

MARCH 2024

Notable Quotes: "The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain." — Dolly Parton

District Governor's Message



DG Steve Murch

Greetings fellow Lions, spring is just around the corner and with it so many things that make northern Michigan a great place. However, we all know the saying about March when it comes in like a lamb; hopefully the Lion roaring will be from our club members and not the weather.

"We Serve" is our Lions motto and the reason we all belong to our clubs. While we serve in the here and now, we need to keep one eye on the future. We can't focus on what we did, but rather look at what we can do.

That being said, it's important we also look at the future of our clubs. I have talked about membership in this month message before, as well as numerous weekly letters to club presidents. Our members are the lifeblood of our clubs and we need engaged members ... and new members.

There are numerous tools available to all Lions at the Lions International website (www.lionsclubs.org) to help you become better Lions. There also are plenty of tools to help you keep your club strong, recruit new members and motivate you in your quest to be the best Lions version you can be.

Swinging back to the new member angle, let's all make it a goal to try and recruit one new person to join our clubs. Ask someone to become a member, or invite them to a meeting or service project so they see what you do as Lions without making a commitment.

If every member asked one person, a 20-member club would have 20 potential new members. And if 25 percent of the people say yes, that's five new members. Now think about your fundraising and service efforts, would five new members help improve them both? Of course they would, to what degree is left to be discovered, but it's better than not having them around.

So I challenge you – ask someone to a club meeting. No pressure, you just want them to come see for themselves what your club is all about.

We love being Lions and should want others to enjoy it as much as we do. We shouldn't be a secret, we should be something everyone wants to join.

Thanks for all you do.

2023-2024 DISTRICT OFFICERS REFERENCE LIST

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

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.

Inside This Issue

Governor's Message	1
District Officers / Contents	2
VDG Dennis Gocha Message	3
LCI President Dr.Patti Hill Message	4
LCI Message- Convention Delegates	5
LCI Club Excellence	6
LI International Convention -Australia	7
Lions Bear Lake Camp Information	8
Leader Dogs: Donations	9
District Cabinet Meeting Notes	10-19
Hope to Walk	20
Hillman Lions Food Bank Award	21
Host Families Needed	22
District News	23
Calendar of Events Passings / New Members / Mends	24
11-E2 Lions Clubs Activities	25-28
Editor's Notes:	29
Pix of the Month: "Winter"	30
We Publish It/Racism Has No Place	31

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



VDG Dennis Gocha

Message

Hello fellow Lions,

Spring is in the air, but is more snow around the corner?
We'll just enjoy this spring-like weather while we can.

Have you realized that we have 1.4 million Lion members in over 200 countries, with 48,000 Lions Clubs and have been serving for over 100 years? The Lions are making a difference around the world. We are the largest service club organization in the world!

The Lions clubs around the world are filled with people who have chosen to take action and serve others. We serve with pride and give our time, share our talents, help the community and know that we've changed lives. The Lions have helped us develop relationships with community leaders, local Lions and Lions around the world. We gain a sense of belonging within our clubs, and a connection to more than 1.4 million Lions around the world. We are able to hone our leadership skills within our club, and take advantage of leadership opportunities at the club, district and even international level. Whenever Lions clubs get together, problems get smaller and communities get better!

Yours in service,
Dennis Gocha
First Vice District Governor





President's Message
Changing the World with
International President
Dr. Patti Hill

Dear Lions,

This incredible planet is our home and taking care of this earth starts with each of us. As we celebrate Earth Day on April 22, I encourage you to inspire others to join you in an environmental service project, such as planting trees, reducing waste or cleaning up a beach. There are so many ways that you and your club can make a real impact on our planet, and we have great resources on our website that can help you get started.

Caring for our environment is one of the most important issues that we're facing, so let's all work to ensure the health of our planet and of our communities so we can look forward to a brighter tomorrow.

Yours in service,

Dr. Patti Hill
International President



Lions International

Dear Club Secretary and Treasurer,

As your district and multiple district prepares for their conventions (which are typically held in March, April or May), use the [Member Portal](#) to confirm the dates of their conventions. In addition, accessing this information allows your club to prepare by knowing the number of delegates allowed and to verify if your club has any outstanding dues or fees that need to be remitted.

To find out the number of delegates your club has, log into the Member Portal and review the Certified List with Eligible Member Count Report. This information is available as of the first day of the month last preceding the month during which the convention is held. To access this information in the Member Portal, select "Convention" from the "My Lions Club" menu, and scroll to the district convention. For questions or assistance in accessing the Member Portal or how to locate this information, please contact our Member Service Center at memberservicecenter@lionsclubs.org.

Finally, if your club has a balance due over 30 days, this must be paid at least 15 days prior to participation in your district and multiple district's convention. Nonpayment may make your club ineligible to vote. For questions regarding your Lions International balance, please contact our A/R & Club Accounts Service Department at membershipbilling@lionsclubs.org.

To learn more, [review the voting delegate information](#) for multiple district and district conventions document today.

Thank you for your service!

Sincerely,

Your District & Club Administration Division Support Team

This message was sent to Club Secretaries and Club Treasurers.



Lions International

Dear Club President and Club Vice President,

As a leader, help your club achieve its goals. Lions International offers several great resources to help clubs and their members, so take some time to check them out. Review the [Club Excellence Award](#) criteria and see how your club is working towards achieving this award. The award can serve as your club's roadmap to excellence, focusing on the key elements of a quality club: membership, service, organizational excellence and marketing. If you have any questions about the award, please contact us by email at clubexcellenceaward@lionsclubs.org or by phone at (830) 468-6828. In addition, take time to listen to the [Achieving Club Excellence recording](#). This recording discusses the road to excellence and reviews proven strategies that will help clubs be even better.

