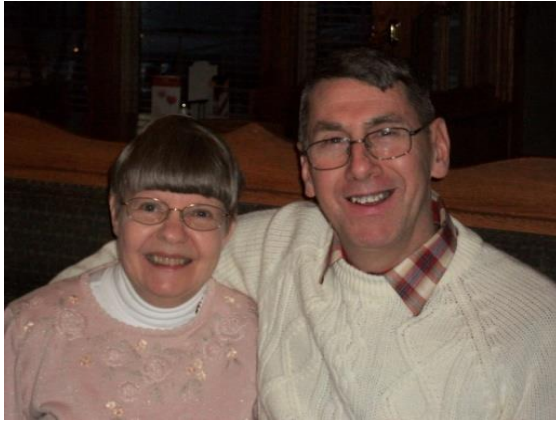
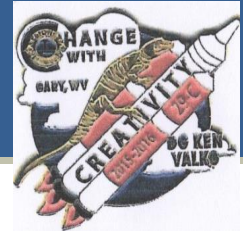


THE HYLONOMUS HOOT



DG Ken & Lion Pris Valko

What Are You Reading?

By Lion Pris Valko

The West Virginia Lions, through the Reading Action Program (RAP), have partnered with Read Aloud West Virginia. Five additional Chapters join Read Aloud West Virginia for the 2015 - 16 school year, bringing the organizations' reach to 30 of West Virginia's 55 counties.

"Next to hugging and talking to children, reading aloud is the greatest gift we can give them. Beyond the positive role modeling and physical bonding that takes place, we are stimulating imagination, enriching vocabulary, building listening skills and whetting an appetite for a love of reading." Jim Trelease, author of **The Read Aloud Handbook**

As of now, Gary Lion Emily Yeager and I are serving schools, without a local chapter structure. I attended a Read Aloud West Virginia Training session November 2, 2013 led by trainer Mary Kay Bond. Lion Emily and I started reading to the Welch Elementary school children in November of 2015. In addition, I also

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started reading to the children at Fall River Elementary School. On Nov. 19th I took part in "Read Across America" at Fall River Elementary School. At Welch Elementary, Lion Emily and I are reading one-on-one to children who need extra reading help. Lion Emily has read to Pre-K, Kindergarden and First Grade students. I read to 2nd. - 5th. grade students. At Fall River Elementary School, I continue to read to a third grade class, and one-on-one to students in Pre-K, Kindergarden, and first grade. After reading a book with a student he or she receives a book that they pick out for themselves to take home.

Three rules for a good reader are;

1. Read with enthusiasm
2. Read age appropriate books
3. Always read the whole book to yourself

before reading it to a child

Besides reading to school children, Lions have the opportunity to read to nursing home residents.

Continued on next page

Other possibilities are church groups, and Library activities, childrens groups such as Boy or Girl Scouts, 4 H Clubs, etc.

Being able to read at grade level gives children the tools they need to graduate from high school, attend a community college, VoTech school , or 4 year college.

Reading Aloud is a way to promote the **We Serve** motto, helping students become readers of tomorrow. Giving the gift of reading to a child is one of the greatest gifts we can give.

So, WHAT ARE YOU READING?

*Yours in Lions Service,
Lion Pris Valko
Gary Lions Club*

Greetings Fellow Lions,

Please note below dates of the remaining clubs' Annual Visit of the Governor.

A number of clubs have chosen to meet with other clubs or at a Zone Meeting for their annual visit. This is of great help.

This schedule should complete my visits required. My plans are to visit LEO or club establishment meetings between visits and after the Annual visits. If any questions please drop me a note.

