

APRIL 2025

Notable Quotes: "It is not easy to find happiness in ourselves, and it is not possible to find it elsewhere" - Agnes Repplier

District Governor's Message



DG Dennis Gocha

Hello fellow Lions:

We know we have a little more winter weather left, but the end is in sight! We are approaching our final three months of the Lions year. Its time to think about what officer positions you'd like to hold in the upcoming year beginning July 1st. It will be here before we know it! You should enter those into the MyLion system by the middle of May. Be sure to designate a member chairperson position for bringing in new members. And don't forget to add your new members after swearing them in.

Between now and May 16, 2025, each club is challenged to achieve a new positive growth of 3 members. The clubs that reach this goal will be entered into a special drawing for a Melvin Jones award. The winning club will have the honor of

presenting this prestigious recognition to a deserving member in their club.

I am excited the convention time is getting close. We are working hard to make it a fun and informative convention. It will be a weekend of fun getting to know what Lions in our District are doing for fundraisers, etc. The Friday night mixer will have a Lions and sports trivia contest with prizes. Be sure to wear your favorite team shirt on Friday night. It will be held at the beautiful Treetops Resort, April 25-26, 2025. Your registration forms will need to be sent in by April 12th in preparation of the convention meals. My East Jordan Club is the host for this year's convention. We will have the convention raffle drawing as usual, so don't forget to bring two new items for that.

The convention service project is over 360 hygiene kits and is taking place at 7 pm on Friday night of the convention. Some of these kits will go to the Women's Resource Center. We would also like the Lions members to take some kits back to their clubs for distribution within their community.

We are still accepting nominations for the position of First and Second Vice District Governor. I encourage those eligible to consider this position to serve the district.

Remember why you joined the Lions and the joy that serving brings to you. Let potential members know what a wonderful feeling it is to help others. Keep up all your amazing work and thank you for everything you do!

District Governor

Dennis Gocha

2024-2025 DISTRICT OFFICERS
REFERENCE LIST

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

District 11-E2 Website:
lionsdistrict11e2.org

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

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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

**Lions International**

Letter from International President Fabrício Oliveira

Embracing the Lion Experience



Dear Lion,

The work we do as Lions has a profound impact on countless communities and lives — including my own.

Becoming a Lion 40 years ago filled a gap in my life I didn't even know existed. While I had been blessed with a beautiful family and a successful business career, it wasn't until I joined Lions that I discovered the incredible rewards of being part of a group dedicated to serving others. The friendships, leadership opportunities and sense of fulfillment have left an indelible mark on my life. For that, I am profoundly grateful.

As Lions, it's important to reflect on how being part of this organization has shaped our lives — and to share those stories with others. Let your family, friends and social media community know why you're proud to be a Lion. Better yet, invite them to join us. What better way to make a mark on someone's life than by offering them the chance to experience the joy of service?

That joy is what fuels my commitment to *MISSION 1.5*, our ambitious goal of reaching 1.5 million members by 2027. Thank you for embracing this mission and helping to spread the joy.

At your service,

Fabrício Oliveira

International President, Lions Clubs International



We Serve.



Youth Camps & Exchange (YCE) SUMMER PROGRAM 2025



Dates to Remember:

Application deadlines:

Outgoing participants: **March 30, 2025**

Host Family: **June 30, 2025**

Incoming Youth Exchange participants:

Arrival date: **July 26, 2025**

Departure date: **August 16, 2025**

D-Bar-A Scout Ranch

Camp dates: **August 3-9, 2025**



Become a Host Family

Bring a new culture into your home!

Multiple District 11 is looking for families in the community who can open their hearts and homes for the month of summer 2025 to host a Youth Exchange Ambassador. These young adults are part of Lions International Youth Camps & Exchange program, bringing young adults from various parts of the world to the United States during the summer program July 26 – August 16, 2025.

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

If you are interested in becoming a Host Family, please contact:

Your District chair or State Chair Lion Elvie Marfil at 818-800-1060, email epmarfil5@gmail.com.

Facebook page: Youth Camps & Exchange - Michigan, USA

Link: [Lions of Michigan Youth Camps & Exchange](https://lionsofmi.com/index.php/youth-exchange) (<https://lionsofmi.com/index.php/youth-exchange>)

Your help is needed!



