

District 25A-Newsletter



Officers

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Cabinet Treasurer:

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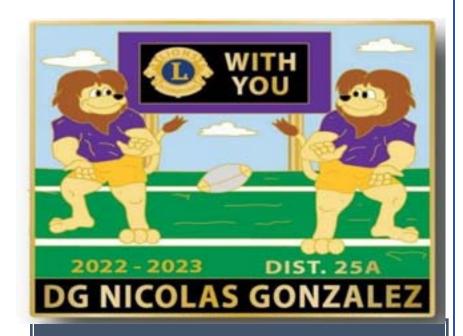
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"IN RUGBY, YOU SAY THE PHRASE
'WITH YOU' WHEN YOU WISH TO HELP YOUR
TEAMMATE.

LIONS, I AM 'WITH YOU' WHEN A FELLOW LION NEEDS HELP WITH A SERVICE PROJECT, FINDING NEW MEMBERS OR NEW LEADERS."



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September 2022



DG visits

9/19-Hamlet Lions



District Governor: Nick Gonzalez

Greetings fellow Lions of 25A!

It was a pleasure seeing many of you at our 1st Cabinet
Meeting. These meetings are already an excellent time to share
ideas with your fellow Lions. I encourage you all to
attend the remaining Cabinet meetings this year. We will all
grow as Lions as we learn from each other. Thank you to
everyone who volunteered at the Indiana State Fair. It was a
fun experience we shared with fellow Lions from throughout
Indiana. Our service will help the Indiana Lions Foundation
continue

to assist Hoosiers. I am sure I mentioned it before, but I love traveling. I cannot wait to visit all the wonderful communities in our district. Please be patient as I try to schedule a visit to every club. I notice other districts publish their District Governor's OV schedule in their newsletters. I think I will follow suit. As of now, my only scheduled September visit is on September 19 th in Hamlet. I plan to schedule a few more during the month.

So far, I am 0-for-2 in mentioning the New Member Kits I have.

Not only did I forget to mention it at the Cabinet meeting, but I also forgot at the Zone 2A/2B meeting. I am not going 0 for 3. I received 50 New Member Kits from Lions Clubs International.

They include certificates signed by newly-elected International President Brian Sheehan. I want these kits in the hands of new members. We, as a district, can find 50 new members before Christmas.

I BELIEVE IN YOU!! I know there are at least 50 people who reside in District 25A counties that want to be Lions. We will find them. You want these kits. I will deliver them to you. I am 'with you' as you seek to grow your club membership. Take advantage of the remaining warm days. Host a strides walk; plan a roadside cleanup; gather for a

club picnic.

Thank you to everyone for serving your communities. You are appreciated!

DG Nick Gonzalez

1st VDG-Stephen Helmken

SEPTEMBER 2022





Greetings Lions,

August was the month for the Indiana State Fair. I'm glad so many Lions were able to go to Indianapolis and help work the fair. Lion Alice and I did, and we had a lot of fun as we always do. We enjoy seeing our Lion friends from around the state and seeing all the people that come to the fair. This may have been our sixth or seventh year to work the fair. We've always worked at Gate 18 but this year that gate was closed, and we worked at Gate 1W and Gate 12. Thank you to the Lions from District 25A who went and helped with this event. I know Lion Rose Russell and her hardworking group were very appreciative of the help. It's hard to believe we are in September already. I guess I'm a "Fall" person. I love the colors that screams FALL, the oranges, yellows, reds, and browns. I love the cooler temperatures; sweater weather is what it's called. The smell of burning leaves. Fall takes my mind (or stomach) to thoughts of hot or cold apple cider, Honeycrisp apples, chili suppers, ham and bean soup, my wife's apple brownies, and so many other yummy items.

In my mind September equals the beginning of school which will have many clubs handing out dictionaries in the elementary schools. Clubs will also start eye screenings in the schools. Maybe this year will be my chance to go help with an eye screening project. This is one Lions activity I've never been able to take part in because of work. But if I know ahead of time, I can take a vacation day. September means many city and town festivals will begin. I know there are Lions Clubs that have eat stands or booths at these festivals. Make sure you go and help support their clubs. Plus, for clubs that will be working at a festival, this could be a great time to reach out to some potential "new" members. Make sure to have a few brochures on hand to give out.

