

MARCH 2025

Notable Quotes: "It is not in the stars to hold our destiny, but in ourselves". — William Shakespeare

District Governor's Message



DG Dennis Gocha

Hello Fellow Lions,

The snow is melting and spring is on the way. I'm hoping for no more snowstorms!

I'd like to thank the Grayling Lions Club for hosting our third Cabinet meeting. We presented Certified Guiding Lion certificates to Kris Roberts and BJ Sander (absent). And Barb Durlinger and IPDG Steve Murch (via zoom) received an LCIF Supporter Award for their outstanding efforts in obtaining support for LCIF from all the clubs in their district.

A full slate of activities is scheduled for the convention at Treetops. I encourage you to take part in the scheduled activities, which will enhance your relationships with your

fellow Lions, and make you more aware of our district projects. I would like to encourage Lions members to send in their Convention delegate forms and any advertising forms also. Remember to register for the convention by March 17th to ensure a room in the Main Lodge at Treetops Resort. After that date they will open the rooms up to the public. If you have any questions or need forms, please contact Linda Gocha at dennygocha@gmail.com.

Our East Jordan Lions Club recently hosted a "Dinner in the Dark" event in support of Leader Dogs and EverSight. The profit was over \$3,000 with 65 attendees. It is a blindfolded dinner in which you are guided through dinner to experience what the visually impaired would. We will donate all the profit to Leader Dogs and Eversight. Julie Haase and Bethany Hedgepath did an exceptional job as speakers, and they had a question and answer session. We had Lions brochures, applications and a list of our events on the main table to hopefully draw in members, or at least make people aware of the Lions Club. We already have one Lions Club interested in doing a similar event. Contact me if you're interested in doing this.

I would like to thank the Mio and Hale Clubs for their hospitality and delicious dinner in my recent visit. I appreciate it!

Thank you for all you do, and remember we cannot achieve our goals without you!

**District Governor
Dennis Gocha**

2024-2025 DISTRICT OFFICERS REFERENCE LIST

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2 nd VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR	GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM DISTRICT COORDINATOR Linda Gocha 231-536-0837 or 231-350-0204.
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District 11-E2 Website:
lionsdistrict11e2.org

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

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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



MISSION 1.5 Bulletin

A bulletin from your international president and MISSION 1.5, sharing inspiring, life-changing stories.

Why are you a Lion?

It's a simple question with profound answers—friendships made, joy in helping others and countless more. To meet the challenges ahead, we must grow. *MISSION 1.5* is our path forward. Will we rise to the call, as we always have, or let those needs go unanswered? The choice is ours.

Webisode Launch!

Our first webisode is out now! Past International President Brian Sheehan, a true example of what it means to be a Lion, shares his inspiring story and the moments that have touched him most.



[> Watch now](#)



Members Added

These members' lives will be forever changed, as yours has since becoming a Lion, and the lives impacted by these members will be countless. **(Data is from 7/1/24-1/31/25)**



New Clubs Formed

Just as your club transforms your community, these groups unite to create lasting change in theirs. **(Data is from 7/1/24-1/31/25)**



Lions of Michigan - Youth Camps & Exchange Program

Lion Elvie Marfil, State Chairperson 2024-2025

818-800-1060 epmarfil5@gmail.com

Do you know a young person who would like to embark on a life-changing adventure?

The YCE program allows youths aged 15 to 21 the opportunity to travel to a foreign country where they will experience another culture up close and personal in a family environment.

*******Deadline to apply: March 30, 2025*******

Would you be willing to be a host family and open your home to a youth from another country?

Hosting Dates: July 26 – August 16, 2025; Camp Dates: August 3-9, 2025, at D-Bar-A Scouting Ranch

We are actively seeking host families for incoming youth exchange participants.

*******Deadline to apply: June 30, 2025*******

Join in on the adventure of a lifetime!



Thank you,

Lion Elvie Marfil
State Youth Camps &
Exchange Chairperson



We Serve



The Leader Dog Difference

Like the dogs we train, our goal is to be a leader.

Dedicated donor support makes these initiatives possible and allows us to provide our programs at no cost to our clients.

We Innovate

We don't wait for someone else to try it. When we see a need, we address it.

- First dedicated guide dog program for people who are DeafBlind.
- First guide dog organization to provide a free GPS device and training.
- First guide dog organization to provide an accelerated program to teach orientation & mobility.
- First summer camp for teens to incorporate teaching leadership skills, orientation & mobility skills and self-advocacy.

We Improve

We believe that just because something works doesn't mean we can't do it better.

- Modernize housing and training facilities for our clients and our canines.
- Dual-train dogs for people who are DeafBlind to guide and to respond to specific environmental auditory cues.
- Incorporate the most effective, up-to-date ways to train our dogs, including positive reinforcement methods.
- Team up with assistive technology providers to improve technology for people who are blind.

We Listen

Our services aren't "one size fits all." We provide delivery models to meet our clients where they are.

- Customized services for clients who cannot leave work or family for an extended period of time.
- Urban guide dog training for clients who live, work or travel in big city environments.
- Warm weather training during the winter for clients who live in temperate climates.
- On-campus follow-up services for college students who recently received their first Leader Dog.

We Collaborate

Working with others lets us achieve things we couldn't do on our own and opens the door for more creative solutions.

- Team up with guide dog organizations in Spain, Mexico and Brazil to provide training and follow-up services.
- Partner with agencies and universities to fulfill needs in the blind rehabilitation community.
- Share knowledge and metrics through the International Guide Dog Federation and U.S. Council of Dog Guide Schools.
- Work with correctional facilities to raise puppies in prisons.

DONATE TODAY



Dear Fellow Lions,

I hope this email finds you well. Attached, you will find my February State Chair Report, along with several flyers for upcoming events and programs at Lions Bear Lake Camp. Please feel free to share these with your clubs and members to help spread the word.



Your continued support is what makes everything we do possible, and I truly appreciate your help in sharing these opportunities. If you have any questions or need additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for all you do to support Lions Bear Lake Camp!

Yours in service,

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

Lions Bear Lake Camp State Chair Report

Presented to the February Council of Governors Meeting

Recent Event Updates

Ice Plunge Outcome

The Ice Plunge, held annually in February, is one of our best fundraisers. This event is a great way to involve the community while showcasing the camp's impact. This year's event was a resounding success. We had about 120 people in attendance with 30 jumpers braving the icy water. The Ice was 8.5 inches thick this year, the most we have had to date. Final calculations are still being processed but the Ice Plunge total currently is \$20,143, which is a record breaking year. Thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered, jumped, and supported the Ice Plunge.

11-A2 Kickoff Dinner Outcome

Lions Bear Lake Camp was honored to receive a brand-new John Deere tractor, presented at the District 11-A2 Kickoff Dinner, with the keys delivered by AIS Construction Equipment and Nino Messina. This generous contribution was made possible by the support of multiple Lions Clubs, businesses, and individuals, and we are incredibly grateful for their commitment to the camp. The event was a great success, with Traci, Jesse, and Kenny in attendance, and Rachel Lee, a counselor and former camper, sharing how Bear Lake Camp has impacted her life and strengthened her connection to the camp. Thank you to all the clubs that participated in the Parade of Checks—your support continues to make a lasting difference.

