



Lions of MD18 – Lions of Georgia Happy Holidays! December 2022

Lions – Peach Bowl Game Day Parade

A Message from 18-L First VDG Dennis Chapman, 2022 Lions Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl Chairman:
Georgia Lions, Leos and LCI Members worldwide:

In 1968, the Atlanta Lions Club founded the Peach Bowl as a fundraiser for Lighthouse for the Blind Foundation, currently known as the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation. The Peach Bowl has grown from a small bowl played at a local college football field to a major Bowl Game played at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in downtown Atlanta.

Known as the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl, the bowl has earned a reputation as one of the most competitive bowls in the country and every three years, 2022 being one of those years, hosts the College Football Playoff matchups. The Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation continues to be a benefactor from The Peach Bowl and as Lions, we should be proud of the legacy of the Peach Bowl, college football's most charitable bowl game.

We invite you to be part of this exciting event to be played on December 31, 2022, in Atlanta, GA. If you are unable to march, we hope you will be a spectator. Let's show our support of this great event by having as many Lions wearing "yellow vests" as possible. Would it not be great to have over 100 Lions and Leos participating? See you in Atlanta!

Reminder – Grace Clower GA Lions Leadership Retreat



If you are a Georgia Lion wishing to learn more about being a Lions leader, be sure to attend the Grace Clower Leadership Retreat that will take place January 6th through 8th of the new year. It will be here before you know it. The fee is \$75 and includes lodging for two nights at the Georgia Lions Camp (bunk bed dormitories), four meals, snacks, and instructional materials.

If you have questions or need an application, please contact PCC Tammera Sears at Tammera.sears@yahoo.com. Don't forget, the deadline to apply for this wonderful Lions training opportunity is December 31, 2022.

Coming Soon from Lions International

The Lions Digital Experience Is Evolving. In 2023, the functionality of MyLion, MyLCI, Insights, and other tools will be accessible through a single streamlined experience. Follow the link to watch a brief message from International President Brian E. Sheehan regarding the transition, and to find answers to frequently asked questions – <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/digital-products/>.

United in Kindness: Lions service goes beyond borders, and so does our teamwork. So when the war started in Ukraine, local Lions there knew exactly who they could depend on for help. Watch [United in Kindness](#) to see how the Lions of Europe, empowered by grant funds from LCIF, teamed up to offer hope, help, and homes to thousands of families that were forced to flee.

Visit our [Humanitarian Crisis in Ukraine](#) page for more information about how LCIF is supporting local Lions working to make a difference. And if you're able, please consider making a donation to our [Refugees and Displaced Persons fund](#) today.





Merry Christmas! December 2022

Expand Your Marketing Knowledge For Your Club

Did you know that every club member can take part in your marketing efforts? Check out this great interactive Club Marketing Guide to test your knowledge and learn everything you need to know to promote your club and its impact on your community. Visit <https://clubmarketing.lionsclubs.org/>.



SAVE THE DATE! The USA/Canada Forum will be held in Reno, Nevada September 21 – 23, 2023. You can get more information and register on the website at <https://lionsforum.org/>.

If you haven't been to a Forum, please consider attending. It is a great event than will help you learn more about Lionism and being a Lions Leader. The mission of the USA/Canada Forum is to develop leaders, motivate and educate attendees, provide an open exchange of ideas, and support programs and goals of Lions Clubs International.

Don't Forget to Apply – Order of the Golden Chain

Every active Lion should strive to achieve this prestigious honor. It is not too late to complete the requirements for the 2022-2023 Lions year. If you have already sponsored a new member in your club, you are well on your way to achieving the Order of the Golden Chain. Please review the award application, which is available on the Lions of Georgia website at www.georgialions.org, to see how many of the requirements you have already accomplished. The deadline to turn in your applications is April 30, 2023.

Eligibility: Every Lion who completes the Golden Chain requirements, between May 1st and April 30th of the current Lion Year, may be awarded the Order of the Golden Chain.

Requirements: The Order of the Golden Chain contains two equally important parts. Part I includes 5 activities that are mandatory including sponsoring a new member and part II lists 28 optional activities in which a Lion may choose to participate including serving as a Club Officer or Director. Eleven or more of these activities are required to qualify.

For more information, contact MD18 Chair Lion Bonnie Linscott, of the Snellville Lions Club at bonhome@bellsouth.net.

"Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies." – Mother Teresa

Just for fun, check out another video from LCI President Brian Sheehan:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOUz-ocDL2M>.

*If I can stop one heart from breaking,
I shall not live in vain;*

*If I can ease one life the aching,
Or cool one pain,*

*Or help one fainting robin
Unto his nest again,*

I shall not live in vain.

