

JANUARY 2025

Notable Quotes: *"Make the most of yourself, for that is all there is of you."* – Ralph Waldo Emerson

District Governor's Message



DG Dennis Gocha

Greetings 11-E2 Lions,

Our next cabinet meeting is Saturday, February 8th at 10 a.m. at St. Francis Episcopal Church in Grayling. Address is 6441 W. M-72. I hope you can attend this meeting to learn more about our district events and goals.

It's January and the end of the holiday season brings us to the last half of the Lions' year. This past year is an opportunity for Lions to reflect on the previous year's accomplishments and set fresh objectives for community service, obtaining new members, and leadership.

Several clubs in our district are doing well with meaningful service activities and increasing membership. Unfortunately, that's not the case with all our clubs. Our net membership numbers have decreased. Getting new and retaining current members are challenges that we must step up to if we are to continue to serve our communities. Collaborate with schools, businesses, and other nonprofits to reach new audiences. Try to use recognition programs – celebrate members' achievements with awards and public acknowledgment in newspapers, websites, Chamber of Commerce News, etc. Try to do meaningful projects to ensure members are involved in initiatives that align with their passions and skills. This will help you retain members.

I am sending all Lions my best wishes for a very happy new year. May this year bring us closer to our mission of service, strengthen our bonds of friendship, and inspire us to reach greater heights. Let's make 2025 a year of impact, growth, and kindness. Wishing you and your loved ones joy, health, and prosperity. "Together, We Serve!"

District Governor
Dennis Gocha

2024-2025 DISTRICT OFFICERS REFERENCE LIST

<p>DISTRICT GOVERNOR East Jordan Lions Dennis Gocha 231-350-1906 dennygocha@gmail.com</p>	<p>IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR Steve Murch Alpena Lions Club stevemurch49707@gmail.com</p>
<p>VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR Central Lake Lions Marie Leathers lionmarieleathers@gmail.com</p>	<p>GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM COORDINATOR Dave Zeller Alpena Lions Club 989-657-4702 W: 989-354-2175 dzeller52@gmail.com</p>
<p>2nd VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR</p>	<p>GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM DISTRICT COORDINATOR Linda Gocha 231-536-0837 or 231-350-0204.</p>
<p>CABINET SECRETARY/ TREASURER Barb Durflinger Hillman Lions Club 989-742-2790 lionbarb@comdac.com</p>	<p>GLOBAL EXTENSION TEAM COORDINATOR Steve Murch stevemurch49707@gmail.com</p>

District 11-E2 Website:
lionsdistrict11e2.org


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

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Lions Of Michigan Multiple District 11-E2 Counties

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



ZONE 1	CLUBS	ZONE 3	CLUBS
ZC 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



Dear Lions and Leos,

Since 2024 began, Lions and Leos worldwide have served millions of people, improving lives and communities because of your generosity. LCIF grant funding reduced food insecurity for those in need, helped people with vision impairment see more clearly, provided shelter after storms, protected our fragile environment and so much more.

I am pleased to report that we are making excellent strides towards reaching our fundraising goals for this fiscal year, thanks to your individual [gifts](#) and efforts to share the importance of our foundation with others. While there is much work to be done, the donations we have received to date are already making a tremendous impact in communities worldwide.

As we look forward to 2025, I ask you to continue encouraging your fellow Lions and Leos to support LCIF and explore [grant opportunities](#) to enhance their service. Remember that you play an important role in helping our organization succeed in *MISSION 1.5*, bringing more members to join us in our humanitarian mission and serve more people when they need us most. Working together, we will exceed our goals.

Yours in service,

Dr. Patti Hill,
LCIF Chairperson



Lions Clubs International

FOUNDATION

TO: District Governor, 1st Vice District Governor, Past District Governors and Club Presidents
FROM: Marie Leathers, VDG/Chairperson, Melvin Jones Committee for 11-E2
DATE: November 9, 2024
RE: District Melvin Jones Fellowship Award Nominations

Of the many awards that are given in Lionism, the L.C.I.F. Melvin Jones Fellowship Award is one of the most prestigious awards to be presented to an individual.

Enclosed you will find a nomination form for the district award of the Melvin Jones Fellowship. The selection committee will consider only those who have contributed notably at the District level, State level and the local club level. First consideration will be given to those nominees who have not previously received a Melvin Jones Award, although recipients may be selected who have previously received the award. *The deadline for all nominations to be submitted is January 15, 2025.*

This District Level Award will be presented at the annual District 11-E2 Convention on April 26, 2025, at Treetops in Gaylord. It is imperative that you make every effort to have your nominee present at that event if that person is selected for the award.

Please email nominations to: lionmarieleathers@gmail.com or you can mail to me at the address below.

Marie Leathers
Vice District Governor 11-E2
9232 Roberts Rd
Central Lake, MI 49622

I'd like to thank you for your time and effort in nominating a Lion who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in our District 11-E2 for a District Melvin Jones Fellowship Award.

