

291 DISTRICT NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2023



Welcome December. New month, new chapter, new page & new wishes. May the month give you courage, strength, confidence, patience, and peace. May every day in December be filled with hope, love, sunshine, and energy. Let there be joy, fun and Laughter.

Ah, December ...Our last chance to make the best of the year:

Winter, snow, Christmas and the coming of a new year, December is the sixth month of the 2023-2024 Lions year. Have we accomplished the goals we set out to have completed by this time. The answer is no. Our Satisfaction Surveys which were to be completed by October is still not completed, with some clubs not returning their survey sheets. Training activity goals have not been at the pace we would like for them to be and servicing activities reporting is still an issue. We have talked about club officers taking the training in the Learn Portal, my office visits indicate that quite a few officers have never accessed the International. You cannot take the online training in the Lion portal without setting up an account. Most presidents do not know that they can input club activities into My Lions. If you are unfamiliar with all things International you do not have all the tools to do a great job.

With the coming of the new portals, hopefully this should make it easier to obtain information and also to input information on your club activities. If unfamiliar with setting up an account and going into the Learn Portal, myself and or my staff can assist you.

Things will be a little slower for most Lion Clubs, what with Club Christmas Dinners and family get togethers. Also, several Clubs go on a one meeting a month schedule or do not have meetings during the coldest/snow months. My calendar shows only 2 club visits scheduled. One to Romney and one to Parsons. I will be busy coordinating succession training for the club's Vice Presidents, and be in contact with my District Staff and Clubs, working on various issue we need to address. Judy and I will be heading to South Dakota for a few days visit with our son and Granddaughters. Club visits have been most positive and have broadened my knowledge of what Lionism is all about.

In November I attended the following Club meetings, Elkins, Roaring Creek, Mountain, West Milford and Bruceton Mills. At each meeting the president was presented with a copy of the current (23-24) Standard Club Constitution and By Laws and new members were presented with a copy of the

Orientation Guide along with a welcome greeting. Most of the club meetings have been by invitation from the clubs. I will begin contacting and scheduling meetings in December.

The Peace Poster Contest has ended. Information and a photo of the winning poster are located within this newsletter. We have 55 clubs in our District and only 6 clubs participated in the Peace Poster Contest. This is a good servicing activity, we are getting the kids involved, the school involved and the Lions Club involved. And in the future they might say "I did a Peace Poster for the Lions Club". They might become a Lion. It is not a difficult job to conduct a peace poster contest, easy servicing activity and very rewarding.

Whatever we do for the kids today might be good for the clubs in the future. The winning poster emphasizes the International Theme "Care to Dream". A very beautiful poster.

Have a wonderful December and a great Christmas and most of all a Happy New Year.

Kindness is like snow it never fails to add beauty to whatever it covers.



Merry Christmas and a Happy New year

DG Kermit Hawley
District Governor

valleylionscluba@gmail.com

Phone: 681-270-0211 304-3293545



DG Kermit & Lion Judy with ID Hans Neidhardt and Lion Shari at District 29C conference



DG Kermit with Leader Dog Griffin at District 29C Conference



MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

At this special time of year, we pause to count our blessings, we think of the friendships we have made with all our Lion members. It's a time to be grateful for all the Lions who have made our year so special.

We "Thank You" for the support you have given us this year as it truly has filled our hearts with gratitude.

Wishing you abundant happiness, health, friendship, love and laughter through the coming year!

District Governor Kermit & Lion Judy





PCC John Mason and New Member, Lori Rosamond with DG Kermit at Berkeley Springs Lions Club



DG Kermit and Crystal Bunch, recipient of a Leonard Jarrett award at West Milford Club meeting
Todd Somers & wife, with DG Kermit / Todd received a Melvin Jones Award from West Milford Club



PDG Dave Nicholson and
Lion Janice at West Milford



Lion Jay Shay sponsored new member, William Myers (holding certificate) with DG Kermit
and Club President, Crystal Thomas at the Bruceton Mills Community Club



Visited Bruceton Mills Community Club . Recent new members from left to right : Dawn Bolyard,
DG Kermit, Madison Glover and Tim Kinder.



