

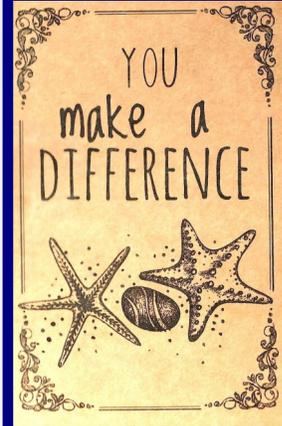


DISTRICT 29-L (WV/USA)



JUNE 2025 Newsletter

DAVID ROBERTS, DISTRICT GOVERNOR



Roar Lions!

Roar Lions!

Roar Lions!

My term of serving as District Governor 29L will soon come to a close.

The WV Lions State Convention was held at Canaan Valley State Park and Resort. It was a great event that gave each Lion a renewed sense of purpose with fun, fellowship and entertainment. It was well attended. Lion Kim Ebert from the Morgantown Area Lions Club was elected to serve as our District Governor for the 2025-2026 term beginning July 1st. Lion Tony Vandenberg of the Pleasants Area Lions moved up to 1st Vice District Governor. Both of these great Lions will be amazing Leaders and will serve our District well.

I would like to address a situation that I have recently been made aware of and that is any Lion in good standing can register to attend the District 29L Conference and WV Lions State Convention. You DO NOT have to be invited to attend.

I would like to thank each and every cabinet member and Lions club members who have left District 29L in a position of service to our communities.

I believe every district governor begins his/her term of office with a lengthy list of hopes and ideas that narrowed down become goals. Many of these goals are realistic and are easily attained, and many are often met with a reality of situation that was not realized until you are in the role of District Governor. With that being said, District 29L has met many of the described goals given to Lions International, and have surpassed many of my personal goals.

(Continued on Page 2)

2024—2025 29-L CABINET

David Roberts, Governor
Kim Ebert, 1st VDG
Tony Vandenberg, 2nd VDG & LCIF Chair
Bill Syphers, Secy / Treas
Bernice Pitcock, GLT Chair
Linda Leasure, GST Chair
Gary Pitcock, GMT / GET Chair
Dan Heintzman, IPDG

ZONE CHAIRS:

John Porco, Zone 1
Kristine Quinn, Zone 2 / 3
Scott Beaver, Zone 4
Vincent Post, Zone 5
Robert Brummage, Zone 6
VACANCY, Zone 7
Virginia, Dickens, Zone 8

Ramona Sago, Administrator
Phyllis Amrhein, Newsletter Editor
Kathy Syphers, IT
Amy Houser, Environmental
Eva Dague, LEO
Paul Amrhein, Sight & Hearing / WVU Liaison
Patty Nutter, Youth Exchange (E)
Michelle Harshbarger, Youth Ex (A)
Lori Roberts, District Conference
Dave Shelton, Reading Action Prog.
Jay Houser, Marketing

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE (continued)

Membership is a goal in every club, district and of course at the International level. District 29L has been actively recruiting and inducting new members. Our clubs have done an outstanding job of working to remain current in our communities by utilizing the opportunities provided by the District; such as, in-person and Zoom trainings, and those provided by LCI.

Our District has experienced an increase in communication between our clubs due the work of our Zone Chairs and our Global Membership Team, Global Extension Team, administrator, web master and newsletter editor. Additionally, our clubs have received marketing assistance from our Marketing Chair, as well as community assistance, as we have worked to expand the reach of Lionism in our District. We have expanded our reach as shown through our growth in new members and the expansion of new clubs that are in process at West Virginia University Eye Institute and Marshall University.

The District 29L Cabinet has worked diligently to fulfil their commitment to their roles: working with the Leo's, recruiting families for the youth exchange, working on the conference, sharing their passion for Lionism and the eight primary initiatives. The LCIF Chair has surpassed his goal this year thanks to the passion of his fellow Lions.

The District 29L Conference was truly uplifting. We had a large increase in attendance this year and welcomed several new attendees. The opportunity to enjoy fellowship, learning, Lionism and some great entertainment was a highlight for our District.

My theme for this year was: **“Together we made a difference for That One”**. I believe as Lions we have been doing this since 1925, and we will continue to do so in each of our clubs and communities. This was truly demonstrated at our District 29L Conference in the parade of checks. The donations totaling over \$42,000.00 given to support Lions initiatives will make a difference for many “Ones”. The ripple effects from that “one” will likely be much more than we will ever know.



