



The Lions Express

District 31-S Newsletter | January 2016 Issue



Districts 31-N and 31-S Mid-Winter Convention

The Districts 31-N and 31-S Mid-Winter Convention was held January 15-16, 2016, at the Holiday Inn in Greenville, NC.

FRIDAY. The convention began with registration from 1:00 pm—6:00 pm. The Hospitality Room was open from 2:00 pm—4:00 pm. Fun Night was 6:30 pm—9:30 pm. PDG Carlton Metts, Convention Co-Chairperson, welcomed everyone to the convention. The invocation was given by Tom Cole, Chaplain. First Vice District Governor, Lion Barbara Beltran (31-S) led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by dinner. Entertainment was provided by the Seaside Band (Bruce Edwards, Jim Slaughter, Rick Sutton, Thomas Vick, and Stan Williford) out of Raleigh, NC.



Seaside Band (Seaside Band photo)

SATURDAY. Registration was held from 6:30 am to 4:00 pm. Certification of Delegates was held 9:00 am—10:30 am. The Hospitality Room was open 3:30 pm—4:30 pm. The Tail Twisters Breakfast was held 7:30 am—9:15 am, with DG Vince Schimmoller (31-N) presiding. PDG Wayne Faber served as Song Leader. The invocation was given by Chaplain Tom Cole. Second Vice District Governor Lion James Kiser (31-N) led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by breakfast. DG Schimmoller introduced the head table and recognized recipients of various awards and honors (Hall of Fame, Key Members, Ambassador of Goodwill, Melvin Jones Fellows, Jack Stickley Fellows, William L. Woolard, Partners-In-Service, Sid L. Scruggs Beacon of Hope, VIP Ambassador, newest Lion, and longest serving

Lion). PDG Lion Joe Silvers facilitated the Tail Twisters Auction, followed by announcements by PDG Lion Carlton Metts.

The general membership meeting was held 9:30 am—10:30 am, with DG Lion Mary Boehm (31-S) presiding. Statewide Committee and NCLI reports were given. NCLI President, Lion Paul Bledsoe, gave President's remarks. PDG Lion Skippy Jackson, Council Chairperson, gave the Council of Governors report. PDG Lion Dale Dupree gave the Camp Dogwood report. PDG Lion Sandy Scarlett gave the Brighter Visions report. PDG Lion Carlton Metts made announcements. The benediction was given by Chaplain Tom Cole.

District Cabinet meetings were held, followed by lunch. DG Schimmoller presided and Chaplain Tom Cole gave the invocation.

Following lunch, International Director Lion Jerome Thompson spoke about the Ready, Set, Grow initiative. DG-Elect Lion Irwin Siegelwax and Diabetes Awareness Chair Lion Judy Jackson informed attendees about Strides Walk/Diabetes.

Projects being done by the Wilson Luncheon Lions Club, Anderson Creek Lions Club, Godwin Lions Club, and Western Harnett Lions Club were discussed.

The evening concluded with the banquet, with DG Lion Mary Boehm presiding. PDG Lion Herb Justice (31-S) introduced the head table.

The service of remembrance followed, presided by Lions First VDG-Elects Stephen McLaurin (31-S) and James Kiser (31-N), and club leaders. The invocation was given by Chaplain Tom Cole. Lion Stephen McLaurin led the Pledge of Allegiance. DG Lion Mary Boehm recognized guests present.

Awards for the Peace Poster Contest and district awards were presented by Lions DG Boehm, DG Schimmoller, and PIP Sid L. Scruggs, III.



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*Send news and/or photos (captioned) to
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2015-2106 Calendar

February 2016

- 12-14 Council & Board Meeting
- 24-25 Centennial Bus Tour With IFVP
Bob Corlew: stops at Camp Dogwood, Raleigh, and Lumberton

March 2016

- 5 Vision Van Visits Edenton
- 18-20 Brighter Visions Training
- 28 NCLI Office Closed

April 2016

- 8-9 Budget Hearing
- 9 Boys & Girls Homes of NC Lions Volunteer Clean-Up
- 10-13 Camp Dogwood Volunteer Work Week, Sherrills Ford, NC
- 22-24 NC Lions State Convention, Marriott Crabtree Hotel, Raleigh, NC
- April 29-May 1 Council & Board Mtg.
- 30 PU101 or Officer Updates Due to LCI and District Governor
- TBA Zone Advisory Meeting

May 2016

- 1 Council & Board Meeting, Camp Dogwood, Sherrills Ford, NC
- 13-15 Lions Fun Weekend, Camp Dogwood, Sherrills Ford, NC
- 14 Region/Zone Chair Training, Rocky Mount, NC (Tentative)
- 21 Club Officer Training, TBA (Tentative)

June 2016

- 4 Alternate Club Officer Training Date (Tentative)
- 17 Camp Dogwood Raffle Drawing
- 24-28 International Convention, Fukuoka, Japan

July 2016

- 9 District 31-S Awards/Installation Banquet, Pilot
- 23 Brighter Visions Kick-Off & Cabinet and Zone Advisory Meeting, Williamston

Enthusiastic Lions Wanted!

By Lion Barbara Beltran
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We are looking for Lions interested in leadership opportunities with District 31-S for the 2016-2017 Lions year. We need regional chairs, zone chairs, and committee chairs. Region and zone chairs must be a current or past club president. Committee chairs have no prerequisite requirements, just a willingness to serve.

Committees include: Boys and Girls Home; Brighter Visions; Budget and Finance; Bulletins; Campus Clubs; Camp Dogwood; Clinical Eye Research; Constitution and By-Laws; Diabetes Awareness; District Convention; History; Endowments; Environmental Photo Contest; Information and Technology; Leader Dog; Leos; Nominations; Peace Poster Contest; Properties; Public Relations and Lions Information; Sight and Hearing; Tail Twisters; Volunteers; and Research and Long Range Planning.

PDGs, please let me know of any preferences. Emerging leaders are also encouraged to become involved. Please let me know your interests.

USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum



The 40th anniversary of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum will be held September 15-17, 2016, in Omaha, Nebraska. This year's forum will be a new experience for every attendee. In helping Lions achieve our Centennial Service Challenge of 100 million acts of service,

two modes of training will be provided. Numerous seminars have been added, dedicated to training Lions in how to organize and produce service projects for their communities at both the club and district level. Saturday afternoon will be dedicated to three large service projects. Every attendee will have the opportunity to participate in KidSight screening, making 100,000 meals to feed the hungry and recycling eyeglasses and other forms of metal. For more information on these projects and the other outstanding seminars that will be provided, visit the forum website at www.lionsforum.org.

Last year's forum was a smashing success and, in the words of the Grand Forum Chair, Mark Miller, "I can only sing the praises of the 2015 Planning Committee. You each stepped up and out to make the Forum experience amazing. The Michigan Lions were exceptional hosts! The surveys reflect that the forum members appreciate your leadership." The Grand Forum truly was an awesome experience for all that attended.

There were format changes with seminars all day Thursday, the Diabetes Walk, Leo Day, the Lions History presentation after Saturday's dinner, and an awesome fireworks presentation. The speakers and entertainment made this a memorable event. The Lions University was a huge success along with the Lions Club Handbook.

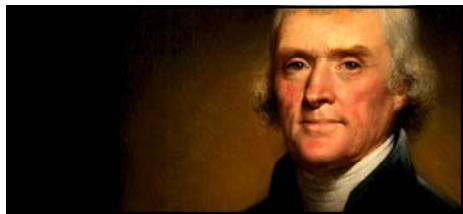
Featured Speakers. We have listened to your feedback and we feel that this year's featured meals speakers will be the best presentations offered at any forum.

Billy Riggs (Opening Night). World-class illusionist, Billy Riggs, will amaze you, motivate you, and keep you laughing. You will be captivated with his illusions and audience participation. Visit his website at www.billyriggs.com.



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Celebrate Liberty Essay Contest



The 2015-2016 North Carolina Lions Celebrate Liberty Essay Contest is open to all high school juniors enrolled in a North Carolina public, private, or charter school. Celebrate Liberty is a program of the North Carolina State Council of Governors. Its purpose is to introduce students to the importance of the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the American government.

The theme for the contest is the Thomas Jefferson quote: "I know no safe depository of the ultimate powers of the society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion by education. This is the true corrective of abuses of constitutional power."

After judging on the club level, the winning essay should be sent to the district Celebrate Liberty chairperson for district-level competition. Essay entries cannot have already been published. Any essays found to be plagiarized will be automatically disqualified and the student will be prohibited from entering any future Lions competitions.

Each student must be sponsored by a Lions club within the district where the school is located. Essays must be a maximum of 750 words in length, typewritten and double-spaced in black ink. The winning essay should be sent to the District Celebrate Liberty Chair, Lion Harriett Walton, P. O. Box 733, Wanchese, NC 27981 (or edmundsgroup@embarqmail.com) by February 28, 2016. Only one entry per student per year, and each entry must be the work of only one student.

There is a monetary prize for the contest winner at the district and state level. Clubs that sponsor an entry are encouraged to add a monetary prize or plaque for the winner and also publicize

the winner and essay in the local newspaper. The grand prize winner also receives an expense-paid trip to the NC Lions State Convention which will be held at the Marriott Crabtree-Raleigh April 23-24, 2016.

The district winner's essay should be sent to the State Celebrate Liberty Chair, Lion Mike Schwartz, for statewide judging.

LCI President Speaking At MD31 State Convention



Lions International President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada will be the speaker at the North Carolina Lions MD31 State Convention in April of 2016. The symbol he has picked for his pin and a major part of

his theme is the origami crane.

Japan has a legend dating from the 17th century about a Thousand Origami Cranes (Senbazuru), a group of one thousand origami paper cranes (orizuru) held together by 25 strings. An ancient legend promises that anyone who folds a thousand origami cranes will be granted a wish by a crane, such as eternal good luck, long life, or recovery from illness or injury. This makes them popular gifts for special friends and family. To be compared to a crane is a compliment, well-behaved like gentlemen, incorruptible and naturally clean and honest. The regal, upright carriage of these elegant birds reflect their dignified status serving as messengers to ancient immortals.

The crane in Japan has long been a symbol representing health, longevity, truth, and fidelity, and is one of the mystical creatures (others include the dragon and the tortoise) and is said to live for a thousand years. That is why 1,000 cranes are made, one for each year. Traditionally, origami cranes are given as a wedding gift by the father who is wishing a thousand years of happiness and prosperity upon the couple, or to a new baby for long life and good luck. School groups or individuals often donate Senbazuru to temples to add to the prayers for world peace.

Sandakan Sasaki, a Japanese girl who was 24 months old when she was exposed to radiation from the bombing of Hiroshima during World War II, devel-

oped leukemia. At age 12, she began making origami cranes with a goal of making 1,000, inspired by the Senbazuru legend. She managed to fold only 644 before she died in October 1955. In her honor, classmates completed the rest for the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum where a statue of her, standing, holding an origami crane is in a place of honor and draped with origami cranes annually.

At the District 31-S and 31-N Mid-Winter Convention in January, sheets of origami paper will be placed on the tables at Friday Fun Night. While you are waiting for dinner and during the entertainment, please fold a few origami cranes for the district to contribute to the decorations at the state convention in honor of International President Yamada's theme of Dignity, Harmony and Humanity.



According to origami lore, the folding of the cranes can be done with entire families and friends, not just the bride or father of the groom, or the one making the wish. It is believed that the more people involved, the more luck you will have. "Ori" means to fold and "kami" means paper. Due to the high cost of paper in the sixth century when the art began, origami was only used for religious ceremonial purposes.

Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind Blind Idol Singing Competition

The Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind announces the kick-off for the National "Blind Idol" Singing Competition. The competition is open to legally blind contestants. Submissions are due no later than March 15, 2016.

The Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind (IFB) is looking for this country's best singers who also happen to be legally blind to participate in the second annual "A Brighter Path Blind Idol" singing competition. Interested singers can visit www.blindidol.com for competition details. Submissions will be accepted beginning February 1, 2016 and ending March 15, 2016.



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USA/Canada Forum

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Bob Corlew, First Vice President (Saturday Lunch). Bob Corlew will detail his theme and programs for our Lions International Centennial year.



Lion Jay Blake (Friday Lunch). Lion Jay Blake will lead you through his incredible story in pursuit of his life's dream after losing his sight, as well as his sense of smell and taste, in a life-changing accident. Be sure to visit his website at www.followadream.org.

Dick Abel (Saturday Banquet). Brigadier General USAF (Retired) is the founder of "Leadership is ALL About People." He will show you the benefits of developing leadership qualities and how these qualities will help you in every aspect of your life. For more information, please visit www.liaap.com.



Blind Idol Competition

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The 2016 Blind Idol singing competition is open to any legally blind adult who is 18 years or older and a resident of the United States. Entrants are required to provide proof of legal blindness as defined by the Social Security Administration. The Blind Idol winner will receive a grand prize package of \$1,000 cash, eight hours or recording time at a recording facility in Winston-Salem, NC, and a professional headshot. The total prize package is valued at \$3,000.

To enter, contestants must submit a video or MP3 audio file of an individual singing performance no longer than two minutes in length either online or by mail no later than March 15, 2016. The IFB staff will then select 20 semi-finalists to perform in a live audition in Winston-Salem, NC, on May 14, 2016. Five finalists will move on to the live finale competition on August 6, 2016, at the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art in Win-

ston-Salem, NC. North Carolina contestants will be responsible for their own transportation and lodging.

The 2016 Blind Idol singing competition is sponsored by A Brighter Path Foundation, the supporting foundation of Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind. Anastasia Powell, program associate for IFB's A Brighter Path, and Chris Flynt, Director of A Brighter Path programs, are returning as the event's co-organizers. Powell and Flynt have not let their lack of sight deter them from pursuing their love of music, and they encourage everyone who shares that love to enter. "Music has the ability to move all of us—young and old, sighted and not sighted," said Powell. "Blind Idol is a great opportunity to showcase our talents on a national stage and enjoy these tremendous performances."

Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind (IFB) is a nonprofit corporation founded in 1936 that provides employment, training, and services for people who are blind or visually impaired. As the largest employer of people who are blind or visually impaired in the United States, IFB operates manufacturing facilities in Winston-Salem, NC, Asheville, NC, and Little Rock, AR, in addition to more than 50 office supply stores and optical centers across the country. IFB also provides outreach through A Brighter Path Foundation, which operates Community Low Vision Centers across North Carolina and Tracy's Little Red Schoolhouse based in Winston-Salem.

For more information regarding Blind Idol competition guidelines, contact Anastasia Powell at (336) 245-5698 or by e-mail at apowell@wsifb.com.



Booking the Mobile Screening Unit

The Mobile Screening Unit (MSU) – also referred to as the Vision Van—may be scheduled by all North Carolina Lions clubs on a fair and equitable basis. The MSU will come to any community in

North Carolina, but is unable to conduct screenings outside of North Carolina. The MSU may only be booked by a member in good standing of the sponsoring Lions club. The MSU State Coordinator is the only individual authorized to commit the MSU to a screening. An MSU calendar is maintained on the NCLI web site, showing booked dates, available dates, and dates that are not available.

The typical screening days are Wednesday through Saturday. However, every effort will be made to accommodate the screening date desired by the club. There are factors that must be considered before a screening date may be approved. Even if a date is open, it may not be feasible for a screening to be conducted on that date in your location. Adequate time must be available for the MSU to travel to your location or to its next location.

Twice each year, the MSU will be out of service for maintenance. Other dates that are not available for screenings are New Year's Eve, New Year's day, Easter Sunday, Thanksgiving day, the Friday after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and Christmas day.

Screenings may be booked 18 to 24 months prior to the screening date. The calendar is extended by six months on January 1st and July 1st of each year. Saturday is the most requested day for screenings. Therefore, clubs that have the MSU booked for a Saturday may only book that same Saturday 12 months ahead of time. The sponsoring Lions club will pay a \$125 non-refundable fee to NCLI for each day that they schedule the MSU for screening.

Upcoming MSU scheduled dates are: February 20, 2016, Candor (Montgomery); February 24, 2016, Calabash (Brunswick); and February 25-27, 2016, Shallotte (Brunswick).



North Carolina Lions, Inc.
Mobile Screening Unit (MSU)

Mid-Winter Convention

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DISTRICT 31-S AWARDS. Sid L. Scruggs, III, Beacon of Hope awards were given to Lions PDG Charles Holleman (Rocky Mount Evening Lions Club) and PDG Gene English (Garner Lions Club). Presidential awards were presented to Lions Nancy Craft (Wilson Luncheon Lions Club), Betz Blowe (Murfreesboro Lions Club), and Barbara Beltran (Raleigh Host Lions Club).

DISTRICT 31-N AWARDS. Sid L. Scruggs, III, Beacon of Hope awards were presented to Lions Andrea Cole (Anderson Creek Lions Club) and Janice Boone (Angier Lions Club). Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Lions Cathy DeLaney (Calabash Lions Club), Irwin Siegelwax (Calabash Lions Club), and Catherine Revels (Aurora Lions Club).

Lions PDG Carlton and Anne Metts received Certificates of Appreciation for being convention co-chairs.

The keynote address was given by ID Lion Jerome Thompson, who also presented awards. After international awards were given, NCLI Executive Director Steve Walker facilitated the Camp Dogwood ticket drawings. Remarks were made by DG Boehm. Final announcements were made by PDG Lion Carlton Metts. The convention concluded with the benediction by Chaplain Tom Cole.

