

DISTRICT CONTACTS

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LIONS DISTRICT 25-A NEWSLETTER

Coming Together to Serve



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JUNE 2026

District Governor Jim Furlong



District Governor Jim Furlong

630-699-4278

Final Cabinet Meeting, Sunday, June 14



They say time flies when you're having fun. Well, then this is fun. My final Cabinet meeting will be Sunday, June 14, 2026 at the Leroy Community Center at 5524 East 145th Ave. If you're going east from Crown Point or getting off at I-65 at the US 231 exit, continue really Southeast (South) on US 231 until you get to the community of Leroy. Turn South (right) on Elkhart St. until you get to 145th Ave. Turn East (left) on 145th Ave less than ½ mile and the community center will be on your left. From Hebron, go really Northeast (North) on US 231 until you get to the community of Leroy. Turn South (left) on Elkhart St. until you get to 145th Ave. Turn East (left) on 145th Ave less than ½ mile and the community center will be on your left.

We are going to have a Steak Fry (ala carte) for \$15 and ask that you bring a side dish. We will also provide all the fixin's of the steak such as seasoning and condiments. We'll have a great time and hope you can join us.

Goodbye — Adiós — Au revoir — Auf Wiedersehen — Arrivederci — さようなら

I must Admit when I sat down to write my last Hoosier Lion article, I saw that Copilot was asking me could it help me draft this final article. It was tempting.

Nope, I wanted to say goodbye all on my own. It did write the headline though as you all know I don't speak five languages. LOL.

I'm at a loss for words (yes, me) right now. I was an incredible honor to serve as your district governor in 25-26. I've really met some incredible Lions in the course of my official visits, cabinet meetings and even the Council Meetings with my peer governors. Rocky Simpson, Chief, you're an incredible guy and you were a great Council Chair for MD25. And Jackie Kurley you will be a great Council Chair in 26-27.

Turning to our own District 25A, what a year. It started a little late with me being installed at the International Convention in Orlando. And if you have a little time let me tell you how I almost became an Alligator meal coming back from the convention center to my hotel on my own. Then things really took off.

District Governor Jim Furlong



I had a great banner night around Halloween and I wanted to thank all for taking the Halloween costume theme to heart. I want to give a shoutout to My LOFS President Jenn and Secretary Sally who skillfully dressed up as me in my shorts with my Cubs logo on my artificial leg and Sally dressed as “my lovely wife” Patty. You guys were a riot. My official visits continued through the next few months sometimes dodging Indiana blizzards as we did coming home from the Ogden Dunes O/V where Patty and I thought it was strange so late at night to be seeing a line of semi-trailers coming at us on narrow County Line Road—having been detoured off of US30 which was impassable due to ice.

And before I knew it our District Convention was held in March at Fair Oaks Farms. ID Bert Nelson finally got there late Friday evening, very late and again due to the great Midwestern storms. Bert inspired us with his “bad jokes” but memorable stories of Lionism.

Little did we know that two days later we would be back in this part of the District to stand with the people of Lake Village, IN who were trying to recover from a devastating EF-3 tornado that leveled half of this small town. We were asked by the town to help them serve meals to survivors and recovery volunteers. This was Wednesday night and they said “could you be here tomorrow at 10:00?” Sure (gulp). Sent out an email plea for Lions boots on the ground for Thursday thru Sunday. And District 25-A answered the call. All told that weekend alone we have about 50 Lions from 12-15 clubs helping us serve the community.



For those who are interested, the total amount spent was \$10,206.65. As DG, my work included serving, buying supplies both food and wheelbarrows, writing and closing out grant requests and about 10 roundtrips from to Lake Village (usually through Lowell to get supplies). Including everyone who participated, the total volunteer hours were 472! Never was so proud to be a Lion.



This is WHY we are Lions.

A small sample of the District 25-A Lions helping out in Lake Village after the tornado.

