



291 PRIDE NEWS

Keeping District 291 Lions Clubs Informed
Volume 02 Number 06 291 LIONS January 2026
Editor Lion Jim Mullen @ LIONS291newsletter@yahoo.com



LIONS EIGHT PILLARS OF SERVICE -- HUNGER



This is a series of articles to help Lions learn more about the LCI [Global Causes](#). The articles contain hyperlinks to information to help gain ideas and learn more about LCI initiatives you can bring to your community. Lions International Global Causes are the specific service causes supported by Lions International. Global causes have fully developed programs, service resources, funding opportunities and organizational support. Global causes help answer the question: What causes are Lions uniting to serve around the world?



Hunger

Lions and Leos, with the support of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), improve food security and access to nutritious food to help alleviate Hunger.

Get your club involved in one of these hunger service areas and see how your service will help achieve the [Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Click on each paragraph title to learn more about these LCIF programs.

Service Areas

FOOD COLLECTION, PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION

Enhance access to food for community members by creating avenues for food collection, preparation and distribution.

COMMUNITY FEEDING EVENT

Promote wellness and nutrition by providing meals and community engagement for local families.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

Provide sustainable access to food through the development and support of community agricultural systems.

HUNGER INITIATIVES FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Advance food equity by empowering women and children through hunger-related service.

HUNGER AND NUTRITION AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

Promote hunger and nutrition awareness around the world through education and advocacy.

LCIF grants

Several types of foundation grants are available to support hunger relief service throughout the world.

HUNGER GRANT

LCIF Hunger Grants help Lions support school-based feeding programs, food banks, feeding centers and similar facilities that provide food to people when they need it most.

MATCHING GRANT

LCIF Matching Grants fund equipment and construction for large-scale projects that address unmet humanitarian needs.

DISTRICT & CLUB COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANT

Through the DCG program, 15 percent of unrestricted contributions to LCIF are transformed into grants that fund local projects on a club and/or district level.

LEO SERVICE GRANT

LCIF Leo Service Grants provide financial assistance to Leo service projects implemented by Leo clubs in a Lions multiple district or district.

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29I & MULTIPLE DISTRICT CALENDAR

The Complete 29I District Calendar for 2025 – 2026 is available on the website [29I LIONS](https://wvlions.org/)

Multiple District 29 Link = <https://wvlions.org/>

- **March 13th and 14th** – District 29L Conference, Blennerhassett Hotel, Parkersburg, WV
- **May 15th through 17th** – **MD29 Lions State Convention**, Canaan Valley Resort, Davis, WV.
More information will be sent to everyone soon.
- **July 3rd to 7th** – 108th International Lions Convention, Hong Kong
- **NO ADDITIONAL UPDATES TO THE CABINET CALENDAR AT THIS TIME**

CLUB OFFICERS: LCI WILL NO LONGER SEND PAPER INVOICES AS OF 15JUL2025. CLUBS CAN REQUEST PAPER BILLING BY CALLING LCI ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE AT 630-203-3810

District Governor's Message

By DG Lion Greg Greenwalt

Good day fellow Lions !!!!

I hope everyone had a great Holiday season and are ready to begin a new year. I want to welcome our new SVDG Diana Bedell. I look forward with working together as we start the second half of our 25/26 term year and for years to come. Also I wish to thank the Cabinet Members, Our Lion's Clubs and Members for all the hard work they do every day in making our District better. We still have much work to do as we strive to make our communities better. Please reach out to any of us if we can be of assistance in helping with issues you may have. Adding new and retaining current members is so important to our ability to continue to serve. I ask each of you to do your best in recruiting new and retaining our current members. THANK YOU !!! I have met with many of our Clubs and members over the past few months for

our DG visits. What a wonderful experience this has been. I have been to places I have never been and met so many great Lion's Members and made memories I will never forget.

Thank You!!! Have a Great Year!

Lion Greg Greenwalt, DG 29 I

2nd Vice District Governor's Message

By SVDG Lion Diana Bedell

MEET SVDG DIANA BEDELL

Roar Lions Roar! Now that I have your attention, let me introduce myself to those I have not met. My name is Lion Diana Bedell, and I am the recently appointed SVDG. I hail from Charleston but have lived in Bridgeport for a little over 40 years and am a member of the Bridgeport Lions Club.



I have been a Lion for almost ten years and have served as president of the Bridgeport Lions for three different terms and have also served as the Zone 8 chair (including currently) on three separate occasions. I am also serving as LCIF co-chair of my club. I am a Melvin Jones Fellow and was the 2023 District 29-I Leonard Jarrett recipient.

So why did I step up to be SVDG? The words “service” and “leader” spoke to me. I will admit that I have toyed with the idea for a while but was waiting until I retired, which I did this past April. I worked as a paralegal for over 30 years and retired from full-time work, although I still pick up a couple of days a week when my schedule permits. I also enjoy traveling and needed to get a few trips under my belt before stepping up.

The “service” aspect of Lionism is what inspires me. Our motto is “We Serve” and that sums up why I enjoy being a Lion, in addition to working side by side other great Lions. No project or need is ever too big or too small because where there is a need, there is a Lion.

I have also served as a leader in other organizations in North Central West Virginia, including past president of United Way of Harrison County, Business and Professional Women, HOPE, Inc. (a task force on domestic violence), Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the WV Choral Arts Association. In addition, I am active in my church including choir,

visitation committee, and staff parish relations committee.

I think I have learned along the way that if you want a good leader, find one that stays busy. My friends will tell you that I am always busy, but I have learned to work hard and play harder and that is what I do.

Being a leader is not an “I” or “me,” it is about all of us working as a team and that is the vision that I will always carry. It is not about what I accomplish, but rather what we accomplish working together. We hear a lot about bringing in new members and starting new clubs, but it’s also important to retain the members that make District 29-I the great group of Lions we are so that we have a strong base to continue into the future. I am hoping that I can inspire many of you reading this to step up and join the leadership team of District 29-I – it takes teamwork and patience.

