



# The Head Lioner



Issue 8

Meadville Lions Club

September 2008

Bi-Monthly Meetings: 1st & 3rd Thursdays \* 12:00 p.m. \* Wesbury United Community

## We Serve

### October Birthdays

(Let's Give a Lions Roar for)

**Garth Faivre**  
10-01

**Jeffrey Davis**  
10-14

**Dave Hollern**  
10-14

**Jean Lynch**  
10-19

**Robert W. Petruso**  
10-20

**Betsy Heintz**  
10-26



### *Upcoming Social Events*

#### *Halloween Party*

*Saturday November 1st*  
*Mark your calendar for our club's fall social event. It will take place at the Hollern household and a spooktacular time will be had by all. Details to follow and remember that costumes will be appreciated.*

## Meetings October 2008

**10/2/2008**  
Regular Meeting  
Wesbury at Noon  
Program Chairperson  
Tom Smith

**10/9/2008**  
Board Meeting  
Vietnam Vet Post 52  
Dinner 5:30  
Meeting to Follow

**10/16/2008**  
Regular Meeting  
Wesbury at Noon  
Program Chairperson  
Betsy Heintz

Beginning in 1917, the association of Lions clubs has provided millions of people with the opportunity to give something back to their communities. Lions are an international network of 1.3 million men and women in 202 countries and geographic areas who work together to answer the needs that challenge communities around the world.

## King Lion's Page (Karen)



Fellow Lions,

Another month has passed and we were able to breathe a little. Several of our members took the opportunity to enjoy the Arts at the Erie Playhouse production of The Producers on Sept 7th. We enjoyed sharing fellowship afterwards at Lonestar Steakhouse. If you missed it-consider joining us on our next venture, we do have a good time and there's always room for more!

Several members also went to the Steak Fry at Jamestown, always a fun gathering that is open to other clubs. Good food!

Welcome back to the Ladners and Hollerns, who went to the USA/Canada Forum in Saskatoon. We can't wait to hear what you have for us.

As you know the date for the Cabinet Meeting in November has been changed to November 23rd. It will be held at Vernon Central Fire Hall and we will be calling on members for help with various parts of the day. Please let Karen or Scott or Martha know if you will be available for any part of the day. We really do want to put forth our best effort.

Welcome to our newest members, Bev Shadley, Rick Swavey, and Dottie Miller. And many thanks to our new potential member

Danuta Majcharowicz, who has agreed to try to get Alleghany students to refurbish the wreaths (candled) for the Park Avenue posts. Not to worry, folks-we'll still be doing the lights on the wreaths as normal.

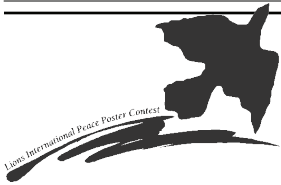
Doug Nola has agreed with Vernon Lions to work White Cane Day on Oct 4 at Walmart. Vernon does not have many members and we have agreed to share the take. We will also be setting up a second White Cane Day somewhere in the area later in the month. We need help, so start considering time to man the canes.

Lion Rob has set Oct 20th as a zone meeting time. Vernon Lions will host the meeting at 6:30 pm at Perkins. Please try to attend.

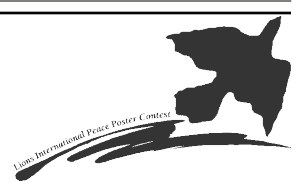
As always, it is a pleasure being with such great people, we do our part in small ways to help those in our world, near and far. Proud of all of you and am so glad to know you.

Yours in Lionism

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## Our Activities in September



### **A Submission by Big Brothers and Big Sisters to the Chamber of Commerce Newsletter**

**CONTACT: Lisa Graff, Executive Director  
724-8589 or bigscrawfordco@gmail.com  
Big Brothers and Sisters Partners with Meadville Area Lions Club**

**Big Brothers and Sisters of Crawford County, Inc. has teamed up with the Meadville Area Lions Club for a special project for the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children. Big Brothers/Sisters, Little Brothers/Sisters and other agency volunteers are collecting the pull tabs on the top of aluminum cans. The Lions Club recycles them to raise money for the school. For more information about the school you can visit their website, [www.wpsbc.org/index.php](http://www.wpsbc.org/index.php).**

**For more information, contact Big Brothers and Sisters of Crawford County, Inc. at 724-8589 or bigscrawfordco@gmail.com.**



### **New Member**

**Please welcome our newest club member Lion Bev Shadley who was installed by PDG Dutch during September.**

### **The Producers**

**PDG Scott and Lion Joyce Ladner lead a small contingent of Meadville Lions to Erie to watch the Producers at the Erie Playhouse and to dinner at the Longhorn Steakhouse in September. We all had a great time. Thanks Scott and Joyce**

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## Leader Dog Update



East goes west and back again.

