



## Lion Gray Jones District Governor

*"Faith, hope and love are some good things He gave us/And the greatest is love." Alan Jackson in the song "Where Were You (When the World Stopped Turning)"*

*"Don't walk around the down and out  
Lend a helping hand instead of doubt  
And the kindness that you show every day  
Will help someone along their way"*

**Glen Campbell, verse 2 of the song "Try a Little Kindness"**



In this season of Holy Days, it seems appropriate to revisit the basics of life and reflect on their relevance to Lionism. From popular culture, we have songs. The first one came out of the 9/11 attack on America. After watching the attacks on television, Alan Jackson felt compelled to express his thoughts and emotions in song but struggled in doing so. He didn't want a vengeful song, nor one that fanned patriotic feelings, but he wanted to capture the feelings he and others felt that day. And he was reluctant to exploit the tragedy. But on Sunday morning, October 28, 1991, he awoke with the lyrics, melody and chorus mostly formed. We received a great song as a result. He was successful in recording a song that has Love at its core. He captures the horrible feelings evoked by the events, but he also uplifts us with the questions he asks. One in particular, resonates with me: "Did you burst out with pride for the red, white, and blue/And the heroes who died just doin' what they do?"

Love is primary, but Faith (a belief in a supreme being) is necessary to keep us from despair. I read an opinion article recently entitled **"Americans should give thanks for hard times that help us find faith in miracle of America"** by Sen. Tim Scott of SC. Later in the article, he says "Faith in the future gives us power in the present. We must have optimism, which means believing that the best is yet to come and showing people how we get there."

"Gratitude fosters optimism, which strengthens hope" - Gregory L. Jantz. Another favorite quote is "Watch your thoughts, they become your words; watch your words, they become your actions; watch your actions, they become your habits; watch your habits, they become your character; watch your character, it becomes your destiny." - Lao Tzu.

Thinking of the things for which we are thankful (and possibly expressing those as prayers) is a wonderful way to start (and end) each day. Have you ever watched a particularly beautiful sunrise and just thanked your Creator for allowing you to experience it? Have you ever seen the expression on someone's face when you've really helped them? Have you ever been mesmerized by the smile of a small child? Have you ever reflected that you've experienced a wonderful day? Of course you have!

If you make a habit of being grateful, your life will be immeasurably improved. And that habit of gratitude will guide you to kindness and service to others. It's the Lion way. The second song was a favorite of a country singing legend, Glen Campbell. I couldn't find much information about the inspiration for the song, but it's certainly an uplifting song that should inspire all Lions. "Lend a helping hand . . . help someone along the way." What a marvelous charge for how to live your life!

You may have heard me speak of the relationships among Love, Service, and Heroism, how they are all facets of being a good person. Added to those is perseverance, the determination to proceed, the unwillingness to give up in the face of adversity. Those are the defining characteristics of a person who has it in them to be heroic.

Love, Faith, Hope, Gratitude, and Optimism. These are qualities of wonderful people. These are foundations of heroism. These are the attributes of Lions. Lions serve, and the foundation of that service is Love. Lions are unsung heroes who display their love for mankind through their service. I salute all Lions!



Lion Kermit Hawley  
First Vice District  
Governor

## Christmas Gift Suggestions:

"To your enemy, forgiveness.  
To an opponent, tolerance.  
To a friend, your heart.  
To a customer, service.  
To all, charity.  
To every child, a good example.  
To yourself, respect."

**Oren Arnold"**

I have been visiting clubs to see how they are doing and getting to know members of the clubs. I think back to the district conference in October at Coolfont. What a time we had meeting lions and socializing with members from all over the district. We had the opportunity to sit in on a district meeting and also attend a couple of seminars plus have invited guest speaking to us on Lionism. It was a good time with wonderful people.

One thing which I notice was the limited number of lions from our clubs in attendance. The majority of those in attendance were the District Governors' staff, past District Governors along with past international officers and invited guest. The district conference is designed for all club members and spouses to attend. If each club had sent one representative to the conference that would have been a potential increase attendance of over 100 people. When I first became a Lion, I was informed that my club would handle the cost of me attending the district conference. I did not take them up on the offer, my mistake. A representative member from each club should be in attendance at the conference. Your club needs to be a part of the program. It would be great to see 56 banners at the conference. What better way will you find to meet the Lions of District 29 I. There is time for socializing and also for learning about our clubs. Meeting new people, new ideas, learning more of what Lionism is all about and maybe develop a larger support system. You might get an idea or two which you can take back to your club. Talk with your club about sponsoring a member to the next district conference.