I am still learning as many of us are, but please reach out and introduce yourself if you see me traveling around. But first and foremost, please remember your “why” – why did you become a Lion and remember to always SERVE.

*Yours in service,
SVDG Lion Diana Bedell*

29I -- MULTIPLE DISTRICT -- LCI

“WE SERVE”

Multiple District 29 Link = <https://wvlions.org/>

Club Administration

By Lion Steve Glass, District Administrator

To all club officers, especially club secretaries & administrators: I can assist you with Portal issues such as entering new members or making changes to membership information and/or entering service activities. I will be glad to assist you. I can review individual club reports such as rosters, club contact information, club officers, etc. Please use me.

Club treasurers: You will not receive paper copies of per capita dues statements January 2026. You must access it online in the Portal. Nor will you be receiving a paper copy from Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer Daryl See. He will be emailing the dues statements to each club treasurer, so please ensure that he has your correct email address or the email address of another club officer who can provide it to you if you do not use email. Daryl’s phone number and email address are as follows:
304-851-0786 and darsaeyjnu@gmail.com.

29I Zone 8 Report

By Lion Diana Bedell, Zone Chairperson

This is my third time serving as a Zone chair and it has been a pleasure to meet the members of the clubs in District 29-I and in my Zone and attend the various meetings and see how each club functions. While each club has its own agenda when it comes to fundraising and planning, the ultimate result as Lions is, "We Serve."

I am firmly convinced that communication is the key in any organization, and the Lions are no different. Club presidents need to communicate to their members and vice versa. There also needs to be communication with the district leadership. If there are issues, they need discussed and if there are problems, they need to be nipped in the bud and



Five of the six Zone 8 clubs were represented at November Zone meeting. Attending were (front row) Larry Johnson, Diana Bedell, PID Steve Glass, Helen McCarty and (back row) Paula Shahan, Ken Shahan, Susie Lehmann, Jay Larry, Charlene Louk, Frank Sturm, Jeff Lawrence, Kelly Grant and Patty Flanigan. (Missing from photo are Theresa Gain and Doug Miley)

resolved. We would like to think that our clubs are like a well-oiled machine because some have been around many years, but there is always room for improvement. If you have issues, never hesitate to reach out to past and current leaders for assistance. As Lions, we have a wealth of information available to us on the local, district and national level. Never hesitate to ask for guidance.

Below is a synopsis of our first Zone meeting for the 2025-2026 Lions year:

Zone 8 (Bridgeport, Grafton, Clarksburg, Harrison County Centennial Hope, Nutter Fort and Stonewood) met on November 8, 2025, with eighteen members from five of the six clubs

represented. It was a highly informative meeting as there was good networking between the zone members. Each club had an opportunity to discuss their club challenges and successes. Membership, cost of dues and gaining younger members by far present the biggest challenges for each of the clubs. Activities the clubs have participated in include Read Aloud programs at schools, Flag Day, Adopt-a-Highway, food drives, Angel Tree programs, vision screenings, gifting food baskets and helping to feed those less fortunate in our communities, providing uniforms for a local bicycling group and providing funds for the purchase of white canes for visually impaired students in Romania.

The September Health Assessment for the clubs was discussed and the importance of recording members as well as service activities each month. Overall, Zone 8 has done well in both areas. We discussed the importance of marketing clubs, and various tools including social media and the press. I encouraged those in attendance to utilize the Zone 8 Lions page on Facebook as this has been an effective way for the clubs to know what is going on within our zone and a way to share ideas among the clubs.

PID Steve Glass gave a presentation on the Lions Portal and led a discussion on Lions core values, commitment to service, appreciation for diversity, spirit of innovation and the need for dynamic collaboration. He also stressed the importance of collecting dues in a timely manner, submitting all reports in a timely fashion and the need for financial transparency in the clubs.

Clubs were asked to present ideas for a Zone project in conjunction with Weeks 2 (hunger) or 3 (environment). Clubs will reconvene to finalize the Zone project soon.

In the words of Lions International President Singh, "Lead to Serve and Serve to Lead!"

How many times is it appropriate to say - "What?" - before you just nod and smile because you still didn't hear or understand a word they said?

Youth Exchange Reflections

By Pauliina Myllymäki

Youth Exchange Reflections from Finland

Living my dream through the Lions youth exchange. Hi! I am Pauliina Myllymäki from Finland, and I had the chance to spend part of my summer in the United States through the Lions Youth Exchange program. The trip was unforgettable, and since returning home, there has not been a single day when I have not thought about it with warmth. I spent three weeks in August 2025 in West Virginia, in a small town called Mathias. My host family lived close to the border of Virginia, so we spent a lot of time there as well. Thanks to them, I also got to visit the state of Maryland. Visiting the United States had been one of my biggest dreams, so I am forever grateful to Lions for making this experience possible for me. My host family was truly more than I could have wished for. They welcomed me with open arms and made me feel at home from the very first day. The family included a mom, a dad, and two younger boys. We spent a lot of time together talking, playing games, going outside, and watching shows. During my stay, we shared our cultures with each other. I learned a lot about the USA and I got to share my Finnish culture. The host family lived in the countryside surrounded by beautiful scenery and many animals. I am grateful because I was able to experience so many different sides of the United States. My host family made it possible for me to see stunning nature, movie-like neighborhoods, and the excitement of big cities. My host family was always full of ideas for things we could do together. Almost every day we explored the local area and experienced something new. We spent time in West Virginia's nature, had picnics by the water, went shopping in Virginia, and tried new restaurants. I finally got to go to Target and Walmart, which had weirdly been little dreams of mine. I know it might