This is a story of need, and of service, and of unconditional love. Jenn Cook from Walnut Creek, CA (near San Francisco) was diagnosed with diabetes at the age of seven and has been blind since the age of 24. That was 23 years ago. Being a very active woman, blindness certainly didn't slow her down much and having a leader dog (guide dog) helped her be more mobile. So when her leader dog had to be retired a couple of years ago due to age and health problems, she contacted Leader Dog School for the Blind in Rochester, MI to see about a replacement.

At about the same time a young man from Erie, PA, Dan Kozirowski, answered a newspaper ad seeking individuals to raise one of several German Shepherd puppies that had been locally donated to the Leader Dog School program by Marley Turley, a member of the Greene Twp Lions Club. Dan got Belle (he named her) when she was about seven weeks old. During the next year he spent many hours socializing her – walking her on a leash, taking her to stores and restaurants, riding in a car, keeping her crated at night, teaching her basic commands and, in general, getting her used to many of the situations in which she would find herself when she finally got assigned to a blind person. At about age 14 months Belle was turned over to Leader Dog, given a thorough physical exam, and then assigned to a full time instructor who worked with her over the next four months.

Jenn Cook's application for a new leader dog was approved about this time and she flew to Michigan in March of 2007 to meet her new four-legged "eyes". As it is with most leader dog recipients it was wag and love at first sight. After spending about three weeks at Leader Dog School, Jenn and Belle flew home to begin their new life together in California. All went dog-gone well for about a year. Then one day, the unthinkable happened! The pair was crossing a street when a truck sped around the corner. Belle, in the blink of an eye, stopped and pushed back against Jenn, knocking her out of the truck's path. Neither were physically injured, but the experience left Belle with a fear of trucks and buses that could not be corrected, even though personnel from Leader Dog School tried their best.

When a leader dog is no longer deemed suitable for their "job", the person who raised the dog as a puppy is usually given the option of taking the dog back as a pet. When Dan received that call, he was sad and happy at the same time. "I wanted Belle to be a service dog, but I had thought about her every day since she was gone. Of course, I would take her back. I'm getting married in October and my fiancée Holly is delighted about it, too."

Normally in this situation Belle would be air-shipped from the west coast to Erie. Jenn wouldn't hear of that, however. At her own expense, she and Belle made the trip east from San Francisco to Pittsburgh, with a lay-over in Atlanta. They stayed in Erie with the Kozirowskis for a couple of days and then traveled to the Meadville farm of Brian and Jean Weber for a final get together and picnic. Also attending were other individuals who have raised puppies for the Leader Dog School. (Jean Weber has been the local puppy raiser coordinator and is currently raising her 13<sup>th</sup> puppy). Besides people there were about five dogs in attendance, including the star of the gathering, Belle.

At the end of the day Dan went back to Erie with Belle, and the following day Jenn flew back to California. She has applied for a new leader dog and is waiting for an appropriate match. She knows giving up Belle was the right thing to do - Belle will never be forgotten, and is where she will now be the happiest.

Write-up by Lion Scott Ladner, Meadville Lions Club



# UPCOMING MEADVILLE LIONS PROJECTS AND EVENTS



## White Cane Day

Blind people have used canes as mobility tools for centuries, but it was not until after [World War I](#) that the white cane was introduced.

In the [United States](#), the introduction of the white cane is attributed to George A. Bonham of the [Lions Clubs International](#) <sup>[2]</sup>. In 1930, a Lions Club member watched as a man who was blind attempted to cross the street with a black cane that was barely visible to motorists against the dark pavement. The Lions decided to paint the cane white to make it more visible. In 1931, Lions Clubs International began a program promoting the use of white canes for people who are blind.