**ANSWERS TO ACRONYMS FROM LAST NEWSARTICLE:** 1. 1ST VDG – FIRST VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2. BLOG - WEB LOGGING OR BIG LOAD OF GOSSIP . 3. XXXL - EXTREMELY EXTRA EXTRA LARGE 4. SA -SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR, SHORT ACRONYMS AND A LOT MORE 5. J14 - FOR TEENAGERS ONLY 6 GABF- GREAT AMERICAN BEER FESTIVAL 7. NUDIS -NUCLEAR DETONATION INFORMATION SUMMARY 8. DNA - DATA NOT AVAILABL, EIGHTY-TWO ANSWERS FOUND 9. GB – GREAT BRITAIN AND GABITE 10. PDG - PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR 11. IP - INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT. MOST OF THESE ACRONYM. HAVE MORE THAN ONE MEANING. CONFUSING AT BEST.

IP, IPIP, IVP, ID, PIP, PID, COG, DG, IPDG, FVDG, SVDG, PDG, MD, ZC, GMT, GLT,GST,CP,CS, CT,PCP, LCI, LCIF

**REMEMBER THE REASON FOR THE SEASON.**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS** "The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart" - Helen Keller

Happy Holidays

GB - God Bless

## District Governor Calendar 2022-2023



### Schedule of Events

#### December

Date	Time	Event	Location
1	6:30 PM	DG Night with Romney Lions	Multipurpose Room, Romney
2	12:00 PM	DG Visit with Clarksburg Lions	Brickside Bar & Grill, Bridgeport

#### January

Date	Time	Event	Location
21	10:00 AM	Council of Governors Meeting	Days Inn, Flatwoods

#### February

Date	Time	Event	Location
9	6:00 PM	DG Visit with Pikeside and Hedgesville Lions	Hoss's Restaurant Martinsburg

### Reported in November 2022



New Member	Club	Sponsor
Chad D. Burns	Bridgeport	Wayne Worth
Caroline Maier	Bridgeport	Annie Bronsak
Roger W. McArthur	East Preston	James Rocchi
Terry McArthur	East Preston	James Rocchi
Arthur Preston	East Preston	James Rocchi
Steve Lindsay	Elkins	Chris Jones
Megan L. Murphy	Fort Ashby	Renee Douthitt
Betty F. Audia	Nutter Fort	Michael Audia
Tiffani Sheppard	Shepherdstown	Cheryl Roberts
Ashley Dytzel	Shinnston	David Minor
Larry Clever	Tennerton	Ann Slaughter
Mary Clever	Tennerton	Ann Slaughter
Benjamin B.	Valley District	Judy Harder
Donald C. Hawley	Valley District	Kermit Hawley



Deceased Member	Club
Robert V. Allen	Bridgeport
Margaret H. Bailey	Clarksburg
Burton E. Holden	Tennerton
Esther Parker	Wardensville



## Happenings Around the district

On October 24<sup>th</sup>, new Lion Nicole Taggart of the Martinsburg Lions Club, organized an event involving Senior Towers residents and students from St. Joseph's School. The groups collected used eyeglasses and provided a program to explain Lionism, Martinsburg Lions Club activities, and the application process to receive assistance for sight and hearing. Lion Nicole also invited a reporter from the Martinsburg Journal which published an article in the October 26th edition. Pictured from left are Lions Nicole, Club President Dave Plume, Marlyn Keesecker and Marty Keesecker at Senior Towers.



At the end of last month, District 29-I held its Fall Conference on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. 64 registered attendees had a fun and enlightening time. Friday night's kickoff event was a costume party.



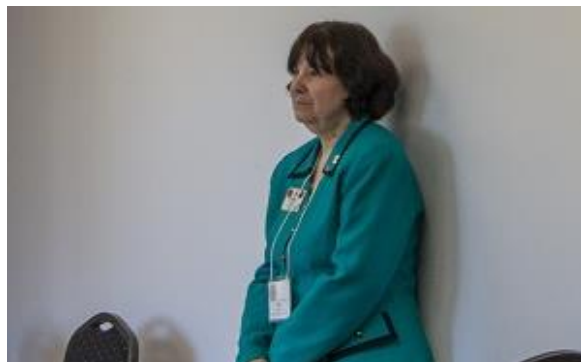
The costume contest winners were Popeye and Olive Oil and the Paired Pirates!



