

# Lions Tales and Paw Tracts

The Monthly Newsletter of Pennsylvania District 14-N

Co-Editors  
Mark Carter, Betty Lou Ivell

Volume No.  
10

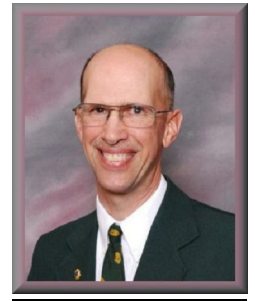
Issue No.  
8

Date  
February 2010



DISTRICT GOVERNOR  
DISTRICT 14-N  
**Evan Punchard**

Rural Valley Lions Club  
401 W. First St.  
Rural Valley PA 16249  
Home: 724-783-6951  
[rv123@windstream.net](mailto:rv123@windstream.net)



## Dear Lions, Lioness and Leos---

Despite a snowy and dark weekend in Washington, PA a lot of business was accomplished. The hotel did everything they could do to make our stay as comfortable as possible without power. It was also great to see Lions helping Lions and everyone making the best of the situation.

Congratulations to PDG Sam Wagner from District 14-T who is the recommended candidate from the House of Delegates to represent Pennsylvania in running for International Director in Australia.

There will not be a membership contest sponsored by the Pennsylvania Counselors this year as previously sent to the Lions Clubs. I will honor, though, the different levels of certificates as it is extremely important to recognize individual Lions' efforts in membership growth.

To all club secretaries: Please keep LCI updated on any address changes for the members of your clubs. It costs the State fifty cents for every Pride Magazine that is returned to them because of an incorrect address. The total cost of returns per year is between \$750 and \$1,000. The State receives their addresses from LCI.

February 13 will be an extremely busy day for our third Cabinet Meeting. The Past District Governors will meet at 10:00 and a special meeting to elect PDG Fred Isabella for VDG for the Lions year 2009-2010 is at 11:00. The Preliminary Cabinet Meeting will be at 11:15; Lunch at 12:00 and the Cabinet meeting at 1:00. This will be an important meeting and PDG Ed Gursky is doing his Retention presentation. It would be great to see all clubs represented!

The clubs will be receiving detailed information on the April 10 Spring Rally. It promises to be a great day!

Leo advisors will soon be receiving applications for Leo of the Year. We haven't had any nominations for a while. There are certainly Leos in our District deserving of this award!

As of January 31<sup>st</sup> our District Membership is 1180—a minus two for the year. There are quite a few clubs working extremely hard on recruiting new members. We need all clubs actively recruiting new members with less than five months to go in this Lions Year to reach our 1250 goal. Remember the more hands we have the more service that we can provide to our communities!

We are still looking for VDG candidates for next year! Who will step up to the plate?

Yours in Service,

**---DG Evan**

**Lions Brighten People's Future**



## January 2010 District Summary

(Note: If your club shows no activity, your M&A was not received by the end of the month.)

Class A clubs – more than 35 members; class B clubs – 24 to 35; class C clubs – under 24 members.

Class of clubs is determined by membership shown at Lions Clubs International on July 1, 2009.

### Just remember...

Your M&A and DG Contest reports should be submitted by the end of the month being reported. For example, the reports for the month of March should be submitted no later than 28 February.