Most importantly, Lions, make sure you get those September club activities entered into MyLION. These are all very important and shows that 25A is out doing projects and raising awareness of LIONS all over the District. It also helps to show LCI that we are very active. Let's make this season when we grow our clubs and not have members "Falling" from our rosters

Happy Fall ya all,

1 st VDG Stephen J. Helmken

September 2022

2 VDG-Patty Cooke





CONTRACT II II ON THAT

Address 1520 N Gard Dr Crown Point, IN 46307 UNITED STATES

Phone

219-671-4668

Email

patty.cooke@gmail.com





I have also been getting reacquainted with District 25A, having
attended a Zone Meeting and
activities of some of the Clubs. While
checking the 25A service hours
report, I noticed that many clubs are
not using myLion to report their
Service Activites. Sometimes this is
due to the existing busyness of the
Club Secretary and President. If this is
the case in your club, you can assign
another Lion to be the Club Service
Chairperson.

This Lion has multiple duties from assisting to develop service opportunities, serving as a club resource on current community needs by monitoring the service activities. collaborating with the club membership chairperson to promote membership opportunities to non-Lions during service projects, and reporting service activities to Lions Clubs International.

Another club officer who can be assigned is the Club

Administrator. This person can support a club president or secretary with administrative tasks that are completed through MyLCI, such as Reporting Monthly Membership, entering new members, or modifying data for existing members. They can also do the reporting of club service activities via MyLion.

If there is a member of your club who technically sawy, this might be an opportunity for them to help – and reduce the workload of the secretary or president. If you want more information on these Club Officer positions, please let me know

Together We Can
Thank you all for what you
do.

Lion Patty Cooke, 2nd Vice District Governor

GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM

Service Ideas

GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM

SERVICE IDEAS OF THE MONTH

EASY SERVICE IDEAS FOR SEPTEMBER!
REPORT YOUR MEETINGS! LITERALLY, THE EASIEST SERVICE TO REPORT
THAT ALL CLUBS DO. LET'S GET OUR SERVICE REPORTING TO 100%

ANOTHER EASY SERVICE IDEA. CONSIDER HELPING ANOTHER CLUB WITH THEIR PROJECT. IT MIGHT GIVE YOU AN IDEA ON HOW TO DO A PROJECT FOR YOUR CLUB. AND IF YOU'RE A SMALLER CLUB, WORKING WITH OTHER CLUBS TAKES SOME OF THE STRESS AWAY.

DO YOU HAVE ANY NEAT SERVICE IDEAS TO SHARE? EMAIL ME! YOUR GST AND WE CAN CHAT AND SHARE THEM WITH THE DISTRICT AND THE STATE!

GST 25A -LION JAY FERRELL- LIONJAYFERRELL@GMAIL.COM

October Council Meeting

Make your reservation by Sept 9th for the group rate of \$119/night.

Be sure to let them know you are with the Lions Clubs of Indiana!



A prize will be given to someone in the group of first time attendees to a Council meeting.

7

Look forward to seeing everyone there! Go Team!!

Date:10/8/2022

Time 8:30am

Wear your favorite sports team apparel!

Who is Your Favorite Sports Team? Show Us!

Wyndham Hotel North 13500 Tegler Drive Noblesville, IN 46060 317 773 4970



Thank You for Your Support of the Indiana Lions Foundation



On behalf of the Indiana Lions Foundation State Fair Committee, I want to say "Thank you" to all who worked at the Indiana State Fair. Due to changes in staffing requirements, we had more positions to fill than in any previous year. As a result, we started the fair with many unfilled positions, but in typical fashion, the great Lions of Indiana stepped up. Thanks to your support, the Indiana Lions Foundation will be able to continue to support clubs and districts as they serve their communities.

We saw many new faces this year and I enjoyed meeting each of you, as well as greeting old friends who worked in prior years. I hope all of you had as much fun as I did.

Over the next few weeks, I will compile the statistics about individuals who worked from each district and club, and will share that information, but for now please accept my heartfelt "Thank you".

Lion Rose Russell, Trustee Indiana Lions Foundation





Campaign 100 has <u>ended</u> and Lions met the challenge! Over \$325 million dollars was raised for 8 Global Causes: Vision, Youth, Hunger, Childhood Cancer, Disaster Relief, Diabetes, the Environment and Humanitarian efforts. These causes were magnified during the Pandemic. The amount of people we will be able to help with these funds can't even be counted.

