

Lions District 29L Newsletter May, 2024

Vol 11

DISTRICT GOVERNOR DAN HEINTZMAN

Happy May Lions of 29L.

Two months to go. Two more months to serve your communities and serve people. Two more months to bring in new members. Two more months to make a difference in your communities. Lions of 29L, please help me to finish my year strong. If I can be of any assistance in that regard, please let me know. Also, there is still time to arrange a DG visit with your Club. If I do not hear from you, do not be surprised if I don't show up at your meeting.

May 14 is the date set for the West Virginia Primary Election. Voters from all over the state will converge on their polls to vote for the candidate of their choice. Several Clubs have accepted my challenge to bring in food to their local polls for the poll workers. If you plan on doing that, please make sure you have the approval of your local County Clerk.

At my final Cabinet meeting on June 2, we will vote on the proposed merger of Morgantown and Westover Lions Clubs. Application must have cabinet approval before being sent to LCI. Once LCI signs off on it, the proposed name change will have to be approved by the cabinet of Dave Roberts once he becomes DG on June 25. When I visited the combined Morgantown/Westover DG Night on April 16, I gave them all the needed information and who to contact with LCI if there were any questions. I also gave them some good ideas to start Club branches in eastern Mon County especially where we lost two Clubs in Cheat Lake and Brookhaven along with a Club branch somewhere on the campus of West Virginia University.

Speaking of my final cabinet meeting, it will be held on June 2, 2024 at the Friendly Community Center in Friendly. Meal will cost \$10 for each non cabinet member. Meeting will start at 2pm followed by the meal. We will conclude the day with a roast of Yours Truly in the tradition of the old Dean Martin Roasts. I fully expect plenty of good-natured barbs to be sent my way.

And finally, May brings us graduation, Memorial Day, Armed Forces Day, and Mother's Day. I would not be the person I am today without the influences of my mother, my paternal grandmother Goldie, and maternal grandmother Margaret. I love and miss all three very much. Happy Mother's Day to all moms and moms to be.







Grandma and Grandpa

Grandma Margaret

Mom.

"I'm Proud 2 B a Lion, R U?" DG Dan

https://lions29l.org/

District website.

D.G. DIARY MAY 2024

| May-06 | Wheeling Island |
|--------|---|
| May-07 | South Parkersburg |
| May-09 | Boaz |
| May-14 | West Virginia Primary Election Day (Please bring some |
| | goodies to the poll workers) |
| May-27 | Memorial Day |

NEWS FROM THE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Welcome to all new Lions! Hope that all who attended the New Member Orientation learned something new about Lions. If DG Dan or I can be of any further assistance, just let us know.

By now, everyone who had an account with Lions International, should be able to access the New Portal. According to one of the Beta Testers (PDG Rick Houser, OH7), the white Search box on the top right of the page, should be your "best friend". LOL. If you cannot find what you are looking for, type key words into that box and it should take you where you need to go. Give me a call if you have any questions and I will do the best I can to help you out.

DON'T FORGET: DG Dan's final Cabinet meeting is June 2, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at the Friendly Community Center in Friendly. Please try to attend, to help us give the DG a great send off. RSVP to Kim McIntyre, (304-266-6730 or 304-652-3103), so that there is enough food to go around Also, if you have a funny story, picture, or a special thank you for DG Dan, please send it to me in an email. We would like to make up a scrapbook of his year.

Your in Lionism, PDG Terry Snyder lionterry55@gmail.com 304-479-8067





| Grantsville | 77 | 05/14/1947 | May |
|---------------------------|----|------------|-----|
| Harrisville | 94 | 05/28/1930 | May |
| Mt. Olivet | 50 | 05/29/1974 | May |
| Pinegrove Shortline | 39 | 05/13/1985 | May |
| Pleasants Area | 16 | 05/21/2008 | May |
| Western Monongalia County | 19 | 05/24/2005 | May |

YOUTH EXCHANGE REFLECTIONS

Eddie Sorah



From June 7th to July 2nd, 2023, I experienced Germany. From towering gothic cathedrals of an ancient era to sprawling cityscapes designed with utility and efficiency in mind. From forested bike trails booming with deafening silence to the backyard gardens vibrant with every color of the rainbow. I experienced Germany, and it changed the world.

