

# THE PRIDE

Newsletter of Lions District 44-H New Hampshire  
March 2026, Volume 51, Issue 09



## Message from District Governor Marie R. Valliere

I am getting over the flu right now and it's been a long, exhausting two weeks. Some of that time was spent reflecting on the last eight months in Lions. I attended the NELC meeting in January and something PDG Kathy Dorman said has stayed with me since. She made the statement that we make an impact on 80,000 people in our lifetime. WHAT? That's right 80,000 people. I've been thinking about the people who have impacted me in my 72 years on earth. My teachers who did it 30 students at a time. My favorite musical groups and of course family and friends. We may never know who or when we WILL make a difference in anyone's life but as Lions we do every day and in lots of ways. It may be a can of soup, a pint of blood, or maybe just a kind word or smile. The kindness cards I hand out are well received. One man told me it was "Better than Money and worth more". It was a warm moment for both of us. I hope to keep making an impact on lives and am very grateful to those who impacted my life, good, bad or indifferent and continue to do so.



THANK YOU.  
DG Marie R Valliere

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Happy Anniversary

*Derry 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Sandown 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*



## District Goals Progress as of 2/28/26

### Membership

District Membership	Prev Month	2025-2026 Year
Opening Balance	1,234	1,214
Added Members	9	78
Dropped Members	4	53
Closing Balance	1,239	1,239
Net Gain/Loss	5	+25

International membership is 1,380,619 effective 2/28/26.



### Service

District Service*	Previous Month	2025-2026
% Lions Clubs Reporting	57%	57%
Volunteer Service Hours	2,862	24,317
Service Activities	147	1,219
Individuals Served	13,845	160,289

### LCIF Donations

District LCIF Donations*	Previous Month	2025-2026
LCIF Donations	3,945	22,600

## Upcoming Events

Date	Event
Mar 6-8	Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI). Application in newsletter
Mar 7	Atkinson Meat Raffle. See flyer.
Mar 8	Daylight Savings begins; set clocks ahead 1 hour
Mar 10	Deadline to register for Rally. Form in newsletter.
Mar 15	Twin State Soccer (LTSSA) Spring Banquet. See flyer.
Mar 16	Nashua Green Auction. Register in advance. See flyer.
Mar 21	44H Rally & Soup Cook-Off, Meridith Community Center. See flyer.
Mar 22	World Water Day
Mar 25	Report service, meetings, donations, and fundraising in Lion Portal
Mar 28	Lion Portal Training, Concord Community Center. Info in newsletter
Mar 28	Dover (DRSB) Indoor Golf Tournament. See club info.
Mar 29	Atkinson Pancake Breakfast. See flyer.
Mar 30	Salem Blood Drive in honor of Weston Moss. See club info.
Apr 15	Deadline to make convention hotel reservations with discount. See flyer.
Apr 15	Deadline to make meal reservation for convention. See registration form.
Apr 18-26	Lions International Environmental Service Week
Apr 18	Laconia-Gilford Electronic Waste Collection Day. See club info.
Apr 25	Hudson Psychic & Craft Fair. See flyer.
Apr 25	Report service, meetings, donations, and fundraising in Lion Portal
May 2	Club Officer Training, NH Police Academy. Info in newsletter.
May 8-10	44H Spring Convention, Grand. Registration form in newsletter.
May 15-17	44N Spring Convention. Registration form in newsletter.
May 25	Report service, meetings, donations, and fundraising in Lion Portal
Jun 6	NELC Spring Weekend, Bennington, VT
Jul 1	Deadline to register LCI Convention delegates to vote.

## Vince Giambalvo, First Vice District Governor & GMT

When we invite someone to become a Lion, we are asking them to join a club—we are also inviting them into a global movement of service through Lions Clubs International. We can use our History and Literature to assist us in telling our story and answering questions about Lions.

### Start with Your Clubs Story

- Your Clubs History
  - How old is your club
  - What has it done to serve the community
    - Include stories and pictures of events (your club in action)
    - Talk about the results of your efforts.
      - Number of people your club has served
      - Dollars raised for community causes
      - Etc.
- Invite potential members to an event
- Discuss future planned events

### Be Prepared to discuss the “Big Picture,” our founding by Melvin Jones in 1917

- Our motto: **We Serve**
- Our global reach - LCI
- Our culture of volunteerism

Highlight key historical moments such as:

- Helen Keller’s challenge to Lions in 1925
- The launch of the Leo Program
- Women becoming members in 1987
- Mission 1.5: Growing to 1.5 million members worldwide

### Share Our Global Impact

Introduce prospects to our nine global causes supported through Lions service and Lions Clubs International Foundation:

- Childhood Cancer
- Diabetes
- Disaster Relief
- Environment
- Humanitarian Efforts
- Hunger
- Vision
- Youth
- Mental Health

These areas are powerful starting points. However, remind prospects:

Service can come in all shapes and sizes.

Our mission is not to fit into a box—but to meet the needs of our community.

**Recruitment Tip:**

Find out what they are passionate about.

Match the prospect's passion to one of the global causes.

Example:

"I know you're passionate about childhood cancer—let me show you how Lions supports childhood cancer both globally and locally."

**Make It Personal - Stories inspire.**

When using brochures or presentations:

1. Pair literature with a personal testimonial.
2. Share photos of your club's most successful projects.
3. Connect the global mission to local impact.

For example:

"Here's how Lions supports Disaster Relief worldwide. And here's what our club did after last year's storm."

That bridge between global and local builds trust.

Some useful Brochures available to Lions.

- Lions – Make a Difference
- Hello – What's in store for you as a Lion
- Just Ask - Fostering a Culture of Recruitment

**Remember that using real experiences and printed material together can present a more complete picture of what Lions Are and Do and what they can do to serve in areas where their passions lead them.**

## Kimberlee Fournier, Second Vice District Governor & GLT

Hello Folks,

Spring is right around the corner, as is Learning Sessions for all.

Acquiring knowledge is available to us each day. It so happens that this month there is a bounty of "Lion Learning" available.

The beginning of the month is the Regional Lions Leadership Institute (also known as RLLI). The growth and confidence each person gains during RLLI not only assists with your growth as a Lion, it's useful at your place of employment as well as personal life.

The end of the month, a session on the Lions Portal will be held. A variety of areas will be covered during the session such as: Navigating to areas, Inputting Information, Accessing Reports, Lions Learn, etc.

Be sure to respond with your intention to attend.

## PDG Jerry Vaccaro, Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer

**District 44H Lions Club Dues:** For those clubs that have not sent in their District 44H second have dues, I will be sending out a second request. Please check your emails that were sent to all club presidents and Treasurers for your club amount due. All checks should be sent to my attention, Thank you.

**Club DG Activities:** Please e-mail your anticipated PDG Marie's visit or activity to my attention so that I can coordinate these dates with DG Marie. My email is [Lionjerryvaccaro@gmail.com](mailto:Lionjerryvaccaro@gmail.com). DG Marie will make all efforts to attend.

**District 44H "Rally & Soup cook-off": March 21, 2026.** The "Rally" will be in Meredith, NH. Only \$10.00. Please fill out the Registration form supplied in the Newsletters. Kindly send it with your \$10.00 per person to my attention. Please attend a day of fellowship and participate in the Lions club soup cook-off contest. I plan on making an escarole Italian soup. I know my soup will be the winner. Please come and prove me right.

**LCI Club Reporting:** It is apparent that some clubs are not reporting their activities to LCI. If you need help working the LCI Portal I will be glad to help. Please make all efforts in reporting your monthly reports to LCI.

Like always if you have any questions, please give me a call.

## Linda Hedrick, Global Service Team (GST)

Greetings!

Please check out the flyer for the service project for the rally in March. No money is needed and it should be an easy project. You could check with schools, restaurants, children and grandchildren! While you're collecting don't forget to tally your hours and log them into the portal.

Start thinking of the service project for April, that will hopefully tie into the environment! See you all in March at the rally but until then be careful shoveling this never ending winter!

