-E Newsletter

ISSUE: 1

JULY 2008

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4. Judy Williford
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5. Frances Almond
 ® 704-888-5212
6. Melvin Outen
 ® 704-242-4020
7. Mike Schwartz
 ® 704-854-5315
8. John Crane
 ® 704-847-4542
9. Louis Atchison
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From the Governor...



Fellow Lions, it's the start of a new year in the life of Lionism. Many changes are happening this year. We welcome the clubs from Mecklenburg and Gaston counties. With

the help of PDG John O'Malley and PDG Dolores O'Malley, VDG Theresa Matthews and I have already visited many of the incoming clubs. I would also like to thank PDG Dale Dupree and PDG Sydney Eudy for their help in making these clubs feel welcome to District 31-E.

In April we visited the Matthews Lions Club, Charlotte South Park Lions Club, Gastonia Evening Lions Club, East Gastonia Lions Club, and the Stanley Lions Club. In May we visited the Davidson Lions Club, North Charlotte Lions Club, Huntersville Lions Club, Mint Hill Lions Club, Hickory Grove Lions Club and the Cornelius/Lake Norman Lions Club. We are excited about the growth of our District and the new leaders who are willing to step forward, taking an active role.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank

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On the Go With the Governor

Please contact District Governor Gordon if the meeting time and/or date listed below is not convenient or if there is a scheduling conflict.

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If you get this newsletter by USPS and have an email address, please send your email address to Bennie Pugh at: bpugh@cprsystems.com. Newsletters by email are at least a couple of days faster than the USPS. Also, other information is sent to the email addresses that does not get sent through the USPS.

No visits Scheduled for July

**We're on the Web:
www.lions31e.org**

From the Vice District Governor

Hello, Lions of 31-E,

In all eight counties! A bigger district can only be better. As District Governor Gordon and I made some preliminary visits into Mecklenburg & Gaston County we felt the excitement of increasing our District.

We promise to strive for improved communication throughout the District and personal contact with all our clubs.

If I have not been to your club recently (or ever), I hope to see you soon. As the District has grown, 2nd Vice District Governor Gary Steele and I may be making the "official" governor's visit to your club, plus we hope to make a lot of "friendly" visits to get to know our members better.

One club asked DG Gordon and me what the next visit would be, if the preliminary visit was a "friendly" visit. To clarify -- all visits will be friendly, whether official visitations or just "prowling".

We do want to encourage clubs to plan joint meetings for the official District Governor's visit. This will ease up the scheduling for DG Gordon.

And please remember the importance of Cabinet Meetings, the White Cane Kick-Off, and your own Zone meetings. All of these meetings increase your knowledge of Lionism and build our unity and camaraderie.

Our Lions Service gives us satisfaction, but the personal Lions relationships we build give us enjoyment.

Let's work hard this year for our Visually Impaired Persons and our communities. Let's enjoy each other's company as often as possible.

Yours in Lionism,
Theresa Matthews
Vice District Governor

The Challenge of Member Retention

By: PCC Harvey Whitley
State Retention/Orientation Chairperson

Has your club appointed a Club Retention Chairperson? Did you know that there is a Club Retention Chairpersons Guide posted on the International Lions website?

What happens most often in clubs is that a Membership Chairperson is appointed with emphasis on getting new members only. There is rarely any emphasis or accountability put on retention, orientation, leadership, or extension at the club level. The referenced Retention Chairpersons Guide suggests appointing a Three-Person Membership Committee. One person leads new membership activities, another person leads retention, and the third person concentrates on extension through branch clubs, etc.

We all know that clubs generally drop more old members than are gained in new members. So why don't clubs concentrate more on retention? The referenced Club Chairperson Guide has a plan already laid out for us to use in solving the retention problem. To view the Guide, go to the International website, www.lionsclubs.org, click on "Club Resource Center", and scroll down to "President, Operations". You will also see something called "How are your ratings?" This will allow you to rate your club as to how efficiently your club is operating. It also will help you identify ways to improve retention of members.

RETENTION must take place at the CLUB level, just as MEMBERSHIP takes place at the CLUB level. Set goals now—not only for new members but for retention. Also set a goal now to NEVER DROP a member until you have contacted that Lion and found out why he/she no longer wants to be a Lion. You might be surprised what you find out! Use the various member classifications to your advantage—retention of members is one of the reasons why these classifications were created. You will find the member classifications described in the Club Constitution/Bylaws found on the above referenced Club Resource Center.

