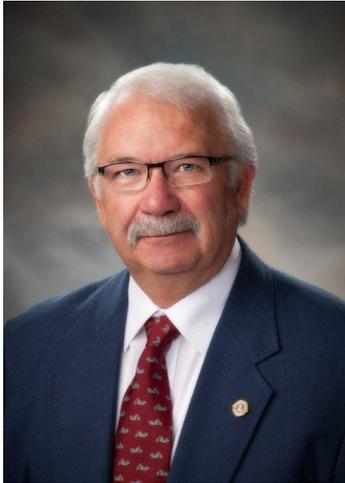


DISTRICT 29-C NEWS



DG's Message

By DG Charles Biggs

Greetings Lions!

I hope that each and every one of you had a great Thanksgiving. This year I am particularly thankful for all Lions of District 29-C and for all they do throughout the year.

Our 2016 Conference is now in the books and I hope that all attendees had a great time and found it worthwhile. I would like to thank everyone that brought items for door prizes and the silent auction. Loin Terry Skeens did a fantastic job handling the silent auction. Two very deserving Lions received Presidential Appreciation Awards: PCC Paul Wheeler from the Alum Creek Lions Club and Lion Roger Norrod from the Durbin Lions Club

A Great Big Thanks to everyone that helped in any way with the conference, and for all Lions' generosity evidenced in the Parade of Checks results.

Have happy and safe Christmas and New Years holidays, and let's look forward to a great 2017!

DG Charlie

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District 29-C Parade of Checks Results

From Secretary-Treasurer Paul Wheeler

Parade of Checks-District 29-C		
WV Lions Sight Foundation		\$8,725.00
WVLSCF P.Endow		\$0.00
LCIF		\$6,725.00
Romney Work Program		\$400.00
Service Dogs		\$2,150.00
Diabetes		\$450.00
Quest		\$175.00
Youth Exchange		\$825.00
Romney School of the Blind & Deaf Recreation		\$550.00
Total		\$20,000.00



Notice

The MD 29, West Virginia Lions State Convention for 2017 will be April 28-30, 2017 at the Lakeview Resort in Morgantown. Registration forms will be available in January.



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



District 29-C Conference

By Lion Carolyn Sheets



2016 was the second year for District C's conference, the combination of Districts N and O to become District C. The conference was held November 4-6 in Beckley at the Country Inn and Suites, chosen because Beckley is fairly centrally located in the new district. District Governor Charlie Biggs, with his conference chairs Bobby & Donna Dorado, did a fantastic job of planning the many activities. The Doo-wop dance on Friday evening got the conference started with much fun, dancing and plenty of food and drink in the hospitality room. Everyone had a chance to meet and talk with new and old friends in a casual setting.

Saturday morning's schedule included a 29-C Cabinet meeting and a Social Media Class. Lunch was at 12:15 pm with the International director, Lion Lewis Quinn from Anchorage, Alaska. His wife, Lion Gayle Quinn, gave a very interesting program and showed a video of BB Ball, a game of baseball for blind people. The blind team went by the sound of a special ball and those playing who were not blind were blindfolded. The blind team won. This was an event sponsored by the Lions of the Anchorage Captain Cook Lions Club.

The evening banquet started at 6:00 pm with a meet and greet time followed by a delicious meal. The tables were beautifully decorated by Lion Lynda Garland and her daughter. International Director Lewis Quinn was the banquet speaker and gave an interesting and inspirational talk on membership and services prided by Lions around the world.



ID Lewis Quinn, PID Steve Glass, & DG Charles Biggs.



Doin' the Electric Slide!



Some Conference guests.

Photos courtesy Lion J. W. Puckett



More Scenes from District 29-C Conference



Photos courtesy Lion J. W. Puckett





As of December 5, 2016

Other Important Dates

- Dec 5 – International Leo Day
- Jan 9-15, 2017 – Worldwide Week of Service to fight hunger & poverty
- Jan 13 – Melvin Jones’ Birthday
- Jan 13 – Last day for LCI Conference early registration discount
- April 17-23 - Worldwide Week of Service to protect our planet
- April 22 – Earth Day
- June 1 – Helen Keller Day



Annual Filing Form 990-Series Return



by PCC Paul Wheeler
District 29-C Secretary Treasurer

Lions, I was recently asked by a Lions Club in District 29-C to assist their club whose Federal Tax Exemption 501(c) 4 had been automatically revoked for not filing a Form 990-Series for three consecutive years. I checked the IRS website to confirm the loss of the Federal Tax Exemption and noticed other clubs in District 29-C had their Federal Tax Exemption automatically revoked; I am asking each club to check the status of their clubs nonprofit status by going to the IRS website:

<https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/automatic-revocation-of-exemption-list>

and search on "Exempt Organizations Select Check" to ensure your club is in good standing with the Internal Revenue Service.

