



Georgia Lions Camp



September 2023

Did I say something about sitting back and taking a deep breath now that summer camp was over? A day or two to reflect and think about all the good things that happened so far this year...well.

Gail and I did sit out on the front porch and watch as Hurricane Idalia graced us with her presence. Luckily as we sat on the porch we were blocked from the direct path of the very high winds and rain - for a while anyways. It was amazing to sit and watch how powerful this storm was as it hit us at a category 1. I can't even imagine the strength of the storm in the locations where it was a category 3.

Sitting there listening to limbs break, watching trees break in the woods next to our residence, hoping that all those limbs flying by would end up over in the woods so clean up would not be so bad. Let me tell you, I have never seen so many broken limbs, pinecones and moss on the camp's grounds - and I have seen a lot over the years.

We were out of electrical power for about twenty-four hours. This was a time to be patient and wait on power to be restored. Remember, winds were so bad, that there is no way a person could work safely and not get hurt trying to make us all comfortable. We have been spoiled with all these modern day accommodations like AC, internet, TV, etc.!

Do you remember a time when the windows were open at night and we let the night air cool us off (at least a little)? Or, if you were lucky enough to afford a window fan? Where were the mosquitos? Or did we just not care?



Well, getting back to the storm and what happened here at camp. Those of you that was able to attend Lions Day here at the camp. Remember the beep ball game with the campers? Those of you that sat under the pecan tree or stood under it for a little shade from the sun. It's not there anymore. With the fierce winds and rain from Idalia, it was just too much for the limbs and tree to withstand.



Now You see It

John Deere was furnished by a nearby friend, who's family at one time owned this property. He called me on Labor day and asked if he could come over and help remove this tree and help clean up others around the camp.

Hey, it was Labor Day!!!

Now You Don't!

That shade you see is from another tree nearby. Late evening, long shadows!

During a previous storm here at the camp we had several trees fall and damage some of the structures. One of them being the boat shed. The trees on top of that building are still there. They are too big and too dangerous for us rookies to remove. Even that John Deere machine can't get to where those trees are! Not only are those trees still on the building, I now have two more fallen in front of the building.

In total from the hurricane there are an additional eight trees fallen in various areas of the camp. Two fell across the road located behind the camp. Thankful that the county road department removed the blockage.

I realize that many Lions in our area have had to clean up around their homes and property. It is not easy to break away and come help here at the camp. This was a major cleanup and as the camp had a couple of rental groups scheduled, we have begun to clean around the front parts of the camp.

I have just hired a new parttime helper and he is getting broken in well! He has continuously raked, dragged limbs, loaded debris on the trailer and hauled it to the burn pile. The front part of the camp is looking good. There is still some cleanup on the backside. A little at a time is all we can do.

Those who have asked to help, I thank you and don't fret none. There is still plenty to do here at the camp. Painting, repairing, cleaning, raking, and many other projects. Just check out the project worklist posted every month in the Camp's newsletter.

The camp is hosting as far as I know, its first wedding on the camp site. She is the grand maybe great granddaughter of the family that once had ownership of this property. They will be using the Activities Building for a reception. The wedding ceremony will be out at the outdoor amphitheater. Weather permitting.

With limited access and parking to the activities building, guest will have to come in from the backside of the camp. a little inconvenient but doable.

Marketing is top of the list for the camp. This wedding may help with that. There was discussion during the long range or strategic planning meeting to provide easy access by moving the current driveway from the main entrance to the camp, (this has been done). Then hopefully someday, pave a parking area on the northside of the building. This is a much-needed project that would help increase the usage of this building by outside rental groups in the future. There are also a few other additions that need modifying in the activities building to help with the promotion to use this camp for many other needs. I know it takes funding, but the returns on this investment will clearly be beneficial to the camp, over time!

With fall fast approaching, there are other rental groups coming in to use some of the camp's facilities. We will be busy making sure we are ready for them. Coming up next month, I will be attending the GVEST conference in Macon, Ga. This year Jay Taylor, the camp's board chairman will be attending the event with me.

This is an annual event sponsored by the Macon Academy for the Blind. This even consist of, break-out training sessions, informative group participation activities, vendors who provide technology that will help educates and improve a visually impaired availability to grow in today's environment. Services from all areas. TVI's from all over the state of Georgia attend this event.

The Lion's Camp has had several students learn about the camp from their teachers. Several students from the Macon Academy have attended the Georgia Lions summer camp. Campers become counselors.

Last year another one of those students became a counselor. Not only did she come to help, so did one of the academic teachers from the Macon Academy. Camp offers individuals a break from school and their everyday routines at home allows them to try activities that they cannot get while attending school. Challenges through recreational activities that will help build self-esteem, confidence, leadership, and working together as a team.

