



We Serve

www.5m7.org

The Gram

January 2025

The latest news, views and announcements for District 5M7

2024—2025

5M7 Cabinet

DG—Mary Lee Curtis
1VDG—Deb Weston
2VDG—Nancy Johnson
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
Zone6: Pete Yelle
Zone7:
Zone 8: Jeff Allen
Zone 9: Bob Olson

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**Radiate...and make your
mark**

Greetings, fellow Lions and Leos,

I am still exhilarated from our Midwinter convention this past weekend. Thank you to everyone that came. I hope you left feeling inspired, ready to Radiate and Make your Mark. Kudos to PDG Mark Landwehr and his committee for their hard work at making it an enjoyable event for everyone. I'm very grateful to our International Guests, Director Dave and Lion Lindy Wineman. They were a dynamic duo. They shared how to have FUN (Friendly, Upbeat, Nice) in everything we do as Lions.

I'm excited about our newest member of the Governor Team! Congratulations to Lion Joel Anderson on his nomination and election as Second Vice District Governor Elect. Lion Joel and his wife Lion Becky are Coon Rapids Lions. They make a great team and will bring another level of expertise and amusement to our district. (trust me on this one – Lion Joel can be a jokester) Congratulations to our DGE Deb Weston and IVDGE Nancy Johnson. They have been a joy to work with this year. The three of them will be great resources and leaders for our District and clubs as we continue to grow and serve our communities.

Speaking of new leadership – its time for you to start taking nominations for next years club officers. If you have held an office for several years, it is time for you to start mentoring someone else to fill that position. It is not wise practice to have only one person that knows how to perform the duties of your leadership roles. Tomorrow is not promised to any of us. What or who is your back up plan if you lose a key player in your club? Every single one of you have to ability to lead with a little guidance and mentoring. Positive encouragement and support go a long way in building confidence. We can all do that for those who are unsure of themselves and their abilities.

Our Constitution and Bylaws were reviewed and revised. The suggested revisions were adopted at our business meeting held last weekend at Midwinter Convention. The new document is posted on our 5M7 website.

Are you taking advantage of the learning opportunities provided by the Multiple? On the second Thursday of the month there is a zoom-based webinar. The presenters are Lions, like you, sharing their expertise in areas that can enhance our knowledge base and club practices. See the ad in this publication for more information on the February 13 webinar.

It's not too early to start planning for Earth Day. April 22 will mark Earth Days 55th anniversary. April has been defined as MD5M Lions Environment Month. Pick a date and start planning. Are you planting trees, flowers, could the local park use a face lift? Get outside, enjoy the fresh air, have fun and invite your friends and neighbors to join you. Don't forget to report on your service and share it with local media resources.

Continued on next page

Club Presidents, if you haven't invited and scheduled me to come visit your club, start checking your calendars. If you don't reach out soon, I will be calling you for a date to visit.

Have a great month doing great things in your community.

Governor Mary

Happy New Years Lions and Leos!

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season! Our district kicked off 2025 at our Mid-Winter Convention, January 24-26 at the Best Western Kelly Inn, St. Cloud. The convention was a huge success with 65 Leos, 149 Lions and guests in attendance representing 32 clubs. The convention is such a wonderful opportunity to catch up with Lions from clubs across our district, make new friends and learn about the excellent work and projects that other clubs are doing.

We had incredible speakers throughout the weekend, opportunities to visit the Foundation and Cabinet display tables and visit with Foundation and Cabinet members. We were fortunate to have International Director David Wineman and his wife Lion Lindy join us for the weekend. They both shared a wealth of information with us during the Town Hall Forum and Saturday night's Governor's Banquet. ID David and Lion Lindy were extremely knowledgeable, approachable and lots of fun!

Saturday afternoon was the business meeting where nominations and voting took place for the offices of District Governor, 1st Vice District Governor and 2nd Vice District Governor. I had the honor of being nominated and elected as District Governor. I am humbled by the outpouring of support I've received and will do my very best in serving you as District Governor. I am especially grateful to my awesome club members, the Elk River Lions, for their incredible support and their campaigning for me during the convention (keeping their campaigning ideas a secret from me!) When I become District Governor, I look forward to serving alongside our 1st Vice District Governor Nancy Johnson and 2nd Vice District Governor Joel Anderson. They are both exceptional Lions and proven leaders.

My journey as District Governor Elect has been a wonderful experience. My favorite part has been visiting clubs in our district and meeting so many amazing Lions. I will be flying off to Chicago on February 10th for in person training at the Q Center with over 800 District Governor Elects. I'm looking forward to this opportunity to meet Lions from around the world. It will be an invaluable learning experience.