First Vice District Governor David Dickinson



District 25A Lions,

Has channeled its efforts toward matching global initiatives with local impact. Mobilized under his personal rallying cry to “Go & Do,” the district’s long-range roadmap anchors heavily on securing the future of service through youth, expanding core vision programs, and building structural sustainability.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT: SECURING THE NEXT GENERATION.

The Leo Club Connection: Prioritizing invitations and platforms for (such as the Indiana Mid-Winter Conference Leo events) to ensure youth voices are embedded directly into district discussions rather than kept as separate entities.

The Peace Poster Contest: Using the annual International Peace Poster as a core community outreach tool to engage local schools, honor youth creativity, and introduce youth families to the impact of Lions clubs.

Leadership Hands-Offs: Integration younger members into local project coordination early, ensuring that institutional knowledge is shared for seamless long-term club health.

LONG-RANGE DISTRICT GOALS: MISSION 1.5 & BEYOND.

Mission 1.5 Alignment: A key pillar of the 2025-2026 year is action participation in Lions Clubs International Mission 1.5 aiming to grow global membership to 1.5 million. For District 25A, this means building on recent net-membership gains by focusing heavily on retention and chartering new clubs in underserved patches of the district.

Digital Leadership via the Lions Portal: Streamlining administrative workload and club president by shifting tracking, service reporting, and Club Excellence Awards entirely onto the digital Lions Portal. This reduces friction and allows leaders to focus on physical service rather than paperwork.

Disaster Readiness & Adaptability: Ensuring long-term resilience by keeping the District Disaster Relief Fund nimble. This proved critical during the 2026 emergency response in Lake Village following severe tornado damage, where quick coordination with LCIF yielded rapid emergency grant deployment.

DGE Dave Dickinson

Second Vice District Governor Wendy Semans

Hello Lions!

Summer is finally here and pancakes breakfasts and summer fairs and festivals are in full swing. Get out and support your local and neighboring Lions clubs. If you know of a club that is struggling, volunteer to help with their service project, it is always fun to get to know other Lions, we are in this to serve.



District Governor Jim's last Cabinet meeting is coming up, make sure to RSVP as it is a steak fry. Come and congratulate DG Jim on a great year and welcome DGE Dave.

Please make sure you have reported your new officers so the directory can be completed timely and get the information into the portal.



JUNE 2026

State Fair

Indiana Lions Foundation at the Indiana State Fair August 7th – August 23rd, 2026

Working at the gates at the Indiana State Fair is the Indiana Lions Foundation's largest fundraiser and we are asking for your support.

Working at the State Fair is fun and enjoyable, and almost all the positions are sitting and in the shade. You need not be a Lion to help, so please ask your relatives (15 years and older) and friends to enjoy this day with you.

The early morning shift has limited availability. Our greatest need is for the morning shift from 7:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and the afternoon shift from 1:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Some days, the infield gates do not close until 8:45 p.m. In exchange for working at the State Fair, the Foundation offers State Fair Credits (1 for the early morning shift and 2 each for the morning and afternoon shifts), which may be redeemed for a W.P. Woods Fellowship or a Community Service Grant.

I am pleased to announce that with some of the profits from the 2025 State Fair, the Foundation supported each of the five State Projects with a \$2,400 grant and has pledged an additional \$2,000 grant for each State Project to be made after the 2026 State Fair. Please use the QR code or go to our website to sign up. I hope to see you at the Fair! Lion Rose Russell, Indiana Lions Foundation RoseWRussell@gmail.com 574-250-0125 (call or text).



JUNE 2026

South Haven Lions Club



SOUTH HAVEN LIONS CLUB

2026 GOLF OUTING



Saturday, June 27, 2026
Check-In: 7:00 AM | Shotgun Start: 8:00 AM

\$75 per Person
\$300 per Team
(4 Players)
\$75 Team Deposit

 **Duck Creek Golf Course**
638 N. 700 W.
Hobart, IN 46342

- ✓ Skins & Pins
- ✓ Raffles & Door Prizes
- 🏆 1st Place: \$400 Prize
- ✓ Food & Drinks Included



REGISTER TODAY!