*From the Governor**(Continued from page 1)*

Mike Schwartz and David Shimberg for their help introducing me to the incoming clubs and setting up the three new Zones. We will have nine Zones as of July 1st. I want to thank in advance everyone who stepped forward to accept all the district chair positions as well as the new Zone Chairpersons; Zone 1, Fred Plummer; Zone 2, Ricky Hicks; Zone 3, Elizabeth Steele; Zone 4, Judy Williford; Zone 5, Frances Almond; Zone 6, Melvin Outen; Zone 7, Mike Schwartz; Zone 8, John Crane; and Zone 9, Louis Atchison.

There are two important dates in July. The Awards & Installation Banquet will be held on July 19th at 12 noon, at Fairgrove United Methodist Church, Thomasville, NC. Following the Awards & Installation Banquet, we will have our first District Cabinet Meeting. I look forward to seeing you there. It will be a time for reflecting on PDG Sydney Eudy's very successful year and recognizing our leadership. The White Cane Kick-Off will be held July 29th at 6:30 PM, at Jay's Seafood, Albemarle, NC. Lion Gary Steele is not only my 2nd VDG but also White Cane Chairperson. Let's make this the start of the BEST YEAR EVER and give Lion Gary our full support.

As you are reading this, Lion Dixie & I will be returning from the International Lions Convention in Thailand. In next month's newsletter, after we recover from "jet lag", we will share our adventures and will update you about the convention.

I know we are going to have an "E"xtraordinary year in this "E"xcellent District "E". We are very fortunate to have had outstanding leaders in the past to show us what it is to be a good Lion. These are people like Dr. Jerry Bates, Harvey & Diane Whitley, Ron Staley, Bennie Pugh, David Smoot, George Ohm, Fred Plummer, Dale Dupree, Morris Van Vleet, and Sydney Eudy, just to name a very few.

Our future looks bright with leaders like VDG Theresa Matthews of the Denton Lions Club and 2nd VDG Gary Steele of the Cleveland Lions Club. We are going to be the strongest and best supported district in the state of North Carolina.

Governor Gordon

SECRETARY'S CORNER -**BY CABINET SECRETARY RON STALEY**

1. Please note that Governor Gordon has made some changes which will save you time and money when you file your monthly reports this year.

a. File your Monthly Membership Report either on-line by the end of month or mail by the 20th day of the month to Lions International:

Online: www.lionsclubs.org

or

Paper copy: mail to:

Lions Clubs International

300 22nd Street

Oak Brook, Illinois 60523

Note: You do not need to mail a copy to the District Governor or other District Officers. District Officers can access the reports at LCI's website.

- b. The Points Contest Report** has been reduced and simplified (a copy is contained on page 6 of this newsletter and may be copied if you file it manually). Do not use an old Points Sheet. If you were not able to attend the Secretary's school, contact me (Ron Staley) and get the Excel or Microsoft Works version of the Points Sheet for filing your report using your computer.

Email or mail the Points Contest Form with your Activities Report to:

- District Governor Gordon McAdams
726 Fairgrove Road
Thomasville, NC 27360
email: kate1104@aol.com

and to

- Vice District Governor Theresa Matthews
PO Box 788
Denton, NC 27239
email: mkmsales@mindspring.com

Note: These are the only copies that need to be sent. The DG and VDG will distribute copies to other officers.

2. **District Directories will be available at the Cabinet Meeting on July 19 and the White**

(Continued on page 4)

Officer Training

From Lion Tim Williams, District Leadership Chair

Please note that training for incoming officers of clubs in the new District 31-E will be held at:

9:30 am, Saturday, July 12

Lion Services, Inc.

4600-A N. Tryon

Charlotte, NC

There will also be a brief seminar concerning **new IRS tax filing requirements for all Lions clubs**. This requirement should be taken very seriously. Failure to comply will result in clubs losing their non-profit status and may result in serious penalties. It is necessary for all clubs regardless of income to file a tax return by November 15, 2008. Please be sure you club leadership is aware of this change in the tax laws and attends this session.

Look forward to seeing you at the training session.

