

Lions Tales

DISTRICT 25-G

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June 2025

District Officers

District Governor

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2nd Vice District Governor

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Cabinet Secretary

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Cabinet Treasurer

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See the final page of the newsletter for contact information for other district staff members.

A Message from District Governor Warren Allender

Well, here we are at the end of the Lions year and as I have said repeatedly about the gold ring on my pin, it represents service, something that is never completed. That being said, there is a time when one needs to step aside and let the next leaders take over. That is what I'm doing now. DGE Jackie, 1st VDGE Steve, and all the Lions who have been asked and have agreed to fill those roles in the coming year, carry on. The Lions' future is bright.



As this year ends, it is also an opportunity for me to reflect back. Lion Leroy Shrock said, "There is more to Lions than just Baugo Township". Lion Brian Bussard took a step of faith and service into the unknown with research directed to find a cure for blindness. Both were and are an inspiration for me and for that I say thank you. This has been a two-year journey with many stops along the way. It started with Lions training, lots of it! Next, there was Team building and goal setting then it was off the races to "get-r-done".

Of all the goals set, not one has been achieved as of this writing. However, DGE Jackie assures me that the LCIF goal will be achieved. I don't doubt that in the least and PDG Mary Klempay says we will come very close to achieving our 80% reporting service goal. Membership is a moving target and I applaud all who have sponsored

(continued on next page)

Have you scheduled the District Governor's visit to your club?

District Governor Warren Allender would like to attend one of your club meetings, share his vision for our district, and hear your concerns. Check his calendar in this newsletter, then give him a call at 574-361-7942, or send an email message to warrenallender@comcast.net.



"What does it mean to Make Your Mark? It means stepping up in our clubs and our communities and changing lives. It means amplifying the voices that may go unheard. It means showing the world that Lions care and we are here to stay." 2024-2025 Lions International President Fabrício Oliveira



A Message from District Governor Warren Allender

(continued from previous page)

a new Lion and all who have promoted Lionism in their own community. Some will ask for more, I will simply say "Thank you".

So where does that leave us, me specifically? It has left me with achieving my own personal goal. That was to visit and experience Lions throughout the district. Many memories have been made, and I would like to highlight just a few.

- Roann was a great place to start. You said the caboose was locked, but it wasn't. I took a tour, fantastic! Thank you for the 4th cabinet meeting, a fitting end.
- North Webster, you gave a generous donation to Riley Hospital, but more importantly, I met Lion Mike Webb, from Leesburg Lions, and Sleep in Heavenly Peace.
- Richvalley, a great celebration of 51 years of service, and I learned the importance of introducing myself better.
- North Manchester, I will always enjoy your lemonade recipe.
- Claypool, I know you've heard all that district governor "stuff" before, but thanks for inviting me to your fish fry. I never knew so much fish could be sold so early in the morning.
- Laketon, it's amazing what two Lions with knowledge and tools can do to make a weather warning siren work again and then take no credit.
- Converse, you didn't quit on me. Thank you.
- Urbana, how about those elementary students and Leader Dogs? You were able to sponsor 3 puppies.
- Dunlap, a club rich in tradition and leadership.
- Lydick, thank you for your special veterans recognition night.
- Culver, who could not want to be a member and meet at the train station, fantastic!
- Grass Creek, the senior Christmas baskets were wonderful for a segment of our population who are
 often overlooked.
- Lakeville, you know how to throw a party and your president is everywhere.
- Leesburg, keep it short, the "game" comes on shortly.
- Milford, love your pancake breakfast with friends.
- LaFontaine, best gift and best friends forever.
- Peru, you've got my go-to guy for all my questions.
- Syracuse, nice party, we're not done yet.
- Denver, don't give up, you've got a great foundation being built.
- Greene Township, a great celebration even without the president and secretary being there. I've got a picture of 3 generations of Lions, plus one upcoming. Now that's something.
- Elkhart, you are only 101 with many years of service yet to come.
- Akron, I gave a great presentation about getting 2 new Lions only to have the president declare the need for 10 new Lions and I think you're close to achieving that.
- I'm going to end with Fulton Liberty where the secretary rightfully said, "I know we're a global organization with global causes, but I like to do things that help our own community." Well said.

I could share a story about each and every club, so to those that I failed to mention - fear not, you are not forgotten. And lastly, I'm pretty sure my newsletter articles were supposed to be inspirational, but I'm not so sure they were. I can tell you, however, that YOU LIONS OF DISTRICT 25-G ARE INSPIRATIONAL! Carry on, the circle of service to our communities and the world will not be broken.

District Governor Warren Allender

A Message From District Governor Elect Jackie Kurley



Looking Ahead With Gratitude and Excitement

June — I can hardly believe it's here. They said it would come sooner than expected, and they were right. As I prepare to begin my year as District Governor, I want to take a moment to thank DG Warren for his incredible leadership and guidance. He made a lasting impact through his commitment to the Lions Cancer Control Fund of Indiana, Inc., and I believe the district will reach its LCIF goal thanks to his "Change for Change" initiative.

If you have any final LCIF donations for this Lions year, please send them directly to LCIF or forward them to me as soon as possible — the books will begin to close in mid-June.

Thank you, DG Warren, for showing me the ropes and helping me understand what to expect — especially the unexpected.

This month will be full of activity, with Mission 1.5 Summits and final preparations for the International Convention in Orlando. If you're thinking about stepping into a leadership role, now is the time. We have so many resources to support you. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions about any role you might be considering. You are never alone in this journey.

