

DISTRICT 11-E2 NEWSLETTER



Notable Quotes: *"Competition has been shown to be useful up to a certain point and no further, but cooperation, which is the thing we must strive for today, begins where competition leaves off."* — Franklin D. Roosevelt

NOVEMBER 2025

District Governor's Message



Dear Fellow Lions of District 11-E2,

I look forward to seeing many of you at our second cabinet meeting on Saturday, November 22 at 10:00 a.m. at the VFW in Gaylord. Please remember **ALL LIONS** are welcome and encouraged to attend. Why should you attend? *It's a great way to meet other Lions and share what your clubs are doing, and to learn more about how our great service organization can help in your own communities.*

Here's a little of what's in store at the cabinet meeting:

It's Peace Poster time!

All clubs who participated in the Peace Poster Contest will have their winning poster there to judge. *All in attendance will get a chance to vote for the District winner who will move on to the State competition.*

Calling Outdoor Enthusiasts!

Guest speakers from The Michigan Ski For Light will tell us more about their 50th anniversary event on Jan 16-18, 2026 and present ways we can help. *You don't need to be a skier to help with this amazing event where the blind can SKI!*

Hunger Grant Update

We have raised over \$35,000 of the \$50,000 contribution needed towards our \$200,000 grant for the Food Bank Expansion project in Gaylord. Thank you to the clubs and individuals that have contributed. *Please consider a club and/or individual donation if you haven't done so.*

District, State and International Updates

Learn how Lions can help your club and *your* community

District Convention Updates

The Roaring 20's themed convention promises to be a fun, educational and interactive time. Come for the day, or immerse yourself in everything Lions for the whole weekend at Treetops Resort in Gaylord April 24-26, 2026. *See how you can be involved in the planning.*

Lunch - available at the Landing Zone, attached to the VFW Post

Guiding Lion Training OR Q&A Session on everything Lions

We will split into two rooms, one for Guiding Lion training, and one for an informal Q&A where you can ask your questions about anything Lions. Whether you're a seasoned Lions attending the Guiding Lion Training or want to just learn more about Lions, come with your questions and we'll try to find the answers!

Don't forget to mark your calendars for November 22! See you in Gaylord!

Thank you for all you do!

Marie Leathers

District Governor, 11-E2

lionmarieleathers@gmail.com

(231)350-0286

"Alone we can do so little, Together we can do so much" - Helen Keller

District 11-E2 Website: lionsdistrict11e2.org

2025-2026 DISTRICT OFFICERS REFERENCE LIST

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VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR NA	GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM District Coordinator Dennis Gocha 231-350-1906 dennygocha@gmail.com
2 nd VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR Kris Roberts Central Lake Lions Club krobdi@gmail.com 701-409-9160	GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM District Coordinator BJ Sander bisander618@outlook.com 989-464-9885
CABINET SECRETARY/ TREASURER Barb Durlinger Hillman Lions Club lionbarb@comdac.com 989-742-2790	GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM District Coordinator Rod Leathers leathersrod@gmail.com 231-350-0567
GLOBAL EXTENSION TEAM COORDINATOR Steve Murch stevemurch49707@gmail.com / 989-657-9277	

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 Ron Morgan Indian River Lions Club theshootist65@gmail.com / 231-881-5091	Boyne Valley, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, East Jordan, Indian River, Mackinaw City, Petoskey	ZC BJ Sander Alpena Lions Club bjsander618@outlook.com / 989-464-9885	Alpena, Alpena Evening, Glennie, Hillman, Hubbard Lake, Mio
ZONE 2	CLUBS	ZONE 4	CLUBS
ZC Kris Roberts Central Lake Lions Club krobdi@gmail.com 701-409-9160	Central Lake, Elk Rapids, Grayling, Houghton Lake, Lewiston/Lewiston Lioness Lions, Roscommon- Higgins Lake	ZC Kay Gaines Oscoda Lions Club kgaines143@gmail.com 989-739-2779	Beaverton, Hale, Harrisville, Lincoln, Oscoda, Rose City



Lions International

[MISSION 1.5](#)[DONATE NOW](#)

THE DISTRICT DIGEST

A MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE LATEST LION NEWS

MISSION 1.5 NEWS

Power Up Your Recruiting Plan

Our new Recruitment Made Simple webpage is your go-to guide for boosting club membership. From marketing and outreach tips to inspiring success stories, we've got the resources your team needs to grow. [GET STARTED](#)

