



The Lion Hearted News



September 2021

Concord Lions Club

Volume 89 Issue 03

Serving Concord since 1932

The President's Roar

It is a busy time at the Concord Lions as we move into the Fall season. Those of us at the last meeting were overwhelmed with our four scholarship winners and the things they do in service to others. Our club is proud of their efforts. The Vision Screening committee is working on a video to send to daycare providers while the Membership Committee is wrapping up plans for our Membership Event on September 25th. Six Concord Lions attended the Brighter Vision Kickoff where our club donated \$3500 to NCLI. When the tally was announced, clubs donated \$34,107! On the patriotic side, flags are going up for both Labor Day and Patriot's Day. Your board is working on the budget and expects to present it at the next meeting. Our volunteer program committee has programs lined up through March.

Since 1932, Concord Lions have been busy serving others. That is what we do. I want to thank the club for their great works. I am excited about our future and impact on the community. I trust each of you will step forward and serve.

Lions, let's continue to fulfill our motto, "We Serve", embracing new opportunities and remember NO mountain is ever too high.

Hope to see you at our next meeting September 7th. **Lion President Solomon**

Membership Event September 25th at 4:30PM

Mark your calendars and don't forget to be a part of our Membership Event at Les Myers Park, Neal Davis shelter. We are all encouraged to ask someone to join us for a Hot Dog Dinner and hear information on the Concord Lions Club and what we do in our community. See Page 3 for details.

Calendar of Events

September 4-11—Flag Display Labor and Patriot's Days

September 7- 6:30 PM-Regular Meeting-Parkway House

Kevin Grant - Cabarrus County Environmental Management Director

September 14- 6:30PM Board of Directors Covenant Presbyterian

September 24 -26 Regional Lions Leadership Institute Camp Dogwood

September 25 4:30-6:30 Membership Event and Cookout -Les Myers Park



Scholarship Recipients Recognized

Our August meeting provided us a time to honor our four Legacy Scholarship winners and hear about their service to others. Pictured above left to right are: Peter Petroff (2020), Lion President Solomon Hall, Meera Patel (2021) and Austin Paxton (2018). Not pictured is Raj Pulgurtha (2019) who was involved with a summer session with his university.

See their service reports on the Service with a Smile pages.

Membership Event September 25

COOKOUT and MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Mark Your Calendar for Saturday, Sept 25 for a Hot Dog Cookout and Membership Drive to be held at Les Myers Park at 4:30 - 6:30 PM!

Please do the following to prepare for a wonderful time together with all of our guests, friends, and Lions Club members.

- ◆ Invite several guests - we have invitation cards you may give to them and keep their info so you may call them again if they have not called you by Sept 19. (we will have more available at the Sept. 7 meeting).
- ◆ Call Lion Georgianne with number coming by September 19-20 (704-721-3315) leave message if no answer.
- ◆ WEAR YOUR NAME TAG, HATS, SHIRT OR ANYTHING TO IDENTIFY YOU AS A LION.
- ◆ Bring anything you wish to display relating to the Concord Lions Club (pins, hats, activity pictures, poster) We will have a table for displays.
- ◆ ALL- please mingle and talk about things we do for our community.
- ◆ Sit with your guests or someone other than our own Lions members.
- ◆ AFTER the cookout call your guest to thank them for coming. Ask if they would like to attend a meeting and give the date and time.
- ◆ If everyone gets just one person to come and join, just think of all the good we can do for the visually impaired in our community and around the world..
- ◆ **BE HAPPY AND ENTHUSIASTIC** Call Lion Georgianne if you have questions.

Your Membership Committee
Lions Georgianne, Alice, Diann



District Convention Update

Our District Convention is scheduled for November 5th and 6th. This needs to be a great, great convention since last year our convention was by zoom. This year it will be a live convention so all of you can come and enjoy your friendships with our Lions across our District. It is going to be held at the Village Inn Hotel and Event Center in Clemmons, NC, just about a one hour drive.

