

DISTRICT 11-E2 NEWSLETTER

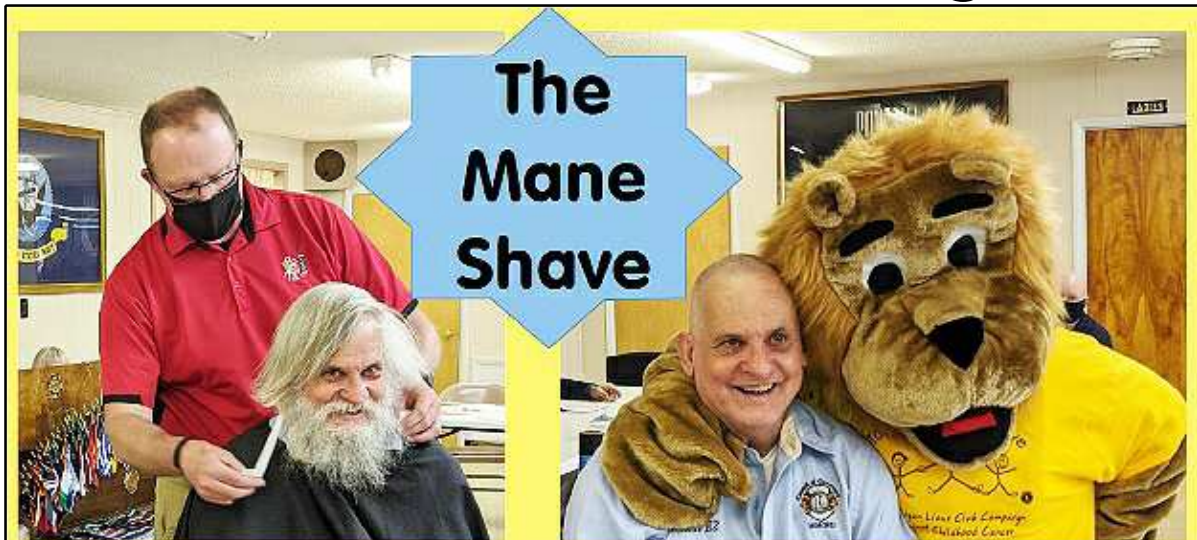


Notable Quotes: "I teach people that no matter what the situation is, no matter how chaotic, no matter how much drama is around you, you can heal by your presence if you just stay within your center." —Deepak Chopra



NOVEMBER 2020

District Governor's Message



*When Covid hit Michigan I had an idea
Of how to help non-profits survive the ordeal.*

*Who needed help? We found the answer:
Camp Quality, Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids, and Kids Kicking Cancer*

*As the Lions District Pediatric Cancer Chair
I decided I should just grow out my hair.*

*Along with my beard and my mustache too,
Sitting at home, it was the only thing I could do!*

*To raise money for kids with cancer in need
I'd use social media to put out my plea.*

*With all the money going to a good cause
We started out fast and refused to pause.*

*When I reached my \$7,500 goal at last
Brian the barber shaved it all - it was a blast!*

*When it was all said and done
We made \$8,565, it sure was fun!*

*We raised it for these three great organizations
To help families deal with their cancer situations.*

*We as Lions will always find a way
To help families in need and to have a great day.*

*To join the crusade of helping those in strife
Contact a Lion, it will change your life!*



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

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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.

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 Lions,

Your safe service has preserved the health and safety of so many within your local community. The coronavirus pandemic has become the global health focus for the world, but many other health issues remain. And that's where Lions can make a difference.

Diabetes affects nearly 10% of the world's adult population—and so many more are undiagnosed. That is why diabetes has been one of our five global causes. This month, I ask that you unite with Lions around the world to raise awareness and educate people so we can be the difference in our communities.

Because every global cause has a solution that begins at home.

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.



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



Thank you for serving your club and our great association during some troubling times. Since July, our local and state government leaders have been working hard to protect the public from the pandemic. Whether we agree or disagree with the rules that have been put in place, Lions have set the example by finding creative ways to comply while meeting and serving. Our service impact has not been disrupted by disease, war, or natural disaster for more than 103 years. Therefore, I am confident that COVID-19 will not cause us to lose focus of our mission – WE SERVE.



World Diabetes Day



World Diabetes Day is on November 14, and this year, we're asking Lions to continue serving safely by serving virtually. Beginning October 12, your club can participate in a variety of virtual activities to promote diabetes awareness, prevention and care.

Visit our [World Diabetes Day](#) page for activities and educational series that you and your club can participate in to make a difference in your community. And don't forget to use the hashtag **#LionsFightDiabetes** to celebrate your service with us and Lions around the world.





7-8 p.m. (ET) Thursday, November 12
An exclusive virtual wine tasting to benefit the gift of sight
—hosted by Eversight!

Lions, we invite you to join Hickory Creek Winery owner and winemaker Adam McBride in exploring the nuances, notes and stories of five small-batch, classic European-style wines: a dry white, an off-dry white, a dry rose, two dry reds.

100% of profits from the purchase of each tasting kit directly benefit Eversight and our work to restore sight and prevent blindness through the healing power of donation, transplantation and research.

Here's how it works:

1. Order your Eversight Edition: Hickory Creek Wines Signature Wine Flight Tasting Kit for \$50 (plus \$7 shipping fee) by October 30. Must be age 21 or older and a MI, IN or IL resident.
2. Invite another Lion (or two or three!) to purchase their own kits and join the fun. Our goal is to celebrate with 200 friends and raise funds to cover the gift of sight through two sight-restoring cornea transplants.
3. Tasting kits will be shipped the week of November 1.
4. Each kit will include your five wines for tasting (1.7 ounces each and instructions on how to register and prepare the wines for the virtual (online) tasting event).
5. Join the tasting on Thursday, November 12 at 7 p.m. (ET)

RSVP

Eversight Edition: Hickory Creek Tasting Kit

Questions? Contact [Amanda Frederick](#), (800) 247-7250 ext. 2616.

As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Eversight relies on tax-deductible gifts to advance the work we are entrusted to do toward our vision for a world without blindness

Thank you for your support!



From all of us at Eversight:

Please accept our deepest gratitude for your continued support over the past Lions' fiscal year.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought so many unforeseen challenges. You continue to selflessly partner with us so that we can face those challenges and ensure uninterrupted services to sight-restoring donors and their families, transplant surgeons, vision researchers and patients who await the gift of sight. Amid this ongoing uncertainty, we cannot thank Lions enough for your ongoing stewardship and service.

