



DG Ed Via chosen as  
at Stonewall Resort

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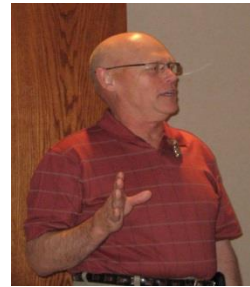
Council Chairman  
State Convention



Congratulations



Business



Happy Birthday



Discussion and Decisions

If you have never been to Stonewall Resort you missed a great opportunity when you missed the State Convention at the end of April. Things started out with a casual evening of great music and a relaxed atmosphere. Bandanas were added to everyone's attire of the evening. The decorations were great and the food was excellent. The Business Meeting was conducted "decently and in order". Important votes were taken. Our speakers were impressive. A good time was had by all as we enjoyed the venue, the fellowship, the chance to compare notes with friends and associates in one of the largest and most successful voluntary groups with the full consideration of WE SERVE. New opportunities are on the horizon. Let us Dream.

## Final Message from DG Ed Via



As this year in Lionism comes full circle, I want to stress the themes I championed throughout the year. First, as Lions we lead by serving. We are at our best when help the less fortunate. Servant-Leaders put the welfare of the group ahead of personal ambition. The Lions Diabetes Health Fairs which are coming up in May in Gary and Pineville are examples of putting the needs of others at the forefront of our mission as Lions.

A small group of district 29 N Lions traveled some distance to screen eyes at a Heath Fair at Big Creek High School. Hundreds of people are screened at the West Virginia State Fair each year thorough the effort of Lions in the district and the Sight Foundation. While there is room for improvement, a number of clubs in the district are making use of the new portable eye screening equipment. This equipment has made school screenings more efficient and effective. More clubs should take advantage of the new equipment, which can be used with very young children. In just one example, Lions provided the eye screenings at a local Kiddie Fair for children entering Kindergarten and pre-school programs.

Second membership and service go hand-in-hand. We need to be busy conducting meaningful, visible service in our communities. The Lions Club

should NOT be the best kept secret in any of our towns. People want to join active, viable clubs Perhaps it should go without saying but membership and service are closely intertwined. Focus on just one and we risk failing at both. One without the other does not work for very long.

Further a club should not be afraid to grow. More hands can mean more service but it also means change which is something that many of us do not like. Change, however, is an essential part of our life and the life of our clubs. We need to embrace it.

As we pass the baton to a new set of leaders in MD 29, I wish them the best as they strive to work with new themes and projects while leading our districts and reminding us that ~~%~~We Serve.+

I want extend thanks to everyone who made this year a positive experience. I want to thank the Clubs, district governor team, the current governors, and my cabinet. I also want to think Secretary/ Treasurer John Pinkerman for his guidance. I especially want to thank my Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer, Lion Jane Yankey, and, my Mom, Lion Sue. THANK YOU.

DG Ed Via



From DGE Charles Sheets

Reminder of the officers training opportunities to be held in Lewisburg on May 31, for presidents, secretaries, treasurers, zone chairs, etc. at the Lewisburg United Methodist Church located across from General Lewis Inn, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The Methodist Women will prepare a light lunch. Cost \$6.50. There will also be a training session on June 21, at Mount Hope Lions Club. All officers should try to be at one or the other of the sessions.



## Lions Pride



### Golf Tournament in June

Rainelle Lions Club Golf Tournament will be held on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Rain date is June 21<sup>st</sup>. The tournament will be held at the Greenbrier Hill Golf Course at Rainelle. There will be a shotgun start at 9 a.m. Four person teams with best ball events will be the agenda of the day. The cost will be \$50.00 per person which includes 18 holes, golf cart and lunch. Prizes will be awards to the top three teams. Call Lion Larry Yankey at (304)-438-6883 for additional information.



Durbin's going away party was held recently at the Durbin Lions Club. Shortly after the event Charlie and Carolyn took Durbin back to Michigan to participate in Leader Dog Training. In other words, their pup went to college. Charlie reports that it was a stressful time for both of them though Durbin seemed to relish the idea of something new. It will be awhile before they hear about how he is doing. The folks at the Training establishment will contact them when Durbin qualifies for his career.



