

District 14-G Lions Tale

Volume XXXVIII,
Issue Two

August 2011



District Governor-commentary

There has to be a way to slow things down!!!! So far there has been a banner exchange, organization meeting and the book exchange. One club was visited with a brief presentation of the goals for this year (10 minutes or slightly less). The rest of the clubs will not be that lucky as the presentation I believe is import to our club's success for this year.

Included in this newsletter are the action plans for the clubs to consider. We need to have goals and plans of action to implement the effort to complete the goals. The suggestions are simple and can be fun to complete. You just need to "BELIEVE" and have the COURAGE, COMMITMENT and a PLAN of action.

I have stated that there will not be a contest this year. I will present to each club that completes all three action plans a patch for their club Banner. I need to thank my cabinet secretary, cabinet treasurer and newsletter editor for the idea of a patch. Since not all clubs have a clubhouse to hang a plaque, but every club has a club banner the idea of the patch was presented and accepted. I hope All BELIEVE and earn a patch.

The month of July has been fun and disappeared quickly. I am looking forward to August and all that it has to offer.

Governor Bud

PDG **Don Johnson, LCIF district Coordinator, would like all clubs that he has not visited to contact him to set up a presentation of the LCIF Program. He can be contacted at 570-888-3365 or email djohnson14@stny.rr.com**

Lions Clubs

Have a

New filing

Requirement

It's short, easy and electronic – it's the new E-Postcard and it's required by the IRS. Don't throw away your tax-exempt status – be sure to file your e-Postcard.

- How do you know if your Lions Club has a filing requirement?

If you are a small tax-exempt organization that normally has annual gross receipts of \$25,000* or less and does not have to file Form 990 or 990-EZ, you must file the e-Postcard (also known as 990-N). Please note that this is an IRS requirement.

- When is the e-Postcard due?

It's due by the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of your tax year. Lions Clubs operate on a fiscal year, July 1 – June 30, and the e-Postcard will be due by November 15th each year.

- What information does your club need to provide on the e-Postcard?

- a legal name and mailing address and any other names used,
- a Web address if one exists,
- employer identification number (EIN),
- organization's annual tax period,
- the name and address of a principal officer, and
- a statement confirming the organization's annual gross receipts are normally \$25,000* or less.

- What happens if you don't file?

You risk losing your tax-exempt status! Any Lions Club that fails to meet its annual reporting requirement for three consecutive years automatically loses its tax-exempt status under the new law.

- Why is the IRS calling it an e-Postcard?

Because it's as simple as sending a postcard and it's electronic.

- Need more information?

Go to www.irs.gov/eo for complete details and while you're there sign up for Exempt Organization's free email newsletter, EO Update, to receive up-to-date information posted on the charity pages of irs.gov.

* The IRS intends to increase the Form 990-N (e-postcard) filing threshold from \$25,000 in gross receipts to \$50,000 in gross receipts, beginning with the 2010 tax year, filed in 2011.

IRS Filing

On the previous page is information on keeping tax exempt status up to date. If your club has received a letter from the IRS stating your tax exempt status has been terminated, it could be because the club has not filed or there was a problem with the filing. If your club is in this situation contact the Lions International legal department to get help from them. Please note the filing threshold has changed from 25,000 to 50,000 for filing this year.

Community Project Action Plan

The community visible new project plan will enable a club to do a new project for their community as identified by the leaders in their community (for clubs that encompass an area, that area is considered their community). This plan will also make you more visible to your community.

The start of any plan is the courage to start and plan the action and have the commitment to follow through to completion. The following is just a suggestion and it is up to each club to develop a plan that is workable in their community.

The first thing is to go to the <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/common/pdfs/mk9.pdf> web site and download the community needs assessment. Make as many copies as you need for council members or supervisors, ministers, school principals and social leaders. Then ask them to review the assessment and complete it. Ask them to return the completed form to your project chairperson within one (1) week. After receiving the forms, have the project chairperson and as many club members as possible, review the results. List the results by the projects that have garnered the most interest first and so forth in a declining order. The projects at the top of the list should be where you start.

The club needs to discuss the project and vote on pursuing the need for their community. Remember no project is too big or too complicated if the club has the courage, commitment, and a plan of action.

You now need to develop the club's plan of action. You need to list what the end goal is and then work the rest of your plan to attain that goal. You need to list all resources that you will need. Try to include other organizations as resources and invite them to help. The more organizations that buy into this project gives you a better chance of completing bigger projects. They should commit individuals and not just monies.