When I joined Lions, I never dreamt of becoming District Governor. During my years as a Lion, I was encouraged to serve in leadership positions in my club, was a trustee for the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation and Zone Chair. I've thoroughly enjoyed serving in these roles and as I look back, I see how much I've grown and how many wonderful friends I've made throughout our district. I'm sharing this with you because I encourage you to take on leadership roles in your club and look at positions in our district. You will be glad you did! I would love the opportunity to talk with you to see what you're passionate about and how you can share that passion with our district. Please reach out to me at dweston2217@gmail.com. I look forward to visiting with you.

Thank you so much for your commitment to Lions and for all your service.

DGE Deb

Nancy Johnson— 1st District Governor Elect

Greetings Lions all! Another busy month for myself as your 1VDGE. We did one Governor's visit to the Monticello Lions Club. What a great night that was. It's always interesting to see how each club operates a little bit different. Thank you, Monticello Lions, for a great meal and conversation. For those clubs who have not had us for a visit, there's still plenty of time to get on the Governor's calendar. We spent much of the month planning for the Midwinter Convention, so much to do but it sure was worth it. I had so much fun meeting so many great Lions. The hospitality suites were original and entertaining at the same time. Thanks to Elk River for hosting the breakfast on Saturday morning. I want to also thank the Centerville Lions for their support in my nomination for First Vice District Governor. I am proud to represent Centerville on my journey. Now we continue to plan for our multiple convention in April. We have outstanding speakers lined up and some service projects that we will need help with.



I wanted to update everyone on the status of our service reporting. As a district, we are currently at 59%, same as last month. I know you are all doing service projects or at the bare minimum planning something. Were you aware that business meetings can be logged as service? They can! If you have your monthly meeting and you are talking about or planning a service project, put that in the portal. Doing service projects are what we are made of right? I can see from Facebook and other media; clubs are having events all the time to benefit one of the Lions great pillars or a local humanitarian effort. 25 out of 52 clubs have not entered any service for the year. We can do better. If you need any help with the portal, let me know. If you don't have access or need something entered, let me know, I will be happy to enter it for you. We want everyone to be proud of their efforts and let's tell International how busy and proud we are to serve. Until next month, let's continue to make our mark and radiate!

1VDGE Nancy Johnson

TEAM SHEEHAN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION UPDATE—JANUARY 29, 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.

So far, only one club from our district has received a TSCF grant. The Buffalo Lions Club was awarded \$1,800 matching grant toward the construction of a splash pad in a local park.

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.

For those clubs who donated to TSCF at the District 5M7 Midwinter Parade of Green, we greatly appreciate your generosity.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

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



TEAM Sheehan
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Together Everyone Achieves More

2025 Midwinter Convention Awards & Raffle Winner

Certificates of appreciation are the 4th highest award from Lions International were presented to:



Judy Herrala



Orville Lindquist



Ann Kaduce



Theresa Goff

International Leadership Medal
3rd Highest Award from LCIF



LeRoy Berning

International Presidents Medal
2nd Highest Award from LCIF



Pete Yell



Pictured are Lion Jan Kugler, Youth Outreach Coordinator with District Peace Poster Winner, McKenna Kloos. McKenna, 11 years old, was sponsored by the Howard Lake Lions Club. The theme this year was "Peace Without Limits".

And The Winners Are...

Congratulations to Lion Joey Zilmer. His ticket was drawn for the MD5M Raffle at the Luncheon on Saturday at Midwinter. He won \$1,000. Lion Joey is President of the Almelund Lions Club. He is pictured with PDG Judy Herrala who ran the raffle through her Nowthen Lions Club and is Co-Chair of the MD5M Convention and PDG Mark Landwehr Chairman of the Multiple Convention, being held April 25-27, 2025 in Bloomington. 2nd Place winner of \$500 was Lion Dennis Priem. 3rd place winner of \$250 was Lion Dan Erhart Congrats to Lions Joey, Dennis and Dan!!



Hello fellow Lions and Leo's of the GREAT 5M7.

Our mid-winter convention is over and I would like to thank all the Lions and Leo's who attended and all of the hard working Lions and Leo members who worked to make this a great convention. I would like to thank all the clubs who donated to the LCIF. Every year the international gives each district a goal in raising donations. Our goal for 5M7 this year is \$51,359 and we had raised \$48,790 of the goal before our convention. Due to the generous donations from the Parade of Green we received another \$19,925 this weekend, bringing our total LCIF fundraising number to \$68,715. This is 33.7 per cent higher than the international asked us to do. Congratulations to all the Lions in the 5M7.



