

# Florida Lions Foundation for the Blind

## ~ Quarterly Bulletin ~

### May - July 2011



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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



Even though the Lions' year is just beginning the Foundation's year will be almost one quarter gone by the time we meet on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Projects Managers have been busy and Beverly informed me that she has over 50 new eye cases for approval with more on the way. The demand for our services continues as it seems like we are the only avenue available to those in need. The government agencies are providing no assistance and it seems like they don't bother to try anymore but just say "Go talk to the Lions".

While our Projects Managers are working full time we must also be focusing on donations from the clubs to help pay for it. I know Lois has been busy with requests for Grand Lions to be presented at club installations and that has brought in some donations. I did an installation for one of my local clubs and left with a \$1,000 check for a Grand Lion I will present at a later date. I ask all of you to contact your local clubs and schedule programs now rather than later. Let's see how much we can bring to the meeting in Venice so that we can all reach our goals this year. Nancy and I look forward to seeing all of you on the 23<sup>rd</sup> in Venice.

A. Geoffrey Wade, PDG  
President, 2011-12

## **FLORIDA LIONS CAMP UPDATE**

As of June 30, 2011 the Foundation has invested \$684,000 in Accounts Payable, Employee Contracts and Monthly expenses. As I stated at the MD35 convention the camp has been sold and we anticipate the closing to be in early August. The due diligence inspections of the property are nearly complete and the buyers have actually rented the camp property for 4 weeks starting July 10th and will have 3 sessions beginning July 17th with between 15-20 campers per session. After we have the closing the Reckwerdt loan will be repaid in full (\$200,000) and the remaining accounts payable will be paid and closed.

Once all accounts are settled, the Florida Lions Camp, Inc. will cease operations and file a final tax return prior to the end of their fiscal year (September 30, 2011). The camp Board of Directors has voted to put any funds left from the sale and a pending settlement from an estate into the Kimberly Owens Campership Fund. Kimberly was a FLC camper who passed away last year and the fund currently has a balance of over \$10,000. This fund will be used to provide financial assistance and is available to any qualified campers. The fund will be administered by a

committee consisting of 4 Camp members and 1 Foundation member and will be managed by the Florida Lions Foundation for the Blind, Inc. The committee will establish guidelines for requesting assistance and they will be published in the MD35 magazine so all Lions will have the information.

Further updates on the closing and final will be published in the MD35 magazine and on the MD35 and Foundation websites.

If anyone has any questions concerning the Camp I can be reached at 772-340-1675.

Geoffrey Wade, PDG  
President  
Florida Lions Foundation

## **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/TREASURER'S MESSAGE**

This year some of the Foundations scheduled meetings have been changed. With the first Conference being held in August as a scheduled workshop our first meeting is being held at the Health Park in Venice. The remainder of our meetings for this year will be held in conjunction with the COG Conferences.



Our new Foundation shirts have been completed with all the orders that were made. I will be bringing the last ones completed to the conference. There are still a few available with the Foundation logo. I will also have these with me. New orders can be made however they will only be ordered when we get at least 12 new orders. This is because the shipping charges are high and it doesn't pay with our cost pricing.

Hopefully all attending the July 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting will wear their new shirts.

As all of you know we haven't had a huge amount of donations because no District Cabinet meetings have been held and each District will have one in August. District L – August 17 \* District I – August 27 \* District O – August 13 \* District N – August 20. A complete list is posted on the Foundation website.

I encourage all Directors to view the website and become familiar with all the information located there. It is so each to contact anyone within the Foundation either by phone or email. All the forms for completing a case to be presented to the Foundation. All the forms can be downloaded and printed. Any questions regarding submitting a case can be obtained our MD Project Chair, Past President Beverly Kruger. She will be able to assist and get you in contact with your District

Project Chair. All project chairs have been extremely busy during this short period since the MD Convention. Our report at this meeting is in excess of 60 cases.

We were extremely great full to the The Johnson Family for the generous Memorial Donation made to the Foundation in the name of their parents. This will help us to further our assistance with all those that need our services.

All our Drive Directors and Directors should be contacting the clubs in their areas to let them know exactly what the Foundation does and the heavy demand for our services in these times that we are in now especially with so many not insured and unemployed. Any Director should consider themselves as a Drive Director in talking with our Lions.

If anyone knows of Lions that would like to receive our quarterly newsletter please do not hesitate to forward them a copy of this. Also I can be notified so that their names can be added to the list.

### SUNSHINE FOR SOME OF OUR FOUNDATION FAMILY MEMBERS

*We have a couple of our Foundation members that we need to keep in our thoughts and prayers.*

*District L-First Lady had lung surgery on Tuesday and will be in ICU for several days. Cards can be sent to Lion Barbara at 557 Lake Dr, Ocala FL 34472-2603.*

*PCC Michael C. Mason is in the hospital - they replaced a vein in his leg with one from his arm. This was to increase circulation and they will be removing a small toe. Michael C has also suffered a mild heart attack. Cards can be sent to PO Box 1828, Silver Springs FL 34489-1828.*

*This information was distributed through PID Neil Spencer.*

*If anyone knows of any other of our Directors that need a little sunshine in their lives, please send me a email at: [f1f1qm@gmail.com](mailto:f1f1qm@gmail.com). I will always be sending a card.*

## Schedule of Events, 2011-2012

### MD-35 Conferences & Council of Governors Meetings

August 5-6, 2011, Governors Executive Session, The Villages  
November 10-13, 2011, Fall Conference, Sebring  
January 5-8, 2012, Winter Conference, Miami  
March 1-4, 2012, Spring Conference, Ocala

### MD-35 Convention

May 3-6, 2012, 88th Annual Convention, Miami  
Friday, May 4, 8:00 AM, Foundation Business Meeting  
Sunday, May 6, 8:30 AM, Election & Installation of Foundation Officers

### District Cabinet Meetings

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| <b>L</b> | August 17, 2011 – Jacksonville                       |
|          | December 17, 2011 – Ocala                            |
|          | February 18, 2012 - Ft. Walton Beach, Sandestin Area |
|          | April 7, 2012 - Lake City                            |
| <b>I</b> | August 27, 2011 – Immokalee                          |
|          | November 5, 2011 - Southeastern Guide Dogs, Palmetto |
|          | February 11, 2012 - Dog Guides for the Deaf          |
|          | April, 14, 2012 - Lake Placid                        |
| <b>O</b> | August 13, 2011 – Clermont                           |
|          | November 5, 2011 – Davenport                         |
|          | January 14, 2012 – Homosassa                         |
|          | March 17, 2012 - Palm Coast                          |
| <b>N</b> | August 20, 2011 – Miami                              |
|          | November 19, 2011 – TBD                              |
|          | January 21, 2012 – TBD                               |
|          | April 7, 2012 – TBD                                  |

This Lions jewelry, and some new items, will be available at the  
Fall Conference in Sebring

Available both in Gold and Silver



Stop by the jewelry table!