

August 30, 2025

<https://www.e-district.org/sites/46/index.php>

District 46 Lions Club

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DG Message

District Governor Paul Silva 2025/2026

I am looking forward and excited to take the helm as your District Governor for the 2025–2026 year. As I crisscross the state of Nevada/California on club visitations, I will be sharing my vision on how clubs can improve leadership, what programs are available and improving our clubs' culture.

At a recent District Governor forum, International President A.P. Singh said that we are all Servant leaders. What this means to me is focusing on our members' and clubs' well-being. It is my mission to help clubs that are struggling and share ideas that will help clubs become stronger.

I have asked the District 46 GAT team to emphasize areas such as membership growth, robust leadership training, community service initiatives, and LCIF fundraising.

We will continue to make club growth within the district a priority and build upon the three new charter clubs, Las Vegas Los Prados, Las Vegas Latinos, and Las Vegas Americas. We will be looking at areas to either start up new clubs or rejuvenate clubs that once existed.

I will ask clubs to consider new projects, spanning mental health awareness to innovative service events. This will empower our clubs to excel in service, create stronger leadership, and build stronger communities.

What strategic priorities or innovative project ideas are you most excited to explore?

Let us roll up our sleeves and work together.

Yours in Lionism
District Governor Paul Silva

District 46 Lions Club

District Governor Paul Silva:

The GAT team will be working with clubs that are having issues, and my plan is to grow our district 46 association by 3 new clubs and the District Membership to 1250 members.

Please save the dates for upcoming Cabinet meetings:

Cabinet/Members Meeting Reno, NV, Nov 14-16

Cabinet/Members Meeting Henderson, NV Feb 20-22

Convention Yerington, NV April 30-May 3



A Little from Lions Club International

Explore our new recruitment resource

Get ready to grow with our new [Recruitment Made Simple](#) webpage! This easy-to-use guide provides you with a recruitment roadmap that includes helpful tips, effective resources and innovative ideas to grow your club.

From a “Why join Lions” pitch to marketing tips and inspiring stories from fellow Lions clubs, this online resource is packed with information for recruitment success.

Check it out today — and encourage your club members to take a look, too!



Plan your project for our first Week of Service

Join Lions around the world for this year’s first Week of Service from October 4 through October 12 that focuses our global service on the issue of mental health and well-being. Download our [mental health and well-being resource](#) for key mental health facts and service project ideas that will raise awareness and help those in your community.

For more information on all three of our 2025-2026 Weeks of Service initiatives — Mental Health and Well-being, Hunger and the Environment — watch our [Weeks of Service video](#) featuring President Singh.



District 46 Lions Club

District 46 Summer Cabinet Meeting Notes – Winnemucca, NV August 22-23

Friday afternoon meetings of the District 46 Foundation and the Student Speakers Contest were held. Registration for the event was ongoing with members supporting Feed the People, a service project of Winnemucca Host Lions Club. Members dropped perishable and non-perishable food items that will be used to make meals for 20-50 people.

Friday evening, Winnemucca Club President Krissy Burchette welcomed all Lions, followed by PDG Adam Hopkins leading the members in a song – “Home Means Nevada”. DG Paul Silva made his remarks opening his Lions year.

Saturday Morning began with Committee meetings from 8:30-9:45. Region II Chair Elko Host Lion Jim Macpherson called the meeting to order.

PCC Lion Irving Confino performed the Installation of Officers for 2025-2026. He first discharged IPDG Babs Cronin and all her Cabinet of their duties.

Winnemucca can be translated as “one moccasin” or “spiritual gifts”. He used a western theme calling, Cabinet Secretary Lion Judi Temple from Las Vegas Breakfasters as “Miss Kitty of Dodge City”. District Governor Lion Paul Silva from Yerington Lions (the first DG in the history of Yerington Lions) as “Marshall Matt Dillon”.



Motions were made and passed to accept the Cabinet Treasurer's and Cabinet Secretary's reports.

