

# Lions District 11-C2 Newsletter

Editor: Lion Robert Tetzlaff PDG





#### **District 11-C2 Officers**

Governor: Lion Traci Tribley
1st Vice Gov.: Lion Ted Hamilton

2nd Vice Gov.: Lion

Secretary: Lion Becky Hamilton Treasurer: Lion Robert Phillips IPDG: Lion Tracy Temple

#### **Zone Chairs**

R1-Z1: Lion Jenny Stromlund

R1-Z2: Lion Carl Cozart

R2-Z1: Lion Blaine Lafler

R2-Z2: Lion Ren Vande Gutche

R3-Z1: Lion Michael O'Bryant

R3-Z2: Lion Chris Kloecker

R4-Z1: Lion Wendy Mater

#### Places of Interest

Lions District Web Site

District Newsletters

Lions of Michigan Foundation

Lions of Michigan

Lions Clubs International

Lions of Michigan YouTube Channel

Around the District (3 Pages)

Lions Pride, Web Version

Cook Book Fund-Raiser LMSF

LMSF Donation

LMSF Donation Form (2 Pages)

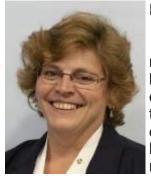
Nonverbals Improve TV Interviews

**Golf Cart Donation Request** 

From the GMT Team

Hall of Fame Nominations

### From the desk of the Governor



Happy New Year!

As we reflect on the last year and make resolutions for 2023, I hope you are able to look past the usual resolutions of save money, lose weight, etc. My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to strive for the CALM and enjoy all the experiences life has to offer. I know, many of you are laughing. This is definitely something I need to work on. I was once told that we need to strive for "CALM".

The "HIGHS" are great, the "LOWS" help us grow and learn, but the "CALMNESS" allows us to experience it all.

I am truly grateful for the lessons learned in 2022. I have let go of some things and walked through new doors that opened for me. The joy and blessing from accepting the position of Executive Director at Lions Bear Lake Camp has been so rewarding. Witnessing experiences through the camper's point of view has been life changing and makes you really appreciate all that you have.

Being able to serve and represent District 11-C2 as District Governor in 2022 has been a pure joy. We may not be the biggest district or have the largest clubs, but we SERVE big. District 11-C2 continues to impress and surprise me with all of the different projects that each club does to meet their community's needs.

Thank you for your support and believing in me! I look forward to a great 2023 and continued service.

Lion Traci Tribley DG

#### **Cabinet Meeting**

Celebration of Service 2023

Celebration of Service Registration Form

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Lions of Michigan All-State Band

Eye Glass Collections

**Hunger Committee Asking For Your Help** 

#### **Bit of Wisdom**

Don't mix bad words with your bad mood. You will have many opportunities to change a mood, but you will never get the opportunity to replace the words you spoke.

#### **Brighton Lions**



Lion President Ken Hartford announced that the Brighton Lions Club worked with Cub Scout Pack 347 to pack boxes of food on 11/16/22 in order to then help 90 families in need with Turkey Baskets on 11/21/22 working with Gleaners Food Bank and The Salvation Army. One of the club's signature events again successfully led by our Lion of the Year Don Nelson!

The Brighton Lions Club had another successful Farmers Market Season, raising funds for several community organizations. Thanks to all those who volunteered their time and made it a success!

#### Mason Leos



The Mason Middle School Leo Club worked on a Christmas service project assembling sets of personal care and comfort items. The items were placed inside festive holiday bags that also included a Christmas card for each recipient. The bags were then distributed to the residents of Angel House, a referral based therapeutic mother/baby residential program for pregnant and parenting teen girls in foster care between the ages of 13 to 17. Angel House is operated in the Mason area by Child and Family Charities.





#### **Charlotte Lions**



Lion Connie O'Neill and Friend of Lions Nora Hempel put the finishing touches on Nora's square-snowman called **BRRRRman**.