The first special White Cane Ordinance was passed in December 1930 in [Peoria, Illinois](#) granting blind pedestrians protections and the right-of-way while carrying a white cane.

On [October 6, 1964](#), a joint resolution of the Congress, HR 753, was signed into law authorizing the President of the United States to proclaim [October 15](#) of each year as "[White Cane Safety Day](#)". President [Lyndon Johnson](#) was the first to make this proclamation. This year our club will celebrate White cane Day on the 4th of October raising funds for the area blind from 9:00 to 5:00 at the Meadville Wal\*Mart. Please contact Lion Doug Nola if you would like to lend a hand

## Halloween Parade

We will be marching in the JC's Halloween Parade again this year with the Keystone Blind Association. If you are available the evening of the 25th to march please consider doing so.

## Region III, Zone I

Our **first Zone Meeting** for this year will take place on **Monday October 20th**. The **Vernon Township Lions Club** will host this meeting at **Perkins Family Restraunt**, 18276 Conneaut Lake Road Meadville. **Starting at 6.30pm.**

Thank you,

**Lion Rob Sharp**

(Zone Chairman)

## District 14-F (Finest) Events

District 14-F Cabinet Meeting 11/23/08 will be hosted by the Meadville Lions at Vernon Central Fire Hall 16589 McMath Avenue, Meadville, PA 16335 (This is our chance to shine, we will need everyone's help to host a successful Cabinet Meeting)

Please consider volunteering your time to help out during the day. This will be an excellent opportunity to go and see what happens at a District Cabinet Meeting if you never attended. We will be holding a Chinese auction during the meeting and will be in need of donated prizes, please be generous.

## **An Old Dog**

**An older, tired-looking dog wandered into my yard; I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home and was well taken care of.**

**He calmly came over to me, I gave him a few pats on his head; he then followed me into my house, slowly walked down the hall, curled up in the corner and fell asleep.**

**An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out.**

**The next day he was back, greeted me in my yard, walked inside and resumed his spot in the hall and again slept for about an hour. This continued off and on for several weeks.**

**Curious I pinned a note to his collar: 'I would like to find out who the owner of this wonderful sweet dog is and ask if you are aware that almost every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap.'**

**The next day he arrived for his nap, with a different note pinned to his collar: 'He lives in a home with 6 children, 2 under the age of 3 - he's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?'**





# Lions International News



## Lions World Sight Day

Each year hundreds of Lions clubs around the world hold vision screenings, community education programs, eyeglass collections and other special projects in October as part of World Sight Day. Lions World Sight Day was created in 1998 to spotlight the importance of eradicating preventable blindness and improving sight. An increasing number of Lions clubs are using this occasion to collect eyeglasses, conduct vision and diabetes screenings and plan educational programs to inform their communities about the importance of sight and diseases such as diabetes that can impact sight.

## World Sight Day 2008 to be held in Arizona, USA

The 2008 international event will be held in Arizona October 15-17, 2008. Albert Brandel and Maureen Murphy will preside over the events. Lions in Arizona and New Mexico will hold vision screenings in the town of Window Rock on the Navajo reservation to test for glaucoma, diabetic eye diseases and other eye diseases, and provide glasses to those who need them. Lions are also planning a diabetes screening and screenings at the Lions Vision Center, both to be held in the Phoenix area, the capital of Arizona. Local and state dignitaries are expected to participate in the events.

### Get Involved

Now is the time to plan your club's activities for **Lions World Sight Day 2008**. Lions are encouraged to plan events on Lions World Sight Day or sometime during the month of October to coincide with the event. There are a number of resources that will help. For suggestions about what your club can do to mark Lions World Sight Day, download The Lions World Sight Day [Activity Guide](#). To order new Lions Eye Health Program material, [click here](#). For information about recycling eyeglasses, [click here](#).

Is your club planning an activity? Activities that local clubs can do include:

Partnering with local eye care professionals or organizations to conduct vision, glaucoma and cataract screenings

- Offering to work with local schools or preschools on vision screenings or providing information about eye health to students
- Conducting a diabetes screening and awareness program in conjunction with a local
- Distributing Lions Eye Health Program material at a health fair, library or community center
- Launching or expanding a community-wide eyeglass recycling program

## Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and Lions in the Gulf States of the U.S. are responding to immediate needs following flooding and other damage from Hurricane Gustav. The Hurricane made landfall in Louisiana on August 31.

