

**Third Cabinet Meeting  
District 14-B  
February 9, 2003  
Duranti's Restaurant  
Pittsburgh, PA**

The meeting was called to order at 12:07p.m. By District Governor Ken Lloyd, with a verse of America and the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation by PDG Bob Johnson Jr.

District Cabinet Secretary Greg Borichevsky took roll call. The attached sheet indicates members that were in attendance, absent or excused. District Governor Ken welcomed everyone.

The first order of business was a special presentation of the Peace Poster winner sponsored by the Bloomfield/Lawrenceville Lions club. Zachary Murray and his parents were introduced. DG Ken presented Zachary a plaque from the PA State Lions, a gift certificate for \$100.00 savings bond from District 4-B and a \$200.00 savings bond from PA State Council of Lions Clubs. Zachary was first in the District and second in the State.

DG Ken thanked Coordinator of District Activities Barb Schimmel for her work with the Melvin Jones Breakfast and her preparation for this meeting.

DG Ken Lloyd established protocol and welcomed everyone.

**Secretary Report Greg Borichevsky**

Per capita forms were mailed out to clubs for the period ending June 30, 2003. Copies of the November 10, 2002 Cabinet meeting are here if anyone needs one. Anyone else that would like the Cabinet meeting minutes e-mailed to them let me know. VDG Rich Keller made a motion to accept the previous minutes except for the spelling of his name it is with an e instead of an a. Correction noted. Second by Mike Vudragovich. Motion passed.

DG Ken referred to VOSH discussion in the approved minutes. VOSH is not approved by this District and the State. They are not to solicit clubs unless approved by DG and Cabinet. Let us know if any clubs are being solicited. The District supports LCIF.

**Treasurers Report given by VDG Rich Keller**

**Administrative Account**

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002 .....	\$3,640.57
Total Receipts.....	\$4,115.03
Total Cash Available .....	\$7,755.60
Total Cash Disbursements .....	\$5,581.83
Ending balance February 9, 2003 .....	\$2,173.77

**Blind Activities Account**

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002 .....	\$26,288.45
Total Receipts.....	\$17,461.95
Total Cash Available .....	\$43,750.40
Total Disbursements .....	\$32,349.56
Ending Balance February 9, 2003 .....	\$11,400.84

Motion made by IPDG Mike Vudragovich to accept the Treasurer's report as read. Second by Lion Maryann Dayton. Motion passed. Details of Treasurer's report available upon request. Comments on treasurer's report. DG Ken wants all to go back to their clubs and remind them of The Center of Creative Play is the Districts program. A letter was sent to all clubs in the District by Cabinet Secretary and posted in the newsletter asking for a donation of at least \$100.00 per club. The fund balance as of February 9, 2003 is 550.00.

## **Zone Chair Reports**

### **Region 1 Zone A Chair Harold Stitt**

Excused. No Report

### **Region 1 Zone B Chair Paul Guido (written report)**

I have visited all my clubs and will resume a second visit to all my clubs at the end of February. I have been arranging a second zone meeting probably in the middle or end of March. One half of the M&A's are up to date and one half are behind. Two of my clubs North Boroughs and Greater Pittsburgh Airport have not submitted any reports at all. After talking to North Boroughs about this I finally got a report. I am still waiting for a decision on a name change for McKees Rocks Lion Club.

### **Region 2 Zone A Chair Jim Brubaker (written report)**

The Pleasant Hills club hosted a Spring Joint Zone Meeting held at the Brass Rail on January 20. The program consisted of the MERLO teams lead by VDG Rich Keller.

The Clairton club's White Cane Day made \$245.00. They purchased an eye exam and glasses for a needy resident. Beacon Lodge chair Tom Hurrell made a presentation on Dec. 3. They donated \$500.00 to the Clairton Emergency Food bank and \$150.00 to the Clairton Recreation Christmas parade. They conducted a Luminaria and Koeze nut sale and held a Mont Carlo Night at Home Depot. Five members plus guests attended Christmas Around the World.

Liberty Boro attended Glassport's Rigatoni Night as a club. Chairman Tom Hurrell made a presentation on Beacon Lodge. All members contributed achieving 100% - 365 club status. They donated \$250.00 to three local food banks and a donation to Kane Hospital.

