COUNCIL 2026-2027 OF GOVERNORS MEETING

Date 08/08/2026

Time 9:00am

Call to Order.....Kathy Poirier, Council Chair

Pledge of Allegiance.....Jody Proctor DG 31-S

Invocation.....Richard Wilcox DG 31-L

Approve Agenda and appoint Parliamentarian.....Kathy Poirier, CC

Recognition of and comments by Past/Present International Officers.....Kathy Poirier, CC

PIP Sid L. Scruggs III
ID Gary Steele
PID Gwen White
PID Harvey Whitley
PID Dr. Lacy M. Presnell, Jr.
PID Ron Huber

Council Chairperson Report.....Kathy Poirier, CC

Reading of the Minutes from the 05/02/2026 Meeting.....Gary Steele, CST

Approval of the Minutes.....Kathy Poirier, CC

MD 31 Financial Report.....Gary Steele CST

Approval of the Financial Report.....Kathy Poirier, CC

Presentation of 2026-2027 COG Budget.....Gary Steele, CST

Approval of 2026-2027 COG Budget.....Kathy Poriier, CC

Governors' Reports.....2026-2027 Council of Governors

District L – DG Richard Wilcox
District I – DG Sandy Fraser-Thomas
District O – Robert Gwyn
District N – Eddie Chase
District S – Jody Proctor

New Business:

Request to apply for a Marketing Grant from LCI

Request to purchase AV equipment from State Convention Committee

Suggestion to change Council Chair Selection process for 2nd VDGs

Statewide Committee Chair Reports

Boys and Girls Homes of NC.....Garry Elliott

Campus Clubs/Leo Clubs.....Lashonda White

Celebrate Liberty.....Jim Tobolski

Constitution and By-Laws.....Terry Cauble

Diabetes Awareness.....Sharon Axelberg

Hall of Fame.....Carlton Metts

History.....Michael Edwards

Information and Technology.....John Lynde

LCIF MD-31 Coordinator.....Michael Schwartz

Leader – Guide Dog.....Peter Crumley

Lions Alert.....DeAngelo Jackson

Marketing.....Paul Bledsoe

MD-31 Global Extension Coordinator.....Gary Greene

MD-31 Global Leadership Coordinators.....Barbara Thompson & Harvey Whitley

MD-31 Global Membership Coordinator.....Jim Maitland

MD-31 Global Service Coordinator.....Irwin Siegelwax

Nominations.....Jeffrey Price

Peace Poster.....Marilyn Jackson

Promotions.....Elizabeth Steele

Protocol.....Elizabeth Steele

Research and Long Range Planning.....Michael Schwartz

State Convention.....Laraine Dupree, Barbara Thompson & Susie Dailey

Technology for the Blind & Visually Impaired.....Sharon Weddington

VIP Fishing Report.....Owen White

NCLF Report.....Carlton Metts II

Announcements.....Kathy Poirier, CC

Benediction and Lunch Blessing.....Richard Wilcox DG 31-L

Adjournment

MD-31 Council of Governor's Meeting minutes Date: August 8, 2026

In Person Meeting 9:00 am

Council Chair Kathy Poirier called the meeting to order at 9:00 am with District Governor's Eddie Chase (31-N), Sandy Fraer-Thomas (31-I), Robert Gwyn (31-O), Jody Proctor (31-S), and Richard Wilcox (31-L) present. DG Jody Proctor led the Pledge of Allegiance and DG Richard Wilcox gave the invocation.

Past Council Chair Terry Cauble agreed to be the parliamentarian. DG Sandy Fraser-Thomas made a motion that the agenda be approved as presented and DG Richard Wilcox seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Chair Kathy Poirier recognized the International Officers that were present (PIP Sid L. Scruggs III, ID Gary Steele, PID Gwen White, PID Lacy Presnell, and PID Harvey Whitley). PID's Lacy, Harvey, Gwen and ID Gary indicated that they were happy to be here and would reserve their comments until later. PIP Sid presented a resolution of support and endorsement for PID Vijay Kumar Raju for the office of 3rd International Vice President. DG Jody Proctor made a motion to approve the resolution. DG Sandy Faser-Thomas seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. (A)

Council Chair Kathy gave her quarterly report. (B)

Council Secretary/Treasurer ID Gary Steele reported that the last minutes from May 2 were emailed and posted on the State and NCLF websites. DG Sandy Faser-Thomas made a motion that the minutes be approved as posted. DG Richard Wilcox seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Council Secretary/Treasurer ID Gary Steele presented the financial report and noted a couple corrections that needed to be made. DG Richard Wilcox made a motion that the financial report be approved as corrected. DG Jody Proctor seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. (C)

Council Secretary/Treasurer ID Gary Steele presented the proposed budget for 2026-2027 with a couple corrections. DG Richard Wilcox made a motion that the budget be approved as corrected. DG Sandy Fraser-Thomas seconded the motion. (C)

The Council presented their quarterly reports. (D)

DG Eddie Chase made a motion to approve the quarterly reports. DG Jody Proctor seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

PDG Paul Bledsoe gave a presentation on the last marketing grant's success and asked that the Council approve submitting a new marketing grant for $15,000 for this year. DG Richard

Wilcox made a motion to allow Paul to submit the grant request. DG Jody Proctor seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The State Convention Committee asked for money to buy AV equipment for use at the state convention. After some discussion, PID Lacy Presnell indicated that his club is willing to buy the equipment and the State Convention Committee withdrew it's request. Many thanks to PID Lacy and his club. E

PDG Laraine Dupree asked that the Council change the procedure for the interview and selection for the Council Chair by the 2VDG's. After discussion, DG Eddie Chase made a motion to table this proposal until a future meeting. DG Jody Proctor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CC Kathy Poirier read a report on Boys and Girls Homes of NC. F

Lion Lashonda White gave a report by Zoom on Campus Club/Leo Clubs. G

PCC Terry Cauble had no report on Constitution and By-Laws.

PDG Carlton Metts reported that he met with the DG's last night on Hall of Fame.

PDG Michael Schwartz gave a report on LCIF. H

PDG DeAngelo Jackson gave a report on Lions Alert. I

CC Kathy Poirier read a report from PDG Paul Bledsoe on Marketing.

PCC Gary Greene gave a report on Global Extension. J

PID Harvey Whitley and PDG Barbara Thompson gave a report on Global Leadership. K

PDG Juanita Brown read a report for PDG Jim Maitland on Global Membership.

PDG Irwin Siegelwax gave a report on Global Service.

CC Kathy Poirier read a report from Lion Jeffrey Price on Nominations. L

Lion Marilyn Jackson gave a report on Peace Poster. During the discussion it was indicated that last year's Peace Poster winner had not been given the prize check. DG Richard Wilcox made a motion that we pay the prize money from last year. DG Sandy Frazer-Thomas seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Lion Michelle Myers will submit the information to the Secretary/Treasurer for payment. M

Lion Elizabeth Steele indicated that the Promotions report would be given during the Promotions Meeting.

Lion Elizabeth Steele had no report for Protocol.

PDG Michael Schwartz had no report on Long Range Planning.

PDG's Laraine Dupree, Barbara Thompson and Susie Dailey gave a report on the State Convention. Dates are April 23-25, 2027, April 27-30, 2028, and April 26-29, 2029. A check for $4063 was requested for the per member fee. Lion Betty Shingleton's audit of the State Convention accounts was completed. DG Bob Gwyn made a motion that the Audit report be approved. DG Sandy Fraser-Thomas seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

PDG Sharon Weddington submitted a written report on Technology for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Executive Director pLion Owen White gave a report on the VIP Fishing Tournament.

Executive Director Carlton (Carlie) Metts III gave a report on NCLF.

ID Gary Steele informed everyone that the period for club cancellations had changed from 120 days to 90 days. There will be a payment plan set up for clubs to recharter and pay past due monies.

DG Richard Wilcox made a motion to approve the committee reports. DG Sandy Fraser-Thomas seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Benediction and lunch blessing was given by DG Richard Wilcox.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Gary Steele
International Director
MD31 Secretary/Treasurer

Resolution of Endorsement

Whereas, Lion Vijay Kumar Raju, Past International Director, of Yenda Visakhapatnam, India has been endorsed by the Lions of Multiple District 316, for the office of International Third Vice President of Lions Clubs International, and

Whereas, Past International Director Vijay Kumar Raju is an outstanding Lion leader and has demonstrated those qualities befitting of the high office of International Third Vice President; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Council of Governors of Multiple District 31 – North Carolina and the Lions of North Carolina, assembled on August 8, 2026, hereby endorse and express their support for Past International Director Vijay Kumar Raju, and encourage the Lions of the world to support and vote for him for International Third Vice President at the 2027 Lions International Convention in Washington, D.C., USA.

