MD 24 C Lions of Virginia



Sept. 9, 2020 Volume 4, Issue 2

Lions Roaring Pride

Hello Lions!

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our Fall Conference on August 28-29, 2020, at Mountain Lake. After so many months of staying at home, the fellowship and sharing was a welcoming change. Our visiting ID, Billy Blankenship and his wife PDG Carolyn were fun and brought some new perspectives to us. The Home of Dirty Dancing did lend to some great fun and dancing, too! Thanks again to all who helped make this Conference a success.

I would like to promote the New Voices Initiative: 2020-2021. This Initiative promotes parity and diversity and seeks to increase the number of women, young adults and underrepresented populations in our association. Over this Lion year, I am asking for you to nominate Lions that best demonstrate one of the following categories:

SERVICE: Nominee participates regularly in service projects and performs service that reaches a diverse group of people.

MEMBERSHIP: Nominee works to recruit and retain new members, welcoming diversity in our Lions family.

LEADERSHIP: Nominee is an influential leader who strives to be inclusive, including hosting meetings, and organizing projects and teams.

MARKETING: Nominee works to spread the Lions' message using marketing channels such as social media, printed newsletters, email, etc. to promote their club's excellence.

In May, 2021, I will be selecting a winner in each of the categories and presenting a Certificate from our International President, Dr. Jung-Yul Choi. The winners accomplishment will be shared on our district website, newsletter, and to share their stories at club/zone meetings and other District C events. If you have any questions about this initiative, please contact me.

Again, I am asking all clubs to start meeting regularly either in person or virtually on a regular schedule as possible. I feel with following social distancing guidelines and procedures, we can safely continue our Service. Our SERVICE is needed now more than ever!!!

I am visiting clubs and would like to arrange a visit with you. Please let me know if you are meeting or having an event that you would like me to attend.

Yours in Service, "TOGETHER,"

DG Jean



Jean Cook District Governor MD 24-C



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Check out our new website at https://www.md24clions.org/
Also on Facebook at :
MD 24 C Lions of Virginia

DISTRICT GOVERNOR - MD24-C (2020-2021)



LION JEAN E. COOK

THEME: "TOGETHER - WE SERVE, GROW, AND SHARE!"

District Governor, Jean is a native of Pennsylvania who has lived in Wytheville, VA for over 40 years. She retired as Director of Materials Management in 2011 from Wythe County Community Hospital after 33 years of service. Her hobbies include gardening, jigsaw puzzles, family ancestry, and many sports, especially, the Tennessee Volunteers. She is a member of Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church in Wytheville and serves as Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair, member of the United Methodist Women, maintains the church landscape, and sings in the choir. She is a VFW Lifetime Member and a member of the Wythe County Historical Society.

Since joining the Wytheville Lions in 2009 from the encouragement of a close Lion friend, she found the work of the Lions to be very rewarding and beneficial to the local community; as well, as the world. Highlight of her service to the community was the development of the Memorial Day Flag Placement Project in 2012. At present, the Wytheville Lions Club is providing over 900 flags in 34 cemeteries in Wythe County each Memorial Day.

During 2016-2017, Lion Jean served as the first female President of the Wytheville Club in its 75 Years of existence. Her leadership brought different perspectives to the club; especially in being instrumental in increasing the female membership of the club.

Her work in Lions continued to the District holding the positions of Zone chair, various District chairs, and the VDGs. During that time she started the first Leo Club in the Wythe County Schools, continues as the Club Advisor, and the District Leo Club Chair promoting the involvement of youth in Lions.

The Corona pandemic has changed the way we live our lives and the way we SERVE, but the District Governor Jean is challenging Lions to continue their service safely because our service is needed NOW more than ever.

* Veterans of Foreign Wars

DS - District Governor Lion Jean Cook - MD24-C

2020-21 Lions International President



Jung Yul Choi
United in Kindness and Diversity

Greetings Lions,

Serving as your International President for the past year has been an honor of a lifetime. Never have I been more humbled and more moved than by the compassion and hard work I saw from Lions every day.

