



Lions Breezes Thurmont Lions Club

Volume 113 – No 8 – February 2026
www.thurmontlionsclub.com



President Bill Reckley
"Pride in Service"

DG Martin Bonura
"Humble Lion Servant of
Western Maryland"

Hello Lions



Stay Warm and Safe



January 3rd Christmas Extravaganza (Contributed by Lion Don Keeney, Jr.)

We had a total of 54 attendees for the Christmas Extravaganza which raised over \$2,500 for the Gold Star Memorial fundraiser. Thanks to everyone who helped make this a success. Special thanks to Susan for making desserts and also special thanks to the scouts for helping to park vehicles.

Candy Bar Fundraiser (Contributed by Lion Don Kenney, Jr.)

We still have lots of candy bars and the new chocolate cups (peanut butter, caramel and peppermint). Please contact Lions Doug or Don if you want any.

Thurmont Sweatshirts (Contributed by President Bill Reckley)



We were able to sell some sweatshirts, and we still have plenty of inventory on hand (and of course can always order more if needed). Members are encouraged to act as our extended sales force and to convince friends and family to support this fundraiser by getting these great sweatshirts designed by local artist John Nickerson (Gnarly Artly). The shirts are being sold for \$30 and can be picked up at meetings or can be delivered. We are also looking to have some local businesses help by displaying the shirts – more on that as we hear back.

February 11th Valentine's Day Party Fundraiser (Contributed by Lion Don Keeney, Jr.)

We will have a fundraising dinner at the February 11th Lions meeting benefitting the club's Administrative Account. Food will be prepared and donated by Lions Doug, Don and Susan. The menu will include Swedish meatballs, potato croquettes, Watergate salad, green beans and ham, biscuits, drinks and desserts. We will have gluten free options as well. The cost will be \$20 per person. The dinner will start at 6:00 pm and will be at the regular meeting location, St. John Lutheran Church. **Please RSVP to Lions Doug or Don if you will be attending.**



Visitations(Contributed by Lion Joyce Anthony)

To date only one visitation has been performed, and we have only five months remaining. If possible, ask a new Lion to join you so they can learn the importance of doing visitations. After you complete your visitation, you must go back to the club and give an oral report on

what you learned, what ideas you can share from their visit, etc. All visitations must be completed no later than May 31, 2026.

2nd VDG Service Challenge (Contributed by Lion Joyce Anthony)

The 2nd VDG Service Challenge encouraged clubs to participate in a service activity suitable for the club benefiting a family or families with unfortunate circumstances leaving them in need of food. The challenge was focused from January 3 through January 11, 2026.

The Thurmont Lions Club donated numerous items to the Veteran’s Homeless Shelter in DC. A load of goods was presented to Ted Nettles of Patriot Guard for delivery. These donations included many varieties of food items (e.g., tuna fish, cups of soup, water, snacks, canned meats, etc.).



American Heritage, Preservations and Patriotism Essay Contest (Contributed by Lion Maxine Troxell)

The Thurmont Lions Club received 35 essays. Lions Tim Stuart and Maxine Troxell judged the essays on Friday, January 30, 2026 . *Listed below are the winners.*

Elementary School (Grades 1-5)

Essay Topic: *What if the Declaration of Independence has a secret code leading to hidden treasurer? Where do you think it would be hidden and why?*

Winner: Silas Wahl – Sabillsville Environmental School

Middle School (Grades 6-8)

Essay Topic: *Imagine you are a colonist, write what you think about the Declaration of Independence.*

Winner: Julia Marl – Sabillasville Environmental School

Winning entries were based on creativity and originality

3rd^d VDG Service Challenge (Contributed by Lion Joyce Anthony.)

The 3rd VDG's Service Challenge is "Random Acts of Kindness" (RAK) for the period January 10 through March 21, 2026. The challenge is for each club member to perform one or more RAK. All Lions are welcome to join the movement and make the world better. Attached is a list of various RAK you can perform. You can always use any of your own.



Please report your Random Acts of Kindness to Secretary, Lion Joyce Anthony no later than March 16, 2026 for submission to the VDG's.

Thank you for serving the club and letting other Lion members know you care.

National Law Enforcement Day (Contributed by Lions Joyce Anthony/Debbie Schray)

National Law Enforcement Day is always held in January. This is a time for communities to show support for police officers by wearing blue, sending notes or displaying blue lights. The purpose of this day is to thank officers for their sacrifices. The Thurmont Lions Club purchased various items of food for their snack bar to show our appreciation for how much they are appreciated. All of the staff was thankful for our support and kindness.

A thank you to Lion Joyce Anthony for delivering the food items to honor the Thurmont police.

