

Lions Tales

DISTRICT 25-G

Volume 19, Number 8

February 2026

District Officers

District Governor

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

1st Vice District Governor

Lion Steve Weld
1438 Bower St.
Elkhart, IN 46514
574-742-1357
Smweld.AF@gmail.com

2nd Vice District Governor

Lion Jim Steen
P.O. Box 873
601 E. Water St.
Akron, IN 46910
574-835-3014
JSteen@pikelumber.com

Cabinet Secretary

Lion Kim Polk
5378 E 975 S
LaFontaine IN 46940
260-571-6125
kkpolk61@gmail.com

Cabinet Treasurer

PDG Ron Guth
2386 W. Broadway
Bunker Hill, IN 46914
765-460-7177
guthron@comcast.net

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

A Message from District Governor Jackie Kurley

As I sit down to write this article, the forecast reminds me that February in Indiana is not for the faint of heart. With temperatures hovering in the teens and windchills dipping to a bone-chilling -17 degrees, winter has truly made itself known. Yet this kind of weather also highlights one of the greatest strengths of Lions everywhere: we look out for one another. Across District 25-G, Lions are checking on relatives, neighbors, and friends, making sure everyone is safe and cared for. That simple act of compassion is service at its finest.



By the end of February, we will be two-thirds of the way through the Lions year—and there is much to celebrate. As a district, we have welcomed **73 new members**. That is something to be proud of! Each new Lion represents fresh energy, new ideas, and a renewed commitment to service. At the same time, we have said goodbye to 51 members. This gives us an opportunity—not for discouragement, but for reflection. Are we making sure every Lion feels valued and appreciated? Are we sharing the workload so no one feels overwhelmed? One quote I heard recently sums it up perfectly: *"Everyone is not expected to do everything... but everyone is expected to do something."* When every Lion has a role, everyone belongs.

Service remains the heartbeat of District 25-G. Every club that has met this year has already performed service—yes, meetings count! Please be sure your secretaries are reporting all service activities in the Service Portal. As of January 31, our district is at **73% service reporting**. Let's work together to reach 100%. If you need help, our Global Service Team Leader, PDG Tom Polk, is ready to assist.

Support for **Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)** is another way we extend our impact. Our goal is 100% club

(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

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participation, with each club donating at least \$10 from its treasury. More than half of our clubs have already contributed—thank you! Remember, LCIF dollars come back to us many times over through grants that fuel our local service. If you need guidance, reach out to our LCIF District Coordinator, Sopheap Long, or me.

Finally, mark your calendars for the **District 25-G Convention on March 7, 2026**, at Meadow Valley Golf Club in Middlebury. This special location reminds us of the day we welcomed the Middlebury Lions into our district—a moment filled with pride and promise. Join us as we celebrate a remarkable year of service, fellowship, and growth. Together, we have energized our souls through service and strengthened our claim as **“Quite Possibly the Greatest Lions Club District on Earth!”**

Let's finish this Lions year strong—serving, supporting, and shining together.



District Governor Jackie Kurley

A Message From 1st Vice District Governor Steven Weld



Did you know that Lions International has eight primary areas in which we focus our service? Our Association and Foundation around the world can rally behind these big picture areas of service, referred to as our Global Causes:

- Diabetes
- Environment
- Hunger relief
- Childhood cancer
- Vision
- Disaster relief
- Humanitarian
- Youth

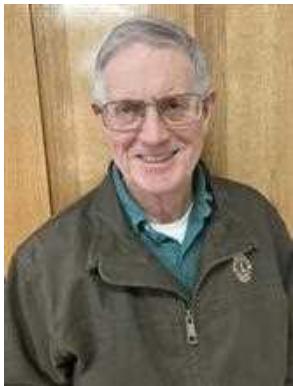
Every Lions Club should rightly understand the needs of its own community, and strive to meet those needs with the talents, time, resources, and capacities of the Club. However, Global Causes are a great source of inspiration, offering ideas, literature, planning guides, and other program material, as well as funding opportunities through LCIF and organizational support. For example, ideas for Diabetes service projects (<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-global-causes/diabetes>) include Strides events, diabetes screening, and youth camps -- all activities which have been done by Lion Clubs in Indiana using material and resources from LCI, with some even funded through LCIF grants.

Is your Club ready to explore new ways for serving your community, or looking for ideas, guidance, material, resources, or financial help in putting together a project? Researching our Global Causes on the Lions website, <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/our-impact/our-service/ways-we-serve>, may be a great start in finding your club's next big project.

Happy hunting as you seek out new ideas, and discover great ways to serve your community.