MELVIN JONES FELLOWSHIP NOMINATION

Melvin Jones founded Lionism in the spirit of Service to Others. Recognition of OUTSTANDING service is therefore the number one criterion for selecting a recipient for this most prestigious award that is given by the Lions Clubs International Foundation. (LCIF)

Because this is an award that is to be at the District Level, the first consideration for recipients will be those who have served notably at the District and State levels, as well as at their own Club level.

With above in mind, we submit the following person

Name of Nominee (Print)

as a nominee for the District 11 E-2 Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. The person to contact as it pertains to this nomination is:

NAME:

Club:

Address

City, State, Zip

A. NARRATIVE INFORMATION:

Please write a narrative section here or attach, detailing why you believe this person is a worthy nominee for the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award for District 11 E-2. Keep in mind that the selection committee will depend on what you write about your nominee in considering the nomination.

**DISTRICT 11 E-2 MELVIN JONES FELLOWSHIP AWARD
NOMINEE PERSONAL DATA SHEET**

Name of Nominee:

Member of (club):

Years of service in Lionism: Years with current club:

Club Offices & Years Held:

District, State Offices & Years Held:

Special Projects Involvement:

Other Community involvement

Other Information in support of Nominee

Name/Club of Nominator (Print)

Signature of Nominator

Note: Additional pages can be used if more space is needed.



Lions of Michigan
 Youth Camps & Exchange Program
 State and District Chairperson 2023-2024
 Lion Elvie Marfil
818-800-1060, epmarfil5@gmail.com



Youth Camps and Exchange Sponsor Lions Clubs

The Sponsor Lions Clubs are the resource for exchange youth to have a close working relationship with their district or multiple district YCE Chairperson. If a Sponsor Club does not have a district or multiple district YCE Chairperson, a Club President will be required to sign for the Exchange Youth along with the district governor, and to work directly with the YCE Chairpersons in the host countries of interest to make all arrangements. The following are general responsibilities for the Sponsor:

- Ensuring that the [YCE policy](#) is followed;
- Ensuring compliance with local laws governing youth protection;
- Verifying the exchange youth have sufficient accident, life, personal property, health and liability insurance to cover all contingencies during travel to and from their host country;
- Recruiting, screening and selecting qualified exchange youth;
- Help Exchange Youth use the [YCE Directory](#) to find their desired programs;
- Conduct an orientation session for outgoing exchange youth;
- Assist exchange youth with travel arrangements;
- Potentially provide assistance with or full financing for exchange youth travel costs including air fares, insurance, airport service fees, customs duties and any layover or overnight costs in route;
- Maintaining communications between the exchange youth, host Lions club, host family and YCE Chairperson.

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

How to Become a Sponsor Club!

- Write a press release about the YCE program requesting youth who are interested in the YCE program to contact your club; and
- Contact local schools and universities, especially the foreign language or international studies departments, with information about the YCE program to recruit young people.

Have questions, comments or concerns? Please contact us at youthexchange@lionsclubs.org.

It's a summer program for 3-4 weeks depending on the country they select to go. Deadline to submit an application to go aboard will be March 30, 2025. Departure date, any time from June-July depending on the country they choose.

Continued

CONT'D

Youth Camps and Exchange Host Lions Clubs

Host Lions Clubs work closely with the selected youth participants, host families and the district or multiple district YCE Chairperson. If a Host Club does not have a district or multiple district YCE Chairperson, a Club President will be required to sign for the exchange youth along with the the district governor, and to work directly with the YCE Chairpersons in the sponsoring country to make all arrangements.

The following are general responsibilities for the host Lions club:

- Ensuring that the YCE policy is followed;
- Ensuring compliance with local laws governing youth protection;
- Verifying the exchange youth have sufficient accident, life, personal property, health and liability insurance to cover all contingencies during travel to and from their host country;
- If your club is hosting an International Camp, your club should do research in case you need to secure separate insurance coverage for the camp itself depending on the activities of the camp;
- Making arrangements for the youth exchange's arrival/departure;
- Recruiting, screening and providing orientation to host families;
- Maintaining communications between the youth participants, Sponsor Lions Club, Host Family and YCE Chairperson; and
- Providing transportation to events organized by your club, including meetings and service projects.

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

How to Become a Host Club!

Use the International Directory to contact the nearest YCE Chairperson to find out how your club can participate in the YCE Program as a Host Club. If there is no YCE Chairperson in your area, speak with your District Governor to start a new YCE Program!

Have questions, comments or concerns? Please contact us at youthexchange@lionsclubs.org.

**Incoming participants, from July 26 thru August 16, 2025.
One week stay at the Camp, from August 3 thru August 9, 2025**

Lions:

You all are invited to a three session workshop on Growing Lions. This workshop is presented by LionsUSA as an aid for the support to help us achieve the goals of Mission 1.5.

Please distribute among the Lions in your clubs. All are invited to attend. As of this date, 75 Lions have registered for it. This email is being sent to more than 350 Lions in our areas that included UP, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois.

