



29I PRIDE NEWS

Keeping District 29I Lions Clubs Informed
Volume 02 Number 07 **29I LIONS** February 2026
Editor Lion Jim Mullen @ LIONS29Inewsletter@yahoo.com



LIONS EIGHT PILLARS OF SERVICE



Childhood Cancer



Diabetes



Disaster Relief



Environment



Humanitarian



Hunger



Vision



Youth

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?



Humanitarian

HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS

The humanitarian efforts of Lions have been notable and celebrated for more than 100 years. Working together, Lions identify the world's most crucial needs and LCIF supports them in their efforts to provide humanitarian aid where it's needed most.

15% of the world's population experience disability and higher in developing countries
~190M experience significant disability.

~20M people need hospice care annually ~3M receive it.

High social connectedness = 50% increased chance of longevity.

Humanitarian spirit is at the core of every Lion. Helping Lions take this spirit of kindness to their communities is Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), uniquely privileged to provide clubs and districts with grant funding to create a healthier, happier world. Since 1968, LCIF has funded service so Lions can deliver solutions.

Through LCIF's Matching grant and District & Club Community Impact grant, Lions can support humanitarian activities in youth, health and wellness services, and community service initiatives. LCIF's humanitarian services are also funding the purchase of measles or measles/rubella vaccines. Our partnership with Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance has procured more than 110 million doses of the measles vaccine.

LCIF's diverse grant programs empower Lions to address the needs of at-risk, vulnerable populations and communities worldwide and

carry out humanitarian service addressing unmet health and human needs. LCIF supports the humanitarian work of Lions which help people with disabilities lead more independent, productive and fulfilling lives. Our Impact below, features grant information, stories and partnerships which improve health, education, our environment, and all-inclusiveness. Through our humanitarian efforts we help continue to enhance in the day-to-day lives and emotional well-being for people around the globe.

About Matching Grants

Matching grants are large-scale humanitarian projects that address unmet needs. The project must serve a large population. Grants awarded are between US\$10,000 and US\$100,000.

Matching grants provide capital funding to help establish or expand Lions-initiated humanitarian service projects that address critical and diverse human and social needs around the globe.

Funding is prioritized for the equipment and infrastructure needs of such projects. Humanitarian service projects are charitable in nature and include vital health and human service needs not adequately addressed by governments and other funding sources.

Learn more and obtain an application at the following link

https://cdn2.webdamdb.com/md_c15R3PbKP954.jpg.pdf?v=1

DCG Program

District and clubs qualifying for the program will have the option to use earned funds to carry out local projects and access those funds through the submission of a DCG Application or use them as part of the [local matching funds component](#) of other LCIF grant program applications.

Learn more at the following link

<https://lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-approach/grant-types/district-club-community-impact-grants>

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29I & MULTIPLE DISTRICT CALENDAR

The Complete 29I District Calendar for 2025 – 2026 is available on the website [29I LIONS](#)

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

- **February 28th** – District 29I Cabinet Meeting, Bridgeport, WV (see details below)
- **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

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

Growth, Service & Lionism

By SVDG Lion Diana Bedell

I've spent the last 100 days watching the Walk for Peace, as a group of Buddhist monks and their dog, Alonka, walk 2,300 miles from Texas to Washington, DC, not for recognition but to promote one thing, PEACE. During this time, I have reflected on my own life's journey as a person and as a Lion, and I think this one word sums up what we all want in life and for our world, PEACE.



During today's difficult times, I think about the various Lion workshops I have attended virtually, and especially an international call in which many of the participants are in lands that are far from peaceful.

Peace is something that is missing even in some of our own clubs in District 29-I. I hear of divided lines among members, across our nine zones and therefore across our district.

I have been attending a multi part workshop entitled "Let's Grow," and while some things do not affect us directly, others do. We keep hearing we need to "grow our membership in order to serve more people and communities." True, we need to GROW our membership, but it is also important to

RETAIN the members we have – both young and old. I encourage each of you, both personally and club wise to INVITE community members and friends to attend a Lions function or service project. Ask that person what interests they have and how they would like to serve their community. Introduce them to others in your club and hopefully you will be able to add them to your club's membership in quick fashion.

