



The Lions Pride

District 24-E

November 2008



**District
Governor**

**Melvin "Bud"
Chambless
2008 – 2009**

District 24-E Officers

Melvin "Bud" Chambless, DG
Donald Rinehart
Vice District Governor
John T. Johnson, Jr.
Cabinet Sec/Treas.
Tammie Brightwell
State Sec/Treas.

Reg / Zone Chairmen

Dr. Kent Aikin
Reg I Chair
Burl Bowman
Reg I Zone I Chair
John Getgood
Reg I Zone II Chair

Debbie Chaffin
Reg II Chair
Lila Sullivan
Reg II Zone I Chair
Melvin "Sage" Bassett
Reg II Zone II Chair
Dallas Scott
Reg II Zone III Chair

Dr. Daryl Nash
Reg III
John T. Johnson, Jr.
Reg III Zone I Chair
James "Jim" Miller
Reg III Zone II Chair

District Governor's Note

November 4, 2008 – Election Day

Everyone should exercise their right to VOTE. I hope you will take to this opportunity to get out and assist in electing the officials who run our local, state, and federal governments.

Election of Vice District Governor

On October 13, the Cabinet met to elect a replacement for Vice District Governor Joe Gwinn who is retiring at the end of October. He and Lion Bettye are moving to Florida where they have purchased a home. I owe a real debt of gratitude to both Lions Joe and Bettye for their assistance over the last few months.

The Cabinet selected PDG Lion Donald Rhinehart as Lion Joe's replacement. We submitted the necessary documents to LCI for their consideration and appointment of Lion Don as our Vice District Governor for Lions Year 2009. Lion Don's approval has been received.

Succession Planning LY 2010 and Beyond

We have had a problem over the last few years of not having

Lions ready to succeed the out going Vice District Governor. As we move into the next few years, we will have to become used to having two Vice District Governors.

In order to plan for the expanding need for this position, I am proposing to have a Succession Committee impaneled to address the issues related to the positions of District Governor, 1st Vice District Governor, and 2nd Vice District Governor.

Many problems are created by not having Lions ready to fill these extremely important positions. Did you know that PID Lion Richard cannot run for 2nd Vice President of LCI because we have fewer than 1,250 members? We must not only have 1,250 members but we have to have 35 clubs before anyone can run for VP of LCI.

I believe our decreased membership is directly related to the lack of active leadership in our District. As I have attended the various Fall Conferences, I see how supportive various Districts are of their District Governors. We need to return to this high level to ensure we are not MERGED with another District. You and I must increase our level of activity and support of the various committees and projects we have in District 24E.

I do not want to be MERGED with any other District, DO YOU? If you do, please call me and let us discuss what happens if we are so unfortunate to have this happen to our District!

Virginia Tobacco Settlement Fund Application

In the past six weeks a number of us have been working on two grant proposals that we submitted to the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Fund Office. Lions Gloria Guice, Ron Robey, Dallas Scott, and others have worked hard on the proposals that could bring \$450,000 to our District for Lions Quest.

The grants involve Bedford County Schools and City of Roanoke Schools. I want to thank these school system executives for their support and cooperation in completing these applications. Lion Dallas did an outstanding job in getting the applications completed. Lions Gloria, Ron and others did a fantastic job working with the Superintendents' Office coordinating the needed paperwork regarding cooperation between the schools and the Lions.

The way to get things done in the District is through partnerships and cooperation. I appreciate everyone's efforts to achieve the goals we set for this project.

Lions Quest - Bedford County School and Roanoke City Schools

If you would like detailed information on this proposal, please contact 24E District Governor Bud Chambless.

Fall Conference – Tanglewood Holiday Inn

What can I say except that Lion Scott and his team put together an outstanding Fall Conference! Since I got a late start this year, it was a blessing to have Lion Scott take on the total responsibility of the Fall Conference.

He assembled a fantastic team and they have work as a team to once again display why 24E has a can-do spirit. When we are pressed, we pull together just as we are going to for the Global Membership Team, which was a topic of conversation at our Fall Conference. Please call Lion Charlie Herbert – GMT Chair – to learn how you can be a significant part in our efforts to revitalize District 24E. You can also

contact any MERLOW team member.

