

DISTRICT 11-E2 NEWSLETTER



JANUARY 2021



Notable Quotes: "My dream is of a place and a time where America will once again be seen as the last best hope of earth." — *Abraham Lincoln*

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE



Rod Leathers,
District Governor

Happy New Year District 11-E2,

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. 2020 has been a challenge for all of us. I am proud of how our district has continued to SERVE our communities. We have done things like building handicap ramps, making face masks, getting a grant to make sanitizer and distributing it to our communities, ringing bells for the Salvation Army, continuing to support our food banks, and continuing to make contributions to our state projects. These are just a few things that come to my mind. I know there are many more things being done in a time when it would be so easy to sit back and say we can't do anything. The true spirit of Melvin Jones and Lionism is still alive in District 11E2. I thank all of you for your hard effort to continue SERVING the needs in our communities.

We have learned how to use social media to help with fundraisers and holding meetings. We even had a virtual USA/Canada forum and are planning a virtual Michigan Forum. Lions will continue and will always find a way to meet the needs in our communities.

We are continuing to tread water in our District Membership. As of today we are down 4 for the year. Let's all work on bringing one new member each in our clubs between now and June. Working together we can do this. Remember more members means more SERVICE and more SERVICE means more help in our communities.

As we move into 2021 let's continue to SERVE, bring in new members, and above all else remain safe. We have all done well so far, let's keep it up. Let's keep a positive attitude and continue SERVING our communities. I am hoping and praying to see everyone in April at our District Convention and hopefully able to celebrate our successes and the end to the pandemic.

DG Rod

2020-2021 DISTRICT OFFICERS REFERENCE LIST

DISTRICT GOVERNOR Rod Leathers Central Lake Lions Club 231-350-0567 leathersrod@gmail.com	IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR Dave Zeller Alpena Lions Club 989-657-4702 W 989-354-2175 dlzeller52@gmail.com
VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR William Gaines Oscoda Lions Club 253-219-8590 wgaines1111@yahoo.com	GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM COORDINATOR Dave Zeller Alpena Lions Club 989-657-4702 W 989-354-2175 dlzeller52@gmail.com
2nd VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR Jill Drury Boyne Valley Lions Club 231-920-9645 drury@cctransit.org	DISTRICT GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM COORDINATOR Marie Leathers marie@centrallakerealty.com
CABINET SECRETARY/TREASURER Barb Durlinger Hillman Lions Club 989-742-2790 lionbarb@comdac.com	DISTRICT GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM COORDINATOR Robert Tasior Oscoda Lions Club 989-569-6177 rtaz01@gmail.com

District 11-E2 Website:
lionsdistrict11e2.org

Note: This information is up to date at the time of this publication, but is subject to change as adjustments are needed.

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Lions Of Michigan Multiple District 11-E2 Counties

Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Arenac,
Charlevoix,
Cheboygan,
Crawford, Emmet,
Gladwin, Iosco,
Kalkaska,
Montmorency,
Ogemaw, Oscoda,
Otsego, Presque Isle,
Roscommon



ZONE 1	CLUBS	ZONE 3	CLUBS
ZC John Cool Boyne Valley Lions Club jcool@csbchx.com	Boyne Valley, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, East Jordan, Indian River, Mackinaw City, Petoskey	ZC Steven Murch Alpena Lions Club stevemurch49707@gmail.com	Alpena, Alpena Evening, Atlanta, Glennie, Hillman, Hubbard Lake, Mio
ZONE 2	CLUBS	ZONE 4	CLUBS
ZC Jim Broome Central Lake Lions Club jrbroome@charter.net	Central Lake, Elk Rapids, Grayling, Houghton Lake, Lewiston/ Lewiston Lioness Lions, Roscommon- Higgins Lake	ZC Don McDonell Hale Lions Club cdmcdonell@gmail.com	Beaverton, Hale, Harrisville, Lincoln, Oscoda, Prescott- Skidway Lake, Rose City,



LCI President's Message

United in Kindness and Diversity with International President, Dr. Jung-Yul Choi

Dear Lion,

This has been a year of overwhelming kindness—your kindness. And during the holidays this year, I ask you to share once more. Because for many families in our communities, this season will be more difficult than ever.

Your service is hope delivered, and that is what people need most. Comfort those who won't be among family this season. Plan a hunger project so that every family in your community can have a special holiday meal. Or consider a gift to LCIF—your foundation—and watch your kindness grow. But most of all, keep yourself and your family healthy and safe.

Thank you for your incredible year of service.

Regards,

Dr. Jung-Yul Choi
International President



Put health and safety first by following COVID-19 guidelines from the CDC, WHO or local health authorities. Visit our Serving Safely page for resources to help you safely serve your community.

Dear Club President,

Your feedback is important to us.

Lions Clubs International is considering developing new programs, strategies and incentives to help clubs grow and retain their membership. Before the associations investigate possible ideas, we would like to know if your club welcomes this support.

Please use the link below to complete the short survey to help us gauge the feasibility of this potential initiative. (Online users can copy the link below, paste it in address box)

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HJGN2XD?c=128446&utm_source=Eloqua&utm_campaign=DNC_EN_Small%20club%20Development%20Concept%20Survey&utm_medium=email

Thank you in advance for providing your feedback.

Sincerely,

Lions Clubs International

(This notice was sent out to Club Presidents via email on or around December 22, 2020)



A message from:
Jerome Thompson
 Past International Director,
 GAT Constitutional Area 1 Leader



Dear Club Officer:

I would like to thank you for your service to Lions Clubs International. You bring a wealth of knowledge and passion to your district. As the GAT Constitutional Area 1 (USA and affiliate countries) Leader, I am keenly aware that our team is successful because of the dedication of Lions, like you.

While enduring the challenges of the pandemic, we have recorded many successes. First, new club charters are up 188% compared to last year. Membership retention has improved by 4%. And even with about 35% of our clubs not meeting, we have brought almost 7600 new members into existing clubs. We have improved the lives of 9.2 million people, with only 33% of our clubs reporting service activities. And, we have contributed over \$2 million dollars to LCIF.

As we prepare to finish this year strong and begin next year with even more momentum, your North American International Vice Presidents, VP Alexander, VP Sheehan, and VP Hill, along with, PDG Rob Hill, CA 2 GAT leader, and I have been collaborating on how best to engage our District Governor Elects, and a team of visionaries to spearhead the North America Membership Initiative in your District and Multiple District during FY 2021-22.

CA 1 and 2 JumpStart January - Road to Success

Webinars

I am pleased to announce and invite you to participate in the first ever January Road to Success webinar series, which will give an overview of the North America Membership Initiative process, followed by a weekly discussion of each step in the process. Lions from across North America will share their successes and challenges.

We have invited current District Governors and District Governor-elects to register. You are vital to their success. Therefore, you may register for the webinars to be presented January 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021. Seating is limited.

Register (online) to Save Your Seat January 4, 11, 18, and 25

This webinar is too important to leave any seat unfilled. If we are to “Expand our footprint of service, by engaging more volunteer members, who are provided opportunities for personal leadership development”, every Lion in North America must roar at the same time.
WE SERVE!!

Thanks for registering and assisting in building a vision for a better Lions Club International District.

Jerome Thompson, Past International Director

Registration Link to January 2021 Road to Success Webinar



OUR MANE MESSAGE

December 2020

GREETINGS FROM PIP JOE AND PID JENNY!