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Pictured above, left to right, are Lions PDG Charles Holleman, PIP Sid L. Scruggs, III, and DG Mary Boehm. PDG Holleman received a Sid L. Scruggs, III, Beacon of Hope award at the District 31-N and 31-S Mid-Winter Convention in Greenville, NC. (Liz Steele photo)



Shown above, l-r, are Lions PIP Sid L. Scruggs, III, Janice Boone, and DG Vince Schimmoller. Lion Janice received a Sid L. Scruggs, III, Beacon of Hope Award. (Liz Steele photo)



Pictured (l-r) are Lions PIP Sid L. Scruggs, III, Andrea Cole, and DG Vince Schimmoller. Lion Andrea received a Sid L. Scruggs, III, Beacon of Hope award. (Liz Steele photo)



Shown above, left to right, are three members of the Rocky Hock Lions Club at the Saturday night awards banquet at the Mid-Winter Convention: Lions Dottie Mizak, Frances Jordan (Secretary), and Frank Mizak (President). (Frances Jordan photo)



Shown above are Lions Cathy Delaney (left) and DG Vince Schimmoller (right). Lion Cathy received a Certificate of Appreciation. (Liz Steele photo)



Pictured are (l-r) Lions DG Vince Schimmoller and DG-Elect Irwin Siegelwax. Lion Irwin received a Certificate of Appreciation. (Liz Steele photo)

Mid-Winter Convention

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Pictured (l-r) are Lions PDG Carlton Metts, DG Mary Boehm, Anne Metts, and DG Vince Schimmoller. Lions Carlton and Anne received Certificates of Appreciation for serving as convention co-chairs. (Liz Steele photo)



Pictured above, left to right, are Lions ID Jerome Thompson, DG Mary Boehm, and DG Vince Schimmoller. ID Thompson was presented a thank you gift for attending the Mid-Winter convention. (Liz Steele photo)



Rocky Hock Lions Club President, Lion Frank Mizak (left), is shown above turning in the club's Camp Dogwood ticket sales funds to NCLI at the Mid-Winter Convention. (Frances Jordan photo)



Shown above are Lion Adrienne Makowski (District 31-S Peace Poster Contest Chair), Eden Tyler (District 31-S Peace Poster Contest Winner, North Raleigh Lions Club), International Director Lion Jerome Thompson, Vernice Alvarez (District 31-N Peace Poster Contest Winner, Smithfield Lions Club), and Lion Andrea Cole (District 31-N Peace Poster Contest Chair).



In Memory of Lion Eugene Howard Stallings, Sr.

December 6, 1925—January 3, 2016



Eugene Howard Stallings, Sr., 90, began his eternal rest on Sunday, January 3, 2016. Howard, the oldest son of the late Eugene Wheless and Ruby C. Stallings was born December 6, 1925, in Franklin County where he resided until moving to Oxford in 1965. He is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 68 years Emma Leigh Strange; three sons: Howard, Jr. and wife Kay of N Myrtle Beach SC, Eddie and wife Gay of Oxford, and Kip and wife Lounell of Oxford; grandsons: Chip and wife Haven, Walter and wife Chris, Brian, and Lance Stallings; two granddaughters: Shannon Carmack and husband Keith, and Natalie Sweeley and husband Josh; great-grandsons: Cody, Cole, and Gavin Carmack, Hogan and Noah Stallings and great-granddaughters Emma Kate Sweeley and Kenna Stallings. He is also survived by brothers M.L. and wife Annette of Roanoke Rapids, and Graham and wife Anna of Youngsville; and sisters Marie Williams and husband Walter of Greenville and Jayne Simpkins of Raleigh and many nieces and nephews.

Preceded in death by daughter-in-law Debbie Stallings.

He was a member of Oxford Baptist Church where he served on several committees, was a Deacon, Deacon Emeritus and taught Sunday School.

He received a BS and Masters degrees from East Carolina University. He taught and coached at W. R. Mills School, Louisburg NC five years and was principal there for eight years. He then moved to Oxford to become principal of J. F. Webb High School and later became Associate Superintendent of Granville County Schools where he remained until his retirement in 1985. In 2002, he was inducted into the East Carolina Educators Hall of Fame.

He was President of the Louisburg and Oxford Lions Clubs, President of the NC Lions Foundation, Director of the NC Eye and Human Tissue Bank, Director of Boys and Girls Home, and NC White Cane Chairman.

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Happy Valentine's Day, Lions!

**Global Leadership
Team**



Lions Clubs International
Southeastern Lions Leadership Institute

Life Enrichment Center
4991 Picciola Rd.
Fruitland Park, FL 34731

April 7 – 10, 2016

(Check In after 3:30 pm Thursday – Depart noon Sunday)

Name: _____

Badge Name: (if different) _____

District: _____ Club: _____

Highest office held _____

Current office (if any) _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone: Home: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Have you ever attended a RLLI? Y___ N___

Institute Topics:

- Working in Teams
- Diversity
- Public Speaking
- Time Management
- Member Motivation
- Lions Fundamental
- Goal Setting
- Personal Mission Statement

Registration \$145 Includes:

- Lodging 3 nights
- Seven Meals
- Instructional Materials

Checks payable to: "Lions of Florida MD-35 RLLI"

Mail to: Lion Larry Feldhusen
11 Magnolia Ave
Yankeetown, FL 34498

Tel: 352-447-0809

Email: gtmd35.larry@gmail.com

Accommodations

Motel Accommodations
Double Occupancy
(Single Occupancy available – add \$60)

Roommate (if applicable) _____

Check in at the Lobby/Dining Hall
(3rd Bldg. on Right, Inside the Gate)



Howard Stallings

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In 1991, in Brisbane Australia, he was elected to a two-year term on the Lions International Board of Directors.

For his devoted service to Lions International Howard became a Melvin Jones and Jack Stickley Fellow and a William L Woolard Partner in Service, received four International President's Awards, and the Ambassador of Goodwill (the highest award presented by Lions International).

He served as an Infantryman in the European Theater during World War II. Howard was an avid sports fan and played baseball and basketball in high school.

Visitation was held at the Oxford Baptist Church Family Life Center. A memorial service was held in the Oxford Baptist Church Family Life Center church sanctuary on January 6, 2015.

