



Lions District 29-C Newsletter

December 2019



Plenty to be Thankful For!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving! This time of year seems to bring out the best in our need to serve those less fortunate. It is great to hear about the special club projects that are planned to provide meals, toys, and clothing during the holiday season, you make a difference to your communities. Please keep up the good work and understand how important what you do is!

I want to explore the possibility of 2 new specialty clubs over the next 2 months. The first club would be a comprised of outdoorsman with an objective to help outdoorsman with physical limitations to continue to enjoy the outdoors by providing specialized gear or logistical support. The second club would be centered around a campus connection and a local university. I will be setting up a meeting in the near future with a group that will focus on those specialty club concepts.

I also want to encourage our members to attend the Leadership Retreat in Flatwoods in January, please the registration form included in this newsletter.

May you all have a blessed holiday season!

Gary Boyd

As this year winds down and the New Year is just around the corner, it is time to start planning to serve those in need. This may include service projects to provide warm clothing to those in need or take meals to our elderly neighbors, you may want to take greeting cards to the local nursing home, or make sure a child receives a toy for Christmas. Point being, there are many ways we can serve.

It is also a good time to invite a friend, neighbor, or relative to attend a Lions meeting and hopefully invite them to become a member and enjoy the rewards that come from serving the community.

Please be aware that many clubs will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army on December 14th.

The Red Neck Dinner will be held December 26th at 6:00 PM at the Golden Corral restaurant in Cross Lanes, please come out and enjoy the fun with fellow Lions.

I will be working on the District Cabinet for next year, please contact me if you have any interest in serving at the district level.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need assistance in any way.

May God bless you this holiday season and into the New Year!

1st VDG Charolette Henson

A Year of Service

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of another year and halfway through another Lion year. At times like these, many of us reflect on the year that has just passed and look forward to another year that is ahead. I would like to take a few moments to reflect with you some of the highlights of my year.

At the beginning of this year I worked an internship with Children First, LLC in order to complete a requirement for my Master of Social Work. In this internship, I met many families who foster children or are in the process of becoming foster parents. This experience highlighted to me the need for Lions to build stronger communities and families. Stronger communities and families can provide the needed support for children. I should also note that a strong community and a strong family does not have to be materially wealthy. Connection, support, and above all love are what is needed to build strong communities and families. Think about how we as Lions can be of service to build strong communities and families. All too often, the local Lions Club is the only service organization available to many of our rural communities throughout West Virginia.

Then, in July of this year, First Vice District Governor (FVDG) Charlotte Henson called me and invited me to a meeting in Mount Hope. She also encouraged me to run for Second Vice District Governor (SVDG). I had considered such a run for several years. For the good of District 29-C, along with a wonderful opportunity for professional and personal growth, I accepted the challenge and ran for the office of SVDG. At a special election held in South Charleston, I was voted into the office of SVDG.

Since assuming office, I have visited Lions Clubs in Alderson, Alum Creek, Charleston, Crab Orchard/MacArthur, Gauley Bridge, Montgomery, Mount Hope, and White Sulphur Springs. Visiting these clubs reminds me that the most important units of Lions Clubs are the individual Lions. Without the hard work and dedication of individual members, Lions Clubs cannot provide the services that are so needed in our communities. This also highlights the importance of membership growth. We are always in need of new volunteers. Find service-minded individuals and invite them to participate in a service project of your club. Find what they are passionate about and encourage that zeal. There are so many different ways that we can be of service to our communities, and we should never be afraid to try new service projects.

It is my hope to visit at least half of the clubs in District 29-C during my time as SVDG and visit the other half during my time as FVDG. Presidents and/or secretaries of clubs may expect to receive a call from me. I am truly interested in getting to know you, and I would like to know how I can be of service to you.

I hope that you have a very happy and healthy holiday season. May we also find ways to brighten someone else's holiday season through our service. It's great to be a Lion. WE SERVE!

