



Mountain Lion News

The Newsletter of District 18A

April 2005

District Convention Ends With a Bang!

The 84th Annual Convention of District 18A was held March 18-19 in Jasper, hosted by the Jasper Club, home of District Governor Mark Miller. And what a convention it was, too! The Host Committee had put together a great event for the Lions of 18A, and attendance was better than ever before. The festivities began Friday night with the **Hall of Fame Banquet**. PDG John Keeter, President of the Past District Governors Association, inducted seven new members into the 18A Hall of Fame (details on *page 7*), assisted by our International guest for the weekend, **Past International President Jim Coffey**.

District Governor:

Mark Miller

Jasper Lions Club
1 S Main Street
Jasper, GA 30143
678.454.5000
mark@attorneymiller.com

Vice District Governor:

Jane Price

Canton Lions Club
230 Lori Lane
Canton, GA 30114
770.345.0066
jprice@alltel.net

Cabinet Advisor:

Earl Culberson

Council Chairman
Adairsville Lions Club
1468 Hall Station Road, NW
Adairsville, GA 30103-5239
770.773.7849
joel1468@bellsouth.net

Cabinet Secretary:

Darlene Lathem

Jasper Lions Club
462 Lakeview Trace, #20672
Jasper, GA 30143
770.893.1191
dcabin24@yahoo.com

Cabinet Treasurer:

Kathy Carlson

Cartersville Lions Club
151 McKaskey Creek Rd., SE
Cartersville, GA 30121
770.386.8327
KCarlson@crescentbank.com

District Historian:

Wayne Sanders

Marietta Lions Club
2430 Castle Lane
Marietta, GA 30062-5207
770.973.8330
WPSJH@aol.com

DG Mark and Leslie with Secretary of State Cathy Cox.



The keynote speaker for the evening was **Georgia Secretary of State Cathy Cox**. She congratulated the Lions on their service to Georgians, and their service around the world. The evening concluded with a performance of a one-act play by members of the local theater group, the **Tater Patch Players**.

Activities resumed Saturday morning with a breakfast with some of the leaders of 18A, followed by a tour featuring the marble industry for which Pickens County

is "famous". The tour was organized by **Lion Doug Brooks**, and took participants to the **Huber Corporation**, where they learned about how marble was mined and its many uses. Everyone even got to choose a piece of marble as a souvenir. Then it was on to the **Good Samaritan Health and Wellness Center**, a free clinic manned solely by volunteers, many of whom are members of the Jasper Club. The GSH&WC is also the home of the **Georgia Lions Lighthouse Mobile Eye Clinic**.

The training sessions and business meeting were held in the afternoon. One of the highlights of the afternoon was the presentation of the 2005 Young Ambassador of the 21st Century – read more about it on the next page!

The pinnacle of the weekend was the District Governor's Banquet. PIP Jim praised the efforts of the Lions of 18A, and he participated in a very special ceremony – the chartering of the Gilmer County Latin Lions Club (*see page 4*). The weekend was capped off by a fireworks spectacle, reminiscent of an old-fashioned 4th of July Celebration.

See more highlights from the convention throughout this issue of *Mountain Lion News*.

Tater Patch Players Cindy White and Bob Countryman.



Lions picking out pieces of Georgia Marble.



**More
Convention
Highlights Inside!!!**

Young Ambassador of the 21st Century

The Lions Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award program is part of the Lions Opportunities for Youth initiative. The mission of Lions Opportunities for Youth is:

To provide the young people of the world with opportunities for achievement, learning, contribution and service, individually and collectively, through sponsorship of activities identified as best practices in the field of youth development.

The Lions Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award recognizes young people for their outstanding community service involvement, leadership accomplishments, public speaking skills and scholastic achievement. The awards encourage young people to seek experience in these areas and recognize their value of their achievements.

There were six participants in this year's contest:

- **Elizabeth Jasperse**, Jasper Lions Club
- **Allison Johnson**, Canton Lions Club
- **Andrea Jennings**, Ellijay Lions Club
- **Lauren Riddick**, Roswell Lions Club
- **Kendra Goad**, Cartersville Lions Club
- **Tifani Smith**, Woodstock Lions Club

They were judged on the above criteria, and participated in a one-on-one interview. The judges were PDG John Keeter, PDG Ray Moore, and PDG Lil Shurtleff (18B). Each participant was given the topic "Diabetes and Eye Disease" on which they were to make their presentation.

