

LIONS



ROAR

Connecting the clubs, communities & needs for the
Lions of Central and Southeastern Virginia. We Serve!

District Governor Greg Cole

I'm sure everyone has heard the saying "Time flies when you are having fun". It is so true. My year as your District Governor has truly flown by and I have had so much fun visiting and meeting Lions across our great district. The warm welcomes and words of encouragement have strengthened my commitment to being a Lion. Thank you to everyone that has made this a year to remember!

Sometimes as we begin to wind down a year we tend to pause and wait for the incoming leadership to take the reigns and embark on their year's journey. May I say that this is a bad philosophy to have. As Lions, we should be ready, willing, and able to serve no matter the time of the year. We can lose so much momentum as we coast to the finish line that we can end up not winning the race that we have worked so hard to win. The needs in our communities do not rest and therefore we should not rest.



International Director Jose Marrero and District Governor Greg Cole present PDG Scott Durbin an LCI Certificate of Appreciation.

Throughout the year I have seen many Lions and Lions Clubs rise to the challenges that I have put before them. To be challenged means that we have opportunities to grow. When we grow as Lions, our presence and influence in our communities expands. My final challenge as your District Governor is for every Lion to become CEOs in your clubs. We must Challenge Everyone Often!! Our future existence depends on how well we take on new challenges and rise to the occasion and meet them head on. These challenges give us an opportunity to ROAR louder and let our communities know that we are here to SERVE!

If there is anyway that I can be of assistance to your club in the future, I am ready, willing, and able to serve. Please don't hesitate to call upon me. It has truly been a privilege to serve in the capacity of District Governor for MD24I. Thank you for the opportunities to serve.

Lions doesn't pay. Or does it?

by *Lion Helen Person*
First Vice District Governor

If you're looking for the opportunity to have interesting suppertime conversations, try living in the house with five grandchildren under the age of 12. Oddly, though, a recent installment with our 10-year-old grandson Ayden presented the opportunity to introduce him to Lions.

After supper, I was sitting at the table minding my own business when Ayden sat at the table across from me.

"Brommie," he said, "why do you spend so much time with Lions stuff? It doesn't pay you anything, does it?"

Talk about a loaded question.

"If you're talking about being paid in dollars, Ayden, then you would be correct. PaPa and I are not paid a salary for being Lions," I told him. "But there's a lot more to service than being paid."



"As Lions, we help kids just like you to get eyeglasses that help them see better. Others need help hearing, so we can assist them with hearing aids. Our Lions Club recently received grant money from one of our Lions foundations to help us help the Sheriff's Department with equipment they needed to assist people with memory problems or who are autistic to be tracked and returned home if they get away from home and become lost.

"And we have just received \$25,000 to help our Lions Club build an outdoor classroom at one of our elementary schools so the community can use it for outdoor events and meetings."

I could see the wheels turning in that brain that never seems to sleep, so I decided to take advantage of that.

"When you're blessed to be able to help others, there is no dollar figure you can place on the benefit to the community. As Lions, we help people all over the world, not just right here in our community. And we meet other Lions from all over the world who do the same things in their communities. We have an instant connection and immediate understanding of what we are all trying to accomplish. We are part of a club that's one of over 46,000 worldwide."

"Wow, Brommie," he said. "That's pretty cool. I like the vests and pins y'all wear. I'd like one of those."

One of these days, kiddo, one of these days. We are Lions. We Serve.

One of the Head Tables at State Convention.



State Convention

2nd Vice District Governor
Homer Cook

Fellow Lions: I had a great time at the State Convention and I hope you did also. I was able to attend dining in the dark. In this event you are blindfolded and get to eat your meal so you can gain an appreciation for those with visual impairment. This also reinforced the notion of know your surroundings and move your hands slowly. I did not spill my water or make a mess; they did not serve spaghetti.

If some of you made it to the Friday night hospitality room you would have seen vegetable seeds and corkscrews. The vegetable seeds are easy to understand since you plant the seeds and help them grow. Then you can use the produce to help someone who is hungry. The corkscrew was a little harder to figure out. I feel that hands-on service is the major part of Lions. I also feel that some people have put their "Service Genie" in a bottle and corked it. The corkscrew was to remind people that if they allow the Service Genie to roam free it may work wonders. It may even grant your wish of providing more service and membership growth so you can continue increasing the service you provide.

I was at an event last month. As I waited for others to arrive, I started talking with some people there. One person asked if I was a Lion and I proudly said yes. That person went on to explain that most of the Lions they had met were rather closed minded. We are a Service Organization and part of our duty is to offer likeminded people the opportunity to serve and feel wanted. Ask a few people what they think about Lions and reflect on what they say. How others perceive Lions, as an organization, is their truth. If we do not like how the public perceives Lions, we have to change it.

Now I have a few questions for you to ponder. Feel free to send your comments to me at lionhomercook@gmail.com.