Kathy Poirier, PDG
Council Chair 2026-27
Multiple District 31
North Carolina

Sid L Scruggs, III
Int'l President 2010-11
Multiple District 31
North Carolina

Gary Steele, ID
Secretary Treasurer, 2026-27
Multiple District 31
North Carolina

B

2026-2027 Council Chair Report

August 8-9, 2026

Although the year has just begun for the 2026-2027 Council of Governors, we have been working together to prepare the District Governors for their year. We have been meeting either by Zoom or in person since January. The District Governors had the opportunity in March to meet with State Convention Committee Chairs PDG Susie Dailey and PDG Barbara Thompson to go over the logistics for the April 2026 State Convention. In April, PIP Sid Scruggs presented a Leadership Development program to the incoming Governors by Zoom. May brought PID Harvey Whitley as a guest speaker for the District Governors. The DGs heard words of wisdom from PID Harvey and had an interesting Q and A session with him.

Before we knew it, it was the end of June and time for all of us to head to Hong Kong. The 108th Lions International Convention was full of wonderful experiences which culminated with being part of the swearing in of our International President Mark Lyon. As the convention came to an end, our MD31 District Governors were officially sworn in by IP Mark.

After returning to North Carolina, our District Governors began the work of promoting IP Mark's theme, Rooted in Service as well as implementing the plans for the final year of Mission 1.5. They met with our Statewide Global Service Team Coordinator, PDG Irwin Siegelwax, to work on implementing his proposed suggestions for service this year. They also met by Zoom with PDG Susie Dailey and PDG Barbara Thompson to learn more about what is being planned for the 2027 State Convention. Before the month ended, we attended by Zoom the first monthly MD31 Global Action Team review with PID Tom Matney, GAT Area Leader CA 1-H.

Respectfully submitted,

CC Kathy Poirier

Rooted in Service

(C)

NC LIONS STATE COG ACCOUNT #4815

Council Budget As of: 7/1/2026

July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

	Budget 25/26	Actual	Budget 26/27
COUNCIL INCOME			
100 Balance forward from 6/30/24	$39,068.20	$39,068.20	$46,600.98
105 Council Dues - 4472 @ $5.50	$23,243.00	$21,533.00	$21,000.00
110 District Surety Bond $64 X 5	$320.00	$320.00	$320.00
112 Internet Domains & Web Hosting	$549.83	$443.80	$500.00
115 Interest Earned	$1,750.00	$1,278.23	$1,300.00
120 LEO Clubs Income	$2,000.00	$0.00	$2,000.00
125 RLLI Income	$8,400.00	$12,455.00	$12,000.00
126 ELLI Income	$5,000.00	$0.00	$0.00
130 Ad from District Governors $42.86 X 7	$300.00	$200.00	$300.00
135 Miscellaneous Income	$5,000.00	$0.00	$5,000.00
140 LEO Sale of Pins	$100.00	$0.00	$100.00
145 Refund from State Convention	$0.00	$619.96	$300.00
150 Disaster Grant	$0.00	$4.92	$3.00
155 Marketing Grant	$0.00	$300.00	$0.00
TOTAL COUNCIL INCOME	$46,662.83	$37,154.91	$42,823.00
COUNCIL EXPENSES			
200 Annual Audit	$500.00	$0.00	$500.00
205 Awards, Plaques & Gifts	$2,000.00	$0.00	$1,500.00
210 Bank Fees	$50.00	$98.22	$50.00
215 CC & SST Clothing (2 @ $130)	$260.00	$260.00	$260.00
220 CC, SST, 1st & 2nd VDG Crest X 17	$440.00	$432.98	$440.00
225 2nd VDG Clothing 5 @ @130.00)	$650.00	$1,300.00	$650.00
230 NCLF Clerical Service & Rent	$1,200.00	$1,200.00	$1,200.00
235 Forum Travel for CC	$2,000.00	$1,829.14	$2,000.00
240 Council Chair Travel Expense	$2,500.00	$2,347.73	$2,500.00
245 5 District Officers Surety Bond	$320.00	$320.00	$320.00
250 Hall of Fame Plaques	$1,200.00	$856.37	$1,200.00
255 In Coming CC International Convention	$3,100.00	$1,855.98	$3,100.00
260 Internet Domains & Web Hosting	$600.00	$119.88	$600.00
265 Leo State Convention	$2,000.00	$0.00	$1,000.00
270 Meeting Space	$500.00	$0.00	$250.00
275 Office Supplies Sec/Treas	$100.00	$0.00	$100.00

280	Peace Poster/Essay Contest	$600.00	$60.00	$300.00
285	Postage/Printing Sec/Treas	$200.00	$0.00	$100.00
290	State Sec/Treas Travel Expenses	$2,500.00	$957.93	$2,500.00
295	State Council Meeting Expenses	$500.00	$0.00	$0.00
300	Bond for State Sec/Treas	$298.00	$298.00	$298.00
305	Video Conferencing Equipment	$1,000.00	$0.00	$1,000.00
307	Marketing Grant	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
310	RLLI Expense	$8,400.00	$19,103.02	$18,000.00
311	ELLI Expense	$8,400.00	$0.00	$0.00
	COMMITTEE EXPENSES			
315	Boys & Girls Home	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
316	Constitution & By-Laws	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
317	Diabetes Awarness	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
318	E-Sight/Guide Dogs	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
319	Global Action Team (GAT)	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
320	Global Leadership Team (GLT)	$4,000.00	$2,171.53	$3,000.00
321	Global Membership Team (GMT)	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
322	Global Service Team (GST)	$750.00	$149.80	$500.00
323	Hall of Fame	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
324	History	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
325	Info. Technology/Public Relations	$500.00	$0.00	$250.00
326	Lions Alert	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
327	LCIF	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
328	LEO L& Campus Club	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
329	Nominations	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
330	State Convention	$250.00	$88.56	$200.00
331	State Convention Host	$250.00	$0.00	$0.00
332	Long Range Planning	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
333	Hospitality Room COG Meeting	$500.00	$0.00	$500.00
334	Ad for COG State Convention	$300.00	$300.00	$300.00
335	Celebrate Liberty	$250.00	$0.00	$0.00
336	NC Lions Council State Convention	$0.00	$4,226.00	$4,000.00
337	Marketing	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
338	Protocol	$250.00	$0.00	$0.00
339	Global Extension	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
340	Technology for Blind & VIP's	$250.00	$0.00	$200.00
341	Disaster Grant	$60,000.00	$52,631.29	$0.00
	TOTAL COUNCIL EXPENSES	$110,368.00	$90,606.43	$49,818.00

NC LIONS PROMOTIONS BUDGET # 4823

July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

	PROMOTIONS INCOME	Budget 2025-26	ACTUAL	Budget 26/27
500	Balance brought forward	$27,685.22	$27,685.22	$22,138.37
505	Interest Earned	$300.00	$224.55	$230.00
510	Promotion Dues 4472 X $.75	$3,170.00	$3,051.50	$3,000.00
515	Promotions Reserve Int. Officer Fund $.25	$1,055.00	$833.00	$800.00
520	Sale of Clothing	$5,200.00	$5,536.15	$5,200.00
525	Sale of NC Trading Pins	$2,500.00	$2,100.00	$2,500.00
530	Southeast Breakfast	$0.00	$1,093.67	$0.00
535	Miscellaneous Income	$3,100.00	$0.00	$2,434.00
	TOTAL PROMOTIONS INCOME	$15,325.00	$12,838.87	$14,164.00
	PROMOTIONS EXPENSES			
600	Audit and Tax Filing	$275.00	$0.00	$275.00
605	Bank Fees	$35.00	$35.00	$35.00
610	Office Supplies Printing & Postage	$125.00	$0.00	$1,125.00
615	Promotions Chair International Convention	$2,500.00	$1,954.41	$2,500.00
620	Promotions Chair Travel Expense	$2,300.00	$2,149.91	$2,300.00
625	Purchase of Clothing	$4,500.00	$3,400.01	$4,500.00
630	Purchase of Trading Pins	$3,000.00	$3,907.00	$3,000.00
635	Southeast Breakfast $65.00 PP	$0.00	$3,130.00	$0.00
640	Promotions Chair Travel to Forum	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
645	Miscellaneous Expense	$200.00	$0.00	$200.00
650	CAN Surety Bond	$229.00	$229.00	$229.00
	TOTAL PROMOTIONS EXPENSES	$13,164.00	$14,805.33	$14,164.00

Multiple District 31

Financial Report 7/01/2026

	START	CURRENT	
COUNCIL CHECKING ACCOUNT # 4815	$51,458.63	$46,600.98	
PROMOTIONS CHECKING ACCOUNT # 4823	$15,934.09	$10,516.35	
PROMOTIONS MONEY MARKET # 5714	$11,399.12	$11,622.02	
COUNCIL MONEY MARKET # 0757	$64,952.73	$66,222.80	$134,962.15
DIABETES AWARENESS	$1,495.32	$1,708.37	
LEO CLUBS	$507.40	$720.45	
STATE CONVENTION RESERVE	$50,647.29	$50,860.34	
STATE COUNCIL RESERVE	$3,693.11	$3,906.16	
LEADERSHIP	$645.43	$858.48	
CLELEBRATE LIBERTY	$7,993.77	$8,206.82	$66,260.62
INTEREST EARNED	$0.00	$1,278.23	

Split between the 6 sub accounts

CATASTROPHE GRANT ACCOUNT #7139	$61,490.95	$8,866.26	
TOTAL REVENUE	$205,265.11	$143,828.41	

District 31L

August 8, 2026

District 31L is off to a strong start and below are some of the highlights:

- On July 18, at the Etowah Lions Club, there was a luncheon, Brighter Visions Kickoff ($12,000 plus) being led by 2nd VDG Jason Foster, District Officer Installation (PDG Debbie Hicks with a football theme) and our first Cabinet Meeting of the year. It was a very productive day.

