



Lions Breezes

Thurmont Lions Club

Volume 113 – No. 10 – April 2026
www.thurmontlionsclub.com



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"Pride in Service"

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"Humble Lion Servant of Western Maryland"

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www.thurmontlionsclub.com
www.facebook.com/thurmontlionsclub

 Meetings are held at:
 St John Lutheran Church
 Meet 2nd & 4th Wednesday
 at 6:30 pm



Hello Lions

Hopefully we can look forward to spring and put behind us what seemed like a cold and snowy winter. The Club welcomed the new season with our bingo fundraiser, and it was a great success. Many thanks to Lion Sharon Morgan for organizing the event and even bringing in family to help set up and to play. Thanks also to the many other members that donated baskets, staffed the food booth, sold cards and tickets, played and otherwise contributed to the event.

Spring also brings in other activities for the club that vary from big team fundraisers like the sandwich sales to smaller scale events (1-2 members) like the weekly Thurmont Farmer's Market. We have or will be sending out the sign-ups for these activities and hope we can get a variety of members to get involved. Regarding the sandwich sales, we know that there has been some uncertainties and speculations about the future of these events but can be thankful that they remain on track for the upcoming months. Thanks to Lions Doug and Susan Favorite for working out the details – all while having to deal with the many other challenges that come with their loss and dealing with the estate.

The events where we would like the club to be present as a reminder of our place in the community and to raise some additional money can often be supported with just one or two members. Some examples of these coming up include the Farmer's Market on Saturday mornings, the Thurmont Business Expo, the Thurmont Art and Wine Stroll (May 15th), and the American Legion's Artisan Markets. If you are aware of other festivals, markets or opportunities, please let me know and perhaps we can find a volunteer and support them as well. These are good opportunities for members to contribute with a reasonable level of effort provided the burden is shared.

Thanks to Lion Nancy Echard for doing the Farmer's Market in the past but looking forward, we would like to avoid a single member supporting every Saturday morning. Please let me know if you are interested in leading or supporting these upcoming efforts or by volunteering on SignUpGenius when a request for volunteers is mailed out to the club.

Another spring reminder that the club will be bringing back the Easter Egg Hunt on the afternoon of Easter Sunday. Please help if you can on that afternoon or in preparations such as filling the eggs. Lion Susan Favorite is leading the effort and scheduling the activities leading up to the big event.

Our first meeting in April will include a service element as we fill boxes to help Advocates for Homeless Families, as well as learn more about the organization from the Executive Director, Shiara Jackson. Please make an effort to attend.

President Bill Reckley
"Pride in Service"

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

We still have lots of candy bars, as well as our new spring collection of chocolate cups. Spring flavors include coconut cream (in milk or dark), cherry crème, orange crème, vanilla creme, strawberry creme and pina colada. Also, they will be available at all Lions events. Please contact Lions Doug Favorite or Don Keeney, Jr. if you want any. They are available only in the spring; so get them before they are gone.

Cleanup at Bell Hill – (Contributed by Lion Don Keeney, Jr.)

We will be doing the annual cleanup at Bell Hill on Saturday, April 11 beginning 8:30 am.



This should take just a few hours. We will be sweeping, setting up tables, stocking the drink cooler and getting everything ready for the first sale. If you have an hour or two to spare, please stop out and help.

The first sandwich sale will be on April 25th. The club will also be doing a big yard sale that day. We will need a few folks to set up the items on Friday and run the sale that Saturday. The signup for the yard sale is in the link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A45ACA828AAF85-62683891-april#/>

Visitations (Contributed by Lion Joyce Anthony)

We still have several visitations that need to be performed with only two months remaining in this Lions year. If possible, ask a new Lion to join you so they can learn the importance of

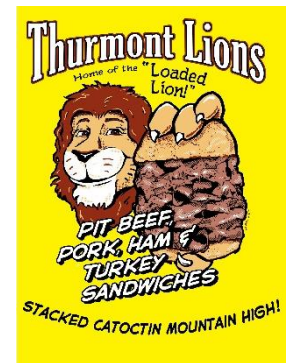
doing visitations. After you complete your visitation, you must go back to the club and give an oral report on what you learned, what ideas you can share from your visit, etc. All visitations must be completed no later than May 31, 2026. If you signed up to perform a visitation, please schedule a date with that club.

Scholarships (Contributed by President Bill Reckley)

Our club will again this year be awarding four \$1,000 scholarships to local students planning to attend college next year. One of the scholarships is the Vic Jagow continuing scholarship and for the fourth and final year will be provided to Michael LeGare to attend the nursing program at Frederick Community College. The three other scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors and applications are available from the Catoctin High School Guidance Department or by request by contacting Lion Bill Reckley. The applications must be returned by April 8th and the scholarships will be presented at the Community Night/Education Night planned for May 27th.

