



Date: 05.01.2024 District ID: 124571

NC Lions 100th State Convention (April 26-28, 2024)

This year's state convention was one of the best and was very well attended (357). From District 31L, there were 32 attendees. It was a packed weekend full of fun and fellowship. Below is a brief summary of all the happenings along with pictures:

Friday

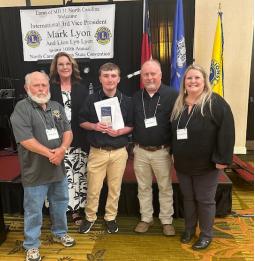
During the day, the COGs, PIDs and 3rd VP Mark Lyon received a tour of Industries of the Blind in Greensboro, NC. What an impressive operation. After that we went bowling with visually impaired and blind bowlers. Those of us that were sighted were blind folded. It was much more difficult than we thought. I had the pleasure of meeting Zack and he was on our team. We had a great time!

Friday evening was the Fun Night and that it was. There was a meal followed by Dueling Pianos. Most loved the entertainment and that was shown by the amount of songs requested, dancing a Conga line around the room and so many on the dance floor. Dur-



ing the evening, the Peace Poster and the Celebrate Liberty winners were introduced along with their families. District 31L is very proud that both state winners were from our district. We had the pleasure of hearing the Peace Poster winner, Jovie Andler, speak about what inspired her for the drawing. Dallas Blackwell, the essay winner, read his essay that was well received. Congratulations!!









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Saturday

The day started with the tail twister breakfast. It was a plated breakfast and there were a lot of items to be auctioned. For the items auctioned and donations, \$5,030 was collected of which half is going to Brighter Visions and half going to LCIF. A big thank you to CCE George Suggs. He did a great job, as always!



We then moved on to the Town Hall Meeting with 3rd VP Mark Lyon and his Partner in Service, Lion Lynn, who presented an inspiring speech and held a question-and-answer session.





Following the meeting, was a Miracles in Sight presentation followed by round table sessions that were very informative.

Volume 3 Issue 11 Editor: Deborah Hicks, PDG Submit stories to: liondebbie@etowahlions.com Subject: Newsletter and month Deadline to submit for next issue is the 20th of each month



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The Saturday night banquet included Hall of Fame awards

and Presidential and Leadership awards. I am proud to announce that PDG Curtis Erickson, Mills River Lions Club, was inducted into the Hall of Fame. PDG Curtis's team also won the Golf Tournament. Presidential and Leadership awards were presented by PIP Sid Scruggs to Lion Tammy Thomas, PDG Michael Schwartz and Lion Tony Angel. Lion Tony could not attend so I will be presenting the award to him in person soon. Congratulations to all the winners of the well-deserved awards.









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tonally, PID Dr. Lacy Presnell presented to each of the District Governors, a Sid L. Scruggs Beacon of Hope. We were all very honored.





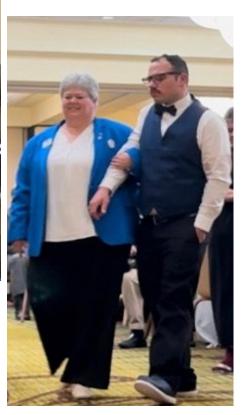


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Also, during the banquet, 3rd VP Mark installed three new members for District 31L. What a wonderful surprise and honor for me (DG Susan) to sponsor my husband, Juan, who is now a Lion. Lion Tammy Thomas sponsored Scott MacLean and 1st DGE Eileen Artavia sponsored Brandon Guerrero. Congratulations to all three and welcome to the Lions family.