While maintaining the daily operational needs of the camp, we are busy preparing for the upcoming Christmas Camp. Which will be the weekend of December 8-10, 2023. This three-day event is always an exciting time for our campers. We expect at least thirty-five campers to attend. Maybe more.

As I mentioned in this letter, check out the projects work list. Find a project you or your club would like to come help us remove from the work list. Call me if you need to schedule a different date than the upcoming work weekend. October 6-8, 2023. Maybe it is more convenient for you to come during the week days rather than the weekends. Please call and schedule a time you can help!

Stay in touch with what's going on at the Georgia Lions Camp, Inc.

Thanks again for your continued support,

Mike Williams
Camp Director
Georgia Lions Camp, Inc.

REMEMBER:

Let's "**KEEP THE CAMP FIRES BURNING**"
Add more Wood! "**MAKE IT BURN BRIGHTER**"
"**Never Let the Fire Go Out**"

Joanne Huff is a member of the Thomson Camelia City Lions Club.

I have been a Lion since 2002 when I joined the Harrison Lions Club in Harrison, ME. I am the Secretary for the Camp Board, a position I held previously from 2015 -2019. I have been Chair of the Building and Grounds committee for the Camp, as well as District Director for 18I. I attend work days at the camp on a pretty regular basis and have worked as a volunteer at Christmas Camp for the past 3 years.

I am a Registered nurse and graduated from Saint Anselm College in Manchester, NH. In my spare time, I enjoy camping, kayaking and watching my grandson perform gymnastics. I am married to the love of my life Floyd Huff and we live in Harlem, GA on his family farm.



Robert Lique

Ellijay Lions Club since 2009

Camp Liaison since 2017

Club President 2015-2016 & 2022-2023

Camp Finance committee 2021

Camp Board 2022 to present



Camp Finances Y-T-D thru AUGUST 31, 2023

We have now passed thru month 8 of our 2023 Fiscal year -- Post SUMMER CAMPING SEASON 2023 -- and now, on our way to CHRISTMAS CAMP 2023.

Everything I have heard about this year's Summer Camping Season seems to indicate that this was one of the BEST! I know it sure seemed that way watching the Campers at Lions Day on July 22. If you missed Lions Day this year, please try to make it to Lions Day in 2024 -- you will be glad you did!

Support is needed from ALL Lions to improve the Camping Experience we can give our Campers. Our Camp Director, Mike Williams, would be glad to hear from anyone willing to provide assistance -- he will be glad to coordinate your 'hands-on' services -- or financial contributions.

Our main challenge is to grow the number of Visually Impaired Campers we serve. To do this, we need to make some big improvements to the Camp -- and that, as everyone knows, takes money.

AUGUST 2023 turned out to be a very decent revenue month for the Camp -- it was needed after the expenses of Summer Camp. September will return back to some form of 'normal' -- so, if you ever wanted to help the CAMP financially -- **NOW is the time.**

We are asking ALL Lions Clubs AND Individual Lions to step-up and help support our Camp financially. We need your support!

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE WELCOME!

Operational Income vs Expenses -- Y-T-D thru AUGUST 31, 2023

Total Actual Income Thru JULY 2023*	271,560.80
Total Actual Expenses Thru JULY 2023	222,968.78
NET Operating Income Thru JULY 2023	48,592.02

* Y-T-D INCOME includes \$50,000.00 Transfer from our Investment Fund for Operations

Club Contributions -- Y-T-D thru AUGUST 31, 2023

	<u>18L</u>	<u>18I</u>	<u>18O</u>	<u>18N</u>
# of Clubs Contributing in 2023	22	38	21	28
% of ACTIVE CLUBS Contributing	52%	76%	43%	50%
Contributions by District for 2023	30,788.26	26,423.18	23,460.00	50,124.39

DISTRICT Year over Year COMPARISON -- as of AUGUST 31, 2023

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Ahead / (Behind) 2022</u>
18L	37,843.39	30,788.26	(7,055.13)
18I	25,151.74	26,423.18	1,271.44
18O	15,585.18	23,460.00	7,874.82
18N	43,377.02	50,124.39	6,747.37
MD18	121,957.33	130,795.83	8,838.50

As you can see above -- **3 of 4 Districts are contributing more this year than they did last year.** We need **ALL** Districts to KEEP their contributions ahead of last year. Overall, Lions are giving more than last year! PLEASE keep it up! We need **YOUR** help this year -- and every year!

Financially, the Camp has work to do -- with your financial help, it will get done! **ALL** Contributions are appreciated!

Thank-You!

