

DISTRICT GOVERNOR MIKE KEREK | NOV 2023 | LY 23-24



FEATURED CLUB: OLENTANGY NOON

Olentangy Noon Lions Club shares October events and Trunk or Treat photos! p.9

LETTER FROM DG MIKE

WE SERVE takes each individual person saying "Yes" to being someone's hero. p. 2

OFFICERS/CONTACT

District Governor | PDG Mike Kerek mikerek@msn.com

1st VDG | Lion Toni Gray tgray@pilotdogs.org

2nd VDG | Lion Carl Gass carl.gass@yahoo.com

IPDG | IPDG Debbie Luttrell ohiolions@gmail.com

Cabinet Treasurer | PCC Dave Risen drisen@insight.rr.com

Cabinet Secretary | Lion Gary Holloway gary.holloway.ohio@gmail.com

Send newsletter articles to:

districtOH5news@gmail.com due by the 27th of the month

SAVE THE DATE

Super Braxton 5k Reynoldsburg High School Sat, Nov. 4, 2023

Ohio Lions Regional Lions Leadership Institute: Level II Training Salt Fork State Park Nov. 17-19, 2023

> Ohio Lions Winter Retreat Salt Fork State Park Jan. 12-14, 2024

OH5 District Convention Deer Creek State Park Mar. 15-17, 2024

A HISTORY OF LEO CLUBS

Lion Bill Phythyon shares interesting history of the Leo Club program! p. 5

TRADING POST

Clean out your Lions storage! p. 4

SAVE THE DATE

Plain City Lions Annual Dinner and Auction p. 4

FROM DG MIKE KEREK

Last Sunday I got a phone call from Lion Mike and Cindy Bish of the Sam Bish Foundation, who was trying to help a family of 6 whose needs simply exceeded the Foundation's resources for a single family. Even after already donating a considerable amount in gift cards and food, it wasn't enough to make ends meet for the family. "Can the Lions help?" I was asked.

I was able to talk with the mother the following day. Four children ages 6-16; the youngest is the one that has cancer and is currently undergoing chemo. They had to relocate from another state to the Columbus area to be near Nationwide Children's, leaving much behind. They had to live in a hotel for several weeks while seeking out affordable housing, which depleted all savings; the husband found a job but Mom has a full-time job just with treatments and recovery from treatments, not to mention meeting the needs of the other three children. No furniture other than a couple of beds, a table lamp and a broken couch. Despite all this, her attitude was positive.

What happened over the next few days once again reaffirmed my belief in the "We Serve" motto and the inherent goodness of people. Lion Chris Moerch opened up her Free Store early the following day and let the family take whatever they wanted to get them, at least food wise, solvent for awhile, and the family will receive a full Thanksgiving dinner, turkey and all the fixings, courtesy of the Summit Station UMC and the Free Store. Former Lion (and hopefully soon to be coming back in) TJ Douglas donated a couch, which I took over Wednesday. Lion Brett Luzader reached out to the Reynoldsburg community and within a day had all the furniture except a bunk bed donated, which was loaded up on a couple of trucks by Brett, TJ and me and taken to the family today, along with \$150 in gas cards from the Ohio Lions Pediatric Cancer Foundation (OLPCF)- the first of 6 monthly installments. PCC Dave Risen, who is involved with the local VFW, reached out to the Post, since the father is a Vet, and additional assistance will be coming from that direction.

Why share this story?

In order for this family to get the help they needed, it required a lot of people who were put in a position of being someone's hero to step forward. No single person, no single organization, would have had the impact as quickly or comprehensively. It took a team, a series of partnerships...but at the core, it took each person to say, **yes, I'll help**.

"We Serve" is the Lions motto. The "We" is important. But always remember that it takes all of us making a personal commitment to being an active part of the team effort- without that commitment, there is no "We."

No one said service to others is easy or convenient. But if WE, collectively and individually as Lions, don't step forward due to any number of excuses, who will?

DG Mike Kerek

mjkerek@msn.com

Greetings to all,

I hope your clubs had a "servicable" October and were able to report Fall into Service Activities for the month. It would be great if MD13 were efficient enough to have 100% reporting by the end of the 2023 Calendar Year. I am sure GST leaders throughout the multiple have been encouraging clubs in their districts to do so. By the way, I want to assure you all that we have an outstanding leadership group throughout the Ohio Lions this year who are working hard to grow our service and our membership, train to become more effective leaders, and fulfill their various roles in a positive and joyful manner. As an ex officio member of all our State Committees and having had the opportunity to sit in on numerous meetings of these committees, I am impressed by how dedicated and professional our elected and appointed leaders are.

