



**NEW LOGO!**

**Board of Officers**

*President  
Wayne Magoon*

*Vice President  
Ray Schumaker*

*Secretary  
Heather Zeolla*

*Treasurer  
Frank Culhane*

*Executive Director  
Quanah F. Parker*

*Camp Administrator  
Melissa M. Lynch*

**Camp Office**

*3650 Rick Hamilton  
Place  
PO Box 56  
Nanjemoy, Md.  
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***Lions Camp Merrick, Inc.***

***“The Acorn”***

***5<sup>th</sup> Edition - 2011***

***Editor: PDG Quanah F Parker  
(New e-mail for The Acorn)  
lcm22c@gmail.com***



“Proud Supporter of  
Camp Glyndon”

Camps Glyndon, Abilities and Deaf  
Camp at Camp Merrick provides  
friendship and challenges to our  
special youth



**Presidents Report**

First we would like to thank all of our amazing campers for a WONDERFUL summer... your terrific attitude and love for the camp and each other is truly the heart and soul of Lions Camp Merrick.

Next we would like to thank all of our campers’ families for their trust and support this summer. We do not take this fact for granted and we are honored that you trust us with your most valuable possession... your child! We hope to always deserve that trust. We also want to thank our staff. We cannot tell you how VERY proud we are of you. How you responded day after day with determination, dedication, loving care and sacrificial efforts to make this a GREAT summer. We could not have done it without YOU!



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From page 1...

What an amazing summer with such amazing kids. We already can't wait for SUMMER 2012. With that in mind we would like to announce that we will post our 2012 Summer Schedule on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012, please check our website located at [www.lionscammerrick.org](http://www.lionscammerrick.org)

Also, as of November 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 we will close the camp for the winter to complete some much needed work. You will still be able to reach the camp office between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, our phone number and fax number will be the same, all mail should be directed to our Post Office Box. Please have a wonderful Fall and Winter, we look forward to seeing you all next Summer!

Wayne Magoon  
President  
Lions Camp Merrick, Inc.

### **Executive Directors Report**

I have been trying to build bridges for Camp Merrick in other Districts in Multiple 22 and 24A in Virginia.

I did a news article for the 24 A Newsletter in Virginia and visited two Clubs in 22W.

I went to the Charter Night for the Hampstead Lions Club and spread the word about our services at Camp Merrick.

I also gave a talk to the Silver Run-Union Mills Lions Club in 22W.

One of my fund raising letters to Diabetes organizations landed a \$700.00 donation from the Meghan Puls Foundation, Inc.

Our Speakers Bureau is still looking for invitations to do presentations on the Camp. Please call John Theil at 301 346-1048 to schedule a speaker.

Advisory Board members and Presidents of our Clubs please see that the Acorn is e-mailed to your members.

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**From page 2...**

**Two of my fund raising letters to local foundations brought in \$ 10,700.00 to help with assistance for the children to attend camp and maintenance repairs.**

**PDG Quanah "Sonny" Parker  
Executive Director  
Lions Camp Merrick, Inc.**

### **Maintenance Committee Report**

**The Waste Water Treatment System Engineering work is almost complete. We will then go out to bid for the balance of the work to be done.**

**The camp will close down November 1, 2011 to enable the balance of the work to get completed before spring.**

**Bud Humbert hopes we will get clubs to volunteer to help prepare the camp for the re-opening of the camp. Please contact him at [budhumbert@olg.com](mailto:budhumbert@olg.com) or Tel. 301 643-2583**

### **Camp Administrator's Departure**

**Melissa Lynch is leaving by November 1, 2011 for her parent's home in New York. She has served Lions Camp Merrick well and we wish her the best in her future endeavors.**

**We also want to thank her parents who volunteered to help us at the camp on several occasions.**

**Quanah F. Parker**

**Thanks for all your hard work!**





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## **Camp Administrator’s Report**

**It is with a heavy heart that I say good-bye to all our wonderful campers, their families and my staff. As of November 1<sup>st</sup> I will be moving on from Lions Camp Merrick. For me this is a bitter sweet experience as I leave my home in Maryland to return to the home I grew up in, in New York. Over the past 3 years it has been my privilege and honor to be a part of this wonderful camp that serves not only the deaf, and diabetes youth of the tri-state area, but is also reaching out to help the underprivileged children of their county. I have learned so much from each and every one of you and I value our time spent together. I know I am leaving a richer person for having been a part of your lives.**