On Friday night, we got started with a Halloween Party. The Fall Conference dressed me as the "Great Pumpkin." I am pleased to say we had most of those in attendance wearing a costume. It was truly a fun filled event. Thanks to everyone who made this a great event.

This was followed by the Annual 24E Fall Conference Auction. This year we had a great Auctioneer – our very own Past International Director Richard Chaffin. Everyone was in the mood to spend some money. We appreciate all of the contributions made by the Clubs and individuals.

Lions Don Rhinehart – VDG, Dallas Scott – RC II, and Bernice Leftwich provide a great Hospitality room on Friday and Saturday nights.

To cap everything off, we had the best entertainment that we have ever had. The Old Pros – a 25 piece orchestra with our own Betty Herbert as featured singer – provide our entertainment.

Since I am from Pearisburg, I had Lion Bea Ruble widow of our only other Pearisburg District Governor as my special District guest. An exceptional lady who is too young to be Gordon's widow.

Thanks to all of the Virginia District Governors, Council Chairperson and District 24E Lions who attended our Fall Conference. A special thanks to Lion Tammie Brightwell whose support is really appreciated.

For updates on what took place at the Fall Conference, please go to our website!

International Guest

International Director Lion Dana Biggs and her spouse Past International President Lion Bill Biggs were our guests. Simply put – it does not get any better than this.

If you did not attend our Fall Conference, you missed an outstanding event. Our guest speakers were outstanding and were truly an inspiration to everyone.

Lion Bill's "What's Right? And What's Wrong" presentation is being posted to our webpage.

Lion Bill's presentation on both the good and bad aspects of our organization made us all ponder how we can implement the good points raised and how to resolve and/or eliminate those which cause problems in Lionism.

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR DANA BIGGS

Dana Biggs from Fresno, California, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the 90th International Convention held in Chicago, Illinois, July 2-6, 2007.



Director Biggs is the CEO of grape and wine marketing companies.

Lion Dana's heartfelt stories are truly the reason many of us have become Lions. In this jaded world of war, distrust, and hatred, her presentation also provided many insights into how an act of kindness can make a permanent positive affect on someone ripple out to others. It is those acts of kindness and service that will make us all better Lions and officers in our organization.

A member of the Reedley Kings River Ambassador Lions Club and a Lion since 1989, Director Biggs has held many offices within the association including club president, zone chair, and district governor. Additionally, she has served as chair of Quest, Student Speakers, Budget & Finance Committee, and Extension and Leadership. She has also served as a speaker and panelist at several local and international Lions events.

In recognition of her service to the association, Director Biggs has received numerous awards including the 100% Club President Award, a Club Lion of the Year Award, a multiple district Excellence Award, a District Lion of the Year Award, a District Governor's Leadership Award, three District Governor's Medals of Appreciation, an Abdul Award, the Paul Shamada Leadership Award, the City of Hope Life Sustaining Award, three International President's Awards, the International President's Leadership Award, the International President's Certificate of Appreciation, an International Extension Award, the International President's Certificate of Appreciation, and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest award the association grants to its members. She is also a Dwight Stanford Fellow and a Melvin Jones Fellow.

Past International President William L. Biggs

William L. "Bill" Biggs of Omaha, Nebraska was elected president of the International Association of Lions Clubs at the 73rd International Convention, held in St. Louis, Missouri July 11-14, 1990. Past President Biggs is an attorney in private practice with the firm of Gross & Welch in Omaha, Nebraska. A Lion since 1962 and a member and secretary of the Omaha Eye Opener Lions Club, Past President Biggs served as an international director from 1983 to 1985 and as an appointee to the International Board from 1985 to 1989. He has also been 100% district governor and council chair, as well as vice chair and chair of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum. He twice served as chair of the District Governors-Elect Seminar. He has served as multiple district membership chair and regional coordinator for membership. He is currently chairperson of the Community Diabetes Education Program of the

Nebraska Lions Foundation.

Global Membership Team – Organizational Structure

District Chairperson Charles Herbert – 2nd Vice President, Pearisburg Lions Club.