District 25A raised over \$49,500 the last two years during the Pandemic. That's amazing since so many clubs weren't meeting in person. Over 60% of the donations during this time came from individual Lions like yourself. All 50 clubs donated to Campaign 100 during the 2021-2022 Lions year. In addition, our District had three Model Clubs during the Campaign.

Lions Clubs are starting to meet again so please keep LCIF in your club or individual budget. Even thought Campaign 100 has completed, donations are still needed to help those we serve.

Our District sent money and supplies to the Tornado victims in Kentucky this past December under Disaster Relief. We also collected money for Humanitarian services to go to Ukraine. Lions from Poland, Germany, Romania and other countries are volunteering at the Refugee Camps. These are set up at the borders helping to bring much needed food, clothing, and other needed supplies through Lions donations from all over the World.

If you would like to know how much your club has in their LCIF account, who has received an MJF award, need help with an application for the award or would like to schedule a program at one of your club meetings, please contact us.

Thank you for all you do.

PDG Randy Greer LionRandy@yahoo.com 219-728-8432

2VDG Patty Cooke Patty.Cooke@gmail.com 219-671-4668



The LOFS Lions Club is proud to announce the 1st Annual End of Summer Bash!

This event will take place from 4p to 10p Saturday September 10th at the LOFS Lakehouse

Jack Cunningham will be playing from 4p to 6:30p followed by Working Class Zero from 7p to 10p

We will have 5 Food trucks on site: Hub City BBQ, Wild Fries, Battista's Artisan Pizza, Sammy's Tacos and Ken Dawgs

Crown Brewing will be on site to serve up your favorite brews along with hard seltzers and wine

There will be a bounce house for the kids along with a dunk tank featuring members of the LOFS Lions and members of the LOFS HOA Board

This is an all-age show that is open to the public. The main parking lot will be reserved for LOFS residence with up-todate vehicle stickers, and there will be an area for golf cart parking.

If you are not a resident of LOFS and are planning on going with a resident to the event, we ask that you park at the resident's house and drive with them. If you are not a resident and are not coming with a resident, parking will be available at the Jerry Ross Elementary school with complimentary shuttle bus service to the event (there will be no food or beverages allowed on the buses)

This is an outdoor event, so it is weather permitting.

Outside alcohol will not be allowed at this event as well as pets (with the exception of service animals)

Tickets are available online utilizing the QR Code in our flyer or by going to https://event.ontaptickets.com/events/lofslions-club-end-of-summer-bash-9-10-2022

Prices are as follows:

Presale: Ages 11 and over = \$5

10 and under = Free

Day of event: \$10 for all ages

10 and under = Free

So, bring your blanket and chairs and join us as we close out this amazing LOFS summer!



CEDAR LAKE LIONS CLUB ANNUAL GOLF OUTING September 11, 2022

Date: September 11, 2022 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: \$75.00 per player

Contact: Lion John Schutz, 219-765-9023

Lion Jay Sheehy, 219-313-5682

Foursome Players Names (Please print)	Phone number	



"It Takes A Village to Build A Community"



Women's Symposium

Guest Speaker Back by Popular Demand: Melissa Grcich NP

Date: Saturday, September 17, 2022

Time: 1-3pm CST

Location: Lake of the Four Seasons

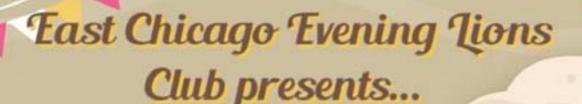
Clubhouse

Price: \$20.00*

Please bring a New or Gently
Used Children's Book. They will
be donated to:

The Free Little Children's Libraries throughout the District!

Please make checks payable to Wendy Semans and mail to 5200 N 150E, Knox, IN 46534.
 Questions, please call Wendy at: 219.851.2409



HAPPY HOUR

Sat., September 24, 2022 12pm-3pm

*Self-pour Craft Beer & Cider

*Basket raffles & 50/50

*Complimentary Taco Bar







BrewFest 8347 Kennedy Ave Highland, IN 46322

All proceeds benefit
E.C. Evening Lions Charities

Mo Cover



Schererville Central Lions Club
Co-sponsored by St John Township
Trustee Cathy J Lareau

Annual Oktoberfest

Friday, September 30, 2022 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

St. John Community Center, 1515 Lincoln Hwy, (US 30) 1 CHOP \$12.00 – 2 CHOPS \$16.00 (CASH BAR)