Vice Governor Bill needs our help. Last year we wanted to honor our unsung heroes in each and every club in our District. Therefore, our theme for this year will once again, be “Unsung Heroes”. Our plan is to honor one Lion from each club. These Lions from your club will be honored on Saturday, during the luncheon.

Every club is being asked to nominate an Unsung Hero. You should have received an email from Lion Secretary Joe with instructions.

We will be having a continuous power point presentation honoring each club’s unsung hero. Therefore, each club is asked to submit a photo of their unsung hero in a PDF file with a brief reason why this person was chosen by the club.

A convention reservation form can be found on page 14 of this newsletter. Should you want to make room reservations, the information is included on the form with a deadline of October 5th.

The convention kicks off with the Friday Fun Night. Participants are encouraged to dress up in their favorite Hero costume. Saturday morning will begin with the Tail Twister Breakfast followed by the Brighter Visions auction. There will be exhibits, zone basket raffles and the BV Boutique which features hand made items. After the lunch, the District Cabinet will occur.

How can you help? Make your room and meeting reservations, secure auction items, make handmade products for the BV Boutique and vote for your unsung here.

Let’s all plan to attend and represent our great Concord Lions Club.

CONVENTION REGISTER FORM IS ON PAGE 14.



Service With A SMILE

Lions at our August meeting were impressed by the service activities our scholarship winners have completed during the last year. Here is a summary from our 2018 winner Austin Paxton.

I would like to first say that I am excited for the opportunity to see you all in person again, as it has been quite some time since I have been able to attend a meeting with you all.

I am sure it doesn't come as a surprise to anyone to try and grasp what all took place in each of our lives over the past year and a half. But boy am I glad to be able to say there looks like there is finally light at the end of the tunnel.

In the time since we last spoke, I have had multiple opportunities to serve in the world around us. But I want to take this time to emphasize the opportunity that has been so close to my heart.

Since interviewing for this scholarship, you all have heard time and time again about my heart for missions. I have served internationally now on multiple continents: North America, Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

The pandemic hindered me in multiple ways to not be able to travel internationally and serve, but I was able to develop an avenue to still support the cause here at home. With the help of a dear friend and the support of my local church we now have a fully functional coffee bar that operates at the same capacity of a Local Coffee Shop. All proceeds made off of the coffee we serve each week goes to support both short-term and long-term missions.

When you order a short-term coffee which is a small, those proceeds go to support a short-term mission trip, like many of the ones I have been on. The proceeds from a long-term coffee which is a large, goes to support a long-term missionary like our former children's pastor who now serves full time in the Czech Republic with his wife and 4 children. Each drink is named after a different Country we have formerly served in, plan to serve in, and or one of the families or organizations that we support that already serve there.

I look forward to seeing the ways I get to serve in different capacities as I draw close to the end of my college career. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the continued financial support through the last 4 years. It has been a pleasure.

Blessings,

Austin Paxton

Service With A SMILE

2019 Scholarship winner Raj Pulugurtha spent a day working with Lion Alice at the Salvation Army food drive. Below you will see a note he emailed to our club about the experience. Here also is information regarding his college service activities.

I really appreciated the time I got to spend working with Alice at the Salvation Army, as I helped Alice and a few others distribute boxes of food to families in need. I quickly learned that though this is a weekly program, there always seemed to be more work to do than there was help available. Seeing this, it became very evident to me that the help I was providing was very much appreciated, and thus I felt that I was truly making a difference to not only the community, but also to those at the Salvation Army who I was directly helping. Thanks Alice for the opportunity, and I hope to help out again when I'm home for the holidays!

Thanks, Raj Pulugurtha

2020 Scholarship winner Peter Petroff volunteers in local hospital. Below you will see a note he emailed to our club about the experience.

