

The SCOOP

Newsletter of the Claymont, Delaware
Lions Club

September 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:

Summer is certainly flying by, I hope everyone had a great summer, our Barbeque/picnic was held on August 6th at Fox Run State Park and we had a great turnout.

We had an eye screening on August 8th at Claymont Community Center with Lion Bill leading the charge. We had a great turnout, with several lions attending, and the community center held a book bag giveaway. At the Banner transfer dinner, Claymont received many District Awards in Group Activities including Administrative Contest and 100% for Overall Service. I wanted to report on this last month - thanks to all who worked so hard to help us achieve these awards.

Our club celebrated Harry Grandel's 104th birthday with a small cake and everyone singing happy birthday. Also, a special thanks to Lion Fran and Bob Hershberger for organizing and shopping for the picnic, IPDG Gail and Lion Kirt Krebs for getting the food and grilling, and PCC Lee for cooking the corn, and to all who helped make this a success.

We also started meals on wheels again, led by Lion Carol LeCates and what a great endeavor! We served on August 3rd, 17th and 31st with great success. We have great Lions who serve members of the community on a daily basis. You definitely exemplify the motto (We Serve).

We also sent an approval letter to Bellefonte KL Ken Chew to conduct a fundraiser in our service area, and the board voted to approve their request.

I am open to innovative ideas and suggestions, do not hesitate to reach out to me if there is anything I can do to make this Lion year better.

Nolan S. Lewis
King Lion





HAPPY BIRTHDAY SEPTEMBER LIONS

Happy Birthday to the following Lions born in September:

9/4	Matt Yoder	9/11	Sallie Ann Conner
9/21	Betty Lou Chiffons	9/23	Gail Mummert
9/25	Duncan Calder	9/11	Sallie Ann Conner
9/29	Kirt Krebs		

Lions celebrating a birthday during a month in which a dinner meeting is held are reminded to bring a wrapped gift for the birthday gift auction at the first dinner meeting of that month. If your birthday falls during a month when there is no dinner meeting, please bring a wrapped gift to the next scheduled dinner meeting. Proceeds from the gift auction are deposited into the Club's Administrative Account and are used to support member activities and other club financial needs.

DINNER MEETINGS

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!

Program Chair, Lion Frazier Van Velsor, has been lining up speakers for our upcoming dinner meetings. The following speakers are tentatively scheduled for September and October. You will be notified of speaker changes and updates.

September 9 th	AltruVision - formerly Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley
September 23 rd	District Governor Esosa Iriowen and his cabinet
October 14 th	Seamen's Center of Wilmington
October 28 th	Dan Crossland, Estate Planning Attorney



SEPTEMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next **Claymont Lions Club Board of Directors** meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.** Hosted by **PDG Gail and Lion Kirt Krebs**, at 17 Ridgeland Rd., Wilmington.

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. Only Board members vote on items requiring Board action.

CLAYMONT LIONS WHITE CANE DAYS • OCTOBER 1–3, 2026 *STEP RIGHT UP & MEET THE COMMUNITY THAT SUPPORTS US!*

The Claymont Lions Club is gearing up for White Cane Days, and we need YOU! Volunteers are needed for 2-hour shifts at local businesses throughout the Claymont community.



WHERE WE'LL BE

- ACME Markets – Marsh Road
- Dunkin' – Philly Pike Drive-Thru
- Dunkin' – Marsh & Naamans Road
- Action Hardware – Branmar Plaza
- Food Lion – Philly Pike

VOLUNTEER FOR A 2-HOUR SHIFT!

THU • OCT. 1

Dunkin – Philly Pike
6 AM & 8 AM

Dunkin – Marsh & Naamans
8 AM

Action Hardware 9 AM

Food Lion – Philly Pike
10 AM, 12 Noon, & 2 PM

FRI • OCT. 2

Dunkin – Philly Pike
6 AM & 8 AM

Food Lion – Philly Pike
10 AM, Noon & 2 PM

SAT • OCT. 3

Dunkin – Philly Pike
7:30 AM & 9:30 AM

Dunkin – Marsh & Naamans
9:30 AM

Action Hardware
9 AM & 11 AM

ACME Markets 10 AM,
12 Noon, 2 PM & 4 PM

Food Lion – Philly Pike
12 Noon & 2 PM

♥ WHAT DO I DO?