Hope to see you there! Happy Holidays....

PID Bob Block

Robert "Bob" Block — International Director (2019-22) — (219) 671-0287 — GAT CA-1 Area E Leader — *"Make Your Mark"*

LIONS OF THE UNITED STATES & Its Affiliates

Growing Lions Workshop

Join Lion leaders from across Global Action Team Area 1E
to learn tips & tools you can use to
start new clubs & grow membership in existing clubs.

This Workshop is designed for your District Growth Team to work through
the process of starting new clubs together & use these same tools to
rejuvenate membership in current clubs — and, if all goes well,
have a new club chartered, or well on its way to being chartered,
by the end of the 6 week session or soon thereafter.

All sessions are virtual & begin @ 7 PM CST (Central)



Thursday, January 16
Thursday, January 30
Thursday, February 13

Advance Registration Required

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email
containing information about joining the meeting.

<https://bit.ly/AreaEGrow>

Workshop Overview

- Session 1 - Mission To Grow, Resources, Clubs Types & Formats, Develop Your Team, Identify Areas of Opportunity & Site Research
- Session 2 - Promoting the New Club, Inviting A New Generation, Recruitment Models, Recruiting Tips
- Session 3 - Formation Meetings, Club Process & Approval & Launching the Club
- Each session involves a 120 minute virtual learning component, success stories, and an assignment to complete before the next session
- District Teams will work together during each session to plan & strategize
- Live participation in all sessions is strongly encouraged
- Session recordings will be available



Frozen Paw 5K

Presented by Chief Financial Credit Union

Sunday, January 19, 2025

Join us for the 2025 Frozen Paw 5K, a spirited run through the heart of Downtown Rochester during the Frost Festival!

This exciting event, held in conjunction with the annual celebration, is more than just a race - it's a chance to support a great cause. All proceeds will benefit Leader Dogs for the Blind, helping provide essential services and instruction for those who are blind or visually impaired.

Lace up your sneakers, embrace the winter chill, and run with purpose to make a difference in the lives of individuals in need. Don't miss out on this fun and impactful community event.

The race starts at 9 a.m. EST!

Only service animals are allowed at this event, no personal dogs are permitted.

[Register for Frozen Paw 5K](#)

Fellow Lions,

I hope this message finds you well! Attached are three documents for your review and to share with your districts and clubs:

1. Lions Bear Lake Camp State Chair Report – This provides an overview of recent activities, accomplishments, and upcoming opportunities at the camp. This report will also be shared during the upcoming Council of Governors meeting.
2. Ice Plunge Flyer – Help us spread the word about the 3rd Annual Ice Plunge! We’re looking for sponsors and jumpers for this exciting event. Please note, there’s a limit of 200 tickets this year, so don’t wait to secure yours.
3. Workbee Flyer – Our Annual Workbee is coming up, and we’d love to see Lions from across the districts join us for a fun and productive day at camp. Please share this flyer to help us recruit volunteers.

Lions Bear Lake Camp continues to make a meaningful impact, thanks to the support of Lions like you. Your dedication helps us provide life-changing experiences for kids and families, and we are truly grateful for all you do to keep our mission moving forward.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for sharing these opportunities with your districts and clubs.

Yours In Service,

Chrissy Andre
 State Chair, Lions Bear Lake Camp
 Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11





Lions Bear Lake Camp

3RD ANNUAL ICE PLUNGE & DINNER

Fundraiser

DRESS UP AS YOUR FAVORITE SUPERHERO AND ENJOY A FUN FILLED AFTERNOON. JOIN OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR AN ICE PLUNGE, FOLLOWED BY A DELICIOUS DINNER.

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT
ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

Dinner Includes Costume Contest

<p>Soup Bar</p> <p>Bread Bowls</p> <p>Salad Bar</p> <p>Hot Chocolate Bar</p> <p>Dessert</p> <p>Cash Bar</p>	<p>Prizes for</p> <p>Best Costume</p> <p>Best Jump (no diving)</p> <p>and Crowd Pleaser</p>
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FEBRUARY 1ST 2025

2:00 PM Check-In 3:00 PM Ice Plunge followed by Dinner

\$50 - Jump/Dinner

\$25 Dinner for Spectators Only (Ages 0-5 Free, 6-12 \$10)

Seating limited to 200 so get your tickets early.



For More Information Contact

Chrissy Andre 989-627-3808 chrissy@bearlakecamp.org

Traci Tribble 989-277-7437 traci@bearlakecamp.org

Sign up online at bearlakecamp.org under the "Events" Tab

****Costumes are encouraged, birthday suits highly discouraged.****



LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP

Spring Workbee

May 10th, 2025

Registration 8:00 AM
Cleanup 9:00 AM



LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

Easy, Medium, and
Advanced Tasks available

Please bring your own gloves and tools



Lions Bear Lake Camp
3409 N Five Lakes Rd
Lapeer, MI 48446

PLEASE RSVP TO:

traci@bearlakecamp.org
jwalling@bearlakecamp.org

Report to the Council of Governors - Lions Bear Lake Camp

From hosting record-breaking numbers of campers to expanding our retreat offerings and community outreach, Lions Bear Lake Camp continues to make a lasting impact. This progress reflects the hard work of our team, the commitment of volunteers, and the support of Lions across Michigan.

