



April 2026

Lions District 11-C2 Newsletter

Editor: Lion Doug Klein
dougklein@usa.net



2025-2026 District Officers

Governor: Lion Aleta Cozart
1st Vice Gov.: Lion Kenny Kinsey
2nd Vice Gov.: Lion Chuck Vasilion
Secretary: Lion Denise Temple
Treasurer: Lion Robert Phillips
IPDG: Lion Carl Cozart

2025-2026 Zone Chairs

R1-Z1: Lion David Grimes
R1-Z2: Lion Carl Cozart
R2-Z1: Lion Blaine Lafler
R2-Z2: Lion Curtis Sonnenberg
R3-Z1: Lion Mark Jorgenson
R3-Z2: Lion Eileen Delaney
R4-Z1: Lion Chrissy Andre

From the desk of the Governor



DG Aleta Cozart 989-277-2833
gonehunting35@yahoo.com

WHAT A CELEBRATION!

The Celebration of Service March 13 & 14 was absolutely fantastic! If I missed thanking anyone, let me just say I am truly grateful for each and every one of you. I would have loved to give everyone an award. I applaud all the hard-working Lions in our 11-C2 district.



BUT, ALAS MY WORK IS NOT DONE!

My plan is to finish strong, and there are many things yet to get accomplished. April is shaping up to be a busy month. I was going to list all the events coming in April, but I am sure Lion Doug has flyers and information on all those events. Instead, I have one simple thing to say:

LIVE BY THE GOLDEN RULE!

Treat others the way you want to be treated. Not to sound preachy, but I have heard it stated several different ways:

If you want good to come to you, you should send good out into the Universe. If you want peace to come to you, you should send peace out into the Universe. We are all a work in progress, me included. Sometimes we just need to be reminded.

District Governors often attend events in other districts. This is IPDG Carl Cozart and myself at the District Convention for 11-E1. Their district was very welcoming!



Contents:

- Lions Club News from Around the District
- Upcoming Lions Events and Programs
- May MD 11 Convention
- Breakout Session Prep
- Bear Lake Camp Sponsorships and Fundraisers
- District 11-C2 Cabinet Meeting in Durand

Places of Interest:

- [Lion PRIDE State Magazine](#)
- [District Web Site](#)
- [Past District Newsletters](#)
- [Lions of Michigan Foundation](#)
- [Lions of Michigan](#)
- [Lions Clubs International](#)
- [Lions of Michigan YouTube Channel](#)

Bit of Wisdom



**...at the District 11-C2
Celebration of Service
March 13 & 14, 2026
Comstock Inn - Owosso**



The Lions of District 11-C2 held our annual Celebration of Service in Owosso on March 13-14. A Friday night reception included karaoke, but was also a time to make inspirational cards for individuals served by Jennifer's Place of Owosso, a community drop-in center that provides a safe and warm space for those facing difficult times. The nonprofit was our community service project, with a financial contribution of over \$1300 and several boxes of personal needs items. St. Johns Club President Dean Hartenburg served as Master of Ceremonies on Saturday. Lion Kenny Kinsey, who currently holds the position of First Vice District Governor, was elected as 2026-2027 District Governor. Lion Chuck Vasilion was elected 1st Vice District Governor, and Curtis Sonnenberg was elected 2nd Vice District Governor. A Memorial Service honoring the lives of 18 Lions in the District who passed away last year was held. The moving service ended with the reading of Psalm 23 and a beautiful rendition of the song Hallelujah. It was a fun two-day event that was a time to renew old friendships and make new ones.

District 11-C2 Business & Cabinet Meeting

- April 24, 2026, 5:00 PM District Cabinet Meeting at Dutch Hollow, Durand

NOTE: Please be sure to RSVP to Cabinet Secretary Lion Denise Temple at tsjellyboo@aol.com for this cabinet meeting.



St. Johns Lions Club

The St. Johns Lions Club had another productive and fun meeting on March 12 at Main Street Cafe with 20 people in attendance. Guest speaker Kelly Schafer of Giving Paws talked about the services her 501(c)3 nonprofit organization supports: Dog Pack: Sharing dog joy in our community, Pet Partner: Temporary pet foster homes for humans facing difficult times partnering with SafeCenter and EVE domestic violence shelters), Tales with Tails: Paws and read with a dog program (at libraries and other venues), and Vendor Store: Proceeds support the organization's mission (check out the new vendor store location at 108 Brush Street in St. Johns).

Club members voted to become a Bronze Paws sponsor of the organization's annual "Dog Daze of Summer" fundraiser held at Uncle John's Cider Mill. The date this year is August 15. PAWS of Fun activities include a 5K race, vendors, scavenger hunt, pup cup station, and frisbee challenge event. Visit GivingHappyPaws.org for more information. (Photo above: St. Johns Lions Club President Dean Hartenburg with Kelly Schafer)

Around the District



Ithaca Lions Club

On February 21, the annual Tractor Races were held in Ithaca. Here is a photo of R2-Z1 Zone Chair Blaine Lafler with other Lions Club members. Always a good time!



Just for fun!

Original Forum Photo and AI Deep Fake Photo done by Lion Michael Pohoda

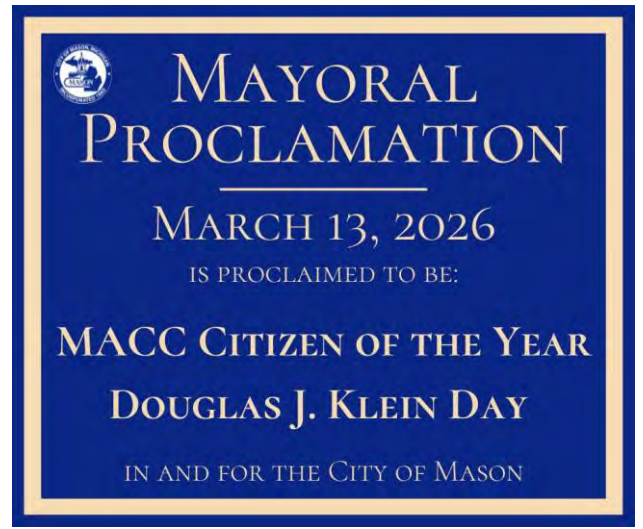
Original Photo taken on February 28 at the Lions of Michigan Forum during a breakfast conversation chat. AI later turned the pic into an interesting speakeasy situation.



Around the District

Mason Lions Club

Lion Doug Klein skipped out of town on Friday, March 13, 2026, to go to Owosso for the Celebration of Service. However, back in Mason, that day was designated as “Mason Area Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Douglas J. Klein Day in and for the City of Mason. The MACC and City of Mason recognized Doug's tireless passion and devotion in service to the City of Mason and for being a truly inspirational leader in making Mason the great community we know today.” The full Mayoral Proclamation may be found at: mason.mi.us/MayoralProclamations



St. Johns Lions Club

The Lions International President's Certificate of Appreciation Award is given to Lions Club members in recognition of distinguished achievements in fulfilling the mission of Lions International during the International President's year in office. This award is the 4th highest award from LCI. Lion Dean Hartenburg, president of the St. Johns Lions Club, was recognized at the Lions of District 11-C2 annual Celebration of Service in Owosso on March 14. He was nominated for this

honor by District Governor Aleta Cozart for his efforts to grow the club's membership, which now stands at 34. *Pictured are (L-R): Judge Anthony W. Paradiso, Past International Director from New York, Lion Dean Hartenburg, and District Governor Aleta Cozart*

Lansing Capital Lioness Lions Club

At the February 9 club meeting of Lansing Capitol Lioness Lions Club, Lion Kay Olson received a 35-year Chevron for years of service. Lion Andrea Ritcher received a 10-year Chevron for years of service. 1st Vice District Governor Lion Kenny Kinsey was available to help distribute the certificates.



Around the District



Grand Ledge and Vermontville Lions Clubs

Vermontville Lion Dan Laverty, Grand Ledge Lions Club President Chuck Wriska and Vermontville Lion Mark Jorgensen were at the Tuesday 3/24/26 Grand Ledge Lions Club meeting selling 50/50 Tickets for the LCIF Hunger Grant! THANK YOU!

VERMONTVILLE LIONS

"The Sweetest Club"

50/50 RAFFLE

10 tickets for \$5.00

IF ALL TICKETS SOLD POTENTIAL WIN OF \$6,250

Drawing April 26th @ 2:00 pm Main Stage at Syrup Festival.

Need not to be present to win!

For Tickets Contact:
Lion Mark Jorgensen @ 517-420-7141
Or
Lion Dan Laverty @ 517-652-1232



Lions of Michigan Foundation

How is your Sight and Hearing sweepstakes ticket-selling going? We have less than four short weeks left! Please get your tickets in by May 1 (or sooner). Seller's drawing is May 2 with the main drawing at the convention in Shanty Creek. Thank you for selling!

You really can change the world.

Join a Lions Club,
let's do it together.



Around the District

Laingsburg Lions Club

On Thursday, March 12th, Laingsburg Lions Club successfully stuffed nearly 6,000 Easter eggs with the help of an incredible group of community volunteers. Around 40 individuals participated, representing Red Thunder Robotics, Wolfpack Robotics, Friends of the Laingsburg Library, and the Laingsburg Library. Their teamwork and enthusiasm made the entire process smooth and enjoyable.

