



District 31-N Newsletter

August September 2021

Vol. VII

Issue 2

Disaster Preparedness Trailer



Article by PDG DeAngelo Jackson

The district has moved one step closer in being prepared for disasters in our area. With a lot of hard work from the Disaster Alert Committee, we have obtained our disaster preparedness trailer.

This trailer will be used to aid those in our community in the case of natural disasters or other type of catastrophes. The trailer will be equipped with a generator, power washers, tables, chairs, tents, and the other needed supplies to help those in need.

This trailer will be stationed at the Lions Industries For The Blind in Kinston, NC. It is my goal also to have it available if clubs want to use the trailer as a static display at one of the clubs community events.

The trailer was an 18 x 7' emptied shell of a trailer, Lion Jerry Pozniak did his handy work and added the electricity, lights, concession window and collapsible exterior shelf. He is pictured at the bottom of the ramp. I am so thankful for the work that he completed.



District
Governor
Robert Block



1st Vice
District
Governor
**Mayra
McCloud**



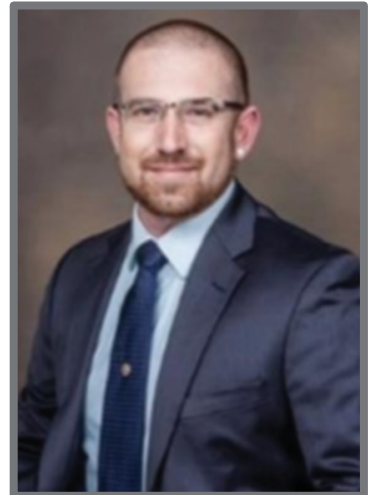
2nd
Vice
District
Governor

Thoughts From Our District Governor

Fellow Lions,

It's hard to believe that we are 1/4th of the way through our year.

By now our committees should be well underway with their projects, their education, their fundraising efforts, or planning for future projects. Our zones in our region have been working tirelessly to help increase communication within our clubs in our district and I can't thank all of the lions of our district enough for putting a focus on communication, education, and getting back to serving.



Looking at these past three months, we have seen some strengths and some opportunities as it relates to memberships. We all know that COVID 19 has made it difficult for members to remain engaged due to health, finances, and the ability to be out and about. It does make me happy though to look at the reports and see that our clubs are connecting with their friends, family, and members of their community to bring in new Lions. As of 9/30/21 we are at net zero membership with 31 lost members and 31 gained members.

Keep up the great work, explore ways to increase knowledge through new voices webinars, Lions University, local learning, district learning and state learning. Reach out to your Global Leadership Chair (GLT), PDG Carlton Metts if you have any ideas or questions on topics of learning.

Remember to focus on the small acts of kindness, the simple ways to make a difference and to always serve from the heart.

Leading from my heart,

Lion Bob Block Jr. and Family
District Governor - District 31N
New Bern Lions Club

From the Desk of Our 1st Vice District Governor

Attention Lions!

The "Tech For The Visually Impaired" Committee has gone state wide! We have eleven members now, and have been given reps from all over the state to better serve YOU! By end of August, you will be able to contact a rep close to you, and get updated on anything from head mounted devices, to "bump dots"! I will be posting names soon for your convenience. We have also added Enchroma color blind "correction" glasses for folks to try on, along with eSight and the WeWalk computerized white cane to try out. These companies will also be donating to our Brighter Visions campaign in YOUR club's name! Call us to get more information on how your club can get involved...

Keep roaring!

1VDG Mayra McCloud



Notes From Our 2nd Vice District Governor

Greetings Lions of 31N;

I grew up loving to participate in sports. I played basketball on the Junior College level, became a high school basketball coach, then coached my daughters in softball. The point is, I have always been part of a team, whether in sports, work or, Lions. Being a part of a team comes with responsibilities: chances to improve (learn) and becoming a Lions leader. We as Lions should be striving to take on new responsibilities, learn and take on new leadership roles from heading up a service project, becoming a club officer, district chairs/officer, and possibly a state leader. If we do not challenge ourselves, we become stagnant. So, I want to challenge each of you to take on a new responsibility. Learn something new about Lions, take on a new leadership role in the coming months. Doing these things will help to improve you, your club, and your district.



