



THE

2024 – 2025 Issue 1

# pride of Pennsylvania



Lions

Are

Thankful!

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Send articles and photos to the Editor at the address shown below. The PRIDE accepts no responsibility for unsolicited material, or for the opinions expressed or coincidental names used by authors of articles.

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Feb. 15, May 15, Aug. 15 and **Nov. 15**

We reserve the right to reject any material that is deemed inappropriate to the goals and objectives of Lionism. Material is printed on "space available" basis.

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2024-2025, Issue #1**

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**WE NEED YOU!**



*Articles for the next issue of The Pride  
are due November 15  
for publication by December 31.  
Thank you.*



<https://palions.tbsonlinestore.com>

## Past International Director Larry Edwards

### And we Continue .... To Serve, Let's Make Our Mark

Greetings, Lions and Leos,

While sitting on my porch, I begin to see some leaves dropping and turning more brown than green. That means fall is around the corner. We have all had a summer of fun, adventure and travel. Now is the time to get back to the business of Mission 1.5, generate those members and start up the club service activities.



The recent Lions Magazine has been delivered and we can all read about our new President Fabricio Oliveira and his objectives, "Make Your Mark." We will have him as our Multiple District Guest in May at the State Convention. Plan now on attending.

Speaking of the magazine, I spent an afternoon reading it. One article caught my attention, page 27, *Two Generations-One Mission*. Lion Susan and I met both of the two individuals featured. PID Dr. Jack Weber and his son were at the District Convention I spoke at in Syracuse and Leo-Lion Hilary Wickenhauser was with her family when I was the district guest in Minnesota. Both are outstanding Lions and have learned how to serve others. Each had several tips for making the most of your Lions experience. If you have not read these yet, please do. I will share them with you.

PID Jack says:

- Don't just have a drink at the bar, have dinner and go home. Get involved.
- Climb the ladder of leadership in your club. If time permits become chair of a committee. That may lead to becoming a club officer.
- Perform hands-on service instead of just making a financial contribution.
- Expand beyond your club by attending district and multiple district meetings. If you can, go to your MD convention and try to attend an International convention.
- Volunteer to chair an important committee at the district and multi-district levels.

Leo Lion Hilary says:

- Don't be afraid to speak up. Offer suggestions, purpose new ideas and projects, and make your voice heard.
- Find mentors, young and more senior Lions are full of ideas and knowledge that can help you further your journey.
- Remember that age is just a number. We are all equally valuable as members and volunteers whether we are 26 or 86.
- Ask for help! Trying new things can be a challenge. Turn to your fellow Lions and even non-Lions for support.
- Keep service at the heart of all you do.

If we as Lions can follow these tips, what an improvement our organization will see.

Until the next time we meet at a Lions event, I wish you all the best and remember to keep serving and **Make Your Mark.**

PID Larry

*Larry*



## From Council Chair Larry A. Frankenfield



MD-14 Lions and Leos,

Welcome to a new Lions year. My name is Larry A. Frankenfield and I am the Council Chair of MD-14 for 2024-2025. I would like to let you know a little bit about me. I have been a member of the Upper Perkiomen Valley Lions Club since 2012. I have worked through all the chairs in the club and served as a Leo advisor. Having received several awards and a Melvin Jones Fellowship, service to the community is my main goal. At the district level I have served as Zone Chair, and District Governor 2021-2022 and again in 2023-2024. Family life is also

important having seven children, 16 grandchildren, and one great grandson. I am a widower and this past year became engaged. Serving as Council Chair is a great honor and I ask for your help to make this year great.

I hope all of you are working on Mission 1.5. The whole project starts at the club level and we need your help. As of this month we have 1.35 million members. I don't have a magic bullet to improve things, so any idea is welcome. Will we be able to achieve this goal? I sure hope so, you know what happens when you put a challenge in front of a Lion. There are only a few districts in the state that are positive on membership.

Service reporting is an area that we must improve. Reporting service improves the opportunity for grants and help from the community. We say it all the time that Lions are the best kept secret and it is very true. When the community knows of the service projects, people want to help and membership could improve.

All clubs have their local projects, but always remember our core Lions projects. This includes LCIF. Any time you can honor someone with a Melvin Jones Fellowship is a great thing.

President Oliveira is asking all Lions to go out into your community and provide a service project that will impact their lives. MAKE YOUR MARK.

*Larry A. Frankenfield*

MD Council Chair

2024-2025





# Annual Pennsylvania Lions



## Fall Leadership Symposium

**“CERTIFIED GUIDING LION TRAINING”**

**\*2 LOCATIONS\***

**Saturday, October 5, 2024 9 AM-2 PM**

PA Lions State Office

949 East Park Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17111

*Lunch available for a \$8.00 donation (Pay at the Door)*

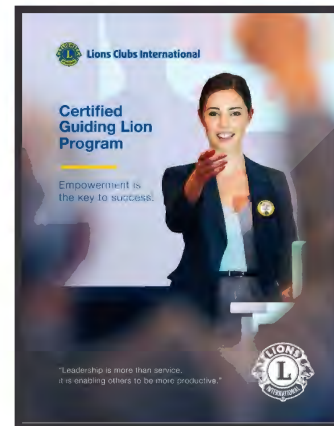
**\*OR\***

**Sunday, October 6, 2024 Noon-5 PM**

Butler County Association for the Blind

322 N. Cedar Street, Butler, PA 16001

*Snacks will be available*



**FREE and OPEN to all MD-14 Lions**

To register contact PDG Kerry McKnight at

[MD14GLT-LEARN@yahoo.com](mailto:MD14GLT-LEARN@yahoo.com) or call (717)759-0711

**Space is Limited!**

**Empowerment is the key to success!**



# *Pennsylvania State Council of Lions Clubs*

**TO:** 2024-2025 State Council of Governors, Lions of Pennsylvania International Family,  
Vice District Governors, MD-14 Committees and Coordinators and interested Lions