I'm excited to share our latest episode of Taking the Lead! We recently had the pleasure of sitting down with Sam Seavey, creator of The Blind Life YouTube channel, to discuss his impactful work in the blindness and low vision community.

Sam shared insights about his mission to educate others on emerging technologies in the blindness and low vision field, highlighting how these innovations are creating new pathways to independence.

[Listen to the full episode here *](#)

You can also find Sam's excellent content on YouTube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@theblindlife> *

Thank you for being part of our incredible Leader Dog community and for helping us share these important stories with the world.

- Christina

P.S. If you'd like to share this story with others, feel free to forward this email or direct them to our [podcast page](#). *

Christina Hepner
Digital Marketing Manager
Leader Dogs for the Blind

christina.hepner@leaderdog.org *

Leader Dogs for the Blind | 1039 S. Rochester Rd. | Rochester Hills, MI 48307 US

* Use website address or link to open websites



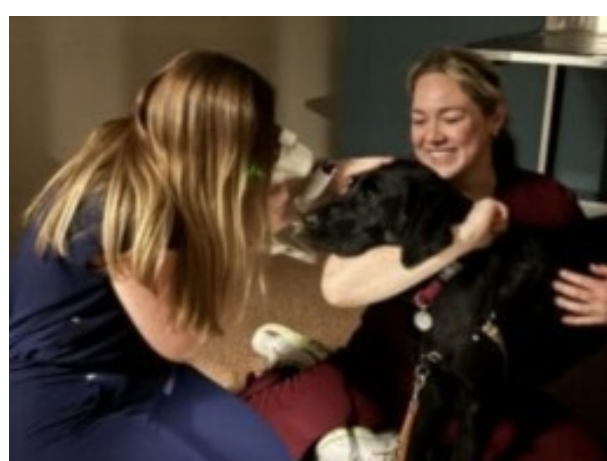
How Veterinary Students and Leader Dog Collaborate to Ensure Healthy Eyes in Future Leader Dogs

As part of their advanced ophthalmology elective, veterinary students from Michigan State University's (MSU) College of Veterinary Medicine are diving deep into the world of eye care. Leader Dogs for the Blind's breeding team invited these students to help perform some routine eye exams on our breeding stock dogs. The students that participated have a keen interest in ophthalmology, making this opportunity an ideal way to gain hands-on experience and improve their skills in examining eyes.



During their training, they perform indirect ophthalmology exams using a specialized lens and a head-loop to get a clear look at the back of the eye. This method allows them to observe the retina and other vital structures, ensuring they can identify potential issues.

In addition to this, they also use a slit lamp to examine the lens of the eye, a technique commonly used to detect cataracts or other abnormalities. These exams are crucial, as they help students understand how to spot conditions that could affect a dog's ability to see properly, potentially impacting their ability to work as guide dogs.



Why These Exams Matter for Leader Dog

Eyes can change rapidly, and abnormalities may not always be detectable in young dogs. Many eye conditions only become apparent after a dog reaches the age of three or older, which is why regular eye exams are essential. At Leader Dog, we ensure that our breeding stock dogs undergo annual ophthalmologic exams. This practice not only helps us catch any potential problems early but also gives us confidence that our dogs are in top health and capable of producing healthy offspring.

With these exams, we can monitor the eyes of our breeding dogs to ensure they're free from hereditary conditions that could be passed on to future generations. It's all about setting up the next generation of Leader Dogs for success.

A Mutually Beneficial Collaboration with MSU

The partnership between Leader Dog and MSU goes beyond simply providing us with valuable eye exams for our dogs. Since MSU is a teaching hospital, having their students visit a few times a year offers multiple benefits. It gives us the opportunity to have our dogs examined regularly, and if any abnormalities are detected during these routine exams, we can address them promptly.

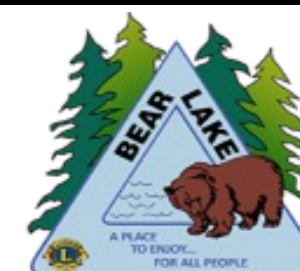
But it's not just a win for us — it's also a fantastic learning experience for the veterinary students and residents. Working with Leader Dog's breeding stock allows them to observe a population of dogs that may not be seen as frequently at MSU's clinic, offering them a rare and unique learning opportunity. These dogs are part of a specialized program, and their eye health is of utmost importance. By interacting with this different population, students get exposure to a range of conditions and cases they might not otherwise encounter.



