

**MULTIPLE DISTRICT 29
LIONS OF WEST VIRGINIA**

Pipestem State Park, Pipestem, West Virginia
Sunday, November, 4, 2007 9:00 AM
COUNCIL MEETING

Council Chairman Gary Van Horn called the meeting to order. The following were present; CC Van Horn; DG's Richard McMillon, Tina Canon, Donna Pinkerman and Garland Burke; PID's Neely, Browning and Cole; Secretary/Treasurer Pinkerman; VDG's Glennon and Galford; PDG's Jim Canon, Dague, Pete Johnson, Amrhein, Weber, Hollandsworth, Woodrum, Nichols, Glass, Kathy Moss, Steve Moss, Jackson, Julius, Wheeler, and Hesson; Others present were Shirley Hlad, Phyllis Amrhein, Judy Weber, Bill Syphers, Merlin Trickett, Bernice Hesson, Cindy Glass, Jeff Baxter, Patty Nichols, Bill Hensley and Paul Daugherty. (Others were in attendance but apparently did not sign in)

CC Van Horn introduced International Director Joe Gaffigin and asked him for comments. Director Joe made several comments including, "take the *enthusiasm* and get back to *asking* more folks to join our association". He thanked 29-N for their hospitality.

Lion PCC Paul Wheeler led the pledge and PCC Ed Weber gave the invocation;

Motion by DG McMillon and seconded by DG Burke to accept the minutes from the past meeting as mailed.
Motion Passed.

Secretary/Treasurer Pinkerman gave the treasurers report. Motion by DG Donna Pinkerman and seconded by DG Burke to accept the treasurers report. **Motion Passed.** Secretary Pinkerman also presented the 2005 & 2006 council audit, prepared by PDG David Hollandsworth. Pinkerman also asked council to approve Hollandsworth to audit the 06-07 books as well as the current year of 2007-2008. Motion by DG Burke and seconded by DG McMillon to accept the audits and approve Hollandsworth to be council auditor for the 2007 audit. **Motion Passed.**

The following MD reports were given:

Membership: Bill Syphers gave an updated report on membership through October, 2007 stating that the MD was showing a net gain of 7 members for that time. All district membership chairs are working in their districts and are busy promoting the programs provided for membership and growth and assisting clubs with membership issues. In September, the MERL team held a retreat for all district MERL chairs. All of the membership chairs attended with the exception of one who was presenting her program as a zone meeting in her district. During the retreat, it was suggested that we reinstitute the Mountain State Action Plan that was developed by the MERL team in 2003. The basis of the plan is for every club in MD 29 to grow by one Lion each year. November and December are family member and spouses months. In WV, 111 clubs have taken advantage of the family program and there are 462 Lions in 483 family units. Women in MD 29 make up 23% of its membership.

Extension: Fred Cole reported that, sorry to say, we have no new clubs in the multiple district at this time, however, district L has new club work going on. I is working on a campus club at Salem as well as five other areas as time permits. O has two areas about ½ way ready to charter and are working on two other areas as well. N is still working in the Beckley area for a new club. 29-I has asked LCI to assist them with their extension efforts.

Retention: Merlin Trickett reported that on September 30, the MD 29 MERL team met at Mineral Wells with Leadership Dan Dague, PID Fred Cole, PDG and DG Jim and Tina Canon, PDG George Woodrum, District Chairs Ed Van Lynn and Charlotte Flick and MERL Membership chair Bill Syphers. Goals for the multiple district, district and local clubs as directed by council were discussed and best and worst practices outlined and information shared. Merlin also reported he has gathered a notebook and materials including a DVD prepared

by Leadership Chair Dan Dague. He has presented membership seminars at Richwood and will present one at Rainelle on November 6. He is available to presentations at other clubs as well.

