



Bark of the "C" Lion & District Governor's Newsletter

"Reach for the Stars"

Volume 44, Issue 2

September 5, 2011

District 24-C

District Governor's Message



Lions, Lioness Lions, Lionesses and Leos,

I hope all of you were safe during the recent earthquake and hurricane and did not sustain damage. I am ten miles from Mineral and items fell off shelves and every picture in the house needed to be straightened- but nothing was broken. Zone Chair Hillis and another Louisa Lion live in Mineral and they had some damage to their homes. Be sure to keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

I recently returned from the 24-E Fall Conference in Roanoke, Virginia, and wish to share with you the following announcement: "The Lions of Virginia Council of Governors would like to thank all delegates, that were certified to vote at the 2011 Lions of Virginia State Convention, who took the time to return the ballots for the International Director endorsement Special Election. The results are as follows:

Total ballots received 278- Shirley Wilson 126, None 146-6 ballots discarded for the following reasons: 2 postmarked past cut-off date of August 20, 2011 and 4 due to return addresses on envelopes. At this time the Lions of Virginia do not have an endorsed candidate for International Director. Let us move forward and continue to remember our motto 'We Serve'"

This means that any qualified Lion may run for endorsement as International Director at the State Convention at Chesapeake, Virginia, in May 2012.

Remember to get your activity reports and membership reports in by the end of each month. And please don't forget to report the number of trees you have planted. These trees don't have to be planted for the community (any tree planted can count toward the 1 million trees). I only promised one per club and my club, Gordonsville, will have planted 34 trees by the end of next month.

Information for the Fall Conference will be out shortly. BELIEVE and REACH for the STARS.

Be Safe.

Yours in Lionism,

Pat Isaac

District Governor 24-C

24-C Directory Corrections, p. 2

District Governor's Visitation Schedule, p. 7

REACH FOR THE STARS

New 24C Lions and Lionesses

Club	New Lion	Sponsor
Crozet	Mark Bern	Agnes Anderson
Gordonsville	Alan Drinkwater	Robert Nelson
Harrisonburg	Rob Munro	David Driver
Mount Jackson	Matthew Diehl	Jonathan Miller
Staunton	Michael H. Baker	Woodrow Sanders
Winchester	Larry E. Shobe	Wayne E. Davis
Shawnee		

Club Secretaries—please remember to list new members and sponsors on the online 24C Monthly Membership form, so that they can be published in the Bark. *If you are not submitting electronically, please forward this information to the editor.*

Bark of the "C" Lion and District Governor's Newsletter

Pat Isaac District Governor
Sharon Hart 1st Vice District Governor
Ken Quantock 2nd Vice District Governor
Bert Colley Cabinet Secretary
Phil Sharpe Cabinet Treasurer
Tom Lominac and Jan Lorette Editors

"The Bark of the 'C' Lion and District Governor's Newsletter" is the official publication of Lions District 24-C. It is an instrument for publicizing the activities of your club to Lion, Lioness and Leo members throughout the District and state. Please feel free to submit for publication articles and pictures of interest about your club's fund-raising, community activities, and social events.

All correspondence should be addressed to Tom Lominac, 1224 Cherry Avenue, Buena Vista VA 24416
lominact@gmail.com

District Directory Corrections

p. 10: 24-E has a new First Vice District Governor:
 Nelson Leftwich, PCC Bernice, PDG
 1724 Grand View Rd (C) 540-586-1772
 Bedford, VA 24523 (B) 540-587-3245
 (Bedford Host)
 E-mail: nebtleft@msn.com

p. 16: John Frye, Audit Committee (H) 540-943-3435

Jan Lorette, Bark of the "C" Lion: email is
jblorette@gmail.com

p. 26: Buena Vista Lions now meet on the 2nd & 4th **Mondays** in the Magnolia Mall between 20th and 21st Streets on Magnolia Avenue in Buena Vista

p. 29: The Crozet Lions secretary, Rebecca White, is now also the temporary treasurer

p. 32: President Lexington John Morman needs PDG after his name

p. 50: VA Eye Glass Recycling Center of N. VA change address and contact person to read:
 601 S. Carlin Springs Rd. Arlington, VA 22204
 office: 703-671-1919
 Contact: Charles Mandelbaum 703-560-1212

SAHMSU 12 Month Event Schedule as of July 31, 2011

Start Date	End Date	Club Name/Event
2 Sept 2011	3 Sept 2011	Madison Lions
18 Sept 2011	7 Oct 2011	Basye/Bryce Mtn. Lions
1 Oct 2011	2 Oct 2011	Rivanna Lions
8 Oct 2011	8 Oct 2011	McGayesville/Massanutten
9 Oct 2011	22 Oct 2011	Lake of the Woods Lions
25 Oct 2011	27 Oct 2011	Brookville-Timberlake
24 Feb 2012	25 Feb 2012	Clarke County Lions
23 Mar 2012	25 Mar 2012	Lake of the Woods Lions

To schedule an event or questions please contact Lion Mars Champaign by e-mail mchampaign@ntelos.net or call (540) 949-4525

PLEASE NOTE: Those wishing to make a reservation need to have TWO qualified technicians for each event (in rare cases, an exception may be made by the scheduler in consultation with two SAHMSU directors).

