



Georgia Lions Camp



August 2022

Pre-teens, senior adults, adults and then finishing up with the teenagers, every day would be a different vacation destination. Counselors entertained campers with various skits during meal times. I think their favorite was the Suds brothers on Great Smokey Mountain Day. A couple of not too smart bandits who you had to watch out for. (they told you who they were, what they were going to do, and well, they couldn't keep a secret.)



Pre-Teens

Each week the campers traveled across the lake by canoe or john-boat, and some by what we call the Limousine (golf cart). Proceeded by a short walk over to where Ranger Clint with the Laura Walker State Park gave them a thirty-minute presentation about reptiles and animals that lived in Georgia, particularly those that were in our area. Campers listened and were able to touch skins and shells of these animals and reptiles. A tactile experience I believe they will never forget.

After the presentation each session of campers was treated to a lunch provided by a group of volunteers from the State Park called The Friends of Laura Walker. Food was always plentiful and the deserts were good also. Pizza of course, was the biggest hit. What teenager doesn't like pizza? A shout out to Dawn and Mike Hanson and all the "Friends" for organizing these meals each week. We would also like to thank Park Ranger David Jordan for allowing us to come over, learn, eat, and ride our tandem bikes while on the park site.



Campers at the state park

Our last session, teenager week, was a real busy week for us. A trip to the beach on Monday. On Wednesday we were visited by the Atlanta Lions Club who host "Lions Foreign Exchange Students." They brought 13 students from around the world. They came and united with our campers. Helping out that night, "Carnival Night." I'm not sure who was blessed more. On Thursday, campers, exchange students, staff and all volunteers made a field trip over to the Okefenokee Swamp Park. We only saw three small gators but for some that was a big deal. I'm pretty sure these students have never seen the swamp! On Thursday morning prior to the field trip, Phil Minnes of the Atlanta Lions Club presented the camp with a \$1,000.00 donation. These proceeds came from a special event put together by

Becky Jerrell. A Braves game held on July 6th. Braves Won by the way. Back-to-Back home runs!!

Friday night was, **GLCB 2022 Prom!**

Campers were treated to a sit-down meal, catered and waited on by the camp counselors and program directors. And let me not forget, Landon. Landon was the ten-year-old son of Program Directors Andee and Julie Courson. All this summer he was full of questions and usually sat at the meal table with me. He was helpful in many ways. His only pay was a root beer each week. He helped out at fishing one morning and shall I say it? He was "Hooked" He tried to get me to go night fishing with him. He did have a tender heart. Once he caught a fish and the hook was in the eye. He put the fish in a bucket so someone could help him get it out later. Unknowing to him that the oxygen in the bucket of water was not enough to keep the fish alive. He cried!

Back to Prom, Food, music, dancing, pictures, and all the festivities were planned well. Campers, staff, and

visitors danced the night away.

The next full day was to be Lions Day here at the camp. As Lions took a tour around the camp many were first time visitors. They were impressed about the camp and what it has to offer. They got firsthand knowledge of what they support as a Lion. Lions were invited to speak and interact with the campers as they watched them participate at the climbing wall and during arts and crafts.

Afterwards there was a little challenge of Beep Kickball! Campers' verses Lions. Lions soon realized it was not easy to find something you could not see. Campers won by the way.

Summer Camp season for 2022 is now over. One of the counselors was asked what she thought about camp. She said, "The days were Long but the Weeks went by fast." What a true statement. Lives were changed and new friendships were made. Memories that will last a lifetime.

Summer camp was planned well and it was a huge success. Andee and Julie's Love for the campers showed through their efforts to make this a summer campers would never forget. With their planning, leadership, and implementing this year's theme and activities, the proof was evident in the responses of the campers. Combined with their staff leading in all activities, it was a great summer. We could have used a few more counselors but the ones we had were great! Campers as far as I know never complained. Except maybe, it's hot, when can we go swimming, what's for lunch? Can I drive the golf cart?

Maybe next year Raymond.

I almost forgot to add that this year the camp was attended by 5 students from the St. Augustine School for the Deaf and Blind in Florida. These students will now go back and tell their friends what a good time they had. Some of their parents I spoke with said if they had known about the camp sooner, their child would have been here, from here on they (the camper) will be given the chance to return.

This Is:

What the Georgia Lions Camp is all about? For the young camper or the young at heart to be given an opportunity to experience, grow, conquer challenges, and participate in all activities with their peers. Having nothing but "Fun" while here!