Flowers accepted or memorials may be made to the following: Oxford Baptist Church Music Ministry, P. O. Box 398, Oxford NC 27565; Oxford Lions Club, P. O. Box 327, Oxford, NC 27565; or North Carolina Lions, Inc., P. O. Box 39, Sherrills Ford, NC 28673.

A private interment will be held at a later date. Funeral arrangements by Gentry-Newell and Vaughan, Oxford, NC.

Weeksville Lions Donate Subscriptions to Library

By Lion Roger Braun

The Weeksville Lions Club gives annual subscriptions of Braille Books For Children to the Pasquotank County Library and the Weeksville Elementary School Library. These children's books are written in both the printed word and in

Braille. This teaching tool, which tells a children's story, also introduces children to another way of reading: Braille. Braille is a major help for the blind and the Lions clubs support all

people who are blind or visually impaired. Each month a new book is given to the two libraries.



Pictured (l-r) Weeksville Lions Club President Lion James Norrell with Weeksville Elementary School librarian, Cindy Jennings, who is receiving the newest Braille book. (Roger Braun photo)

NCLI Education Grant Policy

North Carolina Lions, Inc., recognizes the need for education beyond a high school diploma. Further education is necessary for an individual to be competitive in today's job market. With the rising cost of education, many visually impaired parents find it difficult to fund the total cost of their children's education. The North Carolina Lions Education Grant Program was created to provide funding for these individuals.

Grants up to \$1,500 per year are available to sighted children of a blind or visually impaired parent (or parents). Grants will be awarded based on the economic need of the family and the scholastic record and character of the applicant. Applications and all required information must be received in the NCLI office by March 31, 2016.

NCLI will make the check payable to the college designated by the recipient. The check will be applied to the recipient's college expenses. In the event the recipient drops out of school, any unused balance will be returned to NCLI. No funds will be made available for studies beyond a bachelor's degree.

To be eligible for an education grant, the family income of the applicant cannot exceed the following amounts: One (1) dependent child, \$40,000 annually; Two (2) dependent children, \$50,000 annually; Three (3) dependent children, \$60,000 annually; Four (4) dependent children, \$70,000 annually.

\$10,000 will be added to the family income for each additional dependent child. The unencumbered assets of the family, including stocks and bonds, shall not exceed \$75,000. Personal real estate is excluded.

Required Information. The following documentation is required to be considered for an education grant: completed application; scholastic information including class rank, SAT scores, and GPA; a minimum of two (2) character reference letters; certification of parents visual impairment; letter of acceptance from college, community college, trade or technical school (request may be approved subject to receipt of acceptance letter); current year tax return and statement of assets.

Approval. If an applicant is accepted into a four-year college, community college, or trade/technical school, and the requirements have been met, the student will automatically be eligible and can be approved by the Education Grant Coordinator. Should an applicant not meet the requirements, the Blind and Sight Service Committee or the Executive Committee would have to approve the applicant.

Renewal. Once awarded, education grants may be renewed year by year, contingent upon the recipient making passing grades with an overall average GPA of 2.0 on their academic courses. Students are to carry a minimum of 12 semester or 15 quarter hours to be eligible for renewal. On an individual basis, the Sight Conservation and Services for the Blind Committee will give special circumstances consideration for approval. Grants may be renewed four times.

If a student drops out of school for less than one scholastic year due to qualifying circumstances, that student will be eligible for additional grant funds upon the receipt of a written request to NCLI stating the reasons for dropping out of school. Qualifying circumstances include: (1) family emergency; (2) legitimate long-term illness of the student; (3) accidental injury; and (4) financial need that requires full-time employment by the student to pay tuition/school expenses.

Students who have been out of classes for more than one (1) year will be required to fill out a new application for the education grant.

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NORTH CAROLINA LIONS

2016 State Convention



April 22-24, 2016
Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley
Raleigh, North Carolina

PROGRAM AD FORM

PROGRAM AD SIZES

<u>Select</u>	<u>Measurements</u>	<u>Cost</u>
_____	Event Sponsor (Includes Recognition & Banner at all events)	\$2,000.00
_____	Outside Back Cover (Color) (Full Bleed)	\$1,500.00
_____	Inside Front Cover (Color) 7 ½ x 10	\$1,000.00
_____	Inside Back Cover (Color) 7 ½ x 10	\$1,000.00
_____	Full Page, 7 ½ x 10	\$ 300.00
_____	Half Page, 7 ½ x 4 ¾	\$ 200.00
_____	Quarter Page, 3 ½ x 4 ¾	\$ 125.00
_____	Eighth Page, 3 ½ x 2 ½	\$ 75.00
_____	Business Card, 2 x 3 ½	\$ 50.00
_____	Personal Patron or in Memory, single line listing only	\$ 25.00

Ad copy must be received by March 28, 2016.

Program Ad _____ Camera ready ad enclosed, or will e-mail to: glennaday@nc.rr.com

Instructions:

PLEASE NOTE: NO ADS AVAILABLE FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

Today's Date _____ Business or Club _____

Contact Person _____ Phone _____

Contributor Information:

Address _____

E-mail _____ Amount Enclosed _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: NC Lions 2016 State Convention

Mail Check, Ad Layout, and Form to:

Lion Glenn Day
160 Meadow Glen Drive
Wake Forest, NC 27587
Phone: (919) 539-3706
E-mail: glennaday@nc.rr.com

North Carolina Lions
Appreciate Your Support!



93rd Annual NC Lions State Convention

Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley Hotel, Raleigh NC – April 22, 23, 24, 2016

Registration Deadline: Thursday, April 14, 2016



Friday, April 22, 2016

Registration: 3:00—6:00

Fun Night: 6:30 Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Salad, Dessert----- \$20.00

Saturday, April 23, 2016

Registration: 7:00 am –6:30 pm

Tail Twister Breakfast: 7:30 am—9:30 am All American Breakfast ----- \$20.00

PDG Luncheon (PDGs & Spouses Only) 12:00 Noon—1:15 pm

Turkey Wrap, Potato Salad, Fresh Fruit, Dessert----- \$26.00

Town Hall Meeting and Seminars: 1:30 pm—4:30 pm

District Governor’s Banquet: 6:30 pm—10:30 pm

Chicken Marsala, Vegetables, Salad, Rolls, Dessert----- \$32.00

Vegetarian Meals will be CHEF’s CHOICE.