Lion Steven Weld, 1st Vice District Governor

A Message From 2nd Vice District Governor Jim Steen



A little bit about your new second vice district governor

I was born in Columbus, Ohio and grew up in Dublin, Ohio when it was a farming community. Behind my house, growing up, were hundreds of acres of woods and fields where I spent my free time roaming, camping, and hunting. I had a close family relative that was an army helicopter pilot who was always bringing me army surplus gifts, He sealed my fate one day when he landed his Huey helicopter in the field across the road from my house. I was determined at that point to join the army as soon as I was old enough to do so. I got a nice bonus for going into the infantry, and I soon learned that the best of the best were Army Rangers and Green Berets. I earned my Ranger tab just after I turned twenty, and after the Army honorably discharged me from active duty the Green Beret reserve unit stationed at Port Columbus recruited me. I also joined the Army ROTC unit at The Ohio State University while I was still an active reservist but decided not to reenlist at the end of my 6-year commitment. During this time, my Father was a charter member of the Dublin Ohio Lions Club and one of its first presidents. When I was home on leave, and while I was attending college, I would frequently attend meetings with him.

Between growing up roaming the woods behind our home and four years in the army infantry roaming the woods of the world, I became interested in Forestry. I was incredibly pleased to find The Ohio State University had a Forestry School. While I was finishing my degree in Forest Industries Management, Pike Lumber Company came to our campus and interviewed me, the day after we brought home my newborn daughter from the hospital. That was 44 years ago. Bonnie and I were married the year after my active duty ended. We have three children of our own, and two adopted children.

At Pike Lumber Company, I have had several assignments, starting as a Management Trainee stacking boards, Green Lumber Supervisor, Lumber Drying Coordinator, Akron Production Manager, Carbon Region Manager, Treasurer, President, and now semi-retired serving as Immediate Past President and Board Chair.

I joined the Akron Lions Club shortly after I started to work for Pike Lumber Company and was a member there the first time for seventeen years. I was the Secretary and Treasurer for four years before I rotated through the chairs to become President. I became the Scouting Coordinator for my club while my son was in Cub/Boy Scouts. When Pike Lumber transferred me to the Carbon Region to be the regional manager in 1999, I was unable find a Lions club with meeting times which fit my schedule, so I had a 10-year break. I rejoined Akron Lions when I returned there in 2009. I became club president for a second term in 2010-11. I have served as an advisor / director for years since, but the board was not regularly active. Upon becoming semi-retired from Pike Lumber Company, I was able to be more deliberate in my Lionism, and took on the roles of acting treasurer, treasurer, and administrator. I recently completed a six-month stint as a Zone Chair for the Akron, Argos, Culver, Mentone, and Rochester Clubs in Zone R3-Z1 which qualified me to become your second vice district governor.

I look forward to serving alongside you and getting to know you!

Lion Jim Steen

Call for Nominations

REMINDER

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

District Officers/Trustee Positions Open for Nominations

Letters of intent and club endorsement letters for the 2026 District 25-G elections are NOW being accepted for the following officer positions:

- District Governor,
- 1st Vice District Governor, and
- 2nd Vice District Governor.

Also to be elected at the District Convention will be trustees for the Indiana Lions Foundation (3-year term) and the following state projects:

- Indiana Lions Cancer Control Fund, Inc. (3-year term);
- Vision First Indiana Lions Eye Bank, Inc. (3-year term);
- Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing, Inc. (3-year term);
- Indiana Lions for the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc. (3-year term); and
- Indiana Lions for Leader Dog, Inc. (3-year term).

Each candidate must submit his/her own letter of intent to run. Additionally, the candidate's home club must submit a letter of recommendation.

Both letters must be submitted to the Chairperson of the Nominations and Elections Committee prior to the March 7th, 2026 District Meeting.

Letters can be submitted to Lion Sopheap Long, Nominations Chair, 13793 US Hwy 20, Middlebury, IN 46540. Email documents are to be sent to sopheap.long@gmail.com.

Thank you to those that have already submitted!

Celebrating 165 Years of Service

District 25-G proudly honors the Lions Clubs that were chartered during the month of February. Collectively, these clubs have dedicated an impressive 165 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
Argos	February 1, 1937	89
Clay-Granger	February 3, 1950	76

A Message From District Cabinet Secretary Lion Kim Polk

I am afraid that winter is here to stay. I am writing this article with an extra heater going in our office. The office tends to be cold. Yesterday we brought more wood from the big wood pile to the stack closer to the house. I made several trips into the house to get warm while Tom continued to work outside. We use a wood stove to supplement our geothermal heat. So far this winter we have used more wood than we have in the past 3 or 4 years. Just as we plan for cold and snowy winter weather, as Lions and Lions Clubs, we need to plan for upcoming events such as the elections at both the District and Club Level.



District Convention Voting Requirements

In preparation for the District Convention, which is March 7th, clubs are reminded of the requirements for voting eligibility. To participate, clubs must be **in good standing**. All District and International dues—and **any** outstanding international invoices—**must be paid and posted by LCI and the Cabinet Treasurer by February 20, 2026, 15 days prior to the Convention**.

Delegate Eligibility

- Each club may send **one delegate and one alternate for every ten members**, or a major fraction thereof (five or more).
- The members, to be counted, must have been members of the club for **at least one year and one day**. In this case, members as of March 6, 2025.

