



Lions of MD18 – Lions of Georgia Together we can! September 2022

October is World Blindness Awareness Month

World Blindness Awareness Month was established for every October to help people understand the realities of living without sight. The World Health Organization estimates that almost 285 million people suffer from blindness or visual impairment worldwide. In the United States about 4 million Americans are blind and 47,000 (1 person every minute) become blind each year.



At least 40 of the 50 United States and countries worldwide organize events throughout the month of October as part of World Blindness Awareness Month to bring awareness to blindness and related blindness issues. (nelowvision.com/october-blindness-awareness-month) #BlindnessAwarenessMonth

LIONS READING TO LIONS

A message from Lion Stacie Court who created this wonderful service project to benefit visually impaired Lions:

Dear fellow Lions, all Lions with any print disability can receive links to mp3 recordings of the Lion Magazine and the magazine's online articles.

Volunteers of *Lions Reading to Lions* spend time every month recording and uploading these articles. They are housed in Google Drive folders for ease of access.

To register to receive the links, or to learn about how you can become a volunteer, please contact Lion Stacie Court at stacie.court@gmail.com or 706-424-9516.

New Executive Director for Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation



Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation announces Beth Ehrhardt as Executive Director of the nearly 75-year-old institution, effective September 6, 2022. Ehrhardt joins the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation with extensive non-profit healthcare experience, most recently holding the role of President of the Senior Charity Care Foundation in Utah from 2012-2021, an organization focused on bringing mobile dental, vision, and hearing care to seniors in need. Ehrhardt brings a passion to serve those who need access and stability for improved health. She is steadfast in her commitment to

advocating on behalf of Georgia youth, adults and seniors.

"Ensuring access to programs and services that allow those who are less fortunate to thrive has always been a major focus of my work. I have been lucky enough to work on behalf of missions that understand the needs of the communities they serve, and I enjoy seeking solutions addressing the most significant challenges collaboratively for the underinsured and uninsured," said incoming Executive Director, Beth Ehrhardt. Ehrhardt is excited to continue her life's mission, effecting meaningful change that improves the lives of individuals. She is committed to building upon the strong foundation of the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation and Lions Clubs across Georgia to build a better tomorrow for Georgians by bringing individuals into a world of improved sight. (lionslighthouse.org/news-events)

"An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity." – Martin Luther King, Jr.



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State Convention – Save the Date

2023 MULTIPLE DISTRICT 18 STATE CONVENTION HILTON NORTHEAST ATLANTA



2023 MULTIPLE DISTRICT 18 STATE CONVENTION

HILTON NORTHEAST ATLANTA

5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092

MAY 19-21, 2023

REGISTRATION FORM



Registration includes four meals: three on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday.
In addition, you can choose to be included in the Past District Governor's dinner Friday even if you are not a PDG. Leos, see special Leo registration form.

Name for Name Badge	Lions title, if applicable	Guest?	Dietary Restrictions
Club:		District:	
Address:		City, State, Zip	
Contact Email Address:			
Contact Phone No. Home or Mobile?			

Register early! Registration fees vary according to the date you register.

Fill in # attending and calculate your total.

Date registering	#	Price per person	Add Friday dinner	Total Amount
May 13 - June 30, 2022		\$175	\$55 per person	\$
July 1, 2022 – Mar. 31, 2023		\$200	\$55 per person	\$
April 1 - April 30, 2023		\$225	\$55 per person	\$
May 1 - 10, 2023		\$250	\$55 per person	\$
Check Payable to "Lions of Georgia State Convention"			TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	\$
Check No. /Cash	Date Paid	AMOUNT PAID		\$

Contact/Mail Registration to:

PCC Vicki Hubbard
PO Box 115
Social Circle, GA 30025
770-851-8765
Lionvicki@gmail.com

Hotel Room Cost \$115 per night

Use hotel registration link to get this lower price.

FREE PARKING

Please indicate your meal choice. Note any dietary restrictions on the front

NAME	SATURDAY LUNCH		SATURDAY BANQUET	
	Chicken Madeira	Poached Citrus Salmon	Stuffed Sole	Balsamic Sirloin

Note: Breakfasts and Friday dinner are buffets.

“No one has ever become poor by giving.” Anne Frank



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2022-2023 Peace Poster Contest "LEAD WITH COMPASSION"

The theme "LEAD WITH COMPASSION" invites young people to explore and visually express the peaceful future that compassionate leadership brings. Now is the time to start reaching out to schools and organizations in your area and ask them to participate in the contest this year. Schools, churches, youth clubs and organizations...all are eligible as long as the artists are 11, 12 or 13 as of November 15, 2022.

First, make sure you have the approval of the organization leader such as Board of Education, school principal, church pastor or youth minister, etc. to have the contest.

Second, contact the organization leader that would be involved -for example, the art teacher at a school could use it as a class project or a Scout troop leader could incorporate it into their activities – many possibilities!!

Third, order the Peace Poster kit from LCI Supply (one kit needed for each entry sponsored) and allow a couple of weeks to receive. The cost is \$11.95 per kit plus shipping and includes:

- Official Club Contest Guide and Rules
- Official School or Youth Group Contest Guide and Rules
- Participant Flyer to duplicate and give to participating students to take home
- Sticker to place on back of winning poster
- Certificates for contest winner and school or youth group

Fourth, your club may want to consider providing the art materials needed (markers, poster board, etc.).