## Michelle Ackroyd, Childhood Cancer Chair

When a child is diagnosed with cancer at any age and face a recurrence. When they look back, one of the most important things they wish they had known is that it's okay to not be okay — especially as a teenager or young adult who understands the reality of what's happening.

It's okay to not be okay. If you are diagnosed as a teenager or young adult, you are old enough to understand the reality of your situation, and it's okay to have a hard time with that. It's okay to be real with your emotions and not just always have to 'focus on the bright side.

After recurrence, they can be in an extremely dark place. Some odds were slim and be severely depressed as preparing to die. For support, they didn't need cheerleaders and people reminding me to count their blessings. What they needed were people to sit with them in their grief and be there as a listening ear. Those people were who could be trusted and be vulnerable with. It helps to let out some of that fear and sadness, because it is a reality of these cancer patients. Support doesn't always mean trying to fix things or finding a bright side. Sometimes the most meaningful support is simply being present and listening.

## PCC Robert Gustafson, Diabetes Chair

### In A Nutshell

- Nearly 1 in 3 American teenagers has prediabetes or type 2 diabetes, with the vast majority of cases being prediabetes, which is reversible if caught early.
- Boys are far more likely to be affected than girls, making up 62 percent of cases in the study.
- Waist-to-height ratio, a simple tape-measure calculation, was a far stronger predictor of diabetes risk than BMI, which lost significance once other factors were considered.
- Diet and exercise habits did not independently predict risk once body fat distribution was accounted for, suggesting that where fat is stored matters more than lifestyle factors alone.

Please have your Teens go to <https://doihaveprediabetes.org/take-the-risk-test/> and get the diabetes check-up and beat the Nutshell study issues above.

## Jeri Maynard, Environment Chair

**Just a gentle reminder:** April 18-22, 2026 is “Lions Environmental Project Week.”

Each club is asked to find a project that would promote environmental awareness and the need to get that important message across to others.

Going to the International Lions web site, I found a list of “beginners” project ideas -as well as “Intermediate and Advanced” ideas

With just a couple of months to make our plans, let us investigate some feasible ideas from the beginner’s list:

1. Plant a tree: Be sure to consult your local authorities to determine type of tree/s and location for planting
2. Schedule a clean-up of a beach, community space, or roadside area, i.e. “road-cleanup”- try to do it monthly as a club
3. Develop a “Green Living Tip Sheet” and share it electronically with members of your community (local TV Station, social media).
4. Recognize a local or community leader for their environmental efforts
5. Collect used cellphones and donate them to individuals in need
6. **My favorite idea:** Hold an environmentally themed photo contest at a local school. Reward the winner with a green recognition: award ( ex: plant a tree, in their honor, in their school yard’

Other ideas from the NH Lions Green Team, which also includes many of the above:

1. E-recycling
2. Upcycling and crafting workshops
3. Sustainable clothing drives – donate to **Apparel Impact**-- look for the white collection boxes
4. “Green” yard sales
5. Trex- plastic bag etc. collections

***As you can see, there are many ways, you can celebrate Lions International Environment Week- how many other ideas can your club come up with????***

***FYI: Sunday, March 22, 2026 is World Water Day***



## DCG Eligibility

**Club giving (per fiscal year)**

- US\$5,000 – \$9,999.99: Eligible for a 15% return
- US\$10,000 – \$19,999.99: Eligible for a 20% return
- US\$20,000 and above: Eligible for a 30% return

**District giving (per fiscal year)**

- US\$10,000 – \$19,999.99: Eligible for a 15% return
- US\$20,000 – \$29,999.99: Eligible for a 20% return
- US\$30,000 and above: Eligible for a 30% return

\*A fiscal year is July 1 – June 30

Exciting news! Beginning with donations made in Lion Year 2025-2026 (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026) The District and Club Community Impact Grant (DCG) Program now offers new return on eligible funds levels. The more your club or district gives, the more funding is available to apply for as a grant. Grants do remain subject to LCIF approval.

For clubs, gifts of US\$5,000 to US\$9,999 qualify for a 15% return on eligible funds, US\$10,000 to US\$19,999 qualify for 20%, and US\$20,000 or more qualify for 30%.

For districts, contributions of US\$10,000 to US\$19,999 qualify for a 15% return on eligible funds, US\$20,000 to US\$29,999 qualify for 20%, and US\$30,000 or more qualify for a 30%.

Typically, DCG funding is totaled and sent out to qualifying clubs and districts in August/September. Keep that in mind when planning your project. If you want to use funding at the beginning of the fiscal year, your DCG funds might not be updated yet in our system.

All DCG funding is calculated per fiscal year which is July 1 – June 30 for LCIF. Those are the cutoff dates and cannot be amended.

DCG giving levels are based on annual contributions.

**Please note that the DCG program is separate from MJF. A donation can count towards MJF or PMJF and a club or district's DCG balance.**

# District 44H Happenings

44H Rally, March 21<sup>st</sup>

**DISTRICT 44H**  
**LIONS RALLY**  
**& SOUP COOK-OFF**  
*A Lions Family Reunion!*

**Saturday, March 21, 2026**

**Meredith Community Center**  
1 Circle Drive, Meredith, NH

**Registration: 9:30 AM**

**Meeting: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

**Lunch: 11:30 AM**

**Bring Your Best Soup!**  
**Chicken or Vegetable**  
**1st, 2nd & 3rd Prizes!**

**50/50 Raffle!**

**Only \$10 Entry Fee!**

**Catch up, Share Ideas & Enjoy Great Fellowship!**

**A District 44H Lions Family Reunion!**

- ✓ Lunch Provided:
- ✓ Salad
- ✓ Crackers
- ✓ Beverages
- ✓ Cake for Dessert

## Celebrate, Serve & Connect

Join Lions from across District 44-H for a day of fellowship, friendly competition, district business, and a special anniversary celebration - all wrapped up with a delicious soup contest!



### Event Details

**Date:** March 21, 2026

**Location:** 1 Circle Drive, Meredith, NH

**Registration Begins:** 9:30am

**District Meeting:** 10:00am - 1:00pm

**Lunch Served:** 11:30am

**Cost:** \$10.00 per person

The district will provide salad, crackers, beverages, and an anniversary cake for dessert, while participants supply the soup — making the meal both collaborative and celebratory.

A highlight of the rally will be a Soup Contest, where attendees are invited to bring their best Chicken Soup or Vegetable Soup. Awards will be presented for first, second, and third place in each category.



Please complete & return the form below with payment for each attendee **NO LATER THAN MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup>**. Return to Jerry Vaccaro – 74 Chase Rd, Londonderry, NH 03053

### Registration Form

**Please select an attendance option:**  Rally & Lunch

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Club:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Soup Contest – Bring it on!

**I will bring:**  Chicken Soup  Vegetable Soup  Not participating

**Soup Name (if entering):** \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Contact Marilyn Vaccaro – [jvac1408@comcast.net](mailto:jvac1408@comcast.net)

Give your old crayons a new life

*Used Crayons Wanted*

OUR MARCH RALLY SERVICE PROJECT SUPPORTS THE CRAYON INITIATIVE, A 501(C)(3) THAT TURNS OLD OR BROKEN CRAYONS INTO FRESH ONES FOR KIDS IN HOSPITALS. THEY'VE ALREADY REACHED 259 HOSPITALS NATIONWIDE.

**DISTRICT 44H RALLY**  
1 CIRCLE DR, MEREDITH, NH  
Sat. March 21, 2026 REGISTRATION  
BEGINNING AT 9:30AM

THE Crayon INITIATIVE  
f i t l



**SPRING CONVENTION**  
**FRIDAY NIGHT**  
**★ PEP RALLY ★**



**THE MEMBERS ARE THE ENTERTAINMENT!**



★ Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> ★ 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. ★

★ **CALLING ALL TEAMS, CLUBS & ALL-STARS!** ★

Grab your club. Rally your zone.  
Bring your spirit, creativity, and fun to the stage!

