

LIONS DISTRICT 25 A NEWSLETTER

Coming Together to Serve



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District Governor
Patty Cooke-Furlong



Would your club like to submit your news and events to the District 25-A newsletter? Have an idea for a regular feature? Email Lion Jackie Katz at: jp Katz1984@gmail.com.

Please send items in word, pdf, or publisher; images in jpg or gif.

From the District Governor: Lion Patty Cooke-Furlong

Hello Lions of 25A:

This is my first article as your 24-25 District Governor. Lion Jim and I spent the last two weeks of June attending the Lions International Convention and seeing a few sights in Australia. Then it took us three days to get our bodies back into the right time zone. But we are both glad to be back and ready to start our terms as your DG and 1VDG.

I am looking forward to getting beyond the busy, organizational work and coming to visit the Lions of 25A. I am enthusiastic and committed to working with my fellow Lions throughout District 25A. My motto for the year is “Coming Together to Serve”. I will work with my District Team and all Lions of 25A in reaching our 24-25 goals: increased membership, 100% service reporting, adding one new club, exceeding the district LCIF goal, and ensuring that club officers and Zone Chairs are trained.

Let me introduce my team: First Vice District Governor is my husband, Lion Jim Furlong. He is relatively new to Lions and often has new ideas about membership. As Second Vice District Governor, we have Lion Dave Dickinson. Lion Dave is not new to district leadership – he was a 2VDG a few years ago but had a stroke that required him to step back for a while. Now he is back and ready to help 25A move forward and meet its goals. The Cabinet Secretary is PDG Robin Smith. Although PDG Robin has filled various positions in the past, this is her first time as CS and she brings a depth of knowledge of Lionism and our district. The new Cabinet Treasurer is Lion Sally Davis who has been active in the district for a number of years and also brings a depth of knowledge.

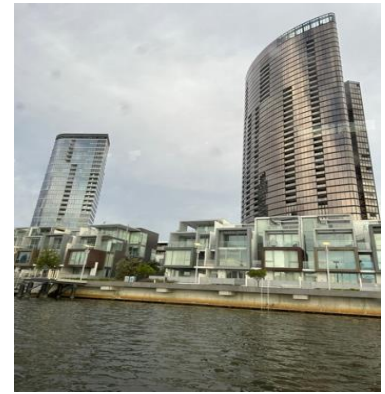
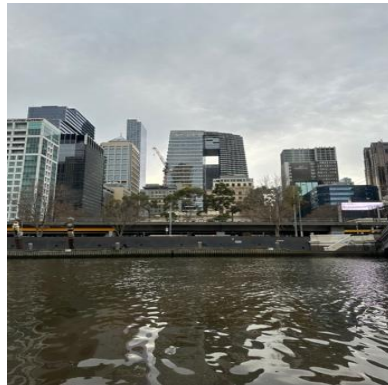
In the Global Action Team, we have two members. We have a new Lion for Global Membership – Lion Mary Jane DiMichele of the Crown Point club. She brings a great deal of enthusiasm for membership and marketing. For GLT we have another Lion that you all know, Lion Pat Greer. She has been an active Lion in her club and the district for a while. PCC Mitch Semans is again GET and already has location in mind for a new club. Lion Jay Ferrell is back as the GST. One of the 25A goals is 100% service reporting – every club must report at least one service activity. Lion Jay will be working with you to make that happen.

We do have one additional challenge this year – the Portal. Many Lions in their positions as Club or District Officers are trying to work through the issues. There are a few people at LCI who are responding to the questions, but they are dependent on others to actually fix the problems. So, patience is the best policy for now. However, we are working on some method to share information in the District as problems are resolved.

I am very glad to be back as your Governor and am looking forward to working with you to make 2024-2025 a great year in District 25A.

From the 1st Vice District Governor: Lion Jim Furlong

Wow, District Governor Patty and I just got back from Melbourne and did we have fun. First of all the architecture in Melbourne reminded me of Chicago. Lots of interesting designs.