Summer Sandwich Sale Dates – Contributed by Lion Don Keeney, Jr.

The pit sandwich sales will be: April 25, May 23, July 4, August 1, and September 5. The signup sheets are below. These are some of our biggest fundraisers of the year and require lots of help, so please sign up.



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A45ACA828AAF85-62683891-april#/>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A45ACA828AAF85-62683896-may23rd#/>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A45ACA828AAF85-62683894-july#/>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A45ACA828AAF85-62683892-august#/>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A45ACA828AAF85-62683893-september#/>

American Heritage, Preservations and Patriotism Essay Contest (Contributed by Lion Joyce Anthony)

The Thurmont Lions Club was honored to have the 1st and 2nd place district essay winners from the Sabillasville Environmental School. They each received a bag of goodies and a monetary check.

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

1st Place District Winner: Julia Marl

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

2nd Place District Winner: Silas Wahl

(Pictured L-R: Julia Mari, SES; Lion Maxine Troxell; Silas Wahl, SES)



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

The 3rd VDG's Service Challenge was "Random Acts of Kindness" (RAK) for the period January 10 through March 21, 2026. The challenge was each club member perform one or more RAK. Forty-seven items were presented to the District for the Thurmont Lions Club. Thank you to all the members for taking the time to put other individuals before yourself to show how much you care.

Bingo (Contributed by Lion Sharon Morgan)

On Sunday, March 22, 2026, the club held our first filled basket bingo. It was a gamble, not knowing if Sunday bingo would go over well, but we took the chance. We needed a way to be competitive with the weekly bingos in the area; to get people in the door. We offered some incredible filled baskets as bingo prizes, two specials valued over \$800 each and a \$1,000.00 cash JACKPOT.

I am happy to report that the gamble paid off! We made a profit of \$5,740.01 after expenses, and we got some good ideas for our next bingo on November 15th.

I would like to thank everyone that helped make this event possible! Whether you bought or sold tickets, donated a basket or cash to make one, baked goodies to sale or raffle, working in the kitchen or



somewhere on the floor Sunday, we could not have done it without you! This was our most successful bingo to date. In fact, when I shopped



for tip jars and King Tutts, I thought I purchased enough for the bingo in November. Fortunately, I was wrong! Lions Don Ely, Tom Ruppel, Liz Ruppel and Corey Hodges-Chisholm selling their hearts out and Bill Reckley

< The \$1,000 cash prize was won by Joe Wehage.

jumped in to help.

We sold two 500 count King Tutts, along with eight other smaller games. Never have we sold ten tip jar games in one setting! Here is the breakdown:

Registration - \$3,330.69, Tip Jars - \$1,379.00, Kitchen - \$749.32
50/50 - \$200 and Raffles - \$81.00

Thank you again for all your support!

MARK YOU CALENDAR – The next TLC bingo will be November 15, 2026

Easter Egg Hunt (Contributed by Lion Susan Favorite)

We will be holding the Thurmont Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt - a 95-year club tradition, again this year. It will be Easter Sunday starting at 2:00pm — will be over by 2:10 pm most likely. I am also looking for someone to be the Easter Bunny (we have the outfit) and someone to wear the Lions costume. Please contact me. We will have over 1,000 eggs to hide - which will contain candy, money, certificates for prizes and little Easter toys. We will be stuffing the eggs on April 2nd at St. Paul Lutheran Church beginning 6:30 pm. **HELP IS NEEDED.**



Let your friends and neighbors know - we want a huge crowd to celebrate our return to service in this manner.

Fundraising Distribution Plan (Contributed by Lion Susan Favorite)

Our spring Fundraising Distribution Plan will be going out in April. If you have ideas for recipients that are not normally on our list, please let me know. There will be a note at the bottom reflecting the entities that have been given funds to date. We will most likely make the distribution of funds at our Community Night Program.

Eyeglass Collection Report (Contributed by Lion Sandy Duley)

We continue to receive a large supply of eyeglasses. In March 2026, we collected 33 pairs of eyeglasses, four pairs of sunglasses, one hearing aid and 30 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. I will be collecting the eyeglasses each month at the various locations. A huge thank you to all who contribute to this worthy cause.

Staffing Needed for Farmer's Market Table this Summer (Contributed by Lion Don Kenney, Jr.)

We would like to have 1-2 folks staff the club's table at the Farmer's Market this summer. These will be held every Saturday morning from May 23rd through September 26th, from 9 am-noon. This will involve setting up a small, fold-up table and selling our candy, shirts and whatever else we may be selling/raffling at the time. This is a very easy task and doesn't require much lifting. It is mainly sitting in a chair for 3 hours. The market is usually quite busy, and we typically do very well selling candy, etc. Below is the signup link for each Saturday. Please consider staffing one or several Farmer's Markets this summer to help the club raise funds and spread community awareness. Either Lions Don Kenney, Jr. or Joyce Anthony will provide the table and supplies.

