



We Serve

www.5m7.org

FB: 5m7Lions

The Gram

February, 2025

The latest news, views and announcements for District 5M7

2024—2025

5M7 Cabinet

DG—Mary Lee Curtis

DGE—Deb Weston

1VDGE—Nancy Johnson

2VDGE—Joel Anderson

Secretary—

Treasurer— Theresa Goff

PDG—Peter Lendway

Zone Chairs

Zone 1: Josh Gunderson

Zone 2: Glen Nemic

Zone 3: Etic Kronenberg

Zone 4: Kevin Beatles

Zone 5: Steve Asplund

Zone 6: Pete Yelle

Zone 7:

Zone 8: Jeff Allen

Zone 9: Bob Olson

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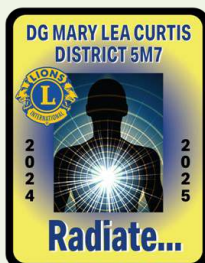
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Radiate...and make your

Greetings, Lions and Leos, Our weather certainly has been on a roller coaster already this year! The extremes in temperature bring us good and bad. On the good side, the cold has provided us with wonderful ice-filled lakes. Our lakes and weekends have been busy with Lions Clubs and all their different fishing contests. A downside to the extreme changes is the horrible cold and flu season we are experiencing. I hope you have managed to stay healthy as much as possible this winter. It's been a nasty one.

It's hard to believe that Spring 'officially' arrives this month. Are you ready to hit your reset and refresh buttons? If you're a gardener, you've most likely already started planning your garden for the year. Are you doing the same for your Lions Club? Remember the club basics as you look forward to the rest of the year.

Membership: We all need new members to keep us alive. They bring a fresh new perspective and zest for serving. Everyone has been doing a great job at this as we are up 110 members! We can do better. Let's keep up the good work so we can make our goal of 169 members in this fiscal Lions year. Make sure your club members are happy and feel engaged in your club. We hate to lose members who have the passion to serve but don't feel appreciated or a vital member of your club.

Service: I know everyone is out in your communities doing all kinds of wonderful things. Please record your service in the Lions Portal. Only 69% of our District is reporting on their service activities. Please reach out if you are having issues or questions on this process. Have you done a new service project yet this year? I hope everyone has embraced that challenge and completed it or will soon. Don't forget April is Environmental month. What does your club have planned to celebrate and enhance the environment?

Leadership: It's time to start the nomination process for the upcoming year leaders. Have you been mentoring people to take leadership roles in your club? Do you encourage members to serve your club as officers? It's time to make a change if you've had the same officers for years. Encouragement and mentoring go a long way. We all have the potential to lead. Let's help foster that talent in others. Keep posted for the announcement of this year's leadership training. All club members will be encouraged to attend. A little refresher or new knowledge is just what you might need!

Marketing: Keep engaging your community with your social media. Show your pride as a Lions Club and all the service you provide. Regular messages from your club keep you in mind. Invite the public to your club meetings. Give them reason to come check you out. Make them want to join the fun you have serving others.

As of March 1, I will have visited 30 clubs with 10 clubs on my schedule in March and April. That leaves 11 clubs that I will be contacting to set up a visit if I don't hear from them soon!

Keep on Radiating and Making your Mark!

Governor Mary

Radiate your light, even if it's too bright for those around you. Your presence is making a difference.

Greetings Lions and Leos,

I hope this message finds you warm and healthy. With the current frigid temperatures and various illnesses circulating, we need to take every precaution to stay safe and healthy.

I've had the pleasure of attending many of the district midwinter conventions recently. These events have been enriching, featuring excellent speakers, and the opportunity to connect with several International Directors and fellow Lions from our multiple district. On February 10th I traveled to the Q Center in St. Charles, Illinois for District Governors training. I've been very lucky that I've stayed healthy during my travels. Fingers crossed my luck continues!!!

The training at the Q Center was an incredible experience. Representatives from 91 countries, totaling over 750 1st Vice District Governors and District Governor-Elects, gathered, including our team from MD5M. The sessions, held from February 10-13, combined general assemblies and small group sessions. In the general sessions, all of us came together in a huge ballroom and were inspired by our International First Vice President, A.P. Singh and a number of our international leaders. My small group included members from India, Canada, Iceland, the United Kingdom and the USA, led by PID Sunil Kumar from India. It was a wonderful opportunity to get to know our peers, explore new ideas, and be inspired by service perspectives from around the world.



A highlight of the training was an assignment involving a "passport." We were challenged to obtain signatures from Lions from seven different countries, each sharing their global cause. In many cases I needed to use my Google translator app which helped me communicate with non-English-speaking Lions, enhancing the experience.

I was extremely impressed with our incoming International President, A.P. Singh. He is an exceptional speaker, teacher and motivator. One of his main topics was "Mission 1.5", emphasizing the need to increase our global membership to 1.5 million by July 1, 2027. The needs of individuals from across the world are immense. The only way we can fulfil these needs is with more helping hands. More members, more service. His mantra during our training was "Lead to Serve and Serve to Lead". Additionally, he shared that 1.5 million new members is a big number, but, if broken down by the number of clubs across the world it would mean that each club would need to bring in a net of 3 new members annually, making this an achievable goal. So many of your clubs are bringing in new members so I encourage you to continue what you are doing to grow your clubs. Service projects are one of the best ways to bring in new members. Together we will reach our goal.

Our MD5M convention is fast approaching. Our district is hosting this year's convention and it's going to be awesome!!! We have incredible speakers including our International President, Fabricio Oliveira. You will learn a lot, meet incredible Lions from our multiple and have loads of fun. I encourage you to attend. Registration information is included in this issue of the Gram. I hope to see you there!