Please note any dietary restrictions below.

Hotel Information: Room Rate—\$99.00 plus tax
Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley Hotel
4500 Marriott Drive, Raleigh, NC 27612
www.raleighmarriottcrabtreevalley.com then enter
desired dates of stay, then click “Special Rates” and
input LISLISA in “Group Code” box.

**Hotel Reservations after March 25, 2016 will be
provided on a space available basis.
Make your reservations directly with the Hotel:
1-800-MARRIOT and reference
Market Code ‘Lisa’**

Registration/Meal Payment: Make Check Payable to: NC LIONS 2016 State Convention

**Mail check with this form to: Lion Glenn Day
160 Meadow Glen Drive
Wake Forest, NC 27587**

E-Mail: glenneday@nc.rr.com

Do Not Mail After: April 11, 2016

Name Tag Registration/Meal Reservation: Please Print First and Last Name

<u>Name of Lion/Guest</u>	<u>Club Name/District</u>	<u>Circle Ones that Apply</u>	<u>Honors*</u>
_____	_____	Fun Night—Brkfst—Lunch--DG Banq	MJF—JSF—WLW—BOH—HOF
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_____	_____	Fun Night—Brkfst—Lunch—DG Banq	MJF—JSF—WLW—BOH—HOF

<u>Function</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fun Night	\$20.00	_____	\$ _____
Breakfast	\$20.00	_____	\$ _____
PDG Lunch	\$26.00	_____	\$ _____
DG Banquet	\$32.00	_____	\$ _____
	Total Cost		\$ _____

Dietary Restrictions:

*Honors: Melvin Jones Fellow (MJF), Jack Stickley Fellow (JSF)
William L. Woolard Partner-In-Service (WLW)
Sid L. Scruggs, III Beacon of Hope (BOH)
Hall of Fame (HOF)



A Mission to Care, to Enrich and to Serve Our North Carolina Citizens

BRIGHTER
north carolina lions
Visions
annual fund drive



Help North Carolina Lions, Inc. continue its program and services for the blind and visually impaired adults and children throughout our state.

Your donation helps support our many programs like our 56 acre Camp Dogwood for Blind & Visually Impaired Summer retreat facility on the banks of Lake Norman. Assist with our program of the See the 21st Century Mobile Screening Unit that travels the state every week of the year screening children and adults.

Plus, continue our other programs and services that make up our foundation. Visit www.nclionsinc.org for a complete listing of services or visit the NC Lions Brighter Visions Facebook page for complete information and videos.

You shop. **Amazon gives.**

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.

When shopping Amazon just add the link below

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/56-0890554>

Education Grant

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Written explanation of the reason(s) for stopping studies will be required with the application. In addition, the student must have met all previously outline criteria to renew the grant. If the student is approved for continuation of the grant, the student will receive the balance of renewals not previously used.

Boys & Girls Homes of NC Capital Campaign



In order to write the next chapter with our children, we are committed to bringing campus services to the next level. We have assessed the most critical needs of our organization and have found a number of areas that will require support outside of our operating budget. These needs touch virtually every area of the organization: These needs extend from program support for our community based and residential services to the capital needs that include: the expansion of our on-campus charter school; recreational therapy program; and renovations and repairs to on-campus housing.

In addition to addressing a direct need, many of these services and projects will also provide a reliable revenue stream for Boys & Girls Homes of NC, allowing us to achieve sustainable and long-term change.

To continue this top quality care for our children, we are committed to raising more than \$2 million, including: Behavioral Health Services Therapy Center, \$250,000; Anthony J. Brill Middle School at Flemington Academy (\$492,000 for building; \$120,000 for behavioral specialist; \$125,000 for furnishings); dining hall expansion, \$165,000; office space for community-based services, \$136,000; staff housing, \$660,000; cottage furniture, \$54,000; country store expansion, \$80,000; maintenance shop and grounds building, \$18,252; paving, \$300,000; and information technology, \$35,250.

For more information on how to become a partner in the Boys & Girls Homes Capital Campaign, please contact Ray Cockrell, Vice President for Development, of the Boys & Girls Homes of North Carolina, Inc., Office of Development, P. O. Box 127, 400 Flemington Drive, Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450; Phone, (910) 646-3083; Fax, (910) 646-2150; web site located at www.boysandgirlshomes.org.

Fuquay-Varina Christmas Tree Sale



By *Lion Bob Hammond*

For more than 25 years, the Fuquay-Varina Lions Club has been selling Christmas trees. This is one of our two major fundraisers for the year. Lion Dan "The Tree Man" Houck drives up to Sparta, NC, and brings back 350-400 freshly cut Fraser fir trees. Once the trees arrive, fellow Lions drill holes in the bottom of the trees and set them in watering pots to keep them as fresh as possible. Our trees typically vary in height from 5 feet to 12 feet. Customers who come to the lot are greeted by Lions who tell them that all the profits are used locally and statewide to assist the visually impaired. Once they select a tree, the Lions will put a fresh water cut on the bottom of the tree, put a netting around the tree, and help them load it in their vehicle for the ride home.

This year, our club used social media to help get out the word about our tree lot. We created a Facebook page and bought some Facebook ads. We made a music video and put it on our club website and Facebook page. We had 1,800 views of our video!! We also received a donation of \$500 and held a raffle for everyone who bought a tree at the lot. We gave away five \$100 gift certificates that could be used at any Fuquay-Varina Chamber of Commerce business. Patrons

filled out a raffle ticket that included their name, phone number, and e-mail address. We sent out an e-mail asking for a picture of their decorated tree, which we posted on our Facebook page. We will send out an e-mail next year to remind them when our tree lot opens and ask for their business again and a chance to enter our raffle next year.



