



102nd West Virginia Lions State Convention

Glade Springs Resort

April 26 – 28, 2024



**JOSEPH PRESTON
PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT**



Joseph “Joe” Preston, of Mesa, Arizona, USA, was elected to serve as president of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association’s 97th international convention held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, July 4-8, 2014. Past President Preston is a fleet sales manager. A member of the Mesa Thunderbird Lions Club, Past International President Preston has been a Lion since 1974. He has held many offices within the association, including club president, zone chairperson, district governor and council chairperson. In addition, he has served as leadership, Lions Quest and MERL chairperson for his multiple district. He was also chairperson of the 1994 International Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, and the 2003 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Portland, Oregon; and a national multinational coordinator for Campaign Sight First II where he exceeded his goals.

In recognition of his service to the association, Preston has received numerous awards, including the 100% Club President Award, the 100% District Governor Award, a Key Member Award, a Medal of Merit, 11 International President’s Awards and an Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor granted by the association to its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. In addition to his Lion activities, Preston is past president of United Way of Yavapai County and a former board member of the Lions Foundation of Arizona.

Past President Preston and his wife, Joni, also a Lion and Melvin Jones Fellow, have two sons, one daughter and nine grandchildren. R-01/18

Convention Agenda

Friday, April 26

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration, Certification of Delegates and Silent Auction Drop off

- 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Council of Governors Meeting
- 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. WVLSCF Meeting
- 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. PDG Luncheon
- 1:00 – 1:45 p.m. Grants & Deadlines Seminar
- 2:00 – 2:45 p.m. Diabetes Seminar
- 3:00 – 3:45 pm. White Cane Awareness & Leader Dog
- 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Multiple District Bowling Tournament
- 6:30 p.m. Banquet – DG Kermit Hawley (District I Awards & Necrology)
- 7:00 p.m. Murder Mystery Dinner

Saturday, April 27

- 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. General Business Session
- 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. Luncheon – DG Daniel Heintzman (District L Awards & Necrology)
- 2:15 – 3:00 p.m. Group Communication
- 3:15 – 4:00 p.m. Service Project
- 4:15 – 5:00 p.m. Guiding Lion, Branch Clubs, Cub Clubs
- 5:00 – 5:30 p.m. Teresa Johnson Strides Walk
- 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. PIP Joe Preston Reception
- 6:30 p.m. Silent Auction Ends
- 6:30 p.m. Banquet – DG Rhonda Smith (District C Awards & Necology)
PIP Joe Preston
- 9:00 – 11:00 p.m. Music by Dave Willis

Sunday, April 28, 2024

- 9:00 – 10:15 a.m. District Meeting/Election
- 11:45 – 1:30 p.m. Lunch CC Carla Finch – Election Results and Introduction of Incoming District Officers
- 1:30 – 2:00 p.m. Council of Governors Meeting
- 2:15 – 3:00 p.m. WVLSCF Meeting

**2024 MULTIPLE DISTRICT 29 LIONS
102nd STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION**
April 26 – 28, 2024
Glade Springs Resort
Daniels, WV

Name/Names: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip Code: _____

District Number: _____ Club Name: _____

First Conference: Yes No

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Registration Fee of \$100 per person

Make Check Payable to: MD 29 State Convention

Mail by April 5, 2024 to: Paul Wheeler, 29C Treasurer

46 Ranger Lane

S. Charleston, WV 25309

For Lodging Reservations, please call 877-814-7316. Advise them you are attending the Lions State Convention.

Lodging Room Rate: Executive Suite \$129, Deluxe Queen & King \$149

If you have questions regarding the conference, please contact PCC Pete Johnson at 304-575-8964 or PCC Paul Wheeler at 304-746-4415.

District Governor Rhonda Smith
District 29 C



I have thoroughly enjoyed serving as District Governor for 29C. It has been a pleasure to work alongside District Governor Kermit Hawley and District Governor Dan Heintzman, as well as the District Cabinet members.

Meeting other Lions with so much passion for serving their communities was very uplifting. I have enjoyed the club visits and hearing about so many great service and fundraising projects. I appreciate the hospitality that has been extended to me by each club.

It is quite rewarding to see progress such as the Concord University Campus Club, the WV Eye Can Lions Club, and the Alum Creek Cub Club. The enthusiasm of these new Lions is remarkable and should be an inspiration to all Lions! These new clubs represent the future of Lionism and prove there are still people willing to serve. We just need to work harder at finding these individuals.

Service reporting has increased! For this, I thank those of you who took the time to learn how to report and for completing the task.

I have learned so much this year and have made so many friends through this experience. I must acknowledge PID Bob Browning for talking me into taking this position and having a little faith in me. My daughter, Kendra Wilson, has been instrumental in so many ways. She has done a wonderful job with the district newsletter. She also attended and helped with the conference and opened the door for our Concord University Campus Club. I need to thank that guy you always see tagging along with me. Without Pete Johnson, I would not even be a Lion today. He introduced me to this organization and has mentored me from the beginning. I could not have served in this position without his guidance and support.