Agenda:

IRS Tax requirements for all Lions Clubs.	Lion Sydney Eudy, DG
Presidents Workshop	Lion Harvey Whitley, PCC
Secretaries Workshop	Lion Ron Staley, PDG
Treasurers Workshop	Lion Bennie Pugh, PDG
Zone Chairpersons Workshop	Lion Gordon McAdams, VDG
Membership Chairpersons Workshop	Lion Diane Whitley, PDG
New Member Orientation	Lion Laraine Dupree

Secretary's Corner

(Continued from page 3)

- Cane Workshop on July 29.** There will be package of directories for each club and it will contain copies for club officers (President, Secretary, Treasurer & Membership Chair), as well as any district officers, district committee chairs and any PDG's who are members of the club. There will be a distribution list on the package. Please have someone from your club, preferably the club president or secretary, pick up the directories and distribute them to the respective officers.
3. Corrections to the District Directory can be sent to me (Lion Ron Staley-phone number and email on front).
 4. All club secretaries who have an email address listed with Lions Clubs International should have received a letter containing (at the bottom of the page) your password for filing your club's Membership and Activity Report. If you need assistance filing online, please contact me (Ron Staley) at 704-788-8866. It only takes a couple of minutes each month to file your report online.
 5. When your club Treasurer receives your membership dues bill in July from Lions Clubs International, it will contain a list of the club member-

ship. Please compare the membership list with your club records. If someone is missing or is on the list and is not a member, it is your responsibility to correct your records. If you have a problem with your membership records, contact Lions International at 630-571-5466 Ext 342. I have found them to be very helpful resolving and correcting issues.

6. At the end of the year, one secretary in the District will be awarded a plaque for being named the "Best Secretary in District 31-E" and all secretaries qualifying will be awarded a "100% Secretary award". To qualify, club secretaries must attend the District Officer Training School, file Membership & Activity Reports by the LCI's deadline, attend two Zone Meetings, attend two Cabinet Meetings, and submit the PU 101 to the District Governor postmarked by April 30th.
7. Please make sure your PU 101 is filed with LCI for this Lions Year and that the information for the Officers (and members) is current. There are currently seven clubs in our district that need to let Lions Clubs International know the names of their presidents, secretaries and/or treasurers. If this information is not on file, you will not receive communications you need to run your club.

Lion Bobby Gene Hedrick Honored by Davis-Townsend Lions Club

Monday night, May 19, was a special night for a very revered member of the Davis-Townsend Lions Club. Bobby Gene Hedrick, who has been a member of the Davis-Townsend Lions Club for forty years, was honored with North Carolina Lions Foundation's highest honor, the prestigious Jack Stickley Fellowship.



The award was presented to Bobby Gene, during the regular meeting of the Lions Club on

Monday night. Davis-Townsend Lions Club President, Benny Garwood introduced Past District Governor Allen Thompson who made the presentation. In attendance for the presentation were Bobby Gene's wife, Sylvia, and sons Randy and Dwayne, who is also a member of the Davis-Townsend Lions Club.

Bobby Gene was recognized as Lion of the Year several years ago and was instrumental in supervising chicken and pork barbecues. He was very meticulous in preparing barbecue for club fundraisers and just as precise in teaching other members of the club to use his methods.

The Jack Stickley Fellowship is an honored and cherished award given to its recipient. While honoring a special person, it also helps North Carolina Lions provide more services to those in need. The recipient receives a letter from the President of the North Carolina Lions Foundation, a numbered personalized plaque, a Stickley fellow pin, and a numbered wallet identification card. The recipient's name is placed on an honor roll in the Stickley Building located on the campus of Camp Dogwood, which is the camp for the visually impaired located on Lake Norman at Sherrill's Ford, North Carolina.

Congratulations to Bobby Gene Hedrick for his accomplishments, service, expertise, dedication and most of all his friendship to all members of the Davis-Townsend Lions Club.

