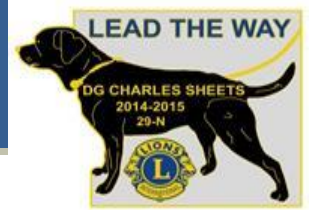


THE LIONS TALE



From the District Governor

By DG Charles Sheets



Carolyn & Charles Sheets

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Pipestem Conference a Success

Approximately 160 lions attended the last 29N Conference at Pipestem State Park, kick-started Friday night in Hillbilly Fashion with Juanita Fireball and the Continental Drifters, along with Ellen and Eugene Ratliff, lively square dance callers. Folks let their hair down that evening for a “hooten and hollerin” good time. Even the Park Superintendent and wife joined in the fun and fellowship.

Most Lions agreed that recognizing the members with 50 years and more of Lions service was perhaps one of highlights. We were honored that six of the group could attend. The luncheon speaker, Linda Molenda, told the group about her experience with a heart attack and the symptoms leading toward a 95 % blockage, warning all to listen to your body signs.

The 26 clubs participating in the Parade of

Checks contributed \$31,350, demonstrating the motto and spirit of Lions in promoting our Lions' charities. In addition, clubs contributed 12,990 pairs of eye glasses/hearing aids, and over 1200 pounds of canned goods that will be donated to Summers County Food Pantry. Thanks to the Hinton Lions for weighing and boxing the canned goods, and for taking the food to the food pantry. The winning club for best decorated food basket was the Hinton Lions, judged by the ID's wife, Linda Molenda. As I continue to make my club visits, more clubs will contribute to the worthy causes. We were pleased and overwhelmed by the clubs' generosity.

Presidential awards for outstanding service presented by ID Michael Molenda went to: Lion Rick Wooddell, Durbin Lions; Sue Via, Union Lions; and

Continued on next page



Larry Lucas, Marlinton Lions. District Governor's Certificates of Appreciation went to the following: Linda Stewart, Durbin Lions; Richard "Dick" Brockway, White Sulphur Springs Lions; Merlin Trickett, Rainelle Lions; Bluewell Lions President Shelia Hall, and Pineville Lion President Betsy Ross, for inducting four new members each in the past two months.

We plan to publish a Special Tribute Issue of the last 29N Conference in the Lions Tale when we assemble pictures and articles from attendees.

Redistricting

The MD 29 Council of Governors, at its Pipestem November 9, 2014 meeting, adopted the

recommendation of its Constitution and By-Laws Committee related to the redistricting of MD29. Accordingly, a special business convention for the new District 29C will be held at 3:30 pm on December 14, 2014 at the Tamarack Convention Center near Beckley, for the purpose of electing a District Governor, First Vice District Governor, and 2nd Vice District Governor for the 2015-16 year, and to select the dates and location of the first 29C Conference. Each club within District 29C will be allowed to send one voting delegate for every 10 members, and it is important that 29N clubs be well represented. The convention call by Council Chair Ed Via is reproduced in this newsletter. The convention call and Constitution and By-laws



Square dancing at the 29N Conference



Lions with 50+ years of service were honored at the 29N Conference

Committee recommendation documents were sent to all 29N clubs on November 10th by e-mail. Copies can also be downloaded from the 29N website.

Please note that delegate certification will begin in the conference center lobby at 1:00 pm and end at 3:30 pm. Clubs' credential cards will be sent to the club secretaries separately. Come early, certify

your credentials and enjoy the food court and other attractions of Tamarack. Council Chair, Ed Via, will convene the convention promptly at 3:30 pm.



29C Convention Call

by Council Chair Ed Via

Fellow Lions:

On Sunday, December 14, 2014, at 3:30 pm, at the Tamarack Conference Center in Beckley, West Virginia, by direction of the MD 29 Council of Governors, I will convene a convention of District 29C.

The purpose of the convention is to:

- Elect a District Governor, First Vice District Governor, and Second Vice District Governor for the 2015–2016 Lions year.
- Choose a time and site for the 2015–2016 District 29C conference.

All Lions are invited to attend, but voters on these issues will be delegates from the Lions Clubs of District 29C, made up of the following counties:

Boone	Kanawha	Mingo	Summers
Braxton	Lincoln	Monroe	Wayne
Clay	Logan	Nicholas	Webster
Fayette	McDowell	Pocahontas	Wyoming
Greenbrier	Mercer	Raleigh	

The MD 29 Council of Governors at its meeting on November 9, 2014, at Pipestem, adopted the recommendation of the MD29 Constitution and By-Laws Committee. The business of the 29C Convention will be conducted according to the guidelines of that recommendation. It is attached and made a part of this convention call.