Multiple District 14 Council Chairperson Larry Frankenfield has issued a call for the **2024-2025 Council of Governors** to hold its **second meeting Saturday, October 26, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at the Red Lion Hotel Harrisburg-Hershey, 4751 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111.**

The Council of Governors will hold a Preliminary Meeting Friday, October 25, 2024, at the Red Lion Hotel Harrisburg-Hershey at 1:30 p.m.

If your committee needs a room to meet on Saturday morning, please notify me by Thursday, October 3, 2024. Meeting rooms will be given out on a first come first served basis. There are a limited number of rooms available.

A Reservation form for the International Luncheon to be held Saturday, October 26, 2024, as an official part of the Council of Governors weekend, is included in the packet of information that accompanies this Call of the meeting. **Attire for the Luncheon will be Business suits or Green Jackets. No tuxedo or formal wear is required for this Council meeting.**

The annual Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation Banquet will be held Friday, October 25, 2024 at Red Lion Hotel Harrisburg-Hershey. A reservation form for the banquet accompanies this Call of the meeting.

**Discounted sleeping rooms** are available at the Red Lion Hotel for **\$125 plus tax and are available through Thursday, October 10, 2024.** To reserve a sleeping room at Red Lion Hotel please click on the link to make a reservation. The link is [Pa Lions Council MTG Booking Link](#). You may also call the hotel at 717-939-7841 and dial "zero" for the front desk at the hotel.

Committee chairpersons/coordinators who have an **Action Item** for State Council to consider during the Saturday, October 26, 2024 meeting **must** submit that item in written form to the State Office **no later than Sunday, October 6, 2024.** Any Action Item proposal received by the State Office less than 14 days prior to a State Council meeting must be approved by a two-thirds vote (12 of 18) of the Council of Governors before it may be presented for consideration. An Action Item that does not receive the needed two-thirds vote for consideration will be tabled until the next State Council meeting. Committee chairpersons/coordinators with Action Items must be present or have a representative at both the Preliminary and Regular State Council meetings. **Council Chair Frankenfield reminds everyone: Oral committee reports to State Council will be subject to a three-minute time limit.**

State committee chairs and coordinators who do not have an Action Item for Council to consider are also asked to submit written reports to the State Office by Sunday, October 6, 2024 so they may be included in the packet of information for the State Council to review prior to the meeting.

Thank you in advance for your time and cooperation.

PDG Deb Burkholder  
MD-14 State Administrator

**YOU ARE INVITED TO  
The Annual**



***Lions of PA Foundation Banquet***

**Friday, October 25, 2024 at 6pm**

**Lions State Council Meeting  
Red Lion Hotel  
4751 Lindle Road  
Harrisburg, PA 17111**

**Social Hour: 5pm to 6pm  
Cash Bar**

**Cost of Dinner: \$40.00  
Reservations Needed By October 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Please Mail Reservations to:  
PDG Mary Jane Keller  
1181 Educational Drive  
White Oak, PA 15131**

**Checks made out to: The Lions of PA Foundation**

.....  
**Reservations for LOPF Banquet (Mail to: PDG Mary Jane Keller)**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Dist. 14 - \_\_\_\_\_**

**Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ @\$40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**PA STATE COUNCIL OF LIONS CLUBS  
2024-2025 STATE COUNCIL MEETING #2**

Red Lion Hotel Harrisburg-  
Hershey  
Meal Reservation Form

**Saturday International  
Luncheon  
Homestyle Buffet**  
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Fresh Rolls and Butter, Tossed Salad, Cole Slaw  
Stuffed Chicken Breast and Cape Cod Haddock  
Mashed Potatoes and Green Beans  
Fruit Crisp  
Coffee and Iced Tea  
\$29 / person

**RESERVATION DEADLINE: Monday, October 14, 2024**

-----  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday International Luncheon Buffet

\_\_\_\_\_ Meals X \$29.00 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to **PA Lions** and write **Council Meeting Meals** on the memo line.  
Mail Reservations to **State Administrator, 949 East Park Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17111.**







OCTOBER | 2024

## LEADING THE WAY



LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND - LIONS NEWSLETTER

# Partner with Leader Dogs for the Blind for Your LCIF DCG Project!

### What Are District and Club Community Impact Grants (DCGs)?

- DCGs allow clubs and districts to utilize a portion of the funds they donate to Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). Clubs that donate at least \$5,000, and districts that donate at least \$10,000 within a fiscal year, qualify to apply for a grant equal to 15% of their total contributions (excluding disaster donations).
- Eligible Projects: DCG funds support specific humanitarian activities that highlight the role of Lions in their communities. The funds cannot be used to pay membership dues or establish reserve funds.

