



# Newsletter

January 2020



Georgia Lions Camp, Inc. hosted its annual “Christmas Camp”, December 13-15, 2019 in Waycross, Georgia.

Each year activities are put together based on the theme. And this year it was called “COUNTRY CHRISTMAS”. The Christmas Party portion was a good ole Country Hoedown. The square dancing was really a treat you had to be part of! Attendance was open to all age groups. 41 were scheduled to attend and 38 were able to make it.

There were many activities planned for the campers and it took several staff and volunteers to make things run. We had several summer staff return to help, a new staff member, some very important returning volunteers and we had some new volunteers who helped.

A limited supply of small, medium, and large adult Christmas Camp sweatshirts (green shirts with red lettering) are available. Get yours while they last. \$20.00. Contact Mike Williams at [williams2119@icloud.com](mailto:williams2119@icloud.com) if interested.







*Campers at Okefenokee Swamp Park*

During this year's Christmas Camp we were able to take all the campers and staff over to the Okefenokee Swamp Park. Not only did we get to enjoy a train ride, campers were taught about several of the swamp's reptile community; turtles, snakes, and gators! Here at the camp we have brought in someone who teaches about these critters and will continue to schedule something similar in the future summer camp sessions, but what better place than at the swamp park itself. The campers were taught how each reptile lived, what they ate, and about their importance to nature. Campers were allowed to touch each reptile and ask questions. Each Reptile show lasted about an hour.



*The camper pictured is Tyzia. She has been attending camp here since she was in grammar school. She is now a senior.*

One of this year's Christmas Camp activities was having the campers experience old fashioned churned ice cream. All campers came by and took a turn with the handle. Mrs. Marsha Watson (volunteer) explained the ingredients it took to make the ice cream and how each ingredient worked to make a wonderful treat; no electricity allowed. During the Country Christmas Hoedown the campers were served with this treat along with several toppings. Toppings were served in individual containers so they could touch, smell, shake, or taste.



*Campers enjoying a horse and wagon ride*

Meet Don. Don came to camp this year to provide the campers with the experience of a horse and wagon ride. When we announced that this activity was planned, campers were excited - a chance to ride in a wagon. This experience was a first for many of the campers and certainly will not be the last.

Not all campers are able to ride the horses or just don't care to, but all rode on the wagon. Don of course, loved the attention he got each time as the campers unloaded and headed off to the next activity.

After speaking with the company who provided this activity there is a possibility of maybe an off campus trail ride in the summer. We will continue our annual horse riding activities also.

One of the campers favorite activities is horseback riding - especially Ms. Carrol! Ms. Hillary Cooler with Hooves To Freedom has been coming here each summer and Christmas Camp for the past five years. Campers know her horses by name and they have their favorites. During this activity campers can feel the motion of the horses torso as they walk through several different obstacles during their ride. During this past summer campers were explained about grooming, health care and daily needs of these horses - sort of a hands on experience. Even some who did not want to ride would go up and touch these magnificent animals. Another of the camps traditional activities with a bit more.



*Camper riding horse*

Campers were re- introduced to the camp's store (country version). Campers accumulated tokens all during the weekend. Tokens were used to purchase items in the store; many of which were donated (stockings, socks, candy, toys, signs, cups, more). We are collecting donations for next year. With this being our first time with this activity, we saw some opportunities for improvement (needing more room). None of the items cost the campers money. All tokens had a value set on them and were used as if it was cash money. Plans are in the making of having actual camp items for sale to campers and anyone else. Such as tee shirts, cups, hats, etc.



*Camp Store*

## ALASKA CRUISE WINNER

We are pleased to announce that the Camp's Alaskan Cruise raffle winner is Mr. Tim Dunn of the Roswell Lions Club. He is also The Chairman of the Board at the Lighthouse.

The drawing was held during Our Country Christmas Camp 2019. One of our campers, Courtney Boylan, chosen by Camp Board Secretary JoAnn Huff drew the winning ticket. Campers, Camp Staff and members of the Camp Board want to thank you all for participating. Camp is for the Camper with dedicated supporters such as you.

Congratulations Mr. Tim Dunn!



# Upcoming Events

## February 1, 2020

There will be a meeting of the Board of Directors in Perry, GA at 1000 Country Club Road, (GPS 1000 North Davis Drive) on February 1 around 1 p.m. The following have submitted their letters of intent to run for office on the Board of Directors for the Georgia Lion Camp, Inc. and have met the qualifications of the office: Edward Ressler Chairman, Paul May, PCC Vice Chairman, David White, PDG Treasurer. There was no letter of intent for Board Secretary. Nominations of qualified candidates will be accepted from the floor for this position.

## February 7-9, 2020

Please join us for the LEO Gathering and Conference Meeting PLUS Service Projects Weekend. Attend a fun-filled, service project and team-building weekend and state officer elections for the 2020-2021 term. Bring LEGO kits.



This event will be hosted at the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, 5626 Laura Walker Road, Waycross, Georgia on February 7-9, 2021. Leos will start arriving as close to 6:00 p.m. Friday evening as possible. Officer elections will be held early Saturday evening. We will depart after attending an (optional) worship service on Sunday.

The theme this year is "Buildin' Me a Fewcher!" and we will be building upon our LEO acronym; Leadership, Experience, Opportunity.

The cost of \$10.00 per attendee and chaperone will cover meals Saturday through Sunday morning and a stay in the Camp's bunkhouse or dorm. Leo Club sponsors please notify us no later than January 30th with your final count.

*We are collecting LEGO kits ranging in costs from \$8.00-20.00 for pediatric cancer patients. Please bring your contributions to this statewide Lions project. For more information, contact Mike Arnold at [mikearnoldga@gmail.com](mailto:mikearnoldga@gmail.com) or 229-921-1347.*

## February 15, 2020

Coming February 15, 2020 will be the Lions Camp's annual Car Show. Sponsored by the Woodbine Lions Club. Last year we had 78 entries. Want you come and be a part of this great day at the camp. Event starts with early registration at 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.



Do you have a car, truck, motorcycle, or some unique and unusual project you would like to put on display? Bring it! Drive it, haul it, pull it, or push it. Trophies are awarded (2:00 p.m.) in many categories. Door prizes! 50/50 cash prizes! Blue Train rides for the kids. Arts and Crafts Vendors with items for sale and some great food.

The Woodbine Lions Club will be serving breakfast for the early birds. All proceeds from this event help sponsor projects like the volleyball court, camp WiFi, handicap accessible sidewalks and much more. Helping to improve the camp in many ways. Early entry fee information is on the camp's website page.

**March 20-22, 2020**

The date is set! March 20-22, 2020 is set aside for all who can to come and help the camp prepare for the upcoming camping season.



**March 21, 2020**

Annual cross-country 10K Swamp race, walk or relay plus 1-mile fun run at Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, to benefit the YMCA's Camp Reville and the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind. Registration required. Visit [www.glcb.org](http://www.glcb.org) for more information.

This event is an annual fund racing event put on by the Okefenokee Track and Cycle Club. Last year there were about 180 participants and about 200 more as spectators and volunteers. Come help us clean and repair or paint one weekend. Come back and join the fun here the next weekend. Proceeds from the run go towards Camper Sponsorships. There is a One Mile fun run for those of us who don't want to run a 10-K. This will be the fourth year this event has been here at the camp. Come support the Camp as a Lion and show your spirit. Always looking for volunteers.

**July 18, 2020**

You're invited to Lions Day at the Camp on July 18, 2020 hosted by District N. This is an opportunity for Lions members to come and interact with campers.

This event will be hosted at the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, 5626 Laura Walker Road, Waycross, Georgia on July 13, 2020 between 8:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. For more information, visit [www.glcb.org](http://www.glcb.org).

#### **Lions Camp Information**

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Georgia-Lions-Camp-Inc>

Website: <https://www.glcb.org/>

Telephone: 912-283-4320

Fax: 912-283-5130

Address: 5626 Laura Walker Road, Waycross, GA 31503

#### **Camp Alumni Contact Information**

Camp Alumni Association Contact: Brian Donegan: [doneganbrian1@gmail.com](mailto:doneganbrian1@gmail.com)