Dignitaries attending the meeting included ID Lion Marie Cuning of Arizona, PCC Irving Confino, PDGs Barry Temple, Adam Hopkins, Kimo Harward and IPDG Babs Cronin. PDGs Rex Velasquez and Cliff Cooper attended via zoom.

Roll Call was then taken by CS Lion Judi Temple. 25 Clubs attended.

1st VDG Terry Rubald of Carson City Lions Club spoke on the State of the District. In the past year we have grown from 47 to 50 clubs, with a current membership of 1,123. The District experienced a net growth of 12 members. 6 clubs had a net loss of members, while 11 clubs had a net gain. Elko Host Lions club has the largest membership with 82 members. 48% of clubs in the district have less than 20 members.



District 46 Lions Club

Long-range planning goals include increasing membership and the number of clubs, along with starting Leos clubs with the support of your Zone Chairs.

- **From DG Paul Silva: the goal is to increase membership with new clubs and new members, 2 per club. Take advantage of the many Guiding Lions in the district to guide new clubs to success. Make sure to get your club's information on membership and service added to the Lions portal. Do the best you can; doing nothing is not acceptable.**

District Tail Twister Lion Kristen Velasquez presented a training on the art of Tail Twisting. Highlights included:

- Make it fun
- Have a bag of tricks
- Watch people – be observant
- Keep track of time – on schedule
- Know the group you are around
- Idea – create a monthly fine-free badge auction, add proceeds to the club's funds

PDG Rex Velasquez, Budget and Finance Chair, requested a motion to move \$10,000 from the Operating Expenses be transferred to the District 46 foundation. The motion passed.

Lion Chuck Stout reported from the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. No changes to be made presently, but redundancies need to be corrected. The recommendations will be brought to the cabinet. Changes to the Operations manual will be reviewed.

PDG Barbie Hertz reported from the Convention Management Committee. According to By-Laws article 6, the District convention must be held at least 67 days prior to the International Convention. The host club will now receive \$2,000 in seed money.



District 46 Lions Club

PDG Adam Hopkins reported on the success of our LCIF program this year. The District raised \$46,000, above the LCIF goal of \$36,000.

PDG Adam Hopkins presented a spectacular LCIF training. The theme this year from LCIF this year is Servant Hero. You can watch the video shared by PDG Adam from the Facebook page here - [\(20+\) Facebook](#)

- To serve our community
- Grants are available for local community for your local club
- #ServantHero
- Compassion into Action, Vision into Reality
- 1.4 million volunteers around the world, \$1.3 billion donated for Disaster Relief since LCIF started in 1968
- 200 countries and regions



PDG Kimo Harward spoke on the Student Speakers Foundation. His plea was to the clubs of the District to support the foundation.

Lion Tasha Thatcher thanked the PDG Rex of Budget and Finance for the \$10,000 transfer of funds to the District 46 Foundation. A grant was given to Carson City Host of \$3,052 for the purchase of a Plus Optix vision screening machine. Grant applications are now available online at www.lionsdistrict46foundation.org.

Lion Tasha also spoke for the Student Speakers Contest. All the 2025-2026 contest packets have been emailed to club presidents and secretaries. The contest date deadlines are as follows:

- ☐ **Club – January 26, 2026**
- ☐ **Zone – February 23, 2026**
- ☐ **Region – March 30, 2026**
- ☐ **District – May, 2 2026 at the District 46 Convention in Yerington, NV**

Lion Marie Manning spoke on marketing your club. Share your stories, when did you TRULY become a Lion. Give people an opportunity to do something amazing.



District 46 Lions Club

PID Marie Cunning from Arizona spoke on her passion for being a Lion. A 3rd generation Lion she is a Guiding Lion for four clubs. Lions around the world number 1,360,000 in 210 countries making up 8 Constitutional Areas. We are in CA1. CA6, India has 383,000 members, CA5, Asia, has 288,200 members, CA1, USA, has 260,000 members. Because of this membership we will be losing 3 International Directors. Membership growth is crucial to Mission 1.5. Recruit new members and chartering new clubs are ways to create growth. Membership retention is key too. Give members stuff to do, be sure that they attend meetings when they can, a happy Lion, remains a Lion. Creating a specialty club is one fun way to increase membership. Click on the link here to find out more about specialty clubs.