### Why Choose Leader Dogs for the Blind as Your Project?

- By choosing Leader Dogs for the Blind as your DCG project, you are directly supporting a nonprofit that serves individuals in your own community who are blind or visually impaired.
- Founded by Lions Club members in 1939, Leader Dogs for the Blind has a long-standing, deep connection with the Lions Clubs International community. We've partnered with over 4,900 Lions clubs worldwide to serve more than 17,000 clients across the globe, including many in your own neighborhoods.
- Lions are integral to our mission. They identify community members who could benefit from our services, provide direct assistance to clients, and help spread awareness about our programs. Lions contribute as Leader Dog Chairs, puppy raisers, and hosts for breeding stock dogs, while also advocating for the blind and visually impaired in their communities.
- By choosing Leader Dogs for the Blind, your club will help empower people with independence and mobility, fostering stronger, more inclusive communities.

### Join Us in Making a Difference!

By selecting Leader Dogs for the Blind as your DCG project, you are contributing to a legacy of service and support that spans across the globe while directly impacting your local community. Together, we can empower individuals with vision loss to live more independent, fulfilling lives.

**Contact Us** today to learn more about how your club or district can partner with Leader Dogs for the Blind!

SCAN TO LEARN MORE!



Turn your car into a vehicle  
for change this fall.



[lionsofpafoundation.org](https://lionsofpafoundation.org)  
click "Forms" tab for the application

Cartober Vehicle Donation

## How to participate

We're participating in Cartober – a national campaign that raises awareness around this powerful means of giving.

You, too, can participate by donating your vehicle to LOPF. The process is easy and free, and we'll use the proceeds to support your community .

Vehicle Donation

## Donate your unwanted car, truck, van, boat, motorcycle, real estate:



Call **877-999-8322** or start your donation online.



Schedule your free and convenient pick-up.



Once your vehicle is sold, we'll then send you the paperwork for your tax-deductible gift.

Visit **cartober.com** or call **877-999-8322** to get started!

***Sign Up Today - Space Is Limited!***



# RLLI



**REGIONAL LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**



**March 7-9, 2025**

**Red Lion Hotel Harrisburg/Hershey**



## **SUBJECTS**

- Lions Fundamentals
- Team Work
- Diversity
- Public Speaking
- Time Management
- Personal Mission Statement
- Member Motivation
- Goal Setting

## **INSTRUCTORS**

- PID Cindy Gregg
- PDG Tom Gregg
- PDG Jason Long
- PDG John Mallonee
- PDG Dick Sware
- PID James Cavallaro
- PDG Kerry McKnight

Contact Your District  
Governor  
Or  
PDG Kerry McKnight  
md14glt-learn@yahoo.com

**Space Is Limited!**  
**\$175 Per Lion**  
**Meals & Rooms Included**



# MD-14 REGIONAL LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

MARCH 7-9, 2025-Red Lion Hotel Harrisburg, PA

## **CANDIDATE'S REGISTRATION FORM**

**Cost \$175.00** (includes Institute, lodging and meals)

Checks should accompany this form and be made out to "PA State Council of Lions Clubs"

Mail to: PDG Kerry McKnight, 6 Mulberry Lane, New Freedom, PA 17349

All questions to PDG Kerry McKnight at klm52@aol.com or 717-235-2790

**(Past participants, District Governors, Past District Governors ineligible)**

*Submission Deadline Date: January 31, 2025 (No refunds after deadline) Maximum 40 attendees*

**Please type or print CLEARLY!**

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

District Number \_\_\_\_\_ Member Number \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Lions Office Held \_\_\_\_\_ Current Lion's Title \_\_\_\_\_

**Email\*\*** \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Please Type or Print CLEARLY! Email is used for ALL Communication regarding the institute**

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name/Number \_\_\_\_\_ Month/Year Joined \_\_\_\_\_

Offices Held Within Lions Club \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Positions Held Within Club \_\_\_\_\_

Why is this institute of interest to you?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **CONTINUED NEXT PAGE →**

**By signing below I hereby commit to the conditions of attending the 2025 MD-14 RLLI**

- **Let us know if there are any special dietary considerations we should be aware of?**
- Participants are responsible for arranging their own travel to and from the institute.
- Participants must stay at the hotel throughout the institute.
- MD-14 GLT will make all hotel reservations. (Do not call the hotel.)
- Participants are required to stay through 3:00 p.m. on the last day of the institute.
- If they depart prior to 3:00 p.m. on the last day, they will not receive an acknowledgement pin nor their RLLI participation certificate.
- Participants may bring a laptop for use outside of the classroom.
- Participants are required to complete pre-assignments prior to arrival at the institute.

Candidate's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**District Governor Must also Complete and Sign this Form**

In what ways will this candidate benefit from attending the Regional Lions Leadership Institute.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

District Governor Member Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name of District Governor \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of District Governor \_\_\_\_\_

Email (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



## **Global Service Organizations Unite for Fourth Annual "Celebrate Community" Week to Tackle Health, Hunger, Education, and Environment**

(Oak Brook, Ill., September 16, 2024) – Community service took center stage September 8-14 for the fourth annual Celebrate Community joint initiative from Kiwanis International, Lions International, Optimist International and Rotary International. The project encouraged members of each organization to work together to serve their local communities.