Bingo (Contributed by Lion Sharon Morgan)

On Sunday, March 22, 2026, the club will host a FILLED BASKET and CASH BINGO. If you would like to donate money to help fill a basket or provide a dessert to be raffled, please contact Sharon Morgan at 301-748-0159. We are also looking for volunteers to help on Sunday afternoon to sell raffle tickets, 50/50, additional games and specials, King Tut and Tip Jars.



We wanted to try something new this year, so we are hosting our first AFTERNOON bingo with a \$1,000 Bingo Special CASH PRIZE! To make this a success, we need your support.

Please consider donating your time to help us raise money for the community.

Leader Dog Banquet (Contributed by Lios Joyce Anthony)

The Region III Leader Dog Banquet will be hosted by the FSK Lions Club on April 29, 2026. More information to follow.

Thurmont Business Expo (Contributed by Lion Gayle DiSalvo)

Annual Thurmont Business Expo – The event will be held on April 25, 2026 at the Thurmont Event Complex from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. The theme this year is Glitz and Glamour. The committee will be meeting soon so please send me any ideas. Lion Gayle DiSalvo is chairing the event along with committee members Lions Sandy Duley and Nancy Echard.



The club will have a table decorated with the theme. Everyone is invited to stop by the table and help to promote the Thurmont Lions Club. There will be fundraiser items for sell and information about the club to let the public know that the Thurmont Lions Club exists and what we are doing. Hopefully, this will be a good avenue to attract new prospective members. Please invite your friends, family and neighbors.

Eyeglass Collection Report (Contributed by Lion Sandy Duley)

We continue to receive a large supply of eyeglasses. In December 2025, we collected 101 pairs of eyeglasses, two boxes of contact lenses, 22 pairs of sunglasses, two hearing aids, 3 hearing aid cases and 69 eyeglass cases. There are five drop-off boxes: Mountain Gate Restaurant, Thurmont Regional Library, Med 1 Pharmacy, Goodwill and the Thurmont Senior Center. There is also a collection box at Lewistown United Methodist Church. A huge thank you to all who contribute to this worthy cause.

Youth Night (Contributed by Lion Joyce Anthony)

The program for the February 25th Membership meeting is Youth Night. This is an evening the club recognizes the Leo of the Year from the Catocin High, Thurmont Middle and Sabillasville Environmental Schools; recognition of the Peace Poster and the American Heritage Essay winners. Other recognitions, as appropriate, may be included. PDG Nadja Muchow is chairperson for the Youth Night program.

Barter Night (Contributed by Lion Joyce Anthony)

Gather your goodies now!! The Thurmont Lions Club Barter Night will take place on March 25th at St. John Lutheran Church. This is basically the club’s only fundraiser to subsidize the Administrative Account which supports the operation of the club. With that said, this is your chance to bring something to the meeting you would like auction off to the highest bidder. This could be anything you would like form a delicious baked item to a nice decorative item. The possibilities are endless. Simles are cheap, welcomed and helps everyone to have a fun time. Homemade items such as food are a big seller. Hope to see you on March 25th with a big smile and some nice barter items. The club needs your support.

Thurmont Middle School Leo Club
Catoctin High School Leo Club
Sabillasville Environmental School Leo Club
"Leadership, Experience, Opportunity"

Roaring Leos

Catoctin High School Leo Club
Thurmont Middle School Leo Club
Sabillasville Environmental School

(Contributed by Lion Joyce Anthony)



If you learn about an illness or tragic happening affecting one of our LION Club members or families, please contact a member of the TLC Sunshine Committee with the information - Committee Chair Lion Joyce Anthony, 301-606-7873 or jananny@comcast.net; Lion Gayle DiSalvo, 240-446-5204 or gaylerad46@gmail.com or Lion Julie El-Taher, 301-788-0855 or jules6998@icloud.com. Caring and concern for our fellow members is a very important part of our life together as Lions.

Prayer for our TLC Members, friends and family who are in need of prayer and support during their illness and recovery:

*May you be wrapped up in God's love. Found deep in his everlasting wings. Carried and kept, safe and cherished. We come before You today in need of your healing hand. In You all things are possible. Hold our hearts within yours and renew our minds, bodies and souls. We are lost, **but we are singing.** You gave us life and you also gave us the gift of infinite joy. Give us the strength to move forward on the path you've laid out for us. Guide us toward better health, and give us the wisdom to identify those you've placed around us to help us get better. In your name we pray. AMEN*

Those with Acute Needs for our prayers:

- PDG Nadja Muchow fell and has a broken collar bone

Those requiring continued prayers and support:

- Lions Joann Cannada, Ross Smith, Jr., PDG Paul Cannada

Sympathy thoughts and prayers:

You hold time within your hands, and see it all, from beginning to end. Please keep and carry these precious people in their sadness and loss. Cover them with your great wings of love; give their weary hearts rest and their minds sound sleep. Lord, lift their eyes so that they may catch a glimpse of eternity, and be comforted by the promise of heaven. We ask this in the precious name of Jesus. Amen

- John Ruppel – Lion Tom Ruppel's father

Prayer for TLC Family and their members who are serving our country:

Heavenly Father, thank you that you defend your people with your mighty hand. Please hear my prayer as I lift up our military and veterans before you now. They work tirelessly to defend our country. Bless and protect them Lord and use their work for the good of our nation and your glory. May they know your presence with them at this time. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with them always. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, AMEN.