We are now all set for our annual Easter Egg Hunt, which will take place on Saturday, April 4th at 10am at McClintock Park. It's shaping up to be another great



Lions Bear Lake Camp

🔥 REGISTRATION IS OPEN – SUMMER 2026 AT LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP! 🔥

Summer is calling... and camp is ready. Whether your family is looking for connection, your child is ready for independence and adventure, or you know someone who wants to make a difference as a staff member, now is the time.

💚 Family Camps 2026

- Visually Impaired & Blind Family Camp – July 3–5, 2026
- Deaf & Hard of Hearing Family Camp – July 24–26, 2026

A weekend to unplug, connect, and experience camp together. Swimming, boating, climbing tower, archery, crafts, meaningful parent sessions, and time that truly matters.

👉 Register for Family Camp here:

<https://www.bearlakecamp.org/.../family-camp-registrations>

💛 Youth Camps 2026 (Ages 6–16)

- Visually Impaired & Blind Youth Camp – July 5–11, 2026
- Deaf & Hard of Hearing Youth Camp – July 12–18, 2026

A full week of overnight camp filled with friendships, challenge course, fishing, bonfires,

team building, evening programs, and growth that carries far beyond summer.

👉 Register for Youth Camps here:

<https://lionsbearlakecamp.portal.icamppro.com/>

🌟 Leadership Development Program (Ages 15–17)
Teens ready to step into leadership roles can apply to grow, mentor younger campers, and gain hands on experience that builds confidence and responsibility.

👉 Register for Leadership Development here:

<https://lionsbearlakecamp.portal.icamppro.com/>

👉 Join Our Summer Staff Team

Want to be part of something bigger? Work where you see lives change every single week.

👉 Apply for a staff position here:

<https://www.bearlakecamp.org/index.php/home/employment>

Spots fill quickly every year.

If camp has been on your heart, this is your sign.

📍 Lions Bear Lake Camp

3409 N Five Lakes Rd, Lapeer, MI

☎ 810-245-0726

✉ info@bearlakecamp.org

Share this with a family who needs camp this summer. 💚



Mason Lions Club

The Lions International Presidential Leadership Award is given to Lions Club members who have made a significant leadership contribution during the International President's year in office. This award is the 3rd highest award from LCI. Lions of Michigan District 11-C2 gave this award to Lion Doug Klein at their annual Celebration of Service in Owosso on March 14, 2026. Pictured are Past International Director Judge Anthony W. Paradiso, Lion Doug Klein, and District Governor Aleta Cozart.



Bancroft Lioness Lions Club

On Saturday, March 21, they experienced good service by many different organizations. Raised good funds for the good band members going to good ol' Hong Kong.



Mason Lions Club

At the Mason Lions Club meeting on March 25, Linda Hughson of Mason Community Services updated members on their activities and was presented with a donation by President Terry Blauvelt. Lion Dar Vanantwerp received recognition from President Terry Blauvelt for attending the Lions Leadership Institute.



Around the District



Owosso Lions Club

DG Aleta Cozart had the pleasure of visiting the Owosso Lions Club recently. "Always a great visit, hardworking (AND GROWING) group of Lions. Learned many things about speaker PID Justin Faber, all very good! Good fellowship." PID Justin was on hand to install their two new members. "Good to put a PID to work!"



Elsie Lions Club

In January, the Elsie Lions had a great evening, great Wild Game dishes, and a great speaker; Everett Smith. Pictured left-right are: Lion Rick Jones, Lion Douglas Sturgis, Lion Glenn Tucker, Lion Greg Snider, Lion Richard Easlick, PDG Lion Ted Hamilton, Lion Terry Broom, Lions Mr. & Mrs. from Maple Valley, Lion Paul Pung, Lion Ted Densmore, Lion Dr. Robert Peterson, PDG Lion Brent Beracy, Lion Les Loynes, guest speaker Everett Smith, Lion Don Gilbert, PDG Lloyd Kilbreath, Lion Blaine Lafler, PDG Lion Becky Hamilton, Lion John Shipley, and Lion Arden Densmore.

Around the District



District 11C-2 Zone 1R3 & Zone 2R2

District 11C-2 bi-Zone 1R3 & Zone 2R2 Lions Club meeting at the University of Olivet (aka Olivet College) in Olivet MI. discussing \$52k D11 hunger grant to support the Helping Hands Food Pantry in Charlotte. A cooperative effort from District 11-C2, the Charlotte Lions Club, the Eaton Rapids Lions Club and the ER Earth to Table.



Lansing Capital Lioness Lions Club

Supporting our local Ronald McDonald House of Mid-Michigan with Easter Baskets and a fresh made dinner!



Vermontville Lions Club

Student of the Month Chairperson Jeff Fisher, along with Maple Valley Superintendent Dr. Bertolini, presented Maple Valley 7th Grader Landyn Whitmore with his certificate and gift card to JoLei's dinner. Landyn's parents are Jessica and Jason Whitmore. Landyn likes to study English and loves to fish in his down time.



**READ ALL
ABOUT IT –
ONLINE!**



Please be aware that the State Magazine **Lion Pride** (paid for by part of your State dues) is always available by online access. We have phased out the publication being printed, mailed, or e-mailed. This direction is being taken due to the rising cost of printing and postage. For easy access to your full color .pdf version, please download the **Pride** online through the www.lionsofmi.com website.

However, our Lions of Michigan District 11-C2 still plans to continue to e-mail its monthly newsletter to all Lions in the district with a valid e-mail address.

For additions or corrections to e-mail addresses, e-mail our IT Chair at rayrobins9998457@gmail.com. "Ray Robins" <rayrobins9998457@gmail.com>, "Ray Robins" <RaymondLRobins@yahoo.com> The district newsletter is also available online at [District Newsletters](#) or <http://www.e-district.org/sites/11c2/page-6.php>.

UPCOMING LIONS OF MICHIGAN EVENTS

May 14-16, 2026
MD11 Lions Convention
Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire



SHANTY CREEK RESORT

July 3-7, 2026
LCI Convention
Hong Kong China

September 3 - 5, 2026
USA/Canada Forum
Memphis, TN

Check Lions of Michigan website for updates & additional information:

www.lionsofmi.com

MAY 14-16, 2026

MD II LIONS CONVENTION

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

**THURSDAY PICNIC AT CELLAR 1914
FRIDAY RENAISSANCE WELCOME PARTY
SATURDAY BUSINESS SESSION
S.A. DODGE AWARDS BANQUET
SHANTY CREEK, BELLAIRE, MICHIGAN**

PREPARE TO BE MERRY

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MD 11 Convention May 14-16, 2026

**Lakeview Hotel,
Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire**

Thursday, May 14, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

Convention Kick-off Picnic Cellar 1914, 5833 Shooks Rd, Central Lake Charlevoix Lions Club famous grilled chicken dinner! Beverages available at Cellar 1914. Meet in front of hotel at 5:30 to carpool or arrive on your own. Cost: \$20/person

Friday, May 15, 2026

9:00 a.m. Council of Governors Meeting

9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Exhibitor's Hall Open

10:00 a.m. Grass River Nature Area Tour

Enjoy a guided tour at the Grass River Natural Area is a 1,502-acre nature preserve surrounding the Grass River, located in the heart of Antrim County. Cost: \$10/person

1:15 p.m. District Governor-Elect 2026-2027 Planning Meeting

Friday Breakout Sessions

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

2:00 Hear What's New at Leader Dogs for the Blind

3:00 Skegemog Raptor Center featuring raptor ambassadors

Welcome Reception -

Renaissance Themed Evening 6:00 p.m.

Dress in your medieval finest and **Prepare to be Merry!**

A banquet feast and entertainment await you in the banquet hall

**9:30 p.m. HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN -
Continue the Merriment!**

Saturday, May 16, 2026 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Exhibitor's Hall Open

8:30 a.m. Awards Breakfast

Special Guest Speaker

Lion Hayley Laskowski, Board Member, Michigan Ski for Light

10:30 a.m. Business Session

Featuring LCI updates from President Singh and news from around our state with updates from our State Project leaders

Saturday Breakout Sessions

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m. Women in Leadership -

Join us for a panel discussion from leaders in the field! PID Esther LaMothe, PID Jenny Ware, Council Chair-Elect Cheryl Anderson. Invited: PID Sangeeta Jatia, LCI guest

3:00 p.m. When there's a need, there's a Lion! Learn how to successfully apply for a Community Grant, available to all Lions Clubs - one of the many grants available through LCI

S.A. Dodge Awards Banquet

5:30 p.m. - 6:40 p.m. Cocktail Reception honoring S.A. Dodge Recipients

5:30 p.m. Lions of Michigan \ All State Band performance

6:50 p.m. Memorial Recognition

7:15 p.m. Dinner

Keynote Address by Lions International President, A.P. Singh, India

Congratulations to our 2025-2026 S.A. Dodge Recipients: PDG Cheryl Anderson, Council Chair-Elect, 11 C1 & VDG Larry Wegrzyn, 11 A1

Hospitality Room open at the close of the banquet - Continue the Merriment!