My interests have always been different from those of my peers, where I would rather read books than play games or watch TV. I felt Eddie Sorah as if I couldn't relate to those around me; our understandings and views of the world were

different, and even now, those differences make it difficult to relate to others. I wasn't sure where, but I knew in my mind that there had to be someplace else where I Could find a sense of belonging. That was something I hoped to find by going abroad.

Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. I wrote my application essay for the Lions International Youth Exchange with those destinations in mind and prepared for the program's interview the same way. When I arrived at the interview, I was informed that all three of my chosen candidates were unavailable. I won the contest and this great opportunity but was left unsure of what would come of my experience traveling abroad.

I decided to look through books and documentaries. I became more and more excited about traveling. I didn't want to spoil myself beforehand, so I stopped researching and came to an answer shrouded in the unknown; one location, rich with history, literature, culture, and language: Germany.

After months of preparation, correspondence, and anticipation, my family and I made the trip to Charlotte, North Carolina, where I flew for the first time. From Charlotte to Atlanta, and Atlanta to Dusseldorf. Early on a rainy morning, I was sucked into Europe and Germany, into a fusion of the imperial old and the socially robust, into a situation I was thoroughly unprepared for, and into a world that I would absorb as much as it did me.

First, my new hometown. I stayed in the small town of Werne in the German state of Northrhine-Westphalia. There were five members of the family I stayed with; the father, mother, daughter, the eldest son, and the youngest son, but there would soon be seven. The day after my arrival I met my host brother, an eighteen-year-old from Turkey. Initially, I was unsure of him but after no more than a day I found that he shared the same interests I have in history, politics, and art. Out of everyone I met in Germany, there was no one I shared a tighter bond with than him.

I spent time with my host siblings playing soccer and Viking's chess in the garden; I played video games with them, and we watched movies with English subtitles late at night on the weekends. I sat with my host father and exchange brother from dinner till midnight, talking politics, sharing stories, and enjoying one another's company. The passage of time wasn't noticeable. The next morning, my host father and I would walk to the local bakery. At the bakery we would choose what breads to have for the morning's breakfast. Every time, I would choose something I hadn't had before and the croissants and laugen rolls I had fallen in love with. Going to the supermarket and buying food fresh without any preservatives changed my tastes, and the idea that food is an artform materialized. We would return with the breads and eat breakfast in the garden with the early sun blazing down. A freshly brewed espresso made every meal feel complete.

Other families hosted exchange students in the town of Werne, giving me a group of Germans and other foreign nationals to explore this country alongside. Walking the brick streets to attend barbecues where people talk about everything, it was something I hadn't experienced before. We would meet up with the other exchange students in town for a fun time, whether it be lunch in the town square, going for ice cream, walking around town, or participating in local events. We joined the Leo's Club, the youth Lion's Club, and participated in games and meetings.

My host brother and I would often leave town during the workdays, traveling to one of the many cities in the region. From the beautifully constructed streets and halls of Munster to the calm shores of the Rhine. We traveled by train everywhere; although always delayed, Germany's public transit system was shocking in its utility. A rural farmer could reach an urban sprawl within twenty minutes' time. After arriving, we would walk slowly without aim, making our way to shops and cafes and extremely important historical sites that blended into the scenery. We visited museums and saw things that most Americans could only dream of seeing. Standing before an exhibition of Picasso's work left an impression of deep significance I hadn't felt before. Time would march on, and by our return to the station, the day had passed.

Throughout Germany there are many cathedrals, but none are grander than the Cologne Cathedral. After leaving the train station, one sees only a city until they turn their head left; before them stands a building so old and haunting that it belongs in a dark fantasy novel, as if a dragon would fly out from behind its towers to spit fire on the thousands of people standing beneath it. Yet, despite its appearance, the feeling

one gets when they enter the cathedral is the exact opposite. The moment one steps inside, the world stops. It's cold. It's quiet. Whether one is religious or not, that feeling of absolute tranquillity consumes you.

