



THE PRIDE

News from District 18A



SERVING THE LIONS OF DISTRICT 18A

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!

Christmas is the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial flame of charity in the heart.
~Washington Irving

A SNEAK PEEK AT.....

What's Inside:

State Convention 2011

Are you planning to attend the State Convention? Our guest for the weekend will be **International President Sid Scruggs**. Now's the time to register! See p. 10 for details.

Club Events and Activities

What's Going on in 18A?

Read about all the events and activities of clubs around the district.

18A Hall of Fame

Start thinking about who your club will nominate for the 18A Hall of Fame. This year's class will be inducted on Friday, March 11 at our District Convention in Alpharetta (see p. 11 for convention news). See p. 9 for information, or visit the district website at www.18alions.com.

The Pride

Lion Leslie C. Miller, Editor

Jasper Lions Club
42 Waterside Court
Ellijay, Georgia 30536
(H) 706.635.5913
(C) 770.894.7886

leslie.miller@mac.com
jasperlionleslie@yahoo.com

HAVE YOU MADE YOUR RESOLUTIONS?

As another year comes to a close, it's time to make those New Year's Resolutions! No, not the kind that are forgotten after about a week -- I'm talking about the resolutions you need to make as a Lion. Here are some examples:

- Invite someone different to come to each of your meetings
- Complete the requirements for the Order of the Golden Chain Award
- Attend a Zone Meeting
- Come up with a new service project for your club
- Visit another club



- Attend the District Convention
- Attend the State Convention
- Make use of the resources that we have available in 18A for programs, training, new member orientation, etc.
- Attend a meeting of the Lighthouse and/or the Camp
- Make new friends outside of your club!

I'm sure that you can come up with even more ideas -- but no matter what club you belong to, or what your goals are, **BE THE BEST LION YOU CAN BE!**

Happy New Year!!!!



WHAT'S GOING ON IN 18A

Cartersville Lions Have Gone **NOTS!**



Annual Pecan Sale

Fresh Shelled Mammoth Pecan Halves

Plain 1-lb. bag: \$8.00

Chocolate-covered 12-oz. bag: \$8.00

Call 678.743.8072

(leave a message)

OR

Contact Lion Fred Carlson

404.428.7227

benchmarkcontrol@gmail.com

We Serve!

East Cobb Lions'

Breakfast With Santa



Saturday, December 4

7:00am-11:00am

Powers Ferry Methodist Church

245 Power Ferry Road in Marietta

*at the corner of Powers Ferry Road & the
120 Loop*

All-You-Can-Eat Pancakes

Santa will visit from 8:00-10:00

Cost:

\$5.00/person

includes a 4 X 6 photo with Santa

**Bring an unwrapped toy and
receive a raffle ticket for a
special prize**

You Could Win a
40" Toshiba HDTV
(similar to the one shown here)



District Raffle

Tickets \$1.00 Each

Drawing to Take Place at the
Banquet at District Convention
Saturday, March 12, 2011

*Clubs are asked to sell
at least 50 tickets*

Contact:

Lion Donna Calhoun

706.278.1603

Are You

Naughty or Nice?



Visit

<http://www.checkittwice.org/>

and put your friends, family,
coworkers on Santa's List!

For as little as \$20, you can nominate
someone to the Naughty or Nice List,
and help the Lighthouse create

Better Vision

Better Hearing

Better Georgia

UPCOMING EVENTS

What's Happening.....

Get involved in Lionism outside of your community. Visit another club's meeting, activity, or fundraiser. Assist a club in your zone/region with one of its projects. Attend zone and district meetings, as well as the meetings of our leading state charities, the Lighthouse and the Camp for the Blind. There's a whole new world out there!

Watch this space for upcoming events and local, district, and state activities.

December 2010

Christmas at the Camp for the Blind

Friday-Sunday, December 3-5,

Georgia Lions Camp for the
Blind

January 2011

Lighthouse Meeting/Volunteer Celebration

Saturday, January 22 -- Details coming soon!

February 2011

Camp for the Blind Winter Meeting

Saturday-Sunday, February 5-6

March 2011

District Convention

Friday-Saturday, March 12-13,

Alpharetta -- Details coming soon!