Never judged or set apart from others. Where everything and anything is possible at the Georgia Lions Camp. Just to give them a chance to do the best they can. "No Expectations"!

Come visit us sometime. You will be blessed by the smiles on their faces and comments they make!

Let me not forget that I could not do this job without the support of my soulmate. Mrs. Gail! Every year she has helped in ways many of you know nothing about. She is not just the camp's Office Manager she is great support staff. Helping pre-prepare menus, purchasing food supplies, making numerous trips to Walmart, getting up early to assist the cook pre-prepare breakfast, helping at lunch and dinner. Helping with a camper if she needs to. Where there is a need, Mrs. Gail will be there! Thank You, "My Love"

Activities for Christmas Camp 2022 are in the planning stage. For this year's theme we will bring back an old one, "Helping Others" "III" Campers have asked about helping kids at Christmas that may not have much of a Christmas without our help. If you as an individual would like to help, gift cards are a great way. Any amount.

Mail to:

Georgia Lions Camp, Inc.
5626 Laura Walker Rd.
Waycross, Ga. 31503

Volunteers for Christmas Camp will be needed. Camp will be December 9-11, 2022. Jobs such as Kitchen staff, counselors, setup and cleanup, activity leaders, and where ever you may be needed. Staff and volunteers will need to be here by December 8th. Volunteers will be required to provide a background check. Some may be required to sleep in the dorms with the campers.

Contact me at the camp office if you have questions. 912-283-4320 or email director@glcb.org. This weekend of Christmas Camp we will also be having Alumni Campers and Staff here. It may be a great time to see old friends.

Thanks again for providing a great experience for all,
Mike Williams
Camp Director
Georgia Lions Camp, Inc.

Board Chairman's Report For August Newsletter

The 2022 Camping Sessions were closed out on a very strong note with Lions Day at the Camp with Lions from all over the State celebrating with the teenage campers. Many THANK YOUs are needed. Thank you the Lions of 18-I for a great luncheon meal. Thank you to Lion Jay Taylor's sister Rhonda Ussery and Lion Marie Fears of the Tomson Camelia City Lions Club for providing the cupcakes. Thanks goes out to the Campers for sharing their experiences with the Lions of Georgia. Another thank you to all the counselors for their work with the campers. A big THANK YOU to Andee and Julie Coursons for their leadership as Program Directors. I was very impressed with their programs for the Campers and how they interacted with the campers and counselors. They made a great team bringing a new vacation each day to the Campers. And of course the BIGGEST THANK YOU to Mike and Gail Williams for making it all happen and having to perform extra duties with all the equipment failures and shortage of the cooking staff and other help. And a thank you to the Lions of Georgia for your support and attendance. It was truly a GREAT DAY AT THE CAMP. We had many first-timers present. For those that could not attend, I hope you will be able to attend next year.

At the end of the celebration the Board met for a short board meeting. All the new board members were introduced. Andy and Julie Courson addressed the Board with very positive notes on the camping season and thanking us for the opportunity to serve the Camp. We hope that they will consider returning next year. The one issue that was brought up and approved by the Board was to form a Task Force to celebrate the Camp's 50th year celebration in 2026 and possibly tie it in with the LCI Convention in Atlanta in 2026. If any Lion is interested in being on this Task Force please contact me at pafastphoto@windstream.net.

This summer we have had more than our share of equipment problems: fire alarms, refrigerators, pool pump, HVAC units, internet systems, computer, copying machine, lawn mowers and others. Most of these due to the severe thunder storms that the Waycross area had experienced. It has really been tuff on our Camp staff but thanks to Camp Director Mike and Gail they have been working thru it all. Our insurance company did reimburse the Camp for the repairs on the fire alarm systems; however, we did have to pay a \$1,000 deductible. Documentation has been collected and is in the process of being submitted to our insurance provider for reimbursements for the other items.

Congratulations to the Lions of 18-I, for being first in the state in the percentages of Clubs contributing to the Camp at 69%.

And Congratulations to the Lions of 18-N for being first in the amount of dollars contributing to the Camp at \$40,198.

My Motto for this year is **GROWING THE CAMP MORE**. What can each member of the Board, the Camp's committees and the Lions of Georgia do to help **GROW THE CAMP MORE**? There are three main areas that we as Lions Clubs and individually as a Lion can help **GROW THE CAMP MORE**:

1. Contact your local school district and get the word of the Camp directly to them to increase the number of campers.
2. Come help at the Camp with various projects thru out the year.
3. And of course do whatever you and your Club can do to financially support the Camp.

