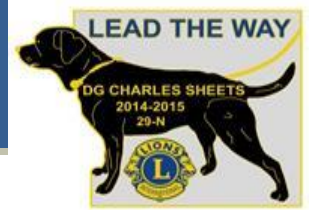


THE LIONS TALE



From the District Governor

by DG Charles Sheets



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A Wonderful Year

Serving as your District Governor has been an incredible and enjoyable educational journey for Lion Carolyn and me. Meeting with dedicated Lions throughout West Virginia who do so much for their communities has been a rewarding experience. We want to thank you for your vote of confidence in us and challenge Clubs to subscribe to the **ASK1** campaign. Your Clubs have accomplished so much over the year, such as eye screenings, purchasing eyeglasses, giving donations to victims of house fires, ringing bells at Christmas, donating scholarships, helping youth attend summer camps, and much more. I spoke to you about service hours reported by one of our clubs. If we would multiply that amount times our number of clubs, it would equate to over 8400 hours of community service in **ONE MONTH!** No other organizations will step up and take the place of Lions if your club ceases serving. Over the past year I want to highlight some noteworthy accomplishments:

- Our last 29-N Pipestem Conference began with a lively country music group and dance, presented educational programs, recognized (26) Lions with 50 years of service, and had over 150 attendees, meeting with ID Michael and Linda Molenda from Minnesota.
- Submitted Standard Grant GA14325/29-N to LCIF in the amount of \$98,706.00 to equip West Virginia University Eye Institute, approved May 4, 2015, by LCIF Trustees to continue our Lions/WVUEI partnership.
- Redistricted by combining districts 29-O and 29-N, and in December elected a District Governor for the new 29-C district.

Continued on next page



- Reorganized the Beckley Lions and elected new officers. The Club is now up and running. (Reference report by Beckley Lions President in this letter).
- Third Cabinet meeting March 6th, held in Beckley. Voted to:
 - Reimburse clubs up to \$500 for expenses in conducting community diabetes awareness program;
 - voted to add \$500 to "Scholarship" account to pay for first time attendees' registration fees for WV Lions Leadership School;
 - donated \$500 to WV Lions Youth Exchange committee.
- West Virginia University Eye Institute hosted Lions day April 18, 2015. (See more about WVUEI Lions day in this issue).
- Met May 5th in Montgomery to determine if sufficient interest exists in the community and surrounding area to restart Montgomery Lions into an active club. Over the years the Club has had three Past District Governors and was active in the community. An organizational meeting is scheduled for June 6th, at the WVU Tech Marina. (More about Montgomery reorganization efforts on page 4). We need your support at the June 6th meeting in Montgomery.
- Nepal's devastating earthquake has brought havoc on that small country. (See pictures, etc, on the LCIF website (www.lcif.org) and the Nepal email distributed to 29-N this week.) I have asked 29-N Clubs to support the Nepal Lions through LCIF donations by marking

"Nepal" in their check memo line. To date, Beaver Lions contributed \$250, Welch Lions \$220, and Gassaway Lions \$100. Our goal is at least \$1,000 and we will ask 29-N cabinet for a donation during our last cabinet meeting Jun 13th.

Lions helping Lions in Need.

- Despite our efforts through the **ASK1** theme, our membership continues to drop. As of 5/20/2015 we are minus 36 members. We have dropped 92 members (some through death), added 56 for a current total of 790. We began the year with 826. This has been a disappointment.

Our last 29-N Cabinet meeting will be June 13th, beginning at 10:00 am, at the Nicholas County senior center. (See directions on page 10). All clubs will receive the new "100 Centennial Banner Patch". We will recognize Clubs and individuals for serving their communities. I would like all Clubs to be represented at the final Cabinet meeting. Call or email me for a count since we will be paying \$9.00 for each lunch.

Beginning July 1, 2015, District 29-C begins a new era for WV Lions. Let us all support DGE Ken Valko and his team, helping them to get off to a great start.

I thank each and every member for their service and especially our cabinet members. I owe special thanks to Lions Roger Norrod and Rick Wooddell, and to their lovely spouses for sharing their valuable husbands in assisting me. Let us all move forward with **"WE SERVE"**.

