

# PALMETT LION



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Volume 47: Special Issue "Youth Exchange"

Editor: Lion Hope MacBride

September, 2019



FIRST MEETING



GOING HOME

IT ISN'T GOOD  
BYE BUT THE BE-  
GINNING OF LIFE  
LONG FRIEND-  
SHIPS

# SAVE THE DATE

## LIONS INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/events/calendar.php#april>

### September, 2019

Vision Awareness Month

Lions Membership Growth Month

Leo Membership Growth Month

- September 19—21—USA/Canada Forum (Spokane, Washington, USA )

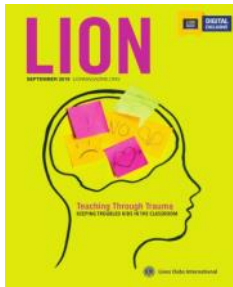
### October, 2019

Vision Awareness Month

Lions Membership Growth Month

Leo Membership Growth Month

- **October 1** - Deadline to purchase Peace Poster Contest kits from Club Supplies Sales
- **October 10** - Application deadline for Matching, Diabetes, Hunger (pilot), Childhood Cancer (pilot), SightFirst, and Lions Quest grants to be reviewed at the August 2020 board and LAC meetings
- **October 11** - World Sight Day
- **October 15** - International White Cane Safety Day
- **October 24** - United Nations Day
- **October 31** - New Voices nomination deadline



Read the Lions International Magazine September, 2019 edition of “Lion Magazine” here.

[http://mydigimag.rrd.com/publication/?m=6639&l=1#{%22issue\\_id%22:602492,%22view%22:%22contentsBrowser%22}](http://mydigimag.rrd.com/publication/?m=6639&l=1#{%22issue_id%22:602492,%22view%22:%22contentsBrowser%22})

## MD 32 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ASAP	<a href="#">2020 MD32 PIN ORDER FORM</a>
Saturday October 5, 2019 January 11, 2020 9:00 AM—1:00 PM	<b>MD 32 Lions Learning Academy</b> First Baptist Church / Family Life Center, 2875 Columbia Rd., Orangeburg, SC <a href="#">Link to Registration</a>
November 9—11, 2019 Application Due Date: August 26, 2019	<b>Advanced Lions Leadership Institute (ALLI)</b> Chicago, IL, USA <a href="#">Link to Application</a>

# FUNDRAISING EVENTS & SERVICE PROJECTS FROM AROUND THE STATE

<p>Sunday September 15, 2019 5:00 PM— 8:00 PM</p>	<p>SUMMERTIME &amp; THE JAZZ IS EASY! Columbia NW Lions club Chayz Lounge 607 Meeting Street Columbia, SC <a href="#">Link to Flyer</a></p>
<p>Wednesday September 18, 2019 Registration: 11:00 AM Shotgun Start: 1:00 PM</p>	<p>13TH ANNUAL SALUDA COUNTY CUP Saluda Lions Club Persimmon Hill Golf Club <a href="#">Link to Flyer</a></p>
<p>Friday September 20, 2019 7:30 AM—1:30 PM</p>	<p>SENIOR HEALTH AND RESOURCE FAIR Pawleys Island Lions Club 245 Business Center Dr Pawleys Island, SC <a href="#">Link to Flyer</a></p>
<p>Thursday October 3, 2019 6:00 PM—8:00 PM</p>	<p>SIP &amp; SAVOR Aiken Mid-Day Lions Club Wine &amp; Cheese Event Trinity on Laurens 213 Laurens St Aiken, SC <a href="#">Link to Flyer</a></p>
<p>Saturday October 5, 2019 9:00 AM—Noon</p>	<p>FREE HEALTH FAIR Mid Carolina Lions Club Grace Lutheran Church 210 Grace Street Prosperity, SC <a href="#">Link to Flyer</a></p>
<p>Saturday October 5, 2019 7:00 AM—11:00 AM</p>	<p>BREAKFAST IN THE DARK Abbeville Lions Club Abbeville Civic Center 404 North Main St Abbeville, SC <a href="#">Link to Flyer</a></p>
<p>Monday October 14, 2019 11:00 AM Shotgun Start</p>	<p>LEXINGTON LIONS CLUB—11TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT The Country Club of Lexington 1066 Barr Rd Lexington, SC 29072 <a href="#">Link to brochure</a> Registration form at: <a href="http://www.lexingtonlions.com/">http://www.lexingtonlions.com/</a></p>
<p>Friday October 18, 2019</p>	<p>CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC Spartanburg Lions Club Village Greens, Gramling, SC <a href="#">Link to Flyer</a></p>

## **2019 Youth Exchange Program in Review**

The 2019 Youth Exchange program is now complete so I would like to try and give you my thoughts about the program and all the things we accomplished. First I would like to thank all the Lions of South Carolina for supporting the Youth Exchange, not only this year, but for the many years it has been a part of lionism in South Carolina. This is truly a Multiple District service project that we all should be very proud to be a part of. Congratulations to all lions in South Carolina.