"As someone who has completed both an internship and residency at an academic institution, I can say firsthand that these types of learning experiences are invaluable," says Leader Dog's Assistant Director of Canine Health and Reproduction Dr. McRae.



Welcome to this Month's Newsletter



Greetings Lions, Supporters, and Camp Family,

As April settles in, we feel grateful for the momentum, the kindness, and the steady support that continues to lift Lions Bear Lake Camp. From meaningful donations to events that surpassed all expectations, this past month has been full of moments that remind us how strong our camp family really is.

CAMPFIRE CHATS: STORIES THAT WARM THE HEART

Some people quietly keep camp moving, always showing up and doing what needs to be done.

Gregg Bennett from American Speedy Print is one of those people. For the past few years, he's been the steady hand behind our flyers, signs, and print materials. Even on short notice, Gregg delivers—always with care and never looking for credit. He's more than a vendor. He's part of our Bear Lake family.

We're also sharing a few heartfelt reflections from **Sawyer Croll**, a former camper who's now part of our staff, and **Ava Pruden**, who grew up attending our Deaf & Hard of Hearing sessions and will soon represent the U.S. in the DeafSwim Olympics in Tokyo. Their stories are reminders of just how much this camp can shape a life.

CAMP UPDATES: WHAT'S NEW AT BEAR LAKE CAMP

Spring has brought new energy to the grounds. Quilting and crafting groups have been filling the cabins with laughter, while several of our summer partners have been using camp as a space to train and reconnect. There's something about seeing groups come together this time of year—it's calm, creative, and full of meaning.

We also had the chance to share our mission with a wider audience during a recent feature on **The Balancing Act Local Edition**. If you haven't seen it yet, it's worth a watch. It captures the heart of what we do better than words can.

 [Watch the Segment](#)

LBLC SPOTLIGHTS: CELEBRATING OUR CAMP COMMUNITY

This month's spotlights shine on three amazing supporters of Lions Bear Lake Camp:

- **Leo Schaefer**, our board member and longtime Lion, whose leadership touches everything from fundraising to groundskeeping.
- **Cash Gertizer**, who keeps our dishroom running strong. He trains new dishroom staff, earned his ServSafe certification, and takes pride in every detail of his work.
- **Camp Quality USA, Michigan**, one of our most meaningful partnerships. Their commitment to children with cancer and their families has brought so much life, resilience, and joy to Bear Lake.

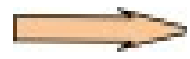
These are the folks who make it all possible.

BEYOND THE HEIGHTS: A LOOK INSIDE THE CHALLENGE COURSE

In this month's piece, Kenneth "Mr. G" Gillotte shares how our challenge course pushes boundaries—both physically and emotionally. The climbing tower, zipline, and course elements aren't just about fun. They're about growth.

Our facilitators go through hands-on training to make sure everyone, regardless of ability, can participate fully and safely. That kind of inclusion takes intention, and it's part of what makes the Bear Lake experience so powerful.

Continued 



🎯 STAY CONNECTED AND GET INVOLVED

There are lots of ways to support camp in the coming months:

- 🔧 **Work Bee – May 10**
- 🏌️ **Golf Classic – June 9**
- ⚾️ **Baseball BBQ Fundraiser – July 27**
- 🔥 **Clay Shoot – September 6**
- 🏃 **Ultra Marathon – October 4**

You can also sponsor a camper, volunteer your time, or pick something off our wishlist. However you choose to get involved, we're grateful you're part of the Bear Lake story

[Get Involved or Donate](#)

Open the attached newsletter for full stories, updates, and more!

Thank you for being part of the Lions Bear Lake Camp family—together, we're creating lasting memories and making a real impact. Please download and share our newsletters and invite your friends, family, club members, and fellow supporters to sign up today.

Enjoy!

-The Bear Lake Camp Team

[Download Newsletter Here](#)

[DONATE NOW](#)

Wild Game Dinner – Join Us for a Night of Great Food & Fun!

Get ready for an evening of delicious food, great company, and exciting raffles at our **Wild Game Dinner!** This event is a fantastic way to support Lions Bear Lake Camp while enjoying a unique dining experience. Proceeds help us continue providing life-changing experiences for our campers. Stay tuned for more details—we can't wait to see you there!