You noticed that I said in the coming months, right? From a team and individual concept, we must prepare. Lions Clubs International has some great resources in your MyLion account under "Learn." Also, the emphasis our Governor has is on Officer Training and Leadership opportunities. Our GLT Coordinator has already conducted an officer training back in June. There will be more training opportunities throughout the year. Your District Governor's Global Action Team

(GLT, GMT, GST Coordinators) is here to help you and your club in any way possible. Let me introduce you to them: GLT - PDG Carlton Metts, GMT - PDG DeAngelo Jackson, GST - PDG Mike Elmore. Their contact information will be in the District Governors Directory.

The start of school is happening now, and we need to prepare and help wherever possible. It may be at a vision screening. It may be a disaster, which all agree, we do not need or want one. It may be taking a VIP to the doctors. Feed the hungry. Our communities have so many needs, and as Lions, we can be that help because WE SERVE!

So are you up to the challenge? Are you ready for new responsibilities? Are you willing to be a Leader?

And lastly, are you prepared to be one of the many team members of Lions that live the motto of WE SERVE? I hope so. Because everyone is in it together, if there is any way I can help, let me know. I will visit your club, talk to you on the phone or even do a ZOOM Meeting.

Together Everyone Achieves More!

Yours in Lionism,

Carlton "Carlie" Metts
2nd Vice District Governor



New Voices is a new and popular initiative of Lions Clubs International that was launched in 2018-2019. Its mission has expanded from celebrating women's contributions and promoting gender parity to a broader focus that now also includes young adults and other underrepresented populations. Its focus is on increasing the number of diverse new voices in our association.

New Voices is about hearing the story of the unheard, and is a platform for sharing new ideas and learning from each other. It hopes to encourage clubs to be dynamic and innovative by trying something new, while helping individual Lions to grow personally and professionally. New Voices is about creating a network of new voices in every district. More to come from our District Governor as we roll out this program.



Because I'm a Lion I have the honor of serving those who come to Camp Dogwood to enjoy a time away from home, an opportunity they may otherwise never have.

They come to relax, by sitting in a rocker looking over Lake Norman, by fishing off the pier, by going for a boat ride, or just spending time in their room where there are no interruptions.

Some come to socialize with other friends who have common abilities, sometimes with friends they see once a year, when they're at Camp. Others are more active taking in archery, shooting, mini golf, or the hiking trail. The lake is a big draw for those who want to be more active they can go kayaking, fishing, or take a refreshing dip in the swimming area. So many things to do, so little time.

Volunteering at camp is important to me. It gives me a chance to help others and it exposes me to their difficulties and helps me realize how good life is. To help a visually impaired man shoot hoops. To see how proud a person can be after catching their 35th fish. To have a visually impaired person take my arm to lead him to the cafeteria. I get so much out of my week at camp.

Camp Dogwood is the best recreational opportunity for the visually impaired in the state and it may be the best in all of the Southeast. **We should be proud of this facility!**

Without The Brighter Visions fund drive Camp Dogwood would not exist!

In order to plan the coming year NCLI needs to know they can count on you. That's why we're asking you to send in a portion of your clubs pledge at regular intervals. Many of our clubs feel a responsibility to give to the Brighter Visions fund drive yet, there are too many clubs in the district that give nothing. We are asking those clubs to give something. No matter how small we would appreciate any amount, just so we don't see that **ugly \$0** on the spreadsheet. I really would like to see 100% of the clubs participating this year. As Lions what we give to Brighter Visions our communities get it back three fold. Contact me, I would love to come to your club meeting to explain the importance of Brighter Visions.