We pray for:

Ethan Wienholt (Marines) – Grandson of Lion Hank Schlitzer
Alex El-Taher (Navy) – Son of Lions David and Julie El-Taher
Jordon Volciak (Army) – Grandson of Lion Gayle DiSalvo



If there are other family members serving in the armed forces, please let Lion Bev Nunemaker know so that they too can be added to our prayer list.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Prayer for TLC Members Celebrating Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries this month:

Dear God, Your word says that through wisdom our days will be many. I thank You Lord for blessing me, and I thank You for the many years that I know have been added to my life! Lord, I choose to celebrate You as my heavenly Father, as well as this birthday or anniversary, for it is because of You that I have made it this far. I adore you with all my heart, soul and mind. AMEN!

Happy Birthday Lions

February Birthdays
1 – David El-Taher
10 – Russ Delauter

Happy Wedding Anniversary

February Wedding Anniversaries
None

Celebrating our Lion Members

The Thurmont Lions Club has proudly served our community and surrounding areas since 1929. The Thurmont Lions Club is a group of community-minded men and women who have come together to enjoy each other’s company, hear interesting programs and raise funds for important local or vision and community related causes. We are succeeding because we have embraced all those committed to building a brighter future for our community and ourselves. We celebrate the following Lions on their anniversary and years of service in our club and service to the Thurmont community –

February – Lion Russ Delauter - 56 years; Lions Doug Favorite, Ed Gills - 30 years; PDG Nadja Muchow - 29 years; Lion Julie Eiseman - 6 years

Congratulations Lions!

Important Notes and Reminders

Lions Club Social Media:

- Website – Lion Doug Favorite at doug.favorite@gmail.com or MaxineTroxell at mtroxell@verizon.net
- Facebook – Lion Marci Veronie at mveronie@avemco.com
- Lion Portal – Lion Susan Favorite at skfavorite@comcast.net
- SMS - Don Keeney, Jr. at donkeeneyjr@gmail.com

- If you need an updated copy of the Committees for 2025-2026, please contact Secretary Lion Joyce Anthony
- If you need a Visitation Schedule, please contact Lion Joyce Anthony
- If you are interested in purchasing Lions apparel, please contact Lion Marci Veronie
- If you have unwanted eyeglasses or hearing aids, please bring them to any meeting for Lions Bev Nunemaker and/or Sandy Duley OR place them in the collection boxes located at Goodwill Industries Med One Pharmacy, Thurmont Regional Library, Senior Center or Mountain Gate Restaurant
- TLC Directory – Please contact Lion Joyce Anthony

Please submit all articles for the monthly newsletter no later than the last meeting of the month or by the 25th of the month, whichever comes first, to Lion Joyce Anthony at jananny@comcast.net

Important “February” Dates (Wacky, Special and Holidays)

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|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1 – Freedom Day | 14 – Valentine’s Day |
| 2 – Ground Hog Day | 14 – Library Lovers Day |
| 3 – National Women’s Physicians Day | 15 -Susan B. Anthony Day |
| 4 – World Cancer Day | 16 – President’s Day |
| 5 – Weatherman’s Day | 17 – Random Acts of Kindness Day |
| 6 – Wear Red Day | 17 – Shrove Tuesday |
| 7 – Send a Card to a Friend Day | 18 – Ash Wednesday |
| 8 – Boy Scout Anniversary Day | 20 – Love Your Pet Day |
| 8 – Super Bowl Sunday | 20 – National Leadership Day |
| 12 – Lincoln’s Birthday | 22 – George Washington’s Birthday |
| 12 – NAACP Day | 27 – International Polar Bear Day |



“My mother once said: “Hate has 4 letters, but so does Love. Enemies have 7 letters but so does Friends. Lying has 5 letters but so does Truth. Cry has 3 letters but so does Joy. Negativity has 10 letters but so does Positivity. Life is 2 sided, choose the better side of it.”
“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted” -Aesop
“How do we change the world? One random act of kindness at a time” Morgan Freeman
“I could get lost in your arms and never be found” – Happy Valentine’s Day

Lion Breezes
Lion Joyce Anthony, Newsletter Editor
Remember – “It is better to give than to receive”



**All Membership Meetings - St. John Lutheran Church beginning 6:30 pm
 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED**

