

Notable Quotes: “Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go.” — *T.S. Eliot*

September 2024

District Governor's Message



DG Dennis Gocha

Hello 11-E2 Lions,

We had our Cabinet meeting on August 17th with PDG Dave Zeller training the three Zone Chairs. We also discussed the April 2025 convention, which will be a 2-day convention on Fri-Sat, April 25-26th at Treetops Resort in Gaylord. Some of us are going to visit Treetops to finalize a few things. It's all coming together well and I'll keep you informed of our progress.

I'd like to encourage the clubs to monthly enter their service for events into the MYLION system. I would like this to be at 100%. Reporting an activity makes it instantly visible to your members, the District, and Lions International. This can become a source of pride for the club, but can also have further reaching effects as other clubs emulate and build on successful projects. They will know what events worked and didn't do as well. It is an opportunity to shine a light on how your club is making a difference. Having data on how your club serves it's community can prove useful when recruiting new members, forging partnerships with other organizations, and applying for funding. It also allows your club to be eligible for awards. Even one entry counts towards your clubs service record.

I'd also like you to read the article by DG Tom McNaughton on page 3 of the Lions Pride News, which you should have received. It is a story of a small club that was about to close and bounced back. It's such an inspiring story and worth the read.

Continue in your service and thank you for it!

District Governor
Dennis Gocha

2023-2024 DISTRICT OFFICERS
REFERENCE LIST

DISTRICT GOVERNOR East Jordan Lions Dennis Gocha 231-350-1906 dennygocha@gmail.com	IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR Steve Murch Alpena Lions Club stevemurch49707@gmail.com
VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR Central Lake Lions Marie Leathers lionmarieleathers@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	GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM DISTRICT COORDINATOR Linda Gochca 231-536-0837 or 231-350-0204.
CABINET SECRETARY/ TREASURER Barb Durlfing Hillman Lions Club 989-742-2790 lionbarb@comdac.com	GLOBAL EXTENSION TEAM COORDINATOR Steve Murch stevemurch49707@gmail.com

District 11-E2 Website:
lionsdistrict11e2.org

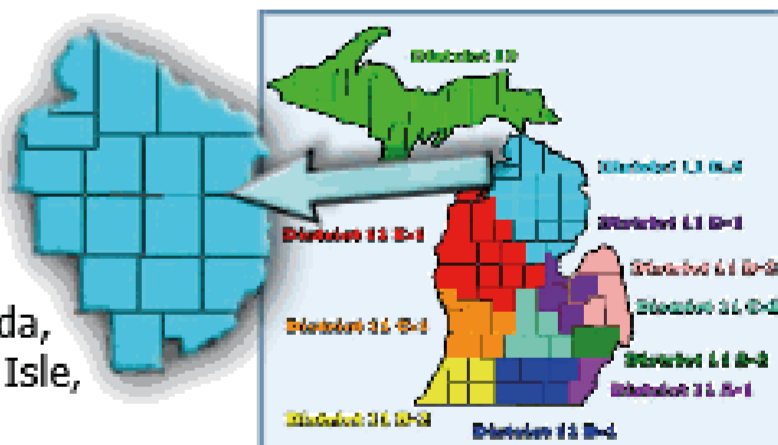
Note: This information is up to date at the time of this publication, but is subject to change as adjustments are needed.

Inside This Issue

Governor's Message	1
District Officers / Contents	2
LCI President Fabricio Oliveira	3
Leader Dogs Leading the Way	4-6
Bear Lake Camp Events	7
LoMF Fund Raisers : Swim & Walk	8-9
Calendar of Events/ Passings / New Members / Mends	10
11-E2 Lions Clubs Activities	11-12
FRAUD! DG's Been Hacked	13
Editor's Notes: September/Lion vs Elk	14
Pix of the Month: Summer Music.	15
We Publish It/Racism Has No Place	16

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 Bill Chase East Jordan Lions Club	Boyne Valley, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, East Jordan, Indian River, Mackinaw City, Petoskey	ZC BJ Sander Alpena Lions Club	Alpena, Alpena Evening, Glennie, Hillman, Hubbard Lake, Mio
ZONE 2	CLUBS	ZONE 4	CLUBS
ZC Kris Roberts Central Lake Lions Club 701-409-9160 krobdi@gmail.com .	Central Lake, Elk Rapids, Grayling, Houghton Lake, Lewiston/Lewiston Lioness Lions, Roscommon- Higgins Lake	ZC VACANT	Beaverton, Hale, Harrisville, Lincoln, Oscoda, Rose City



L PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Make Your Mark



Dear Lion,

Growing up in Brazil as part of an entrepreneurial family, I learned how important it was to have a vision and a plan to achieve it. I also learned the power of community. Community has always been the bedrock of my journey, and the deep sense of belonging and the desire to strengthen it ignited my passion for service.