Recent Donations and Contributions

Lions Bear Lake Camp continues to thrive thanks to the generosity of Lions Clubs, community organizations, and individual donors. Recent contributions include:

- **Zero-Turn Mower Donation:** The Mount Clemens Lions Club donated a zero-turn mower, improving our ability to maintain the grounds efficiently and keep them safe for campers and visitors.
- **District and Club Contributions:** Many Lions Clubs across the state of Michigan have sent in donations ensuring children with vision or hearing challenges can attend camp this summer.

These donations are instrumental in keeping camp accessible, safe, and welcoming for everyone.

Continued

Deep Cleaning and Maintenance

In January, our team focused on thorough cleaning and essential maintenance to prepare for a busy year ahead. Special attention was given to the kitchen, which was deep cleaned, sanitized, and reorganized to meet high standards for safety and efficiency.

The camp's truck and snowplow have been heavily used this winter to manage the snowy conditions and keep the grounds clear and accessible. The team also worked on equipment inspections and repairs to ensure everything is in excellent condition for the upcoming season.

Opportunities to Support and Connect with Camp

Camp Work Bee

- Date: May 10, 2025
- Time: 9:00AM-3:00PM

The Camp Work Bee is an essential day of service where volunteers come together to prepare Lions Bear Lake Camp for its busy summer season. Tasks include cleaning cabins, clearing trails, sprucing up activity areas, and organizing common spaces. Whether you're an experienced volunteer or simply want to lend a hand, there's a job for everyone. It's also a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the beautiful grounds and connect with other Lions & community members who share a passion for supporting the camp. Volunteers are encouraged to bring gloves, tools, and plenty of energy!

Open House

- Date: July 12, 2025
- Time: 2:00PM-5:00 PM

The Open House is your chance to tour the camp, meet the team, and learn about the programs that make Lions Bear Lake Camp so special. This event is open to Lions members, donors, and community supporters who want to see firsthand how their contributions make an impact. Guided tours will showcase the facilities, from the accessible cabins and activity areas to the waterfront and climbing tower. It's also an opportunity to ask questions, hear inspiring stories, and see the camp in action as we prepare for the heart of the summer season.

Off-Season Rentals and Partnerships

Lions Bear Lake Camp remains active year-round, hosting rental groups and providing training opportunities for community organizations. These partnerships not only bring in vital revenue but also strengthen the camp's connection with the local community.

In **January**, **Camp Quality** staff gathered at the camp for a training session to prepare their team for impactful programming during their upcoming summer session.

March is full of returning groups, including **Crazy Crafters** and the **BLC Crafting Weekend**, who utilize the camp for creative retreats. Additionally, **MSU Kesem** staff will visit for a day of training to prepare for their summer camp sessions, ensuring they are ready to deliver transformative experiences.

In **April**, **Lapeer Search & Rescue** will return for two additional training weekends. On April 9, Lions Bear Lake Camp will host a day program in partnership with **Behavioral Consultants**, designed for children with autism. This initiative provides tailored activities to support social engagement, sensory day retreat, while the **Anchor Bay Quilting Guild**, a long-standing partner, will host their 10-day session at the camp. April also marks the start of **Course & Tower Training** for staff, with programs continuing into May to certify facilitators, ensure safety protocols are followed, and prepare staff to guide campers through these confidence-building activities.

In **May**, Lions Bear Lake Camp will host another autism-focused day program in partnership with **Behavioral Consultants**. Plans are underway to explore the possibility of overnight camps later in the summer to further expand this partnership. **Lapeer Rocks** returns for another overnight team-building

Continued

and educational camp for kids from the Lapeer School District. At the end of the month, the **Camp Cherith Reunion Group** will return for their third year. This group of professional women, who grew up as counselors at Camp Cherith, reconnects with camp life and contributes through meaningful volunteer work.

These rentals, training sessions, and partnerships ensure Lions Bear Lake Camp remains a valuable resource for the community year-round while generating essential revenue to support its mission.

A Look Ahead to Summer 2025

Lions Bear Lake Camp is preparing for an incredible summer filled with **11 weeks of activities and programs** designed to inspire confidence, develop leadership, and create inclusive experiences for individuals of all abilities.

The season begins with the **Lapeer County Intermediate School District (LCISD) Adult Education Camp**, offering outdoor education and team-building opportunities for adult learners. Later in June, the **Michigan Chapter of the American String Teachers Association (MASTA)** will host three levels of string orchestra camps—beginner, intermediate, and advanced—allowing young musicians to enhance their skills in a serene, outdoor environment.

In July, the camp begins with **Supervisor Training**, preparing leadership staff with certifications and tools for a successful season. **MSU Kesem** will host their first session, supporting children whose parents are battling cancer by offering a week of connection and understanding. **Staff Training** will also take place in July to ensure all team members are ready to provide safe and meaningful experiences for campers.

The **Open House on July 12th** invites Lions members, donors, and community supporters to visit the camp, tour the facilities, and learn about the programs. Following the Open House, **Visually Impaired and Blind Youth Camp (VIB)** runs from **July 13–19**, providing adaptive outdoor activities like climbing and kayaking. This session also includes the **Leadership Development Program** for teens aged 15–17. The next week, **Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth Camp (DHH)** will take place from **July 20–26**, offering an inclusive environment with outdoor adventures, team-building, and leadership development opportunities. The month concludes with **Providing a Better Journey (PBJ)**, which supports foster youth through confidence-building activities and connections.

In August, the camp welcomes the **Jack & Jill Motor City Chapter Leadership Program**, focusing on inner-city youth and offering workshops that build confidence and essential skills. We have our **Deaf and Hard of Hearing Family Camp** back for a weekend of fun for families. The **Sterling Heights Band Camp** returns for another week of music and teamwork. The second session of **MSU Kesem** will continue to support children whose parents are battling cancer. Finally, the summer concludes with **Camp Quality**, providing a week of fun, relaxation, and bonding for siblings of children with cancer.

This schedule highlights Lions Bear Lake Camp's commitment to creating life-changing opportunities for individuals of all ages and abilities. Staff will enjoy a well-deserved vacation at the end of August before the fall retreat season kicks off.

Fundraising Events

Lions Bear Lake Camp is excited to host several engaging fundraising events in 2025, offering opportunities for Lions Clubs and the community to come together in support of camper sponsorships, facility improvements, and operational costs.

The **District 11-C2 Fundraiser** will take place on **April 4, 2025**, at the **Grand Ledge Masonic Temple**. Tickets are just \$15 for an evening filled with bingo, raffles, silent auctions, and presentations about the camp's impact. Attendees will hear about successes from 2024 and learn about plans for the upcoming summer season.

Continued

On **April 12, 2025**, the **Buffalo & Boar Wild Game Dinner** will return at the **Metamora Lions Club House**. Tickets are **\$60 per person** and include a gourmet wild game dinner, exciting door prizes, and silent auctions. This event remains one of the camp's most popular fundraisers.

For golf enthusiasts, the **Lions Bear Lake Camp Golf Classic** is scheduled for June 9, 2025, at the **Metamora Golf & Country Club**. Tickets are **\$125 per golfer**, offering participants 18 holes of golf, course contests, and a buffet-style awards dinner. It's a perfect combination of fun and fundraising, with all funds benefiting the camp's mission.

Jimmy John's Field Baseball Fundraiser (July 27th, 2025). This event is a fun way to support the camp while enjoying an evening of baseball, great company, and fundraising opportunities. A portion of ticket sales will go back to Lions Bear Lake Camp. More details will be shared soon!