Leadership: Dan Dague....see his report

Quest: Barbara Cline was absent. Her report was read by CC Van Horn. Lion Barbara thanked Vickie Walton, Ed Weber and DG Tina Canon for their support and efforts they have put forth in her TOT training process which will allow her to complete her TOT process and be a certified national trainer. Her final TOT training will be held in Wilsonburg, November 11 and 12 which will be the last workshop scheduled in WV for the year 2007. Lion Ed Weber was called on to present a report as well. Ed gave a proposal to establish a standard procedure to setting up workshops. Ed contacted LCI who advised him on the grant proposals and he hopes that this will help district coordinators and would all be working on the same page. Van Horn then read the proposal offered by Lion Ed Weber. Lion Cline was supplied a copy of the proposal as well as CC Van Horn. ID Gaffigan suggested we run the grant request by LCI and Quest before submitting the request itself. DG Burke asked that the proposal be ready for acceptance by the January 5, 2008 council meeting. Motion by DG Canon that council will approve these items in terms of conducting the grant as a part of the grant submission by the Jan 5 meeting and these items will be applied by July trainings and was seconded by DG Burke. **Motion Passed.**

Youth Camps & Youth Exchange: Cindy Glass reported a proposed budget for MD 29 Youth Camps and Youth Exchange Committee was approved at their committee meeting, August 4, 2007, showing income of \$6,275 and expenditures of \$8,675.00 The beginning balance was \$5,754.42 which would show an ending balance of \$3,385.42 Cindy also noted that one of the expenditure items was \$400 for travel and she indicated that she did not intend to claim that expense. Cindy's goals for the year are as follows: To encourage clubs to donate to the program; To increase knowledge of the program among Lions and the public; To promote the YE Scholarship Contest; To bring the contest to a successful conclusion; To assist the winners with their travel arrangements and To find host families for incoming youth exchange students. Cindy also announced that Judy Butcher was appointed the YE chair in 29-O replacing Jim McMillon. Cindy noted the Scholarship Contest deadline is December 1st and she thanked council for the opportunity to serve as chair of this important Lions program.

LCIF: Paul Wheeler reported that CFSII has raised more than \$119 million dollars to date in reaching the \$150 million dollar goal. MD 29 has raised or assisted in raising over \$129,000 for CFSII which helps LCIF continue the assistance in helping Lions clubs meet the changes in our communities in the areas of major public health gains in river blindness control; LCIF responses to the Peru earthquake in August, 2007 and LCIF Awards in the amounts of \$398,000 in Lions Quest Grants. Paul thanked the DG's for their support.

LEO: Lisa Keffer reported as MD LEO chair, she has attended and displayed information at O, I and N's Conference discussing possibilities of the LEO clubs. She attended the South Charleston Lions meeting on Sept. 10. She talked to the principal of the middle school and a teacher at the high school, who were interested in starting clubs at their school. She ordered and gave out all Leo Club Org. Kits at O's conference and has reordered. She has been contacted by Rachel Cook, President of the Pineville Lions Club and they are ready to move on organizing a club at Westside High School in Wyoming County. Leos are our best kept secret.

Ski: Billie Nichols reported at the close of the 30th year of this program we have made a difference in the lives of those students as well as many Lions who have attended the program. A special thanks to the Lions Clubs in each district for their support, especially the Lions Club of Clarksburg who have created a website showing the skiing event and pictures can be seen at clarksburglions.org. Every student has been provided an outside opportunity to experience what others have. Participating totals are; 77 deaf students in the elementary and 48 in grades 7-12 with a blind total of 52 giving us a program total of 177. Most of the activities have been the same as usual, including golf for the deaf, pizza rodeo shopping centers, etc. Patsy Shank, new school superintendent has pledged her support to the Lions and what we have done for them. A thank you dinner for the Lions will be held November 15, and reservations may be made by calling Frank McGee. Lori McDonald is still the secretary and she writes the checks. The current balance in the account is \$9,052.38 and estimated budget for this year is again \$14,000. This project still remains self sufficient.

Romney Work Study: Frank McGee sent his report and was read by CC Van Horn. Frank reported the student work program is doing well although the numbers are down at this time. There are currently 18

students working in the program. As of 10/31/07, there is a balance of \$6,769.55 in the work program bank account. Frank will be depositing approximately \$3,100 in donations in the next few days which will bring their balance to \$9,869.55. This amount is enough funding to operate the program for over 2 years at the current pay scale. With the amount available, *Frank is requesting council approval to increase the pay rate from \$2.50 an hour to \$3.00 per hour* which would give the students a chance to earn more money and would cause more students to become interested in the program. All paperwork for the program is still being handled on a voluntary basis by his-self and Penny Maphis from the superintendent's office. All money donated goes directly to the students in the form of bi-weekly pay check and are only paid for the actual hours they work. They are permitted to work a total of 20 hours in a 2-week period and the average amount worked in a two week pay period is 8 hours. With council approval he would like to make the increase effective on January 1, 2008. Motion by DG Canon seconded by DG McMillon to approve his motion. **Motion Passed**

Protocol: Chairperson PID Scott Neely had nothing to report at this time.