Yours in Service,

DGE Deb



From the 1st Vice District Governor Elect

Hello Lions All ~

Hard to believe we are into March already. January felt like it lasted forever, and I'm not even sure where February went.

My club (Centerville) held its 40th Annual Ice Fishing contest on February 15th. We had a great turn out and it was great to be back on the ice. Due to weather restrictions, we were unable to have the contest these past two years. It was chilly but that did not stop the Lions or those fishing. I want to say "Thank you" to both the Columbus and Hugo Lions Clubs for coming out to help.

I attended several workshops recently and they have been so informative. One big take away for me has been learning about the resources we have available to all of us. You Tube has great information from Lions International and workshops to watch. I am learning a lot more about how the virtual world can help us grow in many ways with Lions Virtual, it is exciting. You can see more on this topic in person at our Multiple Convention in April with PDG Daniel Marney Elkins.

Another great place for member service information is lionsclubs.org. If you need service ideas, from the home page of lionsclubs.org, search for 100 Service Ideas. You can download a great list of suggestions. Keep in mind, not all service projects take weeks and months to plan or need an "all hands-on deck" approach. Some things can be done in just a few hours with a couple of people. We can do BIG things in small ways!

A reminder for "Service of the Month".

March – Humanitarian – identify the most crucial needs and support them in their effort to provide aid where it is needed most

April – Environmental – working to protect the environment to create healthier communities and a more sustainable world.

May – Hunger – improve food security and access to nutritious food to help alleviate hunger.

We are also working on service projects for our Multiple Convention. This is a great opportunity to meet Lions from all over Minnesota, Manitoba and NW Ontario.

We will make it easy for you to make a difference.

Hope to see you there!

Don't forget to make your mark and radiate!

1VDGE Nancy Johnson





MINNESOTA LIONS VISION FOUNDATION

Lion Ron Tiernan

612-462-2651

ronaldtiernan@gmail.com

Lion Steve Linder

612-382-2236

Slinder71@usfamily.net

LGS Eye Donor Recognition Program

On Sunday April 13th, 2025, the Lions Gift of Sight will hold its Eye Donor Recognition Program at Wolf Alumni Hall in the Anderson Student Center, University of Saint Thomas. All Lions are welcome!

The program will honor eye donors from 2024 and express appreciation for the people who help make donations happen – eye donor families and friends. It is an opportunity to express gratitude and support and also raise awareness about the work of the Lions, the University of Minnesota, and the eye bank.

Lions Gift of Sight has held donor recognition events since 2004, and more than 500 people now typically attend each one! In case you are not familiar with the programs, you can check out some past events on the Lions Gift of Sight website:

<https://lionsgiftofsight.umn.edu>

Please come as a guest or as a volunteer. Reach out to Community Liaison Lion Jodi Altenhofen at 612-624-0446 or magnu007@umn.edu for more information.

PROJECT NEW HOPE Military Family Retreats at no cost to Veterans

At Project New Hope, we are driven by our mission to provide education, training and skills necessary to manage their lives after military service.

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO WWW.PROJECTNEWHOPE.NET OR SCAN THIS CODE

2025 MINNESOTA RETREATS

- 2025 MAY 2-4 Camp Birch near Maysa, MN
- 2025 JUNE 6-8 Dupree With our Sandstone, MN
- 2025 OCTOBER 3-5 Good Earth Village - Spring Valley, MN
- 2025 DECEMBER 5-7 Park Haven Camp near Battle Lake, MN

It's Jersey Mike's Month of Giving!

Special Olympics Minnesota is joining forces with **Jersey Mike's Subs** for its 15th annual **Month of Giving!** During March 2025, you can make a donation at any Jersey Mike's restaurant in Minnesota to support Special Olympics. 100% of the funds raised will directly support inclusive sports, health, leadership and school programs for people with intellectual disabilities. Even though it's not March yet, **Month of Giving starts today!** Visit Jersey Mike's this week to start



SAVE THE DATE: Day of Giving is March 26!

Month of Giving will culminate with Jersey Mike's Day of Giving on Wednesday, March 26, when 100% of sales—not just profits—support Special Olympics Minnesota's mission of inclusion. Mark your calendar!

5M7 YOUTH EXCHANGE REPORT

Submitted by: Lion Wendy Graves 5M7 Youth Exchange Chair 24-25



Calling all Lions and Leos!

It's that EXCITING time of year when the lists of Exchange applications is posted! We have already been reviewing the applicants to find the right match for us. Could this be THE YEAR you try hosting?



Youth Exchange is an incredible program, our family has really enjoyed getting to know all the youth we have hosted. If you are interested in getting more information about hosting a youth or two, please do not hesitate to contact me. Lion Wendy Graves, lionwendygraves@gmail.com 612-296-8879

Hosting youth need not be expensive to have fun! Some examples of free or nearly free activities we enjoy are

- Como Zoo, St Paul
- Willow River State Park, Hudson WI
- Cascade Falls & then Ice Cream Parlor for cones, Osceola, WI
- Farmers Market, Minneapolis
- Jay Cooke State Park, Carlton
- Hmong Village, St Paul
- State of MN Capitol free tours, St Paul
- Banning State Park, Sandstone
- Fireworks, nearly anywhere around July 4th
- Stone Arch Bridge, Minneapolis
- Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, Minneapolis
- Minnehaha Falls, Minneapolis
- Minnesota Historical Center, Thursday nights are free, St Paul
- Central Park, check out summer concerts on event schedule, Maple Grove
- Feed My Starving Children volunteering events, multiple locations
- Canal Park, Enger Park, Lief Erikson Park and Park Point Recreational area, Duluth
- Check your community calendars as several communities have concerts in the park and they are usually free include Cambridge & Lindstrom
- Isanti has Street Dances, Main Street in Isanti

A few brief facts about Youth Exchange

- The youth generally arrive about July 1st and leave about July 31st
- They spend a week at Camp Spicer
- You do not have to have a partner or children in the home to host
- You can host even if you work full time
- They bring their own spending money
- The lists of youths available starts in January
- Youth can usually leave Minnesota if you have a trip planned
- There is a small stipend available to hosts to assist with the cost of hosting



Ignite the Lions Pride Multiple District Convention April 25-27, 2025



5m7lions@gmail.com

Greetings!