June 2011

State Convention

Friday-Sunday, June 10-12, Atlanta

Marriott Gwinnett Place, Duluth,
GA -- see p. 6 for details

July 2011

International Convention

Monday-Friday, July 4-8, Seattle, WA

News from the Atlanta Metro Lions

~submitted by Lion Shelia Morrow

Atlanta Metro Lions Club held its 17th Annual Fabulous Food Tasting Extravaganza on October 31st which is the club's largest fundraiser. The event had over 40 Lions chefs and guest chefs that served great tasting food to over 300 guests. There were volunteers from the Atlanta Culinary Arts Institute, the Boy Scouts and students from local schools who received Community Service Hours. It was an arousing success. The club wishes to thank every one who attended and contributed to the event. Our special guests were members from the Jasper Lions Club, PCC Mark Miller, Lion Leslie Miller, PDG Charles Chapman, Lion Peggie Chapman, and Lion Clint Chapman. It is always a pleasure to have them at our event.

Then, on November 4th at our regular business meeting, Nathaniel Dyer of Atenium (an organization for underprivileged children) presented 2 awards to the club for contributing to his 2010 Spring Break Camp for the children in the Vine City Community of Atlanta. Atenium provided a much needed camp in that neighborhood for children of working mothers who would not have had any activities for that week. And, on November 6th, members attended the District Cabinet Meeting in High Point, GA. PDG Vanessa Stanley and club president Shelia Morrow attended the Club Excellence Process Workshop led by PCC Mark Miller. They have put together ideas from the workshop that can entice and bring in new members to the club.

On November 20th, the club helped sponsor and volunteered hours for National Adoption Day at the Fulton County Juvenile Justice Center. This is a national day in which foster parents are allowed to adopt the children into their families. There were 24 families that adopted



PDG Vanessa Stanley looking quite satisfied with the success of the Food Extravaganza. And judging from the look on Lion Winston Minor's face, he thinks she's trying to take all the credit! All kidding aside, this is an event not to be missed!! Make plans for next year!

children that day. They ranged from infants to 16 years old. There was a little 10 year old girl who cried and cheered because she had begun to believe that no one would ever want her. Ten members volunteered at the event.

On October 6th, the Atlanta Metro Lions Club was asked to tour the Southwest Atlanta Community with Atlanta Mayor, Kasim Reed and the NPU leader of District 10, and its leaders, regarding neighborhood improvements. There are a lot of empty houses and depression in the neighborhoods they toured and members provided input as to the revitalization of these areas. Lion Preston McCoy was Lion project leader and others in attendance were Lions Jean Ector, Bert Ricks, Willie Alexander and John Wilson. The tour and discussion lasted for about 3 ½ hours. Later in October, members of our club also went to Ellijay to help with their Apple Festival. Our members always look forward to helping out at the Festival because of

the fellowship in serving with the Ellijay Lions.

The club has already begun contributions to the Lighthouse Capital Campaign. The club has pledged \$10,000 to the campaign but has member pledges that totals over \$12,000. The club has also donated over 4,000 pairs of used eyeglasses to the Lighthouse since September 2010. Atlanta Metro Club is having a toy drive for children in the Simpson Road area where we help sponsor the annual Fire Station 16 Christmas Party that provides food, toys, bikes and fun for over 60 families in that community. These are likely the only toys and gifts that these children will receive for Christmas. We have about 15 members that have signed up to help decorate, wrap toys, serve food and do whatever is necessary to make the party a success.



News from the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind

*Submitted by Lloyd Foster
1&A Vice President for the Camp*



Christmas Camp is just around the corner -- December 3-5. What better way to celebrate the season than

helping the campers?! They need cooks, dish washers, and much more that weekend. Please contact Camp Director Kristen Picus to see what you can do to make this the best Christmas Camp ever.



CAMP 2010-2011 WISH LISTS

For Carolyn:

Forever Stamps

Copy Paper

Tablecloth with the Camp Emblem**

Cute "Get Well" Cards

Large Planter Containers

For Kristen:

Foam Juice**

Outdoor Sound System**

\$800 for a CD/DVD Duplicator**

For Buildings and Grounds:

Paint for Buildings**

Cases of Tractor Grease

Air Conditioner Vents

22 Blue Rug Junipers

White Paint**

Angled Paint Brushes

John Deere Gator

Miscellaneous:

Toilet Paper

Paper Towels

Paper Plates

Bleach

55-gal. Yard Trash Bags

Permanent Markers

Hand Sanitizer

Lysol

Gift Cards from Wal-Mart, Amazon,
Lowe's, Staples

***Please contact the Camp about these items*

Upcoming Dates for the Camp:

December 3-5 Christmas Camp

February 5-6, 2011 Winter Board Meeting

March 18-20, 2011 Work Weekend

March 25-27, 2011 LEO Gathering

April 29-May 1, 2011 Work Weekend

June 3-12, 2011 Pre-Camp

June 10-12, 2011 Board Meeting/State Convention

June 12-18, 2011 Family Camp Session

June 20-25, 2011 Pre-teen Camp Session

June 27-July 3, 2011 Older Adult Camp Session

July 9-15, 2011 Young Adult Camp Session

July 18-29, 2011 Teen Camp Session

July 23, 2011 Lions Day

August 1-7, 2011 Georgia Council Older Blind Session



Send a Kid to Camp

Every year, Lions Clubs of Multiple District 18 are asked to contribute to their Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind in Waycross. In addition to your regular contribution, your club is asked to also spend an extra day raising funds specifically for the Send a Kid to Camp Campaign.

Although September was the beginning of the campaign, each club can select when it would like to do this fundraiser. Some clubs already held their event in September, others prefer to do it after the first of the year when everyone starts thinking about summer camp activities. Regardless of when your club would like to have this fundraiser, please consider doing this in addition to your regular contribution.

Georgia Lions All State Band Undergoing Major Changes

At its last meeting, the Council of Governors accepted the resignation of Lion Lynn Infanger (Chatsworth Club) as the state chair for the Georgia Lions All State Band. Lion Lynn was one of the key players in the formation of the Band, and has put many hours of hard work into the organization since its inception in 1997. She has served as state chair for the last 5 years. During the same meeting of the Council, they appointed Lion Leslie Miller as the new state chair. Lion Leslie served as state chair 2001-2003.

Due to many factors, not the least of which is the cost of the trips to International Convention, the Band has struggled for the past few years in its efforts to recruit students from around the state. The new proposal,

accepted by the Council at its recent meeting, was that the Lions of Georgia host a marching band contest in an effort to find a high school within the state to represent us in the parade at the International Convention. The first marching contest will take place in the fall of 2013, so a band can be chosen to travel to the convention in Toronto in 2014. To help offset the cost of this trip, the band will be awarded a \$5000 donation. The idea is that the marching contest will become self-sustaining, generating the funds that go to the band that is selected.

You'll be hearing more about this new venture during the coming months. Clubs in MD18 will be asked to play an active part, so watch your newsletters!



The Georgia Lions All State Band has traveled to several state and International Conventions since it was formed in 1997. It has been such a positive youth outreach program -- a LEO Club was chartered as a result of the students' participation in the Band, and some of the Band members have gone on to become Lions.



DOUGLAS CO. CLUB GROWING AND ON THE MOVE!

~submitted by 1st VDG Alan Bethel, Guiding Lion

The Douglas County Lions Club was recognized by LCI for family memberships in their Club and was awarded the Family Membership Banner Patch. The Douglas County Lions Club now has 18 family members in their club. Total club membership now stands at 33 members.

The club has increased their outreach programs in the community by adopting CHRIS

Kids for Thanksgiving. CHRIS Kids is a group home providing a stable home situation for children who are homeless, grow up in the foster care system and need special attention and care. Club members prepared a delicious Thanksgiving dinner for the home and joined them for the meal. They will provide a similar meal at Christmas time. The Club is also adopting a family and will provide toys for Christmas as well as clothing for the children.



Camp for the Blind Raffle



John Deere Gator Compact CX Series

Ideal for turf, property tasks -- fits easily into tight spaces!

You could win this Gator OR \$5000 in cash!

Drawing to be held February 6, 2011 at the
Camp for the Blind Meeting in Warner Robins

--You do not have to be present to win--

Tickets are \$1.00 each and are available from
18A Vice President Lloyd Foster

(C) 269.357.1149

lloyd.r.foster@lmco.com

Visit www.glcb.org for ways you can help the Camp.

*There's more, much more to
Christmas than candlelight
and cheer;*

*It's the spirit of sweet
friendship that brightens
through the year.*

*It's thoughtfulness and
kindness; it's hope reborn
again;*

*For peace, for
understanding, and for
goodwill to men!*



INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Seattle 2011



The Lions Clubs 94th International Convention will be held for the first time in the dynamic city of Seattle, Washington, USA. The Convention will take place July 4-8, 2011.

July is a wonderful time to be in Seattle. The cosmopolitan "Emerald City," surrounded by mountains and water, is the quintessential destination where visitors can enjoy abundant sightseeing attractions, cultural activities, shopping and international cuisine in the heart of a scenic and vibrant city. Seattle's "Essential Hits," which include the Space Needle, Puget Sound, and Pike Place Market, are among the many favorites not to be missed.