TICKETS ARE LIMITED, GET YOURS TODAY!

[GET YOUR TICKETS NOW](#)



THANK YOU



Lions Bear Lake Camp Buffalo & Boar Wild Game Dinner

Metamora Lions Club House, 3790 N. Oak St. Metamora, Mi. 48455

Saturday, April 12, 2025

Doors open at 5pm-Dinner at 6

Tickets \$60 per person OR \$400 Table of 8

Gourmet Wild Game Dinner Catered by Metamora Country Club!

3 Drink tickets! Cash Bar for Mixed Cocktails!

Raffles! Door prizes! Silent Auctions! Hourly Drawings!

SPONSOR OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE

Platinum \$2,500

Gold \$1,000

Silver \$500

See the second page for sponsorship and event details.

Order your tickets today online

www.bearlakecamp.org "under the event tab"

Or to purchase tickets via mail send check payable to Lions Bear Lake Camp

Mail to: 3409 N. Five Lakes Rd. Lapeer, Mi 48446

For More information Contact

Jack Patton japlapelp@gmail.com 248-535-9011

Traci Tribble traci@bearlakecamp.org 810-245-0726

Rick Fleming rick.metamoracc@yahoo.com 248-969-2120



EVENT SPONSORSHIP

Platinum \$2,500.00

Logo placed on event banner & program
 Sponsor recognized throughout the event
 Table of 8 with 3 drink tickets each
 Golf for a foursome at the Lions Bear Lake Camp Golf
 Classic and the awards dinner.

Gold \$1,000

Logo placed on the event banner & program
 Sponsor recognized throughout the event
 Table of 8 with 3 drink tickets each

Silver \$500

Logo placed on the event banner & program Sponsor
 recognized throughout the event Table of 4 with 3 drink
 tickets each

Contact Jack Patton for more details

248-535-9011 or japlape@gmail.com

\$100 MEGA Ticket Raffle

CHANCE TO WIN 1 of 3 BIG GUNS

***Stevens 555**

***12 Gauge Over/Under CVA Cascade 350 Legend**

***Bolt Action Sig Sauer P365XL 9mm**

**1 CHANCE TO WIN A 30 GUN SAFE WITH
 MYSTERY GUN**

20 BUCKET RAFFLE TICKETS

\$20 Mystery Gun with Gun Safe Raffle

Bucket Raffle Items

Fishing Rod Combo Kit

Gas Grills

Ice Fishing Package

Shooting Range Membership

Wood Carvings

Booze Baskets

Trail Cams

And More

Silent Auction Items

\$500 Value or More

36" Black Stone Griddle Package

Fishing Charters

Pheasant Hunts

Play & Stay Golf Pkg

Weekend Stays

\$20 Card Gun Raffles

Combo of Guns & Crossbows

Gun Mfg. like Glock, Henry,

Smith & Wesson, Savage,

Ruger, etc.

CASH Square Boards

\$10 per square / 100 squares

1st Drawing \$250

2nd Drawing \$150

3rd Drawing \$100

ITEMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON AVAILABILITY

From PIP Brian Sheehan at the recent Forum:



5 BENEFITS OF BEING A LION



1. To have fun.
2. To be a part of something big, yet unique.
3. To have opportunities for personal growth
4. To be a part of a global and international organization
5. Because doing good feels good



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!

5730 Executive Drive • Lansing, MI 48911
phone: 517-887-6640 • fax: 517-887-6642
email: lions@lionsofmi.com • website: www.lionsofmi.com



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.	
_____	or _____
President's Name	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



11-E2 DISTRICT NEWS



It is time to start thinking about running for a district office. The open elective positions for the next Lions year are: District Governor, 1st Vice District Governor, 2nd Vice District Governor and a two year term for Lions of Michigan Foundation Trustee. The required qualifications for each office are attached.

Nominations must be received by Lion Bethany Hedgepath (bethany@boyncityhc.com), Elections Chairperson, by April 24, 2025. If no nominations for a particular office are received, nominations will be solicited from the floor. If you are interested in running for an office and have any questions, please feel free to contact me for more information.

If you do want to run, while the deadline from nominations is 4/24, turning them in earlier will help me with preparation of the ballots ahead of time. In addition to sending your nomination to Lion Bethany, please also send me a copy.

