



*Notable Quotes:* "The only true wisdom is in knowing you know nothing." — Socrates

**OCTOBER 2023**

## District Governor's Message



**DG Steve Murch**

Greetings fellow Lions and welcome to autumn in northern Michigan. For a number of reasons, this is my favorite time of the year but that's for another day.

I actually want to fast-forward six months and get you thinking about the district convention. While it's hard to believe we are already three months into the Lions year, it's even harder to believe we are only six months away from the district convention.

This year's convention is April 20 in Alpena and will be a one-day convention. When the Alpena Lions bid for the convention the goal was to try something different to see if we could get more involvement from members throughout the district. The thinking was that it's a one-day commitment and will allow members to be home Saturday evening.

The district convention is an opportunity to meet other Lions like you, committed to serving their communities and making life better for people. It offers everyone a chance to learn more about what we do as Lions and share ideas to take back to your home town.

Most of the things you find at the traditional three-day weekend will be part of the convention, just put on in one day. The state projects will still have presentations – hopefully with more time than usual – the elections will take place, the memorial service will be held. Instead of having the afternoon free, we will have a full day of Lions activities. The goal is to be finished by about 4 p.m., allowing everyone to be home before it gets dark.

The details of the convention are still being worked out, but the convention will be held at Alpena Community College, which has plenty of parking and is easy to find. There will be plenty of room for Lions to interact, learn, and make a difference. There will be a service project and a block of rooms will be set up at a local hotel for those who want to come in April 19, and a social mixer is being planned for the evening before the convention.

We're getting the word out so you can start planning now. It's a one-day commitment that hopefully will make you a more informed and better Lion. Remember, We Serve.

Thanks for all you do.

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## 2022-2023 DISTRICT OFFICERS REFERENCE LIST

|   |  |
|---|--|
| DISTRICT GOVERNOR<br>Steve Murch<br>Alpena Lions Club<br><a href="mailto:stevemurch49707@gmail.com">stevemurch49707@gmail.com</a>                                 | IMMEDIATE PAST<br>DISTRICT GOVERNOR<br>Rod Leathers<br>Central Lake Lions Club<br>231-350-0567<br><a href="mailto:leathersrod@gmail.com">leathersrod@gmail.com</a>           |
| VICE DISTRICT<br>GOVERNOR<br>East Jordan Lions<br>Dennis Gocha<br>231-350-1906<br><a href="mailto:dennygocha@gmail.com">dennygocha@gmail.com</a>                  | GLOBAL LEADERSHIP<br>TEAM COORDINATOR<br>Dave Zeller<br>Alpena Lions Club<br>989-657-4702<br>W: 989-354-2175<br><a href="mailto:dzeller52@gmail.com">dzeller52@gmail.com</a> |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> VICE DISTRICT<br>GOVERNOR<br>Central Lake Lions<br>Marie Leathers<br><a href="mailto:marie@centrallakerealty.com">marie@centrallakerealty.com</a> | DISTRICT GLOBAL<br>MEMBERSHIP TEAM<br>COORDINATOR<br>TBD   |
| CABINET SECRETARY/<br>TREASURER<br>Barb Durflinger<br>Hillman Lions Club<br>989-742-2790<br><a href="mailto:lionbarb@comdac.com">lionbarb@comdac.com</a>          | DISTRICT GLOBAL<br>MEMBERSHIP TEAM<br>COORDINATOR<br>TBD   |

**District 11-E2 Website:**  
**[lionsdistrict11e2.org](http://lionsdistrict11e2.org)**

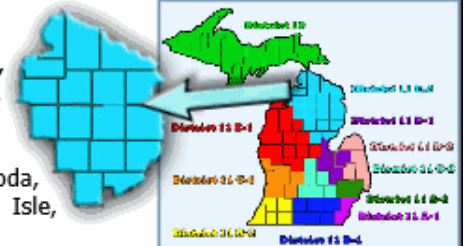
Note: This information is up to date at the time of this publication, but is subject to change as adjustments are needed.

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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 Tim Timmers<br>East Jordan Lions<br><a href="mailto:timmert@cnsbismybank.com">timmert@cnsbismybank.com</a> | Boyne Valley, Charlevoix,<br>Cheboygan, East Jordan,<br>Indian River, Mackinaw<br>City, Petoskey                        | ZC VACANT | Alpena, Alpena Evening,<br>Glennie, Hillman, Hubbard<br>Lake, Mio |
| ZONE 2  | CLUBS   | ZONE 4    | CLUBS   |
| ZC VACANT   | Central Lake, Elk Rapids,<br>Grayling, Houghton Lake,<br>Lewiston/Lewiston Lioness<br>Lions, Roscommon-<br>Higgins Lake | ZC VACANT | Beaverton, Hale,<br>Harrisville, Lincoln,<br>Oscoda, Rose City    |



## VDG Dennis Gocha

### September Message

Hello fellow Lions,

I would like to thank you for being part of one of the largest service organizations in the world. Lions are serving in their communities, districts, and the world.

Our emblem signifies what the Lions stand for. It represents a lion facing the past with pride of heritage, and the future with confidence, looking in all directions to render service.

The gold ring in the middle means we circle the earth. The Lion was chosen for a symbol of strength, activity, and loyalty. We should be proud to serve under an organization that has existed since 1917 and remember why we joined our clubs – which is to serve.

We have five global service areas of need. They are Diabetes, Hunger, Environment, Childhood Cancer and Vision. These areas will need our best efforts. Together we can serve to make a difference!



**Lions Clubs International**

An excerpt from LION Magazine you might find interesting. You can get the entire article online.

# Pickleball Pandemonium

## Clubs hit the courts for fun, fitness and fundraising.

by Joan Cary

If anybody knows how to serve, it's the Lions. They've been acing it for more than 100 years.

But serving in pickleball, now that's a relatively new thing, and Lions who try it are getting stuck on it like syrup on pancakes.

### Pickleballin' in the Midwest

"Lifelong friendships are made out of this," Lion Curt Goke in Minnesota says of both Lions and pickleball. Goke, 77, a member of the Eden Prairie Lions Club since 2017, plays pickleball three times a week and teaches beginners after church on Sundays. He has competed in 43 tournaments and played in at least 70 venues. His wife, Jane, equally as active, qualified to play in the 2019 Margaritaville USA Pickleball National Championships.