It has been my honor to serve with you, the Lions of District 29L.

Roar Lions!

District Governor Dave Roberts

2025 MD29 West Virginia Lions State Convention Canaan Valley Resort, Davis WV May 16-18, 2025



WORK and a little bit of FUN before the start of the Convention



International Guests, Lion LeeAnn and Second-Year International Director Steven Middlemiss with 29-L First Lady Lori and District Governor Dave Roberts.



International President's Certificates of Appreciation were presented to 1st VDG Kim Ebert and Conference Chair, Lion Lori Roberts



Pictured left: DG Dave Roberts and Lion Lori; Lion Missy Norman; Lion LeeAnn and ID Steven Middlemiss; PDGs Bernice and Gary Pitcock; Lion Vanessa Beaver. Lions Missy and Vanessa are members of the Weirton Lions Club



The International President's Leadership Award was presented to Global Leadership Chair, PDG Bernice Pitcock.

The International President's Award was presented to District Newsletter Editor, Lion Phyllis Amrhein

KIM EBERT, District Governor-Elect

I am deeply honored and grateful to have been elected as the 29L District Governor for 2025-2026. I look forward to serving this District with dedication and passion.

A huge “thank you” to everyone who attended our State Convention at Canaan Valley! It was awesome to see so many familiar faces and meet new ones. Your energy and enthusiasm really made the event something special.

We had a blast sharing ideas, learning from each other, and just hanging out. The fellowship and fun we shared remind us why being a Lion is so rewarding. Together, we're not just a group; we're a family making a real difference.

If you enjoyed this year, just wait until next year! We're already planning more exciting activities and opportunities to connect. We'd love to see even more of you there.

Thanks again for being part of this amazing journey. Can't wait to see what we accomplish together next!.



Lead with Courage/Serve with Heart,

Kim Ebert, District-Governor-Elect



We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to Lion Phyllis Amrhein for her incredible dedication and hard work in managing the District Newsletters during this Lions' year. Her commitment and attention to detail have kept us all informed and connected. Thank you, Phyllis, for your outstanding service!

As Phyllis steps down, we are excited to welcome Lion Kristine Quinn as her successor. Lion Kristine brings a fresh perspective and enthusiasm to the role, and we are confident she will continue the great work. Please start sending your articles and contributions to her at trabbold769@comcast.net.

We look forward to your continued support and contributions. Thank you for being a part of District 29-L.

**The following information
can be used for introduction purposes:**

*** * * * ***

**KIM EBERT
2025—2026 DISTRICT GOVERNOR
DISTRICT 29-L, WEST VIRGINIA**

Kim Ebert became a member of the Morgantown Area Lions Club in 2015 while working at the West Virginia University Eye Institute. She attended her first West Virginia State Lions event, the 2016 Leadership Retreat, and soon took on leadership roles, including serving as first vice president of the Morgantown Area Lions Club. She is a Leonard Jarrett recipient and has received the International President Certificate of Appreciation twice. Kim now serves as 2025-2026 District Governor for WV District 29L.

With a strong commitment to vision care, Kim has dedicated significant efforts to supporting children with vision difficulties. While at the Eye Institute, she contributed to the Appalachian Vision Outreach Program. In addition to her work with the Lions Club, Kim has served as the Secretary/Treasurer of the West Virginia Sight Conservation Foundation for five years. Currently, Kim works at the West Virginia University School of Dentistry in the Academic Affairs office.

Kim resides in Fairmont, WV, with her husband, Bill, and two dogs, Bucco and Scarlett.

**LION TONY VANDENBERG,
1st Vice District Governor –Elect**



CELEBRATE THIS LIONS' YEAR

Lions of District 29 L – We have had a great year!

Consider taking some time to celebrate with your Club members and communities. Take stock of all we have done – and begin to think what can be in the next year. Hold a picnic, install new officers, induct new Lions, hold summer events for Club and community.

Your Club, Your Way

Thank you for electing me as First Vice District Governor for 2025-2026. It will be busy and fun. Let me or District Governor-Elect Kim know how we can help you.

Lion Tony Vandenberg, Vice District Governor



**Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION**

THANK YOU, Lions of 29 L. Your contributions to LCIF Make A Difference For That One – that one local community, that one person who attended a health clinic, that one family who suffered a terrible storm. We have done our part, exceeding the fundraising goal set by LCIF!

Clubs and individual Lions might be thinking about year-end donations, and perhaps awarding Melvin Jones Fellowships. I have reports that list the credits available toward the \$1000 in donations that fund a MJF.