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Sunday

The day began with a Service of Remembrance for those Lions who have passed over the last year. For District 31L:

Ray V. Caldwell, Balls Creek Stefan B. Stackhouse, Black Mountain Miriam Wood, Black Mountain McCune Robert M. Carey, Burnsville Tom Battle, Candler Arthur Taylor, Candler Clay Morgan, Canton Club Dale B. Setzer, Claremont Carl Moore, Clay County Kenneth W. Woodard, Clay County Dan G. McCracken, Clyde Rogers McClain, Clyde Joe C. Saunders, East Gastonia William S. Newsom, III ("Doc"), Etowah
W. Fred Higgins, Hendersonville
Bill R. Culbertson, Hot Springs
Tracy S. Lanham, Lake Lure
Joe W. Cook, Long View
Joyce C. Smith, Mars Hill
Robert Walsh, Mars Hill
Benny Crow, Rutherford College
Everette A. Houston, Saint Stephens
Cheryl Hixon, Sand Hill
Jerry Thomas, Sherrills Ford
Robert W. Glenn, Valley Springs
Daisy Litman, West Hickory VIP

Please continue to keep them and their families in your prayers. Instead of being said because they have left us, remember all the wonderful service and those whose lives they have made a difference.

Following the service, the district cabinet meetings were held and a general session.

DG Susan, DGE Dawson, and 1st VDGE Eileen hope to see many more of you next year at the State Convention. It was a wonderful experience full of fun and fellowship. Thank you for your continued service.





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Office of Second Vice District Governor was not filled at the convention. There is no 2VDG <u>Elect</u>. The position will officially become vacant 1 July 2024. So if you are interested make it known so they can get the ball rolling out of the starting gate.

This is how it is filled.

Qualifications for Filling a Vacancy for the Office of 1st or 2nd Vice Dist. Governor.

Section 6. **FIRST AND SECOND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNORS AND OTHER VACANCIES**. Any vacancy in office except that of district governor and first and second vice district governors shall be filled by appointment from the district governor for the unexpired term. In event of a vacancy arising in the office of first or second vice district governor, the <u>district governor shall convene a meeting</u> of the immediate past district governor, first vice district governor and second vice district governor and all past international officers who are members in good standing of a chartered Lions club in good standing in the district governor for the remainder of the term. In filling said vacancy, it shall be the duty of the district governor, or if not available, the most recent past district governor who is available, to send out invitations fifteen days (15) in advance of the meeting to attend said meeting and it shall also be their responsibility to preside as chairperson of the meeting. The chairperson shall convey the results to the international office within seven (7) days together with evidence of invitations sent and meeting attendance. Each Lion who is entitled to receive an invitation to attend and is present at said meeting shall be entitled to cast one vote for the Lion of their choice

In order for a Lion to be eligible and qualified to be selected to fill a vacancy in the office of first or second vice district governor, they must:

- 1. Be an Active Member in good standing of a chartered Lions club in good standing in their single or subdistrict.
- 2. Secure the endorsement of their club or a majority of the clubs in their single district.
- 3. Have served or will have served at the time they take office as first or second vice district governor:

As officer of a Lions club for a full term or major portion thereof; and

As a member of the district cabinet for a full term or major portion thereof.

With none of the above being accomplished concurrently.

Has not completed a full term or major portion thereof as district governor.





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News from your District Secretary

The New Portal has arrived.

By now Lions should have received an invitation email to join the new Lions Portal.

If you have an existing account, all your data has already been transferred and the email address you'll use to login has not changed. You will only need to setup a new Lion Portal password.

Follow the steps below to begin accessing the new Lion Portal:

1. Go to the Lion Account login page and sign in using your existing credentials, this will transfer you to the new Lion Portal

2. Here, you can either enter your current password or create a new one. From there, you'll be able access and begin using the new Lion Portal. Reminder all Lions and Leos who plan to use the new Lion Portal must have a unique email address (not shared with any other member) in their member record. This is because your email address will serve as your username to access the portal. While we recommend every member having a unique email address, even if they do not plan to use the Lion Portal, it is not required to have one on file to be a member.