Pickleball has also created new fundraising opportunities for clubs. The sport is so popular in Goke's town that the Eden Prairie Lions partnered with the Twin City Pickleball Club to sponsor a tournament as part of the Lions' biggest fundraiser, the annual Schooner Days. Pickleball registration filled in early April for the June event.

When Curt and Jane swapped their racquetball racquets for pickleball paddles about 14 years ago, few people knew what the sport was. Now all ages vie for time on the courts.

A hybrid of badminton, tennis and ping-pong, pickleball has been the fastest growing sport in the U.S. for three years running, according to the Sports & Fitness Industry Association. It is played in almost every country.





Lions International

**Dear Lions Club Officer,**

Effective clubs provide meaningful service, maintain a strong and active membership and continually develop new leaders. The tools below focus on these elements to help your club function effectively while meeting the needs of your community and your members.

- [Your Club, Your Way!](#) – This guide will help you customize your club meetings to better suit the needs and lifestyles of your club members. It includes a simple, fun exercise to help determine which elements of your meeting to keep and what to change as well as a process for phasing in change.
- [Plan for Your Club's Success \(Global Membership Approach\) Webpage](#) – This webpage has been designed to assist clubs in attracting new members, overcoming challenges and developing new goals and strategies. Clubs can use the [planning guide](#) and [PowerPoint](#) to discover their strengths, ways to improve and new opportunities that will help them grow and thrive! Planning forms help develop a vision, assess your club's needs and organize your plan for a successful implementation.
- Take time to review the [Club Excellence Award](#) – The Club Excellence Award serves as the club's roadmap to excellence, focusing on the key elements of a quality club: membership, service, organizational excellence and marketing. This award is more than an award...it is proof that a Lions club is strong! Review the criteria that is outlined in the [2023-2024 award application](#) and see how your club can strive for excellence. If you have any questions about the Club Excellence Award, please contact us by email at [clubexcellenceaward@lionsclubs.org](mailto:clubexcellenceaward@lionsclubs.org) or by phone at (630) 468-6828.

To learn more about these resources and more, visit the [Improving Club Quality webpage](#). If you are interested in receiving a copy of the Your Club, Your Way! and Plan for Your Club's Success guides, please email us at [clubofficers@lionsclubs.org](mailto:clubofficers@lionsclubs.org).

Finally, hosting a Peace Poster contest gives youth in your area the opportunity to share their visions of peace and inspire the world through their art. Help foster creativity and order your kit before the October 1 deadline.

If you have any questions or inquiries, please contact us by email at [clubofficers@lionsclubs.org](mailto:clubofficers@lionsclubs.org) or by phone at 630-468-7084.

We look forward to supporting your club this year!

Sincerely,

Your District & Club Administration Division Team

This message was sent to Club Presidents in the United States of America



Lions Clubs International  
**FOUNDATION**

# Historic Earthquake Devastates Morocco

LCIF grant funding will empower Lions to help earthquake victims recover.

[LIONSCLUBS.ORG/DONATE](https://lionsclubs.org/donate)

On September 8, 2023, a powerful earthquake struck Morocco, killing at least 2,000 people and injuring over 2,000 more. The 6.8 magnitude quake is the largest to hit the country in more than 100 years, and the deadliest to hit the North African country in decades.

Lions in the region are already poised to help and Lions Clubs International Foundation is mobilizing funds, including a US\$100,000 Major Catastrophe grant and a US\$10,000 Emergency grant, to empower them as they help their communities recover.

**Your donations can make a difference.**

[HELP NOW](#)

Your generous donation to LCIF's Disaster Relief Fund, specifically reserved for all disaster relief, helps Lions continue to serve!

To learn more about LCIF Disaster Relief grants, visit [lionsclubs.org/disastergrants](https://lionsclubs.org/disastergrants) or email [LCIFGlobalGrants@lionsclubs.org](mailto:LCIFGlobalGrants@lionsclubs.org).

*\*100% of donations benefit grants and programs and qualify for Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) or Progressive MJF.*

This email was sent to all Lions worldwide.





## LIONS OF MICHIGAN

# 2023 Lions Leadership Events

Two training opportunities, one location

### LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The Michigan Lions Leadership Institute is a highly regarded leadership skills development event for Lions who are emerging leaders at the club, zone, region, and district levels.

### FACULTY DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

Graduates of this program will be able to plan, develop, and present training programs. FDI is directed at people who will do training and formal presentations at the district level and beyond

### EVENT INFORMATION

Dates **November 3 – 6, 2022**

Location R. A. MacMullan Center  
104 Conservation Drive  
Roscommon, MI 48653

Questions? Email [Lions@lionsofmi.com](mailto:Lions@lionsofmi.com)  
Phone (517) 887-6640 ext. 103







## More Information!

### Lions Leadership Institute

There is a **\$250** fee. This includes registration, course materials, two nights of lodging, and six meals. **Arrival Saturday, November 4, registration 10:30-11:30 with lunch following**

Classes actively involve participants in the learning process and enable them to experience the concepts presented. The skills acquired can be used not only in Lions, but also at work and in everyday life.

When participants aren't in class, they make new friends, network, and exchange ideas from across the region.

Here's a sampling of classes:

|                               |                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Team building                 | Conflict resolution |
| Managing change               | Leadership          |
| Presentation skills           | Effective listening |
| Action plans and goal setting |                     |

### Faculty Development Institute

There is a **\$350** fee. This includes registration, course materials, three nights of lodging, and eight meals. **Arrival Friday, November 3, after 4:30pm with dinner following.**

Lions who desire to lead and train others at the local level will benefit from the FDI, where they will learn fundamental training delivery skills and practice facilitating in a classroom environment.

Qualifications:

- Not attended an FDI within the last five (5) years. (International or Local)
- In-depth knowledge of Lions' culture, Lions leadership experience and comfort using PowerPoint is preferred.