Lion leaders from across Minnesota, Northwest Ontario and Manitoba will be holding a big Convention, April 25 – 27, 2025 at the Hilton Minneapolis – St. Paul Airport in Bloomington. This event brings together between 300 and 400 Lions who will spend 3 days focused on increasing and strengthening leadership. We will explore opportunities for service, hear from inspirational speakers, build knowledge, visit with Lions charitable foundations, share our experiences and learn new ways to make a difference for a whole lot of people locally and across the world.

The convention team is filled with enthusiasm and invites you to join us as we plan this event. Your support will directly contribute to the success of our convention. It's a great way to show you care and at the same time market your organization to the 300 - 400 Lions who will be in attendance.

We have several levels of support available:

Gold Sponsor—\$500 contribution

Full page ad in convention booklet Name + logo listed in sponsor honor roll + event signage

Silver Sponsor - \$250 contribution

½ page ad in convention booklet Name + logo listed in sponsor honor roll

Bronze Sponsor—\$100 contribution

¼ page ad in convention booklet Name listed in sponsor honor roll

Organizing such an event comes with its challenges, especially when it comes to covering the costs associated with rentals, printing, presenters and other learning materials. That's where your support can make a world of difference.

Being a Lion means knowing that kindness matters. We believe in changing the world by serving the needs of our local communities. More than 1.3 million Lions around the world respond to local and global challenges with kindness and care.

I would be glad to follow up with details, next steps and to answer questions about Lions and opportunities available through this convention.

Thank you for your consideration and support,

5M7 Lions Convention Planning Committee



THE LIONS PRIDE

105th - MD5M Multiple Convention
April 25-27, 2025
Hilton Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport
2025 MD5M Registration Form
(Please Print)



[] Lion [] Leo [] Guest

[] Lion [] Leo [] Guest

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City _____ Prov/State Zip _____

City _____ Prov/State Zip _____

Email Address _____

Email Address _____

Title: _____ District: _____

Title: _____ District: _____

Club: _____

Club: _____

[] Check if this is your 1st Multiple Convention

[] Check if this is your 1st Multiple Convention

Please specify dietary needs:

Please specify dietary needs:

[] Vegetarian [] Gluten Free Other: _____

[] Vegetarian [] Gluten Free Other: _____

I am attending the convention but NO MEALS are required, \$0.00 cost to attend. []

I am attending the convention but NO MEALS are required, \$0.00 cost to attend. []

Table with 3 columns: Cost Prior to March 1, 2025, Cost after March 1, 2025, and \$ Amount. Rows include Full Hospitality Book, Separate Meals (Friday Night Social, Saturday Breakfast, Saturday Lunch, Saturday Banquet, Sunday Brunch), and Total \$ Amount if separate meals chosen.

- No meals available after April 1, 2025.
Make Checks payable to: 5m7 Lions
Mail registrations to: MD5M Convention c/o Judy Herrala, 222730 Waco Street, NW, St. Francis, MN 55070 -OR- you may register online: https://sites.google.com/view/md5mmultipleconvention?usp=sharing

HOTEL INFORMATION: Hilton Minneapolis-St Paul Airport, 3800 American Blvd East, Bloomington, MN 55425
Call (952) 854-2100 to book your room reservation. Ask for the "Lions 2025 Convention" rate.
Room rates are \$119.00 per night plus taxes and fees. Room reservation cut-off is April 1, 2025.

FOR MORE INFORMATION contact: Registration Committee Lion Orville Lindquist at (612) 850-8132-OR-email at orville.lindquist@gmail.com or PDG Judy Herrala at 1-763-753-6962-OR-Email at JLHBELLS@earthlink.net

ADVERTISING IN THE CONVENTION BOOKLET

ALL ADS ARE **FULL COLOR**

Hundreds of Lions in attendance, representing the nearly 20,000 Lions across Minnesota, Manitoba and Northwest Ontario.

Lions are leaders in the community, providing important volunteer and financial support to a multitude of programs and services. They have strong ties and support with businesses, schools, youth programs, healthcare institutions, and local governments.

This is your way to become a part of the greatest service organization in the world - Lions Clubs International.

Already a Lion? Advertising in the convention booklet is also a great way to thank and recognize others - friends, your Club, District leaders and more.

Inside Front Cover - Full Page	8½" x 7"	\$750
Inside Back Cover - Full Page	8½" x 7"	\$750
Outside Back Cover - Full Page	8½" x 7"	\$1,000
Gold Sponsor - Full Page	8½" x 7"	\$500
Silver Sponsor - Half Page	4¼" x 7"	\$250
Bronze Sponsor - Quarter Page	4¼" x 3½"	\$100
Business Card	2" x 3½"	\$ 75

Please send all ad copy formatted as JPEG, PNG, TIFF, PDF as email attachment to:

orville.lindquist@gmail.com

Make checks payable to **"LIONS CONVENTION"** and mail to the address below.