To kick off service for the new Lions year, I'm asking District 25-G clubs to begin collecting school supplies in preparation for the new academic year in August. School lists will be available soon, and anything your club can collect and donate will be deeply appreciated by parents, teachers, and students. When you deliver the donations, please snap a photo and send it to Past District Governor Paul Russell, our newsletter editor.

My goal is to have a meaningful service project for every month. It doesn't need to be elaborate — when it comes from the heart, it energizes the soul.

I honestly can't wait to begin this new adventure with all of you. Let's have fun, lift one another up, and make a difference in our communities together.

DGE Jackie Kurley



A Message From 2nd Vice District Governor Steve Weld



As many clubs are in the process of installing new officers, this is a great time to recognize the importance and value of officer training.

Trained officers are better equipped to fulfill their roles and accomplish the many activities they are asked to do in support of enabling the club to succeed. So, leadership training helps create stronger leaders, which in turn creates a stronger club. As officers grow in their understanding of their roles and the required skills, the club can experience better meeting management, improved financial accounting, and more accurate and timely reporting. The club is also able to better align itself with the goals and initiatives of Lions International, as well as utilize the resources made available to clubs and communities through

the Association and through LCIF. As club officers grow in their skills and abilities through both training and experience, members of their club will grow in confidence that they are being lead well, and more members may become interested in furthering their personal journeys in service by seeking to become project leaders, committee chairs, and club officers.

Our district has offered a couple of officer training sessions recently, and still has one more session scheduled for June 11th, hosted by the Baugo Township Lions Club in Jamestown. Any Lion is welcome, whether taking on a leadership role for the first time or the fiftieth, or even if they are not an officer but are simply interested in learning more about a role or about Lions. Training is also available through the Lions Learning Center on the Lions Portal (select 'Learn' from the menu on the Portal home page https://lionsinternational.my.site.com/). Reference material on all club officer positions is available in the Member Resource Center on the the Association's main website (https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/managing-a-club).

A goal or standard for any successful Lions Club is the Club Excellence Award, a recognition for clubs who demonstrate excellence over the course of a Lions year in five particular areas: membership growth, service, LCIF, marketing, and "Leadership and Organizational Excellence," which includes the training of key officers. Earning the award can be challenging and prestigious, and reflects well on a club's commitment to its members and to its community.

Would you like to know more? In addition to the resources available on the Lions website (https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/managing-a-club), you can contact your Zone Chair, our District Global Leadership Team Chair PCC Dave Eisen, or any district officer for ideas, assistance, encouragement, or resources that will help your club continue to grow strong and serve your community well.

Lion Steve Weld, 2nd Vice District Governor / 1st Vice District Governor Elect



We Need Your Help to Fill District Positions

Lions of District 25-G:

Please let me know if you have an interest in becoming more active in your district.

There are a lot of committees that fuel the passion of specific causes that we focus on as a Multiple District. We are looking for representation of our district in those conversations. We have all the tools you need to be successful in your role. We have a Global Leadership chairperson that is anxious to expand anyone's knowledge in any of those multitude of positions we have in the district. We also have plenty of Past District Governors that yearn to share their knowledge of these areas and will even be your partners in those causes. Even if you are just curious about what these committees do, we would like to know your interest.

Let us keep 25-G "Quite possibly the best Lions District on Earth"! I look forward to hearing from all of you.

Lion Jackie Kurley, District Govenor Elect

Celebrating 545 Years of Service

District 25-G recognizes Lions Clubs chartered during the month of June. These clubs have been serving their local communities for a total of 545 years. Each has impacted its local community in its own unique way, and has supported district, state, and international projects. Each is an example of DG Warren Allender's theme - "Cooking Up Service - Back to the Basics" and IP Fabricio Oliveira's theme - "Make Your Mark".

Congratulations on your years of service and leaving your mark on your community and beyond!

CLUB NAME	CHARTER DATE	YEARS OF SERVICE
Bourbon	June 25, 1931	94
Lakeville	June 28, 1943	82
Lapaz	June 30, 1943	82
Milford	June 20, 1944	81
North Webster	June 28, 1945	80
Akron	June 19, 1947	78
Somerset	June 14, 1999	26
North Manchester	June 20, 2003	22



You joined a Lions Club because someone offered you the opportunity to make a difference in your community. Offer that same opportunity to someone else.

A Message From District Cabinet Secretary Lion Kim Polk

Planting Seeds for a Stronger Tomorrow: The Role of the Lions Club Secretary



My granddaughter and I planted a small, raised garden this year. Mattie was elated to see her seeds that she planted had sprouted through the ground. Our garden takes tending by getting the ground ready, planting the seeds or plants, fertilizing and then making sure they have enough water. We put up our electric fence to keep out our visiting rabbits and squirrels that are not kind to our plants.

In every thriving garden, the harvest does not come by chance; it comes through careful planning, patient tending, and consistent action. Much like a dedicated gardener, a Lions Club secretary plays a crucial role in planting the seeds that will yield meaningful service, strong membership, and lasting impact.

The role of the secretary may often seem behind-the-scenes, but it is foundational. Just as a gardener prepares the soil and tracks the planting schedule, a secretary ensures that records are accurate, meetings are well-organized, and communication flows smoothly. These are not just administrative tasks, they are seeds of clarity, accountability, and trust that support the entire club.

Each meeting agenda sent, each service activity reported, each new member welcomed and documented—these are seeds planted with intention. They may not blossom overnight, but they contribute to a club culture that is informed, engaged, and ready to serve. When a club runs efficiently, members are empowered to focus on what matters most: service.

The results of a secretary's work often show up in unexpected ways. A report filed on time ensures the club receives recognition or funding. Accurate member rosters make sure all voices are heard. Thoughtful minutes from a meeting become the roots of future decisions. Over time, these careful practices yield a harvest of trust, credibility, and community impact.