There are a number of lions I want to thank individually because they have helped me during my time as the MD Youth Exchange Chair. First, our 2019 Host Families, lions all: Rich and Kathy Klein, Jim and Linda Hilliard, Bill and Linda Haslett, Nathan and Betsy Barber, Sandy and Joyce Haskell, James and Karen Edwards, and Gary and Pat Friday. Without you there could be no Youth Exchange program. Thank You!

Next our touring camp Counselors: Miranda Mullins, Rick Pressly, Linda Haslett, Dowman Varn and myself. To say the least, it was a hardy crew as twelve teenagers are not that easy to keep-up with. They all did an admirable job and we thank them very much.

So, who were the youth exchange students that we hosted? Here is the list, country and age: Brazil, Ana Luiza Grizzo Paini (15), Belgium, Florence Coninx (17), Canada, Gracie A McRae (16), Canada, Jennifer Preece (15), Denmark, Ida Marie Stertz (17), Finland, Niia Lindstrom (16), Germany, Mortz Steck (15), Italy, Sara Cantergiani (16), Israel, Daniella Belo (16), Mongolia, Dulguun Gantulga (18), Tunisia, Ines Tayeb (15), and Poland, Michal Grab(16). We tried to show them a little of how we live in South Carolina, show them some of our history and culture do some shopping, let them develop friendships with other students, along with making sure they had a lot of fun.

There is another group of lions, lions clubs, and friends of lions that deserve special recognition. They are (in no particular order): Lions Gene and Rita Spiess, Lion Loreta Dylgjeri and the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind, Lions Earlene and Wes Corrothers, Lion DeDe Jones, Lions Jim and Hollie Starnes, along with the Spartanburg Lions Club, Lion Jim Connor and the Berea Lions Club and Lion Joe Scherer and the Boiling Springs Lions Club.

We thank the Tega Cay Lions Club and Lion Barbara and Dale Watts and Steve and Lori Young for their support and help by hosting the students and counselors after a day at Carowinds. Thank you so very much. We thank the Mullins Lions Club and Lion Bonnie Stephenson for hosting us as we visited the SC Tobacco Museum and had lunch at Webster's. While we spent 3 days at Myrtle Beach we had lunch with the North Myrtle Beach Lions Club and dinner with the Myrtle Beach Lions Club. We thank both clubs for their generous hospitality while we chilled at the beach.

The Georgetown Lions Club hosted us for breakfast on our way to Hilton Head and as always we enjoyed the fellowship and food with them. We thank Lion Tommy Pope and the lions for their hospitality.

The Hilton Head Lions Club treated us to a kayaking outing and a get-together afterwards at Lion Casey Bateman's home. Thank you, Lion Casey and all the members of the Hilton Head Lions Club for a very nice day. Thanks Lion Jim and Linda Kondor for setting this up for the Youth Exchange program. It was a great day.

First, I wish to thank Charleston Southern University for allowing us to stay on campus for the three nights of our Charleston Area visit. They are very kind to provide us with housing for 3 nights. After a good night's sleep at CSU, we ate breakfast at the school cafeteria and headed out to Magnolia Plantation and Gardens for a boat tour. Thank-you, Magnolia Gardens for your generosity by treating us to the tour and the opportunity to explore your beautiful gardens. Our next stop was lunch with the Goose Creek Lions Club at the Ye Olde Fashioned Sandwich Shoppe in Goose Creek. Thank you Lion Carolyn Fox and the Goose Creek Lions Club. We did a little shopping after lunch and then headed out to the Somerset Recreation Center for a cook-out with the Moncks Corner Lions Club. Thank you so very much Lion David Dennis and the Moncks Corner Lions Club. It was a real treat.

The following day we had a 9:00 AM carriage ride in downtown Charleston provided by Lion Robert Bailey and the Charleston Lions Club. We then had lunch at Eva's in Summerville compliments of the Summerville Noon Lions Club. Thank-you Lion John Enright and your club for a very nice meal and good fellowship. After doing some shopping we ate dinner with the Summerville Evening Lions Club at the China Town Buffet in Summerville. Thank you Lion Jim Strobel and all the Lions of the club. It was very nice.

I want to give a very special thank you to Lion Ned Shows for all the work he has done in planning the stay in the Charleston area for the last 4 years and also being a part of the touring camp as a counselor. It has been a joy in my life to work with Lion Ned and I thank you very much for all you did for the Youth Exchange program.

