



# District 31-N Newsletter

December 2021 Vol. VII Issue 4



*North Carolina Lions*



The Mid-Winter Convention Planning Committee has asked for our help. They want good quality and attractive gift baskets for our silent auction. Feel free to be creative. Think of experiences or Themed Baskets! Ask yourself, “what would I want to bid on at an auction for myself or as a gift?” It would be wonderful to have a nice variety for bidding. Send any questions to:

**Amy Swaim ([cook4al@gmail.com](mailto:cook4al@gmail.com)) or  
Harriet Walton ([edmundsgroup@embarqmail.com](mailto:edmundsgroup@embarqmail.com))**



District  
Governor  
Robert Block



1<sup>st</sup> Vice  
District  
Governor  
Mayra  
McCloud



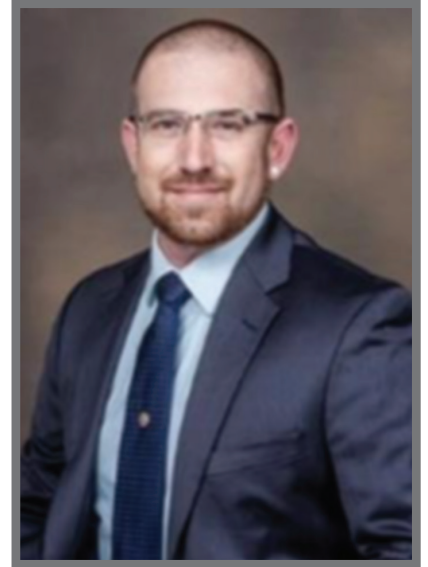
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice  
District  
Governor  
Carlie Metts

# Thoughts From Our District Governor

Fellow Lions,

The Holiday season is upon us, and Marie, the boys, and I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in our District Happy Holidays, from our family to yours!

This month is a busy month for many when it comes to their personal lives, and it is easy to forget the needs of our communities during these times. Additionally, there are so many different groups asking for gifts, funds, etc., during these times because of the “giving nature” that this season brings. We need to remember a few things: Lions are constantly helping our communities, and while the holidays are time when we try to do more, please try not to lose focus on sharing who we are, why we do what we do, and how people can be involved ALL year long.



While this is a time of giving gifts to our family and friends, we have several different ways to give while helping others. I ask you to consider contributing to one of our causes in someone’s name. Some of the recommended are Brighter Visions through one of the endowments (Stickley, Woolard, Scruggs), LCIF (will go towards a Melvin Jones Fellowship or Progressive), or VIP Fishing Tournament.

We are just about halfway through our year, and we are making tremendous strides in the right direction. Our membership is on track to end the year in net positive growth. We have added a new Leo Club to our district (Congratulations to the Erwin Lions and the Triton High School Leos!), and we continue to make strides in our community presence.

It would be a great honor to me if every club finished with a contribution, of any amount, to Brighter Visions and LCIF. Knowing that every club is invested in the future of Lions and the VIPS of North Carolina would be the most incredible honor and reward I could receive from clubs this year. We are blessed to be part of this great organization and to be able to make a difference in the lives of others, so let us do just that!

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Leading from our hearts,

Lion Robert, Lion Marie,  
Nathan, Brennan, and Logan  
District Governor – District 31N  
New Bern Lions Club

## *From the Desk of Our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor*

Greetings all Lions in 31N!

I know we are past Thanksgiving, but I have a lot to be grateful for. Against all odds, I have accomplished so much in this period. Thanks to you all! Personally, and as a Lion. I Have met so many new folks that have taught me so much and have had dear friends, both Lion and not, give of themselves to help many Lion causes, and they have genuinely impacted lives!

I will say “goodbye” to this year, but I want to thank everyone out there! The folks that invited me to speak at their clubs. The Lions on my committee who worked so hard (and you all know who you are!) The folks that asked for our help, my “home club” and its members for supporting me, and the companies and businesses that donated equipment, training, or funding.