The memory that stands out most in my mind is not a party, or tourist attractions, or the amazing people I met. It is an early Tuesday morning. I decided to travel on my own to the city of Dortmund. I took the train alone and walked the city streets, desolate of society's inhabitants. Most shops were closed, so I walked aimlessly through the streets. In an empty shopping mall, I bought Soccer souvenirs. I bought a coffee and sat alone outside in the morning sun. I went back to the station, waited quietly, and took the train back to Werne. While standing at the train platform, I realized something; I am now an adult. I have no concrete support system here, I am acting alone, and I am doing the things that everyone else does. I was like everyone else. I left my host family and the town in which I stayed for a youth camp lasting ten days. There, I met individuals from across Europe and North America who I would normally never befriend. We traveled around the region together, visiting museums, amusement parks, and small towns. These were things that I wouldn't have done before. We had fun without the worries of everyday life. We were strangers at first, but boarding my flight home, we were comrades and compatriots bound together by an experience too important to forget.

I have kept in contact with my host family, my German friends, and the other exchange students I met. Before I would have disconnected, but these relationships are important to me, so I will continue to foster them into the future. Flying over the Atlantic for the second time, I thought back on everything that occurred in Germany. The world is bigger than it once was. I won't know what will happen in the future, if life will go as planned or not; but if I can't find that ideal place, there will be one place for me to return to. Somewhere along the calm shores of the Rhine or a small town south of Munster. It is my new home. That is Germany.

CHESTER LIONS CLUB



President Jodie recognized Tom Hineman for 10 years of service to the club at our meeting last night. Thanks, Tom, for everything you have done for us and the community! Congratulations!

Children from infants to 10 years old – divided into four categories by age – scrambled to find 3,500 Easters eggs filled with candy or prizes, Saturday morning during the Chester Lions Club's "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny" held at the Chester Municipal Building. Organizers estimated 125-150 people attended the event which also featured face painting and photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny.







We recently recognized Doug Comm on 25 years as a member of the Chester Lions Club. Congratulations, Doug! Your commitment to service to our club and the community is both honourable and commendable, and very much appreciated!



CHESTER AND NEWELL LIONS CLUB











The Chester Lions Club had a wonderful time hosting District Governor's night with the Newell Lions Club. We welcomed District Governor of 29L, Dan Heintzman and company.

Newell Lions inducted 2 new members into our Club, Amy and Kerry! We celebrated 15 years for my mom and I and 20 years for Jack.







On this gorgeous Earth Day we picked up 12 bags of trash along Pyramus Road in Lawrenceville as part of the Adopt a Highway program. Thank you to Dustin Lang for coordinating the work (and taking the photos)!

DALLAS LIONS CLUB



District 29L sends its deepest condolences to the family of Dallas Lions Club charter member Lion Don Bryant on his passing. I had the pleasure of giving him his 45year chevron at the recent DG Night in Dallas.

ATTENTION: Flags For Heroes, by the Dallas Lions Club, has new pricing. This year, flag sponsorship is \$35 for the first flag and \$25 for any additional sponsorship. You may recognize anyone, not just veterans. Veterans will have the flag flown again on Veterans Day of the same year. Lions share proceeds with the Dallas VFD and the Cemetery Association on alternating years. The Lions Club retains the flag and the medallions are given to the sponsor.



FAIRMONT LIONS CLUB

The Fairmont Lions Club was presented a plaque for becoming a Model Club for the club's contribution to the success of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) Campaign 100. Model Clubs around the world made it possible for LCIF to award 403 grants to help combat COVID 19. Contributions from Model Clubs also helped to aid Ukrainian refugees in 17 countries. Model Club members played a pivotal role in expanding LCIF's ability to support their global causes and to make it possible for LCIF to continue empowering the service of Lions for years to come. An LCIF grant has already been received and WV Lions are using those funds to assist those in West Virginia who have been flooded by recent heavy rains. We are local. We are global.





FOLLANSBEE LIONS CLUB

The Follansbee Lions continue to collect eye glasses and provide eye exams for those in need. We had three seniors and one special needs case in the month of March. The individual who looks after the seniors has decided to join our Club!

We are preparing in earnest for Follansbee Community Days which occur in July. In conjunction with that, we have scheduled a Blood/Membership drive. Details will follow in a later newsletter. Keep on Serving!