A Record-Breaking Summer

This past summer, Lions Bear Lake Camp set a new record with **1,079 campers**, a significant increase from the 785 campers we welcomed last year. This growth highlights not only the increasing demand for our programs but also the camp's reputation as a place where young people can experience personal growth, connection, and adventure.

The numbers only tell part of the story. For these campers, Bear Lake Camp is more than a summer getaway. It's a place to overcome fears, try new activities, and build confidence. From climbing the tower to kayaking on the lake, each camper left with memories that will last a lifetime. For some, it was their first time feeling truly included and capable, and that sense of empowerment is priceless.

As we transitioned from summer camp to **retreat season**, the energy at the camp hasn't slowed down. Every weekend is filled with quilting groups, scrapbooking weekends, crafting retreats, and more. In September we hosted **Rochester Choir, St. Joseph School, and Great Lakes Deaf Quilters**. **Troop 127** utilized our camping hill and climbing tower. In October, we hosted the **Lapeer FFA** for an evening of team-building activities, reinforcing our commitment to serving the broader community. We also hosted many other crafting retreat groups in October and November including **Susan G Komen Group, Lake Orion Lioness, Cameo Quilting Guild, Crazy Crafters, and Justice for Lily**.

Continued



October/November Highlights

Ultra Marathon

On October 5th, the camp hosted the **Bear Lake Ultra Marathon**, which continues to grow in popularity. This year's event brought together runners and supporters from across the United States, raising vital funds for the camp while showcasing our beautiful grounds. The event is more than just a race; it's a celebration of the community that makes Bear Lake Camp what it is. The proceeds from the marathon will help maintain our facilities and support our programs, ensuring that we can continue to provide transformative experiences for all who visit.

Jim White's Appreciation Dinner

On November 3rd, we celebrated **IPDG Lion Jim White** with an appreciation dinner that brought Lions together to honor his leadership and service. Attendees were also given tours of the camp, offering a firsthand look at the facilities and programs their support helps sustain. Events like this are an opportunity to connect with our supporters and show them the direct impact of their contributions.

Wheelin' Team Harvest Dinner

Later in October, we hosted the **Wheelin' Team Harvest Dinner**, with over 80 people in attendance. We hosted their harvest dinner which completed a long weekend where they took 50 hunters out. This event brought together individuals and families to share a meal, connect, and enjoy the welcoming environment that Bear Lake Camp offers. "Founded in 2003 in North Branch, Wheelin' Team 457 started as an indoor air rifle program with the help of the North Branch American Legion. Since its start it has grown to serve those all around the United States providing physically challenged individuals recreation inside and outside. The nonprofit provides education and guidance to the community, state and nation and strives to touch the world. No matter what a person in a wheelchair wants to do, from basketball, to bowling, to hunting, to fishing, to golf, to kayaking and more, the members of Wheelin' Team find a way to make it happen."

Community Engagement

Our team has been hard at work extending the camp's reach and building relationships across Michigan. **Executive Director Traci Tribley** has been traveling to district project nights, fall conferences, and appreciation dinners to share the Bear Lake Camp story and inspire Lions to get involved. Fall Conferences and Project Nights included **B1, B2, and E1**. She also attended the **Wayne County Community Resource Expo**. Most recently, she presented to the **Grand Rapids Lions Club**, receiving enthusiastic support for the camp's mission.

Meanwhile, **Challenge Course and Marketing Director Ken Gillotte** has been focusing on outreach to local schools and community groups, introducing them to the opportunities Bear Lake Camp provides. He attended and presented at the **Low Vision Expo** held at Leader Dog. Ken presented at two local schools in October and November. He will soon be presenting to the **Hadley Lions Club**, furthering our connections and spreading awareness of the camp's impact. **Food Service Director/State Chair Lion Chrissy Andre** represented camp at the **11-C1 Project Night** in October.

We were also proud to be represented at the **National Federation of the Blind Conference** in Kalamazoo by **Lion Fran Grabowski**. This presence strengthens our partnerships and emphasizes our commitment to inclusion and accessibility.

Looking Ahead: Summer 2025

Planning for the 2025 summer season is well underway, and we're looking forward to another incredible year. Key dates include:

- **Registration Opens:** January 1, 2025
- **Open House:** July 12, 2025
- **Visually Impaired and Blind Camp:** July 13-19, 2025
- **Deaf and Hard of Hearing Camp:** July 20-26, 2025

The 2025 schedule will feature **11 full weeks of programming**, continuing our partnerships with organizations like PB&J Foster Camp, MSU Kessum, Camp Quality, Sterling Heights Band Camp, Michigan String & Orchestra Association, Jack & Jill, and others. These partnerships are integral to our mission, allowing us to reach more campers and provide them with unforgettable experiences.