All of you out there reading this has affected my life in some way. Thanks for everything you do for your community and for Lionism.

You all truly deserve a wondrous and magical Holiday season...

God bless America, our Military and 1st Responders, and Lions all over the world!

1st VDG, Mayra McCloud



## *Eyewear company to provide colorblind veterans in Fayetteville with special glasses*

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. (WNCN) – A California eyewear company partnered with the Fayetteville Lions Club 31N to help colorblind veterans see in full color the American flag they protect.

On Thursday for Veteran’s Day, EnChroma said it will give colorblind veterans and active-duty military personnel glasses that help correct colorblindness. The company said it also donated a set of the glasses to the JFK Special Warfare museum so that colorblind visitors can experience the exhibits in full color.

“Veterans and military service members who are color blind cannot see the red stripes in the very flag they protect,” said Erik Ritchie, CEO of EnChroma. “We are proud to donate our glasses to the JFK Special Warfare Museum and show our appreciation to veterans.”

According to EnChroma, about 1-of-12 men and 1-in-200 women are colorblind. The company estimated that about 1 million of the nearly 19 million veterans in America are colorblind.

Colorblind people only see about 10 percent of the hues and shades that others see.

Anyone who wants more information on the promotion should contact Mayra McCloud with the Fayetteville Community Lions Club at 931-252-8147.

## Notes From Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor

Greetings and Merry Christmas Fellow Lions,

Wow, this year is flying by! If you had told me last year that I would be a 2nd VDG, Vice-Chair of my Council and that PDG Rahim Shamori would be elected as our Council Chair for 23-24, I would have told you that you were crazy. Those are some great highlights, but I am always interested in keeping moving the bar higher for our district. We have some great Lions that serve within our district and some that are pushing forward. I love that enthusiasm!

We have a lot of work to do with our Brighter Visions and Camp Dogwood campaigns. We need to get behind Lion Gene Goetz as he is working tirelessly for our Camp. I would love to see him meet the Governor's goal. So let's rally behind him for the last half of the year and get it done. If you want to know what it is all about, contact Lion Gene he would be glad to come and speak at your club.

With that being said, I would like to challenge everyone to do something that makes a difference in somebody's life. Donate, volunteer, recruit a new member and develop a new activity or fundraiser for your club. Doing at least one of those things fits International President Douglas Alexander's theme of Service from the Heart.

Enjoying the Ride,



2nd VDG Carlie & Lion Dawn Metts

## STRIDES 21-22

Hi everyone,

I'm the Strides district chairperson for the 2021-2022 year. I want to come to your meetings and speak with you concerning getting involved in a Strides event within our district. You can start your own, join with other Lions to do an event together or with your community.

Diabetes is an integral part of my life. On March 2, 2022, I will be a surviving diabetes patient of 40 years. We call this a DI-versary. I hope diabetes patients and their families can learn about diabetes and its risks from these events. Each club can choose how to use the money they raise. It has to be diabetes-related – research, help with medications, send children to camp, supporting local schools, etc.

I would love to share our success in Kinston with our event. We've been able to have 4 Strides events. Hopefully, we've raised awareness in our area while raising over \$70,000 towards scholarships, camp fees, and helping our school nurses to provide needed supplies for their students with diabetes.

You can reach me at [sharon@lionsindustries.org](mailto:sharon@lionsindustries.org), at 252-523-1019 (work) or 252-560-6451 (cell). I look forward to hearing from you soon.

We are making "STRIDES" to see diabetes as a thing of the past, not the present. Please join us.

Lion Sharon Axelberg

District 31N: Strides Chair

Telephone: 252-560-6451

Work Phone: 252-523-1019

Email: [accounting@lionsindustries.org](mailto:accounting@lionsindustries.org)

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



It has come to our attention that Lion Members have been receiving unwanted spam emails with Lions names in it.

It is good practice to notice the email address along with the name. If the address does not match the email address you have on file, it is most likely an unwanted email. Please do not open it or click on any links. If you are unsure call the individual or email them (Do not Reply!!!). We hope this helps.

## *Newsletter Articles*

You or your Club could fill this space. There is no set number of pages necessary for our newsletter. The more, the better. The deadline for January's newsletter will be December 24, 2021. Let other Lions and Lions Clubs know of your activities and fundraisers. Did someone from your Club receive an award? You may submit articles in an email or a Word document. Please include the author's name. If you submit photos, give the photographer credit. If you have questions, email me at [district31n.news@gmail.com](mailto:district31n.news@gmail.com) or give me a call.

Lion Mike

District 31 N Newsletter Editor

919 464 3006

# VSP Voucher Program

Good day fellow Lions,

As many of you know, the Matching Funds Program was sidelined in September of 2020. In the absence of Matching Funds, we have been blessed to work with the VSP Voucher Program. VSP is an insurance company that is providing VSP Vouchers to Lions Club International.

These VSP Vouchers can be used at any participating VSP Provider for an eye exam and/or glasses, at no cost to the patient or Your Lions Club.

There are several requirements set by VSP to determine if a patient qualifies for the VSP Voucher Program.

- 1) The patient may not have received assistance from VSP in the past 12 months.
- 2) The patient is not eligible for a VSP Voucher if already covered by Government or Private Insurance, which covers the service needed.
- 3) Must meet 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

**VSP Vouchers must be applied for and received before a patient goes to an eye doctor for service. This is just the opposite of the Matching Funds Program.**

When you have a client that is requesting help, you will need to determine which voucher type best fits your patient's needs as there are three different types of vouchers available.

1. The **Sight for Students** Voucher, covers exam and glasses for students age 19 and under.
  2. The **Materials Only** Voucher, covers just materials (Frames and Lenses). The Materials Only Voucher would typically be used when a patient has Medicare or if the patient was able to pay for the exam but could not afford the glasses. Medicare will typically cover an eye exam for medical reasons but will not cover glasses, except one time after cataract surgery. Medicare will only cover an eye exam when there is a medical reason such as Diabetes, Cataracts, Dry Eyes, Glaucoma and many other health related issue, which can affect the eye.
  3. The **Full Coverage** Voucher, which covers Exam and Glasses for adults over the age of nineteen.
- The VSP Vouchers are easy to apply for and are accepted by many VSP Doctors across the state. VSP has a website, so you/or the patient can check and see what doctors accept the vouchers. The VSP website is <https://www.vsp.com/eye-doctor>.

Once you determine which type of VSP Voucher best fits the needs of your client, you will then need to complete a VSP Voucher Information Form. This form is now available on the North Carolina Lions website <https://nclionsinc.org/program/forms/>. Once the VSP Information Form is completed, return it to me at NCLI. We will then complete the voucher request and if all qualifications are met, we will mail the voucher to the Lion who's contact information is included on the VSP Voucher Information Form. That Lion would then either deliver the VSP Voucher to the patient or in some cases Lions may prefer to take the VSP Voucher to a doctor's office and get the office to call the patient and schedule the exam. We have found this helps to prevent the patient from losing the VSP Voucher, which is non-replaceable once in the patient's hands.

If you have any questions about the VSP Voucher Program, please give me a call or drop me an email. Thank you and I look forward to Serving Our Communities together!

Bryan Hoover

North Carolina Lions Inc. Mobile Screening Unit Coordinator 1-800-662-7401 Ext 241

Email [bryan@nclionsinc.org](mailto:bryan@nclionsinc.org) Fax 828-478-4419

# Delegate/Alternate Assignment Form

## 2022 District 31-N Mid-Winter Convention Delegate/Alternate Assignment Form

January 15 and 16, 2022, Kitty Hawk, NC

Please fill out this delegate form and return it to **Lion George Holston, District 31-N Cabinet Secretary1** **Jeb Stuart Drive** or by email to [sealion2@aol.com](mailto:sealion2@aol.com) to ensure the correct members of your club will receive their delegate cards at the District Mid-Winter Convention. This form should be received by the Cabinet Secretary no later than January 9, 2022.

According to our International, State, and District Lions constitution your club is entitled to one voting delegate and one alternate for each ten members or major fraction of your club that have been members for a year and a day. Once the delegates have been certified, the delegates will be given access to the delegate virtual classroom. If any club has a disagreement about who was given access to the delegate virtual classroom, the club members will have to settle it internally within the club. Past District Governors do not count towards your delegate count. Please list your club's PDG on this form so they can be certified quicker.

**To avoid any problems, please take a minute to fill out and return this form. Form also attached as a PDF.**

(To calculate the number of delegates your club is entitled, see the chart below)

**CLUB NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Delegate's Names (Include PDGs)**

**Alternate's Names**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Use back if needed, or attached additional pages

**Officer Signatures**

**Club President:** \_\_\_\_\_ **or Club Secretary** \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name Here: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name Here: \_\_\_\_\_

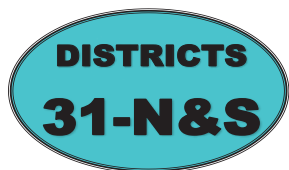
In absence of Club President or Secretary, the Cabinet Secretary will sign on behalf of the District Governor.

Members in Club/Delegates Entitled

1 to 14 = 1 Delegate	15 to 24 = 2 Delegates	25 to 34 = 3 Delegates
35 to 44 = 4 Delegates	45 to 54 = 5 Delegates	55 to 64 = 6 Delegates
65 to 74 = 7 Delegates	75 to 84 = 8 Delegates	85 to 94 = 9 Delegates
95 to 104 = 10 Delegates	105 to 114 = 11 Delegates	115 to 124 = 12 Delegates

# Mid Winter Convention News

## 2022 Districts 31-N&S Mid-Winter Convention Registration



### HILTON GARDEN INN

5353 N. Virginia Dare Trail  
Kitty Hawk, NC 27949  
Phone: 252-261-1290  
January 14-15, 2022



	Cost	Late Registration (after 12/15/21)	# Attending	Amount
<b>Friday, Jan. 14, 2022 – 6:30 PM</b> Fun Night – Caribbean Jerk Chicken (Plated)	\$33.00	\$35.00	_____	\$ _____
<b>Saturday, Jan. 15, 2022 - 7:30AM</b> Tail Twister’s Breakfast - Country Style - Buffet	\$20.00	\$22.00	_____	\$ _____
<b>Saturday, Jan. 15, 2022 – 12:00 PM</b> Lunch – Baked Potato & Salad Bar Buffet	\$18.50	\$20.50	_____	\$ _____
<b>Saturday, January 15, 2022 – 6:30 PM</b> District Governors Banquet - Hickory Rubbed Pork Loin with a Bourbon Glaze (Plated)	\$33.00	\$35.00	_____	\$ _____
<b>NOTE: Children’s menu will be available upon request.</b>			<b>Total:</b>	\$ _____

### Meal Registration Deadline – January 1, 2022

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Make Check Payable to:

Districts 31-N&S Lions Mid-Winter Convention

#### Mail To:

PDG Rhett White (Ph: 252-202-2330)  
P. O. Box 140  
Columbia, NC 27925

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Name Tag Registration Information:

<u>Lion / Guest Name</u>	<u>Club Name / District</u>	<u>Circle Ones that Apply</u>	<u>Circle Honors**</u>
_____	_____	Fun Night-Breakfast-Lunch-DGB	MJF-JSF-WLW-SLS-HOF -NCLI Amb-VIP Amb
_____	_____	Fun Night-Breakfast-Lunch-DGB	MJF-JSF-WLW-SLS-HOF -NCLI Amb-VIP Amb
_____	_____	Fun Night-Breakfast-Lunch-DGB	MJF-JSF-WLW-SLS-HOF -NCLI Amb-VIP Amb
_____	_____	Fun Night-Breakfast-Lunch-DGB	MJF-JSF-WLW-SLS-HOF -NCLI Amb-VIP Amb

**Host Hotel Information:** Call - Hilton Garden Inn, 5353 N. Virginia Dare Trail, Kitty Hawk, NC 27834 at 252-261-1290 (Room rate: \$89.00+tax “Side Ocean View” D or K) (Room Rate: \$119+tax Queen Ocean Front)

**Overflow Hotel Information:** Call – Shutters on the Banks, 405 S. Virginia Dare Trail, Kill Devil Hills, NC at 252-441-5581. Room Rate: \$89.00+tax.

**Make Room Reservations by December 15, 2021 for Lion’s Rate. Limited number of rooms - Call Early!**

**\*\* Honors:** Melvin Jones Fellow (MJF) / Jack Stickley Fellow (JSF) / William L. Woolard Partner-in-Service (WLW) / Sid L. Scruggs Beacon of Hope (SLS) / NC Hall of Fame (HOF) / NCLI Ambassador (NCLI Amb) / VIP Ambassador (VIP Amb)



# Mid Winter Convention News



**Club Recognition/Ad Form**  
 Help Support a Lions Tradition



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

**January 14-15, 2022**

**Hilton Garden Inn  
 5353 N. Virginia Dare Trail  
 Kitty Hawk, NC 27949**

Send Ads & Pictures  
 In Color



### Ad Prices

<b>Full Page</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
<b>Half Page</b>	<b>\$ 70.00</b>
<b>Quarter Page</b>	<b>\$ 50.00</b>
<b>Eighth Page</b>	<b>\$ 35.00</b>
<b>Front Inside Cover</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>
<b>Back Inside Cover</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>
<b>Back Cover</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>



**E-mail Ad Copy to: PDG Carlton Metts  
 carltonvmetts@gmail.com or call: 252-636-5000**

**NEED HELP WITH DESIGN IDEAS?  
 Contact PDG Carlton Metts!!!**

**Take Check Payable to: Districts 31-N&S Midwinter Convention**

**Mail Check & Form to: PDG Rhett White  
 (Enclose copy of Ad) PO Box 140  
 Columbia, NC 27925  
 Phone: 252-202-2330**

\*\*\*\*\* **AD DEADLINE – January 01, 2022** \*\*\*\*\*

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Ad Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

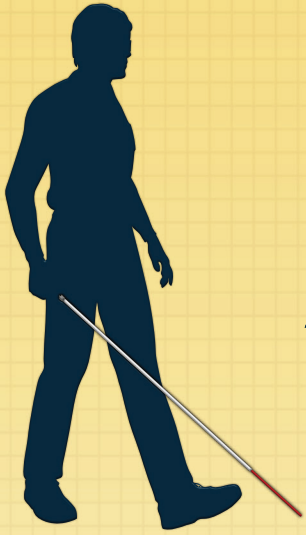
Contact Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Ad Size \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Revised 05/27/21

# Lions Industries for the Blind, Inc.

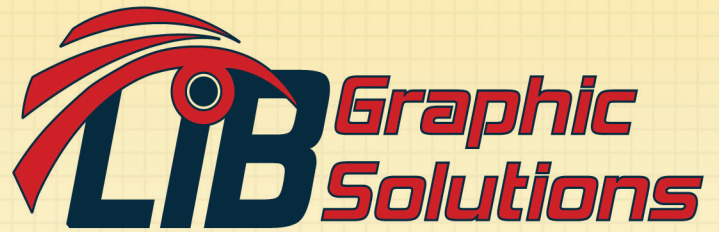
(252) 523-1019



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Kinston, NC

