



**January 2020**

***UNLIMITED HORIZONS***

***District Governor Ruth Straley***



I hope you have had a joyous holiday. It seems nearly everything shuts down for the magical days between Christmas Eve and New Year's day except law enforcement, emergency and medical operations open every day, all day and night to keep us safe. Those are services all of us should give thanks for every day. On New Year's Eve we saw pictures on the news of 750 members of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Battalion from Fort Bragg heading to Kuwait in relation to the attacks on the US Embassy. It provided a somber reminder that our military respond when called no matter the day. I salute those personnel and their families. God Bless the USA.

I also am in awe of all the Lions who give so much in their local communities throughout the year and especially during the period from Thanksgiving through Christmas. Many clubs have food drives and create baskets/boxes of food for those who are in need. Some clubs provide shoes and others coats to school children. Some plan and participate in Christmas parades and celebrations. Some provide visits with Santa for children. The list can go on and on. The message is LIONS SERVE.

Now we start a new year – 2020. However, for me as your District Governor I am halfway through my term and there is so much to be done.

**First**, we do not yet have 100% donations to both Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and the West Virginia Sight Conservation Foundation. Last year all of our District clubs contributed. I ask you today to make a contribution if you have not yet done so. LCIF is our Lions Foundation that helps in disasters, community support and too many others to name. the funds are used in the US and in West Virginia when the need arises. The Sight Foundation belongs to WV Lions. It suffered major losses in revenue when both the car show and beef raffle were stopped.

**Second**, membership continues to decrease. Working together we must stop the drain of members. We need no less than a +1 from each club based on the number of members on January 1. Hold a membership drive. Hold a meeting with potential Lions invited and tell them what your club does. Ask spouses to join. Be open-minded to inviting new members. Recruit, recruit, recruit and retain.

**Third**, our District 29-I must report service activities. We are so much below last year's numbers. FVDG John Mason has done training several times. MyLion is working for other districts so there is no longer an excuse. Each club president must make sure the club secretary or other designee is submitting service activities. If you have a problem, speak up.

Let's all work together to make the next six months successful.



## RUTH'S DISTRICT GOVERNOR SCHEDULE

### January 2020

13	Peace Poster Presentation	Elkins Western Steer Restaurant
24-25	Leadership Retreat	Flatwoods
26	Council Meeting	Flatwoods

### February 2020

29?	Cabinet Meeting	Specific location TBA
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### March 2020

5	Adamston DG Visit	6:30 pm - Adamston Christ Church United Methodist
13-15	District L Conference	Parkersburg - Blennerhasset

### April 2020

14	Wilsonburg	6:00 pm – Parkette Restaurant
20	Moorefield/Petersburg DG Visit	TBD

### May 2020

8-9	MD 29 Conference	Charleston Marriott
9	Council Meeting	Charleston Marriott



### **Lion John Mason First Vice District Governor**

I hope to see you at the upcoming Lions of West Virginia Leadership Retreat January 25-25, 2020 at Flatwoods Days Inn & Suites and Conference Center. I am conducting the following class:

### **“Who’s Afraid of Lions Technology?”**

*Bring your laptop, tablet or phone to learn what you need to know about MyLCI and MyLion – FVDG John will guide you through available online training and searching for documents – learn A to Z about the Lions website.*

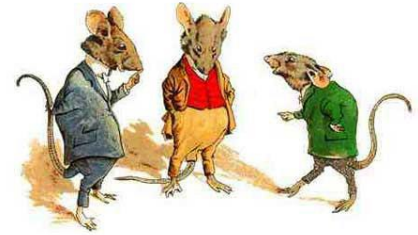
Lions Kim, Ashley, Jon and I would like everyone to know that we have opened our restaurant. If you are in the area, please stop by to see us.

If I can provide any assistance to your club, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at 304-820-7742 or email me at [jlmason0531@gmail.com](mailto:jlmason0531@gmail.com)

Let’s have fun being a Lion serving our communities. FVDG John Mason



**Susan P. Long**  
**2nd Vice District Governor**



### **Melvin's Group Takes Possession**

Melvin's group was becoming very comfortable with their routine in finding the abundance of Cheese at LCI. Each day they awoke, dressed slowly and walked to the Station (LCI), assuming the Cheese was always going to be available. They did not know where the cheese came from but they thought there would be enough cheese to last a lifetime. Because of this wonderful discovery, they felt happy and successful.

Melvin and his group started to refer to LCI as their Station. It was such a large store of Cheese that they moved their homes closer so they did not have to travel the distance and decided to set up a social life around it. They made themselves feel more at home in this area. Sometimes they would even bring their friends to see their pile of Cheese. They would brag boldly about the find and sometimes they would share and sometimes they would not. HMM!