sound silly to anyone who lives there, but I was genuinely so excited. Every day during my exchange felt like a gift. I still remember driving over the mountains at sunset, with music playing and the sky glowing orange. In Virginia we visited the amazing Luray Caverns. We also spent a day at a traveling fair, and I experienced my first American rodeo, which was incredible. One of the funniest days was at the Virginia Safari Park, where hungry animals kept sticking their heads into our car. Another unforgettable moment was horseback riding along a forest trail in West Virginia, something I had wanted to do for a long time. I got to meet so many wonderful people, and I feel like my English improved a lot while I was there. We

also took two overnight trips to bigger cities, where I got a taste of city life. In Maryland, we visited Baltimore, where I saw beautiful city views and explored different museums. Before I flew back home, we also visited Washington DC and got to feel the atmosphere of the capital. I got to see incredible landmarks, including the White House and many historic memorials. We also spent time exploring the impressive Museum of Natural History. This exchange was one of the best things that has ever happened to me. I had never traveled alone before, but everything went smoothly. After graduating from high school, I had been

longing to travel and see more of the world. The youth exchange taught me independence and courage, and it showed me how much there is to explore beyond home. I truly recommend the Lions Youth Exchange to any young person who is thinking about applying. It is so much more than just traveling to a new country. You get to experience a different way of life, meet wonderful people, and learn things about yourself that you would never discover at home. It gives you confidence, independence, and memories that stay with you forever. I am incredibly thankful to my local Lions Club for supporting me and for making this dream come true.

Youth Camps & Exchange

By Lion Henry Krautwurst, Chairperson '24-'25

Youth Exchange Interviews

Youth Exchange Committee met on December 6th in Nutter Fort to interview 14 students vying to receive one of the six travel scholarships valued at \$1,700 and the opportunity to gain experience in a foreign community. The interviews started at 10:00 am and finished at 3:00 pm. As I have said in the past, we see some of the most incredible students in WV. It is amazing their activities both in school and in their communities.

The interview committee consisted of Lorrie Krautwurst, Mackenzie Harshbarger and Richard McMillen. They all commented how difficult it was trying to select only 6 winners. They all said they wanted to award a scholarship to all of the students. They convinced the Committee Chair, Michelle Harshbarger, to add one more award. Seven students will travel during the summer of 2026. One alternative student was named who will move up if one of the winners is unable to travel.



Pictured above are the successful candidates chosen for the Youth Exchange Scholarships. They are: (L-R) Alyssa Dalton, Gabriela Stevens, Henry Spears, Colton Hetzer, Quin Surles, Oloniya Jones and Shayle Montgomery (not pictured due to having to work).

The students and their families remained with us throughout the day. Lion Paula Shehan is a member of the church in which the interviews were held. At the back of the room was a long table of food for their Back Pack Ministry. So, while the students were waiting to hear who the winners would be, we engaged them in a service activity. They filled 183

bags of food and set them on a table for the church back pack committee to make use of the next day.



At 3:20 the interview committee announced the winners: Gabreilla Stevens, Alyssa Dalton, Oloniya Jones, Henry Spears, Colton Hetzer, Quin Surles & Shayle Montgomery with the alternate Alanna Hukill. Those who were not selected were encouraged to apply again next year.

The NEW LIONS PORTAL has launched. District 29I has recorded the portal training and a link provided on the 29I Website. The portal is a nice archive of information containing a member's history. Navigate your web browser to LCI ([Click here](#)) and get started.

KidSight

By Lion Daniel Berry, Chairperson

Watch this Powerful Video below about some Lions who really made a difference in a little girl's life.



[Click
here for
Video](#)

Start your screening program today

**Contact Lion Daniel Berry at R-B Instruments
for more information:**

800-533-7234 or daniel@r-binstruments.com

Disaster Relief & Recovery

By Lion Beth White

This is a note emailed to the Newsletter regarding the District 29I Disaster Relief needs. I think it appropriate that all LIONS learn of the results when Lions come together. . .

"I do need to let you know that the "Disaster Relief and Recovery" article needs to be redone by Wayne.

Because you published that article, the night you sent it, I thought there was something that Bill and I could do. He and his kids own a storage facility here in Jane Lew. So we contacted Wayne and have given him a spot to park his trailer. The area is fenced, has security and is rent free. He came and checked it out and took us up on the offer. During the Fall Convention he got funding to get some repairs done and to have it wrapped with a Lions Logo. I did not feel like it was my place to toot our horn, so to speak, so I did not write an article, since the story was his to tell. I am not looking for any publicity of any kind; but thought you should know that because of the newsletter, the problem had been resolved with a happy ending; his plea for assistance probably needs to be taken out next month."

Leader Dog

By Lion Robin Faris, Chairperson

In Every Leader Dog Lies the Heart of a Lion

LCIF and Leader Dogs for the Blind go as far back as 1939. Since then, the Lions have been ambassadors and loyal supporters of the mission to help the visually impaired find their independence and freedom while living in a sightless world. It all started on a small farm in Rochester Hills, Michigan. Fifty dollars a month rented a farmhouse for the clients and staff, a barn for the dogs, and a garage. On October 8, 1939, the first class of the official Lions Leader Dog Foundation graduated. The cost to graduate a client/dog team was \$600. Today, that price has skyrocketed to a whopping \$45,744/ team. The training is still in Rochester Hills Michigan.


Today, the Lions Club supports guide dog programs through fundraising, volunteer efforts, and advocacy. Many local Lions Clubs sponsor individual guide dogs, covering the substantial costs of breeding, training, and lifelong care. The club also supports research into new training techniques, such as harnesses that improve communication between dogs and their handlers. In addition to guide dog programs, the Lions Club has also embraced the use of service dogs for other disabilities, expanding their mission to assist more people in need. Lions have stepped forward to support the people WE SERVE as puppy raisers and hosts for our breeding stock dogs.

The Lions club has played a crucial role in creating a world where visually impaired individuals can lead fulfilling lives. As we look to the future, we must remain dedicated to this cause, continuing to innovate and support the guide dog movement globally.