So I conclude with another **BIG THANK YOU** for what you have, are and will do for **OUR GEORGIA LIONS CAMP**.

Paul May

Chairman of the Georgia Lions Camp Board of Directors

Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee consists of one member from each District plus a Chairman. They are responsible for getting information to the Board of Directors so that they can assist with getting the Lions of Georgia to help fund the Georgia Lions Camp.

Not only are they responsible for continuing the standard fundraising projects but to improve what we are currently doing plus come up with new ones. That's quite a task for 5 people.

New projects on the horizon are a joint golf tournament with the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation, casino fundraisers which could be from just one to as many as three and online silent auctions and raffles.

That is much more than 5 people can handle so we are asking if anyone would like to help with any of the above projects or if they might have an idea that they need help developing.

If interested, contact your District Fundraising representative or my self at chair2019@att.net or call 404-314-1504.

Golf Tournament

The Georgia Lions Camp and the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation, the two official projects of the Lions of Georgia, are working together to help each other raise money.

There is a meeting on Thursday, August 25, 2022 starting at 1:00 P.M. at the Georgia Lions Lighthouse in Chamblee. If you are interested in assisting with this project and would like to attend the meeting, please let me know. Zoom will also be available.

This is simply the early stage of planning. The target dates are June 5 or 12, 2023. There are three golf

course locations under consideration, Marietta, Alpharetta and Covington.

The location and date should be determined at this meeting. Additional committees will be determined and chairman of those committees could be decided.

Currently we are seeking recommendations for golf courses have this event at. Soon committees will be created to make this happen.

If you have a favorite golf course that you think would be appropriate for this event or if you would like to help make this event a success, contact me at chair2019@att.net or call Ed Ressler at 404-314-1504.

GreyStone Power

The Fundraising Committee is delighted to share that a recent generous contribution has been made by the GreyStone Power Foundation in support of campers hailing from their service area (sections of Douglas, Paulding, Cobb, Fulton, Coweta, Fayette, Carroll, and Bartow Counties). Many Electrical Membership Corporations around the state participate in “Operation Round Up” (ORU) programs, in which customers round up their monthly bills and the dollars are used to support nonprofit serving their local service areas. If you receive your power from a Georgia EMC with an Operation Round Up program, we encourage you to sign up and please--let us know! We host campers from every corner of the state and as we continue to apply for funding from the various ORU programs, your support and status as a member will serve as a powerful endorsement of the Georgia Lions Camp, Inc. Thank you!

Cobb EMC

The Fundraising Committee is delighted to share that a recent generous contribution has been made by the Cobb EMC Foundation in support of campers hailing from their service area (sections of Bartow, Paulding, Cobb, Fulton and Cherokee). Many Electrical Membership Corporations around the state participate in “Operation Round Up” (ORU) programs, in which customers round up their monthly bills and the dollars are used to support nonprofit serving their local service areas. If you receive your power from a Georgia EMC with an Operation Round Up program, we encourage you to sign up and please--let us know! We host campers from every corner of the state and as we continue to apply for funding from the various ORU programs, your support and status as a member will serve as a powerful endorsement of the Georgia Lions Camp, Inc.



1976 SOCIETY - July 01, 2022 - July 31, 2022

Thank you to the following Lions of Georgia that are making a special individual contribution to the Camp.

NAME	LIONS CLUB
JC Coefield	Centerville
Rita Gail Coefield	Centerville
Joann Huff	Thomson Camelia
Theodore Vickroy	Ellijay

CENTURY CLUB - July 01, 2022 - July 31, 2022

Thank you to the following Lions of Georgia that are making a special individual contribution to the Camp.

NAME	LIONS CLUB	LEVEL
Theodore Vickroy	Ellijay	Diamond
Eugenia Massingale	Decatur	Bronze

Brick Memorial Garden - July 01, 2022 - July 31, 2022

Thank you to the following Lions of Georgia that are making a special individual contribution to the Camp.

NAME	LIONS CLUB
Paul May	Milledgeville
Paul May	Milledgeville
Paul May	Milledgeville
Anonymous	Anonymous
Steve Williams	Forsyth
Camilla	Camilla
Ken Gordon	National Hills

Camp Finances Y-T-D thru JULY 31, 2022

We are now 7 Months of the 2022 Fiscal Year -- going into the 3rd Quarter of our Financial Year. The 1st and 2nd Quarters were actually very good for us, financially speaking.