Any donations or MJF applications you wish to be processed and recorded on this year's books must be mailed to the Carol Stream, Illinois address **no later than Friday, June 13.** Online donations, please complete contributions **by Thursday, June 26** to ensure they are posted in this Lion year.

Sunday, June 1st, the world will come together for the LionsVirtual.org Tell-A-Thon to celebrate real people making a real difference in their communities. This special global event will roll out across time zones, and together we'll recognize the extraordinary efforts of volunteers worldwide while raising funds for LCIF. Make a Tell-A-Thon donation in support of LCIF to help empower Lions' service today and into the future! Register here: <https://lionsvirtual.org/>

Lion Tony Vandenberg, Vice District Governor
District LCIF Chairperson

A SUGGESTED REFRESHER

Often when veteran Lion members attend conferences, conventions, and even club meetings, Lion acronyms are common usage in discussions. That is OK if you are in a group of only Lions who are familiar with the acronyms. However, with the addition of new membership into our organization and their attendance at Lion events, it is confusing to them because they do not understand what the acronyms mean. Consequently, they feel left out of the conversation. Also, it has been noted that many current Lions feel the same way.

It has been suggested that the list of common Lions Club Acronyms be revisited, and once again published in the newsletter for ALL Lions to revisit. (SEE THE CHART TO THE RIGHT) Hopefully, we all will remember to eliminate the acronyms and use their proper meaning when speaking, especially if new members and/or non-Lions are present. It will only take a few moments more to complete your discussion.

COMMON LIONS CLUB ACRONYMS (District 29L)

CC	Council Chair
CSC	Club Service Chair
CEP / CQI	Club Excellence Process, Club Quality Initiative
COG	Council of Governors
CS, DS	Cabinet Secretary, District Secretary
CT, DT	Cabinet Treasurer, District Treasurer
DG	District Governor
DGE	District Governor Elect
GAT	Global Action Team
GMT / GMC	Global Membership Team, Global Membership Coordinator
GLT / GLC	Global Leadership Team, Global Leadership Coordinator
GST / GSC	Global Service Team, Global Service Coordinator
GET / GEC	Global Extension Team, Global Extension Coordinator
GSCC	Global Service Club Chairperson
ID	International Director
IP	International President
IPCC	Immediate Past Council Chair
IPDG	Immediate Past District Governor
IPID	Immediate Past International Director
IPIP	Immediate Past International President
LI	Lions International
LCIF	Lions Clubs International Foundation
LIONS	Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nations Safety
MD	Multiple District
MJF	Melvin Jones Fellow
MMR	Monthly Membership Report
PCC	Past Council Chair
PCT	Past Cabinet Treasurer
PDG	Past District Governor
PID	Past International Director
PIP	Past International President
PMJF	Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow
RC	Region Chair
TT / LT	Tail Twister, Lion Tamer
VDG	Vice District Governor 1st; 2nd
VDGE	Vice District Governor Elect
ZC	Zone Chair

Prepared by Paul Walters, Secretary, El Cajon Valley Host Lions, 09-21-17
17-18 SEC LION ACRONYMS C/DOC/LIB UPDATED 05-23-18

PCT/GLT/SCC Jay Ruiz, Sr., added a few more, 05-24-2018

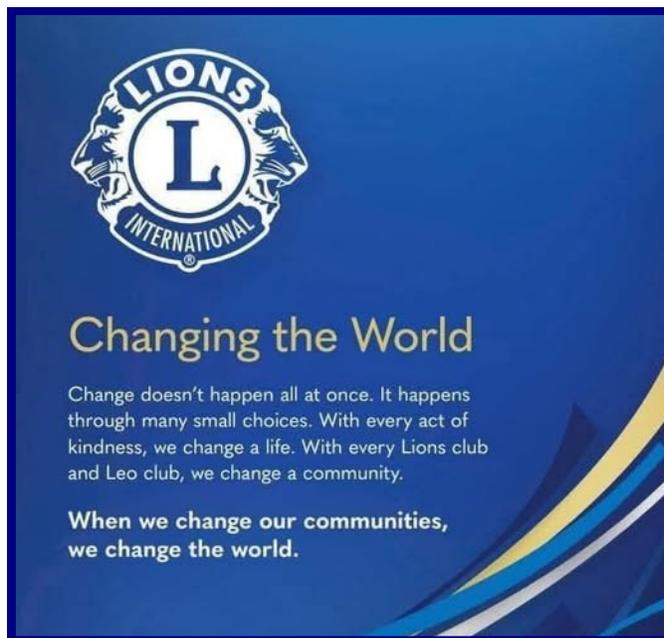
District 29L GLT PDG B. Pitcock reviewed/revised 06-26-24, 09-16-24

PDG BILL SYPHERS, Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer

REMINDER TO CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP ROLL

June is the time when all clubs should be checking their rolls and removing any members who are no longer active. Some clubs are still carrying members, hoping that they will return to active status, even though those members are not paying their dues. A lot of clubs are still carrying members who have passed on.