McKeesport held a joint Christmas party with White Oak and Liberty Boro. They donated \$1000.00 to Beacon Lodge for renovations to 14-B cabins and \$100.00 to the Center for Creative Play, District 14-B's special project. They joined the joint Service Club Project sponsored by Penn State-McKeesport Campus. Jefferson Hills conducted the Annual Flea Market and Night at the Races. They donated \$100.00 to the Blind Bowler's Tournament. Twenty members plus their helpers conducted the Pancake Jamboree on Saturday, November 9. Fifty-one members and guests attended. A Christmas party on December 19. They collected 354 pairs of glasses and 10 hearing aids in December and January and are planning their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party scheduled for June 20 at the Georgetowne Inn.

The Pleasant Hills club mailed out Blind Seals \$1312.00 profit to date. They conducted a Citrus Sale over three months and earned \$606.00. Ten members and their wives attend Christmas Around the World. There is a Valentines Day Dinner scheduled for February 17 featuring Tom Hurrell and a Beacon Lodge presentation.

The West Mifflin club mailed out Blind Seals and had good returns. Held a Christmas party on December 21 and a Spaghetti dinner is scheduled for February 8.

Glassport no report because Secretary Lion Pat McGhen has been in the hospital.

### **Region 3 Zone A&B Chair Dennis McCarthy (written report)**

The first rounds of visits have been completed. A joint zone meeting was held at Oakmont on November 19, 2002. The MERLO team presented to the 9 clubs present. The second rounds of visits have been established. I have three in February, six or seven in March and four in April.

All clubs are active in nut, citrus sales and White Cane. Swissvale club has been inactive since June and only has two members left. We are waiting to decide what to do with them. A second Joint zone meeting has not been scheduled. I am waiting for a club to volunteer to host. M&A reports are coming in slowly and are difficult to read especially the pink copy. On the good side the clubs in Zone 3 A&B are reporting membership growth. Five new members coming in.

### **Region 4 Zone A Chair Maryann Dayton (written report)**

A joint zone meeting took place on January 21, 2003 with Bethel Park hosting. They supplied the speaker from the PA Parole Department. He explained the justice system works from start to finish. It was a very knowledgeable evening for all that attended. Bethel Park also had a potential new member attending. I have two more clubs to visit. All clubs are doing well. All M&A's are coming in on time except for Upper St. Clair.

**Region 4 Zone B Chair Jim Engel (written report)**

On January 21, a joint zone meeting was held for Region 4 Zones A&B. Three clubs from Zone B were well represented. Bethel Park was the host club and also supplied a very good speaker as Maryann stated. All that attended enjoyed the speaker. All clubs are active. I am planning to visit the rest of the clubs in the next two months.

**Region 2 Zone B Chair Marge Yurechko (written report)**

I have visited four of my clubs so far this year. The fifth is scheduled for February 17 and I plan to make another trip to the two I missed in the fall. Versailles has planned a Pancake Breakfast April 5, White Oak March 16. Several clubs have made donations to various charities and held Christmas parties which I attended.

Boston-Greenock-Mt. Vernon, Central Elizabeth and Elizabeth clubs are to participate in kindergarten eye screening for Elizabeth Forward School District in February and March.

Confusion seems to reign as to our status as a not-for-profit organization in the matter of bulk mailings and our EIN# on checks.

Question on bulk mail and EIN# was referred to Jack Schimmel. We are a 501c4 not for profit. We are not a non profit organization. This means that you cannot write any donations to Lions clubs off on your taxes. Everyone that has a bank account should have an EIN number, if not you better contact the IRS. When you file for the forms to the IRS they will give you your EIN number. IF you want to contact them it is IRS

Mail Stop 6271EO

P.O. Box 9941

Ogden, Utah 84409

Once you have an EIN number contact the post office and they will issue this packet of regulations that cover your bulk mail for the sight seals. What they look for is they want your EIN number and the number that is used by Lions International. You cannot use Lions Clubs Internationals EIN number your club must have its own. The post office is going to want a copy of your clubs constitution and by laws. They are going to want to see some reports on how you distribute your money throughout the year. You can use your M&A if written on the bottom of the form. Every club should have their own EIN number. Clubs are not required to file a 990. If your club doesn't earn over \$25,000 a year. If you earn over \$25,000 a year then your club must file a Federal Income Tax Form. So if your club is ever called in by the IRS you better have an EIN number. One other point you cannot use your PA sales tax exemption number. Every club under the state blanket can use the sales tax exempt number. No club should be paying sales tax for items bought for a fundraiser. Our sales tax number is good until July 31, 2004.

