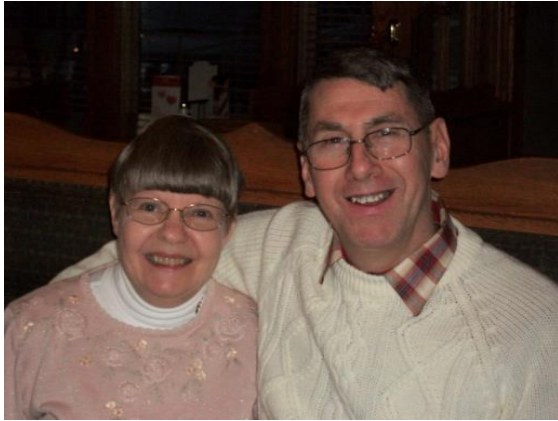
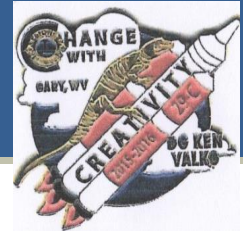


THE HYLONOMUS HOOT



DG Ken & First Lady Lion Pris Valko

DG's Last Hoot

By DG Ken Valko

This will be the last time as DG I address all the wonderful Lions of 29-C by our Newsletter. First Lady Pris and I have been excited each time we left the house to visit a club. We both agree about the friendliness and the way all Lions are the same, yet conduct their meetings differently.

Many times when a club was addressed I explained how important it was to honor God and country at the beginning or end of meetings with prayer and the pledge. As our LEO and LION clubs evolve through the next 100 years it will continue to be all our responsibilities that these truths and proceedings stay the same.

We will start our next 100 years shortly. As we do we will hopefully look back to those proceedings that have kept Lions stable with humbleness, pride, and honor. I once stated earlier this year that those that have been Lions for a number of years have seen many changes. Leadership, Membership, Fundraising and Projects will always be a part of Lionism. However, **We Serve** is our motto and reason for existing.

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This year I have made a point of combining International President Dr. Yamada's theme **Dignity, Harmony, Humanity** and my theme **Change with Creativity** together. My belief is that we must serve humanity as best we can locally, in our district, and internationally, with the dignity and harmony to meet the issues of the future. We will be doing our service in a changing and different world with a new need for creativity.

Wherever Lions roar and serve there will always be the need to serve with creativity. 29-C has country, small towns and a few cities. This reminds me of John Denver's tribute to Australia. One part of the song goes something like this. "In the mountains and in the city, In the stories and in the people, I can hear Australia sing". Well, Pris and I have been to these places and heard what Lions are doing in District 29-C. We can sing. We can roar and

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we can SERVE. It is, and has been, GOOD.

My last visits with the LEO Clubs have given me more hope than ever that if we LIONS are willing to **Change with Creativity**, a little, the future of Lionism in West Virginia will continue to serve in ways our predecessors could never have imagined. Thank you for being the Lions you are, and remember,

Change with Creativity

DG Ken



DG Club Visitation Schedule

June	
11	Anstead
13	Wayne

Please note the final District 29C cabinet meeting of DG Ken's term will be June 18, 2016 at the Beckley Moose Lodge. Meeting starts at 10am, with a buffet lunch following.

LCI News

LCI has announced a new all-digital Lions Magazine now available on-line. The digital LION is optimized for phones and tablets, so you can read your favorite magazine on the go, or on your PC at home. Plus, you'll receive special content and features unavailable in print:

- Get special access to extra videos and stories
- Share content instantly through email and social media
- Read the magazine before your print copy arrives in the mail

Bookmark www.LionMagazine.org today so you can always enjoy the latest issue of LION Magazine!