The convention week will be packed with lively business sessions, special events, and get-togethers that are sure to energize and entertain attendees of all ages. The rousing International Parade of Nations, a gala international show, and the installation of LCI's 2011-2012 International President are but a few.

For more information, email:
convention@lionsclubs.org

To register, click on the following link,
or type the address in your browser
window:

<http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/news-and-events/international-convention/for-attendees/news-conv-register.php>

Support Lions Clubs International Foundation

Lions Clubs International Foundation, or LCIF, supports the humanitarian work of Lions in making a greater impact in their local communities, as well as around the world. Through LCIF, Lions give sight, support youth, provide disaster relief and combat disability. *Following are a few ways you can support LCIF....*

The **Melvin Jones Fellowship** recognizes donations of US\$1,000. It is the backbone of LCIF, providing 75 percent of the foundation's revenue. A recognition of humanitarian work, an MJF is an honor presented to those who donate US\$1,000 to LCIF or to people for whom a donation was made by others. Contributions can be made by individuals (including non-Lions), clubs or districts. Contributions can be made in one sum, or in installments of a minimum of US\$100 over a five-year period. It is possible to make a donation and choose the MJF recipient later. Write "Melvin Jones Fellow to be named later" on the check or bank draft.

The **Contributing Membership** program is an annual program that recognizes three levels of support: US\$20, US\$50 and US\$100.



"Before, our small community lived on the ground, without tents. Thanks to the Lions, we had the material and moral support to help organize the camp. Hope has come back for the needy in the community."

Mr. Yves Pheterson
Georges, Haiti

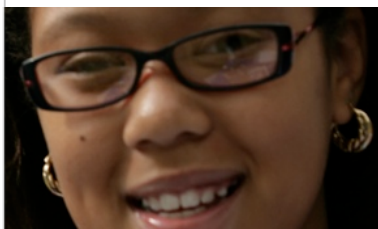


Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

For US\$20, donors receive a Contributing Member lapel pin identifying the fiscal year in which the donation is made. For US\$50, donors receive a pin and a silver wreath. For US\$100, donors receive a pin and a gold wreath. The pin design changes every year. Contributing membership

donations are used to support LCIF humanitarian grant programs.

For more information on how you can support LCIF, contact PDG Kenneth Moore, 18A LCIF Chair at brazier1970@gmail.com or 706.695.4079.



District 18A recently received an LCIF Grant in the amount of \$75,000 to help equip the new Lighthouse facility.

Opening Eyes Program Celebrates 10 Years

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) has a long history of supporting initiatives to help disabled populations. Through Opening Eyes, a partnership program between Lions Clubs International and Special Olympics, Lions clubs members around the world volunteer at Special Olympics games, registering athletes, conducting vision screenings and fitting glasses. More than 12,000 Lions have volunteered in the Opening Eyes program, and LCIF has contributed more than US\$12.2 million in funding in support of this program.

Research has shown that among Special Olympics athletes, 68 percent have not had an eye examination in three years, 37 percent are in need of eyeglasses and 18 percent wear clinically incorrect eyeglasses. Through the partnership, Lions are helping to improve eye care services. In addition, the partnership is helping to train additional vision care specialists on how to provide better vision care to this population.

Lions, Partners Provide Trachoma Treatment to 10 Million in Ethiopia

BAHIR DAR, AMHARA REGION, ETHIOPIA, November 2, 2010 – Today a group of Lions led by Lions Clubs International President Sid L. Scruggs III joined with partners to launch MalTra, a week-long combined treatment campaign aimed at controlling both malaria and trachoma. The antibiotic, Zithromax®, donated by program partner Pfizer Inc, is a critical part of Lions and partners' strategy in the fight against the blinding disease in underdeveloped, rural areas.

“As Lions, we are passionate about eliminating preventable blindness, and through SightFirst we dream to see and end of this debilitating disease,” said Scruggs. “Strong partnerships are essential to successfully tackling public health problems at this magnitude and the strong partnership among Lions, The Carter Center, the Amhara Regional Health Bureau, the International Trachoma Initiative and Pfizer is invaluable.”

During the first MalTra week in November 2008, 4.8 million people were treated. Since then, the campaign has been conducted every six months, treating more people and alternating between east and west Amhara. This is the fifth annual MalTra week event. Lions have helped in mobilizing more than 15,000 community volunteers to ensure more than 10 million people in more than 4,500 villages receive twice-annually the drug that will help prevent trachoma as well as protect them against other common infections. At the same time, Lions and partners distributed bed nets to protect against malaria-carrying mosquito bites and will also provide community education on ways to prevent both trachoma and malaria.

