

# International Association of Lions Clubs



## WEST VIRGINIA LIONS DISTRICT 29-I

District Governor David Nicholson

Volume 1 #8 February 2012



January was a slow month in comparison with previous months with only two official visits to Mt. Clare and Salem Lions club. I had the honor of presenting Leonard Jarrett awards to Lions Matt Fogg and Jim Crim during my visit to the Mt. Clare club.

Still, there was Lions activities; a Council of Governors Meeting, Past District Governor's Meeting and a Sight Foundation meeting on January 7 and a cabinet meeting on January 14. All meetings were well attended and the enthusiasm was great.

Membership in the District remained fairly stable until the membership drops started in December and continued in January. As of January 30, 2012 the number of members in the District was 1649 which is 26 members less than the June 30, 2011 report.

I am asking each club to have a spring round up of new members as requested by MD GMT coordinator John Pinkerman. Several clubs have had member round ups and several members have been recruited. Another method of recruiting is to ask spouses and other family members. The family plan allows the head of the household to pay dues of \$39.00 per year and up to four members in the same household would pay dues of \$19.50 per year.

The Long Range Planning Committee after two years of planning presented a proposed redistricting plan to the Council of Governors at the January 7, 2012 meeting. The reason for redistricting is due to the decrease in membership in the state. Lions Club International requires each district to have 35 Lions Clubs and 1250 members. District I is the only district that meets this criteria. District L is close to meeting the criteria but District O and N are not. After two years of carefully analyzing, the committee presented a plan to reduce the number of districts in MD 29 to 3. The districts would be called 29-W, 29-V and 29-A. District L would become 29-W, District I would become 29-V and Districts O and N would become 29-A. The Council of Governors voted to accept the plan after much discussion. The proposal will be voted on at the State Convention on May 5, 2012. The plan, if approved by the delegates to the State Convention and Lions Club International would take effect in 2014-2015.

Club presidents if you have not already done so you need to appoint a nominating committee to select officers for next year.

I was unable to attend Leadership School at the Lakeview Resort due to the intestinal flu but I understand that the attendance was down but the seminars were good and new ideas were exchanged and a good time was had by all.

*DG Dave*

## FIRST THOUGHTS FROM FIRST VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR BARBARA FISHEL



Usually the month of January is cold and dreary and things seem to almost come to a slow crawl. We look forward to getting a little rest and relaxation after the holidays. THINK AGAIN!! This month has proven to be a busy one so far and the busier it gets, the more exciting it gets.

January started off with the Council of Governors meeting at Morgantown on January 7. Dedicated Lions from across the state gathered together to take care of Lions business. On January 14, District 29 I held their third cabinet meeting of the year. Again, dedicated Lions gathered together to conduct the business of our district.

On January 18, I attended the meeting for the newly formed LEO Club at Musselman Middle School at Inwood. It was a wonderful experience to watch these young LEO Club members conducting their meeting in such a manner that all of us would have beamed with joy. Lion Trish Glennon has done a fantastic job of organizing this new LEO Club and has every right to be proud of the students. Again, dedicated Lions in ACTION.

On January 19, I was honored to be asked to induct five new members into the Mountain Lions Club. This is a small community-oriented club reaching out in their community to serve those in need. Again, another example of Lions going about the business of serving others.

On January 21, I have plans to attend the Zone 3 zone meeting. Again, dedicated Lions from that zone will come together to conduct the business of that zone. And again, we see Lions in ACTION.

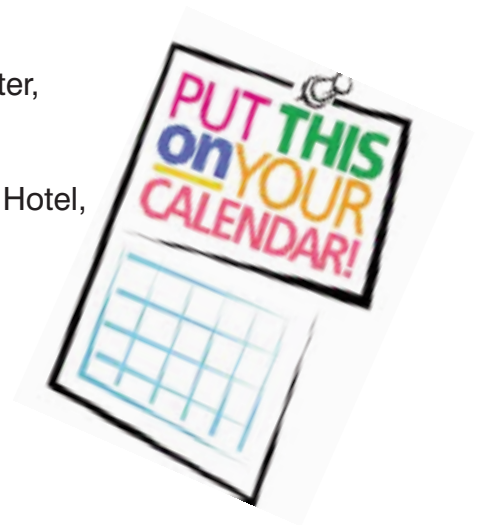
We need to strive to get more of our members involved in all aspects of Lionism. Their input means new and fresh ideas to help make our clubs stronger and our members more united. And with that, I want to give you the following to ponder:

