



January 2024



District 11-C2 Officers

Governor: Lion Ted Hamilton 1st Vice Gov.: Lion Carl Cozart

2nd Vice Gov.: Vacant

Secretary: Lion Becky Hamilton PDG

Treasurer: Lion Robert Phillips IPDG: Lion Traci Tribley

Zone Chairs

R1-Z1: Lion Jenny Stromlund

R1-Z2: Lion Aleta Cozart

R2-Z1: Lion Blaine Lafler

R2-Z2: Lion Kenny Kinsey

R3-Z1: Lion Michael O'Bryant

R3-Z2: Lion Eileen Delaney

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 (4 Pages)

Lions Pride, Web Version

Mints for the Military

Bear Lake Polar Plunge 2024

What's in Your Wallet?

Cabinet Meeting 2024

Youth Camp and Exchange Sponsor (2

pages)

Lions of Michigan Forum 2024

Lions District 11-C2 Newsletter

Editor: Lion Robert Tetzlaff PDG



From the desk of the Governor



Fellow Lions of District 11-C2, the Christmas Season was a busy one meeting up with many folks throughout the 11-C2 District, and I hope yours was blessed as well!

December 1 VDG Carl Cozart and myself attended the MD11/SD1 Council of Governors Meeting in Lansing. It was a well attended event, with the continued focus on membership, membership,

and more membership. As a District, we are doing a great job of reporting Service activities, with a big shout out to PDG Becky Hamilton and our GST Lion Chrissy Andre to help get clubs pushed over the hump. We still have a few Clubs not quite there yet.

There is an MD11/SD10 State dues increase proposal. Current dues to the State for each member is \$10. The proposal is for a 2 year graduated increase, of \$2 the first year, and \$2 the 2nd year. I am on the committee that brought this to the Council of Governors for review. The proposal passed with 8 Governors voting yes, 1 no, and 2 absent. The last member dues increase for the State, was 2009. The ballot language is being written, and will be voted on at this year's Council of Governors/Forum in February. If approved, it will then go on to the MD11/SD1 State Convention in May for a vote of convention delegates. If it passes there, it would go into affect, my guess 2024-2025, and 2025-2026 year.

Continue



Eyeglass Challenge 2023

Celebration of Service 2024

Celebration of Service Registration 2024

Celebration of Service Deceased Lion

Memorial Form 2024

Celebration of Service Donation Request 2024

Wild Game Dinner Elsie Lions

Michigan Hall of Fame Nomination Form (5 pages)

Virtual Roundtables

Lions Bear Lake Camp Fundraiser

Bit of Wisdom

Failure is not the opposite of success it's PART OF success.

Continued from the Governor

December 5 found PDG Becky and myself as guests at the Stockbridge Lions Christmas bash, where we enjoyed some crazy good home cooking, as well as participated in a raucous Christmas Present auction where Lion Gordie Kunzelman did one heck of an auctioneering job. Their club raised over \$4000 for local charities! PDG Becky handed out some well deserved years-of-service chevrons

December 7, PDG Becky and myself visited the Bath Lions at their Christmas Party, where we enjoyed spending time with some awesome Lions, and had a great meal at the Coral Gables restaurant in Lansing.

December 8, PDG Tracy Temple, VDG Carl Cozart, PDG Becky and myself joined our very good friends of the Hartland Lions at their Christmas bash at Tomato Brothers restaurant in Howell.

December 11 PDG Becky and I enjoyed an excellent evening with the Wacousta Lions at the Barclay Funeral Home (Lion Jason Barclay) in Grand Ledge. The meal was fantastic, followed by a fun gift exchange lead by "Santa" Lion Johnny Maahs, and PDG Becky handed out some well deserved years-of-service chevrons.

December 12, I screwed up, and completely missed the Ovid Lions Christmas party in St Johns after I had RSVP'd. My sincere apologies to the Ovid Lions Club, and I will see them soon!

December 13 found PDG Becky and myself in Mason for the Mason Lions Christmas party at the First Church of the Nazarene. PDG Lorraine Sparks did a fantastic job as the M.C. for the evening, and PDG Becky handed out some well deserved years-of-service chevrons

December 14 found us at our home club Durand Lions Christmas party, where PDG Becky handed out some well deserved years-of-service chevrons, PDG Tracy Temple and VDG Carl Cozart received Ken Lautzenheiser awards, and Club President Lew Deisler received a Melvin Jones Fellowship

December 17 PDG Becky, VDG Carl Cozart and myself attended the Bancroft Lioness Lions Christmas. They participated in a gift exchange, had a crazy-good lunch buffet, and PDG Becky handed out some well deserved years-of-service chevrons.