Season after season, the Lions Club secretary is there—nurturing growth with steady dedication. In doing so, they help transform today's actions into tomorrow's achievements.

So, to all our secretaries: thank you for being the gardeners of our mission. Your attention to detail, commitment to communication, and unwavering service ensure that the seeds we plant today become the harvests that feed hope, healing, and help around the world.

Mattie and I will enjoy our harvest of peas, cucumbers, and tomatoes later this year. Together, let us keep planting. Your club, your community, your county, your district, your state, and the world are waiting for the harvest.

Lion Kim Polk CS District 25-G Secretaries: Now is the time to make sure your member's records are up to date in the LCI database, as well as drop any members that are deceased or have not renewed their membership, so the club does not get billed for their dues. Please do this by June 30th.

A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in. – Greek proverb

A Message From District Cabinet Treasurer PDG Ron Guth



Greetings to Lions of District 25-G,

I will be sending out dues invoices in July based on your club's member count as of 6/30/2025. Please have your club's membership up to date on the Member Portal before the end of the month so your club is not billed for members no longer with your club.

I have attached a "New member semi-annual dues breakdown" which gives you the amount of dues to collect depending on when the new member is added into the Member Portal. It is a lot to digest but for existing members the fee is simple. Total of LCI and District/State annual dues are: Regular Member \$68.00 and Discounted Family

Member is \$43.00.

You should be collecting dues from your membership now so that you have funds available when you receive notice of invoice/statements from **LCI** in July.

You can expect a **district** dues invoice via e-mail after we receive the member count from LCI. (District invoices are sent to treasurer and/or secretary email address on record with LCI. If none listed or your secretary/treasurer has contacted me with changes they are sent via postal mail.)

Please note that LCI will no longer mail statements effective 7/15/2025. Notice will only be sent to the email address listed for the club treasurer. The member portal must be used to pay electronically or to download/print statements if paying by check.

It has been an honor to serve as the cabinet treasurer this year and I look forward to doing the same under the leadership of DGE Jackie Kurley.

We Serve,

CT PDG Ron Guth guthron@comcast.net 765-460-7177 mobile

Please pay particular attention to the attachments to this newsletter:

- Dues 25-G for 2025-2026.pdf—This is the dues breakdown chart referenced in CT PDG Ron Guth's column above.
- LCI Statement Change.pdf—Information from CT PDG Ron Guth regarding an upcoming change in the way LCI dues statements are sent. **Your club treasurer must have an email address on file with LCI.**
- LCI Payment Instructions.pdf—LCI Payment Instructions for U.S. Clubs.

We do not seek new members simply to help us serve today, we seek new members to ensure our Lions Club will continue to serve our community long after we are gone.

Global Leadership Team

JUNE: THE AWKWARD MONTH



It's June, the month of weddings, anniversaries, strawberries, dandelions, and urban rabbits eating my flowers. And if you live in northern Indiana, you can now safely drive through Wyatt without driving through a haze of pork chop smoke. It's also awkward for Lions as one group of officers starts counting down the days until their terms are over while another group of officers is counting the days until their terms begin.

If you are completing a term in office or moving to a different office, what can you do to help your successor? First, you can be a mentor. But make a gentle offer to be a mentor so your successor doesn't get the impression that you are turning a one-year term

into a two-year term. If you are on the Board of Directors, don't snipe or criticize. Be helpful, not hurtful as the learning curve continues. Second, if you are moving to a new position, leave the old one behind. You have new responsibilities that demand your attention. Give the new officer a chance to succeed. Third, make your records and resources available to your replacement. It's not because your records and resources are so perfect or wonderful, but they may give the new person some ideas, some background, or examples that could be useful. Any assistance could be useful to a new office holder, but give the new person a chance to absorb what's happening. Be sure to show an open attitude of willingness to help.

If you are the Lion coming into a new office, the points listed above are just as valid. Look to your predecessor as a mentor. There's probably no real reason to wholly reinvent the wheel, so be prepared to work as a team. Discussing their ideas and their methodology is a great way to keep some continuity in the Club, but you are not bound to do everything their way. After all, this is your year now. You have your own ideas to try or new projects to suggest. Be surer to read your Club's constitution, and if you don't have one, read the Standard Form Club Constitution. The Standard Form does become your Club's constitution, if you don't have your own.

Similarly, leave your old position behind. You can't hold all the jobs in your Club. There need to be vacancies for new blood to move into, and they may need your mentoring. Don't be afraid to ask your predecessor for advice and copies of their notes to get acclimated to your new job.

Why do we need a reminder with a simple essay like this? First because we are all human, and it's hard to give up something we enjoy. It's hard to take up a new position if the current person doesn't want to give it up. Don't be the person who can't let go. Don't be the person who never says "yes" to taking on a new role. We all want a chance to show our skills, and a good Club is one which allows that.

So kill the dandelions, not the Club.

PCC Dave Eisen, Global Leadership Team Coordinator

Leadership is first and foremost about service. Remember: Being the leader means you have been placed in a position to serve.

Leadership is not about being the best. Leadership is about making others better.

Global Membership & Extension Team

MISSION 1.5 * We are on a Mission to Grow



Lions of District 25-G: Mentorship Matters in the Lions Club.

The strength of the Lions Club lies in its members, especially those who have agreed to carry out its mission the next year. Mentorship fosters leadership skills. It builds confidence and ensures that the core values of service, integrity, and collaboration is upheld. Mentorship of new Lions will develop the necessary skills to take on leadership roles, give new ideas, and inspire other members to continue to serve their communities and make a difference in peoples' lives. Mentorship will also encourage personal and professional growth.