Here's a sampling of classes:

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Visual Aids          | Training environment |
| Training preparation | Session management   |
| Adult learners       | Delivery skills      |
| Interactive learning |                      |

## Application form Lions Leadership Institute and Faculty Development Institute



**Deadline: October 13, 2023**

Send completed form and payment to:  
Lions Leadership Institute  
5730 Executive Drive, Lansing, MI 48911

### Applicant information

First name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Club name \_\_\_\_\_  
District \_\_\_\_\_ # years in Lions \_\_\_\_\_  
Highest Lions office held \_\_\_\_\_

Have you previously attended a Michigan Lions Leadership Institute?    yes \_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_

Which Institute do you plan to attend (check one)?

Leadership Institute \_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty Development Institute \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Information

**Pay by check, payable to Michigan Lions Leadership Institute**

Enclosed is my check for \$250 for Leadership Institute \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$350 for Faculty Development Institute \_\_\_\_\_

**Pay by credit card online:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/michigan-lions-leadership-institute-tickets-354586627147?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS OCTOBER 13, 2023

**A CANCELLATION FEE OF \$150.00 WILL APPLY AFTER OCTOBER 3, 2023**





# Lions Bear Lake Camp

Wine, Craft Beer, & Strolling Food Stations

October 20th, 2023

Metamora Golf & Country Club

1600 Club Drive

Metamora, MI 48455



[bearlakecamp.org](http://bearlakecamp.org)



Please join us for the 11th Annual Lions Bear Lake Camp Wine Tasting Fundraiser.  
Proceeds from the fundraiser will help support Lions Bear Lake Camp.

## Event Highlights

Wine Tasting  
Multiple Food Stations  
Raffles  
Music by Young's  
Entertainment

## Event Schedule

Doors 5:30 pm  
Wine & Food Tasting 6:00 pm  
Raffles 6:30-9:00 pm  
Music & Entertainment 7:30 pm

## Event Fees

\$65 Single Ticket  
\$120 Couple Ticket  
\$460 Table (8)

Event Sponsorship Opportunities are available at \$1000 and \$500, please contact  
Co-Chairs Jack Becher or Brian Betzold for more information.

**Register Online:**  
[bearlakecamp.org](http://bearlakecamp.org)  
(under the Events tab)

To pay by check send to:  
Lions Bear Lake Camp  
3409 N. Five Lakes Rd.  
Lapeer, MI 48446



For more information please contact:

Jack Becher Event Co-Chair 586.264.3543 [becherj@ameritech.net](mailto:becherj@ameritech.net)  
Brian Betzold Event Co-Chair 248.330.1101 [lionbrian2021@gmail.com](mailto:lionbrian2021@gmail.com)  
Rick Fleming Metamora Golf & Country Club 248.342.1702



## Exchange Youth Program

From: Elvira Marfil <epmarfil5@gmail.com>

Dear Fellow Lions:

My name is Lion Elvie Marfil of Portage Lions Club, District 11-B2, Youth Camp and Exchange, State Chair.

Please spread the news that youth from Michigan, ages 16-21 are welcome to become part of the Lions Youth Camp and Exchange Program. They need not be a Leo nor have any affiliation with the Lions; however, a Lions Club in their area will be asked to sponsor the youth.

Additionally, we will need host families!

Please contact your District YEC Chair for more information.

For district vacant positions, please contact me.

I thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours in Lionism, "We Serve"

Lion Elvie Marfil — 818-800-1060



## Exchange Youth Program



### ***Is the YCE Program Right for Me?***

Are you ready to embark on a life changing adventure that will open your mind and heart? Are you curious about other cultures and ways of life? Do you want to develop your skills in a second language? Would you like to cultivate new friendships with individuals that have different backgrounds, beliefs, and customs than you? The Youth Camps and Exchange (YCE) Program may be the opportunity you are seeking.

### ***Benefits of Participation***

As a YCE exchange youth, you will:

- Live with a family in another country
- Meet people your age from around the world
- Learn about what it means to be a Lion or Leo in another country
- Deepen your understanding of yourself and the world around you
- Learn how to foster peace and understanding among peoples of the world

### ***What to Expect***

As a YCE exchange youth you can expect to be immersed in a unique cultural experience with Lions and Leo club members supporting your YCE journey. Your host family will treat you as a member of the family, expecting your engagement in typical daily routines and family meals. You will participate in social activities, possibly service projects and visit cultural places of interest. You are expected to familiarize yourself with the customs, expectations and basic language of the host country prior to your visit and have a desire to learn more.

You can learn more about the roles and expectations of a YCE Exchange Youth by checking out the [YCE Exchange Youth Handbook!](#)

***Continued***



## ***Participant Eligibility***

The suggested age range for YCE Exchange Youth is 15-22. Please note age range can vary by specific YCE program.

YCE Exchange Youth must:

- Be sponsored by a Lions club
- Be ready to represent your community, country and the sponsoring Lions club
- Welcome the opportunity to explore the customs of another culture
- Provide proof of insurance (health, medical, travel) and a liability release agreement
- Take initiative to learn the language of the host country (i.e. basic greetings and phrases)

## ***What are the Costs?***

Local program costs vary from country to country. Financial arrangements for transportation may be paid by the Sponsor Lions Club, by the Exchange Youth, the Exchange Youth's family or a combination of these sources. Host Lions clubs cover the costs of room and board with a host family. Exchange Youth are typically responsible for:

- Round-trip airfare
- Camp Fees
- Health, medical and travel insurance
- Travel documents (such as passports and visas)
- Spending money

## ***How to Apply?***

1. Review the [Youth Camp and Exchange Directory](#) to see where current camp and exchange programs are offered. Note the camp application deadlines and YCE Chairperson contact information for each location of interest.
2. Develop a wish list of a few host countries to inquire about.
3. Contact your [Local Lions Club](#) to see if they participate in the program and may be willing to be your sponsoring Lions club. A sponsoring Lions club is required to participate in the YCE Program.
4. Contact the corresponding YCE Chairpersons in your wish list countries for additional eligibility and application requirements.
5. Write a personal letter of introduction to your prospective host family that contains information on the following: interests, studies, hobbies, family, home community, previous travel experience, expectations for the program and any dietary, health or religious requirements.
6. Complete the required YCE Youth Participant Application well in advance of any disclosed deadlines (including the endorsement and signature of your sponsoring Lions club). Submit it with your personal letter of introduction to the YCE Chairperson for the location you are interested in.

