District Website gets a Makeover

Have you visited the District 3 site recently? If not you need to check out [http://d3.lpaonline.org](http://d3.lpaonline.org) The site got a major overhaul and we hope it will become a valuable resource to you.

On the site you will find, the history of District 3, calendar of events, the video montages, and much more. We also will be adding newsletters from the archives. If you have any old District 3 newsletters, please feel free to contact Stephanie at sbrandon@d3lpa.org.

Along with the new site we are streamlining the look of the district and chapters. Have you realized that each chapter has its own color? District is green, MarValous is purple, Carolinian is light blue, Colonial is orange, Ches Del Bays is red, and Blue Ridge is dark blue. Each chapter has a history page on the website. If you have anything that needs to be added to a chapter page or you noticed that some information is incorrect please email info@d3lpa.org.

You will also notice that all the officers now have @d3lpa.org email addresses. This once...

Story continues on page 4 titled “Website”
Letter from the District Director

Hello members! I hope the new year is treating you well. This is always the time of year that I enjoy with so many things coming up for the year. A regional is coming up, National plans are being made, and local chapter events are getting planned throughout the year. Registration for our Spring Regional in Concord, NC has just closed and currently we have over 150 people registered! It’s going to be an exciting weekend and I want to thank the Carolinian Chapter for all their hard work.

I have signed the contract for the Fall 2015 Regional which will be held September 25th-27th at the BWI Airport Marriott right outside of Baltimore, Maryland. The hotel is very nice and the location is perfect by the airport so those flying in can easily access it. If you are interested in helping plan the fall regional please contact Claire Campbell at ccampbell@d3lpa.org.

I’m also excited to announce that we held our first officer’s conference call a few weekends ago. As you may or may not know the only time we get to meet is at the regional where there is already a lot going on. It was great to be able to talk to the chapter officers, share ideas and form plans for future action items.

As always if you ever have any questions or comments feel free to email me at sbrandon@d3lpa.org and I look forward to seeing you soon!

-Stephanie Brandon

District 3 Director

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District 3 Treasurer’s Report - 4th Quarter 2014 ending December 31, 2014

Respectfully Submitted by Cathy Hughes

<table>
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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Checking Account Balance</td>
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<td>Restricted Funds:</td>
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<td>D3 Teens</td>
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<td>Savings Account (Eyler-Geddie Fund) Balance</td>
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<td>2014 Fall Regional Expenses</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,769.33</strong></td>
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Regional Minutes

Wilmington General Assembly Meeting

The meeting was called to order by District Director, Stephanie Brandon, at 11:05AM.

Previous Spring 2014 Regional minutes were not read as they were published in the last newsletter. An addendum was made correcting “Spring” to “Fall” in the minutes and a motion to approve the addendum was needed. Claire Campbell made the motion, Katie Miller seconded it, all were in favor and the motion was approved.

97 people are registered for this regional so-far.

The Treasurer’s report was posted on screen and reviewed with the membership by David Miller for the absent Cathy Hughes, District 3 Treasurer.

1) $23,603.44 in Assets/ $3,829.59 in Expenses/ $2,881.98 Income

2) Katie Miller made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report as published, Colleen Giofredda seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the report was accepted

Unfinished Business:

Spring 2014 Regional netted a loss of $1,067.90. There were 71 in attendance.

Facebook- the District’s FB page has 384 members & growing.

E-Newsletter conversion to email is going well. There were 40 paper copies of the last newsletter mailed. Fall Regional Packet sent to unpaid members had a click rate of 2.1%.

Eyler Geddie Fund- Update from Jim Davis, chairman; 4 committee members have been selected and they are Dee Miller, Stephanie Wolf, Tim Best and Colleen Giofredda. The fund is at almost $14,000. The second draft of the guidelines for the fund is being reviewed. Again the order of recipients would be members of the MarValous Chapter, District 3 Members, and then National LPA members.

Stephanie presented a recap from the National in San Diego this past summer. Michael Petruzzelli was introduced. He is the District 2 Director who was also in San Diego with Stephanie at the Council of Directors meeting. She presented to the council on technology that could streamline the district directors work so they would have more time and resources for their district business.

Elections - The following individuals were announced as running for district positions:

Stephanie Brandon – Director

Greg Lawrence – Assistant Director

Cathy Hughes – Treasurer

Sylvia France – Secretary

Calli Heimbach nominated Sylvia for Secretary, Dave Miller seconded, all were in favor, no objections.