I am writing today because we are delighted to announce Eversight's 2019-2020 Sight Leaders and Supporters. This is the second year of this special recognition program, and we are proud to report that 109 Lions Clubs throughout the communities we serve will receive this honor.

Thank you to each of these Sight Leaders during the Lions 2020 fiscal year that donated \$3,000 or more—an amount that helps cover expenses for a patient in need of a sight-restoring transplant. We look forward to recognizing you with a Sight Leaders Banner Patch for your club's outstanding support.

2020 SIGHT LEADERS

Ann Arbor Host Lions Club

Bedford Township Lions Club

District 11 A-2 Lions International

District 11 D-1 Lions International

Lathrup Village Lions Club

Mount Pleasant Lions Club

Paw Paw Lions Club

Eversight also thanks and recognizes each of these clubs that contributed between \$500—\$2,999. They will receive a Sight Supporter Collectors pin to display on their banner for their commitment to the gift of sight.

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2020 SIGHT SUPPORTERS

Alpena Lions Club
 Bark River Lions Club
 Battle Creek Cereal City Lions Club
 Battle Creek Host Lions Club
 Bay City Lions Club
 Beaverton Lions Club
 Bergenfield Lions Club
 Berkley Lions Club
 Beverly Hills Lions Club
 Big Rapids Lions Club
 Birmingham Lions Club
 Center Line Lions Club
 Central Lake Lions Club
 Charlevoix Lions Club
 Charlotte Lions Club
 Chesaning Lions Club
 Chester Lions Club
 Clawson Lions Club
 Cranbury Lions Club
 Dearborn Heights Lions Club
 DeWitt Breakfast Lions Club
 Dexter Lions Club
 District 11 B-1 Lions International
 District 11 C-2 Lions International
 Eastpointe Lions Club
 Elizabeth Portuguese Lions Club
 Emmett Lions Club
 Empire Lions Club
 Essexville-Hampton Lions Club
 Frankenmuth Lions Club
 Franklin Lakes Lions Club
 Freeland Lions Club
 Fremont Lions Club
 Frenchtown Lions Club
 Fruitport Lioness Club
 Fruitport Lions Club
 Galena Lions Club
 Grand Rapids Lions Club
 Greenville Lions Club
 Harsens Island Lioness Club
 Hart Lions Club
 Hartland Lions Club
 Hawthorne Lions Club
 Holt Lions Club
 Hopewell Valley Lions Club
 Howell Township Lions Club
 Hubbard Lake Lions Club

Jackson Eye Openers Lions Club
 Jeddo Lions Club
 Lake Ann Lions Club
 Lake Orion Lions Club
 Lakewood Area Lions Club
 Lanark Lions Club
 Lewiston Lions Club
 Lincoln Park Lions Club
 Linden Lions Club
 Livonia Lions Club
 Macomb Township Lions Club
 Mantua Lions Club
 Metamora Lioness Lions Club
 Michigan Center Lions Club
 Midland Lions Club
 Moorestown Lions Club
 Morris Lions Club
 North Branch Lions Club
 Northport Lions Club
 Novi Lions Club
 Oscoda Lions Club
 Plymouth Lions Club
 Port Huron South Park Lions Club
 Riverside Township Lions Club
 Rockford Lions Club
 Romeo Lions Club
 Rose City Lions Club
 Royal Oak Lions Club
 Rutherford Lions Club
 Sault Ste. Marie Lions Club
 Sister Lakes Lions Club
 St. Joseph Lions Club
 Sterling Heights Lions Club
 USA Lions Club
 Vandercook Lake Lions Club
 Vicksburg Lions Club
 Waldwick Lions Club
 Warren Township Lions Club
 Washington Lions Club
 Watervliet Lions Club
 Weidman Lions Club
 Wheaton Lions Club
 Williamston Lions Club
 Wixom-Walled Lake Lions Club
 Wood-Ridge Lions Club
 Zilwaukee Lions Club

Remember: Clubs that achieve and remain at the Sight Leader level will be awarded a yearly chevron to complement their initial banner patch. Those that continue to achieve Sight Supporter status will receive a new banner pin each year that they give.

As a Sight Leader or Sight Supporter, you will be hearing from Eversight soon so we can award your banner patch or pin. Congratulations to all clubs recognized. Thank you, all Lions and Lioness, for your service and tireless support for the gift of sight. Your work and service inspire us every day.

Lions of MichiganDistrict 11 E-2Cabinet Meeting Minutes, October 10, 2020, Central Lake, MI

Cabinet Members in Attendance- DG Leathers, CST Durflinger, 1VDG Gaines, 2 VDG Drury, ZC Murch, GST Marie Leathers, IPDG Zeller, ZC's Don McDonell and Broome (via Zoom)

Cabinet Members Absent – GMT Tasior, ZC Cool

Lions in Attendance PDG's Dennis Richardson and Gordon Harris, Lions Dennis Gocha, Linda Gocha, Dave Pratt, Sarah Leathers, Kris Roberts and Randy Miller **VIA ZOOM** PDG Seifried, Lions Julie Haase, David Zimmer, Bob LeBeau, Diane LeBeau, Brian Chace, Cal Shooks, and Shirley Hill

Guests- Nan Winter- Camp Quality, Brian Patton- Barber

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

Special Presentations- DG Rod had his haircut for the fundraiser for Pediatric Cancer. At that point there had been approximately \$8300 raised, but more came in later. Following DG Leather's shaving presentations from Camp Quality, Maggie's Wigs for Kids and Kids Kicking Cancer were made. These are the three organizations receiving the proceeds from DG Rod's fundraiser.