The [Club Quality Initiative \(CQI\)](#) is a strategic planning tool that helps clubs identify opportunities for improvement. By understanding your current operations, identifying areas that can be improved and taking measured steps to accomplish your goals, your club can be even better. The CQI program offers you [three suggested ideas](#) for implementing the Club Quality Initiative.

As your club develops a plan for membership satisfaction and retention, connecting with the membership chairperson is a great way to help with planning, create enthusiasm and build the club's membership. In addition, reaching out to members within the club and building teams that will help enhance their experience as Lions is key to success. Review the [Membership Satisfaction Guide](#). This guide will help you troubleshoot common issues that members have in their experience as Lions. There are useful templates for quick surveys of club members to get a pulse on what they think of your club. This will help you identify areas that will improve the club experience. For questions regarding this resource, please contact our Membership Development Division at membership@lionsclubs.org.

If you are a Facebook user, visit us at [Improving Lions Club Quality](#) where you will find helpful information from Lions around the world. You can post questions, comments, stories and share new ideas to improve clubs within your zone.

We look forward to supporting you. Please contact us if you have any questions by email at clubofficers@lionsclubs.org or by phone at (830) 468-7084.

Sincerely,

Your District & Club Administration Division Support Team



Lions International

Dear club officer,

This year, the 108th Lions International Convention is in Melbourne, Australia. We look forward to seeing all voting delegates cast their votes for executive officers and international directors.

According to our records, your club does not have a delegate assigned to vote for International Convention 2024. In order to vote, club delegates must:

1. Be assigned as a voting delegate by their club secretary or other duly authorized officer in MyLCI.
2. Be registered for LionsCon 2024. [Register for the convention here.](#)
3. Have a unique email address. Use the same email as registering for International Convention 2024.
4. Provide their member identification number when registering for the convention.

All delegates must be assigned before June 19, 2024 at 11:59 PM. You may assign a delegate in MyLCI until the June 19 deadline. If you are assigning a delegate with your local system or through your Council Office, please check with your council chairperson for their submission deadlines, as it will likely be before June 19, 2024.

For more information visit:

- [International Election webpage](#)
- [International Election Frequently Asked Questions](#)

If you think you have received this email in error, please contact MemberServiceCenter@lionsclubs.org and include your club number.

Thank you for your service and leadership!

This email was sent to Club Presidents and Club Secretaries of clubs who do not have a voting delegate assigned for LionsCon Melbourne 2024.

Extra Extra Read all about it!

An invitation has been extended to LEO Club members to join the Youth Camp & Exchange at Lions Bear Lake Camp, [3409 N Five Lakes Rd. Lapeer, MI 48446](#), August 11-17.2024.



The YCE Program will cover one LEO per District to participate. If you have more than one LEO who want to participate, we can raffle their name and pick one winner per District.

In addition, the LEO Club or District can sponsor a LEO to attend the camp if they choose to participate. This will be a great way for our LEOs to mingle with other youth from other countries.

Cost: \$150.00 (Please make check payable to: Lions Of Michigan, memo: Youth Camps & Exchange.

Bring essential items such as pillow, twin fitted sheet, blanket, towel, toiletries, bug spray, & sunscreen.

Host family is responsible for picking up and dropping off students from/to airport and camp.



Multiple District 11 is looking for some families in the community who can open their hearts and homes for the month of summer 2024 to host a Youth Exchange Ambassador. These young people are part of Lions International Youth Camps & Exchange program, bringing young adults from various parts of the world to the United States during the summer program July 25 – August 22, 2024.

Host families need not be Lion members, nor must they have children at home. You would be responsible for their room and board. Visiting young adults comes with spending money, and additional activities will be at your discretion.

If you are interested in becoming a Host Family, please contact:
State Chair Lion Elvie Marfil at 818-800-1060 or email epmarfil5@gmail.com.

Additionally, clubs that donates \$100 will receive a 4x4 YCE Banner Patch or a 2023-2024 year patch.



The transformative work at Leader Dogs for the Blind continues in 2024! More individuals who are blind or visually impaired will come to Leader Dog this year to participate in the vital programs that will allow them a lifetime of safe, independent, daily travel. Your support is indispensable, as all programs and services are provided AT NO COST to our clients.

As a committed member of the Leader Dog community, you may be considering how you can make a greater impact; while fulfilling your own charitable giving goals for 2024. There are some [tax-advantageous ways to give](#) if you plan ahead.

- **Unleash Potential with Appreciated Stock:** Did you know that you can avoid federal capital gains taxes and receive a federal income tax deduction for the current market value of your gift when you donate appreciated stock? A stock donation can maximize your savings while impacting individuals who rely on our services for their independence and mobility.
- **Navigate Your Philanthropic Goals with an IRA Gift:** Did you know that if you are 70.5 or older and have a traditional IRA, you can contribute to Leader Dog straight from your IRA? These gifts can reduce your future tax burden and help fulfill your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) if you must take one this year. *Because your first IRA withdrawals go toward your RMD, you can support Leader Dogs for the Blind tax-free by making an IRA gift today and meet your 2024 giving goals.*
- **Chart a Course for Giving with Your DAF:** Donor-Advised Funds (DAFs) allow you to see immediate tax benefits from your contributions and pass them along to Leader Dog at a later date—and today is an opportune moment to schedule your 2024 DAF gift.

[Learn more about smart ways to give in 2024.](#)

With appreciation,

- Missy

Melissa Aupperle
Director of Personal Giving
Leader Dogs for the Blind
melissa.aupperle@leaderdog.org

Lions of MichiganDistrict 11 E-2Cabinet Meeting Minutes, February 10, 2024, Tait's in Oscoda

Cabinet Members in Attendance- DG Steve Murch, 1VDG Gocha, CST Durflinger; via Zoom-IPDG Rod Leathers and 2VDG Marie Leathers

Cabinet Members Absent – ZC Timmers, GLT Zeller

Lions in Attendance – PDGs Bill Gaines and Lew Moeller, Lions Linda Gocha, BJ Sander, John Novak, via Zoom- PDG Bev Bodem, Lions Dave Zimmer, Shirley Hill and Jean Manning

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by DG Murch. The invocation was offered by 1VDG Gocha. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by 2VDG Leathers.

