



Steve McLaurin
NCLF President 2023-2024

A Mission to Care, Support and Help Our North Carolina Citizens

The North Carolina Lions Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization established in 1934. As the official charitable organization for the Lions of North Carolina and working closely with community based North Carolina Lions Clubs, we collectively enrich the lives of those blind and visually impaired, offer needed services for those less fortunate in each community and a hallmark of continuous support of research for health related issues concerning vision and overall wellness of all our citizens.

Letter from the President

We are in the joyous time of the holiday season, and it is fitting to reflect upon this time of celebration and to realize the wonder of giving. While others will offer to give to us, it is the wonder of our giving that makes the season. Seeing the instant gratitude in the faces of family and friends reflective of how much you care is the essence of the season. So it is with being a Lion as we give our time, talent, and treasure for the purpose of bringing joy to those in need of assistance. Throughout North Carolina, Lions are working to solve problems and to demonstrate your love of helping those in need. Take pride in your tireless efforts to offer service for others. There is pure joy in working together to offer service for those in need.



There is much going on at the North Carolina Lions Foundation. Recently the Long- Range Planning Committee met that's comprised of two Lions from each of the five North Carolina Districts. Past NCLF President Neal Alexander lead this group as chairman and much progress was made in the initial meeting. A second meeting is scheduled during January seeking to complete the plans to be presented at the February NCLF Board Meeting. Each of these attending Lions have given and will continue to offer their time and talent as past leaders in our state to project where we should strive to be in the next 5-7-10 years in providing programs and services for the citizens of North Carolina.

One theme that is counted on as we plan for greater service in 2024 is that each of the District's make their goal. We are confident your fundraising and FUN-Raising will make the individual club goals for Brighter Visions funding with the twelve major services we offer, and success fundraising for the Camp Dogwood Tickets that supports our on-going Camp Dogwood maintenance needs. Please be attentive of the Individual Club Goals for these two funds so we can indeed reach our goals. Meeting these goals is the linchpin for our North Carolina Lions Foundation.

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KidsSight continues to be our Star in providing service in screening the eyes of kids from 6 months through six years of age. We have screened 30,000 children since July 1st in North Carolina, and we strive to reach 75,000 by the end of June, 2024 in this continuing effort. Remember this service project as all of our service projects offer the finest method of recruiting new members as they see what Lions are all about. It would be wise to provide a one-page information flyer about Lions and what we do leading the reader on how they can get involved.

After recently attending and enjoying the District L's Mid-Winter Convention, I look forward to January for the Mid-Winter Conventions of District I, O, and N & S. As an active Lion, I experience great pride in learning what each of you are doing in service. Forgive me for repeating my pride to be joining you in service.
IT IS GREAT TO BE A LION!!

Your NCLF President 2023-2024,
Steve McLaurin



Brighter Visions	
Totals, 12/15/23	
31-L	\$32,464.00
31-I	\$84,602.00
31-O	\$51,252.00
31.N	\$48,807.00
31-S	\$40,465.00
State	\$261,008.00
42% YTD	

Camp Dogwood Raffle	
Totals, 12/15/23	
31-L	\$6,188.00
31-I	\$290.00
31-O	\$3,198.00
31.N	\$840.00
31-S	\$6,533.00
State	\$17,119.00
.38 Books per member	

Together we make extraordinary things happen

We Are Creating Better Tomorrows For Those Who Need Us Most

From Executive Director Carlton Metts



Wishing all Lions Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Our first half of the Lions year had its ups and downs with Brighter Visions state wide when looking at the previous year. As of December 15, 2023, we are at \$261,008 and last year same date was at \$218,927. In comparison that looks great so keep up the good work. BV Leaders to-date, 31-L Hendersonville and Etowah, 31-I, Linwood and Salisbury, 31-O, Sanford and Durham, 31-N, Western Harnett and Kenansville, 31-S Raleigh Host and Lake Gaston. Camp Dogwood Raffle as of December 15 is \$17,119. The previous year to date was at \$20,839, not bad, usually picks up as the conventions begin. Camp Dogwood raffle leaders are: 31-L, Lake Lure, 31-I, Bethlehem, 31-O, Siler City, 31-N, Kinston, 31-S, Lake Gaston and Apex.

Keep up the good work and if we at the foundation can be of assistance please let us know.

As your convention nears don't forget those deserving Lions that deserve one of the prestigious awards such as Stickley Fellowship, Scruggs Beacon of Hope, Woolard Partner in Service and the newest of them all the NC Lions Ambassador, now with a beautiful plaque.

We may have caused a little confusion on the KidSight Bookings. The total fee is still at \$150 per day, but only \$75 to our clubs. The other \$75.00 comes from the KidSight Grants provided by the Raleigh Lions Foundation and North State Bank of Raleigh. When you meet some of the two donors give them a great big "Thank You".

Our biggest unknown is the Memorials and Honorariums program that you can memorialize loved ones, friends, that special person or honor Lions and friends. Use them for birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, speakers and other special people. The form can be found online at nclf.org, pick them up at conventions or call the foundation office. We can mail you forms or will take the information over the phone and bill by credit card. We can also provide your club with a stand and forms that can be placed at funeral homes. You can stamp your club name on the form. When mailing be sure to write in your club name and it will be credited to your club's BV Fund Drive. Churches, civic groups, service groups and most other nonprofits are very successful with this program and NCLF has been in the past.