Now, in the face of the unique challenges the world is facing, I have been asked to extend my term as your International President. I accept this honor and responsibility with the same enthusiasm and commitment as for my first year.

This year I will expand on the official them – We Serve – with an additional focus on staying United in Kindness and Diversity.

I also want to acknowledge that the world has greatly changed in the past six months. Nearly every aspect of our daily lives, including how we serve, has been altered. Yet Lions have responded with the urgency and care I would expect, developing innovative ways to help their communities.

I ask that even as we see signs of hope in the fight against the pandemic, that we continue to serve safely by practicing social distancing and following the health and safety guidelines where we live.

Lastly, I want to remind you that while we are in unprecedented times, Lions have a rich history of serving through all kinds of difficult moments. We know how to focus on what matters – kindness. And we know how to unite our diverse strengths so that the world can feel the compassion and support of Lions.

Let's stand together. Let's begin another great year of service.

Sincerely,

Jung-Yul Choi

Source: Lions Magazine 2020 https://lionmagazine.org/articles/united-in-kindness-and-diversity/

MD 24 C Lions Roaring Pride Newsletter <u>Lions Roaring Pride revisions and publication schedule</u> 2020-2021

Greetings Fellow Lions:

The upcoming year, we are going to institute and different approach on our newsletter. I have listened to your feedback and I hear you. The old newsletter was too big and had way too much to make it a valid source of information. As such, you will notice starting with this edition, fewer pages and pictures and more publication dates.

Below is the publication schedule:

Issue 2	September 5, 2020		
Issue 3	November 5, 2020		
Issue 4	January 5, 2020		
Issue 5	March 5, 2020		
Issue 6	May 5, 2020		

Submission guide lines:

- 1. Submit you club news in an email format highlighting your service or special occasions 1 page maximum of text and photos.
- 2. All news will be due to the editor (that's me) by the 1st day of the month for each of the publication dates. (Sept 1, 2020, November 1, 2020, January 1, 2021, March 1, 2021, and May 1, 2021).
- 3. Let us know about service projects and fundraisers so that we can broadcast this not only in the newsletter, but on our district website.
- 4. Forward the newsletter to your membership and print it out for the Lions that are not online or have email.

It is my hope that the new format will be more accessible to everyone and keep our district informed.

Yours in Service

PCC Marty Alford Lions Roaring Pride Editor



MD24-C District Governor's Goals, Views and Expectation - 2020-2021

In a recent interview with our Publicity and Information Officer Lion Dharam Sawh MJF, District Governor Jean Cook talked about her goals for the next year. Recognizing the complexity of the times we are currently facing, D.G. Jean stated that "My first expectation is for all clubs in the district to start meeting face-to-face, if at possible, or on a routine schedule virtually by August 15, 2020 and notify me of this occurring. We are in an unclear path, but I feel with following social distancing guidelines and procedures, we can safely continue our service because our service is needed now more than ever.

Our district is losing both clubs and Lions. With that in mind, District Governor Jean would like to see all clubs work towards a common set of goals for the year which are as follows:

- 1. All clubs to end with at least a + 1.
- 2. Start 2 new clubs and revitalize 2 existing clubs.
- 3. Increase diversity in our clubs.
- 4. Continue the "Proud to be a Lion Program" for new Lions.
- 5. Each club or Zone plan for a new member orientation.
- 6. 65% education of Club Officers and 100% training of Region and Zone Chairs.
- 7. 80% of clubs to report service projects.
- 8. Start 2 new Leo Clubs and rejuvenate 2 Leo clubs.
- 9. 75% of District Clubs to contribute to the LCIF Campaign 100.
- 10. Promoting 100% club participation in our quarterly District Service Projects.
 - 1 st QTR. Vision
 - 2 nd QTR. Hunger
 - 3 rd QTR. Diabetes
 - 4 th QTR. Environment

This year will be a challenge to all, but I feel that we can overcome our challenges "TOGETHER" And experience new successes in serving our communities and growing Lionism.