Membership Chairperson Jerry Beckner – Rocky Mount Lions Club

Retention - Vacant

Family and Women Membership Development – Jennifer Persinger – Zone Chairperson RIIZIII

Leadership – William H "Bill" Brammer – Past District Governor

Extension – John Lyons – Past District Governor

Orientation – William H "Bill" Brammer – Past District Governor

Community Service

Service Projects – Involvement of Community Leaders

If you have been at one of my official visits, you have heard: "There are five keys to your successful community activities."

You must take a hand's on role to achieve great community service. The keys are:

1. Survey the community you serve and find out how you can serve them better. Ask questions to ensure the needs are clear and ask for community support in completing the project(s).

2. Evaluate the responses you receive and determine how doable the projects/programs are. Determine if the suggestions have been tried before

and what the outcome was.

3. Determine funds needed to ensure the successful completion of the project/program. If you do not have the needed funds, determine the best way to raise the funds if this is the direction you want to go. Is there someone in the community you can call on to assist in raising the funds needed?

4. Meet with civic, business, and political leaders and involve them in all phases of the project/program you want to undertake. These individuals can provide the support needed to effectively address the community needs. When we work smarter, we can accomplish far greater things.

5. Plan the project – rarely will a single club or group have all of the expertise needed to address all the needs of a community project/program.. The synergy of the group is far more when we involve the leaders of our area. PARTNERSHIPS are the best way to accomplish our goals and objectives.

Essential Community Services - For Non-Emergencies

<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/211.html>

To get important information on non-emergencies, you can now call 211 from your service area.

Every hour of every day, hundreds of people need essential human services - they are looking for training, employment, food pantries, help for an aging parent, addiction prevention programs for their teenage children, affordable housing options, support groups and ways of becoming part of their community. 2-1-1 allows people to give help and to get help.

2-1-1 VIRGINIA – CENTRAL REGION

(434) 845-8016 Alternative Number

(434) 847-8335 TTY

211 Call 2-1-1 from service area

2-1-1 information and referral service for the following counties in Virginia: Bedford, Franklin, Henry, and Patrick. Also serves the following cities

in Virginia: Martinsville, and Bedford

2-1-1 VIRGINIA – SOUTHWEST REGION

211 Call 2-1-1 from service area
(540) 982-2345 Alternative Number

2-1-1 information and referral service for the following counties in Virginia: Botetourt, Craig, Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski, and Roanoke. Also serves the following cities in Virginia: Radford,

and Salem.

I want to thank each of you for the many ways you have supported the District and me over the last three months. I look forward to seeing you at one of my visits in the near future.

Melvin L "Bud" Chambless
District Governor 24E



The Fall Conference Costume Party

Members of the Moneta Lions Club participated in the Halloween Costume Party Friday evening, October 17th at the District 24E Fall Conference.

Lion Rob Senoski tries to maintain control of the Great Pumpkin Lion Gloria Guice, Vampire Lion Lynne Philbin, The Good Witch Lion Joan Brackin, Ms. Black-Eyed Pea Lion Pat Bailey and our very own Uncle Sam Lion Del Bailey. The Great Pumpkin won first prize for the best female costume.



The same Moneta Lions on Saturday

Lions Del and Pat Bailey, Lynne Philbin, Joan Brackin, Gloria Guice and Rob Senoski.

Focus on Culture

By PDG Jo Nelson

As I sit and write this newsletter column, signs of the holidays are springing up all around me. Stores not only have Halloween items discounted on their shelves, but Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations too! It seems like the holiday preparations come earlier and earlier each year. What do each of these holidays celebrate? Let's take a look and see.

Chanukah is observed for eight days, beginning on the evening of the twenty fifth day of the month of Kislev. This year, *Chanukah* starts at sundown, Sunday, December 21st, and lasts for eight days thru *Shabbat*, December 29th. It is also known as the Festival of Lights, Feast of Dedication, and Feast of the Maccabees. Hanukkah commemorates the rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem by Judas Maccabee in 165 BC after the Temple had been profaned by Antiochus IV Epiphanes, king of Syria and overlord of Palestine. *Chanukah* is a wonderful holiday of renewed dedication, faith, hope and spiritual light. It's a holiday that says: "Never lose hope."