1. Has your club held elections for the 22/23 Lions year?
2. Has your club entered your new officers in MyLCI? The District directory comes from the information in My LCI.
3. Have you verified that the information in MyLCI is current for your club members?
4. Have you attended a District Conference or State Convention?
5. What type of event or training would make you want to attend a District Conference or State Convention?
6. If we had a Poker Tournament or Casino Night, would you want to participate?

GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM

PDG Beth Stevens

Fellow Lions,

As the Lions year 2021 – 2022 draws to a close, I want to thank all the Lions that served our communities with "Service from the Heart". Although we had a few bumps in the road, better known as Covid-19, we found ways to overcome obstacles with a smile. Together, we've achieved many district goals. Over 80% of our clubs are reporting service in MyLion, up from 32% at the beginning of the year. We've supported the Roc Solid Foundation with supplies for ready bags serving children with cancer, provided thank you notes to military personnel deploying overseas through the USO, fed the hungry by collecting food during the Lions Bag Hunger projects, screened x children in elementary schools achieving a See Clearly Award from Kids Sight USA, beautified the landscape with wildflowers through our Go Wild with the Lions project, sponsored the Lions Family Diabetes Camp and kicked-off the Lions Bear Hugs project by providing bears to newly diagnosed Type1 children.

Many clubs have stepped forward with donations to Campaign 100 supporting the Lions Clubs International Foundation \$300 million campaign; ensuring LCIF will be there to assist Lions Clubs around the world in times of need. I've shared a list of the Top 20 service Clubs as reported in MyLion as of May 22, 2022. The asterisk indicates no data entered in MyLion. This list is based on information obtained through MyLion and doesn't reflect the full impact of our Lions Clubs on our communities. But, as I've said all year, "If you don't report it; I don't know about it."



If you would like to run an activity report for your club to maintain for your club's records go to MyLion. Under the metrics tab enter your club's name in the search box. Click the date for this fiscal year. Then click export. An Excel spreadsheet will download with all the entries made by reporting officers this year. It's a good practice to export this file each year to be part of your club's record. LCI will only maintain a few years at a time; do not rely on them for permanent club records. If you have any questions or need help running this report just reach out to me at lionstevens@cox.net. Remember, projects must be entered in MyLion by June 30 in order to qualify for the 2021 – 2022 Kindness Matters Service Award. It's been my honor to serve alongside you. I wish PDG David Ambrogio well as next year's GST District Coordinator. I know DG-E Helen has some fantastic ideas for next year and she will lead our district well.

Together in Service,
PDG Beth Stevens

**TOP 20
SERVICE
REPORTING
CLUBS**



| Club | # Service Projects | People Served | Volunteer Hours | Donations |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|
| James City | 322 | 35,464 | 4,763 | \$5,370 |
| Virginia Beach Town Center - Blind | 102 | 10,964 | 906 | \$9,574 |
| Virginia Beach Thalia | 59 | 9,013 | 1,331 | \$7,085 |
| Norfolk Little Creek | 37 | 8,494 | 286 | \$2,868 |
| Williamsburg Host | 23 | 6,751 | 517 | \$3,036 |
| Amherst County | 41 | 6,669 | 395 | \$11,995 |
| Newport News Host | 25 | 4,869 | 645 | * |
| Ocean View | 95 | 4,131 | 896 | \$600 |
| Middlesex County | 12 | 4,088 | 804 | * |
| Varina | 7 | 3,912 | 679 | \$4,589 |
| Northumberland County | 10 | 3,178 | 494 | \$3,750 |
| Powhatan | 12 | 3,100 | 254 | \$11,250 |
| Charlotte | 8 | 2,880 | 276 | \$1,000 |
| Dinwiddie | 19 | 2,830 | 42 | * |
| Brookville Timberlake | 14 | 2,581 | 425 | * |
| Norfolk Middletown | 1 | 2,400 | 15 | * |
| Virginia Beach Princess Anne | 12 | 2,333 | 244 | \$500 |
| South Hill | 10 | 2,233 | 55 | * |
| Tappahannock | 19 | 2,154 | 385 | * |
| New Kent County | 12 | 2,143 | 417 | \$985 |

- Data not entered in MyLion
- Ranking based on people served through service projects entered in MyLion as of 05/22/2022



International Director Jose Marrero inducts new Lion Reagan Calhoun with her sponsor PID Dr. Hauser Weiler.

GUIDING LIONS

TRAINING

PDG Debbie Ivey

I am excited to report that at the State Convention we had sixteen Lions that attended the Guiding Lion Training and all are certified. We will be having another one, so you too can become certified. We are in the process of scheduling upcoming trainings for the new Lions year. Please reach out to me if you and/or your club have any ideas of trainings that you would be interested in. You can reach me at 804-966-5870 or debbieivey@earthlink.net. I look forward to any and all suggestions. As your GLT, it is important to me to have trainings that YOU want to attend, something you would like to learn about; that is what I'm here for. Please stay safe, continue to serve and let me hear from you.

When is Enough, ENOUGH?