PID Jenny and I wish to express how impressed we are with you, LCIF coordinators! We appreciate you attending monthly area meetings, collaborating with staff, attending training and strategy sessions, your dedicated support of clubs, and your creativity during these difficult times.

We are at \$180,000,000, or 60% of our \$300 million goal, and have 18 months to raise the other 40%. This might seem overwhelming, but if you use Campaign SightFirst and Campaign SightFirst II as guides, we are right on target, as much of their money came in at the end. The difference is that Campaign 100 does not have the same momentum, not from lack of effort or interest from clubs and members, but because of the pandemic.

In CA I, we are on the cusp of many of our most vulnerable populations getting the first COVID-19 vaccines. Over the next six months there should be enough vaccines for the masses. So, what do we do in the meantime? We keep doing our jobs, sharing LCIF stories that highlight the impact we are making, sharing information on local LCIF grants, asking our clubs to support the campaign, encouraging members to make individual donations, sharing creative ways to raise funds and perform service projects virtually, and seeking new ways to effectively communicate with clubs and members.

Less than 5% of our clubs are Model Clubs, which amazingly account for almost 50% of donations. During the last six months of this Lion year, a key strategy we should embrace is seeking more Model Clubs. As such, we are launching our second Model Club Challenge, which runs through June. We should solicit every club in our districts to become a Model Club through our emails, letters, postings, and local Lions publications, but we should focus most of our energy on our highest potential clubs. Like the saying goes, "Fish where the fish are." We will be providing more information on this over the next month.

Every month, LCIF Marketing and your regional development specialists devise additional training, tools, and support to make our jobs easier. LCIF staff tell me they enjoy working with you, and are proud and appreciative of your efforts, creativity, and camaraderie. PID Jenny and I share those sentiments. Campaign 100's success depends on teamwork, and PID Jenny and I are confident in you.

In Kindness,
Joe Preston, Campaign 100 Chairperson CA



TODAY'S LEOS ARE TOMORROW'S LIONS

Dear Lion President:

As we start our second century of service, we are investing in the future of Lions Clubs—our Leos. Our Leo Club Program started here in the United States almost sixty years ago and today continues to flourish with more than 7,280 clubs worldwide, 165,703 Leos in 152 countries. Just last year, Leo Clubs completed 30,092 projects. These clubs have served 6,381,616 people, and they are not stopping anytime soon.

We have united to encourage and inspire our Leos to be the great change we need for Lions' continued success. Our vision is to empower and further educate our Leos in areas of leadership and community engagement/development. With that said, Leo advocates gathered to form the USA/Canada Leo Leadership Forum. This Forum is the first of its kind in our Constitutional Area. A Forum organized for Leos by Leos.

From all over the United States, Canada, and Multiple District 60 "Islands of the Caribbean" and other affiliated territories, our Leos share a common set of values. They serve with enthusiasm, constantly striving to make positive, sustainable change to our communities. They inspire their peers and share their talents with those in need. They make an impact on our Lions and reinvigorate our lifetime commitment to serve in this organization. These values give our Leos the power to make a profound impact, and with "LIONS" on their side there can be no limit.

Our Leo Leadership Forum will provide Leos with various workshops in leadership, public speaking, community development, etc. These workshops will be developed by experts in the subject and co-facilitated by Leo leaders. At the completion of the Leo Leadership Forum, our Leos will receive their High School Degree. Moreover, we will offer fun activities so Leos can inspire and learn from each other and later bring home their newfound knowledge and share it with their clubs. This forum aims to make a demonstrated commitment to our Leos, who we believe are the future of Lions.

We hope you may consider donating any amount to our Foundation. Your generous donation will help our Foundation forward our mission of better supporting our Leos through our annual Leo Leadership Forum. As a sign of our appreciation, all donors will be recognized with a club patch or forum pin.

Sincerely,

Lion Pablo Romano — President, USA/Canada Leo Leadership Foundation

Leo Fabian Maxwell — Chair, Leo Advisory Council

SVDG Ingrid Andrews-Campbell — Secretary, USA/Canada Leo Leadership Foundation



A Message from Our General Chair

As Father Time prepares to give way to Baby New Year, we look back and reflect on 2020. Physical activities came to a halt and then emerged online. Our leadership has been tested as we coped with uncertainty, learned new skills, and continued to serve through it all!

The Forum Planning Committee and the Host Committee of Iowa Lions have been hard at work to put plans in place for an **AMAZING** 2021 Forum that includes the programs you've come to enjoy at the Forum, as well as some new features to help in "Cultivating Leaders".

We are more hopeful than ever, that it will be safe enough for us to gather in person, and I really hope to welcome YOU to Des Moines for #LionsForum2021!

Best wishes for good health and a joyful holiday season,

Wendy Cain



Lions of Michigan**District 11 E•2****Cabinet Meeting Minutes December 22, 2020. via Zoom**

Cabinet Members in Attendance - DG Leathers, CST Durflinger, 1VDG Gaines, 2VDG Drury, GST Marie Leathers, GMT Tasior, GLT/IPDC Zeller, ZC's Munch, McDonell and Broome

Cabinet Members Absent - None

Lions in Attendance - PDG's Dennis Richardson Lew Moeller, Roger Houthoofd and Bev Bodem. Lions Shirley Hill, Linda Gotha, David Zimmer, Diane LaBeau, Brian Chace. Peggy Clarke, Bernie Lamp and Mike Kaufman

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by DC Leathers. The invocation was offered by 1VDG Gaines. The Pledge was led by 2VDG Drury.

Secretary's Report - Minutes of the 10/10/20 cabinet meeting were presented by CST Durflinger. 1VDC Gaines moved approval with support from ZC McDonell, motion carried. There was no correspondence.

Treasurer's Report - The financials for YTD 2020-21 were presented showing a beginning balance in the administrative account of \$31,972.92, income of \$8,513.42, expenses of \$6,524.84 leaving an ending balance as of 12/10/20 of \$33,961.50. This is made up of \$24,489.31 in administration and \$9,472.19 in convention funds. The projects account had a beginning balance, of \$40,314.52. income of \$1,594.52 and expenses of \$1,862.95 leaving an ending balance of \$40,046.09. It was moved by GMT Tasior, supported by ZC McDonell that the financial report be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business - None

New Business - DAD Funds - Diabetes Chair Di LaBeau asked for guidance in reallocating some of the over \$20,000 of remaining DAD funds that are available in the district to several potential projects that are being planned. After some discussion she was requested to send out an email to clubs with remaining funds that fall in the project areas to ask if it is okay with them for their funds to be reallocated.

Winter Camp for the Blind - It was moved by 2VDG Drury. supported by 1VDG Gaines that we donate \$250 to the winter Camp for the Blind, which will be held virtually this year. Motion Carried.

GMT Report - GMT Tasior reported that the state is down 87 members this year, and our district is down by 1 member. He also noted that from this same time a year ago the district is down 60 members. He is hopeful that after the Covid problem clears up we can improve this.

GLT Report - IPDG Zeller commented that there have been no statewide GLT meetings this year, and the current state GLT is not communicating with the district chairs. He asked DG Rod to inquire about this. He is still working on Zoom training for club officers.

GST Report - GST Marie Leathers turned in a written report. She also commented that she thinks we should be working on a specialty Kindsight Club. She also noted that she is available to help clubs with service reporting and with using Zoom.