Members of the four volunteer service organizations shared ideas and united to collaborate on projects focused on issues related to health and wellness, food insecurity and hunger, education and literacy and the environment. Efforts included activities such as community cleanups, food donations and distributions, walks or runs to raise money for specific causes and collecting books to help children build personal libraries.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with other service clubs through Celebrate Community to build stronger communities worldwide," said Kiwanis International President Katrina Baranko.

"I am proud to watch Lions and Leos join forces with other service-minded volunteers around the world during Celebrate Community week," said Lions International President Fabrício Oliveira. "This collaboration highlights the incredible impact we can achieve when we unite our strengths and resources. Together, we are addressing critical issues such as health, hunger, education, and the environment, making a tangible difference in the lives of those in need."

"This year's Celebrate Community was a shining example of what can be achieved when service organizations unite," said Optimist International President Tracy Huxley.

"Together, we amplified our impact and proved that collaboration is the key to bringing out the best in youth, communities and ourselves."

"When organizations like ours join together and partner with communities to meet their needs, we're able to achieve more than we ever could on our own," said Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick. "What's more, by working together, our participants feel engaged and foster social connections and a sense of belonging, all of which are essential components of mental health and wellness and member retention."

The joint project also allowed community members serving in different clubs to learn more about each other, their organizations, and their combined efforts to help children and adults challenged by environmental or financial difficulties.

### **Media Contacts:**

Debra Des Vignes, Kiwanis International: [d-desvignes@kiwanis.org](mailto:d-desvignes@kiwanis.org) and 317-217-6121  
Shauna Schuda, Lions International: [sschuda@lionsclubs.org](mailto:sschuda@lionsclubs.org) and 630-272-8676  
Ryne Danielson, Optimist International: [Ryne.Danielson@optimist.org](mailto:Ryne.Danielson@optimist.org) and 314-371- 6000 (ext. 236)  
Stephanie Graff, Rotary International: [stephanie.graff@rotary.org](mailto:stephanie.graff@rotary.org) and 847-425-5797

(continued on next page)

**About Kiwanis:** Founded in 1915, Kiwanis International is a global organization of clubs and members dedicated to serving the children of the world. Each year, the Kiwanis family of clubs devote more than 7.3 million hours to strengthen communities and help children. Kiwanis clubs sponsor adult and youth leadership programs — including Circle K International for university students, Key Club for students ages 14- 18, Builders Club for students ages 11- 14, K-Kids for students ages 6-12 and Aktion Club for adults with disabilities — and conduct more than 241,000 projects. Visit [kiwanis.org](http://kiwanis.org) for more information.

**About Lions:** Lions International represents Lions Clubs International and Lions Clubs International Foundation. Lions take on some of the greatest challenges facing our communities and the world through the service of 1.4 million members in 49,000 clubs and the grant-funding support of our foundation. We improve health and well-being, strengthen communities and support those in need, locally and globally. At Lions International we are serving a world in need. Learn more about who we are and what we do at [lionsclubs.org](http://lionsclubs.org).

**About Optimist:** Optimist International, founded in 1919, is a service organization serving youth and communities around the globe. It has nearly 70,000 adult and youth members in more than 2,500 clubs in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, Mexico, and many other nations throughout the world. Carrying the motto, “Bringing Out the Best in Youth, in our Communities, and in Ourselves,” Optimists conduct positive service projects that reach more than six million young people each year. To learn more about Optimist International, please call 314-371-6000 or visit the organization’s website at [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org).

**About Rotary:** Rotary brings together a global network of volunteer leaders from all continents and cultures who partner with communities to find long-term solutions to the world’s most persistent issues. Rotary connects 1.4 million members of more than 46,000 clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. Their work improves lives at both the local and international levels, from helping those in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world. For more information, visit [Rotary.org](http://Rotary.org).

(A news release from Lions International that you may not have seen.)

## “Celebrate Community”







In the left photo **PDG Richard Hautz** is shown presenting a check for \$1,000 from the **Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation** to **Lion Andy Rusko** of the **Purchase Line Lions Club, 14-J**. The check is a matching grant for the club to present to the Commodore Fire Department.

The Purchase Line Lions Club posted the photo on the right with the caption "We made a donation of \$2,000 toward the LUCAS chest compression system to the Commodore Volunteer Fire Department. The only ones with it in Indiana County. Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation granted us \$1,000 and we matched it."

Contributed by **Lion Sue Houston**



Pictured left **Pennsylvania State Representative Eddie Day Pashinski** presented a State Certificate to members of the **Wilkes-Barre Lions Club, 14-W**, on the 25th anniversary of their charter. On the right, **Congressman Matt Cartwright** presented a Congressional Certificate to the charter members of the Wilkes-Barre Lions Club on their 25th anniversary.

