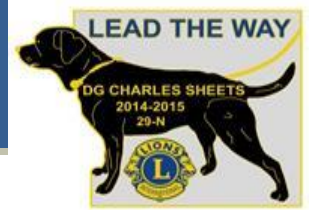


THE LIONS TALE



From the District Governor

By DG Charles Sheets



Carolyn & Charles Sheets

LEADERSHIP: In our leadership training conducted this year titled "THE LEADER IN YOU", a Dale Carnegie course, one of the topics stressed was "communication". We must improve our communication between DG, cabinet, zone chairs, club officers and club members. We are stressing timely communications through e-mails and all 36 clubs, currently, should be connected through an e-mail address. We are depending on those members with e-mails to share newsletters and coming events and announcements with your clubs.

FALL CONFERENCE: With fall conference less than two months away, I am hopeful that ALL clubs will be discussing and encouraging members to attend. We will have an exciting and educational conference and leadership training will be emphasized. Please send your registration form to Conference Treasurer Rick Wooddell and call

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Pipestem for reservations by Oct. 7, in order to get the cheaper rate and choice rooms. At this conference, you will learn and socialize with the best community-minded citizens of West Virginia. I promise that YOU WILL BE NOT DISAPPOINTED by attending. This may be the last opportunity you have of attending 29-N Conference, due to the re-districting vote at the MD State Convention this year. We have an exciting International Director from Minnesota, Michael Molenda and wife Linda, as our conference guests, whom you will enjoy.

MEMBERSHIP: Sad to report that we have dropped 18 members since July first. We began the year (July 1st) with 826 members and as of 9/14/2014 we have 808. During this time we have inducted only 6 new members. Our President, Joe Preston,

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and I are requesting all lions to join the ASK1 Campaign by seeking out people who have the desire and will to become dedicated lions. If we can get all 808 Lions in 29-N to just ask one person this year we can turn our membership decline around. Let's do it!

CLUB VISITATIONS: Lion Carolyn and I have thoroughly enjoyed our club visits and interacting

with officers and members. You have been very gracious and the cookouts and meals have been awesome. One particular highlight was to assist Oak Hill Lions in awarding a Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) to Lion Francis Miller, at the young age of 87 years. We want to visit as many clubs as possible before fall conference, and in so doing, we hope we can combine visits when clubs are in close proximity. Please feel free to contact me or any cabinet or zone chair if we can be of any service.

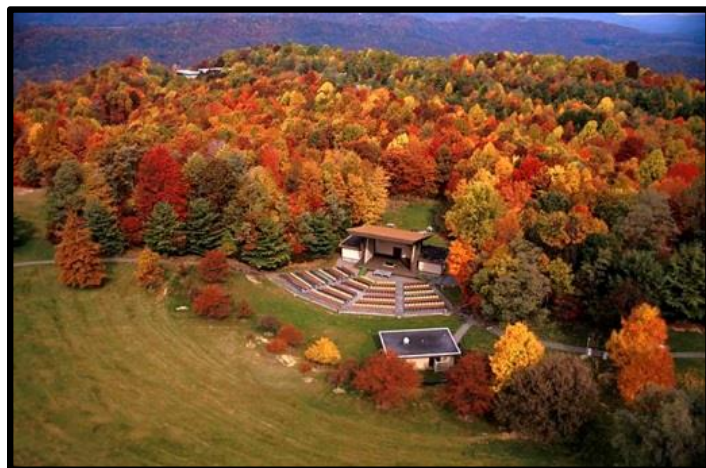
29N District Conference at Pipestem

By DG Charles Sheets

Charles Sheets, District Governor, is pleased to announce that International Director Michael E. Molenda, from Hastings, Minnesota, will be our guest November 6-9, 2014 at Pipestem State Park. He was elected to serve a two-year term as director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 96th Convention held in Hamburg, Germany, in July 2013.

Michael is an attorney and a member of the Rosemount Lions Club since 1984. He has held many offices within the association, including secretary, president, district governor, zone and region chairperson and council chairperson. He has also served as chairperson for the Campaign SightFirst and the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation. He was also a member of the 92nd Lions Club International Convention Host Committee in Minneapolis.

In recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards, including the District Governor Excellence Award, a Leadership Medal, the Progressive Helen Keller Award, a Michigan A. Charles Weir Fellowship, two International President's Certificate of Appreciation and three



The Amphitheater at Pipestem State Park.

International President's Awards. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. In addition to his Lions activities, Director Molenda is active in numerous professional and community organizations, including the Minnesota and Dakota County Bar Associations, the Minnesota Association for Justice, the Apple Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Hastings Chamber of Commerce, the Minnesota Swimming Officials Association (MSOA) and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA).