Stephanie nominated Cathy Hughes for Treasurer, Sylvia seconded, all were in favor, no objections.

Dave Miller nominated Greg Lawrence for Assistant Director, Katie Miller seconded, all were in favor, no objections.

Claire Campbell nominated Stephanie Brandon for Director, Alex Best seconded, all were in favor, no objections.

Keith Connelly moved to close the nominations as stated, Katie Miller seconded, all were in favor, no objections, and the new slate of officers was accepted.

Stephanie thanked outgoing Asst. Director David Miller for his service.

New Business:

Membership Drive: Will be in effect now until Fall Regional in 2015. The Chapter with the highest percent (at least 10% or more) of new members will win

Story continues on page 5 titled “Election”
Attention Students! It’s Scholarship Application Time!

As part of our service to people with dwarfism and the community at large, LPA offers educational scholarships to prospective and current students attending college or vocational school in the United States. Awards can range from $250 to $1000 (sometimes more). A scholarship committee, headed by LPA’s Director of Programs, will selectively review all scholarship application packets.

Scholarships are given in order of preference to:
• members of LPA who have a medically diagnosed form of dwarfism
• immediate family members of dwarfs who are also paid members of LPA
• people with dwarfism who are not members of LPA

LPA scholarship awards shall be limited to two awards for undergraduate studies and one for graduate studies, effective beginning the 2015-2016 school year.

Some Helpful Tips...
• When filling out the application, be sure to follow the instructions carefully and send the complete scholarship application packet no later than the date listed on the application. Incomplete or late packets will be rejected.
• Do not wait until the last minute to assemble your scholarship application packet. You will need to contact the people writing reference letters early, so they can return them in a timely fashion.
• Write a letter of thanks if you receive an award. Other than being the polite thing to do, if you are planning to apply for scholarships again in the future, a thank you letter for past scholarships goes a long way in impressing the scholarship committee.
• Get involved with LPA! We are a volunteer organization and any student who has shown a willingness to volunteer his or her time will look good to the scholarship committee. Ask your local chapter or district officer how you can be of service. Indicate how you plan to help on your personal statement.

If you are interested in applying contact your local LPA chapter president or district director to obtain scholarship applications.

Website continued from cover page

again is to keep the same look with everyone and we are excited to give the officers email addresses if they want them.

Photos are always needed on the site. If you ever have pictures that you would like to have on the website just email us at info@d3lpao.org. Just keep in mind that the photos need to be photos that you took and that professionally taken photos we have to have the rights of the photographer to post them online; which we are happy to post as long as they give us the rights.

We are also excited about the ease of updating and maintaining the website. One does not have to know computer code to update the site so it’s easy for the District officers to be trained on how to update and maintain the site.

Now go check out the site! http://d3.lpaonline.org
CHAPTER UPDATES:

**MarValous:** Claire Campbell presented. A new family came to their 9/13/14 meeting. On 10/18 a gathering at Cox Farms is scheduled. Their Christmas Party will be held 12/14/14 in Montgomery. Officers were introduced: Claire Campbell is President, Katie Miller is VP, Jim Gioffreda is Treasurer and Melissa Willetts is Secretary. Conner Gioffreda is teen coordinator.

**Carolinian:** Calli Heimbach gave the update advising the chapter held its elections. She was re-elected as President, Alex Best is VP, Amanda Tisdale is Treasurer, and Peg Nelson is Secretary. Their next meeting is 10/18/14 in Folly Beach, SC for Dwarfism Awareness. They are raffling off a 64 GB I-Pad for the event. The Holiday party will be held 12/6/14 and the Spring 2015 Regional has been announced for Concord, NC.

**Colonial:** Their elections are upcoming. Jeff Barfield the current president is asking for nominations. On 10/18/14 their Dwarfism Awareness event is scheduled and there are several playdates planned.

**Ches Del Bays:** Keith Connolley gave the update. Their Dwarfism Awareness event/anniversary dinner is scheduled for 11/9/14 in Dover, DE. The Christmas party is scheduled for 12/14/14 at Wendy Seichepine’s home.

Their current officers are Wendy S. President, Beth McDonald, VP, Pat Connelly Treasurer and Keith Connelly Secretary.

**Blue Ridge:** Currently restructuring. They are looking to increase membership.

Regional notes- Group Photo will be taken at 6:30 on the patio. Dinner is in the “Le Chameleion” room next to the patio.