Secretary's Report - Minutes of the August 15 2020 cabinet meeting were presented by CST Durflinger. 1VDG Gaines moved approval with support from 2VDG Drury, 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 \$5,924.22 leaving an ending balance as of 8/14/20 of \$34,562.12. This is made up of \$25,089.93 in administration and \$9,472.19 in convention funds. The projects account had a beginning balance of \$40,314.52, income of \$104.52 and expenses of \$1,187.95 leaving an ending balance of \$39,231.09. It was moved by 1VDG Gaines, supported by 2VDG Drury that the financial report be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business- IPDG Zeller presented awards that were to have been presented at the convention which was cancelled. The awards were as follows: PDG Barb Durflinger received the International Leadership Medal, GST Marie Leathers received a Lautzenheiser Fellowship, PDG Gordon Harris received the District Melvin Jones Fellowship, Lion David Zimmer received a Lautzenheiser Fellowship, and Lions Ray Shelly and GMT Bob Tasior received International Presidents' Certificates of Appreciation. Lion Linda Harris had previously been presented with a Noel fellowship. IPDG Zeller received a letter of appreciation from the International President for his service as District Governor. Eversight presented a District Appreciation Award to the district for our support of Eversight. IPDG Zeller then presented a token of his appreciation to last year's cabinet and committee chairs.

New Business- GST Marie Leathers noted that since we have been doing meetings with Zoom it has become apparent that we need better microphones. She can get a set of 8 for around \$250. These are the same microphones are being used at the state level. It was moved by IPDG Zeller, supported by ZC Murch that we allocate up to \$1000 to purchase the necessary equipment. Motion carried.

PDG Durflinger discussed the Foundation Hearing Aid Assistance program, and the client co-pays now required by the Lions of Michigan Foundation. She asked for guidance in how much the district should pay to assist with the client co-pays. After some discussion, it was moved by 1VDG Gaines, supported by ZC Murch that the district pay a maximum of \$200 per client to assist. PDG Durflinger will see that each



club gets a copy of the new co-pay schedule (probably available at the end of the month after the Foundation board meeting) and are told that the district can assist up to \$200.

GMT Report- None. The DG reported that the state right now is down 75 members, and our district is down by 6 members.

GLT Report- IPDG Zeller commented that we need to have people other than PDG's chair committees. He reminded everyone that you don't have to be the chair to serve on a committee, and current chairs will be happy to mentor interested people. He commented that officer training which was to follow the cabinet meeting was cancelled due to non-participation, and he would attempt to reschedule after the next cabinet meeting. He encouraged the current club Vice-Presidents to get the President training.

GST Report- GST Marie Leathers noted that it is important to report club activities on MyLion. The "Kindness Matters" award will only be presented for activities reported to International.

Zone Chair Reports – ZC Murch turned in a written report. ZC McDonell (via Zoom) reported that in these unusual times most of his contacts with his Zone clubs have been virtual.

Committee Reports Written Reports were provided by these Committees: **Diabetes Awareness-** Lion Diane LeBeau, **District Editor-**Lion Zimmer, **District Peace Poster-**PDG Stenback, **Eversight-** PDG Richardson, **Hunger-**Lion Kris Roberts, **LCIF-** PDG Durflinger, **Lions of Michigan Foundation-** IPDG Zeller, **Medical Assistance-** Lion Clairene Jorella, and **Website/IT-** Lion Marie Leathers.

The following was added to the written reports- PDG Richardson reported that Eversight will be happy to do a Zoom presentation at your club meeting. He reminded everyone of the upcoming virtual wine tasting. (Clubs have all been sent a flier on the event). District Hunger Chair Kris Roberts discussed that many food pantries have reported that their problem isn't food, but personal items and sundries. He suggested that clubs consider holding a drive to collect these items to be donated to their local food pantries for distribution to the needy. The first week of December was suggested as a collection time. In addition he is working on an LCIF Hunger Infrastructure Grant. Clubs are asked to speak to their local food pantries to determine if they have infrastructure needs (coolers, freezers, etc) that would qualify for the grant. LCIF Chair Durflinger reminded everyone that we still have squares to fill on the District Melvin Jones Fellowship raffle board. The squares are \$20, \$10 of which will be a personal (or club) contribution to LCIF, and the balance to be used to purchase the Fellowship. GST Marie Leathers reported that she will be happy to help anyone with Zoom or MyLion.

Oral Reports- IPDG Zeller noted that he will be happy to mentor anyone interested in working on the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. 2VDG Drury announced that the 2021 District Convention will be at Boyne Mountain from 4/16-4/18. There will be a committee meeting at the Boyne City Tap Room on Wednesday, 11/4 at 6PM. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. Lion Julie Haase reported that Leader Dog has graduated several classes since Covid began. The classes are smaller, and right now there are no International students. There is a new fundraising plan called Dogs for \$\$ in which businesses post stickers in their windows and collect funds for Leader Dog. Contact Lion Julie for more information. Lion Mike Dengate from Leader Dog would love to Zoom into your club or zone meetings to make a presentation on Leader Dog. DG Leathers reported that last year the Council of Governor's approved 2 banner patches for each district for clubs participating in Pediatric Cancer projects. The projects must be reported on MyLion. Last year only one club reported a project, the Central Lake Lions, who made 120 port pillows which were distributed by Camp Quality to their clients. IPDG Zeller



reported that the USA/Canada Forum had been held virtually this year. After some initial technical problems were corrected it went very well. DG Leathers reported that there will be a meeting next week of the Michigan Forum Committee. They will be determining whether the Forum will be virtual or in person this year. More information will follow. The Michigan Lions Leadership Institute will be held virtually this year on 11/7. Details will follow.

VDG Comments- 1VDG Gaines noted that it is a challenge right now to do service projects or fundraisers, but that we must find ways to keep our members active, particularly new members. He reminded ZC's that the cabinet needs to know if a club is struggling so we can provide help. 2VDG Drury noted that we need to start working with people about going on to the district level.

DG Comments- DG Leathers noted that we also need to work on Leadership within clubs. Too many have the same officers year after year, and newer members need to be encouraged to step into those positions.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 PM. The next meeting will be on December 12 via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
PDG Barb Durflinger, Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer

Zone 3 Report
Submitted by Steve Murch

We held a zone meeting on Sept. 21 in Hubbard Lake at the Hubbard Lake Lions Park. There were members from three clubs – Hubbard Lake, Hillman and Alpena. Including the program speakers there were 16 Lions in attendance. District Governor Rod Leathers spoke about membership and his fundraising efforts with his hair and beard trimming. IPDG Dave Zeller talked briefly about the Lions of Michigan Foundation (and managed to sell some calendars to boot). GMT Coordinator Bob Tasior gave a Just Ask presentation on recruiting new members.