### Committee Reports

**Beacon Lodge Chair Tom Hurrell (written report)**

The Beacon Lodge team has been out in the District with a slide presentation. We have been out since October 3 and are continuing to date. We started with 61 slides and have added an additional 47 slides for a total of 108 slides. If any clubs want the slide presentation call me or Lion Mike Vudragovich or Lion Dennis McCarthy, will come out to you.

The Beacon Lodge camp team of Lions Mike, Dennis and Tom participated at the winter retreat this past December 6 through December 8. Friday morning we traveled by bus to Hoss's Restaurant for dinner, went Christmas shopping at Super Walmart, went to a farm for a hay ride in the early evening and then back to camp for lunch and an evening of decorating the Christmas tree. Each camper placed one ornament on the tree and then expressed their personnel Christmas wish.

Saturday morning included making Christmas cards, wrapping Christmas gifts they bought the day before at Walmart and rehearsing Christmas carols. Immediately after the noon meal, Campers boarded a bus and traveled to an old age home to entertain the patients with Christmas carols they rehearsed that morning. Arriving back at camp they were greeted with a full Christmas dinner with all the trimmings, following dinner, a Christmas pajama party was held with each camper sitting on Santa's lap to receive a gift and to tell what they were thankful for. Following the gift exchange the fun began with lots of music, dancing and food. Sunday morning was a pancake breakfast followed by the camper's departure for home. There is no way I can put into words the sum total of that "Hands-on" experience.

Sylvan And Maxine Lang are trying to get a bus tour of Beacon Lodge Camp for Lions Appreciation Day on July 20. Another important day is May 10, Lions Night with the Pirates. We need to go and sell tickets for Pirate night because we might lose state appropriation which is about 20 %. Money from the sale of tickets (4.00 per ticket) goes to Beacon Lodge to cover expenses.

April 4, 5, 6 is a work weekend for work on the grounds. An article will be in the Governor's newsletter with more details. We need to go back to your clubs to solicit help for this event. Our next District project is going to be the renovation of District 14-B dormitory. They are in bad shape. Discussion on cost of renovation of the dormitory is approximately \$3,600.00 per cabin for materials and there are 4 cabins.

#### **Convention Chair Chris Tognarine**

Absent. Report given by DG Ken.

Committee appointments for PA State Convention at Genetti Hotel in Williamsport, PA. So far on resolutions committee-PID Carl Battistone

Elections Committee-Lion Barb Schimmel, Lion Dennis McCarthy

Registration Committee-IPDG Mike Vudragovich

Rules Committee-PDG Jack Schimmel

Anyone going to the convention that would like to be on a committee let DG Ken know

House of Delegates Appointment

PDG Harold Fletcher term 1-1-01 to 1-31-03

PDG Pauline Waide term 1-1-02 to 12-31-04

IPDG Mike Vudragovich term 1-1-03 to 12-31-05

#### **Diabetes Awareness Chair Clarence Thomas**

No report.

#### **Blind Bowlers Chair Richard Keller (written report)**

The 2003 Keystone Blind Bowlers Tournament is just two weeks away. This year the tournament will be held on February 21, 22, & 23, 2003. The bowling will be held at the Noble Manor Lanes on Noblestown Road in Greentree. The Greentree Holiday Inn will be the site for the banquet. This year the District 14-B has been asking that each club donate \$50.00 to help in the financial support of the tournament. To date 28 clubs have donated for a total of \$1,525.00.

Also each region will be responsible for supplying the man power Lions, Lioness, Leos or volunteers from the community for scoring and pin spotting on the assigned dates and times. Each club should have the times. Times will be given upon request.

There will be approximately 135 bowlers at this year's tournament, so I hope to see everyone there.

#### **MERLO Team Chair Richard Keller (written report)**

I am going to summarize the reports for Membership, Extension, Retention, and Leadership.