■ DINE-IN or TAKE OUT available

Smoked Pork Chops-Spätzle-Sweet & Sour Red Cabbage-Sauerkraut-Potatoes

For tickets - call 365-1085 or 924-7283

Credit Card payment accepted at the Door





The Westville Lions Club Invites you to their All you can eat Pancakes, Sausage Links,

Orange Juice and Coffee

Saturday, October 08, 2022 7 AM to 10:00 AM \$5.00 (Kids under 5 are free)

George's Gyros at 325 N. Calumet Road Chesterton, IN

Please purchase your ticket from any Westville Lions member or at the door.

Thank you for your support.



District 25-A Leader Dog Visit October 22, 2022

The District 25-A Leader Dog Trustees have planned a trip to visit Leader Dogs for the Blind on **Saturday, October 22, 2022, from 9:00am until 3:00pm ET time**.

This trip is for District 25-A Lions and their guests. The school is restricting the number of people visiting on campus to fifty due to possible Covid Restrictions. They can manage social distancing with fifty visitors. There will be no students on campus this weekend.

This visit will be modeled after the First Vice District Governors' visit. It will include touring the facilities, learning about the programs the school offers and the possibly of walking with a Leader Dog. Leader Dog wants to make sure your visit is very informative. This is an opportunity to have a tour that is not given to regular visitors.

The Leader Dog Trustees tried to get a bus for this trip, but the cost was \$5000.00. You will have to drive yourself to the school. This gives you the opportunity to carpool and keep costs down.

You must make your own hotel arrangements.

The hotel Leader Dog recommends is the Drury Hotel in Troy Michigan. The hotel phone number is (248) 528-3330. The hotel has a hot buffet breakfast in the morning. A complimentary beverage and snacks are offer in the evening. This hotel is nine miles from the school and takes 18 minutes to get to the school. We are recommending that all people attending the visit, should stay at a hotel on

Friday night.

This will allow all Lions to arrive at the school by 9:00 a.m.

After September 23rd, the trip will be offered to the other District's Leader Dog Trustees and Associates if there are any open spots.

To guarantee your visit you must contact one of the three District Leader Dog trustees as soon as possible to get you name on the visitor's list. If you are not on the list, you will not be allowed to visit the school.

If you decide to stay Saturday night, you can go to Frankenmuth on Sunday and visit Bronner's Christmas Store. This is a very large store with things for Christmas. The town of Frankenmuth has several shops worth visiting. If you are interested in going to Frankenmuth, you can make hotel arrangements for Saturday night in or around Frankenmuth.

Leader Dog Trustees are:

Lion Joy Robinson Phone 219-973-3457

Email jrobinson28@hotmail.com

Lion Clarence Davis Phone 219-742-5214

Email csdavis61@comcast.net

Lion Chuck De Las Casas Phone 219-776-3031

Email cdelas@comcast.net

WESTVILLE LIONS

CLUB

Inclusive Playground Grand Opening



Maria Fruth President and Chief Executive Officer of The Healthcare Foundation of LaPorte cuts the ribbon at the opening ceremony and dedication of the new Inclusive playground at Bluhm County Park on Saturday, August 13, 2022 as Range Jeremy from the LaPorte County

Parks and other members of the park department along with LaPorte County elected officials look on.

The Westville Lions would like to thank the Healthcare Foundation of LaPorte County the LaPorte County Parks Department, the LaPorte County commissioners and county council members for providing this very beautiful playground for our community. Thanks to Channel 16 News who was there filming the event and would feature it that evening at 6:00 and 11:00.

The weather was perfect for this event, the music was great and got everyone to socialize and mingle with friends and neighbors while the children enjoyed coloring pages of the playground or playing on the playground all while enjoying snacks provided by the LaPorte County Parks Department. Coasters with a picture of the playground along with a LaPorte County Parks poster with a picture of Luhr, Bluhm, Creek Ridge, and Red Mill were available for the adults.

Ranger Jeremy announced the other three parks would be making improvements and updates.

The Lions had a beautiful evening and great time at our July dinner meeting when we were at this park and look forward to returning August 28 when we host the Westville SAG stop for Tour De Porte

WERRILLVILLE LIONS WORKED THE STATE FAIR

4 members of Merrillville Lions Club went and volunteered at the State Fair on the weekend of August 7! Lion Carol, Lion Romayne, Lion Rachel, and Lion Jay volunteered and had a blast!