Lions International will charge your club dues based on the number of members showing on your roster as of 12:01 AM on July 1st. The district will also be assessing your club based on that number. You will be required to pay that amount to the district. The state will be assessing the district based on that number. The district will also be required to pay that amount to the state.



Do you really want to pay for members who aren't really members? Do you expect the district to? Check your roster this month. Clean it up. Make any necessary changes before June 30th. You can help to make the collection and payment of dues easier for everybody.

Lion Bill Syphers

990-N Non-Profit Tax Reporting

Lions Clubs whose gross receipts are normally \$50,000 or less must file Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (e-postcard).

A Lions Club that fails to file the required e-postcard (or annual return) for three (3) consecutive years automatically loses its tax-exempt status. The first time to be re-instated will cost a club \$400, the second time will cost the club \$800.

Filing period begins on July 1st and ends on November 15th of each year.

PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO FILE! Contact District Administrator, PDG Ramona Sago, at 304-662-6265 or rsago1959@gmail.com if your club does not know how to file.

**PDG BERNICE PITCOCK,
DISTRICT LEADERSHIP CHAIR**



We are coming to a close on the 2024-25 Lions year. I reviewed Lions portal information and unfortunately, there are still 20 clubs who have not entered their incoming officers into the portal. Please get this done as soon as possible!! I am getting ready to schedule trainings for the incoming officers and zone chairs – can't send out info if I don't have the proper names of the officers. Again, there will be 1 in-person training of officers and it will be held in the Wheeling area. The remainder of the trainings will be held by Zoom. Current officers, please stress to your new officers to attend the trainings, even if you have been an officer in the past, there is always something new you can learn!!

I would like to extend my thanks to DG Dave for giving me the opportunity to serve as Leadership Chair this year. I will continue in that role under DG-Elect Kim Ebert's leadership in the new Lions' year.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to DG Dave for honoring me with the Presidential Leadership Award at our recent MD Convention.

Incoming officers – you can review your responsibilities for your specific position in the e-books that are on the Lions portal – or you can also get that information on District 29L's website.

Let's buckle down and prepare to have a great new Lions year in District 29L!!

**PDG GARY PITCOCK,
DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**



It's hard to believe, but we are coming to the end of another Lion's year. This has been a fairly good year for DG Dave. Our membership numbers are not that bad and we have maintained our clubs. We are on a roll, so please don't give up getting new members so we have more hands to serve.

I would like to thank DG Dave for asking me to be GMT and GET this year. Unfortunately, I was unable to travel like we had in the past, but I tried to reach out to the clubs.

We should all be proud of DG Dave – he did a great job this year. I look forward to working with DG Elect Kim in the new Lion's year. Remember, if we all work together we can make our clubs and District 29L so much better.



A LION PASSED THIS WAY

I met a man who could not see
But he smiled anyway.
When I asked him why, he said to me:
“A Lion passed this way”.

I met a girl who could not hear,
But her eyes were bright and gay.
When I asked her why, she said to me:
“A Lion passed this way”.

I met some Lions with heavy hearts as they bent their head to pray.
When I asked them why, they said to me:
“A Lion passed on today.”

The following Lions lit the path and served with pride. Remember this, my friends,
as you read the names of the 29-L Lions who chose to be Lions until the day of their
passing in Lions Year 2024-2025. It falls upon us to continue the work they started,
to protect the legacy they have entrusted to us, and to guide the world to a new
Vision of Peace and Service.



Those we love
can never be
more than a
thought away.
For as long as
there's a
memory,
They live in
our hearts
to stay.

