

THE

ALABAMA LION



A newsletter for members of Alabama Lions Clubs

February 2011

The Alabama Lion is published for Alabama Lions Sight Conservation Association, Inc. 700 S. 18th Street Birmingham, AL 35233

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Birmingham Hispanic Lions Club Charter Night



Pictures from the Birmingham Hispanic Lions Club Charter Night at Vestavia Hills Civic Center on November 20, 2010.

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VISIONS



Help us take care of those who need us

The last few months have, as you might imagine, been trying but productive. The Board and staff of Alabama Lions Sight have been working diligently to address the situation at Alabama Lions Sight. To date, recommendations have been made regarding several changes to office policies and procedures and discussions with our insurance carriers are concluded. These will be presented to the Board at its February meeting. Your Board and staff have been fully engaged and informed throughout this process, and we are beginning to move forward. This is not to say that there are not still challenges ahead, because there are several that are significant. Not the least of these is continued funding of our operations.

While we have experienced a significant decline in funding, especially as it relates to funding from outside sources, i.e., grants from foundations and other organizations, we have experienced no such decline in the need for our services. Our patient load continues, especially with the continuing dismal economic climate, and the loss of

employment and health insurance by so many. In other words, our reason for being, providing care for those who cannot afford it, continues. We have many, many patients on the waiting list.

We are currently dependent upon the Lions Clubs of Alabama, and individual Lions of Alabama for your continued support. Please keep this in mind as you continue to plan and execute your 2010-2011 and 2011 and 2012 Lion Years. In the past, we have derived approximately 50% of our funding from outside sources. The vacancy in the Executive Director position precludes our ability to seek out and solicit moneys from those outside sources. It is very much "chicken or egg". We need that person to find and raise funds, but we don't have the funds to hire the person. Please consider increasing your club and personal donations to Alabama Lions Sight.

The Board is currently looking at avenues to raise the funds to replace our Executive Director at this time. Hopefully over the next several weeks we will have this resolved

and can move ahead from there. Until then the staff and Board continue to manage on the funds we have, but our services have been reduced to compensate. (Remember: The need hasn't gone down, just our ability to fulfill the need).

If you have any suggestions, please do not hesitate to forward them to any Board member, including myself, or any member of the staff. In the meantime, and I know you are probably tired of hearing this from me, please consider making donations, or additional donations, either from your Club, or personally to help us take care of those who need us.

In Service through Lionism
CCE Ken

*"The only thing worse
than being blind is having sight
but no vision."*

— Helen Keller



CCE Ken Vaudo



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