It's easy! Smile, say “Good Morning,” tell patrons about the Lions and why you joined, and provide a Claymont Lions brochure or bookmark.

🐾 WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

Our generous community supporters will make donations to help the Claymont Lions continue our mission of service.

Our Mission: To meet humanitarian needs and serve those in need, with a focus on hunger, vision, the environment, health and well-being, diabetes, pediatric cancer, and mental health.

OUR MOTTO: WE SERVE!

And yes—you'll probably see friends, colleagues and familiar faces supporting the Lions!

🌻 READY TO HELP?

Sign up TODAY for one or more 2-hour shifts and be part of White Cane Days! Every smile. Every conversation. Every donation. Every act of service makes a difference.

WE CANNOT DO THIS WITHOUT YOU!

FALL PANCAKE DAY IS BACK!



Get ready, Claymont! Our first **Pancake Day of the 2026–2027 Lions year** is set for **Saturday, October 24**, at the **Claymont Fire Hall on Philadelphia Pike**. The community is looking forward to the return of our Pancake Breakfasts, so mark your calendar and plan to lend a hand!

Volunteers, please arrive by 7:00 a.m.

Can't make it early? No problem! Consider coming toward the end of the breakfast to help with **clean-up**.

Set-up: Friday, October 23 at **6:00 p.m.** and typically takes less than two hours.

Let's make our first Pancake Day of the year a great success!



CLAYMONT LIONS Helping Kids See a Brighter School Year!

The Claymont Lions Club Vision Screening Committee was back in action on Saturday, August 8, at the Claymont Community Center's Book Bag Giveaway & Back-to-School Fair, providing free

vision screenings to children and families.

The event brought out a tremendous crowd, with 32 children screened and 9 referred for follow-up care with eye-care professionals. Early detection of vision problems can make a meaningful difference in a child's ability to learn, succeed, and thrive.

A special thank you to the Claymont Lions who volunteered their time and helped make the screenings a success: Betty Lou Chiffons, Allison David, Bill Gerety, Drayton Gerety, Lisa MB Johnson, Gail Krebs, Kirt Krebs, Nolan Lewis, Deb Maybroda, and Lorraine Santos.



WE SERVE....

Because Every Child Deserves the Chance to See Their Best!



CLAYMONT LIONS CLUB ANNUAL BARBECUE!
Good Food, Great Friends & a 104th Birthday Celebration!

Claymont Lions gathered for our annual barbecue on **Thursday, August 6th**, at beautiful **Fox Point State Park**. The weather held up beautifully, and we even enjoyed a little sunshine! The rain stayed away, and there was no threat of storms.

Members enjoyed an afternoon filled with **good food, laughter, fellowship, and fun**, with two special highlights making the day even more memorable.

 Celebrating 104 Years!

The club proudly celebrated **Lion Harry Grandel's 104th birthday** with cake and a hearty chorus of **"Happy Birthday!"**

 A Surprise on the River!

As if the birthday celebration wasn't enough, members were treated to an unexpected sight—a **cruise ship sailing past from the Philadelphia Port!** The impressive sight created plenty of excitement and became another unforgettable moment of the afternoon.

It was a wonderful day of **Claymont Lions fellowship, celebration, and a few surprises along the way!** 🐾 💙 💛





CLAYMONT LIONS DELIVER MEALS ON WHEELS!

The **Claymont Lions Club** is proud to be participating in a new service project—**Meals on Wheels!** The club was involved in the Meals on Wheels program several years ago but stopped during COVID. We felt that this might be a **GREAT TIME** to bring this meaningful service back.

Lions will deliver meals on the first, third, and fifth Monday of each month.

Meals are picked up at the Claymont Community Center and delivered to residents along the Society Drive Route. The route takes approximately **1½ to 2 hours** to complete. Our first delivery was August 3rd, and our new member, Mokshith Bharadwaj, and Lion Carol LeCates delivered approximately 14 hot and cold meals. Lion Mokshith did an excellent job, and the recipients were very appreciative of the Lions' service.