Clubs are meeting in person though not all are meeting as regularly as before, except for Alpena Lions, which is still meeting weekly but via Zoom. Alpena club President is working with the owner of the restaurant where the clubs meets to coordinate efforts to meet in person again.

Efforts are underway to schedule club visits with the final four clubs that haven't been visited.

In the most recent club assessment the zone is down two members, with one new member but three dropped members. I'm concerned about the Alpena Evening Lions, which is down to six members.

From: "Bill Stenback" <billstenback@gmail.com>
Date: Thursday, October 8, 2020 10:06 AM
To: "ComDaC" <barb@comdac.com>
Subject: Re: Cabinet meeting

Peace poster report.
We have sent all Lion Club secretary's a peace poster kit. A email went out before the mailing to advise what was expected.
All peace posters are due back or post marked by November 15, 2020, to
PDG Bill Stenback
P.O. Box 242
Central Lake MI 49622-0242

Looking forward to receiving many this year.

Bill Stenback



CABINET MEETING
OCTOBER 10, 2020
DIABETES REPORT

WORLD DIABETES DAY is Saturday, November 14. In the spirit of Lions looking out for each other, encouraging all the clubs to have their members go to either of the following two websites to take the screening test for pre-diabetes or diabetes risk:

<https://doihaveprediabetes.org/> <https://www.diabetes.org/risk-test>

and to encourage their friends and family members to also use this screening device.

MSUE Diabetes PATH (Personal Action Toward Health) Oct / Nov Zoom class sponsored by Lions has nine registered, and the first class was Oct 5. Six participated in the first class. **There is room for more to sign up, with a deadline of Monday, 10/12/20.** Those interested can call 231-845-3362 or email Naomi Hyso (hysonaom@msu.edu) to register. This class is free to all participants and will be funded by monies paid by the clubs to the District, partnered with a 75% contribution from Lions Diabetes Grant.

The next MSUE Diabetes PATH Zoom Class will be offered Tuesdays, November 3--Dec 8th from 9:30-11:30am. Contact Naomi Hyso at hysonaom@msu.edu or call 231-845-3362 to register. A promotional flyer will be available next week and I can email this to all clubs in the District.

There will also be a virtual self-paced MSUE Dining With Diabetes series available in 2021; this includes actual recipes and food preparation experience. It was well received when we did an in-person class last fall in Central Lake.

Alpena Lions King Lion Bernie Lamp is working with Lion Bill Bradfield to provide Diabetes Grant funds for Mid Michigan Medical Centers proposal to provide home blood testing supplies to diabetics in need. Mid Michigan Diabetes Center also has taken a USDA developed age-appropriate program on healthy eating and activity into the 6th grade classroom in Clare schools; the goal is to reduce obesity, type 2 diabetes and heart disease risk. They hope, with the help of the Lions Diabetes Grant, to expand this to Alpena schools next year.

Just a reminder: we have \$19,879.51 grant monies left to spend on education, testing and supplies. This grant is open-ended since the COVID restrictions were imposed. Lion Bill Bradfield encourages any and all questions about the Diabetes Grant coverage to come to him. He has, after "going up the ladder", been able to extend the grant coverages somewhat. So it is worth checking with him if any unique ideas on ways to utilize the grant come to mind.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lion Diane LaBeau
District 11 E-2 Diabetes Chairperson

From: "Clairene Jorella" <cjorella@yahoo.com>
Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2020 5:41 PM
To: "ComDaC" <barb@comdac.com>
Subject: Re: Cabinet meeting

CST Barb - I have one hearing client from Fairview nearing completion and one hearing aid client from Grayling nearing completion. I have heard from Laura Clark, LBSW, Case Manager/Supports Coordinator, NEMCSA, requesting hearing aid applications for a number of her clients. The current application form has been sent to her. Ray Shelley also has been sent hearing aid applications. Also, earlier this year during my illness, Bev Bodem volunteered to help me with hearing aids and I forwarded three applications to her. I sincerely appreciate her assistance when I was unable to process applications I had received.

Clairene Jorella
District Hearing Aid Chair



Report: October 10, 2020 Cabinet Meeting - District 11-E2 Newsletter Editor

10/08/20

Lion Barb:

COVID-19 is still keeping many clubs from normal activities such as fundraising and events. Only some of the larger or more active clubs have something to report, and some of the other clubs may have activities not reported.

The September District 11-E2 newsletter had information, text and/or pictures, from 6 (21.4%) of the 28 active clubs. The October issue had data from 8 clubs (28.6%).

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Months Participated</u>
• Boyne Valley	2
• Central Lake	2
• Cheboygan	2
• East Jordan	2
• Hubbard Lake	1
• Lewiston Lioness Lions	1
• Mackinaw City	1
• Oscoda	2
• Prescott/Skidway Lake	1

On September 21 Spectrum hooked up their cable to our house, so I now have internet access again. There are usually some technical problems that show up during each monthly compiling of the newsletter, but they can be dealt with. I'm getting late submissions for inclusion in the newsletter, so I will only put data received before & on the 4th day of the month deadline. Anything after that will be in the next month's issue.

Still would like to get a few letters/columns/notes from any Lions/Leaders in the District with something to say. Share your ideas, or relate something that happened in your Club's activities that might inspire, or caution, others. I'm also certainly open to 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

FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT-Pete Conarty

2019-20 Sight & Hearing Sweepstakes- The sweepstakes this year went well considering what was going on. We cleared +\$90,000 in sales and again E2 was the top selling district. We had 30 clubs sell over 100 tickets. Checks for the clubs went out in June. If your club has not received their check please contact Chad or Kim.

2021 Hearing Care Calendar Raffle Project- The Calendars are in, we had a lot of sponsors which pretty much covered the cost of printing them, now we just need to sell them. We would like clubs to sell more than they did last year so we are giving back more funds. Motion: If a club sells 10 + up to 49 calendars they will get back \$5.00 back. If a club sells 50 or more, they will get \$10.00. 16th the Annual Candy Days – September 25-26, 2020 this is a planned event at this point.

DR. MATHOG LIONS HEARING CENTERS REPORT-Chad McCann, A few years ago the LMF has taken on the hearing center in A1 and A2 and we have combined with the rest of the districts that participate in our program. We have new updated forms that were emailed out please distribute those new forms to your hearing chair people. We have added another level, thus those who make at or below 125% will be level 1 aids typically will be \$100 ea. Level 2 is at or below 225% aids will be \$150.00 ea. and Level 3 which is at or below 325% aids will be \$300.00 ea.