District 29-I Lions

Scholarship Application for First Time Attendee to WV Lions Leadership Retreat **January 26-28, 2024**

Note: Five scholarships (\$105 each) will be awarded. This amount covers registration for meals and classes – not lodging at Days Inn, Flatwoods.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone/Email: _____

Club/Date Joined: _____

I hereby submit an application for a “First-Timer Scholarship” to the 2024 West Virginia Lions Leadership Retreat being held at Days Inn, Flatwood, WV, January 26-28, 2024.

(Please indicate below why you are interested in attending Leadership Retreat; if you have held any club offices; and any other pertinent information. Use a separate sheet if needed.)

Signature

Date

Deadline to Apply: December 20, 2023

**Please send application to: DG Kermit Hawley, 16047 Veterans Memorial Hwy.,
Kingwood, WV 26537 or via email at: valleylionsclub@gmail.com**



The Lions of West Virginia Leadership Retreat will be held at the Days Inn in Flatwoods on January 26-27-28, 2024. Yea, that right **3 Days.** We will be going back to when the school was created with three whole days of topnotch speakers, super presenters with great topics.

Our keynote speaker will be PID Larry Edwards from Altoona, Pennsylvania. Did I mention FOOD, yes Friday dinner, Saturday lunch & dinner, and Sunday lunch.

WOW!! **All 3 days just \$105.00 or Saturday \$75.00**

Breakfast is free when you are lodging at the Day's Inn

What about the seminars, there will be 12 different and informative topics like:

- Basic Roles & Responsibilities of the Big 4
- Promoting the Image of Lionism
- Diversity and Generation Difference
- Effective Public Speaking
- Strategic Planning and Developing SMART Goals
- Leadership Fundamentals
- The Roles & Responsibilities of Being a Zone Chairperson
- Developing Effective Teams
- Presentation Preparation
- Conflict Resolution
- The Vidal Roles of the District Governor and Resources Available for Support
- Orientation from a Different Perspective: Focusing on the Member's Needs

Room Rates:

- Kings \$110.00 + taxes per night
- Double Queen \$102.00 + taxes per night
- Suites \$150.00 + taxes per night
-

So set your sites and your calendar on coming to the Lions of West Virginia Leadership Retreat *"BE INSPIRED"*

YIL,
PCC Ken Shahan
LWVLR Chair

LIONS OF WEST VIRGINIA LEADERSHIP RETREAT

“BE INSPIRED”

January 26-28, 2024

Flatwoods Days Inn & Suites and Conference Center

Registration Deadline: January 13, 2024



Registration Fee:

\$105.00 Friday, Saturday, Sunday – Four banquet meals, seminars & materials

\$75.00 Saturday only – Two banquet meals, seminars & materials

Rooms: Contact Days Inn at 866-700-7284 (Tell them you are with the Lions Club)

Rate: \$102.00 Double Queen (up to 4 guests in a room) King \$110.00 Deadline to Reserve: 1/13/2024

Breakfast is included for individuals staying at the hotel.

Retreat activities include: Seminars to improve your Lions experience, motivational speakers, informational displays, Lions merchandise, Silent Auction, hospitality room, door prizes, great meals, and plenty of fun and fellowship. Information on specific seminars will be provided in District newsletters, a brochure, and website: <http://wvlions.org/LeadershipSchool/home.html>

NAME: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

CLUB NAME: _____ DISTRICT: _____

FIRST-TIME ATTENDEE: _____ Special Dietary Requirements: _____

Amount Enclosed: Fri, Sat, Sun \$105 _____ Saturday Only \$75 _____

Make checks payable to: Lions of West Virginia Leadership Retreat or LWVLR and send with form to:

PCC Ken Shahan, 1641 Adams Avenue, Clarksburg, WV 26301

Contact **PCC Ken Shahan** for more information at kenshahan@aol.com or 304-669-1641.