Judy K Deer, Barboursville

Richard H Beck, Doddridge County

Barry Dean Crow, Elm Grove

Columbus Carpenter, Fairmont

Daniel W Stutler, Fairmont

Fred R Dailey, Milton

Robert Foster, Milton

Harold D Vititoe, Milton

John S Ledford, Moundsville

Linda Stead, Paden City

Gretchen Himmeger, Pleasants Area

David Nicholson, S. Parkersburg

Bernie Browning, SE Huntington

Brent Hart, SE Huntington

Daniel McPherson, Washington

Donald Fleming, Waverly

Anne Griffith, West Liberty

John Isinghood, West Liberty

Wilma Williams, Western Mon

Michael Blackwell, Wheeling

Ed Van Lynn, Wheeling

Joyce Hinkel, Whg-Warwood

Glenn Kimble, Williamstown

Harold Pyle, Williamstown



THE MEANING
OF
LIFE IS
TO FIND
YOUR GIFT.
THE PURPOSE
OF
LIFE IS TO
GIVE IT AWAY.

WELCOME NEW LIONS!

**JOHN ROSSY
KAT ROSSY**
Chester Lions Club

LINDA STATON
Grantsville Lions Club

PAMELA NEAL
Moundsville Lions Club

**ROBERT CLOVIS
RYAN McFARLAND**
Pleasants Area Lions
Club

CHABLIS HUPP
Warwood Lions Club



Defeating
Diabetes



Saving
Vision



Relieving
Disaster



Serving
Youth



Ending
Hunger



Battling
Pediatric Cancer



Protecting our
Environment



Helping
Humanity

Global Causes



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

Sight Equipment Calendar



Is your club planning a vision testing in your community?

To reserve your sight equipment, the contact is now

Lion Amy Houser

304-200-0146

WilliamstownLionsClub@yahoo.com

Each month I will post the reservations so you may plan your event. Beginning June 1, an update calendar will be available on the Williamstown Lions Club's e-page.

Vision Testing Equipment Reservations

June 28, 2025

Zones 2 and 3

I M P O R T A N T !!! **PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR** **ASSOCIATION NEWS!**



DATE CHANGE: District 29L Cabinet Appreciation Picnic has been changed to **Sunday, June 29th** at Crystal Lake in Doddridge County at **4 pm.** The original date had too many conflicts!!

Cabinet members are invited to attend free of charge. Any others who would like to attend are welcome, but there will be \$15.00 fee. Please RSVP to Bernice Pitcock at bpit@comcast.net or 304-797-8374. RSVP no later than Monday, June 23.

Send any monetary DG gifts (clubs or cabinet members) to PDG Treasurer, PID Lion Larry Johnson, at 5702 13th Avenue, Vienna WV 26105. Make checks payable to District 29L PDG Assoc. If you sent checks to Lion Bill Syphers, that's ok – it will get to DG Dave!!

Sorry for the change of plans!!



Pictured above are the Strides walkers from the 2025 Lions State Convention. It was a great afternoon for a walk and what a nice big group of walkers joined it! This year's proceeds from our Teresa Johnson Memorial Strides Walk will go to WV Kids Cancer Crusade. A total of \$1,040 was collected. Great job, Lions!!!



HELLO, fellow Lions!

It has been a while since I addressed you about the West Virginia Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation. As a newly elected Trustee, I am excited to share with you the new services and programs the Foundation has to offer.

I will be available to visit your club for a program and/or questions after July 1st. I can be reached either by home phone or email at the following:

PHONE: 304-242-0911

Please leave a message, if necessary, and I will return your call.

EMAIL: pamrhein25@comcast.net

In your message, please indicate the date and time you would like me to visit. I will respond as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your confidence and vote allowing me to serve as Trustee.

**PDG Paul Amrhein
Trustee 2025—2028**

OHIO COUNTY VIRTUAL LIONS CLUB

The Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce and YWCA Wheeling co-hosted the third-annual ATHENA Leadership Awards Luncheon on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at Wheeling Park's White Palace.

The ATHENA Leadership Award is an internationally recognized honor that celebrates individuals who demonstrate excellence in their profession, make significant contributions to their community, and actively support women in reaching their full leadership potential.

The ATHENA Leadership Awards emphasize living authentically, continuous learning, building relationships, fostering collaboration, acting courageously, advocating fiercely, giving back, and celebrating success. There are 4 finalists for this prestigious award - and OCVLC President Julie Davis is one of them. We are so proud of her achievements!

Congratulations, Julie!



PADEN CITY LIONS CLUB

Lion Ken Stead recently received his 50 year chevron from Friendly Lions Club president, Scott Beaver. Lion Ken was a long time member of the Friendly Lions Club before transferring to the Paden City Lions Club in 2023.