*Yours in Lions Service,
Charles Sheets, 29-N District Governor*



From the 1st Vice District Governor

by 1st Vice DG Ken Valko

Lions from all across West Virginia were the guests of the WVU Eye Institute on April 18th. Morgantown became Purple and Gold when the Eye Institute had its Open House, giving a tour of the fine facilities the Lions support. Each year at their District Conventions Lions have what is proudly called their "Parade of Checks". This past year District 29-N gave more than \$30,000 to a number of charitable causes. The WVU Eye Institute is but one of those important causes. Other programs Lions support at their Parade of Checks are the Leader Dog Program, Reading Action Program, Diabetes Awareness, Pilot Dog, Youth Exchange Program and more.

The Lions Open House at the Eye Institute is a gesture of thanks to the Lions for that support. Other gestures are the Lions plaques that are proudly displayed before the doors of rooms containing the equipment used to do screenings, research, and even operations. Some of the activities during our tour included an explanation of equipment usage, demonstration of stem cell research using mice to restore vision, and we had a Blind Cafe where we were given the opportunity to experience a loss of our own sight. All the visiting Lions were grateful to have had the tour and programs the WVU Eye Institute arranged for us.



L-R: Susan Trantham, WVEI Director of Development; Dr. Ron Gross, Chairman of WVU Ophthalmology Department; Lion Pris Valko, President of Gary Lions Club; and 1VDG/DGE Ken Valko.

Lion Pris at some of the patient-care equipment Lions help provide to the WVEI. Since 1962, Lions grants have provided more than \$825,000 to the WVU Eye Institute, including just announced \$200,000 LCI grants and \$100,000 WVLSCF matching grants.



Montgomery Reorganization Progress

by 1st Vice DG Ken Valko

On May 5th a reorganizational meeting was held at the City Hall in Montgomery to restart and reorganize the local Lions Club. The Montgomery Lions are one of the few Lions Clubs, until last year, that were still serving along the River. Charlie Sheets, District Governor of District 29-N refuses to let Montgomery Lions go away. Mayors and business leaders from this area were invited to Montgomery City Hall to see how they could get the Montgomery Lions Club back on its feet. It was found that the club needed less than \$200.00 to bring them into compliance with requirements of the District and Lions International.

Some of the following people from District 29-N were present to deliver messages of support and guidance: District Governor Charlie Sheets; District Governor-Elect Ken Valko; Zone Chair Merlin Trickett; Global Membership Chair Dennis Keffer; Zone Chair Lary Lucas; Global Leadership Chair

Garland Burke; Diabetes Awareness Chair Del Cohrs; and Zone Chair Steve Moss.

After a short Lions history program a plan of action was developed. Lions membership applications and brochures were handed out to groups that then started spreading the word around the community. This information was given to members of the banks in Montgomery and a number of businesses such as the car dealership. More is planned in the days ahead to see to it that the Montgomery Lions Club rebounds and continues to SERVE the good community of Montgomery and its surrounding area. If all goes well, the possibility of bringing other clubs back is likely.

*With hopes of success for Montgomery and
other clubs,
DGE Ken*

Notice

Citizens of Montgomery and surrounding area, and previous Montgomery Lions, are invited to a public meeting June 6, 2015, beginning at 4:00 pm at the WVU Tech Marina pavilion, along the Kanawaha River, to discuss and reorganize the Montgomery Lions Club. On May 5, 2015, a meeting was held in the Montgomery Town Hall and it was determined there is sufficient interest in the area to restart the club. Free grilled hotdogs and drinks will be provided. All Lions of 29-N are invited to attend and support this effort. If you have any questions call Charles Sheets, District Governor, 29-N, at 304-456-4762, or e-mail: casheets4@yahoo.com



Beckley Lions – A Work in Progress

by Lion Bob Spencer, Beckley Lions President

The Beckley Lions Club, under the guidance of District Governor Charles Sheets and Past District Governor Dennis Keffer, has made significant progress in its' reorganization efforts over the past few months. The accomplishments include the election of new officers, fiscal organization according to International guidelines, the establishment of a dues structure, and meeting location. Plus, the club is meeting regularly for the first time in fifteen years.

