



# Georgia Lions Camp



November 2022

**W**here has 2022 gone? It is now November. It is time to start thinking about turkey and dressing or putting up Christmas lights; although some of you already have. I bet some of you still have some lights up from last year. Here at the camp as we begin preparations for Christmas Camp which is December 9-11, 2022, we are thankful for another year to serve our campers. Registrations have begun and campers are getting a head start with their registrations. Camper registration and application completion deadline is November 30, 2022 - no extensions!



*Happy Thanksgiving*

This year's theme is once again about "Helping Others".

Campers like to give back to children and make sure they have a great Christmas. During the past couple of months I have asked you to help us with this project by donating gift cards of any value if you can. All these cards will help the campers buy gifts for a few children. Please send the cards to the camp's address and designate what they are for. **"5626 Laura Walker Rd. Waycross, Ga. 31503"**

I had asked for some volunteers for this Christmas Camp season and I am proud to say many have asked what they can do. I do have several volunteers coming to help with a few of the activities. Many of the summer staff have also called to come and help with Christmas Camp. Things are looking good.

Along with our traditional Christmas Camp we will also be joining up with the Alumni of camp seasons past. They are coming to reunite and talk about old times which will include previous campers and staff who have traveled different paths through their adult lives. It will be a blast. Final deadline for Alumni registrations is November 19, 2022. Alumni contact person is Ed Ressler. Check out the camp's website for more detailed information.

Activities for the weekend will include our annual hayride, (caroling required, which will be led by Ellie) maybe some hot chocolate, plenty of social time, horse and buggy ride, a special art project, shopping trip to Walmart, and you bet a "Christmas Party." There will be plenty of good food and lots of fun and games.

The next few weeks are going to be really busy. I have a couple of rental groups coming just before Christmas Camp and then it will be time to celebrate the holidays with our families. I look forward to introducing to you, Gail and I's first great grandson who is due to arrive soon. Gail and I are so thankful for the family God has blessed us with. A daughter, two sons, sixteen grandchildren and soon a great grandchild. We are undeserving but we are truly blessed.

I am thankful that I am able to work where many give to provide the needs of the camp so our campers can come here, get away from their daily routines and just be amongst their peers. This is a place where they are not judged but are all allowed to share their "vision for a brighter tomorrow".

Let's "Keep The Camp Fires Burning"  
Add more Wood, "Make It Burn Brighter"

Mike Williams  
Camp Director

**BOARD CHAIRMAN'S  
NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER  
GROWING THE CAMP MORE**

December 1 is fast approaching. Anyone interested in running for office on the Camp's Board of Directors for 2023-2024 needs to have their letter of intent signed by your Club secretary and sent to our Immediate past Board Chairman Lion Ed Ressler by December 1. The Office Positions that must be elected each year are: Board Chairman, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. The end of June I will have completed my limit of two consecutive terms; so a new Chairman has to be elected.

At the District Conventions in 2023 Districts 18-I and 18-O will be electing District Directors. All letters of intent to run for District Director must be submitted to their District Governor and the Secretary of the Camp's Board at least 30 days before their District Convention. District 18-I convention is on March 11, 2023 and District 18-O convention is on April 1, 2023

Camp Director Mike Williams is busy getting applications and putting this year's Christmas Camp program together. He is in need of volunteers to help with the program. Please call him at 912-283-4320 if you can help. The dates for the Christmas Session are December 9-11.

The Board of Directors met for its Fall Meeting on October 22 in Perry, GA. There was a lot of discussion on the needs of the Camp. Per the Camp's Constitution the Board approved the 2023 Calendar Year Operating Budget for \$446,366. Some of the major increases are due to:

- Cost of goods
- Increase in number of Campers
- Cost of a Grant writer
- Hiring a part time B&G maintenance employee
- Over all maintenance due to aging equipment
- Increase cost and new fundraising projects

Camp Director Mike Williams and I attended GVEST (Georgia Vision Educators Statewide) in Macon on October 12-13. We had a chance to talk to a lot of TVI's (Teachers of Vision Impaired). Some of whom were new and were not aware of our Camp. Others were aware of our Camp and were willing to encourage their students to attend our Camping Sessions. We also talked to some of the TVI's about helping with our Summer and Christmas Sessions.