★ ★ ★ **WHAT'S YOUR TEAM'S TALENT?** ★ ★ ★

-  Sing like champions
-  Play your instruments
-  Perform a skit
-  Dance or tango with a partner
-  Lip sync your favorite musical number
-  Show off your most unexpected talent
-  Lead a cheer or crowd-pump routine

★ **EVERYONE CAN PLAY!** ★

*Solo acts • Duos • Clubs • Zones • Entire squads welcome*



**HUDDLE UP.. HAVE FUN.. SHOW YOUR SPIRIT!**

★ *Because on Friday night...* ★

**YOU ARE THE ENTERTAINMENT!**

**SPRING CONVENTION**  
**PEP RALLY**  
**HANDCRAFTED RAFFLE PRIZE**  
 ★ Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> ★ 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. ★

**SHOW YOUR SPIRIT... THROUGH YOUR CRAFT!**

We are inviting members to donate handcrafted raffle prizes for our Friday Night Pep Rally.  
 If you make it, grow it, stitch it, build it, paint it, or create it... we would love to feature it!

**IDEAS INCLUDE:**

-  Woodcrafts
-  Knitted or crocheted items
-  Sewing creations
-  Garden-themed gifts or plants
-  Paintings or artwork
-  Garden-themed gifts or plants
-  Paintings or artwork
-  Handmade décor
-  Baked goods
-  Gift baskets featuring your hobby

**LET YOUR CREATIVITY SHINE!**

- ★ ★ Your donated item will:
- ★ ★ Add excitement to the evening
- ★ ★ Highlight member talents
- ★ ★ Celebrate the spirit of Spring Convention

**HUDDLE UP & CRAFT WITH HEART!**

Bring your handcrafted raffle item to the Friday Night Pep Rally.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:



Contact Mary Ellen Pate  
 ✉ [meln71@msn.com](mailto:meln71@msn.com)



# 52<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL DISTRICT 44-H SPRING CONVENTION



NORTH CONWAY GRAND HOTEL  
72 Common Ct, North Conway, NH  
MAY 08- 10, 2026

International Guests: *Dave Wentworth and Lion Valliere*

Lion #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

Lion #2/guest \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

Home Tel. # \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* Convention fee included in all meal packages\*\*\*

Plan	Meals and Registration	# of Persons	Cost Per Person	Total Cost
A	Fri banquet, Sat banquet and Conv Fee		@ \$ 91.00	\$
B	Friday banquet only		@ \$ 38.00	\$
C	Saturday night banquet only		@ \$ 53.00	\$
D	Convention fee ( <i>meetings only – no meals</i> )		@ \$ 5.00	\$
E	Saturday Breakfast ( <i>Breakfast not included in Package</i> )		@ \$ 25.00	\$

Total Amount Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Meal for Friday Night Buffet:**

- *Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chicken Sandwiches, Baked Beans, Garden Salad, Greek Farfalle Pasta Salad, Potato Salads, Corn on the cob, American & Swiss cheese, Assorted Cookies, Brownies, sodas and water*

**Meal for Saturday Night Buffet:**

- *Vegetable Soup, Garden Salad, Seasonal Fruits & Berries, Baked Haddock, traditional stuffed chicken, Penne pasta Primavera with garlic olive oil, Vegetable, Potato or Rice, Assorted Desserts, Coffee and Tea*

Please note any **special dietary needs** \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday lunch will be on your own.**

**All HOTEL reservations must be made by TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026 for the special rate.**

Hotel Reservation: Lions Convention Room rate: single or double \$139.00/per night plus 8.5% tax \$22 amenities  
Call the **Grand Hotel @ phone# (603) 356-9300** and **identify yourself as part of the Lions District 44H Spring Convention group.** You will pay the hotel directly for your room.

**Deadline for MEAL reservations is TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026**

Make checks for meals payable to: Lions District 44-H Convention Fund  
Please send check to: Marilyn Vaccaro, 74 Chase Rd, Londonderry, NH 03053  
603-204-7251 | [jvac1408@comcast.net](mailto:jvac1408@comcast.net) |

## Lion Portal Tip

Who from your club is going to Lions International Convention in Hong Kong?

In order to vote at the international convention, club delegates must:

1. Be assigned as a voting delegate by their club secretary or other duly authorized officer in the Lion Portal.
2. Be registered for the international convention. [Register for the convention here.](#)
3. Have a unique email address. Use the same email as registering for the international convention 2026.
4. Provide their member identification number when registering for the convention.



All delegates must be assigned before July 1, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. Here is how to assign convention delegates so they can vote.

- Login to the Lion Portal: [Login](#)
- Click the tile for My Club
- Click the tab for Members
- Click the blue button for Manage Delegates
- Convention Type = International
- Time = Upcoming
- Select radio button for 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Hong Kong
- Click Next
- Click checkbox for Assign a Delegate, click Next
- Select the delegate from the list of members, click Next
- Follow any additional on-screen prompts until you see a “success” message at the top of the screen.

For more information visit:

- [International Election webpage](#)
- [International Election Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Also, please make sure your club has reported service this month. Ask your club President or Secretary, and offer to help.

Consider attending the Lion Portal Training on March 28<sup>th</sup>. Details in this newsletter.

## Club Excellence Award

Click here to see the Club Excellence Award criteria for membership, service, leadership, and donations. The Club Excellence Award process has changed for this year. If you have questions, please contact your zone chair, or someone from DG Marie’s cabinet.

Camp Pride



## LIONS CAMP PRIDE CONNECTION



Hello Lions of 44H,

While it looks like camp is closed, the warriors have been at work remodeling the apartment and the conference room in the Administration building. We are still looking to hire a new Camp Administrator as Patrick has chosen to take a position at a camp that is open year round. We wish him well as he did a good job for us.

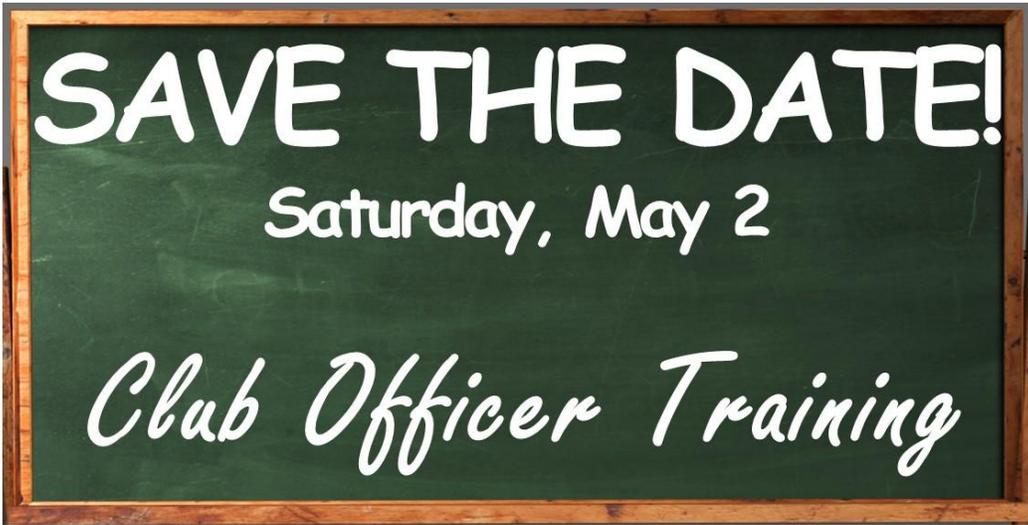
The good news is we have had several applicants to fill the position. I am also happy to say all of our campers groups will be back with us next year.

We are working on different days now and will post the upcoming work day on the Camp Pride Facebook page. If you have any free time and would be willing to come up and give a hand, reach out to Peter LaPointe. Skill level is not important as we will find something to do for anyone who comes up.