It is true that more members lend themselves to more service projects. Do not discourage service or service projects. Not every project needs to be an "all hands-on deck" project. Perhaps one group wants to serve a meal to the homeless and another wants to build food shelters to be put in various locations and stocked by the community and your members. Maybe another core group wishes to visit a home for the elderly and play bingo a couple of times a month or go grocery shopping for someone in need. All good service projects that can be handled by any club with a desire for service. That is what Lions do, "we serve."

Some clubs may be content with having a regular meeting with a speaker, while other clubs may choose to meet once a month and have a service project of some type on another meeting night. "Your Club, Your Way!" Do what works for your club and community. I find that members today are more likely to come out and participate in a project than to attend a meeting. Be flexible, serve your communities and do not turn your back on those wanting to cast the net and rally the troops in the name of service. Every member needs to feel included and should never be made to feel as if they are being pushed to the side by a newer club member. Members should be allowed to be mentored, or the newer Lion can shadow a veteran member to "learn the ropes" and at times, I find myself still learning the ropes.

There are less than five months left in the current Lion year. GROW (INVITE), RETAIN and SERVE and above all communicate among yourselves. If you or individual clubs have questions or need guidance, please reach out to your district leadership team. Remember, PEACE.

*Yours in service,
SVDG Lion Diana Bedell*

Quarterly District 29-I Cabinet Meeting Announcement

The Quarterly District 29-I Cabinet Meeting has been set for Saturday, February 28, 2026. The meeting will be held at the Best Western Plus Hotel in Bridgeport, WV. The meeting will start at 10:00 a.m. and will include a buffet lunch.

The hotel address is 100 Lodgeville Road, Bridgeport, WV 26330.

The meeting agenda is being developed and will be emailed to you before the meeting.

Cabinet Chairpersons, please bring to the meeting your reports of activities and focus areas you have been working. If you cannot be present for the meeting, please email me your reports to be shared during the cabinet meeting.

Sincerely,
Daryl M. See,
Secretary Treasure, District 29-I

Marketing Your LIONS Club

By Lion Diana Bedell, Zone Chairperson

LET'S GROW OUR LIONS' CLUBS – MARKETING CAN BE THE KEY!

By Diana Bedell, SVDG

Many of you have heard me say of late that I have spent a lot of time attending virtual LCI workshops, including several on “Let’s Grow,” which is about inviting friends, neighbors, and community members to attend our service activities or other functions and joining our clubs.

This past week the content dealt with marketing and was inspiring in a lot of ways. If you know me, you know I have an undergraduate degree in public relations, and therefore enjoy writing, marketing, and various aspects of social media. So, this workshop hit home – finally, something with which I could identify.

First, if you have the capability, I urge you to go to YouTube and search Lions International or Lions USA and scroll for the “Let’s Grow” series – marketing is the third one in the series. It is an hour plus well spent.

Through marketing and social media, others will find out who you are. Visibility motivates Action and Building and Creates opportunities. Google your club’s name. Is it visible to the public at large? Google Bridgeport WV Lions tells me it has a Facebook account, that it is a community organization focusing on serving the local community and is known for its fundraising chicken roasts, pancake breakfasts and providing meals to the needy and raising funds for various local initiatives. Google Zone 8 Lions and you will find posts that encourage its clubs. If you have a Facebook account, link it to Instagram.

Words matter. People don’t Serve; they Volunteer. Be meaningful in the words you use, and again, Invite instead of Recruit. Marketing is all about Sharing. Share what you do and Invite others in the community to help, join, or partner.

When posting on Facebook or other social media platforms, post items with a purpose – we are not selling anything or bragging. If you have an upcoming service project, you should post three times – before is the Invite; during is Proof and afterwards is Impact. Before messages should include what, when, where and a link to a contact person. During should show energy and welcome – include Action and Thanks and Come Join Us. Use an action shot or a “Go Live” moment. After, share the impact of your activity – Grow the team.

Include the number of people served and the result. Tag members in the photos and share across social media platforms.

Use hashtags (pound signs) when posting. #Bridgeport Lions Club. #Volunteers (name of another organization that may have assisted). #Volunteers BridgeportWV. Post like you are talking to your neighbors. Consistency equals perfection.

LionsUSA has developed social media kits that are impressive. Join its Facebook and go to Albums (or media). There are three folders at present, New Club, Social Media Marketing and February marketing. Each album is plug and play so you can copy and then paste onto your own individual or club page. COPY, PASTE, POST. After posting to your page, do not forget to hashtag. #JaneLewLions #VolunteerJaneLew or #LeadToServe #ServeToLead.