Orville Lindquist
9537 Jackson Street NE
Blaine, MN 55434

Thank you for your support!



Ignite the Lions Pride MD5M Multiple District Convention April 25-27, 2025



TABLE SPONSORSHIP

Sponsors would have the opportunity to secure a table dedication in their honor for each of the meals. Sponsors can be individuals, clubs, districts, foundations, businesses, or other entities. Sponsors would have exposure to all attendees at all the meals.

Four meals at the MD5M 2025 Convention:

- Saturday Breakfast
- Saturday Lunch
- Saturday Banquet
- Sunday Brunch

Terms of sponsorship:

Tent cards or signs would be placed at the table indicating the sponsorship.

Sponsorship would be for all four meals at the convention.

Sponsors wishing to use a logo would provide a suitable digital file for use in the creation of the tent cards/signs.

Sponsors will also be listed on the sponsors' page in the convention booklet.

Sponsorship cost is \$250.00US.

Table Sponsorship registration:

Name:

Address:

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Postal/Zip Code:

Make checks payable to "5M7 Lions" and mail order form and check to the address listed below:

**MD5M Convention
c/o Judy Herralá
222730 Waco Street NW
St. Francis, MN 55070**



THANK YOU TO ALL THE CLUBS THAT GAVE AT PARADE OF GREEN!

There were 29 clubs that gave at Parade of Green to MD5M Lions KidSight for a total of \$15,075! Thank you so much for your donations!

Contact Lion Deb Johnson if you would like to know how many Sight Saver Awards you have.

HAVE AN EVENT COMING UP? CONTACT US TO DO A VISION SCREENING

Email: 5m7lionskidsight@gmail.com

Call: Lion Deb Johnson at 612-810-2119
 Lion Beth Holmquist at 763-234-4718



MN Lions Diabetes Foundation

Greetings 5m7 Lions and Leos,

We are grateful for our 5m7 Lions Clubs' support of the MN Lions Diabetes Foundation (MLDF) all year long and at the Parade of Green at our convention. 31 Lions clubs have given checks during the Parade of Green. Thank you so much! This will ensure that the MLDF can continue our dream – **Life Without Diabetes.**



Please Consider attending the Diabetes Research Update on **March 15th** in St. Cloud at the Best Western Kelly Inn. The flyer is pictured here, **you will find details about the event on the flier below.**

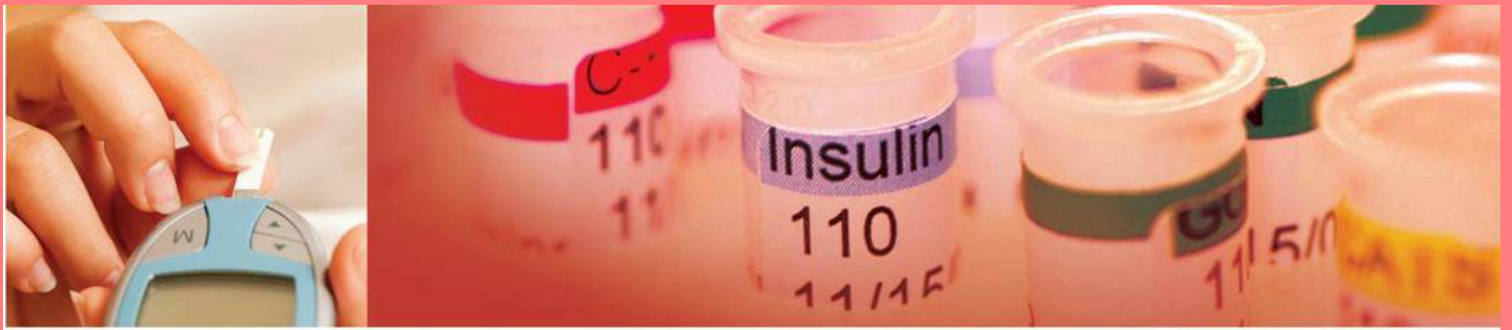
We will hear from University of Minnesota scientists who are conducting leading-edge research aimed at both preventing and curing diabetes. Learn first hand how these scientists funded by the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, are making a direct impact in our community, state, and beyond. RSVP by Tuesday, March 4 to MNLionsDiabetesFDN@gmail.com. Attend in person or via a zoom link. Lunch will be provided for attendees.

Lion Judy Herralá, 5m7 Co-trustee
 MN Lions Diabetes Foundation
JLHBELLS@earthlink.net

Lion Mike Edwards, 5m7 Co-trustee
 MN Lions Diabetes Foundation
 Co-Treasurer



mnedwards1@bellsouth.net



16th Annual Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation Research Update March 15, 2025

Hosted by the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, Inc.

More than 29 million people in the United States are living with diabetes—a growing number that includes 340,000 people in Minnesota alone. Unfortunately, that number is on the rise.

Join us at the annual Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation *Research Update* to hear from University of Minnesota scientists, who are conducting leading-edge research aimed at both preventing and curing diabetes. Learn first hand how these scientists, funded by the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, are making a direct impact in our community, state, and beyond.

Following the research presentations, guests will have the chance to interact with the scientists one on one, learn more about their research, and ask questions. There will also be silent auction items where you will have the opportunity to support the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation in their mission.