Thanks for your service and your continuation to

*Change with Creativity
DG Ken*

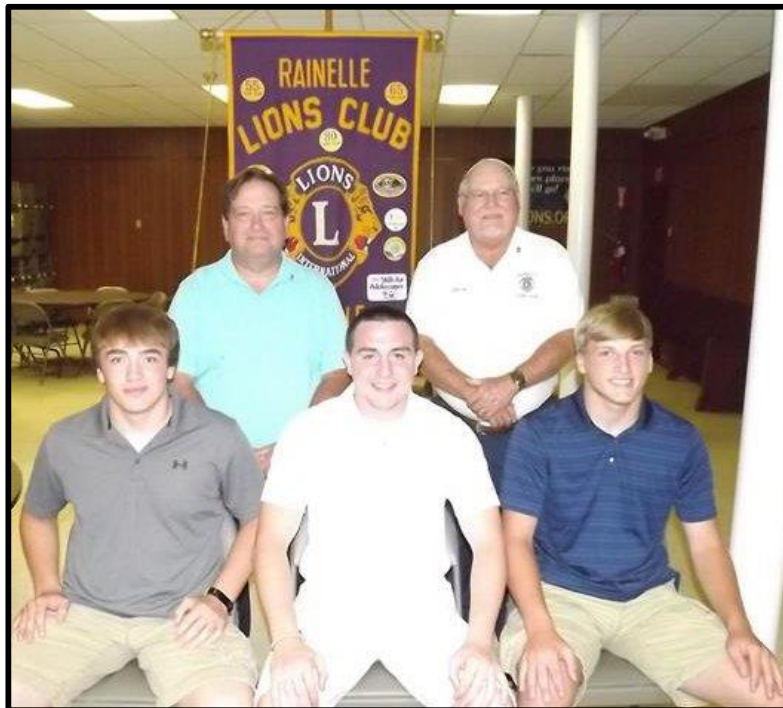
DG Club Visitation Schedule

	FEBRUARY
16	Rainelle
18	Mullins
23	Flatwoods - Heaters
	MARCH
03	Hinton
08	Lewisburg
12	Anstead
14	Chapmanville
17	Ronceverte
22	Campbells Creek
28	Summersville

	APRIL
05	Richwood
07	Princeton
12	Glasgow - Cedar Grove
14	Oak Hill
18	Man
19	Logan
26	Sissonville
	MAY
03	Southridge - Pacesetters
09	Wayne
17	Hamlin
23	St Albans



Club News



The Rainelle Lions Club presented Greenbrier West High School 2015 graduates with \$1,000 each for the Russell and Mayme Amick Memorial Scholarship. Recipients are (Front, L to R) Tristan Kessler, Joshua Spurlock and Dustin Yoakum.

Pictured in the rear (L to R) Lion Bill Wallace and then President Lion Larry Yankey.

William (Bill) Wallace, member of the Rainelle Lions Club since 1984, was presented with the Melvin Jones Award by Rainelle Lion President J. W. Puckett at the club's July 7 meeting. The Melvin Jones Award is named for the founder of Lions Club International and is the highest award presented in Lionism.

Pictured L to R: Lion Bill Wallace and Lion J.W. Puckett



Union Lions presented two awards at a recent meeting. Their Lion of the year was awarded to Lion Margie Jones, Margie is a 4 year member willing to help at all club projects. It is said she truly lives up to the Lions motto " We Serve ". Congratulations Lion Margie.

The second special recognition was the distinguished Melvin Jones presented to PDG Ed Via. Lion Ed is a 13 year member and has served as Club President, Zone Chair, Past District Governor and Council Chair. Congratulations to PDG Ed.

Centennial Challenge

By PDG Connie McMichael,
Centennial Chair District 29-C

At District 29-C's conference, several people were interested in and made suggestions to try to get 100 WV Lions to the Chicago Convention in 2017. If you've never attended an International Conference, this is the one to attend. Will you help? Will you go?

Several Centennial patches were handed to District C clubs and I congratulate all those who received them. The emblems on the patches indicate how many of the four Centennial Challenge areas the club had participated in. Sapphire for one event, emerald for 2, ruby for 3, and diamond for all 4. Clubs participating, but not reporting to LCI, of course get no credit. Clubs reporting by mail instead

of computer also do not get credit as ALL reporting to LCI must be done by computer.