- District 31L has joined International President Mark Lyon in staying deeply rooted in service. In fact, our 1st VDG Wayne Houser is unable to join us this weekend because of a service project helping Lake Lure provide eyeglasses to an area still recovering from Hurricane Helene.

- Leadership training –Officer trainings were offered by Zoom for Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers. The Zone Chair training will be one-on-one. My goal and challenge are to have 100% of the officers trained.

- Service Reporting – All clubs are encouraged to report service activities in the portal and to make their community service visible in a way to attract new members.

- Membership – working to bring up our membership numbers which have been decreasing the past few years.

- Camp Dogwood Tickets – Ensuring that the tickets are distributed to each Lion will do their best to beat last year's sales for our district.

- The 1st and 2nd VDGs and I have split up the clubs and have already been visiting some and have dates set up for other visits.

- Various service projects around the district include Bags to Benches, vision screening, broom sales, concession stands, Farmer's Markets, Health Fairs, Pampered Chef fundraiser and numerous others.

- Numerous clubs are publishing a newsletter, and a few of the clubs are participating in our points contest.

- Days of Service being planned for the year.

- McCune Center, District 31L's assisted living facility located in Black Mountain. We have some service projects and fundraisers in the works and the new Board was installed at our July meeting.

- Planning for the Fall District Convention is moving along and will be held at Camp

Dogwood on November 13-14, 2026. I have the honor of hosting ID Jim Barbare from SC.

Respectfully submitted,

DG Dick Wilcox
District 31L

DISTRICT 31- I GOVERNOR'S REPORT – 1ST COG MEETING – AUG 2026

District 31-I started the year with 823 members. In July we gained eight new members and two transfers and then in July we had twelve members dropped, in August we dropped two who are no longer here.
I tell you this to explain my membership and service goals. To combat membership, I have created a patch that I am giving out every three months to five clubs that bring in two or more members.

I have introduced a Club Contest where members get points for everything that they do and reports on the portal, the club with the most service and activities reporting will get a trophy from me at the end of the year.

And I have also created a service patch that I will be giving out to five clubs that reports five or more service activities per month.

I also created a Christmas theme for every month competition, starting I July, and now were in August, which is working because I am getting pictures of service reporting, last month I give out certificates to the five clubs that participated.

District 31- I had its 1st Cabinet meeting on July 18th, along with the Installation of Officers, done by ID Gary Steele ,and IPDG Steve Cline's award ceremony.

On August 1st District 31-I had its Brighter Visions Kickoff with eighteen clubs in attendance we raised $56,301 dollars.

I am looking forward to an exciting year only because of the team that I have beside me. The GAT Tea, the Committee Chairs and the Zone Chairs, everyone is working together.

Thank you,

DG Sandy
31-I

pccgarys@gmail.com

From: Robert Gwyn <regwyn@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 9, 2026 5:34 PM
To: Gary Steele
Cc: Keith Gallagher; Steve Hair; laraine.dupree1967; David Gercken; Susan Dailey; Susan O'Brien; Stuart Castelloe; Ted Tozer
Subject: District 31-O Council of Governors meeting Report for District 31-O

Hello MD31 Council Secretary / Treasurer Gary,
Here is my written report for what I presented at the first Council of Governors meeting on Saturday morning, August 8, 2026 for the record.
Thank you.

Council of Governors report from District 31-O Governor Bob Gwyn

District Governor(DG) Bob Gwyn opened his remarks by stating that receiving a Club Assessment Report from Lions Clubs International (LCI) is similar to the apprehensiveness one has when they may receive unfavorable results from a health lab report. One must accept the numbers but take corrective actions on what they have control over!

District 31-O opened the year on July 1 with 52 clubs containing a total of 1,031 members. One new club was added last year and 60% of the clubs have less than 30 members.

He pointed to his lapel pin and stated that his motto for this year is "We Serve is our Motto for Strong Action" then stressed that our strength is likened to the powerful locomotive displayed on it.

A "Bulletin Board" has been established in his District Newsletter and it will be used monthly to post all information of high importance that will assist Lions in having a better year. Deadlines of financial obligations, open window dates for events that are tied to meeting metrics for awards or other time-sensitive information will be posted here for quick reference. This railroading theme is also designed to have fun along the journey. The bulletin board will highly promote membership and be a vehicle to assist clubs where possible in having an improved year.

He reported that this year is all about membership. He learned a lot when he and Global Membership Team Coordinator Ted Tozer visited Atlanta to attend the Mission 1.5 Summit on June 19, 2026. The Membership Action Plans were updated there and resubmitted to LCI with more firm dates and further engagement of others for stronger action.

The Brighter Visions and LCIF Goals for 2026-2027 will remain the same as last year and he is very optimistic about seeing an improvement this year in donations.

Two new clubs are well underway in being formed, one in Raeford and another one in Pittsboro. Each club has 11 members that have shown interest in becoming Lions. Raeford prefers to form as a branch club and Pittsboro wants to get at least 20 members first for a full charter. Both have great potential for becoming clubs within the second quarter of this year.

A "brainstorming" session has been schedule for the District 31-O Leadership and GAT team members. This is taking place to seek new ideas on how we can grow our membership and better implement our action plans. Our team is also fully aware of the strengths and weaknesses in our district based on the SWOT Analysis that was conducted in early June of this year.

Our district officers' training for the new year is going very well. We are on track to meet or exceed our goal of having 65% of officers trained by November 1, 2026.

Thirty two motivational emails were sent out this week to encourage club presidents, secretaries and treasurers to complete their training. A flyer has been published in the August DG Newsletter and a notice has been posted on the districts FaceBook page.

51% (82 of 161) of our club officers have been trained. Fourteen non-officers have attended training. This is very encouraging for the development of new leaders.

The Awards and Installation ceremonies for District 31-O were very well attended on July 25th in Sanford with approximately 100 in attendance.

Our Brighter Visions and first District Cabinet meeting will be on August 29th in Ramseur.

DG Bob stated that he is truly honored to serve as a district governor this year and he looks forward to a great one in Lionism.

Respectfully Submitted,
District 31-O Governor Bob Gwyn
August 9, 2026

Council of Governors' Meeting
Governor's Report
District 31-N

Good morning, all;
This Lion's year has started with great enthusiasm and speed. We began in July with the International Convention in Hong Kong. Where we joined approximately 17,000 Lions from 193 Countries to celebrate together the great accomplishments of Lions throughout the world. The convention was very enjoyable and filled with lots of knowledge and information. It was great to meet and interact with so many new Lions.
Also to hear our new International President Mark Lyon present his theme and goals for the new year. " Rooted in Service." This is very close to the hearts of Lions and instills in us what we believe in very strongly. For we stand on our motto, "To Serve".
It was an honor and privilege to stand with the Five Governors from MD 31 and be installed as Governors for North Carolina.

District 31-N has started its Lions year 2026-27 with many expectations.

We will strive to increase membership, to add new clubs, to continue to support LCIF, Brighter Visions, Camp Dogwood, and all our VIP's.

To continue what we do best. "To Serve"

With membership, we ended the last Lions year with 901 members. As of the last recent report, we are at 904. With 19 adds and 16 drops. This puts us at a plus 3 year to date entered in the Portal.

It is still early in the year, but we have a lot to do. We have possibly two Branch Clubs in the works, and our GET Team led by PDG Gene Goetz is continuing to search out areas for possible new Clubs.

We have one new Leo Club that should begin when school starts up in the next few weeks.

