

Lion Shelia Morrow, Editor
3710 Narron Drive
Atlanta, GA 30331
404-344-6635
sheliacmorrow@yahoo.com

The Lion Whisperer



SERVING THE LIONS OF DISTRICT 18-A

Volume 1, Issue 11

May 2010

MD-18 State Convention May 28-30, 2010 Convention Guest is Past International Director Ed McCormick

Past International Director Edward McCormick is from Valley Center, Kansas and was elected to serve a two-year term as International Director at LCI's 83rd International Convention, held in Honolulu, Hawaii, on June 19-23, 2000.

PID McCormick became a Lion in 1978 and is currently a member of the Valley Center Lions Club. He has served in many offices within his club, his district and his multiple district. PID Ed served on the USA/Canada Leadership Forum as discussion leader, moderator and presenter, as well as the international

board representative on the Executive Committee of the 2001 USA/Canada Forum. He also served as facilities chairperson for three years and general chairperson of the USA/Canada Leadership Forum in 2007 in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

In recognition of his service to the association, PID McCormick has received numerous awards, including 100% Club President Award, the 100% District Governor Award, four District Governor Appreciation Awards, a Master Key Award, four International President's Awards, five International President's Cer-

tificates of Appreciation Awards, and, the Ambassador of Good Will Award, which is the highest honor that LCI gives to its members. Lion McCormick is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

As a profession, PID McCormick is a retired senior industrial engineer. And, as a private citizen, PID McCormick is married to a fellow Lion and Melvin Jones Fellow, Linda. They have two children and four grandchildren.

We are so honored to have PID Ed and Lion Linda visit with us and share their vision of Lionism. Welcome to Georgia, Lions McCormick!!!



PID Ed McCormick
State Convention Guest



Georgia Lions State Convention May 28-30, 2010 Tifton, Georgia

Friday: Registration and Exhibits; Organizational Meetings - Lighthouse and Camp meetings; Opening Ceremony plus Two Seminars - one of which would be Lions working with LEOS. (Friday Night Meal Tickets \$20.00).

Saturday: District Breakfasts; First Business Session; Melvin Jones Luncheon (\$25.00), State Awards; plus, the District Governor's Banquet.

Sunday: District Breakfast; Necrology Service; Second Business Session

Hospitality Book Order Form

Hospitality Books \$85.00. Reservations are due no later than May 15th. Books purchased after May 15th will increase to \$95.00.

YOU WILL FIND A LETTER AND HOSPITALITY BOOK FORM WITH HOTEL REERVATIONS ON PAGES 2&3 INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER. PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR CLUB MEMBERS. THANKS AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

Inside this issue:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM | 3 |
| DALTON LIONS CLUB | 4 |
| CHATTANOOGIA VALLEY ANNIVERSARY | 5 |
| ATLANTA METRO LIONS | 6 |
| LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE | 7 |
| CAMP FOR THE BLIND | 8 |
| LIONS UNIVERSITY | 11 |
| LIONS RETENTION | 13 |
| CALENDAR OF EVENTS | 14 |
| DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE | 15 |



2010 Lions of Georgia State Convention

Georgia Taylor, Convention General Chair
8307 Lake Carroll Drive, Donaldsonville, GA 39845
Residence 229-861-2190 Cell-229-220-5848

Dear Lions of Georgia:

Did you know that in 2010 we will be in Tifton, Georgia at the UGA Campus Conference Center? We are looking forward to seeing each and every one of you there. There is a lot to see and do – from the Agrirama (Georgia's Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village), National Peanut Museum, The Golf Club of Georgia, to downtown Tifton with great shops!

Now is the time to register! Registration includes a hospitality book covering two District breakfasts, all at the Conference Center on Saturday and Sunday, and the District Governor's banquet on Saturday night. The Friday night and Melvin Jones banquets are only \$20 and \$25 respectively, and are well worth it. The cutoff date for registration is May 15.

You can make your own hotel registration now. Hotel information is on the registration form. District Hotels are: Dist. A at Courtyard, Dist. B&C at Comfort, Dist. D at Country Inn, Dist. E at Fairfield, Dist. F at Holiday Inn. We look forward to seeing you on May 28-30 at the University of Georgia Conference Center in Tifton.

Mail your reservation form with payment check to:

Lion Dick Chalfant
P.O. Box 305
Chula, GA 31733

Yours in Lionism,
Georgia L. Taylor
Convention General Chair

Why Attend the State Convention?