After hearing each presentation, the judges were faced with the difficult task of choosing just one winner. **Elizabeth Jasperse**, a senior at Pickens High, was named the 2005 Young Ambassador of the 21st Century. She is the daughter of Rick and Marcia Jasperse. She is involved in many activities in her school and community, including the Pride of Pickens Band, 4-H, and the youth group at First Baptist Church.

Elizabeth will receive a \$1000 college scholarship. She gave her presentation at the

District Governor's Banquet at District Convention, and she will go on to compete at the state level in May. Congratulations go to all the participants for being leaders in their schools. It's exciting to see how well these students represent our future!

Elizabeth Jasperse giving her presentation at the District Governor's Banquet.



Lion Vanessa Stanley is coordinating volunteers for the American Diabetes Expo, April 23 at the Cobb Galleria. They need people in two shifts: 8:00am-noon, Noon-4:30pm
WEAR YOUR VEST!

Contact Lion Vanessa at 404.730.1213



Announcing:

**Lions University
Saturday, May 21
Rowland Springs
Baptist Church in
Cartersville**



**Training for all officers and
information for all Lions!! Make
your plans NOW to attend!**

District Convention Highlights

Leadership Breakfast



Exhibits



District Store



Marble Tour



Good Samaritan Center



DG Mark and Leslie with PIP Jim and Betty Coffey



Lion Jeff Bennett



Lion Joy Huddlestun



Dan D. Lion



Gladys Knight and the "PIPs"



2005

Gilmer County Latin Club Signs Charter

How exciting it is to welcome new Lions to our organization! It's even more exciting to welcome a whole new club to District 18A! Attendees at the District Convention witnessed the members of the Gilmer County Latin Club signing their charter, and becoming the newest club, not only in our district, but in the state as well. Sponsored by the Ellijay Lions, the Latin Club conducted a service project to collect coats for children in the Hispanic community in Gilmer County. Lions from all over the district assisted them with that project.

Twenty-three members were in attendance at the District Governor's Banquet, and were sworn in as Lions by Past International President Jim Coffey. They signed their charter and received "Charter Member" pins from VDGE Randy Maynard. PIP Jim Ervin then inducted their new officers.

Several Lions leaders from 18A received Extension Awards for their efforts in getting this club started: **VDGE Randy Maynard, DGE Jane Price, PDG Haynes Townsend, Lion Barrett Creech, and Lion Jim Fredrickson.**

The Lions of 18A are honored to have been a part of their first steps along the path of service.



President Elizabeth Biggers signing charter.

Charter Officers



***Camp for the Blind Work Weekend
April 22-24***

***Contact Camp President Ed Ressler
for more information***

***770.986.4185
eressler@mindspring.com***

***Beat the
Governor
Contest!!***



***Recruit more members into
your club than the Governor
has into his, and you could
be on your way to Walt
Disney World in Florida! Get
out there and invite someone
to join today!***

***(Prize includes a one-week stay at a Walt
Disney Resort property, and two 4-day
Park Hopper tickets, good for admission to
all four Disney Theme Parks.)***

Where's the Governor?



Here are the activities of the District Governor during the month of *April*:

- 1 *Chattanooga Valley* 35th Anniversary
- 2 “*Lifestyles for Today’s Woman*” Seminar, Marietta Conference Center
- 8-9 *Council of Governors Meeting*, Hapeville
- 15-17 Visit to *SE Guide Dogs*
- 18 *Cedartown* Official Visit
- 19 *Zone C Meeting*, Blue Ridge
- 21 *Atlanta Hellenic/Buckhead Breakfast* Official Visit
- 25 *Trion* Official Visit
- 28 *Zone E Meeting*, Buckhead

If your club has not already scheduled his Official Visit, please call DG Mark at 678.454.5000, or email him at mark@attorneymiller.com, so that you can get your club’s visit on the schedule.

DG Mark celebrated his 40th birthday with his home club on Thursday, March 24th. To really give him a reason to celebrate, they had 5 new members for him to induct into the club! He also inducted 4 new members in February at his Official Visit.



