

The Lions Roar

News & Events from Lions of Virginia District 24-I

VOLUME 6

OCTOBER 2023

ISSUE 4

Lion Homer Cook, District Governor

Wear Your Shirt!

Fellow Lions of 24-I: We are still on track to have a great Lions' year. Our Club visits are progressing; a lot of traveling means I am hearing what the Clubs are doing. However, letting the other clubs in our District hear about service projects your club has found to be successful helps them get new ideas. Send them to Lion Lu to include in an issue of The Lions Roar. Got photos?

In September, several of us enjoyed the fellowship of the 24-C Fall Conference just before Lions from around Virginia made the trip to Reno for the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum. What a great opportunity to make new Lions friends, catch up with Lions from around North America, and capture ideas to bring home.

While in recent conversation with a fellow Lion, he asked me how many of our Lions wear a Lions shirt anywhere besides at a Lions meeting or project. You would be surprised how many people will ask you about your shirt - or pin - and give you the chance to give that 90-second introduction we talk about so often. If you volunteer around your church or community, at least wear your Lions pin and see how many people you can invite to serve with you for a Lions event. It is time to get out of the den. Being a Lion should not be a secret!

**Do the
people you
meet know
you're
a Lion?**

Our Fall Conference on 13/14 October in Williamsburg. Come join in the fellowship, training and meet Past District Governor Wendy Cain. She is a past general Chair of the USA Canada Forum as well as an instructor at Advanced Lions Leadership Institute (ALLI) and District Governor Elect (DGE) school. I have received notification of a few items for the auction and we would love to have more! How can you pitch in?

Our Emerging Lions Leadership Institute is being rescheduled for later in the Lions year. This fall has proven to be quite full with club projects and we need a minimum of 12 participants to ensure the highest quality experience. Meanwhile, Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLi) for more experienced Lions is slated for the first weekend in March. See inside to learn more.

As a reminder: I will not send you an email asking you to pay a bill for or send a gift card to me. If you get an email asking for this, do not click on anything and do not forward. Instead, delete it and report to your e-mail provider as spam.

You may be asking "why are things about my club not being placed in the newsletter?" I ask you the question: What are you sending to Lion Lu? She is good but she has not learned how to read minds. She would love to include *your* club news! luroberts12@gmail.com

Yours in service,

Lion Homer



How do I do that?

As of 22 September, the District has 1,765 members so we are down 10 for the Lions' year. However, I hear rumblings that some people are actively looking to bring in new Lions and having success. The clubs that have implemented the Global Member Approach have helped Lions grow membership by over 29,000 so far this Lions' year. If it works for other clubs it might work for yours.

You have conducted 333 service projects, served 36,216 people with only 39% of clubs reporting. However, our reporting rate is going up.

Club officer training is at 12%. If you haven't done it this year, please go to the [Lions' Learning Center](#) to complete it. Sign into your Lions' account to get to the learning center; the link will show you how.

LCI wants each club officer to take the training each year. If you know everything about your position, then go to the Learning Center and click on the course. Treat it like a College Level Examination Program test from your youth. Click on the button that you have gone over the material, then take the test. If you pass the test it is like passing a CLEP test; you know the minimum required. If you fail it, read the material and take it again. Be sure to report to Global Leadership Coordinator [PDG Debbie Ivey](#)!



Save the Date: RLLI * March 1-3, 2024 Holiday Inn-Monticello * Charlottesville

The Lions Leadership Institute

MD-24 Lions Leadership Institute focuses on building the skills of Lions leaders in preparing them for leadership responsibilities at the club, zone, region, and district levels. There is a focus on applying many of the leadership skills long recognized in business and government to working with volunteers and the community. Qualified candidates are Lions/Leos in good standing who are active in their club and/or district leadership.

Who should attend?

Any Lion exploring stepping into leadership roles as an event chair or officer at any level of Lions service should consider enhancing their skills at RLLI. Clubs will want to consider supporting member involvement in RLLI. A more informed Lion contributes to the overall success of the local Lions Club.

Areas of Emphasis

Some of the areas covered in the course work are Public Speaking and Presentation Skills, Motivating Club Members, Diversity, Conflict Resolution, Local Projects, Personal Goal Setting, Time Management, and Leadership.

