

THE

# ALABAMA LION

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A newsletter for members of Alabama Lions Clubs

March 2022

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Spring is here and life is reborn all around us. The trees are sprouting new growth, the grass is turning green again and birds are building their nests. All are signs of warmer weather and new beginnings. Spring just brings out the “want to” in most of us. We “want to” go places, we “want to” do things, we “want to” be more active.

Lions Clubs are experiencing the same. We are getting out and about now, working on more service projects, recruiting new members & going to more meetings. We need the rebirth every year. We need the change of pace from the winter blues.

Your District Governors have planned their District Conventions and are ready to meet with you to give your Lions Club a charge. The State Convention, as well, is being planned right now and we hope to continue with the charge as Lions from across the state gather in Atmore, AL.

Our State Convention will be held April 28 - May 1, 2022 at “The Club” in Atmore, AL. Our keynote speaker will be PIP Bob Corlew from Tennessee. In my conversations with him, I have learned that he is quite interesting. He is a Retired Judge who tried retirement but didn't like it so he bought a radio station in South Carolina. He now travels to South Carolina every week to manage the station. He is the morning DJ (6:00 AM - 10:00 AM) Monday - Friday. You can hear him at Q107.1. Talk about a rebirth. PIP Bob Corlew knows what that is all about. That makes him a perfect fit for our State Convention.

The theme for our State Convention will be “HELP WITH THE HEALING”. With the pandemic affecting everyone, we all need healing now and the Lions Clubs are set up to help our communities heal. Your District Governors' team will be wearing “Scrubs” or medical attire on Saturday of the convention. All Lions are front line workers in this healing process. So, lets “HELP WITH THE HEALING”.



Pictured, from left, are DG Charlie Wigglesworth, DG Brenda Elliott, DG Mechele Mosley and CC Pete Crews.

Our third Council Of Governors meeting was on February 12, 2022. It was good to see the Governors and International Officers from around the state. It's just nice to be meeting again. It helped with my healing and gave me new enthusiasm just to see other Lions.

That is the goal for our District and State Conventions.

I look forward to seeing you at the Conventions and lets “HELP WITH THE HEALING”.

CC PETE



Lions Club - Council of Governors Meeting

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# VISIONS

Barry Elliott



## ALS Executive Director's Report The Best Is Yet to Be!

It is exciting to think of what lies ahead for us as Lions. I can tell that vision screenings are really increasing. As I write this article two of our three screeners are busy conducting vision screenings in Walker County Schools. We will have screened all six, eight and tenth grades in the Walker County Schools by March 3. I want us to look to the future for screenings and it is wide open. All clubs can provide a valuable service by contacting your private schools in your area, day cares as well as any community gatherings and set up vision screenings. Since we have been limited for the past two years due to the pandemic even more than ever eyes need to be screened. The before potential areas along with upper grades of schools in your area not being screened. Therefore, you should find it very easy to arrange a vision screening service project for your club. We have three dedicated Lion screeners and many clubs that conduct their own. While we have not been successful in obtaining funding from the state to provide screening in the upper grades of schools we certainly have plenty of opportunity in the afore mention areas. Any club that is conducting their own screenings I ask you to please share that data with Alabama Lions Sight.

The Mobile Eye Clinic continues to be a valuable service that the Lions provide. The MEC continues to accomplish its primary mission to increase access to quality, affordable eye and vision care to the citizens of Alabama. The MEC

travels to 23 counties circulating among 33 sites and saw 1719 patients in 2021. Among the patients that 74% are new patients and 59% do not have insurance. The majority of our patients are 40 years and older with women outnumbering the men 2 to 1. We do see all ages and no one is turned away without the ability to pay. Since February of 2016 the MEC has seen over 8,400 patients and made more than 7,500 glasses. The MEC has been operating from a 2007 GMC truck and begun to require much repair. The Board of Directors in the February 11, 2022 meeting unanimously voted to replace the present chassis with a new model. We will transfer the current body to a new chassis. We knew this day would come however, we didn't know it would be now.

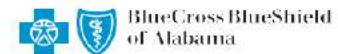
The drive to provide a second MEC continues to be underway. The need is tremendous in rural Alabama. We can only serve the middle 23 counties in Alabama at the present and look forward to the day we can expand our operations. We have in hand \$30,000.00 for that end with potential grants coming in hopefully soon. The current MEC sees patients who haven't had an eye exam in decades and Dr. Daum is saving vision every day for patients and in many cases discovering health situations that require emergency care that very well could be saving their lives. The need is great, the opportunity is limitless, and our determination is unrelenting because the heart of service that comes from Lions is from the heart.