1. It offers a unique opportunity to meet and network with Lions from around the State. An opportunity like this is not fully provided by the District Conventions that many Lions attend.
2. Provides educational seminars which address a variety of issues that concern Lions. Seminars in the past have addressed topics as membership, vision research/eye care, youth exchange, new clubs, service projects, Georgia Lions Lighthouse, Camp for the Blind, other state projects, etc.
3. Offers the opportunity to meet guest speakers - this year's speaker will be PID Ed McCormick from Kansas.
4. Offers Lions, Leos and their guests an opportunity to visit a different city.
5. Allows members attending the convention the opportunity to vote on changes to the constitution and by-laws and other important issues concerning Lions within the state.

**LIONS OF GEORGIA
2010 MD-18 89th CONVENTION
@ TIFTON GEORGIA
MAY 28 to 30, 2010
REGISTRATION AND
HOSPITALITY BOOK ORDER FORM**



Price beginning Dec. 1 is \$80, then \$85 on April 1.
Reservations are due no later than May 15, 2010. Books purchased after this date
will increase to \$95.00. PLEASE INDICATE IF A LION

NAME(s) & TITLE (Lion, DG, PDG, etc): _____

ADDRESS: _____ **TOWN:** _____ **ZIP** _____

CLUB: _____ **DISTRICT:** _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

No. HOSPITALITY BOOKS: _____ @ \$ _____ = _____

FRIDAY NIGHT MEAL TICKETS _____ @ \$20 = _____

MELVIN JONES LUNCHEON TICKETS _____ @ \$25 = _____

CHECK NO: _____ **TOTAL AMOUNT PAID:** _____

**A NAME FOR EACH BOOK IS NEEDED FOR CONVENTION ID
IF A CLUB PURCHASE PLEASE SUBMIT LIST OF NAMES ON BACK**

The official convention hotels are off I-75 @ Exit 62 / Hwy 82:

- **Comfort Inn and Suites** (905 West 7th St.. Tifton, GA 31794, 229 382-8250) \$82/night
- **Country Inn and Suites** (901 West 7th St.. Tifton, GA 31794, 229 382-8100) \$82/night.
- **Ramada Inn** (1211 Hwy 82W, Tifton, GA 31794, 229-382-8500) \$58/night.
- **Days Inn & Suites** (1199 82W, Tifton, GA 31794, 229-382-8505) \$58/night.
- **The Courtyard by Marriott** (814 W 7th St. Tifton, GA 31794, 229-388-0803) \$89/night.
- **Fairfield Inn & Suites** 806 W. 7th St., Tifton, GA 31794, 229 387-8288) \$80/night.
- **Holiday Inn** (1208 Hwy 82W, PO Box 1267, Tifton, GA 31793, 229 382-6687) \$75/night.

DON'T FORGET TO MENTION THAT YOU ARE WITH THE GA. LIONS!

Dalton Lions Club Welcomes District Governor Berry Broach

District Governor Berry Broach had his official visit with the Dalton Lions Club on April 6, 2010 during their regular business meeting. The meeting was held at the Dalton Freight Department. DG Berry had the privilege of inducting the newest members of the Dalton Lions

Club, Tammy Stephens. Lion Tammy works at the law firm of Mitchell & Mitchell in Dalton and the Dalton Lions are looking forward to Tammy becoming an active member of their club.

Submitted by Lion Lee Oliver



Sponsor Lee Oliver, Tammy Stephens & DG Berry Broach

Menlo Lions Supporting Their Community

The Menlo Lions Club recently helped with a project at Menlo School. Menlo Recreation Department officials applied for a grant from the Tillotson-Menlo Foundation to cover the cost of stripping, sanding and refinishing the gymnasium floor but they did not have enough funds to pay for the Tiger mascot at center court. The Lions Club donated enough money so the children would

have a beautiful center court logo they can enjoy and be proud of for many years to come.

Pictured are members of the Menlo Lions Club posing with the Tiger at the center court of the newly-refinished floor in the Menlo School Gymnasium.

Submitted by Lion Beth Swords.



Pictured: (Rear) Malcom Birge; (Standing l-r) Wallace Martin, Kay Pope, Beth Swords, Elaine Birge, Carol Kelly; (Kneeling l-r) Lee & Maxine Majors, Sid Swords, David Kelly

Chattanooga Valley Lions Annual Road Block

Chattanooga Valley chose Friday, April 16th, as the afternoon for the Annual Road Block for "Sight/Hearing Conservation."

It was a very windy day as we stood at GA 2 & Highway 193 from 3:00-6:00PM. The Road Block was a great success! We want to thank our friends, neighbors and fellow Walker County people who contributed to this great cause. The funds from this

Road Block are used for sight and hearing projects in our communities and the State of Georgia.

After the Road Block, we were treated to our annual "beans, cornbread, slaw, desert and drink" meal. The best part of the meal was the iced tea as we were very thirsty!!!!