Informational Tech: Melody Minor sent her report which was read by CC Van Horn. Lion Mel reported as of 9/20/07 the MD site has been updated with a new look and navigation. Goals that have been achieved are as follows: 1, IT Chair responsibilities section now in the Policy Manual. 2. A LEO area of the website with general information, lists of clubs etc. 3. More links to LCI new material and sites and 4. Updated PDGA with current officers. Under construction are: 1. Becoming a WV Lions, 2. What Lions Do, 3, The Sight Foundation, works and perhaps a Trustee report to update WV Lions on activities, 4. ID Johnson's section and 5. Quest section with WV activities/classes/info/schedules etc. Also in the works is an updated policy manual and updated MD Constitution and By-Laws.

International Convention: Paul Wheeler reported 2008 convention in Bangkok. Registration fees are \$100 through December. Paul hopes that some of the DG's will be able to attend and encourages all Lions to join us for the convention in Thailand. MD 29 has been invited to join with other delegations as a caucus on Wednesday or Thursday of that week. Motion by DG McMillon to recommend to the PDG Association the joint delegation caucus with other delegations in Bangkok, seconded by DG Pinkerman. **Motion Passed.** Paul reminded all that your routine vaccinations are up-to-date and visa is secured before departing.

Leadership School: Jeff Baxter reported on the Leadership School stating that speakers have been arranged and seminars are almost complete. The hotel is awaiting reservations and we are finalizing menus. The Executive Committee would like to submit PDG Stephen Beecroft to be the 2008-2009 Vice Chairman of the school. *Motion by Garland and seconded by DG Pinkerman to approve Steve Beecroft as Vice Chair for 2008-2009 School.* **Motion Passed.**

WV Lions Sight Conservation Foundation: President Paul Amrhein reported the Foundation is working hard to help our fellow West Virginians. All current bills have been paid and the Foundation is in a sound financial position. He recognizes the fall season is also District Conference season in West Virginia and contributions would be forth coming. The officers and members of the Foundation wish to thank all the Lions and Clubs who have donated their hard earned funds to help West Virginians in sight related needs. Items that the Foundation will be dealing with in the near future are: Grant to the WVU Eye Institute; MESU Replacement; Statewide Fundraising Project and Foundation Policy Manual.

Const. & By-Laws: PID Bob Browning spoke on membership in the PDG association, making our membership available to include Lions who served as PDG's moving to other states and also PDG's from other states moving to WV and giving them the opportunity to join our association....Also, allowing spouses of deceased PDG's as honorary, not voting, members. This item will be brought up at the January meeting.

Long Range Planning: Bob Browning reported the following: The LRP committee is made up of the following: Dan Dague from L; Mike Reese from I; Betty Neely from O; J.W. Puckett from N and Bob Browning serving as Chair. The committee met at Pipestem, November 3, 2007 and gives the following report. **State Convention Site Selection Committee:** There should be a five member convention site selection committee appointed by the council and qualified as follows: 1). One member recommended by the PDG Association and who must have served as convention chair in the past; 2). MD 29 State Secretary. 3) Another past convention chair or a past WVLLS chair or a person with a professional background in convention services and, 4). The two most recent state convention chairs. The site selection committee shall review potential convention sites giving the following factors consideration; 1) Availability and experience of the host

club; 2) Site review shall take place three years in advance of the convention, and a recommendation to council shall be made two years in advance of the convention and 3) Sites shall meet the following minimum requirements of 175 lodging rooms, 400 seat banquet hall and meeting rooms for business sessions, memorial service, WVSCF meeting and training sessions as well as up to date AV and electronic communication capabilities. The council shall select the convention site after considering the committee's recommendations.