You are invited to Join Fellow Zone 9 Lions in an
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOP
Recognizing and Responding to Common Medical Emergencies

Learn How To:

- Help someone who is choking
- Recognize signs of a stroke, seizure, or heart attack
- Use an AED (defibrillator)
- Perform Hands on Only CPR
- Stay calm and take action



Jane Lew City Park Building
February 24, 2026
6:30 pm

FREE EVENT
Light Refreshments & Snacks
Compliments of Jane Lew Lions Club

Presentation by:
Walter Knight, Captain of the Clarksburg Fire Department
Fire Service Trainer

Limited Seating, call or email to register for this FREE event!
Beth White (304) 672-1456/ Bethlwhite55@yahoo.com

Working together for a safer, stronger community

LIONS DISTRICT 29I CABINET

Submitted By District Governor Lion Greg Greenwalt

Gregory Greenwalt	District Governor
VACANT	1st Vice District Governor
Diana Bedell	2nd Vice District Governor
Kim Ann Mason	Immediate Past District Governor
Daryl M. See	Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer
Robert Bright	District Information Technology Chairperson
Brendan Byrne	District Leo Chairperson
Brendan Byrne	District Peace Poster Contest Chairperson
Patricia A Byrne	District Diabetes Chairperson
Wilford Graham Jones	District Lions Quest Chairperson
Mrs. Susan P. Long	District Convention Chairperson
Mr. James P Mullen	District Marketing Chairperson
Suzanne Park	District Public Relations & Lions Information Chairperson
Richard Thorn Jr	District Vision Chairperson
Mr. Wayne B Worth	District Environment Chairperson
Mrs. Renee Suzette Douthitt	District GST Coordinator
Kermit Hawley	District GMT Coordinator
John Mason	District GLT Coordinator
Kim Ann Mason	District Global Extension Team Coordinator
Richard Thorn Jr	LCIF District Coordinator
Cheryl Roberts	Zone 1 Chairperson
Paul Douglas Long	Zone 2 Chairperson
Michael Funkhouser	Zone 3 Chairperson
Mr. Paul Nestor	Zone 4 Chairperson
Frank A Becker	Zone 5 Chairperson
Danny Miller	Zone 6 Chairperson
Kenneth C Shahan	Zone 7 Chairperson
Diana L. Bedell	Zone 8 Chairperson
Mrs. Beth L White	Zone 9 Chairperson
Additional District Chairs	
Michelle Harshbarger (29L)	Youth Exchange
VACANT	Council Chair
VACANT	Council Secretary/Treasurer
VACANT	Blind Ski/Recreation
VACANT	Service Dog
VACANT	Reading Action Program

DG Lion Greg Greenwalt is growing our cabinet. Here is a list of officers that are extending their services to the Clubs in the District. This is a valuable set of information for clubs to reach out and expand their services. Note there a few postions that remain vacant. Key to success is filling the 1st & 2nd VDG positions. Doing so will ensure a strong Cabinet for years to come. Are you ready to contribute to that foundation?

NEW MEMBERS

A Compilation From LCI Webste

The 29I District Cabinet Welcomes our NEW LIONS & is looking forward to shared camaraderie & service to the communities of West Virginia:

Abigail Hubbard – Mountain, July
 Amie Neighbors – Fort Ashby, July
 Ward Yaider – Fort Ashby, July
 Janet Newbrough – Jane Lew Lions, July
 Ken Frazier – Jane Lew Lions, July
 Mary Frazier – Jane Lew Lions, July
 Dave Gosa – Jane Lew Lions, July
 Darrell Kincaid – Jane Lew Lions, July
 Julia Currey – Shinnston, July
 Kevin Bailey – Lumberport, July
 Susie Lehmann – Bridgeport, August
 Carolyn Rodis – Shepherdstown Centennial, August
 Gerald Davis III – Shinnston, August
 Geraldine Pudder – Tennerton, August
 William Pudder, Jr – Tennerton, August
 Brooks Ables – West Milford, August
 Barbara Beckman – Philippi, August
 William Tribett – Kingwood, August
 Jessica Lipscomb – Kingwood, August
 Samuel Gerkin – Grafton, September
 Cherie Queen – West Milford, September
 Deborah O’Callaghan – Fort Ashby, September
 Daniel O’Callaghan – Fort Ashby, September
 Anita Bennett – Romney, September
 Jacob Metheny – Moorefield, September
 Mark Ray – Moorefield, September
 Ray Frum – Lumberport, September
 Tony Campbell – Fort Ashby, October
 Mike Neighbors – Fort Ashby, October
 Dianna See – Moorefield, October
 Michael Cochran – Kingwood, October
 Georgia Meyers – Valley District, October
 Diana Patterson – Shepherdstown Centennial, October
 Matthew Patterson – Shepherdstown Centennial, October
 Brenda Leonard – Harrison County Hope Centennial, October
 Robert Leonard – Harrison County Hope Centennial, October
 Sidney Felouzis – Tunnelton, October

Larry Miller – Kingwood, October
 Kathleen Ratliff – Moorefield, October
 Beth Grudi – Phillipi, October
 Misty Huston – Clarksburg Adamston, November
 Timothy McNeely – Bridgeport, December
 Mikal-Ellen Bennett – East Lewis, December
 Paula Hinzman – East Lewis, December
 Lucyann West – East Lewis, December

In Memorium to Our Cherished LIONS

A Compilation From LCI Webste

Robert Shickle	Hedgesville	March
Joel Beane	Kingwood	August
James Garrett Lobb	Kingwood	August
Earl Snyder	Kingwood	August
Robert Hemerick	Rowiseburg	August
Bennie Shifflett	Ireland	August
Nola Edmond	Elkins	August
B. Doug Haller	Phillipi	September
Darlene Miller	Berkeley Springs	September
Tom Freeland	Martinsburg	October
Gary Baker	Wilsonburg	October
Lori Rosamond	Berkeley Springs	October
Eunice Freeland	Martinsburg	November
Evan Bice	Clarksburg	December



WHY AM I A LION?

