

DISTRICT 31-N

BRIGHTER VISIONS NEWS

JULY 2022

ISSUE No.1

This is the first issue of District 31-N Brighter Visions News. The intention of this newsletter is to inform District 31-N Lions club members of the many programs supported by North Carolina Lions, Inc. This newsletter will NOT replace the District News but will augment that news with information on activities that are made possible with the funds raised through the Brighter Visions Fund Drive.

CAMP DOGWOOD HOLDS THE SECOND VIP RETREAT WEEK

Visually impaired people arrived on Sunday, June 26 to find a good time and loving care at Camp Dogwood. On Thursday, June 30 they went home well satisfied. The week was packed with activities: boat rides, fishing, dancing, talent show, mini golf, archery, shooting, camp fire with smore's. Demonstrations and learning opportunities: line dancing, live reptiles, VIPs could apply for white



canes, braille art, antique car show, smart phones, aids and appliances, yoga.

Regardless of the shortage of trained staff, there were only 7 paid staff support people and 8 Lion



volunteers, the 25 campers had an active and fun week. Retreat week #3 is coming up on July 10th to the 14th.

DISTRICT 31-N BRIGHTER VISIONS KICKOFF

This year's kickoff will be held on Saturday August 27th, 10am at Lions Industries for the Blind (LIB) in Kinston. The BIG BASKET RAFFLE is new for this year. The District Governor is asking your club to put together a basket for raffle at the meeting. Here's how it'll work: Bring your basket made up of goodies, try to follow a theme, make it interesting! Raffle tickets will be sold at the meeting for \$5 each, buy as many as you want. Suggestion: Why not get donations from club members to help buy tickets, win a basket, then raffle the basket at a club meeting!

There will be one winner for each basket. Tickets submitted for each basket will be counted and the value of the tickets collected for each basket will be credited as a donation to Brighter Visions from that club.

21st CENTURY MOBILE SCREENING UNIT PROGRAM COMMITTEE

This new committee met on June 8th to discuss the formation of the committee and the history of the Mobile Screening Unit. Members of the committee are as follows: Diane Whitley-State Chairperson, Curtis Erickson-District 31-L, Wayne Houser-District 31-L, Jon Snelling-District 31-I, Gene Goetz-District 31-N, Ron Beltran-District 31-S. This committee will be advised by the Ad Hoc Committee Members: Carlton Metts, Dale Dupree, Harvey Whitley, and Bryan Hoover.

KIDSIGHT PROGRAM

For KidSight screenings five Chevrolet Equinox vehicles have been purchased to be used and located in each district. The vehicles are in the shop now having a graphics wrap applied. Each vehicle will be equipped with two Plusoptix vision screeners and will be equipped to perform hearing testing. North Carolina school administration has issued their authorization to use Plusoptix screening in public schools, so in the future we expect schools to depend on Lions to provide vision screening at local schools.

Area Lions clubs can have the KidSight unit visit their community for \$150. The screening unit will be stored by Lion Gene Goetz so it will never be more than three hours from any District 31-N Lions Club. Clubs will be required to provide assistance at each screening. Training to use the Plusoptix screening unit will be available. Details on training such as location and time will follow.

MOBILE SCREENING UNIT PROGRAM

Function of the Mobile Screening Unit is the same as previous years. But as we see increased costs, especially fuel, we realize the need to increase the cost of this unit. The cost to have this unit visit a community is \$250 plus \$.60 per mile. Bryan Hoover has been working with clubs to coordinate visit dates with clubs in similar geographical areas. By consolidating club's costs can be lower for each individual club.

It is our hope that you enjoy the content of this newsletter and find it useful. Comments on content and/or requests for articles to include in future issues of this newsletter can be sent to ggoetz00@gmail.com

Lion Gene Goetz