Zone Meetings Scheduled for April

April 19 *Zone C*, Dave Ward, Chair

Hosted by the Blue Ridge and McCaysville Clubs
7:00pm

Blue Jeans Restaurant in Blue Ridge

Cost of Meal: \$10.00

Please contact Zone Chair Dave by **April 14** to let him know how many from your club will be there

April 28 *Zone E*, Jerry Norton, Chair

Hosted by the Atlanta Hellenic and Buckhead Breakfast Clubs
7:00pm

Landmark Diner, Buckhead

Please note:

District Bulletin Editor
Leslie Miller has a new email
address....

lesliemiller@ellijay.com

If you have anything you would like to have included in the newsletter, you may email it to her at the address above.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game!



18A Lions Day with the Chattanooga Lookouts is Saturday, May 14. Meet at 5:00pm to pick up tickets – picnic begins at 5:30, game at 7:00. Tickets are \$20 each, including picnic and the game. Please reserve your seat by May 1. **Be sure to make plans to stay for the**

fireworks after the game! For more information, or to order tickets, contact PDG Grover Newman at newmanthree@aol.com, PO Box 805, Chickamauga, GA 30707.

A Word from the DGE.....

At the District Cabinet meeting on March 19th, you elected me your District Governor for next year. I cannot tell you how honored I feel that you are putting your trust and faith in me to lead your district in the coming year...I thank all of the Lions of 18A for the friendship and support you have always given me during our years of Lions service together...it is YOU who make our organization what it is...the BEST!!

I would also like to thank all of the Lion mentors I have had over the years, who have shared their Lions knowledge with me, kindly responded to some very dumb questions, and taught me the ropes. Because of them, I am experiencing the friendship and fellowship of Lions throughout NW Georgia and beyond.

This year, District Governor Mark Miller has initiated many new ideas and programs for us to continue to grow. Together, we will make great strides for our membership and clubs. And we can have FUN doing it!

The next few months will be busy and I will be calling on many of you to serve with me next year as cabinet members. If you have a burning desire to serve in a particular area, please call me or email me.

Together in service, we will make a better tomorrow.

*Yours in Lions Service,
Jane Price
District Governor Elect 18A*

**Sandy Springs Lions Club
5th Annual Golf Tournament
Monday, June 20, 2005
Contact Lion Phil Nason
642 Manning Road
Marietta, GA 30064
Details in the next issue of
*Mountain Lion News***

Former 18A Lion **PDG Mel Johnson** was inducted into the **18F Hall of Fame** at their convention on March 12. Mel served as DG 1979-80, and was a member of the Henry Grady Lions Club before transferring to the Lavista Club. He was instrumental in procuring the site for the Georgia Lions Lighthouse. 18A is proud of PDG Mel for his induction into the 18F Hall of Fame!



April Is White Cane Month

Blind and visually impaired persons in many countries use the familiar white cane with a red band at the bottom. Lion George A. Bonham of the Peoria, Illinois, USA, Lions Club invented this simple device in 1930.

Today, blind and visually impaired people throughout the world use Bonham's invention. Schools for the blind teach the use of white canes. This includes explanations of "white cane laws" which state that motorists must yield the right of way to the blind and visually impaired.

The Lions of Georgia have set April as White Cane Month. Only about one third of the clubs in 18A have made a pledge to participate. The goal statewide is \$175,000, so we need your help. Plan activities in your communities to help raise funds....

- Letter writing campaign to area businesses
- Bucket brigades
- Have students in the local schools collect spare change

These are just a few ideas. For more information on how your club can participate, contact **18A White Cane Chair Vanessa Stanley at 404.799.3999.**

18A Hall of Fame 2005

PIPs Jim Coffey and Jim Ervin were on hand to assist PDG John Keeter in presenting the 2005 18A Hall of Fame Inductees.