*By Nadine Carden,
Reprinted from Chattanooga Valley Newsletter*



Participating Members



Road Block



Collecting Money



Bucket of Money from the Road Block

Give a Big Lions Roar for Chattanooga Valley Lions Club

Forty Years - What An Accomplishment!!!

We celebrated our 40th Anniversary on Saturday, April 10, 2010 at 5:00 PM at Chattanooga Valley Baptist Church Life Center. Everything was decorated with purple, gold & white. The centerpieces on each table were spring flowers.

All Charter Members were invited to attend the anniversary party. It sure was good to see each of them with their spouses. A video of the 40 years was compiled by Lions Retha Nelson and Steve Woodward. We had forgotten some of the fundraising activities and fun times we have had during the 40 years.

PCC Paul Johnson, of Dalton, was our speaker. He talked about his memories with Chattanooga Valley Club, all the support to Lions functions and the fun times we all had together at District and State meetings. PCC Paul Johnson mentioned that Chattanooga Valley Club was a special group and goes back a

long time.

Walker County Sheriff Steve Wilson sent a letter praising the club for their help with the Stocking Full of Love and other support in the community. Sheriff Wilson was in Atlanta taking treatment for cancer. Also, Walker County Commissioner Bebe Heiskel spoke to our group about the wonderful relationship she has with the Chattanooga Valley Lions. She recalled the time a lady from Chattanooga Valley called and needed her house roofed. She called the club and we responded by having a roof placed on her house. Commissioner Heiskel reported that, "we were dependable for help."

Lion Leon Ellis, assisted by the club's first Tail Twister David Plumber, entertained everyone with fun and door prizes. Charter officers were recognized, as were all charter members and former Lioness Club members.

PDG Grover Newman installed our

new member, Lion Greg Arthur, to our club. Lion Katherine Fouts emceed a Memorial Service for eleven members who were members at the time of their death. A candle was lit to honor each member.

Perfect attendance pins were presented to deserving members; and, a new 40 Year Pin was presented by Mary Graham to Charter Members Harold White, Richard Hulgán, LeBron Carden, Leon Ellis and Delbert Fouts.

A wonderful "Special" catered meal was enjoyed by all and a special 40th Birthday Cake was decorated in the Lions colors of purple and gold.

We had guests from Dalton, Jasper, Chickamauga, Woodstock, Ringgold and our sponsoring club, Rossville.

Lions, let's keep roaring for another 40 years! We can do it!

By Nadine Carden

Printed from the club's April Newsletter



40 Year Perfect Attendance: Leon Ellis, Richard Hulgán, LeBron Carden, Delbert Fouts & Harold White



PCC Paul Johnson & wife Janet Anniversary Speaker



Commissioner Bebe Heiskel



(Left): Greg Arthur being installed by PDG Grover Newman & Nadine Carden presenting his pin.
(Right): Club 40th Anniversary Cake



Atlanta Metro Lions Delights In The Month of April

On April 1st the Atlanta Metro Lions inducted in their newest member, Lion James E. Abson. Lion Abson was sponsored by Atlanta Metro president Lion Willie Alexander. Region 2 Zone 3 Chairman Scott Rogers was invited to speak and to induct the new member. Lion Scott spoke on the virtues of Lionism and on recruiting and retaining members. He also spoke on members being involved with the work in the District as well as in their local clubs.

Not only was it a special day for Lion James being inducted into the club, it was also his birthday. Also, his sponsor, Lion Alexander, was having a birthday on April 3rd which was the following Saturday. The club members celebrated each of the birthdays by presenting them a beautifully decorated cake

(complete with candles) and a "Happy Birthday Lions' Badge" that they each could wear for the day. Members sang the birthday song and everyone enjoyed eating the cake. It's a birthday that Lion Abson won't forget for a long time.

Also, in the month of April, the club held a Bucket Brigade for White Cane Days on April 3rd & 10th. Members stood in front of Southwest Kroger & Wayfield Food Stores in Atlanta on April 3rd; and, South Dekalb Kroger & Wayfield Food Stores on April 10th collecting money. They also handed out information about their club and the Lighthouse for the Blind and Lions Clubs International. It's always good for members to get out into the community and have a good presence in the community; it

is also a time for the members to access the needs of the community where they can be of service.

A final tally has not been made as to how much money that was raised; but, Lion C.T. Martin talked to a lady about the Lighthouse and the work that Lions do in the community and she wrote a check for \$50. Lion C.T. was the hero of the day. We serve!