The four areas of participation are service, hunger, environment, and youth. Awards may also be obtained for membership, starting new clubs, and new projects.

Everyone with a computer can access the Centennial website for more information. What will YOU do to celebrate the Centennial? **Where there is a need, there is a Lion.**

PDG Connie McMichael



GMT Report

By IPDG Charles Sheets (29-N),
GMT Leader District 29-C

The Global Membership Team (GMT) and Global Leadership Team (GLT) are comprised of the DG, the 1st VDG, 2nd VDG, (vacancy) and others appointed by the DG. Both membership growth and leadership are vitally important to our continued community service and survival, to fulfill our mission, "WE SERVE". Together these teams have four basic goals:

- o Continued membership growth
- o Chartering new clubs
- o Improve club success
- o Enhance leadership quality

One of my objectives is to encourage each club member to invite at least one new member per year.

District 29-C membership update is as follows:

Opening Balance 7/1/2015 1,334
Added 55, Dropped 71
Closing Balance of 1,138, -16net loss



Opening Balance 2/11/2016 1,322
Added 3, Dropped 7
Closing Balance of 1,138, -4 net loss

The Tug Valley Lions Club was canceled 7/29/2015 and the Cowen Lions Club cancelation is pending.

I challenge qualified Lions of 29-C to step up and run for the vacant 2nd VDG position.

Charles Sheets, IPDG 29-N



Club Dues Revisited

By PID Steve Glass, MD29 Secretary-Treasurer

Club dues are often one of the subjects that come up for discussion during officer training sessions or orientation sessions. Every Lions club has the autonomy to set its own membership dues for club members. The amount your club sets for your membership dues is entirely up to your club; however, if your club is not collecting at least \$55.00 per member per year, you are going in the hole! Here's why...

LCI assesses each club \$21.50 per half per member in your club (\$43.00 per year) unless you have a family membership situation. Your club secretary or treasurer receives the billing from LCI each January and July and pays it – you can see why members who do not pay their dues in a timely manner are such an issue for clubs! In addition to these International dues, the district assesses each club \$6.00 per half per member (\$12.00 annually).

Lions pay dues to their club – the club is then responsible to pay out the assessments to International and the district. Again, if your club is not charging more than \$55 per year, you are going in the hole! In addition to the dues assessments to LCI and the district, there are also operating expenses for each club such as postage, guest meals, awards, pins, and other internal club expenses.

Clubs usually assess and collect dues from their members on a semi-annual basis because both LCI and MD 29 bill clubs and the district on a semi-annual basis (in January and July). However, if a club allows members to pay on a more frequent installment plan (monthly for example), that is a club's prerogative.

Remember, the most important thing is that as Lions, we never use money raised from the public for our own expenses! All money raised from the public goes back to the public. This is also the reason a club should maintain two separate accounts, one for administrative purposes and one for service projects.

DG Ken's Lunchtime Talk at the WV Lions Leadership Retreat

For a minute I would like to split the word leadership into two words. lead or lead and ship. Remember the point in the movie POLAR EXPRESS when the conductor punched out the childrens' tickets. The little girl said lead then he properly pronounced it for her as lead. I found it interesting that lead also does have a connection to LEADERSHIP. Lead does float. Fast sailing ships use heavy lead in the keel of the ship to keep it in balance. Balance is important to being a leader or in any kind of leadership activity. However, the word ship does not mean just the wooden and lead parts of the ship. Ship refers to the company of sailors or crew also. Each of this crew has a specific job usually given based on the talents and creativeness of the individual. Now, Place these two word ideas together and the word leadership takes on a more thoughtful note and meaning. Two quotes, I found, connect and exemplify this word usage.