After complete project planning comes the action part of the project. Decide on date or dates to do the project, dignitaries to help, media to cover, and the district PR person to attend. Complete the project in a professional manner and then celebrate. Plan a follow up celebration with all involved and enjoy your accomplishment.

Plant A Tree Plan of Action

The International President has a goal of having 1 million trees planted during his lion's year. He has asked all the clubs in the world help to do this.

We have plenty of trees in our areas, but to help improve the air quality I suggest that we look at reasons to plant trees in our communities or service areas.

We can approach this from the point that one of the best ways to honor, memorialize, or offer a lasting tribute is to plant a tree in their name.

The plan to do this is simple and requires simple planning.

First you need to canvass the club members, area or community officials and other local individuals that may contribute names that qualify for this project. One individual might be a veteran that has been wounded in the current wars or past war or a soldier that gave the ultimate sacrifice

After selecting the name or names contact a local nursery to see if they will donate trees, that will survive in your area, to be planted to recognize the names you have selected. Then plan on a planting date.

Invite all dignitaries, local media and the district PR chairperson Sue Younker, to the planting. You can invite the scouts, legion, VFW or other veteran groups to take part. You might have a program printed with the national anthem, pledge, and invocations by local pastors. You can make it as big or small a deal as you want. But if you are identifying a local individual you need to make it special.

There is no limit to the number of trees you plant. If you have more than one nursery in your area you can plant a tree from each nursery and recognize more individuals.

This is an excellent opportunity to be visible to your community and show what your club can do.

Club Membership Drive Plan

The communities where our clubs operate do not seem to know that we exist. When you ask your neighbors who the Lions are and what they do you often get a blank stare. The best way to attract new members is to provide information to the community about Lions, what we stand for and what we do. This needs to include what you do in your community. This can be accomplished by having a brochure printed identifying you club, the meeting location and time, the club web site, and as much of a description as possible of your club and the projects you do for the community. Remember that fundraising is not a project.

The members of the club need to agree to do a membership drive and identify the areas of your community that you will canvass. Divide the club into pairs and assign each pair a part of the selected area they will visit. Check with the community council or supervisors that it is legal for you, as a charity group, to canvas the area you have selected. If permits are required most local governments will issue one free of charge to charity groups. After getting clearance, the club members need to wear an identifying vest, t-shirt or club pin identifying them as club members and begin knocking on doors. Identify who you are, that you are representing the local lions club. Ask if the family member answering the door knows what lions are and what you do. If the person answering the door is a minor ask if you could speak to one of the parents or guardians. Do not enter the home. You should explain that you are seeking help with the projects your club does for the community and ask if they would consider becoming a member of your lions club. If they show an interest, explain what the cost is and how they can become a member. You can then give them applications, explain the advantages of a family membership if their spouses or 18 year old child becomes a member at the same time and invite them to your next meeting or a special night you have designated for new member orientation. The individual doing the speaking should become the sponsoring lion.

The special night can be only for new members and their families. You might have a snack and can invite one of the district officers to give the orientation. This is where you will ask for the applications and \$25 dollar initiation fee.

The new member applications need to be approved by your membership committee and presented to your board for approval. You then need to have a proper installation of them as new members and assign them to a working committee. Keep them working and you will have an active member.

Your goal should be to increase your membership with 20-30% more quality lions. Remember if you don't ask they cannot become members and you cannot grow.

Note that the *Beacon Lodge "500 Club"* funds are used ONLY for maintenance – *after 63 years WE ALL NEED some of that!* Our own Lion Jim Crawley, Pres. of the B L Bd of Drtrs proudly stated at the recent 2VDG orientation that our 14-G ranked **SECOND** in the Oct 1, 2010 – June 3, 2011 "B C 500 Club", with \$4525 out of the \$26,134 **PROPERLY** contributed Commonwealth-wide. Club Presidents and Secretaries – be SURE your "500 Club" funds are **PROPERLY submitted** using the provided 14-G "500 Club" form, payable "Beacon Lodge 500 Club", **AND** that a list of "500 hitters" is included (hopefully that is your club's *entire* roster) – *otherwise the funds go into the general fund!* Send to PDG Bill Bryan – our *Designated "500 Club Catcher"*. That's 9 innings!
cjk 1VDGE 14-G

Community Album



Service Clubs work together at Community Soup Kitchen. Left to right are Joy McGinnis (Berwick Area United Way) Bob & Cindy Lombard (Berwick Rotary Club) and Sue Younker (Berwick Lions Club) The soup kitchen is sponsored by the Berwick Area United Way and held every Saturday at the Berwick Salvation Army 320 W. 2nd Street 10:30 to 12:00. Anyone who would like to volunteer to serve the soup kitchen can call the United Way at 570-759-8203

VDG Keener thoughts

Here are some ideas for August 2011 to “whet your Lions Edge for a Keener cut”.