The MERL team has made their presentation at Region III joint zone meeting on Nov. 19 and at the Region II joint meeting on Jan. 20. All regions in the District have had the overview training from the MERL team. Our membership is important-membership starts with leadership. The MERL team is planning a District officer training and new member orientation on Saturday, May 3, 2003 at the Western PA School for the Blind. Information has been put in the Governor's newsletter and more information will be coming in the next few months. More explanation by Lion George Burgess Leadership Development. The date of training is May 3, 2003 at the Western PA School for the Blind from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30p.m. Training will be for club officers, District officers and new member orientation. In addition we are going to have the chairmen set up booths for the District projects and an area set up from club fundraising projects. I will be in contact with chairs of committees for help. This is essential to inform the new members of what the District does. There is no cost. There will be a continental breakfast, snacks and door prizes. Flyers will be mailed out to everyone in the District. Registration is required as soon as possible. We need pre-registration call me at (412) 241-4200 ext. 115. Leave your name. We could use any items from clubs as give aways, Let me know.

Additional comments by VDG Rich Keller. We want all Cabinet Officers and all club Officers to attend this training.

Under membership DG Ken comments on two clubs Swissvale and West Deer which are both in trouble of folding. Membership in District 14-B is 1,298 members. We need to recruit new members.

**Youth outreach Coordinator Doris Irr (written report)**

Excused. The Monroeville Leo Club at Gateway High School completed service project including: playing bingo with elderly residents and providing prizes at the Cedars assisted living facility during the months of November and January, In December, Leos assembled 30 teen gift baskets that were donated to the "Every Child Inc. A charity for teens in foster care program. Items included duffel bags, school supplies, toiletries and various other items. Leos raised \$30 from wrapping tips at the Zainy Brainy toy store, Leos counted change on February 4 at the United Mitochondrial Foundation in Plum, PA. Change was collected in jugs at the Saint Bernadette School for their fundraiser and Leos sorted and counted approximately \$1000., Leos made a \$25 donation to the Blind Bowler tournament., Secretary Liz Irr volunteered at the Radio Information Services as a reader on the Saturday Morning Post Gazette Show with Mike Schwab.

Comments by DG Ken: With all the other school districts in this Lion area the local Lions clubs should be going into the schools to try and start a Leo's club.

**Hearing Conservation Coordinator and Hearing Research Chair Richard Costello (written report)**

Our District 14-B hearing foundation continues to help those in need in the Greater Pittsburgh area. We need all clubs to consider a donation of support. Also, Pennsylvania Lions Hearing Research Fund requests your donations of \$100.00 or less to continue work on hearing related investigation and studies. As Lions we should consider meeting with church groups to explain our motto WE Serve. This might help to bolster membership and demonstrate Lionism in action.

**Center for Hearing Speech Deaf Services Chair Alison Weber (written report)**

Since my last report, one person is in the process of receiving a reconditioned hearing aid. If anyone has a candidate for the District 14-B Lions Club Fund, please call me at work (412) 281-1375. Unfortunately, I do not deep any information at home. A copy of a letter to be sent to the clubs is on file seeking financial support for the Center for Hearing and Deaf Services.

**Western PA Lions Hearing Foundation Chair PID Carl Battistone (written report)**

The Western PA Lions Hearing Foundation last met on October 27, 2002 at the Eye and Ear Institute. The meeting scheduled for January 26, 2003 was cancelled. The next meeting will occur in April. Requests for assistance seem to be increasing. The only way we can continue to function is through the generous donations of the Lions Club in the six Lion Districts of Western PA. The Foundation thanks all the clubs for their generous donations in the past and requests that you remember us when you allocate your donations this year.

**Leader Dog Chair James Engel (written report)**

Since the last Cabinet meeting, I've spoken to a number of clubs about Leader Dog School for the Blind. As of December 31, 2002 twelve clubs from District 14-B contributed a total of \$7,025 to the Leader Dog School. I have more clubs scheduled to visit in the next couple of months.

**District Phone Auditor Chair Dave Finley**

Absent. No Report,

VDG Rich Keller comments on phone audits past problems have been taken care of and we are up to date.

**Information Technology Chair Jim Hartman**

Absent. No Report

**International Understanding Co-op Chair Joseph Julian**

Excused. No Report.