Secretary's Report - Minutes of the 12/9/23 cabinet meeting were presented by CST Durflinger. It was moved by 1VDG Gocha, supported by IPDG Leathers that they be accepted as presented. Motion carried. There was no correspondence.

Treasurer's Report- The 2023-24 financial reports were presented, with a beginning balance in the admin account of \$33,282.00, income of \$16,730.57 and expenses of \$13,004.98, leaving an ending balance of \$37,007.59 as of 2/9/24. This consists of \$33,807.80 in admin and \$3,199.79 in convention funds. The projects account has a beginning balance of \$32,537.21, income of \$10,603.08 and expenses of \$8,044.28, leaving an ending balance of \$35,096.01 as of 2/9/24. It was moved by 1VDG Gocha, supported by IPDG Leathers that the reports be accepted as presented. Motion carried. CST Durflinger reported that we have 5 clubs that still owe their second half dues (one paid since the meeting), and she will be sending out second notices.

Old Business- None.

New Business- Hall of Fame-We only received one nomination for the Lions of Michigan Hall of Fame this year. It was moved by IPDG Leathers, supported by 2VDG Leathers that we submit the nomination to the Lions of Michigan Foundation. Motion carried.

Guiding Lions- DG Murch would like to try and get more people trained as Guiding Lions. He will be reaching out to clubs to find interested individuals and will arrange training, likely by Zoom.

GLT Report- No report.

GST Report- GST Leathers turned in a written report. She reminded clubs to report service on the LCI site. If you are having trouble with reporting, she can do it for you. There will be training at the Lions Forum about service submission. Right now only 37% of our district clubs have reported any service.

Zone Chair Reports- None. We have three vacancies for Zone Chairs. If anyone is interested, please contact DG Murch.

Committee Reports Written Reports were provided by: **District Editor-** Lion Dave Zimmer, **Environmental-** PDG Bodem, **LCIF-** PDG Durflinger, **Lions of Michigan Foundation-** IPDG Leathers, **Michigan Forum-** IPDG Leathers, **Project KidSight-** Lion Linda Harris, **USA/Canada Forum-** 1VDG Gocha. The following was added to the written reports- PDG Durflinger reported on a potential District wide LCIF contest (rules attached). It was moved by 2VDG Leathers, supported by 1CDG Gocha that we

proceed with the contest. Funding for the prize (a Melvin Jones Fellowship) will come from the District's accumulated funds.

Oral Reports- **District Melvin Jones Fellowship-** 2VDG Leathers reported that there was only one application sent in. She will get the committee together to vote on it. **District Peace Poster-** Lion Jean Manning asked about proceeding with ordering kits and paper again this year for clubs wanting to participate in the contest. It was moved by 2VDG Leathers, supported by 1VDG Gocha that we buy kits and paper for interested clubs. Motion carried. **District Convention-** DG Murch reported that planning is continuing. It will be a one day convention, 4/20, but on Friday night 4/19 there will be a cabinet meeting and service project. Rooms will be available at a local hotel for those wanting to stay over on Friday night. The service project will be a food collection. The first information on the convention was just mailed out, and will be followed up via email. The convention will be on campus at Alpena Community College. Pricing for the luncheon has yet to be finalized. Raffle tickets have been mailed out to clubs. There will be a business meeting at 9 AM on Saturday, followed by state project presentations and lunch. Following lunch will be the memorial service, district raffle and elections. Our district All State Band students will be asked to perform at the luncheon.

Audience Comments- None.

VDG Comments- 2VDG Leathers commented that she is looking forward to the Lions Forum and the good information always presented there. Our Hope to Walk funds will be presented then. Note: District and Club funds totaled \$3000. 2VDG Leathers is sure we will be the most generous district. 1VDG Gocha commented that he is thankful that clubs are doing well, and urged everyone to report their service. He also commented that to keep new members interested you should engage with them-sit with them at meetings, and let them know why you are a Lion.

DG Comments- DG Murch reported that he is reaching out to a few communities and talking to schools about the possibility of new clubs. He reported that while we need to increase our membership, we are one of only two districts in the state that have positive membership this year. The Multiple District is down 354 members YTD. We are no longer the smallest district in the state- A1 has dropped below us with a loss of 62 members. C2 is just ahead of us, so it would be nice to get enough new members to edge ahead of them also. So far this year, we have 8 clubs that are up in membership (led by the Lewiston Lioness Lions who are up 9), 8 that have held even, and 10 that are down.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 . The next meeting will be on Friday 4/19 at the District Convention.

Respectfully submitted,
PDG Barb Durflinger, Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer

GST Report 2/10/24**MD-11 Service projects**

- Hope to Walk Prosthetics project - So far between the district, clubs and individuals we have collected \$2,875 to be presented at the Forum in February. If your club would like to donate please mail your donation ASAP payable to Lions District 11-E2 with Hope to Walk in the memo to Barb Durlinger. Please be sure to mail your donation to the district instead of donating directly. The district check must be turned in to Wendy Burns at the state office by February 19. For more information go to hopetowalk.org where there are links to inspirational and informative videos. Here is the list of donations received so far.
 - Boyne Valley- \$500
 - Indian River- \$500
 - Central Lake- \$250
 - Charlevoix- \$250
 - East Jordan- \$250
 - Elk Rapids- \$250
 - Glennie- \$250
 - Houghton Lake- \$250
 - Hillman- \$100
 - Durlinger (personal)- \$25
 - District- \$250
 -
- No Sew blankets at Forum Feb 23-24, 2024 in Kalamazoo - The service project will take place on Friday evening before the Forum on Saturday. Tables will be set up so groups can work together assembling the blankets for Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Since there are no Sleep in Heavenly Peace locations in our district we can donate our share to other organizations. Please let me know if there is an organization that you would like to see them donated to.
- Food packaging at MD-11 convention May 16-18 in Grand Rapids. The Multiple District will be purchasing the food to be packaged and then donated to Kids Coalition Against Hunger.