Club	*Cl	DG Points	Members (1 Feb.)	Activities
Butler	A	10,500	42	Donated 48 pairs of used eyeglasses to Blind Association for optical center. Assisted 11 individuals with eye exams and lens.
Cranberry Township	A		42	Celebrated our Student Night - honored three students and their families. Provided a pair of eyeglasses to a person in need. Volunteered to assist again with parking cars for Community Days in July. Volunteered to help with the new Miracle Field. Welcomed new Lion Joe Gallo.
Elderton	A		39	Honored student of the month.
Hawthorn	A		34	Donations to Hawthorn Fire Company and to Rod and Gun Club; starting plans for March Swiss steak dinner; turning in four pairs of eyeglasses.
Knox	A	25,900	75	Added two new members, collected \$14.86 for the Li'l Ivy Jug, had seven request for glasses, one request for hearing aids, received five pairs of glasses for recycling, annual Game dinner was a big success, Zone meeting at the Knox Club with 28 members attending, student of the month G. Friedlund.
Little Beaver	A	25,250	66	Collected \$15.20 for Li'l Ivy Jug; honored Student of the Month, completed 134 15-minute reading mentoring sessions at the Northwestern Primary School, began 2010 Mother's Day Rose Sale process, delivered 200 Drug Poster Contest brochures to the Blackhawk Intermediate School (joint project with Chippewa Lions). Donations: \$100--Viet Nam Veterans, \$200--Beaver County Association for the Blind, \$500--District 14-N towards SureSight Vision Screener purchase, \$250--burnout victim, \$500--Beacon Lodge Camper Sponsorship. Coming Events: 25 February--DG Club Visitation, 13 March--Night-At-The-Races, TBD March--Spring Wine Dinner, 27 March--Highway Cleanup, 22-25 April--Beacon Lodge Work Weekend.
Monaca Center	A		47	Provided frames and lens for three Monaca residents with the Santa for Sight program co-sponsored by the Hopewell Club and Optometric Care. Also provided \$100 towards the cost of eyewear to a local resident. Paid PA Lions Per Capita dues and L.C.I. dues. Ordered two training manuals from the District. Donated \$100 to the Beaver County Historical Research and Landmarks Foundation. The profit for the Scholarship Activities Dinner amounted to \$7650. Planning a Valentine's Dinner with spouses and guests at the Feb. 11th. meeting. The Dates for this year's White Cane, Hot Dog and Cracker Jack Sale have been selected and scheduled with Walmart.
Penn Glade	A	5,500	39	Started to plan for the mother's day rose sale. Continued work on the web site. Donation to Butler County Emergency Relief Initiative. Reworked rental contract for club ground.
Rural Valley	A		43	Ongoing broom sales; held Leo induction night for 56 new members.
Ambridge	B	18,180	25	Held our New Year's Party at the Lighthouse with good food, prizes and played the game "Who Is Smarter Than a 5th Grader", and music by accordion player, Al Zalewski. DG Evan Punchedard visited our club at which time we held an induction ceremony for our last three new members. We collected 75 pairs of used eyeglasses. Will participate in the Drug poster contest and attend the District Cabinet meeting.
Chippewa Area	B	3,100	30	\$100 to Keystone Kids. \$250 to Lighthouse. \$250 to BCAB. \$100 to BCAB Drive for the Blind Hole sponsor. \$199 to Chippewa Library for Vision Eye machine maintenance. \$500 to BCAB for Beacon Lodge Camper. \$250 to BCAB for fundraiser. Student of the Month. Started Sight Seal campaign.