***Continued***





**Deadline for outgoing students application form: March 30, 2024**

**Deadline for host families application form: April 30, 2024**

| District | Chairperson                               | Email address  |
|----------|---|--|
| A2       | VACANT                                    |  |
| B1       | PDG Roberta Bert Sexton, Co-Chair         | <a href="mailto:robertasexton@comcast.com">robertasexton@comcast.com</a> |
| B2       | Lion Elvie Marfil, State Chairperson      | <a href="mailto:epmarfil5@gmail.com">epmarfil5@gmail.com</a>             |
| C1       | VACANT                                    |  |
| C2       | Lion Eileen Delaney, Advisor              | <a href="mailto:lioneileen53@gmail.com">lioneileen53@gmail.com</a>       |
| D1       | Lion Debra Vantol, sponsor/outgoing Chair | <a href="mailto:liondebravantol@gmail.com">liondebravantol@gmail.com</a> |
| D2       | Lion Pat Bowerman, Co-chair               | <a href="mailto:tandpbowerman@yahoo.com">tandpbowerman@yahoo.com</a>     |
| E1       | Lion Lori Shelby-Hall                     | <a href="mailto:lorishelby@yahoo.com">lorishelby@yahoo.com</a>           |
| E2       | VACANT                                    |  |
| SD10     | Lion Judy Goltz, Co chair                 | <a href="mailto:dj5644@alphacomm.net">dj5644@alphacomm.net</a>           |
|          |   |  |

## Governor Appreciation Lunch Oct 14

From: Marie Leathers

Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2023 3:53 PM

Subject: Governor Appreciation Lunch Oct 14

Dear Lion Leaders,

The Governor Appreciation Luncheon for Past District Governor Rod Leathers will be October 14, 2023 at noon at the Veterans Center in Central Lake, immediately following the cabinet meeting. Please plan to come for an afternoon of fun and fellowship with your fellow Lions. See attached flyer for details. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to also attend the cabinet meeting starting at 10:00 a.m.

Please RSVP by October 7 using one of the following options:

- 1) Online RSVP and payment at [centrallakelions.org](http://centrallakelions.org)
- 2) e-mail: [lionmarieleathers@gmail.com](mailto:lionmarieleathers@gmail.com)
- 3) Call or text Marie at 231-350-0286
- 4) Print the attached flyer and return by mail.

Please forward this information to your club members.

**Hope to see you there!**

**Lion Marie Leathers — Central Lake Lions Club**



**Central Lake Lions Club  
Invites you to Lions District 11-E2  
Governor Appreciation  
for**



**IPDG Rod Leathers**

***Together We Can....Have Fun!***

**Saturday, October 14, 2023**

**12:00 Social hour/games 1:00 Luncheon - \$15**

**Pulled Pork, baked beans, coleslaw, drink and dessert. Cash bar**



***Casual Dress***

**Central Lake Veterans Center  
1840 S Main Street, Central Lake, MI**

**RSVP by October 7**

**Online at: [centrallakelions.org](http://centrallakelions.org)**

**Or e-mail: [lionmarieleathers@gmail.com](mailto:lionmarieleathers@gmail.com)**

**Or call or text: 231-350-0286**

**Or by mail: send form below with check payable to:**

**"Central Lake Lions Club", PO Box 233, Central Lake, MI**

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Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Number of lunches \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary \_\_\_\_\_



## DISTRICT NEWS

### Peace Poster Contest

We have 12 clubs that have received a Peace Poster Kit for the 2023-2024 contest! I wanted to clear up any confusion about the due date of your club's winning poster. I had "assumed" that the winning poster from each club would be judged at the Oct 14 Cabinet Meeting, however, that meeting is coming up too soon for the judging to take place at that time. **The winning poster from your club should arrive to me (Jean Manning, 22661 W. County Road 459, Hillman 49746) via a mailing tube by November 7.** I will then set up a judging date for our district winner to be chosen.

Please consider giving a prize to your club's winner of at least \$30.

The winning poster from your club must have the completed sticker on the back of the poster (the sticker is in your kit). A parent's signature is required on the sticker.

Read the rules of the contest very carefully so your club's poster won't be disqualified.

If you need poster paper which is already cut to the acceptable size for the contest, let me know and I can make arrangements to get it to you.

Call me with any questions. 989-808-4476

Jean Manning - Hillman Lions Club

989-808-4476

### Cabinet meeting Oct 14

Our next cabinet meeting is October 14 at the Veteran's Center in Central Lake, 1840 S. Main St., at 10 AM. Following the cabinet meeting is the appreciation luncheon for IPDG Rod Leathers. I attached the flier for your information.

Cabinet members and committee chairs should have their reports to me by end of day 10/11 so I can copy them. If you will not have a report, please let me know so that can be reflected on the agenda. Hope to see you all there!

CST Barb Durflinger

989-742-2790

lionbarb@comdac.com

### SCAM ALERT

Barb,

BJ got a fake email from me, so can you warn others of the fake email address:

[district11e2@gmail.com](mailto:district11e2@gmail.com)

Thanks,

Steve





# Calendar of Events

## OCTOBER 2023

**District Lions Cabinet Meeting and Governor Appreciation Lunch** — October 14, 2023 — Central Lake Veterans Center

**HALLOWEEN** — October 31, 2023

## NOVEMBER 2023

**Lions Leadership Institute** — November 02, 2023 — RAM Center Higgins Lake  
Go to [lionsofmi.com/leadership-institute](https://lionsofmi.com/leadership-institute) for current information

## DECEMBER 2023

**District Lions Cabinet Meeting** — December 09, 2023 — 10 a.m. — Zoom

## FEBRUARY 2024

**District Lions Cabinet Meeting** — February 10, 2024 — 10 a.m. — Tait's Restaurant in Oscoda  
**Lions of Michigan Forum** — February 24, 2024 — Marriott Grand Rapids

## APRIL 2024

**District Lions Cabinet Meeting** — April 20, 2024 — Alpena District Convention Site  
**District Lions Convention** — April 20, 2024 — Alpena



## PASSINGS REPORTED



Glennie Lion JOHN A KAROLY passed Wednesday, 08/23/2023  
Indian River Lion JAMES J. TESSADRI passed Tuesday, 09/05/2023  
Oscoda Lion JULIE K. BURRELL passed Thursday, 09/21/2023

*We honor those who have passed; with sympathies & condolences to family & friends*

## New Members Reported — SEP 2023

Alpena: TIMOTHY G GAPSKE — Joined: 09/12/2023 — Sponsor: JOSEPH GARANT  
MICHAEL G. VOUGHT — Joined: 09/12/2023 — Sponsor: JOSEPH GARANT  
PRISCILLA R. HOMELA — Joined: 09/12/2023 — Sponsor: PRISCILLA R. HOMELA

**Total: 3 New Members**

## On the Mend Reported

East Jordan Lions: Lion Tim Timmer is on the mend due to carpal tunnel surgery.