As always, THANK YOU FOR BEING A LION! Your efforts in your club and in your community are appreciated and you are helping to change the world for the better.

WE SERVE

PDG Marlyn Fast, Global Membership & Global Extension Coordinator

Here We Grow Again

Since the start of the current Lions year, 24 district clubs have welcomed 82 new Lions to the largest and greatest volunteer service organization in the world. We welcome these new Lions and thank their sponsors for offering them the opportunity to make a difference in their communities and the world.

The following new Lions were not previously reported in the district newsletter.

Claypool Lions Club

New Member: Lion Andrew O'Connell

Sponsor: Lion Dianna Jones

LaFontaine Lions Club

New Member: Lion David Peterson

Sponsor: Lion Jerry Wilson

New Member: Lion Laura Peterson

Sponsor: Lion Ethel Eib

Lakeville Lions Club

New Member: Lion Dean Bressler, Sr.

Sponsor: Lion Larry Ort

New Member: Lion Lynne Zeiger

Sponsor: Lion Gary Nimtz

Milford Lions Club

New Member: Lion Shonda Weaver

Sponsor: Lion Gervas Schafer

Silver Lake Lions Club

New Member: Lion Holly Dillon Sponsor: Lion Jason McGlennen New Member: Lion Lonnie Dillon Sponsor: Lion Jason McGlennen



Global Service Team



We hope everyone is enjoying this crazy weather again. We've heard it's supposed to rain, and then we warm up to the 70's. I can't wait to see the sun shining and all the service activities that are coming our way. Just to name a few:

- The Potato Creek and Lions Strawberry Festival will be held in North Liberty on June 13 and 14. The Greene Township Lions Club and Lakeville Lions Club will have fund-raising activities at this event.
- The Indiana State Fair will be held from August 1st to August 17th. Come join us and add your Service Hours, and you can also earn WP Woods Credit.

Did you attend the Cabinet Meeting and Leadership Training on May 17th, or the Leadership Training on May 28th? You can add this to your Service Report. There will be another Leadership Training session at the Jamestown UMC in Elkhart on June 11th, so come and join us. And we will see you soon.

Service Reporting

By sharing our impact through service reporting, Lions and Leos inform, inspire, and grow our local and global legacy of humanitarian service. It's important for your club to know who is responsible for service reporting, so your club receives the benefits. In Lions Clubs, Service Chairpersons are responsible for service reporting, although many clubs choose to have the Club Secretary or Club President report. In Leo clubs, the President, Secretary, or Leo Club Advisor can report service. Your club can also appoint an Administrator to handle service reporting, or your district can appoint an Administrator.

How do we help clubs report service hours and projects? Did you know that all districts have a goal to increase the percentage of their clubs that report service? District leaders can access reports online that display the number of service activities reported by each club. If you're a district leader, the following ideas can help your district achieve its reporting goal:

- Reach out to club leaders.
- Ask who is responsible for service reporting and how you can help.
- Share the benefits of service reporting.
- Encourage each club to elect a Service Chairperson, who can assume responsibility for reporting service, if that works for the club.
- Coach Service Chairpersons and Club Secretaries in how to report service by walking them through the steps.
- Appoint a District Administrator who can directly assist clubs with service activity entry.

PDG Mary Klempay, Global Service Team Coordinator maryrsb@comcast.net \ (574) 286-4499

Tell Us About Your Club's Signature Service Project

Does your club have a signature service project ... an ongoing or recurring project that wouldn't be done if it weren't for your Lions Club ... a service project that everyone in your community associates with your Lions Club? Write a short article about your club's signature service project and send it, with photos, to PDG Paul Russell <pd>pdgpaul25g@gmail.com

LCIF Coordinators Update



Hello Lions! I can't believe we are in the final stretch of the Lion year. It was so nice to see so many Lions at the State Convention in Shipshewana last month!

Do you have your Club Officers filled for next year? Don't forget to list the new Club Officers on the "PORTAL". Did you include the LCIF Club Coordinator position? This member will ensure LCIF information is available to the Club members, find the answers to any questions you may have, assist with award applications, and

generally promote the Foundation.

District 25-G Lions Members: Please remember, if you haven't turned in your "Change" donations, make sure to send it in by June 1st to your District LCIF Coordinators, DGE Lion Jackie or me.

Lions, we also encourage you to make your own personal donation. This would earn you credit towards your Melvin Jones Fellowship. Please consider donating today.

Visit https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/donate

Yours in Service,

Lion Sopheap Long

Indiana Lions State Convention

As the 104th Indiana Lions State Convention fades into memory, the planning committee wishes to send a final "Thank you" to all who participated:

- The staff at the Farmstead Inn, the caterers: Heritage House and Happy Caterers, Shipshewana Convention Bureau, sponsors, and exhibitors.
- PIP Jimmy Ross and Lion Velda for gracing us with their presence, media personality Gary Sieber who made us laugh, and all the seminar speakers.
- The almost 400 attendees who filled the Convention with a spirit befitting Lions.

Congratulations to all the award winners, especially District 25-G's own PDG Ann Haffner, who won the Distinguished Lion Award.

PDG Marlyn Fast and PDG Brian Thomas went into this process two years ago as unproven convention "rookies" and emerged as battle scarred "veterans", grateful to all who helped in the transformation.

See ya next year!

PDG Marlyn Fast PDG Brian Thomas

The role of a leader is not to come up with all the great ideas. The role of a leader is to create an environment in which great ideas can happen. — Simon Sinek

Syracuse Lions celebrate 75 years, announce disbanding

by Deb Patterson, Editor-In-Chief, The Papers Reprinted by permission

It was an evening of celebration for the Syracuse Lions Club Monday, May 12, as it celebrated its 75 years of serving the community. Yet the evening held a sad note, as it was announced the club would be disbanding at the end of the month.