Zone Chair Reports - ZC Broome commented that this has been a tough year. He has contacted all of his clubs, and some are meeting and doing service projects, but several have suspended activities during the Covid crisis. ZC Munch reported that there are two of his clubs that he still can't reach. Several of the others are not currently meeting, but there are several that are meeting and continuing service projects. He commented that clubs should remember to contact members they

haven't heard from to be sure they aren't having problems. ZC McDonell reported several of his clubs are meeting via Zoom, and at least one is in person.

Committee Reports - Written Reports were provided by these Committees: **Diabetes Awareness** - Lion Diane LaBeau, **District Editor** - Lion Zimmer, **Eversight** - PDG Richardson, **Hunger** - Lion Kris Roberts, **LCIF** - PDG Durflinger, and **Website/IT** - Lion Marie Leathers.

Oral Reports - IPDG Zeller noted there are some minor changes coming up to Constitution and By-Laws. 2VDG Drury announced the 2021 District Convention will be at Boyne Mountain from 4/16-4/18. The rooms will range from \$109-\$139/night, and there is a two night minimum. The format will be about the same as usual. 1VDG Drury noted that reminder letters have been sent out about the District Melvin Jones, but as yet no nominations have been received. The deadline is 12/31, so clubs should review their members and we if anyone qualifies. IPDG Zeller reported that the Lions of Michigan Foundation had 100 certificates for vision screening available, and clubs need to be in touch with their local schools so they are aware of what services we provide. The tickets for the annual Sight and Hearing Sweepstakes have been sent out. This is a great fundraiser, and clubs have been able to sell tickets virtually by posting the information on Facebook. DG Leathers reported that the Michigan Forum will be held virtually this year on 2/27. More information will be going out to clubs soon. IPDG Zeller reported that the current plan is the USA/Canada Forum will be held in person from 9/9-9/11/21 in Des Moines, Iowa. PDG Richardson noted that the information for the elections will be mailed out in January. PDG Bodem reported that the state hearing committee has held several meetings via Zoom. She currently has several hearing aid applications in process.

VDG Comments - 1VDG Gaines commented that he is happy to hear about the clubs that are staying active during these challenging times. He noted that service is how we keep our members engaged. He is working on his goals for next year. He will be contacting existing cabinet members and committee chairs to see if they are willing to continue in their current positions. We have a vacant ZC position to fill, we need a 2VDG candidate for next year, and he would like to we us start recruiting deputy committee chairs. 2VDG Drury agreed with 1VDG Gaines's comments on the depth we need at the district level. We need to find a way to encourage club members to work on the district level. Information on the District Convention will be going out to clubs after the first of the year.

DG Comments - DG Leathers noted International is pushing hard to get Lions other than PDG's involved on the District level. PDG's are no longer eligible to be Zone Chairs, and cannot be 1 or 2VDG's. They can, however, till a DG vacancy if one occurs. Also ZC's can no longer serve more than three years. He reminded clubs that they need to get any drops they need made now or they will be billed for them when second half dues bills go out after Christmas. He reminded Presidents and Secretaries that they should be passing district newsletters onto their club members.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 11:37 A.M. The next meeting will be on March 6, 2021 in Oscoda.

Respectfully submitted,

PDG Barb Durflinger, Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer

comdac@comdac.com

From: "Jean Hill <daandjehill@gmail.com>
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 9:58 AM
Attach: Final Camper letter 12_3.pdf
Subject: Fwd: News from Lions District 11-B1 Winter Camp for the Blind and Visually Impaired
camping information forwarded by request Jean

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bosse, Roger** <Roger.Bosse@kellogg.com>
Date: Fri, Dec 11, 2020 at 9:45 AM
Subject: News from Lions District 11-B1 Winter Camp for the Blind and Visually Impaired

To: Roger Bosse <rogerbosse@att.net>

*Note This message is going out to all Lions Club Secretaries in MD-11. A similar email will be sent to Presidents. Please share with those members of your club who will not receive this. **If you reply, please do not reply all. Thank you!***

Hello Lion Presidents of Multiple District 11!

You may have already heard that the District 11-B1 Winter Camp for the Blind and Visually Impaired will be going "virtual" for 2021, due to the Coronavirus Pandemic and our concern for the health and safety of our campers.

The Virtual Winter Camp will be held on February 6, 2021 from 1 pm to around 5:30-6 pm

We have communicated to the campers, and are receiving sign-ups both by electronic, paper, and phone registration. There is no cost to the campers. The Winter Camp team appreciates your support for this worthwhile project, either by bringing campers to the camp, or providing a monetary contribution to the operation. We look forward to having our normal camping weekend back at the Battle Creek Public School Outdoor Education Center in February 2022

12/11/2020

The letter to or camper mailing list is attached and may be passed along to folks who might be interested in attending. The registration link included below can be used by anyone who wishes to participate as well.

Eversight has generously offered us the use of their Zoom account which will accommodate 300 persons. For convenience, participant registration is included below, which makes our job much easier. A paper registration is included in the attached letter.

Camp Registration

Link: <https://docs.Google.com/forms/d/1QnWtDUnocDo7pvd99WcPNTRt16CZpLUAsE4DzKnekjQ/>

Participants may use their computer, I-pad, Smart phone, or traditional house phone to participate. We will be sending a zoom link and phone number schedule and instructions for zoom to all registered participants

How Can You Help? Normally we extend an invitation for Lions to come out to the Outdoor Education Center to help the campers with a variety of activities. This year, you might offer to help a camper in your area either to register, access the zoom event on the device of choice or participate/assist in the craft activity. This is a very inexpensive way to help one of our campers enjoy the day more fully and without frustration.

You or your club can also help the effort by donating a \$20 gift card(s) from any major retailer such as Meijer, Walmart Target, or restaurant establishments such as McDonalds, Panera, Starbucks, etc. We will be using these as raffle prizes throughout the day

Gift cards may be sent to the attention of:

Lion Roger Bosse

20349 White Pine Blvd

Battle Creek. MI. 49017

The Winter Camp team thanks you in advance for your help and support of our Virtual Writer Camp for 2021 and wish you a safe and healthy holiday season.

Yours in SERVICE,

Lion Roger Basso

cell phone 269 578-3684

email: rogerbosse@att.net

12/11/2020

NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT 11-B1 WINTER CAMP TEAM

November 12, 2020

Dear Winter Campers and Friends

I hope this finds you all healthy and safe as we move to the end of 2020, a year to remember, or forget, depending on your point of view.

Every year for the past 50+ years, we have gathered at Clear Lake Camp in early February for Winter Camp for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Many of you have been attending for years, and some have only just started to experience the fun and fellowship that is Winter Camp. In 2020, we had higher attendance than the last few years, with a record 11 new campers. We had totally planned to have another great weekend of camp in 2021, but sadly the world has shut down for Coronavirus.

So, instead of cancelling Winter Camp 2021, we have decided to do what many other organizations are doing, going virtual. Our Winter Camp team in District 11-B1 has been meeting weekly to plan a virtual event that will provide some of the more popular aspects of camp that can be enjoyed from the comfort of your home. Of course, it isn't the same! But not much is these days. The health and safety of our campers is our highest priority!

Here's what we have planned, and the big bonus this year ... no cost to the campers!

Our virtual camp will be held February 6 from 12:45 pm to 6 pm. There will be a welcome from District 11-B1 Governor David Anderson, a craft project led by our friend Denise Griffin, a bible discussion by Mike Geno, a bird call identification session, and a camper talent show and camp memory session. There will be raffles between sessions, sounds of camp, and social time at the end to catch up. Raffle Prizes will be \$20 gift cards for major retailers, restaurants, and gas as well as a \$100 grand prize courtesy of PCC Barry Allen.