Jean Cook MD 24-C District Governor

MD 24 C Lions Roaring Pride Newsletter COMING EVENTS

DISTRICT 24-C SCHEDULE 2020-2021

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
September 8, 2020	6:00 p.m.	District Governor Club Visitation	Forest Lions Club Ivy Hill Golf Club 1148 Ivy Hill Drive Forest VA
September 23, 2020	6:30 p.m.	ZOOM Tutorial	Online Lion Dr. Erika Laos Register at https://bit.ly/3h684e3
September 25-27, 2020	See Brochure	The USA Canada Lions Virtual Leadership Ex- perience	Online
October 2-4, 2020		MD 24 I Fall Conference	

MD 24 C Fall Conference Highlights from Mountain Lake Lodge



On the weekend of August 28 and 29, 2020, Lions from across the district gathered at the Mountain Lake Lodge in Newport, VA to hold their annual Fall Conference. Given the COVID 19 restrictions, and general insecurity of some of our members, attendance was a little down from our usual crowds. Still District Governor Jean Cook and Fall Conference Chairperson PCC Clark Vandergrift put together a very impressive weekend for fun, fellowship and learning about Lionism.

Many of you remember the movie "Dirty Dancing" and Mountain Lake Lodge was used to shoot this movie back in 1987 starring Patrick Swayze and Jennifer Grey. In keeping with this tradition, Lions were entertained by doing their own socially distanced "Dirty Dancing" on Friday evening.



The special guest for the Conference was International Director Billy J. "B. J." Blankenship from Lafayette, Tennessee. ID Billy and his wife Lion Carolyn mixed and mingled and brought greetings to our district from our International President Jung Yul Choi.

Lions from across the state came out to get some relief from quarantine fever. It certainly was good to see everyone and catch up with old friends.



On Saturday morning, Lions were up bright and early to begin a very busy day of programs and information. PDG Jay Moughon from MD 24 L brought the Lions a program on the "Thirteen Rules on Leadership" which provided Lions insights on your role as a leader in your club.



After PDG Jay's presentation, PCC Marty Alford, MD 24 C GLT gave a presentation on Moving Lions Forward in a Pandemic. This presentation talked about the profound impact that COVID 19 has had on Lions Clubs across our district. Alford challenged the group to get back at our mission "We Serve" and to understand that if we are not meeting needs in our communities, people are hurting and doing without. Service in these trying times calls for thinking outside of the box to get clubs back together whether virtually or in person, but getting back to be-

ing the humanitarian service organization we are called to be.



After PCC Marty's presentation we turned to a somber moment to reflect and remember the Lions who have left their earthly journey. PID Richard Chaffin and PDG Rev. Joe Mack Taylor provided a very impressive service of remembrance for our Lions.

MD 24 C Fall Conference Highlights from Mountain Lake Lodge



After the Memorial Service, Lions had lunch and PCC Clark Vandergrift provided entertainment to break the ice and prepare us for the evening presentations.



During Lunch, Lion Ken Jones of the Smith Mountain Lake Lions Club talked about "Hope to Walk" an 501C3 non profit organization that has helped hundreds of third world amputees to walk again. Hope To Walk manufactures prosthetic legs for all ages so that they can recover from traumatic injuries. The group is now attempting to raise funds to provide the kits to third world countries at now charge to help people to regain their lives. A very moving presentation was made and it was suggested that Hope to Walk reach out to LCI's international Board to become approved for Humanitarian Efforts by LCI

IPDG John Seaborn presented several awards to Lions from across the district. Pictured below are some of the presentations made. IPDG John thanked everyone for their hard work and efforts and recognized that his year was cut short due to COVID 19 restrictions, but the District moved forward. See the photos below.













IPDG John presented the 2019 Council of Governors Distinguished Service Medals, Script Pins to those present and thanked them for their service during his year.



After the presentation of the awards, IPDG John changed hats and talked about the North American Membership Initiative program for MD 24 C. IPDG John emphasized that our district team is working hard to build our district up.



Our District Governor Jean Cook had her hands full trying to ensure that things went off without a hitch.



The final presentation for the afternoon was presented by Lion <u>Kathleen Gold</u> of MD 24 L who spoke on a diabetes initiative that she is hoping to get approved state wide to help with juvenile diabetes education and outreach.