Compliments of the

CHARLOTTESVILLE HOST LIONS CLUB

HOME CLUB OF

- DG Don Colley**
- PDG Francis V. Riddick***
- PDG Dick Ergenbright***
- PDG Orrin Larson**
- PDG Joe Hannemann**
- PDG Julian Lingle***



???? (Story, p. 8)

Column has been prepared by Jan Lorette from P&A Reports received prior to August 16, 2011 - including some received earlier.

AUGUSTA (029102) (July) **PROGRAMS:** On 7/5, Dr. L.C. Courtney spoke on changes to the Health Care System. AMC Minor Health Care facility at Walmart takes care of minor wounds, minor illness, and inoculations with shorter waits and at lower cost than an E.R. On 7/19, Charles Welsh, author, spoke of his book describing his father's exploits during WWII aboard a destroyer in the South Pacific. **FUND RAISERS:** On-going broom sales netted \$500. Memorial donations were made to Lion Tom Amato for \$800. **SIGHT SERVICES:** We paid for 1 pair of glasses - cost \$25. **HEARING SERVICES:** We furnished 2 hearing aids for \$350. **YOUTH SERVICES:** The Club paid \$600 for a blind youth to attend the N.C. Lions Camp. **OTHER:** International Dues (\$731.25) were paid on 7/21/2011. International Convention was attended by 3 Lion Officers and Guests. Average Monthly Attendance: 90%.

BASYE BRYCE MOUNTAIN (042394) (July) - **PROGRAMS:** Basye-Bryce Mountain Lions met on July 5 and 19. The speaker on July 5th was Sharon Deboever of the Alzheimers Association of Virginia. Thirty-two members and 3 guests were present. The July 19th meeting featured President Wynn's "State of the Pride" address. Thirty-seven members and 1 guest were present. **FUND RAISERS:** Ice cream and brownies were sold at Brycefest on July 2nd. Ice cream and pies were sold at the SVMF concerts on July 9, 22, 23, 29 and 30. **SIGHT SERVICES:** The Sight and Hearing Screening schedule has been set for Sept. 2011. All 9 Shenandoah County schools plus Lord Fairfax Community College, Seventh Day Adventist School, and the Shenandoah Valley Free Clinic will participate. **COMMUNITY SERVICES:** 30 Lions attended the New Market Rebels baseball game on July 19. We enjoyed a picnic supper featuring KFC before the game. **DIABETES AWARENESS AND EDUCATION:** Lion Jerry Kunde and other members manned the Lions Diabetes Awareness table at Brycefest on July 2nd. Blood pressure and glucose tests were performed, and informational literature was distributed. About 100 people were served.

BATH COUNTY (009225) (July) - **SIGHT SERVICES:** \$200 allocated for eye services for the indigent. **OTHER:** Average Monthly Attendance: 83%.

BROADWAY (009226) (July) - **SIGHT SERVICES:** On July 22-24, three Lions and one non-Lion attended RAM in Wise Co.; they represented our Club and worked a total of 44 hours on our shift, screening 345 clients with more referrals than in previous years. **OTHER:** On 7-12, we held our annual family picnic at this meeting with good food and fellowship. On 7-26, we met at the Broadway Community Park for another cookout. *IF ANYONE WANTS TO JOIN US, PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR DIRECTIONS TO OUR NEXT OUTING*

BUENA VISTA (009227)(July) - No report received by deadline.

CHARLOTTESVILLE HOST (009228) (July) - **COMMUNITY SERVICES:** Soup Kitchen - two Lions worked a total of 25 Hours. Piano Sing-A-Longs - one Lion put in a total of 24 Hours. Scottsville held a 4th of July Parade where three Lions worked a total of 10 hours. **OTHER:** We paid International Dues (\$624) on 7-20-11. International Convention: Lions Attending: 1 Officer and Guests attending. Average Monthly Attendance: 89%.

CHARLOTTESVILLE LIONESS (68812) (July) - **PROGRAMS:** Pat Nemmers, of the Lions of Virginia Hearing Foundation, spoke to the club on the foundation's work. She thanked us for our continuing support and gave encouraging information on hair cell regeneration research. **FUND RAISERS:** the Club worked Fridays-After-Five on July 8th; monies yet to be received. **COMMUNITY SERVICES:** Our Club was presented with a certificate of appreciation from the American Cancer Society Relay for Life, for supporting them at the community event which has raised over \$190,000 so far. **OTHER:** Average Monthly Attendance: 98.5%.

CHARLOTTESVILLE TJ (009229) (July) - **FUND RAISERS:** Two events were scheduled for August at Fridays-After-Five. Six members worked at each event. We estimate \$330 in funds will be brought into the project account. **OTHER:** International Dues (\$273) were paid on 07/15/2011. Average Monthly Attendance: 75%.

CLARKE COUNTY (009230) (July) - **PROGRAMS:** On 7 July -- No program; on 21 July -- Betsy Fields, spoke on Stone's Chapel, which was constructed in 1848 and has an adjacent cemetery with Revolutionary War Veteran's graves dating back to the 1820's. Also, Stefanie Nicholson, the winner of the Clarke County H.S. Senior Scholarship, was presented. **YOUTH SERVICES:** 35 students representing Austria, Brazil, Croatia, Denmark, England, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Mongolia, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, and the United States arrived at the Northern Virginia Lions Youth Camp in Boyce on Sunday July 17th. The students are participating in the 31st Annual John M. White International Youth Camp. The camp is one of the top ten Lion's youth camps in the world.