– Emily Dickinson

Potential Club or Individual Lion Project

Send Holiday Cards to:

A Recovering American Soldier
C/O Walter Reed National Military Medical Center
8901 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20889-5600

MD18 Lions Brochures Now Available – Contact your District Governor for information.



Happy Hanukkah! December 2022

Camilla Lions Club Members Serve with a F.O.C.U.S. (by Christy Wray)

The Camilla Lions Club has been actively serving the communities within Mitchell and Baker Counties for 70 years. Founded in 1952, the club has consistently focused their volunteer efforts over the years on local eyesight projects, such as: vision screenings, eyeglass collections, and eyeglass purchases for those in need. For the past five years, the work of the club has expanded into other service areas. Under the leadership of President Christy Wray and Vice-President Derek Hadley, the Camilla Lions Club now focuses their efforts on providing service opportunities for all five of the global causes supported by Lions Clubs International – Vision, Environment, Childhood Cancer, Hunger Relief, and Diabetes.

Camilla Lions Club members are now serving with a F.O.C.U.S. – “Finding Opportunities within Communities and United in Service”. During the month of October, the club kicked off the F.O.C.U.S. campaign with recognition of Blindness Awareness Month. The Lions Club members volunteered their time in four different schools to administer vision screenings to all 3rd and 4th grade elementary students. Members successfully screened 372 students and provided contact information for follow-up referrals. Following this successful vision screening campaign, the club was asked to provide a program at the Senior Citizen Center of Mitchell County where 20 seniors were screened and Lions club information was shared.

To support childhood cancer efforts, a challenge was issued to all club members and community members to support Joshua’s Block Party/LEGO Challenge during September which is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. The project exceeded expectations and over 75 LEGO kits (approx. \$1000 value) were donated. The kits were delivered to regional organizers for distribution to local hospitals and children undergoing cancer treatments. (See photo on next page)

As a way of celebrating the Environmental cause, the club purchased and utilized five Peace Poster kits from Lions Clubs International. Over 60 middle school students participated in this program to support environmental efforts and to “Lead with Compassion” toward a peaceful future on our planet. The club held a luncheon for the five student winners, their family members, and school representatives. The students were awarded gifts and certificates for their accomplishments. (See photo on next page)

Food bank donations and collections during November and December support the work of hunger relief in our area. Between November 1st and December 20th, Camilla Lions Club members will work with Mitchell County High School LEO Club students to collect canned goods and grits. In December, the LEO Club students will deliver the donations to the Mitchell County Food Bank.

In addition to the global cause of vision, In October, Lions Club members focused their efforts on education in the schools in honor of U.S. Constitution Day. Camilla Lions Club members and Georgia House of Representatives elected official, Joe Campbell, traveled to four local high schools and presented programs on the history of the U.S. Constitution, constitutional amendments, civic responsibility, and the importance of voting. Lion Representative Campbell shared the program and distributed pocket-size copies of the US Constitution, to over 250 high school students.

Lions Club International Foundation states, “Our mission is to empower Lions Clubs, volunteers, and partners to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian services and grants that impact lives globally, and encourage peace and international understanding.”

The Camilla Lions Club members’ F.O.C.U.S. work encompasses service in all areas of our community and for all age groups. The F.O.C.U.S. campaign, held from September – December, strives to serve the needs of our community while focusing on work within our schools. The targeted work completed during our F.O.C.U.S. campaign is only a glimpse into the servants’ hearts of our Camilla Lions Club members.



Happy Kwanzaa! December 2022



Camilla Lions Club members (L-R) collect LEGO kits for children undergoing cancer treatments - Karen Menefee, Jacquelyn White, Christy Wray



Camilla Lions Club's Peace Poster Contest winners: Dayton Rudd (Baker County Schools), Greidys Ramirez (Pelham City Schools), Juana Esquivel (Baconton Community Charter School), Arabella Mercado (Mitchell County Middle School), Emma Kate Wood (Westwood Schools)

Lions ALERT – Heating Safety

There is something about the winter months and curling up with a good book by the fireplace. But did you know that heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths? With a few simple safety tips and precautions, you can prevent most hearing fires from happening.

BE WARM AND SAFE THIS WINTER!

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance from your home.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.

FACT

Half of home heating fires are reported during the months of **December, January, and February.**

Heating Equipment Smarts ~ Install wood burning stoves following manufacturer's instructions or have a professional do the installation. All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. Install and maintain CO alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning. If you smell gas in your gas heater, do not light the appliance. Leave the home immediately and call your local fire department or gas company.

Thank you, Lions, for taking the time to read your MD18 newsletter! If you have information about programs, projects, etc. to share with your fellow Lions in Georgia, please contact me, Lion Angela Helwig, at angelahelwig57@gmail.com. Happy New Year!