

# MD31L-Recovering After the Storm



District Governor  
Dawson Hart

Friday, September 27th forever changed the lives of The United States of America with a hard hit to District 31L, Western North Carolina Lions. We were hit with the deadliest and estimated to be the costliest, in repair damages, hurricane in the history of our country. We never would have dreamed that a catastrophe of this magnitude could have possibly hit the high and historically beautiful mountains of North Carolina, but it did, along with a slew of other southeastern states.

Hurricane Helene touched every county of our Lions' Multiple District 31L, with the majority of clubs and lions club members located in the high mountains who were hit the hardest in North Carolina. The saying, "where there is a need, there is a lion," has never before rang so true. With time and the unity that has been displayed so greatly since the initial hit, together we shall rise stronger than before. I could not be prouder of those who have stepped up to make sure that our lions and McCune Community residents are safe and secure. Thank you to the lions in our district, throughout the state, and around the country who have reached out to support through prayer, checking in, supply donations, monetary donations, and more.

## ATTENTION

Any NC Lion that has been displaced due to the effects of Tropical Storm Helene, may receive free lodging for themselves and their family members by calling the Camp Dogwood office. The kitchen will not be opened, so bring your own meals. The dorms have refrigerators and microwaves. Laundry facilities are available. Camp Dogwood is acting as a shelter currently for at least six families in need.

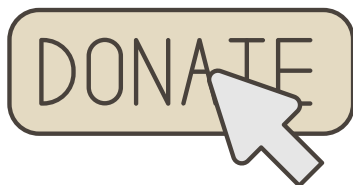
## UPDATES

The disaster trailer from Multiple District 31N is scheduled to deliver supplies to the Hendersonville area on Saturday, October 5th.

District Governor Dawson has been granted a \$15,000 grant from Lions Clubs International for disaster relief efforts. He is actively coordinating the purchasing and delivery of food to be delivered to citizens who need it most to staging areas in Asheville.

### #LionFamilyStrong

Every county within District 31L has been affected by Tropical Storm Helene. Lions have been affected varying from no water, no power, dwindling resources of gasoline and food. Some have had flooding in their home, tree damage to their homes, and worse. Some have lost their homes and everything they own. Let's all keep each other in our thoughts and prayers and check in on one another.



Visit the NCLF website: <https://nclf.org> and click on "DONATE TODAY"  
You will be redirected to the Zeffy page  
Be sure to note that donation is for Western NC Disaster Relief

Donations can be made out to and mailed to NCLF at PO Box 39, Sherrills Ford NC 28673- note in memo Disaster Relief.



**PRACTICE EXTREME CAUTION WHEN TRAVELING WITHIN WESTERN NC. OVER 200 ROADS ARE CLOSED AND ROAD CONDITIONS ARE CONSTANTLY CHANGING WITH INCREASING MUDSLIDES AND LANDSLIDES. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO TRAVEL ON CLOSED ROADS. MUCH OF WESTERN NC IS ONLY REACHABLE BY AIR AS MUCH OF THE LAND IS FLOODED AND CITIES AND TOWNS HAVE BEEN WASHED AWAY.**

**IMPORTANT: CONTACT THE OFFICIALS BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO TRAVEL; ONLY DISASTER RELIEF TRUCKS AND TRALIERS WILL BE ALLOWED THROUGH. FEMA HAS STARTED TO TAKE OVER TOWNS AND CITIES THAT ARE BEING SHUT DOWN TO THE PUBLIC.**

Note: Several of our Lions are staying with family in and outside of the state of NC due to circumstances.

If you are able to, please check in with DG Dawson to let us know if you are safe or need help.  
cell: (828) 302-6957  
[dawsonhart313@gmail.com](mailto:dawsonhart313@gmail.com)

Just days after the storm hit, Lions clubs on the eastern side of the district came together to start purchasing large food and supplies load deliveries to our District 31L's



We are continuously staying in contact with the McCune Community to ensure that their needs are met. List of needed items are being shared with zone chairmen. If your club would like to contribute, please contact your zone chairperson for more information. A company is letting us schedule and borrow their box truck. Two loads went up this week and another is planned to be brought up the mountain next week.

OCTOBER 1ST SUPPLY RUN



Real moments from the delivery:  
Lion Tammy: "Believe me when I say we were not ready for what we saw"



OCTOBER 3RD SUPPLY RUN



**Thank you to those who have donated to the disaster relief through NCLF. Funds are actively being used to purchase and deliver supplies to affected towns and cities in the mountains.**

**10/4: The delivery today is to a food bank in Lake Lure.**

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR ALL



- Clubs:**  
 Andrews  
 Black Mountain McCune  
 Clay County  
 Catawba County NC:  
 ~Claremont LC, Conover LC, Long View LC, St. Stephens LC,  
 Sherrills Ford LC  
 Etowah  
 Franklin  
 Hendersonville  
 Lincolnton  
 Gastonia  
 Spruce Pine  
 Valdese  
 Valley Springs