**There is one story I value from one of my staff, who was a previous camper. It sums up all that is in my heart and I’d like to share it now.**

**Riley was a 15 year old young woman who has type one diabetes and had attended LCM since she was a small child. She comes from a well off family, has the heart of gold and the ability to care for others unlike many girls her age. It was a record hot day in 2010 and we were going to open the pool longer than scheduled. Riley (secretly being one of my favorite campers) asked if she could come chit chat while I was in the water before having to lifeguard. It was then the Riley and I started talking about college options for her, where to go, what to major in. You know the excitements of a 15 year old. We chatted how we both have adopted sibling who we both love- it then carried on to how she wanted to help people. I suggested a nurse (like my mother). She was intrigued by my rationalization, and then.. I suggested a endo nurse ( a nurse who specializes in diabetes) And, at that point, Riley the most pleasant, giving, upbeat 15 year old I have ever met looked at me with disgust like I had 10 heads.. Her response “Why, why would I do that- I wouldn’t have a job... Missy there will be a cure by the time I finish college.” At that point I couldn’t take the sappy reaction I wanted to give her yet blurted out “ WHAT ABOUT CAMP?” Her response quick and logical,”It’s okay we’ll all come back to “Cure Camp””. She then passionately ranted how everyone HERE at Lions Camp Merrick becomes a family- staff, campers, administration. It was then midway thru my second summer at LCM that I realized what an amazing camp we had. Two specialized programs that allow children who have diabetes or are deaf to relate to each other-question each other- have someone as a friend who knows exactly what they are going thru.**



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That moment at the pool I knew what an amazing place LCM was to so many children.

I'm leaving with a huge love and concern for Lions Camp Merrick. LCM is a place where all fit in and come to find it a place called home for so many campers and staff. Although I will be miles away, LCM will always be close to my heart. I thank you all for the amazing memories, special opportunities and the blessed friendships I'll cherish forever.

Yours in Camping,  
Melissa Lynch  
Camp Administrator  
March 2009- October 2011

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**To all Clubs in Multiple District 22 and especially  
Advisory Board Members from 22C Clubs**

**Please appreciate the emotions that went into the letters from Campers and Staff.**

**We have a valuable prize in our Lions Camp Merrick. Please help me to support the Camp with your love, contributions, volunteer, time and efforts.**

**If you have contacts in Corporations or Private Foundations that support programs for youth or special needs children, please give us their names, addresses and phone numbers.**

**Lions United can accomplish wonders in the Community. Please get behind Lions Camp Merrick.**

**PDG Quanah F. Parker  
Executive Director  
Lions Camp Merrick, Inc.**



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## "We Get Letters"

### LETTERS WRITTEN BY CAMPERS WHO ARE BLIND AND VOLUNTEERS THE WEEK OF AUGUST 15TH THROUGH AUGUST 19TH•

September 4, 2011

Dear Lions Club,

We were very concerned when we heard that we may not attend Lions Camp Merrick this year. What a terrible disappointment it would have been to so many of our campers. The campers as well as the volunteers look forward to 5 days of a very unique experience that they have come to love and enjoy.

I don't think most of us realize how much the wonderful environment and atmosphere of camp life mean to the folks who live mostly in the city. The break from routine at home to camp life with games, hiking, swimming, singing, joking around and just enjoying one another's company is evident in the laughter that is heard throughout the camp.

I thank you so very much for continuing this opportunity for these campers. I know the Lions Clubs are having a difficult time with finances as are so many groups. We do appreciate your reconsidering and following through with the camp week of August 15-19th•

Sincere thanks,

Shirley Gillespie,  
Camp Volunteer

Dear Lions Club,

Thank you for letting us come down here to the camp. I really enjoyed myself and I pray and ask the Lord to come back next year.

I wish I could be here for 2 or 3 weeks. It makes it seem like home when we come down here. It makes you feel comfortable when you get back to your cabin. The bed sleeps good.

I enjoyed the dance on the Entertainment Night. I enjoyed the pool on the days I went swimming.

The food is pretty good- breakfast, lunch and dinner. The hike seems like a beautiful walk. I missed the hayride this year. Hopefully, it will be fixed by next year.

