Fellow Lions, Lionesses, and Leos,

A New Start…

I hope that everyone had a great holiday season. As the New Year starts we all make resolutions to improve ourselves, to change bad habits. The start of the New Year also means a new beginning, where we can look at what we have started, and make the necessary changes to breathe new life into our clubs and projects.

Start the New Year out with your first meeting being positive and up-beat. What we did last year was good; but what we do this year, we may need to do even better. Every club meeting and project needs to be done with a new enthusiasm. We are the future of our clubs and Lionism. If we all make a resolution to make our club better, this year we cannot fail.

Start the New Year out by inviting a friend, relative, business person or a neighbor to your next meeting. Sometimes all it takes is to “ask someone” to join the Lions. The end results will mean new members for your Club. Incredible and yet so simple.

It does work because the District will be helping our newest club The Bridgeville Greater Area Lions Club with a new start by celebrating their Charter Night on Thursday, January 12. Please see the inside of the Cauldron for details. It sure would be great if every Club in the District would send one or two members to make this a grand celebration.

I want to wish everyone a healthy New Year and a year that we all can look back on next December and say that we did complete our goals. If we all work together for our goals, we can achieve our goals together; and we can celebrate together.

Yours in Lionism
DG Rich
Fellow Lions, Lionesses, and Leos of District 14B,

I hope that everyone had a most enjoyable holiday season and enjoyed some precious time with friends and family. With the beginning of the New Year comes resolutions and promises to ourselves that we going to be a better person in the upcoming year. It might be that we are going to try to lose some of those pounds which we somehow managed to put on, or it may be that we are just trying to be more compassionate in our daily interactions. This month's message is that involvement and commitment matter in our everyday lives and in our service as Lions.

So, as we begin 2017 let's think about our dedication to Lions and Lions' projects. In order for a club to be the best that they can be and in order for a District to perform its administrative functions it is important that everyone of us become a little more involved. Ask yourself if you could co-chair a club project. Or perhaps you could make some phone calls that need to be completed in order for a fundraiser to be more profitable. Don't be afraid to accept an officer position in your club. Also consider chairing a service project. It is not productive in the long run for the same members to chair the same project or hold the same office year after year. New ideas bring life and energy to our clubs. Your thoughts and input maybe just the missing piece to bring a club or project to the next level. The Lions Learning Center which can be found on the LCI website offers many self-study courses. These may be just the inspiration that you need. However, it is my guess that many of the members within the District already possess the skills to do a great job. It is just a matter of doing it.

This month of new beginnings could jump start your original enthusiasm for Lions work. Hopefully each one of us can find something additional to do in our clubs and in our District that will bring satisfaction to you and help others.

*When you're surrounded by people who share a passionate commitment around a common purpose, anything is possible.*

Howard Schultz
Chairman and CEO of Starbucks

Yours in Lionism,
1st VDG Geoff
Fellow Lions, Lionesses, and Leos,

I hope that you all had a Merry Christmas or Happy Hanukkah and a Happy New Year. Maybe we all should make New Years resolutions to be more involved Lions!

During the years that I have been a Lion, I have been truly impressed with all the things that Lions do to help their fellow man and make the world a better place to live. From roadside cleanups, to helping out at food pantries to helping to eliminate blindness and measles, Lions Clubs are amazing. Sometimes we work, and sometimes we donate money, and sometimes we just use our heads.

One time, my Lions Club was approached by a family who’s son had an eye operation and while the Doctor’s fees were covered by their insurance, the Anesthesiast’s fees were not. They had a bill for about $500 that they could not afford to pay, so they asked our Lions Club if we could help out. We were fully prepared to pay the whole amount, but called the Anesthesiast’s office, hoping to get a reduction in the fee. When he heard that the Lions was going to pay the fee, he told us to forget about it, he was going to write the entire fee off!

Recently, the District received a request for help from a member of the Lions Club of Kitchener, New York by way of the PA Lions State Administrator Lion Bob McComas. The Lion had a sad story to tell; she had been following a "We Heart Nolan” Facebook Community Page for some time and was looking for a local Pittsburgh area Lions Club to maybe help with a wheelchair ramp.

Nolan has had a very difficult time since he was a baby. He has a rare condition called Mitochondrial Disease which affects his heart and kidneys along with other organs. When he was less than one year old, he had heart disease, open heart surgery and a massive stroke. Since then he has had a heart transplant and his kidneys have begun to fail, and he is wheelchair bound and needs a wheelchair ramp to get in and out of the house. The family is fully prepared to do whatever is necessary to get the ramp built, but they have had to move to Pittsburgh from Buffalo, NY to be near Nolan’s doctors and hospitals, the mother has had to quit her job to take care of Nolan, and the father had to change jobs in order to be with his family. They are fully dedicated to their son, but could certainly use some help. Nolan just turned 5 years old.