**Lion Residing in the High Mountain, Storm Effected Regions:**

- Black Mountain McCune [non-residents]:  
 Brittney & Grant, Elizabeth, Deniece & Nick  
 Black Mountain: Karen & Danny  
 Canton: Gordon  
 Clyde: Bob & Kittie  
 Etowah: Susan & Juan, Dick & Janice, Kathy  
 Greater Asheville: Pat, Joe  
 Hendersonville: Rick, Francis  
 Pisgah Forest: Dave & Martha, Larry & Paulette  
 Sand Hill: George  
 Spruce Pine: Cassandra & Patrick  
 Valley Springs: Mary  
 Weaverville: Ken & Linda



No contact yet from the following clubs:

- Balls Creek    -Black Mountain    -Brevard    -Brevard Davidson River    -Candler
- Chase    -Charles D. Owen Leos    -East Gastonia    -Edneyville Community
- Edneyville Community Leos    -Erwin District    -Granite Falls    -Hot Springs
- Hudson    -Lake Lure    -Lake Lure Leos    -Marion    -Mars Hill
- Mount Holly    -Newton    -PFHS Leos    -Rutherfordton    -Shelby
- Waynesville    -West Hickory VIPs



Haywood County was washed out- Please let us know if you hear anything from the Waynesville Club or PFHS Leos

Lake Lure was washed out- Please let us know if you hear anything from the Lake Lure Lions or Leo Clubs

Hot Springs was washed out- Please let us know if you hear anything from the Hot Springs Club

# TOGETHER, WE WILL OVERCOME THIS TRADGEY



## HOT SPRINGS

Home to Hot Springs Lions Club



## Rutherford County

Home to...  
Chase Lions Club  
Lake Lure Lions Club  
Lake Lure Leos Club  
Rutherfordton Lions Club



## Buncombe County

Home to...  
Black Mountain Lions Club  
Charles D. Owens Leo Club  
Black Mountain McCune Lions Club  
Candler Lions Club  
Greater Asheville Lions Club  
Erwin District Lions Club  
Sand Hill Lions Club  
Swannanoa Valley Lions Club  
Valley Springs Lions Club  
Weaverville Lions Club  
Western NC Lions Board of Director's  
Majorie McCune Community:  
Assisted & Independent Living



## Marion

Home to Marion Lions Club  
and their Blue Ridge Terrace Apartments  
[HUD- for low income individuals]



## Burke County

Home to...  
Rutherford College Lions Club  
Valdese Lions Club



## Shelby

Home to Shelby Lions Club



## Pisgah Forest

Home to...  
Brevard Lions Club  
Brevard Davidson River Lions Club  
Pisgah Forest Lions Club



## Mount Holly

Home to...  
Mount Holly Lions Club



# Henderson County

Home to...  
Edneyville Community Lions Club  
Edneyville Community Leos Club  
Etowah Lions Club  
Hendersonville Lions Club  
Mills River Lions Club



# Haywood County

Home to...  
Canton Lions Club  
Pisgah High School Leo Club  
Clyde Lions Club  
Waynesville Lions Club



# Franklin

Home to Franklin Lions Club



# Spruce Pine

Home to Spruce Pine Lions Club  
and their Sunshine Hill Apartments  
[HUD-for low income individuals]

**\*NOTE\***  
**These are just some of the  
damages we are facing in District L**



**CANCELLED**

Due to the devastating impact of Hurricane Helene in North Carolina, the 2024 North Carolina Lions Visually Impaired Fishing Tournament has been cancelled. The Board of Directors made this difficult decision at its meeting on Sept. 30, with an overwhelming sentiment that funds typically used for the tournament would be better directed to disaster relief efforts. Executive Director Gwen White shared that many participants and volunteers who normally attend the three-day event in October have been affected by the hurricane. Our thoughts are with everyone impacted, and we are committed to supporting our community during this challenging time. Stay safe, and thank you for your understanding and support.

# MD31L Fall Convention Postponed

**NEW DATES: FEBRUARY 14 & 15TH  
AT CAMP DOGWOOD**



An article piece from the original newsletter that was to be published before the storm hit. In honor of the Lake Lure Leos and all impacted by the storm.



# Lake Lure Leos Club

## #WhyIAmALeo





MORGAN



ROSELYN



ANNA



NICOLE



GREENLEY

What makes being a leo cool?

We get to help our community, just like the amazing Lions do

What makes being a leo cool is we help the school we have fun meetings and we have great members.

Being able to serve the community

What makes being Leo cool?  
Being a leo is cool because I can help people, and volunteer for cleaning things like the clothes closet.

Being able to help people who need it.

What do you enjoy most about being a leo?

What do you enjoy most about being a leo?  
I enjoy being a leo because I get to help people, and hang out with friends while helping people.

What I enjoy most about being a LEO is the connection between all the members, and the projects we get to do.

What I enjoy most about being a leo is having a great group of leos and meetings are always fun and exiting I also like our service projects that we do.

Being part of a great team and community. The food and service projects.

### FAVORITE SERVICE PROJECTS



Visiting adopted McCune resident Chuck for his birthday!



Clothing closet clean up



Recycling old eyeglasses and learning about vision screenings



VIP Christmas Party