Barb Durlinger
Cabinet Secretary/Treasure
989-742-2790
lionbarb@comdac.com

Requirements for District Offices

District Governor-

- 1) Be an active member in good standing
- 2) Receive the endorsement of his/her club
- 3) Currently be serving as 1 st Vice District Governor
- 4) If the current 1 st VDG does not stand for reelection, a member who fulfills the requirements for 2 nd VDG plus one additional year as a member of the district cabinet

First Vice District Governor-

- 1) Be an active member in good standing
- 2) Receive the endorsement of his/her club
- 3) Currently be serving as 2nd Vice District Governor
- 4) If the current 2 nd VDG does not stand for reelection, or if the position is currently vacant, any member who fulfills the requirements of 2 nd VDG is eligible

Second Vice District Governor-

- 1) Be an active member in good standing
- 2) Receive the endorsement of his/her club
- 3) Have served, or will have served at the time he/she takes office as 2 nd VDG as:
 - a) President of a Lions Club for a full term or major portion thereof, and a member of the Club board of directors for no less than two additional years and
 - b) As Zone Chair, Region Chair, District GST, GLT, GMT, or GST, District LCIF coordinator, or Cabinet Secretary

Lions of Michigan Foundation Trustee-

- 1) Be an active member in good standing
- 2) Receive the endorsement of his/her club



We Serve

Calendar of Events

APRIL 2025

District Convention — April 25-26, 2025 — Treetops Resort, 3962 Wilkinson Road, Gaylord, MI
Easter — Sunday 20, 2025 🕊🕊🕊🕊🕊🕊 **Earth Day — Tuesday 22, 2025**

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 — MARCH, 2025 (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

MARCH 2025

Lions District Convention April 25th and 26th:

Registration Forms are past due but we probably can still get you registered. The Board has agreed to pay for the registration (\$10) and lunch (\$30) for all Lions that want to attend the District Conference - \$40/Lion.

We need 3 or 4 Lions not attending the District Conference to work serving hot dogs, soda, chips for Buff Up Boyne on April 26th.

March 26

Lion Kecia Freed (left) and Lion Karen Wright (right) receive a Lions mug from King Lion Julie Hasse (center). Karen and Kecia provided tips on how to reduce life's stress using tools available from their business called Pause, Breathe, Proceed.

From Facebook



East Jordan Lions

MARCH 2025

Lion Linda Gocha, Duane Durflinger, Lion Barb Durflinger, Karen Black, DG Judy Keller and her husband Dave.



DG Dennis Gocha and wife Linda at the Forum in Kalamazoo filling hygiene bags for the service project.



U.S. Robotics instructor, Michael Lochs, spoke to the East Jordan Lions Club, and they donated \$500 to his robotics class.

Continued

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

State Governors at the 11-D2 Convention at Bear Lake Camp in Lapeer.



Dennis and Linda Gocha at the 11-D2 convention at Bear Lake Camp.

Ron and PID Deb Weaverling with 11-D2 Governor Judy Keller and husband Dave at the 11-E2 convention at Bear Lake Camp in Lapeer.



Oscoda Lions

MARCH 2025

Bowling is Fun and a Great Fundraiser

The 17th annual Best Ball Bowling Tournament was a great success. Lion Jane reported that \$2,350 was added to our activities account.



Twelve teams on each shift enjoyed the bowling, the trick shots and the fun of spending time together. Each bowler received a prize for participating and special awards were given to the winning teams and the top bowlers on each shift.



Once again, our community businesses and individuals (68 of them) made the prizes possible. We especially thank the five sponsors, Irish Pub, Kalitta Air, Lions Wayne and Carole Schultz, Myles and Sons Insurance and P&L Manufacturing. Really big thanks go to Lions Jane, Von and Ann and the rest of the Lions who assisted or bowled that day.



APRIL 2025 — Fury of the “Ice Hurricane”

Well, March is over and April is here. March 20 was the Spring Equinox, the day Winter ends and Spring begins. Normally there are a few snowfalls in April, usually shortened as days continue to be above freezing temperature. Winter typically turns somewhat warmer by the end of March, and April continues to offer rising temperatures as it moves on to May. That's the normal way it usually goes, and how we believe it should be. This year we've experienced a new event, something different.

