



# OH5 PRIDE REPORT

DISTRICT  
GOVERNOR  
CARL GASS

FEBRUARY 2025



WORTHINGTON NOON LIONS  
HELPING STUDENTS

## OFFICERS/CONTACT

District Governor | DG Carl Gass  
carl.gass@yahoo.com

1st VDG | Lion Gary Likens  
garylikens.londonlions@gmail.com

2nd VDG | Lion Fred Porter  
fredporter1967@gmail.com

IPDG | IPDG Toni Gray  
grayt10512@gmail.com

Cabinet Treasurer | Lion Loretta Sweeney  
lorettasweeney@ameritech.net

Cabinet Secretary | PDG Jeff Sweeney  
jeffsweeney@ameritech.net

*Send newsletter  
articles to:*

**DISTRICTOH5NEWS@GMAIL.COM**

due by the 27th of the month

### SAVE THE DATE:

District Convention  
March 13-14, 2026  
Embassy Suites by Hilton  
Columbus  
2700 Corporate  
Exchange Dr, Columbus  
43231

Ohio Lions State  
Convention  
May 15-17, 2026  
Holiday Inn, Roberts  
Center,  
Wilmington, OH

Lions International  
Convention  
Jul. 3-7, 2026  
Hong Kong

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# from the desk of

1VDG GARY LIKENS

Greetings OH5 Lions,

I hope you all survived the snow and bitter cold of this past week. Many Lion club meetings and events were cancelled including my own Zone 3 meeting.

Hopefully we can all get back on schedule and continue the great work in our communities.

One of my many tasks as First Vice-Governor is to facilitate the Necrology ceremony at the District Convention in March. We want to honor all our OH5 Lions that have passed away this past year. I need help from each club. We need names, photos, and anything you deem important to properly honor your Lions. Please send all info including photos to:

[d13oh5necrology@gmail.com](mailto:d13oh5necrology@gmail.com).

Yours in Lionism.  
FVDG Gary Likens

## FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

Feb 1: DGE Training Zoom  
Feb 2: Zone 3 Meeting (Der Dutchman- Plain City)  
Feb 3: London Lions  
Feb:5 DGE Training Zoom  
Feb 9: Convention Committee  
Feb 10: DGE Training Zoom  
Feb 12: DGE Training Zoom  
Feb 14: Council of Governors  
Feb 15: DGE Training Zoom  
Feb 17: London Lions  
Feb 18: DGE Training Zoom  
Feb 19: Zone 7 Meeting (Hey-Hey Club- German Village)  
Feb 21: Cabinet Meeting  
Feb 22: FVDG Zoom  
Feb 22: DGE Training Zoom  
Feb 24: LaRue Visit  
Feb 26: DGE Training Zoom



## Scholarships available!

There are 2 scholarship applications that are currently available.

Both are available to Ohio Leo Club members.

The other one is available to children/grandchildren of Lions or Lioness club members as well.

The deadline for both scholarships is March 1, 2026 - but I would recommend getting applications submitted no later than February 20, 2026 (weather and postal delays possible).

If you need an application, please Email: [youth@ohiolions.org](mailto:youth@ohiolions.org).

Both scholarship applications include checklists for returning the completed applications. Please be sure to use the checklists and make sure to include everything that is required. If everything is not completed, the application will not be accepted.

### 1. LITPC Scholarship Application

The Lions International Trading Pin Club is proud to announce a Youth Scholarship of US\$4,000 for a graduating senior who is the child or grandchild of a Lion, Lioness and/or a member of a Leo Club.

### 2. Ohio Lions Scholarship Application - for Ohio Leos only

Four (4) \$750 scholarships will be awarded to graduating senior Ohio Leos.

The deadline for both scholarships is March 1, 2026.

Any questions, please contact [youth@ohiolions.org](mailto:youth@ohiolions.org).

Submitted by Ohio Lions Youth Committee  
PCC Darlene Roll, Chairperson & OH1 Chair

Lion Steve Fifer - OH5 Chair

**DEADLINE**  
*extended*

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I am reaching out to you regarding the 2025-2026 District OH-5 Honor Roll. As of 2/1/26, the committee has only received two (2) nominations for this important district recognition. Please have your club consider a Lion for this prestigious award. The nomination suspense date has been extended to Sunday, February 15, 2026. Attached please find the "Honor Roll Nomination" form and the "Honor Roll Standards" information. We have many district Lions who are deserving of this recognition.

