



GEROGIA LIONS CAMP, INC.NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2019 By Chairman PCC Olin Newby

As another month passes the camp personnel and Board members and Lions of Georgia are trying to make the camp a better place that the visually impaired citizens can attend and enjoy a way of life for themselves. As we are approaching the camping season with the anticipation that this could be the best camping session ever. Mike Williams and Ron Worley have been working together to plan for this year camping sessions. Ron

has been hired this year to plan the camping program for this year. As Lions you are encouraged to present ideas to your camp personnel and camp board in each Lions District. We are opened to your comments and suggestions.

A way that you can help at this time is to sell tickets to the drawing for the cruise this year. Hopefully, all the tickets have been distributed to all Lions at this point. If you have not received any tickets contact me, olinnewby230@gmail.com and I will see that you will get some. This is an important fund-raising project this year for the camp. \$10.00 for a cruise for two, if you are the lucky person.

The Board is making contacts with the Lions of Florida concerning the possibility of visually impaired campers from Florida attending The Georgia Lions Camp/Camp

for the Blind. Will let you know as progress is made.

I am asking that you explore the possibilities of some visually impaired person who might live in your community that might like to attend the camp this summer. Let the camp office know if you have someone that would like to attend. Also, we need sponsorships for those campers that cannot afford the cost of camp. If you or your club has some extra monies to support these campers, send it to the camp.

I would remind you that we have the memorial gardens program where you can buy a brick for \$100.00 to honor someone or in memory of someone and their names will be placed on the brick and in the gardens as a lasting testament to that individual.

We really appreciate what the clubs are doing for the camp. However, there are several clubs that are not contributing to the camp. Is it the lack of interest or what is it? The Board would always like to know how we can let the clubs know about the camp and what it is doing. We have Directors and members at large that are willing to come to your club and give you a program about the camp. If you need a program contact your Director, Member at Large or Chairman, Olin Newby and we will give you a program. Help us grow to better serve the Visually Impaired persons in our communities.

Attached you will find reports from Mike and Ron. Read and be aware of what we are doing at your Lions Camp. We ask your support and help. THANKS TO ALL!!!!

March 2019 Acting Executive Directors Report

Week of March 1-9

Conference call with Program Director

Cancellation of Walk to Emmaus Rental Group- Fall walk has been scheduled for September 2019

Cancellation of Camp Kudzu scheduled for March 29-31, 2019- Working on establishing a new date for later in the year or first of 2020

Climbing Wall Inspection completed for summer sessions

Received proposal from BTC to improve WiFi connection at the Activities Building- Fiber Optic cable connection needed.

Reserve date for The GSAP group scheduled; August date to early- event scheduled for October 24-27, 2019

Week March 10-16

Conference call with Program Director

Attended Rise and Shine event – Waycross-Ware Chamber of Commerce

Spoke with and scheduled Plumbing contractor working on Staff Building renovation

Talked with Blind and Beyond radio broadcast out of Orlando FL. About Camp advertisement. Contacted Ron9 program director) to see if he had any information about this group

Met with Okefenokee Run and Cycle Club concerning this years 10-K Swamp Run coming up later in the month

Acquired the three requested quotes needed for the sound system upgrade in the Activity Building

Received and answered questions from Lions Clubs concerning work days and work that is needed here at the camp. Lions are asking why did we cancel the work weekends?

Week March 17-23

Conference call with Program Director

Scheduling Plumbers and ordered materials needed for Staff Building renovation

Spoke again with Lions about work days. Scheduling some to be here weekend of April 13, 2019

Worked with Kevin Walsh to correct some Donation information on the camp's website – Century Club/1976 Society, and the Donor Sponsorship letter

Talked with Architect about plans for Staff Renovation. Adjustments were made on a couple of inside doors for better accessibility. No changes had to be done at the Codes department. Not structural changes.

Prepared and set up for the weekends 10-K Swamp Run.

Swamp run was once again a huge success. Over 160 participants and around 300 people on site. No Lions other than myself. (Let's improve participation next year)

There were about 30 youth that participated in the 1-mile fun run.

The Blue Train was once again a big hit with the youth.

Contribution to the camp's camper Sponsorship fund is not known as of this report.

Oh Yes, Waycross' Chick-fil-A was the major sponsor this year. The Cow was here.

Week March 24-31

Conference call with Program Director

Contacted several possible Nurse applicants for our Summer Camp needs.

Contacted persons for the positions of Kitchen Manager and cooks.

Barbara Church with Life Line Screening has scheduled a weekend of health screening for the surrounding counties to be done here at the camp on July 30th, 2019

Met with Ron Worley on Saturday March 30th to discuss his summer programs he has scheduled, talk over training week and schedule of training, former counselors wanting to return, new counselor possibilities, program supplies and budget.

The meeting was very detailed, and I believe it was a good one. Ron is looking forward to the summer and has some very interesting events and programs planned. Campers will be excited. So am I.

April is here and many items will need attention. I do request that if anyone would like to come and work here at the camp to give me a call.

Thanks,

Mike Williams

Acting Executive Director

Georgia Lions Camp Inc.

RON WORLEY'S REPORT

April 2019

Notes for March 26 – April 5

Visit to the Camp:

On March 29th, I was able to go to the camp in Waycross and meet with Mike and get a good start on camp issues for this summer.

Horse program:

I was finally able to get in touch with Hillary who is in charge of the horse program. I shared some ideas with her on what we can do to make the program more challenging and offer some educational ideas on the side. We are both excited about the opportunities.

Job Announcement:

I had sent the councilor job announcement to Augusta University, Georgia Southern, and Georgia State PT, OT, and KT programs. I also sent them to the Blind rehab Programs at Western Michigan University, Florida State, Northern IL and Boston University.

Local Lions Club:

I visited my local Lions Club on Friday, April 5 as the guest speaker and picked up an application to join the National Hills club. After speaking with them, they agreed to help sponsor one of four campers in our area that wishes to come to the camp. The National Hills Club may also sponsor another one as time gets closer. The president was going to see if the other Lions Clubs will pitch in to help sponsor the other three campers in the Augusta area.

Schedule:

I am continuing to work on the various events at what time for each week of camp. For the adult camp weeks, I have a water park, bowling, tandem cycling, and an advance horseback riding program as the major events. We will still be swimming, wall climbing and all sorts of games and other challenges to fill in the rest of the schedule.

During Family camp week, I have three professionals coming in the area of Orientation and Mobility, Certified Vision Rehab Therapist, a TVI from the state of Georgia and a Technology specialist in the area of Adaptive Technology. I am also looking at bringing in a jumping balloon rides, a petting zoo and treasure hunt with prizes for the young kids.