There was a problem though, the family lives in Bellevue, and there are no Lions Clubs nearby.

After writing a letter on District Letterhead, along with DG Rich Keller’s signature, and several telephone calls, we were able to get the Ohio Township Home Depot to commit to providing the supplies. The family actually started a Crowdfunding drive to raise the necessary funding for the wheelchair ramp, and they have about $3,000 to put toward the ramp; once they get a contractor on-board, the ramp will be built, and all we as Lions had to do was write a letter and make a few phone calls.

Lions Clubs are amazing . . . even when there isn’t one!

WHERE THERE’S A NEED, THERE’S A LION

2nd Vice District Governor
Lion Kirby Marchand
The Bridgeville Greater Area Lions Club cordially invites you to attend their

Charter Night Celebration

Thursday, January 12, 2017

To be held at the
Alpine Hunting & Fishing Club
220 Alpine Road (Fayette Township)
Bridgeville, PA

Cost $29.00 per person

Social hour starts at 6:00 PM with a cash bar followed by a dinner buffet at 6:45 PM

To secure your reservation for this great event, please make your check payable to the Bridgeville Greater Area Lions Club and mail to Lion Joe Meliton
1029 Washington Pike
Bridgeville, PA 15017

Questions, please contact Lion Dan Hupp at
412-551-6436

Deadline for reservations is Monday,
January 9, 2017
This is a reminder that the Lions support Leader Dogs for the Blind. You can help support Leader Dogs by choosing it as the charitable organization of your choice. The transaction is seamless to you. Amazon smile looks just like your regular Amazon and it doesn't cost you anything. The best part is that 0.5% of your purchase price is donated to Leader Dogs. Remember to use this site in all your future purchases. You only have to select your charitable organization the 1st time.
First place District winner is Ennui Knapick, 8th Grade, St John Bosco Academy, Pittsburgh sponsored by Whitehall Community Lions Club.

Winners were recently selected at November’s Cabinet Meeting. A special thank you to Lion Mary Ann Belles from the Whitehall Community Lions Club for her dedication in keeping the interest out front so we can continue to have young people involved in our District Contests. She is now serving in her third year as the District Peace Poster/District Essay contest Chairperson.

Second Place Winner Lenia Holt, 8th Grade, Sunnyside School, Pittsburgh sponsored by Bloomfield-Lawrenceville Lions Club.
Had a great time with the Robinson Township Lions Club handing out Christmas gifts to some of the residents of the NHS Allegheny Valley School Stucco House. It is a blessing to be able to give back and serve others. Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays to these lovely folks. We thank the wonderful staff, too, for the great work that they do. Wishing joy and peace to all.

It’s Great to be a Lion!
DISTRICT GOVERNOR’S OFFICIAL VISITATION SCHEDULE

2016 - 2017

JANUARY 2017
2  Pleasant Hills
3  Bloomfield-Lawrenceville
10  Glassport
12  Pittsburgh Hilltop
16  Central Elizabeth
17  McKeesport
20  Mon River Fleet
25  Whitehall Community
26  Elfinwild

TBD  Bethel Park Lioness

FEBRUARY
7  Bethel Park
14  Pittsburgh DeafBlind
21  Shadyside-Squirrel Hill
22  West Mifflin

MARCH
8  White Oak
On December 7th 2016, the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award was presented to Dr. William P. Sullivan a long-time member of the Lions Club of Pittsburgh. The special event took place at the Engineers Club in downtown Pittsburgh.

William (Bill) shared this information: “When I joined the Lions I worked for PSP, now called PSP Metrics. I joined in 1972. We had a board of directors and one of our directors was a Lion. That was Herb Grau and he asked me to join, so I joined. Right after I joined I was put in charge of the Christmas tree sale. I worked with the School for Blind Children in Oakland and that got me hooked, for sure. There was a gentleman at the Western PA School for Blind Children, and his name was Ed Ozimek. He organized the tree sale and it became very successful. It wasn’t all me, I had some great help from other Lions but the sale was so successful, they made me the President of the Lions Club in 1976. The meetings were in a number of places back then, but the one I can recall the most was at the Roosevelt Hotel downtown on Penn Ave. The thing I can remember is that we used a room on the second floor and we invited the director of the Pittsburgh Zoo. He brought a baby elephant with him right up the elevator. That was one of the highlights of the Lions Club that year. We had about 100 people in the club and all the corporations in Pittsburgh sent members.”
2016-2017 Lions International Essay Contest

The Celebration of Peace
By Julia Murray
Age 13, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania

Peace is defined in the dictionary as a state of tranquility, freedom from disturbance and harmony and personal relations. Peace can be as calming as the world returns to normalcy after a war. Celebrating peace does not always mean a monumental event. It can be as simple as the peace inside an individual’s heart. Rather it is on a global or individual basis, the experience of peace is a true celebration.

