District 3 Mourns a Good Friend

Submitted by Dee Miller

Charles Bailey Elder, Jr., passed away Aug. 4th at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Our first meeting of the Elder Family was at a local LPA gathering at the home of Kay Smith. His parents came first and then they went home and picked up “CB”. We remember the child as having a beautiful head of dark hair, bright eyes and a contagious grin. Little did we know that the whole family, especially Charlie, would have a lasting effect on all of us. After joining LPA they attended many national and local conferences. Charlie became the Little Little Prince in the LPA Royalty one year and years later took home the title of Teen Prince. He served his chapter & district as Teen Coordinator and Vice President and hosted many gatherings at his family home throughout the years. During the ‘89 Baltimore Conference his family was involved in all the events and planning. He was an active life member in LPA all of his life.

Over the years Charlie went through a number of health crises and had a number of serious surgeries and hospital stays at Hopkins. He was always optimistic and kept

Story continues on page 5 titled “Charlie”
Letter from the District Director

Hello Everyone! Since the last newsletter we lost two great guys, Charlie Elder and Ron Swiney. It reminds us all that life is precious and we never know how long we have with each other, so you must live your life to the fullest.

It was great going to Dallas and seeing District 3 members at the conference. Attending my first LPA Board Meeting as an official District Director was very fun. Be sure to read the article titled “A Delightful Time in Dallas” to find out about the important things that we talked about and voted on.

In August we returned to the Marriott Wardman park in DC for another National Planning meeting. The MarValous Chapter hosted a meeting during the morning and provided lunch in our suite. We then headed over to meet with the Conference Management Committee to discuss the status of the National.

This will be the first newsletter that will go out through email as well as mailed. Please be sure to look out for emails from the LPADistrict3@yahoo.com email address and make sure it doesn’t go in your spam. You might be interested to know that 60% of your annual dues goes to National, 20% to District and the other 20% to your chapter. We have around 250 paid members in the chapter so that’s just $112.50 in postage alone! Now luckily we are able to print it in color but we still have to get the paper, seals and then the time it takes to put it together.

I do want to say I’m sorry that this newsletter has not gotten out sooner. With everything going on the newsletter got neglected a little. So please forgive me.

Well that’s it for now! I look forward to seeing those of you who will be attending the Fall Regional in Greenville, SC in October!

-Stephanie Brandon
District 3 Director

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District 3 Treasurer’s Report - 2nd Quarter 2012 ending June 30, 2012

Respectfully Submitted by Cathy Hughes

Checking Account Balance $8,068.97
Savings Account (Samaritan’s fund) Balance $3,566.27

Q2 Expenses
Newsletter $174.16
Director Conference Stipend $500.00
2012 Spring Regional $6,837.93
Good Samaritan (2 families) $886.75
National Conference Ad $200.00

Q2 Income
2012 Spring Regional $5074.00
Interest $11
A Delightful Time in Dallas

There were nearly 1,800 attendees at the National 2012 LPA Conference held in Dallas, TX. There were lots of great events planned during the week such as the Mesquite Championship Rodeo (which included a Jonas Brothers sighting!), the DAAA events, the JFK Museum, the Circle R Ranch, and a wide variety of the great workshops.

The Conference Management Committee, along with the District 8 Conference Committee did an awesome job with the conference and everyone seemed to have a great time!

The Board of Directors amended a motion that would reshape LPA’s Governance Structure. LPA believes that this will be more beneficial to the operations and decisions for LPA’s future. More details are being worked out, but once things are finalized, they will be brought to the membership for a vote. Stephanie was asked to be on the Governance Committee and accepted.

During the Medical Advisory Board Meetings, there were many discussions about the drug that is being tested by BioMarin, questions, concerns on all fronts, but all in all, they were very resourceful. Much of the information that was conveyed is listed on the handout that was in our last District newsletter. Since there is a large range of views on this new research, LPA has decided that, while we may not make any endorsements toward this or any other similar treatments, we will respect the membership’s decision that elect to undergo these types of treatments.

During The General Assembly Meeting, the board showed the Public Service Announcement that will be displayed on the CBS Jumbotron, in Times Square about Little People of America. This PSA was to run 18 times a day for 13 weeks, starting in July and ending in September. It was estimated that 130 million people would see this PSA. LPA was given this opportunity when Neutron Media, who offers the ads, had a client who forfeited their time. To view the ad, check out the link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mlPAT4yvi0

Story continues on page 7 titled “Dallas”
Call for Historical items for DC National

We recently received an email from Jim Kay, the Historian for LPA. Each year, at the National Conference he puts up an exhibit of photos, documents, scrapbooks, memorabilia that is significant to LPA History. Typically, the focus of the exhibit is the District and Chapters adjacent to the location of the annual conference.