We also have a couple of other Leo Club possibilities that we are working on.

With our GLT, PDG DeAngelo Jackson we have started our training schedule for new officers and zone chairs.

These trainings will be held via Zoom, and a couple will also be in person. These are scheduled once a month throughout the year.
District 31-N met and exceeded the Governor's Goal for LCIF for Lions year 25-26. With great leadership from our LCIF Chair, 2VDG Kevin Toman, along with our Clubs and members.
We will strive to achieve our goals for this year by getting more clubs and members to support LCIF.
Service is our Motto. In year 25-26 we averaged about 49% of clubs reporting service. We know that we have clubs that are not reporting or not reporting all their service. As a District, we will continue to communicate the importance of service reporting. Our State GST Irwin Siegelwax has presented a plan to increase recording by having a competition among Zones in each District to possibly encourage more reporting.
District 31-N has a lot to achieve throughout this Lions year. We are a solid, strong, and dedicated group of Lions. WE will strive to do our very best.
More to come !!!

Respectfully submitted;
DG Eddie Chase
District 31-N

District Governor's Report August 2026
District Governor Jody Proctor 31-S

Good Morning to all and thank you for your support as I transverse this year as governor. Goals for the year are growing membership by 144 new members (goal set by LCI), starting 2 new clubs, 1 branch club and 1 LEO club for the district, increasing service reporting by 25% and increasing participation in leadership training for club officer positions and zone chairs. I will encourage club officers to utilize the free training on the Lions Member Portal Learn Center. A zoom training will held on August 29th to assist club officers and zone chairs with navigating the Learning Center on the portal.

Currently District 31-S has 38 clubs and 738 members. This is due to several clubs being cancelled at the end of the year for late payments to LCI. However, some clubs have been reinstated and the others are in progress toward payment and reinstatement.

So far I have visited Wilson Evening Lions Club and conducted club officer installations. I will be visiting Cary Lions Club on August 17th to install club officers and induct 3 new members. Warrenton and Louisburg Lions Clubs continued to work together attending local events to get the Lions word out and potentially gain new members or interest in starting new clubs. Two (2) areas of interest in starting branch clubs is in Rolesville and Youngsville where clubs use to be present years ago. Also, looking at the Haleiwa-Saponi Tribe (SWOT analysis done) area in Hollister area. Kid Sight screenings are already being done in this area at the day care center. Hopefully we can expand to screening the children at the Haliwa-Saponi school.

The Global Service weeks for this Lions year are October 8-18 for Vision, February 13-21 for Youth (with concentration on Diabetes Awareness) and April 29-June 6 for Environment. The first quarter of the year our governor group is conducting service for Hunger. I encourage clubs to find partnerships with local businesses and churches to expand on service projects and making others aware of Lions. For example, I went to the local Toyota Dealership in Henderson about making a donation to Brighter Visions. In doing this I have formed a partnership and in September, a backpack event will be held and a potential "feed the family" event to provide Thanksgiving meal for 6 to 8 families in need.

The Brighter Vision Kickoff for District 31-S will be held on August 15th at the Williamston Lions Club starting at 12 noon. The theme is Summer BBQ with a catered meal. Our Brighter Visions goal for the year is $100,000.I encourage all clubs to participate if fundraising efforts to meet and/or exceed our goal.

Per my "Daughter in Service" Riley, I ask clubs to appoint a Club Marketing chair so each club can inform their communities what the Lions are doing. This can be done by posting pictures of the event held and a short description. Also you can send information to her to be placed in the district news letter.

Again, I would like to thank everyone for your support. This will be a fast paced and fun year as we work together to meet our goals and grow. Remember, at the end of the year we will not have a awesome year because of me, we will have a awesome year because of what "WE" do together.

Submitted,

DG Jody Proctor

With drawn – Raleigh Host agreed to buy.

(E)

Proposal for purchase of projectors for NC Lions Council State Convention

As chairs of the 2027 North Carolina Lions State Convention, we would like to propose the purchase of (2) projectors to be used at each convention going forward for seminars and other sessions.

Below is a summary of the projector charges from our 2026 convention:

Ballroom	AV charges are waived
Piedmont Ballroom	$860 (KidSight Training on Friday and Seminars on Saturday)
GSO/High Point	$430 (Seminars on Saturday)
TOTAL 2026 SPEND FOR PROJECTORS	**$1,290.00**

In addition – we have spent an additional $800 for the 2023-2025 conventions.

Our recommendation is the one-time purchase of (2) of the below projectors at a cost of around $800 each to be paid from the NC State Lions Convention reserve fund.

They are compatible with all computers and are wireless – see recommended projector below.

Epson PowerLite 1781W WXGA 3200 Lumens Equal Color and White brightness, Wireless 3LCD Portable Projector - Black

Thank you for your review and consideration of this purchase to reduce expenses with our 2027 convention and conventions going forward!

Respectfully,

PDG Susie Dailey and PDG Barbara Thompson

August 8, 2026

(F)

pccgarys@gmail.com

From: Garry Elliott <gelliott1847@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2026 9:19 PM
To: LION EDDIE CHASE; LION GARY STEELE; JODY PROCTOR; LION LISA PONDER; LION Mike Wendel HALL; LION RICHARD ROGERS; LION BOB GWYN; LION KATHY POIRIER; Garry Elliott; LION SANDY FRASER-THOMAS; LION Scott Stephenson; LION RICHARD WILCOX; Carle Hall
Subject: AUGUST 2026 BGH REPORT TO NC LIONS 31-MD

EST. BOYS & GIRLS 1954 HOMES of NORTH CAROLINA

HERE IS MY AUGUST REPORT ON SOME OF THE THINGS THAT ARE GOING ON AT BOYS AND GIRLS HOMES OF NC AT LAKE WACCAMAW, NC THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT TO THE CHILDREN IN OUR LIONS COTTAGE AND THE REST OF THE CHILDREN . ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS GIVE ME A CALL OR SEND ME AN EMAIL.

LION GARRY ELLIOTT

STATE BGH CHAIR NC LIONS MD-31

DISTRICT NC LIONS DISTRICT 31-S CHAIR

CELL 252-532-6050

EMAIL gelliott1847@gmail
.com

Numbers(AUGUST 2026 NUMBERS)

a. 42 residents on campus
b. 7 boys in the Lions Cottage
c. 83 kids in Foster Care

d. 12 adoptions so far this year
e. 300+ - CAC is on track to see this many kids this year
f. 12 convictions because of the work at the CAC
g. 8 families – Intensive In-Home program is working with these families

2. THANK YOU LIONS!! Due to your hard work and effort to raise the funds, the boys in the Lions Cottage now have a van dedicated just to the Lions Cottage providing safe transportation for your Lions boys. See the picture attached!

3. Hope Multiplied! Boys and Girls Homes has received a grant that will match donations up to $75K. You can double your impact! The intent of the Trust that is providing the matching funds is to help us gain new donors and increase the giving of current donors. Therefore, any new gifts – or gifts above and beyond what a current donor is contributing will count toward the match. We would love for the Lions to help us meet this match! As part of our Now and Forever Capital Campaign, our goal is to build a training and event center on campus adjacent to Flemington Hall – our main administration building. All funds raised in this $75K challenge will help us complete that project.





How Boys & Girls Homes helped keep this sibling family together

A major focus for Boys & Girls Homes' Residential and Lake House Teen Moms Programs are keeping siblings together to reduce trauma, and break the cycle of separation.
Stock photo representation.

A little family played outside Thomas Academy Middle School in the afternoon sun this spring, their silhouettes rimmed in warm sunlight. Three-year-old Anthony was focused on driving his small fire truck on the pavement. His mother, Melanie, and older sister, Ava, were waiting outside our barber shop on campus for a momentous occasion – Anthony's first haircut.

Melanie sighed sadly about cutting Anthony's baby curls. She wanted his hair to stay long enough to braid. Anthony soaked up all the attention, excitedly showing me his fire truck.

Witnessing this young family add another foundational experience to their life was a physical reminder of how essential our Lake House and Residential programs are to children. In N.C., most teen moms who come into care are separated from their children, missing such vital milestone moments.

Your gifts to Boys & Girls Homes ensure the continuation of this crucial program in a county that has seen a 25 percent increase in teen births in the last few years, according to NCDHHS statistics. Your giving to our ongoing Capital Campaign enabled this unique family to stay together on campus and spend their summer growing together. Please scan the code below to give and double your impact by choosing the "Hope Multiplied 75K Challenge," making your money go further for the children of N.C.

With hope for a cool and calm summer,

Marc Murphy, President/CEO

Boys & Girls Homes of NC



Scan the code above or click here to donate

North Carolina State Leo Report
August 8, 2026

I want to first welcome everyone to a new and exciting term for 2026 to 2027. Thank you for what you do to support the Leos in North Carolina and around the world with a heart of service. This year we aim to grow the Leos in new ways with three simple goals.