As a director for Minnesota Childhood Cancer foundation I was awed by what the 5M7 clubs gave to our foundation. \$15,875. Wow. This makes me proud to be a part of our district. You fellow Lions are just plain awesome. Thank you. If your club would like a short presentation on the MCCF please contact me at mrlandwehr55@gmail.com,

The last item I would like to talk about is our up coming MD5M convention being held at the Mpls Airport Hilton on Friday April 25- Sunday April 27th. We go to conventions not only for the fellowship but to hear good speakers on topics that include suicide, vision loss, youth outreach and leadership training. Please come and join us at this convention in April. You will not be disappointed that you did. The registration can be found on the 5M7 website. Thank you.

Lastly I would like to thank Stephanie Newman and all the Leo's who attended our 5M7 convention. These young people helped with our opening flag ceremony and did a great job. Thank you thank you. I look forward to working with you at the MD5M convention.

MD5M chairperson PDG Mark Landwehr.

What Happened to DG Mary's Hair?

Picture with my sister Nancy and my purple hair on Sunday morning. My goal was to increase awareness and promote contributions by individual Lions to the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). I collected a total of \$1,000 from 46 different Lions. Thank you to Lion Lyle Goff who started accepting Venmo payments on my behalf. (I should have thought of that sooner!) A huge Thank you to everyone for your donations. It is greatly appreciated by so many people across the world. I am working on getting them logged for LCIF under your names.





5M7 Leos Mid-Winter Gathering



Leader Dog Lunch in the dark



Building new relationships, learning, and FUN!



Service Projects for Can-do-Canines

65 Leos from Andover, Anoka, Blaine, Coon Rapids, Spring Lake Park and Rush City plus one from potential Elk River

Thank you to the following Lions clubs for supporting the 5M7 Leos in the Parade of Green
Andover, Cambridge, Centerville, Chisago Lakes, Elk River, Ham Lake, North Branch, Spring Lake Park, and St. Michael

Lions Building Ramps, Changing Lives

What does it take to build and install three handicap ramps in District 5M7? Approximately 10 Lions, 2 non-Lions, 295 hours of dedication, warm clothes for the Fall and Winter, and, most importantly, someone with the expertise to make it happen.

Over the past few months, several requests have come in for handicap ramps to help community members safely enter and exit their homes. The first request came from Linwood, a community without a Lions Club. When an email was sent out across the district, Immediate Past District Governor (IPDG) Peter Lendway took action. He reached out to Past District Governor (PDG) Mark Landwehr to figure out how the Lions of 5M7 could step in—securing funding, organizing volunteers, and ensuring the ramp was properly built.



With the motto "Where there is a need, there is a Lion," PDGs Mark and Peter assessed the site, purchased materials, and fabricated the ramp in PDG Mark's garage. With assistance from members of the Ham Lake, Cambridge and Rush City Lions Clubs, the ramp was transported and installed. Financial support for the project came from the Forest Lake, Wyoming, Chisago Lakes, and Cedar-East Bethel Lions Clubs. The total time to complete this ramp was 96.5 hours, with 8 Lions and 1 non-Lion contributing their time and skills.

Shortly after the Linwood ramp was completed, Lion Dallas Jelmborg of the Cedar-East Bethel Lions received a request from the Bethel community about another needed ramp. PDG Mark and Lion Ed Dols of the Ham Lake Lions quickly fabricated the ramp, which was then installed by members of the Cedar-East Bethel and Ham Lake Lions Clubs. Funding was secured from the Ham Lake, Elk River, and Spring Lake Park Lions Clubs. This ramp took 101.5 hours to complete, with 9 Lions and 1 non-Lion working together to make it happen.



L-R: Lions Dallas Jelmborg, Gary Everson, Mark Landwehr, Ed Dols & Keith Omscheid

access to another grateful community member. This final project took 97 hours, with 8 Lions and 1 non-Lion lending a hand.

What do Lions do? We Serve!

Through teamwork, determination, and generosity, the Lions of District 5M7 have made a profound difference in the lives of those in need. These three ramps symbolize not only accessibility but also the strength of our Lions community coming together to serve.



FEBRUARY | 2025

LEADING THE WAY

Leader Dogs for the Blind - Lions Newsletter



Teen Orientation and Mobility

2025 dates available: June 15-21 | July 13-19 | August 10-16

- **TEEN GOAL:** Build independent travel skills by working one-on-one with a Certified O & M Specialist (COMS)
- **ADULT SUPPORTER GOAL:** Build knowledge with experiences to support teen
 - with independent travel skills.
 - Teen travels with adult supporter to Rochester Hills, MI. All public transportation for both teen and adult, and a room at a local hotel are covered by Leader Dog.
 - Both teen and adult supporters learn new skills, build empathy and gain resources.
 - Teens must have completed at least one year of high school.