Al Goldstein LCP President

## Multiple District Happenings

### Club Officer Training



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Saturday, May 2  
*Club Officer Training*



**5 TRAINING SESSIONS**

**8:00 to 8:30** Registration  
**8:30 to 8:45** Introductions  
**8:45 to 9:15** LCIF  
**9:15-12:30** Club President  
Club Treasurer  
Club Secretary  
Membership

Training conducted at:

**New Hampshire Police Academy**

For further information, Please contact:

Bill Rathbun, PCC Dean, NHLPPDGA Training Committee (603) 707-6209, pdgbill33Y@yahoo.com	Fred Plett, PCC Asst. Dean, NHLPPDGA Training Committee 603-660-0732, MCCplett@gmail.com
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p=d4b6053d373dcccfa8db99291d933fc93e63e1074e893a290e57d5298f60baad/mltdHM9MTC2ODk1MzYwMA&ptn=3&ver=2&hsh=4&fc  
lid=2f2dba75-0d37-6669-26d5-

DogSight Project



**THE DOGSIGHT PROJECT**  
A Program of the New Hampshire Lions  
Multiple District 44 – Health Services of New Hampshire



**News from the Mid-Winter Convention**

It was brought up at the Mid-Winter Convention that the monies raised through the New Hampshire Casino program have some restrictions. The most significant one is that these funds are to be used within the State of New Hampshire. Even though the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation has several working dogs in New Hampshire, any donation to the DogSight Project cannot guarantee that these donations are in support of these dogs and could cause problems with the IRS. This restriction pertains to all donations made with “Casino Money,” not just to the DogSight Project. We hope that you will still be able to be as generous to the DogSight Project as you have been in the past.

You can donate to the DogSight project any time. Please make checks payable to: **LSHF** and write **DSP** on the memo line to ensure the proper account is credited. Please mail checks to the project Treasurer: Gregg Kleiner, PO Box 94, Keene, NH 03431

Linda Piekarski  
Chair, the DogSight Project  
[lpi314@outlook.com](mailto:lpi314@outlook.com)



Raised for Fidelco in 2025-2026: \$21,148.00

Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI)



**MD 44 Regional Lions Leadership Institute**  
**West Lebanon, NH**  
**Friday thru Sunday March 6 to 8, 2026**

**Part 1: Applicant Information**

\* PLEASE PRINT - Required information for all institute correspondence

District Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

First/Given Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last/Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email\*: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Month and Year Joined Lions Clubs: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Lions Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Lions Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Highest position held in Lions Clubs: \_\_\_\_\_ I confirm that I am capable of understanding and actively participating through reading, writing, and fluent speaking skills in English

Lions Leadership Institutes Previously Attended (Locations & Dates): \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 2: Experience and Skills Please type or print using additional sheets as needed.**

1. Offices held within current Lions Club: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Committee positions held within current Lions Club: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Previous Lions Clubs you have been a member of and Offices held: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why is this institute of interest to you? \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 3: Acknowledgements**

\_\_\_ I understand that MD44 is not responsible for personal costs, including but not limited to, those associated with the following: illness, unanticipated or other personal events, lost or stolen property.

\_\_\_ I understand that I am expected to attend all classroom sessions and group meals and activities.

**Part 4 Endorsement** The applicant's District Governor or Global Leadership Team (GLT) District Coordinator must complete this section. In what ways will this applicant benefit from attending the Regional Lions Leadership Institute? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## MD 44 is pleased to announce



## The scheduling of a Regional Lions Leadership Institute

**When:** March 6-8, 2026

**Where:** West Lebanon, NH

**Why:** To stimulate and grow Leaders and Leadership Opportunities at the Club, District, Multiple District Levels and ...beyond

**Who:** All LIONS in good standing who have not yet reached the position of Second Vice District Governor.

Please forward a completed application, prior to February 1, 2026 to your District Governor

Cost of the Institute: Multiple District 44 will provide meals according to the schedule of the institute. double occupancy Hotel rooms for Friday and Saturday night are included in the cost of the Institute. Hotel stay is required. Please note the cost for participation in this training event is \$125.00. For Lions outside of Multiple District 44 the cost is \$300.00. Thursday night rooms are available at a cost of \$141.00

Participants are also responsible for their own transportation and related travel expenses to and from the institute site. This is a 3 day intensive training program and applicants must be willing to commit to attending all days of the institute, including group mealtimes, and understand that personal time is extremely limited. Attendance at all classroom sessions and scheduled meals is mandatory

**Please note: Acceptance to the Institute is not guaranteed.**

**Expectations of RLLI Graduates:**

1. Pursue additional leadership roles and responsibilities in their respective zones and Districts
2. Help to develop Lions Leaders and serve as a Leadership source in their Clubs, Zones and Districts
3. Share their Institute experience with members of their Club, Zone and District and encourage others

For further information please contact your District Governor or  
Event Coordinator Bill Rathbun (pdgbill33y@yahoo.com or 603-707-6209)



**Save the Date**



**NELC**

**Spring Weekend**

**June 6, 2026**

**Bennington, VT**

The poster features a vibrant yellow background with a close-up of a sunflower. The text is in a bold, blue, sans-serif font with a white outline. The logo on the left is circular with a green border, containing a map of New England and the text 'WE SERVE' at the top and 'NEW ENGLAND LIONS' at the bottom. A smaller circular emblem with a lion's head and the letter 'L' is also present within the logo.

Granite State Fellowship

[Click here](#) for information available online. Use the application below if needed.

# Granite State Fellowship

## Application for an Individual Award

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check box if this is a Progressive Granite State Fellowship:  YES

Indicate which level? 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th and so forth: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Person or Business being Honored:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address of Person or Business being Honored:

*Please **PRINT** using all capital letters. This is how the name will appear on the plaque.  
Unless your instructions are otherwise, we do not add "LION" or office initials to a name.  
If this is a multiple order, please use a separate sheet for additional names.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Anticipated Date of Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please allow at least three (3) weeks from date of application submission. Plaques must be engraved.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact name of person coordinating presentation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact phone number

Briefly describe why this honor is being presented: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE CREDITED TO THE LSHF ENDOWMENT FUND

**Include a check for \$500 with application.** Make check payable to: **LSHF**

Send application and check to: PCC Roger Latulippe, 136 Lowell Road, Hudson, NH 03051

For more information and/or RUSH Orders—call 603 566-9409 email to: [dgroger@comcast.net](mailto:dgroger@comcast.net)

**For Office Use Only:**

Application arrived on: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_ Plates (2) Ordered: \_\_\_\_\_

Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Letter prepared: \_\_\_\_\_ All pieces ready: \_\_\_\_\_

Date materials shipped (or delivered): \_\_\_\_\_ Receipt acknowledged: \_\_\_\_\_ How: \_\_\_\_\_

(This version of the LSHF / GSF application revised on 8-31-2012)

## Lions Sight & Hearing, Health Services Board, and Lions Youth Services



### NH Lions MD 44

Serving Our Community – Providing Essential Support for Sight, Hearing, and Youth

#### SIGHT & HEARING BOARD

- Hearing Aid Grants: Financial assistance for those in need of hearing devices.
- Vision Assistance: Support for various sight-related medical needs.
- Vision Surgeries: Coordination and funding for essential eye procedures.

#### NH Sights and Hearing Foundation

Year	Hearing Aids	Eye Surgeries	Vision Screeners	Monetary Donations	Miracle Ear
2022	\$34,438	\$14,034	\$64,250	\$6,100	
2023	\$32,687	\$2,935	\$500	\$4,850	
2024	\$27,457	\$3,589	\$0	\$23,100	
2025	\$30,324	\$7,305	\$0	\$34,350	
2026	\$23,951	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$2,998

#### HEALTH SERVICES BOARD

- Vision Screenings: Screenings to detect vision issues early.
- Eyeglasses Assistance: Helping community members obtain prescription glasses.
- Hearing Testing: Accessible testing to identify hearing health concerns.
- Other Projects: Dog Sight, Lions Lyft.

#### Health Services Board

Year	H Vision Screenings	Lion Lift	N Vision Screenings	Dog Sight	Eyeglass	Hearing	Diabetes
2022	14,200	0	14,139	\$0	\$0	\$0	
2023	13,250	0	13,333	\$0	\$0	\$0	
2024	10,510	0	10,509	\$26,000	\$0	\$0	
2025	13,450		11,766	\$20,001	\$0	\$0	75
2026	9,093	385.75* 6393 miles 205 rides	13,541	\$9,721	\$550	\$0	

#### LIONS YOUTH SERVICES

- Club Grants: Financial support provided to local Lions Clubs for youth programs and community initiatives.