Here's what goes on at an International Convention:

Lions Clubs International Convention 2024 sessions

1. Opening Ceremony: The convention kicked off with an inspiring opening ceremony, where Lions and Leos from different corners of the globe gathered. The energy was palpable as attendees celebrated their shared commitment to service. There was also the International Parade where many attendees put on their native clothing.
2. Keynote Addresses: Esteemed speakers addressed the audience, sharing insights on leadership, community impact, and humanitarian efforts. Their messages resonated with Lions' core values of service, fellowship, and integrity.
3. Breakout Sessions: Lots of informative sessions on subjects such as the Portal, Leadership and such.
4. Global Service Forum: A highlight of the convention, this forum addressed pressing global challenges. Lions discussed ways to combat hunger, promote education, and improve healthcare worldwide.
5. Awards and Recognitions: Lions who made exceptional contributions received well-deserved recognition. From Melvin Jones Fellowships to Presidential Certificates of Appreciation, the convention celebrated outstanding service.
6. Closing Ceremony. My favorite part. Not only is the new President installed but all the District Governor Elects get their "Elect" ribbon pull and I was honored to do that for Patty.

Remember, the Lions Clubs International Convention isn't just about sessions—it's about connecting, learning, and making a difference **and sightseeing**.



From the 1st Vice District Governor: Lion Jim Furlong (continued)

Next stop was Sydney, which was a very enjoyable city to visit. Below are some highlights of that excursion: dinner cruise on Sydney Harbor, the view from the Sky Tower; a great side trip.



Yes, the 15+ hour flight from Los Angeles to Australia was grueling but it was one of those once in a lifetime trip and it was very memorable.



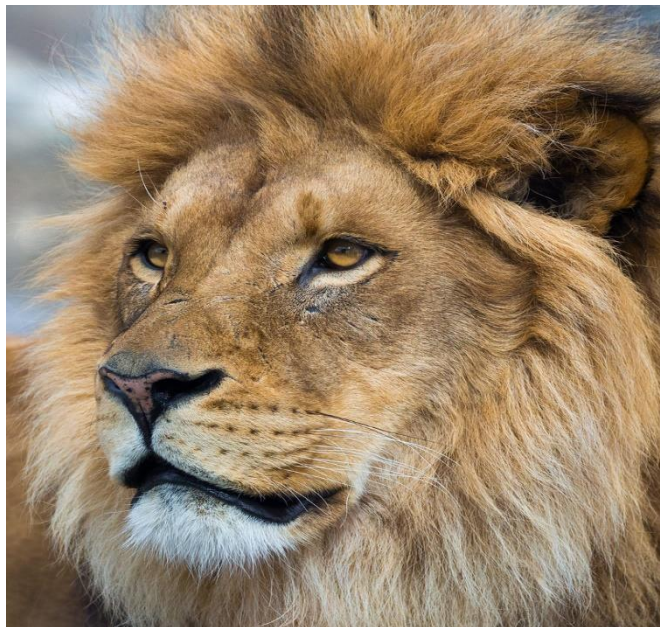
From the Second District Vice Governor: Lion David Dickinson

My name is Lion David Dickinson. I have had a stroke in 2020 and have Aphasia, so sometimes it is hard for me to communicate. Westville Lions Club, District 25-A and MD 25 Indiana WE SERVE. Vocational Rehabilitation and Driving Rehabilitation specialists. Therapy is a great resource for Speech, Occupational and Physical. Prayers are always appreciated.

Lions changed my life – Lions Clubs International.

Fellowship, volunteering it out whilst. Communities, service with pride and others kindness. Join our teams: Lions Clubs International Foundation. Defeating diabetes, protecting our environment and saving vision. Ending hunger, serving youth's and relieving disaster. Battling pediatric cancer and helping humanity.

Yours is Lionism, 2VDG David Dickinson



La Crosse Lions Host Successful Blood Drive

In a heartwarming display of community spirit, the La Crosse Lions Club's blood drive on Monday, June 3rd, proved to be a success. The event, held at The Center from 1 to 6 p.m., saw a turnout of 15 donors, potentially saving up to 45 lives.

The American Red Cross, which organized the drive, is always grateful for donors' generous contributions. Every two seconds, someone in the United States requires a blood transfusion, and events like the one hosted in LaCrosse by the Lions Club is crucial in ensuring a steady supply.

Despite being grateful for Monday's turnout, the Red Cross emphasized the ongoing need for blood donations. Only 3% of age-eligible individuals in the U.S. give blood each year, and donors are encouraged to consider donating regularly.