Saturday morning International Director Jeff Gans led a session on Lionism.



In the afternoon, PID Cindy Gregg told us about three disaster relief efforts she participated in.



Then CC Sue Long led a session on how to plan and conduct a service project.

The left side of the head table for the closing banquet had PID Bob Browning and his wife Lion Jo Ellen, Lion Rachel Johnson and PID Larry Johnson, PCC Cindy Glass and PID Steve Glass, Lion Ellyn Gans and ID Jeff Gans.



The right side of the head table had 29-I DG Gray Jones and his wife Lion Shelley, 29-C DG Carla Finch and her husband Lion Jeff Finch, 29-L DG Jay Houser and his wife Lion Amy Houser, and CC Sue Long and her husband PCC Doug Long.



PDG Glenn Ryburn and FVDG Kermit Hawley were awarded Presidential Certificates of Appreciation.

Pictured are PID Steve Glass, PID Larry Johnson, PID Bob Browning, ID Jeff Gans, PDG Glenn Ryburn, FVDG Kermit Hawley and DG Gray Jones.





Next, ID Jeff Gans presented CC Sue Long and PCC Al Cox with LCIF Chairperson's Medals and Certificates.



ID Gans presented a 100% Secretary's Award to Zone Chair Frank Becker Secretary of the Tennerton Lions Club.

Finally, DG Gray Jones presented ID Jeff Gans with a Heart of Service Certificate and Coin from District 29-I.



The picture shows Terri Bliziotis of the Morgan County Homeless Coalition, DG Gray Jones of District 29-I, and Clara Weston, President of the Eden, NC Lions Club. Lions Clara and Coy Rahman (previously members of the Berkeley Springs Lions Club) attended District 29-I's Fall Conference and they contributed some drywall, wood boards for shelving, locks, and electrical components to the coalition. They also provided a couple of Halloween lamps for a Silent Auction specifically to raise the last bit of needed funds. \$142.00 was collected at the 29-I Conference, which was presented to Terri by Clara. Thanks to all the WV Lions who contributed the funds. The Berkeley Springs Lions Club still stores Medical Equipment in the Berkeley Springs garage of Lions Clara and Coy.

On November 9<sup>th</sup>, Zone Chairperson Diana Bedell hosted a zone meeting with each club in her zone being represented and 20 Lions attending! They discussed challenges and successes, a possible zone project for the spring, and Lion Robin Faris presented a Powerpoint briefing on how to report membership and service activities. It was a very successful meeting!





On November 10<sup>th</sup>, the Fort Ashby Lions Club partnered with the American Red Cross for a local blood drive. Pictured donating blood are Lion Kam Jeffries (foreground) and Lion Suzanne Peer (background). Lion volunteers shown are (L to R) Lions Karen Jeffries, Kathy Brockett, and Linda Laird. Give the gift of Life ...give blood. 🩸

On November 14<sup>th</sup>, I visited with the Elkins, Parsons, and Roaring Creek Clubs. While there, Elkins President Philips Kolsun and I were privileged to present 15 Year Monarch Chevrons to Lion Secretary Jane Corley and Lion 1st VP Randall Biller.



We presented Lion Hobert Corley with his 25 Year Monarch Chevron!

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, I visited the Nutter Fort Lions Club. 10 Year Monarch Chevrons were presented by Club President Kathy Oliverio, Zone Chairperson Diana Bedell (to my left), and I to Anthony Oliverio and Mary Jo Ferrell.



To cap the evening off, Lion President Phillips presented me with a beautiful hand framed photo he took at Dolly Sods!

Then we presented PCC Ken Shahan with his 25 Year Monarch Chevron.





Club President Kathy Oliverio, Zone Chairperson Diana Bedell and I were privileged to present Hearts of Service Certificates and Coins to Lois Benincosa for always volunteering at every Lions event and the Fire Chief Jeremy Haddix for always being there when anyone in the community or surrounding areas needs help.



Finally, we inducted three new members. From Left to Right, Michael Audia, sponsor of Betty Audia, Club President Kathy Oliverio (peeking out from behind), Jesse Garcia (sponsored by Rhea Garcia), Mary Jo Ferrell, and Rhea Garcia (sponsored by Mary Jo Ferrell), DG Gray, and Zone 8 Chairperson Diana Bedell.



