

# THE LIONS TALE



## From the District Governor

by DG Charles Sheets



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## Half Empty or Half Full?

During discussion at our 3<sup>rd</sup> 29-N Cabinet Meeting recently in Beckley, one of our Zone chairs stated that while attending one of the leadership seminars on Recruiting Members at the WVLLS in Flatwoods, he came out of the session as an Optimist. What led to this, was that we were discussing membership and club development. However, most of our clubs had not met due to the extreme weather the past three months, and planning of programs could not be accomplished. Optimist, Latin word, for Optimism is; "a doctrine of mental attitude that the world is the best possible world; an inclination to put the most favorable construction upon actions and happenings, or anticipation of the best possible outcome". (Webster's Dictionary)

A common idiom used to illustrate optimism vs. pessimism is "a glass of water at the half way point". We Lions must see the glass as half full as we go about using the ASK1 symbol, asking our friends and neighbors to join, who have the passion and desire to

become a Lion. If all 800 of our 29-N Lions would ASK one person to join Lions that they think has a caring heart for our fellow men and women, we would grow with a membership gain. I am pleading with ALL Clubs to take this challenge and at your next meeting, go around the room to each member and ASK each member to make a public commitment of the number of friends they will ask to join. Couple this with a special April or May meeting to induct new members. If you can, I suggest that you pay their first dues, as an incentive.

I was very proud of our Cabinet and the actions taken to fund \$500 to our Youth Exchange Program, \$500 toward scholarships for first-time attendees to WVLLS, and up to \$500 per Club to conduct a Diabetes Awareness Program for their community. We are challenging our Clubs to step up and provide diabetes awareness programs as West Virginians rank 2nd in the United States with Diabetes.

*Continued on next page*



I am reminding Clubs to set up nominating committees for election of officers and submit on Form PU 101 by April 30th. A copy should be sent to me and a copy to DGE Ken Valko.

Clubs, please note that the second Worldwide Week of Service 2015, is scheduled for the week of May 16-22. Congratulations to Union Lions Club for completing and earning a special Centennial Banner Patch for each of their four-diamond level service areas. Begin planning your Club's Centennial Service Challenge to benefit 100 million people by June 2018 to honor 100 years of Lionism. For ideas visit the Lions 100 website at: [lions100.lionsclubs.org](http://lions100.lionsclubs.org) Note that your club too can win special Centennial Banner

Patches by participating in Centennial Service Events. Most clubs already qualify for one or more of the service challenge areas: Youth, Vision, Hunger, and Environment. For example, if your club has held vision screenings or donated to LCIF, these qualify. But you must report events to LCI through the Service Activity Report! Note that some 20 million people have already been served since July 1, 2014.

As PID Steve Glass wrote in our last newsletter:  
*"What Adjustments Will You Make?"*

*Charles Sheets, 29-N District Governor*

## From the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor

*by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice DG Ken Valko*

With the invitation of Zone Chair Lee Ann Welch, on February 10th I donned my hat as DG-Elect for District 29-C and attended a meeting of the Ceredo-Kenova Lions of the current District 29-O and enjoyed my evening at Evaroni's restaurant in Kenova.

The trip up Route 52 was a successful one in another way because I believe Tom Baisden will be our new Zone Chair for this area in 2015-16. He is from the Fort Gay Area Lions club, and their President this year. I welcome him and thank him for stepping forward. Some others attending were 29O DG Karen Dundus, Zone Person Lee Ann Welch, and Francis (Franky) Spray. Again, thanks for the friendly Lion visit.

**Please make note of the announcement on Page 9 for a District 29-C Open House Weekend at Twin Falls State Park. Mark your calendars and plan to drop by.**



*VDG Ken and others pose for a selfie at the Ceredo-Kenova Lions meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup>.*



DG Charles Sheets will be presiding over a District 29-N breakfast during the annual state Lions convention. The District 29-N breakfast will be held on Sunday morning at 8:30 AM at a location to be determined. For those wishing to attend the District 29-N breakfast as part of the state convention, please fill out the breakfast reservation form below and send it along with your payment to District Sec/Treasurer Lion Rick Wooddell at the address indicated.