Our brand new **Clay Shoot Fundraiser** will be held on **September 6, 2025**, at the **Fenton Sportsman Club**. Tickets are **\$75 per shooter**, and the event features a friendly shooting competition, meals, and prizes. Please watch for more information to come.

Bear Lake Camp Ultra Marathon (October 4, 2025): This endurance race is one of our biggest fundraisers, bringing runners from all over to challenge themselves while raising money for the camp. Last year, the event had 114 participants and raised nearly \$10,000. We're looking forward to another great turnout this fall.

These events provide meaningful ways for supporters to engage with Lions Bear Lake Camp, raise vital funds, and have a great time while making a difference in the lives of the campers we serve.

The Importance of Camper Sponsorships

Camper sponsorships are the heart of Lions Bear Lake Camp's mission to provide inclusive, life-changing experiences for children of all abilities. Families pay only **\$40 per camper**, even though the true cost is **\$850 for a week of camp**. Sponsorships bridge this gap, ensuring financial barriers never prevent a child from attending camp. These contributions make it possible for campers to build essential skills like teamwork, leadership, and confidence while connecting with peers in a supportive and inclusive environment.

The need for sponsorships continues to grow, with camper participation increasing by 38% from 2023 to 2024. As we anticipate even greater demand in 2025, sponsorships are vital to meeting this need and ensuring every child can enjoy the life-changing opportunities the camp provides. By supporting camper sponsorships, donors directly impact children's lives, helping them create memories, build friendships, and gain confidence.

Website, Newsletter, and Social Media

Website Updates:

- New merchandise is available for purchase.
- You can now make custom donation amounts directly on the website.

Newsletter:

Our newsletter is filled with updates and event information. Sign up on the website if you're not already receiving it.

Social Media:

- **Facebook**: Engagement is growing, and many events are shared here.
- **Instagram and TikTok**: Follow us at **LBLC_Lapeer** for photos, videos, and updates.

Your continued involvement through donations, sponsorships, and event participation ensures we can keep providing these transformative experiences.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Respectfully submitted,

Lion Chrissy Andre — State Chair, Lions Bear Lake Camp



Lions Clubs of Michigan

SD10 and MD11, Lions International

"MD11 Lions of Michigan Membership Challenge: 3 for Growth!"

Lions of Michigan, it's time to grow stronger together! We're excited to announce the **MD11 3 Member Challenge**—an opportunity to expand your club and honor the incredible service of your members.

Here's how it works:

- Between now and **May 16, 2025** (the date of our State Convention), each club in MD11 is challenged to achieve a **net positive growth of 3 members**.
- Clubs that reach this goal will be entered into a **special drawing** for a **Melvin Jones Fellowship**. The winning club will have the honor of presenting this prestigious recognition to a deserving member in their club.

Simple Tools to Help Your Club Recruit:

INVITE FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Start by asking those closest to you—family, friends, and coworkers—to join your club. Share stories of the impact your club has made in the community to inspire them.

HOST A "BRING A FRIEND" NIGHT: Plan a casual meeting or event where members bring a guest. Include a brief introduction to Lions and highlight the fun and service your club provides.

SHOWCASE YOUR SERVICE PROJECTS LOCALLY: Set up a table or booth at community events like farmers' markets, parades, or festivals. Bring photos, a sign-up sheet, and a friendly smile to share what Lions are all about.

RECOGNIZE LOCAL LEADERS: Identify active community members—such as teachers, business owners, or volunteers—and invite them to join. They're already making a difference and may love the opportunity to expand their impact.

HIGHLIGHT SMALL ACTS OF SERVICE: Organize small, visible service activities like park clean-ups or food drives. Invite the community to join in and share how they can become a Lion to keep making a difference.

KEEP IT PERSONAL: People join people—not just organizations. Encourage club members to reach out personally and share why they became Lions and what it means to them.

Why This Challenge Matters:

Every new Lion brings new ideas, fresh energy, and a heart for service. Growing your club strengthens your ability to serve your community, builds lifelong friendships, and ensures our legacy of service continues.

Let's rise to the challenge and show Michigan what the Lions can do! Together, we can grow stronger, serve more, and build a brighter future for MD11.

The world needs more Lions. Let's make it happen—3 members at a time!

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Lions of MichiganDistrict 11 E-2Cabinet Meeting Minutes, February 8, 2025. Grayling

Cabinet Members in Attendance- DG Dennis Gocha, 1VDG Marie Leathers, CST Durflinger, IPDG Steve Murch (Zoom), GMT Rod Leathers, GST Linda Gocha and ZC's Bill Chase and Kris Roberts

Cabinet Members Absent- ZC BJ Sander, GLT Dave Zeller

Lions in Attendance -PDG Dennis Richardson, Lions Shirley Hill, Jean Manning, Elizabeth Chace, Brian Chace, Rebecca James, Raymond Kuiper, and Burt Young VIA ZOOM -PDG's Bill Gaines and Bev Bodem, Lions Linda Harris, and Don McDonell

The meeting was called to order at 10 AM by DG Gocha. The invocation was offered by IVDG Leathers. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by ZC Chase.

Secretary's Report - Minutes of the 11/4/24 cabinet meeting were presented by CST Durflinger. It was moved by ZC Chase, supported by ZC Roberts that they be accepted as presented. Motion carried. Correspondence consisted of thank you notes from Lion Kay Gaines, Lion Nancy Weston and Lions Bear Lake Camp.

Treasurer's Report- The 2024-25 YTD financial reports were presented, with a beginning balance in the admin account of \$35,621.40, income of \$17,714.38 and expenses of \$14,644.69, leaving an ending balance of \$38,691.09 as of 2/3/24. This consists of \$35,544.17 in admin and \$3,146.92 in convention funds. The projects account has a beginning balance of \$29,231.88 income of \$13,955.70 and expenses of \$12,548.15, leaving an ending balance of \$30,639.43 as of 2/3/25. It was moved by IVDG Leathers, supported by ZC Chase that the reports be accepted as presented. Motion carried. The cabinet received dues payment summaries. We have one club that has not paid second half dues. CST Durflinger will be sending them a third reminder. CST Durflinger reminded clubs that we restructured the district project categories several years ago, but clubs are still sending in contributions using the old categories. She will send out a reminder to clubs with the correct list.

Old Business- None.

New Business- DG Gocha presented awards to PDG Durflinger and IPDG Murch from LCIF for achieving 100% club participation in contributions last year. ZC's Kris Roberts and BJ Sander were presented with their Guiding Lion Certificates. There were also a number of membership chevrons that were passed out to ZC's to present during club visits.

GET Report- IPDG Murch turned in a written report.

GLT Report- No report.

GMT Report- GMT Leathers turned in a written report.

GST Report- GST Gocha turned in a written report. She reminded clubs they can contact her if they are having trouble reporting their service activities. She reported that the district service project at the convention will be hygiene kits which clubs can take back for use in their communities. A spreadsheet was sent out so clubs can sign up to donate the items for the kits. So far only 6 clubs have signed up.

Zone Chair Reports- ZC Sander had no report. ZC Roberts turned in a written report. ZC Chase reported that he has visited three of his clubs and they are doing well.