Saturday, March 15, 2025

11 a.m. Registration and Social
11:30 a.m. Lunch
12:30 p.m. Program
2:30 p.m. Meet n' Greet with Scientists

**Best Western Plus Kelly Inn
State/Sunwood Ballroom**
100 4th Ave. S.
St. Cloud, MN 56301

Faculty Research Presentations:

Among the Faculty Research Presentations by scientists will be:

- **Curing Diabetes by Stopping the Body's Immune System - Dr. Brian Fife**
- **Bringing Immune Tolerance to the Clinic for People with Diabetes and Kidney Failure - Dr. Sabarinathan Ramachandran and Dr. Singh**

RSVP by Tuesday, March 4

RSVP via email to MNLionsDiabetesFdn@gmail.com

A Zoom Link will be emailed to those unable to attend in person.

Please request Zoom **link by email above.**

A confirmation email will be sent prior to event.



TEAM SHEEHAN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION UPDATE

FEBRUARY 17,2025

The mission of the TEAM Sheehan Charitable Foundation (501c3) is to empower MD5M Lions Clubs to provide greater service by boosting their ability to complete community projects with matching grants.

Three grants were recently awarded:

\$3,000 went to the Dillworth Lions Club to help the local food shelf purchase food.

The Jackson Lions Club is using the \$1,500 grant for the Snow Angels, who clear snow for the elderly.

The Pine Island Lions Club was awarded \$3,000 for maintenance on bathroom buildings and work on the park and trail system.

If you have any plans for a community project the deadline for this quarter is **March 31, 2025**.

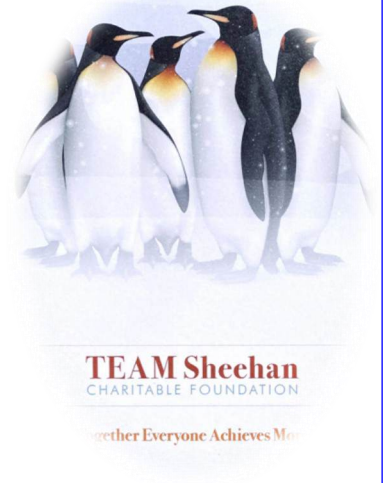
The grant application can be downloaded from the www.TEAMSheehan.foundation website.

The Foundation relies on monetary donations to continue awarding matching grants. Pins are given for individual monetary donations of \$100 and medals for \$1,000 donations. Photos are below. If you would like to donate, please make a check payable to Team Sheehan Charitable Foundation and mail it to this address:

Spring Lake Park Lions Club
PO Box 32955
Spring Lake Park MN 55432

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Lion Toni Mortensen
Spring Lake Park Lions Club
District 5M7 TEAM Sheehan Charitable Foundation



Victory Riders is 501c3 therapeutic horseback riding program for people with special needs in Rogers. They also serve the memory care community. This fall they lost 2 of their very seasoned therapy horses. They are seeking funds to help replace them. Check out their website for more information on their program. They will gladly accept any donations from clubs that align with their mission. Visit them at victory-riders.org

The Minnesota Hearing Foundation is in the process of rolling out a new hearing screening program for all of the MD5M region.

The Foundation has purchased one screener for all of the 11 districts throughout Minnesota. Obviously one screener for all the 51 clubs in 5M7 will be way short of the need we expect. The good news is that our district will begin discussion on purchasing additional screeners. Additionally individual clubs have purchased their own devices, with more clubs hoping to do the same.

Here are some of the Hearing Screener details:

*Screeners can be purchased through Midwest Special Instruments.

12302 Princeton Ave. Savage, Mn 55378 800-328-6709

*Special 5% discount on all devices. Cost approximately \$2,000

*Time to screen is approximately 6 minutes

*Training for Lions to operate the screeners, one hour or less.

*the screeners have a variety of useful opportunities for your Lions Clubs.

Fairs, Lions events, local community opportunities i.e. Senior centers, schools, other services clubs, small business employers, etc.



We hope to have the program fully operational by this spring and early summer. For more information feel free to contact Lion Hearing Foundation Trustee for 5M7 Mike Benedetto mjbenedetto45@gmail.com

Lions Affordable Hearing Aid Program

Don't forget to let your club and communities members know that they can return used hearing aids in the eye-glass boxes throughout your communities. With the cooperation of the Starkey Company the used hearing aids can be recycled. Starkey then credits our Lions organization allowing us to purchase quality hearing aids to those who qualify.

easyTone

Tablet Audiometry with True Pass and Refer Results

Speed up your workflow with our new headphone-audiometer easyTone. Its intuitive tablet interface and trouble-free handling enables hearing screening significantly faster than with conventional **audiometers**. easyTone is ready for sweep screening or pure tone audiometry with threshold determination when a precise hearing level is required.

With easyTone you can't go wrong: it shows clear pass/refer results that do not need any further interpretation. Highly customizable and easy-to-use in the whole screening process and after: **easyTone is tailored to the way you screen.**

Features at a glance:

- ✓ State of the art tablet audiometer
- ✓ Audiometer built-in easyTone headphone
- ✓ Overall pass/refer result
- ✓ Easy transition from screening to threshold determination
- ✓ Guided workflow preventing operator errors and saving time
- ✓ Protocol wizard for easy set up
- ✓ Circumaural headphone with high attenuation
- ✓ Room noise monitoring
- ✓ Direct printout of results or share to e-mail
- ✓ Companion Software for screening list management



Otsego Lions Doing Great Things For Their Community!

The Otsego Lions Club is actively working to raise funds that will benefit our local community. This year, we've lined up several exciting events to support our mission, and we would love for other Lions Clubs to come out to support!

Every Thursday evening at 6:30 PM, we host a weekly meat raffle at Rockwoods in Otsego. It's a fun and easy way to support our cause, and we encourage Lions members from other clubs to come participate & enjoy some great company.