The following day (August 6) we packed-up and got ready to leave CSU. We went back to downtown Charleston to visit the Storm Eye Institute. After lunch at the Storm Eye Institute we explored a little of Charleston and left to meet with the Batesburg-Leesville Lions Club and they treated us to supper at the Wiz Eatery.

On Wednesday, August 7 toured the Governor's Mansion in the morning, ate lunch at Tio's Mexican Restaurant and then toured the State House. While at the State House we had the honor of meeting Governor McMaster and we were invited into his private office for photos and an impromptu tour of the Governor's office. It's the first time this has happened, thank you Governor McMaster. We then had a pool party with Lion Paul and Tara Hinson. It was loads of fun and enjoyed by everyone. Thank you so much Lion Paul and Tara.

On Thursday we went to the Riverbanks Zoo and had lunch with the Cayce-West Columbia Lions Club which we enjoyed very much. Thanks to Lion Bill Mooneyhan and the Cayce-West Columbia Lions Club.

I want you to know that one of the very special members of my team has been Lions Carol and Charlie Mosser. Lion Carol has been my good right hand in planning the Columbia portion of our touring camp for 10 or more years. I do not have words to express how much I appreciate all she has done for the youth exchange program, but I can say "Thank You" with all my heart.

We then had a tour of the State Museum which was informative and interesting. We rounded out the day by meeting the Columbia Northeast Lions for dinner. We thank the Columbia Northeast Lions for their participation in both the Thursday night dinner and the Friday night farewell party.

In my time as chair of the youth exchange program there are a number of lions whose help, expertise and energy have made my job so much easier. They don't know how much I appreciated and depended on them. Here is a partial list. Lions Dianne and Joe Pitts, Lions Jim and Hollie Starnes, Lions Jim and Pat Palmer, Lions Jim and Linda Kondor, Lions Charles and Dede Jones, Lions Joe and Shirley Lark, Lions Paul and Bobbie Dove, Lions Sandy and Joyce Haskell, Lions Eric and Morgan Lombardo, Lions Gene and Carolyn Clemmens, Lions Paul and Tara Hinson, Lions Frank and Dona Van Leer, Lions Bill and Linda Haslett and Lion Miranda Mullins. I thank all of you for all you have done for the youth exchange program.

#### SOME FINAL THOUGHTS

Dr. Franklin Mason was one of my mentors during the 12 years of my tenure with the Youth Exchange program. When the program needed a place to stay while we were in the Charleston area He contacted Charleston Southern University and made arrangements for us to spend 3 nights there at no charge. Just as important, every year when we visited Mullins he met us for lunch at Webster's. He was a great friend of the Youth Exchange program and a great lion. I appreciated him so much and although I can't say thank you to him in person, he knows.

I realize that there are other lions who have supported us in different ways that I have not recognized, I ask you not to be mad at me, but know that what you did for the Youth Exchange and other lions programs are very much appreciated. Isn't it great to be a lion?

I guess that many of you know that I am retiring as Youth Exchange Chair for MD-32 due to family health conditions. Under new leadership, I hope the program will continue and become even better than it has ever been in the past.

All of the pictures I have taken during the various Youth Exchange programs can be viewed and downloaded from a Drop-Box account I have set up. Just fire-up your internet browser and insert the below listed address and you will there. Enjoy!

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/8pjsc5punnvcykw/AABrqVTsXUI8IsXvjIrgSwBRa?dl=0>

Sincerely in Friendship and Lions Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Varn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Lion Jim Varn**

**Turn to the next page and**

**Let me now take you through a pictorial of our touring camp.**



On July 27, 2019 we met at the SC School for the Deaf and Blind for our kick-off meal



**First photo of students all together**



**July 28<sup>th</sup>. White Water rafting**



**July 29<sup>th</sup> at Lake Jocassee**



**Berea Lions club meeting on July 29<sup>th</sup>.**





**Breakfast with the Boiling Springs Lions Club**



**On to Carowinds**



**Leaving Tega Cay for the beach**



**We stopped in Mullins to tour the Tobacco Museum and have Lunch with the Mullins Lions Club**



**Yes! We are at the beach.**



**Lunch with the North Myrtle Beach Lions Club**



**The beach also means shopping**



**And sitting around the pool**



**I must admit I committed a huge Faux Pas while we were dinning with the Myrtle Beach Lions Club. I took photos but there was no card in my camera. So I can't document the dinner. It was good however and we always appreciate good fellowship.**



