THE

ALABAMA LION

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Greetings to all Lions of MD 34,

I hope you are doing well and staying safe from the Coronavirus. Just when things were starting to look better, we get a variant (Delta) of the virus. We need to be cautious about our gatherings. Please keep your safety as a number one priority when planning everything.

We are already two months into our new year as Lions. All activities are proceeding and we are busy doing what Lions do best, WE SERVE. Clubs have been eagerly engaged with service & fundraising activities since the green light came on to meet in groups again.

The Multi District has received grants for three Disaster Preparedness trailers (one for each District) for use whenever we have a disaster in your district. The trailers will have Lions Club logo and information on the sides to make the public aware of our presence. They will be equipped with bottled water, blankets and other items that are needed when disaster strikes. Each district will have their own to use and it will be housed within the district for quick response. Also, they are good for advertising your events that are happening around the district. They are a tool to be used to let everyone know that Lions are here, not only for disasters but for fundraising and service events. The trailers have arrived and are being outfitted with the Lions Club wrap and should be available soon. Thank you PID Lowell Bonds for taking this project and bringing it to life.

The Council of Governors established the Alabama Lions Emergency Response Team chaired by PCC Bubba Bingham.



RECONNECT, RE-ENERGIZE and RESTOCK

Council Chair Pete Crews

He will work with representatives from each District to make sure the trailers are ready and mobile. Additionally, a Lions Club canopy has been given to each district to use for events in your district. You may use the canopy for advertising at your events. It also provides some welcome shade. Contact your District Governor to reserve it for your upcoming event.

July and August have been busy with District Cabinet meetings, the Council of Governors meeting and Alabama Lions Leadership Forum. The Leadership Forum was the first MD 34 (statewide) in person event since 2019. Members of MD 34 were ready to meet again as 75 Lions met at Faulkner University on July 31, 2021. Lions chose four one-hour classes from sixteen options offered. Presenters spoke on technology, MyLci, social media, Membership Events, LCIF, and many other subjects. Liz Huskey and Richard Castillo traveled from Oak Brook, IL to assist with training. PID Jerome Thompson, 1VDG Bub Gideons and the Leadership Forum Committee put together a first-class training event. Now is the time to let us know what you want to see at the next Leadership Forum.

The Leadership Forum culminated in a ceremony in which several Lions received awards: (see pages 8/9)

This year you will hear me speak about three things: RECONNECT, RE-ENERGIZE & RESTOCK. We are able to meet face-to-face now so let's spend quality time RECONNECTING with each other to RE-ENERGIZE us so we may go forward and RESTOCK our membership. If you were at the Leadership Forum, you got Re-Energized. The meeting was electric and was a good mental health boost.

Regarding membership growth, I like to ask "What Color is Your Fishing Lure?", referring to the equipment you use when fishing. If you are fishing for bream in a nearby lake you might use a Breambuster pole with a cork and cricket as bait. That will be fine for pulling in bream but if you want to catch trout, then you must change gear/bait to something that can attract the bigger fish in the same lake. If you fish for cobia in the gulf, then everything changes again.

If you want to attract members that are in your age bracket (generation) you are well equipped for that. To attract members that are in a younger or older generation, you must change how you connect with them. Varying age groups (Baby Boomers vs Millennials or GenX) may not have many things in common and you may need to bring in the Pros (younger family members or friends) to help you learn to attract them. You need to use recruiting methods that appeal to the different generations. A little time spent on Google or with your children will clue you in to their thinking. Your club can reap big benefits once you start bringing in different age groups as they will help you grow. Service projects are a great way to bridge the gap between generations. Everyone likes to help and kindness is attractive to all generations.

As your Council Chair, I am here to serve and help you. UNLEASH THE KINDNESS.

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VISIONS

Elliott



ALS Executive Director's Report

"Service is the rent we pay for the space we occupy on this earth."