Moody Lions Club



A Sincere Thank You To Our Corporate Sponsors, Estates, Foundations and Lions



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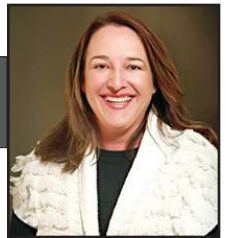
Walker Area Community Foundation





# DISTRICT 34-A

DG  
Mechele  
Mosley



## In and Around the District

Hello Lions of Alabama!

Happy Anniversary, as we celebrate 100 years of Lionism in Alabama! 34 A would like to thank Lion Catherine Haggard for her service as our 2nd Vice District Governor, and we wish her well as she serves in other ways.

We would like to welcome Lion Susan Harrell, President of Tuscumbia Lions as our new 2nd Vice District Governor for the remainder of the 2021-2022 Lion year. You may have seen Susan at her day job as a Docent at Ivy



**New 2nd Vice District Governor Susan Harrell from the Tuscumbia Lions**

Green, Birthplace of Helen Keller, or in her service as the Secretary of Alabama Lions Sight. Please help us make her welcome.

We are currently working to charter two clubs. A specialty club in the Huntsville area, and a College and town centered club in the Shoals area. We are excited that soon we will be partnering with the Juvenile Criminal Justice System to test bringing Lions Quest to them. We hope it will help with social and emotional concerns in this community.

We were grateful to have New Club Development Specialist Daniel Elkins come in from LCI and work with 1st VDG Mike to train him in good club development ideas and tricks of the trade. We are hopeful that Lion Mike will soon be able to share this knowledge with others in the district.

We have taken possession of our LCIF funded Disaster trailer, and it is currently housed at Cullman Fairgrounds. If you would like to make arrangements for the trailer to visit your area, don't hesitate to reach out to the DG team.

We look forward to our upcoming Convention March 11-12 in Tuscumbia. Feel free to join us for a great reunion with fellow Lions!



Lion of Fort Payne welcomed Council Chair Pete Crews, and he was glad to induct some new members! From left, are CC Pete Crews, Lion Ethan Kilgo, President Alan Kilgo, Lion Lucas Bryant, Lion Paige Whitaker and 1st VDG Mike McElhaneey.



Above, Guntersville Lions make wreaths to donate to the Barfield Nursing Home, spreading Christmas cheer!



At left, District Governor Mechele Mosley with the LCIF Disaster Relief trailer.





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!"

It's hard to believe this Lion year was half way through on January 1. I've really enjoyed visiting with the clubs in District B! I still have a few clubs yet to visit. I love rekindling old friendships and making new ones! My goal is to visit all 37 clubs in our district that are meeting, either in person or virtually! We do have three clubs that are still not comfortable meeting in person and one club that meets but is not comfortable inviting guests to join them. Don't forget to report monthly membership and service activities! If you are having difficulties reporting service activities, please let me know!

Upon our ocean, let's focus on the first "SHIP" sailing in our ocean! MEMBERSHIP!

Many of our clubs are "making waves" in "MEMBERSHIP" growth and service in their communities! I'd like to commend the following clubs for membership growth percentages. Talladega Clubs leads our district in almost 78% growth with 17 new members. Followed by the Hoover Club with almost 38% growth with 3 new members. In 3rd place is the small but mighty Oxford Club with 25% growth adding 2 new

members! Congratulations! Let's all continue to strive to grow our clubs with more helping hands in our communities! Let's look for new members that share our common goals and interests!

Speaking of common goals and interests, I'd like to share a part of the winning essay from District B, that was submitted to Lions Clubs International along with the winning peace poster (District C). It was submitted by Za'Riah Hurst, a 6th grader, from the Alabama School for the Blind, submitted by the Talladega Club. The topic was "We Are All Connected".

"One way to connect with people is through certain interests we might share with other people. Being around people who have common goals and interests as you is even a good way to make friends. Most people get along great with other people who have the same interests as them, like best friends may have a few things in common and a few things they do not have in common. Having different interests with other people can sometimes encourage you to try something new. Common interests and even different interest are good ways to stay connected with people, and

meet new friends!"