Scan the QR code to quickly register for our Golf Outing through Zeffy!

Golf Outing Registration Form Scramble **FOUR** a Cause!



Benefiting South Haven Lions Club Projects

Location: Duck Creek Golf Course
638 N. 700 W. Hobart, IN. 46342

When: Saturday, June 27th, 2026
Registration @ 7 am / Shotgun @ 8 am

Cost: \$75 per person / \$300 per team / \$75 deposit per team

Contact Information:

Team Name: _____

Team Captain: _____

Contact Number: _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Participation Entry:

Individual (\$75)

Foursome (\$300)
Deposit (\$75)

Payment Method: Cash or Check

For questions, please contact Randy Greer (728.8432)
or Lion Ken Laviolette (741.4915)

Submit Payment & Form to:
Lion Ken Laviolette 3017 Bender St. Portage, IN. 46368

JUNE 2026

LOFS Lions



The LOFS Lions Car Cruise Returns this Summer!



Fun & Free Event!

Three Dates:

Monday June 10th

Monday July 15th

Monday August 10th

**4pm to 7pm in
the Lakehouse Parking Lot**

**Featured Food Vendors:
Ken Dawgs and Snowie**

And...the Lions will be selling
raffle tickets with the
winner announced each evening!



Cruise into the Summer with the LOFS Lions

Celebrating their 50th



Year of Service in 2026!

There will be a third food truck, with rotating vendors.

Griffith Lions Club

The Lions Club of Griffith, with the assistance of a matching grant from the Indiana Lions Foundation purchased 10 Bens Blue Bags for the Griffith Police Department.

Bens Blues Bags are filled with items that will assist officers to effectively work with autistic children and others. Assist by helping to calm them down in stressful situations, as well as effectively communicating with them.

Bens Blue Bags are provided in the NWI region by a not for profit, Logan's Love, Logan Speaks. **Logan's Love – Logan Speaks** is a nonprofit organization founded to promote acceptance, love, and community support, inspired by the life and message of Logan Slaughter.

The two photos are of Lion Caryle presenting the check to the founder of Logan's Love, Logan Speaks and of the presentation of the Blue Bags to the Police at the Town Council Meeting earlier this month



JUNE 2026

Griffith Lions Club



JUNE 17, 2026



Golden Corral, 8215 Broadway, Merrillville, IN

We Serve Starts at 6pm/ \$17 per person \$16 for seniors

ZONE 3

Zone Meeting

Guest Speaker:
Amy Wulf- Development Manager Humane Indiana & Humane Indiana Wildlife & Drew Wennmacher Wildlife educator



- FOOD
- FUN
- FRIENDS
- SILENT AUCTION
- GUEST SPEAKER

Please RSVP to Lion Jay Ferrell by **June 10**
1-219-718-4765 or lionjayferrell@gmail.com

Who's in Zone 3?
Chesterton, Hobart, Portage, South Haven, Ogden Dunes,
Lake Station, and Merrillville, but anyone can attend!

LOFS LIONS CLUB

STEAK FRY

Sunday

\$23 PER ADULT

SUPPORT THE ONES WHO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY

SUNDAY AUG 23, 2026
4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

SEASONS LAKEHOUSE
LAKE OF THE FOUR SEASONS
1048 North Lake Shore Drive
Crown Point, IN 46307

A Great Evening
FOR A GREATER PURPOSE!

- GRILL-YOUR-OWN STEAK
- SIDES, SALAD & DESSERT
- LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT
- FEATURING A WATER SKI SHOW by the LOFS Water Sports Association
- COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP
- FAMILY FUN & BEAUTIFUL LAKE VIEWS

KIDS EAT FREE! HOTDOG, CHIPS & A DRINK

THE LOFS LIONS CLUB SERVES OUR COMMUNITY
The LOFS Lions Club is committed to making a difference in the lives of those who need it most. Through the generosity of our community, we support:

- Disaster Relief
- Humanitarian Support
- Childhood Cancer Initiatives
- Diabetes Awareness
- Hunger Relief & Food Drives
- Environmental Programs
- Holiday Assistance
- Youth & Family Support
- Community Outreach & Local Service Projects

Together, We Serve.
Your support helps us continue serving our community and those who need it most.