3. Yes! You can use your desktop, laptop, tablet, or smartphone to access the Lion Portal. Functionality is the same across all devices. The portal will simply adjust to fit the size of the device. Training videos are also available at https://www.youtube.com/@lionportaltraining

It is very important for club officers to take a moment to access these videos. Remember we are all learning this new portal. It is going to take time to familiarize ourselves with the new process. Your District Leaders are working diligently to familiarize themselves with the new program and will do their best to answer any questions you may have.

Should you have any questions please reach out to your District Team.

Respectfully submitted:

Lion Tammy Thomas





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Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)

LCIF Updates...

As we move into the last quarter of our Lions year I want to say Thank you. Thank you to those that have donated this year to LCIF. We are still behind on where we need to be. Please consider giving something if you can. Currently 15 of 47 clubs have donated \$4908.42. Our District is falling short \$16,901 of our goal set by LCI.

There are many Lions who ask why should I donate to LCIF. So I asked Google.... Why should I donate to LCIF?

Googles answer...

With 100% of donations going towards grants and programs, LCIF empowers the compassionate service of Lions and those who need our help. Although those bene-fitting from your support may never know of your generosity, Lions Clubs International Foundation and our beneficiaries are grateful for your support.

Please consider donating today.

Respectfully submitted:

Lion Tammy Thomas

District LCIF Coordinator





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News from your District Governor Elect, Dawson Hart



I recently had a lovely visit to the Waynesville Club. They are small but have a strong heart to serve their community and to preserve their club's legacy. During dinner, ideas were exchanged, and the club shared their efforts to partner with neighboring lions clubs. Most of the members are working military veterans and all were eager to hear updates of the district. I especially enjoyed hearing Lion Fadrian sharing her childhood memories of participating in the Weaverville Lions Club's horse show and attending Camp Dogwood as a family vacation with her blind parents and then go on to work as a summer counselor.

Thank you to all clubs who have reported their officers for the 2024-2025 Lions' year in the portal!

If you have not, please do this and make sure this along with club members' contact information and club meeting times/locations are up to date.

Stay up to date with information reported to our mother organization of Lions International so we can stay connected and so that we as lions can stay connected with one another and so LCI has correct contact information to send you administrative information.

Staying up to date on membership status assists LCI in keeping track years of service, if they are on the books, but not around, LCI won't know AND on a state level we will have a misrepresentation of how many lions are working to maintain the programs of Brighter Visions. This is very vital in planning of service as NC Lions and its implications for long-range planning committees of our state organizations and efforts.



The New Lions Portal has been released!

If you are an active user of the portal, you can now log into the new portal. If you want to be a new user, please wait patiently for an invitation email.

As with anything, it will take time to learn navigation of a new portal, but in the long-run, this new portal will help us. Please support fellow lions as we learn together.

LCI has a Youtube Channel with tutorial videos to help learn the new portal:

Look for the Youtube Channel "Lion Portal" for videos





The 2024-2025 Lions year will bang off with cabinet installation, cabinet meeting, and Brighter Visions Kickoff will be held Saturday, July 27th in Long View [Hickory].

details will be shared soon



I have so enjoyed my journey so far as 2nd VDG that I wanted to take a moment to encourage anyone thinking of running. Do It! The best part so far is visiting the clubs and meeting people in our District that I otherwise would not get to meet.

I know it takes a commitment of time and resources. But it will be well worth the effort. You probably have heard of all The money it takes to be a District Governor. What most people do not understand is that there is reimbursement from LCI for your Governor year. It does not cover everything, but, it does cover a lot. I really do encourage anyone interested to contact DG Susan Fernandez or PCC Martha Butler.

Thank You! 1st VDGE Eileen Artavia

LINCOLNTON LIONS CLUB SPONSOR VISION SCREENING

On Saturday, April 20^{th,} the Lincolnton Lions Club held a vision screening from 11AM to 2PM at the "West Lincoln Springfest" in West Lincoln Park, Vale. This community resource event was sponsored by Lincoln County Parks and Recreation, Phoenix Counseling Center, Carolina Federal Credit Union, and Partners Health Management. The Good Samaritan Clinic of Morganton was kind enough to allow the club to use their van for the screening. Lincolnton club members performed free vision screenings through our Lions KidSight USA /Unifour program for children aged 6 months to 18 years. They screened a total of 12 children with no referrals.