Signup below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A45ACA828AAF85-63102955-farmers#/>

Leader Dog Banquet (Contributed by Lios Joyce Anthony)

The Region III Leader Dog Banquet will be held on April 29th hosted by the Middletown Lions Club at the Middletown AMVETS, AMVETS Valley Memorial Post #9, 408 W. Green Street, Middletown beginning 6:00 pm. The guest speaker will be Walker Jones along with his Leader Dog Loki. Lion Walker Jones is from Georgia and with Loki, he walks with strength, faith and a message the world needs to hear. He is a proud father, creator and educator who believes that life's greatest hardships can also become our greatest purpose.



Please RSVP no later than April 15th.

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 member Lion Sandy Duley.



The club will have a decorated table. 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.



Barter Night (Contributed by Lion Joyce Anthony)

The club's annual Barter Night was held on March 25, 2026. A huge thank you to all the



members that participated. The evening was very successful with lots of items to be auctioned by our auctioneer Lion David Crum. The club made a profit of \$408. Thank you Lion David for the great job being our outstanding auctioneer.

< (Pictured: Lion David Crum, Auctioneer)

Thurmont Community Parade - (Contributed by Lion Debbie Schray)

The 2026 Firemen's carnival is back to its original week that was for so many years! This year's carnival will be held July 6-11. The parade will still be on Thursday night, July 9th at 6:30 pm. Mark your calendars and save the date to participate in this wonderful event. It is such a privilege to represent the Thurmont Lions Club by riding on the float or walking along the parade route. The theme for our float is *250 Years of American Freedom* which celebrates the 250th signing of the Declaration of Independence.



I am honored to be selected to chair this worthy community outreach and help our club gain more recognition. We already have done a LOT of planning. The club will be passing out RED, WHITE and BLUE necklaces (120), three different kinds of bracelets (644) and small American flags (150) (which we will hand to people along the parade route). So, in all, we have ordered over 900 items! Plus, we have all the decorations for the float ordered. It is going to be GREAT!

I will need the help of a few Lions to make this successful.

ACTION ITEMS FOR LIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Start thinking about collecting candy to pass out (Easter sales)
2. A co-chairperson to help oversee the implementation of our plan. (I might move on or before July 9th)

Feel free to contact me to let me know if you are interested in helping. Thank you!

*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:

Those requiring continued prayers and support:

- Lions Joann Cannada, Ross Smith, Jr., Bev Nunemaker and 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

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 former 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 Joyce Anthony 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

April Birthdays
9 – Susan Favorite
12 – Cindy McGrew

Happy Wedding Anniversary

April 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 –

April – Lion Ross Smith, Jr. - 47 years; Lion Bob Johnson - 23 years; Lion David Crum - 4 years

Congratulations Lions!

Important Notes and Reminders

Lions Club Social Media:

- Website – Lion Doug Favorite at doug.favorite@gmail.com or Maxine Troxell 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 “April” Dates (Wacky, Special and Holidays)

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 – April Fool’s Day | 15 – Income Tax Day |
| 1 – National Walking Day | 19 – Bicycle Day |
| 5 - Easter | 22 – Earth Day |
| 5 – National Health Day | 23 – Lover’s Day |
| 7 – National Beer Day | 24 – Arbor Day |
| 10 – National Siblings Day | 28 – Kiss your Mate Day |
| 11 – National Pet Day | 30 Hairstyle Appreciation Day |
- Month: National Poetry; National Autism Awareness; Stress Awareness; Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention



“Taxes, death, childbirth – There is never any convenient time for any of them”- Margaret Mitchell
“Wise men talk because they have something to say; fools talk because they have to say something” – Plato
“Volunteers don’t get paid, not because they’re worthless, but because they’re priceless” – Sherry Anderson
“Happiness happens when we give it away” – Max Lucado
“Grief is the price you pay for love” -

Lion Breezes

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



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

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

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 - Speaker: Mayor John Kinnaird

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 22 – Bingo – Guardian Hose Company
- March 25 – Membership Meeting – Barter Night



April 2026

- April 5 – Easter
- April 5 – Easter Egg Hunt – Thurmont Community Park, 2:00 pm
- April 8– Membership Meeting – Shiara Jackson, Executive Director of Advocates for Homeless Families
- April 15 – Board Meeting, Kountry Kitchen, 6:30 pm
- April 22 – Membership Meeting – Christopher Gwinn, Chief of Interpretation and Education for the Gettysburg National Military Park
- April 25 – Pit Sandwich Sale
- April 25 – Thurmont Business Expo
- April 29 – Leader Dog Banquet – Region III - Middletown

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

November 15 – TLC Bingo

Thurmont Lions Club

Chartered: October 23, 1929





Happy Easter from our club to your club!