Remember, invitations open the door. Stay consistent in your message and be appreciative of your audience.

I know this is a lot of information in a small space. If you have questions, please feel free to reach out and we will learn together.



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.

When I was 5 years old, my mother always told me that happiness was the key to life. When I went to school, they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I wrote down "happy". They told me I didn't understand the assignment. I told them they didn't understand life.

—John Lennon

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 as of 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 mrsafetyjmu@gmail.com

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.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Fellow LIONS.

The Martinsburg Lions Club has been approached to assist the Mountain State Council for the Blind in operating their state convention as described below. As the efforts of this organization are deeply associated with ours as 'Knights of the Blind', I felt it worthwhile to allow them space into our newsletter. I am certain that sharing knowledge in pursuit of all things related to sight conservation is in the best interest of those afflicted with sight impairments throughout West Virginia. If these articles generate interest within your club, please reach out to them to see in what way Lions can serve the Blind with them.

Yours In Service, Lion Jim Mullen

GUEST ARTICLE

Mountain State Council of the Blind

By Jacque Proctor

Mountain State Council Of The Blind, West Virginia's affiliate of American Council Of The Blind has been hard at work.

Recently we drafted legislation to protect service animals in West Virginia. West Virginia is one of the last states in the U.S. that currently does not have any laws to protect these animals. These animals are very important and vital to a blind person's independence. We are hopeful that it will be introduce and adopted by the West Virginia legislation this year. The service animal legislation that we drafted has been assigned a number. We've been assigned Senate bill 688. Keep your fingers crossed. If it does not pass, we're going to remain persistent and try again next year.

We are excited and working hard to raise money towards our 2026 annual convention that will be held in Martinsburg this year. We are having a student summit on Friday, inviting students from the school for the Blind in Romney, as well as students from Berkeley, Jefferson, Hampshire, and Morgan County.

Last year's convention was held in Beckley, West Virginia, where we had 16 blind and visually impaired individuals go White Water Rafting at

Adventures On The Gorge. This year's convention may not be as adventurous but we are hoping it will be fun and exciting for all.

Last year we also got together with West Virginia National Federation Of The Blind for Community Unity Day. This was in Morgantown to help bring awareness and work together to improve the lives of blind and visually impaired individuals in WV.

This year we have several members attending the American Council of the Blind Leadership Conference in Washington D.C. in March. While they are there they will meet with our West Virginia representatives in the house & senate at the Capital. We have several members who are in a Pioneer Program where we are beta testing a pair of smart glasses: Echo Vision Glasses. These glasses can take pictures or videos and describe them, as well as an environment description feature, where in an environment they are not familiar with it will describe the layout of it to them and they can ask questions to get more information. They also use live AI and other features to do things other smart glasses can't, such as reading handwriting to you and actively updating you on your surroundings. We are very impressed and excited to be a part of developing these glasses. These glasses will not take the place of a cane or guide dog, but is a tool that can greatly enhance the independence of blind and visually impaired individuals.

Mountain State Council Of The Blind currently has two active fundraisers.

The first is our Blind Girl Design fund raiser. We currently have T-shirts, sweatshirts, bags, aprons, and blankets with Mountain State Council Of The Blind with a beautiful picture of the New River Gorge Bridge on it. Click here to explore; <https://blindgirldesigns.com/collections/west-virginia-mscb>

Tricia, who is the owner of Blind Girl Design, is blind herself and she has grown her business of designing clothing that is not only beautiful but is tactile so that blind and visually impaired individuals can experience what the picture or writing is on the clothing.

The second fundraiser is the RaiseRight fundraiser at [RaiseRight.com/MSCB](https://raiserright.com/mscb), where you can shop online or buy gift cards for your every day purchases or buy gifts. Here is our flier with a more in-depth description: Did you know? Your next grocery bill, gas tank fill-up, restaurant check,

coffee run, and online purchases can help you support Mountain State Council of the Blind (MSCB)? Join Mountain State Council of the Blind's RaiseRight program by purchasing gift cards or shopping online through RaiseRight. Every purchase earns up to 20% back—and it adds up fast! Your family has the potential to earn \$1,000 or more every year for our organization. Whether you are at home or on the go, RaiseRight gives you the flexibility to earn with eGift cards, reloadable cards, online shopping, and a mobile app. Earn anytime, anywhere.

