

International Association of Lions Clubs



WEST VIRGINIA LIONS DISTRICT 29-I

District Governor David Nicholson
Volume 1 #6 December 2011



Christmas is upon us and this is the season of giving and receiving. I keep thinking of Dr. Tam's Theme "I Believe" and how it fits into this joyous season. One of the things he believes in is "Giving Back" which I touch on in my presentation to clubs during my official visits.

The Parade of Checks at the District Convention in October showed how clubs responded to "giving back". Clubs choose their favorite charities and are still giving back as I continue to visit. The amount is now over \$59,000.00.

We also need to remember the organizations that are in need of help during this time of year. Lions throughout the state will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army on December 10. Some clubs will also do bell ringing at other times. I encourage all of you to participate in the Lions Day with the Salvation Army bell ringing.

The Christmas season is a wonderful time of year for being with our family, sharing our blessing can be an enlightening experience. For some, holidays are blurred by sorrow, grief and need. Lions can have a great impact on many people during this season. Food baskets, toys, clothing, Christmas parties for children can make a difference in so many lives in our community. Share your blessings with others and help the less fortunate in your communities.

I encourage all Lions to consider attending the 16th annual West Virginia Lions Leadership School to be held January 27-29, 2012 at Lakeview Resort and Conference Center in Morgantown. The committee has put together an excellent selection of seminars for your enjoyment and learning opportunities.

Four scholarships are available for first time attendees. Registration forms must be sent to me by December 10, 2011 to be eligible for the scholarship. A copy of the registration form is enclosed in this newsletter.

Registration fee is \$100.00 per person if made before December 15, 2011 and \$125.00 per person after December 15, 2011. The registration fee includes Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and dinner and Sunday lunch.

Lion Janice and I wish each of you a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year.

DG Dave

FIRST THOUGHTS FROM FIRST VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR BARBARA FISHEL



Since this Lion year began on July 1, I have been busy traveling to different clubs and different functions across the district and state. I have attended District Conferences this year for District O, District I, and District N. What a privilege it has been for me to represent this district as First Vice District Governor. I have watched Lions in action, busy with club projects, and working hard to make their club a success. They have made such an impact on Lionism throughout our district and the state.

Now it is time to take a moment to sit back and reflect on how these Lions have changed the image of Lions worldwide and locally. Where would we be without the Lions clubs? What would it be like to not have a local Lions Club in our communities? How would we provide for the needs of those who rely on our services? We all realize that if we work together, we can accomplish great things and feel like we can move mountains. We can't do it alone. It takes each of us working together within a club or clubs hooking up with other local or close by clubs to accomplish what we can't do on our own. Don't be afraid to ask another club for assistance. That could very well be the one thing that certain clubs are waiting for - to be noticed and accepted by another neighboring club.

It's time to break out of your shell and invite someone to join your club. Just to be asked to join a Lions Club could be the only obstacle holding someone back from becoming a great Lion. Invite a current club member to attend another club's meeting or function with you. Show that other club that you support them fully and let them know you are willing to help out if they should need assistance. Get to know your fellow Lions. They are a great bunch of interesting and talented people just waiting to show you what they are made of. When I was growing up in a small town, people were always willing to lend a helping hand. Neighbors were always there when you needed them without being asked or expecting to be paid. You just returned the favor when and if you could. That is how I perceive our Lions - like family. We need to accept and welcome new Lions into our clubs. If we don't, the future of our Lions organization could be in jeopardy. Why are we so secretly guarding one of the greatest organizations in the world?

In closing, I have very much enjoyed meeting and seeing both old and new Lions at different functions. Lions have great ideas going on now with club projects. When I read the club Activities Report, I am proud to count myself part of this wonderful organization and to be a part of the Lions of District 29 I.

Hats off to the Lions of District 29 I and to all the Lions in West Virginia. You should be proud of yourself - I know my life is fuller and more rewarding because of all of you!

HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

Yours in Lionism, FVDG Barb Fishel

CALENDAR

December 1	DG Visit to Romney Lions Club - 6:30 p.m.
December 8	DG Visit to Bruceton Mills LC, Little Sandy's Restaurant - 6:00 p.m.
December 12	DG Visit to Valley District LC – Presbyterian Church, Arthurdale - 6:00 p.m.
December 13	DG Visit to Jane Lew LC, American Legion – 6:30 p.m.
December 20	Musselman Middle School Leo Charter Night
January 1, 2012	Welcome a New Year, 2012
January 7, 2012	Council of Governor's Meeting, Ramada Inn, Morgantown
January 12, 2012	DG Visit to Salem. Cottage Corner Restaurant - 6:00 p.m.
January 14, 2012	District 29 I Cabinet Meeting, Christ Church U.M., Adamston, 10:00 a.m.
January 27 – 29	WLLS, Lakeview Resort, Morgantown, WV



Clubs, cabinet members and individual Lions are encouraged to send news items and photos of their activities, to DG Dave at dnicholson1@cebridge.net by the 20th of the month for publication. Items not received by that date may go in the following month's publication.
Thank you for your service.



EARLY REGISTRATION
WEST VIRGINIA LIONS LEADERSHIP SCHOOL
JANUARY 27-29, 2012
LAKEVIEW RESORT
MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA

Early registration is now available for the 2012 West Virginia Lions Leadership School.
Lakeview Resort Morgantown, WV
EARLY REGISTRATION FEE \$100.00

Lion_____ Lioness_____
Name for Name Tag

Lion_____ Lioness_____
Name for Name Tag

Address_____ City_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

Home Phone_____ Business Phone_____

Email_____ I am a first time attendee_____

Make checks payable to the WV Lions Leadership School
(Note: Credit Cards will not be used)

Mail completed Applications to: PCC Paul Wheeler
46 Ranger Lane
Charleston, WV 25309

(H) 304-746-4415
Email: Pwhee71827@aol.com

Call the Lakeview Resort for hotel reservations @ 1-800-624-8300
Tell them you are with the Lions Group



West Virginia Lions 2012 Leadership School
January 27-29, 2012
Lakeview Resort

The 2012 West Virginia Lions Leadership School will be held January 27-29, 2012 at the Lakeview Resort in Morgantown West Virginia. The West Virginia Lions Leadership School will once again have outstanding speakers. The featured guest speakers always add to the enjoyment and learning opportunities of the school.

Colonel William Crane was commissioned in the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers in May, 1989 through the Reserve Officers Training Course at WVU. He completed a deployment in Iraq where he was the J3 of the Joint Interagency Task Force. He is a full time employee with the West Virginia National Guard. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry from Glenville State College and a Master's Degree in Organizational Communication from WVU. Colonel Crane is a graduate of the United States Army War College Fellowship Program, Army Command and General Staff Officer College. He is married to Tina (Martin) Crane of Summersville, WV and they have three children, a daughter Nicole, 19, two sons Derek 16 and Joshua 13.

Tara Brooks began working at Fairmont State University/Pierpont Community & Technical College as Director of Multicultural Affairs on January 3, 2011. She is also an Assistant Professor in the school of Education/Health and Human Performance. The dual appointment is something new to FSU/PC&TC and will allow Tara to address diversity issues across campus, disciplines, faculty/staff, and students.

Past International Director Joseph "Joe" Preston, of Dewey, Arizona, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the Association's 79th International Convention, held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, July 9-12, 1996. A member of the Bradshaw Mountain Lions Club, Past Director Preston has been a Lion since 1974.

West Virginia Lions Leadership School will be held January 27-29, 2012 at the Lakeview Resort. Reservations for room accommodations please call the Lakeview Resort @ 304.558.6279 and advise the clerk you are with the Lions Club. Please contact Lion PCC Paul Wheeler 304.746.4415 for registration information.

From the GMT Tool Box By PCC Steve Glass

Back in August I conducted a new member orientation program for my home club. I used the following outline in PowerPoint format. I offer this tool for your club's consideration. Please feel free to use it or tweak to your liking.

