



Wayne Faber  
NCLF President 2024-2025

## 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

Greetings My Fellow Lions,

I hope you are surviving this extreme heat we have been having lately. Hard to believe a new Lions year is upon us. I want to thank all those who helped make this past year a success and thank you for your Lionistic spirit of "We Serve".

As we move forward into the 2024/2025 year we need to focus on making sure we reach our goals where we can help those less fortunate. Our strong team of District Governors under the leadership of Council Chair George Suggs and our Committee Chairs will do just that. Let me thank each of you that stepped up when asked to serve in your specific area.

As you are receiving this newsletter our 2024 camping season should have ended. From what I have been hearing and seeing from my VIP friends it was one of the best seasons in the past several years. Thanks in part to our dedicated Camp Dogwood Director Tammy MacLean who works long hours trying to secure our counselors and others needed to make the season what it is. For many of our VIPs the only vacation they might get is either their time at Camp Dogwood or the VIP Fishing Tournament in October. For many, sadly they cannot just jump into a car or plane or bus and go as we can, that is why we need to take PRIDE in what we have to offer. Thank you to all our Lions who volunteered at Camp this summer. We could not have done it without your help. If you have never volunteered during the camping season there is no better way to interact with the ones we serve. Please consider next summer as it is never too early to start planning. Contact Tammy and her team to reserve your spot.

One of the things I am excited about is our new Leadership Development Team. Under the leadership of PDG Carlie Metts we are going to have a group training for ALL our incoming officers and directors. No matter how long you have served or been a member we want everyone to attend this event which will be coming up very soon.

I hope by now you have heard about the changes in our Camp Dogwood Raffle of (1) for \$5, (3) for \$10 and (7) for \$20. I will mention briefly that we will be asking each Lion to sell \$50 of tickets of any combination this year. We have a QR code area where it will take a buyer directly to the site to purchase tickets. You will be hearing more about this from 1st VDG Gene Goetz and PDG Lorraine Dupree who are Co-Chairing this Committee.

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I have also asked PDG Bill Mathers to head up our Brighter Visions team for this year. Lion Bill has already informed me of his plans and willingness to give programs on this very important fundraising effort. As we get ready to start having our Brighter Vision Kick-Offs, has your club ever participated in the early donation which takes place at these events? If you have not, please try to see what your club can do and enjoy the fun as Lions line up to turn in the checks to start our new year's kickoff. I plan to work with Past President Steve McLaurin on a possible musical event.

Lastly, I hope to see many of you in August at our Council of Governors and NCLF Committee Meetings including the Awards and Installation Banquet to be held at Camp Dogwood. The dates are August 9 – 11, 2024. I am excited to have PID Gwen White do my Installation. I want to thank each and every one of you for your support and I am honored to be serving as your President of this wonderful Foundation. If there is anything I can do or you need please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

My Motto for this year is "Making Dreams Come True One Day at a Time" and together we can do just that!

Yours in Lionism,

NCLF President Wayne Faber

## NCLF Brighter Visions Annual Fund Drive 2023-2024 Finals

NCLF Fundraising Totals as of June 30, 2024				
Brighter Visions		C D Raffle	Mom & Honor	Eye Research
31-L	\$51,543	\$22,196.65	\$2,480	\$1,083
31-I	\$150,097	\$22,131.00	\$6,200	\$1,300
31-O	\$121,328	\$30,740.00	\$7,024	\$1,328
31-N	\$100,189	\$22,740.95	\$4,394	\$1,394
31-S	\$87,480	31,277.00	\$1,950	\$7,331
Statewide \$520,609		\$128,085.60	\$24,313	\$12,437
Avg \$136 Per Member		Avg 2.82 Books	81% YTD	\$2.74 p mem
LYTD		LYTD	LYTD	LYTD
\$502,419		\$103,135.70	\$20,920	\$12,061

## Thank You... '23-'24 Brighter Visions Fund Drive A Great Year of Fundraising



**NCLF Executive Director Carlton Metts**

Thank you, fellow Lions for a great 2023-2024 year. Many things went well, some didn't but a lot was better than the previous year such as Brighter Visions, Camp Dogwood Raffle, Memorial/Honorariums and Clinical Eye Research. We are hoping to build on the goals and make them better. Look Out 2024-2025 Here We Come!

Brighter Visions workshops are beginning on July 27 at the Long View Lions Club for District 31-L. Always a great time to meet the Lions face to face and swap ideas for a better future. Please join us at your District Brighter Vision and Camp Dogwood Workshops. Remember Brighter Visions supports all programs and services. If you have questions please ask and if you don't get that opportunity don't hesitate to call me at the Foundation Office to get your answer.

