

District Gazette



District-N

North Carolina Lions



September
2025



Dates On the Horizon

September 4, Clinton Annual Fish Fry

September 13, Fayetteville Community Lions Club 10-year celebration

September 13, New Bern and New Bern Twin Rivers Lions Clubs Charity Golf Tournament

September 18-20, Lions USA Canada Forum in Atlantic City NJ.

September 21, Training Topic: The Lions portal, and part 1 of Club Officer, Training

September 25, Lillington Lions Club 24th Annual Golf Tournament

October 1, Deadline to purchase Peace Poster Kits

October 4-12, Week of service, Mental Health and Well-being

October 7, Training Topic: Introduction to Lions for new members, 7pm Zoom

October 20, Anderson Creek Lions Club Charity Golf Tournament.

October 20-22, VIP Fishing Tournament, Outer Banks.

October 23-25, Vice District Governor training at Camp Dogwood

October 25, Brave LIL Steps fun run/walk for Childhood Cancer in Greenville.

Your District Team

District Governor Gene Goetz
First Vice District Governor Eddie Chase
Second Vice District Governor Earl House
GET Coordinator PDG Mayra McCloud
GLT Coordinator PDG DeAngelo Jackson
GMT Coordinator PDG Vince Schimmoller
GST Coordinator PDG Bob Block Jr.
Secretary PDG George Holston
Treasurer Betty Shingleton

Zone 1 Chairperson Kevin Toman
Zone 2 Chairperson Dr. Derrick Mitchell
Zone 3 Chairperson Scott Stevenson
Zone 4 Chairperson Sherman McCutcheon
Zone 5 Chairperson Mike McCaskill
Zone 6 Chairperson Carl Danielson
Zone 7 Chairperson Jerry Williams
Zone 8 Chairperson Anne (Nan) Bejian
Zone 9 Chairperson Catherine Revel

From your District Governor

I encourage all of you to submit articles on your club events to this Gazette. You can send articles to district31n.news@gmail.com and to ggoetz00@gmail.com . We need to hear from all of you! Whether your article is about a service project, fundraiser, or an editorial on something your club does that really works. **Shout it out in the Gazette!** In order to publish the Gazette on time every month I'm asking that you send your article in by the 20th of the month for the next month's issue. If your article comes in after the 20th it will be published in the next month's issue.

Our intent with the Gazette is not only to give it a new face but to make it friendlier to our VIP's. You'll find all flyers with text at the end of the Gazette. The message on your flyers will also be printed in the body of the Gazette. When you send me a flyer a PDF or word document are best. Please, **no pictures or scans** of a flyer from your phone.

If you have questions, need help, or have suggestions for me that will improve my performance as your district governor or district please contact me.

Lion Gene Goetz

District Governor

414-640-5953

ggoetz00@gmail.com

From your First Vice District Governor

Roar Lions!!!! Lions in District 31-N are beginning this Lion year with great enthusiasm. Beginning in July with a well-attended Installation and awards banquet. We have an awesome team to continue the good work of Lions that we strive to do each year. We had a very informative and energetic Brighter Vision kickoff. Several clubs gave donations to get our year on track to meet and exceed our goals this year. This is a great beginning with much more to come. We also had a really fun time at the meeting with surprising our DG Gene. We sold tickets to allow the ticket winner drawn to cut Gene's tie off. Also, PDG DeAngelo Jackson raised funds by offering a winner to shove a cream pie in DG Gene's face. Lions were very eager to be a part of these opportunities. Cabinet Secretary George donated an antique clock as part of the fundraising. It was all fun, and we raised \$624 towards our Brighter Vision goals.