New Member Orientation Presentation

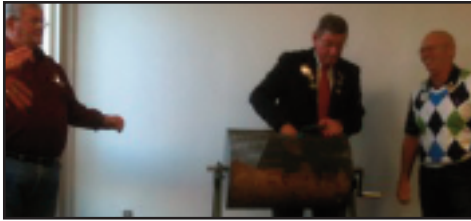
1. Origins of LCI
 - Melvin Jones' influence
 - Helen Keller's influence
 - LCI's branching out into new areas:
 - o LEO clubs
 - o LCIF
 - o Habitat for Humanity
 - o Special Olympics
 - o Quest
2. LCI
 - Purpose
 - Mission
 - Divisions
 - Governance
 - Oversight
 - o Clubs have autonomy
 - o LCI is an association
3. Our club
 - History
 - Leadership
 - Projects
 - How we function
4. District and State Network
 - Zone structure
 - District governance
 - MD governance
 - State convention
5. The individual Lion: YOU (LCI's most valuable resource)
 - We need you (your energies, your ideas, your feedback, your leadership competencies)
 - Your responsibilities and opportunities
 - Be all that you can or want to be
6. West Virginia Lions Sight Conservation Foundation, Inc.



On November 3rd members of the WI Middle School LEO Club, accompanied by members of the Lions Club of Clarksburg, conducted their annual “Trick or Treat for Sight” activity. LEOs canvassed the Chestnut Hills and Hartland neighborhoods collecting used eye glasses, hearing aids, cell phones and non-perishable food items for the Duff Street United Methodist Church Food Pantry. Their combined efforts resulted in the collection of approximately 300 pounds of food items, 26 pairs of eye glasses and 5 cell phones, which were donated to Cell Phones for Soldiers. Shown in the accompanying photo from left to right are first row: LEOs Camden Cutlip and Logan Lewis; second row: LEO Paige Leaseburg, LEO Stephanie Alvaro, Lions Marge Mester, Anna Walsh, and Susan McMichael; third row: LEO Sophia Patsy, LEO Mikki McMichael, Advisor Trecia Price, and LEO Bailey Spears.



As part of its community service mission, members of the Lions Club of Clarksburg served the evening meal at the Clarksburg Mission on November 14th. Approximately eighty people were served a delicious lasagna dinner. Four members of the WI Middle School LEO Club participated along with the Lions members. Shown in the accompanying photo from left to right: Kneeling: LEOs Katherine Bass and Mikki McMichael; Standing in the front row: Cindy Glass, Julie Cava, Jim Cava, Anthony Cava and Alessandro Cava, sons of Julie and Jim, LEOs Sarah Herrod and Sarah Grace Reed; Back row: Anna Walsh, Susan McMichael, Evan Bice, Joe Caruso, and Sharra Cales. Also participating but not pictured are Marge Mester, Mary Adkins, and Steve Glass.



BEEF RAFFLE DRAWING
DG Dave selects a winning ticket for

the Beef Drawing held on Sunday, November 6, at District N's Fall Conference at Pipestem Resort. Proceeds of approximately \$8000 from the drawing went to LCIF. Looking on are LCIF Coordinators PCC Steve Glass and PCC Dennis Keffer. The beef was donated by Lion Paul Nutter and spouse DG Patty Nutter. Winners of the beef raffle were Doris Osborne, Rick Kidder, Cheryl Miller and Ben Franklin.



November is recognized by Lions Clubs International as Diabetes Awareness Month. On Sunday, November 13th the Lions Club of Clarksburg conducted a Diabetes Awareness Clinic at the Meadowbrook Mall.

Club members conducted free eye and blood glucose screenings and distributed information about diabetes to the public. Club members participating are shown in the accompanying photo from left to right: Howard Mall, Julie Cava, Cindy Glass, and Steve Glass.



VISITOR FROM CANADA

Junior Lions Loren Rinehart, Burquiam Lion Joanne Easdown and Junior Lion Marshall Reed are pictured here. Joanne is a past president of her Lions Club in Coquitlan, BC, Canada. She visited our food stand at the fair.



ZONE 7 CLUBS OF PRESTON COUNTY

Zone 7 clubs of Preston County with the help of Lion Kermit Hawley (Valley District) were able to obtain the Kingwood Chamber of Commerce display window for the month of November. Representatives of each of the six clubs in Preston County met and came up with a Lions Informational display which was exhibited during the month of November. Parts of the display will be available for clubs to use for recreational purposes or other special events.