DISTRICT NEWS

Introducing Lion AI

Artificial intelligence is changing the way we live — and serve. Our new Lion AI on lionsclubs.org is designed to help you identify resources, generate ideas and even create entirely new content. It's easy to use, Lion specific and always on, so check out Lion AI today. [GET STARTED](#)

Find Everything You Need to Start a New Club

Looking to start a new club? Then explore the Start a New Club webpage, which features helpful information to help you successfully charter a new club, club branch or specialty club. [LEARN MORE](#)

Support MISSION 1.5 Through the Global Membership Approach

The Global Membership Approach equips districts with a growing collection of resources to expand their membership through a strategic process. The Global Membership Approach is universally effective, adaptable to meet regional needs and a great way to reach your MISSION 1.5 targets. [LEARN MORE](#)

Facilitate a Specialty Club Workshop

Every day, Lions united by special interests and a commitment to service are chartering new specialty clubs. Learn about the benefits of chartering a specialty club and consider facilitating a *Specialty Club Workshop* to see how it can benefit your district and multiple district. [LEARN MORE](#)

Apply for a New Voices Grant

New Voices symposiums are designed to promote gender parity and diversity, highlighting needs and service opportunities available to inspire women and young adults to join our organization. Consider applying for a New Voices Grant that can help cover the costs associated with hosting a symposium. [LEARN MORE](#)

Funding Available to Help Charter New Clubs

Membership Development Grant funds support a wide variety of membership efforts and activities to recruit more members and start new clubs. Apply today and grow your membership. [LEARN MORE](#) 

SVDG Virtual Seminar Begins Soon

Registration for the SVDG Virtual Seminar is opening this month ahead of the online seminar launch in November. Please confirm that your SVDGs are receiving communications about their training and understand their attendance schedule.

[VIEW MATERIALS](#) 

Enhance Your Skills as Zone Chairperson

The *Zone Chairperson Orientation*, available in the Lions Learning Center (LLC), provides essential information about the role and its responsibilities. Access it today by logging into the Lion Portal, selecting Learn, and then LLC. [LOG IN](#) 

Celebrate Our Global Kindness

Lions International districts and clubs reported 1.5 million service activities last year and, with support from Lions Clubs International Foundation, improved the lives and brightened the futures of 410 million people worldwide. See the impact we've made across our global causes! [LEARN MORE](#) 

The Week of Service for Mental Health and Well-Being Is Now

During the Week of Service for Mental Health and Well-Being, October 4-12, encourage your clubs to plan meaningful projects that make a difference. And remember, World Mental Health Day is October 10. [GET STARTED](#) 

Congratulations to the Top Service Reporting Districts

Last year, 158 districts achieved 90% or more of their clubs reporting service. Download the list of the Top Service Reporting Districts and a certificate for the winners to recognize their efforts. [DOWNLOAD NOW](#) 

Service Award Nomination Deadline Approaching

October 31 is the deadline for Kindness Matters Service Award nominations to be received at international headquarters. Global Service Team coordinators should ensure nominations are moving from clubs to districts to multiple districts in recognition of the most outstanding service projects of 2024-2025. [LEARN MORE](#) 

Celebrate Your MISSION 1.5 Success

To help support MISSION 1.5, International President Singh is offering awards to Lions who have been instrumental in driving membership growth. Review the criteria to see how you can qualify for one of these prestigious awards. [LEARN MORE](#) 

CLUB NEWS

Review the Club Officer Guide

The *Club Officer Guide* features tools and resources to help club officers excel in their roles throughout their term. Download your copy today and learn how you can lead a unified and effective team of club members and officers. [DOWNLOAD NOW](#) 

A Tale of Two Clubs

From big cities to small towns, Lions are thriving. Discover how two clubs — one in Minnesota, one in Texas — are connecting with new members, building stronger ties in their communities and helping us meet MISSION 1.5 goals. [READ MORE](#) 

Celebrate Our Global Kindness

Lions and Leos reported 1.5 million service activities last year and, with support from Lions Clubs International Foundation, improved the lives and brightened the futures of 410 million people worldwide. See the impact we've made across our global causes!

