



Lions Tales

DISTRICT 25-G

Volume 19, Number 3

September 2025

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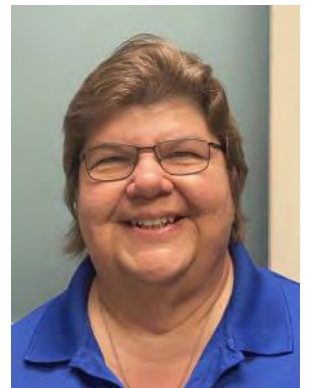
Cabinet Treasurer

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

A Message from District Governor Jackie Kurley

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Thank you for participating in a highly successful District 25-G Banner Night. Good fellowship, food, and fun were had by all who attended. There were a few hiccups, but I am learning to roll with those punches because, as was explained to me, just as the river flows, you will encounter huge boulders and small rocks as you flow, but you just keep going. A special thanks to my "squad" that was there every step of the way to keep me calm and reminded me to breathe. Our service project was writing Christmas cards to our military, I asked all those in attendance to sign my banner, have your memories kept by taking a picture at our photo booth, and enjoy the ice cream. I learned several things that night. One was to always expect the unexpected. The building was hit by lightning, and the air conditioner was not working. As I stated, I was just grateful that we did not need to cancel the event. Another extremely valuable lesson I learned was that if you will be speaking to a prestigious crowd, do not eat blue icing before you speak.



Now back to business. We are almost finished with the first quarter of the year. I cannot believe it. How are you doing with your goals? Are you reaching out to those members that you have not seen in a while? Are you following the best practice of "just ask" your neighbors, coworkers, and your friends in faith? We need more members to help carry those in despair over the bridge to hope.

Thank you to all the district members who helped with the State Fair. It was the first time my schedule allowed me to participate, and I can honestly say it was fun. I love to watch people, and as they come through the gate with all their excitement of enjoying a day at the fair, it puts a smile on my face.

(continued on next page)

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

District Governor Jackie Kurley would like to attend one of your club meetings, share her vision for our district, and hear your concerns. Check her calendar in this newsletter, then give her a call at 219-689-8424, or send an email message to kurmon@comcast.net.

A Message from District Governor Jackie Kurley

(continued from previous page)

September brings the USA/Canada Forum in Atlantic City, New Jersey. If you have never attended this Forum, please consider attending, if not this year, start planning for 2026 next year in Memphis, Tennessee. It is the world's largest annual event offering extensive training, educational seminars, and opportunities for networking within a fun social environment. September also brings pumpkin spice everywhere, so let us be just as visible as we do service in our neighborhoods. Learn more about our State Projects by asking your trustees to give a club program and generate unique service ideas for your community. Invite non-members your meetings, to learn how Lions assist in creating a better world.

Lastly, please remember that our next District Meeting is in Peru on November 1. All members are invited to hear what plans we can make to continues as "Quite Possibly the Greatest Lions District on Earth!"

Lion Jackie Kurley, District Governor

Celebrating 132 Years of Service

District 25-G proudly honors the Lions Clubs that were chartered during the month of September. Collectively, these clubs have dedicated an impressive 132 years of service to their local communities. Each club has made a unique and lasting impact—supporting not only local initiatives but also district, state, and international projects.

Their enduring commitment to service exemplifies District Governor Jackie Kurley's theme: "*Energize Your Soul Through Service.*" These clubs are living proof that when service is fueled by passion, it uplifts both the giver and the community.

CLUB NAME	CHARTER DATE	YEARS OF SERVICE
Leesburg	September 4, 1944	81
Richvalley	September 10, 1974	51

A Message From 1st Vice District Governor Steven Weld



Service Journey

Lions Clubs around the world are dedicated to making the phrase "We Serve" a reality in their communities, committing their time, talent, finances, and attention to improve the lives of the people around them.

Serving is more than just moments of effort helping others - it is also recognizing the needs around us and creatively connecting the resources we have available to those needs. Lions call this organizational and lifestyle approach to serving the SERVICE JOURNEY, which has four phases: Learn, Discover, Act, and Celebrate.

LEARN: The first phase is to add knowledge to our zeal for service. The eight areas of service to which our Association and Foundation give particular attention -- our Global Causes -- are a great place to start: Diabetes, Environment, Hunger Relief, Pediatric Cancer, Vision, Disaster Relief, Humanitarian Relief, and Youth. However, a Club's top concern should be local needs. Developing a solid understanding of the issues of real concern to the members of the community requires considerable work, but that learning positions a Club to be highly effective. (<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/our-impact/our-service/ways-we-serve>)

DISCOVER: Learning and understanding the needs in the community helps more clearly identify the service opportunities which surround the Club. This is the chance to name available resources, build partnerships with other agencies, organizations, and individuals, innovate, and develop a refined focus on what, where, how, when, and why to serve. (<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-approach/service-journey/service-toolkit>)

ACT: The third phase marshals all the energy and zeal in which we take so much pride as Lions, and channels it into efforts to make a real difference in the lives of real people, using the knowledge and understanding of the opportunities we built in the Learn and Discover phases. The Association offers advice on selecting and executing service projects which are visible, measurable, and practical with a variety of Service Project Planners. (<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-approach/service-journey/service-project-planners>)

CELEBRATE: Finally, a successful service project -- or even an unsuccessful project which offered fellowship, learning, and growth -- deserves a moment for sharing our stories with each other and with our community. Take this opportunity to analyze and report impact, reflect on ways to inspire continued service, and strengthen the capacity, motivation, and abilities to serve.