“LEADERSHIP and LEARNING are INDISPENSABLE to each other”





SILENT AUCTION

We will be having a **Silent Auction** at the upcoming Lions of West Virginia Leadership Retreat to be held on January 26-28, 2024 at Days Inn, Flatwoods, WV. To make this happen we are asking the assistance of **EVERY** club attending.

If each club would donate **one item**, there will be a great variety to **bid** on when you come to the Leadership Retreat. Possible ideas would be:

- ◆ Handmade craft items
- ◆ Special piece of glassware
- ◆ Specialty or theme baskets
- ◆ Gift certificates or packages
- ◆ Golf items
- ◆ Bottles or baskets of wine
- ◆ Seasonal decorations
- ◆ WVU or Marshall Items
- ◆ Lions' items
- ◆ Food baskets
- ◆ Wreaths
- ◆ Jewelry

It is hoped the items donated would be enticing enough that YOU will be willing to consider bidding.

Proceeds from the auction will be used to help defray the costs of the Leadership Retreat so that everyone in the multiple district will consider attending. This is a time to gather and grow as leaders, as well as enjoy the fellowship of Lion friends from around the multiple district and neighboring states.

We hope you will consider this request. Please complete the form below and send it to **Lion Paula Shahan** (paulashahan@aol.com) and let her know what type of item you or your club will donate. We look forward to hearing from you.

Lion Paula Shahan (304-629-5091)



ITEM BEING DONATED _____

SUGGESTED STARTING BID \$ _____

CLUB _____

CONTACT PERSON _____

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER _____

CONTACT E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Thank you in advance for your participation and support!!

Seminars for 2024 LWVLR

- 1. Basic Roles and Responsibilities of the Big 4 (president, secretary, treasurer, membership chairperson)** *You keep asking me to take one of these roles. Before I do, I want to know what is expected of them and what their duties are.* This seminar is designed to inform prospective and aspiring club officers of their duties and responsibilities and to encourage them to take on leadership roles at the club level. Target audience: All attendees

Facilitator: **PDG Micheal Gibbs**, District OH-1, Rushsylvania Lions Club

- 2. Promoting the Image of Lionism**

This seminar will involve an inward focus for individual Lions as well as an outward focus. It will explore ways that we can look at ourselves and what we do to make our clubs attractive to prospective Lions as well as newer members; and, it will explore ways that we can use social media to get our message to our target audiences. Target audience: All Lions

Facilitator: **Lions Suzanne Park Lewis**, Petersburg Lions Club, District 29-I

- 3. Diversity and Generational Differences**

This seminar will be led by a Millennial/s Lion who will discuss strategies that we can employ to attract and keep different generations to our clubs and meld them together into a vibrant and inclusive team and ways that diversity can strengthen our service efforts and grow our clubs. Target audience: All attendees, especially club and district officers.

Facilitator: **Lion Eli Hughes**, University of Charleston Lions Club, District 29-C

- 4. Effective Public Speaking**

This seminar will discuss the steps in planning for and preparing for any type of public speaking engagement that one might face as a leader. It will provide tips on overcoming anxiety associated with having to deliver a speech to a group of any size and practice techniques you can use to become comfortable. Target audience: All attendees

Facilitator: **Laura Seybold**, Owner of Shine Consulting, LLC

- 5. Strategic Planning and Developing SMART Goals**

Whether in our daily lives, in our work lives, or as a Lion leader, we all set goals for ourselves and our clubs so whether we know it or not, we often do some variation of strategic planning. This seminar is designed to help you plan more effectively for long-term success and develop SMART goals that will help you succeed. Target audience: All attendees

Facilitator: **PID Cindy Gregg**, Rostraver Township Lions Club, MD 14, Belle Vernon, PA

- 6. Leadership Fundamentals: The Five Practices of Effective Leaders**

In this seminar you will learn about the five fundamental practices of highly effective leaders as posited by two world renowned leadership experts. We will drill down further on each of these practices and ways that you can develop these same practices to become a more effective leader in every walk of life, not just in Lionism. Target audience: All attendees

Facilitator: **PID Steve Glass**, Harrison County HOPE Lions Club, District 29-I

- 7. The Roles and Responsibilities of Being a Zone Chairperson**

Incoming district governors and other district leaders keep asking me to become a zone chairperson. Before I say yes, tell me what my obligations are. What does a zone chairperson do? What is expected of them? Are there any rewards involved in performing this role? Tell me more. This seminar is designed to discuss the basic duties of this position and the resources

available to assist the zone chairperson. You will learn of the very valuable role that the zone chairperson plays in the success of the clubs and the district and the many rewards that it brings.