Eversight District 11-E2 Cabinet Report October 10, 2020

The core mission of Eversight is restoring vision through corneal transplantation. The demand for corneal tissue continues to increase after the near shut down in March. From January 1, 2020 through September 15, 2020 there have been 1091 eye tissue donors in Michigan (33 in our district) and 689 residents received the Gift of Sight through a corneal transplant (37 in our district).

Eversight is not accepting visitors at their headquarters because of COVID-19 concerns. It is hoped that Lions can resume visitations in 2021. 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

Eversight's largest fundraiser is their Golf for Good Tournament. This year it was done virtually and turned out to be very successful with a profit of \$26,380. I would encourage more Lion golfers in our district to get involved next year.

I would like to thank the Lions of District 11-E2 for our support of Eversight; especially in promoting organ donor awareness and providing financial support. Last year our district generously donated a total of \$12,225. It is my goal that we have 100% of our clubs support Eversight this year.

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 \$1000 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:

den7rich@gmail.com or (231) 944-0587

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Richardson, District 11-E2 Eversight Committee Chair



District 11E-2 Hunger Chair Report

I was planning on, in discussion with DG Rod, promoting a one-day food drive with each club. We discussed having this drive at the beginning of a Holiday month such November or December. Each club would provide a collection and sorting location, sort the donations, and distribute to food pantries in their area.

On discussing current needs with the Director of one of our local food pantries, I learned that, due to the pandemic, folks have been donating food items as they are able to this pantry and that the Michigan Food Banks have been able to provide quite a bit at lower prices, and she has heard others are benefiting from this as well. This Director did say, however, that one big gap in their service is that of personal items and sundries, such as bar soap, shampoo, tooth brushes, tooth paste, deodorants, grooming items, etc. Also, small clothing items such as socks, gloves, hats, scarves, etc. for children and adults. *- 1st week of December*

Therefore, I am suggesting that our district change directions slightly and hold drives for these types of items. The mechanics would be the same, and we, as a district, could still make this an inter-club competition, if we can determine appropriate recognition of the leading clubs.

I would like to ask the Cabinet their opinion on this idea.

The other initiative I have begun working on is the Pilot LCIF Hunger Infrastructure Grant. This proposed grant is for infrastructure improvements for local food banks and food pantries. In a conversation with the Western Michigan Food Bank in Comstock Park, I learned that many of the food pantries they service are limited to dry and can goods, as they have no or insufficient cooler/freezer facilities. I am still waiting for return contact from the Eastern Michigan Food Bank to see if this is a similar problem for their pantries, which seems likely. Since most of our clubs are in the Eastern Michigan Food Bank coverage, it is critical to know their thoughts before moving farther into this subject. Still, if the need holds constant, then a possibility would be to apply for a grant to purchase and distribute/donate commercial coolers and freezers with the assistance of our District clubs.

I am continuing to explore this option, and would be interested in the Cabinet's views.

Respectfully submitted,
Lion Kris Roberts, District 11E-2 Hunger Chair
krobdi@gmail.com
701-400-9160

District Only Grant - contact your local pantries about infrastructure needs



District 11-E2 Cabinet meeting
October 10, 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 10/2/20 the campaign has raised \$169,596,469 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 LCIF 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 DG Rod could have a 100% district. This year so far our clubs/individual Lion members have donated \$861, which came from 7 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 LCIF, 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 Durlinger

11-E2 IT Report

October 2020

As club meetings start moving back indoors and snowbirds are heading south, clubs should consider using Zoom to help members stay connected with their clubs, zone and district. If you need help getting started contact me. Hands on training is available.

Online fundraising is a great way to fill in the gap from canceled fundraisers. If you need help getting a club website or Facebook page just let me know.

Facebook users please join the Lions of District 11-E2 group. If you want to get social online with other Lions around the world check out LionsVirtual.org. It's a great way to see what other Lions are doing to serve and fundraise, and might give your club an idea of something they can do.

Marie Leathers
11-E2 IT
231-350-0286
marie@centrallakerealty.com
District website: lionsdistrict11e2.org
"WE SERVE"



Lions of Michigan Foundation Report

10/10/2020

MAJOR PROGRAMS & SERVICES-Chad McCann, Executive Director- there are 5 key programs that the LMF sponsors, Hearing Assistance, Kidsight, Emergency Assistance and Emergency Individual Assistance and Mints for Military. We provide low cost hearing aids to people who can't afford it. They are new production aids from top named hearing companies; Starkey, Oticon, GnResound ect. What we need from the client applying is the hearing application, they need to provide proof of financial need, and medical clearance. They also need to be a Michigan resident. Kidsight is a program where we screen children under 18 for potential eye problems, and if they need glasses we can help with that as well. Emergency Grants is a program where a club can help a person in their community who has had a flood or fire, they can receive up to \$1,500. If it was a group of families that was flooded or natural disaster, then the club can apply for Emergency assistant up to \$7,000.00. Mints for Military is a program where we send over a box of mints to our military men and women, they can be overseas or stateside. Our retired veteran Jim Dunn (C2) takes the mints and mails them out he's familiar with how mail systems work for the military. All we need are names and where to send them.

More detailed information about these programs has been emailed to you if you have questions contact the office.

KIDSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT-Richard Dettling- We have suspended everything since March and will continue until January 2021. Carried

Until the government shutdown we have screened +13,000 kids. We would have made our goal of 20,000 kids if the pandemic didn't occur. Use this time to get trailers fixed if need be. Send in your receipts and we will reimburse you. We have new forms and have dispersed them. If you district needs forms, contact the office.

We now have pop-up tents, table clothes, promo tents and we will have T-shirts ready for next season. We will continue to do background checks, if you have a club that needs to get theirs in we will be happy to get those done and a badge sent out.

Our own PDG Barb Durflinger was appointed as Assistant Treasurer.



Hello District 11 E-2 Club Presidents and Secretaries,

I am the Lions District 11 E-2 Diabetes Chairperson and would like to get some information out to the Lions Clubs in our District.