Mack Stevens
Global Membership Team Coach

Every Saturday morning when I was a kid was the same. I got up early, went downstairs, poured a big bowl of frosted flakes cuz THERE GREAT! Then, report to the living room, turn on our only TV (black and white) and once the tubes heated up, it was time to visit my friends Bugs, Elmer, Daffy, Speedy, Popeye and Bluto to mention but a few. I plopped into my bean bag chair one foot away so I could change the channel (only 2 others) and watch the 15-inch screen. Yes, it was time once again for Saturday morning cartoons! Good wholesome entertainment like Hunting, smoking, drinking, fighting, trickery, bullying, profiling, womanizing, racial slurs, pan handling and more. I think the authors of these cartoons were actually pointing out the bad aspects of these social norms in an attempt get kids to see the heroes overcome these obstacles. If only we could drop an anvil on our problems these days, wouldn't that be satisfying?

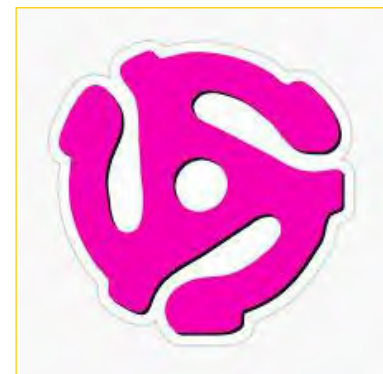
Popeye seems to be one of the worst offenders of this corruption and his way of dealing with his problems was to eat his spinach and beat up Bluto. He always resorted to fighting to resolve his problems. Bluto almost always deserved it because he enjoyed womanizing Olive Oyl. Popeye's catch phrase, iterated before he ate his spinach, was "That's all I can stands, cuz I can't stands no more! The theme music cued, a can of spinach popped into his mouth, energy surged through his body, his muscles would bulge, and he would promptly Pummel Bluto with fists of fury! Popeye and Olive always lived happily ever after

In the cartoon there came a moment in time when someone had to do something. Many times, Popeye was just too worn out or the obstacles were too big. He may have been wrapped in chains, handcuffed, put in a trunk and dropped into the sea but there was always a can of spinach around and always a point at which Olive Oyl, Popeye's GOIL, was crying for help and enough is enough!

Fellow Lions, when are we going to reach that point? COVID has you tied up, restrictions on meeting, members are bored, nothing going on, we don't have money for dues, young people don't know who the Lions are, other service groups are taking OUR members! WE'VE HAD ALL WE CAN STANDS CUZ WE CAN'T STANDS NO MORE!

It's time to find some spinach and take back OUR organization. How many Americans are financially living on the edge and one bad break away from losing everything? Aren't we doing the same thing? Lions Clubs International requires 25 members to start a Lions Club. Why are we saying we are fine when our club only has 4 members? When are we going to take a hard look at where we are and make a move to where we MUST go? When will we agree that we have hit rock bottom? I researched a group called the Odd Fellows. In 2014 they decided they needed more members and in just 7 years it's hard to find a local group. Are they still around? Who knows? What are they about? What's their mission? Do they still wear Fez hats? How about other service groups? Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Loyal Order of Moose, Good Samaritan Clubs, Jaycees Clubs International, Red Hat Society, The Rotary, Kiwanis, or Masons? Are these groups thriving or surviving? Are we all just birds on a wire? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k2PJ6T7U2eU>

Shouldn't we all be working together to get everyone in our community to help other people? If we do not inspire new generations to get involved and take over our clubs we are destined to fade into obscurity like my black and white 15 inch vacuum tube TV with a manual channel changer. Smart Phones made all the items below obsolete. Let's do the work necessary to make Lions Clubs the Smart Phone of Service!



IN MEMORIAM

Thomas G. Rapier
Chesapeake Deep Creek Lions

Robert L. Rightmyer
Chesterfield Prevent Blindness Lions

Thomas E. Faulkner
Newport News Host Lions

WELCOME OUR **NEWEST LIONS**

**Chesapeake
Southside
Lions**

Doris R. Frese

**Chesterfield
Prevent Blindness
Lions**

Donald R. Hamar

**Clarksville
Lions**

Mary L. Gregory

**James City
Lions**

Steve D. Ewell

**Lawrenceville
Lions**

Luther Earl Clary

Kevin W. Pair

**Powhatan
Lions**

Baylee R. Nunnally

**Virginia Beach
Thalia Lions**

Bradley Furman



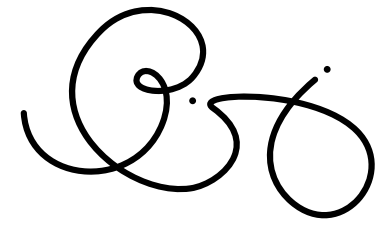
Bland Committee and Award Recipients



**NEED A FLYER, SOCIAL
MEDIA DESIGNS, OR A
NEW LOGO?**

**IF IT CAN BE DESIGNED,
WE CAN MAKE IT!**

**CONTACT US
TODAY!**



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