

The SCOOP

Newsletter of the Claymont, Delaware Lions Club

July 2026



PROVIDING **88 YEARS OF SERVICE**-TO-OTHERS IN THE CLAYMONT AREA

Nolan S. Lewis, President
Dick Gackenbach, Treasurer

Lee Bird, Secretary
Lisa MB Johnson, SCOOP Editor

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Hello Claymont Lions

Congratulation to KL Carol LeCates and the Claymont Loins for a very successful year with lots of service projects. The club had several fundraisers and provided excellent service to the Claymont Community. I want to thank you all for your hard work and dedication.

Congratulations to Immediate Past District Governor Gail Krebs on a successful year leading District 22-D. Through every challenge and every success, her dedication, leadership, and commitment inspired our clubs to uphold the highest standards of service and accountability.

Our club barbecue fellowship will be held on Wednesday August 5th at Fox Point State park, details are in this issue of the SCOOP. This is a fun event for all, so please bring friends and family.

We are working on club committees, if you are interested in serving on a particular committee, please let me or one of the Vice Presidents know. More information about committees will be distributed in the near future.

I look forward to working with everyone this coming year. Enjoy your summer, stay safe and hydrated. In addition, there will be a special gift once a month for those who read the SCOOP, stay tuned.

Nolan S Lewis
King Lion



HAPPY BIRTHDAY JULY LIONS

Happy Birthday to the following Lions born in July:

7/13 Anita Bird

7/19 James Walton

7/25 Cathy Cloutier

7/14 Hakan Demircan

7/22 Nancy Zabrowski

7/26 April Lindsey

7/27 Kim Robbins

Since the Club will not be having in-person dinner meetings during July and August, *in lieu of providing a gift to be auctioned off for your birthday, please consider making a cash donation. Please mail birthday donations to Club Treasurer Dick Gackebach, 3704 Pimlico Place, Garnet Valley, PA 19060.* Monies collected from this activity are deposited in the club's Administrative Account and used in support of member activities and club financial needs.



2026-2027 DUES REMINDER

Claymont Lions Annual Dues Invoices were distributed to all members.

Dues payments of \$70 were due by July 1, 2026. The Board has approved a late payment penalty of \$10 per month for dues not paid in full by September 1st. Please contact Treasurer, Dick Gackebach, at 484-840-2949 for further information. All payments should be given to Lion Dick

and may be mailed to him at 3704 Pimlico Place, Garnet Valley, PA 19060. Please remember to make checks payable to Claymont Lions Club.

AN EVENING OF SERVICE, INSPIRATION & HOPE

Our June 10th dinner meeting was an inspiring evening celebrating service and commitment.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Outstanding Student Scholarship to Caden-Cole Taylor-McKinney. We congratulate Caden-Cole, a graduate of Archmere Academy, and wish him every success as he begins this exciting new chapter of his educational journey.

Our guests for the evening were Tom Cassidy and Erica Holmes from the Alzheimer's Association. The program opened with Immediate Past President Lion Keith Guzma, who shared his heartfelt story of lovingly caring for his wife throughout her battle with Alzheimer's disease. His inspiring and emotional remarks provided a meaningful introduction to the evening's presentation.



Caden-Cole receiving his scholarship award from IPDG Gail Krebs



L to R: Tom Cassidy, Erica Holmes, King Lion Carol, and Lion Keith

Tom Cassidy explained that his own mother's experience with Alzheimer's inspired him to become involved with the Association. He shared information about the many resources available to individuals and families affected by the disease, including caregiver support, educational programs, a 24/7 Helpline, and ongoing research efforts that continue to bring hope for future treatments and, ultimately, a cure.

Several Lions also shared their personal experiences of caring for loved ones living with Alzheimer's, creating a touching reminder of the importance of compassion, support, and community.

To express our appreciation for their informative presentation and the vital work of the Alzheimer's Association, the Claymont Lions Club proudly presented the organization with a donation.

It was an evening that beautifully reflected the Lions' mission of serving others, supporting education, and bringing hope to those facing life's greatest challenges.