2026 MD 11 Lions Convention
LCI Guest Speaker President A.P. Singh
Lead to Serve. Serve to Lead.

May 14-16, 2026 Lakeview Hotel & Conference Center
Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire, MI
Reservations: 231.533.3000 Room Rate: \$119 +tax/fees
Register early for discounted rate by: 4.14.26

Name _____ Lion Leo Spouse Guest

Club Name _____ District _____

Name _____ Lion Leo Spouse Guest

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Is this your first MD Convention? Yes No How many years a Lion member? _____

QUANTITY	AMOUNT
_____ Thursday 5/14/26 Picnic @ \$20.00 Cellar 1914	\$ _____
_____ Registration @ \$20.00 for each Lion/Leo	\$ _____
_____ Registration @ \$20.00 for each Spouse/Guest	\$ _____
_____ Friday Grass River Nature Area Tour \$10.00	\$ _____
_____ Friday Renaissance Party@ \$30.00/person	\$ _____
_____ Saturday Awards Breakfast@ \$18.00/person	\$ _____
_____ Saturday Night Banquet @ \$40.00 person	\$ _____
	Total: \$ _____

Entrée: ___ Regular Entrée ___ Vegetarian/Gluten Free

Please Note any special needs (i.e., deaf interpreters, dietary restrictions, food allergies, etc.)

*Everyone **MUST** pay the registration fee. No meal tickets may be purchased unless the registration fee is paid. Deadline for pre-registration and purchase of tickets is **May 5, 2026**. No refunds after **May 1, 2026**. Tickets and registration packets will be distributed at the Lions Registration Desk at Lakeview Hotel, Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire. The registration desk will be open Thursday at 5:00 p.m.; Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.*



Lions Clubs of Michigan

SD10 and MD11, Lions International

Fellow Lions,

On behalf of the MD 11 Lions Convention Committee, we wish to personally invite you to celebrate our 106th Annual MD 11 Lions Convention, to be held at Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire, MI, May 14-16, 2026. The committee is excited to announce our LCI guest speaker this year will be President A.P. Singh of Kolkata, India. *This will be the first time we have had a seated president as our guest since President Ralph Lyman in 1979 – 47 years ago!*

For those arriving early on Thursday, you are invited to join us for our ever-popular kickoff picnic, to be held at Cellar 1914 in nearby Central Lake. Check out this winery online at www.cellar1914.com to find out more. Charlevoix Lions Club will grill up their delicious chicken dinner, and we'll find out first-hand what put this club on the map!

Friday morning provides the opportunity to attend a guided tour at Grass River Natural Area, and of course Friday night's Welcome Party promises to be a night to remember. **Prepare to be Merry** as we celebrate Renaissance style. Falcons, archery demonstrations, music and merriment - costumes are **strongly** encouraged!

Learn at the convention. Hear from Skegemog Raptor Center, a nonprofit dedicated to the rehabilitation of injured birds of prey, environmental education, and the protection of raptor habitat through community engagement and conservation efforts. Learn from a panel of experts on Women in Leadership and attend a session on Successful LCIF Grant Application, which will provide insight into available grants for every club. More details on breakout sessions to come.

Saturday's Awards Breakfast speaker will be Lion Haley Laskowski, board member for Michigan Ski for Light. Ski for Light is celebrating 50 years of service with a mission to promote the physical fitness of visually and mobility impaired adults, in an environment where "we can't" is replaced with "we can." We'll end the night with the S.A. Dodge Awards Banquet and our special guest LCI President A.P. Singh. This year's S.A. Dodge recipients are IPDG Cheryl Anderson, 11 C1, and 1st VDG Larry Wegrzyn, 11 A1.

Consider sponsorship this year - from the Heart of a Lion sponsorship to the Platinum level, there is room for you at the convention. With your support, we can provide an exciting convention experience for all.

We hope you will share this information with fellow Lions and encourage attendance at this year's 106th Annual MD 11 Lions Convention at Shanty Creek. Help us achieve our goal of representing each club in Michigan by sending one member to attend this year!

Come to learn, network, celebrate, and be ready for another memory-making convention.

Sincerely,

PDG Dave & Lion Brenda Hacker
Convention Co-Chairs

5730 Executive Drive • Lansing, MI 48911
phone: 517-887-6640 • fax: 517-887-6642
email: lions@lionsofmi.com • website: www.lionsofmi.com



Lions Clubs of Michigan
SD10 and MD11, Lions International

The Lions of Michigan MD 11 Convention Committee is pleased to offer the opportunity for corporate and personal sponsorships to the 2026 Multiple District 11 Lions Convention May 14-16, 2026 Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire, MI

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Platinum Sponsor - \$1,000

Speaking opportunity during the Saturday Awards Banquet (up to 10 minutes); Advertisement in the Lion Pride publication; advertisement in convention proceedings booklet; complimentary exhibitor table; your banner on display throughout event; insert included in welcome packet

Gold Sponsor - \$500

Speaking opportunity at Friday's Welcome Reception/Dinner or Saturday Awards Breakfast (up to 5 minutes); advertisement in convention proceedings booklet; complimentary exhibitor table; your banner on display throughout event; insert included in welcome packet

Silver Sponsor - \$400

Full page advertisement in proceedings booklet; complimentary exhibitor table; your banner on display; insert included in welcome packet

Bronze Sponsor - \$300

Full page advertisement in proceedings booklet; banner on display throughout the event; insert included in welcome packet

Heart of a Lion - \$150 Club Special!

Breakout Session or Coffee Break sponsor; advertisement in proceedings booklet; banner on display

All sponsors who commit by April 1, 2026, will be listed on promotional materials, in the Lion Pride publication, on the Lions of Michigan website and Face Book page. Checks should be made out to Lions of Michigan and mailed to: Lions of MI, 5730 Executive Dr., Lansing, MI 48911. Contact wburns@lionsofmi.com or call 517-887-6640 for further details.

5730 Executive Drive • Lansing, MI 48911
phone: 517-887-6640 • fax: 517-887-6642
email: llions@lionsofmi.com • website: www.lionsofmi.com

MICHIGAN LIONS: LEAD TO SERVE. SERVE TO LEAD.
106TH MD 11 LIONS CONVENTION – MAY 14-16, 2026
SHANTY CREEK RESORT, BELLAIRE, MICHIGAN
ADVERTISING OPTIONS

Listed below are several options to sponsor a personal or business ad in the MD 11 Lions Convention Proceedings Booklet.

Placing an ad shows fellow Lions and Leos your support of the Lions of Michigan.

ADVERTISING RATES AND SIZES

Overall Booklet Size: 8" x 5 1/2"

1. 1/4 page ad:	\$35.00
2. 1/2 page ad:	\$40.00
3. Full page ad:	\$50.00

Please note that all ads must be prepaid by April 28. Mail form to Lions of Michigan State Office, 5730 Executive Drive, Lansing, MI 48911, email to llions@lionsofmi.com or fax: 517-887-6642

Name:	
Business Name:	
Billing Address:	
City, State, Zip	
Home Phone:	Business Phone:
Email address:	Cell Phone:
<input type="checkbox"/> Included is a print ready ad or message <input type="checkbox"/> Please design my personal or business ad to read (please attach detailed information for your ad)	
CIRCLE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:	
Ad Size: 1/4 page 1/2 page Full page	
<input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is my check for \$	
Payments online at: https://lionsofmi.com/index.php/up-coming-events	
Accepted Credit Cards: MasterCard/Visa	

Thank you for your continued support-See you at Shanty Creek!
Mail form and advertisement to:
Lions of Michigan
5730 Executive Dr, Lansing, MI 48911
Questions? Call 517-887-6640 ext. 102



EXHIBITOR AGREEMENT –MD 11 LIONS CONVENTION
FRIDAY – SATURDAY, MAY 14-16, 2026
Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire, Michigan

Please reserve a display table for the undersigned at the Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11 Convention, at Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire, MI. Enclosed is a check covering the exhibition fee of \$95.00 for **Friday and Saturday**; the fee includes a **quarter sized** in the State Convention booklet. \$60.00 is the fee for a **single day**. This charge is fully refundable if, for any reason, the convention is canceled or moved to another city or in case of fire or other catastrophic occurrence to the property. All conditions stated in the letter of invitation shall be accepted and followed by all exhibitors and their representatives.

The undersigned releases the Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11, and its agents from any and all liabilities that may arise or be asserted as a result of participation in this exhibition. The Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11, Inc. will determine the eligibility of any company or product for exhibit. Acceptance of an exhibitor for the convention does not imply endorsement of the product or services, nor does rejection imply lack of approval of the product or manufacturer.

Exhibitors shall take precautions to provide security to safeguard their property during non-show hours. It is understood that neither the Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11, Inc. nor Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire, MI (nor legal entities which own, lease and/or operate it), nor their members, officers, directors, or employees shall be responsible for injury to any person or persons for loss or damage to property belonging to the exhibitor or any person or persons while in transit to or from the hotel/conference center or while on the hotel/conference center property or otherwise. The exhibitor assumes complete responsibility and liability for all injury to any and all persons or property in any way connected with exhibitor display caused by the exhibitor, his agents, representatives or employees. The exhibitor indemnifies and agrees to hold harmless the Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11, Inc. and the Shanty Creek Resort (and legal entities which own, lease, and/or operate it), their members, officers, directors, and employees against any and all liability whatsoever arising from any or all damage to property or personal injury caused by exhibitor or his agents, representative, employees or any other person.