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Director Molenda and his wife, Linda, also a Lion and Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have a daughter, son-in-law and two grandsons. Lions of 29-N welcome Michael and Linda to West Virginia.



Golfing at Pipestem

Conference Silent Auction

By Lion Connie Dorscheid

There will be a silent auction at the District 29N Conference in November. It would be great if each club could contribute at least one item for the auction. Money from the auction helps defray the cost of conference expenses. District 29N always has a wonderful conference and the costs are consistently less expensive than other conferences. Come enjoy what may be the last of 29N's

conferences as we may meld into District C. Enjoy the auction and other activities that will be available at the conference.

For questions or concerns about the silent auction, please contact: Lion Connie Dorscheid at wvconnie@gmail.com or Lion Suzanne Stewart at (304)456-4910.

1st VDGs Visit *Leader Dog*

By 1st VDG Ken Valko

Aug. 14, 15 and 16th will be memorable dates for this 1st Vice Governor. After spending two weeks in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan breaking rock and climbing over rock piles looking for mineral specimens and early Copper Country artifacts, Lion Jim and I returned home from our two days on the road. I was home for one day and the next was headed back by way of a plane from Charleston to visit Leader Dog in Rochester, Mich.

Leader Dog is excited about celebrating 75 years of serving the blind, visually impaired, and deaf, from around the world. They welcomed First Vices and other Lions from around the world. Their

mission was to inform us of their grand renovation project and keep us up to date as to their finances and continued services. Most of the day Saturday was devoted to programs and power points showing information and drawings of the new kennels and veterinary complex that is in the works. One item that stands out was the graph showing the yearly monetary contributions. Over 20% of their yearly income is directly from Lions contributions. Another large percentage is from wills, and other estate plans. With this in mind, it is likely that Lions' generous contributions far exceed the mentioned 20%. Much of the funding is also through the Leader Dog foundation. This money also came

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from earlier contributions of Lions that has been invested and set aside for their vision of the future.

In short, a brief description of their services includes the Seeing Eye dogs, of course. The summer courses include a youth program. There is an advanced Leader Dog course. One course many of us were not aware of was the blind and deaf program.

During our visit we had the chance to hear and have one-on-one talks with those who have a Leader Dog. One lady, who got her first dog as a

teen, is now with her 8th dog.

In closing, let me thank all those who helped in the arrangements. A special thanks to District 29-O 1st Vice District Governor Duane White for being a good buddy on the trip. Please stay informed by having someone from your club get Club, Zone, District, State, and International messages by way of the Internet.



1st VDGs pose for a photo after morning session at Leader Dog. Left to right: Lions Al Cox, Ken Valko, and Duane White.



One group of Lions being shown around the complex. It was nice, and informative, to have contact with other Lions from around the world. A few states represented in this group are Montana, West Virginia, Maryland, Michigan, and Florida.

One stop on our points of interest was to talk with some of the Leader Dog trainers. Here I am holding one of the next dogs to be of service to an individual in need. All trainers are super dedicated to their work, and some have almost 30 years of experience.



Youth Exchange Program

By Lion Sue Via
MD 29 Youth Camp & Exchange Program Chair

This has been a great summer for the MD 29 Youth Exchange Program. Two young ladies from 29I, Lainey Harrison and Kelly Kulp traveled to Finland and Estonia, respectfully. This is the first Exchange to Estonia from West Virginia. Another young lady, Mandee Studivon from District O, traveled to Italy, and a young man Kahlen Browning, from District N, chose to go to Japan.

West Virginia received three exchange visits by youth from abroad. District 29I hosted a young lady from Finland and 29L a young lady from Italy. Richard Franklin, a member of the Union Club, and his family hosted Yuya Kato, a young man from Japan. The Franklin Family and my own family enjoyed showing him some of the sights of West Virginia including the State Fair. Yuya experienced an opportunity to ride a horse for the first time, courtesy of Lion Mike Allen.

Two quotes from this year's exchange students: "I am so happy to have been a part of such a great program" and "Over the summer I was

given the most remarkable opportunity to travel to Finland and make memories I could not forget even if I tried."

Currently, I have requests for host families for youth from Australia. This is for the month of December and early January. If you are interested please contact me at bevia@frontier.com.



Exchange student Yuya Kato, from Japan, enjoying one of his many WV adventures at the New River Gorge Bridge.

Calendar

- Sept. 18 – DG Visits Princeton Lions
- Sept. 22 – DG Visits Alderson Lions
- Sept. 26 – 29O Conference
- Oct. 2 – DG Visits Hinton Lions
- Oct. 3 – DG Visits Bluefield Lions
- Oct. 8 – Conference Registration Fee Increases
- Oct 11 – DG Visits Ansted Lions
- Oct 13 – DG Visits Gauley Bridge Lions
- Oct 16 – DG Visits Craigsville Lions
- Nov. 7-9 29N Conference – Pipestem



The Dan Dague Car Show, held near Wheeling, is a major activity for 29L, and DG Sheets visited this year.



