



Executive Director Message

“Life is either a daring adventure or nothing” – Helen Keller



Barry Elliott
Executive Director

The service that the Lions of Alabama are providing through Alabama Lions Sight (ALS) is certainly a daring adventure. If each lion could see for themselves each facet of service they are providing throughout the state it would amaze you. Lions need to be proud of the Lions Global cause of vision.

Something occurred to me that we as lions however are not taking advantage as we should. Dr. Daum and our Mobile Eye Clinic (MEC) may be coming to a location near you or your club. You or your club should take advantage of the clinic if it is near you. Eye care is needful and extremely important for all. You will not find a more caring and servant heart who has your best interest at heart than Dr. Daum as well as being a professional optometrist. If glasses are needed you can't find a better or cheaper pair than through the MEC. The MEC accepts all insurance and for those who don't have insurance there is a sliding scale, exam \$20.00 and single prescription \$43.00. If your club has a person who needs an exam and/or glasses you can't find a better deal and savings for your club. The MEC currently visits 16 counties in Alabama once a month. Here are the towns visited: Jasper, Sipsy, Birmingham, Sylacauga, Eclectic, Ramer, Hayneville, Autagaville, Pine Apple, Camden, Thomaston, Selma, Uniontown, Marion, Your, Greensboro, Eutaw, Carrollton, Gordo and Clanton.

I have just scheduled the MEC to be at the State Convention in May at Orange Beach. The clinic is scheduled to see residents at this time at a nursing home and an assisted living home perhaps Thursday and Friday. The MEC will also be available to see Lions on Saturday of the convention. You may begin to call the ALS office to set up your appointed ahead of time, first come first served. Lions will be able to see the clinic at work.

Another area of service that Loins can be proud is our partnership with UAB Callahan Eye Hospital. Our long time partnership has helped hundreds of thousands of Alabamians. The Lions Clinic located on the first floor last year saw 7412 patients. This year so far we the



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clinic has seen 1562. We are pleased to continue our partnership in providing vision care especially to those needing indigent vision care.

Perhaps what is most rewarding in our service is what individual lions are able to join hands with ALS to provide and that is vision screening. So vital is this aspect of our service in detecting vision problems early in order to prevent blindness. So much vision lost is due to not detecting it in time. The Moulton Lions Club recently completed a vision screening of all 6th, 8th, and 10th grades in Lawrence County Schools. Many thanks to the Moulton Lions and PID Jerome Thompson in coordinating this effort. Funding is in place to screen all 6th, 8th, and 10 grades in the Birmingham City Schools. Scheduling is being arrange at this time. We are also working on the same in Walker County Schools. Hopefully in the future we will be able to share what we are working on state wide. It is certainly exciting and worthwhile. To date this lion year we have screened 512 adults and referred 190 with 3563 children and 458 referred in all three districts.

ALS is working on a partnership at the present with the Alabama Department of Public Health. If this pilot program materializes then it could be a beginning of even more service opportunities for ALS.

If each lion could see with your own eyes the scope of what lions together are providing then you would know that your service and donations to ALS is being multiplied and making a difference. I am proud to be a lion and you should be also.

We Serve!

PDG Barry Elliott
Executive Director