MICHIGAN LIONS – Lead to Serve. Serve to Lead.
EXHIBITOR AGREEMENT – MD 11 LIONS CONVENTION
FRIDAY – SATURDAY, MAY 15-16, 2026

Lakeview Hotel & Conference Center, Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire, MI

Please reserve a display table for me on:

_____ Friday only (May 15, 2026)	\$60.00
_____ Saturday only (May 16, 2026)	\$60.00
_____ Friday and Saturday	\$95.00
# _____ Boxed Lunch Sat. only @	\$20.00
Total _____	\$ _____

Exhibitor Hours:
Friday 9:00 am -6:30 pm Saturday 9:00 am -4:00 pm
Do you require an electrical hook-up? Yes _____ No _____

CONTACT NAME _____ PHONE _____
ORGANIZATION _____
ADDRESS _____
DATE _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Space is limited! Please submit by April 27, 2026

Register online:
www.lionsofmi.com
Mail your registration:
Lions of Michigan, 5730 Executive Drive, Lansing, MI 48911
Questions? Call 517-887-6640 ext. 103



WHITE CANE PROCLAMATION WEEK

APRIL 24 - MAY 3, 2026



FREE WHITE CANE PROGRAM



The white cane allows you to travel independently and safely—no blind person should be without one. We offer you a free one. You can order a new one every six months. The National Federation of the Blind has distributed nearly 100,000 free white canes since 2008.

White cane gives blind people the ability to achieve a full and independent life, allowing us to travel freely and safely. We started our free white cane program because we believe that no blind person should be without a white cane, regardless of his or her ability to pay for it.

Request a Free White Cane

Complete our Free White Cane Online Application. Any blind individual in the fifty states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico can request a cane for their personal use. Requests can be made as often as every six months.

<https://freecane.nfb.org/>

WHITE CANE ORDER FORM			
Lion Club Name _____		District _____ Date _____	
SHIPPING ADDRESS:		BILLING ADDRESS:	
Name: _____	Address: _____	Name: _____	Address: _____
City: _____ Zip _____	City: _____ Zip _____		
Phone: _____	City: _____ Zip _____		

UNITS	ITEM	UNIT	PRICE	TOTAL
	String Tags	1000/box	\$60.00	
	White Cane Stickers (roll)	1000/roll	\$32.00	
	Bib Apron	Each	\$14.00	
	Waist Apron	Each	\$8.00	
	White Cane Placemats	500/bundle	\$21.00	
	Eyeglass Collection Box (large)	Each	\$8.50	
	Eyeglass Collection Box (small)	Each	\$6.50	
	Extra Eyeglass Box Stickers (set of 3)	Each	\$3.00	
	White Cane Law Pamphlets	250/bundle	\$20.00	
	Certificate of Appreciation	Each	.60c	
	White Cane Bookmarks	100/bundle	\$10.00	
	Leader Patch	Each	\$3.00	
	Leader Pin	Each	\$1.50	
	White Cane Lapel Pin	500/bundle	\$85.00	
	** Shipping and Handling			
**You will be billed for shipping and handling fees.			TOTAL:	

Order Form Online: www.lionsofmi.com
 Mail to: Lions of Michigan • 5730 Executive Drive, Lansing, MI 48911 • (517) 887-6640 ext. 1 • fax: (517) 887-6642

History

In 1921, James Biggs, a photographer from Bristol, England, became blind following an accident. Because he was feeling uncomfortable with the amount of traffic around his home, he painted his walking stick white to be more easily visible.

In 1930, Lion George A. Bonham, President of the Peoria Lions Club (Illinois) introduced the idea of using the white cane with a red band as a means of assisting the blind in independent mobility. The Peoria Lions approved the idea, white canes were made and distributed, and the Peoria City Council adopted an ordinance giving the bearers the right-of-way to cross the street. News of the club's activity spread quickly to other Lions clubs throughout the United States, and their visually handicapped friends experimented with the white canes. Overwhelming acceptance of the white cane idea by the blind and sighted alike quickly gave cane users a unique method of identifying their special need for travel consideration among their sighted counterparts.

Also in 1931, in France, Gully d'Herbemont recognized the danger to blind people in traffic and launched a national "white stick movement" for blind people. She donated 5,000 white canes to people in Paris.

Today white cane laws are on the books of every state in the US and in a few other countries, providing persons who are blind a legal status in traffic. The white cane universally acknowledges that the bearer is blind. For specific information contact your local government office for motor vehicles.

Lions and International White Cane Safety Day

International White Cane Safety Day is an opportunity to increase awareness about the white cane, which:

- Signifies that the pedestrian using it is blind or visually impaired;
- Alerts motorists of the need to exercise special caution and provide the user the right of way;
- Symbolizes the independence, confidence and skills of the person who is using it.

1964: the U.S. Congress approved a resolution authorizing the President of the US to annually issue a proclamation designating October 15th as "National White Cane Safety Day."

1969: the International Federation of the Blind adopted October 15th as "International White Cane Safety Day."

* The above referenced date is a suggested date. Lions clubs are free to hold awareness events according to the schedule of the club and the community it serves.

Health & Children's Services Department
programs@lionsclubs.org

1-800-413-9611

White Cane Supplies

Popular Pickups for group orders, visit our website at www.lionsofmi.com

Certificate of Appreciation
 Recognize businesses and individuals who support your White Cane Drive.
 .60c/each

String Tags
 Blue tag with cane on front, white Cane Law printed on back.
 \$60.00/1000



Bib Apron
 Over the shoulder apron made of heavy duck. Durable and good for all your Lions projects.
 \$14.00/each

White Cane Placemats
 Very colorful and great for public events! (measures 10" x 13")
 \$21.00/500



Waist Apron
 Cloth apron with two large pockets for collecting money and holding white cane supplies.
 \$8.00/each

Eyeglass & Hearing Aid Collection Boxes
 White fiberboard collection boxes include stickers on three sides. Small box measures 9 1/2" x 14 1/2", large box measures 14 1/2" x 14 1/2".
 \$6.50/each (small)
 \$8.50/each (large)

Extra Eyeglass Collection Box Stickers
 Each set consists of two large stickers promoting used eyeglass and hearing aid collection and one small sticker with club contact information.
 \$3.00/each/set of 3

White Cane Lapel Pin
 Show your support for Lions of Michigan and please notify us when you wear this distinctive White Cane Lapel Pin.
 \$85.00/500

CHECK OUT SOME OF OUR OTHER GREAT ITEMS!

White Cane Leader Patch
 Recognize club members who are leaders in your White Cane Drive.
 \$3.00/each

White Cane Leader Pin
 Recognize club members who are leaders in your White Cane Drive.
 \$1.50/each



White Cane Law Pamphlet
 Tri-fold brochure which features the White Cane Law and Public Accommodations Act. It also includes what an individual should do when encountering a blind person.
 \$20.00/250

White Cane Bookmarks
 Bookmarks with White Cane Law printed on back. Great giveaway for libraries.
 \$10.00/100



White Cane Stickers
 Two-color stickers on a roll. Design features the Lions logo and White Cane traffic symbol. 3 1/2" in diameter.
 \$32.00/1000





Each year Lions are given the opportunity to serve MD 11 in a variety of ways through one of the 4 GAT positions or one of the 21 State Committee Chair positions.

MD 11 GAT applications are now being accepted. Positions are open for Global Service, Global Membership, Global Leadership and Global Extension Team Chairpersons.

Information on these positions can be found on LCI's website:



Please provide a letter of interest, resume and Lions history to:
wburns@lionsofmi.com
Lions of Michigan
5730 Executive Dr., Lansing, MI 48911

In addition to GAT positions, Lions may send a letter of interest for any of the following positions: Committee State Chair, State Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer. Positions are for a 1–3-year term.

Email Executive Director Wendy Burns by April 20:
wburns@lionsofmi.com

Youth Camps & Exchange - Michigan, USA

The Youth Camp and Exchange (YCE) program is gearing up, and this is another update to all clubs. We have several countries who have reached out already looking to send exchange youths to Michigan – we desperately need host families! This is a fun experience for your family, and for the exchange youth – it's a great opportunity to share our values and show what being a Lion is all about. Additional information about the program in general is provided on the Lions of Michigan website under Youth Exchange <https://lionsofmi.com/index.php/youth-exchange>

If you have any questions or would like a visit to your club to discuss the program in more detail, please contact Lion Elvie or your YCE District Chair.

Thank you for your time!

Key details regarding the YCE Program for 2026 are as follows:

- Hosting dates will be from July 16-August 6, 2026.
- Designated airports are Detroit, Grand Rapids, and/or Chicago O'Hare.
- We will accept 15-20 international youths, with only one participant per country.
- The accepted age range is 15-18 years old at the time of camp.
- Invitations will be extended to Michigan Leos and youths of the same age to join us at camp.
- We propose July 27-31, 2026, as camp week. Camp cost \$350.00
- WE NEED HOST FAMILIES!
- For more information, please check out our Lions of Michigan website and click Youth Exchange.
- For further information, please call me at 818-800-1060 or email epmarfil5@gmail.com



YCE District Chair 11-C2 **PDG Brent Beracy** bberacy@hotmail.com

Lion Elvie Marfil
YCE State Chairperson
Email: epmarvil5@gmail.com
Phone: 818-800-1060



NEED HELP MANAGING DIABETES?