Service reporting

The new service reporting platform rollout has been delayed again. Training will be available as needed. Continue reporting on the current MyLion, or send me the information and I will report it for you. Currently 37% of clubs have reported at least one service project.

Marie Leathers, 11-E2 Service Chair

lionmarieleathers@gmail.com

Call or text: 231-350-0286

District 11-E2 Newsletter Editor Report: February 10, 2024 Cabinet Meeting

Lion Barb:

Clubs sharing information for January through February issues are shown in the table below.

Club newsletter submissions for January – February: 7 Clubs - 27%

<u>Name</u>	<u>Months Participated</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Months Participated</u>
◆ Alpena	2	◆ Lewiston Lions	2
◆ Boyne Valley	2	◆ Oscoda	2
◆ Central Lake	1	◆	
◆ East Jordan	1	◆	
◆ Hillman	2	◆	

January had 7 and February had 5 clubs contribute information for the newsletter. The submitting clubs are the same ones who usually, if not every month, send in data to share with all the District Lions Clubs. There must be some more clubs that are doing something, serving their communities but don't let us know about it, as if they want to avoid publicity. We are not corporations trying to outdo other companies, we're all a group of clubs trying to do our best with what we do. Publicity is a sign of success, and as far as we can tell it seems more than half of our District clubs aren't having success, which I don't believe is true at all. But, how do we know until we have the data?

Again, any District Lions Leaders who want to share something inspiring or informing to submit letters/columns/notes/ or photos are welcome to do so. Any suggestions for newsletter enhancement are also welcome.

Thanks to all for your support. Stay Safe and Serve on.

Lion David J. Zimmer

District 11-E2 Newsletter Editor

dlzim47@gmail.com

comdac@comdac.com

From: "Dennis Gocha" <dennygocha@gmail.com>
Date: Saturday, February 3, 2024 18:36
To: "ComDaC" <barb@comdac.com>
Subject: Feb2024 Cabinet International report

The USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum is in Louisville Kentucky on September 5-6th 2024 at the Kentucky International Convention Center. One of the hotels will be the Galt House Hotel on the Ohio River, which is two blocks from the convention center. There will be 80 seminars with four motivational speakers and also exhibitors and sponsor booths. The registration cost is:

\$295 until March 31st
 \$325 after March 31st
 \$340 after May 31st
 \$365 after July 31st

1VDG Dennis Gocha

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE report for Cabinet Meeting February 10, 2024

Food for thought on automobiles developed partly because they have less impact on the air quality and the environment. Electric vehicles versus gasoline vehicles. Which one is preferable?

This is for those interested in purchasing an electric car sometime in the future. I will list some of the electric vehicle recalls in the past few years.

1. Hyundai recalled electric vehicles due to battery fire risk.
2. Tesla recalled about 2.2 million because of the front warning light panels being too small to comply with safety standards.
3. Tesla, Toyota, PACCAR among nearly 2.4 million vehicles.
4. The Kia Niro EV And EV6 drive shaft can't handle their instant electric torque.
5. Nissan Leaf electric vehicle with high speed has several production faults across all its model years.
6. Chevy Bolt recall for faulty battery. UPDATE: New software & battery.
7. BMW electric recalls were about 3500. Issue being vehicles were too silent.

Now compare these issues to the issues of gasoline powered vehicles. Which do you want to drive? Think about the cost of correcting electric vehicle problems and compare the cost to taking care of our gasoline engine vehicles.

I think I'll go back to the old Ford Model A and Ford Model T that I saw in my early childhood. My 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade teacher had a Model A and I don't recall her having vehicle problems and there were no rust problems with the paint on the vehicle.

Beverly Bodem, Chair, Environmental Committee District 11 E-2

bodembd@charter.net 989-354-4656

- Information was taken from the internet, news media sources, etc.

LCIF Report- 12-9-23

Last year we ended the year with total contributions of \$21,229.09, an increase over the previous year of \$2,094.34. We had 22 clubs out of 26 that contributed to LCIF last year. It would be great if we could get all clubs in the district to make a contribution this year. We have received so much in this district over the years, including a \$20,000 grant last year for the Gaylord tornado. Since 2001 we have received over \$107,000 in grants in our district. In addition our state projects have received close to a million dollars in grants over the years, providing things like upgrades to the Leader Dog facility and KidSight trailers and cameras. This year so far we have contributed \$13,030, which came from 16 clubs and 15 individuals, so a great start!

Lion BJ Sander and I are working now on a hunger grant for the district in coordination with the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan. We hope to bring in \$100,000 to help them with the acquisition of a new facility in Gaylord, which will improve their ability to provide services for our rural communities.

The individual giving program honors Lions who make personal contributions to LCIF. For donations (cumulative over the year) of \$50-99 you receive the bronze pin, for \$100-199 the silver pin, and for \$200 plus the gold pin. It is easy to make personal contributions to LCIF on the website. You can make a onetime donation, or set up a recurring donation of any amount on your credit card. LCIF is stressing individual donations this year, and there is a statewide goal to increase our individual contributions. Last year our district individual donations totaled \$2810, so our goal this year is \$2950. So far this year, individuals in our district have contributed \$1,630. Individual contributions count toward Melvin Jones Fellowships, and are counted in the total contributions from the district, which increase our available Community Impact Grant Funds.

If anyone would like me to do a presentation to their club on LCIF, just give me a call.