<b>Club</b>	<b>*CI</b>	<b>DG Points</b>	<b>Members (1 Feb.)</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Evans City	B		25	No activities reported.
Ford City	B		32	No report received.
Harrisville	B	14,150	29	Held an emergency meeting on January 13 to decide a new meeting place. King's Family Restaurant, Barkeyville, was decided upon at least until the end of this fiscal year. Two Lions attended the Region/Zone meeting on January 18 in Zelianople. Ongoing broom sales and eyeglass collection. Donated \$100 to Jean Forrester, operator of Mama Jean's Restaurant, for her faithful service to our club over the years we met there.
Hopewell Township	B		31	No report received.
Kittanning	B	11,250	27	Final Planning for the Senior Citizens Dinner. Approved \$305-\$400 to help a family from Havin for Christmas. Donated \$50 to Butler Blind for their Client's Christmas party. 3) Lion Donated \$100 to the American Diabetes Association. Horse Race Fundraiser is scheduled for March 20. We will keep half the proceeds, donate 1/4 to Beacon Lodge and 1/4 to the District toward the purchase of the new vision cameras. Green Card \$4.50, Lil' Ivy Jug \$9.21, 50/50: \$36/\$16.50 won by Lion Vicki, Tail Twister: \$3.
Manor Township	B	12,050	24	Ongoing eyeglass collection. Collected 29 pair of eyeglasses. Collected \$3.21 for Little Ivy Jug. Student of the month recognized.
New Bethlehem	B	2,000	29	No report received.
New Brighton	B	3,100	25	No report received.
New Castle	B		28	No report received.
Rimersburg	B		29	A donation of \$250 has been given to the District to help with the purchase of two SureSight Vision screeners; a \$300 contribution has been given to help with a local Cancer Awareness Basketball Game. All proceeds will benefit cancer research. Rachel Gruver was honored as the January Student of the Month. She, along with her mother and teacher, attended the January 25, 2010 dinner meeting and was presented an award for her accomplishments in French. State and International dues have been paid.
Rochester-Beaver	B	4,700	30	No report received.
Volant	B		33	Donated \$2,865.00 to The District Governor's Project; Mercer Community Band Concert; Children's Hospital; Lawrence County Blind Association; Leader Dog; Canine Companions; Meals on Wheels; Loaves and Fishes food pantry; VIP Sports; Beacon Lodge; Boy Scouts; Grove City Food Pantry; and the Salvation Army.
Zelianople	B	12,750	28	Hosted the second region meeting with 18 in attendance from our club. Other clubs represented: Butler (4), Cranberry (1), Harrisville (2), Mars-Seven Fields (1), and Slippery Rock (2): picked up approximately 150 Christmas trees in the community on January 16, 59 pairs of glasses collected, Lil' Ivy-\$26.61, sent \$500 to CSFII.
Apollo Area	C		18	Accepted one new member. Broom sales are ongoing. Students of the month were named. Donated \$100 to the Leonard Miller Scholarship fund. Began planning for the Multiphasic Clinic which will be held in March on the 20th and 27th. Two members attended the Zone meeting which was hosted by the Kiski Township club.
Baden Economy	C	15,200	17	We continue to do monthly bingo at the Villa Nursing Home, transport visually impaired clients of the Lighthouse, collect aluminum cans for recycling, collected 15 pairs of eyeglasses, sponsor a boy scout and brownie troops, sell brooms, mops, mints and "BADEN" license plates in the community. Paid our semi-annual dues to Lions International and PA State. We are discussing upcoming Spring Fund Raisers, including the annual Beacon Lodge Challenge from the Little Beaver Club. We gathered again at the Candlelight Restaurant in Economy for our Monthly Community Dinner, five Lions attended.
Beaver Falls	C	11,850	22	Donated \$ 1000 to Sight First II. Donated \$ 500 to Lions of PA Foundation. Transported two blind clients to the Lighthouse. Shoveled snow for one blind client after the recent storm. Hosted two students of the month at both meetings. Presented them with a plaque and a certificate.