Lions Clubs International Foundation has issued three emergency grants of US\$10,000 each to assist in the relief efforts. Lions in Mississippi and Louisiana have indicated the immediately needed items are:

- Bottled water
- Ice
- Chainsaws
- Tarps
- Ready-to-eat meals or food that requires little preparation
- Fuel
- Large generators

Lions wishing to volunteer in the area must be self-sufficient, as Lions currently have no means for supplying water, food or housing to volunteers. To inquire on sending supplies or volunteering, contact Past International Director [Howard Jenkins](#), Mississippi.

LCIF prides itself on giving grants to Lions to enable them to respond locally to disasters. LCIF awards nearly US\$2 million in emergency grant funds each year for Lions to help their community.

LCIF remains in constant contact with Lions in the Gulf States, and as more needs are known or we receive additional information, it will be posted on this page

Name/Spouse	Home Phone	Work Phone	Cell Phone	Email
Cole, Melinda (Charles C.J.)	333-6568			<a href="mailto:cmcole@windstream.net">cmcole@windstream.net</a>
Collins, Robert, Jr.		724-2120		<a href="mailto:collins@mdvl.net">collins@mdvl.net</a>
Consla, Martha ( <i>Joseph</i> )	333-1987			<a href="mailto:marthac@fsmead.org">marthac@fsmead.org</a>
Davis, Jeffrey L. ( <i>Karen</i> )	814-836-8061	333-1220		<a href="mailto:jeffdavis@verizon.net">jeffdavis@verizon.net</a>
Dine, Clarence	967-4445	333-0286		<a href="mailto:Clarence.W.Dine@windstream.com">Clarence.W.Dine@windstream.com</a> (Work) <a href="mailto:dine@windstream.net">dine@windstream.net</a> (Home)
Donnell, Cheryl	282-5772	724-4800 -136		<a href="mailto:cheryld@hotmail.com">cheryld@hotmail.com</a>
Downing, Michael C. ( <i>Lisa</i> )	724-588-9570	373-2449		<a href="mailto:m Downing@mmchs.org">m Downing@mmchs.org</a>
Faivre, Karen ( <i>Garth</i> )	336-1117	724-7160		<a href="mailto:kfaivre993@hotmail.com">kfaivre993@hotmail.com</a>
Faivre, Garth ( <i>Karen</i> )	336-1117	724-7160		<a href="mailto:kfaivre993@hotmail.com">kfaivre993@hotmail.com</a>
Faulds, Major L. Garth	724-927-9553			<a href="mailto:garth9553@windstream.net">garth9553@windstream.net</a>
Fiorillo, Cynthia ( <i>Michael</i> )	333-2272	336-4459		<a href="mailto:brigid@mdvl.net">brigid@mdvl.net</a>
Flowers, George ( <i>Caren</i> )	336-2640	336-1167		<a href="mailto:phillyeyecare@windstream.net">phillyeyecare@windstream.net</a>
Hanaway, Jack ( <i>Sharyn</i> )	337-3700	333-2420		<a href="mailto:jhanaway@windstream.net">jhanaway@windstream.net</a>
Heintz, Betsy ( <i>Dave</i> )	724-336-6537	724-7710		<a href="mailto:bheintz@dadspetcare.com">bheintz@dadspetcare.com</a>
Hollern, Dave ( <i>Sharon</i> )	336-2947	724-7710 - 4003	573-2568	<a href="mailto:dhollern@dadspetcare.com">dhollern@dadspetcare.com</a>
Hollern, Sharon ( <i>Dave</i> )	H-336-2947			<a href="mailto:daveholl@zoominternet.net">daveholl@zoominternet.net</a>
Hibbard, Arden	724-7899			<a href="mailto:hib1@mdvl.net">hib1@mdvl.net</a>
Hughes, Florence ( <i>Arden</i> )	724-7098			<a href="mailto:arden@zoominternet.net">arden@zoominternet.net</a>
Hughes, G. Arden ( <i>Florence</i> )	724-7098			<a href="mailto:arden@zoominternet.net">arden@zoominternet.net</a>