The Red Cross has already scheduled another blood donation event in LaCrosse. Mark your calendars for July 29th, from 1 to 6 p.m., when the Red Cross will return to The Center. Donors can already register online.

Want to Donate?

If you donated whole blood on the June 3rd event or one earlier at a different location, donors can then donate again on July 29th.

To schedule an appointment for the July 29th blood drive or to learn more about donating blood, visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.redcrossblood.org), download the Red Cross Donor App or call 1--800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).



Together, we can save a life

Whiting Lions

The Whiting Lions Club presented PDG Patrick Rodriguez with a W. P. Woods Fellowship on May 18 at the Indiana Harbor East Chicago Lions monthly meeting.

The Whiting Lions presented PDG Patrick the Fellowship based upon his many years of service to his Club, his District, the Lions of Indiana and his friendship to fellow District 25A Zone member Whiting Lions Club.

DG Stephen Helmken was there to assist with the presentation. Congratulations PDG Patrick!



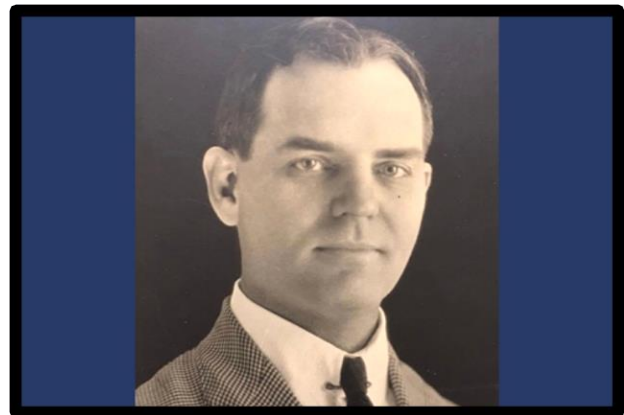
Pictured are:

Lion Naomi Rodriguez

DG Stephen Helmken

PDG Patrick Rodriguez

ILF Trustee Andy Dybel- Whiting Lions Club



W. P. Woods

East Chicago Leo's Club End of Year Report 2023-24

Service Activities and Accomplishments

- Reached out to the East Chicago community for sponsorship and mentorship, raising over \$500 in donations.
- Participated in the Disabled American Veterans Walk and donated funding towards their organization.
- Participated in East Chicago's National Night Out, which included handing out friendship bracelets and a water gun fight with the kids and police officers.
- Participated in the Northwest Indiana Cancer Kids Walk and donated funding towards their organization.
- Made eyeglass collection boxes and collected over 1000 pairs of glasses.
- Increased community involvement and awareness of the Leo's Club.
- Raised funds to support local organizations and causes and provided over 400 hours of hands-on service to the community.

Challenges

- Limited resources and volunteers.
- Competing with other organizations for donations and support.

Goals for Next Year

- Increase membership and volunteerism.
- Expand community outreach and partnerships.
- Raise more funds to support local organizations and causes.
- Develop new and innovative service projects



East Chicago Leos Serve with Honors and Distinction

Guadalupe Lupita Aguado is a senior at Bishop Noll high school in Hammond IN. Lupita is a member of the National Honors Society at Bishop Noll Institute. Lupita is currently our Leo Club Membership Chair where she recruits and promotes our Leo club at her high school. Lupita has over 40 hours of service to the East Chicago community including attending Leo meetings every Saturday morning, has participated in The East Chicago National Night Out, Lion's Pancake Breakfast, Leo Garage Sale, Disabled American Veterans Walk DAV, and the 25th District Lion Convention this year. Lupita plans to study engineering at the University of Illinois Chicago. Guadalupe Lupita Aguado, a senior at Bishop Noll High School in Hammond, Indiana, is actively involved in both her school and the East Chicago community. As a member of the National Honors Society at Bishop Noll Institute, Lupita also serves as the Membership Chair of the Leo Club, where she promotes and recruits new members. Lupita has accumulated more than 40 hours of service to the East Chicago community. In addition to attending Leo meetings every Saturday morning, she has participated in various events, including the East Chicago National Night Out, Lion's Pancake Breakfast, Leo Garage Sale, Disabled American Veterans Walk (DAV), and the 25th District Lion Convention. Lupita plans to pursue a degree in engineering at the University of Illinois Chicago upon graduating from high school.