Clarke County Lions Greg Hart, Sharon Hart, Bill Propst and John Blaine prepared a traditional chicken barbecue along with potato salad, macaroni salad, tossed salad, rolls, ice cream sundaes, local tomatoes, and sweet corn. Most of the campers had never eaten sweet corn on the cob, and many didn't know that people ate corn on the cob. After a quick demonstration of how to roll the corn in butter, the campers enthusiastically enjoyed the local corn.

One way that Lions promote fellowship is through pin trading. The Lions Pin Trading Club of Virginia provided Lions trading pins from which the campers could select. The campers had a great time looking over all the pins, and then selecting their favorites from the wide variety of pins. Lion Verle Malik from Winchester Host Lions Club and Lion Brian Grounds from New Zealand also gave each camper a pin that they had personally designed. Lion Brian Grounds is the youth Leo Program Chairman for New Zealand and he spoke with the campers about the Leo Program.

The camp gives the students a chance to be with people from different countries. Prior to arriving in Clarke County, they spent two weeks with host families. For the next two weeks, they will be participating in the camp program. The campers will visit Washington, D.C., local sites, and Baltimore while staying in Clarke County. After departing Clarke County, they will go to Virginia Wesleyan University where they will: visit the Lions Eye Bank, work with less gifted children, participate in team challenges and training, and enjoy many different recreation opportunities in Virginia. **HEALTH SERVICES:** Clarke County Lions Sharon and Greg Hart attended their 11th Remote Area Medical Expedition to Wise County, Virginia from 21-24 July 2011. During the event, more than 2,600 individual patients were treated.

As patients arrived at the parking lot, they were given numbers so that they could enter in the order they arrived. Lion Greg Hart worked at the front gate by the parking lot, talking with patients who had questions about services that were available, helping to relax those who were worrying about their medical appointments, and admitting them based on the number they had received earlier. Our main responsibility was to maintain a calm and friendly atmosphere

at the gate, and to insure that patients: entered based on their ticket number, were seated in bleachers, would be called to register based on their number, and would get to registration as quickly as possible. By 7 a.m. on Friday, we had admitted 1,500 medical, dental, and vision patients. By noon, all patients had been registered, triaged, and were waiting to be treated.

The Clarke County Lions Club Coffee House and Information booth was open at 5 a.m. each morning and stayed open until late afternoon. Assisted by Winchester Lioness Susan Golladay and Shirley Guess, and Arlington Host's 1st VDG Lion Emily Carnes, we served coffee, bottled water, and conversation throughout the day. We were located immediately after patients were admitted into the Fair Grounds, were the first volunteers to meet and greet the patients, and the last to say good bye to them as they exited after their dental, vision, or medical appointments.

In spite of hot and muggy weather, afternoon showers, an emergency evacuation due to flash flooding, and a power outage, the patients were quickly registered and on their way to receive their medical procedures. At our location, we had to deal with many different issues. One woman went into labor by the bleachers, and we waited with her until she was taken to the hospital. Several patients suffered from the heat and dehydration; we were first on

the scene, staying until medical personnel arrived. We started cars with dead batteries. We found lost people and people who had lost items. We were right there when Governor McDonnell arrived with his entourage and toured the event.

But there is always one story that stands out from all the others. It occurred on Saturday morning. A handicapped young man, who accompanied his parents, broke his glasses in the parking lot. We went to the RAM eye glass making trailer and asked if they could repair his glasses even though he wasn't a registered patient. They quickly repaired them and returned them to him. As they did, he flashed the most angelic and appreciative smile; it just captured all our hearts. The RAM volunteer then told the Mom and Dad that the young man really needed a spare pair of glasses so asked to borrow the glasses for a moment; they read the prescription and made him a second pair. The glasses were returned to the young man, and we all wiped away the tears as he smiled once again and so did his parents.

CROZET (009234) (July) - FUND RAISERS: The Crozet Lions sold hot dogs and nachos at the Crozet Independence Day Celebration at Crozet Park on July 2, 2011. **SIGHT SERVICES:** A request for financial assistance for a Crozet resident, to purchase eye glasses, was approved by the Board. **COMMUNITY SERVICES:** The Crozet Lions Marching Broom Brigade participated in the Crozet Independence Day Parade on July 2, 2011. A television news story on Charlottesville Newsplex featured footage of the brigade. The Crozet Lions manned a membership and broom sales table at the Crozet Farmer's Market. **HEALTH SERVICES:** The Crozet Lions had three members volunteer at the RAM-Wise Project. **OTHER:** Average Monthly Attendance: 72%. The Crozet Lions installed new officers for 2011/2012 including Lion President Phil Eaton. The club fully supports Lion Phil's goal of increasing the number of service projects in 2011/2012.

EDINBURG (009236)(July) – Report received but no data attached.

ELKTON (009237) (July) – No report received by deadline.

FLUVANNA COUNTY (009238) (July) - No report received by deadline.

FRONT ROYAL (009239) (July) - No report received by deadline.