Please note that delegate certification will begin in the conference center lobby at 1:00 pm and end at 3:30 pm. Clubs' credential cards will be sent to the club secretaries separately. Come early, certify your credentials and enjoy the food court and other attractions of Tamarack. I will convene the convention promptly at 3:30 pm. PID Robert Browning, Jr., has been appointed as coordinator of the arrangements for this convention. If you have any questions or comments, call him at (304)546-1876, or email him at rbrowningjr@yahoo.com.

With you in Lions Service,
Ed Via, PDG
Council Chair, MD29, WV
PO Box 37, Union, WV 24983
(304)772-5273 bevia@frontier.com

Note that the recommendations of the MD 29 Council By-laws & Constitution Committee referenced above, setting forth the rules and procedures for the 29C Convention, can be found on the 29N website.



From the 1st VDG

by Lion Ken Valko

WOW! Was that a convention. What a great job was done by all. Lion DG Charlie sure knows how to put on a great convention. In this report, I would like to mention a few of my notable highlights. My wife and I used to square dance in a group called the Tug Twirlers. Friday night brought back a lot of good memories of those Wednesday night dances in Welch. My wife Lion Pris always enjoyed the nice happy break in the middle of the week of teaching.

On Saturday the clock kept ticking as the lessons and reports kept moving along. Each lesson was informative and important to the growth of Lionism. As stated a strong club needs to have more than a get-together night. A club needs to have a vision and plan for its growth and membership. Having a plan consists of new ideas and possible changes in the activities the club initiates. Get a kick when you click! Each time you get on the computer check out something new. Find a new idea. Look for opportunities and new

ways of serving.

Other highlights were the two visiting speakers. To ID Michael Molenda and wife Linda – Thank you for your messages. A special thanks to Linda for her extra effort and cautionary message.

A word of thanks to PID Bob Browning and the By Laws Committee for their delicate and important work in regards to all that goes along with redistricting.

Honoring our Veterans and 50 plus years as Lions brought a number of tears down a few cheeks. Each time we serve we should think of their service.

Next I would like to thank my great Gary Lions for their support and fantastic job on the Hospitality Room. They did not do the room alone. A number of folks from Bradshaw and Pineville were in the process as well. Much thanks to the following: Lion Ida Osborne, Lion Betsy Ross, Lion Jo Browning. I can't thank my wife Lion Pris enough. She spearheaded the movement. And, a party isn't a party without a great bartender. Thanks to Lion Pat Sadler and her helper Hondo Sadler. Thanks Lion Jim Hird for your bottled contributions and Hillbilly Help. Thanks again to all who helped make the room as happy as it was.



Part of the Hospitality Table at the 29N Convention



Juanita Fireball & the Continental Drifters from Pocahontas County provided music at the Friday night dinner & square dance.

Convention Parade of Checks for LCIF

By Lion Richard D. Brockway

As a follow up from the October District 29N Newsletter, LCIF received several checks or pledges at the Fall Conference at Pipestem State Park November 8th. Of the \$31,350 total Parade of Checks contributions from Lions Clubs and individual Lions, the portions designated to LCIF amounted to \$8,250. Therefore, the Lions Clubs International Foundation now has over \$61,500 on credit for 29N. Several clubs have over \$1,000.00 to their name as well as individual monies named for certain Lions. It is to our benefit to honor someone (with a Melvin Jones Fellowship) and get these balances down.

I made out a stat sheet for each Club and

handed them to club members or Zone Chairmen for Clubs not present. Please review these and if you have questions please notify me. I will assist you and if I don't have the answers, I have a contact at Lions International that will.

Thanks again for your participation in LCIF (the Foundation that has provided many thousands of disaster relief funds to West Virginia and our District area over the years). Keep the donations coming!!! We're hoping for 100% clubs participation in 29N (our last as "N")!!

Lion Richard D. Brockway
District 29-N LCIF Chairman
304 536-3341

Foster Children

By Rachel Kinder, Mission West Virginia

Recently the FrameWorks program at Mission West Virginia was given the opportunity to speak at the 29N Lions conference at Pipestem. We are a non-profit located in Putnam County, serving the entire state. Our program recruits families for children waiting in the foster care system and we have several programs designed to meet with needs of waiting children. There are currently over 4,000 children in the foster care system with approximately 1,000 children waiting to be adopted.

Our program works to serve children in foster care in many different ways. We serve as an information and referral source for families interested in fostering or adopting (call 1-866-CALL-MWV). We coordinate the Heart Gallery, a traveling photo exhibit of children who are waiting for adoptive families. Our Carry-On program

collects luggage and personal hygiene supplies with the intent to eliminate garbage bags as luggage for children. We promote waiting children in Sunday's Child newspaper columns throughout the state. And finally, our celebrations program grants special wishes for children who are in foster care and for children who were recently adopted.