Cost of the Institute

The cost to each attendee is \$225 for the 3-day event. The cost covers Friday evening dinner, breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday (no dinner on Sunday), seminar materials, and a room at the hotel. (Single occupancy rooms) The remainder of the Institute costs are paid by Lions Clubs International, Multiple District 24, and each of the respective districts. (*Note: Similar leadership development classes carry a cost of \$3,000 and more.*)

Pilot Program

This year we would like to extend an invitation to our Leo Lions to attend the institute. Leos under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian without exception. Parents are welcome to join in and audit the classes and eat with their children but must pay the meal cost. Each district is encouraged to sponsor at least one Leo from their respective district.

Institute Faculty

International Director James "Jay" Moughon, Past International Director Richard P. Chaffin, Past Council Chair Chester "Chet" Kramer, Past Council Chair Martin "Marty" Alford and Immediate Past District Governor Helen Person.

To learn more and obtain an application, visit www.lionsdistrict24i.org/RLLI

Hello from Membership

This month District Club leaders and/or their Membership Chairs are being asked to formulate groups from their clubs who are interested in club growth and learning more about the **Global Membership Approach** that has taken off this Lions Year.

Our GMA team will be coordinating this with each Club, assigning a trained facilitator to meet with your group and share this valuable training.

A few clubs in our District have had the training, and now we hope you will join them for a year of excitement and growth.

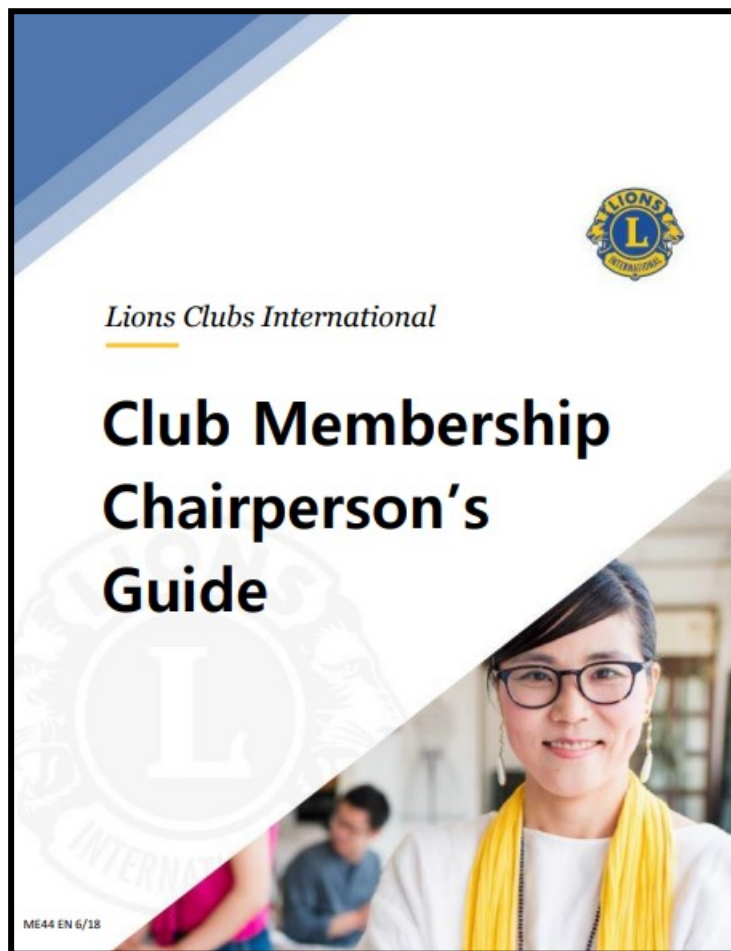
We are eager and ready to help our District grow. Our goal of 240 new Lions this year is a lofty one, but achievable with the knowledge and techniques this training avails us. So please take advantage of us!

Lion Nina Ambrose

Global Action Team – Membership Chair

757-335-2807

ninaambrose@gmail.com



Did you know?

Materials can be downloaded from the Lions Club International (LCI) website, <https://bit.ly/2LPzGoO> or ordered by contacting the Membership Department at membershipoperations@lionsclubs.org.