LONE MAN, a Teton Sioux, in the late 19th century said:

I have seen that in any great undertaking, It is not enough for a man to depend simply upon himself.

and FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT said:

Not everything that is faced can be changed. But, nothing can be changed until it is faced.

Therefore, it is right and proper for us at this time to ask: Where are we? Are we or our clubs just the lead keel trying to keep balance or are we using the talents and creativeness of our membership crew? Are we working together on this, Leadership, full ship concept I just stated? I'll end saying we must do both. We must keep the balance as the Keel in the boat, and be the full ship, creative boat crew, Lead keel and all. We must face our challenges of the future with new LIONS and this spirit-minded, creative vessel called LEADERSHIP.

Thank You.

District 29-C District Governor Ken Valko



2016 Lions of West Virginia Leadership Retreat Final Report

By PID Steve Glass, Chairperson

Based upon comments, both written and verbal, of many, many of the attendees, our Retreat held on January 29-31, 2016 was an overwhelming success. Those attending enjoyed delicious meals as well as four outstanding keynote speakers, President Gordon Gee of WVU, Steve Smith, PID Jim Cavallaro, and Chris Worth, brother of Lion Wayne Worth. Each inspired the leader within us in his own unique way. Attendees evaluated our twelve seminar presenters very highly and indicated that the seminars were relevant to their work and family lives as well as our Lions involvement. The staff of the Charleston Marriott Town Center went above and beyond in providing outstanding wait service as well as taking care of our every need.

A total of 120 Lions and guests attended one or all of the activities during the weekend. Of those, 36 Lions were from District L, 26 Lions were from District C, 41 Lions from District I, and we had 6 Ohio Lions, 5 Pennsylvania Lions, and 2 Lions from Tennessee. We were especially pleased that we had thirty six first time attendees.

Thank you and kudos are in order for several individuals. First let me express my eternal gratitude to the Planning Committee for all of your efforts in insuring that we had a highly successful Retreat. I want to especially recognize and thank our long-time secretary Lion Linda Kibble for all of the efforts that she puts forth to insure success. The Alum Creek Lions Club served as our host club, and in addition to taking care of registrations, collecting meal tickets, and serving in the Retreat Office, they prepared and hosted an outstanding hospitality room, which we all enjoyed very much! Please express your appreciation to them when you see them. We had two vendors, Dee's Beau Ties and Sew Simple Embroidery, who traveled from Charlotte, NC and Waco, GA, respectively, to provide us Lions apparel to purchase. They each expressed a desire to attend future Lion events in West Virginia. To our presenters and moderators, you all performed in an outstanding fashion, which is evidenced in your evaluations.

Our Lions Cafeteria concept provided an opportunity for attendees to gather information on Lion-specific topics and was well received. Lions Patty Austin, Aletta Moffett, and Lorie Krautwurst shared experiences with Reading Action Program activities along with West Virginia Read Aloud activities. PDG John Pinkerman conducted an extension workshop orientation. PID Bob Browning provided an excellent orientation program for new and seasoned Lions, and IPID Cindy Gregg held a round table discussion with district leadership teams, GMT coordinators and club membership chairpersons. Thank you to each one of you for your excellent contributions.

Thank you to the following donors and supporters whose financial contributions helped us so much:

Former District 29-O (PDG Karen Hall-Dundas)	District 29-L (IPDG Gene Saunders)
District 29-I (IPDG Doug Long)	District 29-N (DG Ken Valko)
District 29-I (DG Al Cox and Cabinet)	Cava & Banko, CPS (Lion Jim Cava)
Alum Creek Lions Club	Berkeley Springs Lions Club
Clarksburg Lions Club	

Finally, to every Lion and guest who attended the Retreat, thank you for being there and offering your energy and enthusiasm! It is each of you who made it all possible.

During the Saturday evening banquet, we were also able to honor the memory of PID Fred D. Cole, whose vision and energy were responsible for creating the West Virginia Lions Leadership School. Thank you, Lion Fred!