This has been a joyous three years coming out of retirement doing Lions work. I have the opportunity to meet all Lions across the state that will attend the workshops, conventions, award ceremonies and many other Lions events. I like to keep up with all our NC Lions Foundation Past Presidents. I have now met all the living Past Presidents with my trip to District 31-O's Installation and Awards in Sanford. Looking at the Sanford Lions Club's Banner, I asked Lion Nelson Smith about PP Avron Upchurch. He said I'm not sure, but pointed me to an older member and said he would know. So, I asked if PP Avron was still living, his answer was I sure hope so because that would be me! I told him who I was and that I had searched on the internet for him and found where he had lived a remarkable life since retiring. He retired from the Community College. He served as Past President 1983-84 and is now 95 years old. He told me he would see me next year. We told each other that we looked good for our ages. Very impressive Lion, Administrator, Master Gardner and many other life enduring activities. Very interesting Lion! That made my day!

Thank you Lions for giving me this opportunity of meeting such great people around this Old North State. See you at your next Lions event.

Carlton



# Camp Dogwood

## A Special Summer Waterfront Retreat for the Blind & Visually Impaired.

As this article is being written, the last week of summer camp 2024 is drawing near. The staff is busy preparing for our first week of *family camp*. This week has been set aside for individuals that come with a family member; one member attending will be under the age 18.

This year campers have had the opportunity to participate in many activities ranging from kayaking, boating and fishing to putt-putt, archery, and axe throwing. Indoor activities included line dancing, chair yoga, chair exercise and much more. We have welcomed visually impaired from all across NC. This year we also hosted visually impaired persons from Tennessee, South Carolina, Washington and Oklahoma.



As we finish out this year do not think we are finished. Summer camp is always on the forefront of the staff's agenda. We are already planning summer camp 2025. Our goal is to have applications ready for distribution in January 2025.

We would like to say thank you to every Lion and Lions Club across the state that contributed to Summer Camp 2024. We had many clubs and Lions that sponsored VIPs for a session. Thank you to the clubs that contributed to making "Bingo Night" a big success and one of the favorite activities of the week. Thank you to all that gave their time to volunteer with us. Spending time at Camp Dogwood is an experience you will never forget.

Thank you to all that donated to Brighter Visions. Your Brighter Visions donations cover approximately 50% of the cost of the summer camp program.

As we move into the Meeting & Retreat season, we are happy to say that we will be hosting the upcoming NCLF Board and Council Meetings in August and November. We also have the pleasure of hosting the District L Fall Convention in November.

As you are planning your zone meetings for the year and your club programs, please remember that I am available to speak on Camp Dogwood. Give me a call or email to schedule.

Respectfully submitted:  
 Tammy MacLean  
 Camp Director

## The Camp Dogwood Raffle Success!



The Camp Dogwood Raffle this year ended up doing GREAT with all districts showing an increase. "Thank You" from your district chairs and myself!

For next year I look forward to Co-chairing this position with PDG Laraine Dupree. Laraine is a member of the Wingate Lions Club in District O and has filled many district and state positions.

Laraine and I are excited to get started working with you to raise the needed funds to support maintenance needs at Camp Dogwood. Laraine will cover districts L, I and O and I will cover districts N and S. Our goal is to raise at least the same amount as this year, \$128,733.31 we are confident that another good year is coming and we can top this year's earnings. The following district chairs are ready and willing to visit your clubs to answer any questions or offer you suggestions on selling Camp Dogwood raffle tickets:

District L - April George, Sherrills Ford LC  
District I - Theresa Munyon, Denton LC  
District O - Jacob Steagall, Unionville LC  
District N - Gene Goetz, Goldsboro, Downtown LC  
District S - Jody Lee Proctor, Warrenton LC

- Your Camp Dogwood Raffle will change for the 2024-2025 year.
- Ticket prices will change to \$5 per ticket, \$10 for 3 tickets, and \$20 for 7 tickets.
- No staple binding the books together and no extra cover sheets.
- Addition of a QR code on each ticket.

These changes will save a large amount of money in ticket printing charges and will simplify the collating process for clubs sending in a large quantity of tickets. The QR code will allow clubs to easily process payments on the web.

Your effort to have someone from your club at the kickoff to pick up tickets will be appreciated.

- District L – Saturday July 27, 2024 at 12:00 pm, Long View Recreation Center 3107 2nd Ave. Hickory.
- District I – Saturday August 17, 2024 at 9:00 am, American Legion Hall 1433 Old Wilkesboro Rd. Salisbury.
- District O – Saturday August 3, 2024 at 10:00 am, First United Methodist Church, Siler City, behind church.
- District N – Saturday August 24, 2024 at 11:00am, Lions Industries for the Blind, Kinston.
- District S – Saturday August 24, 2024 at 3:00pm Zebulon Lion's Den, Zebulon.