Virginia Lions Statewide Service Projects 23-24

Introducing MD-24 Service Initiatives for fiscal year 2023-2024

We are promoting **VA Plastics 23-24**, the Nextrex community recycling program. Clubs collect plastic films (i.e. plastic grocery bags, plastic wrapping from cases of water, inflated plastic filler in shipping cartons, etc.) at one of Trex collection locations. Your club promotes it through radio, TV, newspaper, flyers—and people line up to drop it off. You weigh it and take it to a drop-off site like Food Lions, Safeways, Giant, some Kohls and other stores. A full list of stores and the plastics which are allowed are on the NextTrex website: nextrex.com Lions collect, weigh, report and drop off.



Our state Flower is the Dogwood but this is all too common a sight!

The honor system is in place when you report to Trex. What an awesome message to your community that the Lions care enough to remove thousands of pounds of plastic from our landfills AND we gave people a way to help save the environment. If a club collects 1,000 pounds of plastic in one year, Trex will provide a park bench to their community. Please emphasize the importance working as a state team and use project title VA Plastics 23-24 so we can show a total. Please use the corresponding name so we can keep statistics for the entire state!



In early spring, we will promote **VA Tree Planting 23-24**. Clubs will provide seedlings or saplings and get area residents to plant trees.

Arborday.org has a wide variety of bulk trees for sale. The prices for seedlings can be a little over \$1.00 each. Trees can be given away and citizens can return tree planting pictures to promote Earth Day or Arbor Day. Order trees by late February or they will be sold out.

Call me if I can help.

Lion Mack Stevens GST 757-621-9074

Concerned about your club's future? Give this a try:

Build a Team. Invite interested Lions - and even some who left but might come back. Ash yourselves: Where do we want our club to be in 3 years? 5 years?

Build a Vision. You had a vision of Lions service when you joined. What is your collective vision of your Lions Club in a perfect world? Write it down!

Build a Plan. What activities do you want to do? Do they require every member for every project? Create a service plan for the next year.

Build Success. Invite others to help. Have fun! After each event, evaluate. Plan for a better next time. Rinse. Repeat. Reap rewards!



Earth and Arbor Day

Town Center Blind Lions Club

757-301-0555

TREES PROVIDE THE AIR WE BREATHE Thank you for protecting our Earth

This Sugar Maple Tree is a gift from: **Pembroke Elementary School**

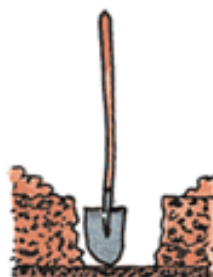
and *The Town Center Blind Lions Club*

Planting Directions

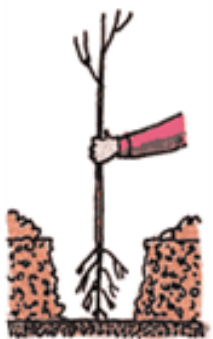
Happy Earth Day and Arbor Day



Step 1. Unpack your trees, remove all packing materials, carefully untangle the roots and soak the roots in water 3 to 6 hours. Do not allow the roots to dry out.



Step 2. Dig a hole, wider than seems necessary, so the roots can grow outward without crowding. Remove any grass within a 3-foot circular area. To aid root growth, turn soil in an area up to 3 feet in diameter.



Step 3. Plant the tree at the same depth it stood in the nursery, with plenty of room for the roots. Partially fill the hole, firming the soil around the lower roots. Do not add soil amendments such as peat or bark. Do not use fertilizer, potting soil, or chemicals on your new trees.



Step 4. Shovel in the remaining soil. It should be firmly but not tightly packed. Construct a water-holding basin around the tree. Give the tree plenty of water.



Step 5. After the water has soaked in, spread protective mulch two inches deep in a 3-foot diameter area around the base of the tree, but not touching the trunk.



Step 6. The soil and mulch around your trees should be kept moist but not soggy. During dry weather, generously water the tree every 7 to 10 days during the first year. Water slowly at the dripline.

