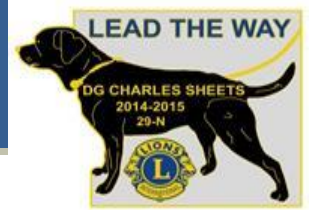


THE LIONS TALE



From the District Governor

by DG Charles Sheets



Carolyn & Charles Sheets

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HAPPY NEW YEAR! Now that Christmas is past and all decorations put away (hopefully) for another year, bank accounts suffering, let's roll up our sleeves and resolve to become more active in our clubs and help make our communities better.

December was a busy month for our clubs, giving in all directions from "Bell Ringing" for Salvation Army to providing food and toys for children and adults. We would be amazed by the number of hours Lions members contributed in December. For example one club reported: 50 hours bell ringing, 25 hours volunteering at their local hospital, wrapping gifts, Christmas Parade Marshalls, selling mops & brooms, and 36 hours for Habitat for Humanity for a grand total of 111 hours. If we would multiply that by 36 Clubs our contribution to our communities would be almost 4000 hours! For all the many good deeds your clubs did over the holidays I want to THANK YOU for your time and hours served.

Our December club visits were outstanding, beginning with Athens, meeting in the beautiful Concord University Student Center. Congratulations to Secretary Lion Paul Hodges for sponsoring 15 members out of a 25 member club. On December 6, Lion Carolyn and I traveled to Gary Lions and they invited Bradshaw and Pineville Lions to celebrate their Christmas party and awards dinner. The three clubs brought in at least two tables of toys. Next, on December 16th, we traveled to Clay Lions for a fun filled evening with parents and children who were invited to play "Bingo for Toys" after the meeting. Steaks were provided by one member and delicious covered dishes rounded out the abundant meal. Extra tables had to be set up, but there was plenty of food for all. I was excited to induct two new members into their Club. Clay Lions gave nine

Continued on next page



\$1,000.00 scholarships last year to high school seniors for their continuing education. Giving of scholarships has been a tradition over the years for Clay Lions.

We have completed half of our year in office and I hope to encourage efforts in improving the health of our clubs in 29-N. Healthy clubs have an active plan to bring in members and retain current members by keeping them active and involved. I continue to speak to Clubs about the ASK1 theme and recently our International President has added a Heart shaped symbol titled KEEP1. Clubs should discuss and establish membership goals as well as retention of members.

WV Lions 19th Annual Leadership School will be held the last weekend in January and there is additional information in this newsletter concerning

the seminars. My goal would be for each 29-N Club to send a representative to this outstanding weekend of learning and meeting new Lions around our state. The committee is inviting outstanding leaders to share their skills and knowledge to improve the health of our clubs. This school will improve skills and nurture future leaders in your Club.

I have asked our 29-N Treasurer to write an article explaining our dues structure and requesting that each club discuss through Board of Directors and members to establish their dues to fund the Administrative account.

All that is left of 29-N is six months to commit toward an outstanding 2015 Lion year. I challenge each Club go out with a Membership increase!

Charles Sheets, 29N District Governor



A Message from International President Joe Preston

Dear Lion,

A new year brings new challenges, new rewards, and new opportunities. We have a lot to build on this year, thanks to you. Lions are using new tools to keep their clubs strong, and adding new members because Lions have embraced the Ask 1 campaign.

But there is a significant challenge we need to address: the number of members that are leaving clubs. Inviting new members and keeping existing members is the key to strengthening your club. That's why we introduced our Keep 1 initiative.

Keep 1 is a simple concept that reinforces the importance of keeping each one of your members actively involved. Every Lion can play a key role in supporting new members and engaging existing members in your club.

It is important to value your members, to encourage them, mentor them, and more. There is an old saying, "People don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care." If we are to reach our full potential, we have to do a better job of keeping our members engaged and happy to serve as Lions. And together, WE CAN!



From the District Treasurer

by Lion Rick Wooddell, 29N Treasurer

Greetings and Happy New Year!

For information to all club officers – notices were mailed on 5 Jan 2015 to all Club Treasurers for 2nd half payment of 2014–15 State/District dues – \$6.00 per member on record with LCI as of 31 Dec 2014.

Please remember that yearly State/District dues were increased from \$9.00 to \$12.00 at the State Convention in June of 2014 to be effective 1 July 2014. The breakdown of these dues are as follows:

- \$7.80 per club member goes to the state fund and
- \$4.20 per club member remains in the District 29N treasury for yearly administration operation costs.