## Alpena Lions

### SEPTEMBER 2023

Alpena Lion Steve Garant, was recognized for his service with the Alpena Lions Club and Eversight Michigan Program. Steve is pictured (on left) accepting the A. Charles Weir Sight Conservation Fellowship-Eversight Award from Alpena Lion and Past District Governor Dave Zeller (on left).



### Lions Paint Sytek Park Fishing Platform

The Alpena Lions recently repainted the Sytek Park Fishing platform. The Alpena Lions maintain the trail area annually and were tasked by the city to paint the Fishing platform.



Pictured at work are Lions Tom Woizeschke with brush in hand and Steve Garant rolling the decking.



### McRae Park

Last December the Lions Club stepped forward and adopted McRae Park. The Alpena Lions are pursuing opportunities to improve the facilities at the park. Areas of concern include the basketball court and playground equipment.



### Alpena Lions Welcome Sheriff Erik Smith

The Alpena Lions welcomed Sheriff Erik Smith to their luncheon meeting on Tuesday. Erik provided members with informational updates on the jail facility, new police vehicles and staffing.

With the addition of more correction officers, coverage at the jail is improving. Deputies are now available to perform road patrols instead of performing correction officer duties. Road patrols will be more frequent and will be occurring 24/7.

New police vehicles are being leased through Enterprise Car Rental. New in car cameras can link with existing body cameras providing continuous coverage. The leased vehicles include warranties and service coverage which should help reduce maintenance costs incurred on the older fleet.

A recent state requirement may end up costing the sheriff's department. Changing radios to the new 800 megahertz radio may end up costing an estimated \$260,000.00 to replace existing communication equipment. These radios will help improve communications throughout the state and will allow communications between the various agencies.

The Alpena Lions meet on Tuesdays at the First Congregational United Church of Christ. For more information please visit our facebook page or our website at [alpenalionsclub.com](http://alpenalionsclub.com).





## Boyne Valley Lions

### SEPTEMBER 2023

*September 1 BV Lions Meeting*

Announcement: King Lion Lisa is stepping down to recuperate from her upcoming shoulder surgery. VP Lion Julie Hasse will become King Lion effective today.

*September 27 BV Lions Meeting*

*(Left to Right)*. Guest Speakers Police Chief Spate and Officer Wiley

Chief Spate has his 24th work anniversary at the Boyne City Police Department.



## Central Lake Lions

### SEPTEMBER 2023

Central Lake Lions screened nearly 30 children at the CLEO annual picnic. This annual fun, family-friendly event brings families together with each other and with information and resources they need and want.

Photo: Lion Doug Gamble and Lion Jennie Partin



Thanks to the generous support from our communities and our local businesses who allow us to set up tables at their stores, Central Lake Lions collected over \$4,000 over Labor Day weekend.

Pictured are Lions Kris Hoeksema, Sarah Leathers, Jennie Partin, Kris Roberts, Don Seifried, Nancy Weston and Burt Young. Also pictured are the store managers who support us!

Central Lake Lions had their third road cleanup of the summer.

Photo left to right: Lions Malcolm Shore, Rebecca James, Dennis Richardson, Steve Sherman, Bob Samuel and Mike Bachmann.







## Cheboygan Lions

### SEPTEMBER 2023

Cheboygan Lion's Club members complete the last highway pickup.

(L to R) Chris and Cindy Bauer, Mark Tamlyn, Sally Spray, and Ron Neuman.



## East Jordan Lions

### SEPTEMBER 2023

VDG Denny Gocha inducted new member Bill Thompson. His sponsor was Paul Michael. We're grateful to have him join our club!

Pictured are new member Bill Thompson, VDG Denny Gocha, and sponsor Paul Michael.



Thirteen East Jordan Lions collected 10 bags of trash on a 2-mile stretch of M-66.

Pictured are Lions Jan Carr, Lindsey Bassett, Dan Miller and Faye Miller, Denny Gocha, Terry Graham, Bill Thompson, Kim Forster, Scott Kierdzierski, Adam St Onge, and Bill Chase. Not pictured are Sherry and Bob Pursel



East Jordan Lions helped at a Grandvue Medical Facility Car Show today.

There were 20 cars and Ron Schroeder won a basket for People's Choice award for his barracuda. Residents enjoyed music, ice cream and viewing all the cars.





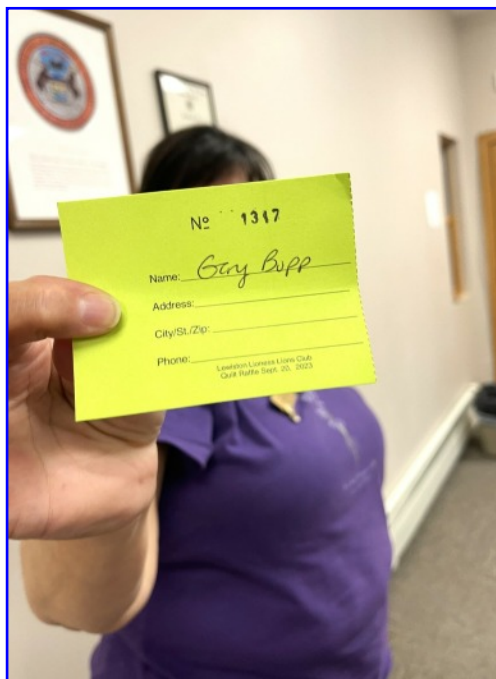


## Lewiston Lioness Lions

### SEPTEMBER 2023

The Lewiston Lioness Lions held their annual Quilt Raffle drawing last evening, during their monthly business meeting at the Albert Township meeting room, September 20. The most recently installed club member was asked to draw the winning ticket from the hopper. Very few were as surprised as he to discover that he held in his hand a small green square of card stock with his own name scrawled across the front.