The Lions Diabetes Grant has been extended indefinitely due to COVID 19. The budget as per the DAD LCIF Grant provides funds for Test kits/screenings, Nutritional Training Classes (Dining w/ Diabetes), D-PATH Class, Diabetic Educator Class, etc. At this point, the District has about \$19,000 left in the budget for this grant. So far, Petoskey, East Jordan, Hillman, Charlevoix and Central Lake Clubs have carried out projects including the Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) Dining With Diabetes Program (2 clubs), a nutritional education program (1 club) and screening (2 clubs).

Coming up soon, MSUE will be offering a second Diabetes Path (D-Path) education program via online zoom. They are presenting one now, which started October 5 for 6 weeks; you may have seen that flyer in the District Newsletter. The next class will be offered Nov 3 through Dec 8. I have included attachments of the flyers for you to distribute to club members, clinics, senior centers, etc in your area. There may be some creative ways to help those without home internet to be able to see this class if a safe setting with a computer / internet access and help to connect to the zoom class might be available.

I would welcome any calls or questions via this email address or home phone (231) 544-2291. Please leave a message and a call back number and convenient time for me to call you. I hope your club can take advantage of this generous grant to benefit those in your area who may be dealing with pre-diabetes, diabetes, or are a caregiver for someone with diabetes.

As always, **thanks** for all you do---*Lion Di LaBeau*



We Serve

The contact for questions about the MSUE zoom class is:

Naomi Hyso, MA

Michigan State University Extension Educator, Disease Prevention and Management

WSCC Rec Center C/O MSUE

3000 N. Stiles Road, Scottville, MI 49454

Office: 231-845-3362

Cell: 231-955-7801

hysonaom@msu.edu

www.msue.msu.edu



JOIN US ONLINE!

DIABETES PATH SERIES

**TUESDAYS, NOV. 3RD - DEC. 8TH
9:30-11:30 A.M.**

Register:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/dpathnov20/>

Diabetes PATH is a FREE 6-week, self-management online workshop designed for people living with diabetes. Family members, friends, and caregivers are also encouraged to attend the workshop.

Questions or to register by phone:

Naomi Hyso, hysonaom@msu.edu, 231-845-3362

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY | Extension



Join us for a F.U.N.
Lions Virtual Opportunity Webinar



Saturday Nov 7, 2020 at 9am

When the world went into 'shut down' back in March, 2020, no one thought we would still be here today! The Lions of Michigan Leadership Institute staff saw a need for Lions - how do we continue in this now virtual world!?

Many Lions are embracing this new normal and many have questions and concerns. Our goal is to help provide information to all Lions to improve their virtual knowledge and to help their club thrive and grow during this unprecedented time!

We are very excited to help the Lions in Michigan explore and learn more about Virtual Opportunities for Meetings, Service, Fundraising, Leadership and Membership.

Sign Up Now for the First Lions Virtual Opportunity Webinar. Book your place for November 7 at 9am.



HOW TO SIGN UP

Scan the QR Code to Register or click the Sign up Now Button below.

Once you have completed your sign up you will receive a confirmation email.
Your link will arrive by email prior to 7th November.

Keep that email handy, and on the day follow the instructions on your email to join the webinar on your device.

Do this before 9:00 am and don't forget to turn on your speakers and turn the volume up!

ENJOY!

Sponsored by the Lions of Michigan Leadership Institute

Sign Up Here! (Website: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2B8BCHX>)



I wanted to forward this on to everyone as I thought it was a really clever idea from the Grayling Lions for their Lucky 13 drawing. It may work well for other fundraisers that your club is working on, so I thought you might be interested.
CST Barb Durlinger

GRAYLING LIONS CLUB, Inc.



Dear Grayling Lions Club Supporter

We are once again running our popular Lucky 13 Raffle and you are receiving this because you have purchased a Lucky 13 Ticket from us within the last three drawings. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions we are unable to sell these tickets face to face, therefore, we are asking you to purchase the ticket that is enclosed.

Remember that all funds that are publicly raised are returned to the public in the form of donations or scholarships. Some of the causes that we support are three \$400 scholarships for students at Grayling High School; eyeglasses and examinations for individuals in need in the community; Grayling Schools food pantries; Crawford County Christian Help Center food pantry; Special Olympics; central Michigan flood relief (Beaverton Lions Club); Project Graduation and many more local needs. We also support Lions of Michigan Projects which include EverSight (Corneal Transplants); Leader Dogs for the Blind; Lions Bear Lake Camp; Lions of Michigan Foundation. We also donated to many disasters from around the world which included the fires in Australia and the hurricane in Puerto Rico.

Please consider purchasing the ticket that is enclosed plus more if you are able. You may win up to \$300 but the real winners are the people that we assist. Please complete the ticket form and send the white copy back to the address listed below. Include a check made out to the Grayling Lions Club. Keep the yellow copy for your receipt. If you want to purchase extra copies, please enclose that amount and we will send them to you. You may purchase these as gifts. That way you are helping and gifting at the same time. Tickets that are not returned will not be included in the drawings.

Thank you for your support over the years.

Grayling Lions Club Lucky 13 Raffle Chairperson

Robert Gingerich

1923 Dansk Lane

Grayling, MI 49738



Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER 2020:

Election — November 3, 2020 (Or earlier absentee ballot by mail or drop off)

Thanksgiving — November 26, 2020

DECEMBER 2020:

District Cabinet Meeting — December 12, 2020 — 10:00 a.m. — Actual site TBD
Cabinet meeting via Zoom. Contact Marie Leathers marie@centrallakerealty.com or 231-350-0286 for Zoom invitation.

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@centrallakerealty.com or 231-350-0286 for Zoom invitation.

APRIL 2021:

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

JUNE 2021:

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



PASSINGS



None Received

NEW MEMBERS

None Reported

On the Mend

East Jordan: Lion Ron Warnos on the mend for hip replacement surgery



Alpena Lions October 2020

The Alpena Lions Club raised just over \$3,000 during its annual Old Newsboys sale. It was the 89th year for the sale, with all proceeds going to the Salvation Army. It's the largest donation in a number of years for the club despite having fewer locations to collect from this year.



Central Lake Lions October 2020



Central Lake Lions were able to continue some of their outdoor activities throughout the summer including wood cutting (*above*) and tent rentals (*below*).





Hubbard Lake Lions

October 2020

The Hubbard Lake Lions helped pack 223 lunch packs that resulted in a total of 1,338 meals for the Feeding Kids Ministry. —



— The William "Doc" Barr Knights for Vision Fellowship was presented to Hubbard Lake Lion Arnold Degen by President Ray Marshke.