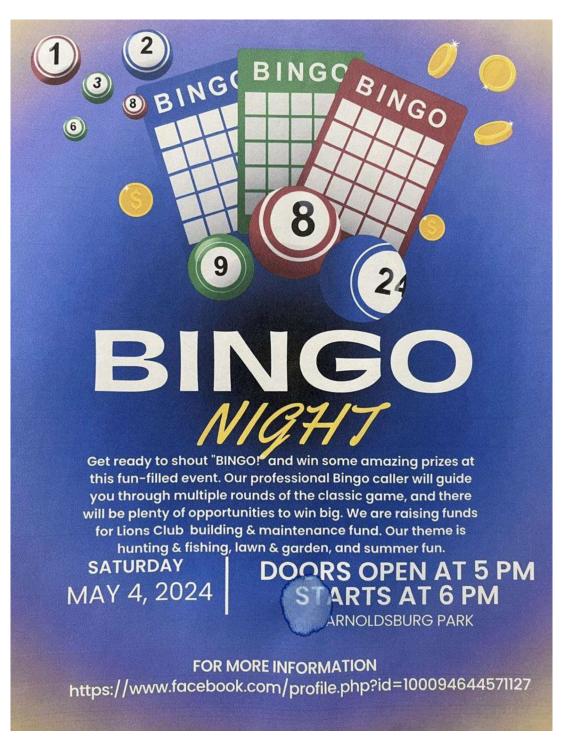
FRIENDLY LIONS CLUB

The Friendly Lions Club screened 19 children at the Indian Creek school this afternoon. Thank you for having us out.



Friendly Lions Club associate member Brian Cornish at the annual Golden Horseshoe Festival in Australia.

The Friendly Lions Club wants to thank everyone who came out today for our Build a Basket. We had over 125 kids and ran out of just about everything. Also kudos to 5 members of the Paden City Lions Club who came and gave us a hand, 7 members of our Friendly Club, hopefully soon to be Lion Leeanna Wise, the Easter Bunny, and Lennie the Lion for showing up today



MILTON LIONS CLUB

At our Last meeting we had a very special guest—Reed Byers, who will soon be our newest member. We are proud to welcome him and his positivity to our group. Please honor him with your vote for the Cabell County Board of Education. His bright energy and enthusiasm will be a welcome asset for our community.





MOUNDSVILLE LIONS CLUB

Congratulations Lexi Landis, The March Leo of the month from JMHS was honored by the Moundsville Lions Club. Thank you Lexi for your help with the Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser.





Spaghetti Dinner



Message from D.G. Dan

Thank you, Moundsville WV Lions Club, for the great food and fellowship. I got to catch up with Lion Nick Zervos and Karen and said hi to PDG Gene Saunders and several of the Moundsville Lions Club members.

Terry and Russell Snyder attended the Moundsville's Spaghetti Fund Raiser--what a meal. The portions were nice and the spaghetti was phenomenal!! Kudos, Moundsvilles Lions.



Thank you Tony Martinelli President WVU Medicine Reynolds Memorial Hospital for being our guest speaker today at Moundsville Lions Club, providing an update on where things are at the hospital and what improvements are being made.

COUNCIL CHAIR AND OTHER ELECTION RESULTS.

Council Chair - Rhonda Smith DG David Roberts SVDG Kim Ebert FVDG is vacant



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL THE MOTHERS OUT THERE MT. OLIVET LIONS CLUB



CELEBRATE OUR 50TH WITH US.

The Mt. Olivet Lions invite you to join us for our 50th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, June 8, 2024.

Our Speaker will be Past District Governor and former Member of the Mt. Olivet Lions Club Wendy Cain.

We will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary with a dinner on Saturday, June 8, 2024, at the Mount Olivet Methodist Church, 162 Fairmont Pike Road, Wheeling, WV 26003.

Please RSVP No later than May 24th.

Social Hour: 6:00 pm
Dinner: 6:30 pm
Program: 7:00 pm
Cost per person: \$25.00

Dinner Choice of Baked Steak or Stuffed Chicken

Please send your reservations to: Connie Wright, President 423 Garvins Lane Wheeling WV 26003 304.233.7956

Make check payable to Mt. Olivet Lions Club

| Name | _(Dinner choice) |
|----------|------------------|
| Name | _(Dinner choice) |
| Address: | |
| Phone: | |
| Email: | |

Where there's a need, there's a LION!

At the recent District 29L conference, we honored our 2023 Peace Poster winner, Sophia Kurko, from Our Lady of Peace School whose poster won the district level. Her poster will now be sent to the state level and hopefully on to the national level. The theme for the poster was "Dare to Dream".