That's the spark that led me to Lions. I saw something special in this organization — an opportunity to give back to the community that had been so good to me. And I have as a Lion, just as you have in your own community.

When we serve, we make a lasting impression on the lives of the people we serve. It's the mark of compassion. It's the mark of kindness. It's the mark of a Lion. That's why my presidential message for this year is "Make Your Mark."

Let's make our mark by inviting others to join our clubs, opening the doors to new friendships and new ideas. Let's make our mark by increasing our impact and serving more people than ever before.

Each Lion has a story to tell. I hope the stories in this issue will inspire you, motivate you and encourage you to share your own stories with your community.

It is my deepest honor to serve as your international president. Together, we will make our mark, every time and everywhere we serve.

At your service

Fabrício Oliveira
International President, Lions Clubs International



We Serve



AUGUST | 2024

LEADING THE WAY

Leader Dogs for the Blind - Lions Newsletter



New Doors Have Opened

A GUIDE DOG STORY - KASSON W., NEW YORK

“I’m 37, I just lost my sight in 2020 just before the pandemic because I was attacked on the subway. I went from seeing to not, just in a day. I’m a people person, I’m a Leo, I used to bartend and I’m the life of the party. I have a close-knit family and I’m a protector. It’s been a roller coaster since I lost my eyesight. During the beginning when it was also the start of the pandemic, I thought I would be able to see again, but the eye doctor told me I wouldn’t be able to see again. At first, I didn’t know there was life after being blind. I have a close-knit family and they tried to do everything for me, and I couldn’t handle that. I needed to get past them doing everything which led me to feeling helpless. Then a new season began. It was rough in the beginning; I’m still getting through it... I’m still processing it, but sometimes I think maybe it was blessing because I’m doing things and experiencing things I normally wouldn’t do. I feel like new doors have opened for me, everything feels right. I’m going with it and I’m not fighting against it. Leader Dogs for the Blind found me the best dog. I came to get Odyssey because I wanted to be heard. I motivate and inspire a lot of people and now I’m thinking about speaking and helping others.”

The Road to Confidence

AN ORIENTATION & MOBILITY STORY - CAREY J., ILLINOIS

“This program has intensified my freedom and confidence. I needed to know to not be scared, and I’m not anymore. I have turned back since, and I have walked more in my town since returning from Leader Dogs for the Blind than I did when I was a child with vision. I’ve walked more routes, I’ve even gone to the store for other people, and I walk with confidence. I have never felt so free.”



“HAVING MY LEADER DOG DOESN'T ONLY CHANGE THE WAY I SEE THE WORLD BUT CHANGES MY LIFE; I HAVE CONFIDENCE KNOWING THAT I'M NOT ALONE AND I'LL ALWAYS HAVE MY BEST FRIEND BY MY SIDE!”

- LEA D., INDIANA -

Did You Know
Leader Dog
 has served
clients from all
50 states and
17 countries.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS



SEPTEMBER | 2024

LEADING THE WAY

Leader Dogs for the Blind - Lions Newsletter




Passion, Commitment & Puppies...Eighteen to be Exact!

WITH PUPPY RAISER, IPCC PHYLLIS K., MISSOURI

Meet Immediate Past Council Chair, Phyllis and her husband, Past District Governor, Phil, our superhero puppy raisers! Together they have dedicated many years and volunteer hours to raising seventeen Future Leader Dog pups and currently training puppy number eighteen. Read why Phyllis is so passionate about being a Leader Dogs for the Blind puppy raiser:

"I LOVE PUPPIES! This has always been true, ever since I was a little girl on a farm in northwest Missouri. When I first heard about being a puppy raiser for Leader Dogs for the Blind, I was all about the opportunity to have a new puppy every year. **I had absolutely no idea how that first puppy would impact my life.** Puppy raising has changed how I "see" the world. Each new puppy comes a blank slate to be shaped into a confident, well-mannered dog capable of bonding with a visually impaired partner. How I interact with the puppy and the love and experiences I provide sets the groundwork for that puppy to grow into their potential to be the best guide possible for their eventual person.