We are currently waiting to hear whether two Lions International Grants have been approved. One is a promotional grant to develop more videos, this time focusing on two major foundations and on LEOs, and the other is a membership development grant which we plan to use to help end our 40 year drought of minus membership growth. We currently are +11 in membership growth since July 1; at this time last year we were -72. A new club in Marion, some explosive growth in OH7, and four other districts in plus numbers is very encouraging. However, clubs tend to weed out inactive members in December and June, prior to semi-annual billing announcements, so we need to keep up the great work. I am aware some of our districts are taking advantage of LCIF grants and LI (LI stands for the name of our international association, Lions International) training grants as well. It is good Lionism to have monies we pay in International Dues and monies we contribute to LCIF return to benefit our state association and the communities within it. Again, these grants reflect the diligence of our district and state leaders in acquiring financial support for programs and service within our multiple.

I hope you are making change within your clubs. We encourage you to support hunger concerns within your communities this quarter since the Fall and Winter Holidays and winter season are often the most demanding times for food pantry stockpiles and families needing healthy nourishment to celebrate the season and to combat the weather. This first quarter, we encouraged clubs to support diabetes causes. At the time of this writing with over a week left in October, I see about \$5300 donated for Diabetes causes in our multiple district. Lion Ernie Richmann is our State Diabetes Chairperson and can direct donations to worthy diabetes organizations like the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. His address is: 48 Lincoln Blvd, Painesville, Ohio 44077.

I hope your Halloween was spooky and fun. Have a great Thanksgiving. I look forward to seeing many of you at the November 4 Council of Governors Meeting at the Central Ohio Lions Eye Bank and the RLLI2 Training at Salt Fork State Park Lodge in mid-November.

Council Chairperson Dave Stockum

OH5 TRADING POST

Our trading post is doing wonders at cleaning out the garages of the Tri-Village Lions. But there must be other clubs who have things to share, as well!!! Chances are that you have leftovers from service projects, or decorations from parties or fundraisers, or procedural guides for projects that could be carried out by others – all stored in "somebody's garage" or scattered through



basements in your member's homes. Here's a chance to pass those extras on to other clubs who can put 'em to work – and get them out of YOUR garage!!!

We invite you to offer up all your leftovers for use by other clubs in OH5. We will leave you to figure out how to get the items from/to each club. This space will merely offer up the possibility. Why not send an email NOW, while you are thinking of it, and tell us what you have to offer. We'll be back in touch before the next newsletter for details! lionjjarrow@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER OFFERINGS:

Posted by Tri Village Lions:

In preparation for the coming holiday season, is there a club that has need for Christmas tree decorations. Our local library invites local groups to decorate "themed" Christmas trees in their atrium, publicizing what the organization is all about. Last year, the Tri-Village Lions put together all the trimmings needed for a Lions Christmas tree – from lights, to ornaments, ribbons, and boxes to pile under the tree, all with a Lions theme and in Lions colors. If your club would like to decorate this year, we'll be happy to pass the whole box of decorations along. The only requirement is that next year, YOU have to pass it on to someone else! To make arrangements to claim your Christmas cheer, contact Lion Jane Jarrow, lionjjarrow@gmail.com.



SAVE THE DATE!

Plain City Lions Annual Dinner and Auction
Thursday, April 25, 2024
Der Dutchman Restaurant – Plain City. Ohio
Doors open at 6:00p.m. - Dinner served at 6:30 p.m. Auction to follow.
Dinner tickets will go on sale in spring 2024

LEO CLUB HISTORY

The first Leo club was founded in 1957 by Jim Graver, the coach of the Abington High School, Pennsylvania baseball team. He was an active member of the Glenside Lions Club. The club was founded with the help of William Ernst, another Lion. It adopted the high school's colors of maroon and gold. The club also created the acronym Leadership, Experience, Opportunity for the word Leo. The word equality was later changed to experience.