District Governor's Contest

By Lion Mike Fleshman
DG Contest Chairperson



The District Governor's Contest is in full swing. We appreciate each club that has participated and look forward to more clubs joining in. There were several clubs that submitted entries for July. Thank you for those submissions but, in order to be fair to those clubs that were not informed in time, we will not be counting July entries. I was given the following clubs as participants in the WV State Fair Eye Screening, and have automatically awarded each of these clubs with 10 points towards "Conduct vision screening for your community": Union, Hinton, Lewisburg, Crab Orchard-MacArthur, Marlinton, Durbin, & White Sulphur Springs.



News Notes

- District 29N Cabinet meetings are scheduled for November 8, March 7, and June 15 at Pipestem, Crab Orchard, and Summersville respectively. See the webpage calendar for locations and updates.
- Due to illness, Lion Del Cohrs recently was forced to resign as 29N Diabetes/Lions Eye Health Program Chair. Lion Steve Potwin of the Crab Orchard-MacArthur Lions has volunteered to step into that role. Many thanks to Lion Steve for stepping up, and best wishes to Lion Del as he regains his health.
- MD 29 (WV Lions) is holding a Beef Raffle to raise funds for the WVSCF and LCIF. For details contact Lion Merlin Trickett at mwtrickett@hotmail.com or (304)619-9981. More info is also available on the 29N website.
- Oak Hill Lions Elimination Raffle is Oct. 24th. Dinner & Prizes! See enclosed Flyer for details.

Quilt Raffle for WV Lions Sight Conservation Foundation

This beautiful WV quilt (the pattern is sometimes called "Grandmother's Fan") was handmade by the late Dorothy Henson. This is one of many quilts Mrs. Henson made for Lions raffles, and the proceeds of this fall's 29N raffle are to go to the WV Lions Sight Conservation Foundation (WVLSCF). The drawing will be held Nov. 8 during the Saturday evening banquet, at the 29-N Fall Conference. Dorothy's daughter, Charlotte Henson, will be present for the drawing. Charlotte is an active member of the Cross Lanes Lions Club and District 29-O 2nd VDG.

Raffle tickets can be downloaded from the 29N website and printed.



Raffle ticket sales earn clubs points in the DG Contest. Clubs should send ticket stubs and monies collected to cabinet treasurer Rick Wooddell, PO Box 176, Green Bank, WV 24944 no later than October 31, 2014.



What a Ride!

By IPID Steve Glass, Clarksburg Lions Club

What a ride it was! Serving on the International Board was both a blessing and privilege that Cindy and I will always cherish. Words alone cannot describe the experience.

We were blessed to have been able to serve with such a dedicated and humble group of fellow directors and executive officers as well as LCI staff. There were many wonderful experiences that we shared and projects that we learned about. We had many different viewpoints and cultural differences, but at the end of the day, we shared one common bond: a love for service and a deep commitment to leadership development.

From our travels that took us across Canada from Richmond, British Columbia to Moncton, New Brunswick and across the USA from Anchorage, Alaska to Waterville Valley, New Hampshire with stops in twenty-eight states; and in addition, visits to Ulladulla, New South Wales and Freeport, Grand Bahamas, we met hundreds of dedicated Lions and leaders who give so much to their communities and this great Association. We learned so many wonderful lessons from all of them.

I want to share with you three lasting and valuable lessons that I learned from my journey. First, our executive officers clearly demonstrate an attitude of teamwork and mutual respect for one another as they lead our Association. They do not just talk the talk. This is clearly demonstrated in the continuation of the four Global Service Action Campaigns, the Reading Action Program, the Club Excellence Process, and the World Lunch Relay activities. When they advocate to district governors that the district leadership is a shared responsibility, they have set a good example themselves.

Secondly, Our LCI Headquarters staff is dedicated to each and every one of us and to going the extra mile to insure our success. They are an

What's an "IPID"?

The "ID" stands for "International Director". The Lions Club International Board of Directors consists of 34 members from every geographical region served by Lions, elected for terms of two years. The Board manages the officers, business, property, and funds of LCI, and prepares and approves the operating budgets. The "IP" stands for "Immediate Past". IPID Glass' term on the Board was 2012-2014.



underappreciated and underpaid group of employees as a whole. I can tell you first-hand that they have our concerns and well being in mind at all times.