It takes **T E A M W O R K** *to plant trees. Invite a friend!*

**Your Lions screened vision for 647 children.
If it isn't reported in MyLion,
how does anyone know you did the work?
They don't. Who in your Club reports to LCI?**

Volunteers are Lions' Life Blood

Please offer friends and neighbors opportunities to volunteer with your Lions Club. We need the help—and we have a lot to offer. Could you imagine what it would be like if no one volunteered? No help at animal shelters, hospitals, libraries, state parks, museums, roadside cleanup, wildlife care and conservation, tutoring, mentors, cub scouts, summer camps, church volunteers, homeless shelters, nursing home volunteers, musicians, trainers, presentations, sports training, contest judges, referees, recreation centers, or cleanup volunteers. Many of the organizations that provide these services can not afford to run unless they have qualified volunteers.

Not only do we need the help, but the following volunteer statistics also demonstrate the impact of volunteerism plus volunteer management on the world around us, including those who participate.

- There are more than 1.8 million active nonprofits in the United States alone.
- Only **55%** of nonprofits assess volunteer impact. (**1/3 of 24-l clubs are reporting service.**)

Who are volunteers?

- One out of four Americans volunteer, but two out of three Americans help their neighbors.
- 66% of volunteers give their time to improve their community, and 83% do so to contribute to a cause they care about.
- 35% of volunteers do so to socialize with others in the community.
- Over 71% of volunteers work with only one organization, other than church, each year.
- 67% of people found volunteer opportunities online in 2014.
- Fundraising for an event is the most common type of volunteer role in the United States.
- Individuals between the ages of 35 and 54 are the most likely to volunteer.
- Volunteers under the age of 24 account for 22% of all volunteers.
- 40% of parents volunteer each year.

How much are volunteers worth?

- Volunteerism has a value of **over \$184 billion dollars**.
- Volunteers are worth on average \$28.54 an hour.
- Volunteers, on average, spend 50 hours per year donating their time to the greater good.
- 92% of human resource executives agree that contributing to a nonprofit can improve an employee's leadership skills.
- 77% of nonprofits believe skilled volunteers could improve their organization's business practices.
- Volunteers are almost **twice as likely to donate** to a charity than those who don't volunteer.

Why should people volunteer?

- Aristotle (400 BC) said: "the essence of life is to serve others and do good."
- 96% of volunteers reported the action enriched their sense of purpose in life.
- **Volunteerism improves health** by strengthening the body, improving mood, and lessening stress in participants.
- Those who volunteer regularly have a 27% better chance of gaining employment.
- Volunteering decreases the likelihood of high blood pressure development by 40%.
- 70% of corporate volunteers believe volunteerism boosts morale more than company mixers.

Next page, please

Volunteers are Lions' Life Blood *(continued from page 7)*

Give people around you a chance to volunteer with the Lions. Make sure they know what cause your club is helping, where it will be, how they can help and contact information of the project chairperson.

It Starts With You!

Lion Mack Stevens
24-I GST

PROTECTING OUR PLANET STARTS WITH YOU

<p>BIKE MORE DRIVE LESS</p> 	<p> reduce REUSE recycle</p> <p>Cut down on what you throw away. Follow the three "R's" to conserve natural resources and landfill space.</p>	<p>choose sustainable</p>  <p>seafood</p> <p>Learn how to make smart seafood choices at www.FishWatch.gov.</p>	<p>Trees provide food and oxygen. They help save energy, clean the air, and help combat climate change.</p>  <p>PLANT A TREE</p>
<p> EDUCATE</p> <p>When you further your own education, you can help others understand the importance and value of our natural resources.</p>	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">CONSERVE WATER</p>  <p>The less water you use, the less runoff and wastewater that eventually end up in the ocean.</p>	<p> -SHOP- WISELY</p> <p>Buy less plastic and bring a reusable shopping bag.</p>	<p> Don't send chemicals into our waterways.</p> <p>Choose nontoxic chemicals in the home and office.</p>
<p>Volunteer!</p>  <p>Volunteer for cleanups in your community. You can get involved in protecting your watershed too!</p>	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">CONSERVE WATER</p>  <p>Long-lasting light bulbs - ARE A - BRIGHT IDEA</p>	<p>Energy efficient light bulbs reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Also flip the light switch off when you leave the room!</p>	

oceanservice.noaa.gov

Lions International President Dr. Patti Hill is focused on Changing our World: Start with the Environment!



Volunteer for cleanups in your community. Encourage your club to collect soft plastic to be recycled into a bench for a school. Learn more about the school and community recycling programs by Trex:
www.nextrex.com

You can get involved in protecting your watershed too.