Volunteers Needed!

The August and September schedules are already filled, but volunteers are needed for **October 5 and October 19**.

If you're available, please reach out to Lion Carol and help us deliver more than a meal—deliver a little kindness, too!



WHEN SERVICE HITS THE ROAD!!!

UPCOMING DISTRICT/INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- **USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum** – September 18-20 2025, Atlantic City
- **DLF Board Meeting** – September 23, 2025 – Grotto's, Dover, DE
- **2nd Cabinet Meeting** – October 29, 2025 – Modern Maturity Center, Dover, DE
- **Governor's Ball** – December 6, 2025 – Harrington, DE



WHY THE  **BELL MATTERS**
in Every Lions Club

It's more than a tradition—
it's a **symbol of unity, purpose,**
and the **power of service.**

 **IT UNITES US**
The bell calls us together as one team,
one mission, one heartbeat.

 **IT CALLS US TO ORDER**
The ringing of the bell calls members
to order, bringing focus, respect, and
purpose to our meetings.

 **IT KEEPS US FOCUSED**
It marks the moments that remind us
why we serve and what matters most.

 **IT GIVES US A VOICE**
The ringing of the bell is a call to action—
for service, for change, for our community.

 **IT HONORS OUR COMMITMENT**
Each ring is a reminder of the promise
we make to those we serve.

 **IT INSPIRES IMPACT**
From our meetings to our projects,
the bell inspires service that changes lives.

 **WE SERVE**

 **EVERY RING.
EVERY MEETING.
EVERY LIFE
WE TOUCH.**

 **ONE BELL. ONE CLUB.
ONE MISSION.** | *Together, We Serve.*

 *Thank you
for ringing the bell
for service.*

MESSAGE FROM THE LIONS DEN

MANY MAY WONDER.....

 WHY THE BELL MATTERS IN EVERY LIONS CLUB   

The ringing of the Lions bell is more than a meeting tradition. It represents unity, purpose, leadership, and our commitment to service.

 *It calls us to order, bringing members together and focusing our attention on the work ahead.*

 *It unites us, reminding us that we are one club with one mission.*

 *It keeps us focused on why we serve and the difference we can make.*

 *It gives us a voice, calling Lions to action for our communities.*

 *It honors our commitment, reminding us of the promise we make to those we serve.*

 *It inspires impact because every meeting can lead to another project, another act of kindness, and another life changed.*

The next time your club president rings the bell, remember what that sound represents:

One Bell. One Club. One Mission.

Together, We Serve. 

CLAYMONT CLUB

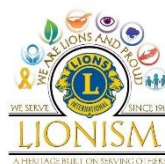
2026-2027 MAJOR EVENT CALENDAR



The following is a list of the **major Claymont Lions Club events for the 2026–2027 Lions year**. These events depend on the support of our members and community volunteers to be successful. Please begin thinking about **how much time you can commit to supporting these important events**. Additional details and volunteer sign-up information will be provided as each event approaches.

THE SUCCESS OF THESE EVENTS DEPENDS ON EVERY CLUB MEMBER

Event	Date
White Cane Days	October 1-3, 2026
Pancake Feast	October 24, 2026 February 27, 2027 April 17, 2027
Christmas Tree Sale	November 27 th until December 20 th
Claymont Christmas Parade	December 5, 2026
Veterans Resource Fair	March 12, 2027



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.

MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVES ARE MONEY IN YOUR POCKET!!

That's correct.... **MONEY** in **YOUR** pocket! The Board has approved an incentive program geared at growing our club's membership while earning rewards for sponsors. Sponsors of new members will receive a \$25 gift card upon induction of their new members during this 2025-2026 Lion year. Then, at the end of the 2026-2027 Lion Year, a \$50 gift card will be offered to the one club member that sponsors the most members (which has to be more than one new member). If there is more than one member who has sponsored the same number of new members, then both/all of those sponsors will be offered a \$50 gift card. Let the competition begin and our new members roll in!

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 printer Ink Cartridges. Please save your cartridges and contact them to arrange dropping 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.



SCOOP DEADLINE:

Wednesday, September 30, 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.