Our third fundraiser is Spirit Night at Chick-fil-A, in Martinsburg, on Tuesday, March 24th 2026 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please come out to support Mountain State Council of the Blind.

Anyone who is interested in supporting Mountain State Council Of The Blind can participate in any of these fundraisers. Your support of our organization and our mission is greatly appreciated. Learn more by containing Jacque Proctor at proctor86@comcast.net.

GUEST ARTICLE

Mountain State Council of the Blind

By Jacque Proctor

The Mountain State Council of the Blind (MSCB) will hold its annual state convention in Martinsburg, WV, from October 02-03, 2026. Our theme is Mountain State Council of the Blind Monstrous Possibilities.

The MSCB is a non-profit tax exempt consumer membership organization. MSCB offers informational support for blind and visually impaired people in West Virginia, their families, friends and anyone interested in issues of vision loss. Occasionally, we are able to provide low tech items to legally blind individuals. We annually award a scholarship to a visually impaired post-secondary student.

Blind and visually impaired people from across the state of West Virginia and beyond will gather for this weekend event. Various speakers will discuss topics of interest to those in attendance. In addition, we will hold our annual business meeting. Our

banquet address will feature a representative from our national parent organization, the American Council of the Blind.

All of these events deplete much of our modest budget. We are inviting you to become an official sponsor of the 2026 state convention. As a sponsor of this year's convention, you will help MSCB shape its vision of the future for all people who are blind; living with independence and dignity. You will also have an opportunity to promote your business or group by being listed in our convention program and on our website.

Sponsorship Levels:

Bigfoot sponsor: \$250 and above. Your business or organization will be mentioned on all promotional materials and throughout the event if received by August 10 Your logo and a working link to your website will appear on MSCB's website, <http://mscbwv.org/>, for six months.

Mothman sponsor: \$150. Your business or organization will be mentioned on all promotional materials and throughout the event if received by August 10. Your logo and a working link to your website will appear on MSCB's website, <http://mscbwv.org/>, for three months.

The Flatwoods Monster sponsor: \$100. Your business or organization will be mentioned on all promotional materials and throughout the event if received by August 10. In addition, you will have your logo and a working link to your website on MSCB's website, <http://mscbwv.org/>, for three months.

The Grafton Monster sponsor: \$50. Your business or organization will be mentioned throughout the event. Plus your logo will appear on MSCB's website, <http://mscbwv.org/>, for one month.

Bat Boy sponsor: \$25. Your business or organization will be mentioned throughout the event.

As an IRS registered non-profit charitable organization, your donations to MSCB are tax deductible. Our Federal Tax ID number is available upon request.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and your assistance. If you need further information or have questions, please contact one of our officers.

Sincerely,

Conrad Bennett, MSCB President; (304) 703-4145
Josh Metz, MSCB Treasurer; Phone: (304)319-0310

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 are a few positions 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 Website

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
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
Keeah Ware – Junior, October
Misty Huston – Clarksburg Adamston, November
Judy Smith – Jane Lew, November
David Smith – Jane Lew, November
Brock Rosier – Junior, October
Timothy McNeely – Bridgeport, December
Mikal-Ellen Bennett – East Lewis, December
Paula Hinzman – East Lewis, December
Lucyann West – East Lewis, December

Dropped Member Report = 88

In Memorium to Our Cherished LIONS

A Compilation From LCI Website

Joel Beane	Kingwood	August
James Garrett Lobb	Kingwood	August
Earl Snyder	Kingwood	August
Robert Hemerick	Rowlesburg	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
Arthur Sewell	Hedgesville	January
Vickie Walton	Tennerton	February

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: LIONS29Newsletter@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 **Bridgeport Lions Club** was established in 1930. 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 was so proud to be a Lion when we inducted a blind member, Charlene, into our club. We welcomed her with open arms because she brought so much to the table in terms of perspective. We were able to help her serve by being her eyes in a sighted world. She gave us meaning, love and purpose.”

“My joy comes from facilitating food to those in need. As a Lion, it brings me joy to contribute to community food drives and backpacks for high school students. In my mom’s home (God rest her soul), one entered and received a glass of ice water. Then left with a full belly.”