Jensen, Brian ( <i>Leslie</i> )	336-5694	333-2161		<a href="mailto:brianjensen@meadvillefpc.org">brianjensen@meadvillefpc.org</a>
Ladner, Scott ( <i>Joyce</i> )	382-1905			<a href="mailto:grouse dog@windstream.net">grouse dog@windstream.net</a>
Ladner, Joyce ( <i>Scott</i> )	382-1905			<a href="mailto:grouse dog@windstream.net">grouse dog@windstream.net</a>
Larson, Tracey C. ( <i>Don</i> )	337-8430	337-8202		<a href="mailto:trl2007@windstream.net">trl2007@windstream.net</a>
Loepp, Marjorie	818-547-3146			<a href="mailto:mloepp@yahoo.com">mloepp@yahoo.com</a>
Lucas, Barbara ( <i>Herb</i> )	967-3254			<a href="mailto:blucas1980@yahoo.com">blucas1980@yahoo.com</a>
Lucas, Herbert ( <i>Barb</i> )	967-3254			<a href="mailto:blucas1980@yahoo.com">blucas1980@yahoo.com</a>
Lynch, Jean	724-2833			<a href="mailto:jklmarm@zoominternet.net">jklmarm@zoominternet.net</a>
Miller, Henry S. ( <i>Doris</i> )	336-2046	(daughter's Email address)		<a href="mailto:ghughes@windstream.net">ghughes@windstream.net</a>
Mineweaser, Larry ( <i>Eleanor</i> )	333-2087			<a href="mailto:larrymin@windstream.net">larrymin@windstream.net</a>
Mineweaser, Eleanor G. ( <i>Larry</i> )	333-2087			<a href="mailto:larrymin@windstream.net">larrymin@windstream.net</a>
Nelson, Elmer	336-1776			-
Nola Douglas P. ( <i>Dannielle</i> )	814-866-8015	333-1220		<a href="mailto:dnad2@yahoo.com">dnad2@yahoo.com</a>
Peters, Linda ( <i>Bill</i> )	337-5675	337-6000		<a href="mailto:era@era-richmond.com">era@era-richmond.com</a>
Petruso, Robert W. (Bob) ( <i>Arlene</i> )	333-9820	724-6211		<a href="mailto:hearing@windstream.net">hearing@windstream.net</a>
Petruso, Robert, II (Rob) ( <i>Julie</i> )	336-3748	724-6211		<a href="mailto:hearing@windstream.net">hearing@windstream.net</a>
Salak, John ( <i>Rose</i> )	336-4687			<a href="mailto:john_salak2@hotmail.com">john_salak2@hotmail.com</a>
Santora, Robert	724-4583	724-5122		<a href="mailto:bjs2@earthlink.net">bjs2@earthlink.net</a>
Shadley Bev (Chuck)		724-7710-4015	573-2579	<a href="mailto:bshadley@dadspetcare.com">bshadley@dadspetcare.com</a>
Sharp, Robert J. ( <i>Michelle</i> )	333-2577	336-5300		<a href="mailto:meadvillepa@zoominternet.net">meadvillepa@zoominternet.net</a>
Shumaker, Judy C. (David Eckart)	724-6721			<a href="mailto:snookie60@gmail.com">snookie60@gmail.com</a>
Smith, Thomas ( <i>Marsha</i> )	336-5286	724-6073		<a href="mailto:smith580@zoominternet.net">smith580@zoominternet.net</a>
Spahr, John V. (Janet)	547-5840			<a href="mailto:pj.spahr@zoominternet.net">pj.spahr@zoominternet.net</a>
Stainbrook, Robert ( <i>Marlene</i> )	336-2987	336-4130		<a href="mailto:dmd@hotmail.com">dmd@hotmail.com</a>
Stimpson, Donna	724-3347	336-1792		<a href="mailto:dstimpson@activeaging.org">dstimpson@activeaging.org</a>
VanNort, Bonnie	333-8321	333-3301		<a href="mailto:bonvannort@hotmail.com">bonvannort@hotmail.com</a>
Watson, Denny ( <i>Marilyn</i> )	382-1234	724-1234	671-1234	<a href="mailto:dwatson@mobilcom.net">dwatson@mobilcom.net</a>
Weber, M. Jean ( <i>Brian</i> )	382-4720			<a href="mailto:bandjweb@windstream.net">bandjweb@windstream.net</a>
Webster, Travis ( <i>Karen</i> )	336-9100	333-2161		<a href="mailto:traviswebster@meadvillefpc.org">traviswebster@meadvillefpc.org</a>
Woodworth, Melissa			671-0136	<a href="mailto:lionmissyw@yahoo.com">lionmissyw@yahoo.com</a>