A Small World

by Lion Carolyn Sheets

During the International Conference in Hawaii last July, Durbin Lions PDG Charles Sheets, Lion Carolyn Sheets and Lion Richard Nottingham found a familiar face. Among 18,000 Lions from all over the world, they met Lion Raymond Swadley, a former teacher at their high school in Green Bank. Lion Richard had been a former student of Mr. Swadley, serving as FFA President for three years.

The chance meeting occurred when Charles and Carolyn were having lunch in a large convention center cafeteria and happened to sit at a table with six other Lions, three ladies from Egypt and an elderly gentleman, a lady and younger man. As they were making conversation the name of a familiar town came up and with further probing, the discovery was made that Mr. Swadley had been a teacher at their high school in Green Bank, WV. He had joined the Durbin Lions Club in January of 1951, with an invitation from Charles' father, Lion Clarence Sheets, now deceased.

He left West Virginia and moved on to Delaware to teach. Always an active Lion, Lion Swadley became District Governor in Delaware and later,



(L to R): Lion Richard Nottingham, Lion Raymond Swadley, PDG Charles Sheets, and Lion Carolyn Sheets

upon retiring, moved to Virginia where he became a District Governor a second time.

Lion Swadley has been invited to come to a Durbin Lions' meeting and looks forward to coming on April 12, 2016, to see old friends and discuss his life and commitment to Lions. Lion Swadley will be 89 years old in April 2016. He is excited to come back to the place he started his Lion's journey.



DG Ken had a grand time at the Beaver Lions Club January 28th. It was an emotional moment presenting Lion James Robinson with his 60 year membership Monarch Chevron. Lion and Beaver Club President Jerald T. Carter is a 20 year member. Two men with 10 years service are Lion Robert "Bob" Mills and Lion Roger Huffman. Photo from L to R are, Lion Jerry Carter, Lion James "Buz" Robinson, DG Ken Valko, and Lion Bob Mills.

Lions License Plates

by PID Steve Glass

We wear our Lion pins proudly for the world to see. We place the Lion emblem decal on our car windows and on our luggage and hand bags as another way to tell the world that we are proud of our membership in the world's largest service club organization. Another way that we can demonstrate our Lions pride is by purchasing a Lion license plate for our vehicles. Here are the basic application requirements:

- The applicant for a Lions club license must be a Lions club member.
- The applicant must provide a personal property tax receipt, or an affidavit from the Assessor if the plate is expiring within 60 days.

- The applicant must submit a \$55.00 check or money order to MD 29, WV LCI and mail it to Steve Glass, MD 29 Secretary-Treasurer, 191 Ridgeway Drive, Bridgeport, WV 26330.
- 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.

An application for a Lions Club License Plate can be obtained from MD 29 Secretary-Treasurer Steve Glass by calling at 304-203-2988 or email at scjglass@aol.com. The revised application will also be available soon on the MD 29 web site. In the meantime, if you have any questions, you may contact Lion Steve.

The Lions State, MD Convention Will take place **at Pipestem State Resort.**

Activities start **April 8th. and go through the 10th..** Look forward to seeing a good group from 29 - C. More information to come in next **HYLONOMUS HOOT.**



WVU Eye Institute Children's Vision Rehabilitation Program

by PID Steve Glass



Mission

To provide comprehensive vision rehabilitation services to blind and visually impaired school-aged children throughout the state of West Virginia, regardless of their ability to pay. The goal of this project is to provide children with tools to become independent and employable by optimizing visual function both at home and school. CVRP's mission is to provide access to the visual environment for children with incurable vision loss through medical eye care, optical devices, assistive technology, educational recommendations and support to local school systems.

What is Low Vision?

Low vision is a term used to describe visual impairment that cannot be corrected (20/70 or worse) despite best glasses correction. Low vision can interfere in the classroom and outside of school. Children with low vision face special challenges in school, where great emphasis is placed on learning in a visual environment.

How does this project help?