As our essay winner wrote, come attend our upcoming convention to be around people with common goals, Lions encouraging you to try something new, staying connected to Lions, and meeting new friends! Our District Convention is coming up March 19 in Jemison at the City Hall Municipal Complex with our guest speaker, International

Director Ernesto "TJ" Tijernia and his wife, Lion Juanita, from San Antonio, TX. If you haven't received your registration form from the state office, please let me know! If you have read this far, I will send five dollars to the first three lions who email me at [bfmelliott@yahoo.com](mailto:bfmelliott@yahoo.com).

**Yours in Lionism,  
DG Brenda**



Oakman Lion Club



Fayette Lion Club



Moody Lion Club



West Homewood Lion Club





# DISTRICT 34-C

DG  
Charlie  
Wigglesworth



## In and Around the District

As I stated in the last newsletter, the club visits with the Disaster Relief Trailer are continuing and going great!! The trailer has been a hit across the district. Not only has it been informative as an asset in the case of a disaster, it is a great recruiting tool. Clubs are getting in line to get the trailer to their locations for membership events. Be sure to get with the District Secretary, Lion Mandie Thompson, to schedule your club for an event with the trailer or Lions awning. If your club picks up the trailer, you will need a truck or large SUV with a 2" receiver and a 7 pin electrical hookup. A trailer hitch comes with the trailer so you do not have to worry about the 2 5/8 inch ball. Also, if you are interested in serving as a member of the ALERT team, please contact 2VDG Philip Box, the team leader. I encourage each club to appoint one Lion in their club to serve as the point of contact to the team leader in case of a disaster.

The trailer would not have been possible if not for a grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). If your club has not donated, please do so before June 30, 2022. If clubs donate a \$1000 dollars, you can honor a deserving Lion in your club with the Melvin Jones Fellow award. I also encourage you to donate individually.

The Zone Chairs and Club Presidents continue to work hard to move their clubs forward, recruiting new members and serving their communities. I encourage all Lions in District 34C to bring one person to your Lions Club meetings. If each Lion in the District does this, we can double the size of our District and be able to serve more citizens in our communities. I can't express how proud I am of the entire leadership team in District 34C!

The plans for the centennial celebrations are underway for the Montgomery Lions Club and the Mobile Lions Club. If you are a Lions pin collector, PCC Ron Seybold and his team have worked with both clubs to come up with a pin design for each club. I believe both clubs have a great design. Be sure to order yours when they are ready for purchase.

In the last issue, I talked about Bay Minette Lions Club was in the process of growing its membership with the help of the Atmore area Lions. I had the privilege of attending a big kick off meeting with 1VDG Bub Gideons, Zone Chair Lion Patty Helton-Davis and the Lions of Bay Minette Lions Club.

The York Lions Club have doubled their membership and I had the privilege of presenting a Melvin Jones Fellow award to Zone Chair and President Lion Rindy Vaughan.

As a reminder, the District Convention is scheduled for Friday evening, March 25 and from 9 AM to about 4 PM on Saturday, March 26. It will be at the Dalraida Church of Christ in Montgomery. Invitations have been sent to all Lions in District 34C via Constant Contact.

I am looking forward to visiting with you. Call me if you have any questions.

"We Serve"  
DG Charlie



DG Charlie with President Lion Rindy Vaughan



DG Charlie Wigglesworth with PDG David Hatcher



York Lion Club newest members



Bay Minette Lions Club with Disaster Relief trailer



Enterprise Lions Club with Disaster Relief trailer



Citronelle Lions Club with Disaster Relief trailer



Gulf Shores Lions Club with Disaster Relief trailer





IPCC Bubba Bingham

## 'We Serve'

### Dear District Lion Leaders,

As we press toward our goals of SERVICE, I hope each of you will take every opportunity to raise funds for LCIF's Campaign 100. We in Alabama receive many times over what we contribute in the way of disaster grants.

We are just now entering our Tornado season. But we've already seen the loss of life and destruction tornadoes caused in west Alabama. I'm challenging each member to personally contribute \$100, or any amount you can afford, to LCIF before June 30, 2022 so that the Lions of Alabama can say "We Serve" with the confidence of knowing that we collectively helped reach the campaign goal. Here is a message from Lions Clubs International President Douglas Alexander.

We began this year knowing that we would play a lead role in the success of Campaign 100. You have been achieving great things this year, but there is no greater priority for us than achieving our campaign goal. With less than five months left, I am counting on you to make history.

Thank you for your Service from the Heart!