All applications are available online: <https://nhlions.org>

Helping New Hampshire see, hear, and thrive.

## Sight & Hearing Project Application

### LIONS SIGHT AND HEARING FOUNDATION – PROJECT APPLICATION PROCESS

Effective immediately, Project Applications for the Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation of New Hampshire, Inc. will be managed by PDG Marie Hall, with assistance from PDG Jerry Vaccaro.

#### WHERE TO SEND APPLICATIONS

Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation of New Hampshire, Inc.  
P.O. Box 970  
Concord, NH 03301

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

PDG Marie Hall, Project Manager — 603-686-6935  
PDG Jerry Vaccaro, Assistant Project Manager — 603-204-7752

#### APPLICATION FORMS

Updated project application forms will be available for download from the NH Lions website after February 1st:

<https://nhlions.org>

On behalf of the Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation of New Hampshire, Inc., we extend our sincere gratitude to Francis Carron for her dedicated and outstanding service as Project Manager. ***For access to Lions Sight & Hearing forms, use QR Code below.***



## Lions Youth Services (LYS)



**LIONS YOUTH SERVICES**

### February 12, 2026, Meeting

The meeting was held at the Airport Diner, Manchester, NH.

### Grant Program

Six grants were reviewed and approved -

### New Books

Childhood Literacy - still collecting NEW books for pre-k to grade 4 during the March Cabinet and March Rally. Please bring new books to the meetings.



### Calendar Raffle

#### MARCH 2026 CALENDAR RAFFLE

*31 chances to win for just five dollars!*

**Drawing to be held April 12, 2026**

***TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW*** and will be available to purchase at the March meetings,

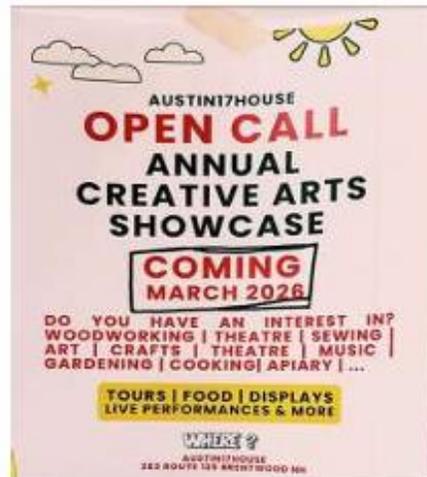
**TICKETS ARE \$5.00 EACH OR FIVE (5) FOR \$20.00**

**GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**

**CONTACT LION HARRY ARMSTRONG at 623-523-7093 or [harryva616@yahoo.com](mailto:harryva616@yahoo.com)**

### Austin17 House

\$1,000 sponsorship was made to Austin17 House for their Creative Arts Showcase being held on Friday, March 27, 2026



### Peace Poster Contest 2026-2027

#### *"Harmony in Humanity"*

Peace Poster Kits are now available. If you wish to order a kit, please contact Rhonda Wynne at [rwynnemilford@comcast.net](mailto:rwynnemilford@comcast.net). Kits will be available at the March meetings, \$12.00 for each kit. Also, if you wish to order a kit, a digital copy is also available online. If you order a kit online, please notify Rhonda as to what club and how many kits were ordered.

### Election Board

Board officers' election will be in May. If interested in running for a position, please notify President Eric Olsen.

### Next Scheduled Meeting

Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 6:30 pm at the Airport Diner in Manchester!



## Lions Youth Services Literacy Project



..... *Did you know???*

...that one in three children start kindergarten without the skills they need to learn to read.

...that one million neural connections are formed every second in a toddler's brain, indicating how reading to a young child greatly enhances their vocabulary and understanding of the world around them?

...that 85% of juvenile offenders face reading challenges.

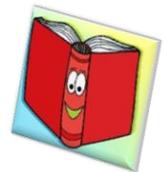
...that low literacy impacts access to higher education, higher paying jobs, health education and leads to higher rates of incarceration?

...that 54% of adults read below the 6th grade level.

...that one in ten children do not own a book at home.

**Lions Youth Services** will continue to collect new books for children between the ages of four to ten years old (please NO board books) at the March Cabinet Meeting and Rally. To arrange book donations at another time, reach out to PDG Marie Hall.

**Please consider donating a new hardcover book and bring it with you for drop off at the March Cabinet Meeting or Rally.**





**LIONS YOUTH SERVICES**  
 PO Box 156  
 Atkinson, NH 03811  
 Email: [lah03811@gmail.com](mailto:lah03811@gmail.com)

~ GRANT APPLICATION ~ *Amount requested*

*Date requested*

Requesting Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Club President: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Club Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Club Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe the project and how it will benefit the Youth in New Hampshire: *(continue on back if needed)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

# of Youth Benefitting: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Budget: \_\_\_\_\_ Requested Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Project End Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Requesting Club*  
*President's Signature:* \_\_\_\_\_

**Grant Request Guidelines:**

*All Grant Applications meeting the following guidelines will be reviewed at the next Lions Youth Services Meeting. Our meetings are held at 6:30 pm on the 2nd Thursday of every month at the Airport Diner in Manchester. If possible, we encourage all clubs to join us to present their request.*

- 1) All requests submitted by the President of a Lions Club in the State of New Hampshire Districts 44N and/or 44H
- 2) The Maximum Grant is \$500. LYS will consider up to 2 requests per NH Lions Club per Lions year (July-June)
- 3) Each application must be for a unique project. Applications for the same project within the same Lions Year will not be considered.
- 4) Each application should benefit more than one individual. Applications benefitting one person will not be considered.
- 5) Grant Applications **MUST** be received by the last day of the month *prior* to the start of the project, otherwise the request may not be considered.

*It is the intent of Lions Youth Services Grant Program to partner with the Lions Clubs of New Hampshire to serve the Youth of our state; not to replace your club's support.*

*Grant Application rev 10.2024*



Lions International

## Peace Poster

### Why Hosting the Peace Poster Contest Matters

*(from Lions International January 28, 2026)*



Many artists will tell you that what they paint is not so much what they see with their eyes, but what they see with their hearts. This is especially true of children.

For almost four decades, Lions International has offered children across the globe the opportunity to create their visions of peace from their own hearts when clubs sponsor the Peace Poster Contest. Sponsoring the contest is one of the most unique and rewarding projects that your Lions club can be involved in, helping to inspire children to imagine a world of kindness, engage with your community and showcase all the incredible ways that Lions serve.

### Peace Poster Contest helps children envision a world of peace



Designed for kids ages 11 to 13, the Peace Poster Contest offers children the chance to showcase their talent on an international stage and compete for exclusive prizes. The grand prize winner receives US\$5,000 and a trip to a Lions international awards ceremony. Twenty-three merit winners receive a

certificate of congratulations and US\$500. All the winning entries are recognized in LION Magazine and on our website.

Past International Director Ed Lecius says that having had a merit winner from his club, the Nashua Lions Club in New Hampshire, two years in a row has not only brought attention to the club, but also to their Multiple District 44. “Locally,” he added, “we had a record year with over 100 Peace Posters submitted. It has also helped us with our membership. In the last several years, we’ve grown to over 100 members, added a new Leo club and just started a specialty branch club at a local retirement community.”

### Lions’ clubs promote peace

There are so many great reasons for Lions clubs to sponsor the Peace Poster Contest. It boosts kids’ self-esteem and lets them know that their ideas matter. It also offers clubs the opportunity to promote peace while increasing their visibility in their communities. And most importantly, it gives children — and adults — hope for the future.

Purchase your kit today to get started hosting a local contest and help promote a more peaceful world. **Purchase your kit today** to get started hosting a local contest and help promote a more peaceful world. Kits will be available at the upcoming district meetings.