CONT'D

Upcoming Events and Fundraisers

Annual Workbee

On **May 10, 2025**, Lions and community members will gather for the **Annual Workbee**. This event is a chance to prepare the camp for summer while exploring the facilities and connecting with others who share a passion for our mission. For those who haven't visited recently, it's an opportunity to see all the updates and improvements we've made.

Ice Plunge

The **Ice Plunge** is set for **February 1, 2025**, and we're counting on Lions to make it a success. Encourage members to jump, sponsor participants, or simply attend to cheer everyone on. Sponsorships are especially important for this fundraiser, and we appreciate any help securing them.

New Fundraiser: Clay Shoot

We're excited to introduce a Clay Shoot fundraiser on September 6, 2025, at the Fenton Sportsmans Club. This event will be a fun way to engage supporters while raising funds for the camp. More details will be shared as the event approaches.

Other Fundraisers

- **Wild Game Dinner:** April 12, 2025
- **Golf Outing:** June 9, 2025

Each of these events supports the programs and facilities that make Bear Lake Camp special. We hope to see many Lions involved in these efforts.

Ongoing Needs

The success of Lions Bear Lake Camp depends on the continued generosity and support of Lions clubs and individuals. Running a year-round camp comes with challenges—from maintaining heavily used facilities to expanding accessibility and offering new programs.

Your donations help us replace aging equipment, improve safety measures, and ensure that our facilities remain welcoming for all. But we also rely on your time and advocacy. Whether it's volunteering at the Annual Workbee, spreading the word about our programs, or attending fundraisers, every effort makes a difference.

For those who haven't visited the camp recently, I encourage you to come out and see the impact of your support. Walking the grounds, meeting the staff, and witnessing the joy of campers firsthand is a powerful reminder of why we do what we do.

Lions Bear Lake Camp is more than just a summer camp. It's a place where kids find confidence, adults find connection, and everyone leaves with memories that last a lifetime. None of this would be possible without the dedication of Lions like you.

Thank you for helping us continue to grow and thrive. Your support ensures that Bear Lake Camp remains a place where lives are changed and futures are brightened.

Respectfully submitted,

Lion Chrissy Andre

State Chair for Lions Bear Lake Camp
Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11

Information sent in
by Lion Dave Zeller



2025 MICHIGAN LIONS FORUM
MICHIGAN LIONS-MAKE YOUR MARK! Feb. 28-Mar. 1, 2025
Featuring LCI Guests, PIP Brian & Lori Sheehan

Join us February 28-March 1, 2025 at the Delta Marriott Kalamazoo
2747 S 11th Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Reservations available at the Marriott Delta Kalamazoo
(269) 375-6000 Rate: \$114.00 Use Code: Lions Michigan Forum 2025
Alternate Hotel:
Best Western Suites 269-350-5522 Room Rate: \$114.00

Please complete the registration form and send it along with a check to:
 Lions of Michigan 5730 Executive Drive • Lansing, MI 48911 Telephone 517-887-6640 or Fax
 517-887-6642. **ONLINE REGISTRATION COMING SOON!**

Name _____

Address _____

Club Name/District _____

Contact Phone _____

Email _____

Names of Registrants: _____ Food Allergies: _____

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

_____ Registrants at \$50.00/person* = \$ _____

***Registration includes lunch, Forum, and proceedings booklet.**
Register by February 14 to guarantee lunch and booklet.

Large Group Service Project Friday Night – Lions MI Forum Saturday!

EXHIBITOR'S AGREEMENT

MICHIGAN LIONS FORUM 2025: FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 1

Please reserve a display table for the undersigned at the 2025 Michigan Lions Forum, held at the **Delta Marriott Kalamazoo, 2747 S 11th St., Kalamazoo, Michigan.** *(Set up available on 2/28/25)* Enclosed is a check covering the exhibition fee of \$55.00 OR \$85, which includes an ad in the Forum proceedings booklet and one lunch ticket. The charge is fully refundable only if, for any reason, the Forum is canceled or moved to another city or in case of fire or other catastrophic occurrence to the property. All conditions stated in the letter of invitation shall be accepted and followed by all exhibitors and their representatives. **Exhibitor Hours: Friday, 7:00 – 9:00 pm; Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

The undersigned releases the Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11 and its agents from any and all liabilities that may arise or be asserted as a result of participation in this exhibition. The Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11, Inc. will determine the eligibility of any company or product for exhibit. Acceptance of an exhibitor for the MD 11 Michigan Forum does not imply endorsement of the product or services, nor does rejection imply lack of approval of the product or manufacturer.