The **District Governor** and all **Past District Governors** in good standing with a District 25-G club each receive **one additional vote**.

Important Reminder

Payments sent by mail will take additional time to process. **Lions Clubs International takes up to ten (10) business days to post payments after receiving them**, so please plan accordingly to ensure your club remains eligible.

Club Elections:

Clubs should begin thinking about their club elections. Nomination Committees should begin their work now so that elections for next year, 2026-2027, can occur during the month of March. New Officers should be entered into the LCI database in April in preparation for next year.

I pray that each of you are keeping safe and warm during this winter.

Remember to Energize Your Soul Through Service,

Lion Kim Polk,
District 25-G Cabinet Secretary

A Message From District Cabinet Treasurer PDG Ron Guth



Greetings, Lions!

As we move deeper into this Lions year, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible impact we're making together—and to inspire even greater generosity toward our Indiana Lions state projects: **Lions Cancer Control Fund of Indiana, Vision First Indiana Lions Eye Bank, Leader Dogs for the Blind, Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing, Indiana Lions for the ISBVI, and Indiana Lions Foundation.** Donations are also accepted for the **Diabetes and Special Olympics Committees** at both district and state levels. Our **Cancer Control** project offers a matching grant program that can double your impact if you mark your donation for the Riley-Walther grant.

Our state projects represent the heart of who we are as Lions. They address critical needs in our communities, from vision care and childhood cancer research to diabetes awareness and support of Special Olympics. When we support these initiatives, we're not just writing checks; we're transforming lives right here in Indiana.

This year, I'm thrilled to report that clubs across our district have already demonstrated remarkable commitment. Whether your club donates \$50 or \$500, your generosity fuels meaningful change.

Encourage your members to participate in fundraising events dedicated to state projects. Host a pancake breakfast, fish fry, or launch a community service initiative with proceeds going directly to these causes.

When your club decides to donate to any of the projects, please write a single check payable to District 25-G. Mail the check to me along with a brief note specifying the allocation amount and the specific projects to which the funds should be directed. I will consolidate your contributions with those from other clubs received at the same time, and issue checks to the designated projects accompanied by a letter indicating the sources of the donations, thereby ensuring that your club receives appropriate credit.

Please note that donations to LCIF are not managed at the district level and should be sent directly to LCIF with a completed donation form or Melvin Jones Fellowship application. If you require any forms, please inform me, and I will provide them.

I want to personally thank every Lion who has already stepped up. Your dedication embodies our motto: "We Serve." Together, we are proving that Lions do not just talk about service—we live it.

Let's finish this Lions year strong. Reach out to your club leadership or contact me directly if you have questions about giving opportunities.

With gratitude and pride,

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

Bonus News: 26 of our 44 clubs have paid district dues as of 1/25/26, Thank You!

Global Membership Team

MISSION 1.5 * A Mission to Grow!



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

Congratulations to the 41 Lions who have sponsored 69 new Lions as of the end of January.

Yes, District 25-G lost members during December, however the net gain is still +13 instead of the +32. Let's work to keep all our members active to avoid this kind of loss.

Marketing a Lions Club can help increase awareness, attract new members, and engage with the community.

We are serving a world in need, one act of kindness at a time.

Our net gain goal is 50 new members by 6/30/26. WE CAN DO IT!

Our New Year's Resolution for all Lion Members.

Ask one person each month to join your Lions Club this year.

WE SERVE

THANK YOU FOR BEING A LION!

PDG Marlyn Fast, Global Membership Coordinator

Welcome New Members

Since the start of the 2025-2026 Lions year, 19 district clubs have welcomed 69 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.

LaFontaine Lions Club

New Member: Lion Wendy Black
Sponsor: Lion Thomas Polk

Mentone Lions Club

New Member: Lion Joe Secrist
Sponsor: Lion Timothy Whetstone

Mexico Lions Club

New Member: Lion Jeffrey Grant
Sponsor: Lion Richard Phillips

New Paris Lions Club

New Member: Lion Brian Taubert
Sponsor: Lion Kevin Silcox

New Member: Lion Michelle Taubert
Sponsor: Lion Andrea Kelsey

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.

Global Leadership Team

SLOGGING ALONG UNTIL SPRING



I've always wanted to use the word "slog" in daily conversation. My dictionary defines "slog" as "to progress with a slow, heavy step, to plod". Now that Christmas is over, with all the projects and events Lions have completed for the holiday season, doesn't it seem like Memorial Day is light years away?

Think about winter. Daylight hours are still cold and short. Seemingly half our friends and fellow Club members have headed for warmer climes. We've run out of good books to read. The furnace runs and runs. The cold makes us bundle up and feel clumsy when we go out to remove snow from our sidewalks and driveways. Our morning excitement consists of watching the "Schools Closed" list scroll past on our televisions. And almost nothing seems to happen in our Lions Clubs. Even Valentine's Day candy is starting to look nutritious.