GORDONSVILLE (009241) (July) – PROGRAMS: Our Programs for 2011-2012 were discussed, and Lions were given their committee assignments. **FUND RAISERS:** White cane brought in \$513. **HEALTH SERVICES:** DG Pat Isaac went to LAMP/RAM in Wise VA on July 22-24; DG Pat worked 79 hours in the kitchen preparing meals for 4,350 volunteers. **OTHER:** International Dues were paid on July 18, 2011.

HARRISONBURG (009244) (July) – No report received by deadline.

LAKE OF THE WOODS LIONESS (741320) - PROGRAMS: We had a local author, who recently published her first book, speak to the club about writing and the publishing industry. **FUND RAISERS:** A committee has been formed, and plans are underway, for a fund-raising cruise to Bermuda and New England next spring. Additionally, we continue with our Gift Card Program, whereby Lionesses purchase gift cards from numerous retailers and restaurants; the club receives a percentage of the orders placed. **SIGHT SERVICES:** Efforts are underway to improve participation at the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center by altering the hours, changing one morning session to the afternoon, and phoning each Lioness to ask her to make a commitment to volunteer at least once a month. **COMMUNITY SERVICES:** We participated in the Lake of the Woods 4th of July parade, our theme being "Honoring Our Troops." Additionally, we ask each member to bring two food items to our monthly meeting for the Wilderness Food Pantry.

LAKE OF THE WOODS (41320) (July) – PROGRAMS: On July 7th, the meeting was held at the Lake of the Wood Club House. Lion Lois Powell, scholarship chairperson introduced the winners of our \$1,000 scholarships. There were five students from Orange H.S. and two students from Germanna Community College. Our annual Pontoon Party scheduled for July 21st was cancelled due to the extreme heat. Members met in the clubhouse lower level for the meeting. **FUND RAISERS:** Yard Sale - Our average sales at the Velona Building were \$250 per week. **SIGHT SERVICES:** Our eight SAHMSU technicians worked a total of 90 hours over the three days at RAM event in Wise, VA, screening patients for sight. There were many patients referred for sight testing. **HEARING SERVICES:** Our eight SAHMSU technicians worked a total of 90 hours over the three days at RAM in Wise, VA, also screening patients for hearing. Many patients were referred for hearing testing. Eye Glass Recycling had 22 volunteers working a total of 241 hours, two days a week, cleaning and reading glasses in July. **HEALTH SERVICES:** The Blood Donor Drive was held on July 26th at the Lake of the Woods Club House. Lion Joe Davidson and his team volunteered a total of 17 hours. There were 77 donors who gave 61 pints of productive blood. Blood Pressure Clinic for the month of July was conducted by three Lions and retired nurses, at two different locations. 27 local residents had their blood pressure taken. Average Monthly Attendance: 50%.

LEXINGTON (009245) (July) - No report received by deadline.

LIONS OF NELSON (010697) (July) – **FUND RAISERS:** The club raised a total of \$1,076 from raffle tickets sold during June-July; club members sold 415 tickets. The Lions of Nelson concluded the 2nd annual fireworks fundraiser on July 4th. Cleve Price, with the Nelson Food Mart, generously donated the \$1,000 (that was received from TNT Fireworks) to the club, for using his location. The club is still awaiting funds from TNT related to the sales held June 25-July 4. **SIGHT SERVICES:** Vision assistance applications that were approved for July included: a 69-year old female, a 37-year old male, an 80-year old female, and a 57-year old male; they had requested 3 eye exams and 4 pairs of eyeglasses. The Club voted to make a \$50 donation to Leader Dog. **HEARING SERVICES:** \$300 in Hearing Assistance was approved for an 80-year old, male resident. **COMMUNITY SERVICES:** The Lions of Nelson were involved with 2 tables at the Nelson Community Health Fair held on July 14, from 4-7 PM. One table was devoted to vision awareness, and one was for the upcoming Nelson Community Day event. Nelson Community Day is co-hosted by the Lions of Nelson. The event will be held August 20th from 10 AM-3PM at Nelson County H.S. The objective is to foster "UNITY" in the community. **HEALTH SERVICES:** The SAHMSU was used for hearing and vision screenings on July 14th. Five people screened were found to be outside the normal range for hearing or vision. Those 5 individuals were advised to seek professional care. The Lexington and Crozet Lions' Clubs provided support and camaraderie during the event. **OTHER:** Average Monthly Attendance: 43%.

LOUISA COUNTY (009246) (July) - No report received by deadline.

LURAY (009247) (July) - **SIGHT SERVICES:** At 7/7/11 meeting, members agreed to provide \$53.54 of sight services to local resident. At 7/21/11 meeting, we agreed to provide sight services to three local residents for \$192. **OTHER:** Average Monthly Attendance: 80. At July 21 meeting, the club presented 2010-2011 perfect attendance pins to nine members of the club.

MCGAHEYSVILLE/MASSANUTTEN (052780) (June) - **FUND RAISERS:** Held Bingo for 5 weeks in April and netted over \$4,300; 200 Lion hours expended. Held Bingo for 3 weeks in May and netted over \$3,000; 120 lion hours expended. **SIGHT SERVICES:** Read for Valley Voice, donating 26 Lion hours. Purchased 1 eye exam and glasses for 1 individual. **HEARING SERVICES:** Purchased hearing aids for profoundly hearing-impaired individual. **YOUTH SERVICES:** Completed reading to children at McGaheysville Elementary School. We read for 35 weeks in the Lion's year with 150 Lion hours for the year. **COMMUNITY SERVICES:** We sent one individual to brain injury camp. **DIABETES AWARENESS AND EDUCATION:** We made a donation to purchase diabetic shoes for residents of Senior Secretary, Vice President, & Other. Average Monthly Attendance: 80%.