**Please RSVP no later than 24 April for this event.**

**The charge for this breakfast is over and above the state convention registration fee.**

If you have any questions, please contact either DG Charles Sheets at [casheets4@yahoo.com](mailto:casheets4@yahoo.com) or Sec/Treasurer Rick Wooddell at [rwtwo54@frontiernet.net](mailto:rwtwo54@frontiernet.net)

**LIONS CLUBS  
INTERNATIONAL**



## **93<sup>rd</sup> Annual West Virginia Lions State Convention**

**DISTRICT 29-N  
SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST REGISTRATION  
0830 AM - May 3, 2015**

**PRICE - \$15 per person**

**REGISTRATION RSVP NO LATER THAN - APRIL 24**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Club Office Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

Any other Lion(s) attending District Breakfast with your party: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ number of attendees.

Make registration checks payable to:

**DISTRICT 29-N LIONS**

Please mail registration form and check to:

RICK WOODDELL  
DISTRICT 29-N TREASURER  
PO BOX 176  
GREEN BANK, WV. 24944



**Lions District 29-N**  
on the web at <http://e-district.org/sites/29n/>



## Her Name is Anna

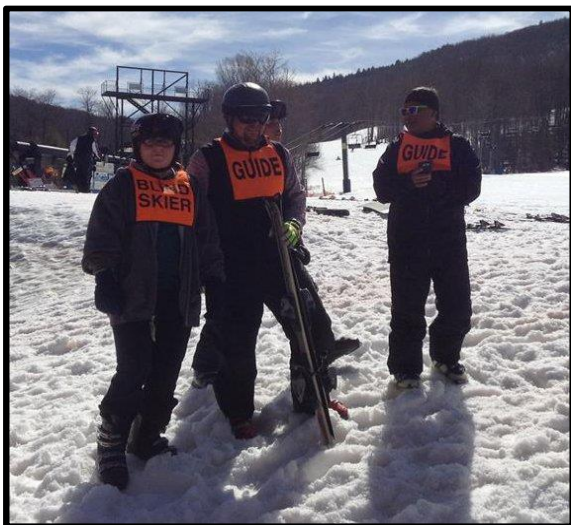
*by PID Steve Glass*

During our visit to District 49-A in Anchorage, Alaska in November of 2013 I met a young lady who served as president of her club. Her name was Anna. During the Cabinet meeting on Saturday afternoon, the district governor gave each club president or representative an opportunity to talk about what projects each club was undertaking and an opportunity to share service project ideas as well as concerns. Anna seemed a little embarrassed as she waited her turn in line, and when she began to speak, her voice began to crack and she openly sobbed as she reeled off all of the great service projects that her club had completed and had in progress. As she spoke I imagined that she came from a club of fifty to seventy-five members. Not so! Actually there were nine members in her club!

What happened next will stick with me forever. Anna looked squarely at every other Lion assembled with me and asked the following question, "What is the attitude in your club? Do you treat one another

as family as President Tam asked us to do?" She went on to state that her club was a family that cared very much about one another. When one of her members needed a baby sitter so that she could go for a job interview, a fellow member provided the service. When one of her older members needed a ride to the pharmacy or doctor, a fellow member provided the service. "We take care of one another" Anna added.

I will ask you Anna's question. "What is the attitude in your club?" Do you know? Do you welcome new members? Do you get to know them and their needs? Do you ask them what being a member of your club means to them? Do you ask them to participate in all service activities and to take leadership roles? If not, why not? The time has come when we need to treat service to our fellow club members as one of the most important services we can provide as Lions.



*The WV Lions Deaf&Blind Recreation Program sponsored a ski trip for the blind and visually impaired at Timberline on March 12. Students from the Romney School For The Blind, Harrison, Marion, Braxton, Lewis, and Randolph Counties participated. A similar day for deaf students is planned.*





## Facts about LCIF You Should Already Know

by MD-29 LCIF Chair Connie McMichael

The Foundation's primary areas of philanthropic objectives are:

**Preserving Sight  
Combating Disability  
Promoting Health  
Serving Youth  
Providing Disaster Relief**

Therefore, whenever you donate to LCIF, you may designate one particular area to receive your donation. If you do not designate an area the money goes into the general fund and is used where needed most. Either way, the Foundation always needs funds. If your club has not made a donation to LCIF yet this year, now is the time. Our MD takes on a new look after this Lion year ends and this will be the last time Districts O

and N will have the chance to make a donation as those districts.

Since 1968 LCIF has awarded more than 9,000 grants, totaling more than \$640 million. Remember, 100% of every dollar donated to LCIF is used for LCIF projects. All administrative costs are paid for through interest earned on the investment of the funds.

