



District 35-L Newsletter

December 2012

www.district35L.org



Happy Holidays!

The buzz of Christmas cheer has arrived! Trees are being trimmed, presents being bought, parties being planned, songs being sung, cards being addressed etc. Where do we as Lions fit into this? Well, of course, right in the middle of it also!

Our challenge for the next two months is to feed the hungry. Whether your club decides to do a small or large project, please remember to go on line and report what you are doing. I have already heard plans for some of the service activities and look forward to reading about many of the projects done.

We are about to reach the half way mark in our "Race for Success." Don't forget to stay tuned up and moving on toward the finish line in your clubs. Use the formula given us to guide club decisions. Remember it is preparation + planning+ teamwork=success.

My wish is for each of you to have a wonderful holiday season. Take time for family, fun and fellowship.

Sincerely,

DG Pat

Officers 2012-2013

John Crawford
Zone 1 Chair

James Wood
Zone 2 Chair

Janice Tedeschi
Zone 3 Chair

William Powell
Dave Nicholson
Zone 4 Chairs

Anthony Clum
Zone 5 Chair

PDG Anne Davis
Zone 6 Chair

Brian Barkman
Zone 7 Chair

Bob & Marge
Holton
Zone 8 Chairs

Edgar Dickson
Zone 9 Chair

Sheryl Shemet
Zone 10 Chair

Joan Richardson
Zone 11 Chair

Charles Carroll
Zone 12 Chair

Diane Melnick
Zone 13 Chair

PDG Audrey Hall
Zone 14 Chair

Patricia Hall
District Governor

Jerry Skufe
Immediate Past DG

Jeffrey Heisler
1st Vice DG

Bob Melnick
2nd Vice DG

Shirley Shuler
Administrator

Joyce Cosson
Secretary

Carl Plesner
Treasurer

Dr. Edward Michelson
Historian

Dr. Cris Hirsch
Global Leadership
Team Coordinator

Larry Hopkins
Global Membership
Team Coordinator

PDG Gunter Hirsh
Zone Chair
Coordinator

PDG Estelle Calrk
Tail Twister

Ashley Wohlschlaeger
Newsletter

Joel Arthur
Webmaster

From Our Governors



District 35-L



Hello Lions of District 35L,

It is so good to be able to address you again this month as your 1st VDG. We have had a busy few months with several significant fundraisers, meetings, and trips to various entities. I love the subtle change of the weather and the seasons. It gives us a break from the heat and has made me feel more productive. I challenge all of you to use this break in the summer heat as a motive to become more active in your club, your District and in your Communities. I don't know about anyone else but this is the time of year with the holiday's rapidly approaching that I become more active.

It is a great time to visit old friends, check on friends in an ACLF or Nursing home or that live alone that might not have family checking on them as the holiday's approach. It is an excellent time of the year to think of some small creative projects to help those around us who are less fortunate than ourselves and to help them accomplish something that they might no longer be able to do physically.

It is also a great time to plan a trip to one of the entities local to Florida and to consider taking someone as a guest that might be interested in what we do as Lions. Sometimes seeing the entity and the great work that it does is what it takes for that person to make the final decision to become a Lion as well.

We have many holiday functions planned as well as the upcoming District meeting in Pensacola and the Council of Governor's cruise to the Bahamas' right around the corner. These are also excellent ways to become involved in your District and to enjoy the fellowship of Lions from our area as well as the MD35.

As we roll into the holiday's I would like to thank each of you for what you do for Lions, the MD, and our District 35L each and every day. I wish all of you a happy, healthy and safe holiday season. I wish you all safe travels and I hope to see you at some of our upcoming events.

Once again I would like to thank Governor Pat, 2nd VDG Bob, and the entire District for the opportunity to serve you as your 1st VDG. After all, isn't that the motto that our basic principle is founded on and succeed's with? "WE WERVE."