Current member dues from Lions Int'l are set at \$43 per year and State dues are \$12 per year which makes your baseline dues set at \$55. Local clubs should ensure they discuss their own internal dues requirements to ensure they cover the administrative account within their own club.

All clubs should remember that monies that are paid into the club as dues (funds not raised in public events) should be set aside in the clubs administrative fund as described below in the International Constitution.

(ARTICLE XII from the International Constitution)

Club Funds

Section 1. PUBLIC (ACTIVITY) FUNDS. All funds raised from the public must be returned to public use, including money accumulated from invested public funds. The only deductions that may be made from the activity account are the direct operating expenses of the fund raising activity. Money accumulated from interest must also be returned to public use.

Section 2. ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS. Administrative funds are supported through contributions from members through dues, fines and other individual contribution. These funds are to be kept in a separate account from the public (activity) funds.

If you have any questions regarding the payment of dues or separation of accounts, please don't hesitate to contact me for assistance.

Yours in Service,
Lion Rick Wooddell
304-456-5416
rwtwo54@frontiernet.net



Youth Exchange Program Grants

by Lion Sue Via, 29N Program Chair

The MD 29 Youth Camps and Exchange Committee has completed its annual travel grant competition and interviews for West Virginia students who wish to travel outside the United States during the year 2015. These students have received travel grants and have tentatively selected the countries they plan to visit: Christopher Barnes (Peru), Callista Clairmont (France), Tyler Boyd (Italy), McKenzie Granata (Finland), Morgan Walker (Germany), and McKinna Poling (Iceland).

The Youth Exchange Program places students overseas for short-term (usually 4–6 weeks) cultural exchanges involving stays with a host family and sometimes a camp for international

students in host countries. The travel grants pays for the largest portion of the transportation. The host family covers the room and board for the student. The student supplies spending money, the cost of their passport and sometimes a fee for the camp.

Just as we send students overseas, other countries expect to send students to West Virginia. There is a great need for host families here in West Virginia. Most of students come in the summer, but students from the southern hemisphere come to WV during our winter months. For more information on the program see your district youth exchange chair or call the MD29 chair Sue Via at (304) 772-5273.



2015 Youth Exchange Grant Winners: (LtoR) McKennzie Granata, Morgan Walker, Callista Clairmont, McKinna Poling, Christopher Barnes, Tyler Boyd

State Peace Poster Winner Announced

by MD29 Council Chair Ed Via

A panel of impartial judges selected the poster from District O as the MD 29 winner in the Lions International Peace Poster Contest. Rachel Morris, an eighth grader of the Horace Mann Middle School in Charleston, received the state honor. Her thoughts on peace were recorded: "Peace means no more war and turmoil between nations. Peace means a world filled with love, respect for all." Rachel's poster was forwarded to the next level of the contest.



Report on the Buy-a-Bike Campaign

by Lion Barbara Fishel, MD29 Deaf & Blind Recreation Program Chair

Since my last report to the Council in November at Pipestem, I have spent the last two months completing the "BUY A BIKE CAMPAIGN". This project was started to provide bikes and helmets for the Elementary Deaf Students at the Romney School.

Lions and Lions Clubs were more than generous in their donations to this project:

From District 29 L – 5 clubs donated a total of \$850.00.

From District 29 I – 14 Lions Clubs, 1 Lioness Club, and 2 individuals donated a total of \$2490.00.

From District 29 N – 1 club and 2 individuals donated a total of \$250.00.

Total donations to this project were: \$3,590.00.

28 bikes and 28 helmets, two sets of extra training wheels, and 1 tire pump were purchased for the elementary deaf students. In addition, 20 fleece

blanket throws were purchased for the Multi-Sensory Program students. These students have never benefitted from the Deaf and Blind Program because they are the more severely handicapped who cannot participate in the activities that we have sponsored in the past.

The bike presentation was held at the school on December 18, 2014. The students were surprised and thrilled. After the presentation, the program provided pizza and ice cream to the students. Lions from local clubs joined us in the presentation – Romney, Mount Storm, and Fort Ashby Lions and Fort Ashby Lioness' were represented. The total cost of this project was \$3,335.36. There is \$254.64 left from this project so we will be able to purchase a few more bikes if needed. Any remaining monies will be rolled into the regular Deaf and Blind Recreation Program Account.