Lions Pat and Charles Stevens staffed the registration table and passed out information about how our club members serve the Lincolnton community. Lions Roz Catania, Lora Brooks and Barbara Alles were also present to assist with the screening event.





Where does your Club stand with Brighter Visions?

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Time is Running out to get our Brighter Visions Money in to NCLF. Every Dollar Counts in the lives of the VIPs that we serve. Thank you to the clubs that have given!

Eileen Artavia

1st VDGE and BV Co-Chair

Camp Dogwood Raffle Update



Funds turned in as of April 16th = \$68,672.79

Goal for 2023-2024 = \$112,000

\$43,327.21 to go!

Camp Dogwood is in the best shape ever. Thanks to our volunteers who worked during volunteer week!

Now it's your turn!

Last year we had maintenance expenses that exceeded the amount raised through our raffle income of \$103,000.

We still have many clubs who have not turned in any tickets.

Please turn in those tickets as soon as possible.

Drawing is June 13th Bring your ticket stubs to the State Convention or the NCLF meeting in May or Send your ticket stubs and money to

NC Lions – PO Box 39, Sherrills Ford, NC 28673





The Greater Asheville Lions, along with Weaverville Lions and Buncombe County Association for the Blind, presented Jeanette Borzych, a teacher in Cherokee County, with a PIAF (Pictures In A Flash) machine. Mrs. Borzych has eleven VIP students in six different schools. Making the presentation is Weaverville Lion Ramona Fox. Volume 3 Issue 11 Editor: Deborah Hicks, PDG Submit stories to: liondebbie@etowahlions.com Subject: Newsletter and month Deadline to submit for next issue is the 20th of each month



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Vww.district311.org



ispatch

District Service Project Bring your broken crayons to the upcoming Cabinet meeting.

SUSAN

FERNANDEZ

District Governor

Broken crayons will be recycled and sent to Childrens hospitals for use.



Great Service Project!!!! Keep the reading glasses you collect for recycling. Decorate a box and put the glasses along with club brochures in it. Work with Local Libraries for placement. Someone always needs readers at the library plus its a great way to share information about your club. If you have questions please reach out to Tammy@nclf.org

2024 Presidential LCIF Supporter

ARING THE VISIO

DG SUSAN FERNANDEL 2023-2024



Your generosity not only earns you well-deserved recognition but also helps us make a lasting difference in the lives of those in need.

Contact Tammy @ 828-234-7659 for more info.

There are multiple levels of recognition to honor donors Bronze Pin - US\$50 to US\$99.99 Silver Pin - US\$100 to US\$199.99 Gold Pin - US\$200 and above

















A small but might group of Lions from the Long View Lions Club, Mills River Lions Club, Etowah Lions Club, Claremont Lions Club, and Black Moutain McCune Lions Club along with the new assistant administrator Brittney and her family, worked together to spruce up the grounds of our McCune Community for the annual clean-up day. After several hours of hard work, the lions enjoyed a delicious BBQ lunch topped off with beautiful floral arrangements made by the residents from flowers on site.

















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ARING THE VISIO

DG SUSAN FERNANDET 2023-2024

Vww.district31l.org

SUSAN

FERNANDEZ

District Governor

Marjorie McCune Community Assisted and Independent Living

pen hus

Dispatch

MAY 15TH

Discover assistive care living at the Marjorie McCune Center's open house!



May 15th from 12 PM to 4 PM. Tailored sessions are available. Don't miss out!