**Newsletter Editor Gail Titus**

Gail updated her desktop publishing program and she can now save the newsletter in PDF format. Those who have computers and Internet can have the newsletter sent to them. If you have Adobe Reader. My plan is to send the next newsletter as a PDF document to those whose e-mail is in the directory and you can look at it and think about it. Decide whether you want it thru e-mail or in print not both. The District can save on

postage (\$74.00 a month) and copying costs. I would like to place an article in the next newsletter asking people if they would like to get their newsletter as an e-mail document.

**PA Lions Foundation Chair Sylvan Lang (written report)**

The Lions of PA Foundation meeting was held at the Johnstown Holiday Inn on Saturday, February 2 at 8:30a.m. A few things that were brought up about the Lions Candy Day. I do have information about it. The zone chairmen can see me for more information. In this District there are 31 fellows in 14 clubs. If anyone is interested in becoming a PA Lions Fellow let me know and I will come to your club and explain the fellows and other programs in the Foundation.

To answer PDG Jack Schimmel's remarks about for and not for profit. Lions of PA Foundation will accept checks that are going to your club. Make checks payable to Lions of PA Foundation, we will sent the money back to you as soon as the check clears it takes about two weeks .If you have a company that wants to make a donation large or small make it out to the Lions of PA Foundation then they will return it back to your club. This way that donation is tax deductible. It is a 5013c foundation. There are no fees for this service. Contact me and I will make all the arrangements.

Each club that has a PA Fellow will receive a patch for their banner. Also each fellow will receive a rocker that they can put on their jacket when they become a VDG, DG, or PID and they will receive a sticker for their car.

**Parliamentarian PDG Jack Schimmel**

No report

**State Council Report PDG Jack Schimmel**

Every band director in the state has received the application for the all state band. It will only cost the student \$395.00 the state picks up the balance. It is worth while experience for the student. If you know any band directors the State is looking for an All State Band director from the western part of the state.

The next item discussed at the State Council meeting was the ballot for the State Convention. There are four items that will be voted on at the State Convention this year. One we will be voting on a resolution to limit the voting of the members of State Council. Right now the constitution is very loose and open ended. The resolution will be changed that the council chairman and the eighteen District governors will take the advisory out of the loop and spell that out in the constitution change. Along with that we look to create the position of Protocol chairman at the Sate level in the constitution. That is an individual that is responsible to make sure everything is in place at State meetings that Dignitaries are properly greeted and to take care of them when thy are here. Along with that are the duties that are outlined in the by-laws that should be addressed. Finally the fourth item will be to make Beacon Lodge a State project. It will be placed on the ballot for acceptance as a State project along with others. We have the Hearing Foundation, Sight Foundation, PA Foundation, and Leader Dog are considered State projects. This will make the fifth project if passed at the State convention. Along with that 14-B will be voting for District Governor and Vice District Governor this year. As you know we are the only District in the State that does not have a mini convention we do our voting at the State convention.

The USA/Canada Forum will be held September 18-20 in Portland Oregon. The title is "Gateway to Leadership" this will be a very informative forum. Four good days of intense training about Lionism. See PDG Mike Vudragovich for a brochure and application. It is a worthwhile experience attended by well over three thousand. Comments by PDG Pauline Waide the International Convention in Denver Colorado, June 30-July 4, 2003. The PA hotel is the Marriott Denver City Center. The International parade is Tuesday, July 1, PA breakfast is Thursday July 3 at 6:30 a.m., and PA Hospitality Night is Wednesday, July 2 at 7p.m. More information sees PDG Pauline Waide. Breakfast tickets with the Governor available at \$18.00 each. Continuing with the State Council PDG Jack Schimmel the next item at the State Council meeting discussed is we are looking for an Extension chair at the state level, a three year appointment. If interested see the Governor.

The State Convention will be at Williamsport May 15-19. Convention is changing there is no longer a President's seminar but an Officer's seminar. There will also be fundraiser seminars. Seminars will be on Friday and Saturday. A parade will be Saturday.

The VDG will be looking for help this fall because we will be hosting the State Council meeting in February, 2006.

Last item is the \$15.00 dues increase over the three years by Lions Club international. State Council voted to support the increase by a vote of 13-5. Amount of increase is as followed 2002-2003-\$ 4.75

2003-2004-\$4.95

2004-2005-\$5.90

For a total of \$15.00.

Questions regarding dues increase. International has cut their budget by more than 8 million the past two years and let go of over 100 employees. they are down under 300 employees.