Committee Reports- Written Reports were provided for **Bear Lake Camp-** PDG Zeller, **District Convention** - GST Gocha, **District Editor-** Lion Dave Zimmer, **Environmental-** PDG Bodem, **Eversight-** Lion Bethany Hedgepath, **Lions of Michigan Foundation-** PDG Leathers, **MD-11 Convention-** IPDG Murch, **Peace Poster-**

Lion Jean Manning, **Project KidSight-** Lions Nate Slezak and Linda Harris. The following supplemented the written reports- GST Gocha reminded people that hotel reservations for the convention need to be made by 3/17 for the discounted rate. She will be sending out packets again to all clubs. Lion Jean Manning reported that 6 clubs have requested a Peace Poster package already. Please let her know soon if your club is interested in participating so that kits can be ordered. They will be passed out at the district convention. She will also inventory her paper supply and buy more if necessary so that clubs have the correct size paper for the posters. She noted that you don't just have to go through your local schools. They can go to Scout troops or other youth groups who want to participate.

Oral Reports- Constitution and By-Laws- IVDG Leathers requested that everyone think about creating a convention committee to try and bring more continuity to our conventions. **Convention Raffle-** ZC Chase reported that the convention raffle tickets have been sent out. If your club did not receive them, please let him know. **District Melvin Jones-** IVDG Leathers reported that 3 nominations have been received. The committee will be voting next week on the recipients. **International Convention-** IVDG Leathers reminded us that International Convention has been moved to Orlando. It will be held from July 13-17, 2025. **LCIFPDG** Gaines reported that the district has contributed \$6,842 through December. The reporting is running behind, but they have hired new staff, so it should improve. He noted that LCIF had sent \$130,000 (or maybe more by now) to both California for the wildfires, and North Carolina for the hurricanes. He will be beginning club visits, and would like to talk to clubs about the legacy program. **Michigan Forum-** IVDG Leathers reminded everyone that registration for the Michigan Forum need to be done by 2/12. The event is from 2/28-3/1 in Kalamazoo. She encouraged anyone who had not attended one before to consider it.

White Cane- Lion Shirley Hill reported that the committee had selected three people for the White Cane scholarships.

Audience Comments- Lion Shirley Hill brought up her concerns about a contract that her club is being asked

to sign for one of their events. She gave the documents to PDG Durflinger, who will contact Lions International's legal department about the situation. ZC Chase reminded everyone about the East Jordan "Dinner in the Dark" to be held on 2/22 in East Jordan. The tickets are \$40 for individuals, \$75/couple. The proceeds will go to Leader Dog and Eversight. PDG Leathers asked everyone to save the date for their 75th anniversary picnic to be held on 5/31 from 1-4 PM. It is a free event for everyone in their community and any district Lions who would like to join them. ZC Roberts asked if everyone would start saving their aluminum pop can tabs. His wife collects them and donates them to Ronald McDonald house.

VDG Comments- IVDG Leathers commented that she is attending training in St. Charles, IL next week. She asked everyone to look over the committee list, and see if there is something that interests them. The current chairmen can always use help! She noted that registrations for the district convention have been slow coming, and asked people to get their registrations in soon.

DG Comments- DG Gocha reminded us that there is no 2VDG. We need to have people step up to district leadership. He noted that our membership is down by 11 people this year to only 662. There is a statewide contest which will run from now through 5/16, and any club that adds at least three new members will be entered into a drawing for a Melvin Jones Fellowship. He has key chains (\$6) and bottle openers (\$8) made and donated by his son that he is selling to raise money for the convention fund.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 11:17 AM. The next meeting date will be Saturday, April 26 at the district convention in Gaylord.

Respectfully submitted,

PDG Barb Durflinger, Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer

Cabinet Meeting Report 2/8/2025

IMPORTANT DATES

Lions of Michigan Forum 2/29/2025, Delta Marriot Kalamazoo.

See Lions of Michigan Website for registration Information

International Lions Forum 9/18/25 Atlantic City NJ

BEAR LAKE CAMP

See District Newsletter for report

PDG ZELLER

Reports for Feb. 8, 2025 Cabinet Meeting

GET

At the end of 2024 we had five district members who were certified Guiding Lions. Those certifications ended at the beginning of the new year. Four district members either went through training via Zoom or through the LCI website. Four Guiding Lions isn't enough if we are going to try and grow the district through new clubs. Each Guiding Lion can only work with two clubs and two Guiding Lions are assigned to a new club. We simply need more people do go through the certification process.

Honorary Committee
Nothing new to report.

Michigan Forum

The Forum is Feb. 28-March 1 in Delta Marriott in Kalamazoo. There is still time to register for the Forum but it must be by Feb. 14. You can register through the Lions of Michigan website and reserve a room by calling the hotel.

State Convention

The Lions of Michigan State Convention is May 15-17 at the Doubletree Hotel in Bay City. This year's theme is going to be a carnival. The districts are all going to be asked to have a booth with a game. You can find more information on the convention at the Lions of Michigan website and registration will start soon.

GMT Report

As of 02/04/2025 the district is at 662 total members. For the fiscal year we have added 71 new members but for the bad news we have dropped 82 members. That puts us at a negative 11 members for the year so far. Let all of us ask someone to join us for a project or meeting this month. Lets increase our club membership by 2 for the month of February.

Council Chair Terri Huffman and our Global Membership Team Leaders challenge you to expand your club membership! Between January 29 and May 16, each club in MD 11 is asked to accept the challenge to achieve a net-positive growth of 3 new Lion members. Clubs to reach this goal will be added to a special drawing to receive a Melvin Jones Fellowship. The drawing will be held Friday evening, May 16, during the MD 11 Lions Convention.

GMT PDG Rod Leathers

Barb

From: Dennis Gocha [dennygocha@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2025 09:53
To: ComDaC
Subject: GST report

I have sent emails to all the secretaries and presidents about entering their service into the MyLion system, especially for their Christmas activities. Also I have resent the service entry instructions to all the clubs again, since I had sent it last fall. I've gotten a few entry questions and our MyLion service entries have increased.

I I-E2 GST Linda Gocha

Zone 2 Report to the Governor 2/5/25

I attended my first Lions Leadership Institute in November, and completed the Guiding Lions online course, also in November, and tested out successfully, although the certificate from LCI has yet to arrive. Attended a Roscommon Higgins Lake meeting on December 3rd with my wife. 5 members were in attendance. At that time, none of the transfers from the Houghton Lake club had attended a meeting or made contact.

We talked about the upcoming (Jan 17-19) Ski for Light that the club co-sponsors with the Ralph MacMullan Conference Center. They think that they will have enough Lions to staff their commitment, but could use some help from local clubs. This concept was well discussed and apparently accepted at our first Zone 2 officers meeting in September.

Through December and early January, I attempted contact with club officers from Lewiston, Lewiston Lioness, and Grayling, being the nearby clubs, by email (ones who have email addresses listed) and placed calls and texts to 2 (unanswered), asking for volunteers to help with the Ski for Light event.

Following up with club secretary Lion Mike Ritchie before the event, I was informed that no other club had contacted him with an offer of help. I sent out another appeal before the event, by email (Grayling, Lewiston, and Lewiston Lioness') and unanswered phone calls (the 2 Lewiston clubs).

Unfortunately, acquiring 35 mini rattle soccer balls, through the district, to present to blind attendees of the Ski for Light was apparently unsuccessful. We learned about these rattle soccer balls at the Leadership Institute and hoped to have them for the event.