In addition, Beckley Lions Club participated in the Beckley/Raleigh County Chamber of Commerce's "Business Expo", screening over four hundred attendees for diabetes and blood pressure with the assistance of medical assistant students from the Raleigh County Academy of Careers and Technology. Free literature from the WV Diabetes Association was given out and made available by the club. During this event, BLC gained one new member and a host of potential future members.

Other club functions included a fundraiser with both Bob Evans Restaurant locations in Beckley, a targeted fundraiser letter to past members and community leaders, and the establishment of an annual \$500 scholarship for Woodrow Wilson High School students who excel in community participation and leadership. This year's award, in memory of Lion William Earehart, was presented to Shanice Brown. Beckley Lions also sponsored a WWHS student to "Girls State". In 2016, the club has pledged to sponsor students to both "Boys State" and "Girls State" as it did in years past. This sponsorship is in memory of former club members involved in education such as C.G. Peregory, D.W. Bryson, Ross Hutchins, Sam Tucker, Basil Anderson, and Lawrence "Preach" Wiseman to mention a few.

As Beckley Lions Club looks back at its rich heritage of service, it looks forward to serving new generations with a group of talented Lions from all

walks of life. Recently, PDG Dennis Keffer installed in the club Rod O'Dell, a Beckley Broadcast Legend and member of the West Virginia Broadcaster's Hall of Fame, along with Maxwell Hill, a young, outstanding member of the Frontier Communications management team. Maxwell oversees technicians and service crews throughout the Southern West Virginia area for Frontier. Some future members of the club include Steve Kelly, owner of ServePro in Beckley; Mike Prunesti, a local businessman; Maris Lowrey, a Beckley sports broadcaster; Don Knuckles, former Mullens Basketball Coach; Kevin Gillispie, from First Century Bank; Doc Adkins, pastor of First Baptist Church in Beckley; and many others.

As a work in progress, Beckley Lions Club plans to continue to grow and be self-sufficient. Thank you to everyone who helped with our efforts over the past month including Lion Jim Bryson for his continued support, members of the Mount Hope and Crab Orchard Lions Clubs, and especially to DG Sheets for facilitating the club's revitalization.

Lion Bob Spencer



The Beckley Lions booth at the CofC Business Expo.



Final Notes from the Secretary/Treasurer

by 29-N Secretary/Treasurer Rick Wooddell

Any bills that are due and payable from District 29-N should be submitted to the Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer no later than the fourth and final District Cabinet meeting in Summersville on 13th of June. This will allow all financial records to be cleared by 30 June and sent to the auditor for expeditious turnover to the new District 29-C Secretary/Treasurer.

It has indeed been an honor to serve District 29-N as it makes its final go-around. I want to thank everyone for their patience this past year and your diligence in making our state obligations ahead of schedule.

*Yours in Service,
Lion Rick Wooddell
District 29-N Secretary/Treasurer*

Lions Public Relations

by Lion Richard "Dick" Brockway,
29-N Public Relations Chair

Traveling around the states, if you're like me, you've noticed signboards entering a town with several smaller signs depicting churches, clubs, organizations, etc. I first look for a Lions sign and try to see when they meet, especially if I'm going to stay overnight. Sadly, the sign is often there with no meeting date or time.

What a missed opportunity! Every Lions Club sign should state when they meet. It is difficult at times to say where one meets because that could change periodically. However, how hard is it to place a slat under the Lions sign with "Meets 2nd, 4th Tues. 7PM" or, "Meets 1st and 3rd Thur. 6:30PM." You'd be surprised who might stop in. Might even be a prospective member!!!

District Governor Sheets has been promoting

Lions license plates. What better way to broadcast "Lionism" and "Pride" than a plate on your vehicle traveling every mile with you on the road. Please look into this. There is a Lions License Plate application form attached to this newsletter for your convenience.

Remember "It's Great To Be A Lion" – "We Serve"..... "Strengthen the Pride".