Christmas is an annual Christian and secular holiday that celebrates the birth of Jesus, along with the themes family, goodwill, giving and compassion. Christmas is traditionally celebrated on December 25. It is preceded by Christmas Eve and in some countries is followed by Boxing Day. It incorporates Christian religious ceremonies with the traditions of ancient winter festivals such as Yule. I believe that the meaning of Christmas is different for everyone. For some it means spending the Christmas season with family and friends, remembering the birth of Christ, reliving old traditions, or giving service to those in need. It's a holiday that says: "Love."

Kwanzaa is an African American holiday which celebrates family, community and culture. Celebrated from 26 December thru 1 January, its origins are in the first harvest celebrations of Africa from which it takes its name. Kwanzaa builds on the five fundamental activities of African "first fruit" celebrations: ingathering; reverence; commemoration; recommitment; and celebration. Kwanzaa, then, is: a time of ingathering of the people to reaffirm the bonds between them; a time of special reverence for the creator and creation in thanks and respect for the blessings, bountifulness and beauty of creation; a time for commemoration of the past in pursuit of its lessons and in honor of its models of human excellence; a time of recommitment to cultural ideals in an ongoing effort to always bring forth the best of cultural thought and practice; and a time for celebration of the *Good*, the good of life and of existence itself, the good of family, community and culture, the good of the extraordinary and the ordinary. It's a holiday that says: "Celebrate the good in all around you."

Regardless of which holiday you celebrate, there is much we can learn from all three. Whether you choose Chanukah, Christmas, Kwanzaa or a combination of them all; the upcoming season is a season of belief and wonderment...a season of sharing what's right in this world with others...a season of peace and brotherly love. As you go through this holiday season, my wish for you is this: A world filled with Love...A world that looks for and finds the Good in all around us...and, A world in which we never lose Hope for Peace.

Reminders

November is Diabetes Awareness Month and November 14th is World Diabetes Day

Peace Posters

Just a reminder that Peace Poster Winners need to be sent to PDG Jo Nelson, Peace Poster Chairman, at 1523 Moccasin Path Trail, Huddleston VA 24104 or they can be hand delivered to TAP This Valley Works, 108 N. Jefferson Street, Suite 303 (Roanoke Higher Education Center). They must be postmarked by November 15 or hand delivered by 5 pm on November 14th.

Thank you. PDG Jo Nelson, 297-2395 or gov24b@yahoo.com

Merger

The Martinsville, Collinsville and Ridgeway Lions Clubs have merged and will henceforth be known as the Martinsville / Henry County Lions Club.

We continue to sponsor a FREE Bluegrass Concert every third Saturday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Historic Rives Theater in uptown Martinsville.

We invite any and all to come and enjoy it with us.

L.A.M.P. / RAM

Vel: 2008-09-01

Wise County Virginia - July 25 - 27, 2008



Well! another world record was established at the Wise county Fairgrounds.

A total of 2670 patients with a total of 5475 encounters. The value of free medical care for the 2 1/2 days was \$1,725,418.00

As of this writing the project will be held next year on July 24-26, 2009. This will be the 4th weekend of July.

All Lions who are interested in participating need to make reservations as soon as possible. Hotels are already taking reservations and will fill up in a hurry. A local area motel listing is provided below.

A record total of 1584 volunteers participated this year with approximately 200 being Lions. We had 20 Lions from District 'E'.

Lions provide all the funding for, prepare and serve all the meals during the project as well as provide eye and hearing screening and other support activities.



Hotel/Motel Information

The following is a current list of motels in the immediate area.

Norton Va Area:		Wise Va Area:	
Days Inn	(276) 679-5340	Best Western	(276) 328-4622
Super 8	(276) 679-0893		
Norton Inn	(276) 679-7000	Big Stone Gap Va Area:	
Holiday INN Express	(276) 679-6655	Comfort Inn	(276) 523-5911
		Country Inn Motel	(276) 523-0374

Need A Program?