In the past he has developed a brief history, in photos and words, of the District and the Chapters which are displayed for four or five days during the annual conference. Photos for Chapters and the District can span from early days to the present. The history can include individuals who have made a significant contribution to District 3 and LPA and can include a list Chapter and District officers.

District 3 has a very rich History:

• Three founding members resided in the District: Robert Hinkson, Dan Turner & Launa Turner

• Robert Hinkson was the only Magistrate who has been an LPA member.

• District 3 is graced with Johns Hopkins University Hospital (JHUH) where Dr. McKusick practiced, and where eight Short Stature Clinics were held in the 1970’s.

• JHUH includes the Greenburg Skeletal Dysplasia Clinic which was the first skeletal Dysplasia Clinic in the US.

• Joan Weiss and Betty Elder, Social Workers at JHUH, developed early models for what later became the LPA Parent’s Auxiliary.

• The Idea Machine, Vol 1 and 2, which described low cost adaptations for LP’s, was published by JHUH.

• The Alfred I. duPont Hosp. for Children is located in Wilmington, Delaware and its head, Dr. MacKenzie, is Chair of the LPA Medical Advisory Board.

• The first International Conference for Little People was held in District 3 in 1982.

• The 2013 National Conference, scheduled for Washington, D.C., will be the fifth held in District 3. Prior conferences were held in Ashville, N.C., 1962 & 1974, and Baltimore, 1968 & 1989.

• Del-Marva Chapter, chartered in 1976 was among the first twenty chapters chartered by LPA.

• District 3 has members, Active and Inactive, who have been affiliated with LPA since the 1960’s. One such member is Dee Miller who recently retired from Johns Hopkins Hospital where she worked in the Greenberg Clinic and was the Coordinator for the LPA Medical Advisory Board.

Now the big part is deciding what we would like to see presented.

The LPA Archive has some photos, and some information about District and Chapter officers, events, and individuals who have made contributions to the success of District 3 in the past. If you have any photos or memorabilia that you would like to display please email it to us at LPADistrict3@yahoo.com. Be sure to list who is in the photos as well as dates and location. Also if you are interested in helping Jim with the exhibit just let us know. We will need help with setting it up as well as removal of the exhibit during the National Conference.

New District Teen Coordinator Announced

Hi District 3!

I am Chanel Sanchez, your new teen coordinator! I live with my aunt Sasha María, the LPA International Liaison, in Baltimore, Maryland. This semester I started my senior year at Towson University, where I am majoring in Elementary Education and Special Education. I work with children ranging in ages 3 months to high school seniors. My experience comes from various internships, private tutoring, church volunteering, and my community association. I look forward to meeting you and your Teens. Feel free to contact me at D3teens@gmail.com.

I look forward to our first get together at the District 3 Fall regional in Greenville, SC. If you have not done so already please sign up for the teen pizza pool party on Friday night. It’s only $5 and will be a great time. We will talk then and figure out what we want to do for Saturday. There is a Frankie’s Fun Park as well as a mall near the hotel.

Warmly,
Chanel Mercedes
Blast from D3 Past

While on our trip to DC in August Joanna Campbell, Executive Director for LPA, shared a book from the 25th Anniversary of LPA. We have reprinted one of the articles that was featured in the book which mentions District 3.

1968

District 3 hosted the 10th National Convention at the Lord Baltimore Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland, July 22-25. The convention host was Bob Spector.

A visit to the White House and all that Washington DC had to offer was a featured part of the Convention. The sightseeing tours were great.

Charles Bedow was elected President; Paul Jones Vice President; Charles Eyler, Treasurer; and Dee Dee Sass Miller secretary. Gerald Rasa became the newsletter editor.

Joe Alexander prepared and presented the first draft of the National Handbook. The Board of Directors were asked to look over the draft and make their comments.

One week prior to the National Convention Johns Hopkins invited 20 little people of various types of dwarfism to spend a week and go through the numerous tests. Osler 5 was indeed a convention prior to the convention.

Billy Barty was nominated for the President’s Committee for Employment of the Handicapped and received California’s Governor’s Trophy. Frank Lentini designed a holder to keep eye glasses from slipping from an Achondroplastic’s nose.

There was much dialogue to move forward and get the Little People of America Foundation Incorporated. The only major disagreement was some Board Members thought that the Foundation would eventually control the LPA organization.

Billy Barty presented his change in the constitution and a proposal to incorporated in major States. His plans was rejected as Lee Kitchens and the lawyers had already written the change for the constitution.

Charlie continued from the cover

his focus on the future. No matter the outcome he never gave up! There are many LPs whose lives CB touched, especially the members of the MarValous Chapter.

