



Georgia Lions Camp



March 2020

The MD18 Leo Club held its annual Gathering February 7-9, 2020 with 81 participants. Seventeen Lions were there to help make the weekend the huge success that it was; we are always grateful for the support of Lions. The theme for the weekend of service projects, seminars, officer elections, and youth development activities was “bildin’ me a fewchur,” and all activities were built around the theme.

Leo’s spent Friday afternoon and Saturday morning completing service projects for the Georgia Lions Camp. Almost 725 environmental hours were logged by the Leo’s and sponsoring Lions doing their service projects for the Camp. On Friday the Colquitt County Leo Club walked the road frontage of the property picking up road debris. We walked all the way to Laura Walker State Park picking up debris along the roadside. We advised the park ranger that this was a project of those staying at the Georgia Lions Camp. On Saturday, the area for the car show was raked. The Adirondack cabin area was cleared. Leos cleared out the outdoor amphitheater and low ropes course. They walked the grounds and picked up any debris that could harm the environment. Weeds were pulled up at the Memorial Brick Garden. Camp Director Mike Williams organized the crews and kept them working for several hours. He made sure they were hydrated and had fun. One Leo was heard saying, “I never knew raking could be so much fun. I never knew there was so much pine straw from one tree. There must be a million trees out there.” On Sunday, the activities building, dining hall and kitchen, dorm, and bunkhouse was left clean for upcoming guests. At the end of the weekend all food, beverages, and paper products not consumed were donated to the Camp. Friday and Saturday evening the Leos sorted eyeglasses for The Lighthouse logging another 75 hours. To round out the weekend of service the Lions logged 1185 hours preparing for the weekend, shopping, preparing meals, organizing and supervising activities.

A lot of time is dedicated to providing the LEOs their LEADERSHIP, EXPERIENCE, and OPPORTUNITY events. The LEOs are worth all of the time we give them to grow into future Lions. As always, the Leos had a

great time and appreciate the opportunity to stay at the Camp and have their meetings and gain positive experiences. More importantly, they are always eager to do work at the Camp to make it ready for the camping season. The Georgia Lions Camp is a perfect venue for the Gathering. Thank you, Georgia Lions Camp. Thank you, Mike Williams, for joining the Leos in their work, fun, and meals.



Colquitt County Leos



Camp Receives check from Tattnall Leos

The Tattnall LEOs were chartered in 2018 with a passion for service to others. Each year the Tattnall LEOs have taken on local projects to help better their communities such as an Extreme Makeover of the Glennville Head Start building which made the local news in print and television on WTOC with Dal Canady. However, the Tattnall LEOs most favorite project has been a fundraiser to raise funds to sponsor a camper each year at the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind in Waycross, GA. Emma Smith, current president of the Tattnall LEOs states, “ Each year we offer up our LEO Advisor who also happens to be my mom, Shellie Smith, as a sacrifice to receive a pie in the face if the amount we need is met. All the funds collected go toward sponsoring a camper. We enjoy the fun and our advisor is always more than ready to allow us to pie her for a good cause! Who wouldn’t want to pie their advisor, especially since she’s my mom!”

The Tattnall LEOs are always so excited to return to the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind during “The Gathering” to work and clear all the areas which need tidying up after the winter storms move through preparing the grounds for the campers in the Spring. Emma states that they are also excited to present the check to Mr. Mike who pours his heart and soul into the camp, for they know he will accept it with tears of gratitude in his eyes and tell us of a deserving child who will receive the best blessing, free camp!

On February 15, 2020 the Georgia Lions Camp held it’s Third Annual Car Show. The weather was perfect for car owners and spectators to come out for this great event.

For the past three years this event has been organized by the Woodbine Lions Club. Also a big part of planning this event is the participation of the Ladies Club of Woodbine. Both of these clubs bring their members who volunteer to help where ever they are needed. We even had a Lion from Stone Mountain, Ga. Come to help us out. One of the camp’s rental groups also came and helped. Several local businesses made monetary donations.



Couple with car during car show

Many door prizes are given out throughout the day. This year the camp was given Two Daytona Five Hundred Tickets to give away. All spectators, show car entries, and vendors were eligible to win. One of the spectators was the lucky winner.

For the past two car shows there have been 77 and 78 vehicles respectively, to come out for this event. This year there were Over 100 vehicles who participated. Cars, Trucks, Old Wreckers, Super Big



Participants at car show

Trucks, and even Motorcycles. Participants came from as far as Florida, Savannah, Brunswick, and many from surrounding cities near Waycross. This year the camp added a few children friendly activities such as bounce houses, the Blue Train, and corn hole toss. All were a big hit.

Vendor participation was up. We had some great food and several types of crafts were available for sale. If you arrived early, Mr. Louis Keene of the Woodbine Lions Club prepared you some hot Pancakes and Sausage.

This event is organized to help the camp with cost of activity and program supplies needed during our Summer Camping Sessions. Sports equipment, board games, outdoor sport activities. Some of the funds raised help with making all areas of the camp more accessible to the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Ideas for next year's Car Show are already being discussed. Plans are to continue to make this one of the biggest fund raising events held here at the Camp. We hope that next year you can "Save The Date" on your calendar and come spend the weekend with us here at the camp. Remember we have dorms available and several RV hookups that you can use. The Date for next year unless it changes will be February 13, 2021. Come be a part of something great!!

I scream, you scream, we all scream for "Ice Cream"

Campers will be excited this year and years to come to be able to have some soft serve ice cream as a treat.

The camp was recently the recipient of a two flavor ice cream machine. Just like the ones you see at buffet restaurants.

Machine has only been used five times and is basically a new machine. The donor which ask not to be recognized thought it would be great to have for the campers.

Machine will be installed in the Dining Hall and can be used by rental groups as an extra amenity if they so desire. The machine can be used during fundraising events held here at the camp.



Ice Cream machine

Upcoming Events

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

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 Reveille and the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind. Registration required. Visit 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. 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. Yes, this event is combined with the scheduled work weekend projects March 20th-22nd, 2020. We are asking Lions who come to work to participate in the race Saturday morning as Ambassadors for the Camp. Pre-determined work projects will begin Friday afternoon and resume after lunch around 2:00 p.m. that Saturday. Register today at www.glcb.org.

April 18, 2020

Join the Lions Georgia District 18-1 on April 18th at 6:05 PM at Coolray Field. The first 2,500 fans will receive a premium giveaway. Tickets are \$15 each. Proceeds benefit the Georgia Lions Camp. For more information visit GLCB.org. For help with tickets call Steve Williams 678-294-0138, email lswjrbellsouth.net or reach out to your local Lions Club.

June 5-7, 2020

During the Lions State Convention from June 5 to June 7, 2020, there will be a Silent Auction benefiting the Georgia Lions Camp. Please help support the camp by bringing items to the auction. While you are there you can also bid on something you just have to have.

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.gclb.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