On November 4th and 5th the Long Range Planning Committee held a Strategy Planning retreat at the Camp. Thirty people had signed up and 25 attended. The Board of Directors and every Standing Committee were well represented. Both full time employees, Mike and Gail Williams, attended. Previous Camper and Counselor Michael Brown and his wife attended. Georgia Blind Lions President Ron Worley and his wife were coming but had to cancel at the last minute due to illness. There was a good cross section of Lions that were very experienced with the Camp and Lions that were relatively new to the Camp. A lot of new ideas and suggestion came out of the Retreat. The entire session was well lead by 2VDG Larry Griggers, chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee. The purpose of the Retreat was to come up with Action Items that are needed to meet the six Goals previously approved by the Board of Directors. All the Action Items will be reviewed by the Long Range Planning Committee and then presented to the Board of Directors for approval. The group agreed that this type of Strategy Retreat should be held each year and if possible before the approval of the Camp's budget for the following year.

Congratulations to 18-I for again having the highest percentages (75%) of their Clubs making contributions to the Camp and congratulations to 18-N for making the most contributions to the Camp of \$44,877 year-to-date.

What can you and your Club do to help **GROW THE CAMP MORE.**

Paul May

Chairman of the Board of Directors

## Camp Finances Y-T-D thru OCTOBER 31, 2022

We are now 10 Months of the 2022 Fiscal Year -- the end of the year is not far away. We only have about 6 weeks left to make this a successful financial year -- and we have a long way to go. Christmas Camp is coming soon -- and we know many Campers are looking forward to another trip to Camp, they always do.

Looking forward -- we have a new fiscal year starting January 1, 2023. We are looking forward to the challenges of 2023. We are planning to increase our number of Campers in Summer Camp and also in Christmas Camp during 2023. Plans are underway to make this new year the best yet. Of course, providing more services to more Campers means we will need more funding to make things happen. Our Board has just approved a very aggressive budget to make things happen for our Campers. Our 2023 Budget will need support from Lions Clubs and Individual Lions from every locality in Georgia. Please consider how you can help our Camp financially -- now and in 2023.

Our current Cash Liquidity remained at just under 1.0 months of normal monthly expenses for the month of OCTOBER. We are still 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. This is the time to build our Cash. Please Help -- NOW.

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.

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

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Total Income for 2022 to-date	206,724.65	281,955.00
Total Expenses for 2022 to-date	235,261.45	275,227.00
NET Operating Income for 2022 to-date	<b>(28,536.80)</b>	6,728.00

### Club Contributions -- Y-T-D thru SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

	<u>18L</u>	<u>18I</u>	<u>18O</u>	<u>18N</u>
# of Clubs Contributing in 2022 to-date	21	42	20	30
% of ACTIVE CLUBS Contributing	50%	75%	40%	53%
<b>Contributions by District for 2022 Y-T-D</b>	<b>38,798.12</b>	<b>33,182.38</b>	<b>16,409.51</b>	<b>44,877.02</b>

**As you can see above** -- Our fiscal year 2022 is almost over, and you can see the number of Clubs contributing to the Camp in 2022 is NOT where it should be. Right at 83% of our year is now over -- on the average, only 54.5% of the Clubs across Georgia have made a Contribution of any size to the Camp so far this year. **ALL Clubs need to support our Camp.** Going into 2023 -- Lions support is needed more than ever. ANY and ALL Contributions are very much appreciated.

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. Remember, **ALL** Contributions are appreciated!

Thank-You!

David E. White,  
Board Treasurer

## Fundraising Committee November 2022

There are so many ways that you can help your Georgia Lions Camp. There is the Century Club, 1976 Society, Brick Memorial Garden to name a few.

Did you know that many companies will match your donation? That's right, match your donation. Companies like General Electric, Home Depot and American Family Insurance to name a few. If you are still working or know someone that is still working, check and see if those companies will match a donation to the Georgia Lions Camp.