"I want to thank all of you for being here this evening for celebrating our 75 years of service to the Syracuse community and beyond. Unfortunately, it is with great sadness we have to announce that our club is disbanding. This is our final hoopla, as our members are aging out and our efforts to gain new members and younger members have been to no avail; we didn't know what else to do," announced Barb Grumme, co-treasurer.

Following her announcement, budgeted donations were distributed to these local organizations: Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum, Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation, Syracuse-Wawasee Garden Club, Syracuse Community Helping Hands 4-H Club. Syracuse Community Center, Lakeland Youth Center, and Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

Funds will also be distributed to state and international Lions organizations.

District 25G Governor Warren Allender, stated following the meeting, "As district governor, while they are talking about closing, we're looking at options and community support for the Lions organization in the community."

Doris Yoder, co-president, closed the evening stating, "It is with regret in closing out this evening, but I do know, some of these people intend to visit other clubs and see where they might find a home. ... Maybe down the line, maybe in a few years, there will be another group and will come back and serve Syracuse. We hope so."

Celebration Of Its Members

To celebrate the 75 years, a presentation of club awards were presented to six individuals.

Cliff Wogomon and AJ Himes were presented awards in appreciation of their service. Both participated in various club activities and projects.

Himes was also presented with the W.P. Woods award by Lion Rose Russell, trustee of the Indiana Lions Foundation.

Russell also announced Ann Haffner was among 12 nominees from across the state for the Indiana Distinguished Lions award for 2025, prior to announcing Haffner was the recipient of the 2025 award. Haffner noted her husband, Charlie, received the award in 2005 and was the fifth person in the state to receive such award.

Other recognitions, extended participation awards, were given to Janie Leach, who has provided meals for the club; Dr. Rod Kaufman, for his vision assistance; and Roger Kern for delivering the Christmas trees the club sold.

Doris Yoder was also recognized for creating and organizing the evening, her love of Lions and love of the local club.

History And Reports

Club members shared briefly the history of the club and its programs.

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Karen Hartley, co-treasurer, shared the charter history. The first organizational meeting of the club was May 2, 1950, naming Millard Sink as president. The charter night was held June 2, at Oakwood Hotel. The date on the charter is May 23, 1950. By 1955-56, the club's membership had grown to 57.

Syracuse Lions Club was sponsored by the Milford Lions Club and went on to sponsor Lions Clubs in New Paris and Nappanee.

A 50th anniversary celebration was held May 26, 2000, with special recognition given to Ralph Thornburg for his 50 years as a Lion. He continued to be an active member until his death Feb. 20, 2009.

Fundraisers by the club included selling books, fruit cakes, golf outing and many others. The club has been the host club of one past international director, three past district governors and one associate member, who was a past district governor. The local club is and has been well represented at the district and state levels through its various service on various committees and state projects.

Tom Thornburg, co-president, spoke about the start of the club's annual fish fry. He shared after the Scout Cabin was built with the aid of Lions members who even furnished the furnace and flags; the first fish fry was held in 1959. Ralph Thornburg cooked a big pot of baked beans in an iron kettle to serve.

"The fish fry maintained its status as the largest club fundraiser, making many changes over the years," he stated.

The fish fry was moved to the Syracuse Community Center after it was built, with the Lions Club donating the freezer, stove, microwave and refrigerator to the facility, purchased through an Indiana Lions Foundation Grant. In the early 2000s, Lion Stan Fox suggested and directed the addition of a silent auction to the event, nearly doubling the income.

Joe Hibschman, director, continued the fish fry fundraiser story, noting Steve Beehler and a crew, many friends of the Lions, assisted in the preparation of the fish for frying. Other volunteers were Cub Scouts, 4-Hers and Girl Scouts. When COVID hit, the fish fry became a drive-thru event making nearly as much income. But the silent auction was halted. Last year, the club went back to one more year of eating-in, until last year, when the final sit-down event was held.

Reports were presented by Jerry Wright on the state speech and hearing committee; by Angela Himes and Haffner on vision services; and Grumme on community service activities and the literacy program.

Lions Club members from Milford, Leesburg, New Paris, Elkhart, Baugo and Lakeville attended the event. Leesburg's Lion Club presented a plaque to the local club commemorating the 75 years. A large number of Lion dignitaries from the district were also present, including the only surviving charter member, Charlie Gardner, who will be 102 year old July 3.

A display was available showing all the club presidents over the past 75 years, an award received by the Syracuse-Wawasee Chamber of Commerce and the framed original charter. A history of the local club was also available for guests to take to see what the club has done over the years as projects and fundraisers.

DG Allender Announces Campaign to Rebuild Syracuse Lions Club

District Governor Warren Allender has announced that the District 25-G leadership team has developed a plan to rebuild the Syracuse Lions Club. The club had previously announced that it would disband at the end of May, due to a combination of factors including aging membership and the inability to recruit younger members.

Photos from Syracuse Lions Club 75th Anniversary



Left: The celebration was held at the Syracuse Community Center.

Right: The club's charter was displayed.





Left: List of club presidents

Right: Co-President Lion Tom Thornburg (center), the MC for the evening, recognized Lion Dr. Rod Kaufman (left) and Janie Leach (right) for their service to the Syracuse Lions Club.



Past District Governor Ann Haffner was one of only 12 Lions from throughout the state of Indiana who was nominated for the Indiana Distinguished Lion Award and was the winner of the award.

Left: Indiana Lions Foundation trustee Lion Rose Russell presented PDG Ann with a plaque recognizing her as a nominee for this award.