(July) – **FUND RAISERS:** **BINGO:** Held bingo for 4 weeks in June and netted \$4,800 for the month. Lion Dick Lorette reported that we had an audit for Bingo. It was the first one in three years. The bingo schedule is on the website. 26 lions worked 200 Lion Hours. **GOLF:** We are working on a date for next year's tournament. We had 56 golfers at the tournament held on Saturday June 11, 2011, starting at 8:00 am. It was on the Mountain Greens golf course. We should clear around \$9,000 on this project. **AUTO SHOW -** The Car Show fundraiser will be October 8, 2011. The Gates open at 8:30 am with the show

running from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. The funds will go to "Christmas in January" (a food donation program with Elkton Area United Services.) The Sight and Hearing Mobile Screening Unit will also be at the Car Show. **SIGHT SERVICES:** **VALLEY VOICE -** Valley Voice is a program to read newspapers and magazines that are broadcast over the radio for the sight-impaired. We schedule this six months at a time; 12 Lions worked 54 Lion hours. **YOUTH SERVICES:** **SAFETY TOWN:** Safety Town was held on July 18- 22 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. We graduated 25 students from this program this year. Safety Town is a program to expose pre-school children to safety programs involving the police, fire department, nurses, school buses, walking safety, and riding safety. 12 lions worked 150 Lion hours. **COMMUNITY SERVICES:** **GRANTS:** The committee has reviewed all the grants we have received so far, and have sent recommendation to expend \$37,904 to the Lions board of directors.

MADISON COUNTY (009248) (July) - **PROGRAMS:** On July 12, Karen Ray spoke on the Peace Performance Project, a two-week summer program in local schools for 5th-7th graders who want to be versed in the arts, creative writing, , etc. On July 26, Kim Smith, Director of the Skyline Community Action Program, explained how her program helps people of near-thru- poverty level to lift themselves out. **OTHER:** International Dues (\$585) were paid in July 2011. State Dues (\$448) were paid in Dec 2010. Average Monthly Attendance: 98.7%.

MIDDLETOWN CHILDRENS FIRST (068683) (July) - No report received by deadline.

MONTEREY (009250) (July) - **PROGRAMS** – Our regular meeting was held July 11, 2011. Our Directors' Meeting was on July 25, 2011. **FUND RAISERS:** Street Dance and Chicken dinner sale was held Saturday, July 9, 2011. **SIGHT SERVICES:** We sent 12 pairs of glasses to the Roanoke Recycle Facility. **YOUTH SERVICES:** Supported local Youth Summer Employment Project. Supported our local library youth reading project. **COMMUNITY SERVICES:** Several members delivered Meals-on-Wheels. **OTHER:** Average Monthly Attendance: 88%. The membership report does not send back a copy. This has been a problem for more than three years.

MOUNT JACKSON LIONESS (709251) (July) – **PROGRAMS:** Annual Family Picnic at the Mt. Jackson Lions Club Park in Mount Jackson. **(August) - COMMUNITY SERVICES:** On-going donation of goods from members to the Open Door Food Pantry in Mt. Jackson. Monetary donation from members to Ashby Lee Elementary School in Mt. Jackson for school supplies.

NEW MARKET (009252) (July) - **FUND RAISERS:** Auction was held at the New Market Community Park on July 4, 2011. Twelve members participated, which made a good crowd and produced much needed proceeds. This was our second largest return, since auctions were started as a fund raiser. **COMMUNITY SERVICES:** The New Market Lions sponsored the New Market Rebels Baseball team on July 13, 2011. Three members participated. This provided us with publicity for the Club, as announcements were made during the game as to the club's history and functions; also, we invited the public to talk to members about the club. **OTHER:** International Dues (\$331.50) were paid on 07/18/11. Average Monthly Attendance: 57%.

RIVANNA (60364)(July) - **PROGRAMS:** Presentation of "Lion of the Year" for 2010 went to Lion Ken Quantock for his dedication and involvement in Lionism and club/community activities. Our

guest speaker at our 7/27 meeting was a Fluvanna HS rising senior, who spoke on her week-long experience at "Girls State" at Longwood Univ. ; she was part of a 609-girl group learning about forming a "city" from the bottom up, inclusive of elected officials. Our club sponsored her attendance at the activity. **OTHER:** International Dues (\$468) were paid on 7/21/2011. Average Monthly Attendance: 50%.

SCOTTSVILLE (009254) (July) - No report received by deadline.

STANLEY (009256) (July) - **FUND RAISERS:** Planning for our largest fund raiser at the Page County Fair on August 22-27; we will host a pizza booth all week. **SIGHT SERVICES:** Provided eye glasses for one local resident. Also, we forwarded 20 pairs of used eyeglasses to Roanoke Recycle Eye Center. **OTHER:** International Dues (\$120) were paid on June 2011. State Dues (\$108) were paid on June 2011. Average Monthly Attendance: 66%.