Oscoda Lions

October 2020

Lion Dave presented Lion Jim Alexander with the William "Doc" Barr Knights for Vision Fellowship for his many years as chairperson of the club's Sight and Hearing Program. —



— Vice District Governor Bill Gaines presented a plaque to Lion Bob Tasior from District 11E-2 in recognition of Lion Bob's leadership as the District Global Membership Team Coordinator. Lion Bob also received a Certificate of Appreciation from Lions International President Jung-Yul Choi.



Prescott/Skidway Lake Lions

January-October 2020

I just wanted to let you know of some of our donations for the year that were made on January 18, 2020.

- Bear Lake Camp - \$165.00;
- Leader Dogs - \$275.00;
- Eversight - \$275.00;
- Lions of MI Foundation - \$550.00 and \$110.00 in April;
- All State Band - \$150.00;
- Camp Fish Tales - \$150.00;
- Lions International - \$80.00.
- Plus numerous donations for glasses, ramps, diabetes, and other local fund raisers such as a \$500.00 scholarship to a high school student.

This next year may be a little harder as we did not have our raffle fund raiser.

Marie Leathers:

GST News

If your club is looking for a way to serve, the Salvation Army is looking for Red Kettle bell ringers. For more information go to their website at www.registertoring.com where you can sign up your club to ring in your local community. Wearing your Lions gear while ringing is just one more way to show your community the We Serve!

IT News

The district Zoom equipment has been upgraded to provide better audio for our Zoom meetings. All cabinet meetings are available through Zoom and will now have better quality than before.

If you're a Facebook user be sure to join the Lions of District 11 E-2 Group. It's a good way to see what other clubs are doing and to share what your club is doing.

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



Lions Clubs
International



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION



CORONAVIRUS UPDATES – November 1



This is a snapshot of what the World, Nation, and State of Michigan looked like on **November 1, 2020**. The numbers may be significantly higher by the time you read this as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. (Info from CDC & MI gov. Websites)

World Statistics * World Numbers on November 1

Confirmed Cases: 46,062,516 ♦ Deaths: 1,195,374

United States Statistics



Michigan Statistics

Total Cases: 9,105,230



Total Cases: 139,012

Deaths: 229,932



Deaths: 7,102

DISTRICT 11-E2 STATISTICS

11-E2 Counties	Cases Confirmed	Deaths
Alcona:	47	3
Alpena:	160	14
Antrim:	130	0
Arenac:	100	3
Charlevoix:	197	4
Cheboygan:	163	2
Crawford:	142	5
Emmet:	312	4
Gladwin:	209	2
Iosco:	266	15
Kalkaska:	128	4
Montmorency:	32	0
Ogemaw:	114	5
Oscoda:	41	2
Otsego:	253	11
Presque Isle:	71	1
Roscommon:	177	6
Totals	2542	81

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



Editor's Notes

by Lion David J. Zimmer

— 2020

COVID-19 Updates; Living in the Twilight Zone

October brought no relief from the COVID19 Pandemic. Instead, the world saw a surge in cases and deaths, with the U.S. again No. 1. On Friday, October 30:

- The United States recorded **99,321 cases**, the most recorded in one day for any one nation so far.
- Sixteen states reported **single-day records for new cases** on Friday: Iowa, Kentucky, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Montana, Illinois, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Oregon, Kansas, Ohio, Colorado and Maine. And 3 states reported record deaths: Tennessee, Montana and New Mexico.
- At least **31 states** across the US reported **at least one record-high day** of new coronavirus cases in the past month (October), and **15 reported their highest one-day tallies of Covid-19 deaths**. (*Johns Hopkins University data*)
- Hospitalizations decreased this month (October) in Georgia and Hawaii while California's hospitalizations held steady. Every other state and the District of Columbia saw increases. (*The Covid Tracking Project data*)
- With the surging increase of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths, "the US has a narrow window of time before more drastic measures like mandatory lockdowns will have to be considered." (Dr. Leana Wen, former Baltimore health commissioner.)
- **COVID-19 Science:** Scientists have proven that an infected individual can recover, and then be infected again later -- a trait found in the coronavirus family that includes the common cold. While rare at this point, over time it could become the norm, and may require periodical re-vaccinations (when they are available). It could also dampen the possibility of achieving a natural protective "herd immunity."
- **Herd Immunity:** Herd immunity occurs when a large enough number of a population (the herd) becomes immune to a disease through vaccination, without causing illness, or by natural infection, experiencing the disease and recovering from it. Spreading the disease from person to person declines as the immunity numbers grow, - resulting in the whole community being protected, including those never infected or vaccinated. The natural infection path runs the risk of excessive deaths if the virus is very lethal and infected people don't recover from it.
- **COVID-19 Superspreaders:** "Superspreader": a highly contagious individual capable of transmitting a communicable disease to an unusually large number of uninfected individuals at large gatherings — such as parties, entertainment venues, church services, and political events where people don't wear masks or social distance.

There's still no vaccine available, and probably won't be until well into next year. All we can do in this Pandemic is wash our hands, wear masks, and watch our distance from other people to lessen our risk of becoming infected or infecting others. As long as too many people continue to ignore these safety actions we will have COVID-19 spreading and infecting as is its Nature.

It ain't what you don't know that gets you into trouble. It's what you know for sure that just ain't so."

— *Mark Twain*

Everything we know, and what we believe, is taught to us (data from others), or is learned from our own life experience. In a world with hundreds of cultures having thousands of concepts and contradicting "facts", it can be difficult to determine what the Truth is. For example: Slavery of black, brown, and other non-white indigenous people was historically acceptable because they were considered lesser versions of humans, or not really human at all. It was taught in schools, churches, sanctioned by governments and economic interests for hundreds of years. When learning and science began to change the way many white people in western civilization looked at the world, a growing number began to question the morality of slavery, culminating in our nation with the Civil War.

Slavery was abolished, but lingering concepts of black people as "inferior" lives on as the racism we know today. With the discovery of DNA, science has finally proven that people of all colors are indeed versions of the same human family. Racists dismiss scientific data as false, and continue to believe in white supremacy because that's what they've been taught as fact. Invested in their previous beliefs, they won't, or can't, admit they are wrong.

