



Georgia Lions Camp, Inc/Camp for the Blind Report  
By PCC Olin Newby, Chairman of the Board

As we begin a new year, July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018 the camp still has some challenges, that if we all work together, can make progress in making a better life for the blind population in Georgia. In the past year there were some accomplishments that were achieved that helped the camp grow in some ways. We started a leadership program in cooperation with Georgia's Vocational Rehabilitation program. We had some blind campers in this program that were taught how to better fit in the society in which they live. We hope to expand this program as well as our traditional program as we have carried on for 41 years. We are working with the Blind Veterans Association for a retreat to your camp where they can enjoy and learn different things. We have a program expansion committee that is working on partnering with Learning Ally at the University of Georgia to help the blind college population as well as other organizations and groups.

We had a good camping traditional camping session in June and July. Mike & Gail Williams, Program Director Teresa Sawyer and all the counselors did an excellent job.

The board wants to thank all Lions for their support in service, ideas and giving money to support the camp this past year as well as at the present. As you know, the camp's pool had to be repaired before the camping sessions. Some \$23,000 was contributed for this project by

various people, businesses and others. We have made application to LCIF for the other half of the repair cost. We thank you for your support.

This past year your board set the camp fee for campers at \$800 per camper. Some campers did not pay anything. Some paid a little toward the \$800. A few campers paid the entire \$800. However, with the contributions given by Lions, Lions Clubs and businesses you contributed enough to cover the 71 campers that attended camp this year.

The board voted on Friday August 4 ,2017 to Charge a registration fee of \$350 plus Bus cost from Macon \$75.00. We will keep the sponsorship fee at \$800.00 with a plan put in place to determine the financial needs of the campers to provide the monies for every camper to attend the camping sessions regardless of their ability to pay. If any questions about this direct them to a member of the board.

The Board is beginning the process to hire an Executive Director for the Camp. We hope to have a person in place before the end of the year. We will advertise the job, take applications, interview all applicants and then select the person.

The Chairman is in the process of revamping the camp committees. We will have them published shortly. I encourage you to contribute your talents, time and money to help us, through the camp, enhance a blind person life better so that they can contribute to society.

A reminder; We have the Memorial Gardens at the camp. I encourage you to honor or give in memory of someone by buying a brick at the camp. Their names will be engraved on the brick.

We encourage your support and to speak positive about the camp and its activities. If you have comments and questions we will be glad to answer them. Thanks for what you do.

*Olin Newby*