Jason P. Smith
2nd Vice District Governor
District 29-C



MD 29 RAP Chairperson ~ Deborah Delaney

If you haven't started a Reading Action project yet, now is the time. You can join Lions from around the world to implement reading and education projects and help increase literacy rates. Whether it's organizing a community spelling contest or donating books or computers to your local library or school, take part in a hands-on project and show the impact of Lions work. Whether you are an educator with a passion to help a child learn how to read or someone who simply enjoys reading to a child, no effort is too small to make a big difference. The following are a few project ideas that your club may consider trying:

- Help an afterschool reading program
- Read to children at local libraries or schools
- Read or record books on tape for the blind and visually impaired
- Purchase dictionaries for third graders through the Third Grade Dictionary Project

If I can assist you with any of these project ideas, please email me at dadelaney1950@gmail.com, and I'll be glad to help.

Lions of WV Leadership Retreat Update

The Lions of West Virginia Leadership Retreat will be held on January 24-25 at the Days Inn Conference Center. Please see the application attached to this newsletter and get your registration in as soon as possible for this great event. We're pleased to announce the following speakers for the retreat:

PID Jennifer Ware—Jennifer is from Rapid River, Michigan and served as an International Director from 2016-2018. Jenny is a dynamic speaker and enthusiastic presenter on all things Lions.

Lou Ortenzio—Executive Director of the Clarksburg Mission and former physician, who overcame addiction and now works to help others conquer substance abuse, homelessness, etc. His story has appeared in national publications and will inspire our attendees.

Anita Graham—Pediatric Hematology Oncology Social Worker at the WVU Department of Pediatrics, WVU Medicine Children's Hospital. Ms. Graham will provide ideas on how Lions can assist children and families struggling with cancer.

All seminars will be held on Saturday (25th) and will feature the following presenters: PID Jenny Ware--"The bigger picture!", PID Cindy Gregg--Lions Resources, PID Bob Browning—Lions Orientation, PID Steve Glass—Legal obligations of Clubs, PDG Wendy Cain—Preparing to be a club officer or director, Lion Daniel Elkins—Better Together, FVDG John Mason—Lions Technology and Eric Minor—Branding. Information on two additional classes will be in next month's newsletter. All of these seminars promise to be very informative for Lions of all ages.

If possible, we'd like to ask Clubs or individual Lions to bring something for the Silent Auction. Also, if you plan to attend on Friday evening, a Beach Party is planned for entertainment after the evening meal. Don't forget to bring your flip-flops, t-shirts, shorts, etc.

We'd love to have more First Timers at the Retreat this year! Don't forget there are several scholarships available. Contact your District Governor for an application or PCC Cindy Glass at cinwa130@gmail.com.

We're looking forward to seeing you there!
PDG Linda Leasure, LWVLR Committee

Service Project at the Leadership Retreat
January 24-25, 2020
Flatwoods Conference Center
To Benefit the Pediatric Blood and Cancer Center
At WVU Medicine Children's Hospital

Please consider donating any of the following items for the young patients and families:

Microwave single-serve macaroni & cheese
Microwave single serve soups
Applesauce cups
Capri Sun drink pouches
Keurig tea and hot chocolate pods
Chick-Fil-A Gift Cards
Starbucks Gift Cards
Wal-Mart Gift Cards
Gas Cards (from Sheetz etc.)

Clubs and individuals are encouraged to help with this worthwhile service project.

Please join this service project for the WVU Medicine Children's Hospital. If you'd like to contribute but aren't planning to be at the Leadership Retreat please contact PCC Cindy Glass at Cinwa130@gmail.com or PDG Linda Leasure at linleasure@yahoo.com and we'll coordinate pickup of items with Lions who will be attending.

Thank you!

Bell ringing for SALVATION ARMY December 14. If any club wants to do it and hasn't signed up please contact PDG Eddie Queen (304 4155306). Hoping all the clubs will help.

Red Neck Dinner

The 37th Red neck dinner will be December 26th at 6 pm Golden Corral Groff Mountain Road Cross Lanes.

All Lions and friends are welcome. Come out have fun and fellowship.

If questions contact PDG Charolette Henson 304 951 9022



Emily Garrett winning poster.
DG Gary Boyd gave her a
\$50.00 prize as a token of
his appreciation from District
29C.