— IP Douglas X. Alexander

The moment I heard that statement by International President Douglas X. Alexander, I knew that the Lions have a great service minded president to lead our association this year. I love his tag line, "Service from the heart." That certainly is what Alabama Lions Sight (ALS) is all about. Fellow Lions, you are dedicated in the field of vison care to give service from the heart. While the past 77 years has been in creditable in the amount of service provided to the indigent of Alabama, I believe the future to be even brighter.

Please mark your calendars for November 13, 2021 to join in the celebration of Alabama Lions Sight Gala. This will be a wonderful event! For those wanting to stay overnight, either Friday or Saturday, the 4H Center is a wonderful place to stay and has blocked us rooms for this event. During the day on Saturday, there will be training using the Plusoptix, Alabama Lions

Sight Board meeting, and then in the evening, the banquet and celebration. This will be a night to remember! Come prepared for fun and celebrating the Lions service in vision care! There will be a silent auction with items donated from Lions clubs and interested supporters. We are asking Lions Clubs to donate an item for auction worth around \$100.00.

The board has planned an evening of entertainment and fun. The goal of our celebration is to raise funds for a second Mobile Eye Truck. Tickets will be \$50.00. There will be emails sent for agenda and reservations as time draws nearer.

The Lions Mobile Eye Clinic is doing such valuable work. I want to share a recent story with you that occurred in the clinic.

Mary Beth appeared at the MEC for a vision exam in a small town in Eastern Alabama. She was a 46-yr-old AA woman, who was blind in her right eye and complained of blurred vision. She had chronic headaches for several months, heart failure and edema in her feet. Her right eye was noticeably protruding from

the orbit and the optic nerve had degenerated (optic atrophy). With farsighted correction, she achieved 20/20 vision in the left eve while vision in the right eve was very poor. The cause of the protrusion of the eye was unknown, we referred her to the UAB Lions Clinic for imaging studies. Multiple imaging studies revealed a meningioma in the frontal and sphenoid bones (i.e., bones in the front and middle of the head), compression of the right optic nerve, as well as tumors inside the patient's orbit and brain. The masses affect highly critical portions of the patient's skull and at this time, treatment may be highly problematic. The MEC was able to play a role in prolonging this patient's life.

It is so fulfilling to know that Lions are making a difference in the lives of so many in vision care. I enjoy spreading the word about how much you care and how much you support vision care.

You will see some photos of the opportunities I have in traveling and reporting about ALS. It is service from the heart!



Gulf Shores Lions Club



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Mechele



In and Around the District

Good day Lions of MD 34!

performing great service! We were nities. very excited to meet together for our first in-person cabinet meeting in quite a while. It was great to see old friends and meet new ones. We honored our Past District Governors who were in attendance. I am grateful for all of their assistance as I have prepared for my DG year! We also honored our two William C. Chandler Award winners, Fort Payne Lions and Cullman Lions. Hokes Bluff Tawanah Lions were recognized for their membership growth as well.

Our District is privileged and honored to have two newly recognized Good Will Ambassadors in its midst. PDG Jerry Bonner and PDG Ron Seybold have been recognized by International President Choi for their helpful attitude, the years of service they have provided, and the fact that they always are ready when we call. 34 A is not surprised by their recognition, since we have long been able to depend on these two to embody Lionism in our District, they are always willing to SERVE.

We continue to work on a new club charter in North Alabama with the North Alabama Pride Club. Next on the charter horizon is the Florence Community Lions Club. We are eager to partner with

34 A Lions are waking up and new Lions to serve their commu-

We will soon begin a CPR program for clubs that want to strengthen their membership, add new members, and increase the service they provide to their community. Information has been sent out to our members on how they can help!



Judy Ramos, was recognized for her civic work with the Melvin Jones Fellow Award thru Lions Club International. Catherine Haggard, 2nd Vice District Governor, made the presentation.



District Governor Mechele Mosley, left, recognized PDG Dr. Glenda Moxley for her service to 34A as District Governor.



PCC Linda Starr, left, is recognized for her service to 34A as District Governor by DG Mosley.