MD 24 C Lions Roaring Pride Newsletter MD 24 C Fall Conference Highlights from Mountain Lake Lodge

Finally is a series of photos from our Fall Conference, it was great to see everyone there. Enjoy the pictures:

























TOGETHER!



MD 24 C Lions Roaring Pride Newsletter Appalachia Lions Club



On July 9, 2020 Appalachia Lions recognized one of their own with one of the highest awards in Lionism. Lion Eddie Green was presented the prestigious Melvin Jones Fellowship Award, which recognized fifty (50) years of service to the community. Lion Eddie was born and raised in Appalachia, VA. His father, Roy A. Green was a lifelong member of the Appalachia Lions Club as well. Lion Eddie joined the club in 1970 after helping his father growing up at Christmastime which was a local Lions Event.

Lion Eddie stated that he had been a Lion longer than he had been married! One of the legacy projects for the club is their services by providing vision appointments and eyeglasses to those who would otherwise not be able to afford to do so. The award is named for the International Associations Founder, who in 1917 challenged Chicago area business leaders to help make their communities better places through their outreach programs. District Governor Jean Cook, Immediate Past District Governor John Seaborn, and Past District Governor Roger Ramey were on hand for the presentation.

Dublin Lions Club

Dublin Lions Celebrate Charter Night (67 Years of Service).



At the August 20, 2020 meeting, Dublin Lions took time to celebrate the 67th anniversary of the Charter Night. Dublin originally became a Chartered Club on August 31, 1953. Since that time the club has been an active partner in the community through their service, but also through their generosity in providing financial assistance to so many causes.



The club for the last 45 years has been hosting two major Flea Markets and through these two events the club can raise as much as \$65,000.00 to be put back into the community.

This year (2020) has proven to be the exception to the rule and with the COVID 19 restrictions the club has struggled to meet and do any fundraising projects. This year both Flea Markets had to be cancelled, as well as the Pulaski County Fair, which the Club works and sales their signature "Lion Dog" all had to be scrubbed due to COVID 19 restrictions on gatherings.

Being resourceful and thinking outside of the box, the club President, Lion Judy Alford set up ZOOM meetings for March and April for both the board of directors and the membership. Plans and discussions were held to determine the impacts as well as how would the club move forward. Again thinking outside of the box, the board of directors came up with an idea to hold a Drive Through Lion Dog Sale in June to see if they could raise funds for their many projects. The first event in June was a great success, with the club raising more than \$4,000.00 and selling out of Lion Dogs. The club went back to the drawing board and scheduled a second "Lion Dog Drive Through Event" and even with torrential rains, the club did over \$5,450.00 in sales. While this is just a drop in the bucket and the club is having to revisit how to deliver much needed services during these trying times. By the way, we are planning another Lion Dog Drive Through Event for October 10, 2020.



The Charter Night celebration was an opportunity to take time to recognize a few of our own and to revisit the history of our club. Lion Larry Clevenger Jr., Club Historian provided the membership with a thoughtful glance back on some of the more comical moments for the club in welcoming some of the past district governors. Antics from police chases, arrests, stealing the governor's car, substituting shoe leather for the governor's steak were but a few of the more enjoyable moments reflected on.



The evening was capped off with several presentations made to members. Past President Judy Alford presented to Lion Jerry Rotenberry the Distinguished Humanitarian Service Award from the Lions of Virginia Foundation. Lion Jerry has been an active member in the club and also volunteers his time to the D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA.



The final presentation of the evening was made by President Paul Nester, who presented the Immediate Past President Lion Judy Alford with a Club President's Appreciation Plaque for her success in keeping the club going during the pandemic and throughout her year. Most notably, Lion Judy was the first lady president of the Dublin Lions Club in its' 67 year history.

Giles County Breakfast Lions Club

In spite of the Covid-19 pandemic, Giles Breakfast Lions Club has continued its regular monthly meetings. Meetings are still at 7 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of each month but instead of a physical meeting together we meet via Free Conference Call. The club established the link to the free conference call site several years ago so that members who might have to leave the meeting early to be at work on time could actually call in from their office and still get to the meeting. Also, members on vacation have made use of the conference call to attend meetings. Using conference calling since March we have maintained 85% attendance at each meeting.