PDG Barb Durflinger
lionbarb@comdac.com

February 10, 2023 Lions of Michigan Foundation Report

Remember the Lions of Michigan Foundation is here to help.

1. You can get up to \$2500 for people needing Medical needs.
2. \$2500 for people that are Veterans in need.
3. VSP certificates for people needing eye glasses.

Looking for a Service Project? Try contacting your local School and set up a KidSight screening.

Looking for a good money maker for your club? The Sight and Hearing Sweepstakes raffle tickets are an easy way to make money. It's a win-win for both the Foundation and your club. \$10 a ticket. If you sell 30-99 your club makes \$3.50 per ticket, 100-249 your club makes \$5.00 per ticket, 250 and up your club makes \$5.50 per ticket. More tickets are available if you need them. The drawing will be May 18 at the state convention. If you have any questions contact one of us. Our contact info is below.

Contact Information:

Lions of Michigan Foundation Trustee PDG Rod Leathers
9232 Roberts Rd
Central Lake Mi. 49622
Phone: 231-350-0567
Email: leathersrod@gmail.com

Lions of Michigan Foundation Trustee Lion Diane Skop
3840 W. Houghton Lake Drive
Houghton Lake Mi. 48629
Phone: 989-302-0122
Email: skopd@iserv.net

Lions of Michigan Foundation Assistant Treasure PDG Barb Durflinger
14946 Royston Road
Hillman, Mi. 49746
Phone: 989-742-2790
Email: lionbarb@comdac.com

Lions of Michigan Foundation Trustee PDG Rod

February 10, 2023 Lions of Mi Forum Report

Lions of Mi Forum had to change locations; it ~~will~~ now be held at the DELTA MARRIOTT KALAMAZOO you can now register at ~~lionsofmi.com~~.

2747 S 11th Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Call Marriott Reservations 1-888-236-2427 using code MCG

or call direct to the hotel 269-375-6000 using code ~~MCG~~.

Room rate \$114 by 2.10.2024

Keynote Speaker: Lion Carl Webster

Topic: An Autopsy of a Deceased Lion Club

We are 1 month away from the Lions Michigan Forum in Kalamazoo. A 2nd hotel has been added with additional rooms at the Best Western Kalamazoo Suites. Information is on the attached registration form.

This hotel is located down the street about 1 mile from the Delta Kalamazoo. Deadline for registration to ensure group discount: 2 5-2024.

Session Highlights:

* *A new presenter* has been added to the breakout session titled *Membership 1.5*. We are pleased to have LCI Constitutional Area Leader PID Pat Vannett join us from North Dakota! Learn all about the membership campaign at this session.

* *Michigan Forestry and our Environment*, led by DG Michael O'Lonergan. Did you know trees absorb carbon from the atmosphere, conserve soil and water, provide homes for animals, shade for humans, and are a source of food and medicine? Attend this session for ways in which your club ~~can~~ start a tree planting project and so much more!

* *Lions & Service*. It's what we're all about! This is a 2-part session starting with the group service project on Friday night. Drop in and help make blankets for "Sleep in Heavenly Peace", and while you're there you can learn to record club service hours or just freshen up your reporting skills. Saturday's breakout session will dive into the importance of serving, led by Global Service Chair Terri Huffman, Council Chair Elect.

Cont'd

* **Hope to Walk.** Coming to us from Guatemala are a team of **Lions** from the non-profit organization, Hope to Walk. Hope to Walk invented a low-cost prosthetic leg that can be fabricated anywhere with just a few simple tools. They work with clients in Guatemala, Honduras, Vietnam, Haiti, Belize, and Tanzania, making this a truly global session we can all get on board with.

Witness firsthand a **LIVE DEMONSTRATION** in which they will build a prosthetic leg for an amputee before your eyes!

Michigan Forum Committee chair, PDG Rod

Cabinet Meeting Report

December 9th 2023

Bear Lake Camp

Good news coming from the camp, all most all weekends booked for 2024. Working with a Balanced Budget. Help at camp always needed and tours available.

GLT

Lions of Michigan Forum, Feb 23rd – 24th in Grand Blanc, this is another opportunity for training, actual training date is the 24th, Service Project on the night of the 223rd. Lots of training exercises on the LCI website, take advantage of what LCI has to offer

Constitution and Bylaws

No new changes since last report

USA/Canada Forum

Future Forums 2024 Louisville KY Sept 5 – 7, 2025 Atlantic City, NJ Sept 18 – 20.

Respectfully Submitted

PDG Dave Zeller

comdac@comdac.com

From: "Linda Harris" <lindish72@hotmail.com>
Date: Thursday, February 1, 2024 16:08
To: "comdac@comdac.com" <barb@comdac.com>; "Linda Harris" <lindish72@hotmail.com>
Subject: KidSight Screening Report for 2/10/2024 Cabinet Meeting

11E-2 District LIONS KidSight has not completed any screenings since the last report.

Currently there are no scheduled screenings.

Please contact Dr. Nate Slezak, Linda Harris or Barb Durflinger to set up a KidSight Screening.

Dr. Nate Slezak @ Bignate34@gmail.com

Linda Harris @ Lindish72@hotmail.com or 989-225-1396

Sincerely ,
Linda Harris
KidSight Co-coordinator

District LCIF Fundraiser Contest

In order to encourage individual contributions to LCIF, we are having a contest to win a Melvin Jones Fellowship for your club (\$1000 value!). The contest will end on June 30, 2024.

To be fair to all size clubs, the winning club will be the club with the highest % of members contributing to LCIF.

Rules-

- 1) Clubs must contribute at least as much to LCIF as they did last year.
- 2) Individual contributions must be at least \$5.
- 3) If there is a tie, the club with the highest average individual contribution wins.

If you need to know how much your club gave last year, or what your member's individual contributions have been so far this year, please contact me.