Facilitators: **PCC Paul Wheeler** and **PCC Gary Boyd**, Alum Creek Lions Club, District 29-C

8. Developing Effective Teams

It has been said many times now, *“Teamwork makes the dream work.”* Nowhere is that more important than in our Lions clubs and our districts. This seminar will delve into the characteristics of effective teams and some of the strategies that current and aspiring leaders can employ to understand team members’ personal styles and needs, then select the best combination of team members to ensure effectiveness, whether it be club committees or district cabinets. Target audience: All attendees

Facilitator: **PID Larry Edwards**, MD 14, Harris Township Lions Club, Altoona, PA

9. Presentation Preparation

We all have been called upon from time to time, whether it be for a school project, church committee report, work assignment, or giving a report or speech to a group of Lions, to do presentations whether it be strictly oral or using audio visual aids. This seminar is designed to help you be more comfortable in that role. You will learn about ways to better prepare and deliver your product. Target audience: All attendees

Facilitator: **PID Larry Johnson**, Parkersburg Lions Club, District 29-L

10. Conflict Resolution

We all have conflict, don’t we? Whether it be at home, work, church or Lions, conflict is inevitable. That’s a fact of life! This seminar is designed to define conflict versus differences of opinion and strategies to reduce conflicts in all aspects of our lives, especially in our Lions clubs. You will learn to self-reflect in this process and understand that how you see the problem might be the problem. Target audience: All attendees

Facilitator: **DG Chris Wooters**, District 22-C, Waldorf Lions Club, Prince Frederick, MD

11. The Vital Role of the District Governor and Resources Available for Support

“Again, I have been asked several times now to consider running for the position of district governor. My responses are I don’t have time; I’m not ready; I’m not prepared; I’m not sure that I have the right stuff, etc.

What does a district governor do? What commitments do they have? Are there resources to help me? Tell me more.” This seminar is designed to inform those who may have those questions as well as those who are currently serving on the district leadership teams about the role and responsibilities of the position as well as the vast rewards and benefits for those who choose to serve in this role.

Facilitator: **PCC Cindy Glass**, Clarksburg Lions Club, District 29-I

12. Orientation From a Different Perspective: Focusing on the Member’s Needs

This seminar will take a different approach to orientation from what you might be used to. It will focus on the new and prospective member and will focus on many aspects of new member recruiting. It will focus on the following questions:

What do you expect of me as a new Lion? How can I get my voice heard as a new member?

What do all these acronyms mean like GAT, LCIF, Mission 1.5, PDG, MyLCI, etc.

What happens if I am not interested in many of the projects that the club is doing? What can I do?

Tell me how my service and leadership relate to helping the club, district, multiple district, then the association. Explain to me how I can make a meaningful difference to people – after all, that’s why I joined!

Target audience: All attendees

Facilitator: **PDG Daniel Elkins**, Bellefonte Lions Club, District 22-D, Wilmington, DE



Zone 8 meeting on November 1. All six clubs were represented - Bridgeport, Clarksburg, Harrison County HOPE, Grafton, Nutter Fort and Stonewood.



**Fort Ashby Lions Club members at local Trunk or Treat
Provided treats (non-candy) to 300 children**

The Valley District Lions Club, in conjunction with West Preston School, has announced the September and October Fifth Grade Students of the Month.