**Now, on to Georgetown for breakfast on Saturday on August 3rd.**



**Then a long trip to Hilton Head for kayaking compliments of the Hilton Head Lions Club.**



**It was a lot of fun and the party at Lion Casey Bateman's home topped off the day.**

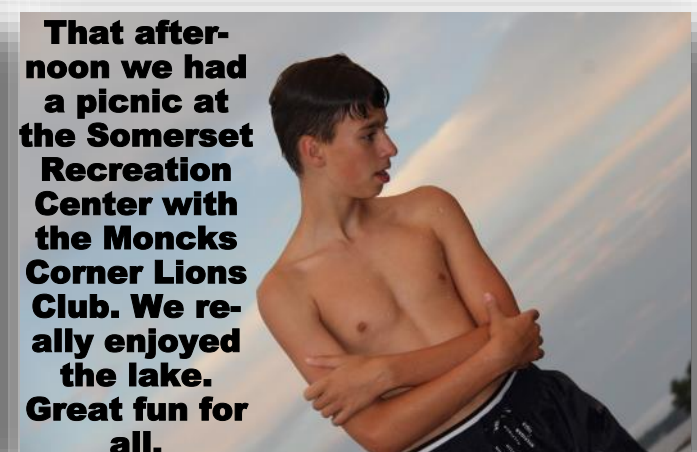


**It was back to Charleston Southern University to spend the next 3 nights**

**The next morning we visited Magnolia Gardens and actually saw an alligator.**



**Lunch was with the Goose Creek Lions and look who showed up.**



**That afternoon we had a picnic at the Somerset Recreation Center with the Moncks Corner Lions Club. We really enjoyed the lake. Great fun for all.**





**Monday morning we went for a carriage ride in downtown Charleston sponsored by the Charleston Lions**



**Lunch was with the Summerville Noon Lions Club. It was a very good lunch. Then we went shopping in the afternoon.**



**That evening we ate dinner with the Summerville Evening Lions Club which was a very nice affair.**

**August 6<sup>th</sup> was moving day so we packed up at Charleston Southern and went to visit The Storm Eye Institute at MUSC. I had a minor vehicle problem so I did not attend the meeting. I understand that it was an informative meeting and I hope the students enjoyed it. Afterwards we spent some time in downtown Charleston before leaving and heading for Batesburg-Leesville and our final 3 nights on our touring camp. ↓**

**After checking at the D. Moody Gunter Retreat we headed to the Wiz Eatery for a dinner with the Batesburg-Leesville Lions Club. It's always good to visit with the Lions Club. The meal was good also.**



MORE ON NEXT PAGE







**The next morning we headed to the Governor's Mansion for a guided tour.**



**After lunch at Tio's Mexican Restaurant in was on the State House for a tour and, as it turned out, a meeting with Governor McMaster.**



**In the late afternoon we all enjoyed a pool party and Taco's at Lion Paul and Tara's Home.**



**We also had a birthday girl and celebrated with a cake**



**August 8<sup>th</sup> was zoo day, lunch with the Cayce-West Columbia Lions and a visit to the State Museum.**



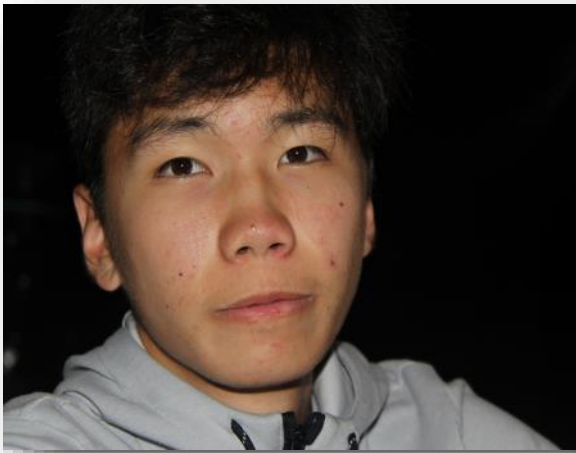




**A farewell to the beast**



**Our last night of the touring camp**



**Final goodbyes**





Thank you Lion Jim Varn for all your wonderful pictures and for your service to the Youth Exchange through the years. You will be missed. Make sure you check out Lion Jim's pictures from past years at :

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/8pjsc5punnvcykw/AABrqVTsXUI8lsXvjIrgSwBRa?dl=0>

I invite you to enjoy a collage of the pictures sent in by our participating clubs.



# Well, that's all folks!

THANKS FOR READING  
WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED THE PALMETTO LION!  
AND  
WE'LL SEE YOU NEXT MONTH!

**Deadline for submissions to the July Palmetto Lion is**  
**September 30**

**We want to hear from everyone!! Make sure to send in your pictures and short articles to your District Palmetto Lion Rep.**

District Rep.	Email
32 S Linda Rumsey	<a href="mailto:lindarumsey51@att.net">lindarumsey51@att.net</a>
32 C Matt Jones	<a href="mailto:mjones@sc.rr.com">mjones@sc.rr.com</a>