<b>Club</b>	<b>*CI</b>	<b>DG Points</b>	<b>Members (1 Feb.)</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Clarion	C		21	No report received.
Ellwood City	C		20	No report received.
Freeport	C		12	Rose sale in May. Annual Craft Show Nov 6, 2010, Freeport High School. Broom making (Mark Holbein) to sell to and support area Lions Clubs.
Kiski Township	C		23	Paid International and state dues; donated cookies and helped serve at the Leonard Miller memorial service; donated wreath for service; purchased a uniform for a police student cadet; sent donation to the MS fund in memory of Dan Miller; two students of the month for January; held 50/50 raffle; donated \$150 for clothing for two needy students.
Beaver Falls	C	11,850	22	Donated \$ 1000.00 to Sight First II. Donated \$ 500.00 to Lions of PA Foundation. Transported two blind clients to the Lighthouse. Shoveled snow for one blind client after the recent storm. Hosted two students of the month at both meetings. Presented them with a plaque and a certificate.
Clarion	C		21	No report received.
Ellwood City	C		20	No report received.
Freeport	C		12	Rose sale in May. Annual Craft Show Nov 6, 2010, Freeport High School. Broom making (Mark Holbein) to sell to and support area Lions Clubs.
Laurel	C		19	December's M&A received after newsletter went to print.
Leechburg-Gilpin	C	15,100	14	Donated \$100.00 to the district for MTI Cameras. Donated \$50 to the Butler Blind Assn. for Client Christmas Party. Donated \$100 to the Leechburg Food Bank for January. Donated \$100 to the Leechburg Public Library. \$150 to Sightfirst II. Donated \$100 for shoes for needy. Paid International and State per capita for second half of the year. Considering a Friendship Night and other new projects and fundraisers. Set Broom Sales and White Cane Day schedule. Collected 13 pairs of glasses and 13 cell phones. Li'l Ivy Jug for Jan.-\$9.95.
Mars-Seven Fields	C		10	Continued to discuss and plan fund raising activities for the Charity Account. Also, a presentation was made to the club by the Director of Community Relations and Fundraising for the Mars Home for Youth who was very interested in club members volunteering at the Home and cooperating in fundraising activities.
Neshannock	C		16	No report received.
New Bedford	C		17	Seven members made a visitation to Neshannock Lions Club. Started 2010 Lottery Calendar fundraiser sales.
Riverside	C	9,250	18	Transported the visually handicapped person to a party and a County Council Meeting held at The Lighthouse and/or the B.C.A.B. Honored the Riverside Lions Club November, 2009 Student of the Month with the Student being Erin Oberb a Senior from Riverside H.S. Donated \$201.70 for Little Ivy. Donated 200 pairs of used glasses that were taken to The Lighthouse which will then transported to be recycled. Donated \$447.75 for Christmas Gifts and cake and refreshments for the Christmas Party held at three personal care homes in our area last month. Donated \$250 each to The Lighthouse and the B.C.A.B. last month. Donated \$59.77 food and plaques for Student of the Month.
Sligo	C		17	No activities reported.
Slippery Rock	C	2,200	13	Setting up calendar for the new year, activities and fundraisers. Creating tri-fold brochure for our club to distribute.
Union Township	C		22	No report received.
Wampum	C		19	No activities reported.
Worthington	C		24	The DG visited our club we had a very well attended meeting and enjoyed his visit. We took down the Holiday Sign. Participated in the Angel Food Ministries. Two Students of the month at Kittanning Middle School. Donated \$50.00 to the DG for travel expenses. Donated \$200.00 to the Worthington Firemen to help in their building project. We distributed Vegas Night Raffle tickets for our Vegas Night Fund Raiser which will be held on March 6, 2010.

**District Lions Membership Total: 1180 ( under 1,250 member minimum)**

## Lioness Clubs

Club	*CI	DG Points	Members (1 Feb.)	Activities
Ellwood City Lioness		21,750	18	No meeting in January due to inclement weather; however, members continued with service activities: hospital gift shop, Yellow Ribbon Girls for armed service persons overseas, subs for the club's fundraiser, new boots to needy people; Meals on Wheels, planning a Night at the Races.
Little Beaver Lioness			34	Helps with Meals on Wheels, helped nursing home patients play bingo on a monthly basis, helped with activity nights three times this month at the Lighthouse for the Blind. Donated socks to the Veterans Hospital in Butler. Upcoming Lioness/Red Cross Blood Drive on 2/22/10. Donated \$200 for fire victim.
Rimersburg Lioness			18	No report received.

## District Governor's Visitation Schedule

Month	Day	Club
February	25	Little Beaver

## 2009-2010 District 14-N and District Governor Pins



14-N Pin



DG Pin

Do you have these 2009-2010 District Pins? They are now available from DG Evan Punchard. The cost is \$3 for one pin or \$5 for two. Purchase these pins from DG Evan at his visit to your club or contact him directly (724-783-6951; [rv123@windstream.net](mailto:rv123@windstream.net)).

<p><b>Drug Awareness Poster Contest Judging</b></p>	<p><b>Friday, 19 March 5 pm</b></p> <p>(following the selection of the new members of the Honor Roll of Lions)</p>	<p><b>Butler Blind Association</b></p>
---	--	--

**Update on Haiti from LCIF  
Chairperson Al Brandel**

**LCIF Responds to Haiti  
Earthquake**

Dear Lions,

Maureen and I have just returned from Haiti where we led a team of Lions and Leos to distribute relief supplies. It brought tears to our eyes to witness the despair of the people, but Lions are committed to meeting these needs in the days and years ahead.

I'd like to first thank all of you for your tremendous generosity. Lions Hope for Haiti mobilized more than US\$1.5 million. By the time you receive this message, I'm sure it will be even more.