President Scruggs and his wife Judy, Past President Jim Ervin and his wife Sharon, Lions of Ethiopia and Lions Clubs International Foundation staff participated in administering the first dose and launching the week-long initiative. Representatives from The Carter Center, the national trachoma

program, government of Ethiopia, including the national president and state presidents, the International Trachoma Initiative and Pfizer joined the celebration.

Bahir Dar is located in the most trachoma-endemic area of the country. Together with the Amhara Regional Health Bureau, the international coalition is working to eliminate trachoma as a source of blindness from the region by 2012.

“This campaign is of great significance to us as it targets trachoma and malaria, two major health problems of our communities in Amhara region at an unprecedented scale” said H.E. Ato Ayalew Gobezie, president of the regional state.

A disease caused by bacterial infection, trachoma is the leading cause of preventable blindness worldwide. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), trachoma affects about 84 million people, of whom about 8 million are visually impaired and have lost their sight. Another 500 million are at risk worldwide. It is estimated that there are 1 million Ethiopians suffering from severe trachoma who are at risk of immediate blindness, 600,000 of whom live in Amhara.

“We shouldn't allow malaria and trachoma to prey on Ethiopian people, destroying lives and jeopardizing the country's future,” said Dr. John B. Hardman, CEO and president of The Carter Center. “We should do everything possible to support the Ministry of Health scale-up interventions to assist all the people of Ethiopia so that they can realize their full potential free from these devastating diseases.”

Trachoma control is based on the WHO integrated strategy known as SAFE – Surgery, Antibiotics, Facial cleanliness, and Environmental improvement. It is Ethiopia's goal to eliminate trachoma from Amhara by 2012 for the entire population at risk, around 18 million people. Antibiotics are necessary

to reducing trachoma in addition to improved sanitation and hand and face washing.

LCIF has helped distributed more than 42 million doses of Zithromax to help fight trachoma. This, the fifth MalTra campaign, will be the first time when more than half the people in the region will be treated at once. It will also see the administration of the 225-millionth dose of the antibiotic Zithromax®, donated by Pfizer Inc through the International Trachoma Initiative (ITI) globally. Ethiopia has received 32 percent of the global donation of Zithromax® since the program's inception, representing an approximate value of US\$1.6 billion.

“We are delighted to be part of such an inspiring collaboration and model public health campaign - the latest in our ongoing commitment to eliminate blinding trachoma by 2020,” said Dr Freda Lewis-Hall, Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, Pfizer Inc. “Like all of the health programs Pfizer is involved in across this region, it's the strength of the partnership between the organizations and health professionals involved that makes large scale events such as MalTra week possible.”

LCIF has been involved with blindness prevention and treatment for 20 years through their SightFirst program. In addition to educating communities on sight diseases and helping to distribute azithromycin to fight trachoma, Lions in Ethiopia have organized and supported tens of thousands of cataract operations, training of ophthalmic nurses and surgeons, and strengthening of eye care centers in rural and underserved areas.

For more information about Lions Clubs International Foundation, The Carter Center, the International Trachoma Initiative, and Pfizer, please click on the link below, or copy it into your browser window:

<http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/news-and-events/newsroom/release-205.php>

DISTRICT 18A HALL OF FAME



District 18A Hall of Fame International Association of Lions Clubs

What is the District Hall of Fame?

At the annual District Convention, the Past District Governor's Association inducts up to six living or deceased Lions into the District Hall of Fame. Membership in the Hall of Fame is District 18A's highest honor. It recognizes a lifetime commitment by the recipient to Lions Service in District 18A.

How is the selection made?

Local Lions Clubs and Past District Governors may nominate one living or deceased Lion for induction into the HOF each year. From the applications, the three most recent Past District Governors select the inductees each year. *Selection is based on the level of contribution the Lion has made to Lionism on the District and Local level. The nominee must have been a registered Lion in District 18A for ten years. Leadership that the Lion has provided his community at large is also considered. The selection committee is now restricted to only six (6) honorees each year.*

Who pays for the award?

Accompanying the application must be a check for \$65.00 payable to the District 18A Past District Governors. This fee covers the cost of the award. If the application is not accepted, the check will be returned.

When do you find out about who received the award?