In 1964 the Leo Club Program became a sponsored program of the Lions Clubs International. It grew beyond Pennsylvania and the United States of America. By 1967 the program had grown to over 200 clubs in 18 countries and become an official youth program of Lions Clubs International. In the following year, the Leo Club Program spread rapidly, resulting in 918 clubs in 48 countries by the end of 1968.

Today there are 7,600+ Leo Clubs worldwide with over 180,000 Leos!

Submitted by Lion Bill Phythyon

NOTES FROM PDG JOE

SAM BISH FOUNDATION

All Lions Clubs should consider making a yearly contribution to the Sam Bish Foundation. This foundation assist's families with financial assistance: helping to pay their bills when their child is in treatment for pediatric cancer.

Applications are available on their website:

Https://www.SamBishfoundation.org

P.O Box 323

Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

THE ABC'S OF SERVICE

As we head into the holiday season, Lions (and Lions Clubs!) will have all sorts of opportunities to serve their communities. If your club hasn't already identified projects (plural!) that they might pursue in the coming weeks, we offer these reminders:

A -

ACKNOWLEDGE (and ACCEPT) the changes in your community and club, and move forward in response to current needs and resources, not what you have always done.

ADJUST your thinking – small projects are just as good as large ones!

ADD service to everything you do

B -

BORROW – if you hear of a great project that another club is doing, don't hesitate to grab it and go for your own community. Replicating someone else's good idea only spreads the impact

BE CREATIVE – once you have identified the service project, identify the components; break it down so there is something for everyone to do

BOAST about what you, as a club, are accomplishing. Start by reporting your service in My Lion, and then look for ways to share what you've done through community-based newsletters, articles, and word-of-mouth!

C -

COLLABORATE – make fostering service (by others) part of your mission

COOPERATE – you don't have to do it all yourself. Whether you call for help from other Lions or look for help from other community partners, recognize that the important part is the service, not the ownership.

COMMUNICATE – share what you are doing with relevant audiences... and don't forget the Lions. Whatever is accomplished by some members of your club is a credit to all members of your club, but they won't know that unless you tell them!

Let's make this holiday season a season of service for the Lions of OH-5.

OH5 GST Coordinator Lion Jane Jarrow



Monthly Trivia Contest



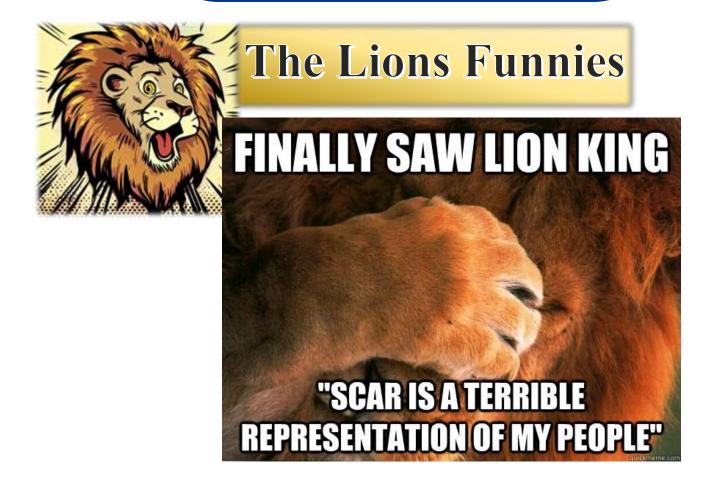
Be the first to send the correct answer to the Lions Trivia Question each month and win a \$10 Lions Money prize, to be spent on anything Lions related, from your DG!

Please note, these questions will NOT be easy.

Send answers to districtoh5news@gmail.com

What program started in 1957 in Pennsylvania and has become a huge component of LCI's emphasis on outreach over the last 10 years or so?

Congrats to October's winner, PDG Dave Luttrell! Answer was: PDG Jimmy Carter



November Feature Club: Olentangy Noon Lions

The Olentangy Noon Lions Club shares their recent activities:

- On October 5th, we held our first meeting of the month. We held a brief
 meeting to discuss club business and then we worked to fill nearly 400 treat
 bags for our upcoming Powell Trunk or Treat event.
- October 19th, we held our second monthly meeting at the new Delaware
 County Public Library. Sara Arango (branch manager) spoke to us about the
 new library and provided a tour. During our meeting, we discussed the
 development of our new yard signs to help increase attendance. We also
 discussed the 3 requests for eye exams and glasses. We are also working on
 our "Holiday Madness" fundraiser. Last, we finalized our plans for the Powell
 Trunk or Treat event.
- On October 22nd, we participated in Powell's Truck or Treat event. We handed out over 400 goody bags. We had a wonderful time speaking to community members.