Contributed by **PDG Andy Piskel**

## Shippensburg Lions Complete Restoration; Continue to Support Park

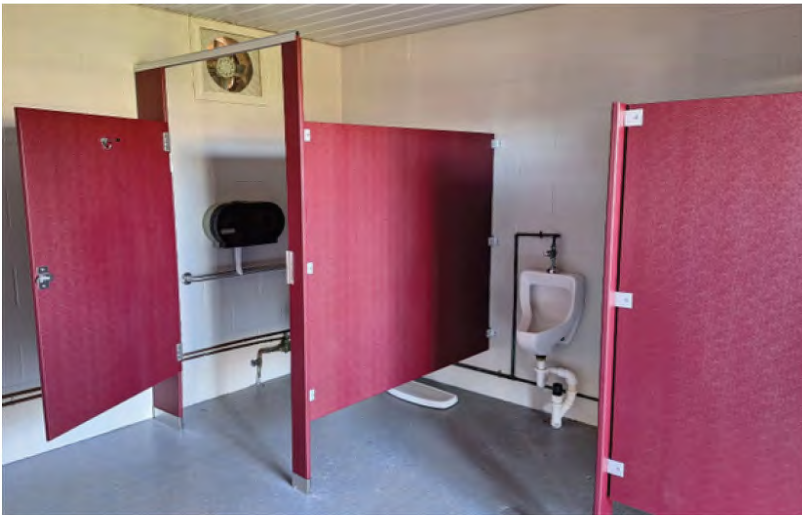
The **Shippensburg Lions Club, 14-C**, has been a long-time-supporter of Shippensburg Memorial Park. That support continued during the 2023-2024 Club year with a renovation of the restrooms inside the Park.

Since collecting more than \$1,500 in 1947-1948 towards the building of Memorial Park, the Shippensburg Lions Club has worked tirelessly to make improvements to the Park. The original scoreboard, the large pavilion, and the Park plan purchase of 4.5 acres for \$5,000 are just some of the early contributions the Lions Club has made that benefit the Park.

In the 70s, the Lions members screened the ceiling and painted the large pavilion at a cost of \$1,500, one side of the roof was replaced at a cost of \$800 and \$3,600 was donated toward the purchase of more Park acres under Project 70. This amount represented half of the local cost. The Club also contributed \$3,000 to help pay the debt on the new Community Building.

In 2002, the Shippensburg Lions spent more than \$35,000 for major repairs and renovations to the food concession stand. Many members donated time and materials to help make the project successful. In the last 25 years the Club invested more than \$50,000 for Park improvements including a new roof and plywood ceiling for the large pavilion. The Lions also donated \$5,000 toward the renovation of Memorial Park Swimming Pool. In 2017, a donation for a new ice machine was made for the Pool area.

Last year the Shippensburg Lions took on the project of updating the restroom facilities directly inside the Park, a project that had been long overdue. The total cost of the project was \$18,730. The updated facilities are a welcome addition for visitors to the Park.



**Shippensburg Lions Club** Immediate Past **President Lisa Kemp** presents the symbolic check to Shippensburg Park and Recreation staff. The restrooms were built in 1992 and renovated in 2023.



Contributed by **DG Galen Burkholder**



Congratulations to **Charlotte Townsend**, the newest member of the **Honey Brook Lions Club, 14-P**. Lion Charlotte's passion for helping others will undoubtedly make her an invaluable asset to the club and community. Welcome, Lion Charlotte!

Contributed by **Lion Barry Marteny**



**Lions Joe Cutolo, George Risbon and Duval Dollar** of the **Honey Brook Lions Club, 14-P**, are shown above being honored as Progressive Melvin Jones Fellows demonstrating their commitment to humanitarian service. The presentation was made by **District Governor PDG Art Pecht**.

Contributed by **Lion Barry Marteny**



**District 14-W** collected glasses to be delivered to the New Jersey Lions eyeglass recycling, refurbishing and distribution center.

Contributed by **PDG Andy Piskel**



Thanks to the incredible **Bally Lions Club, 14-P**, supporters and our dedicated volunteers, the club is thrilled to announce they raised enough to fully fund the Scott Moll Memorial Scholarship again this year.

Contributed by **Lion Barry Marteny**

Pictured on the right is **Harrison Welch**, one of the two recipients of the **Amity Township Lions Club, 14-P**, College Scholarship for winning the Super Star award during his summer semester at Shippensburg. He has returned for the fall semester.

Harrison is an Eagle Scout and is studying to be a history and geography teacher.

Every year the Amity Township Lions Club gives out two \$1,000 scholarships to seniors at Daniel Boone High School.

Contributed by **Lion Barry Marteny**



One of the many places the **Amity Township Lions Club, 14-P**, supports is the Boone Area Library. Pictured above with the ceremonial check are **Lions Dave, Karl Jones** and **Jimmy Hopper** presenting the club's donation to the library.

Contributed by **Lion Barry Marteny**

This article is used with the permission of the author  
Justin Powers. The Editor

# NO SMALL FRY

Contributed by **Lion Pat Lindner**  
**Little Beaver Lions Club, 14-N**

## Lions Club has been part of polo club for 78 years

By Justin Powers



The polo club has remained a constant presence in the community since its founding.

As a third-generation polo player, I grew up immersed in the rich traditions that make this sport so special. From the divot stomping at halftime to the camaraderie shared among players and spectators alike, polo is steeped in history and customs that have been passed down through the generations.

One of the most cherished traditions in my family, and indeed for many in the small, Western Pennsylvania, polo community, is the ritual of enjoying fresh-cut french fries from the Lions Club stand on Friday nights at the

Darlington Polo Club, featuring the first lighted polo field in the world.