Attend a free 6-week workshop

Diabetes PATH (Personal Action Toward Health) is an interactive workshop designed to help individuals with diabetes or pre-diabetes improve their health and feel better. Caregivers are welcome to attend.

Get on the PATH to better health!

Learn how to:

- Eat healthy
- Create balanced meal plans
- Decrease stress
- Get physically active
- Balance your blood sugar
- Improve communication skills
- Problem solve and make decisions
- Deal with difficult emotions
- Prevent complications
- Action plan
- Improve your overall health, increase your energy, and more!



UPCOMING WORKSHOP

St. Johns Lutheran Church
511 E. Sturgis St. – St. Johns
Mondays, March 23 – April 27, 2026
6:00 – 8:30 pm

Workshop is free of charge. Funding provided by Lions Club International. St. Johns Lions Club.

To register, call Tri-County Office on Aging at 517-887-1465 or
email histedc@tcoa.org



For a full schedule visit: <https://www.tcoa.org/classesevidence-based-programs/>



Workshops made available in whole or part with funding from the Federal Older Americans Act and MDHHS/Bureau of Aging, Community Living, and Supports through the TCOA.



Many thanks to those who've been able donate to the Lions Clubs International Foundation this Lions year! As of the end of February, we have donated \$9,503 toward the goal set by the Foundation for our district. That goal is \$22, 029, so we're 43% of the way there.

Melvin Jones Fellowships

As of the end of February, there were 344 Melvin Jones Fellows in District 11-C2, and some have been added in March. Of those 344, 24 are Progressive Melvin Jones Fellows. This list includes Fellows who are deceased.

It's a common misconception that the Melvin Jones Fellowship is a high-level Lions award. Actually, it isn't an award at all, though it's often treated as such. It is, however, a very high honor and nice recognition when a person or group names you a Melvin Jones Fellow (MJF).

How does a person become an MJF? There are two ways:

1. By donating an accumulated total of \$1000 to Lions Clubs International Foundation, you can earn an MJF on your own behalf.
2. When others – either individuals or groups – donate an accumulated total of \$1000 to Lions Clubs International Foundation, they can name anyone as a Melvin Jones Fellow. The recipient does not have to be a Lion.

Here's a link to the LCIF page with information about the MJF program:

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/give-how-to-give/melvin-jones-fellowship>

That page has a further link to the application form:

https://cdn2.webdamdb.com/md_QHkWdKNUqy23.jpg.pdf

You sometimes see reference to PMJF, which stands for Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. That means the person has donated (or had donated on his/her behalf) multiples of \$1000.

Some people and clubs are reluctant to donate money to LCIF because it seems like the money only goes to the far corners of the earth. However, there have been numerous LCIF grants in Michigan over the years. Some have been for disaster relief, some have been for hunger programs (we have a hunger grant request in process for our district right now!), and some have been for other projects. In the past there have been grants for Habitat for Humanity projects in our district and around the state.

There are many worthy causes tugging at our heartstrings. If your circumstances allow, please consider including a donation to the Lions Clubs International Foundation in your giving.

Thank you! 😊

PDG Karen Routson
District 11-C2 LCIF Coordinator
KarenRoutson@yahoo.com

Michigan Lions –



Take advantage of an opportunity to have your Lions hear in-person about how to put more of their Lions Club service on local TV and other media to attract members. Through June 2027, our Lions of Michigan PR/Marketing Chair Doug Klein is available to speak for free at your meetings, conferences and conventions.

Lions will learn how to assemble and use their own publicity toolkit - a practical easy guide to crafting compelling stories about a club's service activities and effectively engaging with local news media.



<https://frb.gy/2djy85>



You may schedule a short talk for a club meeting, a longer breakout session, or even a two-hour workshop - for free. Just e-mail Lion Doug at douglein@usa.net or call him at (517) 775-8601 to check current availability and to reserve.

A banner for 'Service Environment 2025-2026'. The top part has a purple background with the word 'SERVICE' in large white letters and '2025-2026' in yellow. Below this is a dark blue section with a circular image of hands holding a small green tree. At the bottom is a green section with the word 'Environment' in white and 'April 18-26, 2026' in white below it.

SERVICE
2025-2026

Environment
April 18-26, 2026

District 11-C2 Lions, Lionesses, and Leos

*Gathering Together at The Quarry
To Share, Learn, and Grow*

Wednesday April 8, 2026 ~ 6 p.m.



Discover *The Quarry*, Eaton County's newest entertainment venue.

3659 E. Clinton Trail, Charlotte, MI

It features 240 acres of land around a private lake,
With an event barn and amphitheater.

Agenda

- Meet and greet with Lions of 11-C2
- Enjoy Wood Fired Pigo Pizza
- **Share** what is happening in your club
- **Learn** about the Helping Hands Hunger Grant and how our district can make it happen.
- **Grow** with Earth to Table and participate in a nature-based service project.
- **Celebrate** Lions joining within the last year!
- **Save the Date:** September 25, Hunger Grant Dinner at the Charlotte Senior Center 6 p.m.

Helping Hands Food Pantry, located in Charlotte, MI, served over 23,000 people in 2024, from 27 counties.

The need continues to increase. In March of 2026, they are breaking ground to expand their facility.

The Lions of District 11-C2 recently applied for a \$52,360 LCIF Hunger Grant to purchase and install a new walk-in refrigerator and freezer for the pantry. Under the terms of the grant when it is approved, LCIF will provide 75% of the funds, with District 11-C2 responsible for the other 25%.

The Gathering at the Quarry is an opportunity to coordinate and share fundraising efforts throughout the District to meet this need.

Enjoy

PIGRO
Wood Fired Oven

Pigro Wood Fired Pizzas will be available for \$15 each, as the **Lions Gather at the Quarry**
Pizza Menu: Greek, Sausage and White Cheddar, Pepperoni, Cheese

To guarantee quality and the appropriate amount of dough, preorders are required by April 1.

Use the QR code below or text: (269) 919-2806. Leave your name, pizza type, and quantity.



Ways to Support the District 11-C2 Helping Hands Hunger Grant

Respond to the Zone Challenge

At the February 18, Region 3, Zone 1 meeting, a challenge was issued by 2nd Vice District Chair Chuck Vasilion and seconded by our District Governor Aleta Cozart. ***The challenge is for every Lions Club in Region 3 Zone 1 to plan an activity or an event to raise funds for the Helping Hands Hunger Grant.*** Bonus points will be given for clubs participating from outside the zone. Bring your ideas to *Lions at the Quarry* and discover what happens when the challenge is met!

Attend the *Lions Gathering at the Quarry* on Wednesday, April 8

- Encourage Lions in your club to make a commitment to attend the Quarry event.
- **Preorder your meal by April 1.**
- During club meetings, circulate a sign-up sheet for pizza orders. Include name, phone number, quantity, and pizza type (Greek, Sausage and White Cheddar, Pepperoni, Cheese).
- Take a picture of the sign-up sheet and text it to (269) 919-2806. Pre-orders are completed!
- For text orders, please pay at the event. To pay in advance use the QR code.
- Invite members who have joined Lions within the last year to come to the Quarry event. They will receive special recognition.
- There will be an opportunity for new members to be inducted when *Lions Gather at Quarry*.
- Contact Lion John Messner (jdmessner@gmail.com) with questions and new member info.

Helping Hands Fundraising Dinner on September 25

Lions at the Quarry represents the kick-off for clubs in our districts to begin raising funds for the Helping Hands Hunger Grant. On Friday, September 25, 2026, a wrap-up dinner will be held at the Charlotte Senior Center to support hunger relief. This will be a celebration of fundraising efforts for the grant. It is also an opportunity to show support for other pantries in our district. The evening will include:

- 5-6 p.m. Pantry Tours and Hors d'Oeuvres at Helping Hands, 621 Jefferson St. Charlotte
- 6 p.m. Doors open at the Charlotte Senior Center - 804 Cochren Road, Charlotte
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner is served.
- Menu: Pork Tenderloin, Potato, Vegetable, Salad, Dinner Roll, Dessert
- Live Music
- Admission: Individual tickets \$25 ~ Table of 8 \$180
- ***For every ticket a Lions Club sells, \$5 goes to their food pantry of choice within our district.***
- A Silent Auction and other fundraising activities will take place during the dinner.
- More information and dinner tickets will be available at *Lions at the Quarry*.

***Please Begin Collecting Items for the September 25 Silent Auction
Thank You For Your Willingness to Serve!***

Lions Service Spotlight: The Sowing Seeds of Hope Initiative

We are excited to invite all local Lions Clubs to join us for a high-impact service project dedicated to biodiversity, community health, and food security. On **April 8th**, we will be hosting a seed sorting and packaging event at **The Quarry** to give surplus seed stock a second life.

Phase 1: Be a "Seed Scout"

Before the event, we need your help to gather materials! Please visit your local retailers—such as **Home Depot, Lowe's, Menards, garden centers, plant nurseries, Dollar General, Family Farm & Fleet, or any other place that sells seeds**—and ask for donations of their previous year's seed stock (bulk or individual packets).

Mandatory Pre-Registration: To ensure our assembly line is prepared, please **email** LiamDBritton@gmail.com with the following information as soon as you have collected your seeds:

- **Common Name** of the seed (seed type/variety)
- **Seed Date** (found on the packaging)

Liam will use this to prepare a master list, including the Latin Binomial for each packet!