The Charlotte Lions Club helped support a new event held in Charlotte, organized by the General Federation of Women's Clubs-Charlotte. This event was held on a very, very cold and windy morning on December 3, 2022. The event was called "Build a Snowman" allowing teams, families or other individuals to build a snowman in the large cement urns in the downtown business district. All 16 snowmen were quite unique and will help beautify the downtown through the winter. Hot cocoa and donut holes were purchased by the Charlotte Lions and the Charlotte Optimist Club.

The Charlotte Lions Club holds an annual cheese sale to raise funds that will be donated back to the community through different events. Lion Bob Phillips and Jan Phillips drove to Shipshewana, Indiana to pick up the cheese. This year, 12 members sold 660 pounds of cheese! The cost of the cheese was \$3,257.52 and the club showed a net profit of \$2.736.92.

These funds will help support the recently initiated, annual vocational education scholarship program for area high school/specialty program for graduating seniors and other community projects.

#### St. Johns Lions





President Lion Dean Hartenburg

# St. Johns Lions Club/Knights of Columbus Chili Fundraiser:

The chili fundraiser held during the St. Johns Christmas parade was not a great profit-maker due to the high cost of ingredients to make the chili but it sure was a lot of fun. The club gained some good public relations while supporting the community.

K of C members who planned to prepare the chili had to drop out due to illness. A BIG thank you to Lion Nancy Presocki who stepped up to take over the role of chef. She was assisted by Lion Gloria Carnicom. Thank you also to the UAW for the use of their hall.

# round Surject 11



#### **Elsie Lions**



Lions Dennis Long, Richard Easlick, Rick Jones, Roger Weyersburg

At the Elsie Lions Club Christmas Dinner five Lion Club Members were honored with Years of Service Pins totaling 175 YEARS of SERVICE. Pictured left to right are Lion Dennis Long 30 years, Lion Richard Easlick 30 years, Elsie Lion President Rick Jones, presenting pins and Lion Roger Weyersburg 45 years. Missing from the picture with 35 years each were Lions Kam Washburn and Charles Green. Thanks to each of them for serving our community!

#### **Hartland Lions**



Lions Joanna Dresden, Jake Andrews, Kurt Stromlund PDG, Larry Ciofu

Hartland Lions Club Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army.



January 16, 2022

#### Hunger Committee Asking for Help

Lions of Michigan 11C-2: The hunger committee is excited to announce an upcoming service project. We need 15 volunteers so please let Hunger Committee Chair Lion Larry know if you are able to attend.

Thursday, January 19 - New Mount Calvary Mobile Distribution 3800 W. Miller Rd, Lansing 48911 Volunteers needed 1:30-3:30pm

As a change from the last time we worked with the Greater Lansing Food Bank sorting food, this time we will be helping with a mobile food distribution.

Please wear your Club gear and show Lansing what Lions can do!

Thanks
Lion Larry
Larry Fewins-Bliss (he/him/his)
517-525-8855



#### **DeWitt Lions**



Lion George Walter thanked Mrs Audrey Fabus

Lion Jim Dunn introduced Mrs Audrey Fabus who informed the den on the history and purpose of the DeWitt Community Christmas Basket program. Started 46 years ago by the DeWitt Host Lions with deliveries on December 24th the current program run by a committee of three who works with other DeWitt churches, schools, scouts and other organizations to provide food and presents for district school children, their families and seniors.

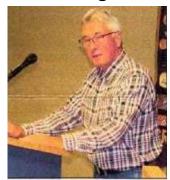
This years recipients include seven seniors and 17 families that include 43 children. Delivery date is December 10th. Many Lions will help this humanitarian cause. The Dens annual donation is \$1.400.







#### **Grand Ledge Lions**



Lion Dr. Jim Voltattorni

As guest speaker on November 22, Lion Jim Voltattorni shared with Club members his recent experiences

As member of a local Forensic Dentistry team. This team is called upon to help local and state authorities to assure the identification of deceased persons in cases where information is otherwise unavailable.

Lion Jim's information to Members emphasized the seriousness of this job and the gratification it provides to team members to be a part of this service.

Lion Jim retired last year from a long career of providing dental service from his Grand Ledge facility and serves the community still.