I am available to present a LAMP/RAM/MOM program at your club meeting.

Please contact me at the email or telephone listed on the right.

Lion Cliff DeMars, PCC/PDG
Cell: 540-798-7230
Email: demarsct@cox.net

BEDFORD BREAKFAST LIONS CLUB

P.O. Box 275

Bedford, VA 24523



I. Major Fund Raisers

BBQ - held on 10/08/08, with approximately 675 people attending.
 Golf Tournament - planned for 05/06/09 at Ashley Plantation.
 Contributions.

II. Budgeted Charitable Expenditures

1. Local Community

Eye examinations and providing glasses.
 Sponsor local Little League baseball team.
 Sponsor "After the Prom" party at Liberty High School.
 Scholarship for one high school senior from Bedford County.
 Contributions to local charities - St Andrews, Astride with Pride, Bedford Ride, Bedford Hospice House, Miscellaneous (fire, help for local families).

2. 24E

Bland Music Contest.
 Leader Dog School for the Blind.
 Lions Club International (Undesignated).
 Lions of Virginia Foundation.
 24E - Administrative
 Local Hearing Aid Program.
 Old Dominion Eye Bank.
 National Society to Prevent Blindness - Virginia.

3. Other

RAM (Lions of Virginia)
 Camp Two Sweet

Prepared by Lion Larry D. Lynch, Secretary

CHRISTIANSBURG LIONS CLUB NEWS

Golf Tournament:

The Christiansburg Lions Club held its first golf tournament called "BENEFIT THE BLIND" on June 17. Fourteen teams participated and there were 26 hole sponsors. A total of \$3400 was raised with numerous door prizes, a BBQ meal and gifts for the players. The club plans to make this an annual event.

Family of the Year Award:

Another first for the Christiansburg Lions Club was presenting a Lions Family of the Year Award. Carolyn and Neal Turner was awarded this honor in appreciation for their hard work and participation during the 2007-2008 Lions Year. Congratulations to Carolyn and Neal and thanks for your service!

Lion Bruce Stevens Receives Melvin Jones Award:

Lion Bruce Stevens, a faithful Lion since January 1958, was awarded the Melvin Jones Award by the Christiansburg Lions Club.

Lion Bruce has served as 3rd VP, Lion Tamer and on the Board of Directors. He always participated in club projects (White Cane, Selling Brooms, Selling Candy and selling LOVF Raffle Tickets and helping at the annual craft show). He worked on numerous committees often as Chairman and has 50 Years of perfect Attendance. Lion Bruce sponsored his wife, Mary Joyce, to join the club in 2006. Lion Bruce worked 33 years in the Montgomery County School system, serving as teacher, coach, principal and in the Administrative Office.



(Photo attached showing Lion Bruce Stevens receiving Melvin Jones Award from Past International Director and Past District 24-E Governor (twice), Lion Richard Chaffin.

Christmas Craft Show:

The Christiansburg Lions Club will be hosting their 17th annual Christmas Craft Show on Saturday, December 6 at the Christiansburg Rec Center. This event features over 140 vendors, a concession stand, opportunity to purchase LOVF tickets and door prizes. For the last several years, the Club has cleared around \$8,500 -- its most successful fund raiser. For more information, contact Lion Wayne Bishop at 540 382-8403.

Submitted by Lion Sherry Burke

Bedford Host Lions Club

The Bedford Host Lions Club has a pretty busy fall/winter schedule planned this year. So far, we have participated in Bedford's Centerfest, held our Cowpony Patty Bingo, had nine members attend various portions of District 24E's Fall Conference, and had our first pancake breakfast for the lion's year 2008-2009.

Still a head: we will have a booth at the Bedford Women's Craftshow the first weekend in November; we are to sponsor a blood drive for the American Red Cross in November; and we start our annual Christmas tree sales the weekend after Thanksgiving. I am not done just yet, we will be holding our second spaghetti dinner on January 19, 2009.

Our club President, Lion Ron Robey, is working diligently to get a Leo Club started at Liberty High School. He has spoken with the school principal, so we have our foot in the door. We are working on recruiting a teacher or guidance counselor to work with the kids. We have lions lined up and ready to help activate the Leo Club when called upon.