I enjoyed the singing last night. I did two selections. The first one was "All Night, All Day". The second was "Come By Here, Lord". Before that we did the people orchestra with Maybelle.

Sincerely,  
Sylvester



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Continue from page 3...

Dear Lions Club,

We are very happy to be back at Lions Camp Merrick this year. I really enjoyed myself with the activities and it was nice to have new activities like water aerobics and tennis.

We are more and more excited each year we come. The volunteers are nice especially the cook, who cooks very nice.

The thing I love the most is Beep ball. I also enjoyed Entertainment Night.

I had a very nice time and hope we can come back next year. The arts and crafts were exciting.

Thank you for having us all here, as a family. We have new friends come and are family too.

From Grover and Rosa Mingo

To All The Lions,

I appreciate the week of Camp Merrick with all our activities that we shared between us. We look forward to this special get together during the year.

We understand the economic hardships we are all facing, but hopefully Camp Merrick will continue. .

Sincerely,  
Peter Rumore

Dear Lions Club,

The visually impaired people would really enjoy it if you kept the camp open because we enjoy coming to camp. I was told it is very beautiful down there. We do so many things at camp. We have 385 acres to roam. We can hike, swim, canoe, play Beep ball, bike, play bingo, do arts and crafts and sing. I enjoy being with all the campers- talking, playing games and using Bop-its.

Thank you a million times over!  
Mary Briscoe



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Continue from Page 4...

Dear Lions Club,  
I had a wonderful and great week. I would like to thank you for allowing me to come to camp.

I met a lot of wonderful people and will always cherish the moments.

Thank you,  
Ava Ferebee

Dear Lions Club,

This is the first time I have been to your camp. I want to thank you for the fun I had. I will be back next year! !

Rosalind

Dear Benefactors from the Lions Club,

I sincerely thank each and everyone of you for your support of the blind people who attended Camp Merrick this year.

We look forward to renewing old friendships each year. We hope that economic circumstances will permit the continuation of Camp Merrick.

I thank you sincerely,  
Velma Lowe

Dear Lions Club,

I enjoyed myself and appreciate the camp. I'm glad I came. I hope it continues on from year to year. I will be coming back each year it is open.

I enjoyed the swimming and all the activities here like canoeing, bicycling, Beep ball, tennis, arts and crafts, lummi sticks and fishing.

I enjoyed the people. They were wonderful, kind and respectful. Gloria, Shirley, Maybelle and everyone were wonderful.

Thank you for the opportunity that the Lions give us.

Sincerely Yours,  
Sandra Estelle White

P.S. The cabins are very comfortable and clean. This is my second year and I want to come back for many years. If I can volunteer to do anything, I will.

God Bless!



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Dear Lions Club,

I apologize for this economy being the way it is, but nevertheless we always have a wonderful time. Thank you for being so generous and kind by letting us come each and every year. I pray that I will be back next year if God is willing.

Yours Truly,

Renatta Beverly

To The Lions Club,

Thank you for the experience. This has been my first camp. You will always be in my prayers.

Mary L. Carr

Dear Lions Club,

Thank you for inviting me. I came, I saw and I enjoyed, and I appreciate and I will be back next year.

Thank you,

Selina Boyd

Dear Lions Club.

Thank you for all the generous activities since we've been here. We've had a wonderful time fellowshiping and having beautiful and wonderful thoughts.

The volunteers are appreciated. The camp has been inspiring to the visually impaired.

God Bless,

Nyesha Allen



### OUR MISSION

"Our summer camp programs promote the education, creative expression and social growth of special needs youth. Lions Camp Merrick fosters friendships between children facing similar challenges and provides the community and Lions with opportunities for, philanthropy and service."



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**A BEQUEST IS ANOTHER  
 WAY OF GIVING**

**A bequest is "That which is left by a will"  
 Especially Personal Property.**

**The types or gifts are as follows:**

- 1. Percentage of the Estate**
- 2. Special amount**
- 3. Residual Beneficiaries**
- 4. Testamentary Life  
 Income Agreement.**



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**Patriot's Circle/ Buy-A-Brick Project**  
**\$100 - 3 lines on engraved brick**  
**\$250 - 5 lines on engraved brick**

- 4" x 8" Buy-A -Brick engraving - \$100 contribution - should read:**

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- 8" x 8" Buy-A-Brick engraving - \$250 contribution - should read:**

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