STAUNTON (009257) (July) - **PROGRAMS:** We installed 3 new members at our Family Picnic at Gypsy Hill Park. Lion PDG James Painter installed the new members, and their sponsors pinned their Lions pin on them. We had a total of 28 members and guests for our picnic. **FUND RAISERS:** Our food booth at the Stonewall Brigade Band brought in a total of \$145 on July 11th. Bluegrass in the Park was on July 13th and brought in a total of \$903.93 for the Staunton Lions Club. **SIGHT SERVICES:** Staunton Lions Club paid a total of \$525 to the Augusta Regional Free Clinic for eyeglasses. **HEARING SERVICES:** Staunton Lions Club paid to \$300 to Wagner Hearing Aid Center for hearing aids. **YOUTH SERVICES:** Shirley Dodson thanked the Staunton Lions Club for her \$750 scholarship that was given to her at Robert E. Lee H.S.. This was the Fred Yates Memorial Scholarship, which is given to a Deserving Student each year. She will be Attending James Madison University to further her studies. **OTHER:** State Convention was attended by one member. Average Monthly Attendance: 63%. Birthday Lions for July were Marshall Kirby, Sidney Supple, and John Linhoss. Anniversary pins were distributed to Lion Marshall Kirby for 20 yrs and Lion Sidney Supple for 60years.

STEPHENS CITY (009258)(July) - **PROGRAMS:** Two new members were installed in July. **FUND RAISERS:** We are getting ready for Apple Butter Making in the fall. We also are planning to participate in a yard sale in August. **SIGHT SERVICES:** 151 pairs of eyeglasses were collected, with 34 eyeglass cases donated to Blue Ridge Hospice. We assisted 1 citizen with an eye exam and eyeglass purchase. **HEARING SERVICES:** We also assisted one citizen with hearing aid repairs and are in the process of assisting others, but they must return to their doctor first.

STRASBURG (009259)(July) - **PROGRAMS:** July 5 - Installation of Officers was conducted by VDG Sharon Hart. Presented a Melvin Jones Award and plaques to newly installed President Bobbie Jo Poling and Carnival Chairman Jeffrey Racey. Presented 100% attendance tabs to nine members ranging from 2 yrs. to 58 yrs. **FUND RAISERS:** Conducted White Cane Sales on July 9th and collected \$345.93. **HEARING SERVICES:** On July 19, approved \$280 donation towards the purchase of two hearing aids. **OTHER:** International Dues (\$468) were paid on 07/19/2011. Average Monthly Attendance: 80.5%.

TIMBERVILLE (009261)(July) - **PROGRAMS:** On 7-7-11, we held an outdoor meeting for the club. On 7-21-11, we held another outdoor meeting for the club. **SIGHT SERVICES:** we

collected 78 pairs of eyeglasses, picked up at the Food Lion Collection Box, and paid Marrow Family Eyecare \$120 for an eye exam and glasses for 1 person. We paid Colonial Optical \$125 for eyeglasses for 2 persons. **HEALTH SERVICES:** 2 Lions worked at RAM project July 22,23 and 24th.(Wise County). **OTHER:** International Dues (\$741) were paid on 7-27-1. Average Monthly Attendance: 68%.

WAYNESBORO (009262) (July) - **PROGRAMS:** On July 12th, we held our meeting at the Elks Club. On July 26th, we again met at the Elks Club. **FUND RAISERS:** We have a Shrimp Feast for Sight scheduled for August 13. **OTHER:** Average Monthly Attendance: 71%.

WEYERS CAVE (043724) (July) - **PROGRAMS:** Lion Mary Beth Schwab and Lion Chuck Schwab reported on the International Convention. **FUND RAISERS:** July 9th and July 16th, 2011 we held an Auction Sale that netted \$566; worked 54 hours. **SIGHT SERVICES:** Approved three applications for eye glasses. **OTHER:** Regional Meeting was on July 30, 2011. Attending: President, Secretary, Vice President, & Other. International Convention: Lions Attending were: 2 Officers and Guests.

WINCHESTER HOST (009263) (July) - **PROGRAMS:** Gear Clean--Gulf Oil Spill was the program topic on 7-05-1; it was presented by Art Majors. Lord Fairfax Comm.Coll., presented by Judith James, was our program on 7-12-11. **COMMUNITY SERVICES:** 10 Club members participated from 10AM-7PM at the Habitat for Humanity "Blues Festival;" they manned the Club's new tent facility for public events. They distributed materials, telling about the Lions organization, and also sold brooms. **OTHER:** Average Monthly attendance: 59%.

WINCHESTER SHAWNEE (009264) (July) - **PROGRAMS:** July 20th was Lions Night at The Winchester Royals (Valley League.) Fans who donated a pair of eye glasses to be recycled were admitted to the game free. Sixty pairs of glasses were collected. **SIGHT SERVICES:** 4 eye exams cost the Club \$80, and 100 pairs of eye glasses were collected. **YOUTH SERVICES:** We donated a scholarship for \$1000. **HEALTH SERVICES:** Four Shawnee Lions and their spouses participated in the RAM project in Wise,VA, July 22-24. **OTHER:** International Dues (\$692.25) were paid on 7/19/11. International Convention: Lions Attending were 4 Officers and Guests. Average Monthly Attendance: 70%. Those who attended the International Convention were: PID Wayne Davis and his wife, Marge; Club Secretary Ed Froehlich and his wife, Mary.