Sophia is shown here with Lion. Paul Amrhein LCIF Coordinator. Congratulations Sophia, and good luck!





NEW CUMBERLAND LIONS CLUB

Kudos to the New Cumberland Lions! 30 bags of trash/litter picked up in less than 3 hours! We had 9 Lions and 2 guests









New Cumberland Lions Club Member, Jeanne Cox gave a presentation on the history of the American Flag to the New Manchester 3rd grade students. Small American flags and informational flag pamphlets were given to all the students at the conclusion of the program.

New Cumberland Lions Club Participants were: Organizer Jeanne Cox, Don Deemer, Peggy Lee, Jim Wells and Joyce Young.

Always a special pleasure visiting and working with the New Manchester Elementary Staff and Students!!!

NEW MARTINSVILLE LIONS CLUB

Thank you EQT for people in New Martinsville getting ready for their clean up. Many will require help cleaning up and getting things piled to go into the dumpster. Prayers all over for the loss of items and homes.







NEWELL LIONS CLUB

Past District Governor Lion Jeff Baxter a friend of the Newell Lions Club recently passed away.

OHIO COUNTY VIRTUAL LIONS CLUB

The Ohio County Virtual Lions were excited to host their second annual Steak Fry at the Warwood Veterans Club on April 27th from 5P-9P. In addition to a delicious meal with chicken, steak, baked potato, salad, bread, & dessert, They had a Chinese auction and 50/50 raffle!

We got to be a part of a special event at West Liberty Elementary School! We were proud to help donate books to their new vending machine! What a great reward system for perfect attendance, positive attitudes, and many more positives for the children! We were proud to be a part of stocking the vending machine!



We are gearing up for another great season of the Warwood Farmers Market thanks to our sponsors, Grow Warwood Pride and Ohio County Virtual Lions Club! True to our mission, we are working hard to create a stronger, healthier community - both physically and in civics, by being the people's destination for locally sourced food and artisan goods.

We strive to provide information and education for adults and children alike through our numerous organization partnerships, such as West Liberty Lions Club Family Support Center and WVU Extension Service-Ohio County! Thanks to a Wheeling Heritage Partnership Grant, our Children's Market program provides free produce to children, and our FREE arts and crafts program provides learning opportunities to keep kids active and learning throughout the summer!

We know how tight budgets are now, so we are making food more accessible through programs like SNAP - Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program - Food Stamps, SNAP Stretch program offered through the West Virginia Food & Farm Coalition, and the Northern Panhandle WIC Program. Look for more information soon on how to use these programs in our market!

We are a destination for art, food, entertainment, and community every Tuesday



from 4-7pm starting June 4th! What are you looking forward to in our market? Tell us in the comments and share our post for a chance at opening day giveaways!

We hope you make Tuesdays a Warwood Farmers Market night for you and your family!

PARKERSBURG LIONS CLUB





Parkersburg Lions Club Out of Sight Dinner

PLEASANTS AREA LIONS CLUB

Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner

Pleasants Area Lions Club hosted an appreciation dinner for local law enforcement and support staff Monday, March 18, at the Pleasants County Senior Citizens Center. Those participating included representatives from the St. Marys Police Dep., Pleasants County Sheriff's Dept., State Police, Pleasants County E-911 Center and Pleasants County Emergency Ambulance Authority. "It was a great honor to show our gratitude to these men and women and their families as they serve our community," a spokesman said.







Had a Wonderful time Celebrating Spencer's 96th Charter with Them last Night. Bingo was so much fun and this cake was delicious!!! Thanks again for having me!!! (Bobette Grim).

Thanks to Bridget carpenter for the wonderful cakes you made for the Lions Club.

WELLSBURG LIONS CLUB

The Lions Club International gave the Wellsburg Lions Club an emergency grant to help flood victims in Wellsburg. Starting on Monday April 15, 2024 we will be taking appointments to help residents directly affected by the flood.

WHEELING LIONS CLUB

We love the Wheeling Lions Club!

At their meeting, they recognized our PHENOMENAL Ohio County Schools nurses.

Our nurses are such an important piece to our school system, and we are fortunate to have knowledgeable, kind, and caring professionals.

The Lions also recognized their annual Peace Poster contest winner. This year's winner was Wheeling Middle School's own Penelope! Thank you, Lions.





