



Lions Code of Ethics

To show my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.

To seek success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

To remember that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.

Whenever a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards my fellow men, to resolve such doubt against myself.

To hold friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

Always to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state and my community, and to give to them my unswerving loyalty in word, act and deed. To give them freely of my time, labor and means.

To aid my fellow men by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.

To be careful with my criticisms and liberal with my praise; to build up and not destroy.

1923

1983

60th Anniversary



Fairmont Lions Club

Fairmont, West Virginia

Saturday, April 30, 1983

Fairmont Field Club Ballroom
Fairmont, West Virginia



FAIRMONT LIONS CLUB

P.O. Box 1164
Fairmont, West Virginia 26554

Greetings and Welcome.....

to the Fairmont Lions Club members, former members, visiting Lions, ladies and other distinguished guests who have tonight come to celebrate with us the 60th Anniversary of the founding of our club.

We especially want to honor all of our Past Presidents with us tonight and to pay our respects to those who have served during these past 60 years. Special note should be made of the tenure of our very good Lion, Dr. Paul F. Opp, who served us as President during 1934-35 and is our earliest surviving President in the Fairmont club.

From the organization of our club in 1923, the Fairmont Lions Club is proud to have completed six decades of service to the community and proud to be one of the 35, 785 clubs in 157 nations of the world, with nearly one and one-half million members.

Lionism has grown beyond most Lions' fondest dreams in 1923. And there is little reason to doubt that the next 60 years will show an even greater growth of our organization. We do know for certain that, in the words of our beloved Founder of the International Association of Lions Clubs,

"There will always be a land of beyond for Lions International, with a goal that keeps growing larger and larger as we approach it but always just outside our reach, challenging us to work harder, run faster, and to give more."

Thank you for joining us in celebrating the Fairmont Lions Club's sixty years of service.

Ralph J. Michael
Ralph J. Michael
President

Gerald Warren
Gerald Warren, P.D.G.
Chairman
60th Anniversary Committee

Looking Back To 1923

It was 1923, and the United States of America had only recently come out of a "war to end all wars." Warren G. Harding was President and Calvin Coolidge was his vice president.

The World War that had raged in Europe only a few years earlier had forced the country from a period of relative isolationism into a growing leadership role the nation was perhaps not quite ready to assume.

In Egypt, the inner tomb of Tutankhomen had been opened just two months before, and reports still were enthralling the world with stories of undreamed splendor still untouched after 3400 years.

The winds of change were everywhere. Vladimir Ulianov, or Nikolai Lenin as he was known to his Bolshevik compatriots who assisted him in seizing control of Russia, was solidifying his powers and building a new political and geographic nation—the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. In India, still firmly under British colonial rule, Mohandas K. Gandhi sat in prison, arrested on charges of sedition.

Amid labor unrest, West Virginia—still less than 60 years old—was becoming increasingly important to an industrially-developing nation, with its vast oil, gas, and coal reserves. A West Virginian, John W. Davis, was being considered as a viable candidate for President on the Democratic ticket for the following year.

Fairmont, in the heart of West Virginia's growing bituminous coal industry, was a thriving community with over 18,000 people and a county population of 55,000. Downtown Fairmont, with a modern streetcar system that brought residents of nearby communities to the business district, was bustling, and several new commercial buildings had been recently constructed or were under construction. The Fairmont State Normal School had only a few years earlier moved to its new location on Locust Avenue and was seeking permission to grant a degree in education.

It was in this atmosphere, then, that the Fairmont Lions Club was born with the granting of a charter by the International Association of Lions Clubs on April 20, 1923, becoming West Virginia's sixth Lions Club and the first club in north central West Virginia. Lionism was on the move throughout the United States and Canada, with clubs in 42 states and four provinces.

Starting at the YMCA in Fairmont, the Fairmont Lions Club soon moved its meetings to the prestigious Fairmont Hotel, where it held Friday noon meetings until 1935, when it switched to Friday evening meetings to accommodate members from outlying businesses and industries. Then, in 1980, the Fairmont Lions Club said "farewell" for good to the Fairmont Hotel and Friday evening meetings.

Today, as we look back upon our first 60 years, we can only speculate or report from news clippings and hearsay what that first meeting at the Fairmont YMCA must have been like. For, we have not one single surviving member from among the charter members of 1923. The last surviving charter member, Dr. H. R. Yost, the first president, was ill during our fiftieth anniversary program in 1973 and died shortly after that date.

We do today, however, number among our members those who well could have been in that original organizing group had they been in the right place at the right time, or had someone asked them as younger men. For, several of our members can vividly remember the end of World War I, the horse and buggy and later the advent of the automobile and crystal set radios, and their first sighting of an airplane.

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Since the Fairmont Lions Club came into existence those 60 years ago, our nation and our world have seemingly grown much smaller through the growing importance of the automobile, the airplane, the trans-oceanic jet, and the many ventures into space. But, the purpose to which Lionism was born—fellowship and service—remains as important today as it was on April 20, 1923. Today, we see third generation Lions members still dedicated to these same principles. And, our younger members certainly can well be here to toast us and others who have come before them as they gather together to observe the 120th anniversary of Lionism in Fairmont and Marion County on an April evening in 2043.



Lions Clubs

Sponsored by the Fairmont Lions

Farmington Lions Club	1929
Rivesville Lions Club	1942
Fairview Lions Club	1945
Worthington Lions Club	1945
Mannington Lions Club	1945
Barrackville Lions Club	1957
Idamay Lions Club	1963
Union District Lions Club	1966
Cross Roads Lions Club	1971
Fairmont East Lions Club	1972
Whitehall Lions Club	1974
Bellview Lions Club	1976
Indian Creek Lions Club	1981
East Grafton Road Lions Club	1983

In addition, clubs sponsored by the Fairmont Lions Club have sponsored a total of 18 additional clubs, and these clubs in turn have sponsored at least six other clubs.

Charter Members

FAIRMONT LIONS CLUB — FAIRMONT, W. VA.

Organized by: V. M. Davidson, Field Director, International Association of Lions Clubs

Organizational Date and Official Charter Date: April 20, 1923

Charter Presentation Date: April 23, 1923

President	<i>Dr. Herschel R. Yost</i>
Vice President	<i>Floyd J. Patton</i>
Secretary	<i>Lawrence G. Boggs</i>
Treasurer	<i>Phil S. Bentel</i>
Lion Tamer	<i>G. G. Smith</i>
Tail Twister	<i>George E. Martch</i>
Director (2 year term)	<i>Arch F. Brownfield</i>
Director (2 year term)	<i>Harry L. Walsh</i>
Director (1 year term)	<i>C. B. Glasscock</i>
Director (1 year term)	<i>Albert M. Rowe</i>

*Ira A. Akins
Paul E. Amos
Phil S. Bentel
J. V. Blair, Jr.
Lawrence G. Boggs
Arch F. Brownfield
Bert Cousins
E. Deitz
Reno Fleming
C. B. Glasscock
Gilbert Gwynn
M. L. Hamilton
Ray Harden
Willis Hawley, Jr.
Dr. W. H. Hess
S. L. Johnson*

*Bert G. Linn
George E. Martch
John W. Martin
George McCaig
M. E. Miller
Benton Mitchell
Dr. Fred L. Morris
Luke Ollis
Floyd J. Patton
Harry S. Price
Albert M. Rowe
Victor Shaw
G. G. Smith
Harry L. Walsh
Max D. Wilson
Dr. Herschel R. Yost*