Starting in late March the club began a Covid-19 Mask project. Members who sew have donated remnants of fabric and Lion Betty Herbert has been sewing up a storm making Adult, Youth and Little Kids sized masks with filters. These masks have been distributed through members and through the Giles Department of Social Services at no cost to the recipient. To-date approximately 275 masks have been made and distributed.

In July the club was invited to serve food at the New River Campgrounds semi-annual Horseshoe/ Cornhole Tournament on the New River near Newport. Members were on had all day to serve preprepared food to the participants and viewers. Donations of just over \$800 were collected.



The club's Giles Community Garden and Greenhouse has thrived through this summer. Garden manager, Lion Charlie Herbert, has babied his greenhouse plants as well as those already planted every day to insure a good harvest. He has a number of volunteers from the community as well as club members assisting him this year. He's missed being able to have children in the garden but the pandemic has forced him to put a hold on their participation for the time being.



So far this summer over 200 lbs. of produce has been distributed to the Department of Social Services, Giles Christian Mission and to garden volunteers as well other individuals. This does not include produce harvested by our local "midnight gardeners" which has been substantial. Plant starts have also been shared with the Farmacy Garden in Christiansburg as well as others.



Six members of Giles Breakfast Lions Club were on hand for District 24C's Annual Fall Conference. We each felt that we learned important lessons on being Lions during this time. We also were impressed by Lion Ken Jones presentation about Hope to Walk. Good fellowship was enjoyed with Lions from all over the district.



Club Excellence Awards

Make it your club's tradition to achieve excellence every year!

Clubs that excel in community service, membership growth, communications and organizational operations may qualify for the prestigious Excellence Awards.

Please use the qualifications outlined in the club excellence award application as your road map to excellence.

Club Excellence Award:

Is your club striving to finish the year with a net growth in membership? Will your club participate in at least three service projects? Are you promoting your club's events or activities to the community? If you answered yes to these questions, you may be eligible for the Club Excellence Award.

The Club Excellence Award is more than an award... it is proof that your club is STRONG!

Roanoke Valley Breakfast Lions Club



Roanoke Valley Breakfast Lions Club (RVBLC) has been in the same boat as many other clubs and businesses, on hold for the COVID 19 pandemic. We stopped having meetings in March and finally began July 15 with our first Zoom online meetings. We also began holding our Board meetings on Zoom as well on July 8. We are working with our club members to ensure they feel comfortable with this technology. Our club has a standard call in number to use ongoing for our meeting if the club member doesn't have a PC or tablet to join on the Zoom online meetings. There have been documented steps to load

and utilize the Zoom application sent out to the members as well. We are searching for another location for in person meetings to begin, as our current location will no longer have the hours to support our early morning meetings.

During the pandemic, our club decided to do a drive by for our "Lion of the Year", :Lion Alison Cordero, who is fighting cancer. It was great to see all the faces in June. Members made signs and decorated some of the cars and she was able to come outside and enjoy the fellowship with social distancing adhered to.

Our club would like to thank Lion Jim Dalton, who has been actively pursuing opportunities to obtain donations and grant money for a few of our service projects supported by RVBLC:

Earlier in the year he was able to get a promise of an additional 3000 pairs of socks from Bombas Company for the children in our Roanoke City Schools. The shipment will be sent in October and Lion Jim will be working with the school administration to get those socks distributed in late fall. Note: He had obtained 1,000 pairs of socks last year for the school children.

Lion Jim applied for a \$200 matching grant from LOVF and was approved for the Appalachian Teen Challenge. Lion Jim and Lion Wanda will obtain a list of needs from the Appalachian Teen Challenge and they will shop with the \$400 total for those supplies most needed by the group.



Lion Jim also received a donation of supplies from a soap company for the Appalachian Teen Challenge organization and received those boxes last week. The boxes included: hard surface cleaner, a case of glass cleaner, a case of different cleaner, 6 one gallon containers of hand sanitizer, and 96 rolls of toilet paper. The Appalachian Teen Challenge has a program of 13 girls currently. These supplies will be delivered in the next couple of weeks. (picture included below).



