



DISTRICT 29-C NEWS

West Virginia Lions Leadership Retreat

By Lion Carolyn Sheets



(Lion Beth Slade, Keynote Speaker WVLLR with Lions Charles & Carolyn Sheets)

The WV Lions Leadership Retreat got off to a very good start Friday evening, Jan. 25, 2019, at Days Inn in Flatwoods. The air was cold outside, but roads were clear and dry most places, so lots of folks arrived in the afternoon. Thanks to Lion Sue Long (Fort Ashby) and all those on her committees, everything was very well organized. Registration, aided by the Gassaway Lions, went smoothly. Displays were set up, silent auction items displayed on tables and a table for Lions paraphernalia was displayed in the main lobby of the conference area. After a delicious Italian cuisine dinner, Beth Slade was the key-note speaker. Beth presented a very informative and entertaining program called, “Harness the Leader in You.”

Beth is the director of Lions Engagement for Leader Dogs for the Blind, in Rochester Hills, MI. Beth has been with Leader Dogs for the Blind for five years, and in her current position focuses on the legacy of Lions’ involvement with Leader Dog, which was founded by local Michigan Lions in 1939.

In her presentation Beth described the three main breeds used at Leader Dogs for the Blind; Labradors, Golden Retrievers and German Shepherds. She stated that to reinforce the dogs’ training behaviors, Labs always learn quicker by getting rewarded with ‘treats. Golden Retrievers just want to be loved. All the German Shepherds’ need is a pat on the back and say, “Good job!” Beth likened this to Lions in our clubs. Some Lions like to be rewarded for their work with treats (pins, gifts, etc.), while others, like Golden Retrievers, just want to know they are loved and needed, and some are like German Shepherds, “just tell me I did a good job”.

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(WVLLR continued)

Beth stressed the fact that we need to pay attention to all the work our club members do and let them know they are always appreciated. Beth led two more seminars on Saturday, expounding more on her theme, “Harnessing the Leadership in You.”

There were 112 Lions in attendance at the retreat and 40 of those were first timers. It was a very up-beat and fast-paced retreat with loads of excellent information and pointers for increasing membership and making our clubs more effective. Although the Leadership Retreat is usually held ‘in the bleak midwinter’, the time of year when nothing much is going on, it is an extremely worthwhile event for Lions. All the speakers were inspiring and thought-provoking as to why we Lions have the motto, “WE SERVE.”

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Did you know these alarming Childhood Cancer Facts?

- **Every 2 minutes a child is diagnosed with cancer.**
- **There is a 13% increase in incidence of childhood cancer over the last 20 years.**
- **6 years average age at diagnosis of children with cancer.**
- **>90% of childhood cancer deaths occur in low resource settings.**

Cancer has touched all our lives at one time or another, but particularly devastating is a cancer diagnosis involving a child. February is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. LCI is actively partnering with associations and organizations, like the Garvan Institute of Medical Research, to help improve Lions’ ability to positively impact and improve the lives of children who’ve been diagnosed with cancer. Join fellow Lions and plan an event in your area to help combat this horrible disease. Here are just a few suggestions:

- Post monthly articles about childhood cancer on your club or district website and social media accounts.
- Provide cancer support related books and magazines to your local school or library.
- Write cards full of well wishes and share them with a local cancer center.
- Give gift cards to identified families in need or a nearby childhood cancer center. Cards could cover expenses like gasoline, parking, food, etc.
- Sponsor a child to attend a childhood cancer camp or activity.

Together we can make a difference in someone’s life.

PDG Linda Leasure
MD 29 GST



DISTRICT 29-C NEWS

District Governor's Update



(DG Charolette Henson)

We closed out January with the WV Lions Leadership Retreat. It was filled with lots of exciting seminars, speakers, and chances to make new Lion friends. Thank you to all who attended from District 29C.

Now it is time to start thinking of officers for next year. To review the process, first a nominating committee is appointed. That committee will meet and verify the candidates. Then, for the next two meetings, they are presented to the clubs. The third meeting will be the election. Then, in April, the list of elected officers is sent to the District Governor and to LCI.

Winter restricts us from doing many activities, but it is a good time to work on membership, and to plan for spring.

I am asking each club to plan a fundraiser for the WV Sight Foundation this spring. If you need help planning something, please ask any of our district cabinet members for help.

I will be visiting more clubs over next few months.