While in Haiti, we met with local Lions to discuss immediate needs and long-term reconstruction. They appointed a committee and are discussing long-term relief efforts.

The Foundation is partnering with the Lions of Sweden to provide 200 large tents to house those who are now homeless as well as relief workers. Haitian Lions established three tent cities in the Port au Prince area, where they are focusing their immediate relief efforts. This weekend, Lions delivered additional relief supplies from the Dominican Republic.

We have launched a Haiti section on the Lions Web site, with photos, video and other news. As we receive additional information, we will continue to add it to the Web site.

If you haven't already done so, I ask you to consider making a donation to LCIF to support this disaster. Lions in Haiti appreciate your support and are anxious to serve.

Zone Chairperson William Eliacin's initial desperation turned to hope and gratitude for the people of Haiti when he learned of the great outpouring of support from Lions around the world.

He said, "We want to show the Lions and the Haitian people in general that the Lions Club is an extraordinary organization, that we are here and that our motto is, "We Serve". We serve our peers, we serve our brothers who are in need. That is why we are here. So I am appealing to you. You can count on us to achieve as much as we can with your contribution to help those who are in need."

You can donate in confidence to LCIF, as 100 percent of every donation will go directly to Haiti relief. Through LCIF, Lions around the world are helping those most in need.

[For the most up-to-date information about LCIF's ongoing relief efforts in Haiti, please visit [www.lcif.org](http://www.lcif.org).]

<p align="center"><b>Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Application for Lions of Pennsylvania Fellow</b></p>	<p align="center">Form should be sent to PDG Neff before 10 February, if possible, but no later than 27 February</p>
---	---	--

(Please print or type)

**1. Name (exactly as it should appear):**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Is recipient a Lion? If so, check one:**

Lion\_\_\_ PDG\_\_\_

Lioness\_\_\_ Leo\_\_\_

Name of Club \_\_\_\_\_

District 14-N

**3. A donation of \$500 is required to qualify.**

We have available progressive levels including diamonds, rubies and emeralds. Please contact PDG Neff for information. A ONE time gift of \$1,000 after the initial \$500 would receive five diamonds.

**4. Name and address of Donor (if different from the recipient or Lion, Lioness or Leo)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Please check one: Donation**

Personal\_\_\_ Club\_\_\_

District\_\_\_ Memorial\_\_\_

Referred by \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Enclosed is a check payable to the Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. If partial payment, payments will be made over a three-year period in increments of \$100 or more. (Note: LOP Fellow is not conferred until final donation is made.)**

**7. Please type or print the name and address where Lions of Pennsylvania Fellow is to be sent:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Donor \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date Required \_\_\_\_\_

(Allow 2-4 weeks)

Please send this application with check payable to Lions of PA Foundation to:

**PDG Don Neff  
411 Pattison Street  
Evans City, PA 16022  
724-432-3353  
Wyattlives1@yahoo.com**

Date received \_\_\_\_\_

Pinnacle Number \_\_\_\_\_

***For Official Use Only***

Date application received \_\_\_\_\_

Date pinnacle ordered \_\_\_\_\_

Date certificate, letter and pin sent \_\_\_\_\_

Badge and patch sent \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. \_\_\_\_\_

Sent to LOPF Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

<b>PA Lions All State Band</b>	<b>2010 State Convention</b>	<b>Wyomissing, PA (Reading) 14-15 May</b>
------------------------------------	------------------------------	---

Dear Band Directors, former, present or future Pennsylvania All-State Band Members:

For the past 28 years, the Pennsylvania Lions have organized an All-State Band to accompany the PA Lions to the annual State and International Conventions. Although the Band will not accompany the Lions to the 2010 International Convention in Australia, the Lions are organizing an 80 member band to perform for the **2010 State Convention** to be held in **Wyomissing, PA at the Inn at Reading**, 1040 Park Road, Wyomissing, PA on Friday, May 14 and Saturday, May 15, 2010. All lodging and meal expenses are covered by the PA Lions while at the convention. Students need only to provide transportation to and from the convention site. If there are enough students from areas that would contribute to the success of the Band, the Lions will try to charter a bus to have several stops and bring students to and from the convention.