As you should be realizing, every summer brings a new beginning to our chosen Path of Service – Lionism. The newly installed International President and our newly installed Dist 14-G Governor have new twists to share as they roll out their annual plans of action. Of course they are coordinated so all that all our teams “pull together”.

Ever watch a “horse pull” and see how some teams “see-saw on the double tree”. If you are not familiar with “horsepower”, see: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whippletree_\(mechanism\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whippletree_(mechanism)). President’s Tam’s theme “watch words” are “***I Believe!***” See: <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/index.php> for more information. When you hear of his personal story and how Lionism has helped him through his own life’s challenges, then you will understand why he believes that one person can make a difference in the world around us. Then by working together, as a local “Family of Lions” we can make great things happen.

Our Governor Bud Harris believes that we need to make things happen in our own communities: Community Service that ***the community knows about*** – Plant a tree (or LOTS of TREES !!!) to make us ***aware of the value of conservation*** – Membership, so that we ***do not keep the Fun and Thrill of Lionism just to ourselves***.

How can you share in that ***ANNUAL New Beginning?***

- A. Make a resolution that YOUR Club will be represented at each of the 3/4erly 14-G Cabinet Meetings by your President (“*King Lion*” in some parts of the *World*) and Secretary; or at least by two competent substitutes. You will be the first to know and not part of the folks who wondered what happened 6 months after it occurred !!!
- B. Share this **Lions Tale** electronically in your club to those that have at least a “little pinkie sticking into the 21st Century” – and then print a copy or two and share those at your club meetings with those wearing “electronically insulated mittens”.
- C. Make plans to attend the 14-G Convention in Williamsport next April and the PA MD-14 Convention next May in Gettysburg. At G-Burg, YOU will meet IP Tam as there he will have a special “Presidents Meets the President” meeting. Did you know there are only two positions entitled “President” In Lionism: Your Club President and the International President?

Make and share your clubs plans – tell your community What YOU DO – Not WHAT You SELL. Become excited and make things happen For youth; For human vision; For the need for nourishment of our neighbor’s bodies; and For our natural surroundings. **Why ??** Because **WE SERVE !!!!**
SERVE Well! cjk 1VDG 14-G (Charles “Jim” Keener)



Supplemental Insurance Program

Effective October 1, 2010 Lions Clubs and Districts in the United States can apply to purchase Directors & Officers Liability, Crime / Fidelity (Bond), Special Events / Liquor Liability and Accident Insurance coverage at discounted rates.

Lions Clubs International has arranged for a program of supplemental insurance coverage in which Lions Clubs, Districts and other authorized Lions organizations in the United States may apply to purchase certain coverage at discounted rates. Coverage is underwritten by Philadelphia Insurance and QBE Insurance. Applications, additional coverage information and further instructions are available through the links below:

Directors & Officers Liability Insurance - This coverage protects officers of the Lions Club or District for actions brought against them for actual or alleged negligent acts or omissions and for misleading statements that lead to a claim. Entity coverage for claims made specifically against the Club or District may also be available.

Crime / Fidelity (Bond) Coverage – This coverage protects Clubs or Districts for losses incurred as a result of fraudulent acts by members. The coverage may also extend to loss or theft of money from a Lions event. This coverage cannot be purchased individually. It can only be purchased along with Directors & Officers Liability Insurance.

Special Events / Liquor Liability – This coverage offers limits of insurance in addition to the \$1,000,000 of coverage that Lions Clubs International automatically provides through the Global General Liability Insurance Program. A Club or District may purchase coverage for a single event or for all activities during a single policy period, subject to policy exclusions. If the Events) Liability coverage is purchased, the Club / District may also apply for Liquor Liability coverage.

Accident Insurance – This coverage insures for accidental injuries to Lions members and volunteers that occur while working at Lions events.