December 18 found me in Alma visiting with my awesome R2Z1 ZC Blaine Laffler and members of the St Louis/Alma Lions

December 19 found PDG Becky and myself at the beautiful home of Lions State Office Exec Director Wendy Burns for drinks and hors d'oeuvres with other Lions from MD11

December 20 PDG Becky and myself joined the Dewitt Lions at their Christmas celebration at the Looking Glass Brewery in Dewitt, where we also had the honor of handing out several years-of-service chevrons.

I pray you all experienced the Gift of Love, the Gift of Peace, and the Gift of Happiness for your 2024. Invite me to visit your club! Best regards always, DG

Lion Ted Hamilton DG

Celebration of Service ~ March 8 - 9, 2024

The Celebration of Service, formerly known as District Convention, will be held at the Comstock Inn on March 8-9, 2024. <u>Information and the registration form are in this newsletter's attachments.</u> Please email, snail mail, or pony express your registration form to DG Ted Hamilton, trham1960@aol.com or 9995 S Byron Rd, Durand MI 48429 by March 1.

There will be a service project and hospitality room on Friday evening, and Saturday will be a business meeting, a Memorial Service, lunch, and awards for many deserving Lions. We hope to see you all there!

Your Celebration of Service Committee

News From the Cabinet Secretary

The next District 11-C2 Cabinet Meeting is Saturday January 13, 2024. Social/gathering time is at 8:30am, and the meeting and breakfast will start at 9:00AM. The location is at the VFW Hall, 601 N Main St, Perry MI 48872. Cost shouldn't be more than \$13, but that has not been confirmed yet. Please RSVP for a breakfast no later than January 6, 2024, and please email reports no later than January 11, 2024.

As a reminder, we will be voting at the Cabinet Meeting for a nominee to put through for the Lions of Michigan Hall of Fame (5 pages). Please send the form for your nominee to Cabinet Secretary Becky Hamilton no later than January 11, 2024. The email for this and for Cabinet Meeting RSVP's is bbthebb2004@yahoo.com. You can also text RSVP's to 517-614-4432.

Happy New Year to All - Be Happy and Well CS Becky

Charlotte Lions



The Charlotte Lions held their annual Cheese sale. Cheese was picked up in Shipshewana, Indianna, by Lion Bob Phillips and Jan Phillips. Most of the club members sold cheese to family friends as well at local businesses. The cheese sale was a big success. Total cost of sale (purchase/pickup) \$3,585.00 Net profit \$2,967.00 (45 ¼% profit).

Jan Phillips getting a surprise visit from Santa while she was selling cheese at Tractor Supply.

Around The District

Delta DeWitt Ledges Lioness Lions

We collected almost 40 winter coats, sweatshirts and scarves to distribute to local agencies who help keep our community warm during these winter months.

Durand Lions



Durand Lions DG Ted Hamilton, PDG Tracy Temple, and PDG Lloyd Kilbreath recently assisted a Durand resident with our temporary wheelchair ramp

Mason Lions



Lions Jenni Jordon and Becky Hamilton

On Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at Mason First Church of the Nazarene, Mason Lions Club held its annual Christmas Party. A special feature this year were presentations made to members for their years of service in Lions. The Mason Lions Club hosted DG Ted Hamilton and PDG Becky Hamilton who presented the service chevrons. Mason Lions Club's Vice President Jenni Jordan and Lion Gordon Sparks are pictured receiving their awards.

PDG Lorraine Sparks led the Club's evening's festivities. The District Governor said it was a "super nice dinner and Christmas party with our Mason Lions friends." There was food and fun, with games and prizes galore. "They had to roll me out of there, after my assault on the dessert table," added DG Ted Hamilton.



Lions Becky Hamilton and Gordon Sparks

Around The District





Elsie Lions

Please mark your calendars for Monday January 8, 2024, at 6pm, for the Elsie Lions Club 30th Annual Wild Game Dinner.

This will be held at the Elsie American Legion Hall starting at 6pm. Please bring a Wild Game Dish to pass or Tame and your place setting. Potatoes, rolls, milk and coffee will be provided.