If I can be of any help please contact me at 304.746.4415 or pwhee71827@aol.com

Lion Paul Wheeler, PCC
District 29-C
Cabinet Secretary Treasurer

Amtrak Travel to Chicago LCI Convention

by PDG Charles Sheets

Notice

Please note that January 13th is the deadline for early registration discount (\$50!) for the 100th LCI Convention!
<http://lcon.lionsclubs.org/EN/attendees/registration-information.php>

For those considering riding Amtrak to Chicago for the 2017 LCI Convention, the Cardinal #51 train runs Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday from New York City to Chicago with stops in White Sulphur Springs, Alderson, Hinton, Prince/Beckley, Thurmond, Montgomery, Charleston, and Huntington.

The complete Cardinal schedule is available on the District website at <http://e-district.org/userfiles/661/file/AmtrakCardinalSched.pdf> or through the Amtrak website at <https://www.amtrak.com/home>.

For example, Carolyn and I will Depart White Sulphur Springs Wednesday June 28, 2017 at 5:05 PM and arrive in Chicago the next morning at 10:05 AM. We will depart Chicago Tuesday July 4, 2017 at 5:45 PM and arrive in WSS the next morning at 11:39 AM. Our Round Trip fare, using a age 62+ 15% discount, was \$139.40 each. For those Lions under age 62, Amtrak offers a 10% Convention Fare Discount good for travel between June 15, 2017 and July 15, 2017. I advise Lions to first go to Amtrak.com and look up

continued on next page



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



rates, dates and departure time. With that info call (800) 872-7245 for an agent and advise them you are traveling to the Lions Convention. Additional information needed to receive the 10% Lions discount is given below. Keep it handy when you call.

Good luck with your travel plans and I look forward to seeing you in Chicago!

PDG Charles Sheets

GROUP SALES DEPARTMENT

CONVENTION FARE DISCOUNT INFORMATION FOR PASSENGER

**You may present this information to the Amtrak Ticket Agent or your
Travel Agent to assist them in providing you with this discount**

Fare Code Number: X97C-959

Valid For Travel: June 15, 2017 – July 15, 2017

Lions Clubs International 100th Convention

Amtrak offers a 10% discount off the lowest available rail fare to Chicago, IL between the above dates. Includes travel days prior to the convention and following the meeting. To book your reservation call Amtrak at 1 (800) 872-7245 or contact your local travel agent. Please refer to Convention Fare Code X97C-959 when making your reservation a 10% discount has been approved. Conventions cannot be booked via Internet. This offer is not valid on the Auto Train and Acela service. Offer valid with Sleepers, Business Class or First Class seats with payment of the full applicable accommodation charges. Fare is valid on Amtrak Regional all departures seven days a week, except for holiday blackouts.

Thank you for considering Amtrak in your travel plans.

Amtrak Agents please refer to: (G/TAR/TA9/P59) -Arrow
~F12, Option 2, TAR, TA9, Page 59 Rail Res



LCI President's Message

The pages of LION Magazine during the early years of Lions in the 1920s were filled with stories such as "The Purpose of Lions," "The Meaning of Lionism" and "The Value of Lions." A businessman's club dedicated to service was still a novel concept, and it was as if Lions had to convince themselves that they were on the right track. The uncertainty led Lions to question whether Lions Clubs would even survive. "During my lifetime I have seen organizations formed with the highest ideals flourish for a time, then drop into comparative unimportance. Will that be the fate of Lionism? I hope not," wrote District Governor A. Baker of Cheyenne, Wyoming, in January 1922.

But Lions stayed the course. They stuck with service. Fellowship was part of membership. But service was paramount. "Activities Make the Club" was the headline for a column in 1927 by International President Irving Camp of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. "Show me a club that simply meets and eats, and I will show you a club that has failed to respond to the call of service as invited in the very principles of our great, unselfish organization," he wrote.

Rapidly approaching our Centennial in 2017, we now know that our forebears were right. Service is what makes a Lion. It's what we do. It's who we are. That has never been more evident than over the past couple of years. We set a goal to serve 100 million people by June 30, 2018. The four campaigns have been Engaging Youth, Sharing the Vision, Relieving the Hunger and Protecting the Environment.

We wondered whether we'd reach the goal because clubs typically had reported to Lions Clubs International serving 8 million people annually (but we knew the true figure was higher). I'm elated to tell you that in early September we reached our goal of serving 100 million people. Take pride in being part of an association that lives up to its amazing ideals.