If you are receiving this letter electronically, you can use the link below to register or you can use the paper registration form. It can be mailed, or you can call Roger Bosse using the contact information at the end of this letter.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1QnWtDUnocDo7pvd99WcPNTRt16CZpLUAsE4DzKnekiQ/>

.....

Yes, I would like to attend the Virtual Winter Camp on February 6, 2021. **Please respond by December 18, 2020**

My Name: _____ Phone: Home _____ Cell _____

My Address: _____

My preferred method of connecting (check): Computer/I-Pad ____ Cell Phone ____ Traditional phone ____

I need help with connection: Yes ____ No ____

I would like event materials in Braille: Yes ____ No ____

I would like to participate in the Craft Activity (kits/instructions will be mailed): Yes ____ No ____

I have a talent or camp memory I would like to share: Yes ____ No ____

Please record a video or audio file of your talent or camp memory for a presentation during this session. Preferably 3 minutes in length, maximum 4 minutes. You can send the file to myself, or upload to You Tube and email the link to the email address below. Audio files maybe sent directly via email. Assistance available upon request.

Roger Bosse Contact Information **Phone:** 269 964-8695 **Cell:** 269 578-3684 **Email:** rogerbosse@att.net
Address: 20349 White Pine Blvd, Battle Creek, MI. 49017

Lions are all about Service, and even during a pandemic there are still ways we can serve. Since there are 12 days until Christmas Eve, here are 12 ways to get you started.

12 Ideas of Service

1. Ring bells for the Salvation Army
2. Volunteer at local food pantry
3. Provide gifts for the needy
4. Provide transportation to appointments
5. Make appreciation gift bags (teachers, first responders, veterans, etc)
6. Knit wigs for cancer patients
7. Sew masks or port pillows
8. Decorate in your town
9. Promote free online diabetes classes
10. Adopt a nursing home - calls, cards
11. Read to or tutor school children online
12. Build wheelchair ramps

Some service projects need funds, so here's some fundraising ideas:

12 Ideas for fundraising

1. LCIF raffle tickets
2. Facebook fundraiser directly to non profit organizations
3. Donation jars at local merchants
4. Lions mints
5. Raffles - cash or items
6. Virtual talent show
7. Collect can and bottle returnables
8. White Cane collection tables at stores
9. Online garage sale
10. Virtual 5K run
11. Online donations with PayPal
12. Drive through meal fundraiser

If you need help getting started just let me know! And please start reporting your service and fundraisers in My Lion so other Lions can be inspired by what your club is doing. Instructions on how to create a My Lion account and how to report are on the district website Lionsdistrict11e2.org. If you are unable to report in My Lion please contact me for assistance. WE SERVE!

Marie Leathers
GST 11-E2
231-350-0286
marie@centrallakerealty.com

Cabinet Meeting December 12 2020 Diabetes Report

PROGRESS TO DATE;

Two emailings have gone out to all District 11-E2 Presidents and Secretaries with information about the Lions Diabetes Grant and encouragement to check with local clinics and hospitals to see if they need funds for diabetes education, training, and supplies as well as PSAs, flyers, online messaging regarding the need for continued diabetes care and follow up during the COVID Pandemic.

District 11-E2 covers the following counties: Alcona, Alpena. Antrim, Arenac, Charlevoix. Cheboygan, Crawford. Emmet. Gladwin, Iosco. Kalkaska. Montmorency, Ogemaw. Oscoda, Otsego. Presque Isle. Roscommon.

Presently working with three medical facilities on grant requests:

MidMichigan Medical Centers – east region (King Lion Bernie Lamp)

Munson Healthcare – west region

East Jordan & Bellaire Family Health Centers – northwest region

King Lion Dave Zimmer has been emailed and asked if he knows a contact at McLaren Hospital--north region.

The Lions sponsored MSUE Diabetes PATH Zoom class just completed had two attending from Kalkaska. one from Petoskey and one from Otsego. I don't believe the billing has reached our District Treasurer so we may not have a new balance on the account at this time.

Requesting input from the Board of Directors: questioning whether our goal is to disburse all of the account funds as soon as we can in anticipation of a new deadline for the grant. The diabetes programs requesting funding are attempting to keep the requests in the low range but may have needs that qualify for more funding. Mid Michigan Med Center covers the northeast region, McLaren the north region, Munson Healthcare the western /southwestern area of our district and East Jordan/Bellaire Family Health Centers cover some of the northwest region.

MSUE Educator, Naomi Hyso. has asked if the Lions would like a Diabetes PATH class set up for this next year. Seeking clarification of this and hope to have it by the time of the cabinet meeting.

Respectfully submitted.

Di LaBeau. District 11-E2 Diabetes Chair

Eversight District 11-E2 Cabinet Report December 12. 2020

The core mission of Eversight is restoring vision through corneal transplantation. As the Covid.19 pandemic restrictions were lifted and transplants resumed, Eversight has been responding to a tremendous need; coordinating on average 150 tissues for transplant each week. Eversight continues working hard to minimize the impact of the heavy revenue losses incurred while surgeries were restricted. All staff that can work from home will be doing so into March 2021. It is also noteworthy that Eversight, in June, undertook work to evaluate the presence of SARS-CoV-2 in the ocular tissues of COVID-19 positive donors. The highly anticipated findings - the first of their kind, to their knowledge - are being prepared for publication and was presented at the 2020 Cornea and Eye Banking Forum in November.

Eversight's Sip and Support for Sight virtual wine tasting was very successful. The original goal was to sell 200 tasting kits, but the winery was overwhelmed by the demand, and it ended up With 143 wine tasting kits being sold. Eversight did reach their goal by raising over \$5,000. This will provide two people with the gift of sight, who would otherwise not have the resources for a corneal transplant. Thanks to all who participated. Nancy and I certainly enjoyed the tasting. There are plans to do this type of event again in 2021 and are also looking to host a virtual chocolate tasting on 2/11/21.

I would again like to thank the Lions of District 11-E2 for their support of Eversight especially in promoting organ donor awareness and providing financial support. During these trying times Eversight's biggest need is our financial support. Currently six (6) clubs in our District have donated a total of \$725. Last year we raised \$12,225, and I know that our District will be generous again this year.

Cont'd —

District 11-E2 Hunger Chair Quarterly Report 12-12-2020

Club Personal Products Drive:

This District-wide project, invoking clubs doing a community drive to collect, sort, and deliver the products to local pantries was put on hold due to risks involved from the COVID pandemic and restrictions imposed by the State Health Department and the Governor. In discussions, it was determined that the benefit to food pantries is outweighed by the risk to our communities and our Lions in attempting to carry out the project prior to the Christmas Holiday. I discussed this project with one of our club members, who is a director of a local pantry/resale store. She stated that, from her contacts in that community, most pantries are using curb service rather than allowing in-pantry access. She also indicated that the desire to be able to provide personal products like soap, shampoo, deodorants, etc. is an ongoing need, not specific to any particular part of the year.

I believe that this project is very desirable, inter-club level project that, organized as a friendly competition, will be beneficial to district and clubs, as well as garnering community support. Therefore, I believe that putting this project on hold until vaccines are fairly widely available, is the most responsible decision.