Lion Gary Bopp, a Lewiston resident, was the recipient of a beautiful queen-sized quilt crafted by a long-time club member, Barbara Davio, also from Lewiston. This quilt holds additional significance in that about one quarter of the quilt squares had been crafted by Corky Roberts before she passed away, also a Lewiston Lioness Lion. The Lewiston Lioness Lions would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets and to say that tickets for the 2024 Quilt Raffle should be available sometime in January







## Oscoda Lions

**SEPTEMBER 2023**

### Oscoda Lions Paul Bunyan 5K Raffle



Nancy Andrina, Mary Jo Rehberg

#### THANK YOU!

The Oscoda Lions Club would like to thank area businesses that sponsored the annual 2023 Paul Bunyan 5K Raffle.

#### Gold Sponsors

Edelweiss Tavern, Heritage House Realty-Oscoda with Concept Construction, KalittaAir, Doctors Brad and Emily Kloska, Northland Federal Credit Union, Oscoda Canoe Rental, P & L Development, State Farm Insurance-Sean Clarke, Top Tree Provisioning

#### Silver Sponsors

Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union, AuSable Hardware and Surplus, Fraser Optical, Gilbert's Drug Store, Janis Tire, Johnson Auto Supply-NAPA, Little Caesars Pizza, Myles and Sons Insurance, Phoenix Composite Solutions, Rogers Family Foods and AceHardware, Zubek Motor Sales

#### Bronze Sponsors

AuSable Market

The Lions would also like to thank all the people who supported this year's fund raiser by purchasing tickets for the raffle. All proceeds will be used to complete projects and support people in need in the local area. This fundraiser is the largest single source of funds for the Oscoda Lions Club.

Winners of this year's raffle are: Jon Langley, Oscoda; Pat Mullen, Oscoda; Marge Simmert, Greenbush; Ian Allan, Oscoda; and Mary Kucha, Fremont, Ohio.

We Serve!



Lion Chuck Andrina — The Children who picked the winners came from people watching the raffle

Tony Priebe, Tony Bol, Ann Bovan, and Chuck Andrina built a 4'x5' platform and 16' ramp today for a lady in Tawas who has diabetes and is in a wheelchair due to wounds on her feet. The ramp will help her get in and out of her home to visit the doctors. We picked up the material at 8:00 pm and had the ramp completed by 12:30 pm. We Serve!

Tony Bol



Tony Priebe, owners (2) Ann Bovan, Tony Bol







## In The Spirit of Halloween

This month ends with Halloween, second only to Christmas in holiday decoration sales. Halloween has never been an official federal business holiday -- banks remain open on October 31. More of a celebration, Halloween lets us play with a background of monsters, mortality and death but all in fun (unless you are in a horror movie!). Things that don't exist are not as scary as things that do exist. Every belief has a real beginning, so is there some truth in things considered impossible or fiction — such as paranormal activities, cryptozoology, and alien contact? Some people sincerely believe, others scoff at such 'ridiculous' things. In the spirit of Halloween, a look at ghosts, Bigfoot, and UFOs:

**Paranormal:** *of or relating to the claimed occurrence of an event or perception without scientific explanation, as psychokinesis, extrasensory perception, or other purportedly supernatural phenomena.*

**Ghost:** *the soul of a dead person, a disembodied spirit imagined, usually as a vague, shadowy or evanescent form, as wandering among or haunting living persons.*

Some believe there is no soul -- when you die it's over and done. Most cultures believe in souls having an ongoing existence after a person dies, a belief found in nearly all civilizations and cultures. Belief that some souls are stuck on earth or choose to stay here for some reason is also widely held. Some people will admit having a paranormal experience, but most abnormal experiences are kept secret for fear of being mocked or distrusted for making it up or being mentally impaired. What are people really seeing?

Belief in and investigation of ghosts has become very popular in recent years. Many TV series have been shown in which investigators use current technology to find and contact ghosts, complete with sounds and electrical field responses. Many TV series show videos and photos of strange shadow figures where no one else was, and videos where objects moved or were thrown off counters or shelves when no one is there. If these are true accounts, there is real data that ghosts exist. However, determining whether ghosts exist or not is muddled by the many liars and hoaxers who tell false stories of ghost encounters, or make fake photos or videos. It's also probable some people just mistakenly saw 'something' that wasn't there, or hallucinated.

Even the White House is reported by staff, residents, and guests to have seen ghosts of former Presidents and First Ladies throughout the building. The Lincoln Bedroom is especially charged with paranormal activity. It isn't just humans who have felt this presence. It was reported in 1989 that Ronald Reagan's dog felt comfortable roaming through every White House room except the Lincoln Bedroom, where "he'd just stand outside the door and bark."

Winston Churchill himself reported encountering Lincoln's ghost in that very room during a visit. Just stepped out of the bath and "wearing" nothing but a cigar, he saw the former President by the fireplace. "Good evening, Mr. President," Churchill reportedly said. "You seem to have me at a disadvantage."

I talked recently to a man (call him "Joe") who told a story of a fateful day before his birth when his parents went to a grocery store. Being very pregnant with Joe, the wife stayed in the car while her husband went in to get the groceries. Suddenly, her deceased mother's voice from the back seat shouted "get out of the car! Now!" Shocked and frightened, she bolted from the car. Seconds later, a car smashed into their vehicle. Had she not heard the voice and left the car, she and her unborn baby Joe would have been killed. Was it a ghost, a spirit protecting her daughter from a tragic death? Something happened that saved 2 lives.

Thousands of years of people seeing, hearing or having objects move or fly across the room by ghostly activity versus made up stories and hoaxes, slight of hand movements and faked photos and videos. How do we decide which is the Truth? As of now there is no absolute certain scientific proof that ghosts exist – but there is also no certain scientific open and shut case proof that ghosts don't exist.