**District Governor Kermit Hawley
District 29 I**



This has been quite a year from beginning to the end. Thank you to the Lions of District 29 -I. You have become a part of my family. The friendships I have made, the courtesies extended to me, and the overall Lionism I have experienced have made it an amazing time. Thank You!

Becoming the District Director for District 29 -I was not what I had planned for in my Lions journey. In reflecting back to my initial induction to Lionism and now saying goodbye to my term as District Governor, I have had quite a ride.

Our focus this Lion year has been directed towards providing training opportunities for our members. Direct training for the club officers through face-to-face training, and indirect training through the Lions Learn Portal. All presidents and Secretaries with internet capability were provided with the opportunity to take the “Learn” courses. In addition, as part of our succession training, all First Vice Presidents with internet access were asked to go into the “Learn” Portal and take the courses designated for the President so they can have a heads up on their move into the presidency. Training is not just learning new information; it is also learning where to find the answers. Training is an ongoing process and we should strive to ensure that our club officers are provided with the tools needed to perform their duties. I began a “Welcome” package for our new members consisting of a welcome message, Orientation Manual, copy of Standard Club Structure and a list of acronyms.

We have conducted a “Satisfaction” survey of all Lion members in our District. This was accomplished through paper survey due to lack of adequate internet access in several of our clubs. The major issue was in obtaining the survey’s results due to the loss of two Zone Chairs prior to surveys being completed.

My journey this year has been one of amazement as to what Lions and Lion Clubs can do. Each club is unique and with good leadership, enthusiasm for life, and positive thinking, most of them will continue to be an asset to their communities and beyond for many more years.

I would like to take a moment to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to my wife, Judy, who traveled with me through this Journey. Being my partner in the conference activities and working with me on my duties and being a part of my club visits has been a blessing to me and Lionism.

I would also like to express my appreciation to those members who mentored me along the way. Lions Sue and Doug Long and Lions Steve and Cindy Glass. Thank You!

**District Governor Dan Heintzman
District 29L**



Wow, what a ride. This has been an amazing experience and one I will cherish forever. The Clubs I have visited, the Lions I have met, and the journeys I have made. None of this would be possible if it were not for some great mentors I have been privileged to have met. It also would not have been possible if not for the hard-working team under me. I can see two or three future DG's currently on my team. Nothing would make me happier if that happens. I also cannot do this job without the support of my home Friendly Lions Club. Thank you, Friendly Lions, for your patience, understanding, and for starting another Club branch in Vienna, WV. I also am very honored to know that this venture is not possible without the love and support of my wife Lion Charlotte. I love her to the moon and back. We still have three more months to go. Still plenty of time for my Clubs to be visible and active. Still time to grow membership and start a new Club or a Club branch. Still time to bring in new members. And still time to do a new service project. Thank you, Lions, of 29L!!!! "Proud 2 B A Lion. R U?"

**Past District Governor Gary Pitcock
WV Lions Sight Conservation Foundation**

It has been a great year for the Sight Foundation. We have accomplished some great things. We have new eye screening machines for each District and we have received very generous donations from our Lions Clubs throughout WV.

We look forward to working with WVU Eye Institute on further projects as well as working with the Lions of WV.

We hope to purchase more equipment in the future for our Districts.

It has been a pleasure serving as President of the Sight Foundation and I thank all of our outstanding trustees. Without these trustees and their commitment to the Foundation, very little would be accomplished. They are great Lions.

Thank you for your service to all in need in WV.

DISTRICT CONVENTION CALL

In compliance with Article VI, Section 2 of the Standard Form District By-Laws, I hereby issue the Official Call for the 2024 District 29-I Convention. The District 29-I Convention will be held Saturday afternoon, April 27, 2024, at Glade Springs Resort. The purpose of the convention is to elect a District Governor, First Vice District Governor, Second Vice District Governor, Trustees to the West Virginia Lions Sight Conservation Foundation and other elected positions, if required. Issued by me on this 1st day of March, 2024.

Kermit Hawley
District Governor, 29-I
(Signed Electronically)

In compliance with Article VI, Section 2 of the Standard Form District By-Laws, I hereby issue the Official Call for the 2024 District 29-L Convention. The District 29-L Convention will be held Saturday afternoon, April 27, 2024, at Glade Springs Resort. The purpose of the convention is to elect a District Governor, First Vice District Governor, Second Vice District Governor, Trustees to the West Virginia Lions Sight Conservation Foundation and other elected positions, if required. Issued by me on this 1st day of March, 2024.

Daniel Heintzman
District Governor, 29L
(Electronically Signed)

In compliance with Article VI, Section 2 of the Standard Form District By-Laws, I hereby issue the Official Call for the 2024 District 29-C Convention. The District 29-C Convention will be held Saturday afternoon, April 27, 2024, at Glade Springs Resort. The purpose of the convention is to elect a District Governor, First Vice District Governor, Second Vice District Governor, Trustees to the West Virginia Lions Sight Conservation Foundation and other elected positions, if required. Issued by me on this 1st day of March, 2024.

Rhonda G. Smith
District Governor, 29-C
(Electronically Signed)