Guest speaker will be Terry Kemp. Terry will be talking on the History and Creation of Commemorative Buck's. Come listen to Owosso resident and local author/publisher. Terry has been involved with CMB almost since the inception of the organization in 1981. CMB was created to measure record Bucks in Michigan. It eventually became Michigan's official record keeping organization for not only Deer, but also Bear, Elk and Turkey.

We will be Raffling a Savage Axis 350 Rifle Gun, tickets on sale at \$10/per ticket now by calling Lion Richard Easlick 517-881-0024 or Lion Rick Jones 989-666-2781 or at the door if not sold out!

We will also have Raffle prizes for children and adults, tickets available at door.





DeWitt Lions



Lions George Walter and Becky Hamilton

Lion Becky Hamilton presented Milestone awards for years of SERVICE to:

Lion George Walter - 25

Lion Tom Leonard - 15

Lion Kevin McCrackin - 25

Lion Fred Nose - 25

Lion Jim Dunn - 40

Lion Jim Kraft - 40

Around The District



St. Johns Lions



District Governor Ted Hamilton inducted four new members into the St. Johns Lions Club on November 9 after the 75th anniversary celebration. Welcome to all. We are glad to have you as new members.

Welcome New Members:

Lion Jeff Cannell Lion LuAnn Cannell Lion Dick Caricom Lion Cheryl Hickey





Grand Ledge Lions



In December many Lions gathered in Grand Ledge to Stuff the Stockings!

We filled 80 Christmas stockings with personal care items, hats, gloves, toys and candy. Lansing Capital Lioness Lions then shared some with Haven House. Delta DeWitt Ledges Lioness Lions shared some with SIREN Shelter and Bancroft Lioness Lions Club shared them with Safe Center's Clinton and Shiawassee Counties service areas.

Food and fellowship were enjoyed by all!



Vermontville

The Vermontville Lions Club recently honored Vermontville residents Philip Byington (U.S. Army Air Corp honorable discharge 1949) and Bob Gardner (U.S. Navy honorable discharge 1959) as their Lions Club Veterans of the Month.



Philip Byington (U.S. Army Air Corp honorable discharge 1949)



Bob Gardner (U.S. Navy honorable discharge 1959)

Around The District



Ashley Lions



Lions Jim Seals, President Roger Keck.

The Ashley Lions taking their November meeting to the Laurels of Carson City where 50 year member Lion James Seals resides.

Virtual Roundtables

Hello Lions!

As we move forward into the new year it's great to know we have an excellent and caring bunch of club leaders who are interested in helping guide our district as we transition our clubs to more effectively serve in their community. All Lions members who fulfilled the prerequisite training have received an email with the Zoom links for the roundtable discussions. If you're interested in taking part, but didn't complete the prerequisites, the Zoom link is listed in the Lions "Learn" area of the Lions member portal.

Happy New Year! Lion Brent







LIONS OF MICHIGAN HALL OF FAME OFFICIAL NOMINATION FORM

The LIONS OF MICHIGAN HALL OF FAME is a project of the Lions of Michigan Foundation. The purpose of the Hall of Fame is to recognize and honor those individuals who have had a significant impact on Lionism in Michigan and to preserve a memory and record of their service.

SELECTION

A maximum of seven individuals may be selected annually for enshrinement into the Lions of Michigan Hall of Fame. The inductees shall include up to four living and two deceased individuals. Past International Directors will automatically be inducted at the end of their two year term as International Director, and each year, one Hall of Fame inductee will be selected by a special committee consisting of the current members of the Lions of Michigan Hall of Fame.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The primary Hall of Fame Selection Committee will be comprised of the members of the Lions of Michigan Foundation's Fund Development and Marketing Committee.

NOMINATIONS

Nominations will be received annually, no later than March 1. All nominations must be made using the Nominating Forms provided by the Lions of Michigan Foundation. All portions of the Nomination Form must be completed in order for a nomination to be considered. A detailed Narrative for each Nominee should accompany the Nomination Form to provide the Selection Committee with additional information about the nominee. However, the Narrative shall have no numerical score.

Nominations may be initiated by an individual or individuals, a Lions Club or a District. Nominations must have the endorsement of the District Cabinet (**one nominee per category**) before they are submitted to the Foundation office. Individuals nominated and not selected, in any given year, may be nominated in a subsequent year through the endorsement of a current District Cabinet.

INDUCTEES

Inductees and their spouse/guest will be invited guests of the Lions of Michigan Foundation at their scheduled induction ceremony. The time and location of the induction ceremony will coincide with the Foundation's Annual Meeting.