Teen Summer Camp

2025 dates available: June 22-28

- **TEEN GOAL:** Explore mobility options, build leadership skills and make friendships with peers in a group setting.
- Teen travels to Rochester Hills, MI independently and meets our team at the Detroit Airport (information and what to expect will be clearly communicated). All public transportation and a private room on Leader Dog's campus are covered.
- Experience guide dogs, night travel, accessible GPS and more.
- Participate in fun camp activities—rock wall, zip line and team building
- Applicants must be 16 or 17 during the week of camp.



"I THOUGHT CAMP WOULD BE REALLY FUN, AND I WANTED TO MEET MORE BLIND PEOPLE MY AGE. I REALLY LIKED ALL OF THE NEW THINGS I GOT TO DO, AND I LIKED MEETING ALL OF THE OTHER CAMPERS. MY FAVORITE PART OF CAMP WAS EITHER ZIP LINING OR DOG DAY WHEN I GOT TO WALK WITH PENNY UNDER BLINDFOLD."

~LDB CAMPER



Consider Hosting a Youth Exchange Student this summer

What is Youth Exchange?	Students from around the world come to Minnesota for the month of July and live with host families. This is an amazing way to share our culture and learn about others.
Travel Dates	Jul 1, 2025 to Aug 3, 2025
Camp Spicer Dates	July 25, 2025 to August 2, 2025...all students come together for a week of activities. No hosting required during this week.
What's next?	Stay inspired, and participate in achieving World Peace one young person at a time!

For more information about this incredible opportunity please contact your District Youth Exchange chair or PDG Sue Mullen/ES Cindy Walters at MD5MLionsyouthexchange@gmail.com.

Not able to host this summer? Perhaps you/your club would consider sponsoring a Camp Activity

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$8,800 Bussing for the week | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,200 Valleyfair | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Camp Confidence Team Building |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$3,500 Brainerd Housing (3 nights) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$800 Zoo Event | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 T-shirts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$4,000 Metro Housing (3 nights) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$400 Banquet facility rental | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Evening Snacks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,700 Chanhassen Dinner Theater | <input type="checkbox"/> \$400 A Meal for Camp | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Any amount is helpful!!! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 Dorm Housing (2 nights) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$300 Mini-Golf | |

Any and all donations are greatly appreciated by the students and staff of MD5M Youth Exchange. MD5M Youth Exchange Foundation is a 501(c)3 and can accept gambling funds. (EIN #46-4182698)

Checks can be mailed to: MD5M Youth Exchange Foundation; attn: Cindy Walters; 1915 Waterford Circle, Chaska MN USA 55318



Centerville Lions Doing Great Work!

Christmas in the Park was an event that we just did. This event we partnered with our local fire department. We collect unwrapped toys and non perishable food for those in need. This was our 3rd Annual Christmas

During the Holidays Centerville Lions Donates Gift cards to the Local School and Child Care. This year we were able to donate 15 to Centerville Elementary, 5 to Apple Academy Child Care, and Creative Kids Academy. Each Gift Card at Thanksgiving was worth \$75 and Christmas was worth \$100. The Families that are less fortunate that receive these gift cards are so very thankful. We as Lions are so grateful that we are able to serve and give back.



Centerville Elementary Reached out that they needed some new reading materials for the 3rd graders. That being said they would need 39 of 2 kinds of books so that each child plus the teacher would have one. Then they could pass onto the next class when they are done and move onto the next book. Centerville Lions Club Picture attached was able to purchase these books for the 3rd grade classes and deliver them to the school. Each book was written in it donated by the Centerville Lions Club. Keep Reading! What an amazing feeling.



What an Honor it is for our Club to have one of our very own members running for 1st Vice Governor. Lion Nancy Johnson.



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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ Prov/State Zip _____

Email Address _____

Title: _____ District: _____

Club: _____

Check if this is your 1st Multiple Convention

Please specify dietary needs:

Vegetarian Gluten Free Other: _____

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

Lion Leo Guest

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ Prov/State Zip _____

Email Address _____

Title: _____ District: _____

Club: _____

Check if this is your 1st Multiple Convention

Please specify dietary needs:

Vegetarian Gluten Free Other: _____

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

	Cost Prior to March 1, 2025		Cost after March 1, 2025		\$ Amount
Full Hospitality Book: (Hospitality book includes convention and all meals)	\$192.00 USD	\$261.00 CDN	\$220.00 USD	\$304.00 CDN	_____
Separate Meals: (Do not select if you have purchased a hospitality book)					
Friday Night Social	\$23.00 USD	\$32.00 CDN	\$27.00 USD	\$37.00 CDN	_____
Saturday Breakfast	\$32.00 USD	\$44.00 CDN	\$37.00 USD	\$51.00 CDN	_____
Saturday Lunch	\$46.00 USD	\$62.00 CDN	\$53.00 USD	\$73.00 CDN	_____
Saturday Banquet	\$78.00 USD	\$106.00 CDN	\$90.00 USD	\$124.00 CDN	_____
Sunday Brunch	\$39.00 USD	\$53.00 CDN	\$45.00 USD	\$62.00 CDN	_____
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**



HAVING A KIDSIGHT VISION SCREENING IS SUCH A SIMPLE SERVICE PROJECT TO DO!