LCIF Hunger Pilot Grant Program:

Through contacts with the East and West Michigan Food Banks, discussions with a local food pantry director, it appears that one of the most pressing needs for food pantries in northern Michigan is commercial level refrigeration.

I have also received input from Cheboygan Club Secretary, Mark Tamlyn. Of the two pantries in his area, one is doing fairly well and doesn't feel there is a need for this assistance. The other, however, is in need of utensils to help with their curb-side carry-out service. This pantry serves up to 70 carry-out meals per day to their clients, and is also in need of bottled water. This is a short term need. A longer term need, which might fit quite well with the Hunger Pilot Grant program, is a new building that this pantry is working toward. The pantry is halfway to their financial goal, and though the grant program potentially covers this type of project, I suspect that the time line needed for building, submitting, and receiving the grant likely would not come in time to help with their infrastructure need. However, as they acquire this new building, it will need to be outfitted with equipment. For that, the grant, if we receive it, would be helpful.

The grant application – the following is a short and necessarily incomplete synopsis of requirements in applying for a Hunger Pilot Grant.

- The grant amounts range from a minimum of \$10,000 to a maximum of \$100,000.
- The grant, if approved, it must be awarded to, and administered by the District, most likely the District Governor at the time of the award. That duty would extend through the grant period.
- Grant application must be received a minimum of 90 days prior to a LCIF Board of Trustees meeting, where the application will be considered. These meetings are in August, January, and May. Adjustments to the grant application will be guided by the LCIF staff assigned to the project, and must be completed prior to submission to the Board.
- Grant applications need a "strong Lions identity and involvement", support efforts too large for one club to undertake alone, 25% matching funds from clubs and district, and "highlight the presence of Lions in the community or region". [**involvement** in this context mean the grant match; strong Lion identity refers to acknowledgment of the Lions and LCIF involvement in the project. such as conspicuous signage on the equipment]
- Non-eligible projects include: single club projects, purchase of food, purchase of land, individual assistance, and projects "lacking Lions identity and involvement".
- Districts can apply for this grant, but not multiple districts.
- These grants are "only available for projects in the planning stages that have not begun in any way." They are not provided on a reimbursement basis. For the vision I am promoting, that really means, don't buy the equipment and then expect the grant to pay for it after the fact.
- Pro-forma invoices (documented cost estimates and/or quotes) must be submitted with the application.

Cont'd —

- At a minimum, 2 or more clubs must financially support the grant match through fundraising. Cash commitment is required, and a very significant portion must be raised prior to submitting the application.
- Some "startup" operating funds are allowed, but require a detailed plan. For providing equipment as envisioned, operating funds allowance would likely not be applicable.
- Only one grant per district per time. Project must be complete before another application will be accepted.
- Grant will not be awarded/funded until 1) matching funds are collected, 2) grant agreement is signed and returned.
- We may need to demonstrate community financial need, in real numbers of clients benefited, or potentially benefited, against total population.

I talked with Beth Smith at LCIF on some of the bullets above. My initial idea of covering a wide area of the District with the grant may or may not be acceptable due to multiple beneficiaries. However, it may be workable if we are able to work with/through either the 2 Michigan Food Banks (East and West), or the Food Bank Council in Lansing.

I believe the next steps will be working directly with clubs gather support, and to construct a list of specific pantry needs. From there, we can begin working with the Food Banks or Council to begin the application process. Cabinet and club input and assistance will be critical to proceeding.

Respectfully submitted.

Lion Kris Roberts
District Hunger Chair
krobdi@gmail.com
701-400-9160

Report: December 12, 2020 Cabinet Meetings District I I-E2 Newsletter Editor

12/11/20

Lion Barb:

As it has been for most of 2020. COVID-19 is keeping many clubs from normal activities, such as fundraising and events, and only a few larger or more active clubs have reported any activity.

The November District 11-E2 newsletter had information, text and/or pictures, from 5 (**17.9%**) of the 28 active clubs. The December issue had data from 6 clubs (**21.4%**).

The 9 Clubs that have submitted data for the Newsletter in NOV - DEC 2020, are:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Months Participated</u>
• Alpena	1
• Boyne Valley	1
• Central Lake	2
• East Jordan	1
• Hubbard Lake	1
• Glennie	1
• Lincoln	1
• Oscoda	2
• Prescott/Skidway Lake	1

I have set the cutoff date for data received on the 4th day of the month deadline. Anything after that will be in the next month's issue.

Still open to get a few letters/columns/notes from any Lions/Leaders in the District with something to say that might inspire, or caution, others, as well as any ideas or suggestions for Newsletter enhancement.

Thanks to all for your support.

Lion David J. Zimmer
District 11-E2 Newsletter Editor
dlzim47@gmail.com

Our Lion's contact person at Eversight is:

Amanda Frederick - Philanthropy Administrative Assistant
3985 Research Park Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
(734) 780-2616 afrederick@eversightvision.org

Clubs are encouraged to utilize the Charles Weir and William Doc Barr Fellowship Awards to honor a club member or someone from your community. Donations of \$500 over a three year period would qualify your club for a Weir Sight Conservation Fellowship Award and donations of \$1,000 over a three year period would qualify your club for a Barr Knights for Vision Fellowship Award. These very nice awards can be easily ordered using Eversight's website; (eversightvision.org). Click on Who We Are, then Lions Partners, then scroll down to Michigan Fellowship Program, then follow prompts.

Thank you very much for your support of Eversight and if you have any questions please feel free to contact me:

den7rlch@gmail.com or (231) 944-0587

Respectfully submitted.

Dennis Richardson, District 11-E2 Eversight Committee Chair

Kidsight- Events postponed until the spring.

School screenings can proceed with approval from school, local club, and Lions Kidsight committee (We have scheduled one in Boyne City at the end of January). Each case is on an individual basis.

Lion Nate

District 11-E2 Cabinet Meeting

December 12, 2020

LCIF Report

We are entering the third year of the third major funding campaign since LCIF was founded 50 years ago, Campaign 100. Campaign 100 was originally a three year campaign, but has been extended for another year due to the Covid crisis. Through 11/23/20 the campaign has raised \$177,462,130.62 of the \$300,000,000 goal.

The goal for every club is to donate \$250/member over three years (only \$80/member/year), with club, individual member and local community donations all included toward this goal. Right now only 6% of Lions donate individually to OUR foundation and International would like to increase this Percentage. Our district's percentage is currently 8.65%, led by the Hillman Club at 100%. Individual contributions can be made on a recurring basis via credit card on the ICIF website to make it easier. The Hillman club reached 100% by passing around a can at each meeting for members to put in a dollar or two, or just their pocket change with the proceeds being credited in alphabetical order to each member. This is an easy way that every club could participate.

We started the campaign off well in the district. In the first year we raised \$13,363, and we raised \$11,844 in 2019-2020. This total should make us eligible for another community grant like the one received by the Hillman Club last year which we are using on our Community Walkable Trail project. 21 of our 28 clubs made contributions last year, so we reached 75% giving. It would be great if every club could make at least a token contribution this year so that DC Rod could have a 10096 district. This year so far 10 clubs/individual Lion members have donated \$1555, which came from 10 clubs. We still need people or clubs to buy squares on the district Melvin Jones Fellowship raffle board so that we can do the drawing. The squares are \$20 each, with \$10 being credited as a individual contribution to IdE, and the balance used to pay for the Fellowship. Let me know if you would like to help. The original plan was to complete the squares at the district convention so we could do the drawing then, but Covid disrupted them, so we have some more time now to fill up the board.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

PDG Barb Durflinger

Hello District 11 E-2 Lions Presidents and Secretaries

I sent out the email (in blue) following this note in November. Since then, I have been contacting clinics / hospitals to see if we have needs within the District for Diabetes Grant Funds. To date, Alpena and Houghton Lake clubs have made requests. The Munson Healthcare System covering hospitals within our District may have needs and East Jordan and Bellaire Family Health Centers have requested funds.