RECORDS

The Lions of Michigan Foundation will be the official repository of records of the LIONS OF MICHIGAN HALL OF FAME. All records will be retained at the Lions of Michigan State Office.

NOMINEE:	
LIONS CLUB:	
DISTRICT:	DATE:

POINTS WILL <u>NOT</u> BE AWARDED FOR MULTIPLE TERMS IN A SPECIFIC OFFICE.

SECTION 1: LIONS MEMBERSHIP & EXTENSION	POINTS	POINTS GIVEN
YEARS OF SERVICE ()	1 PT. EACH YEAR	
NEW MEMBERS SPONSORED		
1 - 25 MEMBERS	10 POINTS	
26 - 50 MEMBERS	25 POINTS	
51+ MEMBERS	50 POINTS	
EXTENSION AWARD	25 POINTS	
GUIDING LION AWARD	25 POINTS	
TOTAL POINTS FOR SECTION 1		

SECTION 2: LIONS CLUB SERVICE	POINTS	POINTS GIVEN
PRESIDENT	15 POINTS	
VICE PRESIDENT	10 POINTS	
SECRETARY	10 POINTS	
TREASURER	10 POINTS	
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR	10 POINTS	
BOARD MEMBER (OTHER THAN ABOVE)	5 POINTS	
TOTAL POINTS FOR SECTION 2		

SECTION 3: DISTRICT LIONS SERVICE	POINTS	POINTS GIVEN
DISTRICT GOVERNOR	30 POINTS	
VICE, LIEUTENANT OR DEPUTY DISTRICT GOVERNOR	15 POINTS	
CABINET SECRETARY	15 POINTS	
CABINET TREASURER	15 POINTS	
REGION CHAIR	10 POINTS	
ZONE CHAIR	5 POINTS	
COMMITTEE CHAIR	5 POINTS	
ATTENDED A CONVENTION	5 POINTS	
TOTAL POINTS FOR SECTION 3		

SECTION 4: MULTIPLE DISTRICT LIONS SERVICE	POINTS	POINTS GIVEN
COUNCIL CHAIR	35 POINTS	
VICE COUNCIL CHAIR	20 POINTS	
TREASURER	20 POINTS	
COMMITTEE CHAIR	15 POINTS	
COMMITTEE MEMBER	10 POINTS	
ATTENDED A CONVENTION OR FORUM	10 POINTS	
PRESENTED AT A CONVENTION OR FORUM	10 POINTS	
TOTAL POINTS FOR SECTION 4		

SECTION 5: INTERNATIONAL LIONS SERVICE	POINTS	POINTS GIVEN
COMMITTEE CHAIR (Convention, USA/Canada Forum, Sight First, Etcetera)	25 POINTS	
COMMITTEE MEMBER	15 POINTS	
ATTENDED AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION	15 POINTS	
ATTENDED A USA/CANADA FORUM	10 POINTS	
PRESENTED AT A CONVENTION OR FORUM	10 POINTS	
TOTAL POINTS FOR SECTION 5		

SECTION 6: MD 11 & SD 10 LIONS PROJECT SERVICE	POINTS	POINTS GIVEN
PRESIDENT	25 POINTS	
VICE PRESIDENT	15 POINTS	
SECRETARY	15 POINTS	
TREASURER	10 POINTS	
BOARD MEMBER	10 POINTS	
COMMITTEE CHAIR	10 POINTS	
COMMITTEE MEMBER	5 POINTS	
TOTAL POINTS FOR SECTION 6		

SECTION 7: AWARDS & HONORS RECEIVED	POINTS	POINTS GIVEN
INTERNATIONAL AMBASSADOR OF GOODWILL	150 POINTS	
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTIAL AWARD	75 POINTS	
INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD	50 POINTS	
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION	25 POINTS	

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NARRATIVE

Please list the reasons why your nominee should be considered for membership in the Lions of Michigan Hall of Fame? Explain how your nominee has had a significant impact on Lionism in Michigan. Utilize additional pages as necessary.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY



DISTRICT 11-C2 ANNUAL



LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP FUNDRAISER

FRIDAY APRIL 5TH, 2024

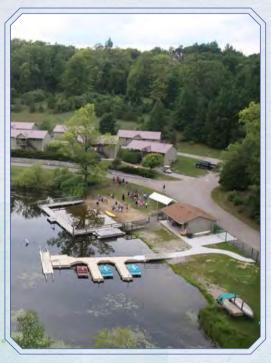
Grand Ledge Masonic Temple 200 River St. Grand Ledge, MI