Leadership School Update

by PID Steven Glass

The 2016 West Virginia Lions Leadership School Planning Committee will be meeting on Sunday, May 31, 2015 at the Alum Creek Lions Club Center to commence planning for your 2016 School. In order to plan effectively, we need your input, suggestions for improvement, topics for seminars that you would like to see, and general overall impressions of the School. District 29-C Lions serving on the Planning Committee are PID Robert Browning, PDG Amanda Ross, Second Vice District Governor Daniel Harper, Lion Larry Lucas, and Lion Roger Norrod. Please provide them your ideas and suggestions if you choose. Please plan to budget part of your club's administrative funds to cover the cost of registration for one or more of your club officers to next year's school. More info at: www.wvlions.org/LeadershipSchool



DG Contest Results

by Lion Michael Fleshman, Contest Chair

Using all the entries submitted by the deadline, results have been finalized for the 2014-2015 29-N District Governor's Contest. The contest winners are:

Large Clubs:

- 1.) Marlinton = 690 points Award \$100
- 2.) Beaver = 490 points Award \$75
- 3.) White Sulphur Springs = 475 points Award \$50

Small Clubs:

- 1.) Rainelle = 420 points Award \$100
- 2.) Crab Orchard – Mac Arthur = 155 points Award \$75
- 3.) (Only two small clubs entered)

In addition Durbin, Lewisburg, Princeton, Union, & Welch are awarded \$25 each for participation. Ten clubs submitted entries. Complete tabular results can be downloaded from the 29-N website.



New Lions Joining March 12 – May 22

Club Name	First Name	Last Name	Join Date
BEAVER	Fred	Rich	April 23, 2015
BEAVER	Thelma	Okes	May 14, 2015
BURNSVILLE	Rupert	Powell	April 20, 2015
DURBIN	David	Fuller	May 12, 2015
GAULEY BRIDGE	William	Kincade	May 11, 2015
MARLINTON	Howard	Gibson	April 1, 2015
MARLINTON	Shaun	Clark	April 1, 2015
RICHWOOD	Kimberly	Rader	April 16, 2015
WELCH	Jeff	Adkins	April 1, 2015



Note: These are the new members who have been reported to LCI as of May 22.



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



LCIF Roundup for 29-N

by Lion Richard "Dick" Brockway,
29-N LCIF Coordinator

Attention Lions Clubs of 29-N:

As District 29-N LCIF Coordinator I thank you for your donations to LCIF. We didn't get 100% club participation but we did well. Remember our District has received thousands of relief dollars for flood, fire, wind, and other disasters from LCIF so your donations have helped repay some of these funds.

There are several Clubs in District 29-N that have over \$1,000 credited to their account, which means you could award a deserving member or citizen a special distinction, that of a Melvin Jones Fellow.

The following Clubs with sufficient credits are:

- Ansted \$6,900+
- Crab Orchard-MacArthur \$1,800+
- Beaver \$1,800+
- Durbin \$1,250



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

- Fayetteville \$1,200
- Flatwoods-Heaters \$1,900+
- Gauley Bridge \$1,300
- Lewisburg \$1,100+
- Mt. Hope \$2,300+
- Oak Hill \$5,850+
- Pineville \$1,600+
- Rainelle \$1,400+
- Union \$1,100+

That is a total of 13 Clubs that could honor one or more people with a Melvin Jones Fellowship.

MD 29 Council Report - LCIF

by PDG Connie McMichael,
MD 29 LCIF Coordinator

The last accounting received from LCIF shows percentage donations as the following: L: 60%, I: 91%; O: 51%, and N: 63%. LCIF District I Coordinator, PDG Glenn Ryburn, has been working very hard to achieve 100% and should be congratulated for

getting above the 90th percentage. With another month to go, hopefully all these totals will rise. The last accounting showed the following monetary totals: L: \$3,301.50, I: \$17,495.00, O: \$8971.50, and N: \$9,233.50.



Lions of 29-N made a good showing at the 2015 West Virginia Lions State Convention in Charleston.



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



Subscribe to the 29-C News E-mail List

by Lion Roger Norrod

In preparation for the reorganization of West Virginia Lions MD 29, a draft webpage for the new District 29-C (formed from District 29-N and most of 29-O) is under construction. Please bookmark for future reference:

<http://e-district.org/sites/29c/>

Also, please visit the Newsletter tab of the 29-C webpage:

<http://e-district.org/sites/29c/page-9.php>

There you will be able to subscribe to the future

29-C Newsletter. Just enter your e-mail address and click on the Go! button.