CVRP is designed to provide comprehensive vision rehabilitation services to school aged children in West Virginia. Particularly in rural areas, children with visual impairments may not have access to the visual devices, technologies, training, and support they need. This program brings together professionals trained in ophthalmology, low vision therapy, orientation & mobility, occupational therapy and education to evaluate each child, prescribe devices, make recommendations, and provide support to the child, family, teachers, and other professionals. Diagnostic and rehabilitation services are provided free of charge at all outreach sites. Devices and technology are funded through the Teubert Device Funding Library, the local school system, Lions clubs, private donors and foundations.

Where will services be offered?

To participate in the program, a child must be evaluated at one of the several clinics being offered throughout West Virginia. Following is the 2016 Spring Clinic Schedule:

Martinsburg

April 18, 2016

Auxiliary Meeting Room
442 Eagle School Road
Martinsburg, WV 26504

Romney

April 19, 2016

WV School for the Blind
301 East Main Street
Romney, WV 26757

CVI Clinic

April 20, 2016

Days Inn & Suites Flatwoods

Parkersburg

April 21, 2016

TBA

To refer a student for evaluation, please contact the following individual for more information and direction:

Paula Lang, MA, CLVT
WVU Eye institute
304-598-6965
langp@wvumedicine.org

For more information about CVRP visit the website
www.wvueye.com



District 29-L Conference Registration

Lions Club International
District 29-L Conference
"You Can Bank on Lionism"

Friday and Saturday
March 11 and 12, 2016

Registration fee \$60.00 per person

Price includes Saturday Lunch and Saturday Banquet
Friday and Saturday Entertainment
(Saturday Lunch Only \$25.00 per person)
(Saturday Banquet Only \$35.00 per person)

For Room Reservations:
Contact the Historic Blennerhassett Hotel
320 Market Street, (Downtown) Parkersburg WV 26101

Room Reservations (800) 262-2536 www.blennerhassett.com
Room Rates \$89.00 Intermediate Double, Intermediate King \$99.00
(plus tax per night)

Discounted Rate Applies to Reservations Made Prior to February 12th, 2016
Reservations After February 12th will be at Regular Room Rates (NO EXCEPTIONS)

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DEADLINE – MARCH 4TH, 2016

Name(s) _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Club Name _____ District _____ L C I

Address _____

Best phone # _____ E-Mail _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Special Dietary Needs _____

Make Checks Payable: District 29-L Conference

Mail To: Lion Kevin Clem
P.O. Box 343
Parkersburg, WV 26102

Questions/Concerns: Phone 304.485.5406 or Fax 304.485.5408
kevinclem69@gmail.com



In Memorium

William Henry Blenko, Jr., 94, of Milton passed away on Feb. 5, 2016. William graduated as Valedictorian of Milton High School in 1938, and later graduated from Carnegie Tech in Pittsburg. He served in the Army Air Corp during WWII, as president of the Blenko Glass Company, and was a long-time member of the Milton Lions Club, joining in May 1946.



Robert Allen 'Bob' Nuttall, 79, of Falls View passed away Jan. 14, 2016. He graduated from Brown University as a Mechanical Engineer and retired from Elkem Metals (formerly Union Carbide). Bob served 49 years in the Gauley Bridge Lions Club, over 35 years in leadership positions.

Larry D. Yankey, 78, of Danese passed away January 31, 2016 at Beckley. Larry worked 32 years for the telephone company in supervisory positions and enjoyed drag racing with the Yankey Brothers Racing Team. He was a dedicated member of the Rainelle Lions Club and loved to serve his community.



Bobby Edward Via, Sr., 82, passed away December 30, 2015 at his home in Union. He graduated from Greenville High School and West Virginia University. Bobby served students of Monroe County as teacher, athletic coach, principal, and Superintendent of Schools. He had a lifelong passion for sports, golf, hunting, and fishing. He was a charter member of the Union Lions Club, served as club president and a key member of the sight committee.