Is it hard to let them go each year? Absolutely, but the joy received when I get that notification that they have been placed with a Leader Dog client is indescribable. I have been fortunate in that many of the clients my dogs have been placed with continue to stay in touch with me, expanding my world and family," said Phyllis.

Join Phyllis, Phil, and other dedicated supporters in this deeply rewarding experience. Your love and guidance can unlock a world of possibilities for someone who is blind or visually impaired.

Pictured to the left: PDG, Phil (left) and IPCC, Phyllis (right) sit on a couch in the canine development center at Leader Dogs for the Blind with their seventeenth Future Leader Dog, Jeri Ann, a yellow lab who is sitting on the ground in front of them.

ARE YOU READY TO RAISE A FUTURE LEADER DOG AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE?



SCAN ME





LEADER DOGS
FOR THE BLIND

Double Your Gift



Imagine an entire class of Leader Dogs graduating... because of you!

Your incredible support played a crucial role in making it possible for this year's class of Leader Dogs to graduate. To say thank you, we want to share a special poster featuring our Class of 2024 Leader Dogs. Because of your generosity, these incredible canines are now among the most skilled and accomplished guide dogs on earth!

It is truly amazing to witness our clients regain their confidence after working with a Leader Dog. But the costs of providing 17 months of care, professional training and veterinary services add up quickly. And we're already looking ahead to the future with new puppies that have just begun their training journey!

That's why we're so grateful for The Gray Family, generous friends who have committed to providing a \$100,000 matching gift fund. **Every gift made from now to September 30 will be doubled. So, by making a gift today, you can have twice the impact!**

Double Your Gift

With the support of the Grays and compassionate friends like you, Leader Dog has matched clients from all walks of life and from across the world with guide dogs that have helped them transform their lives.

[Please give again today to help support our next class of puppies.](#) Through your generous gift, you can bring independence and hope to more people who need a Leader Dog and companion.

Gratefully,
Melissa L. Weisse
President and CEO

P.S. [I hope you enjoy this poster commemorating Leader Dog's 2024 class.](#) And remember, your gift will be matched for twice the life-changing impact if you reply by September 30. Thank you again for your support!

Events and Fundraising



Lions Bear Lake Camp hosts multiple events and fundraisers throughout the year.

Make sure to add the following events to your calendars.

Bear Lake Ultra - Saturday, October 5th, 2024

Hosted at the Lions Bear Lake Camp,
3409 N Five Lakes Rd. Lapeer, MI 48446

[Register](#)



click learn more for more information



Ice Plunge - Saturday, February 1st, 2025

Hosted at the Lions Bear Lake Camp,
3409 N Five Lakes Rd. Lapeer, MI 48446

[Buy Tickets & Register \(Coming Soon\)](#)



click learn more for information (coming soon)



Lions Bear Lake Camp Buffalo and Boar Wild Game Dinner - April 12th 2025

Hosted at the Metamora Lions Club Hall,
3790 N. Oak St, Metamora, MI 48455

[Buy Tickets \(Coming Soon\)](#)

SPONSORSHIPS



Click Learn More for Flyer (coming soon)



Lions Bear Lake Camp Golf Classic Fundraiser - June 9th, 2025

Hosted at the Metamora Golf & Country Club,
1600 Club Drive, Metamora, MI 48455

[BUY TICKETS \(coming soon\)](#)

Sponsorship Opportunities



click learn more for flyer(coming soon)



www.bearlakecamp.org

LIONS OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER



Swim for SIGHT

SCAN FOR LINK

[HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM/E/SWIM-FOR-SIGHT-REGISTRATION-908427530257](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/swim-for-sight-registration-908427530257)

On Aug. 18, 2024 I will be participating in the Swim Around Mackinac Island Event. This 8.2 mile swim is not a race, just a fun swim. Lol

I am doing this as a **Swim for Sight**, bringing awareness to our initial Lions mission of assisting those in need with visual impairments.

The donations will be divided three ways.