Plant a tree. Trees save energy. They clean the air and help combat climate change.

Invite a friend to share our 

Lions in Action!

James City Lions Club

Williamsburg, VA — September 15, 2023

Lion Carl Kropf

Seventy-two golfers played in the James City Lions Club Charity Golf Tournament on Friday, Sept. 15. Beautiful golfing weather, combined with the challenge of Ford Colony's Marsh Hawk golf course, provided golfers with opportunities to card low scores, take home prizes and enjoy the camaraderie.

Pictured are Lions who are welcoming and registering golfers for the tournament.



Funds raised from this tournament support many James City Lions Club community service projects and programs that help our neighbors in need. Tournament major sponsors were Chesapeake Bank, Chesapeake Wealth Management, Nelson's Heating and Cooling, Ford's Colony Realty, BayPort Credit Union, Williamsburg Memorial Park and Williamsburg Moose Lodge 757. More than 50 hole sponsors were recognized around the course with their business logos, individual names and organizations prominently displayed on each tee box. James City Lions are profoundly thankful for the generous support of participating golfers, major sponsors and door prize donors that enabled this successful charity event.



Williamsburg, VA — September 8, 2023

Lion Bob Gordon

On September 8, members of the James City Lions Club provided screenings for hearing and vision at the Annual TRIAD Conference. Thirty-two TRIAD members were screened for hearing, with 2 needing follow up. Twenty-four were screened for vision, with 5 needing follow up.

Pictured are Lions Marla Boren (project leader) and Bob Meter. Other Lions participating but not pictured were Joe Moore, Mike Carr, Phil Pryor and Bob Gordon.

New Kent County Lions Club

Providence Forge, VA – August 24, 2023

Lion Mary MacDonald

The food pantry in Charles City County on Roxbury Road received a bench from the New Kent County Lions Club on August 24, 2023 as part of the ongoing Bags to Benches program run by the Lions. Soft plastic collection continues on first and third Wednesdays from 10 to noon at the Providence Forge Shopping Center.

Left to right: Ginny Fuhrmeister, John Johnson, Patsy Benjamin, Curly Hartsell, Director Jackie Stewart, Sharon Hudson, Keith Fuhrmeister, Karon Brickman-Hartsell, Debbie Ivey



Lions in Action!

Providence Forge, VA – August 24, 2023

Lion Mary MacDonald

Charles City County adult citizens were screened for sight and hearing using the Mobile Sight and Hearing Unit at the food pantry, Roxbury Road, August 24, 2023. A total of 27 people were screened with 18 referrals.



New Kent County Lions (left to right) Keith Fuhrmeister, Curly Hartsell, Sharon Hudson, Wanda Campbell, Patsy Benjamin, Ginny Fuhrmeister, Mayette Wilder, Gary Christman, Karen Brickman-Hartsell, John Johnson, Cindy Griffis

Richmond West Breakfast & Powhatan Lions Clubs

Henrico, VA – September 16, 2023
Lion Carol Sharp



“Our club could not possibly accomplish that in three days, but I will make a couple of phone calls” was Lion Carol Sharp’s reply to Katy Lampman of the Tuckahoe YMCA in Henrico. The first call was to Lion Pete Sizemore who had referred Katy to Lion Prez Carol. Katy was looking for Lions who could bring a SPOT machine to screen visitors at their Community Health Fair just three days later, because their original Lions Club had to drop out.

Pete directed Carol to call our Mobile Health Unit scheduler, Lion Darrell Person. Six hours later his wife, PDG Helen Person, called Carol to state:

1. Lion Allen Minter (Powhatan Lions) had two machines, but they were both on loan.
2. Helen would meet Allen at Keysville on Friday afternoon (2nd day) to hand off a SPOT machine we could use.
3. Carol called Allen to confirm time and place for Saturday (3rd day) at the Y.
4. Allen brought new Lion Victor Otero from his Club for training, and Carol recruited Lion Lu Roberts to assist with registration.

Victor was a major bonus as he spoke Spanish and could translate for the many clients who spoke no English.

To cap off a successful venture, the Health Fair produced contacts with other services, including Crossroads Ministries who offer free eye exams.