PDG Jerry
Curtis

Rome
Lions Club



PDG
George
Haney

Buckhead
Breakfast
Lions Club



Lion Emma
Lou Stover

Ellijay
Lions Club



Lion Herb
Eber

Atlanta
Metro
Lions Club

CC/PDG Earl
Culberson

Adairsville
Lions Club



Lion Dr. GH
Perrow*

Jasper Lions
Club
Accepted by his
daughters, Janet
Vardaman (L)
and Lion Margo
Austin



PDG Wayne
O'Neal*

Jasper Lions
Club
Accepted by his
wife, Lion Delle
Marie, and their
grandson,
Hammond



**Deceased*



We Serve

Anne Sullivan Award Due This Month

This Award, sponsored by the Macon Cherry Blossom Lions Club, is presented for recognition of outstanding achievement in working with handicapped children. Recommendations must be made by a Lions or Lioness Club, giving full biographical data on the nominee and stating clearly the basis on which the club is making its nomination. All informational material must set out plainly the depth and scope of the accomplishment or services and the period the services have been rendered or the general effect on the Community of the achievement. The original of the recommendation must be *sent to the State Chairman* of the Anne Sullivan Award Committee (listed below); AND

- One copy to your District's Committee Member
- One copy to your District Governor
- One copy to the State Office

All nominations to be considered must be in the hands of the Anne Sullivan Award Committee Chairman not later than **April 23, 2005**. Decisions of the committee are final. An award plaque, furnished by the Macon Cherry Blossom Lions Club, will be presented to the winner during the 2005 Georgia Lions State Convention. The recipient will be presented the plaque and given a man's and lady's Hospitality Book by the Macon Cherry Blossom Lions Club. All other expenses connected with his or her attendance at the Georgia Lions State Convention must be borne by the Club that made the nomination, or by their awardee.

The chairman will furnish each committee member copies of all the nominations. The awardee will be selected by vote of the committee. The chairman will notify the club submitting the winning entry; each District's Committee Chairman will notify clubs submitting nominations from their District the outcome of the committee's selection. The award plaque will be secured by the State Office and be on hand for the presentation during the Georgia Lions State Convention.

*Susan Abrams, State Chair
3367 Montheath Pass
Duluth, GA 30096*

*PDG Jerry Curtis, 18A Chair
6 Rita K Drive
Rome, GA 30161*

*Lions of Georgia State Office
c/o Linda Selby
977A Madison Road
Eatonton, GA 31024*

Official Visit in March

DG Mark visited the **Rome Lions Club** on March 15. PDG Charles Chapman accompanied him. There was a very special treat waiting for him – a big ol' snake! Being a Boy Scout, he took it all in stride, and proceeded to give his whole presentation with the snake around his neck! PS – If Lion Leslie had been there, she probably would have passed out! ☺

~picture courtesy of Zone Chair Joyce Culberson



East Cobb Lions 14th Annual Golf Tournament for Charity

April 26, 2005

Four-person Ft. Lauderdale Tournament
Canterbury Golf Club
Marietta

Trophies and Prizes!!!

Registration, coffee, juice, sweet roll and range balls 8:00 A.M. Shotgun start 9:00 A.M. Lunch following golf. (In case of a rain out, the event will be rescheduled and the date and location will be announced as soon as possible).

\$100.00 Per Person if paid by April 19
\$110.00 thereafter

For more information, contact:

John Ransom
2740 Dale Drive
Marietta, GA 30068-3618
770.973.1900

johnbransom@bellsouth.net

~submitted by Lion Debbie Hennessey

Applications for 100% Awards Due April 30

If you are the VDG, a region or zone chair, or a club president, secretary, or treasurer, and you have met the requirements for the 100% Award, you must submit to the District Governor a letter to that effect by **April 30**. This request must be *IN WRITING*, and if you don't apply, you won't receive the award.

The following offices are eligible for 100% awards:

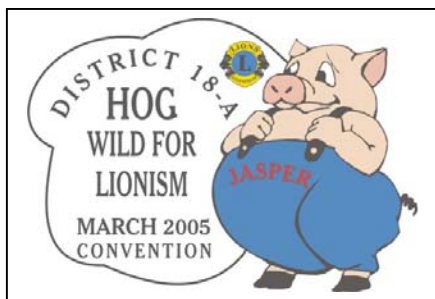
- Vice District Governor
- Region Chair
- Zone Chair
- Club President
- Club Secretary
- Club Treasurer

For a listing of the requirements for each office, please refer to the State Directory, the District 18A Handbook, or the Lions of Georgia webpage, www.galions.org.

Letters may be emailed to DG Mark at mark@attorneymiller.com, or mailed to him at 1 South Main Street, Jasper, GA 30143.