1. Goal number one is to increase the number of active Leos by 1% percent in our state and their impact in their specific community.

2. Goal number two is to complete a service project that all Leos can participate (recycling) along with supporting our District-level service project (childhood cancer) for Lions and Leos at the Mid-Winter Convention. I am really looking forward to meeting everyone.

3. Goal number three is adding educational tools and strength outlets to support Leos whether school-based or community based (Leo Convention, training videos, etc.)

Future Calendar Event:

July 2-6, 2027 LionsCon 27 Lions International in Washington, D.C. (cost vary)

August 2027 (TBD) 9th USA/Canada Leo Leadership Forum (avg. cost $500 pp)

*Please note the International convention will not be this close again until 2029 which gives us a unique opportunity to serve and support.

District 31 LEO clubs: 35 total

District 31-I: 9 Leo clubs

District31-L: 5 Leo clubs

District 31-N: 4 Leo clubs

District 31-O: 11 Leo clubs

District 31-S: 6 Leo clubs

We Serve!

Lion Lashonda White
Lashondacwhite@gmail.com

(H)

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

1678-C Robins Nest Court
Gastonia, NC 28054

August 8, 2026

The Lions Clubs International Foundation closed the **2025–2026 fiscal year** with extraordinary momentum, driven by the generosity, service, and unwavering spirit of Lions across the globe. Together, our worldwide Lions family raised an impressive **$84.8 million** for LCIF — funds that directly strengthen our foundation's ability to bring hope, healing, and relief to communities in crisis.

This year's campaign demonstrated the true power of collective compassion. In **Constitutional Area 1**, which includes Lions clubs throughout the United States, Lions contributed **$12.8 million** of the global total. Of that amount, **more than $7.5 million** came from clubs, while **$5.3 million** was donated by individual Lions who chose to personally invest in LCIF's mission. These numbers reflect not only generosity, but **trust** — trust in LCIF's ability to respond swiftly and effectively wherever suffering exists. Here in **Multiple District 31**, we will not know our official fundraising goal until August. However, based on historical trends, I am confident we will again be asked to contribute **a minimum of $30 to $35 per member**, calculated from our membership as of July 1.

Multiple District 31 performed exceptionally well last year, thanks to our district governors' leadership and the hard work of our district coordinators. Statewide, we contributed **$93,804** in 2025-2026. While this represented **64.8%** of our LCIF goal of **$143,500**, it was **$744** more than what was raised in 2024-2025.

	2025-2026 Goal	Total Contributed	Percentage of Goal	Club Contributions	2024-25 Contribution
District 31-L	$21,521	$11,574	53.65%	14 of 42	$5,905
District 31-I	$28,570	$29,744	104.16%	26 of 46	$27,757
District 31-O	$34,264	$21,437	62.56%	42 of 52	$22,711
District 31-N	$32,332	$20,262	62.66%	19 of 51	$16,615
District 31-S	$26,774	$10,790	40.30%	13 of 44	$20,109

Kudos to the leadership and district coordinator in District 31-I. Our final LCIF financial report shows that this district contributed 104.16% of its goal in 2025-2026, the only district to surpass its fundraising goal last year. Also, thanks to the leadership and clubs in District 31-L who doubled their 2025-2026 contribution over last year.

While I believe our statewide goal may have been set too high last year, the truth remains: **every dollar counts**, and every contribution strengthens LCIF's ability to serve.

One area I plan to emphasize this year is participation in LCIF's **Recurring Giving Program**. This program allows Lions to make regular monthly or annual contributions to support LCIF consistently. You can give **$10 or more each month**, with contributions credited either to your club or to you personally if you are working toward a **Melvin Jones Fellowship**. More than **36,000 people** participated in Recurring Giving in 2025–2026, demonstrating how small, steady gifts can create enormous impact.

Together, we can make 2026–2027 another year of extraordinary service and generosity.

Yours in Lionism,

PCC Michael H. Schwartz

Multiple District 31/District 31-L LCIF Coordinator

(I)

Lions Club international
MD 31
Alert Report
August 8, 2026

I would like to schedule at least four Zoom meetings this year, one per quarter. The dates and times are as follows:

* August 27, 2026, at 7 PM
* November 19, 2026, at 7 PM
* February 25, 2027, at 7 PM
* May 27, 2027, at 7 PM

Below is a list of the other Alert Chair's in the state:

District L
George Suggs

District I
Christie Kestler

District O
Eric Braun

District N
DeAngelo Jackson

District S
Wayne Wright (Michelle)

Lions International's Vision for ALERT

Lions International emphasizes that disaster teams should focus on four phases:

1. **Preparedness**
2. **Response**
3. **Recovery**
4. **Community Resilience**

□

My recommendations for North Carolina

1. Build a Statewide ALERT Network

Every District should have:

- One ALERT Coordinator
- One backup coordinator
- Current phone number
- Email
- Text messaging capability

Maintain one statewide contact database that can be activated within minutes.

□

2. State Resource Database

Create a list of Lions resources in the state.

Examples:

- Generators
- Chainsaws
- Four-wheel-drive vehicles
- Trailers
- Certified nurses
- EMTs
- Firefighters
- Electricians
- Plumbers
- Heavy equipment operators
- Amateur (HAM) radio operators
- Veterinarians

During a disaster you'll know exactly who to call.

□

3. Disaster Trailer Program

Develop regional disaster trailers stocked with supplies such as:

- Water
- Blankets
- Flashlights
- Batteries
- Tarps
- Hygiene kits
- First aid supplies
- Gloves
- Shovels
- Cleaning supplies

Place trailers strategically across North Carolina.

□

4. Communication Plan

Constant communication prior to, during, and immediately after disaster:

- District Governor reports
- Zone Chairs report
- Club Presidents report

Reported information:

- Damage assessment
- Citizens effected
- Club needs
- Community needs

Within 24 hours:

- State ALERT Committee report
- Council of Governors report
- LCIF notification if appropriate

This creates a standardized reporting system.

□

5. Annual Disaster Exercise

Conduct one statewide exercise each quarter .

Examples:

- Hurricane
- Tornado
- Flood
- Ice storm

Practice:

- Communications
- Resource requests
- Shelter support
- Volunteer deployment

The exercise will reveal weaknesses before a real emergency.

□

6. Build Partnerships

Lions International specifically recommends partnering with local emergency management and community organizations rather than operating independently.

Potential North Carolina partners include:

- North Carolina Emergency Management
- County Emergency Management Offices
- American Red Cross
- Salvation Army
- CERT Teams
- Sheriff's Offices
- Fire Departments
- EMS agencies
- Public Health Departments
- VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster)

□

7. Train Lions

Offer monthly information covering:

- Disaster preparedness
- Volunteer safety
- Incident Command basics
- Shelter operations
- Family preparedness
- Emotional support after disasters
- How Lions fit into emergency response

□

8. Family Preparedness Campaign

Help every Lion prepare their own household first.

Encourage members to have:

- Three to seven days of food
- Water
- Medications
- Flashlights
- Battery-powered radio
- Phone chargers
- Important documents
- Pet supplies

Prepared Lions are better able to serve others.

□

9. Rapid Needs Assessment Team

Create a small team trained to quickly determine:

- Which clubs are affected
- Immediate community needs
- Volunteer requirements
- Equipment needs
- Whether an LCIF disaster grant should be pursued

□

Suggested State Goals

Consider measurable goals such as:

- Every club has an ALERT Chair.
- Every district conducts one disaster training annually.
- Every county has a Lions disaster contact.
- Every club completes a preparedness assessment.
- Every district participates in a statewide exercise.
- Every district develops partnerships with local emergency management.

□

Monthly Articles

- **September:** National Preparedness Month activities
- **October:** Flood recovery training
- **November:** Review disasters' lessons learned
- **December:** Update emergency contact lists
- **January:** Winter weather preparedness
- **March:** Tornado preparedness
- **May:** Hurricane planning
- **June:** ALERT training
- **July:** Statewide communications drill
- **August:** Disaster trailer

□

A Long-Term Vision

One initiative that could distinguish North Carolina is a **"Lions Ready NC"** program, where clubs earn recognition by completing preparedness benchmarks such as:

- Maintaining an emergency contact roster
- Holding annual disaster training
- Building partnerships with emergency management
- Completing a service project focused on preparedness
- Participating in a statewide exercise

This would shift the focus from simply responding to disasters toward creating a culture of preparedness across the state.

PDG DeAngelo Jackson
Walking By Faith

J

MD31 GET Report
Chair, PCC Gary Greene

Thank you to the 2026-27 MD31 Council of Governors for giving me the opportunity serve as your Extension Chair. It's more important than ever that we continue to form new clubs across the state as we try to meet the needs of the people we serve.