“Serve with humility and lead with divinity.”

International President A.B. Singh



Camps of 2025

Camp Lotza Fun was held from June 20-26 this year. The camp committee was able to secure the beautiful Potosi Pines Camp, just southwest of Las Vegas in the Spring Mountains. Twenty-six campers and counselors convened on Friday afternoon. Volunteers from clubs around the district checked everyone in and then stayed up on the mountain for an action-packed week.

Campers on the Final Day – All smiles, new friendships made, good times had!



Campers followed a busy daily schedule, assisted by other Las Vegas Non-Profits - including Share in the Joy, The Sandwich Club, JayRose Enrichment, and Toys for Dogs. Service projects included making toys for shelter dogs and homeless pets, and preparing 200 peanut butter sandwiches for Las Vegas's homeless residents.

The fun was scheduled too. Activities included archery, BBGun target shooting, creating tie dye shirts (seen in the group photo), creating their own artwork (led by a local artist), hiking up the mountain trails, an astronomy night led by the local NASA educator, movie night, kite making and flying, and a final dance party and karaoke night. Each camper and counselor was given a computer, donated by a local Boy Scout as a part of his Eagle Scout Project.



Counselors Cuttin' Up



Camps of 2025



Lions from LV W Charleston Lions Club support Dr. Lee

Dr. Stephanie Lee performs eye exams. All campers that needed glasses were given them by Dr. Lee.



Sandwich Club comes to Camp. Campers made 200 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for Las Vegas Homeless.



Boy Scout Eagle Scout donation of computers to campers and counselors.



District 46 Lions Club Calendar

September 2025

Los Prados - LV Lights Soccer

September 13, 2025

7:30 pm

Tickets start at \$31

Cashman Field

The Los Prados Lions Club is having a Fundraiser at the Las Vegas light soccer game Saturday, September 13th at Cashman Field. Tickets include group night out shoutout and post post-game photo on the field. How to redeem tickets: Tiny URL: copy the link below into your web browser, it will automatically enter the access code for discounted tickets. Then you may purchase the number of tickets needed <https://tinyurl.com/lvlc2025> OR see the QR code on the flyer.

[View Flyer](#)

USA/Canada Forum

September 18, 2025

Atlantic City, NJ

9/18/25 through 9/20/25

Breakfasters - 15th Annual Mini-Golf

September 18, 2025

4:30 pm

\$65 to play or \$55 dinner only

Angel Park Golf Club - 100 S. Rampart Blvd, Las Vegas, 89145

Breakfasters Mini Golf Tournament American BBQ: grilled burgers, chicken, cole slaw, baked beans, fresh fruit salad, cookies. Trophies for low-score men/women. The Coveted Toilet Bowl for most strokes taken! Registration and payment must be made by 9/1/25, or the price goes up \$10

[View Flyer](#)

Region 1- Goodbye Summer, Hello Fall

September 20, 2025

3:30 pm-4:00 pm

Kids Kingdom, Bridge Church - 1330 Foster Drive

No Host Pot Luck Get-Together PLEASE bring your drinks* and a dish to share! We hope to see you there!

Please get together with your club and/or let us know if you plan to be there and what you will bring to the party! (775-358-8973; jr-itypeit@hotmail.com)

[View Flyer](#)

October 2025

Twin Lakes - Military, Vets, First Responders Appreciation Day

October 04, 2025

10:30 am - 4:00 pm

Free admission

Craig Ranch Regional Park - 628 West Craig, North Las Vegas, 89032

Appreciation for Military, Veterans, and First Responders! Free admission Free food for Military, Veterans, and First Responders, with valid ID. There will be entertainment, activities, fun for the entire family! See flyer for more details.