1st Vice District Governor Mike McElhaney with the new members of the Gadsden Lions Club. John Thompson, Melissa Shortnacy, Nancy Helms Ryan their sponsor Lion David Judge and Lion President Steven Kellett.



DG Mosley presents award to PCC Mark Stevens for his service to 34A as District Governor.



DG Brenda Elliott

DISTRICT 34-B



In and Around the District

"Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean! You are part of something greater than yourself. Yet without you, we'd be less, just as the ocean is less without each drop. It takes our combined skills, talents, and intelligence to be all we can be. Together we make a powerful difference. LET'S MAKE WAVES!"

Since taking the oath as governor of District B at the first virtual International Convention, I've tried to hit the road running! Having come out of the pandemic, most clubs are finally able to meet in person and I'm ready to meet old and new friends!

In June, Barry and I visited the Alabaster Club. They have a very strong Leo Club at Thompson High School. I'm very proud to brag on them for receiving 1st place for a marching band in the International Convention Parade! They received a prize of \$1500! On June 17th, I had the honor and privilege of inducting 10 more members for the Margaret Club. PDG Pedro Pino is on fire for his club and the new Trussville Area Club that chartered at the end of the month!

Way to go, Lion Pedro! He will be glad to share how he has increased membership by "Just Ask"! For the first time in 10 years, our district ended the Lion year on the positive membership side. We have since slipped some, but it's something to celebrate.

My first "official" meeting was with the Opelika Club on July 12. What a great club! Their signature projects or fund raisers are the Miracle Field of East Alabama, Pancake Jamboree in February or March, and the High School Concession stand each year. On July 17th, I attended District C's Cabinet meeting. It's always great to learn new ideas to bring back to District B! On the 21st, we visited the Greensboro Club. I was encouraged by their participation and upcoming events like their golf tournament. They also added one Melvin Jones Fellow that I was invited back to attend his recognition event. District B held its first Cabinet Meeting on the 24th at the Moody City Hall! A big thank you to the Moody Club and their hard work to host the meeting. It was well attended both in person and virtually with 14 clubs represented and 52 members in attendance! After the

meeting, Barry and I traveled back to Sumiton to help with a vision screening in a Back-to-School Bash with Randy Smith, District B's screener. On the 29th, we attended Northport Club meeting. There were 20 members present. It's encouraging to see new ideas being discussed for their area!

The month ended on a strong note at my alma mater at Faulkner University in Montgomery July 30-31 at the Leadership Forum! On Friday, we attended a Lion Talk headed by PDG Pedro Pino, PCC Dora Hartsock, and PCC Ron Seybold. Many ideas were shared on how to strengthen Lions! On Saturday, great classes were conducted by Lion leaders. A big shout out to all the recipients of awards in the afternoon! Alabama is blessed to have so many leaders and mentors. A special shout out to District B's recipients- PDG Pedro Pino-Tom Jones Lion of the Year; Outstanding Club-

Margaret; Chandler Award (1-19 members)-Margaret Club; Presidential Awards- PCC George Head and PCC Bubba Bingham; and Leadership Award-Zone Chair Tracy Thompson! Congratulations!

August brought a visit to the Tallassee Club on the 3rd. They are well represented by their local principals and superintendent. They have a strong Leo Club and are anxious to begin service! On August 7, we traveled to Huntsville for District A's Cabinet Meeting. Again, it's always great to



Tallassee Lions Club

share ideas to bring back to my district!

I'm enjoying retirement, being able to travel with PDG Barry as he speaks to clubs around the state on behalf of Alabama Lions Sight! I always tell clubs that you "get two for the price of one"!

For the remainder of August and September, I'm looking forward to visiting more clubs, USA/Canada Forum in Des Moines, Iowa, and of course our next District B's Cabinet Meeting on October 2 at the Lion's Den in Adamsville at my home club of Adamsville-Forestdale!



Opelika Lions Club



Northport Lions Club



Greensboro Lions Club



DG Charlie Wigglesworth



In and Around the District

Greetings from District 34C!