Peace can be celebrated on Earth with all nations and peoples. War is a state of armed conflict between different nations or different groups within a nation or state. However, after all the chaos from battles, the comfort of peace was overwhelming. The families rejoin and most of the worries vanish. Communities are rebuilt after all the destruction. Peace is proclaimed in nations, and also in the world. I personally have never lived in a war, so I have no experience of what it is like to feel the relief when it ends, but after so much upheaval, one would expect peace.

Individuals can also celebrate inner peace. Inner calmness refers to being mentally at peace, with enough understanding to be strong in the face of disharmony and stress. Positive thoughts can help because it is a way to think that is tranquil. Also, having hope in depression and trying to overcome despairing times.

Peace is a sensational motion that affects people in a positive way, in both the world and inside oneself. To summarize, when a war ends, it is replaced by peace, and everyone is tranquilly back to the normalcy of life without fighting. Also, people that can be in inner peace with themselves. Peace is such a true celebration, it is one of the key things of life because is happiness, calmness, and all of the positive means.

Julia Murray resides in Whitehall and attends Harrison Middle School. She is in the 7th Grade.
The University of Pittsburgh Lions Club will be conducting a coat drive in mid-January where we will have a collection box set up for donors to drop off any winter coats they would like to donate, new or slightly used!

Our main collection storage room will be at: the O'Hara Student Center, 4024 O'Hara St, Pittsburgh, PA 15213.

If anyone plans to donate they may contact me:

  Lion Alex Richter  
  Vice President  
  570-426-8087  
  AWR13@pitt.edu
District Governor Larry Masters of District 35-L in Florida listens intently to Lion Jim “Spiderman” Emery on the finer points of being a District Governor. For those of you who were not acquainted with Lion Jim before his permanent move to Alachua, Florida, he was an active Lion from the Dravosburg Lions Club then the Central Elizabeth Lions Club. His antics as the District Tailtwister were always evident not only within the District, but also on the state level when he attended numerous State Conventions. He always had some sort of handout to give the Lions… his famous “weather woods” (indicating what the weather was like), the infamous “money clip which was a paper clip with a penny in it, his “round tuits” and many other keepsakes. Lion Jim has found a new home for his antics, the Turkey Creek Lions Club.

He was welcomed with open arms by the club and especially Past District Governor Tony Stefanowicz. PDG Tony served Pennsylvania as District Governor on two different occasions in District 14W. The first time he served was with Skip Thomas in 1996-97 and then with Sylvan Lang in 1998-99. Thanks to PDG Tony for emailing me these pictures.

And to Lion Jim, keep those Lions in line down there!
Members of McKeesport Lions Club sponsored a breakfast benefitting the Toys for Tots campaign. Members worked at the breakfast and greeted participants. Boxes were put out at businesses in the city to collect toys, and on 12/10/16, a breakfast was held at McKee’s Point Café. Attendees that donated a toy were given a box of holiday cookies and a ticket for a chance to win one of 10 holiday themed baskets. Chairing the event were Lion Steve Bosnyak, who designed the baskets, Lion Jody James and Lion Linda Povirk, who baked cookies, and Lion Dan Carr, who cooked.

Pictured in the left photo are some of the members who helped make the event a huge success... left to right are Lions Walt Yager, Kim Carr, Marie Domingo, Tony Ura, Bobbie Billsborrow, Steve Bosnyak, Chubby McCutchen, and in the background cooking, Dan Carr. The right-hand photo is Lion Charles Casturo and his wife Lion Gail. Lion Charles has been a member of the club since 1992. He and his wife made a generous donation for the Toys for Tots event.
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

We are glad you are interested in becoming a member of the Pennsylvania All-State Lions Band. We are confident that all our members will enjoy a terrific musical experience as well as have a lot of fun.

Applying for membership is easy. Here’s what to do:

1. Review the information on our two performance tours, including the PA Lions State Convention Band trip to Seven Springs on May 19-20 (no cost to participate) and the international band tour to Chicago with rehearsal at Gettysburg College from June 25-July 5 ($580 fee).