I know some clubs may not be meeting, even virtually, at the present time, but if you believe clinics and health care facilities in your club's community may have needs for funds for Diabetes Education, screening, supplies and equipment, please contact them and determine the needs. They can draft a letter of request and send it to you to forward to my email: 2labeaus@gmail.com. I will send this on for review by the project coordinator and fund administrator.

So far, Atlanta, Boyne Valley, Elk Rapids, Grayling, Hale, Harrisville, Hubbard Lake, Lincoln, Mackinaw City, Oscoda, Prescott / Skidway Lake, and Rose City have not used any funds. East Jordan, Hillman and Petoskey clubs have used part of their funds.

Please email me with any questions and I will get answers for you. . **Thank you for the service you provide to your communities!**

Di

(below is the email describing the scope of the grant)

November 14 is World Diabetes Day. During this year of COVID, it has been difficult to organize any community events to utilize our District's Diabetes Grant Funds. Some of the area Diabetes programs may have been put on hold while hospitals and clinics are prioritizing admission and treatment plans for COVID. However, health issues associated with diabetes and prediabetes still need attention. Encouragement of Lions Club members, families and associates to take the prediabetes risk assessment online test, and distribution of the pre-printed risk assessments could be "safe" ways to reach more people and identify those needing to seek treatment during the time we must restrict our contact groups. Communication with business and community contacts may uncover needs within your communities.

Included, below, is the description of the scope of the grant from the LCIF Website:

The LCIF diabetes grant has an expansive reach, one that will help Lions interested in having a societal impact on the diabetes epidemic. LCIF's diabetes focus will be placed on large-scale diabetes prevention, management, awareness and service projects that have the potential to improve the public health of a community.

More specifically, the diabetes Program will support projects that fall within one of the following intervention areas:

- Large-scale fixed facility or mobile screening initiatives which target at-risk communities/individuals when combined with comprehensive follow-up care by qualified medical professionals. Use of diabetes risk assessments [two examples: (<https://doihaveprediabetes.org/take-the-risk-test/#/>) ([https://www.cdc.gov/prediabetes /takethetest/](https://www.cdc.gov/prediabetes/takethetest/))] and diabetes education is required (MSU Extension programs--this year two Diabetes Path Zoom classes sponsored by LIONS and more online education planned for 2021).
- Enhancement and expansion of existing diabetes camps, retreats, and symposiums.
- Health facility expansion through renovation and equipment acquisition to improve existing infrastructure and increase patient access to existing diabetes services.
- Initial or refresher training of qualified health personnel who work with people living with diabetes/prediabetes, and/or the training of Lions as community diabetes educators. (There is money in the present budget for the online training of Lions as community diabetes educators)

When you hold (zoom) your Lions meetings, I hope you will be able to do some brainstorming about ways to utilize the grant funds for our district to reach the goals of the Diabetes grant program:

- Educate Lions and their communities about diabetes and prediabetes.
- Develop community environments that inspire and support healthy lifestyles.
- Increase access to diabetes care, medication and diagnostic equipment.
- Increase coordination and support in the implementation of national diabetes policies and plans.

All of your creativity will be needed, but Lions are up to the task. The costs of copying pre diabetes risk assessments and distribution of the same, as well as public service announcements to encourage use of the online risk assessments and advertisement of the MSUE online Diabetes Path and DWD Education classes they offer (in the future) are covered by the grant. Any questions you have may be directed to me at 2labeaus@gmail.com and I will get an answer for you.

Thank you for your service! Best to all of you and a Blessed Thanksgiving.

Lion Di LaBeau

District 11 E-2 Diabetes Chair


MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Online National Diabetes Prevention Program

This program meets weekly and monthly for one year.

Topics covered include:

- Nutrition/Physical Activity
- Eating Out
- Stress and Depression
- Self-defeating Cues
- Holidays

Information Session:

Tuesday, January 26th

Time: 11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

First class begins: Tuesday, February 16th

Time: 11:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.

To Register:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/NDPPCohortWinter21/>

Online: Zoom

Cost: **FREE** (Supported financially by Michigan State University Extension)

For more information or to register by phone:

Coach: Naomi Hyso

Email: hysonaom@msu.edu

Office: 231-845-3362



This course is designed for people who are at-risk for developing type 2 diabetes. The focus is on establishing lifestyle changes that promote healthy eating, physical activity and goal setting that lead to a 5-7% weight loss and decreased risk for type 2 diabetes.

To be eligible:

- Be at least 18 years old and
- Be overweight (Body Mass Index ≥ 25 ; ≥ 23 if Asian)
- Not be pregnant
- Have no previous diagnosis of type 1 or type 2 diabetes
- Have a blood test result in the prediabetes range within the past year or have a previous clinical diagnosis of gestational diabetes.

We look forward to meeting you, providing valuable tools, and supporting you through this journey

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are 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.

Photo credit: Pixabay-Walk Path Walking Feet



Calling all Lions!

What was the first breed of dog used by Leader Dogs for the Blind? (Hint: it wasn't a German shepherd!)

Welcome to Lions Trivia at Leader Dog! This is the first of a series of informational webinars for Lions on your legacy project: Leader Dogs for the Blind. Join us each quarter for topics such as virtual campus tours, our prison puppy initiative, and client spotlight chats. We promise to show off some puppies as well.

Join the Lions team via Zoom on your computer, tablet, smartphone or simply call in on your phone. Click on a date to register (or follow the link below it):

Tuesday, January 12 at noon Eastern

<https://bit.ly/2GaNGMt>

Saturday, January 16 at 3 p.m. Eastern

<https://bit.ly/2GaNGMt>

For Lions Trivia, bring a pen and paper to keep score. Top scores will receive Leader Dog gift shop gift certificates, a plush stuffed puppy and more!

Know of someone interested in Lionism (or you want them to be)? Bring them along!

Questions or need help registering? Contact the Lions Team at Lionssupport@leaderdog.org.

See you there!

FOLLOW THE LEADER



Marie Leathers:**IT Report**

Only a few clubs are taking advantage of the district zoom account for meetings. This account can be used for club meetings, zone meetings, committee meetings or anything else Lions related. Maybe you just want to have an informal meeting for your club members to meet socially and stay connected. Just contact me with the date and time to reserve your meeting. I'm willing to host the meeting for you and also do practice meetings with individuals to get you started.

Winter is a great time to work on websites and Facebook pages to help get word out to your community what Lions are all about. Facebook fundraisers are a great way to raise funds with no fees. If you need help getting started just let me know!

Additional equipment was purchased to provide better audio for zoom cabinet meetings. \$428.06 of the budgeted \$1,000 has been spent so far (invoices attached).