Thirdly, the natural beauty of our great USA, Canada, and the other countries that we visited is spectacular and breath-taking; however, it is surpassed by the beauty and warmth of the individual Lions who make up their clubs, districts, and multiple districts. For, you see, it is from many, many of these great leaders that Cindy and I learned the most lasting lessons that will serve us for the remainder of our lives. We met dozens of Lions, young, old, men, and women who were inspirations to us and those all around them. Perhaps in time, we will have an opportunity to tell you some of their stories.

To all of you who made this journey possible for us and who prayed for our safe travels, thank you!



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 taken advantage of the beautiful Fall weather in WV to visit several already.



Burnsville Lions meeting on the shores of Burnsville Lake.



Crab Orchard-MacArthur Lions



Flatwoods-Heaters Lions



Durbin Lions Carolyn Sheets & Donnie Waybright received MJF awards at a recent meeting. The Durbin club now has six Melvin Jones Fellows.



DG visits Oak Hill Lions and presents a MJF to Lion Francis Miller.



Lions Club International Foundation Report

By MD Chair Connie Dorscheid

On Saturday August 23, Multiple District LCIF Coordinators from 25 MDs met in Baltimore for the annual meeting. They came from as far away as Minnesota and Puerto Rico. Presenters were PIP Clem Kusiak, PIP Wayne Madden, and Ashley Follett from LCI headquarters.

Topics discussed included increasing club participation, increasing personal donations, and the role of the coordinators as team leaders. MD 29 does well with donations, but we could certainly do much better. Amazingly, Minnesota was the only US state that had 100% club participation last year. I'd love to see WV also have 100% participation. Even \$5.00 would help, especially if your club has never donated. Worldwide, only 5 clubs had 100% participation.

WV has received more money from LCIF in grants than we have contributed and it's time to correct this. Remember that 100% of your donation helps. There is no administrative overhead as there is in many other charities. Contributions to LCIF by individuals go toward a Melvin Jones Fellowship. Clubs also make contributions for club credit. Our *Parade of Checks* at conferences is one example of this. If your club has never made a donation to LCIF in any way, a one time collection at a club meeting could be done, or a percentage of a fund raiser could be dedicated to a donation. Lions Club International will celebrate their 100 year anniversary in 2017, and there will be many centennial opportunities. Making a donation to LCIF in honor of our founder is a wonderful way to get club recognition.

Any of the four district LCIF coordinators are available to answer your questions or present a program at your club meetings. They all have \$20 donation pins and measles donations pins.



MD LCIF Coordinators from around the nation attended the annual meeting in Baltimore.



Focus on Rainelle

The Rainelle Lions Club, chartered on June 23, 1930, currently has 18 members. The club actively supports the local food bank with volunteers and donations, works at Bloodmobile visits, and purchases many eyeglasses every year for those in need. Last year 25 pairs were purchased and six more are in the pipeline. A major service program by the club is the awarding of three students each year with \$1000 scholarships, based on need. The club's major fundraisers are annual golf outings (June), Pancake Breakfast (October) and gun raffle sales (November). The Club meets on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at the Rainelle UMC.



Rainelle Lions President Larry Yankey welcomes visiting DG Charles Sheets and Lion Carolyn Sheets to a recent meeting in Rainelle.



Some of the Rainelle Lions at the Club's summer picnic.

Editor's Notes

by Roger Norrod, Editor



Communication is one of the most important functions for any organization, including the Lions. DG Sheets and I have been working to amass an email distribution list for the 29N newsletter, and currently it includes more than 140 addresses. As you can imagine, the cost of printing and mailing that many copies each month would be quite a burden. So, most of you who will see this newsletter will see it on your computer and we hope you find that satisfactory. Rather than sending copies of the newsletter by email we are posting it on the 29N website, which is more efficient and provides an archive of past copies as well.

Speaking of websites, several of the 29N clubs have their own websites. If your club hasn't considered that, it is easier than you may think. Most of the hard work has been done by the experts at LCI, and anyone who is comfortable with using a word processor like Microsoft Word can pretty easily build a very nice looking website. It can be a good way to communicate with members, younger people especially, and we all know Lions need to attract and keep young members. Your club may already have a member who would enjoy building and maintaining a club website – just ask. The place to start is at the LCI e-clubhouse: <http://www.e-clubhouse.org/index.php> And, I would be glad to help any club get started.

Roger Norrod
208 Markwood Gum Rd.
Arbovale, WV 24915





OAK HILL LIONS CLUB

ELIMINATION RAFFLE

Friday, October 24, 2014

6:00pm - 10:00pm

Oak Hill Holiday Lodge

***\$25 / Ticket includes Buffet Dinner w/ Cash Bar
&***

A Chance To WIN!

Cash prizes - Door Prizes - \$500.00 Grand Prize

Call Pete Johnson at 304-574-2836

or Steve Moss at 304-465-8522