There are 51 clubs in District 5M7 and only 14 clubs have done KidSight screening events this year. However, those 14 clubs screened a total of 5,235 kids at 73 different events/schools. There was a total of 622 kids that were referred for evaluation by an eye care professional. This is approximately a 12% referral rate.

Imagine how many kids we could screen if we had more clubs involved. The foundation has made it our goal to get at least 50% involvement from each district. That means 5M7 needs to get 16 more clubs participating in screenings this year! If your club is interested in seeing what KidSight is all about, please reach out to us! Start out small...think pancake breakfast, fish fry, a community fair or business expo. We bring the equipment and everything you need. It isn't hard and we will be there to support you every step of the way!

SIGHT SAVER AWARDS

Did you know that your club qualifies for a Sight Saver Award for every \$1,000 your club has donated. If you would like to know the status of how many awards you have available, contact Lion Deb. MD5M KidSight Foundation also has a Sight Saver Partner award. This award is given to businesses or people that have supported vision screenings. Cedar East Bethel surprised a district nurse this past fall with one of these awards. They have a wonderful partnership with her and because of that, they screen 3 elementary schools each year. In the past couple of years, they have screened a total of 2,992 kids in these schools.



What better way to support your community's youth than to provide a much-needed service. Let's make sure that all kids "see clearly"!

CONTACT US

Email: 5m7lionskidsight@gmail.com

Call: Lion Deb Johnson at 612-810-2119

Lion Beth Holmquist at 763-234-4718



5M7 YOUTH EXCHANGE REPORT

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



Calling all Lions and Leos!

My husband Joe and I have been hosting with Youth Exchange for many years. 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 including 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



WOW WOW WOW!!!!!!

What a great Mid-Winter Convention! Thanks to DG Mary and her committee for a job well done!

Congratulation to DG Mary, DGE Deb, 1st DGE Nancy and 2nd DGE Joel wishing the best of luck to you in the future!

Thanks to all the Lions and Clubs that brought Used Eyeglasses to Mid-Winter. That was a lot of glasses.



The Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation received \$16,480.00 at the Parade of Green this year. That will assist programs like Lions Children’s Eye Clinic, Macular Degeneration Center, Lion’s Eye Surgery Center, and the Eyeglass Recycling, Center.



Please invite Lion Ron or myself out to your club to present information about Minnesota Lions Vision.

Thank you for all you do!

PDG Steve Linder 612-382-2236

Lion Tom Tierman 612-462-2651



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. Thank you for helping us realize our dream which is LIFE WITHOUT DIABETES.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for the Diabetes Research Update on **March 15th** in St. Cloud. Details will be available soon on our website, MNLionsDiabetes.org and also watch for more information on our 5m7 Lions Facebook page. Attend in person or via a zoom link which will be published soon. This is a great way to be able to meet and hear from our MLDF researchers about the projects they are working on. 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

Forest Lake Lions—Making a Difference!

The holiday season was full of fun filled events for the Forest Lake Lions community! We hosted a Christmas Waffle Breakfast where we served over 380 people! Since we were so well attended we've already scheduled one for Easter! The kids got to meet Santa, and families were able to have nice breakfast and get some great family pictures!

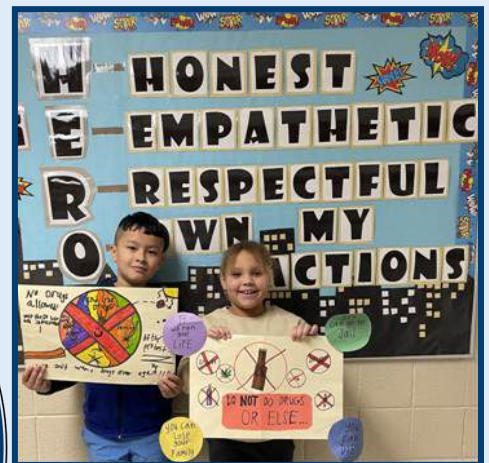
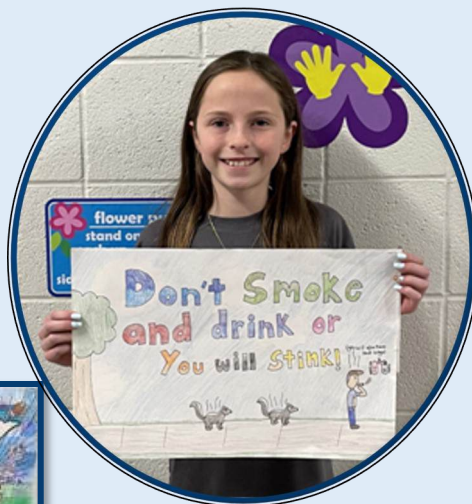