As we begin this Lion year, I will visit as many clubs as possible. Please call or email if I can assist with any questions or if you would like me to visit your club. Also, please note that I am your District Chair for Camp Dogwood and the District Volunteers. I encourage as many as possible to volunteer at Camp Dogwood during the VIP camping season and to help during Volunteer Week in April to get

our camp ready. Lions continue to do what we do best. "Serve" Per our International President A P. Singh "Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead"

Sincerely; Lion Eddie Chase 1st VDG 31-N "To Live is to Serve"

From your Global Membership Coordinator

I am a firm believer of the strategy to JUST ASK. Over my 24 years as a Lion, I have sponsored more than 100 members into my club, the Western Harnett Lions club. Not a single one of these new members came up to me and asked can I join your club. You need to take the initiative and start a conversation with a neighbor, friend, or co-worker and find out a little about the person and some of his/her interests and then suggest that the Lions may be able to help fulfill your interests by some of the club's projects. Be positive, let them know that you are proud to be a Lion. Invite the person to a club sponsored service project to get the enjoyment of serving others.

Sure, you will get folks that will tell you that the Lions are not for them. Do not take it as a personal affront; thank them for their time and move on to another prospective Lion. Believe me there are people out there that want to serve others, it is our job to go out and find them. I encourage (challenge) each lion to ask a least one person during the next month to join the greatest service organization in the world.

PDG Vince Schimmoller

Lions International News and Events

USA / Canada Lions Leadership Forum

You can still register for the 2025 USA / Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Atlantic City NJ September 18th to 20th. Go to www.lionsforum.org. With over 70 seminar training sessions related to developing quality Lions Clubs and thousands of Lions Leaders share their experiences, the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum is for you!

Weeks of Service

This initiative unites Lions and Leos worldwide to address the critical issues of mental health and well-being, hunger, and the environment. By participating, you'll be part of three impactful weeks dedicated to creating positive change and making a difference in communities around the globe — together. So, get involved and help drive collective action for a better future!

Mental Health and Well-being; October 4-12, 2025

Hunger January; 3-11, 2025

Environment April; 18-26, 2026

NCLF News and Events

VIP Fishing Tournament Golf Ball Drop

Buy one of the Lions Club's charity golf balls for \$25 and if your numbered ball drops into the cup or is closest to the hole you will win up to \$10,000 in cash. See the registration form at the end of this month's Gazette.

COG and NCLF meetings

On August 8-10th the Council of Governors (COG) and North Carolina Lions Foundation, Inc. (NCLF) Board held their first meeting of 2025-2026. These meetings are held 4 times a year in August, November, February and May at camp Dogwood. If you are new to Lions or just want to learn more on the association please consider attending at least a part of these meetings. The next meeting will be held November 7, 8, and 9.

Hall of Fame Award

The mission of the North Carolina Lions Hall of Fame is: "to recognize and honor the State's most outstanding Lions for their extraordinary accomplishments on the Club, District, State, and/or, the NC Lions Foundation levels.

Criteria: Nominees may be living or deceased. The nominee must have had at least ten (10) years of service in North Carolina if living, or deceased for at least five (5) years, unless death occurs in the year the candidate was being considered for a living Hall of Fame Award. See the recommendation form at the end of this month's Gazette

District 31 - N Brighter Visions Kickoff

August 16, 2025, was an exciting day for the Lions of District 31-N. Our clubs kicked off this year's Brighter Visions campaign by contributing **\$18,834** (unofficial count) to support the various programs of NCLF. District Governor Gene was treated to a tie cutting and a cream pie in the Face. The meeting was fun for all.

Brighter Visions contributions support programs such as; Camp Dogwood, See the 21st Century Vision Screening Programs, recycling of eye glasses and hearing aids, and white canes for the visually impaired. These programs benefit the visually impaired in your own community. Please participate in raising funds to support these important causes.

Our goal for district 31-N in 2025-2026 is \$95,000. We should be proud to be the only district to exceed our goal in the last two years. How about we make it three? **"A Triple Header"**

District News and Events

Peace Poster Contest

Students ages 11, 12 or 13 as of November 15 are eligible to participate in the International Peace Poster Contest. Entries not meeting the following deadlines will be disqualified.

The district is out of kits but clubs can order peace poster kits as a digital version on the Lions International Web Site.