I received the following report from Roscommon Higgins Lake Secretary Lion Mike Ritchie in response to my query on February 4.

"We had a good event with 94 participants, 54 skiers , R_HL Lions 6, **other Lions 0**. Co- sponsoring the event allowed us to insure the event and save the event \$2500. We provided a Pizza party Friday night the 17th of Jan, Warming fires for skiers and rides back and forth from the Lodge to ski trails and a Snacks tray between lunch and Dinner. Sunday the weather was near zero and no skiing took place . Good time over all.

Mike Ritchie R HL Lions"

I will be attending the Lewiston Lioness Lions Club meeting on February 5, and will ask whether any of my requests were received. I will also talk about the recent District 10 and 11 Zoom conferences on membership, as well as the Lions USA Zoom 3 part Growth Workshop that will be finishing on February 13th.

I hope to visit the Elk Rapids Club on February 20.

Respectfully,

ZC2 Chair Lion Kris Roberts

krobdi@gmail.com

Barb

From: Dennis Gocha (dennygocha@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, January 31, 2025 09:50
To: ComDaC
Subject: Convention 4/25-4/26/25

The raffle tickets have been sent out to the clubs. Our Audio/Visual contract has been set up. We need ads for our Convention booklet yet. We've sent notice to the Committee Chairs for displays.

The registration seems to be slow and there are only ~~10~~⁹ complete hygiene kits for our service project. So please use the form sent to register for donations for the hygiene kits.

The deadline for meal registration is March 10th. The rooms are only reserved until March 17th and then they'll open them to the public. You could still obtain one, but probably not at a discounted price.

District 11-E2 Newsletter Editor Report: February 8, 2025 Cabinet Meeting

Lion Barb:

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

*Club newsletter submissions for October 2024–January 2025: **9 Clubs - 35%***

Name	Months	Name	Months
<u>Participated</u>		<u>Participated</u>	
Alpena	3	East Jordan	4
Boyne Valley	5	Lewiston Lioness Lions	1
Central Lake	2	Oscoda	3
Charlevoix	1	Roscommon-Higgins	1
Cheboygan	1		

Since our last Cabinet Meeting the Newsletter had nine clubs submit pictures and/or text, for the Months of October, November, December, and January. This month's issue (for January data) had 6 club's, 2 of which I found in Facebook. As I wrote in my last report, submissions should include the date of the club event, and the names of all the Lions and other people shown in the pictures. Again, Lion volunteers who work Lion events deserve to be appreciated for donating their time and efforts, and when these are not included it leaves the readers wondering when the event happened and/or who the pictured people are.

As always, 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

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT FOR Cabinet meeting February 8, 2025

Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow! And more

When we thought we were getting by without much snow in Northern Michigan, we were wrong. We are getting our fair share now. Snow is a good thing. We need snow in the cold winters to protect everything we enjoy in Spring, Summer and Fall. Snow is insulation for our soil. It protects the root systems of trees and shrubs and other plants from freezing. Without the snow, the milder temperatures and sunshine warms surfaces which leads to the soil heaving which can break roots and dry out the plant parts. Soil moisture is protected by the winter snow.

Animals also benefit from the wonderful snow. Mammals, reptiles, amphibians and insects hibernate beneath the ground. You may not realize it but air pockets are found between snowflakes that have fallen. It was found through research that the temperature of soil beneath seven inches of snow was 24 degrees Fahrenheit and the temperature above the snow was 27 degrees Fahrenheit. Snow also protects berries, seeds, etc. that provide food for the living creatures.

Snow is also important in replenishing our ground water as the melting snow (and rain) seep through the soil, filling empty spaces and also cracks underground.

Enjoy our winter snow!

Beverly Bodem, Environmental Chair for Dist. 11 E-2
Bodembd@charter.net 989-354-4656

Information taken from ACCREDITED Land Trust Accreditation Commission, Chikaming Open Lands, Berrien co.

Peace Poster Contest 2025-2026:

The Peace Poster Kits are available for the next contest! The new theme is: "Together As One". Let Jean Manning know if you'd like a new kit, and poster paper. The District was kind enough to order the kits for us in the past, so I could give you a kit (and the correctly sized paper) at the Convention in April.

(Jean's contact information is by text at 989-808-4476 or email (daandjehill@gmail.com))



I hope this letter finds you well and rested after the busy holiday season.

January is a time to rest and prepare for the new year. As we do so, we'd like to take a moment to share key accomplishments from Eversight's final quarter in 2024.

Tissue Transplants

Every year, thousands of donors selflessly give the gift of sight to those in need. In Michigan, 2,477 donors gave the gift of sight as cornea/eye donors from January 1 to December 31, 2024. Below is a breakdown of how donated tissues were used.

Cornea Tissue Transplant Recipients by State	Tissues Placed for Research	Tissues Placed for Surgeon Education
MI – 1,322	MI - 642	MI - 532

Research & Innovations

In December, Eversight was excited to announce a new partnership with 40 scientists, doctors and industry experts from around the country to make whole eye transplants a reality. This team will be led by Dr. Jeffrey Goldberg of Stanford University, and they will work to advance and develop cutting-edge medical devices, artificial intelligence integrations, new surgical techniques, regenerative medicine breakthroughs and improvements to rejection mitigation. Read the full story for more details:

<https://bit.ly/4jpl8yd>

Education & Training

From January 1-December 31, 2024, Eversight staff held 69 educational wet lab trainings for 532 surgeons, residents and fellows at partner institutions on four common types of cornea transplant procedures: Descemet Membrane Endothelial Keratoplasty (DMEK), Descemet Stripping Automated Endothelial Keratoplasty (DSAEK), Penetrating Keratoplasty (PKP) and Deep Anterior Lamellar Keratoplasty (DALK). One of these sessions was held at the University of Illinois – Chicago during the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) conference. This session offered seven surgeons the opportunity to enhance their skills in the DMEK and DALK techniques.

Eversight staff also attended the Cornea and Eye Banking Forum (CEBF) in October. Both AAO and CEBF offer educational sessions in the world of eye banking, as well as networking and collaboration opportunities. Learn more here: <https://bit.ly/4hmk7p>

Global Development

From January 1-December 31, 2024, Eversight placed 2,195 tissues at greatly reduced or no cost in countries around the world who would otherwise not have access to these tissues.

Eversight is collaborating with ACE Care Global on developing plans for an eye bank in Honduras. We are also in the process of developing an eye bank in Morocco in collaboration with Vision Share. In the last quarter of the year, we completed a training program for future eye bankers in Morocco as part of this project.

eversightvision.org

Arizona Connecticut Illinois Michigan New Jersey Ohio South Korea



These eye banks will be instrumental in providing greater in-country self-sufficiency to treat vision loss through corneal transplants.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything mentioned above, please reach out to me at (734) 780-2675 or ateska@eversightvision.org anytime. Thank you for all that you do and best wishes for a wonderful 2025.