My name is Charlie Wigglesworth and I am the new District Governor on 34C this year! I am excited to represent the Lions Clubs of this great district and I am really excited to finally meet all of you in person for the upcoming year!

A little about myself. I am a member of the Daleville Lions Club, home club of Past International President J. Frank Moore. I grew up on a large cattle and hog farm in Virginia. I enlisted in the United States Army on March 12, 1971 and served on active duty for 40 years, retiring on March 31, 2011. I rose from Private to First Sergeant and was then was appointed to Warrant Officer in 1984 and rose to Chief Warrant Officer 5, serving as the first Chief Warrant Officer of the Adjutant General Corps. I served in the 82d Airborne Division, the Army Rangers, in Special Forces, and in the office of the Army Chief of Staff in the Pentagon. I am a Combat Veteran of Operation Urgent Fury in Grenada. After retiring from active duty, I served as the Executive Director for the US Army Warrant Officer Association in Washington DC. I then served 5 years as a Department of Defense civilian retiring from that position in 2016. I am a past President of the Fort Rucker Chapter of Military Officers Association of America. I serve as the Chaplain for our local chapter of Veterans of Foreign Wars and ride with the local chapter of the Christian Motorcycle Association. I am also involved with the Gideons International ministry. I am married to LTC (Ret) Claudia T. Wigglesworth, a combat veteran of Desert Storm and a former Council Member and Mayor of Daleville, AL. Claudia is also PDG for District 34C and currently serving as the Lions Club International Foundation Chair for District 34C.



DG Charlie with Lion Bob of the Ashford Lions Club

I have two sons and 6 grand-children. My oldest son is serving as a Colonel in the US Air Force Reserve as JAG Officer and the Assistant Chief Prosecutor for Immigrant, Customs and Enforcement in San Antonio, TX. My youngest son is a former Army SSG and currently a UH60M helicopter mechanic at Fort Rucker, AL. Both are veterans of the Iraq/Afghanistan conflict.

As a Lion, I have served as the 2nd Vice President, Club President, and Club membership chair in the Daleville Lions Club. I have served as a Zone Chair and a Guiding Lion for the Troy Lions Club. I have served as the 1st and 2nd Vice District Governor, District 34C, and the District Convention chairperson. I am a graduate of the Lions Advanced Leadership Institute and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Thank each of you for being a Lion! Your service helps those who truly need it, and you make a difference in the world!

My theme this year is CONNECT! My fellow Lions it's time to get Connected! First, my goals for the year for District 34C:

- Do at least one service project for the Global Service area (Vision, Hunger, Diabetes, Environment, Childhood Cancer)
 - 100% clubs reporting on LCI
 - Add 130 members (Each one Bring One/Just Ask)
 - \bullet Lose less than 70 members
 - Train 100% of Zone Chairs and 75% of club officers
 - Train 6 Guiding Lions
 - Charter one new club
 - 100% clubs donate to LCIF

Now you may ask what does **CONNECT** means to you as a Lion in District 34C.

C – Communicate

Tell the Lions story! Tell everyone that Lions of Alabama are 100 years old this year. Use Facebook, email, and newspapers to communicate with the members of the community and to communicate with other Lions.

0 - Opportunities to showcase

Wear your colors[©] whether it is the Lions vest or a shirt with the LIONS emblem, let the community know who we are. Also, support LCIF because it is our foundation. We receive so much more that we give!

N - New Members

New members are the lifeline to service. Just ask someone to come with you to a meeting or a service project. Get engaged in new membership growth events. As International President Douglas X. Alexander say, "Each One, Bring One"

N - New Service Projects

What does your community need? Each Lion can have an impact on the your community. Have your club do a needs assessment to ensure that the projects you are currently doing serve the community or is there a need that you are missing

E - Exciting Meetings

Have guest speakers, do some tail-twisting, engage in business networking, and above all HAVE FUN!