Right: Indiana Lions Foundation trustee Lion Rose Russell presented PDG Ann with the Distinguished Lion award.







Left: Indiana Lions Foundation trustee Lion Rose Russell presented Lion AJ Himes with a W.P. Woods Fellowship. Right: Lion Barb Grumme was one of several club members who spoke about the club's history of community service.



(Photos by Lion Angela Himes, Syracuse Lions Club & PDG Paul Russell, Lakeville Lions Club)

Roann Lions Host 4th District Meeting

The Roann Covered Bridge Lions Club hosted the 4th District Meeting of the 2024-2025 Lions year at the Roann Christian Church on Saturday, May 17. 40 Lions representing 13 district clubs attended the meeting. After a shortened business session, a Club Officers Training session was offered.







Top left: Meeting attendees

Top right: PDG Brian Thomas (in black-and-white checkered shirt) presents a report to the attendees.

Bottom left (I. to r.) DG Warren Allender, 1VDG/DGE Jackie Kurley, 2VDG/1VDGE Steve Weld

(Photos by Susi Allender, Baugo Township Lions Club)

Akron Lions Plan Build-A-Bed Project

The Akron Lions Club received a matching grant of \$5,000 from the Northern Indiana Community Foundation to support their partnership with Sleep in Heavenly Peace Kosciusko County organization that is hosting a bed build in August. It will be hosted at the Akron Community Center from 8:00 a. m. to 12:00 noon on Saturday, August 9th. Anyone of any age may come to join us in building the beds, and the beds will stay in the 46910 zipcode area.



Left: Brian Johnson of NICF with members of the Akron Lions Club.

Right: Scan this QR code to go to the signup page for the Akron Lions Club Build-A-Bed project.



Submitted by Lion Faith Kamp, Akron Lions Club

Akron Lions Honor Three with Melvin Jones Fellowships

The Akron Lions Club recently recognized three dedicated community members with Melvin Jones Fellowships—Lion Merl Tinkey, Lion Harold Shewman, and Janice Shewman—for decades of service and support. Lion Tinkey, a member since 2000, continues to serve at age 91. Lion Shewman, a member since 1991, and his wife Janice have worked tirelessly at monthly fish fries and upcoming events such as the bed build day on Aug. 9. Though not officially a Lion, Janice's contributions span over three decades. All three were honored at ceremonies held March 11 and May 13 at the Akron Community Center.



Left: Lion Merl Tinkey with his Melvin Jones Fellowship plaque, and his children and grandchildren that were in attendance to celebrate his accomplishment.

Right: Pictured left to right are Lion President Steve Nelson, Janice Shewman, and Lion Harold Shewman with their Melvin Jones Fellowship plaques.



(Submitted by Lion Faith Kamp, Akron Lions Club)

Akron Lions Club Makes Donation to Local Volunteer Fire Department



On May 27th, the Akron Lions Club presented a \$500 donation to the Akron Volunteer Fire Department to upgrade some of their older equipment.

(Submitted by Lion Faith Kamp, Akron Lions Club)

Bourbon Lions Club Awards Scholarships

At their meeting on May 19th, the Bourbon Lions Club awarded two \$1,000 scholarships.

Pictured here, left to right, are scholarship recipient Benjamin McFarland, Club President Eleanor Watkins, and scholarship recipient Katie Reichard.

Benjamin will be studying Criminal Justice at Purdue University Fort Wayne.

Katie will be studying to achieve her Paramedic Certification at the Goshen Health Paramedic Program in Goshen.

(Submitted by Lion Mike Zvalaren, Bourbon Lions Club)



Lydick Lions Provide Vision Screening, Assist at Horse Show, Welcome New Members



On May 10th, the Lydick Lions participated at Beacon Resource Center's Health Fair. Lydick members Mike & Teckla Lane and Wendy Yuhasz were there to inform guests about the Lions Organization and performed on site, KidSight Eye Screenings for children 18 months to 6 years old. Our club was happy to participate and enjoyed our time with the community!

Pictured here (I. to r.): Lion Teckla Lane, Lion Mike Lane, Lion Wendy Yuhasz

Over the weekend of May 17th & 18th, many of our Lydick Lion members volunteered at Reins of Life's 4-H & Open Horse show. Our club ran the concession stand serving pulled pork, hot dogs, walking tacos, nachos and cheese, sweets and drinks. We had a lot of fun talking to the riders and watching their skills in the different events in the arena. Thank you to members Teckla Lane, Christine Bella, Connie Price, Lori Ferro, Steve Downey, Cathy Rieder, Karen Swisher, Michael Hardman, Wendy Yuhasz, Elaine Gaulin, and our friend Dave Rieder for volunteering their time and supporting Reins of Life.





members into our club. Congratulations and welcome to Joshua Davis, Helen Kaley and Cathy Rieder! Pictured here (I. to r.) are Lion Joshua Davis, Lion Elaine Gaulin, Lion Karen Trzaskowski, Lion Cathy Rieder, Lion Helen Kaley, and Lion Connie Price.

During our May meeting, President Wendy Yuhasz inducted three new

(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)



Your club news could be here. Send articles and photos to PDG Paul Russell <pd><pd>pdgpaul25g@gmail.com> by the 25th of the month.

Madison Township Lions Club News

The Madison Twp Lions Club members have been actively engaged in serving the community. We helped the Wakarusa Lions Club serve pancakes and sausage during the Wakarusa Maple Syrup Festival on April 26. Then the Wakarusa club helped us sell Pork Chops on May 17. Both clubs had successful fund raising events, thanks to great community support.