In appreciation,

Alex Teska

Alex Teska

Director of Philanthropy

Donors			Recipients		
11-E2	Total	73	11-E2	Total	42
	Alpena	8		Emmet	3
	Arenac	3		Iosco	4
	Cheboygan	1		Otsego	4
	Crawford	7		Roscommon	4
	Emmet	27		Alpena	3
	Gladwin	3		Antrim	3
	Iosco	3		Charlevoix	3
	Kalkaska	3		Cheboygan	1
	Ogemaw	9		Crawford	2
	Otsego	8		Gladwin	4
	Antrim	1		Kalkaska	1
				Montmorency	3
				Ogemaw	3
				Presque Isle	4

eversightvision.org

Arizona Connecticut Illinois Michigan New Jersey Ohio South Korea

Lions of Michigan Foundation report

It is time for the Sight and Hearing Sweepstake tickets again. If you haven't participated in selling them before you are missing out on an easy way to make money for your club and the Lions of Michigan foundation.

Sell 30 to 99 tickets and your club will make \$3.50 a ticket

100 to 249 ticket your club will make \$5.00 a ticket

300 tickets and up your club will make \$5.50 a ticket

We need to have the tickets turned in by May 1 so they can get them all recorded so all the clubs will get their appropriate ticket commission.

There are four \$1000 Hearing scholarships available, and in the past we didn't always get that many applications, so students who may be able to use the assistance aren't getting it. Please check with your local school system and see if they may have someone who qualifies. It is open to HS Seniors, as well as students already in college, so if you have a local community college, check with them as well. I was surprised to hear that on the average there is at least one student per school in the state that is hearing impaired, so we should be able to give this money away! The application is due by 3/15.

Also, if you have a member that you want to nominate for the Lions of Michigan Hall of Fame, we need those applications in by 2/20 so the cabinet can make a selection from the nominees prior to the 3/1 deadline. If you have questions about this or need another copy of the application, let one of us know.

The foundation will be doing a cruise fundraiser March 1st to March 8th 2026, leaving out of Miami Fl. See attached flyer.

You can contact any of us for information or help filling out an application for medical or emergency assistance.

2nd year trustee PDG Rod Leathers from Central Lake Lions 231-350-0567 email leathersrud@gmail.com

1st year trustee PDG Dennis Richardson from Central Lake Lions 231-944-0587 email den7rich@gmail.com

Asst. Treasurer HOF Barb Durlinger from Hillman Lions Club 1-989-742-2790 email comdac@comdac.com

Fund and development committee VDG Marie Leathers Central Lake Lions 231-350-0286 email lionmarieleathers@gmail.com

You can contact any of us for information and assistance to get aid from the foundation.

LMF Trustee PDG Rod Leathers

LIONS OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION—2026 GROUP CRUISE
ROYAL CARIBBEAN - SYMPHONY OF THE SEAS
ROUNDTrip FROM MIAMI, FLORIDA

7-Night Eastern Caribbean Cruise: March 1 - March 8, 2026
Phillipsburg, St. Maarten - Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas - Nassau, Bahamas
Pricing - 2 People

Interior Stateroom: \$1,618.00 + \$400.20 Taxes/Fees + \$259.00 Gratuity

Stateroom Size: 149 to 260 square feet - occupancy up to 4 guests

Balcony Stateroom: \$2,418.00 + \$400.20 Taxes/Fees + \$259.00 Gratuity

Stateroom Size: 182 to 274 square feet - occupancy up to 4 guests



☐ I would like an Interior Stateroom for _____ Adults and _____ Children (Age 12 or under).

☐ I would like a Balcony Stateroom for _____ Adults and _____ Children (Age 12 or Under).

Stateroom Deposit - \$250 Per Person: _____ Check _____ Credit/Debit Card _____ Pay Pal (info@lmsf.net)

Credit/Debit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVV Code: _____ Zip Code: _____

Signature: _____

Legal Names: _____ - Birth Date: _____

_____ - Birth Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

5730 Executive Drive - Lansing, Michigan 48911 - 517-887-8640 - 517-887-8642 (Fax) - info@lmsf.net

Kidsight Report

Indian River Club screened 35 kids with 3 referrals.

YTD Totals 218 Screened, 198 Passed, 21 Referred (9.63%)

Nate Slezak

11E-2 DISTRICT LIONS KidSight has completed 142 screenings.

142 SCREENED

133 PASSED

9 REFERRALS

Currently there are 2 upcoming scheduled screenings in the spring.

Please contact Dr. Nate Slezak (fBigNate34@gmail.com or 989-657-1995)

Linda Harris (1indish72@hotmail!.com, 989-225-1396)

Sincerely,

Linda Harris

KidSight Co-Coordinator



NECROLOGY REPORT

Please return by: March 17, 2025

Dear Club Officers:

Each year District 11-E2 holds a special Memorial Service at the convention. This is a solemn moment when we honor all the Lions who have passed away during the past Lion year. The service will be held on Saturday afternoon after lunch.

Every club is asked to respond by submitting the names of your members whose service on Earth has ended. Furthermore, we ask that you honor them by attending the Memorial Service and taking a tree to plant in memory of them.

Please print or type so that names will be spelled correctly in the Memorial Program.
Also send a photo of the deceased Lion.

Thank you for helping to honor your former member (s).

NECROLOGY REPORT _____
(CLUB NAME)

(CLUB CONTACT PERSON) (PHONE NUMBER)

DECEASED MEMBER(S)

SEND TO: Linda Gocha
4349 Cosier Rd.
East Jordan, MI 49727

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.

2024 CLUB DELEGATE FORM

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LIONS ON YOUR FEBRUARY 2024 MEMBERSHIP

REPORT IS: _____ .

NAME OF DELEGATE OR ALTERNATE:

EMAIL OF DELEGATE OR ALTERNATE:

I hereby certify that the delegates/alternates listed above are members in good standing at the

_____ Lions Club

District 11-E2, Multiple District 11,
and Lions Clubs International.

President's Name

or

Secretary's Name

Please send to: Bethany Hedgepath, 408 W, Hurlbut St., Charlevoix, MI 49720

ADVERTISING ORDER FOR PROGRAM**2025 Lions**

District 11 E-2 Convention
 April 25-26, 2025
 Tree Tops Resort, Gaylord, MI



Individual or Club _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

SIZE OF AD BEING ORDERED:

Width x Height

5 x 8 (Full Page)	\$125.00	_____
5 x 4 (Half Page)	\$ 69.00	_____
2.5 x 4 (Quarter Page)	\$ 49.00	_____

(Sizes shown include borders around the ad)

Customer Signature _____

ATTACH CHECK OR MONEY ORDER (made payable to District 11-E2 Convention Fund) along with printer ready copy.

Please note that this year all ads are full color.

Ad artwork can be emailed to edw@allegraalpena.com

FINAL DEADLINE TO GET AN AD IS APRIL 4, 2025

MAIL TO:

DG Dennis Gocha
 4349 Cosier Rd
 East Jordan, MI 49727

**If you have any questions,
 please contact**

Lion Ed Klimczak:

989-356-0834

989-464-4904

edw@allegraalpena.com

*Life is short, so forgive quickly.
 Believe slowly. Love truly.
 Laugh uncontrollably. Never regret
 anything that makes you happy.
 And have a wonderful journey!!*



Our Motto:

We Serve

2025 Convention District Delegates

The following list shows the number of delegates each District Lions club has:

Alpena- 5	Glennie- 1	Lincoln- 6
Alpena Evening- 1	Grayling- 1	Mackinaw City- 2
Beaverton- 3	Hale- 2	Mio- 1
Boyne- 3	Harrisville- 3	Oscoda- 6
Central Lake- 6	Hillman- 1	Petoskey- 1
Charlevoix- 6	Hubbard Lake- 1	Roscommon/Higgins Lake- 1
Cheboygan- 1	Indian River- 3	Rose City- 1
East Jordan- 4	Lewiston- 1	
Elk Rapids- 1	Lewiston Lioness Lions- 4	

Convention Hygiene Kits

Secretaries and Presidents,

I am sending you what is still needed for the hygiene kits for our Convention. The kits will go to the Women's Resource Center. We still need a lot of supplies and only 6 clubs have donated so far.

