



**Might as well be awesome
BE A LION**

**District 31L Lions Clubs
10th Annual Fall Convention**
March 14 & 15, 2025



North Carolina Lions Camp Dogwood
NCLions31L.org

Marjorie McCune Community *Assisted and Independent Living*

101 Lions Way, Black Mountain, NC 28711
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 - Doctor / Medical on call 24 hours a day
 - In-house visits by physicians, podiatrists, physical and speech therapists, psychologists, psychiatrists, and other professionals

We are owned and operated by the Lions of Western North Carolina and so grateful for their kindness and generosity. The Lions make a better life for the people of the Marjorie McCune Assisted & Independent Living Community.



The 2024-25 Fall Convention is Dedicated to
Partners in Service
LIONS SARA & LARRY LAUGHTER

- **Sara joined the Davidson River Lions Club on March 1, 2000.**
- **She's been President for many years (9): 2009-2014, 2016-2017, 2018-2021**

She's also been Zone Chairperson for many years (9), using the happy dollar system to fund a Zone Social with an average attendance of 50-60 Lions. Her Zone meetings had around 35-45 attendees: Years served 2010-2014, 2016-2021. Sara helped out with the Eliada Homes Lion's auctions/flea markets for several years before officially becoming a Lion. She worked with the WNC Lions for several years, helping to renovate the McCune Center and attending BOD meetings. Sara has donated food and helped out with the 31-A/L Fall Convention Hospitality rooms for several years. She has also run several booths at our Fall Conventions for many years.

- **Larry joined the Davidson River Lions Club on June 1, 2000, becoming the first male Lion in an all-female Lions club in Transylvania County, making it the first Co-ED club in the county.**

Larry helped out for several years before officially becoming a Lion, hauling in and setting up merchandise for the Lion's Auctions for Eliada Homes. e worked for six years (2015-2021) on the WNC Lions, Inc. BODs, serving on the building and grounds committees. He brought his tractor numerous times and provided invaluable service while helping out on building and grounds and McCune workdays for several years. Larry helped with many Fall and State Conventions, being invaluable for set-ups, loading, and unloading for many people; before, during, and after the Conventions. Larry has always helped with the Auctions at the Conventions since becoming a Lion.





MAKE YOUR MARK

Everywhere we serve,
every time we give, we bring
kindness and compassion,
change and hope.

And we make our mark on the
lives we touch, the communities
we serve and the world we share.



FABRÍCIO OLIVEIRA
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
2024-2025



Breathing Life into Service

Ask Fabrício Oliveira about his native Brazil, and he'll tell you it's the lungs of the world. An evergreen canopy rimmed in turquoise shoreline. He's from a small municipality there, the son of fabric merchants with entrepreneurial vigor in their blood.

By age 18, Fabrício was already part of the family business. He would focus on his studies during the week and travel dutifully for work over the weekends. For such a young man, Fabrício was driven and focused on results.

"I've always done things early," he recalls with a smile.

At just 22 years old, the spirited entrepreneur became a happily married man. He and his wife Amariles had both grown up in the village of Catolé do Rocha, where, despite the region's tropical climate, Fabrício Oliveira was proving to be a man for all seasons.

He was already having professional success—he had a number of business deals under his belt and more on the table. He was experiencing civic success—he had received several appointments to public office. Yet, something was missing for Fabrício.

Until one evening in 1985.

At the time, Fabrício and Amariles were part of a group of friends who would gather on weekends for different social events. Some of these friends were already Lions members and before long, they asked the Oliveiras to join their local club.

"We couldn't say no," he admits. "These were our close friends. And I saw something special in Lions, and an opportunity to give back to the community that had been so good to me."

It was a gesture as simple as an invitation that brought Fabrício Oliveira and his wife to Lions, once and for all.

"So I became a Lion. And that's how everything started," Fabrício recollects.

The call had been answered. A commitment to service set in motion. Now, it was time for the man from Catolé do Rocha to take what he'd learned so far from life and apply it to a new kind of work. His work as a Lion.

Fabrício Oliveira of Catolé do Rocha, Paraíba, Brazil, was elected to serve as president of Lions Clubs International at the association's 106th International Convention, June 21-25, 2024, in Melbourne, Australia.

President Fabrício is a businessman, with a Post-Graduate Degree in Business Administration (MBA) from Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV), and a Degree in Administration.

A member of the Catolé do Rocha Lions Club since 1985, President Fabrício has held many offices within the association, including club president, zone chairperson, region chairperson, district governor, council chairperson, and international director. Additionally, he has served as district LCIF chair, SightFirst committee chair, leadership development chair, multiple district DGE seminar coordinator and chair of the district Lions Foundation. President Fabrício also served twice as District Governors-Elect Seminar group leader.

In recognition of his service to the association he has received numerous awards, including the 100% Club President Award, an Extension Award for organizing nine new Lions clubs, the District Governor Excellence Award, 19 International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the Paradigm Award, nine Leadership Awards, 14 International President's Awards, International Director Recognition Award and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the association to its members. He has also received a Key Award for helping induct thirty new Lions members, an Extension Certificate for sponsoring five new Leo clubs, Global Vision Medal for his SightFirst efforts and a LCIF Helping Hands Award. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to his Lions activities, President Fabrício is active in numerous professional and community organizations. He previously served as the Secretary of Industry and Commerce of the State of Paraíba and an administration council chairperson of several companies, as director of the National Confederation of Shopkeepers, chair of the Federation of Shopkeepers of the State of Paraíba, chair of the Chamber of Shopkeepers of Catolé do Rocha and chair of Manoel Vitoriano de Freitas Foundation supporting institution of the Children's Hospital Ernia Evangelista.

President Fabrício and his wife, Amariles, also a member of the Catolé do Rocha Lions Club and Melvin Jones Fellow, have three children and a granddaughter.

There's a leader inside every Lion.

And leaders know that, through collective action and individual commitment, we can inspire and empower whole communities. Make them healthier and stronger than ever before. And making our mark in the process.

As leaders, we unite people through our clubs, and in our mission of service. We foster collaborations so we can do what others say can't be done. We embrace innovation so we can bring our bold service vision to life. We give caring people the chance to serve with us so they can lead with us as Lions. And with every new member we bring, we make our mark on the future of service.

Together, we reach out to the people who need us. We amplify voices that would otherwise go unheard. We change lives in ways that only Lions can. And with every life we touch, with every community we service, we make a mark that will endure, and will never be forgotten.

Welcome

NICHOLAS “NICK” XINOPOULOS Past International Director

Nicholas “Nick” Xinopoulos from Brownsburg, Indiana, USA has been a member of the Brownsburg Lions Club since 1990. He has held many offices within the association, including club president, Leo club advisor, zone chairperson, and district governor. PID Xinopoulos also served on the district GMT extension team. In recognition of his service to the association, PID Xinopoulos has received numerous awards, including a Membership Key Award, four International President’s Certificates of Appreciation and two International President’s Awards. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. In addition to his Lions activities, PID Xinopoulos has been active in professional and community organizations, including the Hendricks County Sheriff’s Department and as chairman of the July 4th Parade. PID Xinopoulos is a retired manager for an aircraft engine manufacturer and served in the Greek Marines. His wife, Gretchen, is also a Lion and Melvin Jones Fellow.



Lions International

2024 Fall Convention Committees

Constitution and By Laws: Lion Fred Huscher and Dave Butler PCC

Credentials: Tammy MacLean

Nominations: Martha Butler PCC

Elections: George Suggs CC and Curtis Erickson PDG

Resolutions: Dave Butler PCC and Martha Butler PCC

District Governor: Dawson Hart

Convention Chair: Eileen Artavia 1st VDG

Secretary: Liz Hart

Treasurer: Curtis Erickson PDG



Fall Convention Planning Committee

Advertisement Sales: Tammy MacLean and Susan Fernandez PDG

Banner Ceremony: George Suggs CC

Decorations: Eileen Artavia 1st VDG and Lion Reba Sisk

Family Fun Night: George Suggs CC

Flag Ceremony: Eileen Artavia 1st VDG

Hospitality Room: Lion Tracy Hefner

Memorial Table: Lion Kathy Nichols

Peace Poster: Lion Rick Hazzard

Pin Sales: Dave Butler PCC

Program Book Layout: Lion Tony Angel

Promotion Booths: Eileen Artavia 1st VDG

Protocol: Dave Butler PCC and Martha Butler PCC

Registration and Name Tags: Larry Gasperson PDG and Paulette Gasperson PCC

Tail Twister Breakfast and Auction: George Suggs CC

Special Guests/Gifts/Delivery: Susan Fernandez PDG and Dawson Hart DG

Logistics: George Suggs CC

Security: Lion Nick Ogle and Lion Grant Helms

Other Committee Members:

Lions Scott MacLean, Sarah Bratton and Robert Tomlinson, Janice Wilcox, Richard Wilcox 2nd VDG, AliceFaye Peugh, Ricky Killian, Clay Plemmons, Deneice Ogle



DISTRICT 31 L FALL CONVENTION

Rules of Procedure

Rule 1. The district governor shall arrange the order of business for the district convention. Except for registration and certification hours, which may not be changed, deviation from the announced order of business shall be made only by consent of three-fourths (3/4) of the certified delegates assembled at any session at which a quorum is present. A majority of those certified delegates present in person at any session shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 2. Except as otherwise provided in the Lions Clubs International Constitution and By-Laws, the District 31 L Constitution and By-Laws, national custom and practice of these rules, Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern all questions of order and procedure.

Rule 3.

- (a) The credentials committee shall be composed of the district governor, as chairperson, the cabinet secretary / treasurer and two other non-officers of the district appointed by the district governor; provided, however, the district governor may designate any other committee member as chairperson. The credentials committee's primary responsibility shall be to verify club delegate credentials. In carrying out this responsibility, the credentials committee shall have the powers and shall perform the duties as established by national custom and practice or as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.
- (b) The registration and certification of delegates shall occur on the day(s) of Friday between the hours of 3:00 PM and 5:00 PM; and Saturday between the hours of 8:15 AM and 9:30 AM.
- (c) The number of certified delegates shall be announced to the convention upon close of certification and prior to the commencing of voting.

Rule 4.

- (a) 60 days prior to the convening of the convention, the district governor, unless otherwise provided, shall appoint, and designate the chairperson of a nominations committee consisting of not less than three (3) and no more than five (5) members. It shall be the committee's responsibility to review the qualifications of each nominated candidate within thirty (30) days prior to the election and rule on the eligibility of the same.
- (b) Candidate may withdraw from the contest at any time prior to the issuance of the final report of the nominations committee.

Rule 5. Replacement of delegates and alternate delegates.

- (a) To replace a delegate and/or alternate delegate already certified, the replacement must provide a certificate signed by two officers of the club, certifying that the replacement is eligible as an alternate delegate.
- (b) On the day of voting, a duly certified alternate delegate shall be allowed to obtain a ballot and vote in lieu of a duly certified delegate from the same Lions club by presenting his/her copy of his/her alternate credential certificate together with the copy of the certified delegate's credential certificate to the voting personnel at which time the voting personnel will make the necessary notation on the credential records marking that a substitution has been made on the respective club's delegate entitlement. Alternate delegates who were not certified cannot replace a certified or uncertified delegate.

Rule 6. Nominations for the offices of district governor, first and second vice district governor and such other offices to be filled by the convention shall be limited to nominating/ seconding speeches not to exceed 5/3 minute(s) for each nominee.

Rule 7.

- (a) Prior to the convention, the district governor shall appoint, and designate the chairperson of an elections committee consisting of three (3) members. Each duly nominated candidate shall also be entitled to designate one (1) observer through his/her club. The observers may oversee election procedures only, but may not participate directly in the committee's decision making.
- (b) The elections committee shall be responsible for preparation of elections materials, vote tabulation, and resolving questions concerning the validity of individual ballots. The committee's decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) The elections committee shall prepare a comprehensive report of the election results containing the following components: date, time and place of election; specific voting results by candidate; signature of each committee member and observer. The district governor, council chairperson and all candidates shall be provided a copy of the committee's report.

Rule 8. Voting.

- (a) Voting will take place at a predetermined location and time.
- (b) To secure a ballot card, the delegate shall present his/her credential certificate to voting personnel for verification. Once verified, the delegate shall be issued a ballot.
- (c) The voter shall indicate his/her vote by placing a mark in the appropriate location by the name of the candidate of his/her choice. The mark must be placed in the proper location to constitute a valid vote. Any ballot containing votes for more than the specified number of offices to be filled in any section shall be declared invalid to that particular section.
- (d) A majority vote shall be necessary to elect the district governor, first vice district governor and second vice district governor. A majority is defined as a number more than one-half of the total valid votes cast excluding blanks and abstentions. If a majority vote is not received in the election of district governor, first vice district governor and second vice district governor, a vacancy shall occur and Article IX, Section 6(d) of the International By-Laws shall apply.
- (e) A majority vote shall be necessary to elect all other candidates. In the event any one candidate shall fail to receive the required number of votes to be elected, additional balloting shall take place as outlined in this section until such time as one candidate secures a majority vote.
- (f) For any office where there is only one (1) candidate, ballots will be made so the delegate has the option to vote for or against the candidate.



2024 District 31-L Fall Convention AGENDA



Friday, March 14, 2025

- 3:00 to 5:00 pm Hospitality Room Open (Lobby)
3:00 to 5:00 pm Certification of Delegates (Lobby)
3:00 to 6:00 pm Registration (Lobby)
3:00 to 6:00 pm Booths Open (Lobby)
3:00 to 6:00 pm Pin Sales (Lobby)
6:30 to 7:30 Friday Night Meal (Dining Room)
7:30 to 9:00pm Family Fun Night Festivities (Cates Room)
9:00 to 10:00pm Hospitality Room Open (Lobby)

Saturday, March 15, 2025

- 6:30 to 7:30am Registration (Lobby)**
7:00 to 8:00am Tail Twister Breakfast (Dining Room)
8:00 to 9:45am Tail Twister Auction (Cates Room)
8:15 to 9:30am **Certification of Delegates (Lobby)**
8:30 to 9:30am **Registration (Lobby)**
10:00am to 12:15pm Cabinet Meeting (Dining Room)
10:00am to 4:00pm Booths Open (Lobby)
12:00pm to 4:00pm Pin Sales (Lobby)
12:00pm to 4:00pm Hospitality Room Open (Lobby)
1:15 to 2:15pm - Town Hall Meeting
 with Past International Director Nick Xinopoulos (Cates Room)
2:30 to 4:00pm - Diabetes Seminar
 with PCC Paulette & Diabetes Specialists Trudy and Robert Annett (Cates Room)
3:00 to 4:00pm - Unifour Children's Sight Seminar with Lion Wayne (Stickley Building)
3:30 to 4:30pm - Navigating the New Lions Member Portal with Lion Liz (Library)
6:00 to 9:00 District Governor's Banquet Dinner (Dining Room)
9:00 to 10:00pm Hospitality Room Open (Lobby)



Davidson River Lions Club

CHARTERED April 19, 1990

PRESIDENT: WESLEY ROYAL

SECRETARY / TREASURER: MARTHA BUTLER, PCC

Dinner Meetings Held 6:30 p.m. on 1st and 3rd Mondays

Davidson River Lions Club MEMBERSHIP

Martha Butler, PCC

Larry Laughter

Freda Lowe

Sara Laughter

Wesley Royal

Glenda Wright

Honorary Member: Dave Butler, PCC

***“Small in numbers,
but extra large in Service”***



Franklin **LIONS CLUB**

Proudly serving Macon County Since 1939

PRESIDENT
Lion Dave Jones

1st VICE PRESIDENT
Lion Steven Schmitt

2nd VICE PRESIDENT
Lion Patti Elkin

CO-SECRETARY/TREASURER
Lion Michaelle Sciberras &
Lion Ruth Hensz-Stilwell

TAIL TWISTER
Lion Donnie Wallace

LION TAMER
Lion Pete Haithcock

DIRECTOR 1 YEAR
Lion Dub Elkin, Lion Judy Burnett

DIRECTOR 2 YEAR
Lion Dave Notter, Lion Liz Birolin

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
Lion Sue Kozma

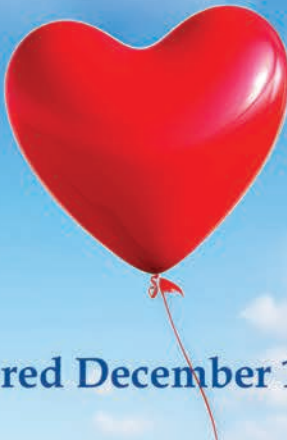


Welcome to the Fall Convention !
FranklinLionsClub.org



Lincolnton
Lions Club

Lincolnton Lions are ready
whenever and however
our community needs us.



Chartered December 14, 1950

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Full Service Nail Salon

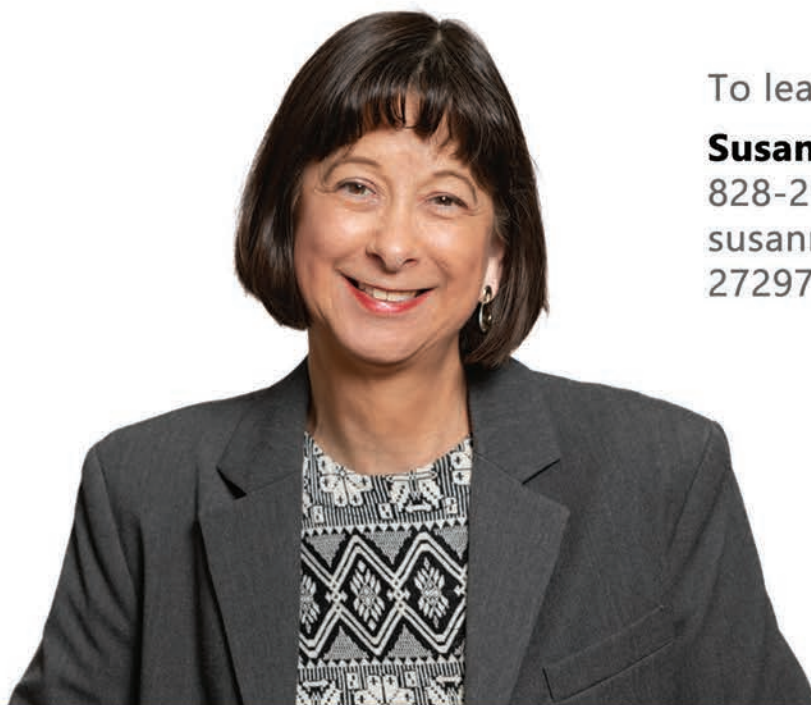


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SCAN ME



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Celebrating 76 Years of Service!

Home Club of PDG Kenneth Beach



President · Larry Moore
Vice President · Rick Johnson
Secretary · Ann Bolinger
Treasurer · Woody Bolinger
Tail Twister · Bill Heidinger

Best Wishes for a Great Convention!



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10th Annual District 31L Fall Convention**

March 14th & 15th, 2025

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Contact Information

Lanny Balentine, PDG • Lions Club Sales Representative
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Home Club of District Governor Dawson Hart

GMT - Zone Chairman



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Community



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Plastic to Fantastic

Food Bank

Environment



Diabetes



Vision



Seniors



Dimes for Diabetes

Unifour Childrens Sight
Senior Sight
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Sponsor of the Valdese Leo Club





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"Helping Vision Today to see a Brighter Tomorrow"

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Over 2900 Children Screened At 77+ Screenings

Funds raised (thru Nov '24) \$70,000



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Claremont Lions Club
Granite Falls/Hudson Lions Club
Lincolnton Lions Club
Long View Lions Club
Newton Lions Club
Rutherford College Lions Club
St Stephens Lions Club
Taylorsville Lions Club
West Hickory VIP Lions Club
Valdese Lions Club

Affiliated Organizations



The Benfield Vision Fund (LVLC)

"Supporting partner of the NCLF KidSight program with volunteers and equipment".

Rutherford College

LIONS CLUB

Chartered March 14, 1955



BREA MOSIER
President

DAREL MALCOM
Secretary

We Serve District 31-L

District Governor Dawson Hart 2024-2025

Past District Governors

Robert A. Shook (Deceased)

Johnny E. Berry

**Welcome to the District 31-L Lions
FALL CONVENTION!**

Black Mountain McCune *Lions Club*



WELCOMES YOU TO THE FALL CONVENTION!



ANDREWS *Lions Club*



Dedicated to the Service of Others.

Lake Lure

LIONS & LEO CLUBS



Like the waters of our lake, the Lake Lure Lions and Leo Clubs are forever giving, providing service, hope and joy to our community and beyond.

We wish District Governor Dawson Hart and his team the best as a guiding beacon for Lions and Leo Clubs throughout District 31L.



SWANNANOVA VALLEY LIONS CLUB



Welcomes You to the District 31-L Fall Convention



First Vice District
Governor Eileen
and Lion Gerardo
Artavia would like
to welcome you
all to the 10th
Annual District
31L Lions Fall
Convention
November 15th
and 16th, 2024

La Primera
Vicegobernadora
Eileen y el León
Gerardo Artavia
les dan la
bienvenida a la
10^a Convención
Anual de Otoño
de los Leones del
Distrito 31L 15 y
16 de Noviembre
de 2024.

In Loving Memory

DYLAN HENSLEY

February 12, 1993 - July 30, 2020



Granite Falls Lions Club



We Serve

SERVING OTHERS SINCE 1937

The Lions Club of MILLS RIVER

President
LION JACK GRANT

Secretary
LION CURTIS ERICKSON



**We
Serve**



Home Club of
PDG Curtis Erickson
Past President NCLI

*In Loving Memory of Gene Wyatt,
Bonnie Erickson & Lion Lacy Dylewski*



Erwin District LIONS CLUB

Welcome to the
2024 District 31-L
Fall Convention!

Chartered March 30, 1956



Pisgah Forest Lions Club • 31-L

Celebrating our 57th Year of Service

Dave Butler, PCC
President



Larry Gasperson, PDG
Secretary

ACTIVE CHARTER MEMBERS:

Lion Tommy Burgess and Lion Dave Butler, PCC

Pisgah Forest Lions Club Lions & Spouses

Lion Bill Barnwell
Lion June Barnwell
Lion Tommy Burgess
Lion Dave Butler, PCC & PCC Martha
Lion Ralph Crane
Lion Larry Gasperson, PDG

Lion Paulette Gasperson, PCC
Lion Kirk Hooper
Lion Sharon Hooper
Lion E.B. Mack & Annie Sue
Lion Orville Mathis & Emma Lee

Home Club of:

1981-1982 District Governor Ron Daniel
1989-1990 District Governor Joe Silvers
1993-1994 District Governor Dave Butler

1999-2000 District Governor Larry Gasperson
2007-2008 District Governor Paulette Gasperson
2020-2021 District Governor Larry Gasperson

Welcome to the District 31-L

FALL CONVENTION

ST. STEPHENS LIONS CLUB

RICKY KILLIAN
President

CORY J. KLASSETT
Secretary / Treasurer



Monthly Meetings:

2nd & 4th Thursday 6:30 PM
Granny's Country Kitchen
2145 N. Center Street
Hickory, NC 28601

Serving the Citizens of Catawba County



CANTON LIONS CLUB

Canton, NC

Chartered August 24, 1938

We serve our community by:

- Providing eye screenings, eye exams, and glasses
- Assisting with our VIPs
- Helping out at the McCune Center
- Providing food for Backpacks of Love
- Provide clothing for youth for the Bear Bottoms project
- Shopping with kids at Christmas
- Providing scholarships for Pisgah High Leo's
- Adopt a cabin at Camp Hope / Centennial Legacy project

The Leo Club at Pisgah High School was chartered on November 17th, 1997. Since then, it has grown to include almost 100 students each year.



The Etowah Lions Club

Wishing all a fantastic 2024 Fall Convention

Our community service includes but not limited to;

- ◆ Concessions in the park
- ◆ Scholarships and citizenship awards to West Henderson High, Rugby Middle and Etowah Elementary
- ◆ Supporting the Meals on Wheels of Western Henderson County
- ◆ Vision Screenings, Eye glasses and exams
- ◆ Camp Dogwood
- ◆ Brighter Visions
- ◆ LCIF
- ◆ Community outreach programs to inform the local community
- ◆ Farmers Market to encourage healthy eating
- ◆ Childhood Cancer
- ◆ Dimes for Diabetes
- ◆ McCune Center, and much more.



We Serve

Home club of

PDG Susan Fernandez 2023-24 D31L

PDG Marilyn S. Richardson 2020-21 D4 A1

PDG Debbie Hicks 2015-16 D31L

PDG Will Hicks 2013-14 D31A

Hendersonville Lions Club District 31-L Since 1938



PO Box 2093, Hendersonville, NC 28793
<http://www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/hendersonville>



Marjorie McCune Community

*Assisted and
Independent Living*

101 Lions Way, Black Mountain, NC 28711 ▪ (828) 669-8452

Your financial gifts of Memorials and Honorariums to the Marjorie McCune Assisted and Independent Living Community are an ideal way to honor a friend or loved one and help the support the Lions of District 31-L in their efforts to enhance the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of all residents, with independence, freedom of choice, and dignity in a homelike environment.

Visit McCuneCenter.org/donations to download a memorial or honorarium form. You can also submit donations directly from the website via PayPal. For additional information, call PDG Curtis Erickson • (828) 489-9552 or Lion Deniece Ogle • (828) 702-2760.



BILL OSBORNE FELLOWSHIP

Lion Bill Osborne was a founding member of the Western North Carolina Lions Board of Directors and served as president in the early years of the organization. He was instrumental in the Corporation's fundraising and establishment of the Marjorie McCune Center Assisted Living Facility for the Blind, Visually Handicapped, and Aged, a project of District 31-L.

In addition to his service to Western North Carolina Lions, Lion Bill was a charter member of his home club, the Clyde Lions Club, was a Past District Governor, recipient of the Melvin Jones Fellowship, a Jack Stickley Fellowship, and is a member of NC Lions Hall of Fame.

The Bill Osborne Fellowship is available to anyone, lion or non-lion with a contribution of \$250. For more information, call PDG Curtis Erickson at (828) 489-9552 or Lion Deniece Ogle at (828) 702-2760.



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