BINGO, SILENT AUCTIONS, RAFFLES

COST \$15

DOORS OPEN 5:30 PM SOCIAL 6:00 PM BUFFET DINNER 6:30 PM

*Each club is asked to donate an unwrapped \$10 or more gift for the silent auction





Lion Traci Tribley IPDG 5283 E Cole Rd. Bancroft, MI 48414 989-277-7437

RSVP by March 30th, 2024 with check & registration

Lion Phyllis Blackburn 12464 Madonna Ave. Lansing, MI 48917 517-627-5203

Club Name	Number Attending	_
Name of those attending		

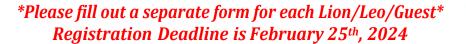
This event is sponsored by Lions of District 11-C2



District 11-C2 Celebration of Service Registration Form

Comstock Inn 300 E Main St. Owosso, MI

March 8-9th, 2024



Club NameYears 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	\$ 25
		TOTAL DUE
Special Needs: Gluten Free	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 DG Ted Hamilton 9995 S Byron Rd Durand MI 48429 trham1960@aol.com

Hotel Information:

Comstock Inn 300 E Main St. Owosso, MI 48867 (989) 725-0999

Book your room by February 10th, 2024 to receive the discounted rate of \$95

District 11-C2 Deceased Lions Memorial Form



March 9th, 2024, 11:00am Comstock Inn, 300 E Main St. Owosso, MI



Member's Name	
Club	Years of Service
Club Positions Held	
District Positions Held	
Special Awards/Military Service	
Special Memories/Stories	
<u> </u>	
Number of Family Members Attending	
*Continental Breakfast will be free of charge between 9 responsible for the meal charge. Please fill out a registro	9-10am. If Family Members wish to stay for lunch, clubs will be ation form for each family member attending.
	ld like to include meaningful photos of each deceased Lion omplete this form and include photos for each member who by 25th, 2024.

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,

2023-24

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 DG Ted Hamilton (<u>trham1960@aol.com</u>) or 810-444-0781.

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 8th-9th, 2024 at the Comstock Inn in Owosso.



Mints For MILITARY

The Lions of Michigan Foundation is proud to recognize the brave men and women serving our nation in the United States military. We have Lion Mints Care Packages ready for distribution, but we need the names and addresses

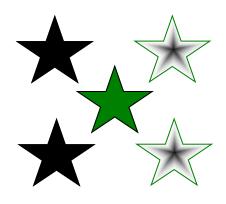
of more service men and women to recognize. Please help us by displaying and distributing this flyer in your community.

LIONS OF MICHIGAN



FOUNDATION

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





ARE PACKAGE TO:	
Unit:	
E: AA: AP:_	
	Unit:

LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP





EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TRACI TRIBLEY

February 10th, 2024 3409 N Five Lakes Rd. Lapeer, MI 48446

SUPPORT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TRACI AS SHE PLUNGES AS WONDER WOMAN AT LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP'S 2ND ANNUAL POLAR PLUNGE. ACCEPTING DONATIONS/PLEDGES OF SUPPORT.

Send Checks to: Lions Bear Lake Camp 3409 N Five Lakes Rd. **Lapeer, MI 48446** "Traci Polar Plunge" in Memo

FOR ALL PEOPLE

Youth Camp and Exchange Sponsor Lions Clubs

Contributed by: Lion Elvie Marfil, Youth Camps & Exchange State Chair

Interested in experiencing life in a different country? Join the exchange program where you can participate in the day-to-day life of a local family and meet other students from around the world.



Filing deadlines for all applicants vary by country. Most Countries have a filing deadline range from February 15 to March 31 depending on the country you pick. Please choose your country early and contact us right away.

A \$100 Youth Exchange Supplies fee is required with all applications. Fee includes shirts, backpack, MD11 Youth Exchange pins and banners and orientation booklet. There may be an additional charges for camps within your chosen country that are not included in the price of our program. You will be required to purchase your own airfare and international travel insurance. The travel insurance must be accepted in the country you are visiting.

Age requirements are typically 15 - 22

Our students usually depart the U.S. the last weekend of June or beginning of July for a 3 to 5 week stay depending on the Youth Exchange program in those countries. Please note that all counties are on a first come basis and fill up fast so the sooner you apply the sooner we can confirm your acceptance.