Phase 2: The Assembly Line (April 8th)

When we gather at The Quarry, we will work together to transform these donations into community resources.

- **Time Commitment:** Approximately **30–45 minutes** (may vary based on total volume).
- **What to Bring:**
 - **Pens and markers** for clear labeling.
 - **Extra rubber bands** for bundling finished packets.
 - **Spare grocery bags** to transport your finished bundles home.

The Process:

1. **Labeling:** Hand-writing the Common Name, Latin Binomial, and Seed Date on each new packet.
2. **Packaging:** Carefully measuring the seeds into their new individual parcels.
3. **Sorting & Bundling:** Organizing by type, rubber-banding into bundles, and preparing for distribution to your local clubs.

Why Your Contribution Matters

These seeds are more than just items; they are a catalyst for community growth. Once you return the bundles to your local club, you can:

- **Support your community** by donating to local seed libraries (or start your own) or starting a Lions Donation Garden.
- **Foster environmental stewardship** by partnering with local parks, nonprofits, or municipalities on pollinator-friendly projects.
- **Enhance biodiversity at home** by planting seeds to support local bees, monarchs, and other essential pollinators.

We look forward to seeing the reach of our Lions network in action as we turn these seeds into a flourishing future for our communities.



CLINTON COUNTY CHAMPIONS BRANCH CLUB



SPRING MIXER

MAY 8th, 2026



6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

ST. JOHN'S K OF C HALL, 1108 OLD US 27, ST JOHNS, MI 48879

POTLUCK DINNER, MUSIC AND GAMES & GET TOGETHER!
BYO N.A. BEVERAGE

CC Champs Lions are excited to host this social event! Our goal is to provide a safe, fun, and memorable evening for our athletes, families and friends.

- Come on out and have some fun!
- Tangy meatballs and rolls are already on the menu!
- No transportation or caregivers available
- Many games will be provided. Bring your favorite to share!

Got Questions? Call Brent @ 989-847-2803 (voice or text) or bberacy@hotmail.com



Plot It. Build It. Grow It. With Map2Grow.

Starting a New Club Prompts

Community Needs & Assets

- What assets already exist in this community that we can build a club around?
- What local challenges could a Lions club help address?
- Which local leaders, organizations, or businesses might be potential partners?

Outreach & Vision Building

- Who in this area shares a passion for service and might join us?
- How can we cast a compelling vision for a club that energizes local residents?
- What is our ideal club size, makeup, and service focus for this community?

Strategic Planning

- What should be our first service project to introduce ourselves to the community?
- How can we align our efforts with the Global Membership Approach to build success?
- What resources (marketing, funding, leadership) do we need to launch effectively?

Recruitment

- Who can we invite who isn't yet serving but has the passion and skill to lead?
- What's the best way to invite young professionals or emerging leaders into this new effort?
- What language or messaging will resonate most with our target members?

Partnerships

- Which local nonprofits, schools, or civic groups are already serving—and how can we collaborate?
- Can any of these groups help us co-host an event or launch meeting?

Prompts for Evolving or Rebuilding an Existing Club

Club Assessment & Reflection

- What are our club's strengths, and how can we amplify them?
- Where have we struggled recently, and what can we learn from those challenges?
- Are we meeting the needs of today's members—or yesterday's?

Member Engagement

- How welcome do new members feel when they join?
- What kind of service or fellowship events do our members most want?
- How can we re-engage past members or those who've become inactive?

Vision & Revitalization

- What would it look like to relaunch our club with a new community focus?
- Can we adopt a fresh service initiative or signature project to attract new energy?

Leadership Development

- How can we mentor the next generation of Lions leaders in our club?
- Are we supporting members with clear pathways to leadership?

SWOT Analysis

- What external opportunities exist—like new residents, retiring professionals, or community events—that we haven't yet tapped?
- What threats—such as member fatigue, lack of visibility, or other service clubs—should we address head-on?

<https://bit.ly/Map2Grow>





STOP THE DROPS

When members feel valued, connected & proud of what their club does, they don't leave. **Retention isn't about keeping numbers – it's about keeping hearts engaged in service.**

December & June drops are often the result of clubs purging their rosters before the semi-annual billing deadlines. But that behavior is symptomatic, not the root cause. Let's stop the drops by addressing both prevention & perception.

DECEMBER & JUNE DROPS HAPPEN BECAUSE:

- Clubs don't want to pay for inactive members.
- Members feel disconnected or unengaged or unheard or unappreciated.
- There's a "clean-up culture" rather than a renewal mindset.

service + fun = happy Lions

Engage Now - Before the Drop

IDENTIFY AT-RISK MEMBERS

- Who hasn't attended meetings?
- Who hasn't participated in service?
- Who might drop?
- Check in personally with every member now.
- Ask why they have become distant or might be considering leaving – & listen without judgment.
- Offer flexible dues payment options (installments, sponsorships, or club-level assistance funds).
- Use this as a chance to re-sell the value of being a Lion: friendship, purpose, impact & connection.

REACTIVATE THROUGH SERVICE

Promote a December service project where EVERY member has a role, even if it's small.

MEASURABLE GOAL - At least one contact/engagement for every Lion by November 30.

Let's make every Lion proud to stay a Lion.



Lions Bear Lake Camp

Our Mission is to develop leadership skills, build confidence, and to provide a premier outdoor educational and recreational experiences year-round to all persons, regardless of ability.

Lions of Michigan – Lions Bear Lake Camper Sponsorship Challenge **Challenge Dates: January 1, 2026 – May 1, 2026**

Dear Lions Club Members, District Governors, and Chairs,

We are excited to launch the **Lions of Michigan – Lions Bear Lake Camp- Camper Sponsorship Challenge!** This is your club's opportunity to go above and beyond your annual giving and help make camp dreams come true for children across Michigan.

As a proud project of **Lions of Michigan MD11**, Lions Bear Lake Camp provides life-changing experiences to youth who are blind, visually impaired, deaf, or hard of hearing, and we need **YOUR** help to send campers to camp in 2026. It costs \$995 for a weeklong residential camp for one child; families only pay \$100 per camper, thanks to Camper Sponsorships and donations from Lions Clubs across Michigan. For our 3-day Visually Impaired/Blind and Deaf/Hard of Hearing family camps, the cost is \$500, with families charged only \$100.



Here's the Challenge:

We're asking every club and district in Michigan to:

- Sponsor one or more campers at \$995 each or sponsor one family at \$500 each
- **Reach out to local vision and hearing centers, eye doctors, and audiologists to help find additional sponsors**
- Engage local businesses, civic groups, and individuals who would be willing to sponsor a child

Club & District Recognition:

To keep it fun and rewarding, we'll be recognizing:

-  The club that brings in the **most camper and family sponsorships**
-  The district with the **highest percentage of club participation**

Winners will be honored at the MD11 State Convention and featured in Lions Bear Lake Camp's communications and social media.



Let's show the power of Lions in action! Together, we can make sure no child is left behind from experiencing the leadership, independence, and joy that only camp can bring.

Thank you for your continued support of Lions Bear Lake Camp and our mission to serve all youth, regardless of ability.

In service,

Chrissy Andre

MD11 Lions Bear Lake Camp State Chair

 chrissy@bearlakecamp.org  www.bearlakecamp.org

3409 N. Five Lakes Road • Lapeer, MI 48446 • PH: (810) 245-0726 • FAX: (810) 245-0750



LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP

Sponsor a Camper for \$995

Sponsor a Family Weekend for \$500



The Mission of Bear Lake Camp is to develop leadership skills, build confidence, and to provide premier outdoor educational and recreational experiences year-round to all persons, regardless of ability.

Sponsor a Child for a Weeklong Residential Camp or Sponsor a Family for a Weekend Camp

Visually Impaired & Blind Family Camp \$500
July 3-5th, 2026

Visually Impaired Youth Camp \$995
July 5th-11th, 2026

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth Camp \$995
July 12th-18th, 2026

Deaf & Hard of Hearing Family Camp \$500
July 24th-26th, 2026



Did a Lions Club refer you to this sponsorship?

Yes – Club Name: _____ District: _____

No

Organization Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

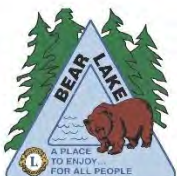
Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Sponsorship Session(s): _____

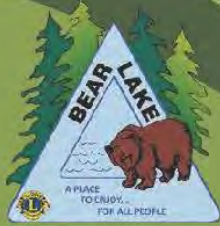
Number of Sponsorships: _____

Total \$: _____



Lions Bear Lake Camp, 3409 N. Five Lakes Road, Lapeer, MI. 48446
(810) 245-0726 *** info@bearlakecamp.org *** www.bearlakecamp.org





A place to enjoy... for all people



Lions Bear Lake Camp

Buffalo & Boar Wild Game Dinner

Saturday, April 11th 2026

Doors open @ 5p. Dinner is served @ 6:30p.

NEW VENUE: Boulder Pointe Golf Club, 1 Champion Dr. Oxford, MI 48371

Join us for a night of auctions, raffles, drinks, and a gourmet Wild Game Dinner! Ticket prices include dinner buffet and an open beer, wine, and mixed drink bar. All proceeds will benefit the Lions Bear Lake Camp for children with disabilities!