(828) 669-8452 101 Lions Way Black Mt. NC 28711





CAMP DOGWOOD IS IN NEED OF SUMMER CAMP VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEKS:

May 26-30: <u>3 volunteers needed</u> June 2-6: <u>10 volunteers needed</u> June 23-27: <u>8 volunteers needed</u> June 30-July 4: <u>8 volunteers needed</u> July 7-11: <u>7 volunteers needed</u> July 28-August 1: <u>10 volunteers needed</u>

UNDER VOU ANSUNDE TELE GALES



Sponsors needed.

Bingo Bucks are given in lieu of Bingo prizes. VIP's are then able to exchange those bucks for souvenirs or snacks from the Camp Store. If you or your Club would like to donate simply send your check to NCLF and in the memo write BINGO BUCKS. There is no set amount requested. We will distribute all donations equally amongst the sessions.

For more info. or if you have questions contact Tammy at 828-478-2135 ext. 229 or email tammy@nclf.org BARBERNANDEZ District Governor Volume 3 Issue 11 Editor: Deborah Hicks, PDG Submit stories to: liondebbie@etowahlions.com Subject: Newsletter and month Deadline to submit for next issue is the 20th of each month



Date: 05.01.2024 District ID: 124571

NCLF Recycling Programs

Hearing Aids

Hearing Batteries No Cases or accessories

Cell phones

No cases No accessories Remove cover

<u>Batteries</u> Type Button battery- flat watch style all sizes

Glasses

No contacts No Cases No loose lenses We accept all styles of glasses and sunglasses.

Reading glasses make a great service project. Decorate a box with a sign have a pair of reads on us. Include club brochures. Place box in local libraries, senior centers, etc. for easy distribution to those in need.

If you send glasses to NCLF please send to: 7062 Camp Dogwood Drive Sherrills Ford NC 28673