#### **Stocking Stuffers Region 4 Zone 1**



Region 4 Zone 1 held a zone project at the Grand Ledge Masonic Temple stuffing 80 stockings. Bancroft Lioness Lions, Delta Dewitt Ledges, Lansing Capital Lioness Lions Clubs and GMT & Guiding Lion PDG Brent Beracy all had a great time of fellowship during this annual service project.

#### **District 11-C2 Hall of Fame Nominations**

District 11-C2 Hall of Fame nominations are due prior to January 27, 2023. Please send your nominations to either DG Traci Tribley or CS Becky Hamilton by mail or email for distribution to the District Cabinet for voting which will take place at the District 11-C2 Cabinet Meeting on January 28, 2023. Nomination forms can be found on the Lions of Michigan Foundation website.

#### **Eyeglass Collection Contest**

The current clubs who have submitted their counts for the eyeglass collection are as follows:

Grand Ledge 1188 glasses 12 hearing aids

Dewitt Breakfast 2200 glasses 1 hearing aid

Bretton Woods 2017 glasses 4 hearing aids

St Johns 1476 glasses plus hearing aids

Charlotte 870 glasses 22 hearing aids

Hartland 324 glasses 1 hearing aid

Bath Twp 80 glasses

Remember you have until March 1<sup>st</sup> to turn in glasses to the state office and send your counts to Lion Chrissy Andre.

#### From the GMT Team:

District 11-C2 and the GMT Team would like to welcome 2022's newest members and their sponsors! As new Lions, you'll have the opportunity to make a difference in your community, and the world. Congratulations on making the decision to be a part of the world's largest humanitarian service organization. Welcome to the 11-C2 Pride!

Lion Pamela Dunham Branch

Sponsor Lion Sue Peterson

**O-E Lioness Lions** 

\_. . . . .

The 2022-23 Lions year is shaping up to be a real winner for service in our district! Every new Lion adds a pair of hands for service, and will lead to even more ideas for new ways to serve in our communities. Lions of district 11-C2, way to ROAR!!

Lion Brent

#### **Lions of Michigan All-State Band**

The Lions of Michigan All State Band (LMASB) committee appreciates all of our district's efforts to promote the Building the Band for Boston effort on facebook. Each one of your "likes" and "shares" has helped bring awareness to the band. LMASB has a new web presence at <a href="www.lionsmiband.org">www.lionsmiband.org</a> as well as print materials (flyers and posters). The flyer is included in the newsletter and the poster can be downloaded at <a href="www.district11c2.org">www.district11c2.org</a>

Thank you for all you do to help "Build up the Band!"

Lion Brent

# 11-C2 Lions... Start Those Tractor Engines!

Come witness the mad dashes to the betting tables!

See who will be trying to grab that Traveling Trophy for bragging rights in 2023?

What is a sexiest tractor award!?

### Come and See!

Please consider joining us for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Gratiot County Lions Clubs Tractor Race to benefit Gratiot County citizens in need. Held at: The Pins Bar & Grille, 1091 E. Center St., Ithaca, 48847 (Parking in rear)

February 18th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

A limited number of tables have been especially reserved for Lions from District 11-C2 to come and join in the fun with our Gratiot County Lions and guests. Tractor race sponsorships are not required for your club to come enjoy some winter fun, food, and fellowship. We hope to see you there!

\*All forms and fees are due by January 21st, 2023

Thank you for supporting your Gratiot County Lions Clubs!



### **Lions Club 2023 Tractor Sponsor Form**

Saturday, February 18th, 2023
The Pins Bar and Grille; 1091 E. Center Street, Ithaca
5:30 p.m. – Social Time/Cash Bar
Banquet Dinner and Races immediately following social time...