Small Clubs: This committee will investigate the small club situation in MD 29 and report later on numbers, demographic makeup, locations and trend. Recommendation based on that information will be sought from the District Governors and their MERL teams for rebuilding an existing small club with the potential for growth, or in the alternative, forming a new club. Small clubs are valued members of our multiple district. We begin this research to find trends, if any, and to insure the long term future of Lionistic service in communities being served by small clubs. **Redistricting:** This committee will plot electronically MD 29 Lions clubs, districts and county populations. We will consider the need and feasibility of redistricting. We will also consider the membership progress or decline in our state and base our recommendations on those developments. Perhaps the concern we all have for Lionism in WV will result in action and growth, but if it doesn't we need to be prepared. ACTION ON THE JANUARY MEETING.....

Past District Governors Association: Steve Glass asked that PDG Association should be made a standing part of the agenda of future council meetings. Discussion items are as follows: 1. Need for a quarterly newsletter to keep the Association informed; 2. A year-end appreciation banquet meeting to honor out-going Council. PID Cole will chair a committee to select a date, location and format; 3. Need for a MD banner to pass on from council chair to council chair. PCC Glass will investigate; 4. Emphasize more decorum for the Association at state conventions such as, a) Reserved tables for Association officers and WVLSCF officers; b) More formal introductions of Association officers-recognitions have become less formalized. 5. A short memorial service for deceased Association members (Patterned after what LCI does for deceased officers at the international convention) either at the state convention PDGA luncheon or at the January meeting. 6. Policy Manual- Committee of F. Cole, Julius, Glass, S. Moss, J. Pinkerman & Keffer with PID Browning as Chair (Bob has agreed). Committee will discuss the following: a. Discussion of items to include: meetings/organizational structure/international convention planning & promotion/WV Pin traders/DG jackets; b. Agreed to provide additional input via email and c) Solicit input from IPDGs and sitting DG's; 7. Other items discussed for the good of the order are; a) PDGA survey results; b) Need to look for a new source for DG jackets; c) Solicit DG's to promote international convention early; d) Review mission statement at every meeting; e) Need to set annual goals and f) Utilize PDGA as an educational tool and resource for incoming councils.

State Convention 2008: John Pinkerman gave a tentative report on the 2008 MD 29 Convention, which will be held at the Pullman Plaza Hotel, Huntington, West Virginia, April 25-27, 2008. Pinkerman suggested that the registration fee is being discussed and that room rates would be \$89 per night with a cut off date of March 24. Reservations may be made by call Pullman Plaza at 1-866-613-3611. The hotel e-mail is www.pullmanplaza.com. 1st Vice President Al Brandel is our International speaker for this event and the Cabell County Lions Clubs will work hard to make sure everyone attending will have a great time.

Motion to approve the Multiple District reports by DG Pinkerman and seconded by DG Burke. **Motion Passed.**

Motion to approve revised Policy Manual by DG McMillon and seconded by DG Burke. **Motion Passed.**

CC Van Horn reported that the agenda item, Consideration of MD Faulty Development Institute, be moved to the January council meeting in Huntington by request of council.

2010 MD Convention: Motion by DG Pinkerman and seconded by DG McMillon to approve revised contract for the 2010 convention to be held at Snowshoe and requested secretary Pinkerman to pay the \$500 deposit. **Motion Passed.**

Liberty Day: Council decided that decision on Liberty Day be left to each of the District Governors.

Blind Chess Tournament: After discussion and remarks by DG Burke that, due to the notice in the front of the MD directory, we would not release any information for commercial or solicitation purposes and that we should stand by this notice. Motion by DG McMillon and seconded by DG Burke to not approve this request and ask secretary Pinkerman to write a letter indicating that access to that information has not been awarded but that this is not a letter of non-support but council is wishing that the event be successful and will promote through their newsletters. **Motion Passed with DG Canon abstaining.**

Open Discussion: VDG Harvey Galford announced the 2008, 29-N District Conference will be held November 7-9, at Pipestem, West Virginia.

Secretary Pinkerman asked council to consider a business or two, sponsoring the back page in the MD directory to help pay the expenses of printing the directory.

Motion by DG Burke and seconded by DG Canon to approve expenses of council meeting. **Motion Passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.