Are you starting to get the picture? Ask yourself these three questions:

- 1. In this part of the story let's associate the Cheese as our membership, will there always be enough.**
- 2. Should we always believe we are staying happy with our membership as status quo.**
- 3. Who decides we have enough membership?**

## Remembering Lion Rusty



**October 15, 1947 – December 10, 2019**

The Lions throughout the state of West Virginia have lost one of their finest members with the unexpected passing of Howard "Rusty" Mall. He was widely known throughout the State and was very active in his local club and district. A Lion for more than 33 years, he was a past president of the Clarksburg Lions Club and was serving as club secretary, a position he has held for several years. He was also the District 29-I Diabetes Chairman. Rusty was recognized for his contributions to his community and fellow citizens by Lions in his local Club, District, State and Lions Clubs International. He twice received a Leonard Jarrett Award which is one of the highest recognitions given by Lions in West Virginia. He also was named a Melvin Jones Fellow, a very high honor bestowed by the Lions Clubs International Foundation. He also received certificates of appreciation from Lions International presidents. Over the past 8 years he was part of a group of four Lions who followed the District Governors on their club visits. He will be really missed by his traveling companions Lions Al Cox, Ken Shahan and Don Niles. He attended many Lions events around the State and several Lions International Conventions. He had the "Heart of a Lion". He will be missed by all who knew him!

**Rusty is survived by his longtime companion, Nancy "Levi" Ellis; three sisters, Mickey Nardella, Harriet Mall and Kathy Holmes. Levi, Mickey and Kathy are Clarksburg Lions. He was preceded in death by his wife Carmella Capozzi Mall in 2007. She was a past president of the Clarksburg Lions Club. RIP – Lion Rusty!**

**WELCOME**  
*new members*  
.....

Robert Spencer	Harpers Ferry-Bolivar
Douglas McDonough	Harpers Ferry-Bolivar
Allen R. Darlington	Harpers Ferry-Bolivar



Howard "Rusty" Mall	Clarksburg
William F. Hull	Ireland



**Hodgesville Lions Club 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

**January 25, 2020 at 2:00 pm**

**Warren District Community Center**

**\$12.00 per person**

**Contact: Toni Newman at 304-613-1525 or email [toninewman44@gmail.com](mailto:toninewman44@gmail.com)**

**Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.**

# Around the District

## Bruceton Mills Lions Club

The Bruceton Community Lions Club lit up Bruceton Mills on December 7th with an annual lighted parade and celebration at the school. The highlights were the lighted parade and Mr. and Mrs. Santa played by Rex and Peggy Galloway.



## Lost Creek Lions Club



Wreaths Across America Ceremony, Operation Christmas Child and Christmas Tree Sale.

## Romney Lions Club



**Diabetes Doesn't Slow Her . . .** Jayden Kerns is a middle schooler who has been an active basketball player at Capon Bridge Middle School who just also happens to be a Type One diabetic. Type One diabetes means that her body cannot manufacture insulin, the normal hormone produced by the pancreas to utilize sugars and other carbohydrates in the body. In this case insulin must be introduced directly by either injections or pump therapy at the present time. For a year Jayden has had the use of an insulin pump since being diagnosed with Type One diabetes. This past summer Jayden attended Kamp Kno-Koma held at the Greenbrier Youth Camp near Frankford, WV. Their mission is to serve as a non-profit organization with the goal of providing Camp

Kno-Koma, a summer camping experience for children with diabetes in and around the State of WV. It allows children and youth to do the normal camping activities that all young people enjoy. Add to that the knowledge that they are not alone and develop friendships and share information with one another.

The Romney Lions Club with the assistance of all Lions Clubs in this District offer scholarships to this camp for all youth who 1) are diabetic, 2) would like to attend a week long camp, and 3) apply to the Lions Club for a scholarship.

Jayden was one who the Romney Lions were more than happy to sponsor. She had a great time and hopes to go again. If anyone knows of a young person who is diabetic and would like more information they are welcome to contact the Romney Lions Club directly or Lion Pam Francis, who is a local diabetic educator, or Lion Roy Knight, who has been a Type One diabetic for fifty years. Rdiabetesin and around ethe State of WV. It allows children and youth to do the normal camping activities that all young people enjoy.



## Lions of West Virginia Leadership Retreat

January 24-25, 2020

Flatwoods Days Inn & Suites and Conference Center

### Registration Fee:

\$100.00 Friday & Saturday – Three banquet meals, seminars and materials.

\$75.00 Saturday only – Two banquet meals, seminars and materials

Registration Deadline is January 17, 2020.