Darlington Polo and the Lions Club are both rich in history and a source of pride for their community. Polo players love playing on historic fields or in events that have a sense of purpose (e.g., charity matches). Thanks to the Lions Club, since 1947, every match in Darlington has had some charitable aspect.

Lions Club International, founded in 1917, is a global service organization that empowers volunteers to serve their communities and meet

humanitarian needs. Interestingly, the organization's headquarters are in Oak Brook, Illinois, a city with a prominent polo tradition, catty-corner from the historic Prince of Wales polo field.

While Lions Club International's headquarters is near hallowed polo grounds, on the banks of the Little Beaver Creek, a Lions Club installation is part of the infamous polo grounds of the Darlington "Nightriders."

As you turn off Constitution Boulevard, onto the windy back roads leading to Darlington's small community (less than 250 residents), you are

greeted by an old, rusty welcome sign: "Darlington home of ... Darlington Polo Club & Lions Club International."

Darlington, a town founded in 1804, experienced steady growth throughout the 19th century, thanks to its strategic location along the Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroad. However, like many communities in the region, Darlington faced significant economic challenges in the mid-20th century, a period known as the Rust Belt era. The closing of the brick factory and other manufacturing plants led to a decline in population and a struggling local economy.

Despite these challenges, Darlington has managed to maintain a strong sense of community, with residents coming together to support one another and preserve the town's unique character. The Darlington Polo Club, founded in 1937, has been a constant presence throughout the town's history.

Like many historical polo clubs, the crowds at today's matches pale in comparison to the crowds of yesteryear when there was a huge opportunity to capitalize on the droves of people coming to polo. The Little Beaver Lions Club was organized in the spring of 1947, shortly after the Watterson family introduced polo to Darlington.

Their inaugural fundraising event was selling refreshments during home games on Wednesday and Saturday nights, a tradition that has continued for 77 seasons, interrupted only by the pandemic in 2020.

Over the years, the concession stand has expanded from a temporary structure to its current footprint, which includes a second-floor announcer's booth and an accompanying pavilion, allowing the community to utilize the polo field for other events, including graduation parties, fishing derbies and even a couple of weddings!

It is hard to imagine polo in Darlington without the Lions Club, its past and



Polo spectators line up at the Lions Club french fry stand during Friday night polo.

present volunteers and its foresight to recognize the potential to raise funds for its charitable initiatives while supporting a beloved local institution.

In 1955, one of the club's most notable achievements was recruiting Dr. Nelson Kennedy to the Darlington area. He practiced for 35 years until his retirement in 1992, serving a much-needed role in a community strife with economic hardship.

Other projects supported by the Lions Club include building residential wheelchair ramps, supporting and manning the Darlington Food Bank, providing eyeglasses and hearing aids, supporting the local fire department, financially aiding fire and flood victims and being one of the most active clubs in Pennsylvania in support of the PA Beacon Lodge Camp for the Blind.

In 2006, almost 60 years after their first fundraiser at a polo match, the Little Beaver Lions Club was elected as a Model Club—one of only 30 clubs across the United States to receive this distinction.

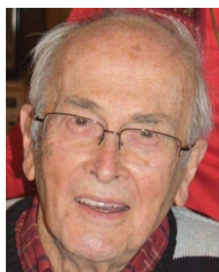
In a world where change is constant,

the Lions Club's 78-year presence at the Darlington Polo Club stands as a reminder of the enduring values that bind us together. Through their dedication and service, the club's members have not only contributed to the polo club's success, but have also made a lasting impact on the lives of countless individuals in the Darlington community and beyond.

When I was a child, dinner on a Friday night in the summer undoubtedly involved asking my mom for money for french fries at the Lions Club stand. Now, as I watch my toddler son gleefully munching on those same fries, I can't help but feel a sense of continuity and pride.

In Western Pennsylvania, we put french fries on everything, including salads. It's a quirky, unhealthy, regional custom that perfectly encapsulates our community's down-to-earth, unpretentious spirit. And somehow, those Lions Club fries, served up with a side of hometown pride and a dollop of Heinz ketchup (a true Pittsburgh staple), taste all the sweeter for it.

## Warren H. Riegel, OD



**Dr. Warren H. Riegel, "Doc", 90**, passed away on Thursday, July 25, 2024.

Born on February 8, 1934, he was the son of the late Henry and Louise (Kapella) Riegel.

On February 18, 1961, he was married to Mary Louise Fairweather, who survives.

He graduated in 1959 from the Pennsylvania State College of Optometry with a Doctor of Optometry degree. After serving in the Navy, he opened his practice in Ridgway where he worked until he retired in 2019.

Warren's life was one of service. He jumped into active participation in the community and the First Presbyterian Church, sitting on boards and participating in the Lions, Boy Scouts, Layman's Breakfast, Ridgway Ambulance, Barbershop, Ridgway Fire Department, and Elk County Concert Choir; among others.