1. THINK.
2. ASK QUESTIONS.
3. SHARE IDEAS.
4. MAKE AN EFFORT.
5. PLAN AHEAD.

Sounds like a recipe for SUCCESS!! Yours in Lionism, FVDG Barb

## 2012 CALENDAR

- February 16 DG visits Buckhannon Lions Club (not an official visit)
- February 18 Zone 10 Elimination Dinner – VFW Post 573, 6:00 p.m.
- February 21 DG Visit to East View Ladies, Elk District/Stonewood & Glen Elk Village LC, East View Community Center, 6:00 p.m.
- March 1 DG Visit to Adamston, 6:00 p.m.
- March 3 Salem Lions Club Soup Luncheon. Erickson Center, Salem
- March 6 DG Visit to Philippi Lions Club, 6:00 p.m.
- March 8 DG Visit to Lumberport, Community Center, Covered Dish, 6:00 p.m.
- March 9 – 11 29 L District Conference, Blennerhassett Hotel, Parkersburg
- March 26 DG Visit to Paw Paw LC
- March 27 DG Visit to Berkeley Springs LC
- March 31 District 29 I Cabinet Meeting, Fort Ashby Community Center
- April 10 DG Visit to Ireland LC, 6:00 p.m.
- April 19 DG Visit to Pikeside and Hedgesville LC, 6:00 p.m.  
Hedgesville United Methodist Church
- May 4, 5, 6 West Virginia Lions Convention, Ramada Inn, Morgantown



Central Upshur Lions 22nd Annual "Ground" Hog Feed,  
Rock Cave Fire Hall  
7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. February 4, 2012.  
Buckwheat Cakes, Pancakes,  
Sausage, Biscuits, Gravy



# WHAT IS LEADERSHIP?

## DG DAVE

Leadership is a process by which a person influences others to accomplish an objective and direct the organization in a way that makes it more cohesive and coherent. Another definition which I like is “Leadership is a process whereby an individual influences a group of individuals to achieve a common goal”.

This is what Lions Leaders do from club president to International Presidents, each inspiring the followers to follow through on their goals.

There are four main factors of Leadership:

1. **Leader:** You must have an honest understanding of who you are, what you know and what you can do. To be successful you have to convince your followers, not yourself or your superiors, that you are worthy of being followed.
2. **Followers:** Different people require different styles of Leadership. For example a new Lion needs to be nurtured and indoctrinated whereas an old Lion may need to be motivated. A leader needs to know his people and their needs.
3. **Communication:** One leads through two way communication. Verbal communication must be clear and concise. The example that the leader exhibits before the members is as important as verbal communication. What and how you communicate either builds or harms the relationship between you and your members.
4. **Situation:** Every situation is different. What you do in one situation will not always work in another. How you as a leader react to different situations will reflect in the relationship with your members. Good Leaders are made, not born.

The mission of the West Virginia Leadership School was to bring together a diverse group of Lions throughout West Virginia to enhance their leadership skills and increase their commitment to community service. After talking to people who attended the school I feel this was done.

## **“I Believe in Projecting Our Image”**

LCI President Tam says “Lions need to do more public relations. It works. Publicizing what we do and who we are results in more members, more partnerships, more support. Maybe a generation or two ago we could stand pat and let people come to us. Those days re gone. In the Internet age, amid a vast sea of information and groups vying for attention, success comes to those who pursue it.”

Now is the time to think about the Environmental Global Service Action Campaign. If your club is planning to plant trees in connection with IP Tam’s goals (and that of DG Dave for our district), make sure you maximize public awareness of your club’s participation in this project.

Some other upcoming spring events to consider in planning club activities and accompanying publicity:

- March is Eye Donor Awareness Month
- April is Leo Club Awareness Month
- April 21 is Lions Worldwide Induction Day
- April 22 is Earth Day
- May is Recycle For Sight Month

Public relations isn’t just about articles in the newspaper! Public relations is what we should practice every single day as Lions. Always be positive about being a Lion – portray your involvement as fulfilling and fun. Wear your pin or Lions shirt often – be prepared to answer questions. Prepare a club brochure or handout to have available at every opportunity. Get a poster board or banner to post at every club event – make sure it is professional looking. Be prepared to increase public awareness...