**Cryptozoology:** *the search for and study of animals whose existence or survival is disputed or unsubstantiated such as the Bigfoot, Loch Ness monster and the yeti. Such creatures are called "cryptids."*

Bigfoot, a.k.a. 'Sasquatch', is probably the most popular cryptid that may or may not exist on this earth. Thousands of people throughout the U.S. and Canada have reported sighting or encountering this large humanoid or anthropoid creature. It is described as being bipedal, 7 to 12 feet tall, and having thick long hair, dark or lighter brown in color, covering the body. They also are said to smell "very" bad according to those getting close enough — a Bigfoot variant believed to prowl the swamp forests of the southern states is known as a "Skunk Ape." The Sasquatch seems to be very smart and cunning, an expert at stealth and quiet mobility. There are almost as many TV Bigfoot hunter series as there are for ghost hunters. Despite footprints, photos and videos of tall, hairy, bipedal creatures, not all people believe Bigfoot exists. Others are convinced they do exist. The rest just don't know what to think.





**Reasons why Bigfoot doesn't exist:** (1) Despite the hundreds or thousands of sightings and encounters reported, there has never been a Bigfoot found dead, or captured alive.

(2) What people really have seen may be bears standing up on their hind legs, which they do often.

(3) Many, if not most, of the many footprints found, are created by hoaxers. They carve wooden footprints, secure them to their feet, and go running through forests and along rivers where someone will find the prints. Hoaxers also don gorilla costumes and run around where they can be seen or photographed, from a distance to be ill-defined.

**Reasons why Bigfoot does exist:** (1) The lack of a dead Bigfoot body doesn't mean they don't exist. It may be just that no one has been found yet. These hominids may have learned to bury their dead. They also seem to be nocturnal creatures, more active at night when it is unlikely to be seen. Also, the vast forests create a very large area that humans have not really explored. No one knows what's really in there.

(2) That a few reported Bigfoot sightings were actually bears on their hind feet is probable. From a distance and looking through trees and bushes, a bear might be mistaken for a Sasquatch, but only if the bear is seen from the back or front -- a side view shows the jutting snout of a bear. Bigfoot has a flatter face more human than bear. Also, bears get up on their hind legs but don't walk very far before going back to four legs, and they swing their arms like humans when walking, something bears don't do. Bear footprints are very different from Bigfoot footprints.

(3) Hoaxes are indeed a problem. When a fake footprint is found, it doesn't mean that every footprint found is a hoax. Actual footprints have been found for decades, and experts can tell if a print is genuine or fake.

(4) Howl-like sounds have been taped, sounds which were not made by any other known animal. A Bigfoot hitting a tree trunk with a wood club has also been heard and taped, thought to be some way of communication. Also, some night encounters saw rocks thrown in the dark toward humans. Bears don't throw things. Primates and humans do.

(5) One of the most convincing reasons to believe Bigfoot exists is the fact that native people throughout the Americas have encountered the Bigfoot/Sasquatch for thousands of years, traditional legends of large hairy men.

(6) Some experts working with quantum physics think Bigfoot comes from and goes to another dimension at will, which is why we haven't found a dead body on earth. Another possibility is that Bigfoot is really an alien from another planet -- there have been several reports of UFOs in the sky in the same areas Sasquatch sightings occurred.

In the end, Bigfoot is still a mystery to solve. Science has no firm data so far to give us an answer as to whether Bigfoot is the real deal, or a dead duck. We've seen other animals thought extinct show up alive years later. New species of animals are found every year. We just don't know enough to know what this planet has yet to show us.

#### UFO: *Unidentified Flying Object*

UFOs have been hot news and hotly debated for several decades. Are they real, or just wrongly mistaken normal things in the sky like meteors, high flying birds or airplanes, satellites, or weather balloons?

It was in 1947 that public awareness of unidentified objects in our skies really began. On June 24, 1947, civilian pilot Kenneth Arnold saw a string of nine, shiny unidentified flying objects flying past Mount Rainier at speeds that Arnold estimated at a minimum of 1,200 miles an hour. His knowledge and pilot skills made him a trustworthy witness. He later stated the objects' movement was like "saucers skipping on water", from which the press coined the terms "flying saucer" and "flying disk". He also thought if the objects weren't Army technology they must have come from some other planet. The nationwide story encouraged many to report any unknown objects in the sky.

The now famous "Roswell incident" occurred in July 1947. A military press release announced they'd recovered a "flying disc" from a ranch near Roswell. The next day, Army officials quickly reversed themselves, stating that the found debris was actually from a weather balloon. Over the years some of the local residents have come forth sharing what they saw in the debris area before the military arrived — signed testimonials that they saw a crashed craft debris, and a couple of dead beings — not a crashed weather balloon or parachuting dummies the military claimed.

Since then, the UFO sightings and claims of alien activity have been all over the board. Whether just moving lights in the night, shining objects zig zagging across the sky, or encounters with alien beings, people reported what they saw to authorities, or said nothing to avoid being regarded crazy. All sorts of UFO connected events have been reported over the years. Among the people reporting a UFO sighting are Presidents Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan.

A discovered document sent to F.B.I. Director J. Edgar Hoover in 1950 from a field agent disclosed that 3 UFO crashed crafts had been recovered in New Mexico. Three alien bodies about 3 feet tall were found in each craft, it confirmed.

From July 12 to 29, 1952, a series of UFO formations were reported in Washington, D.C., which later became known as the Washington flap. Thousands saw the lights, watching as they sped off when military fighter planes appeared.

Crop circle designs, made in grain fields in by flattening the plants, became popular in the 1970s. Over the years they've gone from simple circles to incredibly complex works of geometrical patterns. While most of the thousands



of crop circles found worldwide are created by human hoaxers and artists, UFO believers note that lights have been seen over fields where crop circles appear. They also point out it would be impossible for humans to flatten plants in a perfectly completed large complex pattern in one single night. The debate continues.

In the latter half of the 20th century reports of cattle mutilations, dead cows having organs removed with surgical finesse beyond predator animals ripping flesh. Sometimes the dead cows were found near an area where strange lights in the sky were seen and reported. Still happening, and still controversial.