WOODROW WILSON LIONESS (065302)(July) - **PROGRAMS:** We had no formal program for the month of July. We had our annual picnic, which was enjoyed by all. The picnic was held inside, due to the high heat and humidity. **COMMUNITY SERVICES:** Lion Russ Kirby volunteered 10 hours at the Staunton Augusta Rescue Squad in the month of July. **OTHER:** Average Monthly Attendance: 83%.

WOODSTOCK (009265) (July) - No report received by deadline.

OFFICIAL VISITS DG PAT 2011-2012

October 3	Craigsville
October 4	McGaheysville-Massanutten
October 5	Mt Jackson Lioness
October 6	Clarke Co.
October 10	Buena Vista
October 11	Madison Co (am), Front Royal (pm)
October 12	Bath Co
October 13	LOW Lioness
October 14	24-D Fall Conference
October 18	Stanley
October 20	Luray
October 21	24-A Fall Conference
October 24	Mt. Jackson
October 25	Stephens City 65 th Anniversary
October 26	Charlottesville TJ
October 27	Orange
October 28	24-B Fall Conference
November 1	Strasburg
November 2	Winchester-Shawnee
November 3	Middletown Children First
November 4	24-C Fall Conference
November 7	Woodrow Wilson Lioness Lions
November 8	Broadway
November 9	Scottsville
November 10	Pin Traders
November 14	New Market
November 15	Basye-Bryce Mtn (am); Greene Co (pm)
November 21	Woodstock
November 22	Bath Highlands Lioness
November 28	Lexington
January 6, 2012	Pre-Convention meeting, Chesapeake, VA
January 10	Louisa
January 11	Rivanna
January 12	LOW
January 17	Charlottesville Host
January 19	Timberville
January 24	Charlottesville Lioness Lions

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VDG Sharon Hart Visits Leader Dog School

1st VDG Lion Sharon Hart and her husband Lion Greg spent three days in Rochester, Michigan at the Leader Dog School. Following is her story about this inspiring visit:

It has been about 15 years since I had been to the Leader Dog School. My first visit was the day that our daughter Rebecca received her first Leader Dog shortly after she had graduated from high school. After training at Leader Dog School, she would be home for a few days before she and her Leader Dog Cayenne would head off to college. She would later get married, graduate with honors from George Mason, get her second Leader Dog, become a mom, and work full time as a systems engineer.

The purpose of the visit was to acquaint Vice District Governors with the Leader Dog School so that we would have first-hand knowledge about the Program. On Thursday 11 August 2011 about 30 Lions several with Leader Dogs arrived at the Detroit Airport from across the US. It was easy to spot the Lions; we all had on our Lions pins, logo wear, and smiles on our faces. We gaggled near our rendezvous point and immediately became friends because we were all part of the Lions family. It wasn't long before a Leader Dog bus showed up and took us to our hotel and we met up with another 20 or so Lions who had arrived before us. We all met up in the morning for a quick ride to the Leader Dog School and a full day of learning about the life changing programs at the Leader Dogs for the Blind School.

There are so many positive things to say about the Leader Dog Programs. As Lions we are mostly familiar with the dog guide aspect of Leader Dogs which is their largest program. It includes a breeding, puppy raising, dog training, and training of the human-dog team. But they also conduct orientation and mobility training as well as a camp program for blind teenagers. All of these programs provide the tools and techniques to increase the independence and enhance the lives of people who are blind or visually impaired. It is very clear that in achieving this mission they are guided by the Leader Dog Values of respect and compassion for people and dogs, passion for the work, safety in all we do, do what is right, and innovation in our field. But other programs include an orientation and mobility program that focuses on cane travel skills that are required before getting a Leader Dog and youth camp for blind teens. They also have Leader Dog classes for deaf-blind clients.

The staff is dedicated and devoted and consists of paid staff and lots of volunteers. A new CEO was hired about 4 years ago – Greg Grabowski. Before this job he worked at Hospice in Alexandria Virginia. He and most of his staff are Lions. The staff consists of everything from dog trainers and instructors of leader dog classes, to vets, to management, to cooks, to drivers, to maintenance people, to information technology, to a nurse, the CEO, to a philanthropist responsible for fundraising, to, well, you name it, every job you can think of. Staff is judged daily on leadership, ability, passion for the job, taking the time to do the job correctly, willingness to help everyone, being proactive, and having outstanding communication skills.

Remember that when a class is in session, several of these folks are on call 24 hours a day for the 26 days of the class. Also on staff are two cats who freely roam the halls. While they think they are pampered lucky cats, they are really working and their purpose is to get the dogs used to cats. Several hundred more volunteers host the breeding stock, raise the puppies, and volunteer at the Leader Dog facility doing all sorts of tasks including assembling the harnesses for the dogs.

The facility is modern, clean and impressive with new buildings and immaculate grounds. The kennel has space for 310 large dogs, is clean and odor free. There is a harness shop, a dog wash room, vet facilities (two vets on staff full time) and all dog food is donated by Purina. There is even a special private “goodbye and cry” room, where the puppy raisers can go to say goodbye to the puppies they have raised for over a year.