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More information on this program can be found on the Lions International website (www.lionsclubs.org) under the Member Center, Resources, Insurance, Supplemental Insurance Program.

“ For myself I am **Dates to remember**

an optimist - it does not seem to be much use being anything else... ”

September 5	Due date for information for Lions Tale
September 22-24:	USA/Canada Forum (Anchorage, Alaska, USA)
October 15:	International White Cane Safety Day

~Sir Winston Churchill

Club Reports

Benton—42 total members, 34 active members, 1 resigned. club started a recycle program for ink cartridges, eye glasses and cell phones. held ice cream fundraiser at Benton Rodeo. 8 members attended Beacon Lodge Pa lions appreciation day collected 25 pair used glasses 3 members helped campers at camp Victory started application process for new Leo's club, 16 members carried flags in Millville parade, 1 member visited Jersey Shore club to help carry flag in parade, 14 members helped at rodeo grounds work (clean up) day.

Bloomsburg—had 10 members and non-members in attendance at the Millville Parade and 3 members in attendance at the 4th of July Fireworks, 2 members attended Lions Appreciation Day at Beacon Lodge, Annual Road and Custom Cruise In will be held August 12, 13, and 14—club will earn a % of income by helping at Sophie's Polish Hut, Bloodmobile will be held August 14th at Columbia Mall.

Centre Hall—On July 3rd 4 members went to Camp Victory to help with the campers move-in, On July 16th members cooked chicken for a Trailer Group at the facility then served 2 different groups at the Centre Hall Grange Fairgrounds, On July 15th the club facility was donated to the Skills group to hold a meeting, on July 24th 2 members from the club and 4 helpers helped to move in 64 Camp Sinalbifa campers at Camp Victory. July 12th a Melvin Jones was presented to Treasurer Kathy Harpster and a PA Fellowship was presented to President Tina Homan

Ferguson Township—1 resignation leaving club membership at 33. 5 members attended the Centre Lions Foresight meeting in Pleasant Gap, prepared and delivered 150 bag lunches for 2nd mile camp in State College, sponsored Red Cross blood drive at club, sponsored Community Yard Sale at club, contributed \$1,000 to a local family with a critically ill child, Boy Scouts used club 8 nights, collected 256 used glasses, 140 cases and 14 lenses, purchased 1 pair of glasses for a needy person. Upcoming events: attending a State College Spikes Baseball Game on August 5th, serving food at Ag. Progress Days on August 16, 17, 18, serving BBQ chicken dinner to the Centre Ag. Democratic Committee.

Lewisburg—Created 1st Lions Club Motorcycle Branch in PA.

Club Reports—con't

Loyalsock Township—1 resignation due to health. July 21st – Picnic at James Short Park 6:30 Pavilion #3
August 4th – Set up Antique Machinery Show 6 P.M., August 5th-7th – Antique Machinery Show
August 17th – Grand Slam Parade (Set up at 3 P.M.), August 18th – Dinner Meeting and Board Meeting (Budget),
August 26th – Williamsport Welcomes the World (Set up at 3 P.M.), September 15th – Set Up LaFiesta at Bowman
Field 4 P.M.

September 15th -18th LaFiesta at Bowman Field

September 23rd – Set up Mini Indy at Brandon Park

September 24th-25th – Mini Indy at Brandon Park

Montgomery—29 members—profit of \$309.60 from card stand at Montgomery Fireman's carnival, several mem-
bers attended Lions Appreciation Day at Beacon Lodge, planning for Lions family picnic in August.

Picture Rocks—Held annual “stag” picnic. Sold sandwiches and drinks at Eagles Mere antique show, held litter
pick-up on US Route 2208

Sayre/Athens

Snow Shoe - 28 members which includes 2 new members. Donated \$388 to send 1 high school band member to
Washington D.C. to perform at concert. Held family picnic for 19 members and 60 family members with Lions
Quest head teacher and daughter in attendance.

South Williamsport—49 members. Built ramp for disabled person, annual All-Star Football game was a success,
club picnic to be held on 8/4. Donations as follows: Special Olympics \$250, Beacon Lodge Campers \$1,000, Eye
Research \$500, Lions of PA—1/2 of amount collected \$78.50, Football Scholarship—All-Star Game \$1,000.

State College—20 members. July 24th provided food and beverages for annual summer picnic held in conjunc-
tion with the local Sight Loss Support Group. July 25th provided free food and beverages for the annual Second
Mile summer camp.