If you would like to be a featured club for the district, submit your club's story to districtOHNews@gmail.com today!









Ohio Lions and Wendell August Forge Are honored to present a limited edition ornament

At the 1925 Lions International Convention at Cedar Point, Ohio, Helen Keller presented her challenge to the Lions to be her "Knights of the Blind"

Her cause lives on as today's Lions provide vision services worldwide as one of eight global initiatives.

For a suggested minimum donation of \$18 (US dollars) for the hand forged aluminum and \$23 for the bronze version, with all proceeds benefiting Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), you will receive a one of a kind memento, with Helen Keller's digital signature.

All Ohio Lions LCIF Leadership will have these to offer in person. All others can purchase through WAF website directly at **wendellaugust.com/lcif**

WAF and the Ohio Lions thank you in advance for your donation and sharing in a piece of Lions International history.

This fundraising project is brought to you by the LCIF Leadership team of MD13 Ohio.

INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING: We greatly appreciate our international customers. While online international orders aren't available due to various shipping complexities, we do consider minimum bulk orders of 100 pieces or more on a case-by-case basis, with certain restrictions. For assistance, please call 1-800-923-4438. For a timelier response, email info@wendell.com and type "LCIF Helen Keller" in the subject line. Thank you for your understanding. We're dedicated to providing a smooth experience for all our international customers.



6th Annual

Super Braxton

Pediatric Cancer 5K Run/Walk November 4, 2023

Reynoldsburg HS Summit Campus 8579 Summit Road, Reynoldsburg, OH





YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Braxton Long lost his 3 year battle with cancer on July 24, 2017 at the age of 8 years old. He loved life, was optimistic and kind by nature, and had a smile on his face to the end.



#50,000+ FOR RESEARCH AND COUNTING!!

From the free kids race where all children 12 and under win a medal, to princesses and Star Wars Characters, plenty of food, awards and a forgiving but accurate 5K route, this event is perfect for both the competitive runners and families out to walk alike!

Event Schedule
8:00-9:00 Registration
(performing arts center)
9:00 Kids Fun Run (FREE)
(event start location)
9:30 5K Start

Please note: registration cut-off for shirts is Oct. 15. We cannot guarantee your shirt size will be available after this date.



For more information, forms, or to register, please visit the District OH5 Lions site at district13oh5.org



GROVE CITY NOON LIONS CLUB

2023 TAILGATE RAFFLE



TICKETS: \$20 EACH

Purchase tickets from a Noon Lions Club Member, email grovecitynoonlions@gmail.com or visit facebook.com/gcnoonlions

FIRST PRIZE

OSU/Michigan Game Ticket Package - 2 Seats (\$1,398 Value)

Coach transportation Friday, Nov. 24, Columbus to Detroit and Saturday, Nov. 25, Detroit to Columbus after the game.

Overnight stay in MGM Grand, Saturday breakfast



SECOND PRIZE



\$500 Visa Gift Card

THIRD PRIZE

Columbus Zoo Family Plus Membership (\$218 Value)

Two adults, same household, either dependent children or grandchildren up to 21 (not both)., Includes two guests.



DRAWING

Friday, Nov. 17 at the Grove City Noon Lions Club Tailgate. Winner's presence not required at the drawing.

Proceeds benefit local and regional charities.







GROVE CITY NOON LIONS CLUB

2023 TAILGATE PARTY

Annual Fundraiser

FRIDAY, NOV. 17

DOORS OPEN 6 PM | FESTIVITIES BEGIN 6:30 PM

ADMISSION \$35 PER PERSON

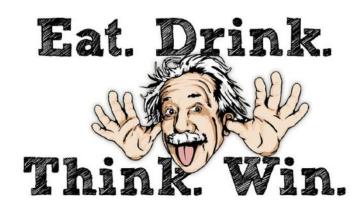
Purchase tickets at SouthWest Eyecare Inc., 4140 Hoover Road 614-801-2020 or email grovecitynoonlions@gmail.com

Special appearance by the

OSU Alumni Band, Cheerleaders and Drum Majors Silent Auction, Raffle, football pool, 50-50 raffle and more

MID-OHIO FOOD COLLECTIVE | 3960 BROOKHAM DRIVE

SUNDAY, November 12, 1:00-5:00 PM 34th Tri-Village Lions Pub Trivia Contest The Tri-Village Lions Challenge You!!