- ABVI** -Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Grand Rapids
- Lions of Michigan Foundation**
- KidSight preschool vision screening
- LCIF** – Lions Clubs International Foundation – Lions Vision Missions

These funds will assist those in visual need that cannot afford proper care locally, statewide and internationally.

Pray for a calm day and waters above 70 degrees. I appreciate all your encouragements..

In Service and Friendship,
Gary Anderson, PID

****** If you choose to donate, when you get to the first page, hit the **RESERVE A SPOT** button. It will take you to the donate page and it won't register you to swim.

IPDG and MD 11 GST Steve Murch - 20-20 Challenge

SPONSORSHIP DEADLINE: 9-30-24

Please support IPDG and MD 11 GST Steve Murch and the Lions of Michigan Foundation. Steve has dedicated his annual 20 mile birthday walk on September 9 to support the programs and services of the Lions of Michigan Foundation, and he challenges all Michigan Lions Clubs to make a \$20 gift to the foundation.



lmsf.net - lhcmi.org

I would like to make a \$20.00 gift to the Lions of Michigan Foundation in honor of IPDG and MD 11 GST Steve Murch. My gift is designated for the _____ Fund.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Payment Method: Check Enclosed Pay Pal (info@lmsf.net) Venmo (@LionsofMIFoundation)

Credit/Debit Card: Visa Discover MasterCard AmEx

Card Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVV Code: _____

Signature: _____



LIONS OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION
5730 Executive Drive
Lansing, Michigan 48911
www.lmsf.net - info@lmsf.net
517-887-6640 - 517-887-6642 (Fax)



Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER 2024

Labor Day— September 2

Autumn Equinox—September 22

NOVEMBER 2024

Cabinet Meeting — November 02, 2024 — 10:00 a.m. — Hillman Patchwood Plaza,
14797 State St., Hillman



PASSINGS REPORTED



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

No passings were reported this month.

New Members Reported — Aug, 2024 (or Earlier)