- When ringing bells
- While conducting Sight Conservation Day
- At eye screenings
- At pancake breakfasts and spaghetti dinners
- At youth activities you sponsor
- At every public event you take part in or sponsor!!!

If your club needs help with public relations, don’t hesitate to let me know, and I will do my best to be of service.

PDG Cindy Glass, Public Relations Chairperson.

# **PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS TO SPRUCE UP YOUR MEETINGS**

By PCC Steve Glass, District 29-I GMT Coordinator

In today's society, Lion members, particularly young adults, are busy. Between school, work and starting a family, it may seem that they do not have time to be a Lion. However, reliable data tells us that they understand that giving back to their community is important. This applies to all segments of society regardless of age. There may be some changes that your club needs in order to attract and accommodate those busy people that we need in our clubs.

Consider the following:

- Be flexible and change your club constitution and by-laws to allow members to remain in good standing even if they are unable to attend every meeting. Consider participation in service projects every bit or more important than club meetings. Also, consider changing meeting times to better accommodate young adults.
- Let go of some club traditions. Many newer Lions, particularly young adults, are not interested or are outright turned off by some formalities that were once an established part of each meeting, i.e. wearing vests, Lion's Roar, being fined for not wearing a Lion pin.
- If some members do not prefer having a full meal, make it optional. Try serving light snacks at one of your meetings or give members two meeting choices. For example, dinner can be from 6:00-6:30 and club business will be discussed from 6:30-7:30.
- Stick to the agenda. Consider e-mailing the meeting agenda ahead of time so that members know what to expect.
- Mix things up. Change the scenery once in a while. Be creative and hold meetings at different locations. Try conducting some business during service projects or during some social or recreational outings.
- Try sitting in a circle or U shaped configuration if possible. This encourages open communication.
- Use the Tailtwister not as a "cop", but rather as the Lion who starts the fun at each meeting.

## ATTENTION ZONE II CLUBS

There will be a Zone meeting of Ft. Ashby, Paw Paw, Keyser, Berkeley Springs and Short Gap clubs. The meeting will be hosted by the Short Gap Lions February 20th at 6:30 P.M. in their Senior Center. Please have an officer or representative from each club attend.

### ALL LIONS ARE WELCOME!

Also, each club is asked to provide and give a brief activities report. There are several topics to cover. A count for dinner is needed so . . .

Please RSVP the number of members attending from your club by February 13th. I'm looking forward to meeting with you.

**Lion Jim Price**  
**Zone II Chair**  
**304-258-9261**



Governor Dave with two new members of the West Milford Lions Club on January 23, 2012. Pictured L-R: DG Dave, Lions June Courtney, Bill Courtney, Terry Tallman and Regina Tallman. New members are Lions June and Regina.



DG Dave presenting club excellence award and zone chair excellence award to the President of the Shinnston Lions and Zone 9 Chair Dave Minor.



DG Dave presented Zone 8 Chair Drew Tate with the Zone Chairman excellence award for his contribution to Lionism during the 2010-11 year at the Bridgeport Lions annual Christmas party on December 8.



New members and sponsors at the Shinnston Lions Club. Pictured left to right: Joe & Kim Belcastro, sponsor Lion Debbie Harbert, Terry and Victor Gorge, Lou Del Rio, sponsor Paul Ayers, DG Dave on January 24.



DG Dave presenting the District Team excellence award to PDG Cindy Glass and Zone Chair excellence award to Zone 5 Chair Larry Alkire for their accomplishments in Lionism during the 2010-2011 year.



DG visit to Salem Lions Clubs. L to R: Penny Ash – Secretary, Traci Bunch – President, DG Dave, PDG Simon Simon, PDG Tina Canon.

## LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

Lions Clubs International Foundation is the charitable arm of Lions Clubs International, the largest service club organization in the world with 1.35 million members in 206 geographic areas and countries.

