



Lions Club 29-C Newsletter
March 2020



The Council of Governors has designated March as a special membership drive month. The COG would like for every club in the multiple district to add at least one new member in the month of March. The addition of members will strengthen and improve our service across West Virginia. I recently inducted a new member that shared she was joining the Lions because she wanted to serve the community and was lonely, I wonder how many others that are out there and are in a similar circumstance. I would ask each of you to look at your kindhearted friends and family members and invite them to become members and to enjoy the personal growth and opportunity associated with being part of the largest service organization in the world. Please keep your eyes open for information that will be sent out within the next few days regarding the upcoming MD29 State Convention. The conference committee has some new and fun events planned for the conference and we hope that you will consider joining the fun to make this a successful conference. I continue to be amazed at the amount of quality service being provided by members of District 29C to those in need across our region. Please keep up the good work and help us to achieve success in our March membership drive!

“Get Hooked on Lionism”
Gary Boyd

March is here and spring, daylight saving news, school breaks are a few things we think of as it arrives. As a Lion what do you think of?
This is WV Lions Membership Drive month!
Its a time when we are getting out and walking more and enjoying the weather so why not when we are out Just Ask someone to attend a meeting or help with service activity.
One of the important thing in Lions we are thinking about is officers as they need be elected this month for next year.
When you elect your officer be sure and send a list to 1st VDG Charolette as will need for directory for next year.
State convention is coming up in May encouraging every club to send someone. Lots interested things planned. We are honored this year to have 2nd VICE International President Brain Shehan with us.
Want to congratulate the following clubs for receiving CLUB EXCELENCE AWARDS for 2018-19 Charleston Southridge Pacesetters, Dunbar, and Oak Hill.
Also thank you to all members for making it possible for the District to receive the DISTRICT EXCELLENCE AWARD for 2018-19.

Lets make these last 4 months of this Lions year a big success by adding members, doing service, attend club, District and State events.

If you need help in reporting please contact me. We need make sure all new members are in and service activities reports.

1st VDG Charolette Henson

Building Friendships through Lionism

March is the month that has been designated to increasing membership in our clubs. I think about how valuable this is. When we have more Lions in our clubs, we can have more effective clubs that can undertake greater service opportunities. However, I think one of the greatest benefits that we have through increasing membership is the improvement of connections by meeting people we otherwise may have never met, and to make new friends.

When I think of improving connections and friendships within a community, I am reminded of something that recently happened with my home club in Gauley Bridge. On Valentines Day, we had planned to provide babysitting as a service to our community and as a fundraiser for our club. Members of our club worked to improve the facilities at a local church to host this activity. We had planned a number of activities for the children who attended. Flyers advertising this service were sent home with all the children at the local elementary school. I will also add, this was the first time that our club undertook this type of activity. Unfortunately, no one in the community took advantage of this service. Some of the members of our club showed up at the church, spent a few hours there with no children showing up. However, it was not a wasted evening for the members who came together that evening got to visit one another and enjoy each other's company. I wish parents would have taken advantage of this babysitting service and I wish we could have raised some much-needed money for our club; however, I enjoyed visiting with the other Lions in our club. I even got to learn how to decorate cupcakes!

Why do I bring up this story? Because it is a story that highlights one of the most valuable aspects of being in the Lions Club – having friends! It should also be emphasized that being a Lion is not about trying to “get ahead” and rise to the highest ranks in the organization just for the sake of name recognition. Being a Lion is about service to others, including our fellow Lions. To quote the Lions Clubs Code of Ethics: “To hold friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.” One of the greatest services that we can provide to our communities and to each other is friendship. Let us bear this in mind as we invite others to take part in our club activities and meetings and to ultimately join our clubs.

I continue to visit with various clubs throughout the district. I recently was able to visit the Athens Lions Club. As a Concord University student, this was a very special meeting for me and truly enjoyed my time with this club. I hope to be able to visit your club in the coming months. I also hope that you will seriously consider attending the multiple district conference in Charleston on May 8-10.

Jason P. Smith

2nd Vice DG; District 29-C

Two West Virginia Natives Wow the Audience in St. Charles, Illinois!

By Past International Director Steve Glass

As the Chairperson of the 2020 District Governor Elect Seminar I was given the opportunity and challenge to help shape the curriculum for this year's seminar. One of the curriculum modifications that we adopted was the idea of utilizing storytelling as a way to attract and recruit new members to our clubs. We believe that if non-Lions hear our stories of service and the passion that we Lions bring to our association, that this is more meaningful than an "elevator speech", which tells people why they should join.

I was very honored and humbled to be given the opportunity to invite two native West Virginians to relate their success stories to the six hundred and ninety first vice district governors assembled in St. Charles, Illinois on Thursday, February 11, 2020. Both storytellers gave the attendees clear models of how to build and rebuild Lions clubs, each sharing a very similar approach; yet coming from different perspectives. LEO Olivia Turman of the Barboursville LEO Club in District L wowed the audience with her story of how her LEO club helped to rebuild the Barboursville Lions Club by sharing joint projects and working hand in hand to help each other on large scale community projects. This partnering has led to increased membership in both the Lions club and the LEO club.