## LIONS PORTAL TRAINING

### GET HANDS-ON Assistance with the Lions Portal.

*Due to the cancellation of this training at Mid-Winter Convention, we have RESCHEDULED.*

**Date:**

Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> – 8:30am – Registration. 9am to Noon Training

**Location:**

Concord – City Wide Community Center  
14 Canterbury Rd, Concord NH

**Topics Covered:**

1. Secretary Support
2. Administrator's Support & Functions
3. Hands-on portal navigation
4. Reporting & Data management

**Who should attend:**

1. Club Secretaries
2. Club Presidents
3. Club Treasurers
4. ALL LIONS!

**Cost:**

**FREE !!!!** – However please RSVP to allow proper room set up.

**RSVP:**

Christine Greenwood-Smart  
[cgreenwood@walpolebank.com](mailto:cgreenwood@walpolebank.com)

Lions Twin State Soccer

# Lions Twin State Soccer

*Spring Banquet is Back!*



*Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1pm Lebanon NH High School - \$25pp*

Join the players, coaches, guest speakers, and Lions for the  
Annual Lions Cup Banquet!



Lion Marilyn Vaccaro - [jvac1408@comcast.net](mailto:jvac1408@comcast.net)

Paul Pearsall - [pppearsall@comcast.net](mailto:pppearsall@comcast.net)

44H Club Happenings  
Atkinson

THE ATKINSON LIONS CLUB PRESENTS A  
**MONSTER  
MEAT  
RAFFLE**



**Saturday, March 7, 2026 • 7:00 PM**  
Atkinson Community Center • Main Street • Atkinson, NH  
Join in on the fun and you could win  
high-quality meat prizes with

**PLAYING CARD BINGO!**

DOORS OPEN  
AT 6:00 PM  
SEATING IS  
LIMITED!



**BYOB**  
Bring Your Own  
Refreshments  
or Purchase  
Pizza at the  
Raffle.

*All proceeds will be donated to the Atkinson Lions Foundation Administrative Fund.*  
**GIFT BASKET RAFFLE • 50/50 RAFFLE**

**We hope to see you there!**



The Atkinson Lions Club  
and the  
Timberlane Music Association  
**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Sunday, March 29, 2026

8:00am-11:00am

Atkinson Community Center  
4 Main Street • Atkinson, NH



**SPECIAL GUEST**  
**The Easter Bunny**

Bring the kids and take  
their picture with  
The Easter Bunny!



*Pancakes, Eggs, Sausages, Juice, and Coffee*

**Adults: \$12**

**Children Under 10: \$5**

Served by the Atkinson Lions  
and the Timberlane Music Association

## Derry

Lions, Marlee is a young cousin of a Derry Lion. Please read her story, and contribute to her Go Fund Me page if this tugs at your heart (pun intended). [Use this link to make a donation.](#)

Hi! I'm Marlee! I'm 9 years old and I have Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome. That's a big fancy name that means when I was in my mommy's belly my left ventricle of my heart never developed! I have undergone 3 open heart surgeries by the time I was 4 and many other cardiac procedures to customize my special little heart to help me grow! Now that im so big...I'm almost double digits, ya know, my heart is having a hard time.keeping up with me and my doctors think its time for me to get a new heart! This chapter is a little confusing for my mom and dad to figure out as I will be a long term resident at Boston Children's Hospital until a new heart comes available. My mom says it could be a while. There are a lot of things that my family doesn't know right now but one thing I'm sure of is "i am brave, I am strong, and I can.



## Dover, Rollinsford, South Berwick



**Dover, Rollinsford,  
South Berwick Lions**

*We Serve*

# 20 25

## Social Impact Report

**13** Active Lions in Your Club

**4** Community Events

- Earth Day Cleanup
- Strawberry Festival
- Apple Harvest Day
- Home for the Holidays Christmas Parade



**\$1,000**

Donated to Reach For The Top Therapy Services



**\$2,000**

Awarded to Annie's Angels

Community Volunteering & Revitalization



## 600

### Volunteer Hours

Volunteer Hours - Our Lions Club brought over 100 volunteers for one day from a local realty company to complete much needed work with us at Camp Pride

**\$500** Donated to Camp Pride



Restored Shoetown Playground in South Berwick, ME

Plastic Recycling

## 4

Drop-off Locations

## 1,700+

pounds of plastic recycled

Vision Screenings

## 1,368

Children screened



## 205

Children identified for follow-up care

## \$2,089

Spent by Lions for corrective lenses

Supporting Local Students

Marshwood Interact Student Project

## \$500

Donated towards culinary program in Peru

Donated Round Trip Flights for Student Volunteer



Lions Club Scholarship Program



## \$2,000

Awarded

 lionsdrs@gmail.com



Your Lions meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 5:30pm at Cara Irish Pub, in Dover, NH. Join us!

Upcoming events include the First Annual Indoor Golf Tournament on March 28 at the NE Sports Hub. A few teams are still available

- <https://birdease.com/golfingforacure>

## Hudson

**THE GR HUDSON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

*Awards Gala* April 7th  
5:30 PM

**Winners Circle Champions**

 **LEONA SHANHOLTZ**  
Citizen of the Year  


**ST. MARY'S BANK**  
Large Business of the Year

**HUDSON COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY**  
Outstanding Community Partner of the Year

**PURRFECT THRIFT, LLC**  
Rising Star Small Business

**DARIAN & TRISTAN LINSDAY** with special  
recognition to **THE GOOD PLACE**  
Community Inspiration Award

 **VICTORIA SUPPA**  
Junior Citizen of the Year  


## HUDSON LIONS CLUB

**Congratulations to club member Leona Shanholtz, the Gr Hudson Chamber of Commerce “Citizen of the Year”, and to Victoria Suppa, “Junior Citizen of the Year” who is President of the Alvirne Leo’s Club. Darian Lindsay, who is a member of the Leos, and her brother Tristan received special recognition along with the Good Place who received the “Community Spirit Award”.**



# PSYCHIC & CRAFT FAIR

**Saturday  
April  
25th  
10 - 4**

Choose from a variety of talented psychics and intuitive readers, ready to help you unlock clarity and insight. With different styles and approaches, you're sure to find someone who resonates with you.

- ✦ **Personalized Readings:** Tarot, astrology, healing, reiki, energy work, mediumship & more (\$40 for a 15 minute session)
- ✦ **Crafters & Artisans:** Handcrafted jewelry, natural products, intentional art, & unique treasures (prices vary by seller)
- ✦ **Food & Refreshments:** Delicious options to satisfy your cravings



**Join Us At**  
Hudson Community Center  
12 Lions Ave, Hudson NH

**Free Admission • Raffles**



**MORE INFO >>**

[www.hudsonlions.org/psychicfair](http://www.hudsonlions.org/psychicfair)

Fundraiser Sponsored by the Hudson Lions Club  
All Proceeds Support Lions Club Charities



## Laconia – Gilford

Electronic Waste Collection Day  
Laconia-Gilford Lions Club  
April 18

Gilford Cinemas 8 Parking Lot, Gilford  
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Got an old computer collecting dust in your closet, or a broken air conditioner sitting on the back porch? What do you do with such items when you replace them? Everything from laptops, phones and computers to TVs cost a fortune to haul away.

Turn all that junk over to the Laconia-Gilford Lions Club during their Electronic Waste Collection Day fundraising event which will be held on Saturday, April 18, in the Cinemas 8 parking lot in Gilford (9 Old Lake Shore Road) from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **Note: this is a new location as of a few years ago.** For a small disposal fee, not only will we take your old electronic items off your hands, we will recycle them. The disposal charge is almost always less than the prices at local transfer stations. **Cash or checks will be accepted but not debit or credit cards.**



Just bring your electronics to Cinemas 8 parking lot, 9 Old Lakeshore Road in Gilford on Saturday April 18, between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Lions Club members will even help you unload them! You do not have to be a resident of Laconia or Gilford to take advantage of this fundraiser - it is open to everyone. (Rain date May 16 – call for questions 603-998-5549.)

Items you may want to consider dropping off are laptops, PC towers, PC LCD monitors, servers, CD/DVD players, camcorders, AV equipment, VCRs, speakers, copiers, faxes, scanners, printers, phones (land and cell), phone systems, humidifiers and computer accessories (all \$5 unless very large).