Over my gap year, during the 2020-2021 school year, I connected with service in a way I was familiar with, by working with a hospital. Unlike in the past, when I worked hands-on with Atrium Health in capacities such as patient care and supply management, this year I worked virtually with Novant Health to better prepare staff for engaging with a diverse community of patients. Throughout my time with the organization, I helped form a diversity and inclusion program for Novant Health workers, assisted in designing and managing the creation of murals throughout Novant Health facilities, worked on an ebook library for virtual use, outlined a plan for housing service animals belonging to hospitalized patients, and constructed a therapeutic music playlist for both patients and staff members. Outside of the hospital, I continued to clean up litter wherever and whenever I found litter on my street, and did my best to engage with my community in the spirit of the Lions Club.

Thank you, Peter

Service With A SMILE

2021 Scholarship winner Meera Patel provided the below synopsis of her service activities during her senior year at Concord High School.

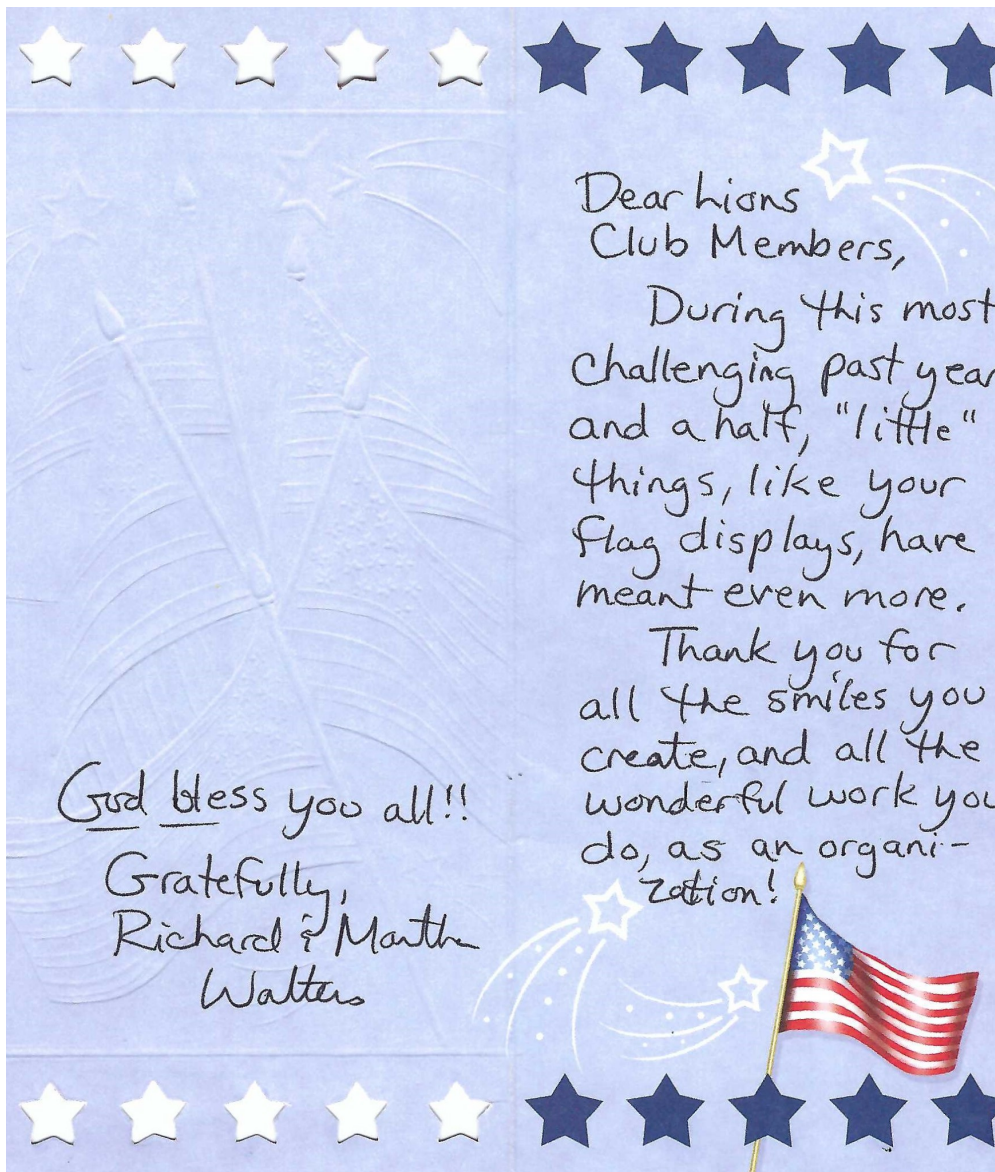
Most of the community service I participated in was within the school, especially since COVID-19 made it hard to find public opportunities. I was a historian of our National BETA Club, a member of our National Art Honor Society, National Science Honor Society and our Chinese National Honor Society. Within these clubs we primarily planned and participated in activities around the school while also tutoring fellow peers that might need help. Outside of school, I also volunteered at the Boys and Girls Club in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program as a Big Sister. This program is meant to pair young, impressionable children to an older role model who acts as a good influence as well as teaches them important life skills. I loved volunteering in this program because it made me feel like I was making a direct difference in my "little sister's" life. I still keep in touch with my little sister and it feels good knowing that there is someone out there that feels comfortable enough to rely on me. I've also spent many hours with our Concord Youth Council and learned so much about our community as well as what we can do to make it a better place. Lastly, I've spent almost 4 years volunteering at Novant Health Hospital in Salisbury, NC. All these service opportunities have taught me the importance of being active in your community and how great it feels to be making a difference. I know that as I further my education at North Carolina State University, I will look for service opportunities wherever I go and continue to help wherever I can.