DG VISIT TO MARTINSBURG LIONS

DG Dave with new member Andy Stollar at Martinsburg DG visit. L to R: President Tom Freeland, Lion Eunice Freeland, Andy Stollar and DG Dave Nicholson



DG DAVE PRESENTS MELVIN JONES FELLOW AWARD

Elmer Cross, Secretary of the Johnstown Lions Club, received the Melvin Jones Fellow Award during the District Governor visit to Lost Creek, Johnstown and Mt. Clare. Lion Cross has been secretary for the Johnstown Lions for 29 years.

TUNNELTON LIONS CLUB PARTNERS WITH “SEEYOURIMPACT”

Recently, the Tunnelton Lions Club partnered with SeeYourImpact and the Blind People's Association of India to deliver 10 Braille Kits to sight impaired individuals.

For most students, the alphabet is the basic learning block. For blind students, Braille unlocks the doors to their education. The Braille Kits provide the instruments that teach someone to read and write Braille, and also give a Braille geometry box and an abacus!

The following are ten students who benefitted greatly from this program. Unfortunately, space prohibits telling their stories:



13 year old Rakesh wants to become a teacher



13 year Zakir wishes to join the corporate sector



18 year old Nirupama wishes to start her career as a music teacher



15 year old Bharati wants to become a teacher



15 year old Narendra has a dream of joining an agriculture university



16 year old Harsing wants to join a technical school.



17 year old Allahrakha treasures his new Braille kit and plans to use it all the way through college



15 year old twins, Gautam and Parshottam want to become music directors.



15 year old Vikram wants to follow his father's path as a primary teacher.

FROM THE DESK OF THE “SPOUSE OF” THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR:

“I started out the year with good intentions (and everyone knows where that leads) to write a Thank You note to each club after our visits. I got seriously behind especially when we had as many as 4-5 visits a week and a District conference thrown in. I would like to thank each club and the members for their generosity to the District 29 I charities in DG Dave’s honor and for all the lovely items we have received the past four months and there has been many. We have enjoyed the hospitality and meeting all of you. May your holidays be bright and the New Year a good one for all the Lions of 29 I.” Lion Janice

YOUTH CAMP AND EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The Youth Exchange Program has hosted 3 students from Japan, 1 student from Italy, 3 students from Finland, 1 student from Peru. The Youth Exchange Program has also sent 1 student to Finland, 1 student to Italy, and 1 student to Japan. The Youth Exchange Committee receives updates and news from all of the students involved with the exchange program. The students also send pictures. The students learn about the various cultural differences and are very appreciative of the Lions support.

The judging for this years program will be on December 3 at Flatwoods. We will be looking for Host Families for the coming year. Anyone wishing to be a Host Family please contact anyone on the Youth Exchange Committee. Information for a Hosting Family can also be obtained through the committee members.

I wish to Thank ALL the Lions Clubs in District 29-I for their generosity in donating financially to the Youth Exchange.

A letter from Laud Gifford, Jr., Lumberport Lions...

As per our conversation I am writing about the Information Systems Students Organization at Fairmont State University. We at ISSO are into learning all aspects of technology. We screen print, vinyl print to shirts and signs. We run an on-campus Computer Repair Center. We are attempting to enter the embroidering part of technology. As a member of Lumberport Lions Club I approach the ISSO about doing shirts for the Lions Clubs. ISSO has been able to acquire special prices for the embroidering. We must meet a 50 shirt order but can combine orders from multiple clubs. “Lumberport” can be changed to any name. The color of the letters can be changed to any color the club chooses. The shirt with the embroider emblem currently costs the club \$20.00 per shirt. All proceeds will benefit ISSO’s scholarship fund. If there are any questions please contact me at 304.838.5457 or email @ lgjr5457@frontier.com

TO ALL ZONE CHAIRS IN 29-I - TREE PLANTING

At the District Conference held last month, we heard your Zone reports and the tree planting has begun. This program is widely supported by Lions around the world as Lions International is already reporting more than five million trees (5,000,000) planted thus far in 2011. So, the goal of one million trees is likely to be exceeded by ten fold. Our District 29-I Governor Dave Nicholson has made a pledge that our District will join with International President Tam's million tree planting goal and 29-I will provide 1,000 trees to be divided for planting across the entire District.