We also want to thank the volunteers for the only service that has continued weekly during the pandemic: Our Meals on Wheels volunteers: Lion George Ferguson, Lion Nina Wright, Lion Linda Long, Lion Manuel Dotson, JR., Lion Cliff DeMars, Lion Marianne DeMars, Lion Jo Hubble, Lion Ernie Hubble, Lion Barbara Richmond, Lion Regenia Beatty, Lion Curtis Lynch, Lion Wanda Dalton and Lion Jim Dalton. Great job performed by these volunteers putting themselves at risk of getting the virus, they continued to serve our community in this manner. What better examples of great Lions than these folks! Thanks RVBLC Lion Meals on Wheels volunteers.

Our club misses the camaraderie and fellowship that we have at our breakfast meetings, however, we have made the best effort to keep our members engaged and involved in our club as we have followed the governor's social distancing rules. We all look forward to getting back to regular club meetings in person soon!

Submitted by: Lion Brenda Cooper

MD 24 C Lions Roaring Pride Newsletter Smith Mountain Lake Lions Club



The SML Lions Club and Bethlehem United Methodist Church (BUMC) have teamed together to renovate an R&D, training and administrative facility in Blacksburg owned by the 501c3 charity Hope to Walk. This charity has developed an innovative, but "low-tech" prosthetic using inexpensive, every-day materials (PVC plumbing pipe, scrap oak, moldable fiberglass, and Gorilla Glue). Thanks to the many volunteers around Smith Mountain Lake who provide the manufacturing labor, the cost of materials to make a below-knee prosthetic leg is less than \$100.



In the 4 years of their existence, Hope to Walk has changed lives by restoring the ability to walk for over 550 amputees in Honduras, Guatemala, Haiti, and Vietnam. BUMC and the Lions have upgraded the lighting, painted walls, added partitions and outlets for power tools to be used in training overseas staff at the Bill Johnson International Training Center, added new signage from Michael McCord Woodworking, and developed an assembly line to fulfill requests for prosthetic kits. Those kits include about 25 parts and are sent from Blacksburg to local in-country facilities, then assembled and custom-fitted in about an hour in the field for each recipient.



On Facebook and YouTube, check out Hope to Walk, Smith Mountain Lake Lions, Bethlehem United Methodist Church and Michael McCord Woodworking. Contact Lion Dr. Ken Jones here at SML for more information about Hope to Walk and the BUMC/SML Lions team at ken@hopetowalk.org or make a donations for HTW to the MD 24 Charitable Foundation Inc, memo line Hope to Walk.





Facilitator: Lion Dr. Erika M. Laos

Training Courtesy of Bold Alliance Global Solutions, Inc. info@boldalliancegs.com (571)330-3101



Register here

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PCC Marty Alford

370 Windsor Drive,

Christiansburg, VA 24073.6099

Call or text 540-392-1453

Email = marty.alford1960@gmail.com

Send your club donations directly to

Leader Dogs for the Blind 1039 S. Rochester Rd., Rochester Hills, MI 48307-3115.

Newsletter Schedule 2020—2021

Lions Roaring Pride

District 24-C

Issue 1
July 5, 2020
Issue 2
September 5, 2020
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May 5, 2020

Reminder: Please submit news as text file and photographs in jpg format. Do not embed them in the article.



Greetings Fellow Lions,

As another month has rolled around, we are excited to think about getting our clubs back together amid the global pandemic that is still amongst us.

As we consider whether or not to meet, consider this fact. Who else is going to perform the service to our communities if we are not on the front lines. There are many ways that your clubs can still meet and serve during these most difficult times. Please keep in touch with your members and let them know how much they mean to your club. For every Lion, we have the capacity to impact 70 other people who are in need in our communities. Take the time to reach out and perform random acts of kindness to show the world that our association is a place where "kindness matters".

Please take the time to pass on this newsletter which is available through our district website and Facebook pages. Simply type in www.md24clions.org for our website and MD 24 C Lions of Virginia on FaceBook.

Yours in Service

Lion Marty Alford PCC

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