If you were a member in the past, you will recall the fun times you had; and if you are a “first timer,” you can look forward to an exciting musical experience. We encourage you to apply and to invite other musicians to join us in Reading. To be sure that we have a bed and enough food, it is imperative that you immediately return the enclosed form. Please send it to:

**Ray Barfield, 664 Country Ridge Road, Bedford, PA 15522**  
**(818-623-0384—Home, 814-977-0511—Cell, 814-623-4250—Work.)**

**A Tentative Itinerary:**

<u>Friday, May 14, 2010</u>	<u>Saturday, May 15, 2010</u>	
5:30 pm-Registration (Inn at Reading)	6:15 am -- Reveille	2:00 pm -- Rehearsal
6:00 -- Hoagies	7:00 -- Breakfast	5:00 -- Depart for Crowne Plaza
6:45 -- Rehearsal	7:45 -- Marching Rehearsal	5:45 -- Concert
11:00 -- Pizza Party	8:30 -- Depart for Parade	7:00 -- Conclusion
11:30 -- To Rooms	9:15 -- Parade	7:30 -- Depart for Home
12:00 -- Lights Out	11:15 -- Lunch-Return to Hotel	

The Lions All-State Band wears a light weight marching/concert uniform for all performances. Students will be provided with a PA Lions shirt and a cummerbund and sash as part of the uniform. You will however, need to supply the following items: **White slacks/trousers, white shoes and white socks, music stand and a sturdy instrument lyre for marching band.**

For those who wish to leave with their parents, immediately after the concert, please check with Mr. Barfield or Mr. Zeller. The Lions of Pennsylvania are delighted that you will be sharing your time and talent for them.

Sincerely,

**Ray Barfield**

PA Lions All-State Band Committee Chairman

**Robert Zeller**

Band Director

**State Application  
Pennsylvania Lions All-State Band  
May 14 and 15, 2010  
Inn at Reading**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ School Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to march in band front? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to march with percussion? \_\_\_\_\_

Concert Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_ Marching Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Your height: \_\_\_\_\_ Your weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature (if under 18): \_\_\_\_\_



PDG Tom Deal  
and Lion Diana  
Taylor Deal on  
their Wedding  
Day  
(28 Nov. '09)

**Congratulations!**

<b>District 14-N Honor Roll of Lionism</b>	<b>Application</b>	<b>Deadline: 19 February</b>
--	--------------------	------------------------------

Applications for District 14-N Honor Roll of Lionism for 2009-2010 must be submitted to:

**Lion Michael Winkler, Secretary, Honor Roll of Lionism,  
247 Home Avenue, Butler, PA 16001-2776**

Applications must be sent to Lion Michael **by 19 February** to be considered for an award at the current year's Spring Rally. (The application form may be found on District 14-N web site.\*) The District 14-N Honor Roll of Lionism is a prestigious honor awarded to Lions who have actively served Lions and their communities. To be nominated to the Honor Roll, the Lion must have a minimum of twenty years in Lionism. One applicant from each of the five counties in District 14-N is selected each year. Applicants remain on file with the secretary of the Honor Roll of Lionism for five years. Thus, it is unnecessary to resubmit an application each year. (Submit updates to these applications to Lion Michael.)

\*Please call Lion Mark Carter (724-846-4413) if you need an application form but do not have access to the web.

<b>New Brighton Lions Club</b>	<b>All You Can Eat Spaghetti &amp; Meatball Dinner</b>	<b>The Lighthouse Saturday, 27 February 4-8 pm Adults: \$6; Children (under 12): \$4</b>
------------------------------------	--	--



**Please welcome our new members!  
January 2010**

<u>Club</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
Mars-Seven Fields	Fred Sarkin	William W. Penn
Volant	Thomas J. Husband	Larry Warner
	Ronald Fodor	Brad Smith
Worthington	Nathan Clark	John Good
Knox	Michael A. Weimer	Keith Decker
	Russell L. Rennard	Paul Boorech
Apollo Area	Randy L. Townsend	Robert Gibbons
Penn Glade	James Eisler	PDG James Hopson
	Helen Eisler	PDG James Hopson
	Alex Eisler	PDG James Hopson
	Carl N. Leicher	Louis A. Jakovac
Cranberry Township	Joe Gallo	Ron Bornais
Riverside Area	Debra A. Evans	Paul Leise