Exhibitors shall take precautions to provide security to safeguard their property during show hours. It is understood that neither the Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11, Inc. nor the Delta Marriott Kalamazoo (nor legal entities which own, lease and/or operate it), nor their members, officers, directors or employees shall be responsible for injury to any person or persons for loss or damage to property belonging to the exhibitor or any person or persons while in transit to or from the hotel or while in the hotel property or otherwise. The exhibitor assumes complete responsibility and liability for all injury to any and all persons or property in any way connected with exhibitor's display caused by the exhibitor, his agents, representatives or employees. The exhibitor indemnifies and agrees to hold harmless the Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11, Inc. and the Delta Marriott Kalamazoo (and legal entities which own, lease and/or operate it), their members, officers, directors and employees against any and all liability whatsoever arising from any or all damage to property or personal injury caused by exhibitor or his agents, representatives, employees or any other persons.

EXHIBITOR'S SPECIAL

Exhibit Table; 1 Lunch Ticket and

Full-page Ad in the Michigan Forum Proceedings Booklet for just \$85.00!

EXHIBITOR TABLE ONLY: \$55.00

Registration Deadline to guarantee lunch and booklet: February 10, 2025

MAIL FORM AND CHECK TO: LIONS MICHIGAN FORUM

5730 EXECUTIVE DR., LANSING, MI 48911

PHONE: 517.887.6640 FAX: 517.887.6642 EMAIL: wburns@lionsofmi.com

Name:	
Business:	Club:
Billing Address: (City, state, zip)	
Home Phone:	Business Phone:
Email address:	Cell Phone:
DO YOU REQUIRE AN ELECTRICAL HOOK-UP? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	
<input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is my check for \$	



Hello Lions of District 11-E2,

The district convention is approaching and it's time to register. This year's convention will take place on Friday and Saturday, April 25-26th at Treetops Resort in Gaylord. There will not be any activities on Sunday. The deadline to register is March 17, 2025. We will have Past International President Ron Keller and his wife, Kitty, speak at the luncheon and dinner.

The theme of the convention is TEAMWORK. We would like you to wear your favorite sports team shirts on Friday night. It could be U of M, Michigan State, Red Wings, Detroit Lions shirts, etc. This will go along with the theme of TEAMWORK. We will have a sports and Lions trivia contest with prizes on Friday night.

The service project will be done on Friday night. It is hygiene bags for the Women's Resource Center in Gaylord. We are hoping to make 240 of them. We'd also like you to take some to your clubs to distribute in the surrounding areas. The site to contribute will be emailed to all the district 11-E2 secretaries. You will be able to click on a site to see what's needed. It will automatically subtract what you have entered to donate from the 240 bags we need.

We hope to see you at Treetops Resort for the convention as we come together as Lions! East

Jordan Lions Club

Convention Committee

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Complete one form for each person!
Registrations are due March 17, 2025

Circle all that apply: Lion Spouse Leo Guest

Club Name: _____

Attendee Name: _____

Name you want on your badge: _____

Address: _____

Telephone () - _____ Email _____

Please check which event you will attend:

	Registration Fee	\$10
	Saturday Luncheon – Soup, Salad, Sandwich, Chips, Cookies	\$30
	Saturday Night Dinner: Chicken Piccata, Beef Medallions Whipped potatoes, steamed vegetables, carrot cake YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO VOTE	\$50
	Pay by card with the link below or write a check:	TOTAL:

Use the secure link below to submit credit card payment or view your order receipt:

Lions District 11-E2 Convention Registration Form

Room Reservations:

**Reservations can be made directly thru Treetops Resort: 989-732-6711.
 Rooms are \$125 through March 17, 2025. King, Queen, Deluxe Queen.
 All are the same price. After this date, rooms are open to the public and
 subject to availability.**

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO : East Jordan Lions Convention

Mail to: East Jordan Lions – PO Box 845, East Jordan, MI 49727

Note: One check can be written for two or more registration forms. Please place the check number in the following bracket of each form you are including.

(Check# _____)

Your convention hosts are: The East Jordan Lions Club. For more information or answers to questions please contact: Linda Gocha 231-536-0837.

dennygocha@gmail.com.



11-E2 DISTRICT NEWS



Rebecca James <rebeccaherrst@gmail.com> Tuesday, December 31, 2024

Good morning all.

I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself to you. My name is Rebecca James and I am the current pediatric cancer chair for district 11-E2. I am a member of the Central Lake Lions Club and have been a member for 4.5 years. I joined our organization in the height of Covid, when we were meeting remotely and practicing social distancing. It is so good to be back to a more normal life, being able to meet as a group and spend our time helping those around us. I wanted to introduce myself to you and I apologize for it being half way through our Lion year before I did so. In addition to being a Lion, I work a full time and part time job and am in college part time. Time completely slipped away from me. I wanted to reach out though because I wanted you to know who to reach out to in order to report any projects your clubs are doing in regards to pediatric cancer. This way I can report things to the district at our quarterly cabinet meetings.