Deadline for outgoing students application form: March 30, 2024

Australia	Finland	India	South Aftrica
Belguim	France	Israel	Sri Lanka
Brasil	Hungary	Italy	Turkey
Canada	Japan		
Denmark	Mexico		

How to Apply

Apply to become a sponsor club and/or host family today by contacting Lion Elvie Marfil at 818-800-1060 or epmarfil5@yahoo.com.

Deadline for host families application form: April 30, 2024

PLEASE DO NOT FORGET YOUTH CAMPS & EXCHANGE PROGRAM IN YOUR BUDGET.

DISTRICT 11-C2

Eyeglass Collection Challenge

JULY 1ST, 2023-MARCH 1ST, 2024

1ST-3RD PLACE RECOGNIZED IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

1-10 MEMBERS, 11-20 MEMBERS, 21-30

MEMBERS, AND 31+ MEMBERS

REPORTING

- * Box and deliver eyeglasses to the state office by March 1st, 2024. The state office is not recording glasses turned in.
 - You must fill out the online reporting form, or contact Lion Chrissy Andre so your counts are entered correctly for the challenge.



Scan QRCode to report online

chrissyandre113@gmail.com

989-627-3808

What's In Your Wallet?

by Lion Doug Klein, APR, CTA

The humble business card can still be used to promote your Lions Club and get your contact information into the hands of potential members, fellow Lions, supporters, suppliers, and donors. Business cards are a tangible way to exchange contact information. They can show off your branding essentials, such as your name, logo, and tagline. They include your name (don't forget that your "first name" always LION), your Lions Club name, contact information, position title, e-mail address, website, mailing address, and physical address. Recipients then can easily store a business card in a wallet or card holder for future reference.

According to a study, an overwhelming 72 per cent of the people form an opinion about an organization or an individual representing that organization based on the quality of its business card. Lions Clubs International makes an impressive design available to all Lions with the help of their business card template. The design speaks favorably for a Lions Club and a Lions Club member. Every design element like color, typeface, space, image, and logo, etc. has its planned use in the card for the desired impact.

Some digital devices such as iPhones and Android phones can send contact information to another phone. But that happens only when the other device is compatible. Not all your potential contacts may have compatible phones or apps. That makes physical cards preferable (at least as a backup) to digital business cards.

Most organizations also exist virtually in today's digital world. This has helped many Lions Clubs expand their community network tremendously. You can make virtual contact with hundreds of people through e-mail, websites, social media, etc. quickly. But this eliminates the chances of meeting people personally. There is no alternative to the face-to-face networking that has been the proven conventional method of building relationships. Zoom won't ever replace that!

I've discovered that in some cultures around the world, business cards hold a prominent place. The cards can be a vital part of formal greeting rituals. For example, if you meet people from many Asian countries, you must present your business card with both hands. You will surely lose a good contact and make an unfavorable impression if you do not share your card. When someone gives you their card in return, you should hold it reverently and read it for a few seconds before storing it away.

Every day, we have the capability to create new contacts. This may be while having lunch, at the bank, or during a visit to the post office. You can have various conversations with many individuals, but that does not mean they will remember you, your Lions Club, or the services you offer the community. When you provide them with a business card, it serves as a reminder. Always have some cards in your pocket to hand out directly wherever you need them.

Business cards should also accompany the famous "elevator speech" where you mention what goals and skills you or your Lions Club possesses. Giving your name and contact details are not enough. If your card accompanies a very brief introduction to you and your Lions Club, it helps create a connection. Business cards can help in creating a chain of personal relationships.

Business cards can also be useful when meeting with fellow members from other Lions Clubs, attending a networking event, presenting at a conference, or participating in a booth show. Cards can make you referable. Especially if someone asks for your card so they can give it to someone else, consider giving them two cards. One to keep and one to give away. The recipient then can refer you and your organization to someone who is looking for a Lions Club like yours or a person like you.

For many years, I've done a thing I call "what's in your wallet?" I carry the cards of people whose products or services may be helpful to others. Instead of just saying "you should contact so and so," it is much better to let them have a business card from your "wallet of referrable contacts." Remember that with a solid networking plan, your Lions Club can build a true brand identity as a fun and attractive service organization in your community.

So, these are some key reasons for Lions Clubs and Lions at every level of our organization to use the power of business cards for growth. They can help us build growth in membership and growth in service. But the results will depend on your ability to explore the cards' potential in building your network. Cards are undoubtedly marketing tools to consider and make part of your overall marketing plan.



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, District 11-C2 Public Relations and Marketing Chair, and MD11 State 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.