



THE LION'S MANE

The Westminster Lions Club Monthly Newsletter | October 2026



The Mane Thing: President's Message from Lion Cliff Smith

As Lions, we serve ... and we also set an example for our community. Over the past month, we've achieved great success with our September 17 Steak, Sausage and Corn Feed that raised more than \$2,300 — money that will fuel our ongoing efforts to help our neighbors who need help: warm clothes, hearty food, items that give them a better chance to stay healthy, keep learning and have access to resources and connections that are kind, supportive and life-affirming. Special thanks to all those who had a hand in planning the event and to our volunteers ... Your hard work is a blessing.

I HAVE HOPE AND FAITH that the Westminster Lions Club will continue to grow, thrive and *make a difference that matters*. I look at our club and am heartened by the work we do. What we do is no small thing: These acts of kindness lift up others and ourselves and should make us all feel humbled and proud.

With pride and gratitude,

Lion Cliff

Events Happening Soon ...

Veterans' Night at the Westminster VFW

Thursday, Nov. 12, Westminster VFW

Social Hour, 6 pm; Dinner, 6:30 pm

To honor and thank our veterans, featuring guest speaker and honored veteran Lion Carroll Smith from the Terra Rubra Lions Club. Dinner is offered; Lion Susie will email the club with meal pricing details as soon as this information is available.

Contact Lion [Cliff Smith](#) (443-340-0218) with any questions. We hope to see you there!

Please note: At the last meeting, the club agreed to sponsor two community families for Thanksgiving.

Members are encourage to bring their donated non-perishable holiday meal items (canned vegetables, gravies, instant mashed potatoes, etc.) to each of our November meetings. Questions, please contact Lion [Barb Hayes](#) (410-596-1483).

Brave Bags Service Project

Take part in our first 22W Vice District Governor (VDG) Service Challenge for Youth by chipping in to help us assemble and distribute 25 Brave Bags for students at the Gateway School in Westminster, which serves students with specialized learning, behavioral or emotional needs.

Brave Bags are a sort of care package for students meant to support them as they transition to middle school or face other challenges. The Brave Bags 'wish list' is attached (see the flier) and all donated items will be "bagged" after our Veterans' Night celebration. Please be generous! Your donation of a journal, a pen, a stress ball or fidget toy and an encouraging message can help let a child in crisis know he or she is not alone. If you have any questions, please contact [Lion Wendy Beares](#) (443-974-6152).

Veterans Giving Tree Project

TBD, Westminster Walmart

The Westminster Lions Club is planning to host its annual donation drive at the Westminster Walmart, “planting” our holiday giving tree inside the store, seeking community donations in support of local military veterans and servicepeople. [Lion Wendy](#) (443-974-6152) is working diligently with Walmart to secure a date and will provide more information as it becomes available; please stay tuned.

Winter Wonderland Holiday Shop

Thursday, Dec. 3, 9 am - 2 pm, Own Our Own

‘Tis almost the season! We are currently collecting items to help give happier holidays to needy families and individuals in our community. For details about needed donations and volunteering, please contact Lion [Barb Hayes](#) (410-596-1483).

Upcoming Meetings & Things to Know

Regular meetings are at 6:30 pm on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at the Westminster VFW. All members are welcome to attend.

- **Thursday, Oct. 22** (Board meeting at 5:30 pm; regular meeting to follow at 6:30 pm)
- **Thursday, Nov. 12** (regular meeting)

District 22W’s next **Cabinet Meeting** is on Saturday, Nov. 14, at 10 am at Benevola United Methodist Church in Boonsboro. Contact [Lion Wendy](#) (443-974-6152) for more information.

Club Collections Update

Yay for us! In September, we collected:

- Little Reading Library – 67 books

This month, we are collecting for Diabetes Awareness. We’re also hoping to collect gently used 100% cotton t-shirts for Roar Like a Lion projects.

Ongoing collections:

- **Toys and gifts for children with cancer** at the Children’s Hospital at Sinai. See [our website](#) for details and contact [Lion Wendy](#) (443-974-6152) for more information.

- **Gently used eyeglasses and hearing aids** for the needy. Contact please contact [Lion Milton Zepp](#) (410-596-5491) for more information. Last month, Milton collected nearly 400 pairs of glasses and helped the Frederick Lions sort *thousands of pairs* of glasses and prep them for distribution to the needy!

Take a Chance and Show You Care

We are hosting a number of creative raffles this season and ask that all Lions sell and purchase tickets as they can. Questions? Contact [Lion Lee Miller](#) (410-596-0259).

Turkey Raffle – In good time for the Thanksgiving holiday, and also includes at \$50 gift card generously donated by our local Westminster Weis Markets store. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The drawing will be held on Nov. 12, and you need not be present to win. Proceeds benefit our region’s Lions Youth Foundation.

Fruit Basket – Donated by our good friends at Baugher’s Restaurant and Fruit Market, which also includes a \$65 Baugher’s gift card. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5, and the winner will be drawn on Dec. 10. You need not be present to win. Proceeds benefit the Lions Vision Research Foundation.

Stay up-to-date: For more information about ongoing and upcoming programs and events, please [visit our web page](#).

Sponsor a Wreath for our Veterans Wreaths Across America

Sat., Dec. 19, Noon, Meadow Branch Cemetery
Purchase a wreath for a serviceperson’s grave to help remember the fallen, honor those who serve and teach children the value of freedom. You can volunteer to deliver wreaths, sponsor a wreath or take part in the commemorative ceremony. Contact [Lion Wendy](#) (443-974-6152) for more information.

Look at Us Go!

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS — from the Pride —



What's the story?

Our **annual Steak, Sausage and Corn Feed on September 17** was a big hit! Our pride showed up in force to (literally!) serve our community and raise money to make Westminster a happier, healthier and kinder place to live, work, celebrate ... and eat! Special thanks to Lions Barb, Wendy, Ron and Melissa for making the event a smashing success, and thank you to every Lion who showed up to serve.

Are You Going?

LionsCon 27 is Coming ...

The International Convention — LionsCon 27 — will be held July 2-6, 2027 in Washington, D.C. As part of the host district, we're going to need a lot of help from volunteers! Learn more on the [LionsCon website](#) or contact [Lion Lee Miller](#) (410-596-0259).

Support the Pride:

Other District 22W Events

[Canines on the Creek](#)

Host: Francis Scott Key Lions Club

Saturday, Oct. 24, Noon-5 pm

Carroll Creek Linear Park Amphitheater

Featuring a doggy parade and Halloween-themed costume contest, along with plenty of pet-related exhibitors and fun demonstrations. All proceeds benefit Leader Dogs for the Blind and local Lions Clubs charities.

[Step Up for Diabetes Awareness Walk](#)

Host: Union Bridge Lions Club

Saturday, Nov. 7, 10 am-2 pm

Krimgold Park, Woodbine, MD

Mark your calendars! Here's a chance to step up for diabetes awareness and have a great time outdoors with the whole family! Every step makes a difference and supports diabetes education and research efforts.

Curious about what other clubs are doing and how you can help? See [our website](#) for more information about these and other area Lions events.

Questions about anything you've read? Reach out to [Lion Susie Coursey](#) (443-974-0940). Contact [Lion Kris Roeder](#) (410-371-9698) to submit content ideas for upcoming issues. *Thank you for your service!*

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Westminster Lions Club

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Taking pride in our community
for more than 80 years!

[LionsClubofWestminster.org](#)