**Lion Tracey Amacher of the Ridgway Lions, believes that "Doc" Riegel was the oldest active Lion in their club's history, with 62 years of membership. On September 1, 2022, Lions of 14-J and the Ridgway Lions Club celebrated Lion Doc Riegel for 60 years of service in promoting vision and preventing blindness. Lion Riegel was a Melvin Jones recipient. Lion Tracey stated that even with "Doc's" failing health, his wife Mary Lou would bring him to meetings, and to their Halloween parade, to show support, while other club members passed out hot dogs.**

In the 1970s, by faith in Christ, he began a life mission to serve the poor in other countries. He collected used eyeglasses for dispensing on missions in Latin and South America with Medical Ministry International and Eye Care International. This expanded to determining the eyeglasses prescriptions and entering them into a computer (up to 4000 pairs per project) from the Lions' Clubs in western PA and NY. His humanitarian service involved his family as well as volunteers that live locally and in Ohio, sorting and cleaning glasses, and supporting his trips in prayer.

He went on a total of 76 missions to many countries including the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Liberia, Nicaragua, Brazil, Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador, Jamaica, Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru. Through all the years, his enthusiasm for serving God on the next mission was never exhausted. **Lion Tracey said that "Doc" told her that he took his grandchildren on these mission trips for eyeglasses. "What a rewarding experience for the grandchildren to see first-hand what their grandfather did to help others see better."**

He is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Mary Lou; his children, Jane Riegel (John Jairo Ruiz) of Marlborough, MA, John (Sylvia) of Newark Valley, NY, Peter (Barbara) of Greenville, PA, and Ruth Shoemaker (Scott) of Charlton, MA; his grandchildren Heidi, Leanne, Allison, Colleen, Renee, and Jessica Riegel, and Hayley and Nathan Shoemaker; and his brother, Roy (Patrice).

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Medical Ministry International US, PO Box 17593, San Antonio, TX 78217-9998 or Eye Care International, c/o Phil Loar, 7136 Parkview Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22042.



*Pictured above are: Lion Tracey Amacher, the late PDG Dave Amacher, Lions Jake Gardner, Dina Fullem and Ron Francen and Mary Lou Riegel standing behind Dr. Warren Riegel with the specially crafted metal Lions emblem given to Dr. Riegel in celebration of his 60 years of Lions service to the community.*



*Contributed by Lion Sue Houston, 14-J*





The **Tunkhannock Lions Club, 14-H**, formally welcomed **four new members** in August. On the left, club president **PDG Harold "Butch" Sands** sponsored **Tim and Bev Poole**; on the right **Lion Josie Sands** sponsored **Liz and Alan Naylor**. Both couples helped man the club's food truck during their successful fundraiser at the Lazybrook Park NEPA Bluegrass Festival in early summer.

Contributed by **Lion Markus Robinson**



The **West Goshen Lions Club, 14-P**, presented a donation to the **West Chester Day Care** for improvements to their playground. Shown are **Lion Secretary Marie D'Antonio**, the **Day Care Center Director Elizabeth Billie** and **1VDG Lion James Jennings**.

Contributed by **Lion Barry Marteny**



The **Brogue Community Lions Club of District 14-C** conducted a "Safe Driving Awareness" event over the 4th of July holiday. The Lions offered free coffee and donuts at their Lions Park located on Route 74 in York County for three mornings beginning on Thursday, July 4th through Saturday, July 6th. The theme for the event was to share the road, since they are located in a rural area, motorists need to share the road with farm vehicles and Amish buggies. On display were a large farm vehicle that was provided by **Ellie Barley** of Star Rock Farms and an Amish buggy provided by **Henry Esch**. It was noted that motorists need to 1) Drive Defensively, 2) Slow Down, 3) Pass Carefully, 4) Be Cautious, 5) Take a Second Look and 6) Be Calm. This event was also a way to showcase the Lions Park's new pavilion and updates that were recently completed.

Contributed by **Lion Douglas Nace**



Members of the **Honey Brook Lions Club, 14-P**, conducted a KidsSight eye screening recently. Three children were found to need further care.

Contributed by **Lion Barry Marteny**



FOUR  DIAMONDS  
— Conquering Childhood Cancer —

**September is Childhood  
Cancer Awareness Month**

**TOGETHER, WE ARE  
CONQUERING  
CHILDHOOD CANCER™**



September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month  
Your donation to Four Diamonds helps to provide superior care & comprehensive support to children fighting cancer and helps to fund innovative research which will help us to conquer childhood cancer.

To credit your gift to a specific school, student or event, [please use this link.](#)

*Bags & Blessings is a faith based non-profit charity established to help bring hope and love to those individuals undergoing cancer treatments.*

<https://www.bagsandblessings.org/>



Contributed by **Lion Mark Serafin**

The **Forty Fort Lions Club, 14-W**, is proud to announce their Third Annual West Side Career and Technology Center (WSCTC) Law Enforcement Student Award.

In honor of those serving and who have served in the armed forces, the Lions Club has decided to rename this award to the **Colonel Charles M. Carpenter Outstanding Cadet Award**. Lion Carpenter has been serving for 34 years in the Army Reserve and currently holds the rank of Colonel. His service included two years of active duty in Desert Storm and Operation Freedom.