\*\*All forms and fees must be received by JANUARY 21st, 2023

Sponsorships are on a "first come, first serve basis," and are limited to the first 24 tractors

Yes, I would like to be one of the 24 Tractor Sponsors! Total Sponsorship Fee - \$300								
Additional tables of eight (\$200 each)								
								Total amount enclosed - \$
Sponsorship includes tractor entry fee and one (1) table of eight (\$25/person).								
Make checks payable to: Ithaca Lions Club and mail your payment with this form to: Ithaca Lions Club; 995 North Jerome Road, Ithaca, MI, 48847.								
If you have any questions, please contact Brent Beracy at 989-847-2803 or Blaine Lafler at 989-763-0606								
Please write down how you would like your business to be listed in the program and promotional material:								
For our records: Address:								
Address: Contact Name/Number:								
Contact E-Mail:								

Thank you for supporting your local Lions Club!

# Lions of Michigan Foundation Dr. Robert Mathog Lions Hearing Centers

# Cookbook Fundraiser



Lions Clubs are well known throughout the world for the services we provide to help people with hearing and vision loss. Nearly a century ago, Helen Keller challenged Lions Clubs to be "Knights of the Blind," and she declared that "the problems of deafness are deeper and more complex, if not more important, than those of blindness. Deafness is a much worse misfortune, for it means the loss of the most vital stimulus — the sound of the voice that brings language, sets thoughts astir and keeps us in the intellectual company of man."

Our new Lions Hearing Centers Cookbook was developed to create awareness for the treatment of hearing loss and to provide funding for our Michigan Lions Affordable Hearing Aid and Hearing Screening Programs, which offer affordable hearing care options for Michigan residents.

With your help, we can continue to change the lives of thousands of Michigan residents who need and depend on the Lions Clubs of Michigan and our partners, sponsors and friends for the treatment of the their hearing loss. As a Public Charity, all contributions to the Lions of Michigan Foundation are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law. We appreciate your support!

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Cookbook				
☐ I would like to purchase co☐ I would like to make a donation to	okbook(s) for \$15	each for a to	otal of \$	
Payment Method: Check	_ Credit Card	Pay Pal	(info@Imsf.net)	
Card Number:			· <del></del>	
Expiration Date: CVV C	Code:			
Signature:				
First Name:	Last Nam	ne:		
Lions Club or Business Name:				
Mailing Address:				
City:	State:	·	Zip Code:	
Telephone:	Email:			



# Lions of Michigan FOUNDATION

November 7, 2022

Dear Lions of Michigan Member:

There is a tremendous amount of need that exists in Michigan and throughout the United States. The number of Michigan families that are struggling and require a helping hand grows each and every year. To address the need, we are asking for the help of our Michigan Lions and friends who are in a position to help or help more.

Your support will help us meet the challenges that lie ahead, touching lives one person at a time. Your contribution will help a child see or hear better in school; it will help a person suffering from vision or hearing loss keep their job; it will provide temporary living expenses for victims of fires, floods and tornadoes; it will provide emergency assistance for people suffering from sight and hearing disorders and other medical conditions that require treatment with expensive surgeries or medical procedures, it will provide emergency financial assistance for military members and veterans dealing with an unexpected life event; and it will help improve the quality of life for disabled individuals throughout our state.

As Michigan Lions, we have the opportunity and the ability to make Michigan a better place to live for everyone. Your contribution will help change someone's life. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Together We Serve,

Steven M. Van Tol

President

Chad A. McCann

**Executive Director** 

Enclosure



We would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Our daughter attended a playgroup, and she had a picture taken by a very special camera. The Lions Club's free eye screening was a blessing to our family. Victoria had a juvenile cataract in her left eye. The doctors believe she was born with a defect in the back of her eye, and it was never identified during her well-child check-ups. If it was not for the Lions Club, Victoria would have lost her vision in that eye.

Amy F. - Gobles, Michigan

It is so nice to be able to see again and to actually write a handwritten letter. Thank you so very much, and may god bless you for all that you've done helping me get eye surgery. I was living in misery not being able to see. You can't imagine what that is like until you lose your vision. I can't begin to explain just how good it feels to be able to work again and to actually be able to look out the window and see even the tiniest sprinkle of snow.