I am attaching the link to check on what's needed and the link to enter what you'd like to donate for the kits.

Here are the two links

1. This link is so you can watch the pledges, and the amount still needed [SPREADSHEET with totals for Lions 2025 District Convention Service Project](#)
2. The following link should be sent out to all that can pledge items [Lions 2025 District Convention Service Project](#)

Thank you so much!
Linda Gocha
Convention Chair

LIONS 2025 SERVICE PROJECT ITEMS NEEDED

Hello Presidents and Secretaries,

I am attaching the list for the items needed for our Convention hygiene kits. You can always send in a check for these items, and we'll purchase them for you. Send the check to East Jordan Lions PO Box 845, East Jordan, MI 49727.

Check should be made out to

District 11-E2 Convention Fund.

Thank you,
Linda Gocha
Convention Chair

Deodorant



Toothpaste



Tooth Brush



Nail Clippers



Bar Soap



Shampoo



Comb



Washcloths



Q-Tips



Band-Aids



Lions 2025 Service Project Items Needed (Responses)

Name	Club Name	Deodorant	Toothpaste	Tooth Brush	Nail Clippers	Bar Soap	Shampoo	Comb	Washcloths	Q-Tips	Band-Aids	Email Address
Linda Gocha	East Jordan Lions	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	dennygocha@gmail.com
Barb Durlinger	Hillman Area Lions Club			200	200			96	100			lionbarb@comdac.com
Cheryl McDonell	Hale Lions Club									120		cdmcdonell@gmail.com
Tammy Fitzpatrick	Grayling										100	tammyfitz1966@gmail.com
Shirley Hill	Elk Rapids Lions	240				50	50		24			lhirley@yahoo.com
Larry T Elmer	Lincoln Lions		Lincoln Lions	Lincoln 30								larry.elmer@hotmail.com
Larry Elmer	Lincoln Lions		230	30								larry.elmer@hotmail.com
Barb Durlinger	District 11-E2						100	100				lionbarb@comdac.com
BJ Sander	Alpena					180						bjsander618@outlook.com
Yvonne Mallak	Oscoda				50		100	50	100	12	100	vmallak76@gmail.com
Marie Leathers	Central Lake	72	100	100	100	50	50	100	100	200	75	lionmarieleathers@gmail.com
Michael Ritchie	Roscommon/Higgins Lal					50	50				36	bighandgrampa@gmail.com
Mark Tamlyn	Cheboygan	38	50	50		100		4	10	16	36	marktamlyn@yahoo.com
Nancy Howse	Lions Club of Oscoda								20	10	10	jimhowse@yahoo.com
Totals Pledged		360	390	390	360	440	360	360	364	368	367	
Still Needed		0	-30	-30	0	-80	0	0	-4	-8	-7	



11-E2 DISTRICT NEWS



The district has just purchased 14 soccer balls to be distributed to blind children so they can play soccer, catch, etc. The balls have bells and other noise makers inside them so the students can hear them. Above is a link to the organization that produces them for your information. Please contact local schools, etc, to see if there is a student that may want a ball.

Our balls are covered with Lions related logos. I will bring them to the District Convention so if you have made arrangements for a student that wants one, you can pick them up there. The balls must be given directly to the child, not to a school or other organization. If you can get pictures of your club presenting the ball, that would be great.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks to ZC Kris Roberts who brought this project to our attention.

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

On Feb 11, 2025, at 12:53 PM, Barb <comdac@comdac.com> wrote:

ZC Kris Roberts just contacted me and he has Covid, so wanted me to warn people who attended the cabinet meeting that they may have been exposed.

CST Barb

Barb Feb 12, 2025, 12:38 PM

Just an FYI- another person at the cabinet meeting has tested positive for Covid, so if you aren't feeling well, you may want to get tested.

CST Barb

A LOT of people in northern Michigan have come down with COVID, the flu, or the common cold in January and February. They may not kill you, but any of these diseases can make you feel miserable for more than you'd like, from a few days to a week, or more.

Just take caution when out and about, in places where many people are breathing, exhaling air carrying who knows what. Stay alert, take precautions, and keep healthy so you can continue to SERVE.



Calendar of Events

MARCH 2025

Light Savings Time Begins — March 9, 2025

St Patrick's Day — March 17, 2025

Spring Equinox — Spring Begins — March 20, 2025

APRIL 2025

District Convention — April 25-26, 2025 — Treetops Resort, 3962 Wilkinson Road, Gaylord, MI

MAY 2025

MD11 CONVENTION — May 15-17, 2025 — DOUBLETREE HOTEL Bay City —Guest Speaker **LCI**
President Oliveira



PASSINGS REPORTED



NO Passings Reported

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

New Members Reported — February, 2025 (or Earlier)

Boyne Valley Lions: New Member: **Karen Wright** on Feb. 26

Central Lake Lions: New Members: **Bevin Clayton** and **Kathryn Ring**.

East Jordan Lions: New Members: **Barb Anderson**, **Kurt Tesnow**, &
Jim Cetnarowski

Mio Lions: New Members: **Bob Hill** and **Keith Gusler**

Total: 8 New Member Reported

Information From Club Activities Sent In

On the Mend Reported

East Jordan Lions **Mike Stark** and **Kim Forester** are on the Mending list.

We wish them a quick recovery from whatever they encountered.

Boyne Valley Lions

FEBRUARY 2025

Boyne Valley Lions welcomed speaker Captain Bob Goodenough from the Ironton Ferry on February 12.



The residents of Litzenburger Place were delighted with the holiday party we hosted in December, and we've attached two thank you notes expressing their appreciation. They were especially grateful that we persevered despite the snowstorm. Our thanks to all the volunteers who made the party so special, and a huge thank you to The Dragonfly Fund for their ongoing support. It was a privilege to again serve our extended Litzenburger family.

Below: Lion Bethany Hedgepath (acting King Lion) inducted new member Karen Wright on Feb. 26, with Lion Larry Taylor next to Karen.



Lion Bethany Hedgepath with Feb. 26 guest speaker Pat Little, Superintendent of the Boyne Public Schools.

Charlevoix Lions/East Jordan Lions

FEBRUARY 2025

From Facebook online:

March 4, 2025:
Leadership Charlevoix members visited the East Jordan Lions Club promoting Kiersten's Ride for suicide prevention.

The EJ Lions agreed to donate \$500.



Central Lake Lions

FEBRUARY 2025

Since the last District Newsletter publication the Central Lake Lions Club has distributed \$16,100 to local charities and needs, \$1,000 to Leader Dogs for the Blind and \$1,000 to LCIF.

In addition we will soon award \$6,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors in the Central Lake, Bellaire and Ellsworth school districts.

These figures are what we paid out in the last month. More has been raised and approved.

In 2023/2024 we distributed \$53,022.05 to International, State, District and local projects.

Central Lake Lions added two new members, Bevin Clayton and Kathryn Ring.