Sugar Valley—June-SV Club is at 60 members, Held its 34th Charter Night, Gate Watch 24/7 during Antique
Machinery Show for 5.5 days, Food Trailer to Piper Fly-In for 6 days, Food Distribution for 50+ families,

July—60 members. Held a picnic in the Park for membes8 recognized scholarship award recipients for Helen
Tussey Scholarship, Allen Lamey Scholarship, and Art Girio Scholarship with parents of recipients accompanying
them, 10 members attended Rauchtown/Nippenose Lions Club Charter Night (our club sponsored them), 6 mem-
bers attended the District Banner Exchange at Centre Hall Lions Club, Food distribution (38 families), Members
attended Lions Appreciation Day at Beacon Lodge, sponsored a bloodmobile, hosted the 14-G book exchange at
the Recreational Park.

Sunbury—July Picnic at Shikellamy Marina, Check presentation to Sunbury Fire Departments and Elijah's Bowl
Soup Kitchen. Recycling

Sylvania—35 members.

Towanda—37 members

Wellsboro— 32 members. Activity was annual post-cleanup work at the High School following the Relay for Life
event.

Club Reports—con't

Warrensville—30 members. Club activities included—A club cookout, served French fries at the Eagles Mere Summer Antique Market, and served lunch at the Susquehannock Antique Car Association show at Lycoming College. Four of our members attended the International Convention in Seattle, Washington.

Watsonstown—42 members. held July 4th Chicken BBQ dinner at Watsonstown Park, Charter night is being planned for November 14th.

Wells-Jackson—43 members with 1 resignation in July. 11 members worked recycling for a total of 43 hrs, 4 members worked at the local Food Pantry for a total of 16 hrs, 2 members worked on road clean-up for a total of 4 hrs, 1 member volunteered at a local hospital for a total of 20 hrs.

Westfield—11 members. Bought several pairs of glasses, attended several community function with parades, sold raffle tickets to cover expenses for St. Citizens picnic in October.

Williamsport—22 members. Hosted Scoppa Yuengling Softball Tournament July 7, 8, 9 and held joint summer picnic with Montoursville Lions Club at Kremser's Landing on July 26th.

LIONESSE CLUB REPORTS

Montoursville—2 dual member, 43 active members, 0 dropped, 1 new member—Shirley Bailey. Service activities and donations included bingo at Valley View Nursing Home the 2nd Tuesday and Thursday of the month. Cash out for May bingo winners—\$28.25, Hope Enterprises—\$200, Leader Dog—\$200, LCIF—\$500, Art Girio Scholarship—\$200, Lions of PA—\$500, Konkle Library—\$200, North Central Sight Services—\$200, Camp Victory—\$500, Volunteer of Indian Park—\$200, Susquehanna Home & Hospice—\$200, Beacon Lodge—\$200, Donated \$100 to one member's nephew for gas expenses (his wife has cancer), donated \$100 to another member's son who has cancer for unexpected expenses. Fundraising activities included: selling medical books, brooms and 2011 calendars, food stand at Archery Shoot on June 25th and 26th, hoagie sale in the spring net income was \$472.50, Hoss's Community Night in May net income was \$68.94, Pizza Hut night net income was \$35.50, received \$400 from PPL. Upcoming social activities: Montoursville Harvest Parade—October 1st, Charter Night—October 10th, Club Hosting Rally—October 22nd. PDG Kerry Drake installed our new member and our 2011-12 officers at the June 13th meeting.

Turbotville—24 members

LEOS CLUB REPORTS

South Williamsport—25 members

Microsoft

Primary Business Address
Your Address Line 2
Your Address Line 3
Your Address Line 4

District Secretary
Gloria Weaver
206 Bubb Road
Centre Hall, PA 16828
email: jgw9980@verizon.net

Phone: 555-555-5555
Fax: 555-555-5555
E-mail: someone@example.com

Information—

Skip Miller, secretary of the Mon-
toursville Lions club, has a new
email address:

papamiller607@gmail.com

www.beaconlodge.com

www.palions.org

www.lionsclubs.org

*******REMINDER*******

PLEASE BE SURE TO NOTE—THE FOLLOWING:

PROVIDE REPORTS AND INFORMATION NO LATER THAN THE 5TH OF EACH MONTH

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Krista Rogers

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Ideally information for newsletter should include membership and any changes to it, service, projects, fundraisers, and dona-
tions (this information should be summarized)

SECRETARY

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