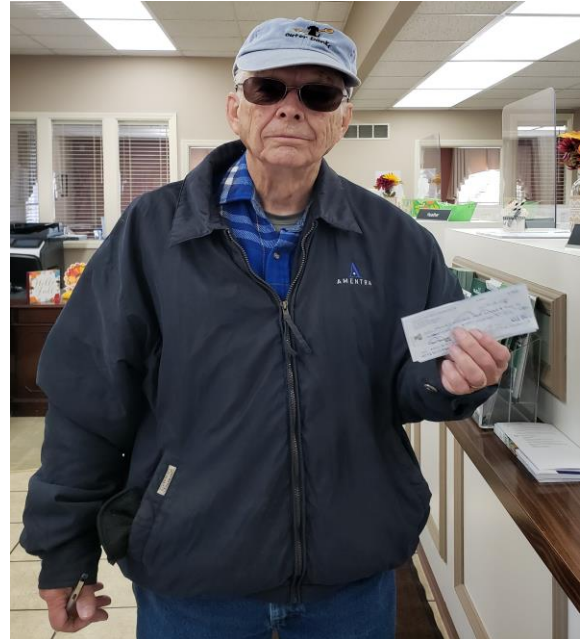
Willow Pyles was nominated as the September Student of the Month by her teacher, Mrs. Summer Lipscomb. Willow received a certificate and a \$50 cash prize. Pictured below (left to right) are: Mrs. Summer Lipscomb, Lion Lorrie Nielsen, Willow Pyles, Jackie Thompson (mom) and Lion Paul McBee.



Maia Fike was nominated as October Student of the Month by her teacher, Mrs. Mary Zeigler. Maia received a certificate and a \$50 cash prize. Pictured below, left to right, are Becky Fike (mom), Maia Fike, Lori Baker (mom), Mrs. Mary Zeigler, Lions Lorrie Nielsen and Paul McBee.

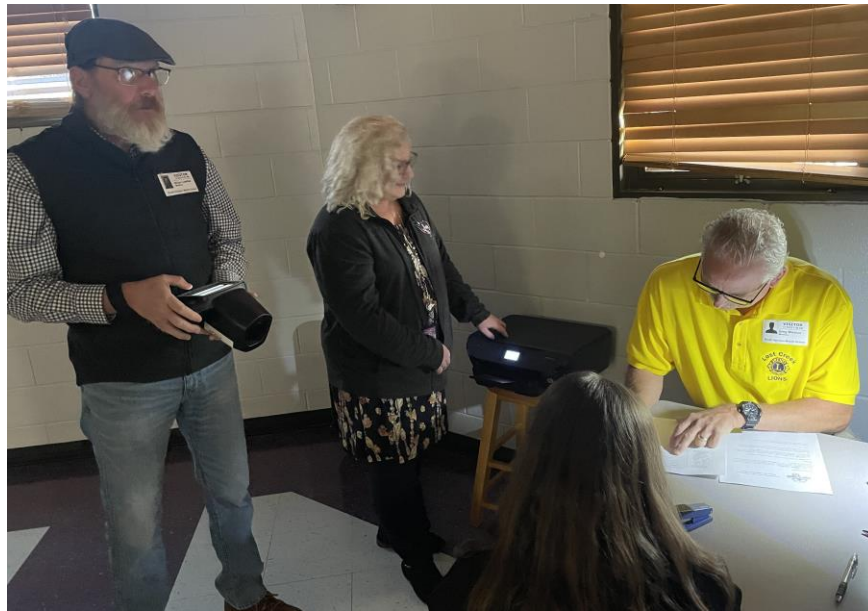


We are once again ringing the bell at our local store, Shop N Save, collecting donations from shoppers for our local food pantry. Every year we begin the week of Thanksgiving till December 23. Our collection from last year totaled \$3,849.33 and this check was recently presented to Marvin Stuck, Treasurer of the Valley Food Pantry. Pictured is Marvin Stuck getting ready to deposit our check. What a great service project this has become.



Casey Canoles from Berkeley Springs was the District 29-I Peace Poster Winner. Casey attends Warm Springs Middle School. This year's theme was "Dare to Dream", and Casey wrote: "With peace we can build a new Community". Congratulations Casey!!