We continued the merriment by sharing carols and treats with the residents and families of our local assisted living ~ Amira Choice of Forest Lake, and our local nursing home ~ Birchwood Senior Living. We were also able to provide ~ with the public's help ~ gifts for Birchwood residents. The staff at Birchwood said this hasn't happened for a very long time and were very appreciative of the FL Lions contributions and time. All of the residents at both places had a great time sharing a bit of Christmas Cheer!!

When we discovered just how many pairs of glasses we had collected, 841, we knew we had to ask for a little help. The Forest Lake Lions were pleased to get a little help from their friends at the Forest Lake High School Youth Service Club!! The group processed the glasses, and they were sent on for delivery at the convention. As you can see the group had a lot of fun while they worked! Lion Lou was a positive instigator to be sure!!

The Forest Lake Lions were excited to once again participate in the annual Drug Awareness Poster contest. This year we had 11 schools in the Forest Lake area who participated with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners from each grade level! The kids had a ball and did some very nice work!

The Forest Lake Lions Club would like to introduce you to a group called HOPE 4 Youth. They are hosting an open house, and you will be able to learn about their mission, tour their facility, and learn about their efforts to END youth homelessness! I'm sure we can all get behind this goal! Everyone is welcome and we hope to see you on February 8th!



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.

Thank you!

To all the clubs that have paid your dues!!!

For those who have not,

Did not receive your invoice or have questions? Please contact me!

Theresa Goff
5M7 Treasurer
5M7Treasurer@gmail.com
612.799.2770



LIVE WEBINAR
MD5M GAT Webinar series

MARKETING 101: EMPOWER YOUR LIONS CLUB WITH CHATGPT AND CANVA

February 13, 2025
7:00-8:00PM CST



with
Zach Wosmek
5M8 Lion

MD5M

This class will equip you with the tools and strategies to make your marketing shine. Perfect for beginners and seasoned marketers alike, this session will transform how you share your club's story with the world!

SAVE THE DATE NEXT WEBINAR:
Thursday, March 13th
7:00PM

Unleash the power of AI and design to elevate your Lions Club's marketing efforts! In this hands-on webinar, you'll learn how to use ChatGPT to craft compelling messages that inspire action and Canva to create stunning visuals that captivate your audience. Whether you're promoting community service projects, recruiting volunteers, or building awareness of your club's impact, this class will equip you with the tools and strategies to make your marketing shine.

Perfect for beginners and seasoned marketers alike, this session will transform how you share your club's story with the world. Join us via Zoom on Thursday, February 13th! No registration required, simply join in at <https://tinyurl.com/2zbz3bmy>.

Use this link to join the meeting:
<https://tinyurl.com/2zbz3bmy>

Monticello Lions Kidsight Screening Event

The Monticello Lions held a Kidsight screening event during their annual Holiday Pancake Breakfast on Dec. 8th at the Monticello American Legion. In addition to a heart breakfast of pancakes, eggs, sausage, ham, muffins, and beverages, kids were also treated to visits from the Grinch, the Muffin Man, and Santa, plus they received a toy from Santa's bag, and various goodies distributed by the Monticello Royalty. The Kidsight booth screened 23 kids and had one referral in a child who was not previously known to need glasses. We did also have one child with very dark brown eyes which the screening machine was unable to focus on despite several of our best efforts. I bring this up just to let other clubs that are doing this, or thinking of doing this, that there is an occasional child that the machine just can't read, and that is expected. To be thorough, those children should be referred for a complete eye exam.

Monticello Lions Holiday Food Baskets Another Success!

For over 40 years the Monticello Lions have distributed holiday food baskets to those in need in the Monticello School District. The project is advertised through the Help Center/Food shelf, schools, the Shopper newspaper, the Community Center and the Library, plus the Monticello Lions webpage and Facebook site.

A special thanks to Dahlheimer's for letting us use their space again to facilitate the project & thank you to our community for volunteering your time to put together the food baskets for families in need this holiday season! Clients have about 3 weeks to send in a form to be registered, and then come to pick up 2 boxes of groceries, this year on Dec. 7th. The Groceries are purchased from Cub Foods which generously gets us the food at a discount (plus provides free donuts for the workers!). Cub loads the food pallets onto a truck donated by Dahlheimer's Distributing and it is transferred to their warehouse which they also donate for a day.