I am pleased to announce that we reinstated a club this month. Welcome back Hamlin Lions Club!

The winner of the District Governors Contest, for the second quarter, is the White Sulphur Spring Lion Clubs.

The third quarter contest is being based on visitation of other clubs and service projects. Be sure to update MyLCI or notify me so I can update it for you.

Keep up the good work in your clubs.

DG Charolette Henson

304-951-9022

charlions29o@yahoo.com

Certificate of Candidacy applications, along with letters of instruction, for the offices of 1st and 2nd Vice District Governor have been attached at the end of this newsletter.



DISTRICT 29-C NEWS

District Governor’s Outstanding Club of the Month

Gassaway Lions Club



Gassaway Lions Club is the club of the Month for February. They had 6 first-timers at WV Leadership Retreat in January. They worked the registration table for the retreat. Their president, Lion Randy Foster, won the scholarship to the Leadership Retreat next year. Their club has added new members this year. They are working on the Gassaway City Park, are a very active club in their community.

(DG Henson will select a different club, to be featured as “Outstanding Club of the Month” in the newsletter, each month. Be sure to report all activities (services, meetings, donations, visitations, etc.). Let the district governor know what you are doing.)

Melvin Jones and Leonard Jarrett Awards

As you are thinking of your awards for end of the year, please check into the Melvin Jones and Leonard Jarrett awards. Many clubs have already invested enough money into the respective foundations to be able to present these awards. Both awards are excellent ways to honor Lions, or those that support Lionism.

Contact your LCIF/WVLSCF representatives or DG Charolette Henson with any questions you may have about these awards.



DISTRICT 29-C NEWS

Vice-District Governor's Note



FVDG Gary Boyd

The Leadership retreat was a huge success this past weekend with very motivational and inspirational speakers, and lots of Lions that attended for the first time. I would like to work with the first-timers that have expressed a desire to enhance their leadership skills to fill roles in the upcoming year in District 29-C and I should include anyone else that has the desire to help us better serve Southern WV. I would ask those that are interested to reach out to me, in addition I will also be contacting some folks that I have noticed are serving quite well, I will be asking for their help in strengthening our district and our communities. This is a team effort and several holes will need to be filled, we will impact and change our district in ways that open communications and pull ideas and thoughts from every club and every member. For starters, I would ask everyone to start thinking about the one idea that would bring younger members into our clubs. I will have a strategy in the upcoming year to lift the individual ideas from the member/club level, to the zone, and on to the district level. Taking the best 2-3 ideas and establishing them as district action plans, in order to create a more diverse age group in our clubs and grow membership at the same time. This approach will allow input from every club and will help insure that the critical services we provide continue into the future. Keep in mind that you are the answer to prayers in many of our communities. Best to all of you and stay warm!

Best,

Gary Boyd

FVDG District 29-C



DISTRICT 29-C NEWS

Mark Your Calendars!

February 4th... Athens Lions Club DG visit (6PM)

February 12th... Campbells Creek Lions Club DG visit

February 14th... Ft Gay Lions Club DG visit (6:30PM)

February 19th... Logan Lions Club DG visit

February 21st... Mt Hope Lions Club DG visit

February 26th... South Charleston Membership Social

March 12th... Lewisburg Lions Club DG visit

March 14th... Hinton Lions Club DG visit

March 15th-16th... District L Conference / Wheeling

March 21st... Craigsville Lions Club DG visit

March 26th... Flatwood/Heaters Lions Club DG visit

March 28th... Pineville Lions Club DG visit

May 3rd-5th... State Convention / Flatwoods

May 14th... Durbin Lions Club DG visit

July 5th-9th... Lions Clubs International Convention / Milan, Italy

If you haven't done so yet, please contact DG Charolette Henson to schedule her visit to your club!



DISTRICT 29-C NEWS



Leader Dogs for the Blind

by Lion Carolyn Sheets

Registration open! It's time to register for **Summer Experience Camp**: Camp is a unique opportunity for teenagers who **are 16 and 17 and legally blind**. To help teens prepare for the next stage of their lives, Leader Dog offers leadership development, an introduction to guide dogs, and the opportunity to spend time with peers. GPS devices are incorporated throughout the week in a variety of environments, including a college campus. Campers will also experience tandem biking, beep kickball, rock wall climbing and more.

Summer Experience Camp will be held Saturday, June 22-29, 2019.