Camping Season has come and gone, but all expenses have not. As expected, Camping Season expenses were extremely high -- they always are. The Camp also had problems with Storms this year -- some damage, expensive damage, that had to be taken care of immediately because Camping Season was upon us.

Our Cash Liquidity fell to 0.8 months -- which is LOW going forward. We are now in a 'Cash Rebuilding Stage' -- we need to replenish our cash. We need everyone's help to do so. Contributions -- from Clubs or individuals -- are needed now. Camping Season 2022 may be over, but the Bills are not.

Please support the Camp any way you can, and as early as you can -- and urge others in your Club to do the same. There are numerous ways to make your contribution -- and your Club will receive credit at the same time. Our Fundraising Committee is working hard to do their part, please support them in their effort.

The Camp, and, therefore, the Campers, benefit tremendously when the Camp is in a healthy financial position.

You can monitor the progress below as the months go by...

Operational Income vs Expenses -- Y-T-D thru JULY 31, 2022

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Total Income for 2022 to-date	161,315.40	222,185.00
Total Expenses for 2022 to-date	191,381.40	215,313.00
NET Operating Income for 2022 to-date	(30,066.00)	6,872.00

Club Contributions -- Y-T-D thru JULY 31, 2022

	<u>18L</u>	<u>18I</u>	<u>18O</u>	<u>18N</u>
# of Clubs Contributing in 2022 to-date	20	37	20	28
% of ACTIVE CLUBS Contributing	48%	69%	40%	49%
Contributions by District for 2022 Y-T-D	31,425.78	23,072.72	14,179.76	40,197.90

As you can see above -- The number of Clubs contributing to the Camp in 2022 increased a little during JULY -- that is good and very much appreciated, but not enough. Please help your Club and District add to our contribution numbers by the next report. ALL Clubs need to support our Camp.

Your Camp District Director receives a report each Month showing the contributions made from each Club in your District. Please contact him or her with any questions as to how you can help support our Camp in giving the Camp experience to others.

Thank-You!

David E. White,
Board Treasurer



Amazon.com Smile

There are several ways to help your camp receive some unexpected money and it does not cost you any extra money. Did you know that if you buy things on Amazon, and most people do, Amazon will donate to the Georgia Lions Camp. Here's how you do it.

1. Go to smile.amazon.com.
2. Log in using your normal sign in. You will be sent to the amazon smile link where you start typing Georgia Lions Camp then click on search to select the camp. You are now logged in and you are linked so that a portion of your purchase goes to your camp.
3. Complete your purchase as you normally would.



Kroger

Here is another way to help your Georgia Lions Camp and it will not cost you any extra money. If you already have an account at Kroger for digital coupons and other saving ways, then you are almost there. If you do not already have an account with Kroger, you can use the same links below to get one. If you are not already set up to have funds donated to the camp, here is how to take care of that.

1. Go to Kroger.com
2. Sign in like you were going shopping or looking for specials.
3. Go to my account.
4. Go to community rewards. Select Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, which is the old name for the Georgia Lions Camp.

Needs List 2022: updated 8/2/22

The following items will help the daily operations of the camp. Many have asked what does the camp need?

1. Gallon size bleach- Five cases of 6 bottles per case
2. Toilet bowl cleaner- 2 cases of 12? bottles per case
3. Lysol dis-infectant spray- 2 cases of 6? cans per case
4. Spray cans of room deodorizer- 20 cans of spray
5. Laundry detergent- gallon size preferable- 3 cases of 6? Bottles per case
6. Dish detergent (dawn preferred)-Large size- 20 bottles needed
7. Windex window cleaner- 2 cases of 6 per case
8. Clorox disinfectant spray bottles – 2 cases of 6 per case-(32 oz.)
9. Orange Multi surface cleaner 2 case of 6 per case- (32 oz.)
10. Pumie stone sticks for toilet bowl cleaning- as many as possible- 2 cases of 24 per case
11. Dish towels for the kitchen
12. Toilet Tissue – any brand
13. Toilet Bowl Plungers and Brushes Need 8 sets
14. Paper towels – any brand - 4 cases
15. Clorox wipes- large size – 12
16. 60-gallon industrial size garbage bags
17. Zip Lock storage bags, 12 boxes/ half gallon – 48 boxes/ one gallon, 12 boxes-quart size, a question was asked, do these need to be the zip lock brand? Zip Lock works best for what we need at camp.
18. Food serving gloves- case of/one size fits all – Powder Free
19. Bug spray- non- DEET and DEET accepted. -20 cans spray or pump
20. Sunscreen **Spray** -at least 50/75 spf non allergenic – 24 cans-spray or pump
21. Disposable ponchos for rainy days – 50 – these can be found at dollar stores or dollar general
22. Small first aid kits- 24 sets of travel size
23. Bandage wraps – 24 packages of 3 per package
24. Gauze – rolls or square- 48 pieces
- 25. Wasp Spray- Black Flag brand preferred. 2 cases of 12 per case.**
- 26. Ant poison- here at the camp we have ant issues, we need your help- bags of poison or industrial strength liquid needed. You can never ask for enough of this. All donations appreciated.**
27. 50-1 mix for weed eaters and lawn maintenance tools used here at the camp. 24 bottles
28. 5W30 motor oil- 1 case of 12 qts. Per case
29. 10W30 motor oil- 1 case of 12 qts per case
30. 1 five gallon of Hydraulic Fluid for the tractor