Digital kit: \$11.95 each kit contains:

- Downloadable Official Club Contest Guide and Rules
- Downloadable Official School or Youth Group Contest Guide and Rules
- Downloadable participant flyer to print and give to participating students to take home
- Downloadable sticker to place on back of winning poster
- Digital certificates to print for contest winner and school or youth group

Peace Poster Contest Deadlines

- ✓ **January 15:** Kits go on sale from the Club Supplies Sales Department at International Headquarters.
- ✓ **May 31:** Deadline for District 31N bulk order.
- ✓ **October 1:** Deadline to purchase kits from the Club Supplies Sales Department at International Headquarters.
- ✓ **November 15:** Postmark deadline for a club to send one winning poster (per contest sponsored) to the district governor.
- ✓ **December 1:** Postmark deadline for a district governor to send one winning district poster to multiple district council chairperson.
- ✓ **December 1:** Postmark deadline for a district governor not belonging to a multiple district to send one winning poster to the Brand & Creative Department at International Headquarters.
- ✓ **December 1:** Postmark deadline for a club not belonging to a district to send one winning entry to the Brand & Creative Department at International Headquarters.
- ✓ **December 15:** Postmark deadline for the multiple district council chairperson to send one winning poster to the Brand & Creative Department at International Headquarters.
- ✓ **February 1:** International winners notified on or before this date.

For further information contact Marilyn Jackson md5jack@yahoo.com

Boys and Girls Home

Join the challenge "Keys to the Vans" Help us raise money for a Lions cottage van. Raise \$500 and get a Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina (BGHNC) banner patch for your Lions Club.

See the flyer at the end of this month's Gazette

Contact Scott Stephenson lionstephenson@gmail.com phone: 910-494-0809 for more information.

Brave LIL Steps

“Brave LIL Steps” fun run will take place in Greenville on October 25, 2025. Save that date, we are asking for your help.

At the start/finish line there will be tables set up for clubs to promote their activities to the public and to hand out treats to the participants and the kids. This is a great place to market your club and hopefully gain new members. Along with that we are asking you to give out “Treats to the Runners”. We suggest: energy bars, hard candy, small candy bars, bags of potato chips, corn chips, and etc.

We are also looking for community sponsors. More on that closer to the event.

Funds raised from the run will be used to augment a \$20,000 grant from Lions International Foundation to The James and Connie Maynard Children’s hospital in Greenville.

The grant will allow the hospital to add diversion equipment to various locations throughout the hospital. This diversion equipment and software will ensure all patients, no matter the age, have something to distract them during procedures.

District Training

A tentative district training schedule has been developed for 2025-2026 year. I cannot over stress the importance of these training sessions. They will make your job as a Lion easier because you will be more confident performing your job and in turn will improve the performance of our clubs. Please try to attend as many as you can. Dates will be printed in the “**On the Horizon**” section of this Gazette.

District Leaders - On the Road

Zone 1 chair and LCIF coordinator Kevin Toman will visit:

- ❖ Southport Lions Club; October 2nd
- ❖ Clinton Lions Club; October 6th
- ❖ Kinston Host Lions Club; on October 9th
- ❖ Angier Lions Club; October 21st
- ❖ Pembroke Lions Club; November 18th

Zone 9 Chair Catherine Revels has already visited Farmville and Aurora and has the following scheduled:

- ❖ Bath Lions Club; August 21st
- ❖ Snow Hill Lions Club; September 11th

New Clubs

PDG Mayra McCloud your Global extension Coordinator (GET) is working on forming new clubs. She is presently working with Sweet Valley Ranch in Fayetteville and a group of interested people in Eastover. Jerry Williams is working with a few people in Aden to form a club.

Club News and Events

Welcome New Members

Lion Kathy Pack; Beaufort LC
Lion Paul Speziale; Beaufort LC
Richard Johnson; Dunn Mary Stewart LC
Dia Jean Smith; Dunn Mary Stewart LC
Mark Warren; Dunn Mary Stewart LC

If you have new members that have recently been inducted please send me their names so they can be recognized here ggoetz00@gmail.com

Kidsight Vision Screenings

With the school year about to start our new Kidsight chair Anne (Nan) Bejian has the following screenings scheduled. "Thank You" to these clubs for sponsoring the screenings.