[View Flyer](#)

District 46 Lions Club Calendar

Reno Arch Lions - PInrs-4-Pups

October 04, 2025

11 am - 1 pm

\$20 donation

Wild Island Coconut Bowl - 1855 E. Lincoln Way, Sparks, NV

Benefit for Lions Project for Canine Companions and Canine Companions \$20 donation includes bowling 2 games. There will be snacks and drinks, and raffle prizes! Contact Janyce Rossall to reserve space, ask questions, or make a donation. 775-358-8973 jr-itypeit@hotmail.com

Spanish Springs - Oktoberfest

October 18, 2025

5:30 pm-7:30 pm

\$25

American Legion Post 30 - 730 4th Street, Sparks, NV

Bratwurst Dinner w/ sauerkraut, potato salad, rolls and apple strudel. Also available: a variety of sodas, imported beers, and wines for a small extra price. Raffles and a Silent auction. See the Flyer for the QR code to buy tickets!

[View Flyer](#)

Ely Lions - Renaissance Faire & Pumpkin Festival

October 18, 2025

Free admission

Braodbent Park, Ely, NV

Come out and check out the Ely Lions Renaissance Faire and Pumpkin Festival! Includes the Pumpkin Chuckin!

<https://elylions.com/renfaire/>

Las Vegas E Lions - Trunk or Treat

October 25, 2025

11 am - 2 pm

Red Rock Harley-Davidson - 2260 S Rainbow Blvd, 89146

Looking for trunk sponsors! Bring your car, your best-dressed trunk, and best-dressed self!

November 2025

Diabetes Wellness Lions - 7th Annual Poker Run

November 02, 2025

10:30 am - 3 pm

\$60

Downtown Summerlin - Starts inside City National Arena

Starts at 10:30. Lunch is from 1 pm - 3 pm at MacKenzie River Pizza Grill & Pub 1550 South Pavilion Center Drive. There will be a raffle and special Live Auction. This will help send children with Type 1 diabetes to camp and support other Lions Club charities! You can send Zelle payments to Sharon Brooks, 508-942-1030. Questions?

Donna Cutler 702-875-6290 fancymelv@gmail.com Lisa Radin 609-970-9157 lisaradin44@gmail.com

Cabinet & Member Meeting - Reno

November 14, 2025

11/14/25 - 11/16/25 Hosted by Reno Host Speaker: Lions Eye Foundation, Denise Barsness

August 30, 2025

<https://www.e-district.org/sites/46/index.php>

District 46 Lions Club Calendar

December 2025

Region 1 - All-Club Christmas Party Pot Luck

December 06, 2025

4:00pm

Kids Kingdom , Bridge Church - 1330 Foster Drive

RSVP by Thursday, 12/4 to let us know how many folks are coming and what you will bring to share
775-358-8973 or jr-itypeit@hotmail.com Please bring an unwrapped toy for donation to the Bridge Church community outreach.

[View Flyer](#)

February 2026

Cabinet & Member Meeting - Las Vegas

February 20, 2026

2/20/26 - 2/21/26 Hosted by LV Breakfasters Speaker: PIP Brian and Lori Sheehan

March 2026

Summerlin Lions - Mardi Gras

March 07, 2026

5:30 pm - 10 pm

\$100

Emerald Room, Queensridge - 891 S Rampart Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89145

Honoring the UMC Lions Burn Center For more information call Scott Rhode or email
ssrhode@sbcglobal.net

April 2026

District 46 Convention

April 30, 2026

4/30/25 - 5/2/25 Hosted by Yerington Lions Speaker: Burt A Nelson with Food Faire

MILITARY, VETERANS & FIRST RESPONDERS APPRECIATION DAY

Saturday, October 4, 2025
10:30am - 4pm
Craig Ranch Regional Park

FREE ADMISSION
FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT, ACTIVITIES
FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

FREE FOOD FOR MILITARY, VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS WITH ID

- Food & Live Entertainment
- Vegas Cruisin' Car Show
- Wheels 4 Warriors
- Battle of the Branches Tug of War
- Children/Family Area
- Miniature Pig Show
- Vendor Booths

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Logos for various military and emergency services are displayed at the bottom.