A Message from the WV Schools for the Deaf & Blind

I want to take a moment to express my gratitude on behalf of our libraries here at the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind for your continued support of our students. Over the last several months, we have received many generous donations from Lions Clubs across the state. We are excited about the opportunities these funds will provide for our students on campus. At the present we have received substantial gifts totaling \$3145.00 from 14 different clubs. We have worked hard to prepare our libraries for new materials and plan to begin researching what will best fit our students' needs in these future purchases. We want to survey teachers and students to find out what each library would

benefit from and then plan to begin purchasing materials such as DVDs, descriptive videos, books and book kits in January through February. Hopefully, we can keep your board as well as the Lions Clubs up to date on our purchases. Again thank you so much for your involvement.

Sincerely,
Monica Morris,
Library Media Specialist, WVSDB

Calendar

- Jan 12 – DG Visits White Sulphur Springs Lions
- Jan 22 – DG Visits Marlinton Lions
- Jan 30–Feb1 – WV Lions Leadership School
- Feb 10 – DG Visits Durbin Lions

News Notes

- District 29N Cabinet meetings are scheduled for March 7 and June 15 at Crab Orchard and Summersville respectively. See the 29N website calendar for locations and updates.
- The 93rd WV State Lions convention will be held at the Charleston Civic Center May 1–3, 2015. Contact person is Lion Dick Clark (304)768–8722. More info will be forthcoming.
- The 29N DG Contest remains open and the coordinator Lion Michael Fleshman encourages all clubs to participate as they *Strengthen the Pride* in their communities. More information about the contest is on the 29N website.



WV Lions Leadership School

Jan 30 6 Feb 1, 2015 at Flatwoods

Registration form & more info available on 29N website.
 Hotel Reservations: (304)765-5055
 Questions, contact PCC Kris Pinkerman: (304)638-4096



Leadership School Schedule

FRIDAY JAN 30, 2015

Noon - 7 pm	Registration
7pm	Dinner
9pm	Expo
	Special Sessions for:
	First time attendees
	Moderators/Presenters

SATURDAY JAN 31

8am - Noon	Registration
9:00-10:15am	Seminar #1
10:15-10:30am	Break
10:30-11:45am	Seminar #2
11:45-Noon	Break
Noon	Lunch with special speaker
2:00-3:15pm	Seminar #3
3:15-3:30pm	Break
3:30-4:45pm	Seminar #4
4:45	Break
6:00pm	Dinner with
	PID Judy Hankom
	Entertainment - "Sheltered Reality"

SUNDAY FEB 1

7:45am	Devotions
9:00-10:15am	Seminar #5
10:15-10:30am	Break
10:30-11:45am	Seminar #6
Noon	Lunch with Nikki Bowman



New Members

Welcomed Oct–Dec 2014

Club	Lion
Athens	Teresa Barton
	Paul Davis
	Carol Davis
Beaver	Sarah Anderson
	Donald Anderson
Bluewell	Russell Mathena
	Joanna Mathena
Clay	Harold Scott
	Keith Scott
	Debra Templeton
Durbin	Doris Gillispie
Fayetteville	Robert Neil
Flatwoods–Heaters	Ken Holcomb
	Kathleen Holcomb
Marlinton	Steven Sharp
	Jason Wiggins
Pineville	Michael Browning
	Joselyn Lupardus
	Joseph Lupardus
	Cody Cunningham



Golden Members

At the 29N Fall Conference, district Lions with more than 50 years of service were honored. The complete list of those amazing Lions is below.

Club	Lion	Joined
Alderson	Bill Simmons	3/1/1948
	Hugh Harris	10/1/1951
Beaver	James Robinson	12/1/1955
Bluefield	Joe Sanders	3/1/1953
	W. T. Moore	10/1/1960
	A. A. Hopkins	11/1/1962
Bluewell	Nick Ameli	4/1/1957
	Joe Vinciguerra	3/1/1964
Clay	Lane Ellis	1/1/1958
	Gale Brown	2/1/1962
Cowen	Wm Bennett Gray	8/1/1962
Craigsville	Andrew McClung	5/1/1960
Durbin	Richard Reigel	10/1/1963
Fayetteville	Louis Rahall	5/1/1960
Flatwoods–Heaters	M. Scott Gibson	10/1/1964
Gassaway	Noel Pletcher	4/1/1961
Lewisburg	Alvin Porterfield	4/1/1964
	Harold Ryder	1/1/1958
Marlinton	James Nottingham	2/1/1965
Mount Hope	N. L. Ellison	1/1/1957
Princeton	Robert Carrico	2/1/1957
Richwood	Mose Khuri	8/1/1950
Sutton	John Thomas	7/1/1959
Welch	John Mallamaci	1/1/1961
	Claude Banner	3/1/1964
	Raymond Bean	3/1/1964
	Wayne Hicks	10/1/1964

Lion Keyota Jones, Clay Lions, was recently named as the Zone 7 Chair.