It's not a great season. Some Clubs do take a winter break just so members don't have to stare at all those empty seats. So what can we do about Lions in winter?

First, plan a winter event, something, even if it's just a night out at a local restaurant. Make sure everyone is involved. Keep the conversation light. Don't make major Club decisions. Reminisce about bad snowstorms in the past.

Second, get an early start working on your Spring events, whether they be service projects or fundraisers. Even if you have done these same things for years, there's always something that has changed, whether it be product availability, costs, new committee members, or even a new co-sponsor. Don't wait until the last minute.

Third, attend Lions meetings, whether they be Zone meetings, Cabinet meetings, the District Convention, or the State Convention. There's always something new to learn. Then be sure to share what you've learned. So watch for pre-registration details and attend.

Fourth, learn on your own. The Lions International website has a plethora (another word I've always wanted to use in mixed company) of educational topics, many of which could just as easily apply to your everyday job. Again, share your new knowledge with the Club.

Fifth, start thinking about your upcoming Club elections for 2026-2027 officers. Can you identify excellent candidates already? Or will you be one of those Clubs that has to twist arms the night of your Club's elections? Start planning your slate early.

And finally, use these winter months to consider a new vision for your Club. Sometimes our Clubs do the same things repeatedly, just because we've always done them. But has that need diminished or been replaced by a different community need? How will our Club adapt to that new need? Changing our focus may seem a little dangerous, but let's not be afraid of the unknown. If we want to attract new members, we need to keep our Clubs relevant, providing services that are still actually needed.

If we pick just one or two of the suggestions I've offered above, we can say we are no longer slogging through the cold months. We are making, and keeping, ourselves a vital part of our communities. And that helps bring us closer to this summer's smaze.

Oh look, I think I see a dandelion.

PCC Dave Eisen

Global Leadership Team Coordinator



What Is Your Service Legacy?

On the way to the 2026 Mid-Winter Conference, Lion Kim and I stopped at a restaurant for a quick meal. Nothing fancy—just a normal table, normal conversation, and a server doing a great job keeping things moving. Then they noticed our Lions shirts and badges, smiled, and asked a question I honestly didn't expect:

“Does the Lions Club still sell brooms?”

Now, if you've been a Lion for a while, you probably understand exactly why that question popped up. In many towns, broom sales were *the* signature fundraiser for years—practical, memorable, and visible. It's a piece of Lions history that stuck. But what hit me wasn't the broom itself...it was what *didn't* come up.

- They didn't ask, “Do you still collect eyeglasses?”
- They didn't ask, “Do you still help with vision screenings for kids?”
- They didn't ask about hunger projects, disaster relief, environmental work, diabetes awareness, pediatric cancer support, or any of the countless ways Lions serve today.
- They asked about brooms.

And that simple question is a perfect mirror for something every club should think about:

When people in your community think of your Lions Club, what do they think of first?

That's your service legacy—your “known-for” factor. It might be a fundraiser. It might be a scholarship. It might be a community event. It might be a project you've done so faithfully for so long that the town can't imagine life without it. Or, if we're being honest, it might be...nothing specific at all. Sometimes people know we exist, but they can't quite say what we do.

A service legacy isn't about chasing recognition for its own sake. It's about clarity. It's about impact that leaves a mark so consistent and so meaningful that the community connects the dots automatically: *“That's what Lions do.”*

Here's the challenge: Is your legacy still the legacy you want?

Broom sales might have funded incredible service—and in many places they did. But if your club's public identity is stuck on yesterday's fundraiser, you might be missing an opportunity to be known for today's mission.

So how do you shape your service legacy?

1. **Listen to your community.** What do people talk about? What do they worry about? What do they wish someone would help solve?
2. **Choose one or two “flagship” service lanes.** Not because you can't do other things—but because focus builds recognition and deeper partnerships.
3. **Show up consistently.** A legacy is built through repetition, reliability, and results.
4. **Tell the story.** If people don't hear about the service, they can't connect your club to the impact. Share photos, outcomes, and names (with permission). Celebrate volunteers. Invite others to serve with you.

That server's question wasn't an insult—it was a reminder. Communities remember what we repeat. They remember what's visible. They remember what changes lives in a way they can see and feel.

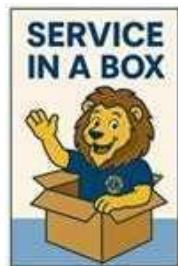
So, here's the question to take back to your club meeting:

If someone saw your Lions logo tomorrow and asked, “Do you still _____?”—what would you want to fill in that blank?

Let's build a service legacy worth being remembered for.

“Carve your name on hearts, not gravestones. A legacy is written into the minds of others and the tales they share about you.” - Shannon L. Alder

Global Service Team



February is heart health month, so the focus is on heart health programs. Every service project that you perform makes a difference. It impacts your club and your community. The greatest service project is the one that you do!