L to R in pix: Mike Ring, husband and sponsor, Kathryn, Bevin, Kevin Clayton, brother and sponsor. King Lion Brian Graff inducting.



East Jordan Lions

FEBRUARY 2025

King Lion Denny Gocha inducted Barb Anderson as a new member into the East Jordan Lions Club. We're glad to have her join us!

From Facebook online



East Jordan King Lion Dennis Gocha inducted Kurt Tesnow as a new member. We are proud and happy to have you as a member!

East Jordan Lions (cont'd)**FEBRUARY 2025**

Right: DG Dennis Gocha awarded the Guiding Lion Training certificate to Kris Roberts from Central Lake at the District 11-E2 cabinet meeting.



Above: DG Dennis Gocha awarded Barb Durlinger a Certificate of Accomplishment for outstanding efforts in attaining support of LCI from all clubs in the district.

IPDG Steve Murch was also awarded this, but is not pictured.



Above: East Jordan King Lion Dennis Gocha inducted Jim Cetnarowski as a new Lions Club member. Jim is a former HS Robotics instructor. We are proud and happy to have him join us!



Left: King Lion Dennis Gocha presented Lion Paul Michael with a Membership Key Award for bringing in two new members. Congratulations Lion Paul!

East Jordan Lions FEBRUARY 2025

Dinner in the Dark

East Jordan Lions earned \$3342 from their Dinner in the Dark event held at the Boathouse on Feb. 24. This money will be donated to Leader Dogs and Eversight.

Dinner guests were blindfolded and guided through dinner by a sighted person to experience what a visually impaired person would.

We would like to thank our speakers, Julie Haase (Leader Dogs) and Bethany Hedgepath (Eversight).

Special thanks to Andrew Bergmann for his video expertise and equipment usage.

From Facebook online



Thank you to our sponsors:

Gold sponsors \$300: EJ, 4-Front, American Legion, EJ Plastics, The Insurance Shop.

Silver sponsors \$200: Atlas Electric, Mark and Cindi Penzien, Mike & Holly Stark, Bill Thompson - Coldwell Banker.

Bronze sponsors \$100: Charlevoix State Bank, Jennifer Burr Group, Save-a-Lot, Jim & Julie Meredith, Marathon Gas Station, Mike & Jen Aenis, and Mike & Pam Burr.

Hale Lions FEBRUARY 2025

District Governor Dennis Gocha and his wife, Linda, visited Hale Lions Club to attend their meeting.

They enjoyed learning about their club and having dinner with them.

From Facebook online



Mio Lions

FEBRUARY 2025

District Governor Dennis Gocha inducted two new members at his recent visit to the Mio Lions Club.

Pictured are sponsor Michele Billmaier, new member Bob Hill, new member Keith Gusler, and sponsor Michael Kaufman.

"It was an informative meeting of learning about their club activities, and enjoying a great lasagna dinner!" — DG Gocha

From Facebook Online



Oscoda Lions

FEBRUARY 2025

The Oscoda Lions ramp builders Tony Priebe, Tony Bol, John Novak and Jason Vallier did it again. They braved the cold weather and build two 4x4 platforms then added a 8 ft ramp from the existing deck then connected 12 ft ramp to the two 4x4 platforms, next they put on a 16 ft ramp to the ground. The ramp was built for the homeowner's wife who's been in and out of the hospital and rehab for over a year. She is getting closer to coming home. The materials were paid by the homeowner. Thanks Tony bol, John Novak, Tony Priebe, and Jason Vallier for coming out in the cold to play. WE SERVE!



MARCH 2025 — Effective Lion Leaders

(I found this very interesting article in last month's District 11-E1 Newsletter, and asked the Editor, Lion Paula Rigling, for permission to put it in our March District Newsletter. Permission was given. Read and learn 6 things that make effective Lion Leaders.)

What Makes an Effective Lions Leader?

IPDG Jim Patterson

I did some research on the internet about being an effective leader and found an absolute flood of opinions: "*The 5 P's of Effective Leadership*", "*The 10 C's of Effective Leaders*", "*12 Characteristics of an Effective Leader*" and on-and-on. I found nearly 50 different opinions of what it takes to be an effective leader. After skimming a bunch of these articles, I decided they were all right and they were all wrong. Being a Lions leader takes a different skill set than a business leader. So here is what I think it takes to be an effective Lions leader.

1. **Stop Defeating Yourself**— One of the worst traits a leader can have is thinking they aren't good enough or no one wants to hear their opinion. But the worst self-defeating thought is that you don't know how to lead. When that happens, you're beaten before the race starts. Of course, you know how to lead – you just need help recognizing that fact.
News Flash! Everyone has doubts – I speak from experience – I have often stood in front of a group of Lions, and thought, "What the heck am I doing here?"
You and I joined Lions for an important reason. Becoming a leader helps you get that reason out in front. Your reason – your vision – is what is important. Quit letting doubt prevent you from sharing your vision of service. Leadership is doing what you know is right.
2. **Be Courageous** – Take all those doubts and put them in the back of your mind and take a deep breath. Then step to the front. Notice I didn't say eliminate the doubts. Those doubts are there to keep you on your toes – nagging you to do your best. But you can't let doubt control your actions. Having the courage to take a leadership role pays enormous dividends. Every ball player steps to the plate expecting to hit a home run. But even if that player strikes out seven out of ten at-bats they're still hailed as a hero. Every leader will stumble somewhere along the way – maybe even fall. So what? Failure is not final; it's just one step on the road to success – ask any baseball player.
3. **Prepare Yourself as Best You Can** – Learn all you can about your club, your district and LCI. You can't know everything and something will come up that throws you. The best thing to know is where to go or who to ask to find the answer. But learning also pays double personal dividends because you become a better Lion and a better leader.
4. **Be Honest** – The absolute worst thing you can do is pass on bad information or a wild guess. It's impossible to know everything so when you don't know, say you don't know but that you will find out. And then go and find out and report back.
5. **Talk to Your People** – Communication is the grease on the wheels of any organization. I cannot stress this enough! LCI sends an absolute flood of emails to club, district and state leaders. Some leaders keep everything to themselves – they seem to have this need for secrecy. I am convinced that is wrong. A good leader informs their membership and asks for opinions and help. Keeping members who have busy personal lives reminded of important Lions events and news is vital to your organization's health.
6. **Do the Small Things** – This was a lesson I needed to be taught. I'd always believed folks didn't join Lions to be rewarded. A good friend of mine encouraged me to start writing thank-you notes. I soon learned that a hand-written thank-you note is more valuable than gold or diamonds. People may not "expect" to be thanked but they are gratified when you do it. And they are more inclined to help someone else down the road. Seize every opportunity to thank and reward those who did you a favor, did an excellent job, or showed you a kindness.

There you have it, my take on effective leadership. None of these things are terribly complicated or difficult but they do take some of your time. But it will be time well spent.

Notice I didn't say anything about goals, objectives, missions, or drives. I'll leave that to you. But if you can't do these 6 things well, you will never accomplish your goals.

PICTURES OF THE MONTH

Variety of Birds on Boardman Lake



Traverse City's Boardman Lake has hundreds of birds that stayed here in winter. Several groups of an assortment of bird species are clustered in the water and on the ice.

Several species of ducks and geese share the ice near this shore and on other areas of ice on the lake.



Besides ducks and geese there are lots of swans on the lake.

These 2 swans are taking to the air with several swans ahead of them.

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

