



**We Serve**

Past District Governor – 2018-19

Lion Gerry Beachy

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### **FVDG Charlie Croft nomination speech**

I first met Lion Charlie when visiting the LaVale Lions Club, where he served as secretary. He did his job very well, and I knew this from being secretary in the Grantsville Lions Club. I approached Lion Charlie about 2 years before being District Governor about being Cabinet Secretary. He told me he would think about it and after several discussions, he agreed. As Cabinet Secretary, he fulfilled the job very well. He was dedicated to the job with attention to details which made my year as District Governor successful. He contacted the clubs prior to our visits and each visit went very well. His dedication was over and above and was much appreciated.

Lion Charlie went on most of our club visits along with my wife, Lion Sue. We agreed to meet up in Cumberland on our way to most of our club visits. The first meeting was very scary, meeting in a parking garage where we were both met by strange looking men, two on a motorcycle and another near a car. We agreed to meet at another, safe location where Lion Charlie was always on time, learning to drink coffee on the way to our visits.

Lion Charlie joined the LaVale Lions Club in 1982. He served as president of the club, and as secretary for 20 years. He also has served as Zone Chair, Region Chair and Cabinet Secretary, all while remaining as secretary of his club. He became Second Vice District Governor in 2019 and as First Vice District Governor in 2020. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, a LaVale Lion of the year and a recipient of the Knights for the Blind Pyramid award from our Lions Vision Research Foundation. He also is a recipient of the District Governor's Commendation Medal

and the International President's Certificate of Appreciation. Lion Charlie is a graduate of the Advanced Lions Leadership Institute and has received a bachelor's and master's degree from the USA/Canada Forum Leadership Institute.

Lion Charlie is a graduate of Frostburg State University where he received a bachelor's and master's degree. He worked for First People's Community Federal Credit Union for 43 years and is a member and Past Chairman of the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce. Lion Charlie is involved in his church, serving as a lay minister and many other positions. He and his wife, Sherry reside in Short Gap, West Virginia.

Lion Charlie is very well prepared for being our next District Governor and has a true heart for Lionism. I am proud to nominate my friend, Lion Charlie Croft to the high office of District 22-W Governor for 2021-2022.