## Lewisburg Lions Golf Tourney

Bob Powell of the Lewisburg Lions reports that they have had their first inter-club golf tournament on May 7<sup>th</sup>. The Athens Lions Club won the Lions Competition. Sidebar, three clubs competed this year. Soon Lewisburg Lions will visit Athens Lions to present a “Winners” trophy. They will keep that trophy until next year. Bob sent me the information on May 8<sup>th</sup> but hasn’t yet sent me another item about who was on the team or sent a picture to be used in the newsletter. I wonder if Paul Hodges was on the team? Way to go Athens. Another sidebar, Paul and I graduated from Concord together.

## Lions in the Coalfields: Diabetes Awareness and Eye Sight Clinics Project Implemented



To think, this whole thing started with questions about how to develop some new projects and a need to develop projects about Diabetes Awareness. Who came up with the original idea? As I remember it, it was DG Ed Via or Lisa Keffer Diabetes Awareness Coordinator, or Ken Valko, Second VDG or . . . . Subsequently I found the article about “Protecting our Environment” which offered the model used to initiate the joint project between Gary Lions Club in McDowell County and Pineville Lions Club in Wyoming County. We are both part of zone 4 of district 29 N. Our geographic areas suffer some of the same problems, economically, as well as medically and socially. The lifestyle issues are very similar.

The model offered by LCI included five steps. We made the effort to follow the model as a method to provide structure to our projects.

- Step 1: Create a Planning Committee.
- Step 2: Pick Your Project
- Step 3: Publicize Your Project
- Step 4: Implement Your Project
- Step 5: Tell Us About Your Project and Celebrate Your Success

February was the time to join together and perhaps get other clubs in our zone to help in the effort. A committee was created. Some clubs also in zone 4 were contacted and invited to attend the first meeting of the committee which was held in Welch at the Sterling Drive Inn in March. Contact was also made with folks in the surrounding communities who could help us develop the projects. WV University Extension Agent Dana Lester was on board from the beginning as was Emily Yeager from the Welch area. Early on we also contacted Laura Blake, Multi District Diabetes Awareness Chairman. Gary Lions Club President Pris Valko and Ken Valko along with Pineville Lions Club President Betsy Ross took leadership roles. In April a meeting was held in Pineville at the Pineville Presbyterian Church. Additional discussion included possible participation from several outside clubs as well. Some of those folks did in fact participate. Others also bowed out. Betsy committed to getting the Eye Screening machines and returning them to Charlie Biggs. In fact, she got them and Bob Browning returned them. Ken went with other Gary Lions to the Park to groom the area and check on the equipment. They discovered that the power in the park had been turned off. They scrambled to get it back on in time for the May event. Newspaper articles were published in both counties about the upcoming events. Follow up articles are planned for publication as well. I promised the good, the bad, and the ugly. Here is what happened with our implementation steps.

#### Gary Lions Diabetes/Eye Screening Fair Expenses

<b>Bouncy Castle</b>	<b>375.00</b>
<b>Tru Track 100 Test Strips</b>	<b>52.94</b>
<b>Wal-mart</b>	<b>39.38</b>
Hand sanitizer, plates, etc	
<b>Family Dollar</b>	<b>51.62</b>
10 vinyl tablecloths	
<b>F&amp;W Printing</b>	<b>55.65</b>
1,000 Flyers	
<b>Goodson's</b>	<b>280.00</b>
3 fruit trays	
3 vegetable trays	
2 cheese trays	



**Goodson's donation**

16 cases of 24 bottled water  
10 bags of ice

**AAA** **250.00**

2 port-a john

**TOTAL** **\$1,104.50**



**Pineville Lions Diabetes Awareness Event Expenses**

**Precious Memories** **\$197.68**

**Lazzar Graphics** **216.00**

Got total of 40 shirts. Have paid  
for 27 of them. Still owe for 13 shirts.

***Remaining bill of 104.00.*** **104.00**

**Montani Graphics** **50.00**

**Wyoming Report for Advertising** **51.00**

**Walmart for supplies** **24.82**

Ream of paper for brochures and hand-  
outs; Ream of card stock for posters;  
Table covers Paper plates; Utensils.