(L-R): Lion James Abson, Sponsor, Willie Alexander & Zone Chair Scott Rogers

Third Annual Northwest Georgia Balloon Festival

May 14th marks the opening of the third annual Northwest Georgia Balloon Festival. Tillotson Field in Menlo once again will host the big hot air balloons. The balloons will launch at 6am and 6pm weather permitting. Back this year is the Family Attractions Carnival along with our tethered balloon. On Saturday afternoon at 3:30pm, country artists Buck and Duke will perform. Craft and food vendors will be on the grounds offering great food and all types of crafts, including woodcarvings, jewelry and quilted items.

For the wholesale family entertainment, it is hard to beat this festival. For a parking fee of \$10, which is good for the entire weekend with your stub, you can enjoy all the flavor of a county fair with the extra

addition of the balloons. Plan to attend May 14th, 15th and 16th. The festival officially begins at 4pm on Friday with one flight scheduled that afternoon at 6pm. Two flights are scheduled on Saturday and Sunday at 6am and 6pm, weather permitting.

This year marks the 15th Anniversary of John Cavin's balloon, the Purple People Eater. John, who had the idea to start the festival, said of his balloon, "It's hard to believe I've been entertaining people all over the country with my big purple monster. The large eyes, dangling arms, and big teeth never frighten the children in attendance. They love it. There is always a crowd reaction as we inflate. I suppose that is why I keep flying my purple balloon."

Make plans to be in Menlo, Georgia, at Tillotson Field on Highway 48 on May 14th, 15th and 16th so you do not miss any of the fun.

*Submitted by Lion Beth Swords
Menlo Lions Club*



John Cavin's Purple People Eater Hot Air Balloon



Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation

Woodruff Foundation Awards Lighthouse \$500,000 Grant

The Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation is happy to announce it was recently awarded a \$500,000 grant from the Woodruff Foundation. The grant puts us over half-way to our \$2.75 million dollar goal, but more important, it shows that others truly believe in the mission and direction of your Lighthouse.

To learn more about the capital campaign, including named gift opportunities, please visit www.lionslighthouse.org or contact Kyle at kgalenski@lionslighthouse.org



Lighthouse Capital Campaign FAQ:

How will individuals be recognized for their capital campaign contributions?

There will be a recognition wall at the new home of the Lighthouse. Permanent recognition for individuals starts at \$2,500. There will also be a directory of all donors in the new building. Please remember that pledges can be fulfilled over three years.

How will my club be recognized for its capital campaign contribution?

All clubs giving over \$1,000 will receive a commemorative banner patch. Clubs giving at the \$5,000, \$10,000, and \$15,000 levels will receive permanent recognition in the building. Naming opportunities are available from \$20,000.

Will my individual contribution count for my club?

On the recognition wall, individual and club contributions can be double-counted. For example, say John Doe from Roaring Rock Lions Club contributes \$5,000 and his club contributes \$10,000. Lion John will be recognized as an individual at the \$5,000 level, and Roaring Rock will be recognized at the \$15,000 level.

Can my individual contribution count toward my club's pledged amount?

No. When Lions Clubs make pledges to the capital campaign, it is with the expectation that the amount of the pledge will come from the club's account. Any additional funds given by the individuals in a club will count toward the amount the club is recognized for in the end, but not toward the club's original pledge.

To find out more about recognition and naming opportunities, please contact Kyle at kgalenski@lionslighthouse.org.





Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind News

Excerpts reprinted from the Camp Newsletter, "All Night, All Day"
April 15, 2010

News From Camp President Frank Spinney:

March 26-28th we were at our Camp for a Work Weekend. WOW-we got a bunch done. Here are a few highlights of what was accomplished:

- Replaced the bottom portion of the Siding in the Dining Hall with the concrete based siding. Had to rebuild the entire wall around the main entrance and have started tying the roof line back into the Gazebo. We got a couple more weekends of work on the Dining Hall before it will be 100% done. Rest assured - it will be done before the Camping Season.
- Many Lions worked very hard clearing the location for the new Low Ropes Course. Lots of trees and underbrush had to be removed. It looks outstanding!
- Planting trees.
- Sanding and painting swing sets.
- Painting inside the Gazebo.
- Installing a hand line so Campers can navigate from the Dining Hall to the Climbing Tower and then on to the Catfish Pond.

The Grand Tour of Georgia (GTOG) is underway. I have been flooding the Augusta area and even some shops in South Carolina with Fliers. I have also had the opportunity to speak at two Motor Cycle Club Meetings in the last two weeks. I hope you have also been busy getting those out all over Georgia. That is the only way this event/fundraiser will be successful. I also got to visit my first of 19 locations on the Grand Tour this week. As always - Thank You for all you do for our Camp and those "We Serve."