Some of you may know that Lion Leslie collects pigs of all kinds

– large, small, ugly, cute, pink, black – whatever! (The DG tells this goofy story that the only reason she married him was to add to her pig collection!) In honor of her love for pigs, the District Convention pin was fashioned with the image of a pig going “Hog Wild for Lionism”. A pin was included as part of the registration fee for the convention, however, you may purchase additional pins at a cost of \$5.00 each. Please contact Lion Darlene Lathem at 770.893.1191 or dcabin24@yahoo.com.



Has your club elected its officers for 2005-2006? PU-101 forms are due by April 15. These forms were distributed at District Convention, but are also available from your club secretary, or from the Lions Clubs International website, www.lionsclubs.org.

Golden Chain Applications Submitted by the End of April

The Order of the Golden Chain is an award that recognizes achievement at the club, district, and state levels. Member who receive the Golden Chain have completed rigorous requirements, including sponsoring at least one new member.

Deadline for application is **April 30** - all applications must include the following:

- All 5 requirements from Part I
- 11 of the 24 requirements from Part II
- Only one award per person per year - PLEASE INCLUDE WHICH AWARD THIS IS FOR YOU AT THE TOP OF THE APPLICATION (i.e., if this is your first award, put “1st” year award. If you have received 5 awards in previous years, then this year would be your “6th” year award.)
- Applications must be postmarked **NO LATER THAN APRIL 30**. Applications postmarked after that date will not be considered. Mail all applications to:

*PDG Charles L. Chapman
18A Golden Chain Chair
590 Nalley Drive
Jasper, GA 30143*

The **West Cobb Lions Club** celebrated its **40th Anniversary** on Monday, March 7. They were chartered on March 27, 1965, sponsored by the Austell Club. Pictured here is **Austell President Chuck Cook (L)** with **West Cobb Charter Member Melvin Couey**.



Lions Day at UGA Baseball
Saturday May 7th, 2005, 4PM
Foley Field in Athens, Georgia
\$3.00 for adults
\$1.00 for children under 18
Deadline to reserve tickets is
May 1st

The game is UGA vs. Vanderbilt. It is an SEC game, and will be televised. Orders are to be placed either by email at ronaldepperson@bellsouth.net, by phone at 706-548-0930, or by regular mail:

Ronald C. Epperson, PDG
1340 Hollow Creek Lane
Watkinsville, GA 30677-1517

NO MONEY is to be sent to me. Tickets are to be picked up at the will call ticket window the day of the game and be paid for at that time.

Please wear your Lions Vest as this will help to identify you to other Lions as well as to the rest of the fans. I am also looking for a Lion that would lead the singing of the National Anthem -- Lion Scott Cochran, District 18D song leader, is not available.

~submitted by 18D PDG Ronald Epperson



Learn more about what is happening in District 18A, the State of Georgia, and around the world in Lionism!

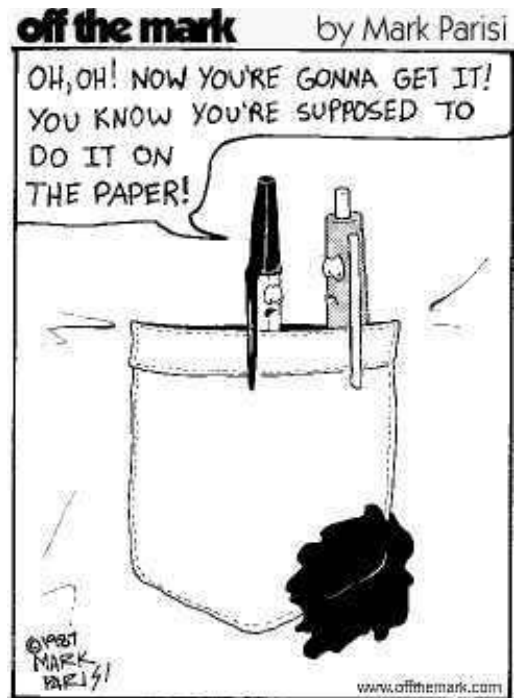
Visit the following websites:

www.lionsofga18.org

www.galions.org

www.lionsclubs.org

Humor



The **Jasper Club** hosted their 4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 26. There were over 500 children on hand to find over 15,000 eggs – the hunt was over in about 15 minutes! Pictured here is their mascot, **Dan D. Lion**, greeting some of the children.