MD LCIF Coordinator  
Connie McMichael  
wvconnie@gmail.com



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## Lions Day at the WVU Eye Institute

**Save the Date - Saturday April 18, 2015, 1:00 – 4:30 pm**

Mark your calendar to attend the 2015 West Virginia Lions Day hosted by the WVU Eye Institute. The event includes updates on education, research and service, tours, and a special "blind cafe". WV Lions Day updates and event timeline will be posted soon on the new West Virginia Lions Partnership webpage. The recently launched West Virginia Lions Partnership webpage is hosted by the WVU Eye Institute. Access the webpage by visiting [www.wvueye.com](http://www.wvueye.com) and click on "West Virginia Lions Partnership".

West Virginia Lions Club and Leo Club members are invited to attend an afternoon dedicated to the Lions community. Activities will include updates on advances in vision education, research, and service by Ronald L. Gross, MD, Visvanathan Ramamurthy, PhD, and Becky Coakley, MA, CLVT; tours of the WVU Eye Institute will also be provided and refreshments will be served at the "Blind Café." The "Blind Café" provides a no-vision experience in a café setting.

**The courtesy of a reply by April 8, 2015, is requested by calling Jeanie Ellsworth, (304)598-6926 or email [ellsworthj@wvuhealthcare.com](mailto:ellsworthj@wvuhealthcare.com)**



Lions District 29-N  
on the web at <http://e-district.org/sites/29n/>



## The West Virginia Lions Leadership School

by PID Steve Glass

With the completion of a very successful 2015 Leadership School, it is time to focus our attention on next year's School. But first, let's recap the School just completed. We were privileged to have Lion Brandon Johnson from Tennessee and Lion Michael Gibbs from Ohio to add youthful perspectives, energy, enthusiasm, and creativity to our school. They enjoyed their experience very much, and both want to come back next year! Nikki Bowman, the Saturday Luncheon speaker, described to us how to become "Game Changers." on our leadership journey. Past International Director Judy Hankom shared with us some great ways to "Strengthen the Pride" and develop the heart of a Lion.

As we look to 2016 let's revisit the Mission Statement of the Leadership School: "To bring together the family of Lionism to enhance their leadership skill and deepen their commitment to community service." This being the stated purpose, I suggest to you that our West Virginia Lions Leadership School is the premier opportunity for all West Virginia Lions to learn about leadership theory and leadership styles; it is an opportunity to learn new and creative ways to serve our fellow Lions, our



clubs, and our communities; an opportunity to really understand why we serve; to help others overcome their fears and learn to become comfortable as a leader at all levels; and finally, discover new ways to build and strengthen our clubs. The Leadership School was never designed to replace the practical hands-on training for club officers, cabinet officers, or MD-29 leaders that generally takes place in the spring and at district conferences and the MD-29 convention.

The educational opportunities offered at the School serve to not only provide ways to enhance our personal growth in Lionism, but also in our work environments, family life, and all social arenas. One attendee at this year's School remarked to me, "I just learned in this seminar some very good information that I can use with my staff at work."

We are planning to have some different and creative fun activities at the 2016 School, which are designed to entertain you and stimulate your creative juices. We are looking for your ideas and suggestions for improvement, so we invite you to make suggestion to us. I have already received several suggestions from this past year's attendees that our planning committee will consider.

### The 2016 School

Date: January 29, 30, 31, 2016

Where: Charleston Marriott Town Center

Registration Fee: \$125.00

We have 70 rooms reserved with a cutoff date of January 1, 2016. Look for more information in coming issues of your district newsletters.



## Calendar

- March 14-15 - District 29-L Conference, McClure Hotel, Wheeling.
- April 10-11 – District 29-C Open House Weekend (see page 9).
- April 18, 1:00-4:30 pm - WV Lions Day at the WVU Eye Institute, Morgantown (see page 5).
- May 1-3 - WV State Lions Convention, Charleston Civic Center.
- May 15 – Reporting of 2015-16 officers to LCI due.
- June 15 – Final 29-N Cabinet Meeting at Summersville.

## News Notes

- The final District 29-N Cabinet meeting is scheduled for June 15 at Summersville. See the 29-N website calendar for updates.
- The 93<sup>rd</sup> WV State Lions convention will be held at the Charleston Civic Center May 1-3, 2015. Contact person is PCC Paul Wheeler (304)746-4415. A registration form and preliminary schedule is attached to this newsletter.
- The 29-N 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 29-N website.