Deadline for applications is March 31, 2019. Learn more by going to www.leaderdog.org and access Summer Camp – Application.

Leader Dogs for the Blind serves clients from all 50 states and all Canadian provinces with guide dogs, white cane training, and Summer Experience Camp.

If you know of a 16 or 17 yr. old that would benefit from this program please inform them. They may not know about Leader Dogs for the Blind.



DISTRICT 29-C NEWS

West Virginia Lions Sight Conservation Foundation

The **West Virginia Lions Sight Conservation Foundation** (WVLSCF) funds eye surgery cases and hearing aids for individuals which are unable to afford such services. The application takes some time to be processed through the proper channels and could be delayed if submitted improperly. In order to prevent unnecessary delays, this article will outline that process.

Upon being notified of a need, the club will fill out an application and verify that the individual qualifies for WVLSCF assistance. The applicant must fall under the [U.S. Federal Poverty Guidelines Used to Determine Financial Eligibility for Certain Federal Programs.](#)

After the application is filled out, and eligibility is verified, the paperwork is then sent to your WVLSCF Coordinator. The service coordinator has final approval of application and will facilitate the process of making arrangements between a provider and the applicant.

Your club should have a copy of both (sight and hearing) WVLSCF assistance applications. If not, then contact the WVLSCF coordinator closest to you. A list of these coordinators can be found in the MD 29 Directory. The Lions listed as WVLSCF Service Coordinators for District 29-C are Charolette Henson, Pete Johnson, Robert Sowa, and Steve Clendenen.

Having an IRS 501(c)3 designation, the **WV Lions Sight Conservation Foundation** also accepts tax-deductible donations. WVLSCF relies on your contributions to help those in need throughout West Virginia. Upon request, we will arrange for an informational presentation at your club regarding all things WVLSCF.

For more information visit the WVLSCF website at www.wvsight.org.

Charles Sheets, PDG 29-N
304-456-4762
casheets4@yahoo.com





DISTRICT 29-C NEWS

WV Lions Youth Camp and Exchange

By now you have heard from our Youth Exchange students that have gone to visit other countries and from those who have come to WV. As Chair of this program I am thoroughly enjoying what I do to make these exchanges happen. There are two critical components of the WV Lions Youth Camps and Exchange program. None of this could happen without the generous contributions made by the Lions Clubs throughout the state and those families willing to host an exchange student.

Our program is wholly dependent upon contributions that we receive from the Lions clubs. This year we were able to increase the scholarship to \$1,400 for each WV student. We budgeted for five students to travel during the summer of 2019. Additionally, we have expenses for Youth Exchange polo shirts, pins and banners for each student and other minor miscellaneous expenses. The majority of our funding comes through the Parade of Checks at each District conference. On behalf of our WV Youth Exchange students I want to thank each club for their donations that make these travel opportunities possible.

The second critical component is that of the host family. So far this year I have received requests for two students to come to WV from Germany, two students from Japan and I am expecting one or two from Finland. I also expect to hear from Italy. Last summer we received two students from Germany, two students from Japan, two students from Italy and one from Finland. Being a host family is one of the most rewarding things you can do for a young person wishing to travel and encounter a

culture different from their own. So, you are considering being a host family next summer. Exchange students generally stay for 4-6 weeks; most for 4 weeks. The exchange student will be between 16-21 years old and our experience is that those from Europe speak English fairly well and those from Japan not as well. The students do have their own medical insurance.

Let me tell you what we need and what you can expect. We are looking for a family where there is an adult at home during the hosting period and it should be a family known to you that you would feel comfortable sending your daughter or son to live with. It is ok if the family doesn't have children in the home. Through family and friends, church, Lions etc. try to involve the students with other children their age. My wife, Lorrie, and I do not have children at home, but we have hosted five students with great success. We have involved our students with our family, daughters, grandchildren and children through church, Lions, Ruritan and friends. The students go everywhere we go and do everything we do. We tell them that we are their parents while they are with us and our home is their home. We try to make the student feel welcome, included and comfortable as possible. We do explain certain rules that we expect them to follow and there has never been a problem. You will find that you have made a new friend for life. We still hear from each of our exchange students on a regular basis.

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Since 2013, Lorrie and I have hosted girls from Peru, Finland, Japan & Germany. While the exchange student is with us, we enjoy taking them to places they would not ordinarily get a chance to visit. We learn from them about their culture as much as they learn from us. Last summer all seven exchange students were located in Hampshire County. This provided the opportunity to have a picnic at our home with all the students, their host families and their children. We had a great time watching the daughters of one of the host family teach everyone how to line dance. They enjoyed making s'mores around the fire pit and just spending time with each other.