 **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

IN PERSON OFFICER TRAINING

Monday, June 30, 6-8PM

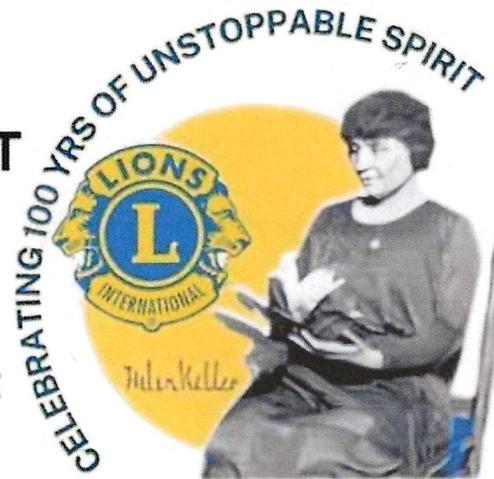
**Ohio County Public Library Auditorium
52 16th Street, Wheeling WV**

Refreshments provided

NOTE: This is the only in-person training that will be scheduled. Additional ZOOM meetings schedule is pending.

HELEN KELLER VISION AWARENESS EVENT

Saturday, June 28th
11 am-2 pm
Quaker Steak & Lube Back Lot



Hosted by *Local Area Lions Clubs &
in Partnership with Seeing Hand Assoc. & WVU Eye Institute

FUN STATIONS FOR ALL AGES:

- Eye Screenings for All Ages
- Eye Diet, Eye Safety, & Injury Prevention
- Braille and White Cane Station
- Seeing Hand Association Table
- Be My Eyes App
- Blindfold Writing
- Blind Bowling
- Rely on Your Senses Activity
- Sensory Box Activity
- Coloring Station



The Lions collect and recycle eyeglasses.



**RAFFLE BASKETS FUNDRAISER WITH PROCEEDS
BENEFITING THE SEEING HAND ASSOCIATION.**



Receive a free raffle ticket for every pair of glasses you bring to
recycle!



The FIRST 25 KIDS TO COME TO OUR EVENT GET A FREE PAIR OF UV SUNGLASSES!

***Participating Local Area Lions Clubs Include:** Wheeling, Elm Grove, Wheeling Island, Dallas, Ohio County, Moundsville, Mt. Olivet, West Liberty, & Warwood.

MT. OLIVET LIONS CLUB



The Mt Olivet Lions Memorial Day "Flags for Heroes" honored 158 SPECIAL HEROES!

During Memorial Day, we will always **HONOR** and **REMEMBER** the **military personnel who have died while serving in the Armed Forces**. "Thank you" Moundsville Veterans Honor Guard for including the Mt Olivet Lions Club Veterans Monument in your annual Memorial Weekend Cemetery visitations program. Thanks for all that you do!



WEIRTON LIONS CLUB

Weirton Lions held their 3rd annual **Heart of a Lion Dinner** at Gios. Mr Tom Banketas was this year's honoree. Tom was honored for his generosity of spirit and financial assistance to such projects as the Weirton Christian Center and the Christian Center's Community Garden. The Lions presented Tom with a donation to the project of his choosing - The Weirton Christian Center. DGE Kim Ebert and 1st VDG Tony Vandenberg were in attendance.



Mr. Tom Banketas



CHECK PRESENTATION * Tom to Kim Weaver of the Weirton Christian Center



Tom received a picture of "The Lion and the Lamb" from Kim Weaver



Lions Linda Howell and John Porco; Tom and Gerri Banketas, and Kim Weaver



1st VDG Tony Vandenberg, and DGE Kim Ebert, pictured with Tom's wife, Gerri Banketas,

WARWOOD LIONS CLUB

The Warwood Lions held their Education Night on Monday, May 12th, at the Warwood Methodist Church.

Two \$1,000 Scholarships and certificates were given to high school Seniors planning to attend college in the fall.

Also presented were Citizenship Awards. These were given to two students from Warwood School and two students from Corpus Christi School. These students were given \$100.00 each along with a certificate.



Pictured above are the award recipients.

CHESTER LIONS CLUB

The Chester Lions Club provided sno-cones at the "Cones with Cops" event sponsored by Hancock County Family Resource Center.

The event was held as part of National Police Week and included the City of Chester police officers, Hancock County Deputies and K-9 officers.