We all send our heartfelt condolences to the Elder Family. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to LPA. For their contact information please contact a District Officer.

Upcoming District 3 Regionals

- Fall 2012 - October 26th-28th
  Embassy Suites Hotel
  Greenville, SC
  Room Rate $109 plus tax

- Spring 2013 - April 19th-21st
  The Mariott Wardman Park
  Washington DC
  Room Rate $149 plus tax
Chapter Election Updates

The MarValous Chapter

The MarValous Chapter’s election was held on September 15th. Sasha Puyans was elected President, Bailey O’Connell Vice President, Dee Miller and John Yilmaz as coTreasurers, and Melissa Wilets as Secretary.

The Carolinian Chapter

The Carolinian Chapter’s election was held September 15th in Charlotte, NC. Calli Heimbach was elected president, Sally Laws Vice President, Amanda Tisdale Treasurer, and Peg Nelson Secretary.

The Colonial Chapter

The Colonial Chapter’s elections results were Jeff Barfield was elected president, Wendy Brockwell Vice President, Melissa Wasenberg Treasurer, and Leta Krieger Secretary.

The Ches Del Bay Chapter

The Ches Del Bay Chapter held their elections on September 9, 2012. Norman Rust, Jr. was elected President, Wendy Seichepine Vice President, Pat Connolley Treasurer and Melissa Hunter Secretary. The Chapter will be hosting their Dwarfism Awareness Event on Saturday October 13th at Timothys of Newark from 6-10pm. Adult tickets are $30 all you can eat buffet and kids meals are $10. Tickets are available by calling Wendy Seichepine at 302-465-7882.

The Blue Ridge Chapter

The Blue Ridge Chapter will be holding their elections soon. If you are interested in running for a position please contact Frances Floyd at ffloyd83@yahoo.com.

Chapter Officers

MarValous Chapter

Sasha Puyans
LPAMember@gmail.com
The Chapter consist of Washington, D.C., the Western part of Maryland and the top part of Virginia.

Carolinian Chapter

Calli Heimbach
carolinianchapterlpa@yahoo.com
The chapter consists of 100 mile radius of Charlotte, NC including all of South Carolina and the Western part of North Carolina.

Colonial Chapter

Jeff Barfield
heftyanddalevis@yahoo.com
The chapter consists of 100 mile radius of Emporia, VA.

Ches Del Bay Chapter

Norman Rust
Normanrustjr@yahoo.com
The chapter consists of the state of Delaware, the Eastern shore of Maryland and Virginia, east of the Chesapeake Bay, North-Northeast to the Susquehanna River to the Pennsylvania state line.

Blue Ridge Chapter

Frances Floyd ffloyd83@yahoo.com
The chapter consists of the Western part of Virginia.

*For exact list of counties in chapter please contact a District or Chapter Officer
Member News

Birth
Brian and Amanda Tisdale are excited to announce the birth of their daughter, Harper Kate Tisdale born on July 12, 2012. She weighed in at 5 lbs 13 oz and 18 3/4 inches long.

Surgery
Suscha Campbell will be having leg surgery on Friday, September 21st. She has been recovering nicely since the surgery.

Passings
Ronald "Ronnie" Eugene Swiney, II, passed away on July 26, 2012. Ronnie’s funeral service was held at 1 p.m., Monday, July 30, 2012, at Matics Funeral Home in Clendenin, WV.

Marriage
Susan Quade and Joshua Scott were married at Grace Chapel Ministries on September 15, 2012.

Be sure to submit any announcements you have to LPADistrict3@yahoo.com for the next newsletter.

Dallas continued from page 3

We also met with the Conference Planning Committee to discuss what would be needed of us for the 2013 National in Washington DC. Once again it was stressed the biggest thing we will need is volunteers!! So, if you haven’t already emailed Lauren at volunteer2013LPA@gmail.com and let her know what you are interested in helping out with during the conference. If it doesn’t matter what you do just let her know and she will assign you where she needs you.

Be sure to watch the National Montage video that Stephanie made that can be found on YouTube only if you follow the link: http://youtu.be/FDDu7UXeHzY Any of the videos that are made will only be seen by those who have access to the link.

More recap of the National will be coming out in the next issue of LPA Today which should be coming to your mailboxes soon!

Ready for some football?
Tyler and Sam pose for a photo at the Cowboys Stadium.

Making New Friends
Barbara Stidman and Harrell Parker pose for a photo with Warwick Davis and his family.
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.

There is still time to Join us!
The Carolinian Chapter invite you to the District 3 Fall Regional at The Embassy Suites Greenville, SC October 26th - 28th 2012 Reserve your room by calling 864.676.9090