As Chair of the Youth Camps & Exchange program here in WV it is my responsibility to locate host families for our incoming guests. I am only one person and I find it difficult locating all the host families that we need. I understand why many people are unable to host a student. This is where I need YOUR help. I would like everyone to help me locate host families. If we are unable to host the students from other countries those countries are not going to go out of their way to host WV students. There are 170 clubs in WV. You have a much broader reach throughout the state than I do, and this is why I need your help. Not only can you help me locate host families you can spread the word about the Youth Camps & Exchange program to family, friends & co-workers about the opportunity provided by the Lions of WV.

Our program year starts in August as we prepare our budget and our campaign to reach students ages 15-21 throughout the state. Our primary focus is to provide the contest rules and application through the

high school guidance counselors in every high school in the state. The Youth Exchange committee is made up of two representatives from each district. Additionally, we strive to contact local newspapers throughout the state with an article about our program and explaining how students can apply. We accept applications from early September through mid-November. The first weekend in December all the applicants convene in Flatwoods to participate in the interview process. Our interview team is comprised of Lions and educators. The team will rank the students thus selecting the ones who will receive a scholarship.

Those students are instructed what they need to do before I can request an exchange for them. Once I have all the materials from the student, I contact the Youth Exchange coordinator in the country they wish to visit so the exchange can be arranged. At this point the exchange is dependent upon the host country locating a host family. When our students travel to another country, they will stay with one or two host families and may attend a Lions Youth Camp for a week. Here they will meet other Lions Youth Exchange students from many other countries.

If you would like more information or are willing to be a host family, please contact me.

Now, you know why I believe I have the BEST job in all of WV Lions!

Henry Krautwurst
MD29 Youth Camps & Exchange
Chairman
301-467-1032

DISTRICT 29-C NEWS

The MiCo in Milan, Italy is the place to be in July!



The Milan Convention Center (MiCo) will host the 102nd Lions Clubs International Convention July 5–9, 2019 in Milan, Italy. The MiCo is one of the largest convention centers in the world and will be the location of three action-packed plenary sessions, an exciting exhibit hall, and the spectacular international show.

In addition to the great food, shopping and sights, this year Milan will be celebrating the 500th Anniversary of Leonardo da Vinci. He spent more time in Milan than in any other city. Many of Leonardo's contributions will be celebrated with exhibitions and tourist itineraries.

There are many attractively-priced half-day, full-day, and multiple-day tours available. These tours include places like the Swiss Alps, seaside villages, and other great cities in Italy.



There still is plenty of time to register to attend the Lions International Convention in Milan. From now through March 31st the registration fee is \$200 and from April 1st through the onsite registration in Milan, the fee is \$225. To get more info, and to register on-line, go to <https://lcicon.lionsclubs.org>. If you have any questions, please contact MD 29 International Convention Chairperson, PCC Al Cox by phone at 304-216-5251 or email at anewtc2@aol.com

LIONS DISTRICT 29L ANNUAL CONFERENCE

March 15th and 16th 2019

Oglebay Park, Wilson Lodge

Wheeling, WV 26003

Room Rate \$99.00 and up plus tax

Call 800-624-6988 or 304-243-4000

Ask for Lions Club Conference Rate

Cost of conference \$80.00

Includes lunch and banquet on Saturday

Make check payable to: District 29L Conference

Mail check and form to:

PDG John Wensyel

40 Raven Avenue

Wheeling, WV 26003

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Club _____

Special Dietary Needs _____

1st Time Attendee Yes ___ No ___ Number Attending _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Contact PDG John Wensyel at 304-233-1173 or 304-280-8115 with questions.

TO ALL CANDIDATES FOR FIRST VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR OF MULTIPLE DISTRICT 29, LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL.

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution and By-Laws of Multiple District 29, Lions Clubs International, all Lions who aspire to the office of Vice District Governor must follow certain procedures prior to the election time at the State Convention of the Lions of West Virginia.

Attached hereto is the blank form "CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY FOR First VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR, WEST VIRGINIA LIONS". Please go over this form carefully, with the officers of your local club, and fill all blanks according to instructions.