There are many ways that the Lions can help children in foster care. Help us find locations for the Heart Gallery, connect us to a paper that would run our Sunday's Child column, host a Carry-On drive, or come up with your own service project to serve these children. We were so pleased to be able to share our message at your conference and we hope that you will help spread the word about the children in foster care and the need for foster and adoptive families.

Rachel Kinder
(304)562-0723



MD 29 Deaf & Blind Recreation Program Buy-a-Bike Project

By PCC Barbara Fishel, Program Chair

At the Council of Governors meeting at West Milford on July 26, 2014, I presented a proposal to purchase new bicycles and helmets for the students of the Romney Schools for the Deaf and Blind. As the Multiple District Chairperson of the Deaf and Blind Recreation Program (formerly called the Blind Ski Program), I was approached by a school employee asking if the Lions would be willing to purchase some new bikes for the school or help in buying parts to repair old bikes. On a spring visit to the school at Romney, I saw firsthand the pile of bikes that were in various stages of much needed repairs. I then made the decision to pursue the idea of purchasing new bikes. Along with new bikes we also need to purchase new helmets not only because of safety precautions but because of health reasons too.

I spoke with my contact at the school this week and he informed me that 28 bikes (and helmets) are needed. This would provide a bike to students in both the elementary and high school. My goal is still the same – to provide as many bikes and helmets as the Lions of West Virginia can. As I write this article, we now have \$1750.00 designated strictly towards the bike campaign. Ten Lions Clubs, one Lioness Club, and one individual have donated towards this program. We still need more



support if we are to meet our goal.

We plan to go to the Moorefield, WV Walmart on Sunday, November 2 to begin choosing the bikes that we need. Our goal is then to be able to have all of the bikes purchased and delivered to the school the week of December 15. We will invite interested Lions to join us and also intend to have the local newspaper there as well. This may well be one of the best Christmas gifts that these kids have ever been given.

If your club or any individual is interested in sending a monetary donation towards the "Buy A Bike Campaign" please send your check to the "MD Deaf & Blind Recreation Program" and mail it to me at: Barbara Fishel, P. O. Box 41, Mt. Storm, WV 26739. Make sure you note on the check that the donation is towards the bike campaign.

Thank you for your support of this program. December 15 will be here before you know it. If you wish to make a donation, I urge you to do it soon.

PCC Terry Goodman of Bedford, New Hampshire has been a seminar presenter at 17 of the 18 West Virginia Lions Leadership Schools. Lion Terry has always presented interesting topics in an exceptional manner, and over the years, has become a great friend to Lionism in West Virginia. As most of you know, Terry has been courageously battling cancer over the last couple of years.

Recently we received word that Terry's cancer has returned and his doctors have given him a week to live. Terry's family has asked that we pray for a quick and peaceful passing. If anyone would like more information, please contact Lion Robert Stigall at (304)925-2319.



WV Lions Leadership School

By Lion Robert Stigall

The 19th Annual West Virginia Lions Leadership School will be held January 30 – February 1, 2015 at Days Inn in Flatwoods, West Virginia. Planning is well underway and the committee is putting together an event that will be memorable.

The keynote speaker for Friday's banquet will be E. Gordon Gee, currently serving his second term as president of West Virginia University. Prior to his current term at WVU, Dr. Gee served as president of the University of Colorado, Ohio State University (two terms), Brown University, and Vanderbilt University. Dr. Gee is a graduate of the University of Utah with a doctorate and law degrees from Columbia University. Dr. Gee has been a member of several education-governance organizations and committees, and is past chairman of the American Council on Education's Commission on Higher Education Attainment. In 2011, he was appointed to serve as secretary on the Board of Directors of Ohio's economic development program.

At Saturday's luncheon, the keynote speaker will be Nikki Bowman, founder, publisher and editor of seven West Virginia-themed publications. A 1992 graduate of West Virginia University, Mrs. Bowman has nearly 15 years of experience editing magazines in Chicago, Washington, DC and Mississippi, winning several industry awards. Travelling throughout the Mountain State, she frequently speaks about the need for West Virginians to become invested in their communities and to take pride in their heritage.

Past International Director Judy Hankom will be the keynote speaker at Saturday's banquet. A member of the Hampton, Iowa Lions Club since 2001, PID Hankom served on the International Board of Directors from 2012–2014. She served as chair of the First Women's Symposium in Iowa and also as a faculty member at the Great Plains Lions



Leadership Institute. PID Hankom has received five International President's Certificates of Appreciation, three International President's Awards, the International President's Leadership Medal and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest award to be bestowed upon a member. PID Hankom is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, as is her husband, Ron.