I also wanted to challenge each of you. Our club has been working hand in hand with the Cowell Family Cancer Center in Traverse City for nearly a year. They have so many needs to assist the families of young cancer fighters who are undergoing treatment there. These children come from all over Northern Michigan, not just Traverse City. One of the ongoing needs is what they refer to as Poke Prizes. These are small prizes that the children get to choose from after they receive their treatment, or are "poked". I spoke with my contact at the cancer center earlier this week and she informed me that they are struggling to keep the poke prize cabinet full right now, especially for preteen/teen children as well as the 6-8 year old group. So I wanted to issue a challenge for you to take back to your clubs. I would like to challenge you to work with the members of your club to begin collecting small prizes for these kids during the month of January and have a representative from your club bring them to the February cabinet meeting, where I will collect them and deliver them to the Cowell Center. I firmly believe that if we all collect just a few things, than we can make a huge difference for these kids and free up funds at the cancer center for things that are needed on a greater scale. I have included a link to an Amazon wish list below just so that you can get ideas of some of the things that may work. You do not have to purchase from Amazon, you can keep it local in your community if you would like. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me, either through email or by phone at 231-384-5286. I appreciate all the things that your clubs do to help the individuals in your communities.

Thank you,
Rebecca James

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3C60HZ0YA1VU6?ref_wl_share



Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY 2025

Cabinet Meeting — Saturday, February 8, 2025 — 10:00 a.m. — St. Francis Episcopal Church in Grayling, 6441 W. M-72



PASSINGS REPORTED



Former Lion and President of the U.S.A., **Jimmy Carter** passed on December 29 at the age of 100 years. Carter was born on Oct. 1, 1924, in Plains, Ga. In 1943 he joined the Navy, attending the U.S. Naval Academy. After graduating in 1946, Jimmy married Rosalynn Smith, his life-time partner. Jimmy joined the Plains Lion Club in 1953 and held various leadership positions, including club president in 1957–58. From the Lions he learned not only how to help others, but that he could continue to help others—a concept that drove him to action all his life. Jimmy won the Georgia governorship in 1970, and won the President in the 1976 election. As President he helped advance the four great movements of the 20th century—civil rights, women’s rights, human rights abroad and the environment, including global warming, and hastened the collapse of the Soviet Union. Post President, he sought to continue improving the lives of people not only in the United States, but throughout the World. Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter planned to achieve this by founding The Carter Center in 1982 with a close relationship to Emory University. As an old man in the 21st century, he made sure his Carter Center was on the cutting edge of the new millennium’s big challenges: conflict-resolution, disease eradication, democracy-promotion and sustainable development. In 2002, he won the **Nobel Peace Prize** for his and the Center’s work resolving conflicts and fighting for human rights. Jimmy and Roselynn volunteered for years to build houses for Habit for Humanity. Jimmy Carter dedicated his life to serve others, to help in so many ways, and made his mark for good on this planet.

East Jordan Lions: Clifford F. Bye, 94 of East Jordan passed away Wednesday, November 27, 2024. He was born May 4, 1930 in Bendon. He proudly served in the United States Navy, went on to graduate college and was a dedicated employee of General Motors as a data processor until his retirement in 1989. Upon retirement he moved north to East Jordan and became active in the community. He was a member of the East Jordan Lions Club for 40 years. He will be missed.

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

New Members Reported —December, 2024 (or Earlier)

No New Members Reported

Total: 0 New Member Reported

Information From Club Activities Sent In

On the Mend Reported

No Reports Received

Boyne Valley Lions

DECEMBER 2024

'Tis the season for the Boyne Valley Lions Club to ring the bell for the Salvation Army. This year our day was December 14th from 10 am - 6 pm. A shift is only 2 hours, and we are doing a lot of good for the Community.

The Lions were ringing the bell for the Salvation Army on Saturday (Dec. 14) at Family Fare.

Pictures below. Lions Kecia Freed, Mike Cain, Michelle & James Mitchell, and Judy Smith.



Central Lake Lions

DECEMBER 2024

The Central Lake Lions donated \$1,400 to the Cowell Family Cancer Center to help provide Christmas for 11 families whose children are receiving treatment. We are so glad to help put smiles on their faces

December 19, 2024, Pediatric Cancer Chair Rebecca James presented the check for \$1400 to the Cowell Family Cancer Center.



East Jordan Lions DECEMBER 2024

District Governor Dennis Gocha presented a check for \$1000 to the Care and Share Food Pantry in East Jordan as the result of the East Jordan Lions annual wrapped Christmas gift auction.

Pictured is DG Dennis Gocha with Food Pantry Director Lori Argetsinger and treasurer Dave Rudd.



Most festively dressed at the East Jordan Lions Christmas party were Jennifer Creamer and Bill Thompson.

East Jordan donated \$1000 to the Care and Share Food Pantry from their live auction of wrapped gifts.

Auctioneers were Sharon and Greg McGeorge.



East Jordan Lions had Santa, hot chocolate, cookies and trees for sale on from Thanksgiving thru Dec 23rd. Proceeds went for community projects.