Chester Lions Club 4th of July Car Show



Chester City Park, Chester, WV
Friday, July 4, 2025

We will once again be limited to about 175 entries.
Come early to ensure a space. Some overflow parking available.
Due to the space limitations, please no trailers.



- ★ 36 Trophies
- ★ Dash Plaques to the First 150 Registrants
- ★ Door Prizes, 50/50 & Chinese Raffles
- ★ Music (since we have a DJ, please no outside music)
- ★ Food available

11:00 AM to 3:00 PM | Registration 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
\$10 Registration Fee - Judging begins at 12:30 -
Cars, Trucks, & Motorcycles welcome
All Makes, Models & Years

Pre-registration available.
Contact Steve at sfwilson55@gmail.com
(412-370-7356)
Pre-registering does not reserve a spot.



RAIN DATE – SUNDAY, JULY 13, 1:00 PM TO 4:00 PM

Not responsible for any loss, damages, or injuries.

www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/chesterwv



Chester, WV Lions Club



Congratulations!

St. Marys High School Leo Club

Six SMHS graduating Senior Leos were awarded scholarships from the Pleasants Area Lions Club. This Leo Club shows **L**eadership while **E**xperiencing the **O**pportunities to serve:

- ◆ Cancer care bags for patients at Strecker Cancer Center in Marietta.
- ◆ Donations to and volunteering at the dog and cat shelters.
- ◆ Writing cards for veterans.
- ◆ Canned food drives for local food pantry.
- ◆ Visiting nursing homes with small gifts and cards at Valentine's Day.
- ◆ Adopting families at Christmas.
- ◆ Bringing small Christmas gifts to each student at the elementary schools.
- ◆ Helping the clothing closets at the Middle and High Schools.
- ◆ Collecting supplies for the teachers at the start of the High School year.
- ◆ Say Hello Day at the High School, placing positive notes on students' lockers.



MD29 DEAF & BLIND RECREATION PROGRAM

We started our year off in October with a trip to Brookdale Farms in Fort Ashby where the students from the Romney Schools for the Deaf & Blind spent the afternoon on the farm. They experienced the Corn Maze, the pumpkin patch, petting zoo, bounce house, and hayrides. In November, the students went bowling at the South Brance Lanes in Moorefield. They were treated to pizza, drinks and ice cream. The students love to go bowling and we always have a great time. In December, approximately 40 students and chaperones boarded the Potomac Eagle North Pole Express in Romney and experienced the Winter Wonderland Christmas Lights event. The students love riding the train. It is a wonderful experience for all of them.

The students hit the ski slopes at Canaan Valley in February and March. The deaf students skied on Feb. 19th and the Visually Impaired/Blind students skied on March 3rd. Visually Impaired students from other surrounding counties were also invited to participate. These students are enrolled in the regular school districts. Students were treated to both lunch and dinner on both ski days. Everyone had an awesome day. For some students, this is a once in a lifetime experience to spend an entire day on the ski slopes. It is always a great day when no students get injured! This is our most expensive event, but so worth it when you see the smiles on the faces of the students.

I want to thank all of the clubs who donated so generously to this program. We could not provide the recreational opportunities to these students if it were not for the generosity of the Lions Clubs in West Virginia. Hats off to all of you!!!

Yours in Lionism,

PCC Barbara Fishell
Multiple District Chairperson
Deaf & Blind Recreation Program
(2024-2025)