I welcome any questions and thank you so much for your assistance.

My best regards,  
PCC David Risen  
District OH-5 PDG Association  
Honor Roll Committee  
Chairperson  
Cell: 614-212-3488  
Email: [drisen@insight.rr.com](mailto:drisen@insight.rr.com)

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## Worthington Noon Lions at work!



Worthington Noon Lions were out and about in the community during the month of January participating in a Community Service Project at the Buddy Box Connection to address hunger, which is one of our global causes. Lion Members packed “Buddy Boxes” with nutritious snacks that get distributed to students from Worthington, Columbus and Southwestern school districts every Friday to address food insecurity during the school year. Over 500 Worthington students receive such assistance. At the conclusion of the project the Worthington Lions made a \$1,000 charitable donation to the Buddy Box Connection Program Coordinator, Susie Drerup.





## Lions Clubs Working TOGETHER and with community partners! Sent in by Grove City Lion Stu Koble

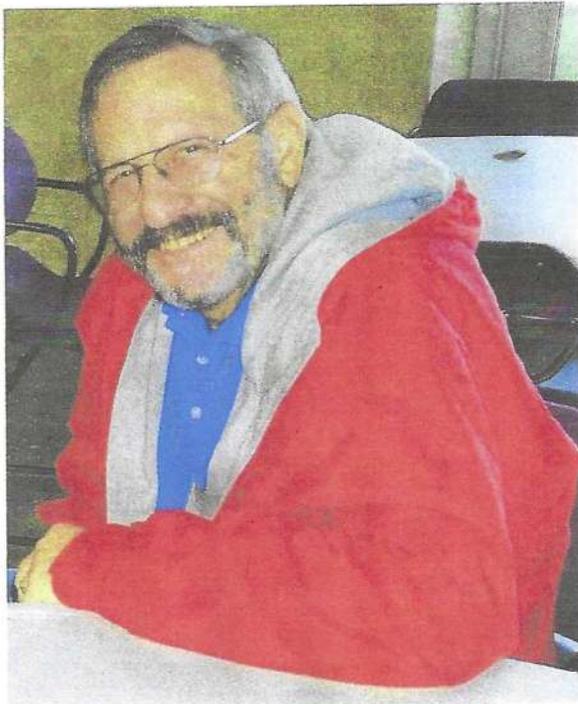
Following our regular meeting we assembled 200 sandwiches for the hungry at Jordans Crossing. 13 Lions had a good time, plenty of laughter and teasing, all in good humor. So many positive things said! Consider a “mini project” at your meeting. It helps those in need, members feel a strong sense of accomplishment and it builds team work. Invite a potential new member to your meeting so they can experience what we do.

This has been an annual event for several years. Reynoldsburg took the lead with Grove City and several Southeast Lions. We served approx 100 people with clothing, shoes, blankets, toiletries and coats. It was a cold day with intermittent rain. Thanks to the S/E Lions for bringing the streetcar. We had warmth and coffee to offer that was most appreciated. TOGETHER WE SERVE! If a project is too big for your club, ask others to join in. A great way to invite potential new members to experience a great project.

Thank you for reading!

<p><b>OH5 LIONS PRIDE REPORT</b></p>	<p><a href="mailto:districtoh5news@gmail.com">districtoh5news@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><a href="http://www.e-district.org/sites/district13oh5/">www.e-district.org/sites/district13oh5/</a></p>	<p><a href="http://www.facebook.com/DistrictOH5">www.facebook.com/DistrictOH5</a></p>

**VOTE FOR**  
**PDG Joe Jackson**  
**OH5 REP TO OHIO LIONS**  
**FOUNDATION**



**Experienced in the Field:**

- \* West Central Ohio Lions Eye Bank Trustee 2004 - Present
- \* OLERF Trustee 2014 - Present

**Experienced in Leadership:**

- \* Zone Chair 5 Years
- \* GMT Chair
- \* DG 2017-18, 2021-2022

**Honored for Dedication:**

- \* Melvin Jones Fellow
- \* Dick Bryan Fellow
- \* Intl Leadership Award
- \* Intl Presidential Award

**Committed to Service:**

- \* Member of Troy Lions 33 Years
- \* Past Club Secretary & President
- \* Sponsored 4 Peace Poster Winners
- \* Championed the Lions License Plates
- \* SB5K Committee Member
- \* Sponsored 5 New Members

*Say it IS so, Joe!*

**DEDICATED**  
**EXPERIENCED**  
**KNOWLEDGEABLE**





*PDG Jackie Miller*

*For Ohio's International Director*

Hello, Lions!

