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**DECEMBER, 2010**

<i>MONTHLY MEETINGS:</i> Thursday, December 2	<b>7:00 PM</b>	Norvelt EMS Building Regular Monthly Meeting
<b>Monday, December 13</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Norvelt GC Restaurant Annual Christmas Party</b>

*ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY:* Our annual Christmas party will be held on **MONDAY**, December 13, at the Norvelt GC Restaurant. All reservations must be received by "**Friday, December 3**". The reservation form is on page 2 of the November newsletter. The social begins at 6:00 PM followed by dinner at 6:30 PM. Please read the menu selections carefully and complete your choice of salad, soup and main entrée when returning your reservation. The cost is \$25.00 per person. Please mail or bring your reservation form to the December 2 meeting. The restaurant will be closed that evening for our "private" party. Hope to see many members in attendance!

*2010 MEETING SCHEDULE:* Please note the schedule of our meetings as listed above for December. The first meeting in December has been moved forward by one week in order not to conflict with the Christmas party. We will resume our regular monthly meeting schedule in January 2011.

*SUB SALE:* We will hold our regular Friday and Saturday sub sale in November. In December: December 3 & December 4 and January: January 7 and January 8. Saturday sale begins at 8:00 AM at the Hurst crossroads for the Saturday sales, weather permitting. Please help.

*BELL RINGING:* Members of our club who volunteered to ring the bell on Friday, December 3, at the Norvelt Open Pantry are reminded to be present for their designated times. Call Joe Kennedy if you have forgotten your time slot. Usually, our club collects more than any other group.

*CHRISTMAS WITH THE LIONS:* This annual social event will be held on Friday, December 10, at the Four Points Sheraton in Greensburg. Tickets are \$30.00 per person. Festivities begin with a wine and cheese hour at 6:00 PM, followed by dinner at 7:00 PM. Live performances by "Premo and the Times Before" band are planned from 8:30 to 10:00 PM. This event is primarily sponsored by the Lions of 14E and 14B, and it benefits the Lions Diabetes Center of UPMC McKeesport. There will also be a Chinese auction, a 50-50 drawing along with a cash bar. Please contact Ron Somers if you're interested in attending since the club is trying to arrange for the purchase of a table for 8. Reservation deadline is Friday, December 3.

*PANCAKE BREAKFAST:* The date for our next breakfast is Sunday, February 20, at Roosevelt Hall. Please volunteer to work with your fellow members and enjoy the commerradie. Time is 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Details in January newsletter.

*SUMMER CONCERTS:* Plans are underway to sponsor two Saturday night musical concerts next summer at the Pony League pavilion in Norvelt. We'll need a committee for this event to begin the groundwork for these concerts in 2011.

*CHRISTMAS DISTRIBUTION:* Our club will again distribute \$60.00 food certificates to needy families or individuals within the Mt Pleasant area during the Christmas season. Please contact Ray Mears, Joe Yuhas or Terry Struble if you know of any worthy recipients. Distribution date is Saturday morning, December 11.

*MEMORY TREE:* A \$100 donation was sent to the Excelsa Frick Foundation Memory Tree program in memory of our deceased members. The program in 2010 benefits the Automated External Defibrillator Fund.

*INCORPORATION:* Terry Jackson will lead the club in the incorporation procedure through Lions International. The process should be completed in approximately 6 months. The approximate cost will be \$750. The incorporation of the club will eliminate the potential for financial responsibility by our members if our club would become involved in any lawsuits. 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Dave Stitely has volunteered to assist our club with the procedure. Terry has begun the paperwork with the legal firm affiliated with Lions International regarding incorporation.

THE OFFICERS OF THE CLUB WISH ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES  
A MERRY CHRISTMAS, A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON, AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

# **IN MEMORIAM**

**PDG ANDREW B. VAHALY**

**BORN: OCTOBER 13, 1926**

**DIED: NOVEMBER 13, 2010**

It is with deep sadness that we report the recent death of our member, PDG Andrew, B. Vahaly. Andy died after a brief illness following a recent fall. Andy will be truly missed by our club since he was our guiding light, and we relied on his insight in solving problems associated with serving the disadvantaged of our community for so many years. Andy was our oldest member, 84; and had the most years of membership, 57. Since our charter in 1948, Andy was our only member thus far to attain the office of District Governor, and our club was truly proud of him.

Andy joined our club in August 1953 and was sponsored by Harry Strandberg. During his fifty-seven years of service, he had served on the board of directors and numerous committees. His offices included: first vice president, secretary and president 1957-58, 1968-69 and 1998-99. He served District 14E as Zone Chairman from 1972 to 1976, Deputy District Governor from 1977 to 1980 and District Governor during 1980-1981. Andy also served on many district and state committees. His humanitarian efforts through his Lion years certainly helped to make our planet a "Small World" which was his theme song for the Lions during his tenure as District Governor. He also received a Melvin Jones Award in 1981. Our club honored Andy for 50 years of service with a gala banquet on September 14, 2003 at the Roosevelt Hall in Norvelt with Past International Director LeGrand W. Perce III as the principal speaker.

In 1950, Andy married Virginia Boytim, the same young lady he escorted to our initial charter night since her father was one of our charter members. Following completion of his military assignment, he returned to complete his education at St. Vincent College in Latrobe. Upon his graduation, he worked for AMCO of Norvelt Inc. Andy and Virginia settled in Norvelt and raised three children, Richard, Suzanne and the late Andrew Jr. Currently Richard resides in Lancaster, PA with his wife, Kathleen, and daughter, Christine. Suzanne lives in Leesburg, VA with her husband, Curtis Smith and three sons, Joshua, Mitchell and Jacob. In 1966, Andy became president and owner of the Perry Manufacturing Corp. in Perryopolis and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1966. He was also part owner of the Viking Drive-In (now Chump's) in Norvelt in the 60's and 70's.

Andy was a member of St. Florian Church, the Latrobe Elks Lodge, Mt. Pleasant VFW, the St. Vincent Bearcat Athletic Club, and the St. Vincent Alumni Association where he was a very active member.

Since his retirement, Andy continued his service with our club. He also worked in the garden and cared for the lawn whenever Virginia wasn't cutting the grass. But his real love was to play golf. He once had a hole-in-one, and he and Virginia wore out several sets of tires with their numerous trips from Norvelt to the Elks Golf Club in Latrobe. Unfortunately, Andy's eyesight began to limit his playing time during the past few years. He also enjoyed that daily trip to the Norvelt Open Pantry to help support the State of Pennsylvania, and he also liked to visit the casinos in the area.

Friends were received at the Hoffer Funeral Home in Norvelt on November 14 and 15. A Mass of Christian burial was concelebrated at St. Florian Church on November 16. Interment was at the St. Vincent Cemetery in Latrobe with full military honors.

Andy was truly honored by our club when 32 club members along with many PDG's and officers of District 14E attended the prayer service conducted by 14E Chaplain, Lion Robert Mesher, at the funeral home on the evening of November 16. Ten of our members served as honorary pallbearers, two sang in the choir at the Mass and one served at the altar at his funeral. It was our final tribute and farewell to a great person and a great Lion.

Our club expresses its deepest sympathy to Virginia, her son and daughter and their families. We also extend our sympathy to fellow club members, John Boytim and Paul Mondock, who were his brothers-in-law and to his nephew, Dr. David Mondock. We will all remember Andy for his time and efforts he gave to our club. He was a door to door broom salesman, a White Cane collector, a volunteer at the fair food stand and many other activities to numerous to mention. May his soul REST IN PEACE.