[LEARN MORE](#) 

Leo October Membership Growth Award

Leo club advisors may present the Leo Membership Growth Award to any Leo who recruits three or more new members during the month of October. To obtain this award, advisors must submit the nomination form by November 15. [LEARN MORE](#)

Report Your Leos and Leo Officers

Encourage the Leo advisors in your area to report their Leos and Leo officers today. Reporting is the first step for strong communication and strong clubs. [GET STARTED](#)

Lions Bring Joy, Connection and Makeovers to Seniors

See how Lions in Arizona are addressing the mental health and well-being needs of the elderly community through connection and joy in this inspiring video. [WATCH NOW](#)

Apply for an FDI in Togo or Italy

Qualified Lions or Leos in Constitutional Areas VIII and IV are invited to submit their FDI applications by November 16, 2025, for FDI Lomé, Togo, and by December 5, 2025, for FDI Venice, Italy. [APPLY NOW](#)

How Did Your Club Serve During Celebrate Community?

Share your club's stories of joint service with Kiwanis, Optimist and Rotary during the 2025 Celebrate Community initiative. Let's continue to grow and inspire worldwide volunteer collaboration together. [REPORT NOW](#)

World Food Day Is Here

World Food Day is October 16, so take a moment to explore our hunger resources to learn more about the importance of this global day and how your club can make a difference. [LEARN MORE](#)

Celebrate World Mental Health Day on October 10

The best way to celebrate World Mental Health Day on October 10 is by supporting and strengthening mental health in your community. See how Lions in England are doing it by building a facility for families to mourn and grieve in a safe environment. [READ MORE](#)

Take Part in the Weeks of Service Video Showcase

Lions and Leos, don't forget to record and submit your Mental Health and Well-Being Weeks of Service project video, no longer than 90 seconds, by October 24. Share your impact and inspire others through the video showcase! [LEARN MORE](#)

Thanks to All the Service Reporters

Last year, 158 districts around the world had 90% or more of their clubs reporting service — and we thank every Lion and Leo who supports their club and their district by reporting service. Learn more about the value of service reporting. [LEARN MORE](#)

Celebrate Melvin Jones' 147th Birthday with LCIF

LCIF is recognizing Melvin Jones's 147th birthday in January 2026. Help honor our organization's founder with your first donation to our foundation — or add to your existing support. Encourage your fellow Lions and others to join you with their gifts to LCIF. [DONATE NOW](#)

LCIF Grant Funds Awarded to Empower Global Service

During the August 2025 LCIF Board of Trustees meeting, more than US\$9.3 million in grant funds were approved to enhance our impact. Explore the LCIF Grants Toolkit to learn how you can expand your service. [LEARN MORE](#)

Lions Provide Nourishing Meals in Budapest

Learn how Lions in Hungary used an LCIF grant to expand the reach of a Budapest communal kitchen by purchasing transport vans to deliver daily meals to more people in need. [READ MORE](#)

Service Award Nomination Deadline Approaching

If your club delivered an outstanding service project in 2024-2025, there's no time to lose. Send a Kindness Matters Service Award nomination to your district Global Service Team coordinator today. All nominations must be received at international headquarters by October 31. [GET STARTED](#)

Continued

World Sight Day Is Here

Recognize World Sight Day on October 9 by exploring the updated vision webpage. Here, you'll find new tools and resources, including the Lions Eye Banks resource and the Lions KidSight program. See how your club can make a difference in this important global cause. [LEARN MORE](#)

Show Your GAT Pride

Global Action Team (GAT) merchandise is available in the Lions Shop. Represent your team with banners, name badges, pens and tablecloths, and share your enthusiasm for the GAT at your next Lion event. [SHOP NOW](#)

Highlight Your Impact in the Video Showcase

Encourage clubs to submit 90-second (or shorter) videos of their Weeks of Service Mental Health and Well-Being projects by October 24.

[LEARN MORE](#)**Lions Are Leading the Way**

An energetic Paraguay Lions club is expanding its membership while having fun — and you can too.

[LEARN MORE](#)**Apply to Join a Faculty Development Institute**

Develop your foundational knowledge and training skills with an FDI.

[APPLY NOW](#)

This email was sent to the following titles: District Governor, Coordinating Lion, Acting District Governor, Immediate Past District Governor, Past District Governor, First Vice District Governor, Second Vice District Governor, District Governor Elect, Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer, Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Treasurer, District Convention Chairperson, District Diabetes Chairperson, District Environment Chairperson, District GMT Family & Women's Specialist, District Honorary Committee Chairperson, District Hunger Chairperson, District Information Technology Chairperson, District International Convention Chairperson, District Leo Chairperson, District Lions Quest Chairperson, District Marketing Chairperson, District Peace Poster Contest Chairperson, District Pediatric Cancer Chairperson, District Protocol Chairperson, District Public Relations & Lions Information Chairperson, District Reading Action Program Chairperson, District Vision Chairperson, District Youth Camp and Exchange Chairperson, District GMT Coordinator, District GLT Coordinator, District GST Coordinator, District Global Extension Team Coordinator, LCIF District Coordinator, Leo/Leo-Lion Cabinet Liaison, Region Chairperson, Provisional Region Chairperson





Can glasses really change accessibility? That's the question we're asking in this week's episode of Taking the Lead.

