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# DISTRICT 29-C NEWS





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## DG's Message

By DG Charles Biggs

Lions,

This month I visited four clubs and went to the state MD Convention in Morgantown. There, we gave two well-deserved special awards: Lion Keyota Jarvis received the President's Award, and Lion Jim Slamick the Leadership Award. The Convention was, I believe, well attended and enjoyed by all. I want to thank everyone who contributed, and especially the Co-chairs Jeff Baxter and Jordan Glass. See more convention photos on page 9.

We will have the final Cabinet meeting of my District Governor term on June 11 at the Mt. Hope Lions Club building. We will also have the District Awards ceremony that afternoon.

I am scheduled to visit four clubs this month. Looking forward to meeting you!

DG Charlie









# 1st VDG's Message Why have a Fall District Conference?

By 1st VDG Tom Crouser

I'm new here so allow me to ask, "Why do we have a fall district conference?" After all, many of us have been to so many of them it seems like it's the same-ole, same-ole. You know, "been there, done that."

Well, next fall's conference (Nov 3-4 in Beckley) won't be the same ole, same ole. While we may not have changed individually, the world has surely changed around us.

Our way of communicating has changed. Does it matter? Our membership is down. Does it matter? Can we rejuvenate our clubs? Should we rejuvenate our clubs? How can we rejuvenate our clubs?

After all, it's common sense that one can't teach an old dog new tricks. But then, it's also common sense that it's never too late to learn. So, which is true for us? For every bit of common sense, there's another bit of common sense that is in direct contradiction.

So, I expect our fall conference will not only be full of fresh Lion ideas, but will focus on matters of importance to us, so we may continue our mission of being Knights of The Blind in the Crusade Against



Darkness. And so we additionally will continue to be a vibrant resource in our community, instead of a rusty Lions sign on a forgotten park bench somewhere.

To that end, I hope to hear what will benefit you in fulfilling our mission, and, more precisely, what will benefit our clubs. I know I'll be looking for that as I continue my visits to our clubs throughout the district.

I'm writing this prior to our State Convention. I look forward to meeting many of you there and to exchange ideas to benefit us all. And I pledge to continue to be a conduit for such ideas, projects and activities.

You see, it is my belief that we can change. I know I've changed. Just the other day I was twenty-three.

Contact Lion Tom Crouser at tom@crouser.com or call him at (304) 541-3714. He lives at Mink Shoals, which is Exit 1 on Interstate 79, immediately north of Charleston.

# Report New Officers to LCI

Fiscal year 2017-18 is quickly approaching! We are asking all clubs to report their new officers as soon as they have been elected. Here's why this is important:

- New officers get early access to the MyLCI site beginning April 1.
- When clubs report their officers in MyLCI, the information is immediately available to your district and to international headquarters so no extra paperwork is necessary.
- The Club Locator on the Lions' website displays their new officers.
- Timely monthly reporting by the clubs in your district will provide up to date and accurate district/multiple district membership reports

Reporting club officers is easy using MyLCI. Clubs not using MyLCI can report officers using the Club Officer Reporting Form. Mailing instructions are included on the form.





#### LCI Items

#### **Important Dates**

May 15 – Deadline for filing Officer Reporting Form (PU101) June 1 – Helen Keller Day

June 30 - July 4 – 100<sup>th</sup> Lions International Convention



The 2017 International Convention and Lions Centennial Celebration will be June 30 – July 4, 2017 in Chicago, Illinois. Visit the LCICON website at <a href="https://www.lionsclubs.org">www.lionsclubs.org</a>!

#### **The Lions Name**

On June 7, 1917 at the invitation of Melvin Jones, delegates met in Chicago. The only point of contention was the selection of a name for the new organization. Melvin Jones researched the idea of calling the new organization Lions. He was convinced that the lion stood for strength, courage, fidelity and vital action. On a secret ballot the name Lions was chosen over several others.

#### The Lions Emblem

At the 1919 convention, there was a move to change the symbol, but a young attorney from Denver, Colorado rose to speak. His name was Halsted Ritter. "The name Lions stands not only for fraternity, good fellowship, strength of character and purpose, but above all, its combination of L-I-O-N-S heralds to the country the true meaning of citizenship: LIBERTY, INTELLIGENCE, OUR NATION'S SAFETY."