\$70 per person OR \$480 for reserved table of 8

Order your tickets online TODAY at www.bearlakecamp.org under the event tab, or purchase tickets via mail.

Mail to 3409 N. Five Lakes Rd. Lapeer, MI 48448.

Make checks payable to Lions Bear Lake Camp.

Sponsorship Opportunities Available!



Platinum
\$2,500

Gold
\$1,000

Silver
\$500

For More Information Contact:

Jack Paton japlapelp@gmail.com 248-535-9011

Traci Tribble traci@bearlakecamp.org 810-245-0726

LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP



21st Annual GOLF CLASSIC



*Boulder Pointe
Golf Club*

Ranked #1 public golf course in the metro Detroit area

June 8th, 2026

**Boulder Pointe Golf Club
1 Championship Drive, Oxford, MI**

Please join us for the 21st Annual Lions Bear Lake Camp Golf Classic.

Boulder Pointe Golf Club, ranked the #1 public course in metro Detroit, features three distinctive 9-hole layouts—Bluffs, Peaks, and Dunes—offering endless 18-hole combinations ranging from just over 5,000 to 7,000+ yards, perfect for both relaxed play and serious competition. that will make for a fun and challenging event.

Proceeds from this event will support blind and visually impaired children at Bear Lake Camp. Together, we can make this a great event for such a wonderful cause.

ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Use of Driving Range
18 Holes of Golf with Cart
Course Contests
Buffet-Style Awards Dinner
Door Prizes & Raffles

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Registration 9:00am
Shotgun Start 10:00am
Awards Dinner 3:00pm

EVENT FEES

Player \$125
Foursome \$500

Register Now



810-245-0726 info@bearlakecamp.org bearlakecamp.org

EVENT SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

A great way for your group or business to do a bit more!

Event Sponsorship \$2,000

Sponsor's name will be part of the official title of the golf event and all aspects of the event's activities, such as course signage and recognition on event materials.

Includes golf for eight players and awards dinner.

Dinner Sponsorship \$1,500

Sponsor's name will be featured at the awards dinner, on course signage, and on event materials. Includes golf for four players and awards dinner.

Platinum Sponsorship \$1,000

Sponsor's name will be featured on event materials and hole signage. Includes golf for four players and awards dinner.

Beverage Cart or Special Event Sponsorship \$500

Sponsor's name will be featured on multiple beverage carts or special event hole signage throughout the day.

Hole Sponsorship \$100

Sponsor's name will be featured on signage at one hole.

Donations Welcome!!!

Donated raffle and prize items are appreciated.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Captain _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Player 2 _____

Player 3 _____

Player 4 _____

Sponsorship Level _____ Total \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Lions Bear Lake Camp

To Register Or the Scan QR Code
or visit bearlakecamp.org under
the "Events" tab



Mail Registrations & Payments to: 366 Homing 1 Championship Drive Oxford, MI 48837/1

WEBBERVILLE LIONS CLUB

6th Annual Golf Outing

Wheatfield Valley Golf Course - Williamston, MI
May 9, 2026 - 9:00 AM - Shotgun Start



A G E N D A

8:00 AM - Registration

9:00 AM - Shotgun Start

Lunch: Hotdog at the Turn

Dinner: Steak and Mostaccioli

Cash Bar

Awards and Raffle Drawings

- Team of 4 Golfers - \$320.00. My payment of \$_____ is enclosed.
- Individual Golfers - \$80.00 Each. My payment of \$_____ is enclosed.
- I made payment of \$_____ through Pay Pal at webbervillelionsclub@gmail.com.

Name (Golfer 1): _____ Name (Golfer 2): _____

Name (Golfer 3): _____ Name (Golfer 4): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____



Easter Egg Hunt

**SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2026
11:00 AM**

GOOD WEATHER LOCATION

WEBBERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD

BAD WEATHER LOCATION

WEBBERVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYM

For information: Mark Lott - 517-719-3838
Chad McCann - 517-420-7378



KIDSIGHT - CHILDREN'S VISION SCREENING

WHEN: Saturday, April 4, 2026

WHERE: Webberville Lions Easter Egg Hunt (Before & After)

WHO: Children - Ages 1 to 18

WHAT: We aim to help children through the early detection and treatment of vision disorders that can hinder a child's development and ability to achieve success in school and life.

WHY: When vision problems are detected early, treatment options increase, and normal vision can usually be restored with eye glasses, contact lenses or patching. Vision problems that are not treated properly can lead to permanent vision loss.



Dine at Culver's of DeWitt
Monday, April 13th 5-8pm

and we will donate a percentage of all sales to the:

St Johns Lions Club

The St Johns Lions Club supports our local community by assisting those in need with eyeglasses and hearing aids, contributing to organizations like the Clinton County Senior Center, and donating to various other community initiatives like Meals on Wheels. The money raised will help fund the \$500 scholarships we award to two deserving St Johns High School Seniors.



No flyer or code needed.

*Drive-thru, dine-in, carryout
or order online at
culvers.com*

SHARE NIGHT

Enjoy a delicious meal, benefit a great cause and feel good all over.
Thank you for supporting the:

**St Johns
Lions Club**



Come on in to your local Culver's restaurant:

CULVER'S OF DEWITT
1030 W. Herbison Rd. DeWitt, MI 48820
(517) 668-6188 | culvers.com/restaurants/dewitt-mi-herbison





Michigan State University Extension's Master Gardener Program and The Lions of Michigan "Unification Project."



Written and produced by: Lion Liam D. Britton MSUE Advanced Master Gardener.
LiamDBritton@gmail.com 517-977-6541. Eaton Rapids Lions Club and ER Earth To Table Urban Garden Branch Club. Updated 3/19/26

Does your local lions club have a donation garden, environmental stewardship project, or any other project which could benefit from the expertise and assistance of a trained horticultural professional? Even if you don't currently have one planned or one becomes reality in the future this handy write-up is for you!

I will guide you through a step-by-step process to create a new project proposal to invite in the assistance of MSU EMGs (Michigan State University Extension Master Gardener's). Included will be a list of contacts and other information which you may find helpful in being as successful as one can in these endeavors. This write-up will take the form of 3 parts:

1.) What is the MSU EMG Program? What do they do? And how can it help?

2.) How to create a project Proposal for MSU EMGs to see your project, reach out to a designated contact person, and ultimately aid your project.

3.) Additional Resources including but not limited to; Horticultural knowledge, degree days, Integrated Pest Management, Entomology (Insect ID/life cycle), Soil science, Plant science, how to donate, The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, Food safety, Phyto sanitation, Composting, and MSU EMG contacts speed-dial.

Part 1.) What is the MSU EMG Program? What do they do? And how can it help?

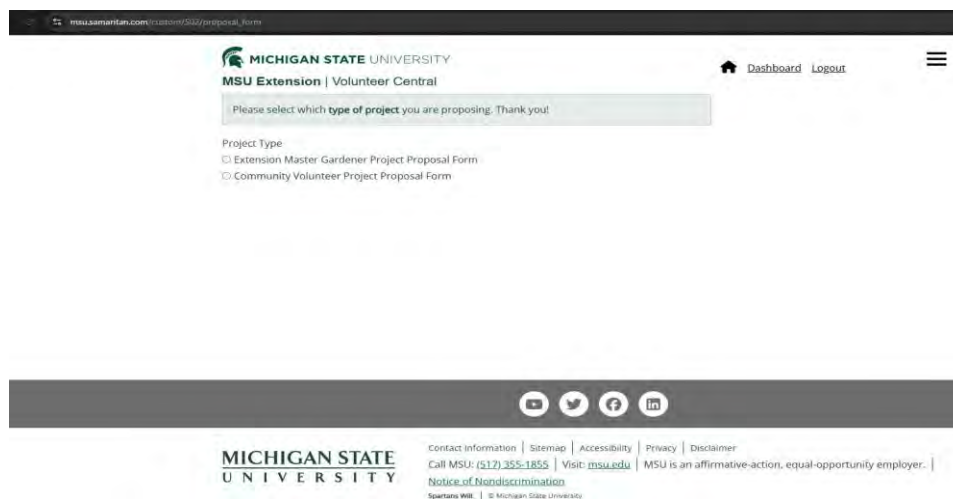
- Michigan State University's Extension Master Gardener Program is "a Michigan State University initiative that trains volunteers in research-based horticulture to educate the public and promote sustainable gardening across Michigan. Participants complete a 10-week "Foundations of Gardening" course, followed by certification and volunteer service requirements, including community projects on food security and environmental stewardship." MSU EMGs can be found in every county across the great state of Michigan. **"Certification Maintenance:** Active EMGs must complete at least 20 hours of volunteer service and 10 hours of continuing education annually. **Focus Areas:** Volunteers focus on consumer horticulture, environmental stewardship, community gardening, and food security. **Impact:** Over 3,500 active EMG volunteers operate in Michigan, engaging in community outreach, local beautification, and educational projects." MSU EMGs can assist any Michigan Lions Club with the practical and scientifically based "how-to" of gardening, planting, harvesting, environmental

projects, rain gardens, native and pollinator gardens, donation gardens, soil testing, and much more! If this kind of hands-on and educational asset may interest, you or your club keep reading! Keep in mind the focus of the MSU EMG program is to provide Education and scientifically based “how-to” of gardening, planting, harvesting, environmental projects, rain gardens, native and pollinator gardens, donation gardens, soil testing, and much more! If this kind of hands-on and educational asset may interest, you or your club keep reading! Keep in mind the focus of the MSU EMG program is to provide Education to the general public (that includes lions clubs!), While often they provide hands on general assistance in order for them to claim their volunteer hours there needs to be an educational component in one of the many focus areas or topics, and it MUST be a MSU EMG approved project on Volunteer Central (the hub MSU EMGs use to record volunteer hours, find projects, and more).