ZC Lion Jason and ZC Lion Bill had Merrillville Lions host the first Zone Meeting of the year. They had a taco bar and talked about what all of their respective clubs were up to and what they had upcoming!

Merrillville Lions hosted a Chick-fil-A Spirit Night!

Pictured are Lion Rachel, Lion Jay, Lion Carool, Lion Lou Ann, Lion Ellen, Lion Mike, and Lion Romayne



Wanatah Lions enjoying a night out on a Dinner Cruise on the Madam Carroll



Wanatah lions
worked the bounce
house at
the back to school party
for staff, parents and
students for the Tri-Twp
school corp.

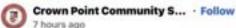
WANATAH LIONS CLUB

PACKED AND DELIVERED!!

Crown Point Lions Club provided 32 Backpacks to the Crown Point School System filled with school supplies to Dr. Todd Terrill, Superintendent of Crown Point Community Schools.

The school posted this on their Facebook page.





We were so fortunate this morning to have our local Lions Club drop off backpacks of school supplies for students! To add to the experience, one of their members attended school in our admin building when it was still an elementary school. We loved listening as she pointed out where various classrooms once stood and recalled the teachers' names. Great teachers leave a lifelong impression! #WeAreCP











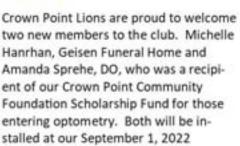
Lions Louise Moore, Carla Smolek and President Donna Worst, packed and delivered the backpacks. Twenty two for elementary and 10 for middle school. This is only the beginning. There will be more backpacks prepared in the near future. Great Job!!



Past President Lion Vicky Klein standing next to the replica of the St. Steven Cathedral donated by the Lions club so blind people can feel what the church looks like in Vienna, Austria. Safe travels.



Meeting.



SEPTEMBER 2022

Dyer Lions Club

CAR SHOW AND NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



First place



Picture of the trophies that were given out



Second Place



We held our car show in conjunction with National Night Out. We had 42 entrants and donated just over \$350 to the Dyer Fire Department for community outreach efforts.

A community member created our unique trophies from discarded parts donated by a mechanic. He is considering joining the Lions in the future.

We were very excited about this event and learned a lot along the way. We had beautiful weather and about 20 more cars than we expected, so we consider this a success!

Michigan City Lions Club

Lion of the Year



President Irene Rosevear presents the Lion of the Year Award to this years recipient, Lion Ron Keller.



Shaina Keller, wife of Lion Ron Keller, congratulates her husband on neceiving the Lion of the Year Award from the Michigan City Lions Club.

Former State
Senator, Jim Arnold,
son of former State
Representative.
Clifford D. Arnold,
congratulates good
friend Library
Director, Don
Glossinger, on
receiving the award
named for his late
father.





Lion DeNita Ton presents the Clifford D. Arnold Memorial Award for Public Service to Donald Glossinger, Director of the Michigan City Public Library.



Don Glossinger sharing his Clifford D Arnold Award with his family: son, Micah Glossinger and his wife, Irene and Don's wife of forty years, Caryn Glossinger.

President, Irene Rosevear, welcomed honorees, and their guests to the August 3rd meeting of the Michigan City Lions Club at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Jean Poulard reported he had collected for cleaning and sizing a total of 4,955 glasses with frames and 15 hearing aids to date this year. They will eventually be distributed to folks in other countries who have no vision care or funds for glasses or hearing aids.

Roger Potratz is seeking volunteers to serve on Candy Day, Saturday, September 3rd.

The South Bend Chocolate Factory fund raiser was a success bringing in nearly three hundred doilars.

The next give back fund raiser will be at Hacienda on September 13th.

After completing business matters and enjoying a lovely catered lunch by Cafe Elite, the Lions Club annual awards presentation program was held.

President, Rosevear presented the Lion of the Year Award to Lion Ron Keller. Ron has been a Lions Club member since May of 2011 and was sponsored by Lion Karen Lee Scott. He has served as Club President, board member for many years, community service projects chairman, Reading to Students, MCAS Student Needs, Book Collection/Distribution and currently serves as Tail Twister and Official Club Greeter.