David E. White,
Board Treasurer

1976 SOCIETY - August 01, 2023 - August 31, 2023

Thank you to the following Lions of Georgia that are making a special individual contribution to the Camp.

NAME	LIONS CLUB
Lion Joanne Huff	Thomson Camelia
Lion Robert Lique	Ellijay

CENTURY CLUB - August 01, 2023 - August 31, 2023

Thank you to the following Lions of Georgia that are making a special individual contribution to the Camp.

NAME	LIONS CLUB	LEVEL
Lion Charles Nobles	Lyons	Bronze
Lion Jhonda Sparks	Lyons	Bronze
Lion Celina Castro Vazquez	Lyons	Bronze

Brick Memorial Garden - August 01, 2023 - August 31, 2023

Thank you to the following Lions of Georgia that are making a special individual contribution to the Camp.

NAME	LIONS CLUB
Lions Club of Savannah	Lions Club of Savannah



Georgia Lions Camp, Inc.



1976 Society Member Application

SHARE YOUR GIFT OF SIGHT

The 1976 Society Commemorates the founding date of the Georgia Lions Camp, Inc. Persons who choose to be a part of this Society pledge to contribute at least \$19.76 a month for the year they are a member, or \$237.12.

Your gift will be credited to your listed Lions Club.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

PAID BY CASH: _____ MONTHLY: _____ QUARTERLY: _____ ANNUALLY: _____

CREDIT CARD TYPE: VISA _____ MASTERCARD _____ DISC _____ AMEX _____

NAME ON CARD: _____

CARD NUMBER: _____

EXPIRATION: _____ CSV: _____

BILLING ADDRESS: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

LIONS CLUB: _____

Mail to Georgia Lions Camp, Inc., 5626 Laura Walker Road, Waycross, GA 31503

*Donations may also be made using PayPal

Kroger

Here is another way to help your Georgia Lions Camp and it will not cost you any extra money. If you already have an account at Kroger for digitalcoupons and other saving ways, then you are almost there. If you do not already have an account with Kroger, you can use the same links below to get one. If you are not already set up to have funds donated to the camp, here is how to take care of that.

1. Go to [Kroger.com](https://www.kroger.com)
2. Sign in like you were going shopping or looking for specials.
3. Go to my account.
4. Go to community rewards. Select Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind, which is the old name for the Georgia Lions Camp.



Needs List 2023: updated 8/7/2023

Many have asked what does the camp need?

The following items will help eliminate the cost of supplies needed during camp season and beyond, maintenance and other operations of the camp.

There is a need for some pillows. Sometimes campers forget theirs and are needed here. Low-cost pillows from Walmart are sufficient. Nothing expensive. 20 pillows needed.

1. Bottle Water- 16oz. by the case **Camp goes through 40 cases per year**
2. PowerAde/Gatorade sports drinks- single serve bottles/24 to a case **10 cases needed**

The lime and red are favorite flavors

Disposable ponchos for rainy days – 50 – these can be found at dollar stores or dollar general --

Ponchos Donated

3. Dish towels for the kitchen -- **Towels Donated**
4. 13-gallon trash bags -- **13- gallon trash bags donated**
5. 60-gallon industrial size garbage bags
6. Gallon size bleach- Five cases of 6 bottles per case
7. Lysol dis-infectant spray- 2 cases of 6? cans per case
8. Spray cans of room deodorizer- **20 cans of spray Deodorizer provided**
9. Laundry detergent- gallon size preferable- 3 cases of 6? Bottles per case
10. Windex window cleaner- 2 cases of 6 per case
11. Clorox disinfectant spray bottles – 2 cases of 6 per case-(32 oz.)
12. Toilet Tissue – any brand
13. Bug spray- non- DEET and DEET accepted. -20 cans spray or pump
14. Wasp Spray- Black Flag brand preferred. 2 cases of 12 per case.

Ant poison- here at the camp we have “ANT” issues, we need your help- bags of poison or industrial strength liquid needed. You can never ask for enough of this. All donations appreciated. **Ant Poison/some has been donated but we are still in need of more**

15. 50-1 mix for weed eaters and lawn maintenance tools used here at the camp. 24 bottles
16. 5W30 motor oil- 1 case of 12 qtrs. Per case
17. 10W30 motor oil- 1 case of 12 qtrs. per case
18. Copy paper for the office

One box of copy paper donated/ more needed- we use up to six cases per year.

All of the above items listed are used all through the year as needed.

“Gift Cards” are a great way for the camp to purchase other items that may not be on this list. (Movies, Board games, and other items for campers)

Items purchased can be shipped directly to the camp, (5626 Laura Walker Rd. Waycross, Ga. 31503) taken to, and distributed during our COG and Joint meetings with the Lions Camp and Lighthouse, the annual MD-18 Lions State Convention, bring items with you on our annual Lions Day event here at the camp, bring items when you come to work weekends.