### Committees 2008-2009

Note: First person listed is the chairperson

#### **Under 1st Vice President Barb Lucas**

##### **Audit-Finance-Budget**

S Ladner, D Nola & T Webster

##### **Convention, Constitution & Bylaws**

D Dine & D Hollern

##### **Sight Conservation—Eye Screening**

K Faivre, J Ladner, J Shumaker & B Jensen

##### **Social- Recreation**

J Ladner & Everyone

##### **Publicity**

C Fiorillo & B Heintz

##### **Fair Booth**

D Dine, H Lucas & G Faivre

#### **Under 2nd Vice President Doug Nola**

##### **Attendance & Visitation**

G. Faulds

##### **Music & Jestng**

J Weber

##### **Ways & Means**

B Lucas

##### **Greeters**

S. Hollern & J. Ladner

##### **Civic Improvements**

K Faivre, R Collins & L Peters

#### **Under 3rd Vice President Cindy Fiorillo**

##### **Programming**

C Fiorillo & S Hollern

##### **Environment**

J Salak

##### **Membership/Retention**

D Hollern & R Sharp

##### **Good Will**

S Hollern

### **PROGRAM ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE**

*For July 2008 through June 2009*

<b>JULY 3</b>	<b>NONE</b>
<b>JULY 17</b>	<b>GEORGE FLOWERS</b>
<b>AUGUST 7</b>	<b>MARTHA CONSOLA</b>
<b>AUGUST 21</b>	<b>FAIR</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 4</b>	<b>JUDY SHUMAKER</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 18</b>	<b>CINDY FIORILLO</b>
<b>OCTOBER 2</b>	<b>TOM SMITH</b>
<b>OCTOBER 16</b>	<b>BETSY HEINTZ</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 6</b>	<b>R COLLINS</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 20</b>	<b>THANKSGIVING</b>
<b>DECEMBER 4</b>	<b>SHARON HOLLERN</b>
<b>DECEMBER 18</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS</b>
<b>JANUARY 1</b>	<b>NEW YEAR'S</b>
<b>JANUARY 15</b>	<b>LINDA PETERS</b>
<b>FEBURUARY 5</b>	<b>DOUG NOLA</b>
<b>FEBURUARY 19</b>	<b>MINDY COLE</b>
<b>MARCH 5</b>	<b>ARDEN HUGHES</b>
<b>MARCH 19</b>	<b>BONNIE VAN NORT</b>
<b>APRIL 2</b>	<b>ROBERT SANTORA</b>
<b>APRIL 16</b>	<b>ROBERT STAINBROOK</b>
<b>MAY 7</b>	<b>JEANWEBER</b>
<b>MAY 21</b>	<b>DENNY WATSON</b>



*Meadville Lions Club  
Officers  
2008—2009*

<b>President</b>	<b>Karen Faivre</b>
1st Vice President	Barb Lucas
2nd Vice President	Doug Nola
3rd Vice President	Cynthia Fiorillo
Secretary	Melissa Woodworth
Treasurer	Jeffrey Davis
Tail Twister	Major Garth Faulds
Lion Tamer	Florence Hughes & Mindy Cole
1st Year Directors	John Salak Martha Consla Major Garth Faulds
2nd Year Directors	Scott Ladner Dutch Dine Jean Weber
3rd Year Directors	Dave Hollern Larry Mineweaser Arden Hughes
Newsletter Editor	Dave Hollern
Immediate Past President	Rob Sharp

**International President  
2008-2008  
Albert F. Brandel  
Melville, New York, USA**

**District 14F Governor  
2008-2009  
Becky Eldridge  
Warren Lions Club  
211 Jefferson St.  
Warren, PA 16365  
814-726-0731**

**\* Important**  
To Insure You Have a Meal at Our Gen-  
eral Meetings Please let King Lion Karen  
know the Tuesday Before the Meeting  
that You Will Attend



**Remember To Visit Our Web Site**  
**@ [www.meadvillelions.com](http://www.meadvillelions.com)**