IPCC Bubba Bingham  
MD-34 Global Service Chair  
(334) 303-7110

## Support of LCIF can help overcome challenges

### Hello Lions of Alabama

Happy New Year to you!!! Over the past 2 years, we have seen Lions live out the mission of "WE SERVE" in phenomenal ways. Lions' commitment to serving local communities has been a true light during what has been some very difficult times for us all. The overall need for support to our communities has never been greater and your club's support of LCIF can help overcome the challenges.

MD 34 has received 92 grants' \$1,928,864.52 dollars over the years. Your club's support of LCIF provides support to our local communities throughout Alabama. Your past donations are much appreciated, and we celebrate your club for carrying out our mission of

# 2022 State Convention set for April 28 - May 2

### Hello Fellow Lions,

The Officers of MD 34 Alabama Lions and the Atmore Lions Club would like to invite you to the 2022 State Convention that will be held April 28 - May 1, 2022 in Atmore. All meetings will be held at The Club 1927 AL-21 Atmore, Alabama 36502. The Atmore Lions Club will also be hosting a Strides Walk for diabetes. The Strides program incorporates enjoyable physical activity through community walks against diabetes.

We have copious amounts of activities to entertain you during your stay. The allure of Atmore is the Wind Creek Casino and Hotel, which has eight movie theatres, a twelve lane bowling alley, a phenomenal spa, an array of outstanding restaurants, and other amenities. You can also discover downtown Atmore where you will find fashionable boutiques, unique restaurants, etc.

When it comes to food Atmore is hard to beat. The FIRE restaurant

at Wind Creek was voted as having the "Best Steak in Alabama." David's Catfish House was voted as having the "Best Catfish in Alabama." Buster's Restaurant was selected as one of the "100 Places in Alabama to Eat before You Die." Also in Atmore is a new restaurant, Gather, it offers fine dining in a casual atmosphere. There's no shortage of food variety to fulfill your appetite.

The Fairfield Inn and Suites offer various amenities such as fitness facilities, free Wi-Fi, indoor pool and it is easily accessible by the interstate. Both the Fairfield Inn and its neighboring hotel, the Holiday Inn Express, have excellent continental breakfast options.

If you have questions or special requests, please contact Bub Gideons at bub@phdrealty.com or Taylor Lee at taylor@phdrealty.com.

We look forward to seeing you in Atmore on April 28th.

**Yours in Service,  
Taylor Helton Lee  
Atmore Lions President**



### Hoover Lions Club receives donation of glasses

Alpha Kappa Alpha presented a donation of glasses to The Hoover Lions Club. Ke'Andrea Jones, Deborah Hawkins and Brenda Adams of the Pink and Cultured Pearls Interest Group met with PDG Mark Aldridge as part of a joint project of LCI and AKA members.

WE SERVE. Your gift will also help LCIF achieve the Campaign 100 goal of \$300 million dollars in this final 6 months of the campaign. THANK YOU!!!

Clubs' donation can benefit the club, club members, and the district by:

#### Club Benefits:

- Qualify your club to reach model club status
- Qualify your district for the District and Club community Grants
- Recognized as a 100% club participation if all members contribute

#### District benefits:

- Helping the district achieve 100% club participation
- Qualify your district for the District and Club community Grants

#### Individual Benefits

- Earn MJF credits
- Qualify for LCIF recognition depending on donation amount

LCIF has made giving easy and simple. Below you will find the ways to give.

#### Text-to-Donate:

Text LCIF to 243725

Donate online: <https://lionsclubs.org/en/donate>

Mail pledge to: Lions Clubs International Foundation Department 4547 Carol Stream, IL 60122-4547 USA

I would like to thank you in advance for your support of LCIF during the final year of Campaign 100.

**PCC Glen Elmore  
MD 34 LCIF Coordinator**



### 50 Years of Service - Lions

"Retired Circuit Judge Lion Wallace "Wally" Haralson's 50 years of service to Lions International is celebrated by Lions District 34A Governor Mechele Mosely as she congratulates and recognizes Haralson's many years of dedication and leadership in serving his community through the Scottsboro Lions Club. Haralson served as Club President in 1981-82, and again as President for three months in 2006. He is the 3rd longest serving member currently in the club behind only Bob Word and Jake Word."



### North Hall Lions Club helped screen over 3,500

North Hall Lions Club helped screen over 3,500 1st and 3rd graders in Hal County School in four months. We are already proving exams and glasses for the 18 percent referrals including a student we discovered was blind in one eye. We plan to purchase another Screener and screen k-5th next school year. Great program to work with school systems.

**GREAT JOB NORTH HALL LIONS!**