Daniel Elkins from Delaware, but with roots in Elkins, West Virginia, followed Olivia and related how he, through using asset-based community development partnerships, has been able to extend a branch club with five members into a vibrant club of one hundred thirty-eight members in less than one year. In the process his club has extended a LEO club, which is involved in many service projects and works hand in hand with their sponsoring Lions club.

Both of these leaders received standing ovations after their presentations and were approached to do speaking engagements. They did West Virginia proud and will continue to be outstanding leaders in our association. I am very proud and honored to have them as part of this year's district governor elect experience.

Following are photos of each of them during and after their presentations:



presentation

A Personal Gift to LCIF? It's EASY!

When we think about giving to LCIF, we often only think about what our club gives each year to the Parade of Checks at the District Conference. But every Lion can contribute to this important cause, and it is so easy.

You can use the traditional method and write a check to LCIF, and mail it to LCIF, 300 W. 22nd Street, Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842. It is helpful if you include your member number and contact information, to make certain you are credited with the donation.

Perhaps the easiest way to donate is using your cell phone. If you have the MyLion app, log in, click on the home page, and at the top is a "Donate" button. Tap on it, and it will take you to where you enter your amount, the frequency of your donation, the cause (either "Empowering Service Fund" or "Disaster Relief Fund") and your payment method. Enter the payment information and tap "Donate Now". It's that easy.

You can go online through your computer to donate. The fastest route is www.lcif.org/donate. Click "Donate". Choose a cause (either "Empowering Service Fund" or "Disaster Relief Fund"). Enter how much you would like to give and the frequency of your gift. You can set up a monthly or quarterly payment, if you wish. Tell them whether the donor is a member, non-member, club or district, and indicate whether the gift is anonymous or not. Let them know whether recognition is requested and enter how you want to pay.

Individual donations are encouraged. Many Lions are generous to their places of worship, to school activities, or other charitable organizations, but very few donate to the Foundation that supports the work of Lions at home and around the world. LCIF has given over \$1.7 million to fund projects in the State of West Virginia—far more than we have donated.

Please consider a PERSONAL gift to LCIF this year.

Lions Clubs International Foundation

Campaign 100

Lions Clubs International Foundation continues to be one of the first to respond to natural disasters internationally and at home with emergency grants to Lions Clubs working to provide relief programs.

LCIF is prepared to provide emergency relief grants to offer immediate assistance to victims affected by the natural disasters. LCIF also provides Community Recovery Grants to help in supporting clean-up efforts and repair efforts after those in the disaster area immediate needs have been met. LCIF also offers disaster preparedness grants to help district and local authorities prepare for future disasters.

How are all these relief activities funded? The activities are funded by Lions donations from throughout LCI including Lions in District 29-C. The Lions Clubs of District 29-C has supported LCIF through the years since LCIF's inception and continues this support today with donations at the club level or the individual's personal donation.

I would like to thank all the clubs and individuals who have made contributions to LCIF and ask that you consider an additional gift to help LCIF and their efforts in natural disaster relief, if you want to make a donation to LCIF and have questions please contact me.

Lion Paul Wheeler

LCIF Coordinator



Lions Clubs International

FOUNDATION

The 98th Lions State Convention

May 8th-10 2020

Charleston Marriott

Welcome Lions of West Virginia to the Capitol City of West Virginia Charleston and 98th Annual Lions of West Virginia State Convention. This Convention has the distinct honor of hosting 2nd International Vice- President Brian Sheehan and his wife Lori at our event. The Staff of the Charleston Marriott is proud to provide an outstanding venue for our event.

Entertainment for the event will include the Capital High Show Choir for a Friday night performance, the pianists Margie Foster and Murder and Merriment for our enjoyment.

Please make your reservations today by using the registration form below:

**2020 MULTIPLE DISTRICT 29 CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM
MAY 8-10, 2020
CHARLESTON MARRIOTT HOTEL
200 LEE STREET EAST CHARLESTON WV**

**REGISTRATION FEE: \$100.00 PER PERSON FOR FULL WEEKEND
\$70.00 PER PERSON for Saturday May 9, 2020-Only**

**HOTEL ROOM: \$89.00 PER NIGHT PLUS TAXES
MAKE RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY WITH: Charleston Marriott Hotel
304-345-6500 Ext 36130**

**Room Cutoff date is April 17, 2020
Make sure you state you are with the Lions Convention**

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Club: _____ District: _____

First Timer: Y N

Please list any meal restrictions: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Make Checks payable to "2020 Multiple District 29 State Convention."

**Please mail to:
PCC Paul Wheeler
46 Ranger Lane
Charleston, WV 25309**

**Please note the payment of the Full Conference Registration or the Saturday Registration fee
allows the Lion to be registered as a delegate.**

If any questions please contact Lion Paul Wheeler at 304-746-4415 or pwhee71827@aol.com

Event Summary:

Multiple District 29 Lions Convention 2020

Start Date: Friday, May 8, 2020

End Date: Sunday, May 10, 2020

Last Day to Book: Friday, April 17, 2020

Hotel(s) offering your special group rate:

- **Charleston Marriott Town Center for 89 USD per night**