FVDG Gene Goetz  
Camp Dogwood Co-Chair

# Memorials

**Given By:**

Carlton & Anne Metts  
Carlton & Anne Metts  
Chris & Judy Headley  
Chris & Judy Headley  
Chris & Judy Headley

Odell Lions Club  
Chris & Judy Headley  
Newton Lions Club  
Ronald Clauser  
Jean Harwood-Stanhope  
Edenton Lions Club  
Carlton & Anne Metts  
N. Bern Twin Rivers LC  
Mocksville Lions Club  
Timothy Foley  
Brenda McCombs  
Linwood Lions Club  
New Bern Lions Club  
Norwood Lions Club  
Steve & Karen McClure  
Sallie Staley  
Carlton & Anne Metts  
Carlton & Anne Metts  
Travis & Dwayne Turner  
Davidson Lions Club  
Louisburg Lions Club  
David Kennedy  
Jackson Lions Club  
West Lexington LC  
June Kolakowski  
Mark & Rhonda Bass  
Donnie & Margaret Taylor  
Jane Thorton

Allen & Amy Swaim  
Allen & Amy Swaim  
Allen & Amy Swaim  
Allen & Amy Swaim  
McLeansville LC  
Ronald & Betty Shingleton  
Brandon Shingleton  
Wilmington Lions Club  
Wilmington Lions Club  
Wilmington Lions Club  
Wilmington Lions Club  
Wilmington Lions Club

**Memory Of:**

Jan Holleman  
W.B. Bullock  
Lisa Nickerson  
W.B. Bullock  
Jan Holleman  
Carl Henderson  
Frankie Allison  
Randy Safrit  
William A. Elliot  
Debbie Smith  
Debbie Smith  
Ben Reinhardt  
Grace E. Stratz  
Grace E. Stratz  
Bill Fender  
Debbie Smith  
Debbie Smith  
Gary Kindley  
Grace E. Stratz  
Malcom Devers  
Debbie Smith  
Debbie Smith  
Minnie Helen Chase  
Nancy Blackwell  
Arthur Wade Turner  
Sidney Abramsky  
UNDEFINED  
Tim Cranford  
Dyerl Howell  
Allan Thompson  
Bill Lewis  
Bill Lewis  
Bill Lewis  
Bill Lewis  
Herbert H. Rosser  
Thomas L. "Fountain" Odom  
Scott Painter  
Peter Eggiman  
Jeff Flippin  
Ethel Shingleton  
Ethel Shingleton  
Beth Steelman  
Deborah Danielson  
Mary Lou Gerrish  
Matilda Marchese  
Louise Spera

Wilmington Lions Club  
Wilmington Lions Club  
Wilmington Lions Club

Wilmington Lions Club

Frank Piscatelli  
Onree Fisher  
Jerry Worsley  
Club Members whos  
spouses have passed away

# Honorariums

**Given By:**

Archdale Trinity LC  
Susan & Juan Fernandez  
Susan & Juan Fernandez  
Susan & Juan Fernandez  
Susan & Juan Fernandez

[illegible]

**Honoree**

Jaris & Anne Garner  
Dawson Hart  
Kathy Nichols  
Tammy Thomas  
Eileen Artavia

Richard Edwardson  
Lake Lure Lions Club  
Hendersonville Lions  
Taylor Foley  
Andrew Clement  
Jennifer Bowling  
PDG David Smoot  
Rosemary Steele  
Molly Lassiter  
Pete Bumgarner  
Heather Sykes  
PCC Tim Williams  
Thomasville City School  
Louisburg LC  
Jon Snelling  
UNDEFINED  
Paul Bledsoe  
NCLF Pres. Steve McLaurin  
CC Rahim Shomari  
CST Johnny Berry  
DG Carlie Metts  
DG Lorraine Dixon  
DG Kathy Poirier  
DG Susan O'Brien  
DG Susan Fernandez  
Robert Meacham

**Given By:**

Carlton & Anne Metts  
DG Carlie Metts  
Tim & Debbie Williams

Tim & Debbie Williams  
Tim & Debbie Williams  
Greg Suire/Thomasville LC  
Thomasville Lions Club  
Thomasville Lions Club

Eileen & Gerardo Artavia  
Sharon Axelberg  
Sherry Johnson

[illegible]

**Honoree**

Robert Gobble  
Melinda Fraser  
Tammy Thomas &  
Scott MacLean  
District 31-N Cabinet  
PDG Paul Bledsoe  
Lions Jimmy &  
Michelle Myers  
1st VDG-E Steve Cline  
Dan Suire  
Curtis Connor  
Kathy Poirier  
Tammy &  
Scott MacLean  
Dorothy Whaley  
DG Carlie Metts  
Steve McLaurin  
Wayne Faber  
Allen Swaim  
Curtis Erickson  
Skippy Jackson  
Dawson Hart  
Eileen Artavia

**Given By:**

[illegible]

**Honoree**

Michael Edwards  
Steve Cline  
Judy Keck  
Juanita Brown  
Ana Elliott  
Gene Goetz  
Jim Tobolski  
Dwayne Turner  
Jim Turner  
C. Neal Alexander  
Eddie Weaver  
George Suggs  
Chris Headley  
Dale Dupree  
Joe Poirier  
Paul Bledsoe  
Paulette Gasperson  
Robert Carroll  
Fred Huscher  
William "Bill" L. Whitley  
Harvey Whitley



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