In addition, we will also take microwaves, air conditioners, dehumidifiers (all \$10), CRT monitors less than 50 lbs. and TVs less than 25" (\$20), TVs 26" and larger (\$30). For TVs needing more than one person to lift or CRT monitors over 50 lbs., the item will be weighed on site and the price determined. Anything with a cord not listed will also be accepted.

We are also now accepting Teflon pots and pans for \$1.

You CANNOT drop off: smoke detectors, oils, paints, thinners, batteries (except car batteries), tires, items containing mercury such as fluorescent and CFL light bulbs or thermometers, capacitors, ballasts, or any other hazardous waste.

Don't miss this opportunity or you'll be storing these things another year - "Don't throw it out, Recycle it!" You'll not only help the environment by disposing of your unwanted electronics responsibly but also help the Lions, the largest service organization in the world, raise funds to meet pressing needs in our community: eye exams, eye glasses, hearing aids, food pantries, college scholarships, holiday food baskets for needy families, youth sports programs, are just a few of the local charitable organizations that we assist. All that for a disposal fee that, in most cases, is less than the cost at local transfer stations.

The Laconia-Gilford Lions Club appreciates your help with their Electronic Waste Collection Day fundraising event and wishes to thank in advance everyone who contributes to making a real difference in our community. This project has been officially sanctioned by the Green Sanctuary Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Laconia.

Look for the yellow Lions' vests on Saturday, April 18, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Gilford Cinemas 8 parking lot (Rain date May 16 – call for questions 603-998-5549). No matter how large or small, every item adds up!

## Loudon

Lions Support Loudon Elementary School: Bobbie Gaudette of the Loudon Lions of New Hampshire recently stopped by Loudon Elementary School with a \$500 check for Principal David Bartlett to help support LES and its efforts to best serve our Loudon youngsters.



## Meredith

Congratulations to the winners of the raffle baskets at The Day at the Mug event. Sponsored by the Meredith Lions club this is a yearly event which benefits the local food pantry. Ten percent of proceeds from the sales at the Mug on that day go to the pantry. The club raffles off two baskets. This year there was a huge basket of Sweets donated by Bill Smiley and it was won by Ilene Bonis. The second basket was an assortment of scratch tickets donated by the club members and won by Sharon Ryan. Thank you to all who participated to make this a successful event. The next monthly food drive by the club will be Friday the 13th at The Family Dollar store from 3 to 6



## Nashua

**Nashua Lions Meetings Temporarily Relocated:** Due to an early morning fire at the Nashua Country Club in late January, the Nashua Lions have temporarily relocated their meetings. On the first Monday of the month the club will be having their coffee and dessert meeting at the Nashua Senior Center, 70 Temple Street, 2nd floor starting at 6:15pm. The dinner meetings on the 3rd Monday are being held at Sky Meadow Country Club, 6 Mountain Laurels Rd in Nashua. This schedule will remain until further notice.

**Green Auction:** We would love to have you join us at the Green Auction on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Please make a reservation through LindaQuebec@Ymail.com. See evening details on the flyer.

**Unsung Hero:** Our club recognized some high school basketball players with the Unsung Hero Award. Congratulations to Olivia Baker (BG) and Maxx Lizotte, both of Bishop Guertin High School.

**Nashua Police and Firefighter Employees of the Year** were honored by our club for the work they have done to keep our community safe. Congratulations to police Detective Mike Kekejian, and firefighter Lt Josh Hansen on being selected for these awards.

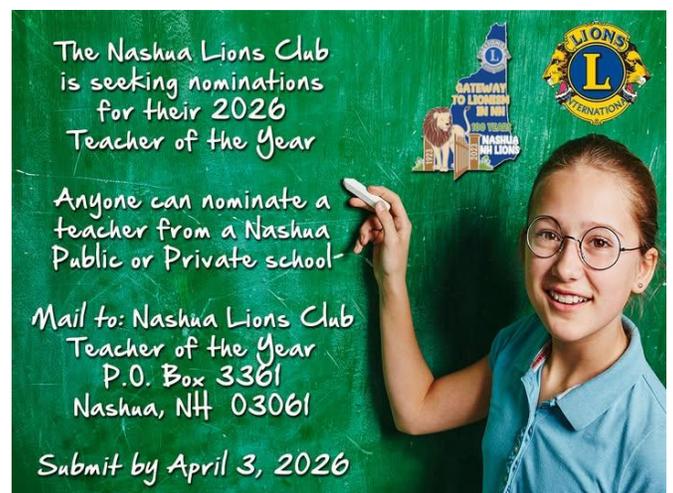
**Our OKS crew conducted Vision Screenings:** Students at World Academy were screened and 4 were referred to eye doctors for further examination.

**Other service projects** conducted by Lions this month include Lions Lift rides, delivery of 30 meals to Marguerite's Place, and packing over 1600 bags of food with End 68 Hours of Hunger.

**Teacher of the Year Nominations are Open:**



The flyer features a leprechaun on the left holding a sign that says "Save the Date". The top right has the Lions International logo. The main text reads: "Nashua Lions Club hosts a ST. PATRICK'S DAY Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner and SILENT AUCTION & LIVE AUCTION ...and a new SURPRISE!". A red starburst says "NEW THIS YEAR!". The bottom left shows a red shopping bag labeled "\$5 GRAB BAG". The bottom right has a green hat and shamrock decorations. The text continues: "COST: \$30 (The Lions Club is subsidizing the meal.) WHEN: Monday, March 16, 2026 WHERE: Sky Meadow Country Club Doors Open: 5:00 pm (cocktails, cheese and crackers, and the start of the Silent Auction) Dinner: 6:30 pm".



The flyer has a green chalkboard background with a girl in a blue shirt pointing at the text. The text reads: "The Nashua Lions Club is seeking nominations for their 2026 Teacher of the Year. Anyone can nominate a teacher from a Nashua Public or Private school. Mail to: Nashua Lions Club Teacher of the Year P.O. Box 3361 Nashua, NH 03061 Submit by April 3, 2026". There are small logos for "Gateway to Learning" and "Lions International" in the top right.

## Salem

As you may have heard, Salem Lions' friend and inspiration, Weston Moss, youngest son of Lion Kelly Moss, passed away on January 12th, just days after his 12th birthday, after a 2 year battle with Ewings Sarcoma. He was a kind, funny, gifted young man, and the world is a poorer place after his loss. Weston died, as he lived, with thoughts of how to help those he'd be leaving behind uppermost in his mind. If you'd like further information on how you can continue to support Weston's legacy please visit [www.westonsbigwish.com](http://www.westonsbigwish.com) to learn about the charity that Kelly is setting up - following the very specific directions that Weston spent his final days setting out.

For another way to honor Weston, please join the Salem Lions for a Blood Drive on March 30th. Details below.

*Donate Blood*

**IN MEMORY OF  
WESTON ERIC MOSS**



In memory of Weston Eric Moss, a courageous 12-year-old who bravely battled Ewing's Sarcoma, we invite you to donate blood in his honor. Weston had an incredibly caring heart and dedicated himself to helping other children facing cancer. Your donation continues his legacy of kindness and helps bring hope to patients in need. One blood donation can help save up to three lives and make a meaningful difference for families facing serious illness.

**Blood Drive**  
**First Congregational Church**

Classroom  
15 Lawrence Road  
Salem, NH 03079

**Monday, March 30, 2026**  
**12:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: IMOWESTON to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.  
If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.  
Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



**NEW MERCH: Come give March 30-April 12 for an exclusive Red Cross x Life is Good T-shirt, ltd. qty!**



**1-800-RED CROSS | [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) | Blood Donor App**

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## Wakefield

The Wakefield Lions conducted a business meeting at the Revo Casino in Dover, where the Granite State Fellow Award was presented posthumously to Robert Thibodeau, spouse of Joel Ballesteros of Revo Casino and Social Club. Joel had battled cancer for several years and passed away a month prior to the club meeting at the Casino. President Gloria Ballinger read the proclamation sent from the District and Ron McKay spoke of how Joel played a pivotal role in facilitating our club's engagement at the Dover Casino, enabling us to contribute to funding Wakefield's 250th birthday celebration last August, support the replacement of the wagon, Dube Express, assist in acquiring a trailer for the fire department's ATV, provide and distribute CO detectors, as well as participate in numerous other initiatives that benefit our community. Joel is already greatly missed! Pictured: Robert Thibodeau, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP & Revo Casino Liaison Ron McKay, Club President Gloria Ballinger. Ron McKay presenting the Granite State Fellow Award to Robert Thibodeau in honor of his husband Joel Ballesteros.