<p><b>Cranberry Township Lions Club</b></p>	<p><b>King Lion Michael Doerfler in the news!</b></p>	<p><b>New technology lets Butler, Armstrong blind navigate the Internet</b></p>
---	---	---

[Editor's note: The following article was written by Jessica Turnbull of the *Valley News Dispatch* and appeared in the 17 January, Sunday edition.]

Mike Doerfler runs his fingers across the keyboard as a computer voice rattles away. "www.google.com," the computer tells Doerfler, 27, of Cranberry, who adeptly navigates the Internet despite the fact he can't see any of the Web sites displayed.

Doerfler, who is blind, was demonstrating JAWS screen-reading software, which translates text from the computer for the blind and visually impaired, at the Blind Association of Butler and Armstrong. The association is kick-starting Project: Access, a \$75,000 effort to provide technology and training for the blind to be able to get and keep jobs.

"It was complicated at first, but you get used to it," Doerfler said. The program reads word by word, or spells by letter, and can increase the speed of the voice. Doerfler is able to keep up at a pace so quick that it sounds like gibberish to the untrained ear.

Doerfler graduated from Point Park University in 2007 with a degree in broadcast journalism and now puts together the newsletter for the Blind Association.

Teaching and providing access to technology such as JAWS will help the Blind Association and other groups improve the unemployment rate in the blind population from where it stands at about 80 percent to 90 percent in the Pittsburgh area, said Zack Byrnes, association director of development and public relations.

"Most people don't know this technology exists or they don't know how to get access to it," he said. The goal of Project: Access will be an on-site classroom with 10 computer stations, high-definition projector viewable by the visually impaired and a life skills lab, Byrnes said.

A home skills counselor at the association currently makes home visits to teach the blind and visually impaired how to use the kitchen and to improve daily living. But a classroom setting will increase the number of people that can be taught, he said.

Byrnes' first step is raising \$10,000 to buy a Braille display that translates text from the computer into Braille on an electronic display. The association already has bought a Braille printer, which automatically translates text into Braille. It hopes to buy more JAWS software, which costs \$1,200 to \$1,400. Byrnes said he hopes the association will be able to hire a Braille instructor in the future. Most blind people can't read Braille and teachers are few -- about 10 in the Pittsburgh area, he said. "We don't want people to forget that Braille is an integral part of learning," he said.

**Please Update Your District Directory**

<b>Region 4, Zone 1</b>	<b>Address Change</b> Chair Will Barris	736 Popetown Rd, Knox, PA 16232
<b>Kittanning Lions Club</b>	<b>Email</b> President Dave Metz	<a href="mailto:eagle4031@windstream.net">eagle4031@windstream.net</a>
<b>Freeport Lions Club</b>	<b>President Change</b> Dave Dillon	122 Stewart Street, Freeport, PA 16229 724-295-4689
<b>Penn Glade Lions</b>	<b>Secretary</b> Helen Eisler	109 Main St., Lyndora, PA 16045 724-287-6899 <a href="mailto:h.eisler@zoominternet.net">h.eisler@zoominternet.net</a>
	<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.penngladelions.org">www.penngladelions.org</a>
	<b>Penn Glade Lions Park Address</b>	140 Church Road, off Pittsburgh Road (Rt. 8) Butler



**Editors' Notes:** If you have a notice to be included in the newsletter, please submit it by the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month (for example, **1 March** for a notice to appear in our March issue). Thanks for your understanding and cooperation! And, if you have any corrections or suggestions for the improvement of the newsletter, please contact us: Mark Carter, 1209 SR 168, Darlington, PA 16115; [mtc8008@hotmail.com](mailto:mtc8008@hotmail.com); 724.846.4413 or Betty Lou Ivell, 2142 Clintonville Rd., Harrisville, PA 16038; 814.786.7215; [nectarine1@zoominternet.net](mailto:nectarine1@zoominternet.net).