No New Members Submitted

Total: 0 New Member Reported

Information From Club Activities Sent In

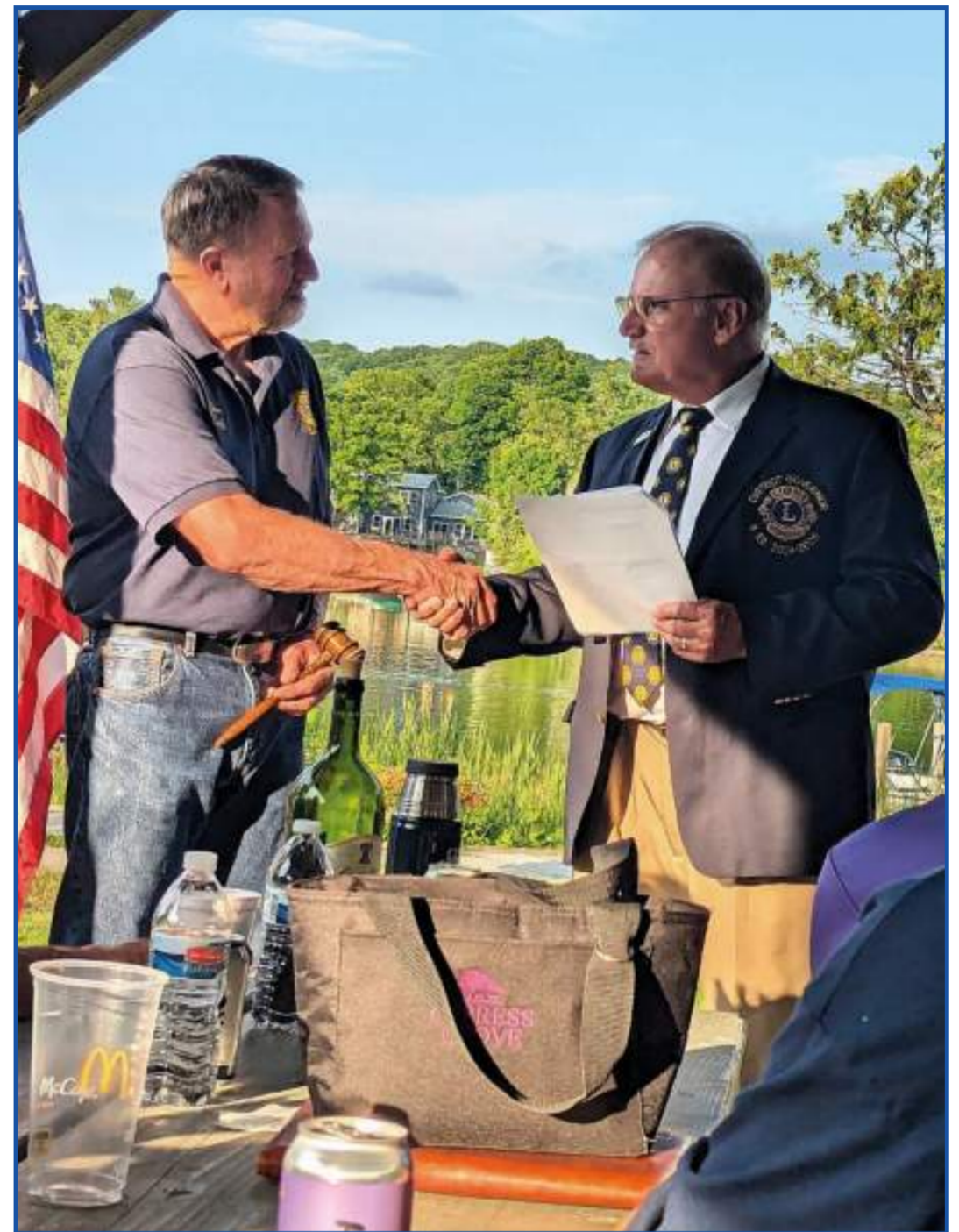
On the Mend Reported

No Reports Received

Central Lake Lions AUGUST 2024

Dennis Gocha inducted officers at the Central Lake Lions Club Meeting.

He is pictured handing the gavel to 2024-2025 President Brian Graff.



East Jordan Lions AUGUST 2024

The East Jordan Lions had their annual South Arm Classic Car Show. They had 103 participants and a cash raffle. The money raised was used for scholarships.



Oscoda Lions
AUGUST 2024

The Oscoda Lions Club built another ramp today for an elderly Oscoda couple who were having difficulty going up and down the steps to their home.

Tony Priebe, John Novak, Scott Busich, Rick Stanley, and Chuck Andrina built the 16' ramp and a small transition platform in about four hours this morning. It was a nice cool morning and great working conditions. The homeowners were very happy with the finished project and paid for the materials.

It looks like the crew will continue to have a very busy summer as there are several more requests for ramps to be built this summer.

WE SERVE!



Picture Ramp104: Scott Busich, Rick Stanley. Homeowner, John Novak, Tony Priebe

The ramp crew traveled to Au Gres today (August 23) to build a ramp for a lady who recently moved there from Oscoda. She has mobility issues which require the use of a walker or wheelchair. Getting to her weekly doctor's visits required helpers to get her up and down her steps.

Tony Priebe, John Novak, Scott Busich, Bob Drogosch, Rick Stanley, Jeremey Maynard, and Chuck Andrina loaded up the lumber at 700 and traveled to Au Gres to build two ramp sections of 6 and 20 feet as well as a 4'x8' platform. The crew helped the homeowner down her stairs for her mid-morning doctor's appointment. By the time she got back the ramp was far enough along that her son was able to push her up the ramp in her wheelchair.

The crew finished up the ramp at 1200 and the homeowner came back out for a picture with the crew. She thanked everyone for their efforts with tears in her eyes. She said the ramp will help her get in and out of her home on her own now.

WE SERVE!

Ramp105—L to R Jeremey Maynard, Rick Stanley, homeowner, Chuck Andrina, Tont Priebe, John Novak, Scott Busich





DISTRICT NEWS



FRAUD ALERT!

Email from DG Dennis Gocha:

dennisgocha557@gmail.com

Thu, Aug 8, 6:18 PM

Everyone,

I've had my email hacked and someone is trying to impersonate me. They're asking you to do them a favor and it's usually purchase a game card for them to use. So please ignore emails like this.

Steve Murch was hacked, so I guess I'm next in line.

Thank you,

DG Dennis Gocha

Email from Lion Barb Durflinger:

comdac@comdac.com

Aug 12, 2024, 10:03 AM

PDG Denny wants to report that several people have received phishing emails that reportedly came from him. He has not sent emails out to anyone asking for assistance, so please ignore them!

