

# LIONS NEWSLETTER

*DISTRICT 31N*  
*October 2023*

## **GOLDSBORO DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB**

The Goldsboro Downtown Lions held two recent vision screenings. The first screening was at Dillard Academy elementary school. We screened 231 children with 89 referrals to an optometrist. This was our first screening using the Kidsight Unit and the Plusoptix screeners. All our other screens were done with the clubs Spot screener. The second screening was at Salem United Methodist Church at their Back-to-School Take-Away Event. We screened 29 children with 5 referrals. The third screening was at Brighton Academy childcare in Goldsboro. We screened 39 children at Brighton with 4 referrals. Currently we have three screenings scheduled in October.

Gene Goetz 2VDG



## **PEACE POSTER**

Clubs that would like to enter an entry in the Peace Poster Competition, should send entries to Jamie Burney

PO Box 923

Lumberton, NC 28359. Entries should be postmarked no later than November 15, 2023. Entries will be judged and sent to District Governor Carlie Metts by December 1, 2023.

If you would like to deliver in person, please email me at [james.burney@robeson.k12.nc.us](mailto:james.burney@robeson.k12.nc.us) for directions and to arrange a time to meet.



## A FEW WORDS FROM OUR

# District Governor

Greetings Fellow Lions

September has flown by way too fast. I have visited the Kinston Host Lions Club. Inducted three new Lions at the Grifton Lions Club. Visited 2nd VDG's Kidsight training in Kinston. Which I will say we had a Leo from the Triton High School Leo's came to the training. So If a Leo can do it so you can you!

We have had several clubs conducting a service project this month for Vision. Currently, I have heard back from Twin Rivers, Kinston Host, Goldsboro Downtown, Aurora, Western Harnett and Wilmington Lions Clubs. If your club has done a service project with vision please forward you information to me as well to our District GST Skippy Jackson, we are reporting the information to the Council of Governors since this was a Statewide project.

Now lets talk about the Brighter Visions. Our district is sitting at 35% of the money raised for Brighter Visions and we just finished the 1st quarter. I am so grateful and proud of this district how you have taken the time to give to Brighter Visions. Now we can't and won't stop now. We need every club and everyone to help, so we can reach our goal. Most of you know I am very competitive with my sports background. I do not like coming in last. But here is the premise of the whole fundraiser. What we raise goes back into your county/community at least three times the amount.

Now on to Membership. We continue to grow in our membership. As of September 26th, we currently sitting at 988 members. We started the year out 963. Last month was 987. Gained 9 but lost 8 for the month of September. Encourage each of you to go and ask someone to join our great organization. Think back to when you were asked and how you felt to be apart of something great by serving your community. If you need help reach out to PDG Vince Schimmoller as he really is the expert. We are only 12 new members away from 1000 members. I want to challenge you to see if we can get to 1000 members by the end of October. I believe it is attainable. Next is our Leo's. I encourage each club to try to start a Leo Club either through the school or as a community Leo program. Our teens in our community just want to be involved in something positive. So let's be that Beacon start working on creating more Leo Clubs.



# ...CONTINUED

Since we are on the topic of Leo's. I need all advisors to input your members and officers into MyLCI. I appointed a Leo sit on the Cabinet as a Leo Liaison. Leo Anna Joyner is a Senior at Triton Hight School and is the president of her club. As you can see I have kept my word on Leo's serving with Lions this year. We have a Leo doing the newsletter with Leo Emma Poth and now Leo Anna Joyner as the Leo Liaison. The key to our organization growing is our youth. Next I want to accomplish having at least 6 clubs in our district. By having 6 clubs, they are able to elect their own district officers and to meet other Leo's. I am excited for our young Leo's with the opportunities that seem to begin to open up for them.

Our next Cabinet Meeting is October 21st at Boys and Girls Home in Lake Waccamaw with the meeting starting 1pm. There will be more information in the newsletter about the meeting. I look forward to seeing everyone there. It is a great time to be a Lion!

Yours in Lionism,  
DG Carlie Metts



## District Leadership Training

### Officer Training

September 23, 2023; 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM on zoom. This will be primarily for zone 9

October 7, 2023; 9:00 - 10:30 AM. 1107 Erwin Rd., Dunn, NC 28334

In-person/Zoom. Meal provided

October 28, 2023; 9:00 - 10:30 AM. Lion Industry For The Blind, Kingston, NC

In-person/Zoom Snacks provided.

### Fall Festival/New Members Training November 4, 2023. 10:00 AM

Open to all members. Bingo and Trivial pursuit, Bouncy House. Hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, drinks. Lions Gazebo, Erwin Park, Erwin, NC

### Leadership Symposium December 2, 2023; 11:00-1:30

Audience: Current Leaders & Potential future District Governors.  
Location: Campbell University, prior to Campbell University Men's basketball game  
Campbell versus Southern Virginia game time 2 PM

\$10 which will include a meal and ticket to the game.  
We can also collect old glasses at the game.