The phases of the Service Journey are not details of a recipe which must be followed exactly, nor guarantees of success. Instead, they are notes, ideas, and recommendations offered by fellow travelers with the hope of enabling others to succeed. You can learn more at <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-approach/service-journey>.

Lion Steve Weld, 1st Vice District Governor

A Message From District Cabinet Secretary Lion Kim Polk



As we continue to think about the Club Secretary responsibilities, one of the most important is record keeping.

As the Secretary, keep the following club records accurate and up to date:

- The club charter
- The constitution and by-laws
- The club history
- The minutes of all club and board of directors' meetings
- Annual reports of club officers and committees
- Activity and service reports (coordinate with club service chairperson)

If your club is registered with the State of Indiana, a Business Entity Report is required to be filed every two years in the month your club was originally registered with the State of Indiana. As Secretary, it may be your responsibility to file this report. In some clubs, the Treasurer does this task. If you are unsure if your club needs to file a Business Entity Report, you can search at: <https://bsd.sos.in.gov/publicbusinesssearch>

The Club Secretary receives a lot of information from Lions Clubs International and other sources concerning training, events and meetings. It may come electronically or through mail and involve the President, Treasurer, committee and/or project chairpersons. It is important that all correspondence be opened, read and distributed in a timely manner. It may feel like you are buried in documents, text messages, and emails some days. I encourage you to breathe, plan time in your day or week to address items and tackle them one item at a time.

If I can be of help to you, please contact me.

Remember to Energize Your Soul Through Service!

Lion Kim Polk, Cabinet Secretary



A Message From District Cabinet Treasurer PDG Ron Guth



Hello Lions All,

Ok, in the last few months I've been talking about paying dues, updating officer contact information in the portal, and bringing the state projects to you. Now it's time to talk about something dear to my heart: Eyesight for our children

I am a trustee for Vision First, Indiana Lions Eye Bank so, yes, everything vision is on my mind.

SchoolSight Vision Screening: Your club should have contacted your local school district by now offering to help the school nurse with vision screening. The state of Indiana requires that students in Kindergarten or 1st grade receive acuity screening and be seen by an eye professional. They also require the students in 3rd, 5th and 8th grades to be screened for vision acuity. What is acuity you ask? The ability to read 3 out of 5 letters on the 20/32 line of an eye chart calibrated for use at 10' or 20' and the ability to read the 20/32 line at a near vision of 16". Depending on the grade size in the school it can take the nurse several months to screen all the students.

When our club goes into the school with 4 screening stations, we can do a grade of 125-150 students in 90 minutes! If your club hasn't done this before, ask a neighboring club who has, and offer to help and learn. Nothing else makes your day like watching smiling kids leave after you finish giving them a test they didn't have to study for!

As a district, we excel at screening in the schools, but we don't do so well on reporting the results to the state, which is needed to keep officials apprised of what we do. Please see the "School Screening Reporting Sheet" that is attached to this newsletter and fill it out and send it to the phone # or email shown on the form for each school/class you screen.

KidSight Vision Screening: This screening is for children 18 months to 6 years of age. This type of screening uses a Photoscreener device to look into the child's eyes for indications of several eye problems, with the most common being Amblyopia (lazy eye), which if detected early is very treatable. The two most common devices used are from PlusOpix and Blinq with loaners available for shared use from Vision First who oversees the KidSight program. Some clubs have bought them for their own use using grant money etc. as they are in the \$4,000 to \$8,000 price range. Pre-schools and Day Cares are the target facilities for this type of screening. Unlike the SchoolSight screening you must have a KidSight form signed by the parent before the child can be screened. Our club has been fortunate to screen Kindergarten and Pre-school students at a local elementary school as part of a reading intervention program we are participating in.

We Serve our communities as Lions.

CT PDG Ron Guth

guthron@comcast.net, 765-460-7177

Global Leadership Team



WHY SHOULD WE DO THAT?

On Saturday, August 23rd, we experienced another District 25-G Banner Night to honor a new, enthusiastic, committed District Governor Jackie Kurley. In her biography, she relates how she joined the Dunlap Lions Club on her very first visit there and what motivates her now.

That got me thinking about motivation for all Lions. In a 2011 Lions Clubs International study, the top five reasons members join Lions are (1) making a difference in my local community; (2) concern about the less fortunate; (3) giving back to make the world a better place; (4) interest in a specific cause or group; and (5) being asked by a friend. I can hardly disagree with any of these.

When we are successful in gaining new members, how do we keep them active in the Club? We know why they joined the Club and what they hope Lions will do, so how do we keep these motivated individuals? The Lions study recommends the following 10 ways to stimulate motivation:

1. Add fun and variety to the Club environment
2. Develop goals and challenges for all members
3. Recognize and reward performance
4. Set the example
5. Include non-officers in the planning process
6. Keep members informed
7. Communicate
8. Build trust
9. Foster creativity and innovation
10. Listen

But Lions International also notes the following 10 behaviors which can, and will, lead thoughtful members to a quick exit, to the detriment of the Club, District 25-G, and our communities. Every member has talents, and we ignore that to our peril.

1. Create an atmosphere of Club politics
2. Develop unclear expectations
3. Create a lot of rules which are unevenly enforced
4. Hold unproductive meetings for members to attend
5. Show favoritism to friends and long-term members
6. Withhold information
7. Provide criticism rather than constructive feedback
8. Underutilize the skills and interests of Club members
9. Seek to control details
10. Resist change.

No Club can say that they are totally in the first list, nor do they want to admit they are in the second list. We are all somewhere in between. Now, while the Club year is still young, is the best time to review these lists to decide what we are doing well and what we aren't, keeping in mind that we all have members who want to accomplish great things. Surely we can all find something to encourage members, no matter how long they have been members.

Remember, our members were motivated enough to join. Now let's get motivated enough to keep them.

PCC Dave Eisen, Global Leadership Team Coordinator

Global Membership Team

MISSION 1.5 * A Mission to Grow!



Lions of District 25-G: We do not grow together by acting alone.

"Mission 1.5 – A Mission to Grow" This is the goal to reach that number worldwide by July, 2027! I know that we emphasize new members, but certainly in District 25-G we also need to keep our present members active.

My club has 55 members, but I only see about 35 members at meetings or projects. How are things in your club? I have to think, 'What am I doing to involve the other 20 members?' Maybe a phone call is all that would it would take to re-energize them. Maybe involve them in a service project. Maybe they have new ideas that the club could explore. Let me challenge you this next month, and I'm challenging myself too, to

involve someone who has not been involved for a while.

The goal for the 2025-2026 of District 25-G is to have a net gain of 50 members. As of August, we have a net gain of two. That is a start. Let's build on that. Remember, "Just Ask" includes challenging present members, too."

Whatever you do in your club and community, have fun doing it.

WE SERVE

*THANK YOU FOR BEING A LION!

PDG Marlyn Fast, Global Membership Coordinator

Here We Grow Again

Since the start of the 2025-2026 Lions year, 8 district clubs welcomed 16 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.

Atwood Lions Club

New Member: Lion Lee Barker
Sponsor: Lion Jay Robinson
New Member: Greg Swanson
Sponsor: Lion Jay Robinson

Lakeville Lions Club

New Member: Lion Martha Heuberger
Sponsor: Lion Larry Ort
New Member: Lion Alfred Schroeder
Sponsor: Lion Larry Ort

Mexico Lions Club

New Member: Lion Branden Lesley
Sponsor: Lion Joe Grant

Milford Lions Club

New Member: Lion Nickolas Jamiel
Sponsor: Lion James Smiley
New Member: Lion Michael Troyer
Sponsor: Lion Barbara Zimmerman

Peru Lions Club

New Member: Lion David Carver
Sponsor: Lion Kenneth Magers
New Member: Lion Patricia Carver
Sponsor: Lion Kenneth Magers
New Member: Lion Lori Jenkins
Sponsor: Lion Kendra McElroy

Wakarusa Lions Club

New Member: Lion Brock Rose
Sponsor: Lion Troy Schwartz
New Member: Lion Landis Skaggs
Sponsor: Lion Troy Schwartz
New Member: Lion Rob Slagle
Sponsor: Lion Troy Schwartz



From FUNdraising to FUNraising: A Fresh Focus for Lions

I am sure that Lions Club is well known in your community. But for what? Let's be honest — somewhere along the way, we've sometimes fallen into the trap of focusing more on fundraising events than the actual *service* those funds are meant to support. While fundraising is important, **it should be a *means*, not the *mission*.**

It's time to rekindle the joy of service by flipping our script (and not pancakes) — from **FUNdraising** to **FUNraising**!

Why the Shift Matters

When our communities think of Lions more often behind a pancake griddle than on a playground helping kids or cleaning up a local park, it's easy for them to see us as just another social club or charity fundraiser. But we're so much more than that. We are *volunteers serving where we live*, making real, measurable impact.

By prioritizing hands-on service, we:

- Build visibility and trust in our communities
- Attract new members who want to *do*, not just *donate*
- Create moments that remind us why we became Lions in the first place

What FUNraising Through Service Looks Like

It's about creating joy — in our clubs, in our towns, and in ourselves — by **doing meaningful work together**. That might mean:

- **Hosting a vision screening** instead of just a pancake breakfast
- **Assembling birthday bags for local shelters** rather than selling raffle tickets
- **Packing food boxes or collecting school supplies** and inviting families to help
- **Creating “kindness cards” for seniors** during a club meeting instead of spending time discussing how much money was raised at the last event

Service doesn't have to be expensive. It doesn't have to be big. But it always makes a difference.

A Mindset Shift: **Service First, Funds Second**

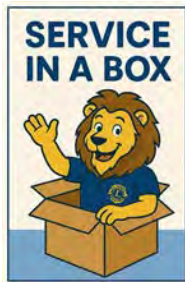
Let's ask a new question at our club meetings:

How can we put our hands and hearts into action this month to make a difference in our community?"

If money is needed, then a focused, purposeful fundraiser can follow. But let service set the tone.

Let's reimagine how we connect with our communities. Let's make service our headline act — and turn every project into an opportunity to bring fun, fellowship, and impact together.

It's time to make our legacy one of **FUNraising through Service**.



As one of the requirements for the 2025-2026 Club Excellence award is participation in the International global weeks of service in October. The weeks of service are October 4 through October 12, 2025. So here are some ideas for you (and don't forget to report it):

1. Small Group Project (1–3 people):

"Kind Mind Cards" – Positive Affirmation Outreach

Overview:

Create handwritten or printed affirmation cards with encouraging mental health messages to distribute in your community.

What You Do:

- Write or print short messages like "You are enough" or "Today is a fresh start"
- Include mental health resources (e.g., local crisis line or 988) on the back
- Place cards in public areas: libraries, community boards, clinic lobbies, or food pantries

Supplies Needed:

- Cardstock or index cards
- Pens, stickers, uplifting messages
- Optional: Lions Club logo stamp/sticker

Time Required: ~1 hour

Optional Partner: Local library, school counselor, or food pantry

🧑‍🤝🧑 2. Medium Group Project (3–5 people):

📦 "Calm Kits" – Wellness Bags for Teens or Adults in Crisis

Overview:

Assemble small kits with items to promote calm, mindfulness, and emotional regulation.

What You Do:

- Prepare 10–25 kits containing simple calming tools
- Distribute to schools, counselors, churches, or shelters

Kit Items May Include:

- Stress ball or fidget toy

September article

- Herbal tea or hot cocoa packet
- Journal page or coloring sheet
- Crayons or colored pencils
- List of grounding techniques
- Local mental health resource card (including 988)

Packaging: Ziplock bag or reusable pouch with Lions branding

Time Required: 60–90 minutes

Distribution Partners: Local school counselors, youth services, or domestic violence shelters

3. Large Group Project (5+ people):

"Walk & Talk" – Community Awareness Walk with Resource Table

Overview:

Host a short, informal **“Walk for Wellness”** at a park or school track, paired with a Lions-run resource/info table promoting mental health awareness.

What You Do:

- Promote the event through local media and social channels
- Lead a group walk (1 mile or less) with signs supporting mental health awareness
- Set up a table with brochures, crisis resources, free water, and conversation cards
- Collect optional donations for a local mental health organization

Roles:

- Greeters/sign-in
- Walk leaders with signs
- Info table team
- Set-up/clean-up crew

Materials Needed:

- Mental health signage (“It’s okay to ask for help”, “You are not alone”)
- Flyers and brochures
- Water bottles or healthy snacks
- Lions Club banner and handouts

Partners: Local NAMI chapter, county health department, school wellness team

LCIF Coordinators Update



Support LCIF and Earn Exclusive Presidential Pins!

Hello Lions of 25-G,

Earn exclusive recognition by making a one-time donation of at least US\$50 this Lions year and receive the prestigious International President A.P. Singh's exclusive Presidential LCIF Supporter pin. This limited-time offer is available only this year, so don't miss your chance to be part of this inspiring initiative.

Why Donate?

Your contributions to LCIF empower Lions and Leos worldwide to create positive change in communities. From providing disaster relief to supporting vision care and youth programs, every donation makes a significant impact.

How to Donate: Visit the LCIF donation page at [LCIF Donation Page](#).

Recognition Levels:

- **Bronze Pin** : US\$50 to US\$99.99
- **Silver Pin** : US\$100 to US\$199.99
- **Gold Pin** : US\$200 and above

Your generosity not only earns you well-deserved recognition but also helps us make a lasting difference in the lives of those in need.

Thank you for your incredible support and dedication to serving a world in need. Together, we can achieve remarkable things!

For more information, please contact donorassistance@lionsclubs.org.

Or contact us, your District Coordinators! Lion Sopheap Long or District Governor Jackie Kurley!

Sincerely,

Lion Sopheap Long



News from Around the District

Banner Night Marks a New Chapter in District Leadership

On August 23, 2025, Lions from across northern Indiana gathered at Hidden Oak Manor in North Webster to celebrate Banner Night, a meaningful tradition that marks the transition of leadership and the start of a new Lions year.

Hosted by District Governor Jackie Kurley of the Dunlap Lions Club, the evening's highlight was the ceremonial transfer of the District Governor's Home Club banner. This long-standing tradition signifies the handover of district leadership, as the banner moves from the home club of the Immediate Past District Governor, Warren Allender of the Baugo Township Lions Club, to the home club of the incoming District Governor. The banner was formally passed between the presidents of the two clubs, honoring the spirit of unity, legacy, and leadership that drives the work of Lions across the state.

The event drew an impressive turnout of 100 attendees, including 86 Lions and guests representing 17 clubs from within the district, along with 14 out-of-district guests. Notably, current Council Chair David "Rocky" Simpson of the Greentown Lions Club in District 25-D, and current District Governors from four of Indiana's other districts were in attendance, demonstrating the strength of statewide support and camaraderie within the Lions organization.

As the district looks ahead to a new year of service, innovation, and impact, Banner Night stood as a proud reminder of the power of collaboration, tradition, and dedicated leadership.



(l. to r.) Lion Jeanine Juel and District Governor Jackie Kurley, both of the Dunlap Lions Club, and Lion Sopheap Long of the Middlebury Lions Club.



Council Chair David "Rocky" Simpson donned a royal robe and wielded a royal sword to dub District Governor Jackie Kurley a "Knight of the Blind" in the tradition of Helen Keller's famous challenge to the Lions of the world.



Left (l. to r.): Immediate Past District Governor Jim Bush (25-B), Immediate Past Council Chair Julia Kozicki (25-D), Lion Jeff Kozicki (25-D), Council Chair David "Rocky" Simpson (25-D), Past District Governor Charlie Short (25-C)

Right: Middlebury Lions Club members (l. to r.) Lion Heather Cameron, Lion Tam Nguyen, Lion Sopheap Long, Lion Cansie Witcher



More Banner Night photos on next page

News from Around the District

More Banner Night Photos



(Banner Night photos provided by Lion Sopheap Long, Middlebury Lions Club)

News from Around the District

Akron Lions Club Holds Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build Day

The Akron Lions Club partnered with the Kosciusko County Chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace on August 9th to help build 47 beds for children in the local Akron area. We had 113 total volunteers come from all around Indiana to help build these beds in the parking lot of the Akron Community Center. The Indiana Lions Foundation granted us \$1,000 to help go towards this project, and we ended up getting enough funding to build 80+ beds for children in need. We will host a second build at a later date to be determined.

(Submitted by Lion Faith Kamp, Akron Lions Club)



Three Lions Clubs Join Forces to Provide Dictionaries at Caston Elementary School

The Fulton Liberty Lions Club and the Grass Creek Lions Club, both in District 25-G, joined forces with the Twelve Mile Lions Club in District 25-C to provide dictionaries to students in three third-grade classrooms at Caston Elementary School.

Pictured here, left to right, are Lion Phil Frye, Fulton Liberty Lions Club; Lion Gail Byrum, Twelve Mile Lions Club; Lion Sandy Gates and Lion Sherry VanMeter, Grass Creek Lions Club; and Lion Linda Wade, Fulton Liberty Lions Club.

(Submitted by Lion Linda Wade, Fulton Liberty Lions Club)



News from Around the District

Fulton Liberty Lions Club Uses NICF Impact Grant for New Storage Building

The Fulton Liberty Lions Club embarked on a mission to acquire a place to store all of the club's belongings nearly two years ago after receiving notification that the old Town Hall garage would be demolished in the near future.

After contacting and meeting with officials of the Northern Indiana Community Foundation (NICF) in Rochester, the club was encouraged to apply for an Impact Grant. With great appreciation and relief, the grant was awarded and research was aggressively done to find the best fit.

Fortunately, the Fulton Town Board was willing to provide a space on the Community Center grounds for the 16 by 40 foot mobile building to be placed adjacent to the southeast corner of the Center's parking lot.

Work on the building has been completed and moving in is being planned. This has been a Grant of immeasurable magnitude to the club. There is no end of humble gratefulness the Lions hold for NICF.



Left: President Phil Frye, Melody Dalton, Kindra Craig, Secretary Linda Wade, NICF Official Brian Johnson, Vice President Lori Gibson, Treasurer Dave Fincher, Linda Fincher, Beth Burton, and Wendell Curton (behind) in front of the new storage building.

Right: New storage building with concrete work completed.



(Submitted by Lion Linda Wade, Fulton Liberty Lions Club)

Lydick Lions Package Meals at Cultivate Food Rescue

On August 27th, eighteen Lions come together at Cultivate Food Rescue to package 748 meals and slice two bins of peaches! Great teamwork Lions! Thank you to Lori & Bernie Ferro, Howard Morse, Cindy Finney, Elaine Gaulin, Mike & Teckla Lane, Leroy Wise, Jim Day & Cathy Day, Marcia Labelle, Christine Bella, Grace Downey, Michael Hardman, Steve Downey, Vicki Jones, Karen Trzaskowski, Joshua Davis and our friend Heather Downey for volunteering their time.

(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)



News from Around the District

Pencils and Pancakes: A Sweet Success for Southwood Students

The LaFontaine Lions Club's *Pencils and Pancakes Breakfast* on Saturday, August 9th, was both a community gathering and a service project with lasting impact. While attendance at the breakfast was steady, the real highlight of the morning was the incredible outpouring of generosity from our community.

Guests enjoyed scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, and sausage—all by freewill donation—while also bringing in much-needed school supplies to benefit Southwood Elementary School. Items such as #2 pencils, glue sticks, washable and dry-erase markers, wipes, classroom snacks, paper plates, and more were collected in abundance.

The collected supplies will stock the classroom pantry at Southwood Elementary, giving teachers and students quick access to essentials throughout the school year. These donations were delivered to the school on Tuesday, August 19th, ensuring that classrooms are better prepared for the year ahead.



The LaFontaine Lions are grateful for the community's support, both from those who joined us for breakfast and from those who contributed supplies. Every notebook, marker, and snack will make a difference in helping kids feel ready to learn.

As the basket of donations overflowed, it became clear that *Pencils and Pancakes* was more than just breakfast—it was neighbors coming together to give Southwood students a strong start to the school year. The Lions are proud to serve a community that continues to show its heart for helping others.

(Submitted by PDG Tom Polk, LaFontaine Lions Club)

Peru Lions Step Up to Address Needs at Local Elementary Schools

In response to DG Jackie's challenge for an August service project, the Peru Lions Club visited with our elementary and Head Start teachers to ascertain what school supplies were most needed to start the school year. Both schools responded that what was needed most was clothing for the youngest children who had accidents (soiled clothing) during the school day. Peru Lions stepped up and donated 2 full bags of clothing and an additional \$300.00 for any other needed items. Accepting for Elmwood Elementary School is Guidance Counselor Christa Grabill and for Head Start is teacher Melanie Giek.

(Submitted by Lion Dave Frushour, Peru Lions Club)



Left: Elmwood Elementary School Guidance Counselor Christa Grabill accepts a donation from Lion Dave Frushour.

Right: Head Start teacher Melanie Giek accepts a donation from Lion Dave Frushour.



News from Around the District

Peru Lions Learn About KidSight, SchoolSight, & Reading Intervention Programs

Peru Lions Club member PDG Ron Guth, Vision First Trustee, recently gave a presentation to our club explaining what KidsSight is all about and how beneficial it is to screen children early to detect Amblyopia (lazy eye). PDG Ron also gave a brief explanation about SchoolSight, which we will start next week. Our new members are eager to participate.

We are also excited to be part of a reading intervention program with a school in our county. Reading intervention programs provide targeted, intensive instruction for struggling readers and provide specialized instruction to students who are reading below grade level.

The program we support teaches strategies using photo-screening results that might help identify these children earlier than traditional methods.

The goal of this program is to accelerate reading development, improve confidence, and help students "catch up" to their peers by developing essential reading skills.

The Peru Lions use a Plusoptix S20 photoscreener to screen the students and provides financial support for the program until it can be supported by the school budget.



Left: PDG Ron Guth explains the Reading Intervention program to Peru Lions Club members.

Right: PDG Ron Guth demonstrates vision-screening using the PlusOptix S20 unit which the club recently purchased using a grant from the Indiana Foundation. The boy in the photo is Myklen Walton, the son of a Peru Lions Club member.



(Submitted by Lion Beth Guth, Peru Lions Club)

Peru Lions Club Welcomes New Members

Peru Lions Club has recently inducted 3 new members. We are so excited to welcome Pat and Chris Carver and Lori Jenkins to our pride! They recently volunteered at our Circus Days festival.



Left (l. to r.): Sponsor Lion Ken Magers, new Lions Pat and Chris Carver, PDG Ron Guth

Right (l. to r.): PDG Ron Guth, Myklen Walton (son of Lion Kendra McElroy), new Lion Lori Jenkins, sponsor Lion Kendra McElroy



(Submitted by Lion Beth Guth, Peru Lions Club)

News from Around the District

Peru Lions Work for Indiana Lions Foundation at Indiana State Fair

Peru Lions Club had six members volunteer at the Indianapolis State Fair in August.



Left: President Lion Kim Burton

Right: Lion MK Frushour, and club administrator Lion Dave Frushour



Right: Lion Karlene Roe (Winamac Lions Club, District 25-A) and Lion Chrystal Burton

Not pictured are PDG Ron Guth and club treasurer Lion Bob Cassler. Thank you for serving!

(Submitted by Lion Beth Guth, Peru Lions Club)

Indiana Lions Foundation at the Indiana State Fair



Indiana Lions Foundation trustee Lion Rose Russell, the chairman of the Foundation's State Fair project, is still compiling the reports for the 2025 Indiana State Fair, however, she would like to thank all the Lions, Leos, family members, and friends who worked for the Foundation at the 2025 Indiana State Fair.

Districts and clubs that accepted the challenge to bring a van or bus load of Lions and/or Leos to work at the fair included District 25-A, District 25-B, the Seymour Noon Lions Club (25-E), and the Oregon-Davis Leo Club sponsored by the Hamlet Lions Club (25-A). Each of these groups brought 10-15 volunteers to work for the Foundation at the great Indiana State Fair.



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

News from Around the District

District 25-G Lions Process 4,500 Pairs of Eyeglasses for Upcoming Mission

On August 28th, District 25-G Lions gathered at the eyeglass processing center located at the Fairview Grange in Goshen, Indiana, for another successful workday.

A total of 15 Lions representing six clubs—Middlebury Lions Club, Lakeville Lions Club, Clay-Granger Lions Club, Dunlap Lions Club, Elkhart Lions Club, and Madison Township Lions Club—participated in two two-hour sessions. Together, they washed, dried, and inspected approximately 4,500 pairs of eyeglasses.

In addition to the cleaning and inspection, two Lions sorted through newly donated eyeglasses, checking for usability to support future mission work. Another Lion organized several boxes of eyeglasses already read by lensometers, filing them into boxes of 50, each grouped by prescription.

The District 25-G eyeglass program is a year-round effort. Annually, Lions in the district process more than 50,000 pairs of eyeglasses to help provide clear vision for individuals in need. This commitment culminates in an annual eyeglass mission. This year, a group of 24 Lions will travel to Teziutlán, Puebla, Mexico, for a five-day mission, where the carefully prepared eyeglasses will be distributed to those in need.

District 25-G Lions continue to exemplify the spirit of service, ensuring that thousands of people will be able to see more clearly thanks to their dedicated efforts.



Lions drying and inspecting eyeglasses include (l. to r.): Tony Cordes, Jim Tibbs, and Darlene Shrock, all from the Lakeville Lions; Linda Choler and Denise Polachek, from the Elkhart Lions Club; Sandi Clark and Jane Oyer from the Middlebury Lions Club; and John Krzyzanowski, from the Clay-Granger Lions.



(l. to r.) Lions Louann Smith and Jeanine Juel from the Dunlap Lions sort glasses prior to being washed, and Lion Denise Polachek (back) files glasses in prescription order for use in the mission program.

(Submitted by PDG Marty Juel, Elkhart Lions Club)

Tell Us About Your Club's Signature Service Project

Does your club have a signature service project ... an ongoing or recurring project in your community 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 <pdgpaul25g@gmail.com> for publication in the district newsletter.

News from Around the District

District 25-G Expands Vision Efforts Around the World

District 25-G Lions have long been known for their commitment to eyeglass recycling, and their impact is now reaching far beyond local communities. Each year, the district's collection efforts produce a surplus of reading glasses. Rather than let those glasses sit unused, District 25-G shares them with organizations that can put them to work—helping people who otherwise might not have access to such a basic, life-changing resource.

One of these partnerships is with the Africa Leadership Coaching Network, which works alongside Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission in Goshen, Indiana, and Africa Enterprise DRC in Kinshasa, Congo. Through this collaboration, reading glasses from northern Indiana are finding their way to Central Africa, specifically the Congo (DRC) and Angola.

Locally, this effort is guided by Charles Buller, who travels to the region to support empowerment programs designed to build leadership skills and improve living conditions. A major part of that work involves literacy classes with textbooks and other printed materials. But for many in these communities, especially women, poor eyesight makes reading nearly impossible. That's where District 25-G's surplus reading glasses step in, providing an essential tool for learning and personal growth.

The district's generosity doesn't stop in Africa. Reading glasses are also supplied to Native American reservations in Arizona and Wyoming in cooperation with other Lions and partner organizations that request assistance.

Of course, District 25-G's eyeglass mission work has deep roots. Since the early 1980s, the district has been at the forefront of eyeglass recycling and continues to sponsor annual missions to central Mexico. Each year, more than 20 Lions travel to distribute prescription eyeglasses, serving around 3,000 people over the course of a five-day clinic.

From Mexico to Central Africa to Native American communities here in the U.S., District 25-G Lions are proving that something as small as a pair of glasses can open the door to opportunity, learning, and a brighter future.

(Submitted by PDG Marty Juel, Elkhart Lions Club)



Previews of Coming Attractions



Madison Township Lions Club Pork Chop Sale



Saturday, September 27, 2025

11 AM to 2 PM

Madison Township Fire Station

66341 SR 331, Wyatt, Indiana

Pork Chops \$8.00 each

10 or more \$7.50 each

Baked Beans with Pork \$3.00/pint

Carry Out Only



Indiana Lions Mid-Winter Conference

ALL **IN** FOR



Opportunities for Learning

**It's not too early to
start planning for
2026.**

**Mark your calendar
now for the 2026
Mid-Winter
Conference.**



Opportunities for Service



Opportunities for Fellowship

**Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Airport
January 16-17, 2026**

Indiana Lions State Projects & Foundation



State Projects & Foundation Trustees

Contact one of our district trustees to schedule a program for your club.

Lions Cancer Control Fund of Indiana, Inc.

IPDG Warren Allender (Baugo Twp)	warrenallender@comcast.net	574-361-7942
Lion Beth Guth (Peru)	guthbeth@comcast.net	765-210-3318
PDG Paul Russell (Lakeville)	pdgpaul25g@gmail.com	574-250-2621

Vision First Indiana Lions Eye Bank, Inc.

Lion Duane Griner (Lake City)	ldgriner@comcast.net	574-265-3015
PDG Ron Guth (Peru)	guthron@comcast.net	765-460-7177
PDG Tom Polk (LaFontaine)	pdgtompolk@gmail.com	260-571-5123

Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing, Inc.

PDG Mary Klempay (Lakeville)	maryrsb@comcast.net	574-286-4499
2VDG Steve Weld (Dunlap)	smweld.af@gmail.com	574-742-1357
Lion Jerry Wright (North Webster)	(no email address)	574-457-6811

Indiana Lions for the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc.

Lion Brian Bussard (Baugo Twp)	buzzf117@comcast.net	574-226-4079
PCC David Eisen (Mishawaka)	d.eisen01@yahoo.com	574-250-1469
PDG Mary Klempay (Lakeville)	maryrsb@comcast.net	574-286-4499

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

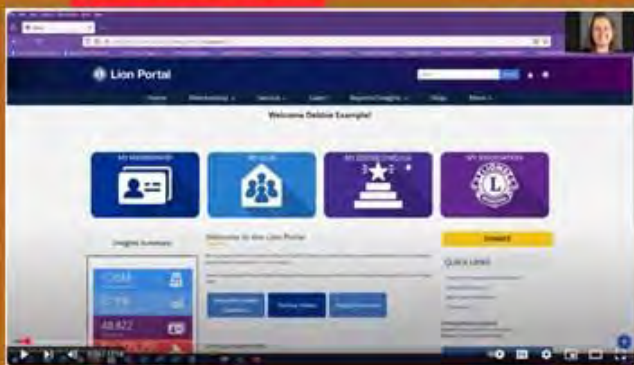
**SAT.
Nov. 1
2025**

2nd District 25-G Meeting

**First
Baptist Church
53 E. Main St.
Peru, IN**
Enter from the
Wabash St. entrance

Breakfast at 9 am - Meeting starts at 9:30
\$10* for breakfast includes biscuits &
gravy, fruit, doughnuts & drinks

\$11* After 10/24 or
at the door



Don't miss the great information that
will be presented, especially info
about the Lions Portal and how to
navigate the LCI site.



District Meeting Reservation

Name _____ Club _____

Name _____ Club _____

Name _____ Club _____

Name _____ Club _____

Mail this reservation and your
check payable to District 25-G to:
CT PDG Ron Guth ■ 2386 W. Broadway ■ Bunker Hill, IN 46914
765-460-7177 ■ guthron@comcast.net
Available credit card option: <https://register.lions25g.org/>



District Governor's Calendar

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 DG Visit Rochester LC	3 DG Visit Mentone LC	4	5 LCIF Atlanta GA	6 LCIF Atlanta GA
7 LCIF Atlanta GA	8 LCIF Atlanta GA	9	10	11	12	13 25-D Banner Night
14	15 DG Visit Plymouth LC	16	17	18 USA/Canada Lions Forum Atlantic City NJ	19 USA/Canada Lions Forum Atlantic City NJ	20 USA/Canada Lions Forum Atlantic City NJ
21 USA/Canada Lions Forum Atlantic City NJ	22 DG Visit Middlebury LC	23	24 LCIF Zoom	25	26	27
28	29 GAT Zoom	30				



District Governor's Calendar

October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Council Meeting / 25-A Banner Night
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 DG Visit Baugo Twp LC	21	22	23	24	25 25-B Banner Night
26	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 Tom Polk
5378 E 975 S
LaFontaine, IN 46940
260-571-5123
pdgtompolk@gmail.com

LCIF Coordinators

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

DG Jackie Kurley
20233 Fall Creek Dr.
Goshen, IN 46528
219-689-8424
kurmon@comcast.net

District Administrator

(for assistance with the Lion Portal)

Lion Jill Neidlinger
19420 W 19th Road
Culver, IN 46511
574-216-0526
tutoring@culcom.net

District Newsletter Editor

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

Mark Your Calendar

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

Sat, Nov 1, 2025 District Meeting #2
1st Baptist Church, Peru, IN

Fri-Sat, Jan 16-17, 2026, Mid-Winter Conference
Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Airport, Indianapolis

Sat, Jan 31, 2026, District Meeting #3
Lakeville Community Center, Lakeville, IN

Sat, Mar 7, 2026 District 25-G Convention
TBD

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

Sat, Jun 6, 2026, District Meeting #4
Fairview Grange, Goshen, IN



Our Lions Clubs have a long tradition of service. If we want that tradition to continue far into the future, it is not enough to work to meet the needs of today; we must also build to meet the needs of tomorrow. We joined Lions because someone offered us the opportunity to make a difference in our community. Offer someone else that same opportunity.