Our members stepped up, as usual, to man the lot 12 hours a day. This year we sold 375 trees in 17 days and raised \$10,000! Our music video is available on YouTube, as well as on our Facebook page. Photos of the lot, winners of our raffle, and pictures of decorated trees are also on our Facebook page.



News From LCI

Message From International President, Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada. I would like to share my January message to club leaders with you. I am thanking club leaders for their hard work over the past calendar year, and introducing them to the Centennial Community Legacy Projects. I'm asking clubs to start planning their Legacy Projects, and to download the Centennial Club Planning Guide to help create a Centennial plan for success. It's an honor to continue to serve you as your International President. Let's make 2016 a year to remember!

For nearly a century, Lions have dedicated themselves to improving the communities where they live and work. Our legacy of service extends beyond borders, uniting Lions in service and impacting communities around the world. The Centennial is an opportunity to build on your legacy by leading through service, inviting new members for increased impact, and connecting with your community.

A great way to connect with your community is by planning a Centennial Community Legacy Project during our Centennial Celebration. A Legacy Project is a visible gift to your community that creates a lasting legacy of your service contributions. A Legacy Project will serve as a reminder of just how important your club is to the community during the Centennial and beyond.

I encourage your club to start planning a Legacy Project today. I look forward to continuing to work with you in the new year to build on our legacy of service and to make our Centennial Celebration a big success.

Social Media As A Lions Leadership Tool. This leadership development webinar will be offered on Friday, February 16, 2016, 8:00 pm—9:00 pm. Widen your Lions sphere of influence by strengthening your understanding of how to leverage social media. Strategies and best practices presented by experts from the Lions SMiLE team, "Social Media for Lions by Lions," plus helpful resources.

Effective Presentations. This leadership development webinar will be offered on two dates: Wednesday, March 23, 2016, 1:00 pm—2:00 pm and Friday, April

1, 2016, 8:00 pm—9:00 pm. Providing effective presentations is a fundamental skill of today's leaders. Join us as we explore common features of impactful presentations and explore ways to enhance your presentation content, image usage, and audience engagement.

You Can Shape the Future of Lions' Service. We need your help to determine our next century of service. Your survey will help us understand what is important to you so we can create a global call to action for Lions and Leos everywhere. This important survey will only take five minutes so please take it to make sure your voice is heard. Thank you for helping us shape the future of Lions' global service! Lions Clubs International is seeking the opinions of members and information is being gathered through a third party consultant, Grant Thornton, LLP. Members' addresses will not be shared with this third party.



Peace Poster Contest Kits. Peace Poster Contest Kits are now available. The theme for the 2016-2017 Peace Poster Contest is "A Celebration of Peace." Sponsor a Peace Poster Contest in your community and encourage local boys and girls (ages 11 to 13) to celebrate peace through art. Resources for organizing and promoting your club's contest are included in the Peace Poster Contest Kit, which may be purchased from the Club Supplies Sales Department. The cost of the kit is \$11.95 plus shipping, handling, and applicable taxes. Lions clubs must purchase a kit for each contest sponsored.

New Leo Club Program Training Orientation. Do you sponsor a Leo club or work closely with Leos? The Leo Club Advisor Training and Orientation is designated to provide Lions with a clearer understanding of the Leo Club Program and the role of the advisor. The training includes

six PowerPoint modules that cover important tools and resources to help Leo Club advisors serve effectively and confidentially. All six modules are available for download from the LCI website.



New District Election Procedures Effective July 1, 2016. Understanding the need to improve the district election process, the International Board of Directors chose to implement mandatory election rules and procedures across the organization effective July 1, 2016. Each district is responsible for reviewing and amending its constitution and by-laws in accordance with these changes. Please review the annotated Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws available on the Legal Division resource page. Election-related seminars will be held at area forums, and e-learning opportunities will be available via the online District Resource Center.



Seaboard Lions Club Chicken Pastry Plate Sale. (Garry Elliott photos)



<https://www.facebook.com/nclionsbrightvisions>





2016 North Carolina Lions State Convention Golf Tournament



Friday, April 22, 2016
Check-In by 8:30 am | Tee Time: 9:00 am

Registration Deadline: April 18, 2016

Raleigh Golf Association • 1527 Tryon Road • Raleigh, NC • Phone: (919) 772-9987

PRIZES - PRIZES - PRIZES

First & Second Place Teams Winners
Most Accurate Drive on Hole #4

Closest to Hole on Par 3's—Holes 3, 7, 12, & 15
Longest Drive (must be in fairway), Hole #13

There will be 2 Flights—Flights to be determined after all scores are in.

RULES: MODIFIED FOUR-PERSON SCRAMBLE

- Each person plays a ball from the tee box.
- The team then chooses the best ball position for their second shot.
- Each person shall then play his/her own ball into the hole and record the score.
- The team score will be the total of the best two scores in the foursome.
- No player should score over a double bogey on any hole.
- Players 65 and under will play from the white tees; ages 66-74 may use the gold tees; and players 75 and over may use the red tees

\$50 PER PLAYER

\$200 PER TEAM

Includes Golf, Cart, Box Lunch, and Drinks

NAME OF TEAM: _____

PLAYER #1 _____ PLAYER #3 _____

PLAYER #2 _____ PLAYER #4 _____

Contact Name _____ Phone # _____

Make checks payable to: **NC LIONS 2016 STATE CONVENTION**

Mail check with this form to:

Lion Clarence Powell, P. O. Box 297, Henrico, NC 27842
Home Phone # (252) 537-8746 | Cell # (252) 532-0275
E-mail: powellck@earthlink.net

News From LCIF

By Joe Preston, Chairperson
Lions Clubs International Foundation

In 1928, Gandhi laid the cornerstone of a school for blind, deaf, and disabled students in Ahmedabad. That original building is still in use today. A year and a half ago, I laid the cornerstone for a new building at that school. During my latest trip to India, I was lucky enough to stand beside International President Yamada as he officially opened the new building.

As clubs, districts, and multiple districts come together during this LCIF Week, remember that LCIF is the cornerstone of service. Service looks different all around the world. In your area, it might be vision screenings or vaccinations. Whatever service looks like in your community, know that LCIF is there to support you while you bring hope and comfort to those around you.