Lion Ron worked with Lion Gloria Guice, Moneta Lions Club, to introduce the Lions Quest program to the Superintendent of Bedford County Schools. After hearing about the program, they were able to obtain the endorsement of the Superintendent and the principals at all the middle schools in Bedford County. With the help of Lion Dallas Scott, Forest Lions Club, and District Gov. Lion Bud Chambliss, Lions Ron and Gloria were able to submit the grant requests to the state in effort to get some of the money available through the Tobacco legislation. The Tobacco grants provide \$75,000.00 a year for three years to those interested in teaching about the negative effects of tobacco products. These grants are focused on children specifically and are aimed at teaching children before they pick up any of the habits associated with tobacco. Our district should find out in early December whether or not their grant was selected. Let's all hope and pray that the grants submitted are approved. Either way, I think this is a shining example of what Lions can do when they work together!!!! Way go to Lions!

The final piece of exciting news from the Bedford Host Lions Club is that Lion Bernice Leftwich has thrown her hat into the ring for District 24E's First Vice District Governor for Lions year 2009-2010. Lion Bernice will kick off her campaign at the District's Fall Conference. Lion Bernice has the backing of our club, and we wish her well as she moves forward with her campaign. We hope you all will support her as well.

Submitted by Lion Jennifer Persinger

Leo Club

On September 16, 2008 the William Byrd Leo Club held a recruiting campaign during the four lunch periods at the school. The final count in new members was 125. I think this was an outstanding effort by an outstanding Leo Club.



Officers of William Byrd Leo Club
2008-2009

Chris Chewing , Secretary
Andrew Morris, Treasurer
Erin Moody, CO- President
Sarah Ashby, CO- President
Tyler Snow, Vice President



Leo Club Meeting September 24, 2008 with
opening ceremony by pledging allegiance to
the flag

Lion Geneva Retires



The Retirement Express rolled through Roanoke. After 13 years of dedicated service (1995- 2008) Lion Geneva Belcher retired as Lions of Virginia State Secretary/Treasurer.

At the October 23rd meeting of the Cave Spring Lions Club, Lion Jim Newman presents Lion Geneva with her retirement pin.

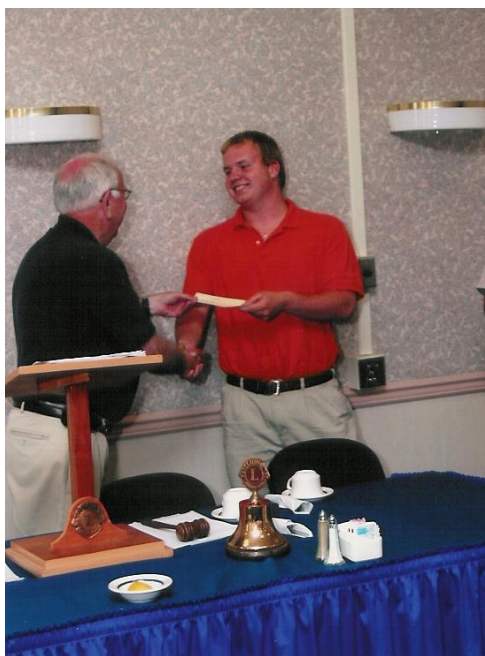


There she goes!

(Close-up of pin)

*Newsletter Editor
Lion Noel Cosby*

Salem Host Lions



Patrick High School graduate John Harris receives a \$2000 scholarship from Lion Jim Robertson on July 15, 2008.



Glenvar High School graduate Kenneth Lamport receives a \$2000 scholarship from Lion Jim Robertson. Kenneth's parents look on.

Submitted by Lion Jim Arnold



Five Salem High School graduates Amanda Kanode, Thomas Barnette, Jennifer Saliba, George George III and John Ribble received scholarships totaling \$10,500 on July 1, 2008, at Longwood Park.



Avis Hunt, widow of Dr. Walter Hunt, and John Ribble. John received the first Walter Hunt Memorial Scholarship honoring the former Salem School Superintendent.