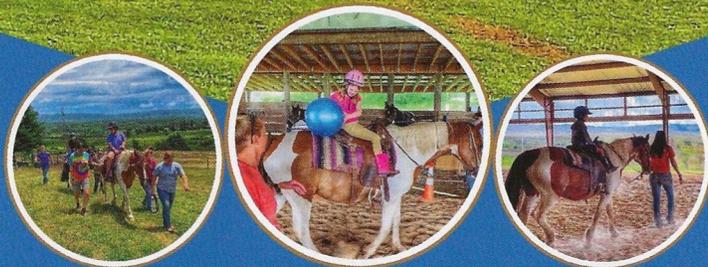
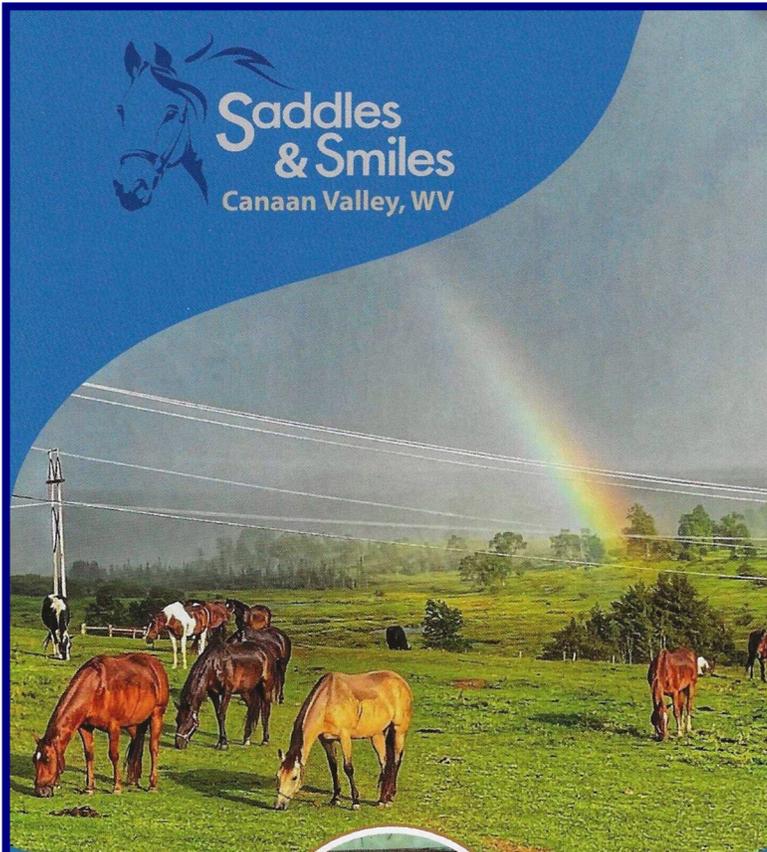
Students Hit the Slopes!

The West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind's (WVSDB) Blind and Visually Impaired students had an unforgettable day conquering the slopes!

With guidance and determination, they embraced the thrill of skiing and proved that anything is possible.

A huge **THANK YOU** to the Lions Club for supporting this incredible experience!





CANAAN VALLEY, WV

Saddles and Smiles is a 501c3 non-profit established to provide equine assisted learning experiences to children, teens, and young adults with a variety of challenges

 www.saddlesandsmiles.org

SADDLES & SMILES

While attending the recent WV Lions State Convention in Canaan Valley, Angie Shockley was our guest presenter during the Saturday Luncheon. She represented SADDLES & SMILES of Canaan Valley and also entertained the group by her talent as a country singer.

A little about Saddles & Smiles ...

Saddles & Smiles was launched to provide services for youth and families in the Tucker County and extended area. They work specifically with at-risk students, youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnoses, and youth with mental health struggles such as anxiety and depression. Saddles & Smiles also provides education and training for families of struggling youth. They facilitate the magic that occurs when youth and horses find each other.

To say her presentation was exceptional does not tell the true story. Angie spoke from the heart and her passion for her work was quite evident. At the conclusion of her presentation, a "Love Offering" took place among those in attendance and the Lions of West Virginia donated a total of \$1,389 to this worthy cause.

If you are interested in learning more, contact Angie Shockley at the following or visit their web site and/or Facebook page.

-  www.saddlesandsmiles.org
-  304-642-9070 / 304-704-9606
-  @saddlesandsmileswv
-  3210 Cortland Rd. Davis, WV

A NOTE OF



I want to thank District Governor Dave Roberts for inviting me to be a member of his Cabinet., and giving me the opportunity to serve as Newsletter Editor during the 2024-25 Lions' year.

I also want to thank him for presenting me with the "International President's Award" at the State Convention. This is truly an honor and one I will always treasure.

It was indeed a pleasure to serve with DG Dave and the other members of the Cabinet. Throughout the year, I had the privilege to share pertinent information, publish club activities, help welcome new memberships, celebrate club anniversaries and events with fellow Lions, and much more. With each edition, I can honestly say I am proud to be a Lion of District 29-L! So much good is happening throughout the district by spreading Lionism in our communities to those in need.

As DGE Kim stated in her remarks, I will be stepping down from this position in July. Lion Kristine Quinn, a member of the Ohio County Virtual Lions Club, will continue, and I hope you will keep the news coming to her for all Lions in 29-L to enjoy.

Thank you, Lions, for all the support you have given me. Also, a special "thank you" to Lion Kathy Syphers for her time and efforts to email the publications to several Lions throughout the district and state.

Lion Phyllis Amrhein
2024-2025 Newsletter Editor