A large storm, warned ahead by scientific weather forecasters, swept into northern Michigan, Lower and Upper, on Friday evening, March 28. There was an awesome show of lightning, uncountable bolts filling the sky with constant light and thunder, for 15 to 30 minutes. As the lightning receded, a downpour of rain fell for awhile. Then the rain turned into pellets of ice that continued with high winds and higher gusts that howled in the night. We awoke on Saturday, March 29, to a land of a dusting of snow and a coating of ice on everything outside. It was cloudy all day, with spurts of snow, rain and ice drops. Tree branches of all kinds were bending down by the weight of the ice. The evening hours brought another part of the storm with ice growing everywhere. About 8:30 pm the lights suddenly went out. The winds and coats of ice had reached the point of damage for electrical power wires. Thousands of people in Northern Michigan lost electrical power. We thought it would be only a few hours before the power would come back on, and we went to bed.

Sunday morning, March 30, we looked outside to see everything covered by a thick layer of ice, covered by snow. Branches on trees pointed down with the heavy added ice, and many branches were broken and lying on the ground. There was still no power, and winds were still blowing fiercely. Rain, snow, and more ice were falling, off and on all day. We realized that this was really a dangerous event and there was nothing we could do about it. Everything came to a stop: No power. No furnace heat. No water. No showers. No lights. No TV. No phone connection or texting. No internet. No mail for a couple days. No way to know what was happening around us, what the weather forecast would be.

Fortunately, our gas stove allowed us to have cooked meals, and our gas fireplace gave us some heat, though the bathrooms and bedroom were beyond the fireplace heat to keep them warmer. Flashlights and headlights let us get through the house as needed at night. The lack of flushing water for the toilets was “Problem Number 1.” I went outside and shoveled snow into a plastic container, which I took into the house. The snow melted near by the fireplace, and by filling a cooking pot with snow that melted on the stove—flushing water successful! We were able to get drinking water and other things from Meijer's in Petoskey, the only store open early in the power blackout. Meijer's was also the only open gas station in Petoskey early on — we saw scores of cars lined up for gas.

Our neighbor came over with a small generator which he connected to our furnace, and we had a brief time of 70 degrees in the house. He did that 2 days, and we were very thankful for his generosity.

Driving around Petoskey and Harbor Springs was almost like being on another planet; ice covered trees, branches, and power wires down everywhere. As much as the ice storm made things difficult and left unbelievable damage, the ice cover was dazzling, especially when the sun was out and giving the ice its glittering light. It was the most beautiful disaster I never thought I'd see.

The power came back on at 5:06 am on Wednesday, April 2. As I write this on Thursday, April 3, the ice has melted away, but the internet is still not connected. My experience in this area may be different from other areas, but I think we all agree we don't want to have another storm like this one!

I call this an “Ice Hurricane”. Hurricanes are large powerful storms that hit wide areas with high winds and incredible precipitation, and leave massive damage behind. This “Ice Hurricane” was a powerful storm that hit wide areas with high winds (less than 100 mph, but 50 or 60 mph) and excessive precipitation as ice, and certainly caused enormous damage. Only difference: colder storm.

Without power Northern Michigan and the people who live here have suffered, had our lives suddenly changed, faced with survival conditions, watching water trickle from the refrigerator as the freezer thaws. Many have power now, many others don't. It will take time, but we will bounce back.

Also, we need to honor the many people fixing power lines and removing downed trees. THANK YOU!

PICTURES OF THE MONTH

Beauty & the Beast Photos



The Moon transformed into a breathtaking “Blood Moon” during the total lunar eclipse of 14 March 2025.

Ice and wind downed trees and power lines in Northern Michigan. These photos show some unbelievable results.



Thick Ice covers a branch.



Ice laden branches pull down wire.



Heavy ice pushes the branches of trees down.



Branches bending in ice.
Broken icy branch tangled on wire among iced trees.



The mighty Bear River, running high and fast, fed by Winter’s melting ice & snow, into Little Traverse Bay.



Ice covers Petoskey’s quarry pond view.



Broken branches block access to a bridge over the Bear River(Petoskey).



Hiking area on Quick Road is unusable as fallen trees and broken branches block all trails.



03/29/25 Smoke tree ice bending.
03/30/25 Smoke tree ice weight pulled on to the ground.



04/06/25 Smoke tree is back to normal. Nature’s ability to bounce back — Amazing!



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