In addition to the meat raffle, we're preparing for our **Putts & Pars Pub Crawl** on Saturday, May 17th. This mini-golf-themed pub crawl will take participants through all the bars in Otsego. For just \$30 per person, participants receive registration, a complimentary Lions Club baseball cap, and eligibility for various awards such as best-dressed and highest or lowest score. It's a fantastic way to have fun and raise money for the community, and we'd love to see other Lions Clubs join us! Registration is open at otsegolions.org.

Back in September, the Lions Clubs helped out with the **Otsego Prairie Festival**, a vibrant community event put on by the City of Otsego. The festival featured vendor booths, a large car show, food trucks, bounce houses, and the Lions Tent, where we served drinks and raised money through alcohol donations. Lions members volunteered to bartend, and we also hosted bingo games, live music, a DJ, a pancake breakfast, and sold tickets for a **cash raffle** leading up to the event.



The Otsego Lions recently took a rewarding club field trip to **Feed My Starving Children**, where we had the opportunity to pack **10,368 meals** for those in need. These meals will provide sustenance for **28 children for an entire year**, highlighting the impact that our hands-on volunteer efforts can have on the lives of children around the world. It was a humbling experience that reinforced the core values of our club and the power of service.

Additionally, the Otsego Lions Club has adopted a local road, and each fall and spring, we conduct a roadside cleanup to keep our community beautiful. Not only does this act of service help maintain the environment, but it also boosts the visibility of our club. Our name proudly appears on a sign near the local Target, where many residents pass by daily, increasing awareness of the work we do. It's a simple yet effective way to connect with the community while keeping our surroundings clean.

These events are just a glimpse of how the Otsego Lions Club is making an impact in the community year-round!



Royal Canadian Circus

Here is an exciting opportunity for those looking to support your administrative funds and have a bit of fun. Do you like the circus? April 10-20 the Royal Canadian Circus will be at the Mall of America. The Bloomington Lions are looking for volunteers to help staff ticket sales, usher and security door watchers. They divide the money received from the Circus by the number of shifts worked and send each club a check for shifts their member's work. This is expected to be \$35 - \$40 per shift. Attire is casual... Jeans and a Lions shirt or vest. Job descriptions can be seen on the Sign-up Genius link: Please let us know if you have questions 612-716-0936

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#/showSignUp/10C0A4CABAE2EA6FCCF8-54254246-royal>



EMERGING LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE ELLI



Date: March 14-16, 2025

Location: Best Western, Willmar



ELLI is for Lions who wish to pursue leadership roles within their club. You will learn the history and goals of LCI and LCIF, develop strategies for being an effective leader, creative thinking, change management and collaborate with a diverse group of fellow Lions.

You qualify for trainings if you:

- **Have NOT served as Club President**
- **Are a current member in good standing**
- **Have an interest in becoming a better Lions member.**
- **Enjoy meeting other Lions and sharing ideas**
- **Like having FUN!!!!**

Participants are required to:

- **Attend all sessions of the three-day institute.**
- **You may commute to trainings if you attend all sessions and can do so safely.**
- **Complete pre-assignments prior to beginning of training weekends**

**Applications due by
Thursday, February 27, 2025
Applications are due to the
District Governor**

**Cost: \$125 Registration fee (Non-refundable)
Hotel Room Rate: \$144.99**

Questions, please reach out to your GLT Chair or your District Governor



MD5M EMERGING LIONS' LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

MARCH 14-16, 2025, WILLMAR MN

Institute starts at 8:00am on March 14, 2025

PARTICIPANT APPLICATION FORM

MUST BE SUBMITTED to your DISTRICT GOVERNOR no later than February 6, 2025

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____ DATE JOINED LIONS: _____	
ADDRESS: _____ _____	
E-Mail ADDRESS: _____	TELEPHONE NO: _____
CLUB NAME: _____	MEMBER NUMBER: _____
CURRENT OFFICE HELD: _____	
OTHER OFFICES HELD: _____	
I WAS REFERRED BY: _____	
WHY DO YOU WISH TO ATTEND THE MD5M EMERGING LIONS' LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE? _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	
Use the back of this document or add another page if you require more space.	
Any food or other allergies? _____	
APPLICATION MUST BE SIGNED BY THE FOLLOWING:	
APPLICANT: _____	DATE: _____
CLUB PRESIDENT OR ZONE CHAIR: _____	DATE: _____

NOTE: Please submit this completed application to your District Governor by February 6, 2025. The registration fee for the Institute will be \$125 USD. This fee is payable to MD5M by check or credit card BEFORE you can attend the Institute. You will be notified of your acceptance and provided with the payment information by February 7, 2025.



Thursday 3-13	Friday 3-14	Saturday 3-15	Sunday 3-16
	7:30-8:15 am Breakfast	7:00-7:45 am Breakfast	7:00-7:45 am Breakfast
	7:30-8:30 am Late Registration	8:00-10:00 am Communication	8:00-9:30 am Join the Mission
	8:30-10:00 am Opening Session		
	10:00-10:15 am Break	10:00-10:15 am Break	9:30-9:45 am Break
	10:15 am-12:15 pm Lions, Past, Present & Future	10:15 am-12:15 pm Conducting Effective Meetings	9:45 am-11:00 am LCIF
	12:15-1:15 pm Lunch	12:15-1:15 pm Lunch	11:00-12:00 pm Lunch
7:00-8:30p Registration	1:15-2:45 pm Change Management	1:15-2:45 pm Diversity	12:00-1:30 pm Ensuring Club Success
	2:45-3:00 pm Break	2:45-3:00 pm Break	1:30-2:15 pm Closing
	3:00-4:30 pm Supporting Lions Teams	3:00-4:30 pm Lions Mentoring Program	2:15 pm Departure
	4:30-5:30 pm LCIF Topic Preparation	4:30-5:30 pm Focused Discussion	
	Dinner on your own	6:30 pm Appreciation Dinner	

**Lions doing their part for environment.
April 2025 will be MD5M Environment Month**



Examples:

Highway clean up, Clean up the park, Recycling program, Tree planting, Collect used cell phones, Maintain walking trails, Install bat houses, Beach clean up, Bird houses, Butterfly garden, Invasive plant removal, Start a school garden

The time is now to start planning your Environmental Service Project for April.