Testimonials Compiled From 29I Club Members

CLUB MEMBERS

Got a story about how/why you became a LION? All 29I members are welcome to share their story.

Submit to: LIONS29Inewsletter@yahoo.com.

Yours in Service, Lion Jim Mullen

PDG Lion Sue Long published A Journey Of Service during her tenure as District Governor in the Lions Year 2021 – 2022. This section of our Newsletter will continue to give life to those stories. The individual Lions Names are not included. Each story is titled for the club.

The **Kesling Mill Lions Club** was established in 1987. Members related those moments when serving as a LION had special rewards or incidents that drove them to service. Here are some of those stories.

“Each year since becoming a Lion, our club has adopted a family at Christmas time. We have adopted families with one child and as many as 5 children. The club as well as members has donated time and money to purchase gifts for the children - first clothing, then toys and food for Christmas dinner. Doing the shopping for this project has brought a smile on my face and joy to my heart. After seeing the mother’s and father’s face when I delivered the gifts, was awesome. We have laughed and cried together during these deliveries. Knowing these small children had a wonderful Christmas helps me to be a better Lion and person.”

“Serving from Buckhannon to Haiti and providing of solar lighting for families gives more people the opportunity to study and fight malaria. This gives children the opportunity to go outside at night and study longer.”

The **Buckhannon Lions Club** was established in 1925. Members related those moments when serving as a LION had special rewards or incidents that drove them to service. Here are some of those stories.

“Sending kids to camp with our donations is rewarding, especially when we get to hear their experiences. Our Italian dinners we used to do were great for community support. Serving with my dad was a great way for us to get out and enjoy fellowship with Lions. Christmas Tree Sales around 2010, we had a lady and her kids picking out a tree and she said she would have to wait until end of week to pay \$25 dollars. Lion Matt Hymes delivered the tree and paid for it out of his pockets. I got to witness the sheer joy and the thankfulness of that family as I helped him. Filling Food Baskets always is very humbling at the Parish House.”

“My parents have been Lion’s as long as I can remember. I would help with activities but never joined. A few years ago I finally joined. One of the Lions and I would talk with was Lion Matt. We lost him to an automobile accident after one of our meetings. His big event he loved was the Easter Egg Hunt. He would get the rest of the Lions starting the first of the year after Christmas holidays

were over. When we lost him and Sara, we lost 10% of our club. No only not having him guide us through the Easter Egg hunt, we lost our history story teller. The reason I liked talking to Matt was he knew the history of Buckhannon and Buckhannon Lions, going back decades. The reason I actively participate in activities now is in his memory.”

The **Short Gap Lions Club** was established in 1966. Members related those moments when serving as a LION had special rewards or incidents that drove them to service. Here are some of those stories.

“I have been a nurse for 27 years. As a nurse I felt I was a candidate to work with the Diabetes Education. I was able to pass out printed information to persons willing to receive it. (County Fair venue). As a Diabetic, I collect and turn in 100 glasses to the Sight Foundation for reuse. This makes me feel like a Lion, bringing 2 informed programs together.”

“Providing medical equipment to folks in need and then the first year I went to the Leadership Conference and I listened to all the stories of How Lions Promotes all Kinds of Programs and to hear the story about a young child who got trained Dog that could sense her Diabetes clear across a large store was amazing and to think I was part of an organization that helped on something to do with that really hit my heart. At that point I decided this was the type of organization I wanted to be a part.”

“As a young man, I wondered what Lions Club do in support of our community until Bob Miltenberger, my cousin, invited me to join in one of their meetings. I liked the theme, “We Serve” and the fellowship I saw in the groups. It became customary not to have missed a meeting in Short Gap Lions Club since that introduction. We have seen the brilliance inclusive with the inclusion of ladies in the leadership ranks of Lionism. It has been a pleasure seeing the satisfaction and happiness of their “we serve.” Being that the smile of a young student that are provided with their rendition of the various Peace Poster and the artist painted. Likewise my experience working with the Sight mobile with the Lions Clubs of Mineral County I have hoped to have made more time to share with Lionism as I transition into a retired individual.”

RECENT CLUB ACTIVITIES

A Compilation From 29I Clubs

CLUB OFFICERS

Please submit material for the club sections of most recent community service and your upcoming fundraisers. Submit pictures, flyers or text. Submit to: LIONS29Inewsletter@yahoo.com

Submit items as Word Documents, pictures as JPG or PNG formats. (PDF is difficult to adjust and does not import into the newsletter) Caption pictures with descriptions and Lions pictured.

Yours in Service, Lion Jim Mullen

Martinsburg Lions Club members joined to together in camaraderie & celebration of serving the community with a Christmas Dinner at the Holiday



Inn. Members brought nonperishable foods and toys to be given to the Salvation Army for those in need.

Submitted by Lion Jim Mullen

West Milford Lions Club partnered with West Milford Elementary School again this Christmas season in supplying food baskets to needy families in our community for another successful Holiday Food Distribution.

School staff Traci Hamric and Karson Barnhart (wife of Lion Jeff Barnhart) over saw the application process and food collection at the school. Notices were sent to parents, non-perishable food was collected and placed in a holding area, paperwork organized for those who would be preparing each families food basket, and keeping tally of each students' donation as the students participated in a canned food drive competition. Each student who brought in an item

got their name on a ticket to win a gift card. One ticket from each classroom was drawn and that student got a gift card from WMLC.



Club members and volunteers moved the boxes of food from the school to the West Milford Community Center for counting and sorting, then gathered on December 22nd, to assemble all the food boxes. WMLC provided a choice of either a turkey or ham, and bags of potatoes and dinner rolls to the 31 families—between 2-person and 15-person households—who needed a little extra help this Christmas season. The students collected various canned vegetables, Mac & Cheese, stuffing and gravy, cranberry sauce, noodles and broths, various pie fillings/pie shells, cake mixes/icing, and more. WMLC family and friends filled boxes to the rim and even had enough to fill our community Blessing Box located near the Community Center. Truly an evening of camaraderie, gratefulness, and thankfulness by ALL who participated.