The Awards are presented on the Friday night of the District Convention. No one except the selection committee knows the annual inductees until that time. Please, to respect the nominated Lions, they should not be informed of their nomination, but should be in attendance at the District Convention.

2011 Selection Committee:
PDG Kenneth Moore – Chair
PDG Vanessa Stanley and PDG Berry Broach

To download and print the form, please visit
www.18alions.com

OFFICIAL VISITS, ETC.

Where's DG Scott?



Last call!!!! To schedule DG Scott to come to your club for his Official Visit, please email him at pres701@yahoo.com or Lion Nanette at nkoschin@yahoo.com.

December

- 2 Dalton Christmas Parade
- 4 Cartersville LC Christmas Party
- 7 Blue Ridge OV
- 8 Rosville OV
- 9 Marietta Christmas Party
- 14 Boynton Christmas Party/OV

January

- 6 Adairsville OV
- 9 Atlanta Latino OV
- 11 Ellijay OV
- 13 Jasper OV
- 18 Chatsworth OV
- 22 Lighthouse Volunteer Celebration
- 27 Trion OV
- 29 Atlanta 90th Anniversary

February

- 1 Dalton OV
- 5-6 Camp Winter Mtg./Council of Governors Meeting
- 11-12 18E Convention
- 15 Douglas County OV
- 18-19 18B Convention
- 25-26 18C Convention

****OV = Official Visit**



State Convention 2011 Coming in June to Duluth



Now is the time to register for the State Convention!!! It will be held June 10-12, 2011 at the Atlanta Marriott Gwinnett Place in Duluth, just down the street from Gwinnett Place Mall.

Registration includes a Hospitality Book which will cover two District Breakfasts and the District Governors' Banquet.

Our guest for the weekend will be **International President Sid Scruggs**. He's a great friend to Georgia Lionism, and we are looking forward to spending time with him and his wife, Judy.

What's happening at the convention:

- Special Thursday night event at Stone Mountain Park. Cost: \$30.00
- Opening Ceremonies featuring an International Flair
- Melvin Jones Luncheon on Saturday
- Much More!!

Please click on the link below, or copy it into your browser window to access the registration form:

<http://www.galions.org/convention/2011ConRegisLtr.pdf>



Sid L. Scruggs, of Vass, North Carolina, USA, was elected president of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association's 93rd International Convention, held in Sydney, Australia, June 28-July 2, 2010. President Scruggs is a retired military and commercial airline pilot and a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy.

Using as his presidential theme Beacon of Hope, President Scruggs will make service to others – the core principal of Lions clubs around the world – the focal point of his presidency.

A member of the Vass Lions Club, he has held many offices in the association. In addition, he has presented at the USA/Canada and Europa Leadership forums and served as an instructor for the Lions Clubs International Leadership Institute and the District Governors-elect School.

In addition to his Lions activities, President Scruggs is chairperson of the board of directors of the Governor Morehead School for the Blind, a member of the board of the Raleigh Lions Clinic for the Blind, Inc., and a life member of the American Airlines Grey Eagles Association and the Naval Academy Alumni Association.

In 2010 he was elected to the United States Blind Golf Association Hall of Fame. He has also been presented with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the highest award given by the State of North Carolina, and an honorary doctorate of humanities from World University.

In recognition of his service to the association, President Scruggs has received the 100% Club President Award, the Governor of Excellence Award, the Key of Nations Award for sponsoring more than 100 Lions members, the International Presidential Award and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the association gives to its members. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

President Scruggs and his wife, Judy, also a Lion and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have four children and 16 grandchildren.

District 18A Convention to be Held in Alpharetta

It won't be long before our annual 18A Convention, set for March 11-12 in Alpharetta. Events will kick off on Friday evening with the Hall of Fame Induction. The next day will feature the Cabinet Meeting and Banquet.

Our guest for the weekend will be International Director Ron Johnson, from Sebago, Maine, USA, who was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association's 92nd International Convention, held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, July 6-10, 2009.