As a candidate for **International Director for Ohio**, I hope many of you have had the opportunity this past month to learn more about me through posts on my campaign Facebook page [here](#). If you haven't yet, I invite you to visit it and get to know my journey and my vision for Lionism.

This month, I'd like to share a little more about where my passion for leadership and service began.

From a very young age, leadership and community involvement were simply part of who I was. I had my own paper route, babysat, and mowed lawns—learning responsibility and work ethic early on. I was active in Brownies and later chose 4-H because I wanted to learn practical skills like cooking and sewing. Thanks to my mom who started teaching me those skills. I still enjoy sewing, knitting, and quilting today.

Service through faith and youth leadership also shaped me deeply. I began teaching Sunday School at the age of 16 and continued well into my 50s, including serving for two years as a teaching coordinator at my church. Along the way, I learned how important it is to guide, mentor, and encourage others.

In school, leadership showed up in many forms. I was a cheerleader in both elementary and high school and served multiple times as Cheerleading Captain. I played in the band, marching with the Flag Corps, and was honored to serve as Flag Corps Captain as well. These experiences taught me teamwork, accountability, and how to lead by example.

That same leadership carried into my professional career. I served on—and chaired—numerous committees, led teams, and was honored to serve multiple years as President of my Toastmasters Club, whose members included our CEO and CFO. I even led our company softball team to a winning season and proudly played on our volleyball team. Whether organizing United Way campaigns or fostering friendly competition between departments to raise funds, I learned how powerful motivated people can be when they work toward a common goal.

When I look back, one thing is clear: **leadership and community service have always been part of my life**. They are not roles I step into—they are part of who I am. That foundation is what I bring with me as I seek to serve Ohio and Lions everywhere as your next International Director.

# PCC LYDIA HOUSER

FOR OHIO MD13 ENDORSED CANDIDATE FOR INTERNATIONAL  
DIRECTOR

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT ME



I am PCC Lydia Houser of the Mad River Lions Club, OH6, in Dayton, Ohio and I am running to be Ohio's endorsed candidate for International Director. I joined the Mad River Lions in 1999 and have served in leadership positions in numerous roles continuously since 2000. I was Governor of 13 OH6 in 2018-2019 and served as MD13 Ohio Council Chair in 2019-2020 and Covid. I have served as Executive Director for the Ohio Lions Eye Research Foundation for seven years. I was elected to the state's Liaison Committee in 2022 and served through 2025.

I am married to fellow Lion PDG Ric Houser. My parents, PDG Freda and Lion Buck Wagner, were instrumental in me becoming a Lion. Lions are a family affair with my parents, husband, daughter (DG Rachelle), son-in-law Josh, and now grandchildren involved in Lions.

After a 39-year career at Wright- Patterson Air Force Base, I retired as the Chief of Configuration Management, Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance and Special Operations Forces Directorate managing a multi-billion-dollar portfolio.

Ohio's endorsed candidate for International Director should epitomize leadership in all areas of Lionism. I bring values-based leadership, executive experience, my talents as motivator, trainer, and presenter, and years of membership experience – from club rebuilding to new club development and mentorship. I am an experienced team leader, and I value my reputation as a Lion of integrity, innovation, and initiative.

Lions are more than a service group to me —they are a global family and a lifelong source of friendship and inspiration. Working side by side to serve others motivates us to meet needs with kindness and compassion. I believe that leadership means service, collaboration, and transparency.

For more detailed information, my full bio and answers to some specific questions are on the State web site: <https://www.ohiolions.org/news-events/news/827-meet-the-candidates-for-international-director>. Or follow my candidate's page at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61586735977187>

As Lions, we can be the change by "Sharing Kindness – One Act at a Time".

If you have questions or requests, please contact me by email at [LMHYOYO@aol.com](mailto:LMHYOYO@aol.com) or via phone at (937) 609-6594.

## District 13-OH5 Honor Roll

Requester:

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

First

Last

Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Zone:

\_\_\_\_\_

Person to be nominated:

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

First

Last

Club:

Years in Lionism: \_\_\_\_\_ (Must be at least 10 years to qualify for nomination)

Attach information on how this Lion:

- Has made a difference to the Club.
- It is active in the community outside of Lions.
- Include stories about the Lion.
- Do not forget to include a picture of the Lion.

Is the award being given posthumously?