You have District Chairs that can come to your club and present any of our Programs and Services. That's how you inform your new and potential members.

We invite all Lions to visit your Camp Dogwood, we are waiting to show you around.

Wishing you the best during the Holidays.
Carlton

Camp Dogwood News Ringing in 2024

Happy New Year from the Staff of Camp Dogwood. We have all enjoyed some much-needed time with our families this past week to celebrate the Holiday Season. We return on January 2nd with one mission on our minds..... Summer Camp 2024 MARDI GRAS! Seminars are being scheduled. Craft projects are in the planning stages. Everything is full steam ahead.

Applications have been sent to all Social Workers for the Blind that are in our data base. If you or someone you know needs an application please contact the Camp Office at 828-478-2135 ext. 230. May is just around the corner so get your applications out to the VIPs soon.

The Mid-winter Conventions are just around the corner keep selling those tickets. Two lucky people will walk away with a \$200 gift card from Walmart. But just because the Convention is in January remember tickets can be sold until June. The proceeds from the raffle will go towards the maintenance and upkeep of our beautiful facility.

Spring Volunteer Days and Eyeglass Recycling is scheduled for April 4th-10th . Many projects are in the -planning stages to be completed. There is something for everyone. Please come spend time with us tidying up the facility, painting, repairing a few porches and more. If you are unable to work outside we will have eyeglasses to sort. You must register for this event. Call 828-478-2135 ext. 250 to register.

We ask each Lion that follows social media to follow us on Face Book and Instagram (Camp Dogwood and Dogwood on Lake Norman). Please, regardless of where you live, like and share our posts. The more people we reach the more people hear about our facility. Just the other day I received a message on Face Book from someone that had stumbled across our Camp Dogwood page. This person is interested in attending Summer Camp in 2024.

Thank you for everything you do for the VIPs across the State.

Respectfully submitted
Tammy Thomas, Camp Director, NC Lions Camp Dogwood





Memorials and Honorariums

October - December 2023

Memorials

Given By:	Memory Of:
North Davidson Lions Club	Jennie Jo Hill
Eileen M. Artavia	M&H
Oxford Lions Club	Donna Joy
Jack D & Joan C Briggs	Allan Thompson
Chris Headley	Allan Thompson
Paul R & Nancy Bledsoe	Allan Thompson
Jerry Austin	Allan Thompson
Dale Dupree	Allan Thompson -
Eileen M. Artavia	M&H
North Carolina PDG	Allan Thompson
Mocksville Lions Club	Frankie Gregory
Eileen M. Artavia	M&H
Carlton V Metts	Allan Thompson
Carlton V Metts	Jayne Simpkins
Carlton V Metts	Sharon Lea Dwyer
Carlton V Metts	Joan Moore Reid
Theresa W Matthews	Frankie Gregory
Theresa W Matthews	Allan Thompson
Theresa W Matthews	Frankie Gregory
Davidson Lions Club	Frankie Gregory
Theresa W Matthews	Allan Thompson
Neal Alexander	Allan Thompson
County Lions Club	Carol Kutzner
Bethlehem Lions Club	Bill Seaver
Eileen M. Artavia	M&H
New Bern Lions Club	Charles Blythe
Myra Davidson Lanier	Frankie Gregory
Davidson Lanier	Allan Thompson
Heidi L. Reckard	Robert Reese
Heidi L. Reckard	Kenneth Norton
Hendersonville Lions Club	Fred Higgins
Juan & Susan Fernandez	Doc Newsom
Pleasant Lions Club	Ira Howard Mauldin
Chriis Headley	Linda McCaskill
Mark and Jeanna White	Joseph C White
Paul and Nancy Bledsoe	R. O.Lanier
Clay County Lions Club	Ken Woodard
Eileen M. Artavia	M&H
Rockwell Lions Club	Berthalene Payne
Pleasant Lions Club	Danny Bost
Aberdeen Lions Club	Pat Kelly

Honorariums

Given by:	Honoree
Stuart Ballinger	Kristy Brown
	Greene
New Bern Lions Club	Tom Snively
Wake Forest Lions Club	Lorraine Dixon
Eileen M. Artavia	Honor
James Collins Chandler	Ann Mason
Keith and Jana Peedin	Shirley Black
Rocky Mount Evening LC	Ella Flora
Eileen M. Artavia	Honor
Mount Airy Lions Club	Kathleen Poirier
Mount Pleasants LC	Kathleen Poirier
Smithfield LC	Shirley Black Archdale
Trinity LC	Lee Luzader
Eileen M. Artavia	Honor
Kathryn L Staley	Ron Staley
Fay Kobland	Lake Lure Leos
Fay Kobland	Karl Trumpler
Fay Kobland	Eileen Artavia
Thomasville LC	Jim Little
Thomasville LC	Thomasville Historic
	Preservation Commission
Thomasville LC	Sandy Fraser-Thomas
Thomasville LC	PDG Paul Bledsoe
Thomasville LC	Michelle Myers
Thomasville LC	Megan Anderson

Donations can be credited
to your club's
Brighter Visions

Annual Fund Drive Goals.

Visit: NCLF.org for Forms