We are trying a new way to manage the 29-C News distribution list, and attempted to make subscribing as simple as possible. Please note that even if you are already on the prior newsletter distribution lists you need to go through the above process. (New federal privacy laws prohibit us from bulk transfer of the prior lists to the new one.)

If you have any problems, contact rdnorrod@gmail.com



The Marlinton Lions Club gained two new members in April celebrating Family and Friends membership drive. A "indoor picnic" dinner was served.

Marlinton Lions Club Find Charter

Robert Weaver of Stanley, Va recently purchased an old picture at a yard sale. His plan was to discard the picture and refinish the frame. When he disassembled the purchase, he found the original charter of the Marlinton Lions Club hidden/stored behind the front picture. The charter, dated September 9, 1946, was in great shape, showing the raised, embossed seal and blue ribbons. Robert made several phone calls to the Marlinton area, located Joe Laskey, our Secretary, and mailed the charter to him. The charter has been reframed and sealed to preserve it.



Calendar

- June 13 – Rainelle Lions Golf Tournament
- June 13 – Final 29-N Cabinet Meeting at Summersville. Meeting will convene at 10am at the Nicholas County Senior Center, 151 Sids Way, Summersville, WV 26651, (304)872-8147. Lunch will be \$9 for non-cabinet members.

News Notes

- At the State Convention, an election was held for trustees to represent District 29-C on the WV Lions Sight Conservation Foundation. Gary McCallister from Alum Creek Lions club was elected to the 2 year term and Steve Clendenin from the White Sulphur Club was elected to the 3 year term.

Club News



The Ronceverte Lions bought & restored an old gymnasium. About 150 youth use the gym each week. Lions sell concessions and run the gym for the community.

The Rainelle Lions' annual golf tournament will be held Saturday June 13 at the Greenbrier Hills Golf Course in Rainelle. For more information see the 29-N webpage or call Lion Larry Yankey at (304)438-6883.

For the Worldwide Week of Service, the Durbin Lions decided to focus on Diabetes Awareness. The Club donated new diabetes-related books to both the Green Bank and Durbin Public Libraries, and co-sponsored (with the Green Bank Senior Center and Pocahontas Memorial Hospital) a Diabetes Awareness Workshop for the community. Thirty people attended.

Supporting the Lions *Reading Action Program*, the Club donated \$500 to the Green Bank Elementary/Middle School *Reading Is Fun* program.

The Marlinton Lions Club participated in the Lions Club International's World Wide Week of Service by joining with Pocahontas Memorial Hospital to host a Diabetes Awareness Day Workshop. There were 32 people present to hear the 45 minute presentation followed by diabetes themed bingo.



Youth Camps & Exchange Program Quilt Raffle

by Lion Sue Via, MD29 YC&E Chair

West Virginia Lions Youth Camps & Exchange Program just completed a very successful quilt raffle. \$2117 were raised for the program. Rainelle Lions Club won the beautiful quilt donated by Lion Charolette Henson.

We are very grateful to every Lion and Lions Club that bought tickets and we also extend thanks to all individual Lions and Clubs that have made donations.

All the money received helps us to provide travel money for the youth and operating expenses. All money received directly or indirectly benefit the youth.

If your club wishes to learn more about this program, contact your district committee members.



Ideas for Local Peace Poster Contests

*by Lion Betsy Ross,
Pineville Lions Peace Poster Chair*

The Pineville Lions Club tried a new approach to the Peace Poster contest this year. In the past we had approached separate schools and encouraged them to become involved in the contest. This last year, two of our new members helped brainstorm a new approach. We approached every middle school in our county and encouraged participation. Not only did we purchase a kit for each school, we also supplied the proper sized paper and a few art supplies like markers and colored pencils along with post cards of past winning entries. One of our new

members went with the Committee chair to deliver the supplies to each of the six out of eight middle schools. He also went by each school on the deadline date to pick up their entry for the contest. By the deadline we had four excellent entries. In fact we brought them to the 29-N fall conference and had help from volunteers in choosing our entry for the District Governor's consideration. Not only did we get a winner, we will be using the same process this next Contest. We already have three commitments from middle schools for participation. We will be hoping for perhaps seven kits this year by the time September rolls around.