C - Compassionate Community Service

As Lions, these are our core service projects. Each club should strive to do at least one project in each of the areas: Diabetes/Environment/Vision/Hunger/Childhood Cancer)

T - Training

Use LCI resources for officer training and leader development. Attend District and Multi District events. You will always pick up new ideas and it is a great way to network!

District 34C Lions are doing great service in the district! As you do your Lions service projects, be sure to take photos and share with the District Leadership so we can share in the excitement of serving with you. I really want to share all the great ideas on our website and Facebook page. Your service will excite others to share also.

The district currently has a new Lions tent and a new disaster trailer in on the way that will be housed with the Andalusia Lions Club. You can contact me to use the tent for membership drives. The trailer is also a visual for recruiting new members. Contact me on the use of the trailer at your event. Satsuma Lions have already requested both for a December membership event! I would like to thank PID Lowell Bonds for his hard work in acquiring these trailers for each district. An item needed in the district as it is only a matter of time and the next disaster will strike. I would also like to thank PID Jerome Thompson for the work he did in acquiring the tents for our use. It is all about teamwork and working together.

Our next District Cabinet meeting is on October 2, 2021 at the Train Depot in Evergreen. I would like to see every club in attendance. The meeting will have a short business session but the bulk of the meeting will be about MEMBERSHIP. The meeting will only be about half a day. Come learn and share how to grow each of you clubs!

Until next time, CONNECT and let's serve our communities.



Grove Hill Lions Club



Lion of the Year

Mark Pierson, right, is congratulated by Lions President Jackie Graham on being chosen as the 2021 Lion of the Year. He is currently serving as the Club Secretary, a position he has occupied now for several years. He has been heavily involved in just about every endeavor that takes place with the Scottsboro Lions, and is always there to help out as well as organize whatever is taking place. No one contributes more and participates more in Club activities than Lion Mark."

The Man From LEARN

No, it's not a new offering on Netflix. However, you can go on your computer and binge on your Lions experience and knowledge. Courses and training tools can now be found using just one click.

Our special guest at the recent Lions Conference in Montgomery was Lion Richard Castillo, a Regional Specialist at LCI. He shared valuable information during several sessions he chaired July 31st. Now it's live and accessible with your Lions account password.

LEARN is not an acronym like DG, PCC, and LCIF.

LEARN is the one place on LionsClubs.org to find all things refine your Lions knowledge, choose from free online courses, and explore tools to lead in your club and community.

Talented Lions PCC Linda the Global Lea Starr, Past District Secretary Tracy Thompson, and VDG Dr. Alexandra Conniff are busy members of Year progresses.



PDG Mark Aldridge, MD34 GLT

the Global Leadership Team in their three respective Districts. There is more to come as the Lion Year progresses.



Pictured from left to right: Allen Neel, Frankie Neel, Marlin Beasley, Linda Davis, Jimmy Davis, Randy Millwood, President, Connie Millwood, Ken Wilson and Lesley Hudson.

The Blountsville Lions Club was Chartered in 1951

In June 2021, the members observed a Celebration Meeting to reminisce their 70 years of service to their community, Blountsville, and Alabama Sight.

Several of their members shared what the club had done as accomplishments and activities the club was involved with over the past 70 years.

A special accomplishment

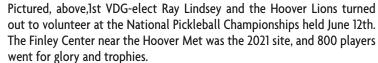
happened several years ago when the club honored Mr. John Lewis, a longtime member of the club, with the highest honor of the Lions Club, the Melvin Jones Award. At that time, a donation of \$ 5,000 to the Lions Foundation was made.

In 1998, the club started the process of raising \$ 2,000 a year for 5 years to donate \$ 10,000 to the Blount County Education to help

a teacher receive a grant of \$ 750 a year for a s long as the Foundation exist. The members are proud of the accomplishment.

Other activities that were shared were the many Bar-B-Q's, raffles, Lions Candy Day, selling peanuts and Pancake breakfasts. These fundraisers allow the club to use the funds in their community for their many projects.