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Send form to PCC Dave Risen –

1219 Hilton Dr., Reynoldsburg OH 43068  
(614) 212-3488 Cell or (614) 864-9819 Home  
[drisen@insight.rr.com](mailto:drisen@insight.rr.com)

Deadline: ALL NOMINATIONS HAVE BEEN EXTENDED AND NEED TO BE  
RECEIVED BY **FEBRUARY 15, 2026**



# NASCAR AUCTION & DINNER

**March 28, 2026**  
**PROSPECT LIONS CLUB**

**ALL OCCASIONS CATERING & BANQUET**  
6989 WALDO DELAWARE ROAD  
WALDO, OHIO

**DINNER AT 5:00 PM - \$20.00**

(TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM ANY MEMBER  
OF THE PROSPECT LIONS CLUB OR AT THE DOOR)

**LARGE LIVE & SILENT AUCTIONS FOLLOWING DINNER**



**DOORS  
OPEN AT  
4:00 PM**



All proceeds go toward  
scholarships, community  
food banks, charities, and  
other worthy projects.

Questions:  
Lion Yvonne Nye  
740-223-6688

**MARTINSVILLE  
SPEEDWAY** 



## ANNOUNCEMENT LETTER FOR DISTRICTS AND LEO CLUB NEWSLETTERS



The Lions International Pin Trading Club is proud to announce a Youth Scholarship of US\$4,000 for a graduating senior who is the child or grandchild of a Lions or a member of a Leo Club. The most important aspect of the Youth Scholarship Program is to help a young person pursue his/her education and follow their dreams.

The LITPC takes great pride in fulfilling the motto of Lions Clubs International, “WE SERVE”. During the SightFirst II Campaign, the pin traders contributed US\$144,000 to LCIF. Our Scholarship Program is another example of the pin traders’ slogan, “Lions First”.

Selection of the scholarship recipient will be based on academic achievement, an essay stating the student’s goals, a statement of reason(s) for applying and an overview of work, community and school service, and letters of recommendation. Applications and supporting documentation are to be completed and submitted to the pin trading club scholarship chairman named below by **March 1, 2026**.

We encourage all graduating seniors who are the children/grandchildren of Lions or members or who are members of Leo Clubs to participate in our Scholarship Program.

Steven D Sherer, Secretary

Name of Pin Trading Club Scholarship Chairman

1090 Thomas Drive SW

New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663

[lionpidsteve@gmail.com](mailto:lionpidsteve@gmail.com)

***Please place the above message in your sub-district and district bulletins and post on your websites. Please be aware that Scholarship Applications and information are on the [LITPC website](#).***



# Shoe the Love!

Your closet clean-out can support kids fighting cancer!

## Pediatric Cancer Shoe Drive!

Bring your gently used or new pairs of shoes to your District Convention or State Convention!

- Boots to ballet shoes,
- Sandals to soccer cleats
- Official dress or casual tennis shoes
- Tie shoelaces or rubber-band pairs together for easy sorting - we will take them all if they're gently used or new!



in partnership with

Every pair donated help raise funds to support kids and families fighting pediatric cancer through *Ohio Lions Pediatric Cancer Foundation* and *Kids Get Cancer Too!*



There will be a Golden Shoe award for the district and Club who donate the most pairs of shoes!

**Contact your District OLPCF Representative for more donation information!**





# Shoe the Love!



Your closet clean-out can support kids fighting cancer!

## ***Pediatric Cancer Shoe Drive*** ***INFORMATION***

The Ohio Lions Pediatric Cancer Foundation is partnering with Kids Get Cancer Too to raise funds to benefit Ohio families battling childhood cancer via Funds2Org!

Funds2Orgs is a social enterprise that helps schools, nonprofits, and community groups run zero-cost, no-sell shoe drive fundraisers, where they collect gently used shoes, get paid by weight, and keep them out of landfills, while providing inventory for micro-entrepreneurs in developing nations to create local businesses, offering a win-win-win for fundraising, sustainability, and global poverty reduction.

Lions Clubs throughout the state will collect gently used or new shoes (any style, any size) to bring to their District or State Convention on May 16, 2026.

Each club will need to tie shoelaces or rubber-band pairs together for easy sorting and place in the clear bags that will be provided.

Each bag must contain **only** 25 pairs.

Whichever club gathers the MOST pairs will be presented with the GOLDEN SHOE AWARD at the State Convention!

Every pair donated helps raise funds to support kids and families fighting pediatric cancer through Ohio Lions Pediatric Cancer Foundation and Kids Get Cancer Too!