Over the past few years we've seen the rise of a subculture of denial in our nation that refuses to accept many aspects of our constantly changing world. Racism, religious and political bigotry, discrimination against immigrants, gay people and women – all these negative concepts and more have been around for a long time. But recently things have become especially divisive, and our "united" nation is anything but that.

A culture is defined as groups of people having the same or similar ideas, needs, desires and beliefs. In American culture most people, even today, want the same things – freedom to pursue happiness and success, safety from harm or disaster, economic opportunities, to fit in with others, to accomplish things, to help our society, etc.

Continued



Continued

There is nothing wrong with people having differing opinions about how shared desires should be accomplished – it's inevitable because we weren't all taught the same things from parents, teachers, etc., and we all didn't have the same life experiences. However, we've generally been more civil about resolving our differences. Socially and politically, we had "opponents" we disagreed with; now we have "stupid" or "evil" enemies.

A large part of this chaotic division can be traced to the internet and social media. The rise of name-calling, bullying, harassing, and humiliating people is deplorable. It's harder, perhaps even dangerous, to call someone a nasty name or bully them in person; but it's easy to type out negative dirt meant to hurt someone from the safety of your computer chair or on your phone. Communication technology also allows racists, bigots and those trying to do harm to specific groups, or in general, to fill the internet with lies, bogus "facts", and all sorts of misinformation. Unfortunately, many unaware people take these fake postings as truth.

Much of our divisiveness comes from ignorance, plain and simple. That doesn't mean stupid, and we need to remember that if we have any chance of returning to a more civil society.

- **Ignorant: not having all the information about a subject or fact.**

We are all more ignorant than not. Even the greatest genius, who knows thousands, even millions of things, doesn't know the gazillion things in this universe we can barely comprehend. Ignorance is a lack of knowledge, not a mental deficiency. With so much information, and misinformation, people can believe untrue "facts", sometimes because they want to believe it, and sometimes because they haven't encountered alternative information to rebut it.

- **Stupid: dumb, lacking intelligence or good judgment. Also, doing something knowing you shouldn't.**

Unfortunately, we have to consider stupidity as part of our divisive dilemma. There are many mind boggling outlandish conspiracy theories out there. One is Qanon, "Q" (not the technical weapons agent in the James Bond movies) being the unknown author, "anon" being short for "anonymous." Qanon is supposedly a high-ranking government official who has posted cryptic clues in the last couple years about a "deep state" cabal of pedophiles and Satan-worshippers, consisting of familiar celebrities and politicians who run a global child sex-trafficking operation. The military supposedly recruited Trump to run for President as the only person who can stop them. Among many theories floated by followers is one that John F. Kennedy Jr. faked his death and now posts clues as Qanon. Political science professor Joe Uscinski, who studies conspiracy theories says: "It has a lot of properties that make it more like a cult. The beliefs themselves are almost an incitement to violence. I mean, there isn't anything worse you can say about your political competitors than that they are satanic sex traffickers who molest and eat children." (For life longevity?) After increasing pressure in the summer and fall of 2020 larger internet platforms — Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube — took stronger action, removing groups and banning accounts. While this bizarre narrative might make an entertaining Hollywood movie thriller, an incredible number of people seem to be taking this story very seriously. I'm willing to give aliens and Bigfoot the benefit of the doubt, but I wouldn't be surprised if Qanon is a conspiracy theory cooked up by a Russian hacker having a little malicious fun. Seriously, the FBI warns that fringe conspiracy theories like Qanon pose a growing domestic terrorism threat.

Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former.

– Albert Einstein (not a fan of war and violence)

While Qanon rates high on the farfetched scale, an even more bizarre plot of serious domestic terrorism was foiled in early October here in Michigan. Members of an anti-government, anti-law enforcement "militia" group in Michigan and neighboring states decided it was their "patriotic" duty to "Free Michigan" by kidnapping Governor Gretchen Whitmer, take her to some place in Wisconsin, and put her on "trial" for "violating the U.S. Constitution" because of her COVID-19 restriction measures meant to save lives. Their plans included firebombing police vehicles. The militias allegedly discussed abducting Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam in addition to Whitmer. Fortunately, the FBI had an informant in the militia group and were able to prevent the violent attack. At least 13 members have been arrested. This was certainly not an intellectual endeavor. What did they expect to achieve – besides prison?

With all the divisive craziness and misguided actions playing out in the middle of a Pandemic, it feels like we're living in a real episode of old TV show "The Twilight Zone" — "a dimension as vast as space and as timeless as infinity"... "it lies between the pit of man's fears and the summit of his knowledge"... Eerily prophetic.

Our nation is fractured. We can fall onto a path to insanity, or we can ascend to a future in sanity. The divisive chaos, the bullying, racism, bigotry, discrimination, injustice, anger, and violence – all rooted in fear, and all things exactly opposite to the Kindness and Diversity the Lions stand for. We may fight fire with fire, but we can't fight hate with hate. We must fight hate with love, kindness, and forgiveness. However the Election turns out, we all need to take a deep breath, ground ourselves, and work for the healing and service of humanity. We can do better.

BE KIND, & STAY SAFE!



Picture Of The Month: November



Autumn's splendor spread out on the hills overlooking Little Traverse Bay

Awesome Autumn

Nature has been very hard on humanity in 2020. The Covid-19 Pandemic, record-breaking wildfires, disastrous hurricanes in record numbers – 2020 certainly has not been a stroll down Easy Street.

But this Autumn Nature presented a softer side by giving us a spectacular Fall color show in Northern Michigan not seen in many years. The trees virtually exploded in colors that lasted several weeks, the best spectacle in recent memory, despite the frequent rain and winds that typically strip the leaves from their branches earlier than they stayed this year. It was an awesome Autumn that I hope everyone was able to appreciate and enjoy.

With the arrival of November, the promise of Winter will soon show up at our doors. If there is one good thing that this changing weather will bring us, it's the end of the road construction and repairing season. We all appreciate the necessary job done to fix and improve so many roads in Northern Michigan. But the traffic snarls created by construction and the summer increase of vehicle numbers on the roads combined to make traveling in much of Northern Michigan a horrible experience of futility and frustration. You couldn't get everywhere from anywhere! The process was dreadful, but the resulting good roads are awesome.

Have an Enjoyable and Safe Thanksgiving

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!!