As many of you may know, I'm a Veteran, so I was delighted to see that the Clarksburg Lions annually serve as parade marshals for the VFW Post 573 Veterans Day Parade. Clarksburg Lions who volunteered to help were Nancy Lynch, Susan Wilmerink, Nick Lambernedis, Al Cox, Betty Waddy, Randall Lynch, Mickey Petitto, Jason Myers, Warren Wilson and Brock Malcolm.





## Challenges and Opportunities Worksheet

Club officers that prepare together prior to attending their zone meetings gain the most value from the event to improve their club. A well-run zone meeting provides club officers an opportunity for focused discussion on the most important aspects of managing and operating a club.

Each zone meeting most likely will focus on one of these critical club operations:

1. Service – Engage and involve the club service chairperson in providing feedback and observations regarding the quality of the club's service projects and activities.
2. Membership – Invite the club membership chairperson to provide insights into the club's membership recruiting and retention success.
3. Leadership – The club first vice president may benefit from sharing best practices when preparing for the club's upcoming fiscal year and new incoming officers.

To prepare for the meeting, each club should complete the questions below:

Does our club face a specific challenge the officers would like to discuss with the group?

Have the potential causes of the challenge been identified?

What are the opportunities to hopefully remedy the challenge or issue?

Would our club like assistance from the zone chairperson and/or a the district Global Action Team specific to the challenge?

Bring these topics to the meeting for an open discussion.

Zone 2 Chairperson Linda Adams hosted a zone meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup> at Coolfont Resort. Clubs were asked to do some pre-work by filling out a Challenges and Opportunities worksheet. District 29-I Global Service Team Chairperson Renee Douthitt led a session focusing on Service Opportunities using the worksheet and breakout teams. It was a very productive zone meeting!

On that same Saturday, the Clarksburg Lions participated in the Annual Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive held at the Food Court entrance at Meadowbrook Mall. Lions manning the kettles and ringing the bells were: Al Cox, Nick Lambernedis, Cindy Glass, Steve Glass, Don Niles and Warren Wilson. Warren served as chairperson of this event.



On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November, I visited with the Martinsburg and Shepherdstown Centennial Lions Clubs. I was honored to present Martinsburg Club President David Plume with his 40 Year Monarch Chevron. And then we were joined by the Shepherdstown Centennial Lions Club President, Cheryl Roberts for a group photo.



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# THE RENO REVIEW



NOVEMBER 2022

The Latest News & Information for the Reno 2023 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL CHAIR JAMA WAHL



Lions and LEOs, Although I have been a Lion since 1999, I am always amazed at the creativity, dedication and enthusiasm Lions bring when they gather to plan a service, leadership or membership event. The Reno Forum is no exception. The Planning Committee met in Reno from October 16-20, 2022.

Our first step was to get acquainted. Although Honorary Chair Vice President Dr. Patti Hill and I knew everyone on the

team, not all the Lions had previously met. Several had met via zoom, but not in person. Lions on this committee come from both the United States and Canada. Taking a few minutes to develop that level of trust to bring the Forum to life was important. The responsibilities of each committee were reviewed. Then the group did an interactive activity that stressed the communication needed among committees to organize a meaningful learning event.

On day two, the Host Committee, led by Lion PDG Linda Wagner-Griffen, joined the Planning Committee. More details were defined. The Host Committee is the "Boots on the Ground" for any Forum. They are already working on their tasks and organizing volunteers. To host a Forum requires 400 plus volunteers. Since no one wants to work the entire Forum, the more volunteers available, the more chance there is for everyone to have some Forum time and volunteer time. If you would like to volunteer contact Manpower Coordinator, PCC Don Gall at [dongall95336@gmail.com](mailto:dongall95336@gmail.com).

On our third day of meetings, each committee further clarified needs and ideas. By the end of the day, a lion with a bit of vision or imagination could see that the Reno Forum promises to bring new ideas, innovation and opportunities for attendees. If you are not registered yet, now is the time to get that done! Go to [www.lionsforum.org](http://www.lionsforum.org)

We want to see you in Reno!  
*Up and Away with Leadership*

*Jama*



## SPONSORS AND FRIENDS OF THE FORUM

DAVID WENTWORTH, SPONSORSHIPS

Sponsors are an important part of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum as they help to keep the attendee's registration fee affordable. By seeking sponsors to help offset some of the costs associated to put on an event of this size, the forum can maintain a reasonable registration fee.