Soledad Castellanos is a senior at Bishop Noll Institute in Hammond, IN. Soledad is a valued member of our EC Leo's club. Soledad is very active not only in the East Chicago community but also in her high school. Soledad played many sports including volleyball and soccer and honorably represented BNI at State Finals this year for her high school's Speech and Debate team. Soledad is also a member of the National Honors Society at Bishop Noll Institute. As a Leo Club Member Soledad led our club in many impactful ways. She came up with the idea to volunteer and make a donation to the DAV Disabled American Veterans Organization in Hammond Indiana. She encouraged her fellow Leo's to participate in the fundraiser walk last summer. This year she has passed the torch to young Leo Member Trevor Vazquez who is already talking to his friends and family about the importance of this walk. Soledad also helped with the East Chicago National Night Out. She has enthusiastic participation and dedication leave an enduring mark on both the East Chicago community and the Leo's club. Soledad's academic pursuits have led to her acceptance into St. Mary's College of Notre Dame, a testament to her hard work and dedication

Joshua Lopez, a senior at Lake Central High School in St. John, Indiana, is an esteemed member of the National Honors Society. Josh, known for his enthusiastic personality, serves as the Leo Club Tail Twister, keeping members engaged during meetings. He has dedicated nearly 40 hours of service to the city of East Chicago. This year, Josh introduced the club to the NICK Northwest Indiana Cancer Kids organization. He continues to facilitate the Leo's involvement in this meaningful cause. Additionally, Josh organized an impressive eyeglasses collection drive at his high school, gathering close to 500 pairs for our mission to Mexico. Josh's academic achievements have earned him acceptance into Purdue University West Lafayette, where he plans to pursue a dual degree in business and engineering.

Lakes of the Four Seasons Lions Club

The Lakes of the Four Seasons (LOFS) Lions Club donated funding to the Crown Point Community Library for a Story Walk in Winfield's Randolph Park. The Story Walk features pages from a children's story, each page placed within a glass covered signpost on the walking path around the small lake pictured below. The story will change about six times per year.



Pictured are Winfield President Tim Clayton, Winfield Board Member John Derwinski, Winfield Library Branch Supervisor Cindy Baumeister, Winfield Town Admin Nick Bellar, Library Director Julie Wendorf, Lion Tom Snowden, Lion Roarie, Lion Juan Hernandez, Lion Yolanda Hernandez, Lion Charmaine Ganley, Lion Jim Campagna, Lion Chuck Delascasas

Randolph Park is within the town of Winfield and adjacent to LOFS; it features a children's play area, picnic shelter, walking paths, and cornhole boards. Winfield is part of the service area for the Lakes of the Four Seasons Lions Club and has been supported by the Club since 1976. The LOFS Lions were pleased to be asked to be part of the Story Walk project, helping demonstrate the work the club does to support local parks and youth. The Story Walk project is expected to be completed this fall.





JOIN AN ADOPT-A-BEACH CLEANUP!

BEACH	Jeorse Park Beach
DATE	August 10, 2024
TIME	9:00am – 12:00pm



Scan the QR code or visit adopt.greatlakes.org, clicking “check in” and use the following code: 23422.



Crown Point Lions

CROWN POINT LIONS CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2024/2025
CROWN POINT LIONS CLUB OFFICERS



Crown Point Lions were honored to have District Governor Elect Patty Cooke-Furlong induct the 2024-2025 Officers. She was accompanied by her husband 1st District Governor Elect Jim Furlong. I was a great evening of celebration. Lion Mary Jane DiMichele passed to gavel to new President, Lion Carla Smolek.



Coming!!!

Crown Point Lions Club

30th Annual Golf Outing

Saturday, Sept 14, 2024
River Pointe Golf Course
Hobart, Indiana

For more information contact
Ed Schiesser – 219-680-6485



10:00 AM Shotgun Start
Lunch and Prizes
\$100.00 per golfer

Cedar Lake Lions: Annual Golf Outing



CEDAR LAKE LIONS CLUB ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

August 4, 2024

Location : Tuckaway Golf Club
27641 S. Stoney Island Ave.
Crete, IL

Time: 11:00AM Registration
Noon Start

Event includes: Lunch and dinner at the clubhouse

- Dinner follows golf
- 3 Beer tickets
- \$540 in cash prizes
- Goody bag / Door prizes / 50/50 Cash Raffle
- Driving range
- Skins game – optional

Donation: \$80.00 per player

Contact: Lion Jay Sheehy, 219-313-5682
Lion Jim Braner, 219-730-6099

Foursome Players Names (Please print)	Phone number	

Forms can be mailed to P.O. Box 111, Cedar Lake, IN

Participants Entry Form

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

For each player

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

OR

Please place me on a team.