Topics: Brighter Vision/Camp Dogwood, Leadership in Lionism & Guiding Lion, How to get and maintain Lion Members, Conflict resolution.

# FROM OUR TVDG ANA ELLIOT

Hola LIONS!!!!

Greeting from USA-Canada Leadership Forum. Hope this message finds you well. As I have enjoyed all the friendships and fellowships this forum has brought, it has also been a refuel of knowledge, and reassurance of why we become LIONS!!!!

Do you remember your AHA moment? I do like it was yesterday. Let's stay focus on sharing our passion for service to all those around us, that will not only help with growing our membership and respond to our International President DR. Patti Hill on the Mission 1.5 tu also will mean that we can serve more people in our communities.  
Don forget to have FUN while you do so!!!!

PLEASE don't hesitate on reaching out if you have any question, concerns! We are here to assist you in any way possible. Also, would like to remind you of how important it is for your Club Secretary to update My LCI with the new board member in your club. I am looking forward to contact you and schedule a visit, without that information its a bit hard.

Last but not least, reach out if you have been affected by the latest storm Ophelia!!!



**FROM OUR...**

# *2nd Vice District Governor*

The first three months of the 2023-2024 Lions year is now history. “It’s amazing how time fly’s when you’re having fun”! I don’t mean that as a sarcastic remark, t’s true, “I am having fun”!



The LCI Convention in Boston is over and many are looking forward to the 106 th Lions Convention in Melbourne Australia in 2024. The district awards and installation was held on July 15. Our leaders have taken their positions in their starting blocks and are “On the run”! I attended my first NCLF and Council of Governors meeting in Greensboro. The Brighter Visions kickoffs are all complete and we all have our Camp Dogwood raffle tickets and district directories. DG Carlie held his first cabinet meeting in August and our district leaders are all anxious to serve the district as well as our Lion members. A very successful Kindsight training was held early in September, soon we’ll have 15 new certified screeners in 31-N. As I’m writing this the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum is in session in Reno, Nevada. I’m hoping to see many of you at next year’s Forum, September 5-7th in Louisville Kentucky. The September “Month of service” is almost complete. I’m sure that there will be many club vision service activities reported. Please report your activities on MyLion and to our district governor Carlie Metts. Better yet; write an article on your vision service project for the next district newsletter. We would love to hear your story no matter how large or small the project.

Our Brighter Visions district total to date is \$30,673. The district goal is \$125,000 that puts us at 25% of goal. A good place to be ¼ of the way through the year; GREAT JOB! There have not been any Camp Dogwood Raffle sales reported but this not unusual. Please remember to take a few tickets with you when you set up for your fundraiser projects. The sooner we get those dollars sent in the sooner we can complete those needed maintenance repairs at Camp Dogwood.

The VIP Fishing Tournament is coming up on October 16-18 th . The three-day event attracts more than 350 visually impaired persons, 130 sighted guests, and 300 volunteers to the Outer Banks every year.

Our clubs are active, we’re getting things done in the district and throughout the state. We should all be proud to be Lions!

Gene Goetz 2VDG

# KIDSIGHT

The KidSight project in North Carolina has potential to help kids who may be having problems in school due to vision deficiencies, deficiencies they may not presently be aware they have! It's amazing to me that we as Lions can prevent blindness later in someone's life just by doing a simple screening with either the Welch Allen Spot or Plusoptix vision screening device that often takes less than 30 seconds.

Only a few years ago clubs had to purchase their own screening devices. Clubs that could afford a screener are doing a great job screening at our schools and childcare centers, but the high cost of screening devices has limited the ability of some clubs to screen kids.

Now, with the availability of the Kidsight vehicle all clubs in North Carolina have access to screening devices and the equipment can be delivered to you for \$75 per day. With three Plusoptix devices onboard the Kidsight Screening Unit (KSU) it's feasible to screen at least 300 children per day. So, if you screen 300 kids at a school the cost per child is 25 cents.

Congratulations to 15 Lions who attended Kidsight training on September 9 th . Many of these Lions have already received Kidsight certification through Lions Kidsight USA. My goal is to have 4 members (212 members) in every club in our district certified by the end of this year.

After you are certified please contact me so I can add you to a list of proud screeners in district 31-N. You can help me achieve this goal by hosting a training session in your area. All I need is a location with tables and chairs that will accommodate 20 people for a 5-hour session. I will take care of the other arrangements. Call me and we'll talk about a date.

Please remember to report your screenings to myself at [ggoetz00@gmail.com](mailto:ggoetz00@gmail.com) and enter the activity in My Lion. When reporting, include the date and location of the screening, ages of the children under 6, and the quantity of kids in each age group that either passed or was referred.