And how did Katy from the Y know to contact Lion Pete when she desperately needed Lions? She reached out to her high school classmate, Lion Winston Garnett of the RWBLC!



Lion Allen uses the Spot machine to screen Lion Victor’s eyes to show how the Spot does its magic.

Lions is LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT!

Lions does not believe in asking volunteers to perform a task without offering to them the tools they need to do a great job. We believe in giving to our volunteers the skills they need to:

- ♦ Facilitate a business meeting.
- ♦ Implement collaborative skills for a community-wide event.
- ♦ Help find solutions for conflicts and difficult situations.
- ♦ Feel comfortable speaking to groups.
- ♦ Teach concepts and skills to other Lions.

Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI) is presented annually to Lions in Virginia who are ready to learn the skills they need to feel comfortable stepping into leadership roles. Scheduled for March 1-3, 2024 in Charlottesville, VA, Lions Clubs are encouraged to sponsor a member who wants to ramp up his/her leadership skills. Brochures will be e-mailed to Club Secretaries.



DISTRICT 24-I DISTRICT GOVERNOR SCHEDULED EVENTS, MEETINGS, CLUB VISITATIONS



24-hour military time and 12-hour AM/PM indicated

Date	Time	MD 24 and District 24I Events	Location
October 2, 2023	17:45 (5:45 PM)	Virginia Beach Oceanview Lions Cub 90th Charter Night	Mom & Pop's Family Restaurant 331 E. Bayview Blvd, Norfolk 23503
October 3, 2023	1800 (6:00 PM)	Williamsburg Host Lions Club	Holiday Inn & Suites 515 Bypass Rd, Williamsburg 23185
October 7, 2023 DEADLINE	2300 (11:00 PM)	FALL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION (AFTER 10/03, MEALS NOT GUARANTEED)	PID Hauser Weiler P.O. Box 849 Kilmarnock 22482 hauser2020@gmail.com
October 5, 2023	1800 (6:00 PM)	Virginia Beach Thalia Beach Bag Project	Corporate Landing Middle School 1597 Corporate Landing Pkwy Virginia Beach 23454
October 9, 2023	1830 (6:30 PM)	Zone K Multi-Club Meeting	Location TBD (Meet.google.com)
October 10, 2023	17:45 (5:45 PM)	Norfolk Little Creek Lions Club	Mom & Pop's Family Restaurant 331 E. Bayview Blvd, Norfolk 23503
October 13-14	Weekend	District 24-I Fall Conference <i>Sowing the Seeds of Lionism</i>	Clarion Hotel 3032 Richmond Rd, Williamsburg 23185
October 19, 2023	1830 (6:30 PM)	Poquoson Lions Club	Poquoson Community Center 49 Odd Rd, Poquoson 23662
October 20-22	POSTPONED	District 24-I ELLI (Emerging Lions Leadership Institute)	The Woodland Community Center Farmville
October 25, 2023	1800 (6:00 PM)	Zone E Multi-Club Meeting	County Seat Restaurant 3883 Old Buckingham Rd, Powhatan 23139
October 30, 2023	7:00 PM	GAT Zoom	Link TBA
November 2, 2023	1800 (6:00 PM)	BAMM Lions Club	Location TBD
November 14, 2023	1800 (6:00 PM)	Chesapeake Host Lions Club	First Church of South Norfolk 1605 Bainbridge Blvd, Chesapeake 23324
November 16, 2023	1900 (7:00 PM)	New Kent County	Don Miguel Mexican Restaurant 3560 N. Courthouse Rd Providence Forge 23140
November 17-18	Weekend	MD24-L Fall Conference	Holiday Inn Fredericksburg Conference Center 20 Sanford Dr, Fredericksburg 22406
November 18, 2023	1500 (3:00 PM)	Lions of Virginia Foundation Meeting	Holiday Inn Fredericksburg 20 Sanford Dr, Fredericksburg 22406
November 28, 2023	1830 (6:30 PM)	Norfolk Host Lions Club	Mom & Pop's Family Restaurant 331 E. Bayview Blvd, Norfolk 23503
January 19-20, 2024	WEEKEND	24-I Winter Conference	Holiday Inn Conference Center 5655 Greenwich Rd, Virginia Beach 23642