“My AHA moment in Lions was when I first attended the Beeping Easter Egg Hunt for visually impaired children. Standing in a field with a beeping egg, coaching children toward the sound overwhelmed me with the emotion of caring for other’s needs and acknowledging the worth of serving in the Lions!!!”

“I wanted to get involved in a club to keep me occupied and to do good in the community. My buddy Jon Vaughn and my dad Frank Strum is involved with the Lions Club as Jon has wanted me to join for awhile now. So, I joined and have participated with chicken roast and spaghetti dinner. I really enjoy participating and helping people out in return. Plus, it kept me occupied and involved with the community.”

The **Elkins Lions Club** was established in 1951. 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 became a Lion because the Lions Club in Elkins got my cousin glasses.”

“My first experience of Lions Clubs was when I was in 3rd grade. I’d had mono most of the first 9 weeks of school, and spent 6 weeks in a bedroom mostly in bed. Upon my return to school, the teacher noticed me having difficulty seeing the blackboard. (Yes it was truly a blackboard with the dusty white chalk). Of course, that meant a visit to Dr. Dyer, who prescribed glasses for this very near-sighted girl with astigmatism. I can still remember

my mommy’s words “Dr. Dyer, we have never asked for help from anybody before, but I just don’t know what to do. We depend on raising chickens for Rockingham for a lot of our living and this last flock we didn’t make much of anything. Dr. Dyer smiled kindly and said, “Don’t worry Georgie.” I know some people who like to help with glasses. When my special blue framed glasses came, I stood for a long time looking at the grass in front of Dr. Dyer’s office. I had never realized you could stand straight up and see ants crawling on the ground. My Lion service is my way of paying that feeling forward.”

“In 2018 I found out that I was going to need a liver transplant. By June I was unable to live on my own and I finally received my transplant in October. That is a truly life changing and in my case life saving experience. I joined Lions shortly after my transplant in 2019. My dad had been in Lion’s and his sponsor was Dick Waldon. My sponsor was his daughter Barbara. I was so happy to be able to be a part of such a wonderful organization with such outstanding group of people. The Lions Club of Elkins is what I consider to be my extended family and I wouldn’t change the experiences I have had for anything. I try and shine to do my best to serve in Lionism every day.”

The **Phillipi Lions Club** was established in 1947. 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.

“Philippi Lions Club supplied my dad with a hospital bed so he could stay at home as long as possible. When Dad died, Mom moved to my sisters and the bed went with her. It would not have been possible to keep them with us had it not been for the durable medical equipment program of the Philippi Lions.”

“Helping get medical equipment for my neighbors, helping deliver Holiday dinners, and doing eye screening at the schools.”

“I am next to the oldest members and have been President 3 times, received a Melvin Jones, Leonard Jarrett award and a 50-year member.”

“My story began with the night I became a member. Tina Mouser, my sponsor, invited my mother to present me with my Lion’s pin. She was so proud. She has since passed but that memory will always be with me.”

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

Bruceton Community Lions Club increase brooms sales with decorative awareness. We would



like to share that we have had an increased interest in our broom sales at the local Clear Mountain Bank who graciously displays and collects funds for the sale of our Lions Club Brooms. What has led to our broom sales success? Ribbons tied in a bow around the brooms. We began adding a seasonal bow to our display and this has caught the eye of locals for a ready-made gift. We hope this simple, yet effective change may help other clubs increase their sales as well.

Submitted by Lion Dawn Bolyard

Jane Lew Lions Club proudly supported our nation's veterans by sending heartfelt Thank You



Cards to Honor Flight participants and sponsoring WV veterans to join this meaningful journey to Washington, DC. Our continued

commitment honors their service and ensures these veterans receive the recognition and camaraderie they deserve.

Submitted by President Lion Linda Aman

Bruceton Community Lions Club 70th Anniversary Celebration. On October 18th, the



Bruceton Community Lions Club celebrated their 70th Anniversary. To commemorate the event, they invited the community to a free spaghetti dinner. During the event, Leonard Jarrett awards were given to several community businesses. The event was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Submitted by Lion Crystal Thomas

*To the world you may be one person,
But to one person you may be the world.*

Bruceton Community Lions Club Christmas Homecoming Lighted Parade and Celebration. On December 6th, the Bruceton Community Lions Club sponsored the



Christmas Homecoming and Lighted Christmas Parade for the community. In addition to the lighted parade, there was free food, kid activities, festive contests, and

entertainment provided by the club

and other community churches and organizations.