WHEELING ISLAND LIONS CLUB



Cleaning supplies are RESTOCKED at Madison Elementary School.



I am asking all Clubs in 29L to collect cleaning supplies, mops, bleach, and buckets to distribute to the areas in need for cleaning up after the Ohio River goes down.







Wheeling Island Lions Club Flags for Heroes 2024



The Wheeling Island Lions Club is proudly offering the opportunity to recognize your hero by sponsoring a flag that will be displayed at Madison Elementary School for the 2024 season. You can sponsor a flag honoring a military member, first responder, teacher, community member, employee, or your own special hero (past or present). A donation of \$50 will sponsor a flag that will be displayed at Madison Elementary School for Memorial Day, 4th of July, and Veteran's Day. Each flag will have a commemorative tag with the honoree's name, which will hang on the flagpole until the conclusion of the season, when it will be mailed to the sponsor. Previous sponsors can sponsor a flag for only \$30.00. Proceeds from the donations will benefit Wheeling Island community activities and Lions' charities.

CLOTHING DONATIONS

Please donate your unwanted clothes to nursing homes before you donate to Goodwill. Some folks don't have family members who provide clothing, and they don't have the money or physical abilities to buy their clothing. It's so sad helping dress people in the same 3 outfits that have rips and holes, missing buttons in them. Don't take them to Goodwill send them to someone who could use them and not have to wear the same things over and over until they are worn.



MESSAGE FROM DG DAN

I am asking all Clubs in 29L to collect cleaning supplies, mops, bleach, and buckets to distribute to the areas in need for cleaning up after the Ohio River goes down.

29 L Newsletter

DG Daniel Heintzman

Newsletter Chairperson

Josie Cornish, 58 Camp Street. Beechworth 3018 Vic. Australia Please send articles to: Email: josephinecornish09@gmail.com



LISA GISMONDI

So How do marshmallows, pasta, and a butterfly have anything to do with Mission 1.5??

Hear me out...

"Think outside the Pasta Box" was the team building exercise for this year's District 14-E Convention. This role-playing exercise asked each table to pretend they were a club. And at this table were new club members who had just joined.

We all know how important it is to make sure we RETAIN our new recruits that have joined our clubs. How do we do that?

- We engage our new members
- We listen to their ideas
- We USE their ideas
- We let them help and/or lead
- We think outside the box!

Each "club" was challenged to build a self sustaining tower using only pasta and raw marshmallows with a butterfly topper. We started the exercise by having everyone connect two pieces of pasta to a marshmallow anyway they wanted.... This represented their "idea". It was then up to the club to incorporate everybody's idea into their build.

It was so exciting seeing everyone working together! Each table had very unique ideas!

Just like IRL... we need to make sure we embrace new ideas, new voices, and give everyone a chance to participate.. especially our brand new members who are new to our clubs.

So the next time your club gets together, I challenge you to "think outside the pasta box".
I think you'll be pleasantly surprised at what you come up with and are able to execute! Happy members will keep active and engaged. We can't just be checking boxes to meet the goal of the moment. We must follow through and nurture so our hard work to get them here doesn't leave us!







GREETINGS FROM YOUR EDITOR IN BEECHWORTH VIC. AUSTRALIA.

A woman was flying from Melbourne to Brisbane ...

Unexpectedly, the plane was diverted to Sydney.

The flight attendant explained that there would be a delay, and if the passengers wanted to get off the aircraft the plane would re-board in 50 minutes.

Everybody got off the plane except one lady who was blind.

A man had noticed her as he walked by and could tell the lady was blind because her Seeing Eye Dog lay quietly underneath the seats in front of her throughout the entire flight.

He could also tell she had flown this very flight before because the pilot approached her, and calling her by name, said, 'Kathy, we are in Sydney for almost an hour. Would you like to get off and stretch your legs?'

The blind lady replied, 'No thanks, but maybe Max would Like to stretch his legs.' Picture this:

All the people in the gate area came to a complete standstill when they looked up and saw the pilot walk off the plane with a Seeing Eye dog!

The pilot was even wearing sunglasses.

People scattered.

They not only tried to change planes, but they were trying to change airlines! True story...

Have a great day and remember...

...THINGS AREN'T ALWAYS AS THEY APPEAR.