Scenes from 29-N

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.



President Mike Gabbert delivers \$1200 from the Ronceverte Lions for Lions Charities.



Ronceverte Melvin Jones Fellowship recipients Pam Arnold & Donald Massey.



Lions Harold Johnson from Sutton & Noel Pletcher from Gassaway received 20-year and 54-year chevrons respectively.



Sutton & Gassaway Lions met with the DG in April.



The laeger Lions Club met with the DG May 5th.

Scenes from 29-N



Richwood Lions hosted the DG and Carolyn on May 7th.



The "Blind Cafe" at the WVU Eye Institute Lions Day.



Durbin says he's looking forward to the LCI Convention in Hawaii.



DG & the Summersville Lions met on April 27th.



Richwood Lion "Mose" Khuri received a 65-year-as-Lion Certificate from DG Sheets and PDG Merlin Trickett.



New Lions Kim Rader & Nathan Mullens pose with their sponsors and DG Sheets after their induction to the Richwood Lions Club.

Editor's Notes

by Roger Norrod, Editor



This will be the last issue of the District 29-N newsletter, but District 29-C DG-Elect Ken Valko has said he intends to keep the name *The Lions Tale*. But, he is still searching for someone to edit the 29-C newsletter. I will not be able to edit next year's newsletter or maintain the district webpage because my wife and I are moving out-of-state. So, if you are interested in a creative way to serve, please contact DGE Ken – he will greatly appreciate the help.

Please take note of the instructions on page 9 for subscribing to next year's newsletter by e-mail. The current distribution list for paper copies (about 30 people) will be passed on to the new editor, but it is much more expensive

to distribute paper copies, so subscribe to the e-mail list if possible.

The past year has been very enjoyable for me and it has been an honor to serve as the editor. I want to thank everyone who has sent in stories, photos, or just encouragement throughout the year. Especially, I want to thank DG Charles and Lion Carolyn for providing photos and information for all their activities, and for their excellent ideas and suggestions for every issue. And, thank you DG Charles for the opportunity to serve!

Although we will be moving soon, feel free to contact me anytime at the e-mail address below.

Lion Roger Norrod
rdnorrod@gmail.com

Roger Norrod
208 Markwood Gum Rd.
Arbovale, WV 24915



Insert the plate numbers on the plate diagram to the left and submit this form to the WV DMV for recording and processing. Be sure to retain a copy for your records.

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS & INFORMATION

1

Application Requirements:

- Anyone can apply for a Lion's Club license plate.
- The applicant must provide a personal property tax receipt, or an affidavit from the assessor, if the current plate is expiring within 60 days.
- The applicant must submit a \$55.00 check or money order, payable to the Lion's Club WV-MD-29, to the address below:

ATTN. Bill Griffith
Lion's Club WV-MD-29

759

1404 Cedar Lakes Drive
Ripley, WV 25271

(304) 372-1702

2

Vehicle Requirements & Information:

- The vehicle must be a Class A car or truck, under 10,001 pounds gross vehicle weight.
- The vehicle must have a WV title.
- A valid WV license plate must already be registered for the vehicle, in the titled owner's name.
- There is no restriction on the number of special plates one person can obtain.

ALLOW FOR UP TO 60 DAYS FOR YOUR NEW PLATE TO ARRIVE.

This allows time for the Lion's Club, DMV, and USPS to process and deliver the license plate.

There are no refunds on special license plates, as once a plate number is registered, it cannot be used again by another registrant.

3

What to do when you receive your Lion's Club license plate:

- The old license plate must be returned to the DMV after the Lion's Club plate is received, it **cannot** be transferred to another vehicle.
- The DMV will mail out and process all Lion's Club license plate renewals. The owner must keep their address up to date with the DMV, not only is it law, but they will not receive renewal notices if the address is not valid. DMV **does not** honor USPS forwarding addresses.
- Prior to every July 1st, when the registration expires, the owner will need to provide DMV with current and valid proof of insurance, proof of personal property taxes paid, and pay the \$45.00 renewal fee.