The Lions and Dahlheimer's staff arrange the food in 2 distribution lines. Boxes are assembled and numbered by volunteers and then teams of volunteers go down the lines putting the proper number of each item into the boxes. The boxes are stacked by one of the delivery doors and as clients show up, volunteers carry their boxes to their vehicle. Clients unable to get to Dahlheimer's get their boxes delivered by volunteers. Each basket (= 2 boxes) contains about \$100 worth of groceries including a Turkey. This year's project distributed 182 baskets. 34 of those were delivered to clients unable to come themselves. Funds for this project are raised from the Monticello Lions Brewfest celebration and donations to the Holiday Pancake Breakfast, so if you have the chance, please come out this year and support both of those fundraisers! This is a great project that brings together much of the Monticello community, and could not be done without everyone's help.



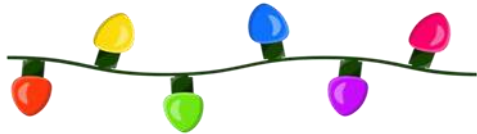
HOLIDAY LIGHTS Recycle Project

The Hanover Lions Club is celebrating the completion of another successful year of collecting lights to be recycled. 2024-2025 is the 15th season for this service project. 4,651 pounds of lights were collected this year.

With this year's total, that pushes the total project to 50,151 pounds collected. That is over 25 tons of lights that did NOT go in the landfill.

A new twist this year was enlisting the Buffalo High School Honor Society students to do the weekly collections from the 5 boxes. It was certainly a new learning adventure for them.

The lights were taken to a recycle center in Monticello and exchanged for cash. These funds are then put back into the community by way of donations to the Hanover Food Shelf and the Hanover Fire Department and other organizations in need.



The Lions greatly appreciate the partnership with the businesses that support the project by allowing collection boxes outside the doors.

Elk River Lions

We had a great month! We donated 123 pounds of food to CAER, our local food shelf. We participated in the Mid Winter Convention by hosting a hospitality room Friday and Saturday evening and offering a continental breakfast to all attendees Saturday morning.



A big thank you to Elk River Lion Rhende Hagemester for donating the Lion Quilt, pictured in the lower left hand corner. It was used in the silent auction.

To top it all off we are pleased as punch that our very own Lion Deb Weston was elected as your next District Governor.

We'll be hosting a Bunny Pancake Breakfast Sunday, April 13th at the

Boys and Girls Club in Elk River. More about that next month.



HUGO LIONS FISHING EVENT

Proceeds Benefit Vets Campground @Big Maring Lake



Hugo Lions Club
PO Box 321,
Hugo, MN 55038

Help support this fun outdoor event for youth and families! Hugo Lions Fishing Event will be held Saturday, February 22nd, 2025. We are seeking donations of merchandise, gift cards, or funds to purchase prizes. Together, we can make a meaningful impact - on the ice and beyond!

Funds raised will be donated to the Vets Campground, which provides recreation and recovery for military members and their families. A portion of proceeds will also go to the White Bear Lake High School Fishing Club, whose mission is to further the sport of fishing through education and conservation projects.

Contributions for the below levels can be made by check or venmo: @Hugo-Lions. For any merchandise donations, please reach out to any of our members or message us to arrange pickup.

- MERCHANDISE OR GIFT CARD - LOGO ON FLYER & WEBSITE
- \$100 LEVEL - LOGO ON FLYER & WEBSITE
- \$250 LEVEL - LOGO ON FLYER, WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA POST
- \$500 LEVEL - LOGO ON FLYER, WEBSITE, SOCIAL & BANNER

Thank You! -

www.goodneighboradays.com
hugomnlions@gmail.com

2.22.25 HUGO LIONS FISHING EVENT

Proceeds Benefit Vets Campground @Big Maring Lake

Prizes For Biggest Fish, Most Fish, 1st Fish, Best Hat & More!

ENTRY \$20
KIDS 15 AND UNDER FISH FOR FREE
& RECEIVE A GOODY BAG!

SATURDAY, FEB. 22, 2025
FROM 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
REGISTRATION 9:00 AM

VETS CAMP BOAT LAUNCH
11300 180TH STREET N.
MARINE ON ST. CROIX

FOOD AND RAFFLES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
CASH ONLY EVENT. PREREGISTER VIA VENMO @HUGO-LIONS



SCAN QR FOR RULES
TO SPONSOR OR VOLUNTEER,
EMAIL HUGOMNLIONS@GMAIL.COM



BIG LAKE

FIREARM RAFFLE

FEBRUARY 22, 2025

1:00 PM

Winner's Choice of Guns

Around 30 guns to choose from each round
ONLY \$20 a ticket with 54 chances per round
AGES 18 & OLDER

MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!