MILITARY, VETERANS & FIRST RESPONDERS APPRECIATION DAY

This year, we celebrate 11 years of honoring our Armed Forces, Veterans and First Responders. Once again, our community will come together at Craig Ranch Regional Park to show our appreciation to these local heroes and their families.

Your support will help us continue to honor our armed forces, veterans & first responders.

For more information regarding sponsorship opportunities or to become a vendor please scan the code below to become a part of our wonderful celebration.

THANK YOU
in advance for your consideration.
We encourage you to witness the joy and friendships we create!



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
NVEVENTS4OURHEROES.ORG

 NVEVENTS4OURHEROES  NVEVENTS4OURHEROES

August 30, 2025

<https://www.e-district.org/sites/46/index.php>

Message from A.P. Singh



Dear Lion,

Whether you are a new Lion or have been a member for years, you are here because someone invited you to join. To help us grow our clubs and our service — and reach our MISSION 1.5 goals — now it is your turn to invite someone else and share the joy that service brings.

Growth is essential for us to be able to continue to improve the service that Lions are known for around the world. We are a people-driven organization where service is at the heart of everything we do — and we need dedicated Lions like you to help us make an even greater impact together.

So invite friends and neighbors who have the heart to serve. Welcome diverse individuals and groups who will offer us fresh perspectives and energy. This is how we will keep our organization growing and thriving.

Growth benefits us all — our clubs, our communities and the people we serve. I look forward to seeing your club and your service grow.

Together we serve,

A.P. Singh

International President



Lions Clubs International



Holidays & Observances - September

- 1 Mon.:** Labor Day, National Cherry Popover Day, World Letter Writing Day
- 2 Tue.:** V-J Day, National Blueberry Popsicle Day
- 3 Wed.:** World Skyscraper Day, National Welsh Rarebit Day, Opening New Doors Day
- 4 Thur.:** National Wildlife Day, National Newspaper Carrier Day
- 5 Fri.:** International Day of Charity, Cheese Pizza Day
- 6 Sat.:** World Beard Day, National Carl Garner National Cleanup Day, National Reading Day, National Coffee Ice Cream Day
- 7 Sun.:** World War Toy Destruction Day, International Day of Clean Air for blue skies, National Salami Day, Grandparents' Day, National Acorn Squash Day
- 8 Mon.:** International Literacy Day, National I Want Butterscotch Day
- 9 Tue.:** California Admission Day, California Software Tester Day, National Wiener Schnitzel Day
- 10 Wed.:** International Day of Gynecological Health, World Suicide Prevention Day, National TV Dinner Day
- 11 Thur.:** Patriot Day, Emergency Number Day
- 12 Fri.:** United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation, Mindfulness Day, National Day of Encouragement, Defenders Day in Maryland, National Chocolate Milkshake Day, National Video Games Day
- 13 Sat.:** World Chocolate Day, World First Aid Day, World Sepsis Day, National Celiac Disease Awareness Day, National Peanut Day
- 14 Sun.:** International Day of Remembrance for Victims of Fascism, Tank Forces Day, National Cream-Filled Donut Day
- 15 Mon.:** International Day of Democracy, World Lymphoma Awareness Day, International Free Money Day, Day of Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows, National Crème de Menthe Day, Birthday of the environmental organization Greenpeace
- 16 Tue.:** International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, National Guacamole Day
- 17 Wed.:** World Patient Safety Day, Constitution Day, National Apple Dumpling Day
- 18 Thur.:** World Water Monitoring Day, World Day of Remembrance for Dead Motorcyclecyclists, National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day
- 19 Fri.:** International Grenache Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day, National Butterscotch Pudding Day, National Caramel Custard Day, The birthday of the "Smiley", International Talk Like a Pirate Day
- 20 Sat.:** World Cleanup Day, World Marrow Donor Day, National Dance Day, Von Steuben Day New York, National Cleanup Day, National Punch Day
- 21 Sun.:** World Gratitude Day, Zero Emissions Day, International Day of Peace
- 22 Mon.:** Family Day Arizona, Car-free days, World Rhino Day, American Business Women's day, National Elephant Day, National White Chocolate Day, Native American Day, Tennessee
- 23 Tue.:** Celebrate Bisexuality Day, National Great American Pot Pie Day, National Women's Political Rights Day
- 24 Wed.:** International Day of Caravan, System Analyst Day, National Punctuation Day, National Cherries Jubilee Day
- 25 Thur.:** World Dream Day, World Maritime Day, National Research Administrators Day, National Research Administrators Day, National Comic Book Day, National Lobster Day
- 26 Fri.:** Johnny Appleseed Day, World Contraception Day, National Pancake Day, Native American Day in California, Nevada
- 27 Sat.:** International Lace Day, National Hunting and Fishing Day, World Tourism Day, National Hunting and Fishing Day, National Public Lands Day, National Gay Men's HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NGMHAAD), National Corned Beef Hash Day, International Rabbit Day, Google birthday
- 28 Sun.:** World Rabies Day, International Day for Universal Access to Information, International Day of the Deaf, World Rivers Day, International Safe Abortion Day, International Poke Day, Gold Star Mothers' Day in the United States, Silly Questions Day, National Good Neighbor Day
- 29 Mon.:** International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste, World Heart Day, National Mocha Day, Day of Autumn Loneliness
- 30 Tue.:** International Translation Day, Blasphemy Day, National Hot Mulled Wine Day