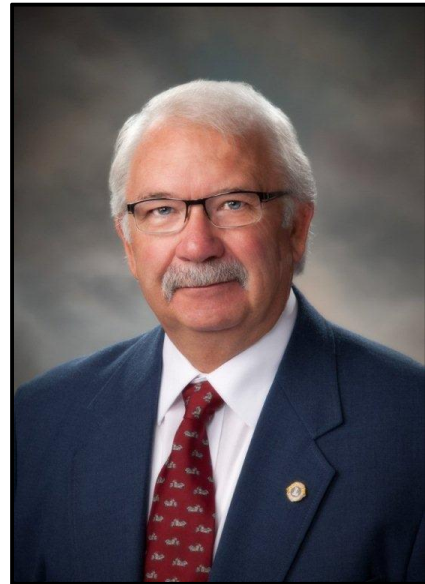
August 8-14 will be an international Lions Week of Service for Youth. Consider how your club could participate with special events that week. For more info or ideas see the Centennial website: www.lions100.org



Message from DGE Charlie Biggs

Together with other leaders of District 29C, I am working to assemble the District officers, zone chairs, and program & activity chairs for the coming year. This cabinet will formally begin serving on July 1st, but efforts are already underway to organize training classes. In this effort we will be assisted by PDG Paul Wheeler, PDG Jim Ryan, PDG Ed Via, and PID Bob Browning. The first class hopefully will be for Club Presidents who will be contacted when plans are finalized.

DGE Charlie Biggs



District Governor's Contest Awards

To continue to "Change with Creativity", I will announce the awards of this years District Governor's Contest by way of the HYLONOMUS HOOT. If you see your clubs name below please attend the 29 - C Cabinet Meeting June 18. If you know of someone in these clubs congratulate them. Listed with each is a brief description of the clubs accomplishments. It has been an honor to recognize these and all clubs in 29C this year. Keep serving with a smile and continue to "Change with Creativity". DG Ken

(The order below is based on the position from rules sheet.)

Montgomery - Had 100% growth. Had 7 inductees the night of the DG visit. Members attended at least two other club meetings with DG in attendance.

Logan - Logan is being recognized for a club starting, developing, and promoting a LEO Club. Under the sponsorship of the Logan Lions and personal sponsorship of Linda Mindiz the LEOs at Ralph R. Willis Career Technical Center were brought back to life. Logan also has a new program, "The Little Free Library". These Lions have also contributed items to the Logan Banner and the Hylonomus Hoot.

Man - Man stood out this year for the long term thinking and technology use. Their library and their meeting place are welcoming and friendly. A number of members communicate by way of cell and texting. Youth and growth are factors in this club. One member was inducted at the DG visit.

Alum Creek - Not enough can be said for the strength of this club. Their program for each meeting and follow-up is astounding. They have a web page and are working to have a partnership with other clubs around the world. Did I mention the park behind the community building? Alum Creek works closely with

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District Governor's Contest Awards

the community, state and other agencies to keep the park in tip-top shape for the community, including road clean-ups. They also have a good relationship with the Boy Scouts.

Mount Hope - This club shows its appreciation to fellow Lions. In their Great Lions building you will find a large wall devoted to the recognition of Past Presidents. There are also many other plaques of distinction. Mount Hope is a large contributor to the many projects and organizations Lions have supported for years. According to records their offering this year to LCIF was \$2,000.

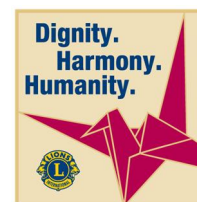
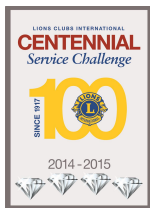
Glasgow-Cedar Grove - Finding a problem and coming up with solutions is a reason we should look up to this club. As we know some children may not get the best of meals or none at all over the weekend. This club said we can do something by giving the local students a Back Pack Lunch to take home with them over the weekend. They also have fund raisers and other projects, but this stood out. May they continue to get the supplies and support to continue.

Marlinton - What sets Marlinton aside this year is the aggressiveness of the club on fund raising. \$2000 given to LCIF. But, even more impressive has been the leadership shown by the club President Phyliss Lucas and Zone 10 Chairperson Larry Lucas. Most of the club presidents in Zone 10 attended his meetings. If there was a conference or Cabinet meeting Larry and Phyliss were there.

Clay - Clay shows great potential for the future. The club is community minded and respected. Not many clubs have their meeting place on the main street. All are welcome and all enjoyed the DG Dinner (especially the DG). A highlight for the night was the induction of 5 members. Clay must also be given credit for the fine group of LEOS at the Clay Middle School. They are establishing the respect and kindness of serving our elderly.