Let's review our results from 2025-26. In North Carolina, we formed three new clubs. Our goal for this new year is five new clubs, one in each district. Your district GET Chairs are a talented group that will serve you well this year. I've challenged them to take responsibility to personally form one new club. There is no greater learning experience than actually completing the mission yourself. Beyond that, your district chairs will also be responsible for putting together teams of Lions to build additional new clubs. This takes time, training, and encouragement.

31-L
IPDG Eileen Artavia, GET Chair

- Forest City VIP Branch Lions Club. Currently 7 members.

31-I
PCC Tim Williams, GET Chair

- A team has been pulled together to form the Yadkin County Lions Club, a county without any Lions Clubs.
- DG Sandy Fraser-Thomas is working on a Cyber Club.

31-O
2VDG Steve Hair, GET Chair

- Branch clubs in Hoke County and Ramseur continue to build toward fully chartered clubs.
- Additional teams are in place to form clubs in Alamance County, Caswell County, Summerfield, Browns Summit, High Point University, and Mt. Gilead.

31-N
IPDG Gene Goetz, GET Chair

- Actively pursuing a branch club in Washington with the Blind Center group. Aurora Lions Club will be the sponsor.
- Additional inquiries and teams being formed for Hyde County and Whiteville.
- There are two possibilities for Join Together clubs with two groups: Loving Hands International in Fayetteville and My Sister's House in New Bern.
- Three clubs – Snow Hill, Oak Island and Buies Creek – have been identified as possible rebuilding opportunities.

31-S
PDG Lorraine Dixon, GET Chair

- Plans are under way to build a club in Clayton

It's early in the year, but the time is passing even as we meet here today. Prime club building months are between now and Thanksgiving and then from January through May. Let's continue to encourage our Lions across the state to bloom where they are planted.

MD 31 GLT Report

August 8, 2026

PID Harvey Whitley and PDG Barbara Thompson

If you haven't registered for the USA/Canda Forum – there is still time!

This year it's in Memphis Tennessee and the theme is.....

50 Years – a record of developing leaders! Dates are.....September 3-5

Training.....

We're excited about our upcoming joint **VDG training** the end of September – we have lots of learning opportunities, a "fireside" chat with the Immediate Past District Governors and you know we must have some fun too! It's a great time for the VDGs to spend a few days together building relationships as they move forward in their journey!

We also have **RLLI/ELLI** coming up March 18-21, 2027. Earlier this year we combined RLLI (Regional Lions Leadership Institute) for Lions who have been President/zone chair who are ready for the next level of leadership and ELLI (Emerging Lions Leadership Institute) for Lions that haven't been a President yet but would like to gain more leadership skills - It was a huge success! We had 25 Lions attend from different levels of leadership and it was a fantastic weekend of learning and sharing. Several of the Lions in attendance volunteered for the very first time at Camp Dogwood – some more than 1 week. We will definitely keep this format – so governors – think about who you want to attend – the application will be coming your way shortly – I have a feeling it will fill up quickly!

Also, we plan to meet with all District GLT chairs and work on developing consistent training for zone chairs, committee chairs and officers with space for District add-ons.

And.....do you know who your district coordinator is? Touch base with them with any training opportunities you might like to see offered in your District!

District L	Susan Fernandez
District I	Kathy Poirier
District O	Susan O'Brien
District N	DeAngelo Jackson
District S	Allen Swalm

Respectfully submitted,

PDG Barbara Thompson and PID Harvey Whitely, GLT Co-Chairs

Council of Governors Meeting – Saturday August 7, 2026

Good morning everyone.

I would like to thank this Council led by Council Chair Kathy Poirier, for the opportunity to serve as MD31 GST for 2026-2027.

I believe this Council can make a difference to those we serve, and the many who will be joining us in service this year. The ZOOM meeting, we recently had, further confirmed my optimism.

We have set Quarterly goals that map into the goals set by our International Present.

Let's focus on the 50 to 65 years olds, They have some "gas" left in the tank. Also, we need to realize that Facebook is not the answer.

The answer is to be "visible" in our communities. How do you do it? Glad, you asked. Three simple words – Marketing, Marketing, Marketing.

Before you know it, the temperatures will be dropping. Give some consideration to having your District collect coats for the needy.

I'd like to leave you with 6 words:

Proper

Prior

Planning

Prevents

Poor

Performance

Respectfully submitted,

PDG Irwin Siegelwax

MD31 GST 2026-2027

Cell 910-209-6170

(L)

Jeffrey H Price
9404 North Manor Drive
Zebulon NC 27597
(919) 696-6679
Jeffreyhprice0602@gmail.com

August 8, 2026

To: NC Lions State Council Chair, Lion Kathleen Poirier
Members of NC Lions State Council
From: Jeff Price, NC Lions Nominations and Elections Chairperson
Subject: Report for State Council Meeting, August 8, 2026

Greetings!

I appreciate the opportunity to serve the Lions of North Carolina as Nominations and Elections Chair for 2026-2027. I look forward to serving with other Lions across the state to ensure that we proudly reflect our motto that, "We Serve!" Due to a prior conflict, I cannot attend the August State Council meeting but I do expect to attend the November meeting.

At this time, I have received an announcement of candidacy from the following Lions expressing their desire to be elected to serve as State Council Secretary/Treasurer for 2027-2028.

- PDG Lion Ana M. Elliott – Member of the Western Harnett Lions Club
- PDG Lion Susan O'Brien – Member of the Waxhaw Lions Club

I also have received an announcement of candidacy from the Lion listed below who has expressed a desire to be elected to serve as State Council Chair for 2028-2029.

- PDG Lion Susan Dailey – Candidate for State Council Chair for 2028-2029

I have received the bios and letter of endorsement for each of these Lions and will provide them prior to Council Members prior to the November meeting. If these documents are needed prior to November, please let me know and I will be happy to forward them. Thank you.

Yours in Lionism,

Lion Jeff Price

Lions Club international
MD 31
Peace Poster
August 8, 2026

We are at the beginning of another fiscal year for the Lions. The Peace Poster always has an early start in the year. Guidelines for this current year are posted below with the theme being "Harmony in Humanity"

As much as possible, as dated by each District's convention, I would like to travel to each convention with the Peace Posters that I have. We will do our best to display each District's poster throughout our state at their convention. I am aware that there are two Districts' conventions prior to December and then two Districts' conventions after December. We will do our best to display the talent throughout the state and then most definitely at the State convention we will have all five Peace Posters displayed.

I will encourage ordering the Peace Poster kit online rather than paying the postage. The link is attached.

This year 's committee consist of:

District L
Rick Hazzard
haphazzard1@bellsouth.net

District I
Emily Cook
ecook0821@yahoo.com

District O
Brenda Cox
blcox52@gmail.com

District N
Marilyn Jackson
m5djack@yahoo.com

District S
Becky Burt

momnedburt@gmail.com

Sincerely, submitted.

Marilyn Jackson
"Harmony in Humanity"

Harmony in Humanity"

https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center/marketing-events/events-programs/international-peace-contests/peace-poster-contest?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Guidelines

This year's theme encourages students to imagine a world where people from all cultures and backgrounds live together with respect, kindness, and understanding.

Eligibility

- Students must be **11, 12, or 13 years old** on **November 15, 2026**.
- The contest is open to students in schools or organized youth groups sponsored by a Lions club.

Poster Requirements

- Original artwork only.
- Artwork must relate to the theme **"Harmony in Humanity."**
- Size must be **13 inches × 20 inches (33 cm × 50 cm)**.
- Posters may be created with charcoal, crayon, pencil, ink, pastel, marker, paint, or similar media.
- No computer-generated or digital artwork.
- No three-dimensional materials (glitter, beads, fabric, etc.).
- No lettering or words on the front of the poster.
- Each poster must be the work of one student only.

Judging Criteria

Posters are judged on:

- **Originality – 30%**
- **Artistic Merit – 30%**
- **Expression of the Theme – 40%**

Important Deadlines

- **January 15, 2026:** Peace Poster kits became available.
- **October 1, 2026:** Last day for clubs to purchase contest kits.
- **November 15, 2026:** Club must send its winning poster to the District Governor.
- **December 1, 2026:** District Governor sends the district winner to the Multiple District Council Chair.
- **December 15, 2026:** Multiple District submits its winning poster to Lions International Headquarters.

Awards

- **International Grand Prize:** US$5,000, an award, and an invitation to a Lions International event.