Submitted by Lion Crystal Thomas

West Milford Lions Club notes neighboring Lions Clubs participated in the bell ringing for the Salvation Army in November and December. West Milford Lions Members participate in this activity



as well. Although the activity was not published previously, the club takes note of the missing event and continues to communicate to your newsletter editor for inclusion. As Lion Kam notes, "You just can't keep a good Lion down, huh?"

Submitted by Lion Kam Sloan

"Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it."

Shepherdstown Centennial Lions Club hosted a 'Breakfast with Santa' at the Blue Moon restaurant in Shepherdstown on December 20th. Kids and their



parents enjoyed pancakes and photos with Santa. Happy families at the Shepherdstown Lions Club 'Breakfast w/ Santa'.

Submitted by Lion Effie Kallas

Bridgeport Lions Club members, Diana Bedell, Kelly Maher, Theresa Gain, Jay Larry, Steve Glass, Cindy Glass and Estelle Rice served dinner to those in need at the Warming Shelter in downtown Clarksburg as part of the Hunger Week for Service activity. Another meal will be served for the Clarksburg Mission in February.

Submitted by SDVG Lion Diana Bedell

Jane Lew Lions Club Representatives Present at Jane Lew Elementary School Social Studies Fair. On January 21st, the Jane Lew Lions Club was represented at the Jane Lew Elementary School Social Studies Fair by Mike Walker, Debby Walker, Beth White, and Bill White. The group celebrated



and supported the participation of students who presented six engaging social studies projects. The Jane Lew Lions Club continues their support for local students in educational programs. Pictured Left to right: Mike Walker, Debby Walker, Beth White and Bill White.

Submitted by President Lion Linda Aman

Training available for all Lions through

USA-Canada Leadership

Forum at

Lions University

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

Charles Town Lions Club

successfully hosted its annual Christmas fundraiser in December 2025, offering raffle tickets for a festive wagon filled with toys. This year's event featured two prize opportunities valued at \$500 and \$300, with Lions members donating toys to maximize profits. The funds raised will support the club's facility renovation initiatives. The Club held a fundraising raffle for two wagons full of toys, etc. The photos show our winners. The top photo shows winner Margo Robinson Harris & Khali Gosey with Lion Tanya Adams. The bottom left photo shows winner Vickie Clarke with Lion Brenda Gaskin & the bottom right photo shows winner Vickie Clarke with Lion Tyler Payton.

wagons full of toys, etc. The photos show our winners. The top photo shows winner Margo Robinson Harris & Khali Gosey with Lion Tanya Adams. The bottom left photo shows winner Vickie Clarke with Lion Brenda Gaskin & the bottom right photo shows winner Vickie Clarke with Lion Tyler Payton.

Submitted by Lion Vicki Propps

Martinsburg Lions Club members joined 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

UPCOMING CLUB ACTIVITIES

A Compilation From 291 Clubs

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
Call or Text 410-271-8184

ROCK 'N' ROAR
A Benefit Concert Supporting

warming
Hands and Hearts
A United Way of the Eastern Panhandle, Inc. Initiative

MARCH 13, 2026 AT 7PM
The Holiday Inn, Martinsburg
Featuring Live Music From

Foggy Band

Support heating assistance for vulnerable members of our community by enjoying a night of dancing, raffles and more!

RSVP today on the Martinsburg Lions Club Facebook page

Cash Bar & \$10 Recommended Cash Donation at the Door

UNITED WAY Eastern Panhandle 







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 even that's a very easy way to generate funds



Contact Information

Lanny Balentine, PDG • Lions Club Sales Representative
Cell: (864) 444-1325 • Email: lbalen1010@aol.com



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NEXSTEP BROOM SALES CLUBS

Does your club sell NexStep Brooms?

Let me know club and contact information so we can build an outreach advertising program.

Martinsburg Lions Club

West Milford Lions Club

Bridgeport Lions Club
(see Lion Ben Sandy-304-476-4994)

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:

LIONS29Inewsletter@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/?mi_bextid=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:

LIONS29Inewsletter@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 29I

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.