Bluewell - Bluewell is known for their Spaghetti Dinners. They have contributed articles to the local paper and the Hylonomus Hoot. This club contributes much of their time and money to youth by promoting reading. They give books to the Elementary students in the area. Funds have also been given to the town to place new lights for the *Welcome to Bluewell* rock signs.

More clubs to be recognized in 29C : Bradshaw, Fayetteville, Hinton, Kanawha City, Princeton, Rainelle, Ronceverte, South Charleston, Loudendale, and Beaver.



Logan Lions' Little Free Libraries



Logan Lions and city leaders examine the new West Logan Little Free Library.

Some of the Library promotions were done on Facebook. An article also appeared in the Logan newspaper.



In early 2015 the Logan Lions voted to build and maintain a Little Free Library (LFL) for the city of Logan. LFLs are springing up all over the world to promote a love of reading. A sponsoring group places a waterproof container in a public location and fills it with books. The books are available to anyone at no cost and on the honor system by simply opening the door and taking or returning a book or books. No checking out, due date, or librarian.

Our first LFL was placed in the corner of a church parking lot in Logan in July. One of our members agreed to be the steward – the person responsible for checking the library, making sure it is well stocked and in good repair. We try to ensure there is a good selection of children's books and also books of interest to adults. Within a couple of days, books began leaving the library. Without any fanfare or publicity other than a few Facebook posts, people were finding us and taking books. Our members have been especially touched by the many children who use our library, ranging in age from a one-year old who goes on a daily walk with her parents and cries if they don't stop at "her library", to older children who accompany their parents to the Food Pantry held weekly at the church.

Soon after the LFL opening, people began asking how they could donate books. By October our steward had to obtain additional shelving for their garage to hold all the donated books, more than enough for a second LFL. Using an old donated newspaper vending machine, our second LFL was opened in March in West Logan.

Almost all our club members have been involved in this project in one way or another. The Club has spent only about \$100 – most materials were donated. We have received requests from three other communities within our county for their own LFL, and we intend to honor those requests as soon as we can obtain suitable waterproof containers. Our town has a public library, but it is not always convenient to folks across town or in outlying communities.

We believe that our club has found a creative way to promote literacy and a love of reading. As Dr. Seuss said, "The more you read, the more you know. The more you know, the more places you'll go." If you have questions about this project please feel free to contact us. We are available to speak to any Lions Clubs that may be interested in starting a Little Free Library.

President Glenn Ables, Logan Lions Club

Ralph R. Willis CTC LEO Club

On May 16th, DG Ken Valko was given the Royal Treatment by the Ralph R. Willis Technical Center LEO Club, sponsored by the Logan Lions Club. Club Sponsor Linda Mindiz greeted the DG and escorted him to the Ralph R. Willis Board Room where the LEO Club had their club banner and Charter displayed.

After a short LEO meeting DG Valko addressed the group of about 30 with ideas and his perspective on how LEOS are Changing with Creativity the future of Lions around the world. A good question from one of the members asked about what Lions do. DG Ken gave a list of programs that Lions are involved with, locally and around the world. We are promoting service programs such as the West Virginia Lions Sight Conservation Foundation, Leader Dog, and worldwide efforts to make the health of people around the world better through our measles and other health programs. DG Ken explained, as he does at all his club visits, that we are the only civic organization that is recognized by the United Nations.

After the Q&A, the LEOS invited the DG to an adjoining room where a lovely luncheon was served. There was even a cake baked by the Cooking Class. In too short of a time, the students had their lunch and returned to their respective responsibilities of their work for the day. The time did give DG Ken time to express his thanks and converse with some of the Junior LEOS who will be returning next year.

The District Governor thanks all involved to make the visit special. A special Thank You to the Ralph R. Willis LEO Club, sponsor Linda Mindiz, and the sponsoring Logan Club for their efforts to show LION pride, making sure LION service carries on to the next generation.

DG Ken



Ralph Willis LEO President, Secretary, and Treasurer are give DG pins during the District Governor's visit.



A grand luncheon was prepared by the Cooking Class at Ralph Willis to greet DG Valko - sandwiches, chips, cookies and even a LEO cake. Thank you all for the warm greeting. May you continue to have success.

DG Visits



A day at the McDowell Humane Society; DG Valko hands over one of the donation checks collected this year for his favorite charity, Rev. Chuck Hamond accepting. Rev. Chuck and his wife Debbie are regular volunteers.