Comments also made by PID Carl Battistone on previous convention voting on dues increase and the present situation at the Lions International.

FYI \$1.50 of State dues can come out of you clubs activities funds because the band is a State project so you can take it out of clubs activities funds instead out of dues funds. State dues are \$13.00-\$1.50 of that goes to the State Band which is a State project since it is a State project you can raise funds from it and take the money \$1.50 a member out of activities fund instead of your administrative fund.

Comments by VDG Rich Keller

It comes down to the fact that membership has dropped and income has dropped not only at the State but also the International Level. Now they are \$8 million in debt and they must cut their budget. If this doesn't pass this time then they will be trying again next year in between this they may cut services because of the debt increase.

#### **IPDG/LCIF/Long Range Planning Mike Vudragovich(written report)**

The Long Range Planning Committee met on Monday, January 6, 2003. At that time applications were reviewed and selections made for the PA Counselors and District 14-B Counselor awards. A letter of endorsement was received from the White Oak Lions Club unanimously endorsing VDG Rich Keller as candidate for District Governor for the Lions year 2003-2004. A letter of endorsement was also received for the Pittsburgh Deaf/Blind Lions Club unanimously endorsing Lion Dennis McCarthy as candidate for Vice- District Governor for the Lions year 2003-2004.

The Long Range Planning Committee has reviewed their endorsements and qualifications and wholeheartedly supports their candidacies. Their nominations and endorsement by the full cabinet will be taken up under new business.

I just wish to add my congratulations at this time, as I know that you both will do an outstanding job.

Those that were here at our November cabinet meeting saw the van and truck that the District was able to purchase for Pittsburgh Vision Services with the support of a grant from LCIF. The final closeout report was submitted to LCIF on December 14, 2002. I then received a letter dated January 8, 2003 from LCIF commending the District for undertaking this project and acknowledging that the project is now complete. I am turning over a copy of the application, supporting documents and closeout letter to the District for its files.

Because of the economy and hard times not just in the US, but also around the world, contributions to LCIF are down this year by about 30%. However, the needs are still there. I encourage all Cabinet members to get the word out to their clubs to consider becoming contributing members to LCIF for \$20 per year. In that way your club supports the ongoing vital work of LCIF.

Also, as a way to recognize a hard working Lion in your club, present the Lion with a Melvin Jones Fellow. We also have a number of clubs that have made contributions to LCIF but have not reached \$1000. I do have a list and can tell you how much more your club needs to be able to present this award to someone from your club. Remember, the MJF is not restricted solely to Lions. You can present the award to an outstanding citizen in your community who is not a Lion as well.

#### **USA/Canada Leadership Forum Report IPDG Mike Vudragovich**

The 27<sup>th</sup> USA/Canada Leadership Forum will be held in Portland, Oregon, from September 18 to 20, 2003. The theme for this year's forum is "Innovations: The Gateway to Leadership".

I encourage all Lions to attend a Forum. It is a great opportunity not only to hear some fantastic, dynamic, motivational speakers, but also to meet other Lions from across the USA and Canada. You'll also have the opportunity to hear Lions speakers, exchange ideas and meet many of the officers of our association. It is a great learning experience and motivational tool. Besides that, Portland is a beautiful city. There are brochures and application for the forum for anyone who needs them. Registration fee is \$160.00.

**Public Relations Chairperson Eileen Markowitz**

Absent. No Report

Comments from DG Ken: We need better public relations about Lions Clubs.

**Sight Conservation Coordinator Jason Altmire (written report)**

Thank you to the clubs in 14-B that returned the questionnaire about eyeglass collection efforts. The Lions of 14-B collected over 30,000 eyeglasses each year and donate them to the needy. I plan to publicize this number in the media and hopefully partner with a local organization to run an eyeglass collection weekly or monthly. I'm also collecting examples of community volunteers that have helped the cause, and plan to publicize them in the coming months. Examples include a special education student in Shaler who collected 150 pairs and delivered them to Lens Crafters, and an Eagle Scout in Springdale who is running a collection effort with his troop.

I plan to visit many of the clubs in 14-B in the coming months to discuss sight programs and eyeglass collection

I tried to work with Giant Eagle but they are not interested. We will find another business to work with.