Lion Gene Goetz

District N Brighter Visions Chair

Regional Lions Leadership Institute



Just recently four Lions from our district completed Regional Lions Leadership Institute at Camp Dogwood in Sherrills Ford, NC. From our district was 1st VDG Mayra McCloud, 2nd VDG Carlie Metts, Lions Ana Elliott and Gene Goetz.

1st VDG Mayra has this to say about the training. "Wonderful instructors on a wide variety of relevant Lion topics. Thoughtful and constructive critiques to enhance problem solving techniques and help with improving speech habits...LOVED IT!!!"

Lion Ana Elliot had such a great time she had this to say, "During this past weekend at RLLI, I was reminded of the reason I join the LC in the first place. It's the dedication and commitment that we have for our community, and for the world!!!! The faculty was exceptional and inspirational. We had representation from all the districts and for me that was fascinating."

Lion Gene Goetz hit the ground running soaking up as much as he could. He had this to say about the training. "I was impressed with the comprehensive training I received in the three-day Regional Lions Leadership Course. The training not only covered 10 topic areas, but also gave me the self-confidence to talk to others about Lions, (individually or in a group). By communicating and working with others in the training I was surprised to find that we all had similar experiences serving as Lions. This was by far the best training I have had as a Lion and it has prepared me to pass on knowledge to my fellow Lions.

I'm proud that I was picked to attend the training and I'm proud to be part of an organization that cares enough to offer training of this caliber."

2nd VDG Carlie Metts had this to say about the training, "It was great to see Lions in different positions as club presidents, zone chairs, region chairs and Vice District Governors. We had great instructors that everyone walked away to looking to be better Lions and to further their path in Lions. I recommend this training for all Lions looking to improve their skills and knowledge."

As the instructors finished this training, Multiple District 31 plans to have this training again

New Bern Lions Club News

next year. 1st VDG and myself plan to keep sending Lions to this training every year that RLLI is offered.

New Bern Lions Club Honors Service of Long Time Member Curtis Bare Recognized for 50 years as a Lion

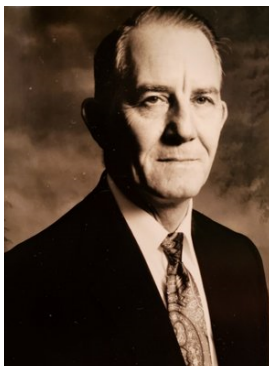
Article by: PDG Jim McMillion

New Bern, NC: The New Bern Lions Club meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 6:30pm at Moore's Olde Tyme Barbeque Chicken and Seafood Restaurant (3621 Dr. M.L.K. Jr. Blvd). At their April 15th meeting the Club honored a long-time Lion, Curtis Bare. He received the Milestone Chevron Award from Lions Clubs International for 50-years of service and dedication. His club again recognized



Bern Lions Club (left of Lion Curtis).

Lion Curtis (seen holding a certificate) at the June 12th District Awards Banquet by receiving a diamond lapel pin for 50-years of service to the NC Lions Clubs and Lions Clubs International and a Certificate of Appreciation for his 50 years of service presented by Past International Director Robert Block, Sr. (far right), and his son District Governor-Elect, Robert Block, Jr., a member of the New



Lion Curtis was president of both the Havelock Lions Club and the New Bern Lions Club. He served as Zone Chair, Regional Chair, and District Governor 1985-86 District 31N (while serving active duty in the military). He was NC Lions Foundation Promotion Chair, Secretary, 2nd Vice President, 1st Vice President, and President during the 1980-90's. He attended most Lions NC State Conventions and several Lions Clubs International Conventions.