Another way to donate is to donate stock. If you donate stock, you don't pay capital gains taxes on the stock and get a deduction for the value of the stock.

A fourth way would be if you have to withdraw from your retirement plan and have to pay taxes on that money. Have your plan write the check to the Georgia Lions Camp. You don't pay taxes on the donation. Before you do either of these, check with your financial advisor.

Ed Ressler  
Chairman of the Fundraising Committee

### Looking for volunteers Fundraising Committee

I need additional volunteers to work with the Fundraising Committee starting now and at least until June 2023.

There are fundraising projects already started and some that need to be created.

Coming soon, a **joint golf tournament** with the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation. Need volunteers for all aspects. A target date is June 2023. The goal is \$40,000 split equally.

**Casino Fundraiser** benefitting the Georgia Lions Camp in May 2023. Need volunteers for Silent Auction, online registration, setup and breakdown the day of the event, people to sell 50/50 raffle tickets. Location will be determined by the end of November.

**An online silent auction.** Needs to be totally setup and operating right after the first of the new year. This could happen two or three different times during the year.

Ed Ressler  
Fundraising Committee, Chair  
[chair2019@att.net](mailto:chair2019@att.net)  
404-314-1504



# Georgia Lions Camp



## 1976 Society Member Application

### SHARE YOUR GIFT OF SIGHT

*The 1976 Society Commemorates the founding date of the Georgia Lions Camp. Persons who choose to be a part of this Society pledge to contribute at least \$19.76 a month for the year they are a member, or \$237.12. Your gift will be credited to your listed Lions Club.*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PAID BY CASH: \_\_\_\_\_ MONTHLY: \_\_\_\_\_ QUARTERLY: \_\_\_\_\_ ANNUALLY: \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD TYPE: VISA \_\_\_\_\_ MASTERCARD \_\_\_\_\_ DISC \_\_\_\_\_ AMEX \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON CARD: \_\_\_\_\_

CARD NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION: \_\_\_\_\_ CSV: \_\_\_\_\_

BILLING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

LIONS CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail to Georgia Lions Camp, Inc., 5626 Laura Walker Road, Waycross, GA 31503*

*\*Donations may also be made using PayPal*



# Georgia Lions YOUR support is needed to

KEEP THE  
CAMP FIRES



BURNING

## at Georgia Lions Camp

**There are numerous ways that you can support YOUR camp:**

- Encourage your Club to hold a fundraiser specifically for the Georgia Lions Camp.
- Join the 1976 Society Club
- Join the Century Club
- Place a Brick in the Memorial Brick Garden
- Contribute Honorariums and Memorials
- In Kind Donations
- Gifts of Stock, Wills, Bequests
- Amazon Smile and Kroger Community Rewards Card
- Cash Donation using PayPal or Venmo
- Sponsor a Camper
- Giving Tuesday



The Georgia Lions Camp is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose mission is to provide a unique recreational camping experience to people of all age ranges who are visually impaired

Donations ensure that the camp can continue to make improvements and introduce new programs/activities that will allow all campers a chance to build confidence in themselves.

For forms and detailed information about each of the programs listed go to:  
[www.glcb.org/camp-donations.html](http://www.glcb.org/camp-donations.html)



**Georgia Lions Camp, Inc**

5626 Laura Walker Rd.

Waycross, GA 31503

[www.glcb.org](http://www.glcb.org)

[director@glcb.org](mailto:director@glcb.org)

912-283-4320



**1976 SOCIETY - October 01, 2022 - October 31, 2022**

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

<b>NAME</b>	<b>LIONS CLUB</b>
CB Hester	Decatur LC
Joann Huff	Thomson Camelia
Ed Ressler	Marietta East Cobb

**CENTURY CLUB - October 01, 2022 - October 31, 2022**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>LIONS CLUB</b>	<b>LEVEL</b>
* Shannon Jackson	Washington	Gold
Classic City Lions	Classic City Lions	Gold
Ed Ressler	Marietta East Cobb	Gold

(\*Correction from September)

**Brick Memorial Garden - October 01, 2022 - October 31, 2022**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>LIONS CLUB</b>
Milledgeville LC	Milledgeville LC
Milledgeville LC	Milledgeville LC





### **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](https://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](https://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 2023:** updated 11/10/22

**Many have asked what does the camp need?**

The following items will help the daily maintenance and other operations of the camp.