The Madison Twp. Lions donated \$1,000 to Cultivate Food Rescue to help with their continuing support of the community. The Organization serves 1,500 meals to food deficient students at area schools

The Lions club also donated \$500 to the Madison Township Elementary school PTO as a sponsorship for their annual Fish Fry fund raising event. The funds raised go towards various school programs. throughout the year.

One member of the club worked at an eyeglass cleaning session at the district eyeglass recycling center in Dunlap.



Left: Members of the Wakarusa Lions Club and Madison Township Lions Club cook pancakes at the Wakarusa Maple Syrup Festival.

Below: Members of the Madison Township Lions Club and Wakarusa Lions Club work the grills at the Spring Pork Chop Sale.



(Submitted by Lion Al Beehler, Madison Township Lions Club)

Rochester Lions Club Member Honored by Fulton County Chamber of Commerce



In April 2025, Lion Joe McCarter received the Community Service Award from the Fulton County Chamber of Commerce, which recognizes individuals who make significant contributions to the community through dedicated service. Widely known throughout the area, Mr. McCarter is admired for his consistent support of local organizations and his commitment to uplifting others with compassion and faith. His efforts have made a lasting impact on Fulton County. The Rochester Lions Club is one of many local organizations that benefit and thrive from his dedication to service.

Left: Lion Joe McCarter (center) is pictured here with (left to right): his daughter Ella McCarter, wife Mandi McCarter, and parents and fellow Lions Katie and Phil McCarter.

(Submitted by Lion Corrina Summers, Rochester Lions Club)

Look What We Found While Cleaning Out the Closet



The Elkhart Lions Club has a magnifying reader that was donated to us. We had two, but found a home for one, so still have another.

If any District club can find a library, school or assisted living facility that could use this, please contact PDG Brian Thomas at 574-596-7411 or brian10k@aol.com.

PDG Brian Thomas Looking for District 25-G Pins

Over the past several years, I have collected District Governor pins for a display that is brought to the various District meetings. I have pins for 26 of the 69 Lions who have served as District Governor for District 25-G, dating back to 1996. I would like to find as many as possible to maintain a piece of District 25-GG heritage. I know it will be difficult to go way back as I'm not even sure pins were made and distributed in the district's early years. If anyone knows pin history, please let me know. I know of several District Governors that did not offer pins. So, if any PDG has a pin (their own or others') in their possession, or if any District Lion has a connection with families of a PDG who might have a pin, please let me know.



Thank You PDG Brian Thomas 574-596-7411 brian10k@aol.com



Opportunities for Service

Bring Vision and Service Back to Syracuse!



Youth vision screening

Partnership with local organizations

Engage and support our community

Kickoff Event
Wednesday, June 18 | 7 pm
Syracuse Community
Center



Opportunities for Service

Lydick Lions Club Service Project for June

During June, we will be collecting items for "Walking With Moms Closet" at Holy Cross Parish. We will be collecting the following items: Diapers (all sizes, most used are newborn and sizes 4, 6 and 7), baby wipes, baby shampoo and lotion, laundry soap, and baby clothing - onesies, sleepers/pajamas, which can be new or gently used/clean. We will also accept gently used, toys, strollers and high chairs.

If you have any items you would like to donate, please email Lion Wendy Yuhasz at mt_wendy7402@att.net and we can coordinate a drop off.

Thank you for any help! The moms and babies say "YOU'RE AWESOME!"

(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)



Opportunities for Service

Lydick Lions Club Service Project for July

During July, we will be helping our four legged friends! We will be collecting items for South Bend Animal Care and Control. We will be collecting the following items: dog & cat food (dry and canned), pet toys, kitty litter, new or gently used clean blankets, towels, pet beds, and anything else dog and cat related.

If you have any items you would like to donate, please email Lion Wendy Yuhasz at mt_wendy7402@att.net and we can coordinate a drop off.

Thank you for any help! The four legged pets say "YOU'RE AWESOME!"

(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)

Lydick Lions July Service Project



During July we are collecting items for South Bend Animal Care and Control for our four legged friends.

COLLECTING

- ✓ Dog & Cat food
- Pet toys
- Kitty Litter
- New or gently used clean blankets, towels and pet beds
- Anything cat or dog related

Email us at mt_wendy7402@att.net if you would like to donate and help us.







Indiana Lions State Projects & Foundation













State Projects & Foundation Trustees

Contact one of our	district trustoes	to schodulo a	nroaram	for vour club
Contact one of our	aistrict trustees	to scnedule a	brogram	tor vour club.

Lions Cancer Control Fund of Indiana, Inc.

	•	•	
	Lion Beth Guth (Peru) Lion Lloyd Mehaney (Lakeville) PDG Paul Russell (Lakeville)	guthbeth@comcast.net lloydmehaney@live.com pdgpaul25g@gmail.com	765-210-3318 269-547-0095 574-250-2621
Visio	n First Indiana Lions Eye Bank, I	nc.	
	Lion Duane Griner (Lake City) PDG Ron Guth (Peru) PDG Tom Polk (LaFontaine)	ldgriner@comcast.net guthron@comcast.net pdgtompolk@gmail.com	574-265-3015 765-460-7177 260-571-5123
India	ana Lions Speech and Hearing, In	ıc.	
	PDG Mary Klempay (Lakeville) 2VDG Steve Weld (Dunlap) Lion Jerry Wright (Syracuse)	maryrsb@comcast.net smweld.af@gmail.com (no email address)	574-286-4499 574-742-1357 574-457-6811
India	ana Lions for the Indiana School	for the Blind and Visually Impair	red, Inc.
	Lion Brian Bussard (Baugo Twp) Lion Debra Page (Dunlap) Lion Steve Page (Dunlap)	buzzf117@comcast.net ndpage12@aol.com ndpage12@aol.com	574-226-4079 574-226-8945 574-226-8945
India	ana Lione for Leader Dog. Inc.		