McPete's Sports Bar & Lanes
590 Humbolt Dr, Big Lake, MN. 55309 / 763-263-6556

Questions? Call 612-309-0536 or 612-810-2119
Email: JoinTheBigLakeLions@gmail.com

Prizes provided by Pistol Pete's Gun Shop
14561 Duelm Rd SE, Foley, MN 56329

2ND ANNUAL

PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE ANDOVER LIONS

LIONS BAG FUNDRAISER

\$199

1ST PLACE
TEAM WINNER

\$99

2ND PLACE
TEAM WINNER

SATURDAY, FEB 15TH

12:00PM | REGISTRATION STARTS AT 11:15AM

COURTYARDS OF ANDOVER:
13545 MARTIN ST.
NW ANDOVER

FOOD & DRINK
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

\$40 PER
TEAM

PRE-REGISTER BY
EMAILING
ANDOVERMNLIONS@OUTLOOK.COM

PLEASE PROVIDE PARTICIPANTS NAMES, TEAM NAME, AND CONTACT NUMBER

Montrose Lions Club



Is Hosting a Pancake/French Toast Breakfast

Sunday, Feb 23rd, 2025

8:30-12:00 noon at the
Montrose Community Center
200 Center Ave So

Proceeds will go towards Community Projects

\$12.00 ages 12 and up
\$8.00 ages 5-11 and free ages 4 and under



*Breakfast includes:
Pancakes and French toast (all you can eat),
With Eggs, Sausage and beverages*

Fridley Lions and Fridley Liquor Present

2025 Winter Warm-Up

*Food, Wine & Beer
Extravaganza*



Scan to
purchase
tickets and
bid in the
auction!

Warm up with local restaurants & vendors
providing specialty food, beer & wine tastings.

Bid on amazing prizes in our silent auction.

*Proceeds will be given back to support
youth, needy, our schools, and others in our
community.*

Tickets: \$45
February 21, 2025

6:00-8:30pm

Banquets of Minnesota
6310 Hwy 65 NE, Fridley

www.FridleyLions.org



40TH ANNUAL CENTERVILLE LIONS ICE FISHING CONTEST

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 2025
CENTERVILLE LAKE, CENTERVILLE, MN

TOURNAMENT DETAILS

TICKET SALES	9AM
FISHING CONTEST	11AM-2PM
FINAL WEIGH-IN	2PM

TICKETS SOLD ON THE LAKE

\$15 FOR 1 HOLE OR

\$25 FOR 2 HOLES

FUN STUFF

SAME-DAY CASH RAFFLE, DOOR PRIZES, PLUS GOODY BAGS FOR THE KIDS!

FOOD AND DRINK

BODYA, CHILI, HOT DOGS, CHIPS, CANDY, BEER, AND MIXED
DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

BE SURE TO TAG YOUR PHOTOS ON SOCIAL
MEDIA WITH #CENTERVILLELIONSIFC2025
TO SHARE THE FUN!

**REMINDERS: NO PORTABLE ICE HOUSES, NO PERSONAL COOLERS, NO ALCOHOL NOT
PURCHASED FROM THE LIONS, OR NO GLASS CONTAINERS ALLOWED ON THE LAKE.**
THIS EVENT IS A FUNDRAISER FOR THE CENTERVILLE LIONS. WE THANK YOU IN
ADVANCE FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.

FACEBOOK: [HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CENTERVILLELIONSMN](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CENTERVILLELIONSMN)

WEBSITE: [HTTP://E-CLUBHOUSE.ORG/SITES/CENTERVILLE](http://E-CLUBHOUSE.ORG/SITES/CENTERVILLE)



Centerville Lions



venmo

TO SPEED UP
REGISTRATION THE DAY OF
THE EVENT PRE-REGISTER
USING VENMO.



VALENTINE'S BREAKFAST BUFFET

Sunday, February 9th
8:00 am – 12:30 pm
Howard Lake Lions Club
Lions Hall 625 8th St. Howard Lake

Enjoy a delicious meal of Pancakes, French Toast,
Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Potatoes, Biscuits and Gravy,
Coffee, Juice and Milk

Take your sweetheart out for breakfast
Everyone is welcome to attend

FREE WILL DONATION

Proceeds to benefit HLWW Clay Target Team



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Support your local Lions Club



Coon Rapids Lions News

Coon Rapids Lions collected & turned in 2,510 pairs of used eyeglasses on January 17 at the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center in Pine City! They had been sorted and were in 6 apple boxes ready for when they are taken to WI!

On January 24, 54 used hearing aids were turned in at the Hearing Foundation table (Lions Marcia, Mike - Trustee, Bill) at the 5M7 Mid-Winter Convention in St. Cloud!



We appreciate the on-going support from our Coon Rapids Community!! WE SERVE!!

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