LCIF was ranked by a Financial Times' study as the number one non-governmental organization with which to partner. Through SightFirst, LCIF has restored sight or saved the vision of 30 million people. Learn more about LCIF at [www.lcif.org](http://www.lcif.org)

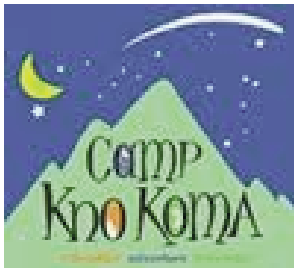
The Hedgesville Lions Club will be having their 2nd annual Golf Tournament on May 21, 2012 at the Woods Resort. This is a very nice golf course in West Virginia. There will be a new car given away on a hole in one, please try to attend this event. For more information and tickets call 304-754-7489.



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## CAMP KNO KOMA SCHOLARSHIPS

At the last District Cabinet meeting, the District approved 6 scholarships to Camp Kno Koma and also approved a donation of \$500.00 to the camp.



Camp Kno Koma's Mission is to serve as a non-profit organization with the goal of providing Camp Kno Koma, a summer camping experience for children with diabetes in and around the state of West Virginia. Camp Kno Koma provides an unmatched opportunity for learning and fun.

Surrounded by counselors and other kids with diabetes, campers are freed from the feelings of being different and are able to enjoy one of childhood's great pleasures: summer camp."

Each Region is encouraged to send a child to Camp Kno Koma by using one of the scholarships available through the Diabetes account of the District. You can contact your Zone Chair or Diabetes Chair is [howardrustymall@gmail.com](mailto:howardrustymall@gmail.com) or 304-838-2698.

**MYTH: BEING OVERWEIGHT WILL CAUSE YOU TO HAVE DIABETES:** Being overweight is a risk factor but other risks include a family of diabetes, being over 40 years of age, having a child over 10# at birth and natural origin. Many people that are overweight will never get diabetes. Many people with a normal weight will get diabetes.

As Diabetes Chair for the District, I am available for a program on at your club or Zone. The diabetes account can also supply brochures and test strips if your club or zone would like to sponsor a clinic in your area. Please contact me or your Zone Chair for a program, clinic or one of our eight scholarships available this year.. Your Diabetes chair is [howardrustymall@gmail.com](mailto:howardrustymall@gmail.com) or 304-838-2698.

## YOUTH CAMP AND EXCHANGE PROGRAM



### 1ST AND 2ND PLACE WINNERS OF THE YOUTH EXCHANGE CONTEST

On December 3 the Youth Camp and Exchange Committee met to select the winners of the Youth Exchange Program Contest. The winners were 1st Place was Mathew Alderman from District N and the 2nd Place winner was Shayni Vega from District I. Congratulations to the winners of the Contest from the Lions YE Committee.

The YE Committee is looking for two families to be Host Families for those selected YE Program Contest Winners from Brazil and Japan. These Host Families will be hosting the foreign students during the summer months. Any Lion that wishes to become a Host Family please give me a call or anyone on the YE Multi-District Committee.

DISTRICT 29-I YE CHAIRMAN, LION SANDRA PHILLIPS 304-924-5134

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The Buckhannon Middle School Leo Club wrapped gifts to donate To the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program, which provides Children with gifts for Christmas. The Officers model their new Leo T-shirts provided by the Tennerton Lions Clubs of Buckhannon, West Virginia.

## ZONE 10 ELIMINATION DINNER

WV Lions of District 29 I, Zone 10 will sponsor an Elimination Dinner on Saturday, February 18, 2012 at the VFW Post 573 located at 430 W. Pike Street, Clarksburg, WV.

Tickets are \$25.00 per person.

Social Hour is 6:00 p.m.  
Dinner is at 7:00 p.m. Drawing at 7:30 p.m.

\$25.00 for the 1st, 50th, 100th, 150th ticket drawn. Need not be present to win.

Tickets can be purchased from any Lion in Zone 10 clubs which is East Lewis, Jane Lew, Johnstown, Lost Creek, Mt. Clare and West Milford.

For more information call David Nicholson @ 304-745-3176  
or Linda Stalnaker @ 304-269-1730.

Proceeds benefit WV Lions Sight Foundation.

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  
Club News...and More!