PDG Barb Durflinger
989-742-2790
lionbarb@comdac.com

comdac@comdac.com

From: Marie Leathers**Sent:** Friday, February 16, 2024 16:38**To:** ComDaC**Subject:** Hope to Walk at the Lions of Michigan Forum

Thanks to our District donation plus several club donations, District 11-E2 has donated \$3,000 to Hope to Walk as part of this statewide service project. This will buy 12 prosthetic legs to help amputees in developing nations to walk again! There will be 5 representatives from Hope to Walk at the Lions of Michigan Forum next week-end in Kalamazoo, where a combined check from all the Michigan districts will be presented. Thank you to all the clubs in our district that donated to this statewide service project: Boyne Valley, Central Lake, Charlevoix, East Jordan, Elk Rapids, Glennie, Grayling, Hillman, Houghton Lake and Indian River. If your club would still like to donate please contact me ASAP! See the e-mail below to learn more about this organization and how they are changing lives.

Also if you want to attend the Lions of Michigan Forum but haven't registered yet, please do so ASAP to be assured a lunch and proceedings booklet. All the information and online registration is available at the Lions of Michigan website. The Friday night service project will be making No Sew blankets to be donated to Sleep in Heavenly Peace throughout Michigan.

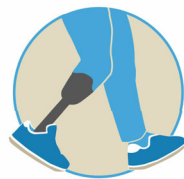
Lion Marie Leathers

11-E2 Service Chair

lionmarieleathers@gmail.com

231-350-0286

WE SERVE!!



HOPE TO WALK

CATCHING UP WITH GENESIS



A few weeks ago, Hope To Walk got to catch up with Genesis, a patient we met in April 2023. A native of the highlands of Guatemala, Genesis lost her arm and leg to electrocution when a light fell on her in her home a few years ago. Thanks to donors like you, Hope To Walk was able to fit her with a prosthetic leg and get her walking again.

We celebrated Genesis's 10th birthday with a day in the park filled with visits to the butterfly garden, swinging bridges and viewing monkeys. In short, Genesis got to be just a "normal" kid for a day, and she loved it!

Genesis has unwavering determination and a contagious zest for life. Although she has not traveled much or done much in her life, nothing scares her, and she is up for any challenge. Her dream is to become a physical therapist when she grows up!

Thank you for continuing to support our mission to get the world walking again!

Again, thank you for your heart for others.

Kristen

Kristen Staples
Executive Director
Hope To Walk

Spreading HOPE
Around the World





February 26, 2024

Barbara Durflinger
Hillman Lions Club
14797 State St.
Hillman, MI 49746

Dear Barbara:

Congratulations, we are excited to share that the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan has selected *Hillman Lions Club* to receive the *2023 Partner Leadership Award*. Because of the strong support of *Hillman Lions Club* and your dedication in providing meaningful and impactful programs and services, we have been able to expand our reach and impact.


The *Partner Leadership Award* will be presented at the Food Bank's 2023 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, April 24, 2024. The event will be held at the Food Bank's Hunger Solution Center located at 2300 Lapeer Road in Flint, MI ([for GPS directions to the HSC parking lot please use 1939 Howard Ave., Flint](#)). Doors will open at 3:00 p.m. and an assortment of hors d'oeuvres will be served. The awards program will run from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

We encourage you to invite co-workers, friends, and guests to join us in recognizing *Hillman Lions Club's* strong commitment to the health and well-being of our community. We will reserve a table

A stylized graphic of a leafy branch, rendered in shades of gray, positioned vertically on the left side of the page.

Kara Ross

Kara Ross,
President and

 2300 Lapeer Rd. | Flint, MI 48503

 810.239.4441

 FBEM.org

 info@fbem.org

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

Steve Murch

Hello club presidents,

Please share with your clubs to see if perhaps there might be someone, either in your club or your community, who might be interested in hosting a student. If there is, Elvie's contact is in the original email.

Thank you,

DG Steve

From: Elvira Marfil <epmarfil5@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, Mar 2, 2024 at 8:56AM

Subject: Host Families

Dear DG and YCE Chairs,

Hope this email finds you well and in good spirits.

I need help to find host families in your district. Please see attached application form for the following countries: Male students/countries- 2 France, 1 Mongolia and 1 Spain. Female students/countries- 1 Hungary, 2 Japan, 1 Netherlands and 1 Switzerland.

Please let me know as soon as you can.

I thank you in advance for your help.

Yours in Lionism, "We Serve"

Lion Elvie Marfil

818-800-1060

epmarfil5@gmail.com

If there is any interest for hosting one of the 9 foreign students, contact Lion Marfil by phone or email, shown above; get the application forms from her.

DISTRICT NEWS

comdac@comdac.com

At the last cabinet meeting, the cabinet approved a fundraiser contest for LCIF. The details of the contest are attached.

Your club donated \$50 to LCIF last year. Thus far this year your club has donated \$0, so your club would need to donate 750 to meet that requirement.

No individuals from your club have made personal donations to LCIF thus far this year. Your members can donate on line if they desire, or if you wish to send their contributions to me, that would work also. Checks should be made payable to LCIF.

Good luck in the contest! Let me know if you have any questions.

PDG Barb Durflinger
District 11-E2 LCIF Chairperson
989-742-2790
lionbarb@comdac.com

District LCIF Fundraiser Contest

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PDG Barb Durflinger
989-742-2790
lionbarb@comdac.com

FRAUD ALERT!

From: **Steve Murch**

Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2024 15:12

Subject: Emails

Rod, Denny and Gary Stevens all reached out to me saying they had received scam emails using my name. All three had slightly different variations of email addresses used. Probably should let people know, and keep an eye out yourself.

Please check when you get an email that says it is from DG Steve that it really is. He will not ask you for money!!