Did you know that Albert Einstein was a Lion???

(He wasn't. But if he HAD been, he probably would have been really good at Trivia!!)

LIONS TRIVIA CHALLENGE!

In addition to competing for the overall honors (and prize!) for the contest, those Lions Clubs that field a team of 4 (Lions, family, friends) to play on behalf of their club will also be eligible to win LIONS BRAGGING RIGHTS — a "traveling trophy" that currently bears the names of the Worthington Noon Lions (twice!), the Beechcroft Lions (twice!), and the Ohio5sters (twice!).

WHEN: Sunday, November 12

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

WHERE: Smokehouse Brewing Company

1130 Dublin Rd, Columbus, OH 43215

Questions? CONTACT: Lion Jeff Davis

lionjeffd@aol.com

\$10/person entry fee (\$40 per team)



MOVIES, MUSIC, HISTORY, PEOPLE SPORTS, AND MUCH, MUCH MORE! Tempt your taste buds and take a chance on some of this year's themed raffle baskets, as well!



Olentangy Lions Club



HOLIDAY MADNESS

ALL profit goes to support Delaware County food programs

Only 100 tickets will be sold with \$1500 returned to players

\$500 will go to help Delaware County food programs

Contact any member of Olentangy Lions or
Mail your entry and payment to:

Olentangy Lions 519 Commons Drive Powell, OH 43065



For more information call 740-591-8077 or brd1954@gmail.com

WINNING AMOUNTS BY WEEK



Week 1 pays \$40, \$40, \$40, \$40 and \$100
Week 2 pays \$40, \$40, \$40, \$40 and \$100
Week 3 pays \$40, \$40, \$40, \$00 and \$100
No winner on Thanksgiving Day (Dow Closed)
Week 4 pays \$40, \$40, \$40, \$40 and \$100
Week 5 pays \$100, \$100, \$100, \$100 and \$100
Each entry can win more than once



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OLENTANGY LIONS HOLIDAY MADNESS 2023

Cost of each entry is \$20. Winners are determined by closing value of Dow each day. One winner per day except Thanksgiving. Entrants name will be placed on a 10 X 10 grid. Each block will be a value from 00 to 99. The cents value of the Dow's closing value will determine the winner each day. First winner will be chosen on November 6th. Game ends December 8th.

Thank You!

Olentangy Lions Club

Name:	
E-Mail:	
Phone:	
Address:	
City, Zip:	

Proceeds benefit Food for needy programs

Care for the Cold

The Reynoldsburg Lions Club is putting together care packages for those who are homeless or simply less fortunate this January. We need donations of the following items to make this a success:



Do not pass by a man in need, for you may be the hand of God to them.

Toiletries: travel size soap/shampoo, sanitary wipes, comb, feminine products, deodorant, talcum powder, Q-tips, skin moisturizer, toothbrush and toothpaste

Food: bottled water, granola, beef jerky, tea/coffee individual packets, oatmeal packs, gum, candy bar, hard candy. Please avoid hard-to-open cans.

Other Items: First Aid items (bandaids, gauze, chapstick, first aid tape) SOCKS, hats, gloves, t-shirts, small duct tape rolls, zip lock bags, note of encouragement. (Please stay away from religion in the notes.)

Please do not include hand sanitizer, mouthwash, or other items that may have alcohol or drugs.

Donation pick-ups and dropoffs can be arranged by contacting Lion Mike at 740-412-4692, Lion Amanda at 614-549-0910, or by emailing us at reynlions@outlook.com.