Submitted by Lion Kam Sloan

Jane Lew Lions Club member Debby Walker and I had a wonderful time at the Jane Lew School



Reading Program. On very short notice, we read to four classes each and loved every moment of it! The students were incredibly receptive, and we had the chance to introduce our club and our motto to them. We also shared the powerful message of the “Roar” to close our session. A big thank you to the teachers for hosting us and for capturing the moment in a photo. Looking forward to the next reading opportunity and welcoming more students to learn about our club.

Submitted by President Lion Linda Aman

Jane Lew Lions Club hosted their annual Christmas Dinner at the Jane Lew Park Building with the **East Lewis Lions Club** of Weston, WV. The event brought together nearly 50 Lions for an evening of fellowship, service, and community reflection.



Pictured are members of the 2 clubs enjoying the meal and camaraderie of the event. And not to be left out for once is the photographer and president of the Jane Lew Lions Club Linda Aman.

The two clubs reaffirmed their strong collaboration on community service initiatives, underscoring a shared commitment to District I29 priorities and local needs. Acknowledgments were extended to

ongoing cooperation between Jane Lew Lions Club and East Lewis Lions Club in delivering service projects and community outreach. Linda Aman, President, Jane Lew Lions Club stated, “We value the cooperation with the East Lewis Lions Club in serving our community and expanding our impact through joint efforts.” Bill Bennett, President, East Lewis Lions Club commented: “Together, we can accomplish more for those in need and continue building a lasting legacy of service.” Lion Russell Gatian opened the meeting with an Invocation & Blessing. Service Awards were given to Gary Smith, Richard Smith, Marvin Stewart and Frank Bragg (presented by Bill Bennett and Linda Aman). The club presented Well Wishes to community members. Get-well cards signed for Suzie Gatian, secretary of the Jane Lew Lions Club and get well wishes for Andy Wolfe, a Guardsman injured in Washington, DC. The feast for the event was catered by Chelle Cole. The Lions Clubs International is the world’s largest service club organization, dedicated to empowering volunteers to serve their communities and meet humanitarian needs locally and globally.

Submitted by President Lion Linda Aman

Bridgeport Lions Club completed another successful pancake and sausage breakfast and participated in the Bridgeport Christmas parade on December 6. 23 Lions and 11 members of the BHS Key Club made these events a success. Pictured in



the photo are Lions (front row) Larry Johnson, Diana Bedell, PID Steve Glass, Helen McCarty and (back row) Paula Shahan, Ken Shahan, Susie Lehmann, Jay Larry, Charlene LOUK, Frank Sturm, Jeff Lawrence, Kelly Grant and Patty Flanigan. (Not pictured but attending were Theresa Gain and Doug Miley).



The parade crew is all smiles for the camera and the crowd during the parade. Also dressed in smiles for the breakfast is DG Lion Greg Greenwalt and some of the breakfast kitchen crew.

Submitted by Lion Diana Bedell

Clarksburg Lions Club works with Walmart in Clarksburg where there is now a donation box for used eyeglasses through its partnership with Lions Clubs International. The Clarksburg Lions Club has made arrangements with Walmart to maintain the collection box and collect the glasses. The donation box is located just inside the lobby entrance to the Walmart Pharmacy and the Vision Center. You can donate old prescription glasses, sunglasses and reading glasses. Once they are collected



to be refurbished they are distributed to people in need. The Clarksburg Lions Club also has a collection box for used eye glasses in the Harrison County Court House and at several other locations in the local area.

Submitted by Lion Al Cox

Jane Lew Lions Club proudly hosted Santa House as part of the annual Jane Lew Christmas Event at Jane Lew Park, welcoming nearly 300 children and adults to a festive, family-friendly celebration. The



event featured instant photos with Santa, children's crafts, and unlimited cookies and hot chocolate, creating a warm holiday experience for attendees. Attendance

this year was almost 300 participants, with steady year-over-year growth.

Activities included instant photos with Santa, engaging children's crafts, and unlimited



cookies and hot chocolate. Entertainment guest was Lewie the Lion delighting children and families. Several dedicated members of the Jane Lew Lions Club organized and executed the event with heart and hospitality. Linda Aman, President, Jane Lew Lions Club stated, "Seeing nearly 300 friends and families come together to celebrate the holiday

season fills our hearts with gratitude. Our volunteers pour countless hours into Santa House because we believe in the power of community, shared cheer, and giving back. It's rewarding to watch children light up with joy, knowing we helped create lasting memories for them and their families."



"The Lions Club Santa House Event Chairman, Ray

Smith and key volunteers Bill White, photographer assisted by Marissa Aman and Lea Ann



Murray, along with Santa helpers Tim Skinner, Sheila Folio, Christy Gatian, Lewie the Lion aide

Mike Walker and numerous other Lions are thrilled to bring this joyful gathering to our community each year,” said Aman. “Our mission is to create a wonderful, family-centered holiday experience while spreading Merry Christmas wishes throughout the community. We’re grateful for the support of all Lion volunteers and families who help make this possible.” The Lions Club notes that attendance continues to rise each year, reflecting the community’s appreciation for this festive tradition and the collaborative spirit that makes it possible. For more information about the Jane Lew Lions Club or to learn how to join and support upcoming events, email us at Lewielion74@gmail.com.

Submitted by President Lion Linda Aman

Clarksburg Lions Club members participated in the Annual Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive held



at the Food Court entrance at Meadowbrook Mall on November, 22nd. Lions manning the kettles and ringing the bells were: Al

Cox, Nick Lambernedis, Don Niles and Polly Malick. Warren Wilson served as chairperson of this event.