Anyone can donate the above items. You don't have to be a Lions Club member. A special Thanks to those who have purchased and provided several items on the needs list. Many shipped items directly to the camp.

Maintenance Needs:

Sidewalk Edger or weed eater capable of converting to an edger. Husqvarna or Skill preferred.

Skill Saw -electric or battery operated (*20V) or Both *** Item Has been Donated**

Reciprocating Saw - electric or battery operated (20V) or Both

DeWalt Drill Set – 20V battery operated **Item Has been Donated**

Drill bits- for wood and for masonry

Pressure Washer – needed for cleaning buildings

6'X10' utility trailer with gate that will let down to load equipment

Paint brushes – needed during work weekend tasks (30) these do not have to be expensive brushes

Pneumatic Framing Nail Gun - **Item Has been Donated**

Pneumatic Finishing Nail Gun - **Item Has been Donated**

Camp is in need of an air compressor

Table Saw

Thanks to those who have donated items on this list!

GEORGIA LIONS' CAMP Lions Service Days (Work Weekend) Reservation Form

Complete and Fax to the Camp at (912) 283-5130
Please contact the Camp (912) 283-4320 with any questions or if changes occur after this form is submitted.

Spring: February 24-26, 2023

Fall: October 6-8, 2023

Club Name _____

District _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____

Estimated Arrival: Day _____

Time _____

Estimated Departure: Day _____

Time _____

Please list the number of male participants _____

Please list the number of female participants _____

Please indicate number of each participant for each item below:

Meals: Saturday Breakfast _____
 Saturday Lunch _____
 Saturday Dinner _____
 Sunday Breakfast _____
 Sunday Lunch _____

Beds: Friday Night _____ (Males) _____ (Females)
 Saturday Night _____ (Males) _____ (Females)

Participants Arriving on Friday. Your Dinner Meal will be on your own!
--

Please note in the space provided below any unique maintenance skills, materials, or equipment that your group can provide to this event.

2023 Work Projects

The following projects will be updated monthly in our camp newsletter. If you see a project that you or your club would be interested in helping with, please email your interest to director@glcb.org

Fall 2023 Lions Service Days: October 6-8, 2023

Pick A Project!

Call to schedule a special work date for you and your club!
912-283-4320 or email: director@glcb.org

1. Storm Damage to Canoe building and fence surrounding Director's house back yard
2. Trees down will have to be removed by a professional tree surgeon
3. Several other smaller trees down, need to be cut up and removed (these can be done by volunteers)
4. PVC railing that leads to canoe dock will need repairs
5. Playground border fence needs repair and repainted
6. Clean Low Ropes Course and Amphitheater areas
7. Railings need repair at the back double door entrance to the dining hall-JOB COMPLETED **Painting needed**
8. Activity Site Warning signs have been replaced and repaired but framing needs cleaning and painting.
9. Informational signs around camp need cleaning
10. Repaint Dining Hall.
11. Pull out canoes and see which ones need repairing
12. Repair broken board on canoe cart
13. Tin roof over bleachers at horse arena needs to be re-applied
14. Pressure wash poolside deck
15. All cabinets in the main dorm need to be checked for easy opening and closing-repair those that need repairing
16. Still a need for some of the bathroom lights in the dorms that need to be converted to LED.
17. Need some shower heads replaced in the main dormitory
18. Replace weathered boards on wooden ramps at the exits of the main dormitory and repaint
19. Repair Emergency exit door at restrooms in the Dining Hall.
20. Nature Trail –build up low lying areas we continue to need Two loads of crushed asphalt and Two loads of fill dirt.
21. Sitting Swings at the fire pit need to be cleaned and painted.
22. Weed pulling, edging, raking, wheel barrow use, and sanitation are many other jobs to be done during this work session. BRING your gloves and definitely some BUG SPRAY!!
23. Lots of site cleaning and landscaping help needed

Upcoming Events

October 6-8, 2023

Fall 2023 Lions Service Days will be on October 6-8, 2023.

November 11, 2023

Council of Governors
Lighthouse (1:00 p.m.) Lions Camp (3:00 p.m.)
Location-Centerville Lions Club

December 8-10, 2023

Christmas Camp at Georgia Lions Camp, Inc.

January 5-7, 2024

Grace Clower Leadership Training at Georgia Lions Camp-Waycross, GA

January 19-21, 2024

Strategic Planning Retreat at Georgia Lions Camp-Waycross, GA

Lions Camp Information

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Georgia-Lions-Camp-Inc-152370411465833/>

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