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. Dish towels for the kitchen
10. Toilet Tissue – any brand
11. Paper towels – any brand - 4 cases
12. 60-gallon industrial size garbage bags
13. 13-gallon trash bags
14. Bug spray- non- DEET and DEET accepted. -20 cans spray or pump
15. Disposable ponchos for rainy days – 50 – these can be found at dollar stores or dollar general
16. Small first aid kits- 24 sets of travel size
17. **Wasp Spray- Black Flag brand preferred. 2 cases of 12 per case.**
18. **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.**
19. 50-1 mix for weed eaters and lawn maintenance tools used here at the camp. 24 bottles
20. 5W30 motor oil- 1 case of 12 qts. Per case
21. 10W30 motor oil- 1 case of 12 qts per case
22. 1 five gallon bucket 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 to, and distributed during our COG and Joint meetings with the Lions Camp and Lighthouse, the annual MD-18 Lions State Convention, bring items with you on our annual Lions Day event here at the camp, bring items **when you come to work weekends.**

Anyone can donate the above items. You don't have to be a Lions Club member.

**Check out those Christmas Clearance Sales- The camp could use several (8) four-foot artificial Christmas trees. These have been used for outdoor decorations here at the camp.**

## 2023 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](mailto:director@glcb.org)

### Pick A Date!

#### Lions and Lions Clubs-Pick "Your" Service Day at the Camp

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

**1-912-283-4320 or email: [director@glcb.org](mailto:director@glcb.org)**

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. Wooden picnic tables **need replacing**. This task has been **COMPLETED!**
4. Nature Trail –build up low lying areas we continue to need Two loads of crushed asphalt and Two loads of fill dirt.
5. Paint water heater room located behind the newly renovated Staff Building.
6. Paint the Water Tank
7. Paint the pump house at the pond
8. Paint sidewalks at the exit doors to the bunkhouse.
9. Repair Emergency exit door at restrooms in the Dining Hall.
10. Clean and paint swing frames at the fire pit area.
11. Railing and post need repair at the back double door entrance to the dining hall
12. Sitting Swings at the fire pit need to be cleaned and painted.
13. Activity Site Warning signs have been replaced and repaired but framing needs cleaning and painting.
14. Repaint Dining Hall.
15. Lights in Large Dormitory and Bunkhouse Dormitory still need to be converted to LED bulbs.
16. Pull out canoes and see which ones need repairing
17. Repair broken board on canoe cart
18. Tin roof over bleachers at horse arena needs to be re-applied
19. Pressure wash poolside deck- (This will now have to be done next spring)
20. Pressure Wash all buildings
21. Fence repair (several post and rails have decayed and broken)
22. Fence is leaning at rental house needs to be secured properly
23. Low hanging limbs over the road that access' RVs to the back of the camp need trimming. Man-lift, chain saws will be needed
24. Playground needs limbs of tree trimmed to adult head height.
25. All cabinets in the main dorm need to be checked for easy opening and closing-repair those that need repairing
26. Need some shower heads replaced in the main dormitory
27. 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) **Climbing Wall has some structural damage that must be repaired before camp season 2023. This work will have to be done by a professional contractor.**

**Spring 2023 Lions Service Days: February 24-26**

**Fall 2023 Lions Service Days: October 6-8, 2023**

# Upcoming Events

**December 9-11, 2022**

Camper Alumni Reunion

**December 9-11, 2022**

Christmas Camp. Registrations for Christmas camp will be open on October 24, 2022.

**February 24-26, 2023**

Spring 2023 Lions Service Days will be on February 24-26, 2023.

**October 6-8, 2023**

Fall 2023 Lions Service Days will be on October 6-8, 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](mailto:doneganbrian1@gmail.com)