I also want to remind you that your donations to LCIF help make it possible for Lions to meet the growing needs of people around the world. Thank you for your generous support of LCIF.

LCIF has laid the cornerstone, and you Lions are building upon it every day!

Celebrating LCIF. LCIF Week is an annual event that give clubs and districts an opportunity to publicize our Foundation. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss how LCIF supports the efforts of Lions both locally and globally. LCIF has resources to help you promote the Foundation and promote your club so your community can see the life-changing work your club, your district and your Foundation are doing every day. There is even an LCIF song!

New Opportunities for Disaster Relief. The LCIF Disaster Relief grant program provides financial support to Lions and their partners engaged in natural disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. Disaster Preparedness grants offer \$5,000 to \$10,000 to districts interested in partnering with local authorities and other community organizations to plan and prepare for future disaster relief efforts. Community Recovery grants provide up to \$20,000 for short-term clean-up and repair efforts in situations where other organizations have already addressed immediate needs.

Edenton Lions Learn About Mental Illness

By Lion John Mitchener

On January 25, 2016, Betsy H. Johnstone gave a presentation on mental illness. She noted that mental illness is a reality in our community. It affects people of all ages and segments of our society. It is not the result of personal weakness, poor parenting, or lack of character. Help the patient, do not blame them. Recognize that treatment and meaningful recovery is possible.



A child may be unfocused or chronically inattentive in school or at home. Others are annoyed. In time, these behaviors may become more pronounced as new symptoms appear, suggesting the child is not well and may have a problem. People fear stigma such as prejudice and stereotyping if they reveal a need for help or reach out for help. Sometimes patients sense they have a problem. Other times the patient is disruptive without being aware of their malady. Some try to avoid that person with the problem as if mental disorders are contagious! They are not.

Helping people understand how stigma influences our perceptions of mental illness is a start toward creating caring families and communities. Obstacles to be countered include benign indifference, lack of public support for caregivers, and failure to advocate for more health professionals and hospital beds dedicated to mental health.

The local chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) can help in these situations. The organization improves awareness and access to care. More than 60 million Americans have a mental illness in any given year. Mental illness affects one in four adults and one in five children. There are more than 200 classified forms of mental illness. Some of the most common mental illnesses are: antisocial personality disorder (pattern of disregard for or violation of the rights of others), multiple personality disorder (appearance of at least two distinct identities), dyslexia (reading disorder), schizophrenia (unable to recognize what is real), autism spectrum disorders (childhood

neurodevelopmental disorder), attention deficit hyperactivity disorder or ADHD (primarily in children but can last through adulthood), selective mutism (speaking only in certain situations or only to specific people), self-harm/self-injury (intentionally harming your own body), and obsessive compulsive disorder (uncontrollable repetitive behaviors or actions).

Johnstone told a story of a 13-year-old diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). The drug Ritalin was initially prescribed. However, when puberty kicked in during the next 12 months, a manic phase began, including self-mutilation (irregular piercing of the ears, raw hands, etc.). A perceptive physician was eventually found and the family was taught how to care for their child, who is now a functional member the society.

Johnstone noted that NAMI has an advice column in the Chowan Herald from time to time. She closed by stating that during the past year there were three suicides in Chowan County—one by hanging and two involving guns. These tragedies can be avoided by taking advantage of available resources: 24-Hour Mobile Crisis Hotline (866-437-1821); NAMI NC Helpline, (800) 451-9682; NAMI Albemarle Region, PO Box 93, Edenton, NC 27932, or by sending them an e-mail at albemarleregionnami@gmail.com.



Dr. Will Hoffman (at podium), newly appointed Superintendent of Tyrell County Schools, presented an overview of the county school system to members of the Columbia Lions Club. Dr. Hoffman, who is from the western parts of NC, assumed leadership of the local schools early last fall. He reviewed several statistics concerning the school system and outlined his goals for the schools. Columbia Lions Club President Jack Donoghue studied the statistics during the presentation. (Gwen White photo)



Message From LCI President, Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada

山田 實純

Lions Go Full Bore In Helping Refugees. Lions clubs work like this: they see a need in their community and they fill that need. Lions Clubs International works much the same way: we become aware of a pressing large-scale problem or crisis and then address it. Other Lions leaders and I are horrified at the appalling refugee crisis in Europe, the largest since the end of World War II. The refugees have abandoned their homes, risked their lives, and fled Syria and Iraq, typically with little more than the clothes on their backs. Mothers and fathers cannot feed their children, shelter them from the elements, or adequately protect them from disease.

At headquarters, we immediately saw the opportunity for a cross-border collaboration and quickly assembled a LCI/LCIF Refugee Steering Committee to funnel aid to refugees without delay. LCIF already has approved a \$200,000 grant to assist refugees, and our foundation has received from Lions more than another \$312,000 for refugees. That amount will surely grow. The committee will provide guidance to Lions on developing impactful projects and seek out partnerships with other groups to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of our aid. Chaired

by the very capable International Director Helmut Marhauer of Germany and Lion Claudia Balduzzi of Italy, the committee also includes Lions from Greece, Turkey, and other European nations involved in the crisis.

Lions in Europe have been on the scene heroically helping refugees in Turkey and Greece, even to the point of great personal risk (see January 2016 issue of LION Magazine, page 8). However much we are moved and want to help, few of us can take time from work or family to be like these Lions and personally deliver aid. But all of us can support the work of Lions in the crisis zones or financially contribute to fundraisers and projects conceived by clubs and districts. Please be generous. Working together, Lions worldwide can help countless families obtain food, safety, and the precious opportunity to restart their troubled lives.



Check out the January 2016 issue!



Refugees from Syria and Iraq in Turkey near the border with Greece are getting aid from Lions.



DG Mary Boehm
1565 Glen Eagles Court
Nashville, NC 27856



District 31-S Web Site - <http://nclions31s.org/wp/>



<https://www.facebook.com/pages/North-Carolina-Lions-District-31-S/353173961524146?fref=ts>