Lion Curtis, is retired from the Marine Corps. and has been a pillar of the community serving in the following capacities: City Commissioner of Havelock 1991-99, Coastal Carolina Regional Airport Authority 1991-2012, Military Officer of America-Life Member, Craven-Pamlico County Transportation member 1991-99, Representative of the Havelock Parks and Recreation for New Bern for 8 years, Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Member of the First United Methodist Church of Havelock for 58 years, Navy League member, participated in building 15 homes via Habitat for Humanity.

Lion Secretary Barbara Sterling stated: "At a young age Lion Curtis dedicated himself to serving others. He has served his God, his country and his community. The Motto of Lions is "WE SERVE" and no one has done a better job of it than Lion Curtis Bare."

District Strides Chairperson

This is Sharon Axelberg. I'm the new District 31-N Strides Chairperson. I would like to visit your club this year and talk with you about Strides. We can talk about ideas for events, I can introduce you to getting involved in a Strides event even if your club isn't having one. There are many ways to help raise awareness for Diabetes. I'd love to speak at your meeting. Just send me an email or give me a call. I can't wait to talk with you about how you can help diabetes patients live a longer, more full life through the many choices we can make to help them.

Lion Sharon Axelberg
District N31: Strides
Chair Telephone: 252-560-6451
Work Phone: 252-523-1019
Email: accounting@lionsindustries.org

**"The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision." –
*Helen Keller***

Twin Rivers Club News

Greetings Lions,

I am Lion Melanie Rust, the new president for Twin Rivers Lions Club this year! We are off to a great start with fun-filled activities. On July 31st, we are participating in Jones County's Back to School Bash and screening kids with our Spot Machine alongside the New Bern Lions Club.

In September, we have multiple activities. On September 11th, our club has partnered with the New Bern and Aurora Lions Clubs with the MS Bike Tour. The bike tour is an excellent event for a cause that is so devastating to so many people. We will be manning one of the water stations for the bike tour. Next is our busiest day on September 18th. We will be volunteering with a vision screening in New Bern at the Faith in Action Vision Clinic held at Garber Methodist Church. The Lions will have our

Mobile Screening Unit along with using the fellowship hall at the church. This screening is a significant event that provides free vision screenings, health screenings, and spiritual help. This event has turned out to be a great partnership with all of the doctors there. The screening is on the same day we will be holding one of our major fundraisers with the New Bern Lions Club, our annual golf tournament. If you are interested in playing, let us know. The ad is in this newsletter.

These are some great activities helping our community and while having fun! Updates and pictures will follow.

Thank you and see you

soon!
Lion Melanie

Calendar of Events

October 16 - Burgaw United Methodist Church
110 E. Bridges Street
Burgaw, NC 28425
Meeting Time: 1:00 pm

November 12 - Council of Governors & NCLI Board
Meeting @ Camp Dogwood

January 14-15 - District 31 N & S Midwinter Convention
Hilton Garden Inn
5353 N. Virginia Dare Trail
Kitty Hawk, NC 27949

Nominating Guidelines

By PDG Carlton Metts
District 31 N Nominating Chairperson

Elections for District 31-N will be held at the Mid-Winter Convention in Kitty Hawk during the District Meeting on January 15, 2022. Any District Lion interested in seeking the office of District Governor, First Vice District Governor, or Second Vice District Governor must file a letter of intent to run for election with the Nominating Committee.

The letter of intent along with an endorsement from the Lion's club and evidence of qualifications for the office the Lion is seeking must be received by the Nominating Committee 30 days prior to the Election or in this case by December 15, 2021.

Each club will be allowed one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each ten (10) members who have been enrolled for one (1) year and one (1) day in the club or major fraction thereof. Major fraction refers to 5 members or more.

Only Certified Delegates are allowed to vote.

The election shall be by secret written ballot. Candidates shall secure majority of valid votes or one (1) more than half of the total votes cast excluding blanks and abstentions.



Wilmington Club News



Katherine Corio is the newly elected President of the Wilmington Lions Club. She has served as a Vice-

President, 3 years as our Eye Care Coordinator, and numerous committee assignments. Lion Kathryn has been named Lion of the Year twice.