Oscoda Lions DECEMBER 2024

The Oscoda Lions Club ramp crew was out in the cold and wind today (12/08/2024) to build another ramp. Tony Priebe, John Novak, Scott Busich, Bob Drogosch, and Chuck Andrina worked on today's project. The crew delayed their start time until 900 due to the overnight snow continuing into the early morning hours. They finished their work just before lunchtime.



This project consisted of a 16' ramp for access up onto the deck and a smaller 2' ramp to get off the deck into the house. The homeowner's elderly mother moved in with her due to the mother's health conditions. She uses a walker for mobility and could not get up and down the steps into the home. The ramps will make the access for her mother much easier.

WE SERVE!

Pictures: Chuck Andrina, John Novak, Tony Priebe

Bob Drogosch , John Novak, Tony Priebe —



January 2025 — Jimmy Carter

January marks the beginning of the year 2025, and for Lions it is the second half of the fiscal year. Winter is on the rollercoaster pattern of having several days with much higher than normal temperatures and then days much lower than normal — if the word “normal” is still accurate. What to wear, a heavy or medium coat, and whether or not to take the snowshoes in the car is difficult to decide. We'll just have adapt to the Winter weather since that is the Winter weather we will get.

I planned to write about the environment this month, but the passing of President Jimmy Carter brought out much information that many people, including me, didn't know. I knew he was a Lion, but not much more. Below is a writing from Jimmy Carter's Georgia Lions Club:

Posted on April 9, 2020

Former President Jimmy Carter credits Lionism as a positive factor in shaping his life.



Westport Lions Roar

By Lion Bob Reddick

“Lions changed my life,” said former president Jimmy Carter. “I would have never been ambitious enough to run for Governor of Georgia. I would have never dreamed of being President of the United States if it were not for the Lions.”



Jimmy Carter

Mr. Carter followed in his father's footsteps and joined the Plains Lion Club in 1953 a week after he resigned from the navy. During his term as club president in 1957-58, the Plains club built and began operating a community swimming pool. Also, their club was involved in blindness prevention projects in Georgia and Honduras.

Lion Carter found that Lionism is a great way to engage in public service. It helped him to expand his horizons and he credits the many lessons he learned while serving his community as helping him in his career as a politician and peacemaker. He says the Lions' commitment to service showed him the importance of caring for others.

Being zone chairperson, district governor and chairperson of the Council of Governors in Georgia gave him a visible involvement with the Lions. This high profile with the 208 clubs throughout the state of Georgia helped him immensely with his campaign for governor in 1970. During his presidential campaign in 1976, he tributes his “civic involvement as a Lion contributed to my identity as a community leader.”

After leaving the White House, Mr. Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, founded The Carter Center in 1982. Its mandate was to advance human rights and diminish human suffering around the world.

In 1994, the Carter Center partnered with Lions International Foundation (LCIF) SightFirst program and focused on two blinding diseases, trachoma and river blindness. River blindness is a vector-borne parasitic disease that leads to blindness, and trachoma is the leading infectious cause of blindness worldwide.

From 1994 to 2018, the partnership resulted in more than 236 million treatments to eliminate river blindness and over 177 million treatments to halt the blinding effects of trachoma. Over 799,000 sight-saving surgeries to reverse the advanced stage of trachoma have been performed, and more than 3.2 million latrines have been built to reduce transmission of infection. Since 1994, LCIF has approved more than 60 river blindness and trachoma grants totaling over US\$67 million.

LCIF and The Carter Center believe in the power of partnerships. No single organization or country can hope to eliminate tropical diseases like river blindness and trachoma on its own. As we see today, to conquer these dreaded diseases and viruses takes the efforts and cooperation of many diverse teams.

President Jimmy Carter was a man of intelligence, kindness, faith, and determination to make this a better world. He approached politics with a sense of moral responsibility, championing compassion, honesty, and conflict resolution both at home and abroad. Post presidency, he found fulfillment in humanitarian work. He believed he had lived a blessed life, devoted to public service and global betterment. As Lions, he stands as an example that we too can help others and make a better world.

PICTURES OF THE MONTH

Photos of Winter in Michigan



Sunset and Ice

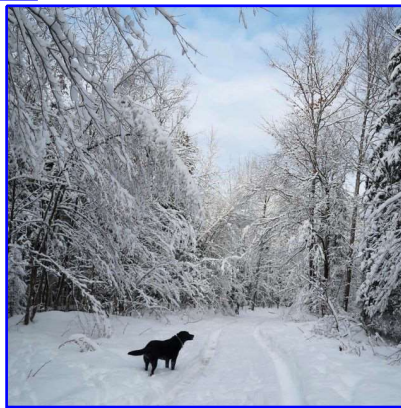
Stock Winter photos taken at various places Throughout Michigan



Winter River Between Snowy Shores



Lighthouse In Ice



Dog Enjoying Snowy Trail



Mackinac Bridge On Snowy Day



Jordan River Near East Jordan

Intriguing Cloud Formations on Winter Day



Snowmobiling Tunnel of Snowy Trees



Great Lake Sunset

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



Lions Clubs
International



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION