



# Georgia Lions Camp



February 2020

**O**n February 1, 2020, the Board of Directors met in Perry, Georgia for their annual Winter meeting. Discussion centered around the operation of the camp and making any necessary adjustments.

Treasurer David White reported that the annual audit was completed and the form 990 for Year 2019 taxes has been completed and will be filed. The camp is in good financial shape with a cash reserve for operations but the need is still there for support from the clubs.

Chairman of the Board Ed Ressler had appointed an Advisory Board in May 2019 which is Chaired by Vice Chairman Paul May. The membership consists of blind or visually impaired individuals, a parent who has a visually impaired child, or someone who works in the field as a teacher of the blind and visually impaired or has experience working with and developing programs for the blind and visually impaired.

The Advisory Board developed a survey which was circulated to teachers of the blind and visually impaired campers that have attended Georgia Lions Camp and parents of the blind or visually impaired. The results were collated and shared with the Advisory Board.

In January, the Advisory Board met and provided several recommendations for the camp. The first one was to adjust the ages of the campers attending each session. The second was to add a fifth week of camp. The third was to have a different Program Director each week and have them create a program for that week which was designed for that age group.

As the Advisory Board stated, we listened and we are changing. The Board of Directors has done the same thing. The new camp schedule is posted on the camp website at [www.glcb.org](http://www.glcb.org) and will be on [CampDoc.com](http://CampDoc.com) soon.

Traditionally we have had a Program Director who would develop all the programs and had to spend seven weeks at the camp. This summer we will have consultants with each consultant working with Camp Director Mike Williams to merge their program with our traditional camp activities. These will be age appropriate so the seniors will not have to do what a six to twelve-year-old would want to do.

Another change approved by the Board of Directors was to make Mike Williams the Camp Director. Mike has worked at the camp for approximately 10 years starting out as the Building and Grounds Manager. There was a personnel change and Mike was made Acting Camp Director. Next we hired an Executive Director and Mike became Camp Director. Another personnel change ended up with Mike being the Acting Executive Director. Now we have removed acting, changed the title and Mike Williams is the Camp Director.

Officers were also elected. Chairman of the Board will again be Edward Ressler, PCC Paul May will again be Vice Chairman, PDG David White will again be Treasurer, and PDG Dr. Dede deMarks will be Board Secretary. These are your officers for Lions Year 20-21.

Last Fall we began using online registration for Christmas Camp. There was some hesitancy for campers to change from completing 24 pages of camp applications but once they found out it was reasonably easy to do and that once they created an account with us via [CampDoc.com](http://CampDoc.com) they could eliminate most of the paperwork they started using this system. The camp is excited about having online registration which reduces the paperwork for both the campers and the camp. Registration for summer camp will be available by the end of February.

Over the weekend of January 23 to 26, 2020, Lions from across the State of Georgia attended leadership training at the Georgia Lions Camp in Waycross, Georgia. PCC Grace Clower and the Global Leadership Team worked with 17 Lions about leadership in their clubs and beyond.



*Lions attending leadership training*

**M**y name is Brian Donegan. I'm currently the President of the Lawrenceville Lions Club and proudly served previously as a Member at Large for the Camp Board before this year.

I'm proud because not only does our Camp have an excellent mission, it is one I personally experienced as someone who is visually impaired. When I was much younger I spent a week (or even two) each summer at camp. The lessons I learned and experiences I had helped make me become the person I am today.

With encouragement I have founded the Georgia Lion's Camp Alumni Association for all previous campers, counselors, and staff members. The purpose of the Association is two fold; first sharing a common bond through all lives that have been touched by the Georgia Lion's Camp. I'd especially like to do this via gatherings such as hopefully having a reunion sometime in the next Calendar year. Second, create a Statewide speaker's Bureau to visit Lions Meetings and other groups in order to spread the news about our Camp and gain additional financial support.

A Facebook group has been created for anyone interested at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/457094051799337/>

On Thursday February 20th at 7 p.m. I will be holding a conference call to discuss ideas and gauge interest in leadership positions (officers). The call in number is 425-436-6308 and the access code is 175606#.

If you'd like more information or have additional ideas please feel free to contact me at 404-630-2910 or by email [DoneganBrian1@gmail.com](mailto:DoneganBrian1@gmail.com).



*Campers canoeing during summer camp*

# Upcoming Events

**February 15, 2020**



February 15, 2020 will be the Lions Camp's annual Car Show. at 5626 Laura Walker Road, Waycross, Georgia. Sponsored by the Woodbine Lions Club. Last year we had 78 entries. 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. Entry fee is \$20 day of show; spectators \$5 for adult, children under 12 are free.

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. There is no alcohol permitted and dogs must be on a leash.

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. For more info call: 912-882-4046 or email: [MikeJune@sbcglobal.net](mailto:MikeJune@sbcglobal.net).

**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.

Below are a few projects from our list. If you see a project that you or your club would be interested in helping with or would like the full list of projects, please email [director@glcb.org](mailto:director@glcb.org)

1. Replace steps at Arts and Crafts Building side facing volley ball court, steps need to be on a small concrete pad to help prevent decay. New steps will need painting.
2. Replace steps at Arts and Crafts Building-rear entrance, steps need to be on a small concrete pad to help prevent decay. New steps will need painting.
3. Paint exit door at rear entry to Arts and Crafts Building.
4. Repair 4x4 post bracing damaged by carpenter bees at the Arts and Crafts Building
5. Paint bracing and post at Arts and Crafts building
6. Replace mechanical room light with a 4' led light fixture.
7. Repair and replace guide rope post with 4x4's and 6x6's in areas needed for better support.
8. Guide rope post needs to be painted.
9. Complete the installation of 8x8 Gate post at driveway entries located near the main dormitory.
10. Pressure wash all buildings.
11. Repair handrails and exit doors at the Bunkhouse dorm. Repaint when completed.

12. Some brick molding around the exit doors to the Bunkhouse needs replacing and all need to be repainted.
13. Clean and repaint all doors and trim to the bunkhouse.
14. Trim around exit doors needs to be repaired in some areas and all need to be repainted.
15. Paint entry sidewalks at the exit doors to the bunkhouse.
16. Paint water heater room located behind the newly renovated Staff Building.
17. Weed out rocks and flower bed located at the “Bell”
18. Paint the pole the bell is attached to. Not the bell!!

**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 raising 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)