Fellow Lions our plan, as proposed, is for our District to meet our pledge by ordering 1000 trees and distribute these seedlings by mail or at a Cabinet meeting in time for Arbor Day 2012 (100 to each Zone). It is certainly not meant to mandate for anyone to plant a tree or limit any of your club's ability to take this program in a direction that you want it to go with more pine seedlings or planting an additional species of trees.

My reasoning for ordering 1,000 pine seedlings from the WV State Nursery and have 100 delivered to each Zone was three fold: (1) I have handled many pine seedlings in the past and with the roots wrapped in wet newspaper, you can store and keep 100 of them in a single bucket or on the deck for over a week or two, allowing time to have them picked up or delivered to your clubs. (2) Ordering 1,000 of the same species is a real cost saver when ordering. (3) Pine seedlings can easily be planted by Lions members or anyone that wants to plant a tree. It can be planted on private property or as a public project at a school or park. A shovel slot in the ground, (a hole is not needed) then place roots in the ground, water it and tamp the soil with the side of your boot and watch it grow.

Pine seedlings planted today by a young child and their family will grow to become their Christmas tree by high school if they so desire, and pine trees offer sanctuary for many birds. Plus, the brown pine needles dropping to the ground are useful in weed control and mulch .

No Zone or individual Lions Club member has to plant a tree, but my thought was to provide some pine seedlings for each Zone and your members could then have some fun and hold a tree planting outing or your Lions could take one home for their children/grandchildren to plant. If a particular club in your Zone opts out of planting these seedlings, another club in your Zone could have double, or you as Zone Chair would have the authority to give a few trees to whomever is willing to plant them to help the Lions. You could have Master Gardners, 4-H'ers or other groups plant a few trees. There is no restrictions just that they be planted and report the numbers.

I am providing contact info for the state nursery www.wvforestry.com so that your Zone/Clubs can download order forms and order additional trees if you so desire. There are many local nurseries that may just provide you with some excess trees for the asking or offer to reduce costs for this Lions International Plant-A-Tree program.

We have our next Cabinet meeting in January and we would like to be able to approve the District order. Please drop me a note as Zone Chair, if you or a designee will agree to accept 100 trees in late March, early April for your Zone. Again, as Zone Chair, you may distribute some to each club or, if not possible to get out to every club, one or two clubs could plant all of your share of the seedlings and then those other clubs could order and plant additional trees on their own..Our pledge is 1,000, but my bet is that we will far exceed that.

Happy Holidays to all, Lion Paul E. Hamrick, Environmental Chair, District 29-I

WELCOME NEW LIONS 7/01/11 TO 11/27/11

Thanks to all the club members who have been recruiting. Keep up the good work!
We have 37 new members as of this date.

Robin Davis, Bridgeport
Dorthea Turner, BUYAH
Stamford Bowsman, Adamston
William Colling, Elkins
Don Cotgreave, Elkins
Patti Cotgreave, Elkins
Thelma Jenkins, Inwood Bunker Hill
Leota Shillingburg, Inwood Bunker Hill
Shirley White, Inwood Bunker Hill
Sheila Frazier, Jane Lew
Bonnie Starkey, Jane Lew
Sheila Virden, Jane Lew
Jeffrey Jenkins, Kingwood
Linda Carnes, Lumberport
Emily Cook, Lumberport
Rhonda Cook, Lumberport
Margaret Howe, Lumberport
Patricia Bean, Moorefield
Mary Varner, Mt. Storm

Amber Zinchook, Mt. Storm
Bryan Payne, Nutter Fort
Dennis Filler, Parsons
Susan Church, Philippi
Edward Law, Jr., Philippi
Harold Carpenter, Salem
Jimmie Helmick, Salem
Gregory Rock, Salem
Nan Williamson, Salem
Louis DelRio, Shinnston
Edward Funk, Tunnelton
Lynne Kilkenny, Tunne lton
Tona Bockting, Wardensville
Don Ekren, Wardensville
Rollin Garrett, Wardensville
Edward Butcher, West Milford
Marsha Hamric, Wilsonburg
Brenda McCann, Wilsonburg

DG David R. Nicholson
Rt. 1 Box 171-D3
Lost Creek, WV 26385



What you can find this month...

District Governor's Message
First DG Barb's First Thoughts
Calendar of Events
Leadership School January 2012
GMT Toolbox
SeeYourImpack
Tree Planting
Club News...and More!