She was born and raised just outside of Greensboro, NC. She has a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Economics from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Lion Kathryn completed graduate work at NC State University in Training and Development.

Currently, she works as a Senior Procurement and Global Outreach Manager for Greenwich Biosciences/Jazz Pharmaceuticals.

Her husband is John. They have been married for 19 years. They have a 5-year-old daughter, Anna Cate.

Lion Kathryn is an active member of the Oak Island Evangelical Presbyterian Church, a life member of the NC State Alumni Association, and the current president of her neighborhood HOA Board of Directors.

She has a lifetime passion for Ophthalmology and helping the visually impaired. She spent time in Trujillo, Peru helping to provide basic eye care and glasses for those in need.

We look forward to having Lion Kathryn Coiro as our President for the 100 Anniversary Year of the Wilmington Lions Club.

GMT Corner

Article by PDG DeAngelo Jackson

If you build it they will come. Fellow Lions let us build on who we are as individuals. Continue to Build on what make you happy, continue to Build on what makes you strive, continue to Build on what is natural for you. When we are happy individuals we are contagious, this is also the same when we are unhappy. So when we are out in our community smiling laughing and telling others about the works that we do they would want some of the same medicines that you are taking; they will want to be like you. So let us push our membership by being the best that we can be of ourselves.

For the first quarter we are at net zero. We are added 31 members, hooray hooray; but unfortunately we have also lost 31 members. Continue to keep the push, Lions Roars!

Welcome New Members

Anderson Creek Lions Club

Joelle C. Garlow
Dan Hankes
Amy Zurface

Benson Lions Club

Matthew B. Moore

Dunn Mary Stewart Lions Club

Bonnie B. Johnson
Cynthia M. Johnson

Grifton Lions Club

Richard A. Weir
Jerry Williams

Lumberton Lions Club

James L. Burney

Princeton Lions Club

Anthony C. Barnes
Barry J. Smith

Southport Lions Club

Joseph D. Southern
Robert Proconier (Transfer)

Wilmington Lions Club

Daniel Larson (Transfer)
Jessica Larson (Transfer)

Angeirs Lions Club

Bill Butler
Judy Butler
Michael Polack

Burgaw Lions Club

Frances S. Councilman

Godwin Lions Club

Gil P. Wise
Linda T. Wise

Lillington Lions Club

William D. Smith

New Bern Lions Club

Janet Cheek
Mike Cheek
Alan Yoder (Transfer)

Saint Paul Lions Club

Hilary D. Cooper
William R. Cooper

Western Harnett Lions Club

Kathy J. Hire
Ron G. Hire

Mid Winter Convention News

**DISTRICTS
31-N&S**

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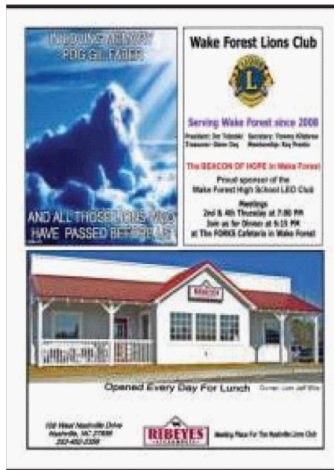


The International Association of Lions Clubs District 31-N&S Mid-Winter Convention

January 14-15, 2022

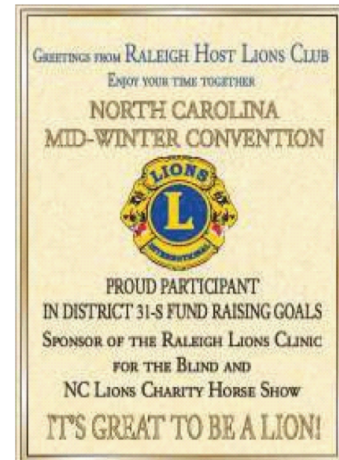
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