Thurmont Lions Club Calendar of Events 2025-2026
Please provide corrections/additions promptly to Lion Joyce – Updated February 2026

July 2025

- July 5 – Pit Sandwich Sale, Bell Hill
- July 9 – Membership Meeting – Program – Official Visit by DG
- July 9 – SES Leo Club Charter

July 16 – Board Meeting, Kountry Kitchen, 6:30 pm
July 19 – Change of Banner – Terra Rubra Lins Activities Building
July 23 – Membership Meeting – Held at Heroes Ridge

August 2025

August 2 – Pit Sandwich Sale, Bell Hill
August 2 – MD-22 LYF Meeting
August 5 – National Night Out (Police Dept) (6:00-7:30 pm)
August 13 – Membership Meeting – Discuss activities and share ideas
August 16 – 1st Cabinet Meeting – LaVale Fire Department
August 20 - Board Meeting, Kountry Kitchen, 6:30 pm
August 27 – Membership Meeting – Seton Center
August 30 – Pit Sandwich Sale – Bell Hill

September 2025

September 5-7 – Community Show – Membership Table
September 11 – 9/11 Memorial Celebration
September 10 - Membership Meeting – Thurmont Historical Society
September 17 – Board Meeting – Kountry Kitchen, 6:30 pm
September 18-20 – USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum / Atlantic City
September 24 – Membership Meeting – Club Picnic at Ole Mink Farm
September 27 – LVRF Aim for Sight

October 2025

October 1-31 – Cabinet Display at Thurmont Regional Library
October 4 – District 22-W Social, Dutch's Daughter
October 8 – Membership Meeting – Colorfest Setup
October 9-12 – Colorfest
October 15 – Board Meeting, Kountry Kitchen, 6:30 pm
October 22 – No Meeting
October 23 - Membership Meeting – Charter Night
October 25 – Halloween Movie Night – Community Park

November 2025

November 12 - Membership Meeting – Frederick Country 4-H Therapeutic Riding Club
November 15 – 2nd Cabinet Meeting – Hancock Community Center
November 19 – Board Meeting – Kountry Kitchen, 6:30 pm
November 19 – LVRF Vision Rally at Wilmer
November 22 – Bake Sale – Mountain Gate Restaurant – (9:00 am – 2:00 pm)
November 26 – No meeting (Thanksgiving Eve)

December 2025

December 10 – TLC Christmas Party
December 13 – Wreaths across America
December 17 - Board Meeting, Kountry Kitchen, 6:30 pm
December 24 – No Membership Meeting – Christmas Eve
December 25 – Christmas Day
December 31 – New Year's Eve

January 2026

January 1 - New Year's Day
January 10 – 3rd Cabinet Meeting – New Windsor Fire Department

January 13 – Melvin Jones Birthday
January 14 – Membership Meeting – Packages for Pediatric Cancer patients
January 21 – Board Meeting, Kountry Kitchen, 6:30 pm
January 28 – Membership Meeting – Mayor John Kinnaird

February 2026

February 11 – Membership Meeting – Meal provided by Doug, Don, Susan (Debbie trivial/games)
February 18 – Board Meeting, Kountry Kitchen, 6:30 pm
February 25 – Membership Meeting - Program: Youth Night



March 2026

March 11 - Membership Meeting – NO MEETING
March 12 – Joint Meeting with Emmitsburg at Carriage House
March 18 – Board Meeting, Kountry Kitchen, 6:30 pm
March 21 – 4th Cabinet Meeting – Terra Rubba Lions Club
March 25 – Membership Meeting – Barter Night

April 2026

April 8– Membership Meeting –
April 15 – Board Meeting, Kountry Kitchen, 6:30 pm
April 22 – Membership Meeting – Gettysburg Tour (Debbie Schray)
April 25 – Pit Sandwich Sale
April 25 – Thurmont Business Expo
April 29 – Leader Dog Banquet – Region III

May 2026

May 13 – Membership Meeting – Program: Wine event at Lion Debbie Schray’s house
May 14-17 – MD-22 Convention, Ashore Hotel, Ocean City
May 20 – Board Meeting, Kountry Kitchen, 6:30 pm
May 23 – Pit Sandwich Sale
May 27 – Membership Meeting – Program: Community/Education Night

June 2026

June 1 – Helen Keller Day
June 10 – Membership Meeting – Scout Night
June 17 – Board Meeting, Kountry Kitchen, 6:30 pm
June 24 – Membership Meeting – Installation of Officers, Membership Celebration

July 3-7 – LCI Convention, Hong Kong

July 4 – Pit Sandwich Sale

August 1 – Pit Sandwich Sale

September 5 – Pit Sandwich Sale

Thurmont Lions Club
Chartered: October 23, 1929





3rd VDG Service Challenge
January 10 – March 21, 2026