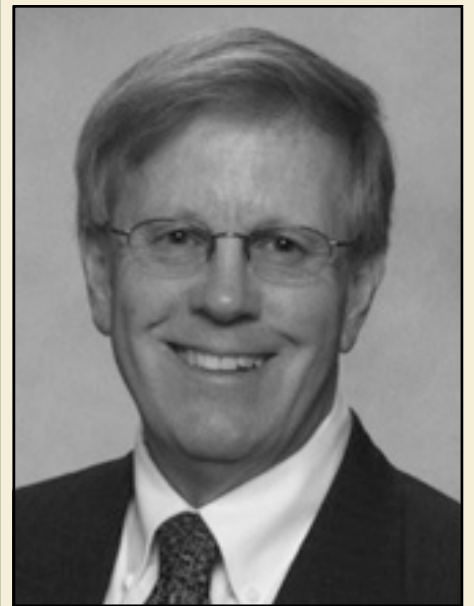
A former LEO and member of the Sebago Lions Club since 1984, he has held many offices within the association, including club president, zone chair, district secretary/treasurer, district governor, district MERL chair, district CSF group coordinator, district CSFII co-coordinator, long-range planning chair, diabetes chair, membership chair, multiple district extension chair and multiple

district LEO chair.

In recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards including the Guiding Lion Award, 100% District Governor Award, District Governor Excellence Award, Certified Guiding Lion Award, eight International Extension Awards, Five International President Certificates of Appreciation, two International Leadership Medals and an International President's Medal. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and an Illinois Foundation Fellow.

In addition to his Lions activities, Director Johnson is active in numerous professional and community organizations. He is a current member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE).

Director Johnson and his wife, June, also a Lion, have a son, Lion Greg; daughter, Kim; and three granddaughters.



International Director Ron Johnson and his wife, Lion June, will be our guests during the 18A Convention in March.



What does St. Nick suffer from if he gets stuck in the chimney?

Santa Claustrophobia

If athletes get athlete's foot, what do astronauts get?

Missile-toe

Why was Santa's little helper depressed?

He had low "elf" esteem

Where do polar bears go to vote?

The North Poll

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?!



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Retention is Every Member's Job: Communication is the Key!

*~submitted by
PDG Kenneth E. Moore, Jr.
18A Retention Chair*

Open communication is vital to the success of your club. It creates a comfortable, productive environment that will motivate members to do their best. Encouraging input from members and using your club meetings, newsletter and website to communicate happenings will help you with this task.

Making all club members feel that they have a voice in your club is vital for sustaining involvement. Members should feel that they can offer suggestions during club and committee meetings, comment on activities or express a complaint. They should also feel that their comments, suggestions or complaints are valued and will be appropriately addressed. Encouraging input but not following through will create



Giving members an opportunity to plug themselves into the projects your club is doing is essential to keeping them interested and involved. Let them know that they are a vital part of your organization!

frustration for your members. One suggestion that you may try at your club to encourage input is to create a suggestion box or location for soliciting member ideas. During club meetings, or in your club's newsletter or website,

acknowledge the ideas that are implemented.



Have You Heard of the Healthy Club Toolbox?

The Healthy Club Toolbox was designed to stimulate and strengthen clubs. Club officers have reported the materials provided in the Healthy Club Toolbox have helped them guide their club to restore enthusiasm and launch new service activities in the community. The materials in the Healthy Club Toolbox are available by clicking on the categories below. Here, you will find most current programs that we have assembled. Information includes:

- [Starting a New Club](#)
- [Inviting Members](#)
- [Strengthening Membership](#)
- [Membership Award Programs](#)
- [Planning Sight Projects](#)
- [Planning Youth Projects](#)
- [PR Tools](#)