Lost Creek Lions Club held their annual vision screening recently at Lost Creek Elementary School for the third grade class and at South Harrison Middle School for their sixth grade classes. There were ninety-one students screened and there were sixteen referrals for appointments to optometrists.



(from left) Lion Brian Lowther, Jody Sperry; Harrison County Schools Health Coordinator, Lion Greg Wriston



(from left) President Steve Hicks, Jody Sperry, Lions Virgil McNemar, Brian Lowther, Greg Wriston

Here is an article from the Martinsburg Journal newspaper about the Hedgesville Lions Club. The caption is not correct, but it is still good publicity!
Zone 1 Cahir David Plume

Article from Wednesday November 22, 2023 Martinsburg Journal

Hedgesville Lions Club installs new members

HEDGESVILLE — The Hedgesville Lions Club installed two new members on Oct. 2. The Lions Club would like to see more people join so they would be able to do more projects for the community. Lions are the world's largest service organization. Lions work with people that have sight and hearing problems and cannot afford the cost of taking care of your medical issues. For more information, call Delmar Barrett 304-702-2489.



Submitted photo

Pictured from left are Sue Walker for Samaritan Purse, Delmar Barrett Hedgesville Lions president, Lion Joan Barrett first vice president Hedgesville Lions.



Presentation of gift cards collected at fall conference.



Harpers Ferry Bolivar Club, where the club donated 25 turkeys in memory of Wallace Ott, who passed away early in November 2023. Pictured from left to right is Lion Jerry Bageant and his wife.

*Merry
Christmas*
& **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

DISTRICT GOVERNOR CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2023-2024

DECEMBER

DEC 2 VALLEY DISTRICT LIONS CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER

DEC 7 DG VISIT AT ROMNEY LIONS CLUB AT 6:30PM

DEC 12 DG VISIT AT PARSONS LIONS CLUB AT 6:00PM

DEC 18 – 28 SOUTH DAKOTA

DECEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS

JANUARY 2024

JAN 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR

JAN 20 COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING, GLAD SPRING RESORT

JAN 26-28 LIONS LEADERSHIP RETREAT, FLATWOODS CONFERENCE CENTER

FEBRUARY

FEB 1 PIKEWOOD & HEDGESVILLE MEETING

FEB 10 DISTRICT CABINET MEETING – LOCATION & TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED

MARCH

MARCH 16 DISTRICT 29L CONFERENCE, VIENNA CONFERENCE CENTER

APRIL

APRIL 26-28 MD29 CONVENTION, GLADE SPRINGS RESORT



DECEASED MEMBER	CLUB
Jay A Craig	Kingwood
William D Harvey	Kingwood
Jerry E Hauser	Mountain
Constance R Moore	Wilsonburg



New Member	Club	Sponsor
William E Myers	Bruceton Mills	James Shay
Juditha Labdik	Clarksburg	
Polly L Malick	Clarksburg	Miriam Nardella
Rebecca L Myers	Clarksburg	Helen McCarty
Danica Richards	Clarksburg	Katy Holmes
Linda L Ackerman	Hedgesville	Kevin Corrigan
William E Ackerman	Hedgesville	Kevin Corrigan
Kyle S Rogers	Lost Creek	Steven Rogers
Shari Dawn Stilgenbauer	Lost Creek	Gregory Wriston
Davisson Jennings Wriston	Lost Creek	Gregory Wriston
Beth Longo	Phillippi	Millard Minor
Dusty W Zicklefoose	Tennerton	Larry Wamsley

Please submit your articles/photos no later than the 22nd of every month to: brights@atlanticbb.net

Thank you!

Lion Mary Jane Bright
29I Newsletter Editor



Nexstep Commercial Products (formerly known as Cornelia Broom Company and France Broom Company) – Exclusive Licensee of O-Cedar – is now the **One and Only Official Broom Supplier to the Lions!**

Nexstep Commercial Products manufactures high-quality Lions Club Corn Brooms to the same standards the Lions Club have used for over 75 years. The Lions Club Broom Sale has proven to be a major fundraising event that's a very easy way to generate funds.



Contact Information

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