Scenes from 29N

One of the joys of the DG position is the opportunity to visit each and every Lions Club within the district during the year. DG Charlie continues his visits.



DG Inducted new Clay Lions Keith Scott & Debra Templeton at the Clay meeting on Dec 16th.



Gary Lions on Dec 6th. Several members received special service certificates.



The Athens Lions met with the DG at the Concord University Student Center.



Clay Lions turned out for the Dec 16th meeting with the DG. The meeting included a covered-dish dinner (with steaks!), and Bingo-for-Toys to benefit local youth.



Pineville Lions also met the DG on Dec 6th at Gary.

Busy December for 29N Lions



Gary Lions participated in both the Anawalt and Gary Christmas parades. Also, they helped with a Christmas party for residents of the Gary Rest Home, and the Kanawha Rock & Gem Club annual show.

Major Elizabeth Childers of the Greenbrier Civil Air Patrol spoke at the December 16 meeting of the Rainelle Lions Club giving the history of the Civil Air Patrol. The local CAP is located at the Greenbrier Valley Airport north of Lewisburg.



Bradshaw Lions met the DG at the Gary meeting on Dec 6th, and donated for the "Shop-with-a-Cop" program. The club hosted a breakfast to raise funds for improvements for their community meeting building, and are working on several projects to raise awareness of Lions in their area.



Durbin Lions hosted a Christmas Dinner for about 100 community members, and a Santa Run distribution of gifts to youth at several stops around upper Pocahontas County.



Scenes from the 29N Fall Conference



International Director Mike Molinda represented the LCI board of directors.



Songleader PDG Brockway led a rousing version of the "Pine Tree" song.



Lion Laura Blake, Chairman of the Strides Walk. The Strides Walk tradition at the 29N Conference was started in memory of Laura's mother, PDG Teresa Johnson.



The Strides Walk benefits the Lions Diabetes Awareness Program.



Scenes from the 29N Fall Conference



Luncheon speaker Lion Linda Molinda discussed women's heart health issues and her life experiences.



PID Larry Johnson, Parkersburg Lions, presents the honorary WV Mountaineer Award to ID Molinda.



Lions Patty & Paul Nutter donate cattle for the MD29 beef raffle. This year the beef raffle raised \$5555 for the WV Lions Sight Conservation Foundation.



Some of the clubs present in the Banner Parade.



Scenes from the 29N Fall Conference



Ten members of the White Sulphur Springs Lions attended the Conference.



Lions Larry Lucas, Sue Via, & Rick Wooddell received Presidential Awards for outstanding service to the district.



Lions Dick Brockway, Linda Stewart, & Merlin Trickett received District Governor Awards for outstanding service to our district.



A conference highlight was square dancing at the Friday evening "Hillbilly" banquet. Music by Juanita Fireball & the Continental Drifters. Square dance calls by Eugene & Ellen Ratcliffe.

Editor's Notes

by Roger Norrod, Editor



This issue contains a message from the International President about retaining members, and a discussion about the dues structure from the District Treasurer. We also see wrap-ups from several MD29 events: the Lions Youth Exchange Grant Program, the Buy-a-Bike campaign by the Deaf & Blind Recreation Program, and the state Peace Prize Contest. The schedule for the Leadership School coming up at the end of the month is printed on page 7 – it is not too late to make your reservations. We also included more photos from the Fall Conference, especially for those who could not attend.

A few clubs are sending in news about their club activities. As DG Charlie says in his article, it is indeed impressive how the Lions Clubs in 29N work to improve life in their communities.

I encourage clubs to send in photos and information about their club service activities for inclusion in the newsletter. My mailing address is below, and my email address is rnorrod@frontiernet.net.

Roger Norrod
208 Markwood Gum Rd.
Arbovale, WV 24915