Some training is done at the main Leader Dog site, but most training is done in downtown Rochester, MI at a second Leader Dog site and mostly outdoors. But training never really stops – it is 24 x 7. Dogs are trained by having to all sit under the same table in the dining area, dogs are trained by the cats that roam the halls, dogs are trained by all having to board a bus and ride to Rochester, dogs are trained by having to eat and go park on schedule. There is a covered bus loading area so as dogs are being trained to load; the clients don't have to stand out in the weather of Michigan. Only one class has ever been cancelled due to snow in 63 years.

Leader Dogs graduates about 230 dogs each year – some 14,000 since 1939. Currently female dogs receive sonograms to

see how many puppies they are carrying to help manage the supply chain. Remember it is two years from breeding to graduation for the dog so they want to make sure that each monthly class will have the right number of dogs for their clients. Puppy training starts as young as three weeks of age – house breaking and making the puppy sit quietly to get petted or food. At six weeks of age, puppies are placed in the volunteer puppy raiser homes for a year of training and exposure to every possible situation. At 14 months of age, all puppies are returned to the school for an extensive veterinarian exam and to begin training. After 4 to 6 months on site, if the puppy has passed all tests, it is declared class ready and can start a 26 day program with its new master.

We talked with students and observed actual training, including an event called a “traffic check” that they say they conduct frequently. This is where the human and dog team are walking down the sidewalk and a vehicle (owned and driven by a Leader Dog staff person) drives out of a parking lot across the path of the human-dog team nearly hitting the team, usually squealing the brakes and revving the engine. The dog has to block its master and prevent tragedy.

A new pedestrian GPS device called Kaptan Plus has been incorporated into the Leader Dog human-dog training programs. This device was designed for use by people who are blind or visually impaired. It is the size of a credit card but a little thicker and costs \$295. A Kaptan Plus is given free to every Leader Dog client, including mobility students and summer youth campers. They all also receive training in its operation.

While we were at the Leader Dog School we also had an opportunity to experience a blindfold walk with a Leader Dog in harness. What an amazing feeling to put that much trust into your dog and to walk briskly while carrying on a conversation with the trainer. It really provided the context for presentations from the Leader Dog users about how they came to be blind, then lost all hope, then got a dog and got their lives back were touching and emotional..

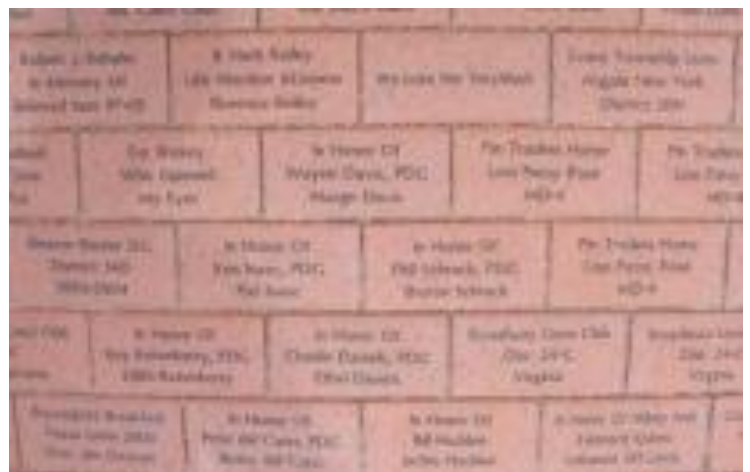
Most of our speakers and volunteers we met on campus were Lions and darn proud ones at that. Everyone was wearing a Leader Dog shirt and a Lions pin. We were served Chili and Donuts for lunch. The story is that the first group of Lions came and there was nothing to feed them, so they made up a batch of chili and got the leftover donuts from the student’s breakfast trays – and since then chili and donuts are the traditional Lions lunch. This time the chili and donuts were fresh made by Lions volunteers in the kitchen that morning.

What does a dog cost – nothing to the client, and nothing to the Lions club who is the sponsor. Lions clubs are encouraged to offer help with vet bills for local users. The annual budget for the school is about \$10 million. Lions Clubs give about \$2.5 million, not counting personal gifts from Lions or the purchase of memorial bricks. The school accepts no money from the government or from United Way.

What can we do as Lions to further help Leader Dogs for the Blind? Consider purchasing a brick to honor someone in your club, church, or family. Give a donation in honor or remembrance of someone instead of flowers. Insure that your club donates to Leader Dogs. But when we asked the people at Leader Dog what else Lions could do to help, their answer was “get us more clients.” So, if you know someone who is blind or visually impaired who could benefit from a Leader Dog, let them know about the program and refer them to Leader Dog. It will change their life!



VDG Sharon experiences a blindfold walk



Memorial Bricks purchased by supporters

Greetings 24C;

I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve you on the Cabinet again for 2011-2012---this year as your Chairperson for Special Needs Equipment.

If you or someone you know is in need of medical equipment, please let me know by sending me an email or calling me. We have equipment available for loan at no cost at various medical closets within the district. We will get what is available where it is needed.

I will do my best to serve in my new position and assist DG Pat in her endeavor to "Reach for The Stars"!

My congratulations to all the Cabinet Members in their existing and new positions.

Yours in Lionism,

Sheryl Grant

Weyers Cave Lions Club

Special Needs Chairperson

LOV District 24C

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