23 Merit Award Winners: US$500 and a certificate.

NC Lions State Convention
Coordinator Report
Saturday, August 8, 2026
Dogwood on Lake Norman
Sherrills Ford, NC

The 2026 NC Lions State Convention was certainly one for record books. Honoring PID Lacy Presnell led to the best attendance in recent years. There were many Lions who contributed to its success; all their diligence is appreciated.

The 2027 State Convention is booked for April 23 – April 25, 2027, at the Greensboro/High Point Airport Marriott, Greensboro, NC. The International Family, District Governors, District Governors-Elect, and their respective Council Chairs will gather on Thursday, April 22, to start the weekend. Room rates will be $132.00 (plus applicable taxes) per night. Meeting room rental rates will be adjusted for several rooms, saving thousands of dollars.

I am recommending that the convention remains at this venue for the coming years. The Greensboro/High Point Marriott staff have made the following recommendations for the following years for our state conventions:

- April 27 though 30, 2028 (Thursday through Sunday)
    - Room rates $135.00 (plus applicable state and occupancy taxes) per night
    - Suites and junior suites $135 (plus applicable state and occupancy taxes)
    - Various concessions regarding meeting room rentals with $18,000 Food & Beverage minimum
    - Gift certificates for the state convention as well as the VIP Fishing Tournament auctions.
    - One complimentary room per night for every thirty-five (35) room nights actualized.
    - Waived event space internet access ($200.00 per day/meeting space savings)
- April 26-April 30, 2029 (Thursday through Sunday)
    - Room rates $138.00 (plus applicable state and occupancy taxes) per night
    - Suites and junior suites $138.00 per night (plus applicable state and occupancy taxes) per night

I am asking for your approval to confirm these terms and conditions.
Thank you,
Lion Laraine Dupree, PDG
NC Lions State Convention Coordinator

Multiple District 31

North Carolina Lions



July 23, 2026
Mrs. Laraine Dupree
Convention Chair
Lions Club International
P.O. Box 485
Wingate, NC 28174

Dear Lariane:

We are excited about the opportunity to host the **North Carolina Lions 2028 and 2029 State Conventions.** Our staff looks forward to continuing of friendship and partnership with the Lions of North Carolina!

You and your guests will feel confident in knowing that the staff at Greensboro-High Point Marriott Airport is committed to providing a flawless event for you. This commitment extends from our Guest Service Associates, who first greet your guests, to our General Manager, Megan Weathersbee.

Currently we can offer the following group room availability:

Date	Day	Marriott Suite	Junior Suite	1 King or 2 Queen Beds	Total Rooms
04/27/2028	Thu	2	4	18	24
04/28/2028	Fri	2	4	99	105
04/29/2028	Sat	2	4	119	125

Greensboro-High Point Marriott Airport is pleased to offer the following group room rates:

Start Date	End Date	Room Type	Single
04/27/2028	04/30/2028	Marriott Suites	$135.00
04/27/2028	04/30/2028	1 King or 2 Queen Beds	$135.00

***CONCIERGE ACCESS for Suite 609, Suite 542, Junior Suites, and VIP Guests**

The above rates are quoted in current year's dollars. These rates are net of taxes and non-commissionable. Hotel room rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes (currently 12.75%) in effect at the time of check-in.

OVERNIGHT ROOM RATES

- Please Note: Sleeping rooms are per room, per night and are based on single or double occupancy.
- 6.75 % State Tax and 6% Occupancy Tax.
- Room rates are non-commissionable.
- Quoted Room Rates are valid for 90 days from proposal date. Rates may change after this date.
- Meeting Space and Guest Rooms are being held on first option basis.

MARRIOTT CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

Date	Day	Start Time	End Time	Function Type	Setup	# People	Rental	Meeting Space
04/26/2028	Wed	12:00 PM	11:59 PM	War Room	Special	5	Waived	Triad Room
04/27/2028	Thu	8:00 AM	11:59 PM	War Room	Special	5	Waived	Triad Room
04/27/2028	Thu	12:00 PM	11:59 PM	Exhibits	Exhibits	10	Waived	Ballroom Foyer
04/27/2028	Thu	1:00 PM	11:00 PM	Registration	Registration	4	Waived	Foyer
04/27/2028	Thu	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	Reception	Special	35	Waived	Emerald Foyer
04/27/2028	Thu	6:30 PM	9:30 PM	International Family Dinner	Rounds of 8	35	Waived	Emerald Room
04/28/2028	Fri	8:00 AM	10:00 PM	Hospitality Room Set-Up	Rounds of 8	48	$150	Emerald Room
04/28/2028	Fri	2:00 PM	10:00 PM	Set Up	Rounds of 8	100	Waived	Salons A-D
04/28/2028	Fri	8:00 AM	11:59 PM	Exhibits	Exhibits	15	Waived	Ballroom Foyer
04/28/2028	Fri	8:00 AM	11:59 PM	War Room	Special	15	Waived	Triad Room
04/28/2028	Fri	8:00 AM	11:59 PM	Office	Conference	10	Waived	Board Room
04/28/2028	Fri	3:00 PM	7:00 PM	Registration	Registration	6	Waived	Foyer
04/28/2028	Fri	5:00 PM	9:00 PM	Dinner	Rounds of 8	215	Waived	Grand Ballroom
04/29/2028	Sat	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Set Up	Rounds of 8	200	Waived	Salons A-E
04/29/2028	Sat	7:00 AM	1:00 PM	Hospitality Room	Rounds of 8	48	$150	Emerald Room
04/29/2028	Sat	7:00 AM	11:59 PM	War Room	Special	10	Waived	Triad Room
04/29/2028	Sat	8:00 AM	11:59 PM	Meeting	TBD	100	$300	Greensboro/High Point
04/29/2028	Sat	8:00 AM	2:00 PM	Special/Leo's Meeting	Special	15	$300	Piedmont Ballroom
04/29/2028	Sat	8:00 AM	11:45 PM	Exhibits	Exhibits	15	Waived	Ballroom Foyer
04/29/2028	Sat	8:00 AM	9:15 AM	Breakfast	Rounds of 8	165	Waived	Salons A-E
04/29/2028	Sat	9:15 AM	10:15 AM	Live Auction	Rounds of 8	300	Waived	Salons A-E
04/29/2028	Sat	10:30 AM	11:30 AM	Town Hall General Session	Rounds of 8	300	Waived	Salons A-E
04/29/2028	Sat	12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Holding Room	Rounds of 8	50	$200	Cardinal Room
04/29/2028	Sat	1:30 PM	5:00 PM	Round Table Discussion	Rounds of 8	100		Greensboro/High Point
04/29/2028	Sat	TBD	TBD	31-L Cabinet Meeting	Rounds	50		Greensboro Room
04/29/2028	Sat	TBD	TBD	31-I Cabinet Meeting	Rounds	100		Piedmont Ballroom
04/29/2028	Sat	TBD	TBD	31-O Cabinet Meeting	Rounds	200		Salons D-H
04/29/2028	Sat	TBD	TBD	31-N Cabinet Meeting	Rounds	65		Salons A-C
04/29/2028	Sat	TBD	TBD	31-S Cabinet Meeting	Rounds	50		High Point Room
04/29/2028	Sat	5:45 PM	6:45 PM	Head Table Gathering	Special	30		Greensboro/High Point
04/29/2028	Sat	6:30 PM	10:30 PM	Dinner	Rounds of 8	250	Waived	Grand Ballroom
04/30/2028	Sun	8:00 AM	12:00 PM	Office	Conference	10	Waived	Board Room
04/30/2028	Sun	7:00 AM	1:00 PM	Hospitality Room	Rounds of 8	48	$150	Emerald Room
04/30/2028	Sun	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	War Room	Special	10	Waived	Triad Room
04/30/2028	Sun	8:15 AM	9:00 AM	Service of Remembrance	Rounds	270	$300	Grand Ballroom
04/30/2028	Sun	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	General Session	Rounds of 8	270	Waived	Grand Ballroom

CONCESSIONS

- 1 Complimentary room per night for every (35) room nights actualized.
- 1 Presidential Suite 609 Complimentary Thursday/Friday/Saturday ($335.00 Value per night)
- 1 Suite – 542 with Concierge Access at Group Rate of $135.00 (335.00 Value per night)
- 4 Jr. Suite upgrades with Concierge Access at the group rate of $135.00 (235.00 Value per night)
- 4 Upgrades to Concierge Level – Lounge Closed Friday PM- Sun AM
- 3 Welcome Amenities – 1 @100.00 value / 2 @50.00 value
- 1 Gift Certificate for Two-Night Stay with Breakfast for 2 –valid from 4/30/2028 – 4/30/2029
- 1 Gift Certificate for One-Night Stay for VIP Fishing Tournament – valid from 4/30/28 – 4/30/2029
- Meeting Room Setup/Rental Reduced from $20,000.00 to $1,550.00, plus tax and service charge with $18,000 Food & Beverage Minimum

MARRIOTT CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

- Waived Event Space Internet Access ($200.00 per day/per meeting space savings)
- Audio/visual in Main Meeting/Meal Room and Handheld Microphones provided at no charge.
- No charge for Wired Microphones
- No Charge for Registration Tables, Linens, Chairs and Waste Basket – set up by 8:00am Friday Morning
- (6) Complimentary Easels to be in Ballroom Foyer by 1:00pm Thursday for Client Use
- Hotel to be given Advertisement in Program valued at $1000.00.