## It's a Celebration!

**You are cordially invited to join the  
Lions Club of Clarksburg for its 91<sup>st</sup> Charter Celebration**

**When:** Saturday, March 28, 2015  
**Where:** Best Western Plus Bridgeport Inn in Bridgeport  
**Time:** 6:00 P.M.  
**Guest Speaker:** PDG John Pinkerman

**Cost:** \$21.00 per person

**RSVP:** PID Steve Glass  
 191 Ridgeway Drive  
 Bridgeport, WV 26330  
 304-203-2988  
[scjglass@aol.com](mailto:scjglass@aol.com)

**Deadline for reservations: March 24, 2015**

Please come join us and help us celebrate another year of outstanding service!

### Menu

#### American Buffet

Tossed salad with assorted dressings  
 Stuffed chicken breast  
 Salisbury steak  
 Mashed potatoes and gravy  
 Country style green beans  
 Fresh baked rolls with butter  
 Coffee, Decaf, hot tea, and iced tea  
 Sheet cake



## New Members Joining Jan 1 – March 12

Club Name	First Name	Last Name	Join Date
<b>FAYETTEVILLE</b>	Joseph	Mosko	March 3, 2015
<b>DURBIN</b>	Elizabeth	Lockman	February 10, 2015
<b>DURBIN</b>	Felix	Lockman	February 10, 2015
<b>RAINELLE</b>	Christopher	Scott	February 3, 2015
<b>BLUEFIELD</b>	James	Lilly	February 1, 2015
<b>RICHWOOD</b>	Nathaniel	Mullens	January 20, 2015
<b>RONCEVERTE</b>	Kevin	McCraw	January 15, 2015
<b>BLUEFIELD</b>	Pamela	Davis	January 1, 2015
<b>DURBIN</b>	Carolyn	Hevener	January 1, 2015
<b>IAEGER</b>	McKinley	King	January 1, 2015



*The third 29-N Cabinet Meeting was held March 7<sup>th</sup> at the Beckley Moose Lodge. Twenty-five Lions attended and voted on several administrative items pertaining to the district. Zone and Program chairs gave reports on their areas. Following the business meeting the attendees enjoyed a lunch prepared by the Moose Lodge.*



### The Four Centennial Service Challenge Areas





## Scenes from 29-N

A large crowd celebrated the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lewisburg Lions Club March 10<sup>th</sup> in Lewisburg. Eight clubs were represented: Alderson, Durbin, Gary, Lewisburg, Marlinton, Rainelle, Union, and White Sulphur Springs. Four Past District Governors and the current DG attended.



*Lion Alvin Porterfield, well qualified with his 56 years as a Lion, provided a brief history of the Lewisburg Lions.*



*Lions Jerry Campbell, Patty Gray, John Richardson received Melvin Jones Fellowships at the Lewisburg meeting.*

## District 29-C Open House Weekend at Twin Falls State Park

April 10 & 11

There will be an District 29-C Open House Weekend Friday night April 10, 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM and all day Saturday April 11, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM at Twin Falls State Park Picnic Shelter 3. This is a strictly social and fun event for the membership and cabinet of what will be 29-C. The new District Governor Elect Ken Valko has arranged for and will be supplying a Cabin and the Picnic Shelter. All are invited to stay for an hour or stay for the day. As everyone knows our State Parks have numerous activities and endless areas and trails to enjoy. Soft drinks and water will be at hand. If you wish to bring a covered dish that is fine also. Pass on the word, and if any questions, contact DGE Ken.

Please come and join your fellow LIONS for this Family day at the Park.



Lions District 29-N  
on the web at <http://e-district.org/sites/29n/>



## Club News



**Rainelle Lions Club** - Mary Beth Surbaugh, Purchasing Director for the *Rainelle Medical Center*, and area director of *Toys For Tots* presented information about the toy collection and distribution in Greenbrier County during the Christmas season 2014. Trudy Covington accompanied her and gave the history of the Toys For Tots program at the March Rainelle Lions club meeting.

Pictured Left (L to R): Trudy Covington, Rev. Bob Daniels, Mary Beth Surbaugh and Rainelle Lions Club President Larry Yankey.

The **Rainelle Lions Club** welcomed a new member, Rev. Chris Scott, at the March 3 meeting. Rev. Scott is pastor of the Rainelle Methodist Church.

Pictured Right (L to R): Club president Larry Yankey, Rev. Bob Daniels (sponsor), and Rev. Chris Scott.



The **1st Annual Mount Hope Lions Golf Tournament** will be held May 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Bridge Haven Golf Club. Contact any Mount Hope Lion for details.