August 30, 2025

<https://www.e-district.org/sites/46/index.php>

Save the Date

Save the Date:

District 46 Convention
April 30 – May 3, 2026
Yerington, Nevada

- Home of 2025 - 2026 District Governor Paul Silva.
- Home of the Annual Nut Feed
- *The Yerington Lions Club offers many wonderful events throughout the year!*
 - *Easter Egg Hunt*
 - *Turkey Shoot*
 - *Holiday Flag Program*
 - *Lions Camp Dat-So-La-Lee*
 - *Youth Scholarship Awards*
 - *Lions Eye Banks*
 - *4th of July Fun Day*
 - *Youth Speech Program*
 - *Fishing Derby*
 - *Lion County Fair - BMX Races*
 - *Lions Eyesight & Eyeglasses Programs*



SAVE THE DATE!!!

ELKO FISHING DERBY	9/12-9/14/2025
BREAKFASTERS GOLF TOURNAMENT	9/18/2025
PUNKIN' CHUNKIN'	10/18/2025
DIABETES POKER RUN	11/2/2025
WINNEMUCCA FESTIVAL OF TREES	11/28-11/29/2025
BREAKFASTERS CHRISTMAS PARTY	12/13/2025
SUMMERLIN MARDI GRAS	3/7/2026
CARSON CRAB FEED	3/21/2026
YERINGTON NUT FEED	4/11/2026
CAMP LOTZA-FUN	6/20 – 6/27/2026
CAMP DAT-SO-LA-LEE	6/21 – 6/27/2026

District 46 Lions Club

Editor's Note:

Thank you so much for allowing me an opportunity to work on the District 46 Newsletter. It is exciting to be able to work with so many wonderful people who emulate the true values of Service to others and Lionism.

I look forward to this challenge as we as a District move forward and face our challenges of building our clubs memberships, complete service projects, and continually support our communities.

I would like to thank Lion Jim Egloff for helping me during this transition and pointing me in the right direction as well as giving me the materials to use in this edition of the Newsletter. You are a life saver!

I know that I wasn't able to get all the Clubs of District 46 in this issue, but I promise to work hard and gather your information too. I am just learning about the webpages and Facebook pages each Club has. I have seen how active you are and am impressed with how many activities each Club does during the year.