News From Camp Secretary Carolyn Taylor-Music:

Kristen, Bobby and I get such great joy being here daily and working for our Campers' return. Lions, this "haven" you and your predecessors have developed is a rewarding place to watch and hear the Campers' struggles and groans to reach a bit higher and go a bit farther. We are so pleased that so many of you have given so much this past year. Wow! Much has been accomplished with much left to do.

Our Campers will never see the beauty of our pines and palmettos, the flowering azaleas and dogwoods. They can only imagine!! But what they will always "see" is how much their Lions love them. They're returning to a place where they can sense that love that all 246+ Lions Clubs want for them. If you are one of the Clubs or members that haven't yet sent a donation (General Fund, Century Club, Send-A-Kid-To-Camp, Grand Tour of Georgia, etc.), it's not too late. We appreciate your continued support at any time.

News From Camp Director Kristen Davis

...I know that I have been entrusted with an amazing opportunity to lead this camp into a new day; to protect, challenge, motivate and create amazing opportunities for the Blind of Georgia; and, to be a good steward of an amazing organization. I feel like it's a big responsibility. I will be honest and tell you that I am grateful I don't do it alone. You see it's all of our responsibility. You as Lions in this state have been entrusted, too. You have been entrusted to support the goals and operations of this camp. You have been entrusted to provide for and maintain these beautiful grounds. This is YOUR camp! You have been entrusted with it. Let that thought sit with you for a moment. What an amazing opportunity we have. No other facility in this state has been entrusted with such a task. WE ARE IT! I hope as you reflect upon this amazing place affectionately called GLCB, you swell with pride. I hope that your head gets a little bigger and your steps get a little more bounce in them. May we never forget that, "From everyone who has been given much, much will be required!"

Camp for the Blind Theme Basket Silent Auction



A REMINDER!! Has your club prepared a Themed Gift Basket yet for the Camp Silent Auction to be held at the State Convention? You still have time to brainstorm for a theme, shop for the items, prepare the basket, and bring it to the Convention in Tifton.

If you need help getting your basket to Tifton, you can contact your District's Vice President or Fundraising Committee member: District A-David

White; B - Lil Shurtleff; C - Delores Foreman; D - Sylvia Masters; E - John Singletary or Alice Stagg; F - Doy Barks or Helen Troha. We do request that you tape a list of the items included on the outside of the basket so Lions will know exactly what they are bidding on. All values will be accepted.

Please fix a basket for us and help raise money for our Camp!

*Submitted by Lion Ed Ressler,
Past President of the Camp for the Blind*

Camp for the Blind 2010 Grand Tour of Georgia



The 2010 Grand Tour of Georgia is a Motorcycle Event that lasts six months. It kicks off on the first of April and ends the last day of September. There are 18 locations throughout the Great State of Georgia that can be visited, plus one mandatory location. If you travel to the mandatory location and to 15 of

the 18 other locations and record your visit with a picture, you will have successfully completed the Grand Tour. The Grand Tour Passport Book is finalized so please make copies of the flier that has been emailed or the flier that is in the newsletter. Please get those copies out to all Motorcycle Shops and Clubs in the State. Pass the flier on to all your email friends and have them distribute them as well. The greater the exposure we have for the flier, the greater success we will have with the Grand Tour.

how can they participate if they only have a car? Well, it has been extended to cars. The program is designed for motorcycles, but cars can now take part. The same rules apply. The Passport Book costs \$25 and you have to make the same amount of visits to the same locations.

Others have asked me to name the locations. I won't do that. You have to buy the Passport Book to find out. But, this is a beautiful and very interesting state; you won't be disappointed.

As always - Thank You for all you do for our Camp and those "We Serve."

*Reprinted from the Camp for the Blind Newsletter
And, Interview by District 18-A Bulletin Editor,
Shelia Morrow*

Lions from all over the State have approached me asking



**Pictures taken during
the Camp for the Blind
Work Weekend
March 26-28, 2010**





**2010
Grand Tour Of Georgia
hosted by the**

**Georgia Lions' Camp
for the Blind, Inc.**

Ride your Motorcycle*, see the great State of Georgia and help a blind child go to Camp! Enjoy a summer of riding experiences and help that same child gain a lifetime of confidence and experiences as well!

Purchase a Passport Book for \$25.00. This Passport Book is loaded with 19 scenic and historical locations throughout the great State of Georgia.

Ride to 15 of 18 optional locations and one mandatory location between April 1, 2010 and September 30, 2010. Record each visit with a photo, submit your record of visits and you will receive a Grand Tour Pin/w 2010 Year Tab and a Certificate of Completion. Those successful riders will also be able to purchase a 2010 Grand Tour of Georgia Tee Shirt.

* Those wishing to partake in the Grand Tour of Georgia that do not ride motorcycles may do so. The same rules will apply.