CST Barb

Calendar of Events

MARCH 2024

Daylight Savings Time Begins — March 10, 2024

Saint Patrick Day — March 17, 2024

Spring Equinox, Spring Begins — March 19, 2024

Easter — March 31, 2024

APRIL 2024

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

District Lions Convention — April 20, 2024 — Alpena

May 2024

MD-11 Convention — May 16, 2024 — Grand Rapids Sheraton by Marriott, Grand Rapids.
Go to lionsofmi.com for details on registration and hotel reservations.



PASSINGS REPORTED



GLENNIE LIONS — HARLEY R HOPP passed Tuesday, 01/30/2024

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

Information From MyLCI Monthly Reports

New Members Reported — FEB. 2024 (or Earlier)

CENTRAL LAKE LIONS: RAYMOND G VANUUM — Joined: 02/08/2024 — Sponsor: MARK LOWIS

HARRISVILLE LIONS: KRISTEN DAMON — Joined: 02/05/2024 — Sponsor: EDWARD FOSTER
TY DAMON — Joined: 02/05/2024 — Sponsor: ARTHUR LAATZ

INDIAN RIVER LIONS: BETTY A. SHERBURN — Joined: 02/20/2024 — Sponsor: BARB PENFOLD
JOHN G. SHERBURN — Joined: 02/20/2024 — Sponsor: EMERSON PENFOLD

Total: 5 New Members Reported

Information From MyLCI Monthly Reports & Club Activities Sent In

On the Mend Reported

East Jordan Lion Joe Krumholz on the mend from hernia surgery.

Alpena Lions

FEBRUARY 2024

Pediatric cancer support:

The Miller family was presented a check for \$1000 today to support them in their ongoing effort for their 5 year old with ganlioneurblastomas.

\$500 of this payment was made by the Alpena Lions Club, and matched by the District.



Boyne Valley Lions

FEBRUARY 2024

Meeting guest Jay from Leadership Charlevoix Class - Northern Michigan Equine Therapy (NMET) informed the BV Club members how horses can be therapeutic healers. Excerpts from a NMET flyer.

Equine-assisted occupational therapy (hippotherapy) uses the natural movement of the horse as a therapeutic tool. The occupational therapist partners with the client's physician to develop a detailed plan. A therapy horse is chosen specifically for their particular movements to match the client's goals.

- NMET provides a unique opportunity to experience the healing nature of a horse in a safe, noncompetitive and nonjudgmental setting. Through hands-on therapy sessions, clients are surrounded in an environment that radiates calmness, values the hard work that comes with horses, and provides a literal and mental breath of fresh air.
- Horses mirror emotions, read nonverbal cues and react to the body language of humans. When these equine instincts are professionally incorporated as a self development therapy tool, the horse-human connection becomes a powerful healing force, helping clients to realize their own self-worth and increases self-awareness of body language and communication skills.

Info from Feb. 28 Meeting Notes



East Jordan Lions**FEBRUARY 2024**

Lions Bob and Sherry Pursel received the Chevron award from Lions District Governor Steve Murch and King Lion Linda Chase. We thank them for their dedication and 15 years of service!

**Ellsworth Lions****FEBRUARY 2024**

Three Ellsworth High School students, Junior Calista Hoeksema and Seniors Patrick Puroll and Jurgen Griswold were accepted as members of the Lions of Michigan All-State Band. The following is from an article in The Review.

Lions All-State Band Article*Continued* →

Ellsworth Lions**FEBRUARY 2024**Continued

Ellsworth students land spots in Lions band

ELLSWORTH – Three Northern Michigan students from Ellsworth High School auditioned and landed a spot in this year's Lions of Michigan All-State Band, along with about 40 other top student performers from all across Michigan. Calista Hoeksema, a junior, Patrick Puroll and Jürgen Griswold, both seniors, are active members of their high school band as well as several community service organizations including S.A.F.E in Northern MI, Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation Youth Advisory Council, National Honor Society and the Little Reading Buddies Literacy Program. These three students developed an early love for music when they started performing together during elementary school as members of the Dorothy Gerber Strings Youth Orchestra.

The Lions of Michigan All State Band's motto is "We Serve Through Music" and as a service organization, performs for children's hospitals, veteran homes, schools, and other places where music can help brighten days and bring smiles. As members of the Lions of Michigan All State Band, Calista, Patrick, and Jürgen will be representing the state of Michigan and the United States of America at the 106th annual Lions Clubs International Convention in Melbourne, Australia. They are proud to be chosen to represent Northern Michigan during this summer's Lions International Parade of Nations, which boasts more than 10,000 delegates, where they will be performing with over 100 other Lions clubs bands from around the globe. In addition to playing in the parade, the Lions of Michigan All State Band is also scheduled to perform at the Children's Hospital in Melbourne, the Primary School, and at The Australian Football League game. And they don't stop there, as they are also anticipating performing on their return trip through Califor-

nia at Disneyland and Universal Studios Hollywood to round out their 11 day tour.

The road to Australia is a long one, filled with many hours of practice on their own, leading up to the weeklong "boot camp" with practices running from dawn until dusk as their final preparation before boarding the plane to the Lions International Convention. But this hard work will be worth the effort as not only will they meet many talented musicians from around the world, building lifelong friendships; they will also be developing a better social and cultural understanding while increasing their appreciation of the vast, diverse world they live in through visiting the Melbourne and San Francisco areas, taking in the local sites and experiencing the trip of a lifetime.

Band members are responsible for paying their own trip fee. The total trip cost is \$6,299 for each musician and includes all transportation, meals, lodging, tours and admissions, travel uniforms, audio recordings of performances and other memorabilia.

If you are interested in helping these students meet their fundraising goals, please send donations to;

GO FUND ME PAGE: <https://gofund.me/994e95aa>

Lions Clubs International founder, Melvin Jones, from Fort Thomas, Arizona, wrote in 1927 that "music, both vocal and instrumental, has a wonderful effect for good. In it there is harmony; and whether or not we realize it, harmony winds itself into our very souls; and you cannot have discord in souls filled with harmony."