2026 District OH5 Convention  
 www.district13OH5.org  
 March 13th & 14, 2026  
 Embassy Suites Columbus Hotel  
 2700 Corporate Exchange Dr.  
 Columbus, OH 43231



Entire Convention ..... \$100  
 Friday Casino ..... Free  
 Saturday Lunch ..... \$40  
 Saturday Session..... \$3  
 Grand Banquet ..... \$60

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone or email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday Night: Casino** \*Please note, you can buy casino money at the event

**Hotel Room:** Includes free happy hour on Friday night and free Saturday morning breakfast.

\$169 for a suite with 2 doubles with sleeper sofa and \$149 for a 1 king with sleeper sofa. The rates are per night+tax.

**Room deadline is February 13, 2026 \*\*Please mention the Lions event for this rate\*\***

Food Allergies: Gluten \_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_ Nut \_\_\_ Seafood \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Entire Convention \$100	Saturday Business & Lunch \$40	Grand Banquet only \$60	Pre Order Casino \$10 Minimum	Saturday Session: Lion Pin Art \$3.00	TOTAL

Please make checks payable to:  
 District OH5 Lions, Inc.  
 359 Sitterly Road  
 Canal Winchester, OH 43110

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 16, 2026**

**Service Project:** Collecting vegetable seed packets for the Mid-Ohio Collective, personal care items and Veterans activities backpacks.

Questions: Lion Jen Luttrell - E: [luttrellzoo@hotmail.com](mailto:luttrellzoo@hotmail.com)

**\*\*Please Note: NO MEALS WILL BE REFUNDED AFTER THE DEADLINE\*\***

A vibrant red poster for a 'Casino Night' event. At the top, four playing cards (Ace of Clubs, Ace of Hearts, Ace of Spades, Ace of Diamonds) are fanned out, flanked by two gold stars. Below them is a dark brown rectangular sign with a glowing orange border, containing the text 'CASINO Night'. Underneath the sign are two red dice and two yellow ribbons. The background is red with white stars and falling confetti. At the bottom, there are stacks of colorful chips (red, green, blue, black) and a central oval containing the event time.

# CASINO *Night*

**POKER - BLACK JACK - ROULETTE -  
TEXAS HOLD'EM**

**FRIDAY NIGHT FUN**

MARCH 13TH

PURCHASE YOUR MONOPOLY  
MONEY AND HAVE A GREAT TIME

**7:30-10:30  
PM**

WHO WILL BE THE BIGGEST LOSER?  
WHO WILL BE THE BIGGEST WINNER?

# STRIDES WALK

Come and join us for our OH5 Strides Walk in honor of Lion Kenny Spafford.

The Strides Walk has a special place in Kenny's heart and DG Carl Gass and his committee would like to honor Lion Kenny at this 2025-2026 OH5 Convention.



**MARCH 14TH**

**4-4:45 PM**

Weather permitting location



# MD13 OH-5 District Convention



## Kenny Spafford Memorial Strides Walk Fundraiser

supporting Central Ohio Diabetes Association

Lions raising \$5 or more in pledges will receive a Strides pin

You can bring your donations to the convention

Lion: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ Pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make tax deductible checks out to: **Central Ohio Diabetes Association or Dayton Diabetes Association**  
Both are now part of Life Care Alliance

# ✧ OH 5

## Service Project

### M.A.S.H Food Pantries and Veterans Honor Garden

Provides essential services to Veterans, Military families, and survivors in Central Ohio. Providing food, toiletries, and hygiene items monthly.



### Service Project - Part 1

- ✧ The Veterans Honor Garden service project. We as a district will be collecting seed donations at the 2026 Convention.

**\*We are asking all clubs to begin collecting seeds\***



### Service Project - Part 2

- ✧ Collections of regular size personal care items  
**Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash,  
and Deodorant**

**\*We are asking all clubs for a donation\***



### Service Project - Part 3

- ✧ We will be preparing Game packs for Veterans during Friday, Casino Night!  
We hope to see volunteers to help pack bags!

**DISTRICT OH5**

# **SILENT AUCTION!**

**We are excited for  
our upcoming MD-13  
Convention!!!!**

**Requesting Clubs  
and/or Zones to  
donate a Silent  
Auction basket.**

**Please contact Jen  
@luttrellzoo@hotmail.com to come  
your club**



**Silent Auction held  
during the Grand  
Banquet on Saturday**