Part 2.) How to create a project Proposal for MSU EMGs to see your project, reach out to a designated contact person, and ultimately aid your project.

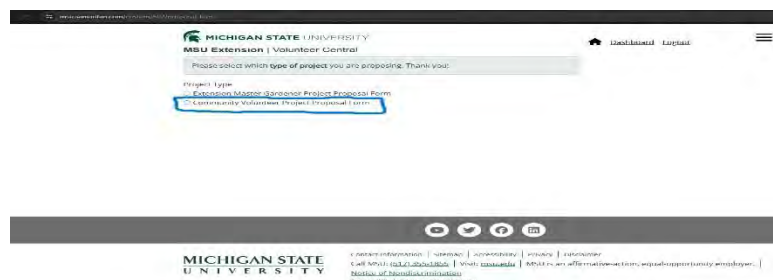
- Below is a step-by-step process (with visuals) to fill out and submit a MSU EMG project proposal to MSU EMGs:

1.) Go to: https://msu.samaritan.com/custom/502/proposal_form



The screenshot shows the MSU Samaritan website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the MSU logo, "MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY", and "MSU Extension | Volunteer Central". There are links for "Dashboard" and "Logout". Below the navigation bar, a message says "Please select which type of project you are proposing. Thank you!". Underneath, there is a "Project Type" section with two radio button options: "Extension Master Gardener Project Proposal Form" and "Community Volunteer Project Proposal Form". The second option is selected. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the MSU logo, contact information, and a disclaimer.

2.) Select “Community Volunteer Project Proposal Form” (2nd option) if you’re not a MSU EMG.



This screenshot is similar to the one above, but it highlights the "Community Volunteer Project Proposal Form" option with a blue box. The "Extension Master Gardener Project Proposal Form" option is also present and unselected.

3.) Fill out ALL parts of the form including: “Contact information” and “Project information”. Once finished Click “Submit” Keep in mind MSU EMGS purposes when filling this out to have the best chance of it being approved! (see below).

Education and Certification: Providing in-depth, high-quality horticulture education community members.

Environmental Stewardship: Educating on the best practices such as water conservation, native plants, pollinator protection, and identifying invasive species.

Community Engagement: Promoting sustainable community landscapes, supporting community gardens, and fostering youth development through gardening.

Research Outreach: Utilizing trained Master Gardeners to assist in answering gardening questions through the [Michigan State University Extension Lawn and Garden Hotline](#) and at community events. (continued on next page).

Local Partnerships: Collaborating with local nonprofits and organizations to enhance community beauty and function.

The form is titled "Contact Information" and "Project Information".

Contact Information:

- Organization/Company Name
- Contact Person/Project Leader
- Contact Title
- Address, Address 2
- City, State (Michigan), Postal Code
- Primary Phone, Primary Phone Type
- Alternate Phone, Alternate Phone Type
- Email Address

Project Information:

- Project Title
- Project Description
- Location Address, Location Address 2
- Location City, Location State (Michigan)
- Location Postal Code
- Project Start Date, Project End Date, Project Time(s)
- Funds available to complete the project, Project County

MSU Extension | Volunteer Central

at horticulture education value to the public does this project

- Will there be a need for heavy lifting or operation of large equipment?
 - Yes
 - No
- Does this Volunteer Opportunity interfere with or take away from any job duties that normally would be performed by an employee of the above facility?
 - Yes
 - No
- Is your organization open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status?
 - Yes
 - No
- Signature type as you would sign: _____ Title _____

Submit

All done! Once submitted, rest assured it’s off to the right place for review. You should be notified via the email you input when the project is approved. Once approved congratulations! MSU EMGS can now SEE your project on the MSU Volunteer Central and sign-up to aid, or if you already know some MSU EMGs you can let them know to have themselves added to this project to log their volunteer hours when assisting! One other benefit of this is there are grant funding opportunities only applicable to MSU EMG approved projects that can be filled out and submitted only by MSU EMGs to help enhance the mission and purposes of your Lions project(s) via an influx of funding for needed supplies.

Part 3.) Additional Resources

- MSU EMG Proposal Form: https://msu.samaritan.com/custom/502/proposal_form
- MSU EMG Team Key Contacts and their regions:
https://www.canr.msu.edu/master_gardener_volunteer_program/contact_us/index
- MSU Ask Extensions (any horticulture related questions):
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/outreach/ask-an-expert/>
- MSU Gardening in Michigan (resources and information):
https://www.canr.msu.edu/home_gardening/
- Bill Emersons Food Donation Act: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/usda-good-samaritan-faqs.pdf>
- MSU Food Safety: https://www.canr.msu.edu/safe_food_water/
- MSU Enviro weather (for degree days):
<https://enviroweather.msu.edu/>
- MSU EMG Program: https://www.canr.msu.edu/master_gardener_volunteer_program/

Note: More resources are planned to be added periodically and update any other information as it evolves



Presenting a Lions Conference Breakout Session

by Lion Doug Klein, APR, CTA

In the last newsletter, we talked about strategies and tactics to use that help you get the most out of attending a Lions Club conference or convention. But this month, let's put the shoe on the other foot. Let's say that instead of being in the audience you are asked to be a breakout session presenter. In this issue, I'll pass along a few tips to help you prepare a winning presentation for a group of attentive Lions. The best advice is to "just do it" and learn more as you forge ahead.

I was lucky enough to do the Faculty Development Institute training a few years ago during a Michigan Lions Leadership Conference in Roscommon. There, I had the opportunity to learn from the very best Lions' presenters and get one-on-one feedback from leaders like PID Jenny Ware of SD 10. Also, in each of the past four years, I have done a breakout session presentation at the Lions of Michigan Forum, so I have had time to become familiar with the feeling of being "summoned to the front of the room." All of this gave me the courage I needed to present at the Lions International Convention in Orlando in 2025.

While you may not want to go all in on doing a bunch of presentations so fast or so soon, you can start out by taking time to prepare just one or two carefully. Breakout sessions are where Lions learn, share ideas, and return home energized to serve. A well-prepared session can spark new projects, strengthen clubs, and inspire future leaders. If you're a first-time presenter just know that thoughtful preparation and engaging delivery make all the difference. In this article, let's discuss preparation tips.

Start with a clear purpose. Before opening PowerPoint—or even outlining your talk—ask yourself one key question: What should participants be able to do differently when they leave? Strong breakout sessions are action oriented. Instead of "talking about membership," aim for: "Participants will leave with three specific strategies to recruit new members." Or "Clubs will be able to improve their social media presence within 30 days." A clear purpose keeps your content focused and meaningful.

Know your audience. Lions Club conferences bring together a wide mix of experience levels: new members looking for basics, club officers seeking practical tools, and experienced Lions wanting fresh ideas. Design your session to include something for everyone: a quick foundation for beginners, practical takeaways for active leaders, and new insights for seasoned members. If possible, ask the conference organizers who is likely to attend your session.

Build a simple, strong structure. The most effective breakout sessions follow a clear, easy-to-follow structure: opening (5 minutes), introduce yourself briefly (focus on relevance, not your full résumé), state what the session will cover, and explain why it matters to Lions. Then, deliver your core content (20–30 minutes).

Organize your material into 3–5 key points. For each: explain the idea, give a real example (preferably from a Lions Club), and then offer a practical application. Build in some interaction: questions to the audience, quick discussions ("Turn to someone near you..."), or show-of-hands polls. Then finally wrap-up (5–10 minutes) by summarizing key takeaways and providing next steps. Allow time for questions.

Preparation is key to getting your message across. And remember to focus on practical, usable content. Lions value ideas they can take home and implement immediately. In upcoming articles, we will discuss some presentation techniques, how best to practice, and other ways that you can use to make your session even more compelling.

Presenting at a Lions Club conference is more than a speaking opportunity, it's a chance to multiply service. Every idea you share has the potential to be carried back to communities and turned into action. Focus on clarity, practicality, and engagement—and your breakout session will not only inform but inspire.



Lion Doug Klein regularly passes along tips to help your Lions Club sharpen its public relations and marketing efforts. He has been a member of the Mason, Michigan Lions Club since he retired in 2018 as a Lansing Community College adjunct professor of public relations, communication, business, and marketing. He is currently serving as Mason Lions Club Secretary, District 11-C2 Public Relations/Marketing and Newsletter Chair, and MD11 State PR / Information and Marketing Chair. A member of the Public Relations Society of America since 1983, he has held their prestigious APR designation (Accreditation in Public Relations) since 1996. He was inducted into the American Marketing Association's national honorary Alpha Mu Alpha in 2012. Contact him with any public relations or marketing questions at (517) 775-8601 or at dougklein@usa.net by email.