The Wakefield Lions paused their regular club activities to host their annual "Cabin Fever Game Day" and Potluck, welcoming both members and guests. The event featured a Cribbage Tournament, various board and card games, and provided a lively opportunity for socializing and building stronger connections.



In attendance: President Gloria Ballinger, Ken Ballinger, Bobbie Shearer, Mary Collins, Mike Strout, Mary Beth Strout, Phil Valenti, Sue Valenti, Carrie Hubbard, Adam Hubbard, Josef Martin, Cindy Martin, Bob Oullette, Sandy Oullette, Cathie Chasse, Manny Rogers, Tom Daniels, Shelly Daniels, Joe Palmariello, Jeanne Baker. Photographer Sharon Baldwin. Guests: Ernie Woessner, Allen Baker, Russell Baldwin.

As of this writing, the Christmas Tree Burn is set to proceed following previous delays caused by inclement weather. Preparations are ongoing for several upcoming events, including the Red Cross Blood Drive, Wakefield Pride Day, and the Health & Wellness Fair in Milton. Recent contributions have been made to the Dog Sight Program. Additionally, nearly 200 books were sold through the District's Donate a Book Program, which raised \$525 from club members and an additional \$200 at the Lions Convention.

#We Serve!

## Windham

### Valentine's Day Kindness:

Members visited Pinehill, Grace House, Warde Assisted Living and Windham Terrace to bring a little bit of love, kindness and Valentine treats to all of the residents. The smiles say it all! Thank you, President Zack Brown, Lions Diane Leone, Doreen Demone, and Tom Winter!



### Chinese New Year:

Our club was one of the sponsors for the Luna New Year event celebrating the Chinese New Year and the year of the Horse. Members handed out Lucky Gold Chocolate Coins, coordinated the Raffle items and handed out various types of Asian snacks. A fun day was had by all who attended. Thank you, President Zack Brown, Lions Renee Bailey, Becky Brown, Deb Cedrone, Doreen Demone, Mary Ann Horaj, Cindy & Glenn Jutras and Pattie Provenzano!





## **44N – GUEST SPEAKER INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR LIZ CROOKE**



**LIZ CROOKE  
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR**

Liz Crooke from Salinas, California, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as an international director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 107th international convention in Orlando, Florida, USA, July 13 through July 17, 2025.

Director Crooke holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Administration of Justice from California State University - San Jose. She spent 35 years working in public safety and public service, retiring as a management analyst from the County of Monterey in California.

A Lion since 1996, Director Crooke has held several offices within the association including zone chairperson, region chairperson, district leadership chair, district membership chair, district LCIF chair, cabinet secretary, second and first vice district governor, district governor, multiple district-4 (MD) council chair, MD-4 GLT coordinator and MD-4 convention chair.

Additional Lions activities include serving on the faculty for 11 Lions International Institutes, organizing five California Lions Leadership Institutes, managing the Salinas Host Lions Eye Care Project, serving as a DG-E group leader and charter president of the California Lions Toastmasters Club.

Director Crooke has received numerous awards including two Presidential Awards, a Helen Keller Fellowship, an MD 4 Excellence Award, three International President Medals, two Leadership Medals, and 10 International President's Certificates.

She is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.



## Resources

### **Camp Pride**

Second Weds of the month,  
6:30pm Airport Diner, Manchester

### **Health Services of NH**

Fourth Tues of the month, 6:30pm  
Meets via Zoom

[Click here for Zoom link](#)

md44healthservices@gmail.com

### **Lions Twin State Soccer Assoc.**

Fourth Tues of the month, 6:30pm  
meets via Zoom

LTSSAVTNH@gmail.com

### **Lions Youth Services**

Second Thurs of the month,  
6:30pm Airport Diner, Manchester

### **Sight & Hearing Foundation**

Third Thurs of the month, 6:30pm  
Airport Diner, Manchester

### **Childhood Cancer Chair:**

Michelle Ackroyd  
m.ackroyd@comcast.net

### **Diabetes Chair:**

PCC Robert Gustafson  
Robertgustafson11@gmail.com

### **Environment Chair:**

Jeri Maynard  
lionjери@comcast.net

### **Hunger Chair:**

Open

### **Lions Fellowship:**

Nancy O'Dowd  
Lupesmom14@gmail.com

### **Peace Poster:**

Available through LYS

### **District Photographer**

Open

### **Newsletter Editor:** Linda Quebec

Newsletter44H@Outlook.com

Please send submissions by the  
20<sup>th</sup> each month.



### **Facebook Resources:**

Use the search feature in Facebook to find these sites, and look up other clubs you want to follow. For example, Hudson NH Lions Club, Salem NH Lions Club, or Nashua Lions Club.

### **NH Lions District 44-H**

- Our district page on Facebook

### **Global Lions Forum**

- Learning from Lions leaders around the world

### **Lion Portal Forum**

- A group to support one another while learning how to use the Lion Portal.

### **Lions Clubs International**

- Posts from Lions International

### **Lions Club Members: Public Image, Graphics & Ideas Hub**

- Great Lions images to use in your marketing, social media, newsletters

### **Lions SMiLE (Social, Media, including, Lions, Everywhere)**

- Excellent resource on how to improve your club's social media marketing.

### **Online Resources:**

#### **Lions International website**

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/>

#### **Lion Portal Login page:**

[Login \(site.com\)](#)

LionsSupport@LionsClubs.org  
(630) 468-6900 Member Svc.

#### **District 44H website**

[http://e-district.org/sites/district\\_14-1/index.php](http://e-district.org/sites/district_14-1/index.php)

## Leadership Directory

**District Governor****Marie Valliere**

603-998-0871;  
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**First Vice District Governor****Vince Giambalvo**

845-304-2059;  
rosevin68@gmail.com

**Second Vice District Governor****Kimberlee Fournier**

603-897-9348  
LionKimberlee@gmail.com

**Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer****PDG Jerry Vaccaro**

603-204-7752  
LionJerryVaccaro@gmail.com

**Multiple Council Chair &  
Immediate Past District  
Governor****PDG Michael Leahey**

603-667-6719  
MiketheLion44N@outlook.com

**Zone Liaison, Langdon Plumer**

C: 603-770-6499  
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**Zone 1 Chair, Erin Hendrickson**

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Clubs: Derry, Hudson, Litchfield,  
Londonderry, Nashua, Salem,  
Windham

**Zone 2 Chair, Bob Choumitsky**

C: 617-291-3723  
E: rchoumitsky@gmail.com  
Clubs: Atkinson, Auburn-Candia,  
Chester, Danville, Hampstead,  
Kingston, Plaistow, Sandown

**Zone 3 Chair, Open**

Clubs: Exeter, Epping, Hampton  
Area, Newmarket, Portsmouth,  
Raymond, Rye, Seabrook

**Zone 4 Chair, Ajay Rana Bhat**

Ph: 508-685-0582  
E: ajayranabhat@gmail.com  
Clubs: Dover, Rollinsford, S  
Berwick; NH Everest; Rochester;  
Somersworth; Wakefield

**Zone 5 Chair, Ken Ward**

Ph: 631-220-5106  
E: kenward636@yahoo.com  
Clubs: Epsom-Chichester, Laconia-  
Gilford, Loudon, Meredith,  
Saddleback Mountain, Suncook  
Valley

**Zone 6 Chair, Gina Lessard**

C: 603-651-6598  
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Clubs: Conway Area,  
Moultonborough, Whittier,  
Wolfeboro

**Global Action Team Leader****Marie Valliere**

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**LCIF Coordinator****PDG Al Goldstein**

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