All of the above items listed are used all through the year as needed.

Gift Cards are a great way for the camp to purchase other items that may not be on this list. (Movies, Board games, and other items for campers)

Items purchased can be shipped directly to the camp, (**5626 Laura Walker Rd. Waycross, Ga. 31503**) taken and distributed during the annual MD-18 Lions State Convention, brought on Lions Day here at the camp, or when you come to work weekends.

2022 Work Projects

The following projects will be updated monthly in our camp newsletter. If you see a project that you or your club would be interested in helping with, please email your interest to director@glcb.org

October 21-23, 2022 is our next scheduled Service Days:

(You don't have to wait until a scheduled Service Day to come work at the camp)

**(Please know that you can call and schedule a workday anytime
the camp does not have an event going on)**

1. Weed pulling, edging, raking, wheel barrow use, and sanitation are many other jobs to be done during this work session. BRING your gloves and definitely some BUG SPRAY!!
2. Repair the Whale Watch element at the Low Ropes Course
3. Climbing Wall due for pressure washing and wood treatment (Man lift will need to be rented to accomplish this task) Other minor maintenance can be done during this activity)
4. Wooden picnic tables need replacing. Repairs would cost as much as new tables.
5. Nature Trail –build up low lying areas we continue to need Two loads of crushed asphalt and Two loads of fill dirt.
6. Paint water heater room located behind the newly renovated Staff Building.
7. Paint the Water Tank
8. Paint the pump house at the pond
9. Paint sidewalks at the exit doors to the bunkhouse.
10. Repair Emergency exit door at restrooms in the Dining Hall.
11. Clean and paint swing frames at the fire pit area.
12. Railing and post need repair at the back double door entrance to the dining hall
13. Sitting Swings at the fire pit need to be cleaned and painted.
14. Activity Site Warning signs have been replaced and repaired but framing needs cleaning and painting.
15. Repaint Dining Hall.
16. Lights in Large Dormitory and Bunkhouse Dormitory still need to be converted to LED bulbs.
17. Pull out canoes and see which ones need repairing
18. Repair broken board on canoe cart
19. Tin roof over bleachers at horse arena needs to be re-applied
20. Pressure wash poolside deck
21. Sign up for lawn care maintenance - (mowing weed eating, trimming, etc.)
22. Fence repair (several post and rails have decayed and broken)
23. Fence is leaning at rental house needs to be secured properly
24. Low hanging limbs over the road that access' RV's to the back of the camp need trimming. Man-lift, chain saws will be needed
25. Playground needs weeds pulled and limbs of tree trimmed to adult head height.
26. All cabinets in the main dorm need to be checked for easy opening and closing-repair those that need repairing
27. Need some shower heads replaced in the main dormitory

Save the Date!

Lions Service Day at the Camp is Scheduled for: Fall October 21-23, 2022

If you can't come on this date:

Call to schedule a special work date for you and your club!

1-912-283-4320 or email: director@glcb.org

Spring 2023 Lions Service Day will be February 24-26

Upcoming Events

October 21-23, 2022

Fall Lions Service Days

December 9-11, 2022

Camper Alumni Reunion

December 9-11, 2022

Christmas Camp. Registrations for Christmas camp will be open on October 24, 2023.

Lions Camp Information

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Georgia-Lions-Camp-Inc-152370411465833/>

Website: <https://www.glcb.org/>

Telephone: 912-283-4320

Fax: 912-283-5130

Address: 5626 Laura Walker Road, Waycross, GA 31503

Camp Alumni Contact Information

Camp Alumni Association Contact: Brian Donegan: doneganbrian1@gmail.com