SEPTEMBER DINNER MEETING

There are no dinner meetings during the months of July or August. **The next dinner meeting will be held on September 9, 2026. Dinner Meetings will be held at Duffers Mills (1600 Naaman's Creek Road, Garnet Valley, PA).** Social Hour begins at 5:30 p.m. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Cost for dinner is \$30 (including tax and tip). Reminders for reservations along with dinner details will be sent via email by Lion Frazier Van Velsor.

We look forward to seeing everyone back in September as we kick off a new Lions year together!



JULY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next Claymont Lions Club Board of Directors meeting will be held on **Wednesday, July 15, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.** and will be held at Lions Fran and Bob Hershberger's home at 303 Tranquility Way, Middletown, DE.

Remember that all club members are invited to attend Board meetings where the official business of the club is conducted. Those present may participate in meeting dialogue but only Board members vote on items requiring Board action.

Note: Although we do not have dinner meetings, club business continues, and Board Meeting are held on the 3rd Wednesday of July and August. Locations to be announced.

A ROARING FINISH TO ANOTHER GREAT LIONS YEAR!

The Claymont Lions Club wrapped up another successful Lions year with our Final Dinner Meeting on June 24 at Duffer's Mill. The evening was filled with fellowship, great food, laughter, and a special "Story Time" presentation by Lion Dick, making for a memorable celebration.

A highlight of the evening was the induction of our two newest members, Brian Kurz, sponsored by Lion Bob Schlosberg, and Mokshith Bharadwaj (MB), sponsored by Lion Nolan S. Lewis. PCC Don LeCates conducted the induction ceremony, and we are excited to welcome Brian and MB to the Claymont Lions family!

Congratulations also to Lion Dick Gackenbach, who was honored as a 3 Diamond Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow in recognition of his outstanding dedication and service. **This is a BIG deal, y'all! His pin is proudly adorned with three diamonds—a remarkable achievement and a testament to his outstanding dedication to Lions service!**

The evening concluded with the installation of the 2026–2027 Club Officers, led by PDG Glenn Williams, who honored our outgoing officers while welcoming the new leadership team. In a symbolic passing of the torch, King Lion Carol LeCates officially passed the gavel to King Lion Nolan Lewis, marking the beginning of a new Lions year. King Lion Nolan then presented King Lion Carol with the President's Award in appreciation of her exceptional leadership and dedicated service. Carol also thanked members by presenting each attendee with a bookmark and an engraved pen reading, "Thank You for Being INK-credible."

It was a wonderful evening celebrating another year of service, friendship, and Lionism. Here's to another year of Changing Lives Through Service!



L to R: New Member Mokshith with his sponsor, King Lion Nolan Lewis



L to R: Lion Bob with New Member Brian, whom he sponsored



King Lion, Nolan Lewis, presenting IPP Carol with the President's Award



L to R: Lion Lee Bird proudly pinning 3 Diamond Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, Lion Dick!

You are Invited

ANNUAL SUMMER BARBECUE AT FOX POINT STATE PARK!

Wednesday, August 5th, 5:30 p.m.

RAINDATE: *August 6th*



Get ready for an evening of fellowship, delicious food, fun, and Lionism at its best! Join your fellow Claymont Lions and their families for our annual Summer Picnic as we gather to celebrate friendship, service, and the impact we make together in our community.

Time: 5:30 PM – Dusk: **Reserve Your Spot Today!** Email **Lion Frazier** at cdlcactivities@gmail.com to let us know you're coming.



Cost: \$10 for adults | \$5 for children: Please pay **Treasurer Dick** in advance. If you need to pay at the event, checks only, made payable to the Claymont Lions Club, please.

State Park Entry Fee: \$5 for in-state residents | \$10 for out-of-state residents

Menu: Hamburgers, hot dogs, corn on the cob

What Should I Bring?

- Lions with last names **A–H:** Please bring a **Salad** (ideas: potato salad, cole slaw, macaroni salad, fruit salad)
- Lions with last names **I–P:** Please bring a **side dish** (ideas: deviled eggs, baked beans, pasta, tomato & onions)
- Lions with last names **Q–Z:** Please bring a **dessert** (ideas: pies, cakes, cookies)

Whether you're a longtime member or a newer Lion, this is a wonderful opportunity to relax, reconnect, and enjoy the company of fellow Lions in a beautiful outdoor setting. We look forward to seeing you there and making new memories together!

UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS

- **Banner Transfer & Club Awards** – Wednesday, July 29, 2026, at the Modern Maturity Center.
 - 5:30 p.m. Social Time/ 6:15 p.m. Dinner
 - Cost \$30 per person, checks payable to Claymont Lions Club
 - Registration is done as a club. Please let Lion Lee Bird know by July 29th if you plan to attend. Send payments to Lion Dick Gackenback at 3704 Pimlico Place, Garnet Valley, PA 19060.
 - Visitation credit will be given from both Claymont and Clayton Clubs
 - Dress will be Business Casual. Please feel free to wear your Club apparel and paraphernalia.
- First Cabinet Meeting, Greenwood Fire Hall, 8/2/26
- USA/Canada Forum, Memphis, TN, 9/3-9/5/2026, www.lionsforum.org for information, Questions? Lion Sheila or Ralph Schieferstein 302-284-9730
- DLF Board Meeting, Grotto Pizza, Dover, 7/28/26

NEWS FROM THE LIONS DEN



A Very Special Thank You to Lion Sallie Ann Conner

A heartfelt thank you to **Lion Sallie Ann Conner**, a Claymont Lions member since 2019, for her extraordinary generosity and continued support of our Club. Since joining, Sallie Ann has graciously provided the two storage containers used for our annual Christmas Tree Sale at no cost and offered a reduced rate for our equipment storage container.

Although she recently sold her business, **Schneider Trailer and Container Rental**, she thoughtfully included in the sales agreement that the Claymont Lions Club will continue to receive the use of the two Christmas tree containers at no charge through the new owner, **Eagle Leasing Company**.

Thank you, Sallie Ann, for your kindness, generosity, and unwavering commitment to serving our Club and community. We are truly grateful!

THANK YOU

TO TEAM SCOOP!!!

From Lion Lisa MBJ **BULLETIN EDITOR!**

As another year of publishing the SCOOP ends, I want to extend my sincere appreciation to Gail and Kirt for their ongoing support and dedication. Your willingness to capture and share photos from our events helps tell the story of our club and brings each issue to life. Thank you for always being there when I need you.

A very special thank you goes to Immediate Past King Lion Carol for her unwavering support throughout the year. No matter how busy her schedule became, she consistently made time to review articles, offer suggestions, and provide valuable feedback. Her attention to detail and encouragement helped ensure that each issue reflected the pride and spirit of our club.

*2025-2026 King Lion,
Carol LeCates!*

The SCOOP is truly a team effort, and I am grateful for the friendship, partnership, and commitment that each of you brings to the process. Your contributions make all the difference, and I thank you for helping make this newsletter a success year after year.



*Immediate Past District Governor
Gail Krebs and our All-Pro
District Photographer, Kirt Krebs!
(Is that Lion Bob Schlosberg in the
background?) 😊*



TEAMWORK



CHECK PAYMENTS

When writing checks for dues, meals, or other club events, please make them **payable to the Claymont Lions Club** unless instructed otherwise.



MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Lion Kirt requests that anyone in the club who needs to contact him regarding medical equipment to please contact him at 302-477-1271. Please leave a message if there is no answer.

SCOOP NEWSLETTER

If you have information or a suggestion for the Scoop, please send the information to me by the last day of each month. ***PLEASE REFERENCE "SCOOP" in the subject of any email to make sure that information is not overlooked.***

EMPTY INK CARTRIDGES BENEFIT CLUB ADMINISTRATIVE FUND

PCS Gail & Lion Kirt are collecting empty computer Ink Cartridges. Please save your cartridges and contact them to arrange to drop them off. The cash we receive from recycled cartridges is deposited into the Club's administrative account. This is also being done as a recycling project for the District Activities Contest.



CAN TABS

Lion Lisa, PCS Gail & Lion Kirt are collecting can tabs for Tender Hearts, Inc. Tender Hearts is a 501c3 organization whose mission is to support medically fragile children in order to help provide them with a better quality of life. Please save can tabs and contact Lions Lisa, Gail and/or Kirt for drop off. We will make sure that the tabs are delivered to Tender Hearts.

NEXT SCOOP DEADLINE:



Friday, July 31, 2026

Submit all information to Bulletin

Editor at TYLISAJ@aol.com.

PLEASE REFERENCE "SCOOP" in the subject of any email to make sure that information is not overlooked.