Thanks, Meera



Service with a Smile

Throughout the last several months we have been receiving payments for the flag contracts. Many of the checks received included a "Thank-You" for what we do. In addition, we have received approximately \$600 in donations included in their payments.





USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum
September 9-11, 2021
Des Moines, Iowa



Birthdays

Sep 4-Elizabeth Schaville

Sep 17-Sam Cress



Have a Service Project Idea?

Lion Richard Rogers is our club Service Chair. Contact Lion Richard if you have ideas or opportunities for Service Projects in our community.

Membership and Service are critical to our efforts to serve others. Ask someone to join us! The more we have the more we can serve.

Things we heard in the Lions Den

Prior to heading back to the University of Illinois, 2019 scholarship winner Raj joined Lion Alice at a Salvation Army food drive.

Would anyone like to volunteer to send cards to our members when needed?

Lion Trish is making jams and jellies for sale with the proceeds going to Brighter Visions. Let her know if you want to purchase some.

Fall begins soon. Apparently Dunkin's Donuts added pumpkin-spice beginning August 18th!

The Steebs are making a quick trip to Wisconsin to visit their family.

Odell Lions are having difficulties getting enough help to hold their semi-annual BBQs. They are hoping to have one in October.

What's Happening?

Do you order from Amazon.com? Did you know that your order can benefit NCLI? All you need to do is use the address of Smile.Amazon.com and select NCLI as the beneficiary. Amazon will donate a portion of every order made using that web address to NCLI.

Here is an Opportunity for Service

Recently, a young blind person contacted Lions International. As she lives in Concord, her request was forwarded to our club members. Perhaps you saw the email forwarded to you from Secretary Joe.

Lion George recently contacted Taylor to gather information to see if we as a club could assist her need.

Taylor is an employee of a firm in Apex that contracts with schools to provide needed services to visually impaired students. They also provide assistance to deaf and hard of hearing students. From their website, we found they support children with visual impairments and blindness in school, home and community settings with highly qualified Teachers of the Visually Impaired, Orientation and Mobility Specialists and Braillists. Taylor uses her own experiences of being blind to assist the children with which she works.