Join Us!
Good Food!
Good Company!
Great Cause!

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE!
SCAN THE QR CODE TO BUY YOUR TICKETS SECURELY THROUGH ZEFFY.

zeffy

QUESTIONS?
Contact Regina
219-306-0197
regina@myway2work.org

LOFS Lions Club

The LOFS Lions Club installed two sets of concrete cornhole games in Lions Park in early June. This project took nearly four years to complete, including fundraising from the community during the annual July 4th parade, and grants from the Indiana Lions Foundation and Ed Paine Care and Helping Hands.

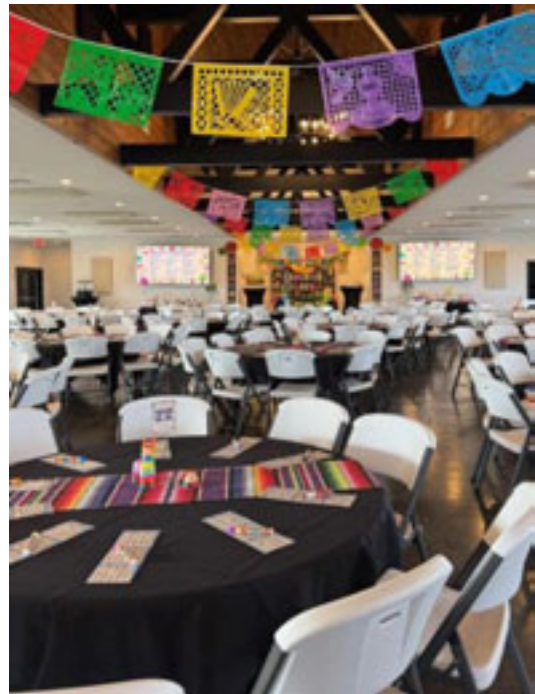
With help from the Maintenance and Operations Department in the LOFS community, the cornholes, each weighing 630 pounds, were placed on 6-inch-thick concrete bases. Thanks to Lion Tony for helping us find a concrete contractor, Lion Chuck for proposing the project, and the Lions Club at large for all their support of this project. The cornholes sets have a Lions logo and a Lakes of the Four Seasons logo, which reflects the joint nature of the project.

The Lions have provided not only more recreation for Lions Park with these cornholes, but they recently put in a tree and pollinator garden, supporting Lions environmental goals.



St. John Lions Club

The St. John Lions Club was approached by the St. John Parks Dept. and asked if we would help them in hosting a Bingo De Mayo. We basically worked the event after they set up all the decorations, etc. And they allowed us to have a 50/50 so that our Club would keep the proceeds. The event was very well attended, and everyone had a great time. We raised over \$725 for our Club that night. A few pictures below.



25-A District 4th Cabinet Meeting Flyer



District 25A 4th Cabinet Meeting
District Governor Jim Furlong



Sunday, June 14, 2026

Hosted by Lakes of the Four Seasons Lions Club

Leroy Community Center

5524 E 145th Ave, Crown Point, IN 46307

1:00 PM CDT

Pitch-in Style

Cost: \$15 (cook your own steak)

(steak, plates, cutlery, cups, and some dessert will be provided)

**PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE and
YOUR OWN BEVERAGE (ALCOHOL IS PERMITTED)**

All reports must be submitted via email to CS Robin Smith no later than
6/8/26 - mswolfen@aol.com

Please RSVP to CS Robin Smith by June 7, 2026

MUST BE PREPAID, NO PAYMENTS ACCEPTED AT THE DOOR

Name: _____ Title: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Number attending ___ X \$15.00 = _____

Make checks payable to:

District 25A Lions

Mail to: CS Robin Smith

745-1 Capitol Rd, Valparaiso, IN 46385

Cell: 219-916-4549

OR PAY WITH ZEFFY

Scan barcode below





It Returns!
23rd Running of
Brian's Trike Race

Indiana Lions for the ISBVI Fundraiser!
Saturday, September 12, 2026

- Registration: **11:00 AM**
- Practice: **11:30 AM**
- Race Begins: **1:00 PM**

2701 N Devon Ave,
Indianapolis, IN 46219

For more information please contact
Event Co-Chair PDG Linda Scott
at **317-697-2039**



JUNE 2026

Brian's Trike Race: ISBVI



Sponsorship Opportunity for the Blind & Visually Impaired Students of Indiana

Dear Sir or Madam,

On September 12th, 2026, The Indiana Lions for the ISBVI will be holding our 23rd running of Brian's Trike Race fundraising event on the grounds of the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Indianapolis. This exciting and often hilarious event raises funds to assist with costs for the students and the school that are not covered by other funding. Some examples are technology upgrades, playground equipment, sports equipment, money to help pay for students to attend local and national leadership conferences, and many other personal and educational expenses that directly affect improved learning and life experiences for the students.

We are writing today to respectfully ask for your consideration for a sponsorship that will greatly help assist blind and visually impaired students in Indiana. These students attend the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired school (ISBVI) in Indianapolis or are serviced through their scholastic outreach program. The Outreach program assists students in their local community school. Your sponsorship dollars and generosity would reach state-wide!

You can be a sponsor in a couple of ways. You may choose to enter the race with your own team (companies, students, non-lions welcomed!) or you can choose to donate monetarily. No matter which you choose, YOUR time/donation will help and be greatly appreciated! We are enclosing a list of Sponsorship Opportunities and a Registration Form to enter the race.

Thank you for your time and consideration! It is your donations that make it possible for the ISBVI Trustees to continue the good work within the school. In case of any questions or clarifications, feel free to contact the Co-Chairs, listed below, or your local District ISBVI Trustee.

Kindest Regards,

*PDG Linda Scott
& CS Angie Crouch*

PDG Linda Scott, Event Co-Chair
Trustee for Indiana Lions for ISBVI
C: 317-697-2039
Email: lindamscott@comcast.net

CS Angie Crouch, Event Co-Chair
Trustee for Indiana Lions for ISBVI
C: 317-518-4070
Email: mwam2893@gmail.com



**Lions International is the largest service organization in the world. The Indiana Lions for the ISBVI are dedicated to building a stronger future for students who are blind or visually impaired across the state of Indiana. Your donations are needed to continue this important work. The Indiana Lions for ISBVI is a recognized charity under IRS Section 501 (c) (3).



Brian's Trike Race Sponsorship Form

Event Date September 12, 2026 ** 23rd Running!



WHY BE A SPONSOR? These funds help to underwrite costs, which include but are not limited to, expenses to help students attend national leadership conferences, to assist with technology upgrades and many other expenses that directly affect improved learning. This outstanding event is being held at the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired located at 2701 N Devon Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46219.

\$200.00 by August 1, 2026

Bronze Sponsorship

What You Receive:

- ⇒ Your organization's name displayed at Brian's Trike Race
- ⇒ Team entry into the Trike Race

\$350.00 by August 1, 2026

Silver Sponsorship

What You Receive:

- ⇒ All the perks of a Bronze Sponsorship PLUS your organization's name and/or logo on each of the T-Shirts worn throughout Indiana
- ⇒ Certificate of Appreciation from the Indiana Lions for the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired

\$500.00 by August 1, 2026

Gold Sponsorship

What You Receive:

- ⇒ All the perks of a Bronze & Silver Sponsorship
- ⇒ By request-exhibit space at the event

\$1,000.00 by August 1, 2026

Platinum Sponsorship

What You Receive:

- ⇒ All the perks of a Bronze, Silver & Gold Sponsorship
- ⇒ Priority placement of your name on sponsor display board and T-Shirts
- ⇒ Platinum Sponsorship Award with your Name/Company

Name of Sponsoring Organization: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone Number and Email: _____