This year's award recipient is **Kaylee Dorish**. She is a member of SkillsUSA and has participated in the SkillsUSA Traffic Stop competition. She serves on the school student council and is a National Technical Honors Society Board member. She plans to join the Marines where she will be based at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

*Pictured left to right: **Lions Thomas O'Connor and Jerry Novak; Lion Colonel Dr. Charles M. Carpenter; Kaylee Dorish; Lion Matt Kelly; Forty Fort Police Chief Daniel Hunsinger, Law Enforcement curriculum teacher at WSCTC.***



PDG James Andrew Eldridge

*November 19, 1941 - July 18, 2024*  
*Warren Lions Club 14-F*  
*District Governor 2003-2004 (pictured)*



PDG Barry L. Hinkle

*May 28, 1941 - July 20, 2024*  
*Frazer Lions Club, 14-P*  
*District Governor 1987-1988*

Rest in Peace, Faithful Servants

To: MD-14 Club Officers  
From: Lion Ashley Grimm, Legal Counsel  
Re: PA State Sales & Use Tax Exemption Form  
Date: July 7, 2021

Pennsylvania State Sales and Use Tax Exemption form awarded to the PA State Council of Lions Clubs for use by clubs during fundraising projects. This form is valid through February 2026 and may be duplicated as needed but **SHOULD NOT BE POSTED ON CLUB OR DISTRICT** websites or social media where it would be accessible by the general public. We do not want to risk losing the exemption as the result of improper use of this form.

Courtesy of Multiple District 14 Legal Counsel Lion Ashley Grimm:

*"The PA State Council of Lions Clubs is registered in Pennsylvania as an Institution of Purely Public Charity under The Institutions of Purely Public Charity Act, 10 P.S. § 371. et seq. As such, it, and its subsidiary clubs, qualify for an exemption from PA Sales tax. This means clubs are exempt from paying sales tax when they purchase goods or services. It does NOT mean they are exempt from remitting sales and use tax to Pennsylvania during fundraisers."*

Envelope ID: BU1013247979      Revenue Id: 1000649085      Page 2 of 2

REV-1501019 AFP (LL-19)

**Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Department of Revenue**

CERTIFICATE OF SALES TAX EXEMPTION

PENNSYLVANIA LIONS MULTI DIST 14  
949 E PARK DR  
HARRISBURG PA 17111-2810 USA

Account ID: 75384600      Exemption Type: Charitable  
Expiration Date: 02/28/2026



USE OF THIS CERTIFICATE FOR PERSONAL OR NONEXEMPT PURCHASES WILL RESULT IN  
CANCELLATION OF EXEMPT STATUS

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

This certificate is not assignable or transferable.

Quoted in part from *The Mane Connection*, page 7, July 2022

## NO LIQUOR IN RAFFLES!

### Liquor not permitted in basket raffles

**Please be aware:** A popular staple in basket raffles is a “no-no.”



After researching the matter with the Executive Director of the PA House of Representatives' Liquor Committee and the PA Liquor Control Board, MD-14 legal counsel Lion Ashley Grimm reported that “liquor is not permitted to be in a basket for purposes of a raffle. This also includes silent auctions.

“This equates to selling liquor without a license,” Lion Grimm said. “A wine and spirits gift card is permitted to be included in a raffle basket, though.”

Lion Grimm’s research supported the opinion expressed by Lawrence County Treasurer Richard Rapone in a recent New Castle News story that had prompted MD-14 State Council Chair Bill Morgan to contact Lion Grimm.

As part of the News story, Capt. Jamie Jones of the LCB Enforcement Bureau said including any type of alcoholic beverage – be it a six pack of beer, a bottle of wine, a bottle of whiskey or the like – is a violation of the Pennsylvania Liquor Code, Title 47, and is an unclassified misdemeanor offense. The fine upon conviction is \$500, levied to the organization sponsoring the fundraiser and not the donor of the basket.

In the News story, Rapone pointed out, under the state’s small games of chance law, it is illegal to host basket raffles at fundraising dinners used to benefit someone who is sick.



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Dear Lions, Lioness, Leos,  
and Friends.

The walkway was installed in 2007, and will be updated each year. The walkway, patio, and wall area was professionally installed, and is a beautiful addition to Governor's Green. This fundraiser has helped with several major improvements; and it continues to be a wonderful way to show your dedication to Beacon Lodge, and to honor or memorialize those we love and respect.

Once again we thank you for your continued support of the PA Lions Beacon Lodge Camp and programs.

Respectfully,  
The Board Members

Orders received by  
May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year  
will be installed prior to  
Lions Appreciation Day.



## BRICK WALKWAY ORDER FORM

Please PRINT All Information CLEARLY in BLUE or BLACK ink ONLY.  
Make Checks Payable to: PA LIONS BEACON LODGE CAMP  
Lion Supply Hall  
7515 Peabody Lane  
Harrisburg, PA 17133  
Email: [clm@pa.lions.org](mailto:clm@pa.lions.org) Phone: 610-643-2829



Donor Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City / State / Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**4 x 8 BRICK**  
**\$100<sup>00</sup>**  
15 Characters  
Per Line

**8 x 8 BRICK**  
**\$250<sup>00</sup>**  
15 Characters  
Per Line

**12 x 12 BRICK**  
**\$500<sup>00</sup>**  
15 Characters  
Per Line

**7 x 18 WALL BLOCK**  
**\$1000<sup>00</sup>**  
22 Characters  
Per Line

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Help spread the good news of the Pennsylvania Lions in The Pride of Pennsylvania Publication.

For a \$5 per line donation your name will appear in the June 2024 online issue of The Pride.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

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District 14- \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

Your title (circle one) IP PIP ID PID CC PCC DG VDG PDG Lion Leo

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\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Line \$5 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 separate lines \$10

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