VENDOR TABLES

There will be a $20 flat fee per vendor charged for initial set-up of Exhibitor/Vendor Tables. This includes the table, linens, 2 chairs and wastepaper basket.

Guest room rate below will apply to 2029 State Convention. All other terms in proposal for 2028 Convention will remain the same.

Date	Day	Marriott Suite	Junior Suite	1 King or 2 Queen Beds	Total Rooms
04/26/2029	Thu	2	4	18	24
04/27/2029	Fri	2	4	99	105
04/28/2029	Sat	2	4	119	125

Greensboro-High Point Marriott Airport is pleased to offer the following group room rates:

Start Date	End Date	Room Type	Single
04/26/2029	04/29/2029	Marriott Suites	$138.00
04/26/2029	04/29/2029	1 King or 2 Queen Beds	$138.00

***CONCIERGE ACCESS for Suite 609, Suite 542, Junior Suites, and VIP Guests**

Lariane, thank you again for your consideration of our hotel and I hope we have the opportunity to work with you and the North Carolina Lions on the 2028 and 2029 State Conventions. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions on the information outlined in this proposal.

With Warm Regards,

Melinda

MARRIOTT CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

July 28, 2026

Subject: Closing of Audit – 2026 NC Lions State Convention Financial Records

Dear NC State Council of Governors – Multiple District 31(MD-31),

I have completed the formal audit of the financial books, records, and accounts for the 2026 North Carolina Lions State Convention to officially close out Fiscal Year 2026.

The examination included verifying all reported revenues, evaluating expense documentation, and reconciling the final bank statements for the fiscal year. Based on my review, the financial records present fairly, in all material respects, the fiscal position of the convention. The records confirm an exact net surplus and final closing balance of $12,196.86. All activities successfully align with the financial guidelines of the NC Lions State Council.

All outstanding items for the fiscal year have been resolved, and no material discrepancies were noted. I commend you and your committee for your meticulous record-keeping and dedication to maintaining transparency throughout FY 2026.

With the conclusion of this review, the financial files for the 2026 State Convention are officially closed out for the fiscal year. Please ensure these books are securely archived in accordance with the organization's retention policies.

Thank you for your exceptional service and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Betty Shingleton

Betty Shingleton
Budget & Finance Committee Chair
District 31N Treasurer
President, Kinston Host Lions Club

cc: PDG Susan Dailey, PDG Susan O'Brien, and PDG Barbara Thompson

NC Lions VIP Fishing Tournament – Report to District Governors

Prepared by: Owen White, Executive Director **Date:** August 2026

Board Position Additions & Changes

The NC Lions VIP Fishing Tournament Board has implemented several updates to strengthen organizational leadership:

- New board members have been added to support communications, logistics, and fundraising initiatives
- Certain existing positions have been realigned to better reflect current operational needs,
- 2 District at large positions were added: Jody Proctor and Nathan Medlin
  Manteo Lions Club elected a new member: Lester Page replacing Hunt Thomas
  Nags Head elected a new member: Hunt Thomas
  First Flight elected a new member: Melinda Maher replacing Angelo Sonnesso
  Angelo Sonnesso was re-appointed to the Liason to the Blind board position
  1 District at large, 1 State at large, and 1 Nags Head board position remain unfilled
- Committee assignments will be updated to ensure coverage across key areas including accessibility, volunteer coordination, and event safety

A full roster will be distributed to District Governors following the next board meeting.

Application Deadline – August 15

The application period for the 2026 NC Lions Visually Impaired Person's Fishing Tournament remains open through **August 15**. We continue to receive steady submissions from both returning and first-time participants. Lions clubs are encouraged to assist any VIPs who may need help completing or submitting their applications before the deadline. Out of state applicants are placed on a waiting list until August 21. The thought process there is to take as many NC participants before accepting out of state participation.

VIP Participant & Volunteer Counts

Current projections for the 2026 tournament indicate:

- **VIP Participants:** Early counts show strong participation, with registrations on pace with last years numbers. Final numbers will be available after the August 15 deadline.
- **Volunteers:** Volunteer sign-ups remain robust across multiple districts. We anticipate meeting or exceeding the staffing levels required for pier support, transportation, meal service, and accessibility assistance.

We will provide updated totals once registration closes and all district submissions are reconciled.

VIP Auction Report

The annual VIP Auction continues to be a successful fundraising component of the tournament. Highlights include:

- Increased club and district participation in item donations
- Strong bidding activity, particularly on handcrafted items and locally sourced goods
- Positive feedback from bidders regarding the level and amount of items offered
- The auction brought in approximately $30,000.00 before expenses, higher totals were reported on the site due to donations and sposorships received during the auction period

Funds raised through the auction directly support participant services, equipment needs, and tournament operations.

Golf Tournament Changes

The annual Golf Tournament fundraiser is undergoing several adjustments for 2026:

- We understand the PDG Golf Tournament will no longer be held
- FFLC has agreed to conduct a golf tournament in conjunction with the existing golf ball drop fundraiser held in November
- There will be updated sponsorship tiers to increase fundraising potential
- We encourage any previously associated with the PDG Tournament to support the new tournament and welcome any new supporters throughout the state

We would like to thank Lacy Presnell, Herb Justice, Gene English, and the many volunteers for managing this event through the years. We hope to continue and strengthen the tournament's role as a major fundraising event supporting VIP services.

Pier Accessibility Concerns

We are monitoring possible difficulties with pier accessibility for the 2026 tournament. Several factors may affect access:

- Structural or maintenance issues at Jennette's Pier
  Potential limitations on available space due to construction or repair work
- Ownership changes at Nags Head Pier

We are actively working with pier management teams to assess conditions and identify solutions. Contingency plans will be developed as needed to ensure safe and equitable access for all VIP participants.

Executive Director's Report Summary

The North Carolina Lions Foundation completed an exceptional year highlighted by record fundraising achievements, impactful service programs, a successful Camp Dogwood season, and continued improvements to Foundation facilities.

The **2025-2026 Brighter Visions Campaign** raised **$550,481**, exceeding its statewide goal of $532,702 and reaching **103% of goal**. This represented an increase of approximately **21%** over the previous year. A total of **4,223 Lions** participated statewide, with District I and District S leading fundraising efforts and exceeding their goals. Campaign funds support Camp Dogwood, vision assistance programs, scholarships, matching grants, mobility cane distribution, vision screenings, and other Foundation services.

Additional fundraising efforts also experienced strong success. The **Camp Dogwood Raffle** generated **$126,457**, while the **Memorial and Honorarium Program** raised **$3,759**. Fellowship programs, including Ambassador, Stickley Fellow, Woolard Fellow, and Scruggs Fellow recognitions, contributed **$38,500**, and other unrestricted giving programs generated **$26,180** to support Foundation operations and emerging needs.

Camp Dogwood enjoyed another outstanding summer season, providing meaningful recreational, social, and personal growth opportunities for individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Participants enjoyed activities such as boating, fishing, swimming, archery, arts and crafts, dancing, and other camp experiences. Feedback from campers, families, volunteers, and staff reflected a highly successful and memorable season.

Several facility improvement projects made significant progress during the year. The Lodge carpet replacement project was completed, while planning and construction continued for the helipad project, recreation area shelter, duplex window replacements, and boat dock replacement project.

The **See the 21st Century Vision Screening Program** continued to expand its impact across North Carolina. During the year, the program conducted **183 screening events**, screened **17,350 children and adults**, and generated **3,006 referrals** for additional eye care services. The NC Lions KidSight Program screened **16,591 children**, while community outreach events screened **759 adults**. The program also expanded hearing screening services and continued to benefit from grant funding that supports training, equipment, transportation, and vision care assistance.

LCIF Matching Vision Grant Update: The proposed LCIF Matching Vision Grant remains under review by the grant committee. We expect to receive an update or decision soon and will provide additional information as it becomes available.

As the Foundation enters the 2026-2027 Lions year, it remains in a strong position due to the dedication of North Carolina Lions, volunteers, donors, board members, and staff whose support continues to change lives and strengthen communities throughout the state.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carlie Metts
Executive Director
North Carolina Lions Foundation, Inc.