2024 Ohio Lions Winter Retreat

January 12, 13, 14, 2024



REGISTRATION FORM SALT FORK STATE PARK CAMBRIDGE, OH

REGISTRATION:

Full registration paid by December 1, 2023 will be \$125.00. Full registrations December 2, 2023 – January 3, 2024 will be \$140.00. No registrations will be accepted after January 3, 2024. Make all checks payable to: "THE OHIO LIONS" and specify LIONS WINTER RETREAT in the memo line and return with this registration form to: Ohio Lions, 2082 Stringtown Rd., PO Box 155, Grove City, OH 43123; Fax: 614-539-5055; Email: ohiolions@gmail.com. To use your credit card: go to www.ohiolions.org & use PayPal and send your registration form to the address above. NO CANCELLATIONS WILL BE REFUNDED AFTER JANUARY 4, 2024.

Please provide an Email address to receive updates on the	ne Winter Retreat! District
NAME:	EMAIL
NAME:	EMAIL
Will attend Sip and Paint (\$25 fee) (limited to 25 people)	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED: \$	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED: \$ SPECIAL NEEDS: Please List any special dietary needs	required, including the need for a Diabetic Meal.
SPECIAL NEEDS: Please List any special dietary needs	Needs:

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Hotel reservations must be made through the hotel by phone: **1-740-435-9000**. Room reservations prior to November 30, 2023, may be made by requesting the Ohio Lions Winter Retreat group rate of \$119.00/night plus tax with 1 to 4 persons per room. After November 30th the room rate may increase. The resort only has a limited number of rooms and may sell out. The State Office will not accept hotel reservations or room deposits.

Check out www.saltforkparklodge.com for all of the winter events and resort amenities that are offered at the lodge. Make this a family outing!!!





THE LOUISVILLE PACESETTER

Louisville 2024 SEPTEMBER 5-7, 2024 The Latest News & Information for the 2024 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum

OCTOBER 2023

SAVE THE DATE TO SET THE PACE

STEVE SHERER, GENERAL CHAIRPERSON

I am truly honored to be General Chair for the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, September 5-7, 2024. We are off to a great start due to the foundation that was set in Reno, Nevada, last month.

Thank you to our General Chair Lion Jama Wahl, Host Committee Chair Linda Wagner-Griffin, and their committees for a great Forum in Reno. There were outstanding seminars and dynamic speakers. Nearly all who attended had a great time. The fellowship and exchanging of ideas that takes place at the Forum are the greatest reasons for attending, and Reno was no exception.

We have put together a great committee and there is no time to rest. We have made our initial trip to Louisville and the planning has already begun to put on a quality event next September. The Kentucky International Convention Center (KICC) is a great facility and will house all the Forum events, except for the delegation breakfasts. The education team is already putting together the list of seminars to be presented. We have great speakers and events planned and will outline them in future newsletters.

The headquarters hotel is the Galt House, which

is the only hotel with a river view in Louisville. It is within walking distance of the convention center, and you can use the enclosed walkway on the second floor. The only street to cross is to enter the KICC. In fact, all five hotels under contract for the event are within walking distance and shuttle transportation should not be necessary.

Please keep up to date on all info about the Forum at our website www.lionsforum.org.
Registration is also now open on the website.

We promise to put on an outstanding Forum and look forward to your being in Louisville next September, where we, like the racehorses at Churchill Downs, will SET THE PACE to leadership and service.



Future Host Cities

2024 Louisville, Kentucky2025 Atlantic City, New Jersey2026 Memphis, Tennessee2027 Huntsville, Alabama

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS AVAILABLE TO HELP SPREAD THE WORD FOR LOUISVILLE

DEBBIE DOTY, MARKETING CHAIRPERSON

The Forum would not happen if Lions were not aware of this fabulous event. You can help us spread the word of the fun, fellowship and education that happen at the Forum by building a display board and/or downloading copies of the Forum brochure to share at your club meetings, district conventions, Council of Governors meetings, Zone meetings and multiple district events in your area.

The Marketing Team has developed two different types of display boards for download on the Forum website. One can be printed on 24" wide paper at a local printer and attached to a 48" x 36" display board. The other is designed to print

on letter-size paper from your home printer or business copier and attached to a display board.

We've also uploaded a letter-size flyer that can be printed and shared with your local Lions, as well as the legal-sized version of the official Louisville Forum brochure.

Another way you can help spread the word is to like our social media sites. The Lions Forum has established accounts on Facebook, Instagram, and X (formerly Twitter). We've also added this year a YouTube channel and a TikTok account. If you are on any of these social media outlets, please find us, like us, and share with your friends and fellow Lions.