The January 1931 issue of THE LION Magazine featured this interpretation of the association's name:

Our name was not selected at random, neither was it a coined name. From time immemorial, the lion has been the symbol of all that was good, and because of the symbolism that name was chosen. Four outstanding qualities — Courage, Strength, Activity and Fidelity — had largely to do with the adoption of the name. The last mentioned of these qualities, Fidelity, has a deep and peculiar significance for all Lions. The lion symbol has been a symbol of Fidelity through the ages and among all nations, ancient and modern. It stands for loyalty to a friend, loyalty to a principle, loyalty to a duty, loyalty to a trust.

The emblem consists of a gold letter "L" on a circular area. Bordering this is a circular area with two Lion profiles facing away from the center. The word "Lions" appears at the top and "International" at the bottom. The Lions face both past and future – showing both pride of heritage and confidence in the future.





# **Summers County Leos Keeping Busy**

#### By J. Ann Lipscomb, Sponsor

The Summers County Leos, formerly Summers Middle School Leos, have had an active year. We fixed a treat for teachers in October 2016.

Members were asked to bring cat or dog food to the next meeting to help the local animal shelter. Members also voted to put out hats, gloves, scarves, jackets, etc. when the weather got cold in case people in town needed them.

In October also, 3 Leos helped the Hinton Lions Club at the hotdog wagon during Railroad Days. This takes place over two weekends in downtown Hinton. Leos helped to make the hotdogs and to help sell drinks and take money. They were a big help.

In November, we discussed helping the local toy campaign where we could help purchase toys for kids and then help wrap them. Several members participated in this in December. We also discussed doing a Sight Night which is usually done in October, but our October is busy with Railroad Days and so we decided to do something in March or April.

In January, we planned and executed our display of hats, coats, gloves, etc. for people to take if they were cold. We set them out in a local park on Temple Street downtown. We also made several catnip mice for the local ASPCA.

In February, we began plans for the eye glasses and hearing aid collection. We also talked about plans with the Lions Club to do a Family Photo shoot and how the Leos might be able to help. Members also collected lids that were not normally recyclable to be given to the church to help make a bench for Poco Elementary School. We collected two Kroger bags of lids.

March kept us busy with the eye glasses and hearing aid collection. We advertised and set up at a local store. We collected 59 glasses on March 18th and one hearing aid. More glasses were given later. We also sold 3 mops and 1 broom that day

and 7 coupons for the Family Photo Shoot. On March 31st and April 1st we helped the Hinton Lions with the Family Photo Shoot by helping to set up the equipment and take it down. We also took the photo card back and forth between the photographer and the computer expert. Members also got to pose while the photographer was checking equipment and got some great pictures!

At the April meeting we prepared 48 eggs with candy for the nursing home for Easter and made 18 May day baskets also for the nursing home. Plans were made to help the Lions Club with the trash pickup scheduled for April 22, weather permitting.

April 22 dawned cloudy with a threat of rain, but we did participate in the roadside cleanup. Three Leos helped 7 Lions pick up 21 bags of trash over 2 miles of roadway. The rain began just as we were ending. Unfortunately the rain also prevented getting a picture of our workers.









#### Club News

In April 2017 the Clay Lions Club was proud to bestow five more Leonard Jarrett Awards to five very worthy recipients within our community. The recipients were; Ashley Brooke Truman, Tammy Lynn Hubbard, Vernetta Nelson, David Pierson, and The Clay County Bank. Also pictured is previous Leonard Jarrett Award recipient Keyota Jarvis. Clay Lions Vice President Don Jarvis and previous Leonard Jarrett Award recipient had the honor of bestowing these awards.

Lion Leonard Jarrett is recognized by Lions of West Virginia as founder of West Virginia Lions Sight Conservation Foundation. Lion Jarrett knew from personal experience, the financial expense of eye care and surgery. Chartered in 1959 and began their relationship with WVU in 1961, which led to the collaboration between WV Lions, Lions Club International, and what was the WVU Eye Center to fund construction of the WV Lions Clinical Eye Research Unit. In 1984 the Foundation established The Leonard Jarrett Award. This award is the highest honor given by the West Virginia Lions Sight Conservation Foundation.







### **Consider LCIF Donations**

While at the West Virginia Lions State Convention and talking around about LCIF contributions this year, several Lions were surprised their clubs had not made a donation. So, I'm making one final plea for club or individual contributions before the end of the Lions year. Let's have someone from every club bring up the matter of LCIF contributions at your next club meeting. It is a great & worthy cause! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Lion Dick Brockway, District LCIF Chairperson bway@suddenlink.net (304)556-3341





#### **Club News**

# County Commission holds meeting

By HollyNine

The Clay County Commission held their bimonthly meeting on March 8. Before action items were voted on, Keyota Jarvis, with the Lions Club, spoke and asked the commission to declare April 1 as Sight Awareness Conservation Day.