Scott M. - Big Rapids, Michigan

I would like to express my deepest gratitude for your help in getting my hearing aids. I cannot put into words what it sounds like to hear the little things. For instance, I have to tell my daughters to not talk so loud. I also heard my cat "meow" for the first time, and for the first time, in a long time, I heard my car blinker—wow! I knew I was having issues with my hearing, but I did not understand the gravity of it. Once I received my hearing aids, my world was reopened. My life will never be the same, and I will never look back. Thank you!

Holli G. - New Lothrop, Michigan

Mikey's Fund is named after a very special person, Michaela Hagemann – whom my parents nicknamed "Mikey". Mikey, born with Down Syndrome, was in her early forties, far surpassing her anticipated life expectancy. Although she had developed cataracts, doctors were reluctant to perform surgery due to anticipated limited benefits. However, when my parents took Mikey to Lansing Ophthalmology, Dr. Moore told them that having Mikey enjoy a high quality of life far outweighed any reason not to undergo surgery. Dr. Moore performed cataract surgery on Mikey, and the results helped her enjoy her time through her last days.

When Mikey passed away in January of 2003, my parents, James and Pauline, called Lansing Ophthalmology and expressed their gratitude for the difference that the medical treatment had made in Mikey's life. They desired to "give something back" by making a financial gift to provide eye care for those who could not otherwise afford it. With the help of Lansing Ophthalmology and the Lions of Michigan Foundation, we created Mikey's Fund to help provide eye care for children in need.

Jackie M. - Albion, Michigan

www.lmsf.net - info@lmsf.net - 517-887-6640 5730 Executive Drive - Lansing, MI 48911

# I WANT TO HELP NEEDY FAMILIES

The LIONS OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people in Michigan with unmet needs by helping them become more independent. We provide emergency assistance and services aimed at helping people with sight and hearing deficiencies excel in school, secure and retain employment and remain self-sufficient. Your contribution will help us change lives.

☐ End	closed is my gift for \$	to the Lions of Michiga	an Foundation.	
Ple	ase bill me for \$	_ as my gift to the Lions of Mic	higan Foundation.	
		rd for \$ This is	a: One Time Gift Monthly	
	Visa Discover	☐ MasterCard ☐	Other	
Expi	iration Date:	CVV Code:		
	ft is for:			
	KidSight Fund Medical Assistance Fund Sight Restoration Fund Other	Grant Yager Military Emergency Disaster	Dr. Robert Mathog Lions Hearing Centers Grant Yager Military Family & Veterans Relief Fund Emergency Disaster Relief Fund	
This gi	ft is in memory of:			
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Name:		Da	ite:	
Mailing	Address:			
City:		State:	Zip Code:	
Telepho	one:	Fmail:		



LIONS OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION

5730 Executive Drive

Lansing, Michigan 48911

www.lmsf.net - info@lmsf.net

517-887-6640 - 517-887-6642 (Fax)



# 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.

12/28/22

Hello Governor,

Hopefully you know about the Lions of Michigan Bear Lake Camp located north of Lapeer, MI. If not, the Lions Bear Lake Camp program is a unique camp because it serves children who are medically fragile, learning challenged, managing a chronic disease and/or have serious health issues. Children ages 6 to 16 will attend the summer camp program from free to significantly reduced rates.

The Mission of Lions Bear Lake Camp is to provide a premier educational outdoor recreational experience for children with special needs.

About 15 years ago, the Romeo Lions Club donated golf carts for the camp to transport the children from/to – cottages, dining building, lake area, arts and craft building, etc. The carts have now worn out and need to be replaced; this is where I need your help!

After doing the research, there is a company in Ohio that has given the best quote for the golf cart models that will work for our purpose.

There are 400 Lions clubs in the State, if every club donates \$100, the cost of three new golf carts will be covered.

Governor, please distribute this letter to all the Lions Clubs in your district.

Checks payable to:

Lions Bear Lake Camp

Mail to:

PDG Rich Pfeiffer 70350 Henry Ross Dr.

Romeo, MI 48065

Thank you so much. Please contact me with any questions.