Like Lions of yesteryear, we put service first. But unlike them, we are confident we will be here for a long, long time! Thank you for all you do as a Lion, and I hope to see you at the 100th International Convention in Chicago June 30-July 4, 2017.

Very truly yours,
Chancellor Bob Corlew
Your International President



The 2017 International Convention and Lions Centennial Celebration will be June 30 – July 4, 2017 in Chicago, Illinois. Visit the LCICON website at www.lionsclubs.org!



Lions of West Virginia Leadership Retreat

by PID Larry G. Johnson
Retreat Publicity/Promotion Committee Chairperson



Retreat Vendors Planned!

Maybe your club needs to have a new polo shirt to identify its members. Maybe you would like to see the options available for vision screening. Perhaps you have questions about how the screeners operate, or how to get reports. Some may be looking for that perfect outfit or accessory for a special occasion. Do you know someone with low vision who needs assistive devices? You can find what you are looking for and more at the Lions of West Virginia Leadership Retreat.

Sew Simple and Beau Ties will be returning to the Leadership Retreat. **Welch Allyn** will be showcasing its Spot Vision Screener, as well as ambulatory care. **Plusoptix** will be showing and demonstrating its plusoptiX Vision Screener. **Enhanced Vision** will be offering low vision magnifiers and similar equipment. By the time the final arrangements are complete, there may be more vendors participating. Plan now to spend time checking out the displays that will be

conveniently located outside the ballroom, allowing you plenty of opportunity to visit and learn.

Remember, the Retreat is open to all Lions, and non-Lion spouses and guests will find much of the program to be of interest. The action begins Friday evening with dinner, continues all day Saturday, and concludes after lunch on Sunday.

The Retreat will be held at Lakeview Resort January 27-29, 2017. The \$125.00 registration fee includes four meals, each with a speaker, six seminars, as well as displays and opportunities for interaction with Lions from across West Virginia, our guest speakers and our presenters.

Register now! See the form included with this newsletter, and contact the Resort for room reservations.

Questions should be directed to the Chairperson of the Retreat, PCC Gary van Horn, at 304-261-1229 (cell), or 304-258-3261 (home).

Zone 11 Meeting

Zone 11 Chair Lion Pris Valko convened the first Zone 11 meeting on October 11 at the Riverside Cafe in Welch. The meeting was conducted to keep the Lions of Zone 11 District 29-C informed, and to gather information to report to the 29-C Conference to be held the first weekend of November. Lion Pris had a good turnout for the meeting with 13 members from four of the six clubs in Zone 11. A great Spaghetti dinner was enjoyed, prepared by the staff of the Riverside Cafe.

After the clubs gathered their information and shared their years work, door prizes were awarded. All left with full stomachs and many new ideas.



Bradshaw Lions Host DG

by IPDG Ken Valko

On October 13th the Bradshaw Lions Club was host to District Governor Charlie Biggs. District Governor Biggs delivered his address to the club explaining the 100th Anniversary of Lions International Centennial Challenge, and his three new goals for this year. DG Biggs expressed the importance of involvement by all Lions, and the service of clubs like Bradshaw in District 29-C.

The meeting was held at the Church of God in Bradshaw. Members from the Gary and Jaeger clubs were also in attendance. Part of the program included a fine dinner and the yearly presentation of the Parade of Checks to District Governor Charlie Biggs.



District Governor Charlie Biggs is handed the Parade of Checks from Bradshaw Pres. Helen Mullins. This information and amounts will be recorded at the District 29-C Convention in November.

World-Known Carver Aids Lions

During the weekend of October 14th and 15th, at the South Charleston Rock and Gem Show, Sandy Clina, a well known soapstone carver, had his carvings on display and demonstrated the methods for developing and finishing a soapstone carving. Sandy uses hand tools and an ancient method of beeswax polishing to finish his pieces.

Sandy came all the way from Canada, where he resides (and gets his rough stone) to be with the Gary Lions, South Charleston Lions, and the South Charleston Rock and Gem club. The clubs cooperate and plan together to have this event each year at the South Charleston Community Center. Sandy was a welcome participant this year and we look forward to his participating in the event next year.