2. Decide whether you want to apply for membership in the state band, the international band, or both. We hope you want to do both, but the choice is yours.

3. Check your calendars to make sure you can fulfill your obligation to the band if accepted. Be sure to check your school calendar for things like concerts, trips, exams, prom, etc. Check your personal calendar for family events and other things that would prevent you from attending the All-State Band activities.

Complete the application for membership online. It may be helpful to complete the application together with a parent or guardian.

Download and print the member health information form and permission to participate form. Have a parent or guardian fill these out and mail them to us.

Download and print the band director recommendation form and give it to your band director to complete. If your director prefers, they can complete this form online. If this is the case, send them this link: www.palionsband.org/directorrecommendation.html

FORMS TO DOWNLOAD

To complete your application, please download the following files and send them to us.

Mail your completed forms to:
Cyndi Mancini
Lions All-State Band Personnel Manager
927 1st Ave
Coraopolis PA 15108

or email (preferred)
palionsbandmancini@gmail.com

Recommendation form; give this to your band director. PRINT VERSION

Note: if your director prefers, they can complete the form online. If this is the case, send them this link: www.palionsband.org/directorrecommendation.html

DON’T HESITATE…
DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS
FEBRUARY 1, 2017
The 2017 Lions All-State Band will travel to Chicago for the International Lions Convention; we are excited you are interested in learning more about the band. This year, our international trip will take us to Chicago and Cedar Point, with performances and sightseeing along the way. Members of the band will enjoy a superb musical experience, and will make many new friends along the way among music students drawn from across Pennsylvania.

The tour begins with a concentrated rehearsal period in a college environment. Our rehearsals are held at the Sunderman Conservatory of Music at Gettysburg College. Their outstanding campus sets the tone for our trip, and gives our members a chance to experience college life, if only for a few days.

Following our rehearsals in Gettysburg, we will depart for a Seven-day tour to Chicago and Cedar Point. While there we will compete in the Lions International Parade and give several concerts. All members of the international band are in the concert band and parade band (marching). Some members may also be in the jazz ensemble, percussion ensemble or other chamber groups.

Not only will we perform multiple times in different venues, we'll also Spend Time at Navy Pier, (famous Chicago landmark), visit the Brookfield Zoo and perform and enjoy Cedar Point Amusement Park in Sandusky, Ohio.

Selection is based on past participation in the Lions All-State Band, instrumentation needs, experience on your instrument (9th grade and up with older students usually selected first), and participation in other musical events including County, District, Region and All-State Honor Bands. Students whose parents are Lions or who are recommended by a Lions Club will also garner consideration.

A letter of acceptance will be sent on or around February 1st. Please double-check to be sure that if you are accepted you will attend. Check your school and personal calendars for possible conflicts, including concerts and trips with your school band, prom, family events, etc. Once you are accepted, we plan for you to be in the band, as well as prepare food and rooming needs. If you apply and are accepted, then drop out, you will have taken a slot that could have gone to someone else.

http://www.palionsband.org/

### SCHEDULE AND ITINERARY

Note: this schedule is tentative and for planning purposes only. The final itinerary will be sent to all band members with their acceptance letters after February 1st.

- **Sunday, June 25:** Arrive at Gettysburg College; registration, welcome meetings, rehearsal begins
- **Monday, June 26 - Wednesday June 28:** Rehearse and have fun at Gettysburg College
- **Wednesday, June 28:** Farewell concert in Gettysburg;
- **Thursday June 29th:** Off to Chicago!
- **Friday June 30th:** Rehearsals during the day; Performance at Vandercook College
- **Saturday, July 1:** Perform in the Lions International Show, the Lions International Parade, and attend the teen dance
- **Sunday, July 2:** International Flag Ceremony; Performance for the Pennsylvania Lions Delegation Gala
- **Monday, July 3:** A day of sight-seeing and performing throughout the greater Chicagoland area.
- **Tuesday, July 4:** Our day at Cedar Point! Performance in the park followed by a day of roller coasters!
- **Wednesday, July 5:** Travel back to Gettysburg...the end of a great tour!
Members of the Mon River Fleet Lions Club had fun Friday morning, December 16th, with some of their Leo Club members, passing out fruit and singing carols at Riverside Care Center in McKeesport helping to bring cheer to patients and residents.
Pennsylvania Lions District 14-N  
Bus Trip to the  
Lions Clubs International Convention  
June 29 to July 5, 2017

The Lions of District 14-N are taking a bus to the Lions Clubs International Convention in Chicago for the Centennial Celebration – 100 years of service. This will be a good time to connect with fellow Lions from your District and around the world. If you have not been to an International Convention, you do not know what you are missing!