DG Ken and Danville Lions President Brenda Walker just before the fine dinner and meeting at the Danville Fire Hall Community Center.



The Southridge Pacesetters Club greets DG Valko.



Southridge Pacesetters donate to LCIF.

On May 26th the Oak Hill Lions were host to DG Ken. The club had a cookout with PDG Steve Moss as Chief Cook. He took orders for how each person wanted their steaks done. Included in the meal were baked potato and sour cream, tossed salad, and garlic bread. Drinks were pink lemonade and cold bottled water. Lion Pris was PDG Kathy Moss` assistant. After the DG`s message and Lion Steve`s helpful information, a visitor, Christa Hodges said "You don` t have to convince me any more, I`ll Join!" After the dinner, Lion Steve helped her fill out the application. What a fine way to end the picnic and the DG visit.



PCC and Oak Hill President Pete Johnson is all smiles receiving his 25-year Chevron Award from DG Ken. Benjamin F. Williams also received a 25-year Chevron but was unable to attend.



Steak & fixin`s were on the menu at the picnic during the DG`s visit to Oak Hill.



PDG Steve Moss signs up Christa Hodges, the latest member for Oak Hill Lions.

Past & Future DGs Visit Alum Creek Lions



Alum Creek Lions welcome District C DGE Charlie Biggs, 1VDG Dale Fitzpatrick, and other guests.

July 1, 2016 will be the beginning of the second year for the combination of District O and District N, the new District C. Lion Charlie Biggs from the Mount Hope Lions Club is the new District Governor Elect of 29 C. Lion Dale Fitzpatrick of Crab Orchard-MacArthur Lions Club is the elected First VDG. Lion Charlie Biggs is making preparations for the International Convention in Fukuoka, Japan, June 24 – 28, 2016. *

DGE Charlie and 1VDG Dale are already visiting clubs and introducing themselves as upcoming DGs and making preparations to fill their Cabinet. IPDG Charles & Lion Carolyn Sheets were invited by DGE Biggs to visit the Alum Creek Lions on May 15th, along with Past Council Chair Ed Via of the Union Lions, and PID Robert Browning of the Pineville Lions. All guests were warmly welcomed and enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by three of their Lions' members. The Alum Creek Club has a beautiful facility located on the Coal River. Approximately 27 members were in attendance.

A special guest was Natalie Williams, a fifth grade student at Midway Elementary School, who won first place in the Young Writers Contest. She won fourth place at the county level. She read aloud her winning entry which concerned the Revolutionary War.

It was about a 3 ½ hour drive but we all enjoyed the chance to meet other Lions, make new friends, and share in ways to better provide service to our communities and around the world.

*Next year, 2017, marks the 100th Anniversary of the beginning of Lions Clubs, which took place in Chicago

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in 1917, by our founder Melvin Jones. Plans are being made with Amtrak to reserve train cars for groups of Lions to make the trip to the International Convention in Chicago, June 30 – July 4, 2017. Amtrak will not commit to prices, etc., until 11 months before the event. Start making your plans now. Information will be forwarded as it becomes available.

*Lion Carolyn Sheets,
Durbin Lions*



DGE Charlie Biggs & 1VDG Dale Fitzpatrick



*Natalie Williams, writing contest winner, &
Alum Creek Lion Gary Boyd.*

In Memorium

Jeffrey Allen Skeens, 54, of Charleston, passed away Tuesday, May 31, 2016. He had worked for Western Southern Life Insurance Company and was a member of the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston. Jeffrey was a 1979 graduate of Herbert Hoover High School, where he lettered in four sports. He then attended Fairmont State University and was a member of the TKE Fraternity. Jeffrey was a longtime member and President of the Charleston Lions Club, through which he enjoyed participating in the administration of the WVIAC Basketball Tournament. Additionally, he enjoyed golfing, hunting and was an avid WVU Mountaineer fan. He is survived by his wife Lisa; father Dorman D. Skeens of Clendenin; son Jeffrey "Andrew" Skeens; daughters Emma Kay Skeens and Katharine Rowan Skeens; and his other son, Felix. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in memory of Jeffrey to West Virginia Kids Cancer Crusaders, P.O. Box 11029, Charleston, WV 25339.