Yours in Lionism,

Jeffrey Heisler, 1st VDG

Hello Fellow Lions,

As you read this Thanksgiving will already be behind us and we will be home from Kentucky where we have spent the past 20 years celebrating this holiday with friends from all over the United States and Canada. During that time we were again happy to visit our friends in the Jamestown, KY Lions Club. It is always a time to renew friendships and to keep all of us up to date on the happenings in Lionism between our states. This year we were able to present their club president with DG Pat Hall's and ID Stacey Jones's pins along with their greetings. I hope you have all had an enjoyable, healthy, and safe holiday.

During the coming month I encourage you and your clubs to reach out a helping hand to those less fortunate than we are. This is always a good time to reflect on our blessings and to bring comfort to those needing our help and love. It is a time for each of us to remember DG Pat's thoughts on Service from the Heart. It doesn't have to take much to ease someone's situation – just your willingness to give from your heart.

Both I and Lion Diane were able to attend the Zone #14 meeting in November and hear DG Pat's message, reports from several of the entities, information on Kid Sight, as well as future plans for several projects in the District during the upcoming year. I encourage all of Dist. 35-L Lions to make it a point to support DG Pat when she comes to visit your club and/or your zones as well as attending at least one of the future District meetings. These are times where you will be able to learn and share so much with Lions throughout our district so don't miss the opportunity to spread Lionism.

During December, if we do not see you personally, let us wish all of our Lion family a Happy Hanukkah, a Merry Christmas, a Happy Kwanzaa and a Healthy New Year and I ask you to remember that: Service is the rent we pay for living on this planet.

Yours in Lionism,

2 VDG Bob

KidSight Vision Screening in Nicaragua

Nicaragua for a Vision Screening during October 22 to October 29.

So how did this come about? Lion Ken travels to Nicaragua periodically as part of Church Missions. In his conversations with the Nicaragua people, he mentioned the KidSight Program. The Lions of Nicaragua became interested and the rest is History. The first stop was at the Managua Best Western where they screened 46 children. The children of the factory workers where Lion Ken's son is Vice President were brought to the hotel to be screened. During the following days they traveled to the town of Teustepe and the city of Jinotega where they screened 9 additional centers for a total of 532 children. The results were 70 referrals, quite a large number.

Lions Ken and Tony have been involved in more than 2000 screenings since the initial screening in September 2011.



The implementation of the KidSight Project continues to move forward. We have nine (9) PlusOptix screening units in place and seven (7) of them are in use. We will be scheduling training for two clubs in the near future. Our arrangement with the UF KidSight office calls for them to train Lions on the use of the equipment and completion of the necessary paperwork, as well as data management and referral follow-up. Since Tammy Johnson moved, the KidSight office hasn't been able to provide the level of service previously provided. I met with Dr. Nausheen Khuddus, Medical Director of the Pediatric Ophthalmologist Program at the University of Florida, on November 17th and she informed me that she is taking the following actions:

1. Hiring a person to handle the work previously performed by Tammy and Melissa;
2. Finalizing the office space arrangement for the KidSight operation;
3. Getting the flash drives sent to Melissa, updating the KidSight data reporting system,

and returning the flash drives to the submitting club;

4. Providing us the name/address of the KidSight administrative office ASAP.

Once these actions are completed, training, data reporting and follow-up will get back on track. Clubs are requested not to mail in any more flash drives until further notice.

Another key action being taken is the establishment of a 501 (c) 3 organization so that fundraising can take place to cover operating expenses for the KidSight office. District Governor Pat Hall has authorized the use of KidSight funds to cover the expenses for the preparation and submission of the required paperwork to the IRS and State of Florida. Also, the MD 35 KidSight Lions Director, Dr. Howard Freedman, plans to have the KidSight administrative office provide support to all clubs within Florida and the Bahamas. This will bring uniformity of operations for the multiple district. Also, it will promote efficiency and cost effectiveness for needed support services and requirements.

Remember, we have to crawl before we walk, and walk before we run. Currently, clubs are at different stages of implementation, but they will all be at the same point in the not too distant future. It's exciting to be associated with a program that will detect amblyopia in enough time to correct the situation. We truly are involved in a program that affects the life of a child. It demonstrates our motto....."We Serve."

From around the District



Rachel Farmer was recently named Student of the Quarter by Santa Fe High School.

Rachel and her parents were dinner guests at the Turkey Creek Lions Club meeting at Brown's Country Buffet. She was presented a monetary gift for furthering her education and a Certificate of Achievement.