Questions call: Tammy at 828-478-2135 ext. 229







Date: 05.01.2024 District ID: 124571



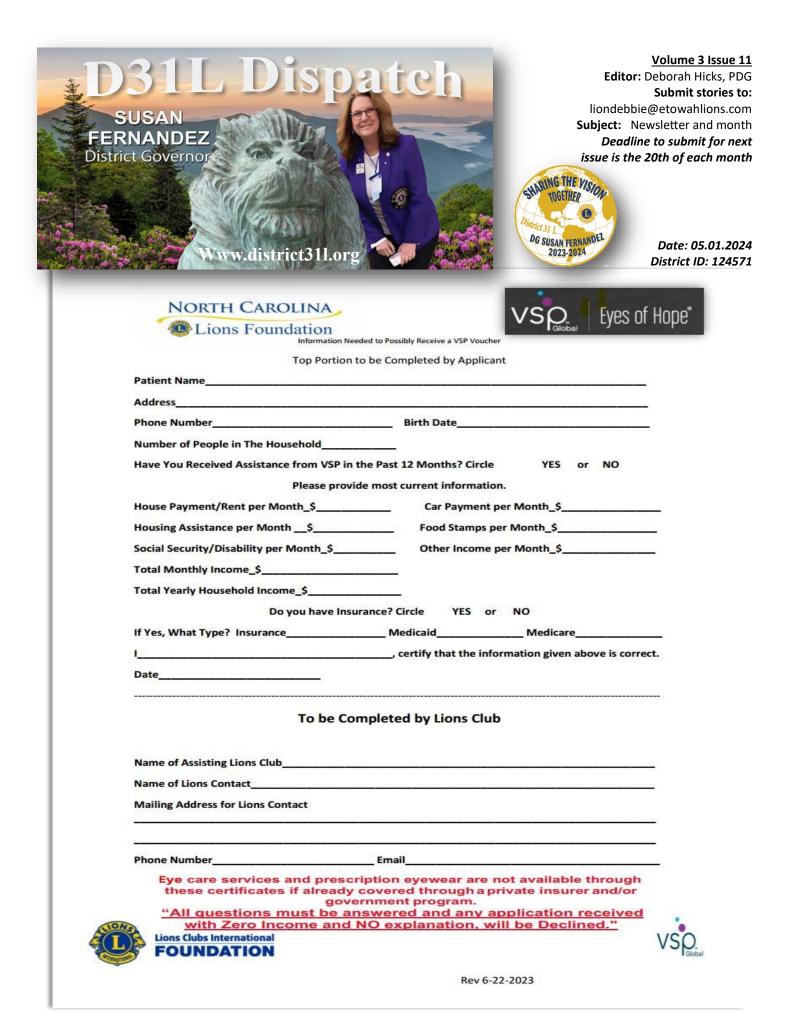
\$100

NEW TELEVISIONS ARE NEEDED FOR THE RESIDENTS AT THE MCCUNE CENTER

PLEASE SEND DONATIONS TO THE WNC LIONS AT:

101 LIONS WAY, BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC 28711 WITH THE MEMO LINE "TV FUND"





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31L Dispatch

SUSAN

FERNANDEZ

District Governor



Date: 05.01.2024 District ID: 124571

New Member Roll Call

May 2023

Matthew Duncan-Edneyville Community LC June 2023 James Boff—Granite Falls LC Jeannie O. Oliver-Hendersonville LC Brittany Guerrero-Sherrills Ford LC Mary A Anderson—Andrews LC Carol A Broome—Andrews LC **July 2023** Brad Groom—Canton LC Gene Monson—Canton LC Sara Monson—Canton LC Kittie Diana Smart—Clyde LC Owen Brett Martin—Shelby LC David Jenkins-Sand Hill LC August 2023 Jaime Futch—Andrews LC Frances Stevens—Greater Asheville LC Mary Bonnett-Etowah LC Roy Bonnett-Etowah LC Judy Jay-Lake Lure LC Alan Bridges-Sherrills Ford LC Elizabeth Swann-Black Mountain LC September 2023 Dennis Wyss-Etowah LC Jeannie Edwards-Swannanoa Valley LC Samantha Payne—Claremont LC Sheila Shehan—Spuce Pine LC Dot Eckhard—Black Mountain McCune LC Linda Woody-Black Mountain McCune LC October 2023 Steven Matthew Arrowood—Rutherfordton LC Margaret A Bennett-West Hickory VIP LC Carolyn Sue Melson-West Hickory VIP LC William Puppy Scott—Canton LC Patricia Adams - Canton LC Gail E Hodge—Andrews LC November 2023 Barbara Ann Hancock—Andrews LC Paul Robinson—Greater Asheville LC Robin Robinson—Greater Asheville LC November 2023—con't

2023-2024 Sarah Bratton—Sherrills Ford LC Tracy Hefner—Sherrills Ford LC Summer Smith—Spruce Pine LC Julie Yankelevich-Valley Springs LC Brittney Helms-Blk Mnt McCune LC Venitta Shields-St. Stephens LC December 2023 Joanne Baker-Valley Springs LC January 2024 Clifford Panter—Andrews LC Jill Caldwell—Balls Creek LC Michael Carroll—Balls Creek LC Tina A. Gibson-Balls Creek LC Cynthia R. Steward-Balls Creek LC Phillip Perry Jr-Rutherfordton LC February 2024 Robert L Merrill—Andrews LC Joyce Miles-Black Mnt LC Mildred Beck-Blk Mnt McCune LC Tina Brock—Blk Mnt McCune LC Ben Wheeler-Blk Mnt McCune LC Barbara A Propst-W. Hickory VIP LC Charles S Propst-W. Hickory VIP LC March 2024 Maurice Maynard—Black Mnt McCune LC Terry Vess—Black Mnt McCune LC Deval M. Mason-Rutherford College LC Liz M. Birolin-Franklin LC Raymond L. Watts-Rutherfordton LC Janice S. Green -Weaverville LC April 2024 Juan Fernandez-Etowah Lions Club Scott MacLean -Sherrills Ford LC Brandon Guerrero-Sherrills Ford LC

We Serve

The road to success!