Her problem? Transportation.

Taylor's day may include visits to multiple schools in our area. Drivers are given schedules of where she needs to be and for how long.

Lions George's first reaction was it would basically be a full day of driving and waiting. While a volunteer who works would not be able to assist, others who are retired might be interested.

Here is the best news. Her company will pay \$140 per day to transport her to her work locations.

Using this information, it occurred that Lions might be interested in volunteering or perhaps interested in a more daily effort with pay. He suspects that some of you would possibly be interested in filling in and taking a day with driving and reading a favorite book while awaiting Taylor to complete her school visit.

Here is an example of her schedule. Tuesday Aug 24th

- Pick up at **home** 614 Hydrangea Circle NW Concord NC 28027 at 9:40am and drop off at **Hickory Ridge High School**.
- Pick up at **Hickory Ridge High School** at 11 AM and go to **Bethel Elementary school**.
- Pick up at **Bethel Elementary school** at 12 PM and go to **Boger Elementary School**.
- Pick up at **Boger Elementary School** at 2 PM and go to **Harris Road Middle School**.
- Done for the day

You Might Like to Know

Upcoming Programs You Don't Want to Miss

Tentative programs are being scheduled for the Lion's Year. Currently, we have interesting programs for every month other than April. Please plan to attend and support these visiting speakers. Programs are scheduled for the regular meeting on the first Tuesday of each month. We hope you will offer your support and sign-up for one month.

September	Recycling	October	Eva Weaver—Social Worker for the Blind
November	Phil Murph—Lions Services	December	VIP Christmas Party
January	District Governor Official Visit		
February	Michelle Gregory—Vision Assistance Technology		
March	Taylor McDonald—Vision Assistance for school children		
April	Open	May	VIP Picnic
June	Officer Installation 1VG Bill Mathers		



Vision Screening Update



As the new school year begins, we are happy to report that we are making progress in implementing our vision screening project. First, we are working on developing a network of local eye care professionals who would be willing to provide eye exams for those children needing a referral and who do not have an eye care specialist. So far, Lion John Nunn and I met with Dr. John Atkinson in Kannapolis. Our purpose was to explain our program and ask if he would be a part of our network. Dr. Atkinson was very excited to hear what we will be doing, offered suggestions for other eye care professionals he thought would also like to be part of the network and invited us to do a presentation for the Kannapolis Rotary Club.

Our second accomplishment has been the filming of our marketing video. Besides sending a letter of introduction, the video will make it possible to reach out to the preschool directors explaining who we are, what our program is about, provide a brief demonstration of the Spot camera and encourage them to allow us to provide this service for their students. Lion President Solomon will put the finishing touches on the video so it will be ready for distribution shortly.

2VG Lion Kathy Poirier

You Might Like to Know



Lions Richard and Trish saw this Eyeglasses recycling box while on a visit to the coast.

You may not be aware, but our club has one of these in storage. It previously was located at a local Wal-Mart. When Wal-Mart opened there own Optical office, we were ask to move the box.

Concord Lions, send your suggestions for the possible location of our box. Let's put it to good use rather than collecting dust in the warehouse.

Recently our club delivered 100 used eyeglasses to Camp Dogwood. Also delivered were a large bag of can tabs. We also have a large bag of cell phones to get to the Camp.



Flash-Back

Recycled picture from 2015

Before you Go—Laughs for Lions

One Liners to Make You Smile

Source: google image search "Fall Puns"

What month does every tree dread? Sept-timmberrr!

Why did the lions move at the end of summer? Because the pride goeth before the fall!

Did you hear about the tree who deserted the forest at the end of fall? He was absent without leaves!

Why do trees hate going back to school in the fall? Because they're easily stumped!

What do you call a dude who really likes autumn? A fall guy!

What did the leaf say to autumn? I'm falling for you!