President Rosevear shared Ron attends all meetings, fund raisers and community projects and always says yes to requests to serve his club and his community. The Lion of the Year Award was presented to him in Recognition of Outstanding Service, Loyalty and Devotion to Lionism Lion DeNita Ton presented the Clifford D Arnold Memorial Award for Public Service to Don Glossinger, Director of the Michigan City Public Library since 2001.

The Clifford D. Arnold Award for Public Service is given each year in the name of and in honor of Clifford D Arnold who served as president of the Michigan City Lions Club in 1992-93, LaPorte County Sheriff, Indiana State Representative, member of the Michigan City Area School Board member and many other areas of service to his community and state. He died in 1996.

Director Glossinger began his career with the MC Public library in 1990 as head of the circulation department. He received his bachelors and Masters of Library Science degrees from Indiana University. He also worked for Congresswoman, Katie Hall, and was a community and workforce advocate. Throughout his career, community outreach has been very important to him and he has been involved in many community groups including a member of and 2014-15 president of the Michigan City Lions Club. Don and his wife of forty years, Caryn, are active members of Sinai Temple. They are parents to son, Micah and his wife, Irene.

Upon receiving the award, Don shared that he owes the beginning of his library career to Cliff Arnold who was his mentor and good friend. He gave credit to his loyal employees, many of whom attended the award ceremony, for the success of the Michigan City Public Library and for reaching his career eoals.

The speaker for the September 7th Lions Club meeting will be Bruce Johnson, Director if the LaPorte County Historical Association.

Westville Lions Club









The Westville Lions club hosted the Westville SAG stop at Bluhm County Park on Sunday, August 28, 2022. This SAG stop was for Tour de LaPorte. This was a fundraiser for the YMCA to raise funds for scholarships for their many programs at the LaPorte YMCA, Michigan City and Long Beach. The cyclists could chose to ride 5, 15, 25, 40, 60, 75 or 100 miles through LaPorte County. Laurie Halaska told the lions a total of 300 cyclists had signed up. The cyclists that came through the Westville SAG stop were part of the 100 mile ride. All the cyclists were very friendly and very appreciative and amazingly were still smilling when they reached our location. Mother Nature cooperated beautifully while it was hot there was a

The Lions would like to Thank the following business's and individuals for their support who without them this would not have been as successful. WestPoint Lounge who donated Pizzas. City Pure Ice who donated bags of Ice. Family Express for their donation of bottled water. Dana Reed Rotzien from Deep Roots Flower Farm who donated a fresh cut floral arrangement. Coulters produce provided Watermelon and Cantelope. The following lions members Al Slont and Debra Daugherty provided Mountain Dew, Pepsi and Coke. Rhonda Weston provided a vegetable pizza and Dave Dickinson and Donna Ping provided meatballs. The following Lions baked treats: Lion and LaPorte County Assessor Mike Schultz 2 different kinds of Oatmeal Cookies, Jean Bartmess for sugar cookies and Debi Ingram for Turtle brownies and Energy balls.

Thank you to Lions Jim Ingram and Dick Bartmess for picking up the Ice and cooling the drinks and making the containers of Gatorade.

Also thank you to Peggy Zarantonello the LaPorte YMCA sports coordinator and Maria Bruns the Metro Membership Director for the Y who along with Laurie Halaska all came out separately to personally thank the Lions.

Lion Debi Ingram the Westville SAG stop coordinator thanks all of the businesses and individuals from the bottom of her heart.

Bottom picture is Lion members left to right Dick and Jean Bartmess Jim Ingram and Laurie Halaska CEO of the LaPorte County YMCA.







Welcome New Members

SEPTEMBER 2022

Cedar Lake

Sponsor: HAROLD GOLDSMITH
HAROLD HERBERT
Sponsor: JOHN SCHUTZ

Crown Point

AMANDA N SPREHE O.D. Sponsor: DONNA WORST

Lake Station

LAUREN STATEN
Sponsor: LAURIE HAUSSMAN

Lakes of the Four Seasons

JENNIFER L NIEMEYER
Sponsor: THOMAS MAGURANY
BECKY WRIGHT
Sponsor: CHARLES DE LAS CASAS

Munster

CHRIS HENDERSON Sponsor: RICHARD PAULSEN

Members that have completed their service

Thedora McMahon East Chicago, IN

Brain Galvas Door Village, IN



Remembering a life of service