NC has Changed



**Lions Clubs International
Multiple District 31, North Carolina**

2008-2009 District Points Sheet			District: 31-E
Club:		Date:	
ACTIVITIES REPORT			
		Value	Number Points
A	BLIND AND DEAF ACTIVITIES		
1	Club sponsored program or activity for VIP/Deaf (# VIPs attending)	500	
2	Volunteer at Camp Dogwood (# days volunteered)	300	
3	Provide Transportation or service for VIP/Deaf (miles traveled)	50	
4	Visit to Blind/Deaf individual (List Lions' name(s) below)	100	
Name(s)			
5	Financial Assistance or purchase VIP/Deaf made products (\$ spent)	20	
6	Pay Campers fee to Camp Dogwood (\$ spent)	50	
B	COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES		
7	Conduct special community activity (includes Vision Van)	850	
8	Provide transportation for non VIP/Deaf (miles traveled)	50	
9	Submit a Peace Poster contest entry	500	
10	Medical/Financial assistance to Non VIP (Points = \$spent x 20)	20	
C	MEMBERSHIP & LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES		
11	New or reinstated member	5,000	
12	Lion with less than 2 years service attending new member orientation	300	
13	Sponsor new Lions or Leo Club	12,000	
14	Publish club bulletin or news release (send copy with points sheet)	500	
15	Members attending Zone/District meetings (Cabinet, White Cane, etc)	250	
16	Number of Members attending District, State or Int'l conventions & Forums	200	
D	CLUB ACTIVITIES		
17	Host a joint club meeting (Name of Club:)	500	
18	Participate in Jungle Prowler (List names below)	50	
Name(s)			
19	Club program by District Chairman	500	
20	Host a VAVS party (pts per member attending)	200	
21	President & Board of Directors set club goals	1,000	
22	Attendance of 90% or more during month	500	
23	Sponsor a Jack Stickley or Melvin Jones Fellow	2,000	
24	Number of members participating in fundraising projects	200	
25	Number of used eyeglasses/hearing aids sent to NCLF	25	
26	Printer cartridges or Campbell Soup Labels sent to NCLF (enter number)	10	
27	Number of cell phones sent to NCLF	50	
E	REPORT & DUES		
28	Membership report submitted by due date	1,000	
29	PU 101 mailed to DG by April 30	5,000	
30	Pay International dues on time	750	
31	Pay District dues on time	500	
F	MONETARY GOALS		
32	Meet District goals by June 30 (listed on page # of District Directory)	10,000	
33	Meet White Cane Goal	50,000	
34	Exceed previous years White Cane Contribution (enter amount of increase)	10	
35	Camp Dogwood Ticket sales (pts per tickets sold)	20	
36	Club Bonus - 3 books Camp Dogwood tickets sold per member	2,000	
G	OTHER REQUESTED ACTIVITIES		
37	VIP Present at District Governor Visit (pts per VIP at meeting)	4,000	
38	Joint meeting with another club when Governor makes official visit	5,000	
Total this Month			

District 31-E Installation and Awards Banquet

Saturday, July 19 at 12:00 Noon

Fairgrove United Methodist Church
138 Fairgrove Church Rd.
Thomasville, NC 27360

Eye of Round Roast
Potatoes
Green Beans
Slaw
Congealed Salads
Rolls
Dessert
Tea & Coffee

\$12.00

Lion _____
Club _____

Lion _____
Club _____

Lion _____
Club _____

Lion _____
Club _____

Registration Deadline is Saturday, July 12th
Make checks payable to District 31-E Lions
Mail to: Cabinet Secretary Ron Staley
7935 Altacrest Drive
Concord, NC 28027

Dates to Remember

July

- 12 **Officer Training -
Saturday, July 12 at 9:30 AM
Lion Services, Inc., 4600-A North
Tryon, Charlotte, NC**
- 19 **District Installation and Awards
Banquet -
12 Noon (Registration - page 7)**
- 19 **First District Cabinet
Meeting -
Immediately following the
Awards Banquet - Fairgrove
United Methodist Church,
138 Fairgrove Church Rd.,
Thomasville, NC 27360.**
- 29 **White Cane Workshop -
6:30 PM at Jay's Seafood,
Albemarle.**

August

- 8-10 **Pay International Dues
NCLF/NC Council of Governors
Quarterly meetings -
Holiday Inn, Salisbury**
- 9 **NCLF Officer Installation -
Holiday Inn, Salisbury**
- 9 **Welcome Lions Club Dinner -
Saturday, Aug. 9 at Center United
Methodist Church in Welcome
from 5:00-7:30PM. Tickets \$8.00**



International Association of

Lions Clubs

Lion Gordon McAdams
District Governor, District 31-E
North Carolina
726 Fairgrove Road
Thomasville, NC 27360