Indiana Lions for Leader Dog, Inc.

DG Warren Allender (Baugo Twp)	warrenallender@comcast.net	574-361-7942
Lion David Frushour (Peru)	d.frushour@comcast.net	765-473-3626
PDG Brian Thomas (Elkhart)	brian10k@aol.com	574-596-7411

Indiana Lions Foundation

Lion Alan Beehler (Madison Twp)	mtlcsecabee@aol.com	574-707-2937
PDG Marlyn Fast (Dunlap)	mafast1107@gmail.com	574-538-1090
Lion Rose Russell (Lakeville)	RoseWRussell@gmail.com	574-250-0125

Indiana Lions Foundation

Indiana Lions Foundation Indiana State Fair Project



It's not too early to start thinking about fun and fellowship with other Indiana Lions at the 2025 Indiana State Fair. This is the Foundation's single largest fundraiser. Proceeds support the operation of the Indiana Lions State Office Building and provide funds for the Foundation's new Community Service Grants.

The Fair will be held in Indianapolis, August 1-17, 2025, and we will need many volunteers to work at six gates during the Fair.

Scan the QR code above to go to https://indianalionsfoundationmd25.org/what-we-do/indiana-state-fair-volunteer/ and sign up to work for the Foundation at the 2025 Indiana State Fair.

If you liked our ferris wheel and carousel pins, you'll love our new roller coaster pin. The final design is shown here. The only way to get one of these pins is to work for the Foundation at the Indiana State Fair.

When you work for the Indiana Lions Foundation at the Indiana State Fair, you receive State Fair credits. Work an early morning shift and receive 1 credit; work a regular morning or afternoon shift and receive 2 credits. You may redeem 12 credits for a W.P. Woods Fellowship for yourself or another individual.

This past July, the board of trustees of the Indiana Lions Foundation approved a proposal to allow State Fair volunteers to redeem State Fair

credits for Community Service Grants to benefit Indiana Lions clubs, Indiana Lions districts, Indiana Lions state projects, or LCIF. For more information about Community Service Grants, visit the Indiana Lions Foundation website at https://indianalionsfoundationmd25.org/.

If you need assistance signing up for this project, please contact Lion Rose Russell at 574-250-0125 or RoseWRussell@gmail.com.

If you want to know more about the Indiana Lions Foundation, contact one of our district trustees:

Lion Alan Beehler (Madison Twp)
PDG Marlyn Fast (Dunlap)
Lion Rose Russell (Lakeville)

mtlcsecabee@aol.com mafast1107@gmail.com RoseWRussell@gmail.com 574-707-2937 574-538-1090

Indiana Lions Foundation

574-250-0125









District Governor's Calendar

June 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 New Paris LC—Officer Installation	3	4	5	6	7 Pre- Council Meeting
8	9	10	11 Officers Training Jamestown	12	13	14
15	16 Baugo LC President's Night	17	18	19 Dunlap LC—Officer Installation	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



District Governor's Calendar

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Int'l Convention Orlando FL	14 Int'l Convention Orlando FL	15 Int'l Convention Orlando FL	16 Int'l Convention Orlando FL	17 Int'l Convention Orlando FL	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Council Meeting Zionsville
27	28	29	30	31		

District Global Action Team

Global Leadership Team (GLT)

PCC David Eisen 1112 E. Third Street

Mishawaka, IN 46544

H: 574-255-5613

C: 574-250-1469

d.eisen01@yahoo.com

Global Membership Team (GMT)

PDG Marlyn Fast 24261 CR 126

Goshen, IN 46526

H: 574-875-5963

C: 574-538-1090

mafast1107@gmail.com

Global Service Team (GST)

PDG Mary Klempay 52140 Kenilworth Road South Bend, IN 46637 574-286-4499 maryrsb@comcast.net

LCIF Coordinators

1st VDG Lion Jackie Kurlev 20233 Fall Creek Dr. Goshen, IN 46528 219-689-8424 kurmon@comcast.net

Lion Sopheap Long 13793 ÚS 20 Middlebury, IN 46540 574-215-9474 sopheap.long@gmail.com

District Administrator

(for assistance with the Lion Portal) PDG Ann Haffner 11268 N. SR 13 Syracuse, IN 46567 574-457-6118 ann haffner@yahoo.com

District Newletter Editor

PDG Paul Russell P.O. Box 31 Lakeville, IN 46536-0031 574-250-2621 (call or text) pdgpaul25g@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendar

Wed, Jun 11, 2025 Club Officers Training Jamestown UMC, 59218 CR 3 South, Elkhart

Sun-Thu, Jul 13-17, 2025 International Convention Orlando, Florida

Fri-Sun, Aug 1-17, 2025 Indiana State Fair **Indianapolis**

Thu-Sat, Sep 18-20, 2025 USA/Canada Forum Atlantic City, New Jersey

Fri-Sat, Jan 16-17, 2026 Mid-Winter Conference **Indianapolis**

Sat, Mar 7, 2026 District Convention TBA

Fri-Sun, May 1-3, 2026 State Convention Embassy Suites, Plainfield

Directory Updates

p. 18 Duane & Clara Griner

New cell phone number: 574-265-3015

p. 29 Lake City Lions Club

President: Duane Griner

New cell phone number: 574-265-3015

p. 30 Lydick Lions Club

Meeting location: Lydick United Methodist Church 26510 Edison Rd. South Bend, IN 46628



Installation of Lions Club Officers