PDG Tom Polk

PDGTomPolk@gmail.com

260-571-5123

1) "Know Your Numbers" Pop-Up

Legacy you're building: *"The Lions are where you go to check your blood pressure."*

Quick purpose

Help people learn or re-check **BP + pulse** (optional: waist/BMI) and understand **what to do next**.

What you need

- Automatic BP cuff(s) (borrow from clinic/pharmacy/EMS if needed)
- Alcohol wipes, gloves, pens, table/chairs
- Tape measures (optional), privacy screen (optional)
- One-page handout: "Know Your Numbers" + warning signs + local resources

Step-by-step (easy execution)

1. **Pick a place + date** (library, church lobby, pantry, community center).
2. **Confirm partner + equipment** (who provides cuffs, table, signage).
3. **Prepare a simple flow** (sign-in → BP/pulse → "what it means" card → resource list).
4. **Promote** (Facebook + flyer + partner announcement) 7–10 days ahead.
5. **Run the event** (keep it friendly and quick; no medical advice—just education + referral).
6. **Track results** (# people checked, # high readings encouraged to follow up).
7. **Repeat** monthly or quarterly with the same name: **"Lions Know Your Numbers Day."**

Scaling

- **Small (≤3):** 60–90 min, BP + pulse only, 1 station + handouts.
- **Medium (3–7):** 2 stations (check + education), add waist measure optional, invite nurse/EMT if possible.
- **Large (10+):** mini health fair layout + multiple cuffs, add CPR/AED awareness table.

2) "AED (Automated External Defibrillator) & CPR Ready Community"

Legacy you're building: *"The Lions helped make our town CPR/AED ready."*

Quick purpose

Map AED locations, improve visibility/access, and connect residents to **Hands-Only CPR** training.

What you need

- Simple AED tracking sheet (location, hours accessible, contact person)
- "AED Inside" signage/stickers (with permission)
- Partner for CPR training (Fire/EMS, hospital, Red Cross, etc.)
- Optional: QR code to your AED list + CPR signup form

Step-by-step (easy execution)

1. **Choose your area** (town limits or school district).
2. **Build the list** (visit/call: schools, churches, gyms, town hall, libraries, big employers).

Global Service Team

3. **Verify access** (Is it publicly accessible? When? Who maintains it?).
4. **Improve visibility** (ask permission to post “AED Inside” signs; note exact placement).
5. **Publish the resource** (a simple one-page list/map online + printed copies).
6. **Run a CPR push** (set a class date with EMS/Fire; open signups).
7. **Make it annual** (refresh the list every year + repeat CPR signups).

Scaling

- **Small (≤ 3):** map AEDs + publish list; do 10–15 calls/visits.
- **Medium (3–7):** map + signage + one CPR signup drive (Google Form + promotion).
- **Large (10+):** sponsor CPR seats, “Adopt an AED” checks (pads/batteries/access), demo night.

3) “Heart-Healthy Pantry Packs” + Simple Nutrition Tips

Legacy you’re building: “The Lions support heart health where it starts—food and daily habits.”

Quick purpose

Provide **heart-smart food packs** and **simple education** (label reading, sodium swaps).

What you need

- Partner pantry/senior center/school backpack program
- Pack items (choose what fits your budget): low-sodium veggies/beans, tuna/salmon, oats/brown rice, unsalted nuts/peanut butter (if allowed), salt-free seasoning
- One-page “Heart-Healthy Swaps” + 1 simple recipe card

Step-by-step (easy execution)

1. **Confirm partner needs** (how many packs, what items are allowed, any allergy rules).
2. **Pick a pack plan** (example: 1 protein + 1 grain + 2 veggies + seasoning tip sheet).
3. **Source items** (club purchase, grocery discount, member donations, sponsor list).
4. **Pack assembly line** (label: “Lions Heart Packs – February” or “Heart Health Month”).
5. **Deliver + distribute** (partner hands out; you can volunteer during distribution if welcomed).
6. **Tell the story** (photos with permission, totals packed, sponsor thanks).
7. **Repeat every February** to lock in the “service legacy.”

Scaling

- **Small (≤ 3):** 25–40 packs assembled at home + deliver.
- **Medium (3–7):** 50–100 packs + optional 10-minute “label basics” talk/video.
- **Large (10+):** 150+ packs + demo/tasting night + sponsor drive.

Make it a “Service Legacy” (simply)

Pick **one** project your club will do **every year** (or quarterly/monthly). Consistency is what makes the community say:

“**Oh yeah—Lions do that.**”

Plug-and-play legacy line for promotions:

“**If you’ve ever wondered what Lions do today—this is it: building a heart-healthy community.**”

LCIF Coordinators Update

A Heartfelt Thank You to the Lions of District 25-G!



Sending a huge thank you to everyone who participated in the Melvin Jones Birthday Celebration last month. Your generosity in honoring the legacy of our founder is what keeps LCIF strong.