Leo Schaefer, P.D.G. 11A-2 2020-2021 Shae71par@hotmail.com (586) 843-3222

This \$100 is over and above your regular donation to the camp.





· LED Low / High Bins



2022-2023 Rooted in Service

# District Cabinet Meeting

Saturday January 28th 9:00am-Breakfast

Perry VFW 601 N. Main St. Perry, MI 48872



We will be collecting donations for DG Traci's Lions Bear Lake Camp Polar Plunge Pledge.

\$12
MEAL INCLUDES:

Pancakes, French Toast, sausage, eggs, biscuits/gravy, potatoes, oatmeal, coffee, juice, milk.

Lion Traci Tribley
District Governor

**Lion Ted Hamilton**First Vice District Governor

PLEASE RSVP BY JAN 21st

Lion Becky Hamilton PDG bbthebb2004@gmail.com 517-614-4432



# District 11-C2 Celebration of Service Registration Form

Comstock Inn 300 E Main St. Owosso, MI

# March 10-11th, 2023

\*Please fill out a separate form for each Lion/Leo/Guest\* Registration Deadline is February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Club Name	Years of Service		
Address		Zip	
Phone Number	Email Address		
	Check Each Event You Plan on Attending		
		Cost per person	
	Friday Night Service Project 7:00pm	\$ FREE	
	Saturday Continental Breakfast 9:00am	\$ FREE	
	Saturday Memorial Service 10:00 am	\$ FREE	
	Saturday District Business Meeting/Elections 11:00am	\$ FREE	
	Saturday Awards Luncheon Taco Bar 12:00pm	\$ 20	
		TOTAL DUE	
Special Needs: Gluten Fre	e Diabetic Vegetarian Vegan	Other	

\*Please make checks payable to Lions District 11-C2, payments can be made in advance or at the door. Credit cards will be accepted at the door for registration and 50/50 raffles. Mail/Email registration and any pre-payment to

Lion Chrissy Andre 501 E Pond View Drive, Morrice MI 48857 chrissyandre113@gmail.com

#### **Hotel Information:**

Comstock Inn 300 E Main St. Owosso, MI 48867 (989) 725-0999 REGISTER
ONLINE BY
SCANNING THE
QR CODE



Book your room by February 10th, 2023 and use code "LIONS CLUB" to receive the discounted rate of \$85



# District 11-C2 Celebration of Service March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Comstock Inn, 300 E Main St. Owosso, MI



# Exhibitor Agreement

Exhibitor/Club	Contact Person			
Address	City	Zip		
Phone Number	Email			
	REGISTER EARLY! LIMITED SPACES AVA	AILABLE.		
Rental Fee - \$10	(make checks payable to Lions District	11-C2)		
will be allowed t	include a 6-foot table. Electricity will no to set-up at 8:30am on Saturday morning 45pm with a break during the Memorial	g. Exhibitor hours will be		
money for their of raffle tickets, we be drawn follow	will be allowed to sell merchandise and organization/club. To avoid confusion with ask that you bring your own printed ticking awards/recognition of service. Eventary lost or stolen items.	ith the district 50/50 and kets. Raffle winners may		
Signature		Date		

Mail completed application and check to:

Lion Ronda Ackerson 8631 Camellia St. Lansing, MI 48917 517-775-1164

Leackerson@aol.com

### District 11-C2 Deceased Lions Memorial Form



### March 11th, 2023, 10:00am Comstock Inn, 300 E Main St. Owosso, MI



Member's Name
ClubYears of Service
Club Positions Held
District Positions Held
Special Awards/Military Service
Special Awards with the service
Special Memories/Stories
Number of Family Members Attending
*Continental Breakfast will be free of charge between 9-10am. If Family Members wish to stay for lunch, clubs will be responsible for the meal charge. Please fill out a registration form for each family member attending.
To make this more of a celebration of service, we would like to include meaningful photos of each deceased lion performing service or showcasing their interests. Please complete this form and include photos for each member who has passed away since February 2022 by February 25th, 2023.