Marie Leathers — IT Chair 11-E2 — 231-350-0286 — marie@centralakerealty.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2021

Michigan Lions Forum — February 26-27, 2021 — Holiday Inn Gateway Center, Grand Blanc, MI

MARCH 2021:

District Cabinet Meeting — March 06, 2021 — 10:00 a.m. — Tait's Bill of Fare, 111 E Dwight Ave, Oscoda, MI. Will be available via Zoom. Contact Marie Leathers marie@centralakerealty.com or 231-350-0286 for Zoom invitation.

APRIL 2021:

District Convention — April 16-18, 2021 — Boyne Mountain. Details TBA.

MAY 2021:

Michigan State Convention — May 20-22, 2021 — DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Holland, 650 E 24th St, Holland, MI 49423

JUNE 2021:

LCI Convention — June 25, 2021 — Montreal, Quebec, Canada



PASSINGS



None Reported

NEW MEMBERS

None Reported

On the Mend

None Reported

Boyne Valley Lions

December 2020

From Boyne Valley Lions Meeting Notes:

The Lions board met:

- a) White Cane collection is \$300
- b) Potential fund-raiser being discussed with the BCHS Culinary program to make pasties for the Lions
 - (1) Potential profit could be \$6/pasty
 - (a) Waiting for school to reopen to continue discussion
- c) Bereavement Fund is being dissolved - letter will be sent to all current members of the fund
- d) Lions have agreed to continue sponsoring the Girl Scouts

Upcoming Events

- a) Lion Dr. Nate will be doing vision screening at the Early Learning Center on January 27th and 28th.
Sign ups will come out in January
- 1. Convention update
 - a) District will likely make a go/no decision for district convention by the end of February
 - (1) Decision will be based on Covid-19 situation and participation
 - b) Boyne Mountain
 - (1) Has relaxed their 2 night stay rule for the proposed convention
 - (2) March 17th is final date to advise Boyne Mtn if the convention will be held or not
 - (a) The 17th is also the last day to reserve rooms (if still available) for the April event
 - (3) The District has until January 8th to sign agreement

Central Lake Lions

December 2020

December 11, 2020:

Central Lake Lions Club made gift bags for the teachers and staff at Central Lake School to show their appreciation and support in these difficult times.



East Jordan Lions

December 2020

East Jordan Lions decorated the train in Sportsman's Park and sponsored the drive through Christmas Village at Tourist Park.



Indian River Lions

December 2020

The Indian River Lion's Club organized a product give-a-way for December 21, 2020. We went to area businesses and got donations of money and product to add to our donation. We bagged over 130 bags with items like soaps, toothbrushes and paste, cleaners, and more. This took a few days to put together with shopping and organizing everything. We helped many people with this project.



Oscoda Lions

December 2020

The Oscoda Lions ramp builders did another fine job of building a ramp for a gentleman who is in a wheelchair because of MS. The ramp consisted of a 4'x4' platform and a 16' ramp. They picked up the materials around 8 am and finished at the job site at 1:30 pm. Lions Tony Priebe, Bill Gaines, and Chuck Andrina worked on the project. Lion Kay Gaines brought them a wonderful Lunch of Hot chicken and rice soup, a very large sandwich, fruit and homemade cookies.

The recipients of the ramp were very thankful for the ramp and how much easier it would make their lives!!
WE SERVE

Marry Christmas and Happy New Year



Petoskey Lions

December 2020

Petoskey Lions were unable to have White Cane or any other type of fundraising event in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Despite the Pandemic obstacles, the Petoskey Lions have continued to help our community in 2020. Earlier this year Petoskey Lions Club received a \$1,000 memorial donation from the family of former (1960's) Petoskey Lion Robert Morris. Also, the Summer take from the Petoskey waterfront monoculars was over \$900, a surprisingly very good season. Due to this good fortune, we have been able to help our community even in the Pandemic, and will continue to do so.

Earlier in the year, Petoskey Lions:

- Honored PHS Senior Tiffany Fettig with a \$500 Scholarship.
- Donated \$500 to local Camp Daggett to help needy children have a camping experience.
- Helped 4 people receive glasses/exams for \$135 each.

In the December Holiday season, Petoskey Lions donated \$900:

- \$300 to the Women's Resource Center
- \$300 to Manna Food Project
- \$300 to Nehemiah House Project

We Serve

CORONAVIRUS UPDATES – January 1

*This is a snapshot of what the World, Nation, and State of Michigan looked like on **January 1, 2021**. The numbers may be significantly higher by the time you read this as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. (Info from CDC, John Hopkins, & MI Gov. Websites)*

World Statistics

Confirmed Cases: 84,590,552 ♦ **Deaths: 1,835,819**

United States Statistics



Michigan Statistics

Total Cases: 20,427,782 ♦

Total Cases: 538,121

Deaths: 350,186 ♦

Deaths: 13,306

DISTRICT 11-E2 STATISTICS

 = Highest Numbers

11-E2 Counties	Cases Confirmed	Deaths
Alcona:	335	14
Alpena:	1,142	26
Antrim:	618	9
Arenac:	597	24
Charlevoix:	849	10
Cheboygan:	737	33
Crawford:	457	6
Emmet:	1,207	33
Gladwin:	1,184	32
Iosco:	1,104	46
Kalkaska:	376	12
Montmorency:	286	2
Ogemaw:	921	30
Oscoda:	308	15
Otsego:	1,015	22
Presque Isle:	530	9
Roscommon:	963	27
Totals	12,629	350

Note: Statistics may change up or down as corrected data is received. Actual Case & Death numbers may be higher due to missed reporting.

— 2021

Looking back...Looking Ahead

The COVID-19 Pandemic. Unprecedented wildfires, record hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding – all circumstances of changing climate patterns. Social unrest and violence, devastating economic hardship, inept, divisive and chaotic political direction — 2020 had it all. 2020 is labeled a “bad year”, and how fervently we hope that 2021 will be much better. The year 2020 - and every year - is just a human construct measuring the earth's revolution around the sun. It didn't cause the unsettling and tragic things that happened to occur during its solar journey. Blaming the year may be just semantics, but it distracts us from the far more realistic approach of trying to understand how and why bad things happened. It comes down to 2 major causes: Nature, or the Universe, being what it is and doing what it does, and humans doing the wrong things, or not doing the right things.

While we don't totally understand the complicated workings of the natural world, multiple experiences indicate there are certainties that fires, hurricanes, flooding, volcano eruptions, and other natural phenomena happen and will continue to happen. And yet we still build houses on river flood plains and put up buildings that can't survive hurricane winds. We know that pandemics occurred historically, but we console ourselves into thinking “it can't happen here” – until it does. We poison the planet with herbicides and insecticides, with chemicals and plastics, and fill the air with pollutants, damaging lungs designed to breathe only fresh air.

As we've become more aware of these and many other “bad things” that science has discovered, many say something must be done about it. Maybe the problem declines a little; then new products are developed or people lose interest. The problem is altered, but not solved. Example: For decades smoking was touted as harmless, or even “good for people”, by tobacco companies. Then science, which discovered the truth much earlier on, finally was heard, and smoking declined dramatically. However, now many, mostly young people, are damaging their lungs with other chemicals by “vaping.” Different mechanism, same results.

The opportunity to learn from the hardships and disasters in 2020 could benefit us in the future, if we are wise enough to pay attention. For some of us, the Pandemic, the social unrest, et al, were quite unsettling. But for many it's been a horrible, catastrophic time, a year filled with loss and suffering, of divisiveness and fear.

You hear many say that they just want things to “get back to normal.” But getting back to “normal,” to the exact way things were, is not growth. We can – we have to – create a “normal” on a higher level.