Sponsor Level: Silver Gold Platinum Other Amount: \$ _____

For more information about sponsorship or fielding a team please contact one of our event chairs:

Event Co-Chair
 PDG Linda Scott
 C: 317-697-2039
 E: lindamscott@comcast.net

Event Co-Chair
 CS Angie Crouch
 C: 317-518-4070
 E: mwam2893@gmail.com



23rd Running of BRIAN'S TRIKE RACE

September 12, 2026

located at 2701 N Devon Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46219

This fun and often hilarious event raises funds to assist both residential and outreach students of the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. These funds help to underwrite costs, which include but are not limited to, expenses to help students attend national leadership conferences, to assist with technology upgrades and many other expenses that directly affect improved learning. Each Trike team member will receive a race T-shirt. *Additional shirts will be available for purchase. (see below)*

BRIAN'S TRIKE RACE TEAM REGISTRATION



Saturday, September 12TH, 2026

Rain or Shine

Entry Deadline August 1st, 2026

Registration opens at 11:00 am Eastern Time

Trike Race practice begins at 11:30 and races start at 1pm

\$100 entry fee per team and PLEASE use one registration form for each team

Students must be 14 or older

Category that best describes 4 team members (circle one) Students Adults Mixed Ages

Team Name: _____ Sponsor (if any) _____

Captains Name, Phone #, Email: _____

List Participant Name (please print):	Phone#	Lion/Leo? Y/N	T-Shirt Size
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
Alternate: _____	_____	_____	_____

\$20 for each t-shirt over the 4 that is included in your team registration.

Extra # t-shirts _____ Size(s) _____ Total extra cost enclosed \$ _____

****For safety purposes, participants must wear closed-toe shoes****

Food concession by the Indy Edge Beep Baseball will be available

Please send a check, payable to Indiana Lions for the ISBVI, along with this form to:

CS Angie Crouch @ 9051 Greystone Ct. Indianapolis, IN 46234

For more information contact PDG Linda Scott @ 317-697-2039 / lindamscott@comcast.net

or CS Angie Crouch @ 317-518-4070 / mwam2893@gmail.com

Hosted by the Indiana Lions for the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired

JUNE 2026

Foundation for Fighting Blindness

Hi fellow Lions,

I am a Lion in Arlington Heights (IL) and South Milwaukee (WI), current club VP and Zone Chair in Illinois. I am reaching out to the Lions throughout the entire state.

Indianapolis has two big events coming up for the Foundation Fighting Blindness that I am hoping you will consider attending and/or supporting. Please forward this on to your club members or districts.

Our [Indianapolis Birdies Fore the Blind](#) Golf Outing is taking place Monday, July 13, 2026 at Eagle Creek Golf Course. Click the link to register or for more info. I'd love to see Lions teams at this fun event!

- I am also the Event Manager for our [20th Annual Indianapolis VisionWalk](#) taking place on Saturday, September 26 at White River State Park. This is in support of the Foundation Fighting Blindness, the world's largest private funder of retinal degenerative research. We should have around 400 walkers, including those affected by blindness or vision loss, optometrists, ophthalmologists, non-profit organizations with info tables, and a LOT of fun activities. This is a free event.

Allow me to present to your club, live or virtually, about our research and background. I've spoken to more than 1,500 Lions over the past few years, at individual club meetings, quads, zone meetings and district conventions. For both of our events, we are seeking volunteers, participants and sponsors. I would also love help in spreading the word to other Lions, your friends and co-workers. Attached are fliers for both.

As a Lion myself, I know there is a HUGE connection with our missions, serving the blind and visually impaired community. Your club likely supports many worthwhile causes, but I hope you will consider our walk as well. Lions Clubs in general have a huge connection with the mission of our Foundation. In fact, our Founder, Gordon Gund, was named a True Visionary by *Lions Magazine* a few years ago.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to e-mail me at SSroka@FightingBlindness.org, or call at (847) 370-4902. Thanks a bunch! I hope you can help us out! If you have any questions or need a hand with anything don't hesitate to contact me.