Loudendale Lions Club Turns 50!

On Monday May 23rd, the Loudendale Lions Club had a special dinner to celebrate their 50 years as a Lions Club. The Alum Creek Lions sponsored and helped charter the club in 1966. To add to the festivities this night, Gary Clendenin played Secular and Christian music on his keyboard during the dinner.

Club officers this year are Pres. Mary Cooper, Sec. Jaime Pennington, and Treas. Kay Pennington. There are three Charter Members still around: James Shaffer, Tony Mooney, and Sterling Riffe. Everett Pennington is the most recent Lion. He grew up as a child attending Lions meetings with his parents. A lovely buffet dinner was served - steak with gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, green beans, tossed salad with rolls. A cake commemorating Loudendale Lions Club 50 years was served for dessert, the cake being half yellow and half chocolate. DG Ken gave his usual Governor's pins and 10 year Chevron Awards to Mr Glen Calvin and Mrs. April D. Calvin. After the Governor's message many stayed afterward to socialize. Photos and a special group photo was taken.

The Loudendale Lions first met in the Loudendale Elementary School. A cook at the school provided the meals. Next they met in the Loudendale Fire Dept., and finally now are meeting in the new Community Building which the Lions were a major help in funds and construction. Over the years they have served their community by providing eyeglasses, selling mops and brooms, Christmas gift cards to needy families, and personally helping families with their specific needs. One example was the purchase of an electric heater for a lady who needed one. No one in the community knew the Lions did this. The Club respects the pride and dignity of each individual and family.

Bruce Pennington was the President in 2003, the year of the Big Flood. It rained six inches in one day, overwhelming all the local creeks. It flooded peoples' basements, and some first floors. There



was five feet of water in the road. One person lost their life. The Lions immediately held an emergency Board meeting at the fire station. Having only a few members at the time, but \$10,000 in the bank, they voted to give \$50 gift cards from Walmart to those affected. The day after the flood, The Loudendale Lions members put on rubber boots and went to each family in the community, giving a \$50 gift card for each child in the family.

At the time, Harbor Freight gave a discount on small gas heaters shipping them overnight for free. The heaters were given to the families to help heat their water pipes to keep them from freezing. Kanawha City Lions Club along with the District Governor helped with donations of thousands of dollars that were given out for clothing vouchers. All the stores in Loudendale honored the vouchers.

Before the Red Cross came to help, the Loudendale Lions were already there, helping in the first week. The Red Cross set up the second week. The Loudendale Lions provided food, clothing, and heat for the families. The temperatures had dropped below freezing.

Yes, Special Anniversaries, like the Loudendale Lions 50th, give clubs time to reflect on their past history. Loudendale has much to reflect on and be proud for all they have served those 50 years, and are looking ahead to 50 plus more.

DG Ken and Lion Pris were greatly honored to be invited for this special 50th celebration dinner. It is one we will long remember.

Loudendale Lions Club Turns 50!



Loudendale Lion Glen Calvin receives his 10 year Chevron from DG Ken.

Loudendale Lion April Calvin gets a handshake and 10 year Chevron from DG Ken.



Loudendale Lions pose for their 50th anniversary photo.

Wyoming East LEO Club Recognition Dinner

On May 31st, the Wyoming East LEO Club met with parents and guests to recognize the members and their accomplishments for the 2016 year. The welcome was announced by club President Jacob Snuffer. Introduction of guests was done by PID Robert Browning of the sponsoring Pineville Lions Club. 2nd Vice Patrick Smith lead the Pledge. Blessing was given by 3rd Vice Hannah Lester. The dinner was catered by Betty England. After a few words from Pineville Lions Club President Jo Browning, PID Bob Browning introduced DG Ken Valko to the group of LEOS and their parents. The DG made a point to the members and parents that they have made a commitment to their community and that they, the LEO members, are to be honored. Parents were instructed to give them a special hug that evening.

Awards were presented with pride by their sponsor Traci Smith. The program was then closed by Tail Twister Meagan Seaton.



Wyoming East Leo Officers with sponsor Traci Smith.



The Wyoming East Leo Club



Each member received a new Wyoming East Leo shirt.

Looking Back at 2015-16



Mittens, DG Ken's Desk Companion.



Aloha!!