Sunday's luncheon will feature Sheltered Reality. Sheltered Reality has dedicated itself to being a youth-oriented project, where youth members use music and education as a way to reach out to audiences, motivating them to advocate for those in need, especially children and families. Sheltered Reality employs the power of music to engage and motivate audiences to make positive changes both in themselves and the world in which they live. Through stories of hardship and triumph, and a sequence of Steps of Success, Sheltered Reality teaches personal empowerment and character building, and then encourages the application of these abilities to its primary focus of advocacy for youth in crisis.

Registration fee for this year's Leadership School is \$115 if paid before January 15, 2015 and \$135 after that date. Hotel rooms at the Leadership School rate can be secured by calling Days Inn at 304-765-5055. Make certain you tell the hotel representative that you are with the Leadership School.



West Virginia Lions Leadership School



DAYS HOTEL FLATWOODS, WEST VIRGINIA

January 30, 2015 - February 1, 2015

REGISTRATION FEE \$135 – A DISCOUNT PRICE WILL BE \$115 IF PAID BY 1/15/2015

Print or Type Clearly

Lion

Name

Name for Tag

Lion or Guest

Name

Name for Tag

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Home Phone

Business Phone

E-Mail

Club Name

District

____ I am a first time attendee

Make checks payable to: WV Lions Leadership School (Note: Credit cards will not be used)

If you have special dietary requirements, please list below:

Mail Completed Registration to:

PDG Eva Dague

105 Sandy Avenue

Moundsville, WV 26041

Please contact PCC Kris Pinkerman with any questions:

(H) 304-638-4096

akpinkerman@gmail.com

Call Days Hotel Flatwoods for hotel reservations.

Focus on Durbin

The Durbin Lions Club, chartered on November 12, 1946, currently has 47 members. Community service events include annual eye screenings at the local school and Senior Center, staffing ticket and concession booths at Pocahontas County school sports, purchasing eyeglasses, sponsoring annual Halloween Parties and Christmas Dinners for the community, and awarding a scholarship for a PCHS senior each year. Fundraising events include selling deep-fried porkskins, holding rifle raffles, and hosting a Pancake Dinner in March. The club meets at the Arbovale Community Center on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays.



Search is on for treasures buried in sawdust at a Halloween Party co-sponsored by the Durbin Lions.



A Durbin Lion screening vision at the Green Bank school.



Frying porkskins at Durbin Days.

Bluewell Lions – “Boss of the Sauce”

The Bluewell Lions recently competed with other civic clubs in the Bluefield area in a culinary competition and won the “People’s Choice” award for their barbecue sauce. The “Boss of the Sauce” event benefitted the Bluefield Arts Center.



Calendar

- Nov 15 – IRS Form 990 Due!
- Nov 18 – Reorganization meeting for Beckley Lions at Beckley Moose building
- Nov 20 – DG Visits Mount Hope Lions
- Dec 1 – DG Visits Athens Lions
- Dec 6 – DG Visits Gary Lions
- Dec 8 – DG Visits Pineville Lions
- Dec 14 – District 29C Conference
- Dec 16 – DG Visits Clay 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.



Lions Dick Brockway, Linda Stewart, and Merlin Trickett received District Governor Certificates of Appreciation at the 29N Conference.



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

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 has continued to visit clubs even while busy with Conference planning.



Gauley Bridge Lions



Bluemell Lions



Craigsville Lions



Welch Lions



Editor's Notes

by Roger Norrod, Editor



The 29N Conference at Pipestem by all accounts was a big success. The hard work and generosity of Lions from across the District continues to amaze. This issue contains some news about the weekend, but the "returns" are not yet all in. We plan to do a special issue of the Lions Tale dedicated to the Conference, and would like to invite all Lions who were at Pipestem to send their impressions about the conference and suggestions for future reference, either to my USPS address below or by e-mail to rnorrod@frontiernet.net.

Other news in this issue includes the very important announcement about the

organizational convention for the new District 29C. It is important that the clubs of 29N be well represented there on December 14th, so read the convention information carefully.

Elsewhere in this issue, Lion Robert Stigall has written an excellent article about the WV Lions Leadership School in January. Lion Barbara Fishel invites Lions to participate in the "Buy-a-Bike" campaign. And, Rachel Kinder discusses how Lions can help WV foster children.

I want to encourage the officers of all clubs to provide copies of the Lions Tale to their members who do not receive e-mail. About 200 Lions receive the newsletter but that is only about one-fourth of the district members, so anything we can do to increase the distribution would be great.

Roger Norrod
208 Markwood Gum Rd.
Arbovale, WV 24915