**White Cane Chair Jason Altmire**

No Report

Comments by DG Ken Lloyd

Report from State Council meeting for District 14-B. PA Sight Conservation/Eye Research Foundation summary of contributions from 8-31-02 to 1-31-03 only two clubs have donated. McCandless \$200.00 and Oakland \$100.00. Under White Cane the preliminary report raised so far in multi district 14 is \$10,000 reported. Only 18 clubs out of 52 clubs have reported to the State White Cane Chair.

**Eye Prosthesis Chair PDG Robert Friend (written report)**

The Western Districts of Multiple 14 has one eye prosthesis from Mr. Walter T. Tillman for a needy person this year. Western Districts are the 6 local Districts F, N, B, E, M, & J. This will leave the Western Districts with one "free eye" for the balance of this year. Mr. Tillman will give us a discount, if we should need his service beyond the free eye he will give us this year. If you or your club knows of a needy person who needs help. Please talk to the DG or myself.

**Pittsburgh Vision Service Chair Mary Beth Chester (written report)**

Lions Clubs of District 14-B continue to send donations to our agency. Our continue thanks to all of you. PVS is in the process of developing a new case management system which would enable individuals who utilize our services to enter through our "door" and make sure each person understands all services available to them. This is also including a new database system

District received a letter from a gentleman with diabetes retinopathy who is requesting support for a purchase of a jumbo braille (new or used). Passed on to District 14-B PVS is gathering information. Jumbo Braille research New \$700.00 "Used \$250.00

Center for Creativity Play the Pittsburgh Deaf Blind Lions appreciated the donations that are starting to come in. If anyone needs a coin book see me. The Pittsburgh Deaf/Blind Club had an art auction as a fundraiser and raised about \$2000.00 for The Center for Creative Play.

Discussion held on purchasing the used Jumbo Braille and Sam DePiero stated that if the braille doesn't work properly that he will fix it for free.

VDG Rich Keller made a motion to purchase the braille for \$250.00 from the District Lions Contingency Fund for the cost of the jumbo braille if it operational and repaired by Lion Sam. Second by Lion Jim Brubaker. Motion passed.

**Radio Informational Services Chair Sam Depiero (written report)**

Earlier I mentioned the Radio Information Service would move its studios and offices to the Pittsburgh Vision Services. It was on hold for a while but the move will happen soon. The rent at Birmingham Towers has been rising over the years and when we move the rent will decrease \$3,000 a month, a substantial savings.

Several weeks ago I received a call from a woman who wanted information about blind and low vision groups in the area. I gave her the information and asked if she was using information services in the area.

She said that she used the library for the blind for books and had gone to PVS in Bridgeville. I asked her if she missed reading newspapers and magazines and she said that she did. I gave her information about RIS and the information that she needed to get our services. Evidently our services at RIS are not getting out to the people who need it. I have here the new program guide which I would like to pass out to all zone chairs so that they can show and talk about RIS service to clubs at their visit.

**Western PA School for the Blind Chair Robert Cass (written report)**

As chairman of this committee I submit the following report. I wish to thank all the clubs that have supported me this year by their generous toddlers program. The toddler program which is a family oriented program that the school presents and is a rarity because there is one or two schools in the US that present such a program. "I am glad we took it on as a project and I hope for your continued support. The following clubs have supported me since the beginning of the year, Gibsonsia-Hampton-Richland, Versailles, and Grandview. For a total of \$750.00 just this year. "I have the material to represent a program to any club in the District if you need a speaker for your club meeting, including a brand new tape that the school has put out which last approximately 12 minutes.

The school's new building a, a youth center will be opening. This youth center will have a day when they present it to the public but I have been discussing having a Lion's Day so it can be presented to the Lions Clubs maybe in the spring. It is also my hope that the Christmas tree sale will be held in the 2003 Christmas season.

**Tail Twister/Time Keeper Chair James Emery**

No Report.

**Coordinator of District Activities Barb Schimmel (written report)**

Reporting on today's function. This the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cabinet Meeting of the Lions year 2002-2003. The Melvin Jones Fellow Breakfast has become a custom in this District starting back in the 1980's to honor all of the Melvin Jones Fellows.

Approximately 169 invitations have been sent to the Melvin Jones Fellows. There are only 24 MJF present for this breakfast. There are 19 Cabinet members and guests represented for a total of 43. I am bringing to the attention of this Cabinet that the Melvin Jones Fellow Breakfast is not a "District Event" as compared to the Fall Rally and Spring Party. The aforementioned have policy in the District manual, for guidelines and structure.