Jasper Lions ready to "hop to it" when the Egg Hunt begins!



State Convention Just Around the Corner

Have you made your plans to attend this year's State Convention? If not, you'll really be missing something special! The convention, hosted by the Hapeville Lions Club, promises to be one of our best ever!

Convention will be held Friday-Sunday, May 27-29, at the Atlanta Airport Marriott, 4711 Best Road in College Park. The special room rate is \$99/night. Call 404.766.7900 for reservations – be sure to tell them you are with the Lions of Georgia so that you may receive that special rate.

The activities begin on Friday afternoon with a special training session for incoming club presidents and secretaries. The official opening is Friday evening, at which time attendees will enjoy the flag ceremony, a great tradition for the Lions of Georgia. The Georgia Lions All State Band will perform for the flag ceremony, and will perform a salute to our armed forces. There will be appearances by two very special guest stars – you won't want to miss this!

Saturday morning begins with the Melvin Jones Breakfast, followed by the voting session. We will be choosing the International Director candidate to represent Georgia, as well as voting on amendments to our constitution. District luncheons will be held immediately following. The Camp for the Blind and the Lighthouse will hold their board meetings in the afternoon. The District Governors' Banquet will again feature the Georgia Lions All State Band. The International Guest for the weekend, **ID Bill Crawford**, a first-year director from California, will be the keynote speaker. Following the banquet will be a reception featuring a dance band to kick off the campaign for our International Director candidate.

Sunday morning the convention closes with the Necrology Service, then the State Awards presentation.

Make those reservations today!

Three Lions in 18A received the **International President's Certificate of Appreciation** at the District Convention. This is the 4th highest award from the International level. These Lions are dedicated to service, and are very deserving of this high honor.

Cabinet Secretary Darlene Lathem, Jasper



District Lion Tamer Debbie Hennessey, East Cobb



Camp for the Blind President Ed Ressler, East Cobb





THE LIONS OF GEORGIA 84TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

HAPEVILLE, GEORGIA
MAY 27-29, 2005



REGISTRATION FORM

| Name (one person per line, please) | Home Club | District | Lions Title | \$Paid |
|------------------------------------|-----------|----------|-------------|--------|
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Your registration fee includes:

- The Friday Night Opening Ceremonies
- The District Luncheon
- The District Governor's Banquet
- Admittance to all the Plenary Sessions
- Business Sessions, and many more fun events.

The registration fee is **\$70.00**.

After April 25, 2005, the fee is **\$75.00**.

Please include payment for each attendee.

Please make checks payable to:
Lions Convention '05
 Mail to:
Hapeville Lions Club
Lions Convention '05
P.O. Box 82085
Hapeville, GA 30354

NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER MAY 15, 2005

CONTACT INFORMATION

Your Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (____) _____ - _____ Fax (____) _____ - _____

The Last Word...The DG's Re"Mark"s

What is it going to take to get you to pay attention to the good Lions that you are letting leave your fellowship? I feel very frustrated as I look at the monthly membership reports from so many of our clubs. While our District has brought in over 150 new members this year, we have also failed 150 of our existing members -- failed them because we have dropped them from membership.

I openly admit there are legitimate reasons for people dropping out of a Lions club. At the Fall Rally, I asked each club President, before he or she signed a monthly membership report that dropped a member, to call that member. I wanted the club presidents to ask two questions:

1. Why are you leaving the club?
2. Is there any way to keep you involved in the club?

These are really important questions. I know one president that did this. He found out that the couple that was being dropped wanted to stay, but could not be at club meetings on a regular basis. That President suggested they stay as on affiliate members (dues paying but not active members), so they agreed to stay.

Of course, asking these questions can lead to learning about problems within the club. A little evaluation of your club can only make your club stronger.

Next week, I will be mailing to each person on the District Mailing List a list of the dropped members from their club this year. I am asking you to call these "former members" and ask them these two questions. So what if they get 5 calls, it will show you care about your club---and you care about them. It is very easy to reinstate a Lion!



DG Mark behind the International President's desk??!!

APRIL FOOL'S!!!! 😊

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lesliemiller@ellijay.com

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peggiechapman@ellijay.com

C. Mark Miller, Governor

Mountain Lion News

Serving the Lions of 18A