Stephanie asked for questions or comments. Michael Petruzelli advised the national teen coordinator is stepping down so they are looking for new volunteers. Technically it is an appointed position. Colleen Gioffreda inquired about the D-3 website and Stephanie advised it is being updated.

Gift card drawing was held and Colin Miller pulled Alex Best’s name. Alex was not in attendance at the time, so a second name was pulled. Susan Scott was in attendance and received the Target $25 gift card. A total of 40 members attended the meeting.

Joe France made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Josh Scott seconded, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 11:58am.

Respectfully submitted,
Sylvia France
District Secretary
Upcoming Chapter Events

**April 2015**
- **Carolinian Chapter:** April 11th-12th
  - Overnight Camping Trip - Cheraw, SC
  - Contact cheimbach@d3lpa.org

**Colonial Chapter:** April 11
- Outer Banks of NC
- Contact wbrockwell@d3lpa.org

**Carolinian Chapter:** April 25th
- Chapter Meeting - High Point, NC
- Contact cheimbach@d3lpa.org

**May 2015**
- **Carolinian & Colonial Chapter** Group Event: May 2nd
  - Wilmington, NC
  - Contact either cheimbach@d3lpa.org or wbrockwell@d3lpa.org

**Carolinian Chapter:** May 16th
- Chapter Meeting - Murrells Inlet, SC
- Contact cheimbach@d3lpa.org

**June 2015**
- **Carolinian Chapter:** June 6th
  - Chapter Event - Charlotte, NC
  - Contact cheimbach@d3lpa.org

**September 2015**
- **D3 Fall Regional:** September 25th-27th
  - Linthicum, MD
  - Contact info@d3lpa.org

*For exact list of counties in chapter please contact a District or Chapter Officer*
Meet me in St. Louis

Plans are underway for a fantastic week at the LPA Conference in St. Louis July 3rd-July 9th, 2015. We will be staying at the Hyatt St. Louis at the Arch. Room rates for LPA registrants will be $134/night.

Exciting activities are scheduled for all ages. The youngsters will be reunited with their friends in the Child Care Room. The Caught in the Middle Group (CITM) will be overjoyed with the return of laser tag. The newly appointed teen coordinators are busy making their plans. Both our new and experienced parents will gather together for Parents Workshops, sharing information, stories and laughter. DAAA will return with their annual games, inspiring some friendly competition.

Conference attendees will also appreciate the return of our tried and true activities along with a few new surprises. And bring your flair to this year’s Awards Banquet with a “World’s Fair” theme as St. Louis was home of the 1904 World’s Fair and has many beautiful sites dating back to that time period.

Highlights for the Week
Friday, July 3rd – Opening dance & Registration

Saturday, July 4th – Workshops, Receptions & Trivia Night

Sunday, July 5th – Medical Workshops, Expo, St. Louis Cardinals vs. San Diego Padres Baseball and the Annual Family Fun Night

Monday, July 6th – General Assembly, Medical Clinics, St. Louis City Tour, Workshops, Expo and Fashion Show

Tuesday, July 7th – Outing to Forest Park, with the St. Louis Zoo, Missouri History Museum, St. Louis Art Museum, & St. Louis Science Center, Expo & Talent Show

Wednesday, July 8th – Workshops and a free afternoon to explore the Downtown City Park, Splash Pad for kids and the Gateway Arch, and the LPA Awards Banquet with dinner and dancing.

Thursday, July 9th – Complete the week with a trip to the Anheuser Bush Brewery and visit the famous Clydesdales, and final dance back at the Hyatt.

Gateway Arch
Right next door to the Hyatt, gather your friends and family and travel to the top of the Gateway Arch. Explore a period of great U.S. history, the famous Dred Scott decision, Lewis and Clark Explorations and the building of the Arch at the Old Courthouse.

Registration packets will be mailed out to all active LPA Members mid-March. Registration and hotel reservations will open on April 1, 2015.

Upcoming Nationals
2015
July 3rd-9th
Hyatt at the Arch
St. Louis, MO

2016
Boston Sheraton
Boston, MA

2017
Denver Sheraton
Denver, CO
Little People of America is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with dwarfism throughout their lives while celebrating with great pride Little People’s contribution to social diversity. LPA strives to bring solutions and global awareness to the prominent issues affecting individuals of short stature and their families.

**SAVE THE DATE**

September 25 - 27, 2015

2015 DISTRICT 3 FALL REGIONAL

Linthicum, Maryland (right outside of Baltimore, MD)

HOSTED BY THE MARVALOUS CHAPTER