The **Durbin Lions Club's** annual Pancake Dinner will be held March 28<sup>th</sup> at the Arbovale Community Center. Regular and sourdough pancakes, sausages, gravy, and all the fixins' will be served starting at 4pm.

The **Hedgesville Lions Club** will hold their Annual Golf Outing at the Woods Golf Resort, Monday May 18<sup>th</sup>, 10am tee-off. Free breakfast and putting contest starts at 8:30 am. Dinner following golf. People that are interested can call Lion Delmar Barrett (304)754-7489 or by email: [dlbar@comcast.net](mailto:dlbar@comcast.net).



## Editor's Notes

by Roger Norrod, Editor



We are over halfway through the 2014-15 Lions year and several important upcoming events are discussed in this issue. Some include Lions Day at the WVU Eye Institute in April, the State Lions Convention in May, and the final District 29-N Cabinet Meeting in June. Note also that preparations are underway for the upcoming year – DG-Elect Ken is hosting a District 29-C Open House Weekend in April, and PID Steve Glass's Planning Committee for the 20<sup>th</sup> WV Lions Leadership School in 2016 is already at work.

Even though winter weather forced Lions to cancel many meetings and other events, just as most West Virginians, the work of Lions continued. Our Recreation Program gave an opportunity for Deaf & Blind children to ski at Timberline and the Lewisburg Club celebrated their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Take note that several RSVP dates are upcoming: for the State Convention, Lions Day at the Eye Institute, the 29-N State Convention Breakfast.

I hope you enjoy reading about these and other items in this issue. Don't forget that your suggestions and submissions for future issues are always welcome.

Roger Norrod  
208 Markwood Gum Rd.  
Arbovale, WV 24915



## Schedule of Events for Multiple District 29 Convention

Friday, May 1, 2015

9:00 am-5:00 pm Registration for Convention  
2:30 pm-4:00 pm WVSCF Meeting in Room 206  
5:00 pm-6:00 pm Council of Governors Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
6:30 pm-8:00 pm Dinner in West Virginia Room  
"Hawaiian Night" Wear Hawaiian Shirt  
Welcome by DG Eugene Saunders  
Recognition of Past District Governors  
Dinner  
Speaker: Steve Henrick, Medical Eye  
Bank of West Virginia  
Leonard Jarrett & Melvin Jones Awards

Saturday, May 2, 2015

9:00 am-5:00 pm Registration for Convention  
8:30 am-11:30pm MD 29 Business Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
12:00pm-1:30 pm Luncheon in WV Room  
Welcome by DG Doug Long  
Recognition of District Cabinets  
Lunch  
Speaker:  
2:00 pm-2:45 pm Seminar 1 on Leadership  
by PID Steve Glass  
3:00 pm-3:45 pm Seminar 2 on Membership  
by ID Jack Epperson  
4:15 pm Teresa Johnson 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Strides Walk  
6:00 pm-6:30 pm Reception for ID Jack Epperson  
6:30 pm-8:30 pm Banquet in WV Room  
Welcome by DG Karen Hall-Dundas  
Dinner  
Speaker: ID Jack Epperson  
International Director Awards

Sunday, May 3, 2015

9:00 am-11:00 pm Registration for Convention  
8:30 am- 9:30 am District Breakfasts for L, I, O and N  
9:30 am-10:15 am Election of Offices for LCI  
10:30 am-11:30 am Necrology  
12:00 pm- 1:15 pm Luncheon with Election Results  
1:30 pm- 2:15 pm Council Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
2:30 pm- 3:30 pm WVSCF Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

## Registration for 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual West Virginia State Convention at Charleston Civic Center

May 1-3, 2015



Early Registration is \$99 per person  
Registration after April 6 will be \$115

Price Includes: Friday Dinner, Saturday Lunch & Dinner, Sunday Lunch

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

District: L I O N State/Club Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ number of attendees.

Any other person attending with you Party: \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to: West Virginia Lions State Convention  
PO Box 224  
Alum Creek, WV 25003

For Room Reservations Contact the Holiday Inn Express at  
(304) 345-0600. Rooms will be \$99.00 plus tax per night, when you call  
tell say you are part of the "Lions Convention."

For more information contact Conference Chair PCC Paul Wheeler  
at 304-746-4415 or email [AlumCreekLions@gmail.com](mailto:AlumCreekLions@gmail.com)

\*Sunday Breakfast is to be Paid to District Secretary/Treasurer