What type of vehicle should you use for a fall hayride? An autumn-mobile!

What do trees say when they get their leaves back in spring? What a re-leaf!

Why did the tree worry that he would never get his leaves back after autumn? He didn't be-leaf in himself!

What did the lawn say to the rake last autumn? Leaf me alone!

What kind of vest should you wear in the fall? A har-vest!



Don't forget to invite someone to the membership event



**District 31-I Lions Fall Convention
Registration Form**



Village Inn Hotel & Event Center, Clemmons, NC - November 5-6, 2021

Friday - November 5 (Registration: 3:00PM-7:00PM Hotel Lobby)
 Hospitality Room Open..... 3:00PM - 5:00PM
 Exhibits, BV Boutique, Zone Basket Raffle 3:00PM - 6:00PM
 Family Fun Night (Dinner and Entertainment) **Super Hero Fun & Games** 6:30PM - 9:00PM
 Hospitality Room Open Following Fun Night

Saturday - November 6 (Registration: 7:00AM-12:00PM)
 Breakfast (All Lions and Guests)..... 8:00AM-9:00AM
 Tail Twister Auction..... 9:00AM
 Exhibits, BV Boutique, Zone Basket Raffle 9:00AM - 4:00PM
 Town Hall Meeting with **Past International Director Harvey Whitley** 10:30AM - 11:30AM
 Delegate Certification..... 11:30AM-12:00PM & 3:00 - 3:30PM
 Lunch Banquet **Honoring Unsung Heroes** (Lions and Guests)..... 12:00PM - 3:00PM
 District Cabinet Meeting and Officer Elections 3:30PM
 Hospitality Room Open for evening 4:30PM

**Hospitality Room open all day Saturday for refreshments and snacks (Except During Lunch)
Badges must be worn at all meal functions (including Fun Night)**

Village Inn * **Lions Room Rate:**
6205 Ramada Dr **\$94.00 plus tax**
Clemmons, NC 27012

*Lions Room Rate will be available until OCT 5th.
 Hotel Reservations after October 5th will be provided
 on a space available basis.*

*Make room reservations directly with the hotel:
 Call (336-766-9121 or 800-554-6416) and ask for
 Lions Group.*

*Trademark Collection by Wyndham

Make check for meals payable to:
 NC 31-I Lions Clubs

Mail check with bottom portion of this form to:
 Lion Liz Steele Phone: (704)798-3471
 2252 Baker Mill Rd
 Cleveland, NC 27013
 Email: LRSteele@hughes.net

Do Not Mail after October 29, 2020
 Phone registration only between Oct 29 & Nov. 1
No refunds after Nov. 1

Return this part of the form with your check – Copy as needed

Club: _____ **District:** _____

Check all that apply

Names: <i>(PRINT first and last names & circle title)</i>	*Food Allergies	Awards						Meals		Banquet		
		MJF	JSF	WLW	BOH	AMB	HOF	FN	BK	Pork	Chic	Veg
1. _____ ID, PIP, PID, DG, PCC, PDG, 1VDG, 2VDG, Lion, Leo		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____ ID, PIP, PID, DG, PCC, PDG, 1VDG, 2VDG, Lion, Leo		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____ ID, PIP, PID, DG, PCC, PDG, 1VDG, 2VDG, Lion, Leo		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____ ID, PIP, PID, DG, PCC, PDG, 1VDG, 2VDG, Lion, Leo		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Function		Number Attending	
		Adults	Cost
Family Fun Night Burger Bar	\$22.00	_____	_____
Key Member Breakfast Plated Breakfast	\$20.00	_____	_____
Lunch Banquet Veg Lasagna, Herb Roasted Pork Loin or Southern Fried Chicken	\$30.00	_____	_____

Reminder: Please Select Banquet Meal Preference and Specify *Food Allergies Above **Total Cost \$** _____

CONVENTION REGISTRATON FORM