As you will note, you are required to file three copies of this form as follows: One to your District Governor, one to Secretary-Treasurer of MD 29, State of West Virginia, Lions Clubs International, and one to the Chairperson of the nominations committee for your District. If you do not know who your district nomination chairperson is, send two copies to your District Governor who can pass it along to the proper person. This form must be filed with the district nominating committee chairperson 31 days prior to the election.

Please be sure your State Office gets one copy so that permanent records will be maintained and there will be no chance for a slip-up in filing.

Congratulations on aspiring to the office of Vice District Governor and good luck in your efforts.

P. Douglas Long

Secretary, MD 29, State of West Virginia, LCI

**CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY
FOR
1st VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR**

NAME OF CANDIDATE _____ SPOUSE _____

ADDRESS: (residence) _____ (business) _____

TELEPHONE: (home) _____ (business) _____

(Cell) _____

E-MAIL: _____

CANDIDATE'S HOME CLUB: _____

Please complete all blanks:

1. Served as President of a Lions Club for a full term or major portion thereof.
Year _____ Club _____
2. Served as a member of the Board of Directors of a Lions Club no less than two additional years.
Year _____ Club _____
Year _____ Club _____
3. Served as Zone Chairperson or Region Chairperson or Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer for a full term or major portion thereof.
Year _____ Club _____
4. None of the above was accomplished concurrently.
5. Served as Second Vice District Governor. Year _____
6. As President and Secretary of the _____ Lions Club, we certify the above-named candidate, a member in good standing of our Club, has been endorsed by our Club by a two-thirds or greater majority at a meeting held on _____ and attested to in the minutes thereof.

President _____

Secretary _____

Date _____

I hereby submit this certificate of candidacy for the high office of 1st Vice District Governor of District 29____, for the year_____, to the present District Governor; to the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee; and to the MD Secretary-Treasurer as required under constitutional procedures.

Signature of the Candidate _____

Date _____

This certificate is to be filed 31 days before the first day of the convention where the election shall take place.

TO ALL CANDIDATES FOR SECOND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR OF MULTIPLE DISTRICT 29, LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL.

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution and By-Laws of Multiple District 29, Lions Clubs International, all Lions who aspire to the office of Vice District Governor must follow certain procedures prior to the election time at the State Convention of the Lions of West Virginia.

Attached hereto is the blank form "CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY FOR 2nd VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR, WEST VIRGINIA LIONS". Please go over this form carefully, with the officers of your local club, and fill all blanks according to instructions.

As you will note, you are required to file three copies of this form as follows: One to your District Governor, one to Secretary-Treasurer of MD 29, State of West Virginia, Lions Clubs International, and one to the Chairperson of the nominations committee for your District. If you do not know who your district nomination chairperson is, send two copies to your District Governor who can pass it along to the proper person. This form must be filed with the nominating committee chairperson 31 days prior to the election.

Please be sure your State Office gets one copy so that permanent records will be maintained and there will be no chance for a slip-up in filing.

Congratulations on aspiring to the office of Vice District Governor and good luck in your efforts.

P. Douglas Long

Secretary, MD 29, State of West Virginia, LCI

**CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY
FOR
2nd VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR**

NAME OF CANDIDATE _____ SPOUSE _____
ADDRESS: (residence) _____ (business) _____
TELEPHONE: (home) _____ (business) _____
(Cell) _____
E-MAIL: _____
CANDIDATE'S HOME CLUB: _____

Please complete all blanks:

1. Served as President of a Lions Club for a full term or major portion thereof.
Year _____ Club _____
2. Served as a member of the Board of Directors of a Lions Club no less than two additional years.
Year _____ Club _____
Year _____ Club _____
3. Served as Zone Chairperson or Region Chairperson or Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer for a full term or major portion thereof.
Year _____ Club _____
4. None of the above was accomplished concurrently.
5. As President and Secretary of the _____ Lions Club, we certify the above-named candidate, a member in good standing of our Club, has been endorsed by our Club by a two-thirds or greater majority at a meeting held on _____ and attested to in the minutes thereof.

President _____

Secretary _____

Date _____

I hereby submit this certificate of candidacy for the high office of 2nd Vice District Governor of District 29____, for the year_____, to the present District Governor; to the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee; and to the MD Secretary-Treasurer as required under constitutional procedures.

Signature of the Candidate _____

Date _____

This certificate is to be filed 31 days before the first day of the convention where the election shall take place.