Sponsors can be any business that would benefit from participating in the forum. Sponsors do not simply write a check out of the goodness of their hearts to support the forum. They are paying for the many benefits related to their level of sponsorship. They have products or services that the attendees can benefit from, and this is their way to get in front of Lions from the US and Canada.

There are four different levels of sponsorship. They are at the \$25,000, \$15,000, \$10,000, and \$5,000 level.

Sponsors can get their message seen via the forum website and social media postings, advertisement in the official program, listing on the Strides walk T-shirt, exhibit space, on stage presentations during one of the general sessions. Each sponsor receives one educational seminar during the forum and much more.

A new level of sponsorship aimed directly at Lions is **Friends of the Forum**. Individual members, couples, clubs, districts, and multiple districts can provide funds to assist in putting on a great forum.

There are two levels for Friends of the Forum. Individuals can sponsor for \$150 and couples, clubs, districts, and multiple districts for \$250. Friends of the Forum sponsors will get a special ribbon to wear on their name badge and will be listed on the forum website as a sponsor. They will get the same listing in the official program and one recognition announcement during one of the general sessions.

To find out about both sponsor opportunities, simply go to the forum website and click on the Sponsors or Friends of the Forum tabs at the top of the screen. This will take you to the page to download either the Sponsor Agreement or the Friends of the Forum Agreement. If you decide to be a Friend of the Forum, you can submit your payment online via the tab on that page.

Support the sponsors at the Forum by visiting their booths in the Exhibit Hall and find out more about their products or services. Attend their educational session to learn more about what they have to offer. Lastly, thank them for their support. They really do make a difference in putting on a great Forum.

## THE 2023 LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IS THE PLACE TO BE!



By PCC Al Cox MD 29 International Convention Chairperson

The 105th Lions Clubs International Convention is happening in Boston, Massachusetts, from July 7 to July 11. Make your way to this historic American city to look back at all that we've done as Lions, where we are now and where we'll go next. Join us in Boston as we forge a path for the future

Boston is a vibrant city with tons of history, perfectly suited for the modern traveler. Learn about the American Revolution on the 2.5-mile red brick [Freedom Trail](#) or see how African Americans lived in 19th century Boston on the [Black Heritage Trail](#).

Want to catch a game? Then watch the Red Sox at historic [Fenway Park](#). Or how about a little retail therapy? The city boasts a number of shops and [marketplaces](#). Be sure to visit famous Faneuil Hall comprising of 3 historic market buildings and a promenade featuring a shopping center with many stores & restaurants.

During the convention, you will have the chance to join Lions from more than 120 countries and geographical areas – with different languages and backgrounds – marching side-by-side down the streets of Boston during the Parade of Nations. Attend seminars and vote on the association's future. And enjoy event highlights, including the spectacular international show, action-packed plenary sessions, an exciting exhibit hall and more.

The early registration deadline is fast approaching. The fee through January 13<sup>th</sup> is \$175. From January 14<sup>th</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> the regular registration fee is \$200 and July 1<sup>st</sup> through onsite registration, the fee is \$325. **I need to get a head count, so if you are planning on attending, please let me know by phone at 304-216-5251 or email at [anewtc2@aol.com](mailto:anewtc2@aol.com).**

Come participate in the 105<sup>th</sup> LCI International Convention and enjoy what Boston has to offer, rich history, delicious food, and top notch shopping. To get more info and to register on-line search [lionsclubs.org](http://lionsclubs.org) and click on LCICON on the upper right hand of the page.



# Disaster Relief & Recovery

## Ukraine continues to need your help!

We're encouraging donations to the LCIF Refugees and Displaced Persons fund. Contributions made to this fund will help ensure that Lions are there to help families find the safety and security they desperately need. LCIF grants have been approved for Poland and other countries receiving Ukrainian refugees.

The Lions Clubs in Ukraine and the surrounding countries are doing all they can to help with the refugees and they need our assistance. **We have over 1500 Lions in our District and are asking for support from individual Lions and Clubs. No amount is too small and the need is great!**



### How Can You Donate?

Please make your check payable to LCIF and on the memo line put your Lion membership number and Refugees & Displaced Persons Fund.

*Donations made to this fund will qualify for your Melvin Jones Fellowship Credit.*

You can send your contributions to either of the following:

LCIF

Department 4547

Carol Stream, IL 60122-4547

-or-

John Mason

318 Fairview Drive

Berkeley Springs, WV 25411-3403



Lions Clubs International  
**FOUNDATION**

Thank You!

PCC John Mason

LCIF District Coordinator

304-820-7742

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