Submitted by Lion Al Cox

Ring the Bell for Salvation Army – Lion John McDonald organized a team of bell ringers for the Salvation Army Ring the Bell Fundraising Drive. Coordinating with the Salvation Army for this highly important season of giving, Lion John recruited several Lions for the activity; Dave Plume, John Fleagle, Betty Lou Boynton, Marlyn Keeseker, Marty Keeseker and Charlie Davey.



Submitted by Lion Jim Mullen

Jane Lew Lions Club proudly hosted District Governor Greg Greenwalt (District 29I) at our regular meeting held on November 25, 2025, at the Jane Lew Park Building. DG Greenwalt delivered an inspiring address on Lionism, and Ruth Straley,

District Governor 29I Emeritus, introduced him to the club. DG Greenwalt administered the oath of office to our newly elected Club Administrator, Pat Casey. Beth White, Zone 8 Chairwoman, assisted with the ceremony and provided support throughout the meeting. We celebrated the dedication of our members with Service Years awards presented by DG Greenwalt, assisted by Beth White. Recipients:

Bill White
Frank Bragg
Mike Walker
Debby Walker
Jeff Griffin
Anessa Griffith



New Members are Judy Smith, Dick Smith, Lea Ann Murray. Membership sponsor for each was Beth White (Lions Club Membership Chairwoman). Dick Smith and Judy Smith also took their membership oaths, administered by DG Greenwalt.



The meeting concluded with a productive workshop in preparation for the upcoming Club Santa House Event, part of the town of Jane Lew’s Christmas celebration that was held on Saturday, December 6. Where activities include Instant photos with Santa, children’s crafts, hot cocoa, and cookies where admission is Free for all attendees. Santa House is a community favorite and a great opportunity to spread holiday cheer and Lions service.

Submitted by President Lion Linda Aman

Jane Lew Lions Club continued its lasting tradition of participation in the Weston Christmas Parade, held annually on the Friday after Thanksgiving. Lions Sheila Folio and Pat Casey (driver) drove Lewie the Lion (Lion Eliz Vincent) through the parade in Lion Casey's truck. Candy was distributed to spectators along the parade route. The Jane Lew



Lions Club participates annually in this event to support and engage with the local community.

Submitted by President Lion Linda Aman

Clarksburg Lions Club members have been serving as division marshals for many years during the annual Veteran's Day Parade sponsored by VFW Post 573. Retired US Army Lieutenant General Robert L. Caslen was the grand marshal.



He was a former Superintendent of the US Military Academy at West Point. Clarksburg Lion volunteers who lined up the parade and helped the participants were: Jason Myers, Polly Malick, Al Cox, Betty Waddy, Nick Lamberndis, Don Niles and Warren Wilson. The day started off below freezing and by parade time at noon, it turned out to be a beautiful chilly day. We want to thank all veterans for their service to our country and are looking forward to next year's parade.

Submitted by Lion Al Cox

Jane Lew Lions Club donated \$1,000 to the Winter Wishes program for Jane Lew Elementary School in Lewis County, WV. Winter Wishes is a holiday initiative organized by Communities in Schools (CIS) to provide gifts, clothing, and food baskets to local students and families in need. The program is supported by a collaboration of community businesses, churches, and organizations that donate funds, items, and volunteer their time. It operates similarly to an "Angel Tree" program, with selected families receiving support for the Christmas season. The Jane Lew Lions Club is a proud supporter of education in our community. Pictured is "Vickie" Weston Shop and Save Store

Manager and Linda Aman, President of Jane Lew Lions Club.

Submitted by President Lion Linda Aman

Clarksburg Lions Club held their second "Old Fashioned Cake Walk" fund raising event at the Harrison County Senior Center on November 7th.



Everyone who attended seemed to have a great time and many won some delicious homemade baked goods. A special thank you to the Lions who baked and contributed the cakes and other baked items to help the Cake Walk a success.

Submitted by Lion Al Cox

Shepherdstown Lions Club is pleased to announce



that Evelyn Groff is the 1st place winner of the 2025 Peace Poster contest. Evelyn, an 8th grade student at Shepherdstown Middle School,

perfectly captured this year's theme, "Together As One" in her art work. Congratulations, Evelyn!

Submitted by Lion Effie Kallas

Jane Lew Lions Club proudly honors Lion Beth White for her unwavering determination and dedication in leading a community-wide effort to collect 1,000 pounds of plastic. Her remarkable commitment has earned the organization a TREX bench, set to be placed in Jane Lew Park. The NexTrex bench program is an initiative by Trex that partners with communities, schools, and other organizations. Participants recycle a minimum of 1,000 pounds of plastic film within 12 months to earn a free composite park bench. Eligible materials include plastic bags, bread bags, pallet wrap, and other plastic film.



Recyclable items are dropped off at participating retailer locations for recycling into Trex products. Lion Beth White's leadership and tireless efforts demonstrate the Lions Club's commitment to



environmental stewardship and community improvement. The bench will serve as a lasting reminder of what can be achieved when community members unite for a common cause. The bench will be placed in Jane Lew Park. The bench is a

durable, eco-friendly seating option that honors the community's dedication to recycling and sustainability.

Submitted by President Lion Linda Aman

Hedgesville Lions Club members donated and



delivered 300 pieces of fried chicken to the Martinsburg Rescue Mission for their evening meal on

November 10th. Pictured below are Lions Delmar Barrett, Mike Shickle Linda and Bill Ackerman along with a member of the Rescue Mission kitchen staff.

Submitted by Lion Linda Ackerman

Charles Town Lions Club sponsored a "Kidpreneur" for kids ages 6-17 on November 11 at the Lions Center. The even provided an



opportunity for these young inventors to showcase and sell their products. The photo on the left pictures the participants.

Submitted by Lion Vicki Propps

Charles Town Lions Club participated in the "Monster Bash" Halloween event at the Ranson Civic Center on October 24. The wonderful event is an opportunity to bring the community together for a fun time and get to know one another. The photo on the right pictures Lions Brenda Gaskin (left) and Pat Jones (right) along with former Lion Nichelle Hosby (center) manning the club "treat" table.