To obtain a Grand Tour of Georgia Application visit the Georgia Lions' Camp for the Blind's Website at GLCB.org or call (888) 297-1775 (Ga. Only) OR (912) 283-4320 from 8am – 5pm Monday – Friday.

Ride Safe – Ride to Help Others!



District 18-A Lions University Saturday, May 22, 2010

District 18-A Lions University will be held on Saturday, May 22, 2010
New Victoria Baptist Church
6659 Bells Ferry Road
Woodstock, GA 30189
1:00 - 5:00 PM

Classes will be offered on "Club President," "Club Secretary," "Club Treasurer," "Club Tail Twister," "Club Newsletter Editor," and "Club Excellence Process." Lions may attend up to any 3 of the classes. The training is open to **EVERY** Lion regardless of whether they are an officer or director. **ALL LIONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.** Classes are free and refreshments will be served.

DGE Scott Warren,
 District 18-A



I want to see if I can get 100 Lions to work the M.D.A. Telethon this year. It will be held on Labor Day. It will be on Monday, September 6, 2010. We are going to work the first shift. The hours are from 9:00am to 12:00pm. We need to get his information in as soon as possible. I need anybody that wants to participate to email me there home address, name and phone number. It would be great to get 100 Lions to do this so we can help the people with this disease. Whoever wants to do this, PLEASE wear your vest. If anybody has any questions, Please contact me by either my email address, always_01@comcast.net (that is a-l-w-a-y-s [underscore]0-1@comcast.net); or by phone, 404-660-6284. It will be great to see 100 Lions on television helping "JERRY'S KIDS." It will be held at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel at the Atlanta Airport.

Thanks,
 Bob Hennessey
 Telethon Coordinator
 East Cobb Lions Club



A Memorial Day Message For Our Troops



**Both Past & Present (But particularly in Iraq & Afghanistan at present)
@2007 Brooke O'Neill Emery**

Though I don't know your name and I have never seen your face, I shed tears for you.

Though my memories don't contain a time we shared together, I miss you.

Though we are not related, you are in my thoughts.

When I'm eating, or taking a shower, or doing housework, I think of you; knowing how much you wish you could be at home. Your stomach full, doing mundane chores such as cleaning your house; clean from a fresh shower.

Though you are at terrible risk, and perhaps may not survive, you are NEVER ALONE, and will always be alive if only in our spirits, hopes and memories; our dreams for your future.

There are MILLIONS of people praying for you tonight and throughout the day.

Praying for your safety and return as a whole person in mind, body and spirit.

We are crying because we know. We know you are scared and lonely. And that you'd give anything to see your family; to hug your mother, father, your child, sister, brother, aunt, uncle.

To be showered with love and comfort, instead of sand and shrapnel.

We long for you, too. With an ache so desperate as to make us insane. To touch your face, see your smile; share your laughter and your tears.

We love you so much, soldiers, you cannot know. You cannot fathom the swelling of pride in our chest as we think of you. Of your courage and your sacrifice, the hope that you can come home soon.

And those that have returned, we have not forgotten you; you are in our prayers. That you may recover from your experience and be healed.

No matter what anyone says, no matter the reason you are there, You are a UNITED STATES SOLDIER, and you make us PROUD!! Everyday for the beautiful flag, for our great fortune to be Americans.

There are no politics, no scandals, no mistakes, NOTHING, which can diminish the sentiment we have for you. And even as democracy permits free speech, as it should, which, some say, may use to make judgments or cast aspersions; remember always, we know you'd rather be on the couch debating it with us rather than spending your days trying just to stay alive.

Let not "freedom of speech" EVER make you doubt the American people's faith in and love for you. We are PROUD!

I never met you, but I want you to know that I love you. I'm praying for you. I honor you. I'm waiting on your return.

On this Memorial Day, 2010, and every day, please know that you are being thought of. WE MISS YOU. GOD BLESS YOU and keep you until the day we can celebrate face to face.

Names, Ugly Lion Relationships, and Too Much Work

(CLUB ACTIONS TO AVOID THE DISAPPEARANCE OF LIONS)



Do you know the names of every Lion in your club? Frankly, I have always had trouble remembering

the names of everyone in my club. In fact, as I have told Lions over the years, when I first visited my soon to be Oconee Lions Club, I noticed that members were wearing name tags. What I thought at the time, and I have not changed my mind about, is that I could be a member of an organization that encouraged members to wear name tags! (Name tags help Lions begin to remember their club members.)

It isn't knowing the names of the members of your club that is especially important though. Indeed, it isn't the names so much as knowing who the person is that has that name. That is, what do you know about the person with a name? Nevertheless, interaction starts with names. When you are introduced to a prospective member, you often only hear their name. Then, if your club is fortunate and this person becomes a member, the next time you see him or her, do you remember his or her name? In all

likelihood, the answer is "No." Therefore, we are now back to the importance of the new member's sponsor to know your name and repeatedly introduce you until the new member gets a name tag!