**MARCH 18, 2025
1:30 - 4:30 PM**

**LIONS DAY
AT THE
CAPITAL**

The goals of Lions Day at the Capitol is to Increase Public Awareness, Advocate for Change & Strengthen Partnerships

HOW CLUBS CAN PARTICIPATE

GENERATE ENTHUSIASM: SHARE THE EVENT DETAILS AT CLUB MEETINGS.
SET ATTENDANCE GOALS: AIM FOR 5 - 10 ATTENDEES PER CLUB TO ENSURE STRONG REPRESENTATION.
ENGAGE WITH LOCAL GOVERNING REPRESENTATIVES: SCHEDULE MEETINGS WITH YOUR LOCAL OFFICIALS IN ADVANCE TO DISCUSS KEY ISSUES AND INVITE THEM TO ATTEND.

Host: Maple Grove Lions

To sign-up click the link below.
<https://www.lionsclubs.com/US/0000045444/000450001/5400L15/Sign>



LCIF Gala "Go for the Gold"

Saturday, March 29, 2025
Holiday Inn & Suites St. Cloud
75 37th Avenue South
St. Cloud, MN 563011
10:30 am to 4:00 pm

PIP Douglas K. Alexander was our International President from 2021-2022. He is from Brooklyn, New York and his theme was "Service from the Heart".

Who wants to get their Melvin Jones Fellowship Plaque or Progressive pin presented by Past International President Douglas X. Alexander??? Have I got the opportunity for YOU!!

Check with your District LCIF Coordinator to find the personal balance you donated to LCIF. If you have donated \$1,000 and want to be presented with an MJF plaque (or PMJF pin for each additional \$1,000) by PIP Doug Alexander, then you will need to order your plaque/pin by Feb 18, 2025.

You can contact LCIF Donor Services at 630-203-3836 to have the plaque/pin sent to you and bring it to the LCIF Gala if you are attending. If you or your club want to present someone with a Melvin Jones Fellowship or a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship, the same criteria applies. Remember this Gala is not for Lions members only. Invite people who are interested in learning about our Foundation and what it does. This year, there will be stories shared from around our Multiple about the impact our Foundation/Grants had on the community.

Registrations are now available through your District LCIF Coordinator, MD5M Website, and District/MD Newsletters and will be available at your District Conventions. The cost is \$45 for each person, or if you prefer, you can purchase a table of 8 for \$500 that comes with perks. There is a PayPal, Venmo, or check option to register.

The Gala will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn & Suites, Saint Cloud. There will be a costume contest with a Gold Theme. A tentative agenda will be posted as the Gala gets closer. Remember this is a FUN-Raiser...and there will be a cash bar.

If you need a place to stay before or after the gala, a booking link with the Holiday Inn is in the registration form.

WooHoo - Get your Lion on!!! I would love to help you with any questions.

Anna Wickenhauser 952-913-1467 or lionannaw@gmail.com



MD5M "Go for the Gold Gala"

March 29, 2025
Holiday Inn & Suites
75 37th Avenue South
St. Cloud, MN 56301

Name _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____ Club: _____

Tickets: Individual \$45.00 Tables of 8 \$ 500.00

Pay online or return Registration form, no later than March 14, 2025.

Make checks payable to: **LCIF Gala**

c/o Rose Thies
21515 371st Ave.
Green Isle, MN 55338

Pay online by Venmo or PayPal, please scan or email your registration form to: rthies001@gmail.com or 612-756-1316.

o **PayPal:** Rosemary Thies [paypal.me/GreenIsleLions](https://www.paypal.me/GreenIsleLions)

o Venmo: [@Rose-Thies](https://www.venmo.com/@Rose-Thies)

Lunch Menu

- Choice of Chicken Parmesan or Lasagna (Beef or Vegetarian)
- Choice of Penne, Cavatappi or Gluten-free Penne
- Choose two of Grilled Chicken, Meatballs, Broccoli or Mushrooms
- Choice of Garlic Alfredo or Marinara
- Caesar Salad and Garlic Bread sticks
- Dessert: Cupcakes

Hotel Accommodations: Book Directly to Holiday Inn & Suites by calling 615-321-8259 (mention 2025 Lions Club)

<https://www.holidayinn.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=HI&locateCode=en®ionCode=1&hotelCode=STCMN&PMID=99801505&GPC=LIO7cn=no&viewfullsite=true> to book online. Block held until, Monday, March 3, 2025.

Dear Lions Club International Foundation Supporters,

We are excited to host the 2nd annual LCIF Gala at The Holiday Inn & Suites in St. Cloud MN in MD5M March 29th, 2025. We are looking forward to many people attending from around our multiple and need your help to make this event a success!

We need Silent Auction and raffle prizes to be given at this event to encourage donations to LCIF. We would love to include a raffle basket or larger value silent auction item for the Gala to not only showcase your support to LCIF but to the Gala and raising funds for LCIF!