- ❖ Sept 20th: Smithfield - Selma Railroad Days
- ❖ Sept 24th: Lake Waccamaw (2 schools)
- ❖ Sept 25th: Lake Waccamaw (2 schools)
- ❖ Nov 1st: Smithfield - Smithfield Touch a Truck

Clubs with their own photoreactive cameras are also starting to screen kids.

- ❖ Western Harnett screened 26 kids with 5 referrals at Hope Community Center

"Thank You" to these clubs for sponsoring the screenings.

Clinton Annual Fish Fry

Thursday, September 4, 2025 Clinton Agri-Expo Center. \$12.00 per plate, drive through only, Lunch 11-2pm and Dinner 4-7pm. Plates include Fried Filet of Whiting, Cole slaw, Potato salad and Hush Puppies (No beverage). Whole Lemon cream pie also available \$12.00 See the flyer at the end of this month's Gazette

Fayetteville Community Lions Club 10-year celebration

Join us for the Fayetteville Community Lions Club 10-year celebration and Awards Dinner. Keynote speaker Gene Goetz district Governor and member of the Goldsboro Downtown Lions Club.

September 13, 2025, 5PM
Volta Space 116 Person St.
Fayetteville, NC

There will be Door Prizes and More, \$35 per person, RSVP by August 22, 2025 to:
Lion Vincent North
920 Old Vandor Rd.

Fayetteville, NC. 28312

252-259-6230

vincentnorth@bellsouth.net

See the flyer at the end of this month's Gazette

Lillington Lions Club 24th Annual Golf Tournament.

We provide assistance to the blind and visually impaired citizens of our community. Thursday September 25th at Chicora Golf Club. 9:00am Shotgun start, check in at 8:00am Four-man Superball flighted by handicaps. Steak meal served to all participants afterward, door prizes, two or three flights depending on number of players. Entry Fee \$75 per person or \$300 per team of 4. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place in each flight.

1st place each flight - \$200,

2nd, place each flight - \$150,

3rd place each flight -\$100.

\$100 Hole Sponsor.

If interested, contact: Freddy West at 910-893-5875 or any other Lillington Lions Club Member. See the flyer at the end of this month's Gazette

New Bern and New Bern Twin Rivers Lions Clubs Golf Tournament

Golf Tournament will be held at The Emerald Golf Club 5000 Clubhouse Drive New Bern, NC 28562, 252-633-4440 Ext 228 on Saturday, September 13, 2025. (Rain Date TBD)

Check in 11:45 – 12:30 PM Tournament format will be Four Person Superball, modified by team handicap. Mulligans and Pot-of-Gold available at check-in. Entry fees \$75 per person - \$300 per team, includes: entry fees, green fees, cart fees, meal, awards & prizes.

Make checks payable to Twin Rivers Lions Club. Please mail check and form to Lion Anne Metts 2001 Williamson Dr. New Bern, NC 28562. Deadline September 6, 2025

For more information Call Lion Alan Yoder 603-494-9356 or Carlton Metts 252-259-4140 email newbernlionsclub@gmail.com

See the flyer at the end of this month's Gazette

Anderson Creek Lions Club Golf Tournament

Don't miss this opportunity! Monday October 20th. This annual event is a major fundraiser for the Anderson Creek LC. All proceeds help to support the following: Camp dogwood for the Blind and Visually Impaired. See the flyer at the end of this month's Gazette

**For a Registration Forms and Flyers on the above events
see the links below.**



Anderson Creek Golf
Word doc.docx



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Clinton Fish Fry
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Keys to the Vans
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NC Lions Hall of
Fame Recommendati



New Bern & Twin
Rivers Lions Golf
Tournament
Registration



New Bern & Twin
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Golf Tournament
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