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ww.district May 202

SUSAN

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District Governor



Date: 05.01.2024 District ID: 124571

D31L Lions

From May 2023— April 2024

Dispatch

Bill Glenn–Valley Springs LC 05/02/2023 Jerry Thomas—Sherrills Ford LC 05/18/2023 Daisy Litman—West Hickory VIP LC 05/10/2023 Tracy S Lanham– Lake Lure LC 06/10/2023 Robert Carey—Burnsville LC 05/26/2023 Stefan B. Stackhouse—Black Mountain LC 05/03/2023 Everette A Houston—Saint Stephen LC 06/23/2023 Miriam Wood—Black Mnt McCune LC 07/20/2023 Dan McCracken—Clyde LC 07/30/2023 Billy Culbertson—Hot Springs LC 07/28/2023 Robert Walsh—Mars Hill LC 08/14/2023 W. Fred Higgins—Hendersonville LC 09/08/2023 Joyce C Smith—Mars Hill LC 09/11/2023 Tom Battle—Candler LC 02/24/2023 Kenneth Woodard—Clay County LC 10/12/2023 Joe Cook—Long View LC 10/20/2023 William Newsom—Etowah LC 10/30/2023 Dale Setzer—Claremont LC 11/16/2023 Arthur Taylor—Candler LC 10822/23 McLain Rogers—Clyde LC 02/24/24

Please send in your members for this current year that we have lost so we can keep this current. Thank you!

lorgotten!

but never

Gone

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Quick Reference Page

District Cohinet Officers 2022 24

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District Governor

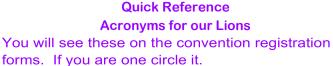
District Cabinet Officers 2023-24	Contact	
DG Susan Fernandez	786-449-6174 sl29470@bellsouth.net	9246
1stVDG Dawson Hart	828-302-6957 dawsonhart313@gmail.com	
2nd VDG Eileen Artavia	828-308-8137 eileen.artavia@outlook.com	APPY NEW YEAR
Secretary Tammy Thomas	828-234-7659 liontammy2020@gmail.com	6 33 65 7
Treasurer Kathryn Nichols	252-495-2808 perkynick7@gmail.com	

Contact

The most current district directory can be found at www.nclions311.org you will need a user ID and Password to access

Dispaten

If you cannot find or do not know something ask! You are not alone in this journey!





www.nclions31l.org This is the District Website. www.lionsclubs.org This is International's Website www.nclionsinc.org This is your State Website You can find the information you seek at these websites.

<u>The points contest and Service Reporting</u> <u>Keep up with it, saves a lot of heartache at the</u> <u>end of the year.</u>

The annual points contest is a way to let the Governor know what the clubs have accomplished throughout the year. This is an excel form that is found on the district website. It is easy to fill out and if you keep it up monthly not so daunting. If you are one of those who say, ":Aww I will wait until May 1st to do it" you may be in for a big surprise. "Why wait to do tomorrow what you can do today"? So a lot of clubs are doing things and secretaries need to get this and the reporting done online on MyLion so the Governor can do his job. Take a little time this month to catch up and you will not be so overwhelmed as the fastly approaching end of year arrives. Lions year that is. This is month 6. The Governor will need this form this year so he can calculate the for the awards.

DG	District Governor
DGE	District Governor Elect
PDG	Past District Governor
IPDG	Immediate Past District Governor
1VDG	First Vice District Governor
2VDGE	Second Vice District Governor Elect
1VDGE	First Vice District Governor Elect
2VDG	Second Vice District Governor
PP	Past President (Club or International)
IPP	Immediate Past President
PIP	Past International President
ID	International Director
PID	Past International Director
сс	Council Chair
РСС	Past Council Chair
MJF	Melvin Jones Fellow
JSF	Jack Stickley Fellow
WLW	Willard L. Woolard
вон	Beacon of Hope
HOF	Hall of Fame
AMB	Ambassador