Submitted by Lion Vicki Propps

Clarksburg Lions Club members, Don Niles and Al Cox screened 67 third graders at Nutter Fort Intermediate School On November 4th. There were 12 students needing referrals to see an eye care professional. Clarksburg Lions along with Nutter Fort Lions conducted 139 eye screenings.



Several more screenings are planned by the club at Emmanuel Christian and Saint Mary's Grade Schools. Lion Al Cox coordinates the scheduling for the screenings for all the Lions Clubs at Harrison County Schools. Pictured (l-r): Al Cox, School Nurse Lauren Maxwell, Don Niles, Jody Sperry, Coordinator Health Services Harrison County Schools and School Nurse Rhonda Vincent.

Submitted by Lion Al Cox

Clarksburg Lions Club members Don Niles and Al Cox screened 80 sixth graders at Liberty Middle School On October 15th. There were 11 students needing referrals to see an eye care professional. Clarksburg Lions along with Nutter Fort Lions will be conducting eye screenings for third graders at Nutter Fort Intermediate School on November 4. Several more screenings are planned by the club at Emmanuel Christian and Saint Mary's Grade Schools. Lion Al Cox coordinates the scheduling for the screenings for all the Lions Clubs at Harrison County Schools.

Submitted by Lion Al Cox

Clarksburg Lions Club members assisted with Adult Eye Screenings at Health Access in cooperation with the WVU Eye Institute On October 10. The Lions registered clients and handled the co-pays for Health Access. 86 people were screened with 73 getting glasses. Referred for additional care were: 4 for Cataracts and 13 for Diabetic Retinopathy. Volunteer Lions were Betty



Waddy, Judy Labdik, Patty Flanigan, Al Cox and Don Niles. Nutter Fort Lions Ken and Paula Shahan covered the noon-time period because it conflicted with the Clarksburg Lions regular bi-monthly meeting at Brickside. Patty Flanigan chaired this project.

Submitted by Lion Al Cox

Training available for all Lions through
**USA-Canada Leadership
 Forum at
 Lions University**

<https://www.lionsuniversity.org/>

UPCOMING CLUB ACTIVITIES

A Compilation From 29I Clubs

MARTINSBURG LIONS CLUB
EASTER
POTTED FLOWERING
PLANT SALE
APRIL 2 – 3 – 4
10 am – 6 pm

JOHNNIES
 1456 Winchester Ave
 Martinsburg

And
HOSS'S
 195 Aikens Center
 Martinsburg

Martinsburg Lions Club
Sweet Vidalia Onions Sale
10 pound bag for TBD (~\$16)
5 pound bag for TBD (~\$9)

GET YOUR CLUB INVOLVED
Learn More to Share in this Fundraiser
Call or Text Lion Jim Mullen
410-271-8184

Order Early April; Delivery Early May
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Martinsburg Lions Club

West Milford Lions Club

Bridgeport Lions Club

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Bruceton Community Lions Club

available at: Clear Mountain Bank in Bruceton Mills

Nutter Fort Lions Club

Stonewood Lions Club

Shinnston Lions Club

Salem Lions Club

Jane Lew Lions Club

Lewis County Lions Club

Phillipi Lions Club

Broom Sales Club? Send information to:

LIONS29newsletter@yahoo.com

Yours In Service Lion Jim Mullen

Tennerton Lions Club sells "Skilcraft" mops and brooms from Greensboro, North Carolina

Hey 29I Clubs!!! Gotta Facebook Page? Let's add YOUR link HERE.

LIONS International President Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/LionsPresident/>

Bridgeport Lions Club

<https://www.facebook.com/BridgeportWVLions>

Bruceton Community Lions Club

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1ACpqtTXPe/?mbextid=wwXIfr>

Jane Lew Lions Club

<https://www.facebook.com/janelewlions>

Lions Club of Philippi

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100080302220625>

Martinsburg Lions Club

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Martinsburg-Lions-Club/100090828093349/>

Nutter Fort Lions Club

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100070665231110>

Shepherdstown Centennial Lions Club

<https://www.facebook.com/ShepLionsClub/>

Tennerton Lions Club

<https://www.facebook.com/tennertonlc/>

Zone 8 of 29I

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1304046457018744>

See what we're up to!

CABINET OFFICERS, ZONE AND PROGRAM CHAIRS

Please submit information regarding your activities. This includes any meeting summaries, services, fundraisers or even outlines of duties to relate to club members. Submit to:

LIONS29newsletter@yahoo.com

Yours In Service, Lion Jim Mullen

Club Request for District Governor Greg's Visit

Club name: _____

Setting up an Activity Visit:

Name and location of activity place: _____

Time Activity begins _____ ends _____ (Indicate am or pm)

Requested Time DG Greg to be on site _____ to _____ (Indicate am or pm)

Setting up a Meeting Visit:

Meeting Dates in order of preference: 1st _____ 2nd _____

Time Lions meeting begins _____ a.m. or p.m. (Circle one)

When does social time begin if you have one? _____

Will you have a meal? Yes _____ No _____

Are there other clubs involved? Yes/No If yes, who _____

Would you like the governor to? _____ DG Dress: Formal _____ Casual _____

Install officers? Yes _____ No _____ Suit

Install new members? Yes _____ No _____

Present special awards? Yes _____ No _____

Do you need a microphone system? YES NO Do you need a projector/computer?? YES NO

(NOTE: You may set up either an Activity Visit a Meeting Visit or both and DG Lion Greg will contact the club which event he is able to attend)

Lion requesting the visit _____ Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Please mail request form or email information to me ASAP. Thank you.

Lion Greg Greenwalt

District Governor 291

P. O. Box 594

Moorefield, WV 26836

calendar -

Phone: (c) (304) 703-5310

EMAIL: ggreenwalt@hardynet.com

I will confirm the date after it is scheduled on my

Thank you.