Lion Karen Ketola 6738 Scofield Dr Grand Ledge, MI 48837 517-927-4834 Karket1116@gmail.com



# LIONS DISTRICT 11-C2 Celebration of Service Committee



Lions Clubs of District 11-C2,

Greetings from the Celebration of Service Committee! We hope everyone is having a great year so far serving your communities.

We know March seems like it's a long way off, but it's time to start thinking about our Celebration of Service event, AKA Convention, and we need your help. Last year's basket raffles were a huge hit, and we would like to be able to assemble some amazing baskets again this year. We are asking each club in the district to support the Celebration of Service event by contributing financially so we can purchase raffle items. We would like to see most funds come in as soon as possible so we can purchase items needed during the holiday sales to get the most for our money. Please consider supporting this fun event to keep the camaraderie alive in our district.

If any Lions members would be interested in assisting the committee in planning the Celebration of Service event, or if you have any questions, please reach out to Lion Chrissy Andre (<a href="mailto:chrissyandre113@gmail.com">chrissyandre113@gmail.com</a>) or 989-627-3808.

Please send checks to District Treasurer Lion Bob Phillips, 429 W Harris Ave., Charlotte, MI 48813, made out to District 11-C2, and in the memo line please add COS Raffle.

Yours in Service,

Celebration of Service Committee

PS- Stay tuned for more information to come about Celebration of Service planned for March 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the Comstock Inn in Owosso.

#### **Nonverbals Improve TV Interviews**

by Lion Doug Klein

In another article, we discussed what to say in a media interview. However, messages are also broadcast through body language, such as movements, eye contact, vocal tone, and gestures. Visual impressions enhance the effectiveness of your words.

Audiences are better able to remember, receive, retain, and retrieve your messages when there is an authentic connection between actions and words. Learn how to effectively employ body language. Such a skill is particularly useful for on-air interviews, but it will work with any media.

Throughout the interview show engagement and warmth. Engaging and compelling communicators, who share their passions and beliefs in a natural and authentic manner, connect with audiences. Smile. Be conversational. Let the reporter see that you enjoy being a Lion.

Pump up the energy. To gauge the energy level that's right for you, take a few videos of yourself while speaking. Use your regular delivery for the first take, a slightly more energetic version for the second, and an "over-the-top" delivery for the third. You may discover that the third take is not "over-the-top" at all, but, rather, the best version of you when it comes to interviews.

Next, your voice is an important instrument in conveying messages. Emotional stories or tragic statistics are whispered. A key point arrives loud and clear. A dramatic story unfolds with a quickening pace. Whether you are talking on television, conducting a phone interview, or speaking on a podcast or radio show, your volume, pace, and tone are additional cues for the reporter and audience. If you speak energetically, slow down a bit as you reach your main point (the change will attract attention). If your conversational style is slower and softer, increase your pace when leading up to your message.

Don't forget to make eye contact. In the context of a media interview, lack of eye contact can signal unease, nervousness, evasiveness, or defensiveness. Internalize your main points and supporting facts before the interview. Doing so will reduce the amount of time you have to look away to "download" information when you're live. If the interview isn't live, you can pause for a few seconds before answering a question, which allows you to access the information before you begin speaking. However, 100 percent eye contact is unnerving. It is most natural to keep eye contact a little more than half the time.

Gesture appropriately. Appear as natural on camera as you are in person. Almost everyone gestures naturally when they speak. Gesturing enhances the impact of your words. And can also increase the credibility of your message. Avoid clasping your hands, crossing your arms, placing your hands behind your back, or hiding both hands in your pockets. Instead, nest your hands within one another and place them on your lap, if seated, and by your navel if standing. This leaves you free to gesture.

Dress appropriately. Along with your physical presence, clothing and cosmetic choices influence how the audience perceives you. Your outward appearance is another "support" to your main message. It is usually best to wear Lions-themed clothing. Always wear your Lions pin and nametag. For television, avoid pinstripes, white shirts, loud prints and too much jewelry.



Lion Doug Klein regularly passes along tips to help your 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 and District 11 – C2 Public Relations 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 dougklein@wowway.com or (517) 775-8601.