From left: AnnaMarie Martin, Club Secretary; Mary, Rachel & Jim Farmer; Mark Paletti, Club President.



This year the Alachua Lions Club as one of its fundraisers held a raffle for an IPAD 4 and the winner was drawn at the end of the evening at Trick or Treat on Main Street in downtown Alachua. The winner of the IPAD 4 was Sherry Cato, wife of Bobby Cato of High Springs. The Cato family are long time residents of High Springs. Sherry bought her tickets from Lion Tommy Harris while in Alachua. She is also a member of the First Baptist Church of Alachua. While receiving her IPAD, Sherry said she was born on the same day as Helen Keller who was a crusader for the blind and was the inspiration for the Lions Clubs around the world to help and serve the blind.

Photo: Don James, President of the Alachua Lions Club presents Sherry Cato of High Springs with the IPAD 4 she won in the raffle the Club was holding.

From around the District



5100 pounds of food collected by area Lions

Lions from around the area were joined by members of the new Leo Club of Fleming Island High to hold a Food Drive to collect food for local Food Banks. Participating were the following Lions Clubs: Orange Park at Publix on Blanding in Orange Park, Green Cove Springs at Winn Dixie in Green Cove, Middleburg Black Creek at both Winn Dixie and Publix in Middleburg, and Fleming Island at Winn Dixie in Fleming Island.

The event was held on Oct 27, the day of the Florida/ Georgia game. The theme was support you favorite college team by donating food in that teams designated grocery cart. Customers and Lions, many who dressed in their favorite school shirts, had fun while contributing to help member in need in our area. 5100 pounds of food was collected and donated to Food Banks in the area.

Lion Presidents Randi Vallecourt of Fleming Island, Ronald Bell of Middleburg Black Creek, Shirley Houle of Orange Park and Laura Holland all thanked their club for their involvement in this worthwhile project. Lion President Lou Bono and the Jacksonville Westside Club collected money and will provide food to the needy during the Holiday Season.



From around the District



NEW MANDARIN LIONS CLUB COLLECT FOOD FOR MANDARIN FOOD BANK

Members of the Mandarin Lions Club held a Food Drive at Publix on Old St. Augustine Road on Saturday October 20 from 9 – 3. Project leader, Christine Benham, organized the effort and arranged for volunteers including several area students, to work along with the Lions. A full pick-up truck load of food was collected and Lions thank the many Publix customers who made it possible to give all this food to the Mandarin Food Bank to help people in need. Mandarin Club President Thomas Miller thanked the Lions who worked the event and wants to invite anyone interested in service to the community to come and check out the Lions. Meetings are the second and fourth Wednesday's of the month at noon at Golden Corral at 11470 Sand Jose Blvd. in Mandarin. Lions collect "no longer needed" eyeglasses which may be dropped off at the Mandarin Library, Golden Corral, and Mandarin Eyecare in Riverplace Shopping Center all on San Jose as well as other area businesses. For more information contact Tom at 904-248-1652.

Pictured are Guiding Lions Ed Dickson of Middleburg Black Creek, Mandarin Lion Amanda Crawford, and her daughter Andie, Lion President Tom Miller, and Project Chair Christine Benham, Lion Secretary. Lion Christine arranged for several volunteers who also assisted with the Food Drive.

Club Meeting Recap

19 Nov 2012 Luncheon Meeting

District Governor Lion Pat Hall from Marianna attended for her official club visit for this year.



District Governor Lion Pat Hall speaking words of wisdom to our 16 Lions in attendance.



Induction Ceremony for Lion Pete DiMaggio from Freeport Lions Club, Lions Howell and Catherine Vaughn and Oecal Finch from the Freeport Lions Club participate.



District Governor Pat Hall and Sandestin Lions Club President Jim Wood This was Lion DG Pat's official visit to the club. Sixteen Lions were in attendance including 8 from Sandestin, 4 from the Freeport Lions Club, 2 from the Fort Walton Beach Club to include Lion PVDG Mary Ogletree and our District Secretary and Baker Lions Club President Lion Joyce Cosson.