Please consider supporting these talented musicians to expand their horizons and serve through music.

Thank you in advance for your financial contributions.

Oscoda Lions

FEBRUARY 2024

The Oscoda Lions Club held its 12th annual Souper Supper. The Lions provided the homemade soup and the kids from Richardson Elementary School Art class made bowls to sell.



The Lions made \$1,095 which will go towards our charities. The Art Class made \$600. This will go to repair the Kiln.

We would like to Thank the community for without their support we could not help as many people as we do. We Serve.



Petoskey Lions

FEBRUARY 2024

The Petoskey Lions donated two loaded bags of items needed by the Women's Resource Center of Northern Michigan, Inc. The donation included laundry detergent, (new) women's underwear, beauty/hair supplies (shampoo and conditioner, but also other styling products), and adult coloring books and markers/colored pencils, all on a list from the WRC as needed items.

The items were donated by the club members (not club funds) able to attend a meeting. Word was that the WRC received more than expected donations around Christmas, so we waited until early February, when donations are fewer, to take our donation in. The WRC is a necessary service in our community, and we intend to continue supporting them.

March 2024, Tradition and Progress

The month of March, named for Mars, the Roman God of War, is a month of turning points. During this month we go back on Daylight Savings Time, on Sunday, March 10th this year. The Vernal Equinox, this year on Tuesday, March 19, marks the end of Winter and the beginning of the season of Spring. While we think of this in terms of weather changing from cold to warmer, it is actually a celestial event. The Vernal Equinox is the point half way between the Winter and the Summer Solstices, which have the shortest and the longest daylight. The Equinoxes have equal hours of day and night. Equinoxes and Solstices occur yearly at points in the Earth's orbit around the sun. As for the weather, anything can occur before or after the first day of Spring. Be sure to take your shorts and your parka when you go anywhere in this season.

March has also been proclaimed "Women's History Month". This year's theme is centered on "Women who advocate for equity, diversity, and inclusion." The women's month was designated in the month of March 1987 as "Women's History Month." Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. History has been lacking in telling the impact of women who have contributed to the survival and advancement of the human race. Without women none of us would be here today.

Seriously, it has taken a long time for many human cultures, men and some women themselves, to realize that the female sex were just as capable and just as intelligent as males, and they need to be treated as equals if humanity is really going to move forward to a better world. Sex discrimination of all types is on the list of human stupidity, along with racism, ethnic origin, color, ancestry, disability, age, religion or belief, gender identity, etc. — basically rejecting any person that is different from the discriminator.

As Lions, we have a creed — to SERVE those in need. Simple and non-discriminating. Unfortunately, the world is not as acceptive, and we find ourselves in a time of growing bickering, discord, and violence. Though reasons for this are chaotic and complicated, there are a couple of things that keep our problems from being solved. Tradition versus Progress are two concepts we humans can't seem to handle. Tradition is doing things the way it's been done for years, centuries, or even millenia. Tradition puts us in our safe comfort zone. We know the drill, we know what to do, and what to expect. It's a constant, unchanging way of life — which can lead to the possibility of keeping people stuck behind in a changing world. Progress is discovering the unknown and untried, creating new things and ways to improve the world. It replaces traditional ways with changing outcomes. The problem is that some people cling on to traditions, while others grab on the new and unknown, and it isn't a friendly quarrel. When the early automobiles began to appear on the roads, many people wanted to get one. But others opposed these loud, smoking horse-scaring autos and kept their horses and buggies. The automobile finally won, and changed the world for good — but also for bad. Speed and convenience, yes. But traffic jams, numerous fatal car accidents, and bad driving are also part of the package. Now the gas car is our generation's tradition, and electric cars are progress changes. While we need Progress to advance, we also should be aware of and not forget the Traditions that got us here.

The second problem that has been both good and bad is the technology of electronic devices that give us access to social media. E-mail, Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok, etc., allow people to connect anywhere anytime, which can be very useful and helpful. Sadly, any device, tool or machine that humans have created for good purposes have also been used for bad deeds. Social media can allow cyber-bullies to say terrible things they'd never say to someone face to face, or allow hackers to get your online information. It is also the greatest way to spread lies and get others to believe something not true. In today's divisive context, these lies and disinformation cause confusion, and create clashes about what is true with others. Lesson: don't believe everything online. This copy is a fraud email i received:

Greetings Lion David
Lions District Newsletter
STEVE MURCH <lionsclubinternationaldg@gmail.com>
Thu, Feb 15, 10:48 AM
to me

This was a bad attempt to get me to do something for them. The "Steve Murch" email address was bogus, not his real address. And the "Yours Lionism" was a laughably mistaken spelling— not the fraud A Team. Be aware for these fraud attempts, and don't reply to them.

Hello are you less busy at the moment? I got a request for you to manage discreetly. I will be going into a meeting shortly, please no calls so kindly respond via this email.

Yours Lionism,

STEVE MURCH, Lion District Governor 11-E2 MICHIGAN

PICTURES OF THE MONTH

Northern Days In "Winter"

(*Right*): A stunning sunset reddens Boardman Lake in Traverse City. Across the lake are "bumps" in the water - hundreds of ducks and scores of swans who didn't migrate south.

(*Below*): Harbor Point sticks out in iceless water on a sunny day. (*Next*): A small fog cloud hovers over the waters of the east side of Little Traverse Bay, seen from Harbor Springs. (*Bottom*): Ice spreads onto the shores at the Dark Sky Park.



February 22



February 22



March 3



January 29

(*Below*): Ice and snow in the Mackinac Straits, much less than usual. A freighter heads west on the horizon beneath the Mackinac Bridge, pointed out by the arrow. (*Bottom*): Looking North toward the Upper Peninsula; the ice doesn't go all the way across, open water flows through the Straits.



March 3



March 3

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 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