New members need to begin to feel accepted in the club they have joined. What does it take to make this happen? As Lions understand, it is one of the duties of a Lion Tamer and past club presidents to greet members as they arrive. A new member definitely needs to be greeted, but it isn't just "thanking them for coming." Rather, new members need to be continuously linked to club members. Again, the new member sponsor has a significant duty here, but **all** members need to make certain that new Lions are continuously interacting with fellow Lions. Over time multiple interactions form friendship relationships that solidly retain new members. Of course, this is where interactions at other than meetings become important, i.e., service activities, fundraising, committees, etc.

Unfortunately, all relationships between Lions are not positive. How does this happen? That is, since we all have the same sight and hearing related goals, how is it that we aren't all positively related to each other? There are numerous reasons, but some of them can be controlled

by club leadership and members. It is here that Lions need to be sensitive about politics, religion, gender, race, etc. Among the controls here are avoiding the "minor things" like jokes that may end up negatively creating relationships between Lions. Interestingly, people often think that silence by others means that they agree with or approve of what someone has said, but this is not accurate. Negative relationships can potentially lead to the disappearance of club members.

The final club action item among the nine I have been discussing this year is one that many Lions are not likely to see coming. Clubs need to figure out a way to equalize the volunteer labor of their members. I still remember being around a member of my club who was continuously involved in every club activity and then one day he wasn't a member anymore! What behavioral research has discovered is that volunteers can become so intensely involved in club activities that they eventually remove themselves from the club. Yes, participation in events is volunteerism, but club leaders need to control their activities and the involvement of members. Losing a very active member is a real loss!

Richard "Dick" Smith
MD-18 Lion Retention Chair



International Convention: Travelling to Sydney

The Lions International Convention is the association's premier event for all worldwide members. This year, it will be held June 28-July 2, 2010 in Sydney, Australia. Spanning 5 days, they have planned for a great event in a fabulous location. The convention brings together Lions from all over the world to celebrate, fellowship and learn.

What Else Can You Do in Sydney?

- Explore the splendor of Sydney's sparkling harbour and tour the spectacular Sydney Opera House
- Visit The Rocks for a step back in time and great shopping at Australia's largest duty free store, DFS Galleria.
- Discover the Australian Wildlife Park and see why the cuddly koala is a unique and loved animal in Australia.
- Take a nighttime dinner cruise; and, Escape the city and travel west to the legendary Blue Mountains.

During convention week, a Lions Tour Desk will be set up in the Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Happy Mother's Day!!!

My friend Myron tells me, "Last year on Mother's Day the whole family got together for a big dinner and afterward, when Mom started to clean up, I said to her, "Don't bother with those dishes, Mom. Today is Mother's Day, you can always do them tomorrow." -**Joey Adams**



A small boy is sent to bed by his mother...

[Five minutes later]

"Mom..."

"What?"

"I'm thirsty. Can you bring me a glass of water?"

"No. You had your chance. Lights out."

[Five minutes later]

"Mom..."

"WHAT?"

"I'm THIRSTY... Can I have a glass of water??"

"I told you NO! If you ask again I'll have to spank you!"

[Five minutes later]

"Momm..."

"WHAT??!!"

"When you come in to spank me, can you bring me a glass of water?"



Calendar of Events

May 1 - Roswell Lions Dinner & Reverse Raffle

May 14 - Northwest Georgia Balloon Festival, Menlo

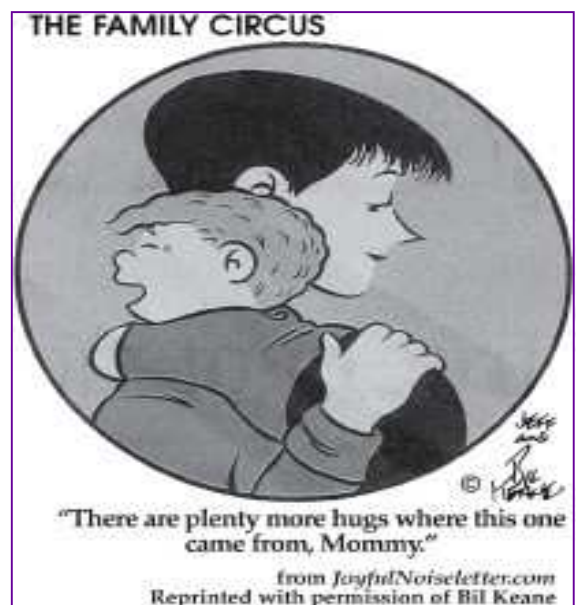
May 22 - Lions University 1-5pm Woodstock, GA

May 27 - Council of Governor's Meeting, Tifton, GA

May 28-30- MD18 State Convention, Tifton, GA

June 28-July2 - LCI International Convention

September 6 - MDA Telethon, Atlanta, GA



The Story of...

Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody

This is a little story about four people name Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

Kim Fletcher
 Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation

And now a word FROM THE DG

As we move in the last 1/6 of this Lions Year, there is still much to do to make this year that I had hoped for back in July 2009.

Our membership took a hit in March when the Lakeview/Ft. Oglethorpe Lions Club was cancelled by LCI for not paying their dues. This was a loss of twelve members that we, under Lion Kenneth last June, had signed as new members to save the club from being cancelled at that time. The new members replaced the total membership of that club who had given up and gave away the money that they had and then dropped themselves from the club, leaving the club with no members and no money. The new members with no old leadership and no knowledge about Lionism could never get enough of the new members together to even elect officers. Without any leadership there were no dues collected and no bank account opened. We are holding the money collected at the time the new members joined in our District account. 1st VDG Scott, Lion Deneise Sheppard, Guiding Lion for the Ringgold Club, chartered at the same time, and I met several months ago and retraced our canvassing steps to talk face to face with the 12 new members. We could only find a few of them and those we talked with seemed as though they wanted to keep the club going but did not want to take the leadership positions necessary. I have talked with PCC Carl Harrell, GMT Regional Leader, and he advised us to wait another few months and go back in and charter a new club with new charter members using the members we have now as a nucleus for the new club. As things stand now, that is the approach we are planning. It is much easier to recruit members as Charter Members.



Our District membership was -31 at the end of March, so please, between now and the end of June, make every effort to add at least one new member to your club. Remember that every person you meet in your daily activities is a potential new member.

On the brighter side, the John's Creek Lions Club will be chartered this month. Under the leadership of Guiding Lion Charlie Andrews, that club has over 25 members and has elected officers and is well on the way to a Charter Night in June. This club has good leadership and a great Guiding Lion. John's Creek is a high energy community with lots going on every day. That club should be a leader in the District very quickly.

We have done much this year, but the year is not over so lets get going and end the year on a high note by completing things we have started and start things that will be finished next year.

DGE Scott has asked me to be Extension Chair next year and to set up teams to work with struggling clubs in the District. I know that it is hard to admit that your club is struggling, but LCI has declared that any club with less than 20 members is struggling. So please get with me and ask for help with your club. Together we can put you back on the right tract and rebuild that interest and desire that your members had before. It can be done and we can do it. You can reach me by phone at 706-273-4109. That is my cell phone and it is with me almost all of the time. My email address is broach@ellijay.com. It is easy to reach me all the time.

Let's end this year with a big push in membership, but don't fail to drop any members who need to be dropped. Keeping those members to make numbers look good only creates problems in the future. THE FUTURE OF LIONISM IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN HAVING GOOD NUMBERS THIS YEAR.

Yours in Lionism,
DG Berry



Where Is Our District Governor?

May 27: Council of Governor's Meeting

May 28-20: MD-18 State Convention

If you have not scheduled your Official Visit please do so ASAP with DG Berry at 706-273-4109 or broach@ellijay.com.



District 18-A Newsletter

SERVING THE LIONS OF DISTRICT 18-A

District Governor

Berry Broach

713 Rose Petal Lane
Ellijay, GA 30540
706-273-4109
broach@ellijay.com

1st Vice District Governor

Scott Warren

707 Wind Song Trace
Woodstock, GA 30189
770-928-1382
pres701@yahoo.com

2nd Vice District Governor

Alan Bethel

11865 Wildwood Springs Drive
Roswell, GA 30075
770-643-1506
albethel@comcast.net

Cabinet Secretary

Melanie Effler

3117 Henderson Mountain Road
Jasper, GA 30143
678-454-0684
melanieeffler@yahoo.com

Cabinet Treasurer

David White

2662 Whitehurst Drive
Marietta, GA 30062
770-973-1114
depat@bellsouth.net

Cabinet Advisor

Kenneth Moore

655 Wildwood Drive
Chatsworth, GA 30705
706-695-4079
brazier1970@gmail.com

Cabinet Librarian

Donna Calhoun

200 Autumn Court
Apartment 4
Dalton, GA 30721
706-280-7897
dcalhoun@professionaleyec.com

District Bulletin Editor

Shelia Morrow

3710 Narron Drive
Atlanta, GA 30331
404-344-6635
sheliacmorrow@yahoo.com



We're on the Web:
www.18alions.com