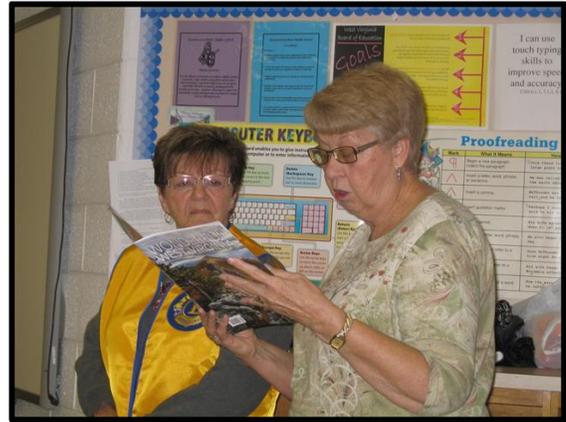


Sandy Clina working on a bear that is holding a fish in its mouth. His carvings are on display in the background.

Greenbrier East LEO Club

On October 27th Lions 29-C Immediate Past District Governor Ken Valko of Welch traveled to Greenbrier East Middle School for a LEO Club visit. IPDG Ken is this year's 29-C LEO Chairperson. IPDG Valko gave a short Lions history and listed reasons for community service, giving examples of the service and programs the Lions are involved with.

Lion Rodena Belcher from White Sulphur Springs is the LEO Advisor. During the meeting, Lion Betty Gellespie and Lion Mary Buckland gave a presentation on WV apples. Information was based on one of the latest articles in the WV Wild and Wonderful Magazine. After the presentation each of the LEO members was treated with their own WV apple.



Lions Betty Gellespie and Mary Buckland share information about WV apples to the Greenbrier East LEO club.



Club Advisor Rodena Belcher and IPDG Ken Valko with the Greenbrier East Middle School LEO Club. Club members present are Adam Willis, Aimee Martin (Officer), Jordan Spencer, Bradley Loudermiller (Officer), and Chase Martin. Member Levi Booth was not present.

Rainelle Lions Raffle

Rainelle Lions Club president Alan Williams is pictured with James Gill (on left) of Felton, Delaware. Gill was the winner of the Rainelle Lions Club gun raffle drawing on November 19 at Park Center Sporting Goods in Rainelle, WV.



Gary Lions Plan Ahead

The Gary Lions Club met recently to discuss progress and plans for the remainder of this year and for 2017. With President Rick Sturgell and the club's membership, the Gary Lions will continue to be involved with the local Gary community and contribute to other state, national and international Lions projects and programs.

Gary involvement will consist of participation in local parades, the Peace Poster contest, and continue to keep the Gary Lions Park accessible to the community (this year has seen a marked improvement in its use). The club will continue the honorary adoption of residents at the McDowell Nursing Center. The Club, this week, was a main contributor and helper at the Trunk or Treat, making and distributing popcorn and hotdogs. On October 14-15, the Gary Lions and the South Charleston Lions promoted and helped with the Rock and Gem Show at the South Charleston Community Center. Past District Governor Ken Valko will be visiting LEO clubs this year. The Gary Lions also show support to S.A.F.E. [Stop Abusive Family Environment], by donating a number of items needed.



Gary Lions discuss projects & plans for 2016-17 year.

The Gary Club would also like to thank those who have helped the club this year already. Goodsons Supermarket was one of the first to donate items to the flood relief. One day after the flooding Goodsons donated 10 cases of water, 10 cases of bleach, and 10 cases of paper towels that were delivered to the Rainelle area by a club member. A \$10,000 grant, from LCIF, was applied for and received by District 29-C for distribution as \$50 vouchers. Past International Director Bob Browning, of the Pineville Lions, organized the distribution of the vouchers.

The Gary Lions look forward to another year of service.

Upcoming Events

The White Sulphur Springs Lions Club will be celebrating their 60th Anniversary on January 9 with great food and door prizes. District Governor Charlie Biggs will be our featured speaker for the evening. Reception will be at 6:00 in Butler Hall in the St. Thomas Episcopal Church, (beside library) on Main Street; dinner at 6:30 pm. All Lions are invited, but please call President Mary Ann Hensley for reservations at 304-536-4041. Hope to see lots of friends there!





Lions of West Virginia Leadership Retreat

January 27-29, 2017

Lakeview Resort. Cheat Lake, WV

REGISTRATION FEE \$125



Registration includes dinner Friday, Lunch Saturday, Dinner Saturday, and Lunch Sunday

Continental Breakfast each day included in room rate

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: Lions of WV Leadership Retreat (Note: Credit cards will not be used)

If you have special dietary requirements, please list below:

Mail Completed Registration to: PCC Gary Van Horn

69 Fern Place Lane

Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Contact PCC Gary Van Horn with any questions: (C) 304-261-1229; gvanhorn3@frontier.com;

(H) 304-258-3261

Room Rate: \$94.00 for standard room or 2 double beds.

Make room reservations directly with the Lakeview Resort at 1-800-624-8300 before
December 27, 2016

***You may request a room close to the Retreat activities when you reserve a room.