**Rooms:** Contact Days Inn at 866-700-7284 (tell them Lions Club)

Rate: \$91.00 (1 or 2 in room) \$95.39 (3 or 4 in room)

**Breakfast is included for individuals staying at the hotel.**

*Retreat Activities include: Seminars to improve your Lions experience; motivational speakers; informational displays; Lions merchandise; Silent Auction; hospitality room; door prizes; great meals; and plenty of fun and fellowship. Information on specific seminars will be available in the coming months in district newsletters and in a brochure.*

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

First Time Attendee: \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N) Special Dietary Requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed (mark): Full \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday only \$75 \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to Lions of West Virginia Leadership Retreat or LWVLR**

and send the registration information above and your payment to:

PCC Cindy Glass, 191 Ridgeway Drive, Bridgeport, WV 26330

Contact PCC Cindy for more information at [cinwa130@gmail.com](mailto:cinwa130@gmail.com) or 304-203-2006.

***“Leadership is not about being the best. Leadership is about making everyone else better.”***

# Lions of West Virginia Leadership Retreat

January 24-25, 2020

## SEMINARS

**Presenter: PID Jennifer Ware.....“The Bigger Picture”**

*We all start out as Lions club members; but there’s so much more to learn about, enjoy and be proud of.*

**Presenter: PID Cindy Gregg.....“Beyond MyLion”**

*There are many resources available for every Lions member. What are they? How do we find them and use them?*

**Presenter: PDG Wendy Cain.....“Preparing to be a club officer and beyond”**

*Just getting started as a Lion leader? PDG Wendy has great information to share.*

**Presenter: ZC Daniel M. Elkins.....“Better Together”**

*Learn how to create community partnerships to increase membership, expand your club’s capacity to serve and innovate new ways of promoting Lionism.*

**Presenter: FVDG John Mason.....“Who’s Afraid of Lions Technology?”**

*Bring your laptop, tablet or phone to learn what you need to know about MyLCI and MyLion – FVDG John will guide you through available online training and searching for documents – learn A to Z about the Lions website.*

**Presenter: Eric Minor.....“Branding”**

*Companies rely on branding for their image – How can we brand our Lions clubs to make ourselves more attractive?*

**Presenter: PID Bob Browning.....“Lions Orientation”**

*We all begin as POLs (Plain Old Lions) – The session will provide information that will enlighten new and seasoned Lions.*

**Presenter: PID Larry Johnson.....“Guiding Lions/Rebuilding Lions**

*Who are they? What do they do? Why do we need them? How can they help insure the future of our Association?*

**Presenter: PID Steve Glass.....“Compliant and Ethical Leadership”**

*What every single Lion should know.*

**Presenter: Panel.....“Successful Club Strategies”**

*What works? - Three Lions Clubs have stories and ideas to share:*

*Shepherdstown Lions Club – Lion Michael Sholl*

*Alum Creek Lions Club – DG Gary Boyd*

*Barboursville Lions Club – Lion Lib Ciccolella*

**Bonus Round Table: Saturday Morning at 8:30 a.m. – NAMI – North American Membership Initiative**

**(Lions Jordan Glass, Daniel Elkins and Cindy Gregg)**

**Come learn about this exciting new plan!**

**All Seminars will take place on Saturday, January 25, beginning at 9:30 a.m.**



# **SERVICE PROJECT AT THE LEADERSHIP RETREAT**

January 24-25, 2020

Flatwoods Conference Center

To Benefit the Pediatric Blood and Cancer Center

At WVU Medicine Children's Hospital

Please donate any of the following items for the young patients and families:

Microwave single-serve macaroni & cheese

Microwave single serve soups

Applesauce cups

Capri Sun drink pouches

Keurig tea and hot chocolate pods

Chick-Fil-A Gift Cards

Starbucks Gift Cards

Wal-Mart Gift Cards

Gas Cards (from Sheetz etc.)

Clubs and individuals are encouraged to help with this worthwhile service project.

**Please join this service project for the WVU Medicine Children's Hospital. If you'd like to contribute but aren't planning to be at the Leadership Retreat please contact PCC Cindy Glass at [Cinwa130@gmail.com](mailto:Cinwa130@gmail.com) or PDG Linda Leasure at [linleasure@yahoo.com](mailto:linleasure@yahoo.com) and we'll coordinate pickup of items with Lions who will be attending.**

**Thank you!**



PDG Linda Leasure  
LWVLR Committee

Submit pictures and articles by the 3rd of each month in order to get in the next month's newsletter.

Send to our newsletter editor

Mickey Nardella

at [mickey@ma.rr.com](mailto:mickey@ma.rr.com)

with a text copy to DG Ruth at 904-608-4715



**Nexstep Commercial Products** (formerly known as Cornelia Broom Company and France Broom Company) – Exclusive Licensee of O-Cedar – is now the **One and Only Official Broom Supplier to the Lions!**

**Nexstep Commercial Products** manufactures high-quality Lions Club Corn Brooms to the same standards the Lions Club have used for over 75 years. The Lions Club Broom Sale has proven to be a major fundraising event that's a very easy way to generate funds.



#### Contact Information

Lanny Balentine, PDG • Lions Club Sales Representative  
Cell: (864) 444-1325 • Email: [lbale1010@aol.com](mailto:lbale1010@aol.com)

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