For those who took advantage of the \$147 contribution for the commemorative pin—congratulations! I made sure to get my own donation in as well, and I am officially on "mailbox watch" for my pin to arrive. It was a wonderful way for us to celebrate together, even from afar.

While the support we receive from our clubs is incredible, please consider making a personal donation to the foundation this year. Individual giving allows us to go above and beyond in our service, particularly in areas like disaster relief and local community impact grants.

District Governor Jackie Kurley and I want to make the process as seamless as possible for you. Just send the personal donations to us. We will personally take care of the administrative side and all the necessary paperwork to ensure your donation is recorded and credited properly.

Finally, please mark your calendars for the District 25-G Convention on Saturday, March 7th. This is a key moment for our district to come together, and we truly hope to see a great turnout from every club. It's the perfect opportunity to stay "All In" and energized for the remainder of our service year!

Thank you again for your heart for service and for making our district's LCIF programs so impactful.

Yours in Service,

Lion Sopheap Long, LCIF District Coordinator

Sopheap.long@gmail.com or kurmon@comcast.net



News From Around the District

Greene Township Lions Recognize Service, Growth, and Achievements

The Greene Township Lions Club marked several notable accomplishments and recognitions during its recent meetings, highlighting the club's continued commitment to service, leadership, and growth.



At the club's October dinner meeting, Treasurer Lion Ron Whitesel presented a check for \$5,700 to Camp Milhouse Director and fellow Lion Melissa Swank, BSN, RN, representing proceeds from the club's successful Strawberry Fest in North Liberty held over the summer. The Greene Township Lions also continue their longstanding tradition of transporting campers to camp every Tuesday while camp is in session.

During the same meeting, Lion Joan Eddy was honored as Lion of the Year for her exceptional leadership and dedication in planning, securing, and assisting with the installation of equipment for the club's new concession trailer. Lion Eddy expressed her appreciation to all club members who contributed to making the project a significant success.



Membership growth was also celebrated, as applications from Steve Johnson and Kayla Sawdon were unanimously approved.



At the November 13 meeting, Kayla Sawdon was officially inducted into the club by Zone Chair Lion Wendy Yuhasz, sponsored by her mother, Lion Laura Sawdon. A family photo captured multiple generations of Lions service, including Charter Member Lion Larry Sawdon, Past President Lion Mike Sawdon, Secretary Lion Laura Sawdon, President Lion Brandon Sawdon, and new member Lion Kayla Sawdon.

At the December 11 meeting, Steve Johnson was inducted by Lion Ron Whitesel, with sponsorship by

Stephen Eddy.



Most recently, at the January 22 meeting, Lion Kenkel received a Leader Dog Reward recognizing donation support for two Leader Dogs. One of the dogs will be raffled at the club's next dinner meeting.

Through service projects, leadership recognition, and new member induction, the Greene Township Lions continue to demonstrate their dedication to the mission of Lions Clubs International.



(Submitted by Lion Stephen Eddy, Greene Township Lions Club)

News From Around the District

Lydick Lions Participate in Week of Service for Hunger

Lydick Lions held a canned fruit drive to help stock the shelves at the local food pantry. The Lydick Food Pantry's fruit shelves are now well stocked thanks to the generosity of our members and the Saint Joseph County Fire Territory firefighters. By working together, we are creating positive change and supporting our community in a meaningful way. Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible!



(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)

Lydick Lions Provide Operation KidSight Vision Screenings

On January 20th and 21st, Lydick Lions Club members Barb Kidd, Christine Bella, Mike Lane, Mark Perkins, Cindy Finney, Howard Morse, and Vicki Jones showed up to serve at an Operation KidSight vision screening at First English Lutheran Preschool. On Tuesday, we screened 25 children, and on Wednesday, another 19, with no referrals on either day! Both our Lydick Lions and Ms. Gleissner were thrilled with the results and the opportunity to help ensure these little ones are off to a great start.



Since school started in the fall of 2025, our Lydick Lions have conducted Operation KidSight vision screenings at 20 schools, screening 576 children and identifying 146 referrals who may need further eye care. Through these efforts, we are helping ensure children have the vision they need to learn and succeed.

Front: Mike Lane, Barb Kidd

Back: Christine Bella, Mark Perkins

(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)



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

Roann Covered Bridge Lions Club News

The Roann Covered Bridge Lions Club met on January 8th at the Town Hall. At the meeting, the Lions Club was given a Lions hat from a former member, Ken Grandstaff, who had passed away several years ago. The hat was given to the Lions Club by Ken's daughters, Julie and Jean. The hat was presented to the club by Roann Town Clerk Robert Ferguson. The Lions Club was honored to receive Ken's hat with the many awards pins Ken had received over the years. The hat was put in a special frame to display the hat.



In other business, the Roann Lions Club will have a soup supper on Friday, February 20th. 5:00-7:30 at the Roann Community Building. They will have five different soups, peanut butter sandwiches, hot dogs and dessert. This will be a free will donation.

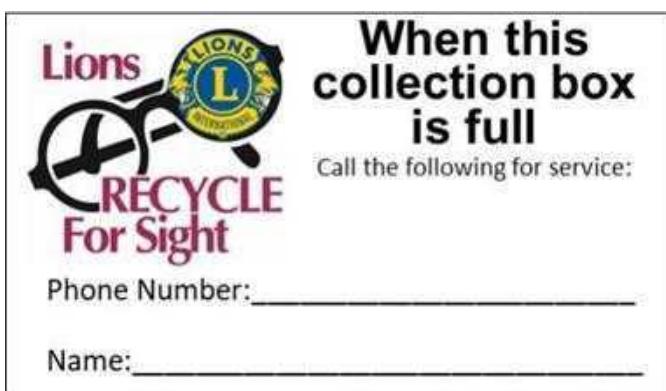
The Lions Club and the Roann Covered Bridge Festival Committee combined to give a donation to the Roann Town Park Board for a picnic table for the Jimmy Turner Jr. Park being built in Roann at the former site of the Roann School building.

Club officers' election will take place in March. Phil Dale will be replacing Joe Menna as Chartered Organization Representative for the local Cub Scout Pack 3905.

The next RC race to sell concessions will be on January 31, 11:00-5:00.

(Submitted by Lion Donna Harman, Roann Covered Bridge Lions Club)

Contact Information Cards for Eyeglass Recycling Receptacles



We recently became aware that many of the eyeglass collection boxes located throughout the district do not have contact information. This is important when the boxes are full, and the people at the collection facility don't have information on who to contact.

Having contact information on the box is also important, especially when a Lion moves or otherwise fails to make regular stops to pick up glasses.

The above card is available and can be obtained from PDG Marty Juel. Contact him at marty@martyjuel.com.

News From Around the District

District 25-G Lions at Indiana Lions Mid-Winter Conference

District 25-G was well-represented at the Indiana Lions 2026 Mid-Winter Conference, not just as attendees, but as presenters, moderators, exhibitors, and on the organizing committee.

At the closing session on Saturday afternoon, District Governor Jackie Kurley accepted a certificate recognizing District 25-G as the district with the Most First-Time Attendees.

Photos of District 25-G Lions at the Mid-Winter Conference were provided by Past Council Chair Reed Fish (25-F), District Governor Jackie Kurley (Dunlap), Past District Governor Paul Russell (Lakeville), Lion Jim Steen (Akron), and Past District Governor Chloe Weyrauch (25-C).



News From Around the District

3rd District Meeting Hosted by Lakeville Lions Club

The 3rd District Meeting of the 2025-2026 Lions year was hosted by the Lakeville Lions Club at the Lakeville Community Center on Saturday, January 31st with 44 Lions representing 14 clubs in attendance. Attendees enjoyed a breakfast of pancakes, sausage, and biscuits and gravy before the meeting was called to order by District Governor Jackie Kurley.



Left: District Governor Jackie Kurley presented Immediate Past District Governor Warren Allendar with her gift that she had intended to give to him at Banner Night. Unfortunately, the gift got misplaced behind a curtain on Banner Night.



Right: Lion Jim Steen (Akron), the endorsed candidate for 2nd Vice District Governor, presented Lion Dan Adams (Culver) with a certificate recognizing 50 years of membership and service in the Culver Lions Club.

Attendees heard reports from District Officers, Global Action Team Coordinators, State Project Trustees, and

Zone Chairmen. Details of the business conducted at the meeting will be covered in the meeting minutes, which will be distributed via the district mailing list.

Photos of the meeting were provided by Lion Beth Guth (Peru) and Past District Governor Paul Russell (Lakeville).



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.

PDG Warren Allender (Baugo)	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
1VDG 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)	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.

IPDG Warren Allender (Baugo)	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)	mafash1107@gmail.com	574-538-1090
Lion Rose Russell (Lakeville)	RoseWRussell@gmail.com	574-250-0125

Indiana Lions Foundation

Indiana Lions Foundation



State Fair Credits Policy

Funds are raised through volunteer work contributed by the Lions of Indiana and their friends by selling tickets and doing other jobs at the Indiana State Fair and by working on other designated Foundation projects. For each shift worked at the State Fair, each Lion or friend of Lions will earn two (2) credits for each regular morning or afternoon shift worked. One credit is awarded for the early morning (5:30AM) shift. Gate Captains and State Fair Committee members will also receive an additional one bonus credit.

A person may use twelve (12) credits to obtain a W. P. Woods Fellowship for oneself or to give to another person (Lion or non-Lion) in recognition of their commitment to community service. There is no limit on the number requested.

In addition to requesting W. P. Woods Fellowships, persons may use their credits to obtain a \$200 community grant for 1) a Lions or Leos club located in Indiana, 2) one of the five Indiana Lions state projects, 3) the Lions Club International Foundation, 4) one of the seven MD-25 districts or 5) the Indiana Lions Foundation. The cost is 10 credits per \$200 grant. A person is allowed to redeem up to 20 credits per fiscal year (July 1 to June 30), which would amount to two (2) grants.

A person may transfer their credits to another person.

A person may make a request to the grants committee for a special Lions project outside of the entities listed above.

Use the form on the next page to request the transfer of credits and/or the redemption of credits for the community grants.

You may contact Lion Rose Russell at rosewrussell@gmail.com to obtain your number of available credits.

MD-25 Marketing Committee



Chant Contest

Lions of Indiana, we need a chant! Whenever we are gathered as a group at an event, we need a cheer or chant that shows who we are. We are the Lions of Indiana! We are here to Serve our fellow Hoosiers! Although it is a great song, 'Moonlight on the Wabash' just doesn't have the 'WOW!' we need. And it definitely does not work when we are marching in the International Parade.

I know you've got great energy and ideas! Work with other Lions in your club or district to create something fun and memorable that really expresses who we are.

We will have a Contest at the Indiana State Convention to determine the best Chant. The winning team will be awarded a prize for their creativity.

We can't wait to see what you come up with!

Lion Patty Cooke-Furlong

MD25 Marketing Committee Chair

Complete this form, scan and send to PDG Marlyn Fast at mafast1107@gmail.com or by mail to
PDG Marlyn Fast, 24261 County Road 126, Goshen, IN 46526

State Fair Credits Transfer

Transfer _____ State Fair Credits from the Account of _____
(Specify Number) (Name of Individual or Club)

To: _____
(Name of Individual or Club) _____
(Signature) _____ / _____ / _____
(Date)

Application for Community Service Grant

Name of Club _____ OR

Name of Individual _____

Club's or Individual's Address _____

Number of Grants Requested _____

Signature _____ Date _____ / _____ / _____

Two community service grants in the amount of \$200 per grant may be requested in a fiscal year. Ten credits equal one \$200 grant. Please specify the entity that is to receive the grant (or two entities if two grants are being requested for different entities)

Please select from the following list of eligible entities for which the applicant is requesting a community service grant(s). (One entity per one \$200 grant)

- Indiana Lions Club (specify) _____
- Cancer Control Fund
- Vision First and Kidsight
- Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- Leader Dog for the Blind
- Speech and Hearing
- LCIF
- Indiana Lions Foundation
- Special Project (please describe) _____

For Indiana Lions Foundation Use: Credits verified by: _____

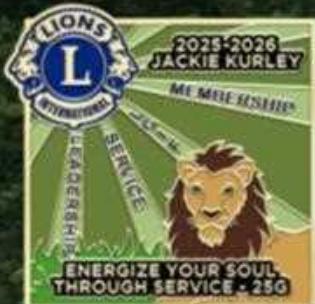
Saturday
Mar. 7
2026

Meadow
Valley
Golf Club
57600 IN 13
Middlebury

District 25-G CONVENTION

\$35 Breakfast at 8:30; Mtg. 9:30-4:00

There is no fee to attend the convention. The \$35 fee covers breakfast and lunch.



Special Guest: International Director, David Wineman



David Wineman from Sebewaing, Michigan, United States was elected to serve a two-year term as an international director of Lions International at the association's International Convention in Melbourne, Australia. Wineman has more than 45 years of experience in information technology. He joined the Lions in 1994 and has held a number of offices within the association, including district governor, Guiding Lion, youth chairperson, region chairperson, vice council chairperson, area leader, zone chairperson and Lions of Michigan Foundation trustee. In recognition of his service to the association, Director Wineman has received numerous awards including multiple International President's Certificates and International President's Medals. He has received many awards from the Lions of Michigan Foundation, including the Hellen Keller Fellowship, Outstanding Service Award and Ken Lautzenheiser Fellowship. Director Wineman is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Wineman and his wife Lindy, who is also a Lion as well as a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have five children and 12 grandchildren.



District Convention Reservation- \$35/per person. For reservations after February 28, the price is \$45. If using a credit card, be advised there will be a credit card fee added during the ticket purchase.

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- Scan QR code above or go to: <https://Register.lions25g.org/>

Baugo Lions Club

4th Annual

PANCAKE

and sausage

Breakfast



Ticket
\$12

•SAT, MARCH.07.2026•

JIMTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER

29125 CR 22 West - Elkhart, Indiana

7:30am - 11:30am

BISCUITS
& GRAVY

• ALL YOU CAN EAT •

JUICE &
COFFEE

Kids K-12 Eat Free



District Governor's Calendar

February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 State Legislators Day	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 DG Visit Madison Twp LC	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 District 25-B Convention
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 District 25-C Convention



District Governor's Calendar

March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 District 25-G Convention
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 District 25-E Convention
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 District 25-D Convention
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

Sat, Mar 7, 2026 District 25-G Convention
Meadow Valley Golf Club, Middlebury, IN

Apr 18-26, 2026, Week of Service: Environment
(Click [here](#) for more information)

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

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



Happy President's Day



Happy Valentine's Day