Please respond to this letter at email: davecarrieshofner@gmail.com with what you would like to donate for the event and the estimated value of the donation. I will then connect with you on receiving the item from you if you are not attending the Gala.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting this worthy cause and we look forward to your donation confirmation soon. Please respond before the Gala with your donation gift information and to coordinate pick up/delivery. I look forward to hearing from you soon!

In Lionism,

Lions Carrie & Dave Shofner



**SPRING LAKE PARK LIONS
COMMUNITY
PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

ALL ARE WELCOME

Spring Lake Park High School | Cost: Good Will Offering
1100 81st Ave NE-Enter Door #29 | Mar 30, 2025 | 8am - 12pm
West parking lot at Able St NE & 81st Ave NE

All you can eat:

Pancakes, French Toast, Sausage, Eggs, Coffee, Juice and Milk

Host

Event Partner

Sponsored



EXPLORE

Community Resource & Wellness Fair

DONATE

Cell Phones
Eye Glasses
Hearing Aids
Non-perishable Food

FREE ACTIVITIES

Eye Screening (6m - 16yr)
Face Painting
Balloon Artist
And More.

ON SALE

Baked Goods
Big Coloring Books

**Big Lake
Lions**



**Friday, March 21, 2025
4:30 PM - 7:00 PM**

DINNER MENU

Fried Fish

Baked Potato, Cole Slaw

Dinner Roll & Beverage

*TO GO BOXES AVAILABLE
IF YOU WANT TO PICK UP & LEAVE*

**All proceeds will benefit
Big Lake HS Scholarships**

**Adults
\$15
10 & under
\$10**
Cash or Check
only

Lions Club of Big Lake Lioness will be selling dessert!

Big Lake Lions/Township Park, 21960 Cty Rd 5

ALBERTVILLE



SHRIMP & FISH FRY

FRIDAY MARCH 7TH, 2025

4:30-7:00 PM

**(Fish, Shrimp, Potato, Baked Beans,
Coleslaw, Cookie, Milk, and Coffee)**

ALL YOU CAN EAT FISH

Adults - \$17.00 Fish and Shrimp-\$15.00 Fish only
Under 12-\$ 12.00 Fish and Shrimp-\$10.00 Fish only

Proceeds will go to LIONS EYE BANK

Location: Albertville City Hall

Columbus Lions News

On February 15th The Columbus Lions supported the Center-ville Lions by selling mini donuts at their annual ice fishing contest. The mini donuts are baked to order and always a crowd pleaser.



The Columbus Lions host a pancake & French toast breakfast on the third Saturdays of each month from September to April.

Each month there are different groups that join us in serving. Columbus Elementary PTO, Crossroads Church, Community Helping Hand, and the Columbus Scout Troop.

We see members from other Lions clubs, city officials and many community members who come for great food and fellowship.



Hugo Lions Club Celebrates 50 Years

The Hugo Lions Club recently celebrated 50 years of service with a tea party, cake, and great company. Several founding members joined the celebration, sharing stories of the past.

Also joining us were friends from other local organizations, each sharing updates, making it a wonderful opportunity to connect and strengthen community ties.



Howard Lake Lions News

Howard Lake Lions President Darren presented a donation to the Howard Lake Royalty to help support their program and represent our community



Circle Pines-Lexington Lions

The Circle Pines-Lexington Lions have been going to the Northwoods Memory Care Center the second Tuesday evening of the month for over a year. When the Center first opened they only had a few residents and we got to work with the staff, build a relationship with the residents and did one on one activities with each resident. They are now almost at full capacity and we have settled into playing BINGO with the residents and their family members once a month. At 6pm on the second Tuesday of the month. We arrive to find family members getting their mother or father, wife or husband settled in the dining area with BINGO cards and chips ready to enjoy the evening with this fun activity. We pick up simple little prizes from the dollar store, make sure everyone has a good time and gets a little treat of cookies or candy. The family members enjoy the fun of seeing their loved ones happy and interacting with them without any pressure of not knowing who or where they are, just enjoying something they can all share. During the Summer months the Center brings their bus full of residents over to our Farmers Market on Wednesday afternoons to do a little shopping. Building community one smile at a time.



Chicago Lakes Lions Fishing Contest

Conditions were good and the CL Lions were able to have their annual fishing contest on February 9th as part of the Chisago Lakes area Celebration of Lakes weekend. We had perfect ice, and it was just warm enough at almost 20 degrees to have the event. It was a good event and everyone had a lot of fun. Not a lot of fish caught, but still fun!



Lions Lee, Kevin & Mike



Adult Big Fish Winner



Bike Winners

Centerville Lions 40th Annual Fishing Contest

Centerville Lions 40th Annual Ice Fishing Contest. It took place on Feb 15th 2025 on Centerville Lake. Top 10 largest Fish and 1st 40 fish caught got a prize. We gave out goodie bags to all the kids that came. Ever 5-10 min we wrote 10 ticket numbers on the door prize board. It was an awesome day. It takes an Army to run an event like this. This is our biggest fundraiser that we out on and since not being able to have it the pay 2 years it was so nice to have it this year. All the support we received was great. Thanks to all the local businesses who made this happen.



Largest fish caught



My husband and I (Lion Ron and Katie Hogan) were Chair and Co Chair of this event. Something we are both very passionate about. Such a great day with great people. On the ice catching big fish. Thanks to everyone who came out to support us!



These lions plus far right (Macy from the Centennial Honor Society) spend the day serving concessions to everyone. What a busy day. Hot dogs, chips, coffee, hot chocolate, and much more! Nice work you guys! Not an easy task that for sure.



Young life came out and was keeping people warm with a fire and free s'mores. Young life is great group for middle and high schoolers and a non profit just like us