Fifth, when the posters are complete you will need to have a judging. Recruit 4-6 people (all do not have to be Lions) and create a form with criteria that should be used to evaluate the entries. A good idea is to use the same three criteria used by LCI: originality, artistic merit and expression of theme.

Sixth, make sure that the label that comes with the kit is completed to include the parent/guardian signature. Affix it to your club's 1st place poster as per kit instructions, roll the poster and mail in tube to your District Peace Poster Chair (DG Tommy Powell in 18-O). It must be postmarked no later than November 15.

Last, arrange an awards ceremony (this could be part of your meeting program). Invite the winners and their parents/siblings/guardians, and present the winners a certificate, and maybe something extra such as a gift card. Some clubs recognize 1st and 2nd place entries, while others include 3rd place. You can tailor to your club's wishes. Include the group leader that coordinated the contest in their organization and present them a certificate of appreciation.

And, don't forget to take pictures and submit along with an article to your local newspaper. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at mhumphry@cox.net or 478-918-3666. Last year's Grand Prize winner is shown above.

Yours in Service, PCC Marlene Humphry



"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." – Martin Luther King, Jr.



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Falling Leaves by Mary Williams, District 18-I Environment Chair



It's getting close to the season of falling leaves. Do you rake yours up, bag them, and put them by the curb with your trash? According to the U.S. EPA, leaves and other yard debris account for more than 13% of the content of our landfills – 33 million tons each year. As they decompose, they give off methane gas. Add to this the carbon dioxide from the blowers used to gather them up and the exhaust from the dump trucks that cart them to the dump, they have quite the environmental impact.

Instead, use the leaves instead of buying mulch. Using leaves will help to enrich your soil, lock in moisture and protect your plants, according to www.hortmag.com. It's important to shred the leaves, however. You can do this with a mulching mower, shredder or leaf blower on the vacuum setting. Experts say a thin layer of un-shredded leaves is fine, but if it gets too thick it will prevent air and water from reaching the soil.

Removing leaves also eliminates vital wildlife habitat. Critters ranging from turtles and toads to birds, mammals and invertebrates rely on leaf litter for food, shelter and nesting material. Many moth and butterfly caterpillars overwinter in fallen leaves before emerging in spring.

Melvin Jones Fellowships

The Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) is the backbone of our foundation. Presented to those who donate US\$1,000 to LCIF or to people for whom a donation was made by others, it's a tremendous contribution to humanity and to the legacy of our founder, Melvin Jones.

Contributions for the MJF can be made by individuals (including non-Lions), clubs or districts. Donations may be in one sum or in installments. Melvin Jones Fellows receive a special lapel pin, a plaque and a congratulatory letter.

It's possible to make a donation and choose the MJF recipient later. Write "Melvin Jones Fellow to be named later" on the check or bank draft. When an individual's or group's personal donation(s) are accumulated for a club's or district's use to select a Melvin Jones Fellowship recipient, LCIF needs the signed consent. Please include such documentation with the completed MJF application that is sent to LCIF Donor Services.

Club Secretaries, Club Presidents, and Club LCIF Coordinators, this information is very important. You should contact LCI to see if your club has undesignated funds that can be used toward Melvin Jones Fellowships for your club members.

Please note – There is a form at <https://lionsclubs.jotform.com/212553776499875?language=en> you can use for Cumulative Melvin Jones Fellowship Credits. This form should only be used if sufficient funds have been previously donated to Lions Clubs International Foundation and you have confirmed the credits are available in the club's LCIF account before submitting this application. For Melvin Jones Fellowship contributions or inquiries, or to confirm available credits, please contact Donor Services at 630-203-3836 or DonorAssistance@lionsclubs.org.

"No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another." – Charles Dickens



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Smyrna Jonquil Lions Club 10th Annual Car Show

The Smyrna Lions Club did a fantastic job arranging and hosting their 10th Annual Car Show at the Adventure Outdoors parking lot on Saturday, September 17th. The weather was fantastic, and many beautiful cars competed for top honors. The Smyrna Lions appreciate the sponsors who made this terrific event possible. Lions Club celebrities such as District Governor Al Hernandez and PDG Ed Ressler showed up to lend a hand. The quality of cars competing was the best ever including National Antique Car Show winners and cars valued at over a million dollars.



Georgia Lions Camp Updates

Pre-Teens, 6/12 years old 2022 Summer Camp. This year, at the 2022 Summer Camp, Pre-Teen Campers (6-12 year-olds) were treated to several new activities and programs.

Many of these campers are able to attend because of donations to the Camper Scholarship fund. This year, Pre-Teens were able to attend camp via a grant provided by the OREMC (Okfenokee Rural Electric Membership Corporation) Foundation.

Many of our Young Adult Campers are able to attend camp because of a generous donation from the McDonough Lions Club. For the past several years McDonough Lions have joined the Platinum Scholarship Club. They contributed \$2,300.00 to be used for Camper Scholarships. Any Lions Club can also do this. Check out the Camp's website (www.glcb.org) donation page to see how you can participate. Help us "Keep the Campfires Burning"! Camp staff and campers want to thank all of you who are a part of making this a great summer for these campers. It is the camp's mission to provide growth, independence, and so much more through recreational activities and programs!



Thank you, Lions, for taking the time to read your Lions of MD18 newsletter! I really hope you found it helpful. If you have information about programs, projects, or other information to share with your fellow Lions around the state of Georgia, please contact me, Lion Angela Helwig, at angelahelwig57@gmail.com or at 706-340-9643. The next newsletter will hopefully go out around October 15, 2022.

Remember: Together We Can!