Amount Enclosed _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Make Payments to: *Lions L.P. County Golf*

Mail to:

499 E. 800 N.
LaPorte, IN 46350

Cut on dotted line

**Indiana Lions
Zone 3A Lions Club of District
25A: w/projects**

LaPorte Lions- Lions Alert
Michiana Lions- Little Free
 Libraries
Mill Creek Community Lions-
 Dictionary Project
Rolling Prairie Lions- NPHS
 Scholarships, Dictionary Project

Whispering Pines Golf Course



Indiana Zone 3 A Lions

Committee Members:

Emily Howard
 Ron King
 Nancy Hawkins
 Glenn Swanson
 Tom Sharp

Paul Tuszynski
 Sandra Provan
 Daisy King
 Barb Berby
 Haley Whicker



2024

Friday, July 26



State Projects done by our clubs:

- ◆ *Speech and Hearing*
- ◆ *Cancer Control*
- ◆ *Leader dog for the Blind*
- ◆ *Indiana School for the Blind*
- ◆ *Eye and Tissue Bank*
- ◆ *Diabetes Awareness*



"We Serve"



Operation KidSight Newsletter



Greetings Lions of this great MD25! As we all start pitching in to help our clubs and communities this summer, I wanted to thank all of you Lions for your hard work and enthusiasm for the Operation KidSight program we have here in Indiana.

As many of you know (and it seems many still don't!), Sheila Christoff retired in May. I was excited at the opportunity a few years ago to possibly join the team, but with the onset of the pandemic the extra role wasn't needed. As scary a prospect it is for me in this new position, I would be thrilled to get us back to screening at that level! This program is such a vital service we can offer to our school nurses (who we know are overrun) and local daycare/preschool programs.

Just a refresher, Operation KidSight is a statewide vision-screening program that identifies treatable or preventable causes of blindness in preschool children, ages 18 months to 6 years. We utilize two different camera systems to achieve this. Cameras are available in every district, some owned by clubs/districts and others on loan to OKS board trustees or long-time screeners. I am more than thrilled to come to your communities and train any Lion on how to be an Operation KidSight vision screener. It may seem scary, it's pretty advanced technology and nobody wants to make a mistake when dealing with children. I'm here to assure you that I can teach you how to be a part of this mission. With the resources we have as Lions we can make sure children are getting the best start at learning (and LIFE) with ensuring their vision is preserved.

Lions in Indiana officially screened 15518 children in 2023-2024. It's important stuff, but oh so rewarding and fun because you get to work with kids! Reach out to your school nurses and daycare operators, let's ease their burden and let them know this is a service we offer. I have many pieces of literature from one-page leave-behinds to brochures and FAQs. We are working on 3 possible training sites (north/middle/ south), so please contact me if you have an ideal location with interested Lions. Just like any team, a bench of trained and enthusiastic screeners is how we can continue to grow this program and reach every child. I look forward to serving with all of you!

Lion Karlene Roe (Winamac 25A)

Operation KidSight Coordinator

kidsight@att.net

317-213-3902

Calendar: District Governor Patty Cooke

1st Cabinet	Saturday	8/17/2024		Westville, IN
My Banner Night	Saturday	9/21/2024		Schererville American Legion
2nd Cabinet	Sunday	10/20/2024		To be determined
Midwinter	Friday	1/17/2025	1/18/2025	Indianapolis
3rd Cabinet	Saturday	1/25/2025		South Haven American Legion
25A Convention	Friday	3/7/2025	3/8/2025	Fair Oaks Farm
MD25 Convention	Friday	4/25/2025	4/27/2025	Shipshewana
Last Cabinet	Sunday	6/8/2025		Lakes of the Four Seasons

Clubs may call DG Patty at 219 671 4668 to set a date for their club visitation