



District Governor Cabinet Report State Convention 2026

What a fun and busy adventure it has been since my last Cabinet Report!

First, what an AMAZING Winter Conference Chair Greg Derosa and his team put together! With the Winchester Host Lions serving as our host club, we enjoyed a tremendous turnout, outstanding presenters, meaningful fellowship, and a truly HEARTWARMING service project. It was a perfect example of International President A.P. Singh's theme, "Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead," reminding us that when Lions come together in service, we strengthen both our communities and our leadership.

Chuck and I had the privilege of visiting the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind. This visit, along with Chuck's tremendous efforts, has led to an exciting partnership filled with opportunities for the future. From the potential for a Leo Club and future Lions membership growth, to participation in our Youth Camp, Balls for All, Peace Poster and Essay programs, and more, this partnership is already opening doors to greater service and leadership opportunities. We are excited to watch this relationship grow and blossom.

I also had the pleasure of visiting the Greater Falls Run Lions Club to help recognize Lion Jim Purton as a Hometown Hero, presented by the law firm of Allen, Allen, Allen & Allen. This award honors individuals who quietly make a powerful difference in their communities. Congratulations to Lion Jim on this well-deserved recognition and thank you for exemplifying what it means to serve others.

Dorothy and I had the honor of attending the Woodstock Lions Club's 85th Charter Celebration. Listening to the club's incredible history and learning about the impact they have made throughout generations was inspiring. Their legacy of service truly reflects our Lions motto, "We Serve," and demonstrates how strong clubs create lasting change in their communities.

This year, as Council Chair, I was honored to help train the incoming District Governors for Virginia. Leadership development remains critical to the future of Lionism, and I am excited to watch these leaders — especially Chuck within our own District — continue taking Lionism to the next level through service, innovation, and membership growth.

In March, I challenged all of our clubs to participate in our statewide March Madness Membership Contest. I am proud to share that District 24-L brought in 55 new members! Even more exciting, the McLean FilAm Lions Club led the entire state by bringing in 12 new members. Outstanding job! Membership growth is essential to our future because more members mean more hands for service, more ideas, more leadership, and greater impact in our communities.

Greg, Chuck, and I also had the privilege of attending the Regional Lions Leadership Institute graduation for thirteen Lions from District 24-L. Thank you to each of you for investing in your leadership journey. Leadership development is one of the greatest ways we can ensure strong clubs and strong service for years to come.

I had the privilege of visiting the Colonial Forge, Sherando, Stafford Middle School, and Eastern View High School Leo Clubs. It is inspiring to see our youth already making an impact through service while developing invaluable leadership skills. I also want to thank Lion Pam Martinov for hosting our first Virtual Leo Summit. The collaboration, networking, and sharing of ideas across our District's Leo Clubs was outstanding, and everyone agreed this is something we should continue moving forward.

At both the District and Multi-District levels, we hosted several virtual training opportunities. One focused on leveraging Lions Virtual and Artificial Intelligence, while another centered on developing Leo-Lions Clubs. These sessions provided innovative tools to help our clubs become stronger, more effective, and more prepared for future membership growth.

Through the partnership and collaboration of Districts 24-C, 24-I, and 24-L, we successfully applied for and received a \$5,000 Lions Clubs International Foundation Disaster Preparedness Grant. These funds will help purchase Disaster Preparedness Kits and strengthen partnerships with local communities as we build disaster response plans alongside Lions. Thank you to Lion Greg Derosa and PCC Marty Alford from 24-C for their leadership in moving this initiative forward. This is service leadership in action.

Lions Evelyn of Montclair and Sandy of Winchester Host have done a phenomenal job organizing Listen Up! program roadshows and training sessions. Our goal is to have the program fully operational in 2027. Imagine District 24-L having the ability to screen preschool children for hearing issues across our communities — what an incredible and lasting legacy of service started by PCC Jean Cook. Virginia will become the first state in the nation to provide this level of hearing screening support to our youth. Please consider volunteering and supporting this important initiative financially as clubs plan future budgets.

Dorothy and I were honored to attend and help celebrate the McLean FilAm Lions Club's first Charter Anniversary. I also had the pleasure of assisting PCC Glen in inducting ten of

their seventeen new members. Their passion, growth, and service impact are truly inspiring and demonstrate the incredible things that can happen when clubs focus on both service and membership development.

It was wonderful to see clubs across our District participate in Lions Clubs International Environmental Service Week. Dorothy and I joined Lions and Leos from MD-22 and several of our Zones at the Rappahannock Education Farm to plant tomatoes and support sustainability efforts. A film crew even documented our story, which will be featured during the LCIF Telethon. What a great opportunity to showcase the service impact of our Lions family.

We also celebrated the chartering of a NEW club in April! The Colonial Beach Rivah Lions Club officially chartered and held its Charter Celebration in May. They have already grown to twenty-eight members and bring incredible energy and passion for service. Thank you to Lion Cathy Cutright, Zone Chair Joe Miller, and Extension Chair Mark Larsen for their leadership in making this happen. Club extension and membership growth remain vital as we continue building the future of Lionism.

Dorothy and I, along with Lions from Reston and the Aquia Stafford Branch Club, participated in the Foundation Fighting Blindness Vision Walk in Washington, DC, which raised more than \$190,000. A special thank you to Lion Davida for coordinating support and donations from clubs throughout our District for this meaningful cause.

Finally, Dorothy and I joined many Lions from District 24-L in marching and riding on our Lions float during the DC Memorial Day Parade. PCC Glen Logan did an outstanding job coordinating the event alongside MD-22 after taking over leadership from PDG Woody. Thankfully, the weather cooperated, and Lions were proudly represented as we honored those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country and communities.

As I reflect on this year, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the honor and privilege of serving as your District Governor. Watching our clubs grow, serve, lead, and make meaningful impacts in their communities has truly touched my heart. Our Cabinet members' dedication to helping every club succeed has been inspiring, and together we have demonstrated the true spirit of "Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead."

Thank you for making this year unforgettable and for continuing to strengthen Lionism through service, leadership, and membership growth.

Navigating to the Future,
DG Dan