Again, I wish to thank you and I look forward to this 2025 - 2026 year of shared success with all our activities and service projects which promote our District and each individual Club.

Aloha,
Jon M. Van Pelt
District 46 Newsletter Editor



Lions Prayers

Lions Prayers

Where Lions meet, be present Lord,
to weld all our hearts of one accord,
to do thy will Lord, make us strong,
to aid the weak and right the wrong.
Amen

Lord and Creator of the Universe, watch over everyone here present. We pray for blessings for each member of the family of Lionism. Give them wisdom to recognize and utilize their gifts and talents to the fullest. Protect them and their family members from harm and danger. Help them to enjoy life and gain much fun in fellowship and self-improvement.

We stand in humility before you with our heads bowed and our hearts open. We ask that you bestow many blessings so that we may continue our imaginative and ingenious humanitarian services.

Lord, here these Lions when we pray. We thank you for bringing us safely through another day. As we gather to give our reports and to dine, may we all remember the pledge we took when becoming a Lion: to attend all meetings and work together, helping others to some degree to live better. As we also work to help those who live in strife, we thank you Dear God for granting us such a wonderful life. Lord, here this, our prayer, and may we continue to live and work in your care. Amen.

Lord, as we Lions gather here,
we pause to offer up this prayer.
Bless now this food that we partake
and every effort that we make.
To build the towns in which we live
and put it in our hearts to give
to worthy causes. Bless the blind
and all we do to serve humankind.
Be with us till we meet again
and bless our lands and home. Amen

Our Story

• The Story of Lions



1917 The Beginning // Chicago business leader Melvin Jones asked a simple and world-changing question – what if people made a commitment to improving their communities? More than a century later, Lions Clubs International is the largest service club organization in the world, with more than 1.4 million members in 48,000 clubs acting on the same simple idea – when Lions come together for the good of humanity, there's nothing we can't achieve.

1920 Going International // Just three years after our founding, Lions became international when we established the first club in Canada. Mexico followed in 1927. In the 1950s and 1960s, international growth accelerated, with new clubs in Europe, Asia and Africa.

1925 Saving Sight // Helen Keller addressed the Lions Clubs International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio, USA, and challenged Lions to become “knights of the blind.” Since then, we have worked tirelessly to aid those who are blind or visually impaired.

1945 Uniting Nations // We were one of the first nongovernmental organizations invited to assist in the drafting of the United Nations Charter. We host an annual Lions Day with the United Nations to continue our partnership and identify global solutions to the challenges facing humanity.

1957 Organizing Youth Programs // We started the Leo program to provide the youth of the world with an opportunity to serve and lead with Lions. There are approximately 180,000 Leos and 7,200 Leo clubs in more than 140 countries worldwide.

1968 Establishing Our Foundation // Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) assists Lions with global and large-scale humanitarian projects. Through our global Foundation, Lions have received more than US\$1 billion in grants to help meet the needs of their local and global communities.

1990 Launching SightFirst // Through the support of LCIF, Lions are restoring sight and preventing blindness on a global scale with the SightFirst program. Launched in 1990, Lions have raised more than US\$351 million for this initiative that targets the major causes of blindness.

2017 Celebrating Our Centennial // Lions celebrate a century of service by serving more than 250 million people around the world through a special Centennial Service Challenge.

2018 Rallying Around Global Causes // Lions unite to support the global causes of vision, hunger, the environment, childhood cancer and our new global focus, diabetes. LCIF launches Campaign 100: LCIF Empowering Service to raise US\$300 million to increase the service impact of Lions around the world.

2020 Responding to COVID-19 // Lions found innovative ways to safely serve their communities during this global health crisis. Our global Foundation, LCIF, donated millions of dollars in emergency grant funds, providing critical supplies and equipment to hospitals, medical clinics and emergency management systems, including front-line health care workers and first responders.