We need to really recognize and learn from our mistakes and have the will to avoid making them again –and become better human beings for it. As Lions, we help others when we can, always with kindness and compassion. And that's a good place to start making better things happen in 2021.

COVID UPDATES: December saw the highest number of new COVID cases of any month in the Pandemic in the U.S.: Over 6.3 million new cases. December COVID-19 deaths in USA: topped over 74,000. Medical facilities are also dealing with increasing patients, with an even larger COVID surge expected after the recent Holidays. We are now in the worst part in the COVID-19 Pandemic so far.

Currently 2 vaccines are available in the USA; more to come. Health Personnel, Care Facility Residents get 1st shots. Vaccine shipments are less than expected many places. Without a national plan, states are struggling to get the vaccinations done. *Wisconsin:* A hospital pharmacist deliberately destroyed 500 doses of Moderna's new coronavirus vaccine by leaving it out of a fridge. No motive known yet. *West Virginia:* 42 people expecting to receive the Moderna vaccine for COVID-19 were instead accidentally given Regeneron antibody used to treat infections. Mistakes happen, as will deliberate criminal acts. **We just carry on.**

A new variant of the coronavirus has emerged that makes it *even more contagious*, and another variant was just identified as well. **Many medical experts believe the current vaccines should work on the mutated versions, but don't know for sure.**

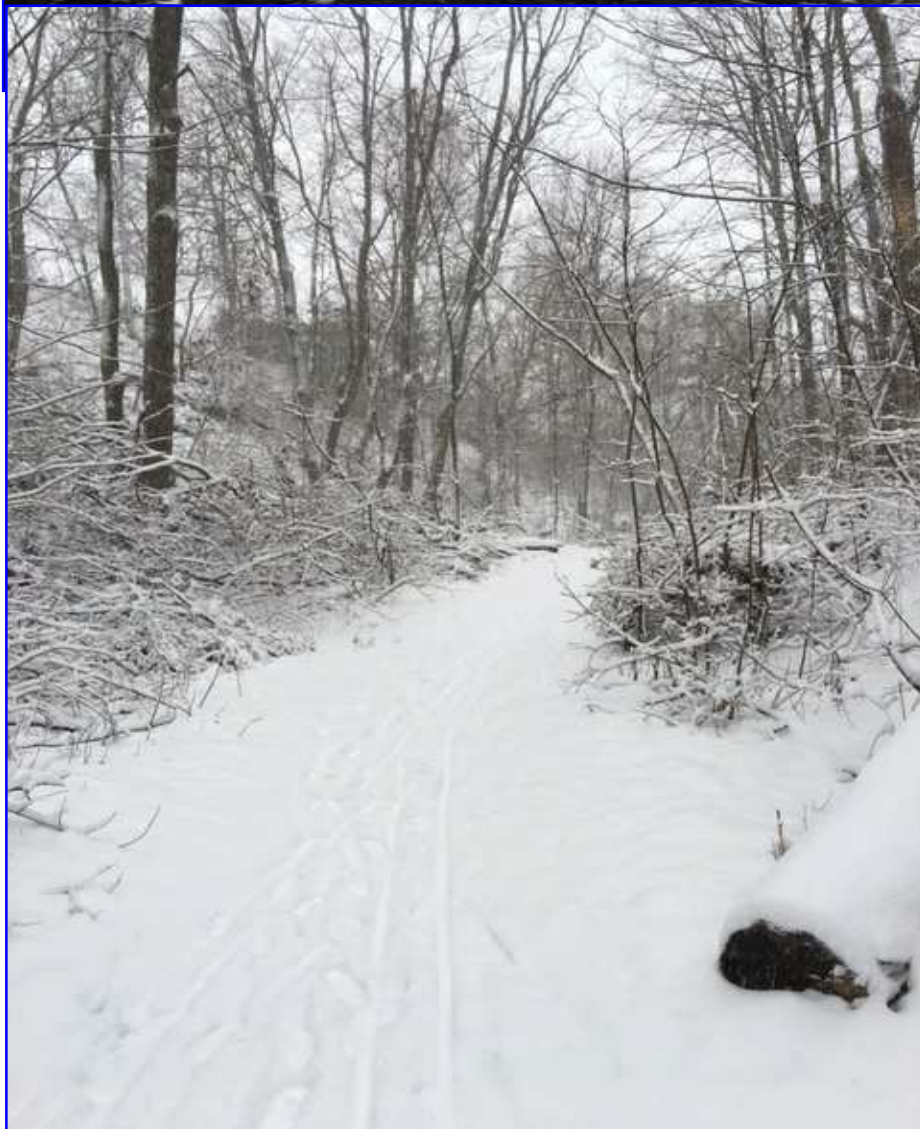
The U.S. has 4% of the World's Population, but approximately 25% of its COVID Cases. We've hoped finally having vaccines would end the Pandemic. However, a recent survey found 3 in 10 health-care workers and a nearly identical percentage of the general population are “vaccine-hesitant”, refusing vaccination. *Ohio:* 60 percent of nursing homes' staff chose not to take a COVID-19 vaccine. Exit polls show that 80% of Trump supporters don't see COVID-19 as a very urgent problem. – (Poll by NORC at the University of Chicago). If the COVID deniers and mask slackers refuse vaccinations, there may be up to 30-40% of adults who will continue to spread the virus with unsafe activities, preventing the vaccine herd immunity needed to contain the virus – economy stalled until the Pandemic ends.

“You can always count on Americans to do the right thing - after they've tried everything else.” – Winston Churchill

Well, now we've made it to 2021, and so far not much has changed. Humanity has yet to get its act together – and we need to get our act together. We could have – and should have – stopped COVID-19 by last summer. A health emergency shouldn't be a political football; the divisiveness is literally killing us. Will we finally beat this Pandemic, or will it continue to kill hundreds of thousands during 2021? Time will tell – but we can do better.

BE KIND. MASK UP + SOCIAL DISTANCE + WASH HANDS = STAY SAFE!

Picture (s) of The Month: January



WINTER ARRIVES

In the past, winter weather in Northern Michigan usually began during hunting season.

Somewhere between November 15 and 30, snow would fall, and there would be snow on the ground until April.

This year, a lasting snowfall came late, on December 12, in the form of blizzard bringing 3 to 5 inches of heavy wet snow in many locations. Despite 7 days of temperatures above freezing (including 2 days in the mid to upper 40s), enough snow fell to keep the ground mostly white the rest of December.

The pictures were taken at the Bear River Park in Petoskey, the day after the first blizzard, when Winter replaces color with black & white scenery.

You Make the News – We Publish It!

Didn't find any mention of YOUR Lions Club in this issue?

Send your information to: dlzim47@gmail.com

NOTE: Submissions received after the 4th will be printed in the next month issue

- Activities: Service Projects, Fundraising Events, Club Events – What You DO!
- Club Milestones: Awards, Club Officers, New Memberships, Passings – What Is Happening With Your Members!
- Photos of Service Activities, Fundraising Events, Awards, etc.

* Photos: Should be 300 pixels for good quality.

Include names of individuals in photos, and/or describe what the photo is showing.

Text: Include dates and names (if applicable) for all events submitted.

Text will be edited as needed for space, spelling, corrections, etc.

Don't be left out!!

Racism has no place in our world.

Our organization depends on the incredible diversity of our members around the world because great things can only be achieved when we are united.

#kindnessmatters