Serving as coordinator for the District on several cabinets, I have been confused as to exactly what are the guidelines for this event. Therefore, I am asking this Cabinet to ask the Long Range Planning Committee to review this event and discuss if the Melvin Jones Fellow Breakfast should or should not be a District Event. The next event is the District Spring Party, Saturday, April 26, 2003. at the Holiday Inn, RIDC Park. Sorry I do not have the cost breakdown as of this date, but full detailed information will be in the March newsletter.

Final Cabinet meeting is June 1, 2003 at the Western PA School for the Blind.

Motion made by VDG Rich Keller that we send the request by the Coordinator of District Activities to Long Range Planning for later consideration about the policy for the Melvin Jones Breakfast. Second by Maryann Dayton. Motion Passed.

**New Business**

**Nomination for District Governor**

PDG Sylvan Lang, a member of the White Oak Lions Club, nominated VDG Richard Keller for the position of District Governor. He stated that VDG Rich joined the Dravosburg Lions Club in 1980. Unfortunately Dravosburg Club is no longer with us. VDG Rich has held various positions on the Cabinet since 1984 and various offices in the Dravosburg Lions Club. In 1994 he transferred to the White Oak Lions Club and held various offices. He is also very active in the community. PDG Sylvan then presented VDG Richard Keller as a candidate for District Governor.

PDG Robert Friend gave the seconding speech. He stated that when he was District Governor that VDG Rich was his VDG. VDG Rich was then the First VDG that the District had. VDG Rich has worked hard with the Blind Bowlers. Thank you for all your past work and I would like to second the motion.

Motion passed. Comments by VDG Rich. He would like to thank everyone for their vote of confidence and I hope to lead District 14-B like the other PDG's have.

#### **Nomination for VDG**

Lion Mary Beth Chester, a member of the Pittsburgh Deaf-Blind Club nominated Lion Dennis McCarthy for the position of Vice District Governor. Lion Dennis is a charter member of the Pittsburgh Deaf-Blind Club. He has held various offices in the club. He received the 100% President Award. Lion Dennis has served on the Cabinet in 14-B since 1996 in various positions. Lion Mary Beth Chester then presented Lion Dennis McCarthy as a candidate for Vice District Governor. Lion Jim Brubaker seconded the nomination. Motion passed.

#### **VDG Rich Keller Comments**

This year at the Lions Diabetes Center at UPMC McKeesport Hospital will be celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Lions of Region 2 will be having our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Lion Auction to benefit the Lion Diabetes Center at UPMC McKeesport this fall. It will be held on Saturday, October 4, 2003. Motion made by Rich Keller for endorsement that it is ok to do and to solicit other clubs for donations. Second by Jim Brubaker. Motion passed.

#### **Old Business**

DG Ken stated again this District is not supporting VOSH. We as a District support LCIF. Comments by PDG Jack Schimmel that VOSH is a good organization but it is the people that are running it at state level. Let the governor know if your club has been solicited. The State would like to know because the District is on file with the state because of a letter sent to state and VOSH. According to state policy they cannot come into District 14-B.

Audit has not been completed. Books are supposed to be audited by November. DG Ken will request books from Cabinet Treasurer PDG Harold to audit within the next 30 days. Audit to be completed within 30 days.

#### **DG Remarks**

Need to increase membership. Need to get M&A and M&M in. See that we ask our clubs to donate to the Center of Creative Play and W.PASB Toddler Program. Both are District projects.

#### **VDG Remarks**

None

#### **Remarks for Good of Lionism**

None

#### **Important Dates**

April 26, 2003- Districts Governors Spring Party, Holiday Inn, RIDC Park O'Hara Township

Would like to have a good turnout especially from the northern clubs Cheswick-Springdale, Tarentum, McCandless, etc.

May 15-18-State Convention Williamsport,PA

June 1, 2003-Cabinet Meeting Western PA School for Blind Children

#### **In Closing**

Motion to adjourn by IPDG Mike Vudragovich. Second by Rich Keller. Motion passed.

Benediction by PDG Bob Johnson Jr.

Meeting Adjourned 3:08 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Greg Borichevsky

Cabinet Secretary District 14-B