Over many years, more people have come to realize and believe they have been abducted by aliens, mostly from their beds at night. In many cases, memories are recalled over time, or by hypnosis therapy. Abductees, also known as “experiencers”, remember being taken aboard an alien craft where they are probed and examined by alien beings, and were then returned to the spot they came from. Many experiencers believe they have been abducted more than once, some being taken as children and continuing well into a middle age. Some think abduction has to do with DNA alteration and reproduction, either for the better, or not for the better, of mankind. Experiencer’s encounters are similar world wide, and the several species of aliens are described around the world as being the same.

Believers of aliens and UFOs claim the Government knows much more about UFOs and aliens, and keep secret. Some believe the U.S. and several countries are working with aliens in a deal for obtaining technology from several alien species in return for allowing them to perform scientific studies on this planet — which has been going on since the Eisenhower presidency. Whistleblowers have also claimed that the Government and military have been operating secret programs on UFOs for decades, and obtained alien crashed spacecrafts to be reverse engineered to understand the technology. Whistleblowers are usually threatened, called liars or crackpots, and disavowed by the Government or military area where they worked. Yet they continue risking their jobs and stick to their claims under great pressure.

So many UFO mysteries; the Phoenix lights, Pennsylvania crash, Travis Walton abduction, the North Dakota Air Force missile takeover — what we were told happened, or what really happened. Sightings of unidentified objects in the sky have been going on for thousands of years. Native people in America and indigenous cultures throughout the world have seen UFOs, and have passed that knowledge down through the ages. Many American native tribes talk of the Star People, sky gods who came down from the sky in flying crafts and taught them survival skills before they left.

During WWII both the Allies and Nazi plane crews had many encounters with orbs or lights flying near their planes, faster and more maneuverable than anything known then. The strange objects became known as “foo fighters”. The Allies suspected the lights were from Nazi technology; Nazis thought that they were from Allied technology.

While the Government is cursed for keeping secrets of alien activities, a recent alternative possibility is that it’s not the Government keeping aliens under wraps. It may be aliens themselves who feel we humans are not yet ready for them to reveal themselves, and that a premature revelation might cause a disastrous panic and create chaos. Whether it is the aliens or the Government, the concept of aliens existing and being here on earth may be a slow effort to ease in the truth to reach a final reveal point. Recent Congressional committee hearings and other developments have confirmed that UFOs, or UAPs (Unidentified Aerial Phenomena), as the Government now calls unknown objects in the skies, do exist. They haven’t said that aliens are here, but if UAPs aren’t our tech, and aren’t other countries’ tech, who else could be responsible? The question is, if aliens are here, what do they want?

A few years ago a woman I know told me she saw a huge triangular craft moving slowly and silently just above the treetops in the Boyne area until it suddenly flew away and vanished. I asked if she reported her sighting; she said no.

When I was in the Air Force Weather group stationed near Amarillo, Texas, on my way to work I noticed people looking upward. A small white dot was moving across the sky. A weather balloon, I realized. That night on the news there was a mention of hundreds of people reporting a UFO to authorities. It was a weather balloon.

My next station was in Libya at the Wheelus Air Base, where our job was to send up...weather balloons, twice a day, and collect the data. One night the weather station and the radar tower personnel saw a reddish glow hovering in very low clouds out over the Mediterranean Sea. It had no blinking flight lights or aviation identification code, and no helicopter noise was heard. It dropped below the clouds, then rose back up into the clouds. It did this a few times before disappearing. It was reported, but nothing was ever heard about it. I didn’t work that night and missed the incident. Some of the airmen who witnessed it were shaken and spooked by this UFO.

My dad was a Army Engineer in WWII, running different machinery building the Alcan highway in Canada and Alaska. Then he was sent to one of the Aleutian Islands. While there he and others more than once saw strange crafts come out of the sea and shoot away in the sky. He never told us that — he only told my sister before he died.

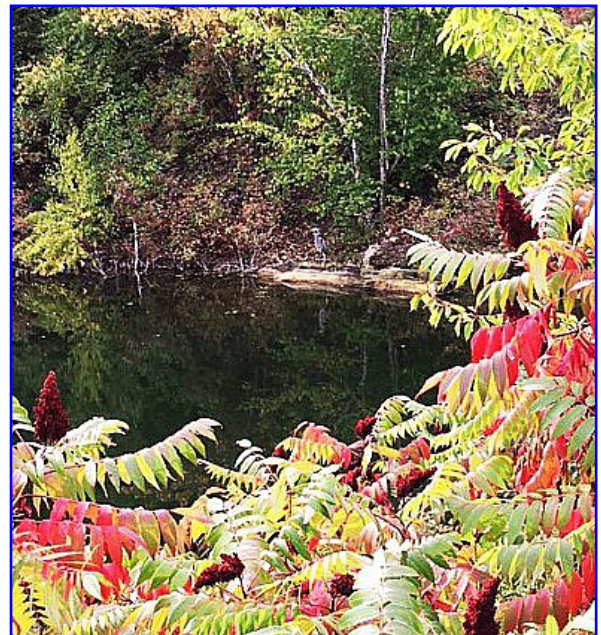
Believers and skeptics, hidden secrets, experiencers and debunkers, liars and hoaxers. Your choice. I’ve never seen a ghost, a Bigfoot, or UFO myself. Curiosity is my Truth — I want to know. When you don’t know, anything is possible. Enjoy Halloween’s fun unreality — What we know of reality isn’t that easy. But we Lions SERVE, and know that is real.





# PICTURES OF THE MONTH

## Autumn Pictures



Autumn is the season that finds many birds migrating south, and trees and plants displaying leaves in gorgeous colors before they fall to the ground. Halloween fun with the Walkless Dead.

Above, pictures were taken from different angles of a heron that stopped at the quarry pond near Petoskey's Little Traverse Bay lakefront parks.

The picture at right shows trees turning red and orange amidst the many trees still dressed in green as Autumn begins.

Below: Skeletons are everywhere doing what skeletons do best, stay put and mute while getting people to notice them, and enjoy Halloween. (Harbor Springs area of Emmet County.)





# 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](mailto:dlzim47@gmail.com)

**NOTE:** Submissions received after the 4<sup>th</sup> of the month 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.

This District is complex, with a variety of things going on throughout. We can learn much from each other, and I'd like to see more communication among Clubs for the growth and benefit of all.

**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**