The commission then began on action items. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved, as well as the motion to approve the bills and purchase orders as presented.

A motion to approve the erroneous assessments, refunds of erroneous assessments and real estate divisions as presented by the assessor, was approved. A motion to approve the waiver of final settlement for the estates of Warren R. White, Delcie Othel Burdette and George Steven Asseff, deceased, was approved. A motion to approve the appointment of Gary L. Cummings administrator



Keyota Jarvis speaking on behalf of the Lions Club (Holly Nine photo)

of the estate of Thelma M. Hanshaw, deceased, was approved. A motion to confirm probating the last will and testament of Lula Cutlip and the ap-

pointment of Jeff Rider, executor, was approved.

A motion to approve a "Grant Amendment No. 2" for the Pack Fork and Independence Road water line extension project was approved. There is only one small piece of land remaining that needs to be taken to court to gain access to cross to be able for the process to continue. There is no way around this piece of land or the process wouldn't be taking so long.

A motion to approve a resolution authorizing Greg Fitzwater, president of the Clay County Commission, to apply for a court security grant on behalf of the county commission, was approved.

A motion to proclaim April 1, 2017 as "Sight Awareness Conservation Day" as presented by the Clay Lions Club, was approved.

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Dr. Greg Simmerman was greatly appreciative of his Leonard Jarrett award, recently presented at his office.

Charolette Henson, Area Service Coordinator







# Zone 8 Meeting in Rainelle

Phyliss Lucas, Chairperson of Zone 8 of District 29C, presided over the Lions club zone meeting recently hosted by the Rainelle Lions Club.

Lion Larry Lucas and Lion Joe Laskey of the Marlinton club, and Lion Steve Keen of Craigsville attended the meeting.

#### Submitted by Lion Dorothy Foster



L to R: Lion Joe Laskey, Rainelle Lions Club president Alan Williams, Lion Phylliss Lucas and Lion Larry Lucas.











# Reo Update

#### submitted by Lion Carolyn Sheets, Puppy Raiser

Woof! Woof! Notice how much deeper my bark is now? It's deeper and louder than Durbin's. I bark when I hear someone at the door, a strange noise, and I make a little yappy bark when I'm bored, like at a Lion's club meeting. The last meeting didn't last too long so I didn't make much of a disturbance. I just had another session with my puppy counselor and she said I was much more settled than I was a month ago and much better mannered. I'm almost eleven months old now and feel more grown-up. The thing I have to stop doing is acting like a crazy clown when someone comes to the door of our house. Durbin tells me to jump up and down and bark like he does but I don't think I'm supposed to do that. Got to work on that. It's difficult when you look up to your big brother and think he must be right.

I was taken to a Lions Conference luncheon at Lake View and there were lots of people all around me and I was pretty good until they all wanted to pet me. I thought I was supposed to reciprocate with friendliness, so started licking and jumping up but puppy raiser Charles pulled me away and told me to sit still. I don't understand why they can put their hands all over me but I can't lick and jump on them. Oh well, guess I'll never understand humans. I was real good when everyone ate lunch because I could hide under the table and eat my treats and lick peanut butter...my favorite.

My puppy raisers are telling folks they can know they are Puppy Raisers when:

- 1. The pockets of all clothes have doggie treats in them, even ones in closets.
- 2. A lint roller is in every room and every vehicle.
- 3. Dog hair is still all over clothes.
- 4. All fleece jackets and vests should be thrown away.



Reo & Big Brother Durbin

- 5. A plastic bag for doggie cleanup is in all pockets.
- 6. They have to go through a barrier gate to get to another room.
- 7. All pairs of socks have one good sock and one with a hole chewed in it.
- 8. All shoe strings are chewed off.
- 9. An earring is missing which is probably in poop somewhere.
- 10. A dusty paw print is on the back of shirt.
- 11. Can only find one shoe.

I will see my puppy counselor May 10 and then be tested on June 3. I think I will be taken back to Leader Dog in Rochester Hills, MI on June 15. I will see lots of other dogs there but will miss my puppy raisers and Durbin. I will be very busy and probably get used to new surroundings quickly. I hope I do not get homesick.

Reo, Future Leader Dog





# Scenes from the State Convention

