The pandemic interruption created the national backlog of the 25 MILLION children, aged 6 months through early grade school who have not had a vision screening. These kids have gone for nearly 3 years without a basic vision screening. Your help is needed and appreciated.

Gene Goetz 2VDG  
"Life is Good"  
414-640-5953  
[ggoetz00@gmail.com](mailto:ggoetz00@gmail.com)



# MEMBERSHIP

This month, I am going to talk about WHERE to recruit new members. The answer to this question is very easy. It is WHEREVER YOU ARE AT. If you are employed, it is at your job location with your coworkers. I am certain that many of your fellow coworkers are as eager to serve as you are, so all you have to do is ask them. Tell them about the various opportunities that they will have to serve those less fortunate. Your neighborhood is another great place to reach out to others and get them interested in serving. Your church is another place for prospective members, many of your fellow parishers may already be serving as ministers in your church and thus have made the commitment to serve others.

Always approach the prospective new member in an optimistic and positive manner. Make them feel that joining the Lions was the best decision you have ever made. Don't forget to wear your pin as you are asking folks to join. Believe it or not, I added a new member to my club by wearing the pin to Walmart. The lady asked me if I belonged to the Lions. I responded yes, told her about our club, and the next month she was officially a member. **You never know.** Wearing the pin shows that you are proud of being a part of the largest service organization in the world. Also be prepared to give a short 2-minute talk about the Lions organization, your club, why you joined, and how they will benefit from joining. Invite them to one of your meetings, but MOST importantly, invite them to a service project, as there is where you get the good feeling of serving.

Any questions or if you wish to discuss further, give me a call or send an email. Keep up the good work.

## MEMBERSHIP TOTALS- DISTRICT N

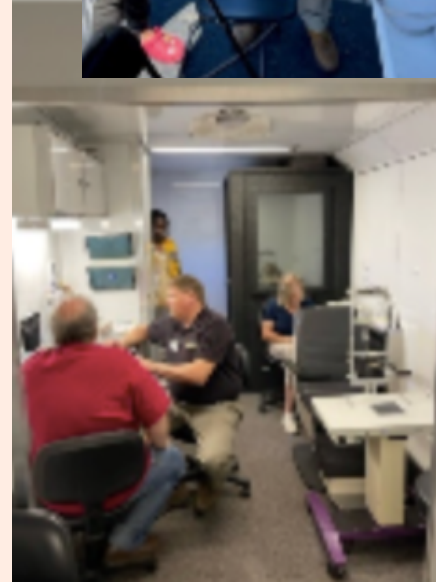
7/1/2023	9/17/2023	GAIN/LOSS
963	988	+25

Lion Vince Schimmoller  
MD-31 Membership chair  
[vschimmoller@gmail.com](mailto:vschimmoller@gmail.com)  
919-935-9937



# ANGIER & MARY STEWART LIONS CLUB MOBILE SCREENING UNIT

Angier Lions Club and Mary Stewart Lions Club out of Dunn joined together on September 15th and 16th and launched a vision and hearing screening that also included a color-blind test. Within the two days approximately 30 citizens of Harnett County participated in our venture. Lions Clubs of Harnett County continues to make a huge impact in our community. With September being Color-Blindness Month EnChroma has donated 2 pairs of Color-blind glasses to our club.



## UPCOMING EVENT!!!

Fundraising event:

What: BBQ plate sale (Chicken or Ribs, sides of beans, potato salad and pound cake) for \$15

When: Saturday Oct 28 2023, from 12-4pm

We are selling these plates thru pre-orders so please contact us Bella Smith 404-680-0031 or email [fclc31n@gmail.com](mailto:fclc31n@gmail.com) for pick up location.

Thank you,  
Lion Bella Smith  
FCLC Secretary  
404-680-0031

Act everyday like you wish to be remembered



# ***BOYS & GIRLS HOME***

Fellow Lions:

The Air Conditioning/heating units in the Lions Cottage at Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina are non-operable and need to be replaced, The units are old and repairs are not really worth the money or effort. There are eight fine young men who are no longer able to live in the Lions Cottage, OUR Cottage. They are being housed in other units at this time. Replacement units will be more cost effective and over time save money on energy costs. The goal is to raise \$30,000 to cover the replacement units, minor repairs as needed for installation of new units, and some funds for additional maintenance items. The Lions Cottage was the second cottage built at Lake Waccamaw in 1960 and has housed hundreds of young people over the years. Let's get our kids back in the Lions Cottage! Individuals may also send donations on behalf of the district. BGHNC is a 501c3 non-profit, and the EIN is 58-1387871. You can receive a tax-deductible donation letter from BGHNC. Clubs in all districts are urged to help with this project. Checks should be made out to Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina (or BGHNC) with Lions Cottage AC and Maintenance on the for/ memo line.

Lion Mary Lockhart  
NC MD 31 Lions  
State Chair, Boys and Girls Homes  
336 337-7449  
marylockhar2@gmail.com



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