District 18A Monthly Club Membership Report

	Club	End	End	End	End	End	End	End	Net
Club Name	Number	June 08	June 09	6 -10	7 -10	8 -10	9 - 10	10 - 10	Change
Adairsville	7281	38	37	33	33	30	30	31	-2
Alpharetta	7282	41	38	35	42	43	43	44	9
Atlanta	7283	27	30	38	38	38	38	38	0
Atlanta Buckhead	7284	128	120	132	132	132	132	132	0
Atlanta Korean	41006	10	12	11	11	11	11	11	0
Atlanta Latino	60486	21	21	18	18	21	21	21	3
Atlanta Metro	53844	63	57	51	51	51	51	51	0
Atlanta Buckhead Breakfast	58991	10	6	5	5	5	5	5	0
Atlanta Hellenic	59449	20	11	11	11	11	11	11	0
Austell	7288	19	19	22	20	20	19	19	-3
Ball Ground	7289	5	10	16	16	16	17	19	3
Blue Ridge	76052	8	10	10	10	11	11	10	0
Boynnton	7290	22	21	21	22	19	19	19	-2
Calhoun	7291	25	23	24	24	24	24	24	0
Canton	7292	54	53	48	48	48	48	48	0
Cartersville	7293	58	57	44	44	44	45	45	1
Chatsworth	7296	36	38	32	33	32	32	33	1
Chattanooga Valley	7297	32	33	31	34	34	35	35	4
Chickamauga	7298	30	26	26	26	26	26	22	-4
Dalton	7303	26	25	27	28	28	28	28	1
Dalton Noon	7304	9	8	9	9	9	9	9	0
Ellijay	7307	98	94	88	83	87	87	90	2
Hapeville	7311	24	21	21	21	21	21	21	0
Jasper	7312	84	81	77	79	80	82	82	5
Kennesaw Acworth	97208	20	25	25	25	24	24	24	-1
LaFayette	7313	44	46	39	39	39	39	39	0
Lakeview-Fort Oglethorpe	7314	10	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marietta	7315	45	40	38	37	37	37	38	0
East Cobb	7316	58	47	45	45	45	46	46	1
McCaysville	7317	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	0
Menlo	7318	19	21	19	19	19	18	19	0
Paulding County	7302	16	14	14	12	12	12	12	-2
Ringgold Lions Club	105798	0	39	20	20	20	20	20	0
Rockmart	7321	20	16	12	12	12	12	12	0
Rome	7323	32	30	29	29	29	29	29	0
Rossville	8324	17	15	14	14	13	13	13	-1
Roswell	7325	49	47	48	48	49	50	51	3
Sandy Springs	7327	20	20	17	17	17	17	17	0
South Cobb	7329	58	53	47	47	47	46	45	-2
Trion	7332	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	0
West Cobb	7334	25	21	22	22	22	22	22	0
Woodstock	7335	41	31	34	34	34	34	34	0
Douglas County	106647	0	0	32	29	29	29	31	-1
Johns Creek	108810	0	0	25	25	25	25	25	0
Total Membership		1384	1350	1332	1334	1336	1340	1347	15

A HOLIDAY MESSAGE FROM DG SCOTT

Fellow Lions of 18A:

I am happy to report district 18A is in very good shape. Our wonderful cabinet is doing its job, the VDGs and myself are getting around to the clubs, all the Zone Chairs are doing a great job in their zones. Membership is up: +15 through October, so retention efforts are working. Losses are down 34% from this time last year.

How are clubs adding new members?

- Membership drives
- Special events for friends & neighbors
- Dinners for prospective members
- Community projects where the public can SEE what Lions are doing
- Talking up Lionism
- Proudly wearing lapel pin and/or vests
- Simply *asking*

Why are more current members staying in their clubs?

- Cohesive club officers
- Good fellowship
- Good food at meetings
- Meetings start and end on time
- Interesting and varied speakers (shorter speeches)
- Adjust meeting time, date, place to appeal to more
- Having and sticking to an agenda

These are just a few of the reasons our membership numbers are up and our losses

are down. Keep up the good work the rest of this Lions year. We are on course for a banner year. Our clubs and their members are the reason District 18A is the PRIDE of Lionism in Georgia.

It is my and Nanette's wish for all of you a very **MERRY CHRISTMAS** and a happy and prosperous **NEW YEAR.**

~DG Scott



Recipe for Christmas All Year Long

Take a heap of child-like wonder that opens up our eyes to the unexpected gifts in life, each day a sweet surprise.

Mix in fond appreciation for the people whom we know. Like festive Christmas candles, each one has a special glow.

Add some giggles and some laughter, a dash of Christmas food -- amazing how a piece of pie improves our attitude!

Stir it all with human kindness, wrap it up in love and peace, decorate with optimism, and our joy will never cease.

If we use this healthy recipe, we know we will remember to be in the Christmas spirit, even when it's not December.

Joanna Fuchs

HOW'S YOUR CLUB DOING?

DG Contest



District Governor Scott and Cabinet Secretary Jody have announced the top clubs in each of the categories in the District Governor's Contest for the month of October.

In the large club category (> 25 members), listed *alphabetically*, the top five clubs are:

**Alpharetta
East Cobb
Ellijay
Jasper
Roswell**

The top clubs entered in the small club category (< 25 members) are:

**Blue Ridge
West Cobb**

In order for your club to be entered into the District Governor's Contest, the Contest Reporting Form must be filled out and submitted at the end of each month.

The contest began **May 1**, so on your next report include anything that you haven't already reported since that time. Please include any of the back-up material and/or explanations where applicable/required.

For a copy of the DG Contest Reporting Form, please click on the link below if you're viewing the newsletter online, or type this address into your browser window:

www.18alions.com/Site/DG_Contest.html

If you have any questions, please contact Cabinet Secretary Jody Napolitano at jodynap@bellsouth.net.