We will be traveling with Anderson Coach and Travel of Greenville, PA leaving on June 29 and returning on July 5, 2017. The cost of the round-trip is $125.00 apiece. It is about a ten-hour trip and we will be making a stop every couple of hours to stretch and get a bite to eat. The bus will be leaving June 29 from Greenville (time to be determined) and Butler Walmart at 7:00 am and will arrive in Chicago at 5:00 p.m. For the return, we will leave on July 4 at midnight and arrive back in Butler at 10:00 a.m. on July 5. When making reservations, please indicate where you will be boarding the bus. Hotel reservations for the conventions should be made for five nights at the designated Pennsylvania Lions hotel (Hyatt Regency – Chicago). We expect to check out, load our luggage on the bus the morning of July 4, attend the Final Plenary Session, have some fun including the Fourth of July Fireworks, and then board the bus for departure approximately 11:30 p.m. Reservations and questions call PDG Don Gibala at 724-287-8037 or email dgibala@zoominternet.net. All reservations must be made by April 15, 2017. Checks should be made payable to PA Lions District 14-N and mailed to PDG Don Gibala, 228 West Pearl Street, Butler, PA 16001.

Reservations for Bus Trip to Lions Clubs International Convention 2017

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Number of passengers At $125.00 = $ 
Board at Greenville Butler
Will you be leaving your vehicle at Walmart Y or N (circle one)
Make and Model of Vehicle License
Make Check out to PA Lions District 14-N, mark 2017 Convention Bus Trip
Mail to: PDG Don Gibala, 228 West Pearl Street, Butler, PA 16001
October 25, 2016

An open letter to the Lions Clubs in District 14B…

At the June cabinet meeting the District adopted a district project for 2016-17. We will be asking all the clubs to donate to the district for “Operation Safety Net”. You may have heard of it on local news casts. Operation Safety Net is a street medicine organization that serves the homeless population by providing medical care and housing assistance. Founded by Dr. Jim Withers in 1992, OSN has taken care of over 10,000 men and women in Pittsburgh and the surrounding areas. Walking teams of clinicians and formerly homeless workers provide care in the streets under the direction of Dr. Withers, an emergency room physician from Pittsburgh Mercy Health System and Trinity Health, sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy. In 2015, Dr. Withers was named one of the CNN Heroes of the Year.

If you would like more information about Operation Safety Net, please go to the following website:

https://www.pittsburghmercy.org/operation-safety-net/

District 14B would like to request a donation from your club to Operation Safety Net through the District. The District will be applying for a matching grant from the Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation. We are asking for a donation of $100.00 or more from each Lions Club in the District.

Please make your check payable to: District 14-B Lions and mail to:

Lion John Brown
District Cabinet Treasurer
1928 Dearborn Drive
White Oak, PA  15131


Dr. Withers or his Outreach Supervisor, Chris Roach, is available to speak at your club meeting or zone meeting. Please contact Mary Ann Belles, OSN Project Coordinator to set up the time. Maryann.belles@verizon.net or by calling 412-983-8956.

In Lionism,
Mary Ann Belles
Operation Safety Net Project Coordinator
Cell 412-983-8956
Work 412-833-3450

At left, a nursing student attending to one of her patients.

At right, Dr. Jim Withers, Nic Wilder & Christopher Roach at the Arlington tracks in Pittsburgh.

Photos © Pittsburgh Mercy. Used with permission.
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and support the blind and vision impaired

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one-stop shop for all of your broom and brush needs. Perfect for your home, workshop,
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purchase helps support programs and services that benefit individuals with vision loss
and other disabilities.

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Snow Broom $10.00
“Lioness” Broom $ 9.00
Counter Brush $ 8.00
32-inch Toy Broom $ 7.00
10-inch Whisk Broom $ 5.00

For more information or to place your order, contact
Bill Sinning at 412.368.4400 or wsinning@pghvis.org.

Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services is a
nationally accredited, 107-year-old nonprofit leader
in programs and services for people of all ages who
are blind, vision impaired, or have other disabilities.
The craftsmen from our Industries division produce
quality products for government contracts and
sale to the general public. More than 80 percent of
these workers are either blind or vision impaired
and the sale of their products supports the
programs and services on which our clients so
greatly depend.

Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh
1816 Locust Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-368-4400 www.bvrspittsburgh.org
Have you and your club accomplished some of the goals you set at the beginning of the year?? If not, only 6 more months to accomplish them!