CST Barb

I got this today (09/06/24). This is what a fraud looks like — NOT from DG Gocha!

Email From Fraudulent Hacker:

Greetings to you Dave

DG Dennis Gocha <districtgovernorr01@gmail.com> Sep 6 - 12:01 pm (4 hours ago)

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 back via email.

Yours in Lionism

**Dennis Gocha
District Governor**

September 2024 — Lion vs Elk

I've been going through the months of the yearly calendar, sharing interesting things I didn't know about, how names and numbers on our current calendars came to be. Now we are in the month of September, first of the last 4 months that are all named from Latin numbers instead of gods or iconic leaders. September means 7, October means 8, November means 9, and December means 10.

Ironically, none of these numbered names actually correspond with the months in the year. In our calendar, July is the 7th month, August is the 8th month, September (7) is the 9th month, October (8) is the 10th month, November (9) the 11th month, and December (10) the 12th month. The Ceasars, Julius and Augustus, took over the July and August months, pushing the last 4 number named months out of their correct posts. For some reason, their names weren't changed by either the Romans or the Catholics with the Gregorian Calendar.

Although the Gregorian calendar is named after Pope Gregory XIII, it is an adaptation of a calendar designed by Luigi Lilio (also known as Aloysius Lilius), who was an Italian doctor, astronomer, and philosopher, born around 1510. He died in 1576, six years before his calendar was officially introduced.

The Gregorian calendar was first adopted in Italy, Poland, Portugal, and Spain in 1582. Catholic countries quickly adopted Pope Gregory's calendar reforms for their civil affairs. 10 days were dropped in October 1582. In Europe's Protestant countries, however, people feared that the new calendar was an attempt by the Catholic Church to silence their movement. It took almost 200 years before England and the colonies switched over when an act of Parliament introduced the new calendar, advancing the date from September 2 to September 14, 1752, dropping 12 days. Orthodox countries followed the Julian calendar even longer; their national churches have still not adopted Pope Gregory XIII's calendar.

All in all, we can just be thankful that we have a calendar to tell us what day it is.

LION vs ELK: Terror on the Highway

A couple Sundays ago my wife and I took our dog out to the Ocqueoc Park near Onaway. There were a lot of people there, many in the river rapids on the warm day. Our dog Chester really wanted to get into that water, and almost pulled me in with him. He is fast and strong, and wants to obey and please us, unless he would rather please himself.

After walking around for about an hour, we went back to our car and left the park. I drove to Indian River, where I turned on to US-75 and headed toward Gaylord. There was a lot of traffic on the road, somewhere between medium and heavy, with many people who came up to Northern Michigan or the U.P. for the weekend heading south to their homes. I had the cruise control on to 75 mph, and watched every car coming behind me zoom past my car at 80 mph or more. No one seems see the speed suggestion signs, or just ignores them.

Somewhere between Indian River and Wolverine an elk suddenly charged out of the trees on the right side of the highway. He was big, with a large antler rack, running in fear. He had ripped off a leafy tree branch that was caught in his antler. He was nearly on the highway, about 50 feet ahead of our car. At 75 mph, the car would meet the elk 50 feet away in 2 or 3 seconds. Instead of hitting the brake, I swerved into the left lane, a reaction, not a plan. The elk either slowed down, turned, or stopped as we drove by within a foot of him.

Deer collisions cause much damage, but a large elk could do much more to our Prius if we had hit the elk head on. It could have been fatal. So, we were very lucky - lucky that there wasn't a car in the left lane when I swerved into it, and lucky we didn't hit the elk. Either one could have prevented me from being here to write this experience. The elk got across to the median, and hopefully he got across the north bound lane. Stay Alert - peril is out there!

PICTURES OF THE MONTH

Photos of Summer 2024



While we usually think of weather and the beauty of the Northern Michigan, summer in our area is also memorable for the all the things people can experience – things like outdoor musical concerts. These pictures were taken at a concert on August 14 at Nubs Nob near Harbor Springs. A Tribute Rock Band named the Insiders (from Grand Rapids) played songs of the late Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers. It was amazing how the singing and music sounded so perfectly like we were listening to Tom Petty and his band. It brought back memories of how exceptional and skillful their music was. A very satisfying experience, something I hadn't expected, and one I would like to have again..

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