Pictured, at left, Rainbow City Lions President Joyce Frolock presented a check to Gadsden Lion Nancy Helms Ryan, Interim Directior of Etowah County Eye Clinic. The club has been providing exams and glasses for more than 60 years. Pictured, from left, are PDG Janice Betts, Club Secretary, Lions Kay and Kenneth Payne, Gadsden Lion David Judge, Interim Associate Director and Betty Willoughby, Service Coordinator.

Lions Serve Kids with Diabetes at Camp Seale Harris

Camp Seale Harris wrapped up Summer 2021 programs in Mobile the last week of July. Although this year may have looked a little different due to coronavirus guidelines, we were thankful to be back in person at one of Alabama Lions favorite state projects! This summer, Camp Seale Harris had over 600 plus campers, primarily from the State of Alabama.

Camp Seale Harris is thankful for Alabama Lions and their service to kids with diabetes. Over 50 clubs sponsored campers to attend Camp Seale Harris! Clubs served meals at camp, led activities at camp, served as Board Directors, volunteered at the Diabetes Walk for Camp Seale Harris, and let children with diabetes and families know Lions care. One camper said that because of Camp Seale Harris she can "meet people that fully understand how I feel living with Type 1 Diabetes".

Schedule of upcoming Camp Seale Harris and Diabetes Walk events will be mailed in November to every club President and Treasurer, and can be found at CampSealeHarris.org. Please call Rhonda to schedule a club visit (in person, or by Zoom if you meet virtually!) to receive your support, present a Lions Diabetes Champion Certificate recognizing your club's sponsorship, and to talk about diabetes at 205-402-0415, or email Rhonda@sdiabetes.org.



Gulf Shores Lions Club provided dinner at Coastal Camp! Thank you, Gulf Shores Lion's Club!



Saraland Lions Club provided food at Coastal Camp! Thank you, Saraland Lion's Club!



Auburn Lion's Club volunteered at Lake Martin by handing out name tags, directing traffic, and so much more. Thank you, Auburn Lions!



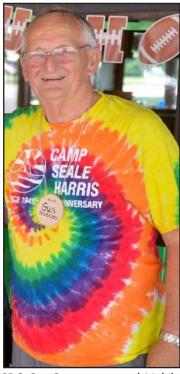
Lion Ruth Rhodes and Lion Yvonne Burroughs, 8 Mile Lion's Club, volunteered all week at Coastal Camp.



Atmore Lion's Club generously donated dinner to Coastal Camp and presented a check to sponsor camp! Thank you, Atmore Lion's Club!



Vestavia Lion Phil Min served by assisting with the hard work of loading and unloading camp supplies at the beginning and end Lion's Club at Coastal Camp. Thank of the camp season!



PDG Gus Gary represented Mobile you for the delicious meal!

The Award Goes to ...



PCC Ron Seybold- District A

J. Frank Moore III presented the awards.

Ambassador of Good Will



PCC Jerry Bonner-District A



DG Mechele Mosley - District A

Leadership Award



Lion Tracy Thompson- District B



PCC Floyd "Bubba" Bingham - District B

Presidential Award



PCC George Head- District B

The Award Goes to ...



TOM JONES LION OF THE YEAR 2020-2021 PDG Pedro Pino, Sr.



2020-2021 Margaret Lion Club - PDG Pedro Pino, Sr., IPP Lynn Johnston and Club Treasurer Lion Randall Johnston



Pete Crews presented the awards.

WILLIAMS C. CHANDLER AWARD 2020-2021

Margaret Lion Club: 0-19 member category - PDG Pedro Pino, Sr., IPP Lynn Johnston and ClubTreasurer Lion Randall Johnston



WILLIAMS C. CHANDLER AWARD 2020-2021

Fort Payne Lion Club: 20-49 member category - 1VDG Mike McElhaney and Lion Doug Walker



WILLIAMS C. CHANDLER AWARD 2020-2021
Cullman Lion Club: 50+ member category - Lion Don Smith,
President Dean Twilley of Cullman Lioness Branch Club