**TOTAL** **\$427.50**

**Strides Walk Efforts of both clubs**

**Gary and Pineville Participants**

**Total raised \$135.00**

Brooks, Jaime  
Browning, Bob  
Browning, Jo  
Cantrell, Ryan  
Cook, Charlene  
Cook, Emily  
Hird, James W.  
Jedra, Jordan  
Laxton, Derek

Lester, Dana  
Lester, Hannah  
Osborne, Erika  
Ross, Betsy  
Sadler, Pat Price  
Sadler, Robert Danny "Hondo"  
Valko, Ken  
Valko, Priscilla  
Walls, Hannah

Leo Volunteers from Wyoming East helped out at Pineville Event.

Jaime Brooks, Ryan Cantrell, Emily Cook, Jordan Jedra, Kaitlan Lambert, Derek Laxton, Hannah Lester, Halie Michael, Erika Osborne, and Hannah Walls. Another student volunteer was Alex Akers.

This project has been interesting. From the planning stages with two clubs, having input from several other sources, down to the last minute items that needed to happen and following the event, it was interesting to see how the projects changed. The mutual planning and individual implementation brought challenge to the experience. It was an effort of cooperation toward a common goal. Both clubs participated in both events. Both clubs discovered more about the resources available in their own communities, nearby communities, and places where mutual resources such as WVU Extension Representative Dana Lester provided excellent materials to both events. Our outside participants were few at both venues. Gary really got out the word about the event at the Lions Club Park. They provided elementary students with flyers about the event. The weather was the biggest problem that they had. We started with raindrops and finished with more, with the deluge between. The weather really cooperated with the election day plans in Pineville. We all got the opportunity to learn more about diabetes. Both groups had media brochures from multiple sources. Everyone had the opportunity to experience the chair exercise DVD. We all gained training on the various machines for eye screening. The healthy snacks at both venues proved popular with the Leos as well as the adults. We stayed occupied. We did check blood sugar levels, screen several folks for eye conditions, showed seated exercises and even some old Richard Simmons sweating with the oldies. Posters about symptoms of Diabetes and WV Lions participation in the WVU Eye Institute were on display. Gary also had excellent displays about their local club.

For a first effort at having an Awareness of Diabetes Event along with the eye screening, we feel that we were successful. We have our foot in the door. We have made others aware of the fact that we want to work in this area of our communities. When others have Health Fairs , they may call on us to help them. We will continue to call on them as well. Ken, Pris and I have already been talking about how we can improve next year's efforts. We can see spots in the planning that need improvement. I don't know of any way to guarantee good weather. That was the biggest factor in the low turn- out that we had in McDowell county. In Wyoming County I believe that more publicity would have helped. In fact some flyers that were developed were not delivered to the local merchants. Not enough folks knew about the event. We don't want to be the best kept secret. WE SERVE.



## Mark your calendars for upcoming Events



May 31<sup>st</sup> Officer Training for all Lion members, club presidents and vice presidents, secretaries, and zone chairs at the Lewisburg United Methodist Church located across from General Lewis Inn, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The Methodist Women will prepare a light lunch. Cost \$6.50.

June 14<sup>th</sup> Rainelle Golf Tournament  
Greenbrier Hill Golf Course

June 21<sup>st</sup> Officer Training for all Lion members, club presidents and vice presidents, secretaries, and zone chairs at the Mount Hope Lions Club beginning at 10:00 a.m. All cabinet members are encouraged to attend one of these sessions.

July 4-8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 International Convention  
Toronto, Canada

July 19<sup>th</sup> First Cabinet Meeting of 2014-2015. At Summersville Memorial Methodist Church located on Webster Rd. off Rt. 19, the four lane through Summersville. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and the women will provide a light lunch. Please advise Charlie Sheets if you will attend by either e-mail or by calling 304-456-4762 by July 12<sup>th</sup>. Cost \$6.50.

If you have any club activity that you would like to promote please send to Roger Norrod at [morrod@frontier.net](mailto:morrod@frontier.net).