Meta Smart Glasses have been making headlines as a tool that could transform how people who are blind or have low vision interact with the world. The promise is huge, real-time descriptions, instant access to information and greater independence.

But do they actually deliver on that promise?

In this episode, we dive into the pros and cons of the technology, hearing directly from users about what works well and where the gaps still remain. It's a candid look at innovation, accessibility, and what it really means for daily life.

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

Thank you for tuning in and for supporting conversations that matter. Together, we're shining a light on tools and technologies that can make a real difference.

- 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

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Dear Leader Dog Community,

The Department of Education has announced a reduction in force that would eliminate most positions within the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), effective December 9, 2025.

If these layoffs proceed, they could undermine the Department's ability to carry out its responsibilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Randolph-Sheppard Act. This would disrupt access to Braille education, mobility and employment training, and entrepreneurial opportunities for people who are blind or have low vision — services that are critical to the independence we foster every day at Leader Dogs for the Blind.

We urge you to take action. Please contact your elected officials and let them know that these programs must be protected. Your voice can help preserve the resources that empower people who are blind or have low vision. [Find your representative.](#)

Together, we can make a difference.

With appreciation for your voice and action,
Melissa Weisse
President, CEO
Leader Dogs for the Blind





What does independence look like when you're navigating blindness? For Jeff Petersen, it meant finding the right tools, skills and support to live with greater confidence.

Jeff first came to Leader Dog for orientation and mobility, building skills to navigate the world more independently. Later, he returned for a guide dog, which added a new level of freedom to his life.

In this week's episode of Taking the Lead, Jeff shares his personal journey with blindness, how Leader Dog programs impacted his daily life, and what independence truly means to him.

You may also recognize Jeff from our Dinner in the Dark event last year. **If you missed it, you can watch his story here.**

Then dive deeper by listening to the full episode here.

Thank you for listening and for supporting the stories that showcase the power of independence, partnership, and resilience.

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

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Welcome to this Month's Newsletter

Dear Lions, Supporters, and Camp Family,

The leaves around camp have started to fall, covering the trails like a quiet reminder of how quickly the seasons change. The hum of summer has faded, yet the energy it brought hasn't gone anywhere. You can still feel it in the way people talk about camp, in the stories they share, and in the memories that surface when they least expect it.

As Thanksgiving approaches, there's a deep sense of gratitude that fills this place. Retreat groups gather to reconnect, laughter spills from the dining hall, and moments of quiet reflection remind us how much there is to be thankful for. Every visit, every smile, every shared meal continues the story of why Bear Lake means so much to so many.

CAMPFIRE CHATS

This month's Campfire Chats shares two stories that capture the heart of Bear Lake. We're celebrating Camp Champion **Rich Pfeiffer**, whose years of service and leadership have left a lasting mark on camp, and the **Great Lakes Deaf Quilters**, who filled our lodge with laughter, creativity, and friendship during their weeklong stay.

CAMP UPDATES

The **Bear Lake Ultra Marathon** brought together 114 runners from across the country, pushing through 24 hours on our trails to support camp. We're also celebrating **Eagle Scout Nolan**, whose project added a much-needed bridge along one of our trails—a gift that will serve campers and visitors for years to come.

LBLC SPOTLIGHTS

This month we shine a light on **Board Member Jack Patton**, whose leadership and heart continue to guide our mission, and **Staff Member Scotty Lake**, whose care and dedication keep our grounds beautiful and welcoming. Together, they show what it means to serve with purpose.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ice Plunge – February 7, 2026
 Wild Game Dinner – April 11, 2026
 Workbee – May 9, 2026
 Golf Outing – June 8, 2026
 Open House – June 28, 2026
 Clay Shoot – September 26, 2026

GET INVOLVED

Sponsor a camper. Pick something from our wishlist. Volunteer for a day or tell a friend about what we do. However you choose to show up, you are helping us build something that lasts. Thank you for being part of this journey.

 **Read the full newsletter** to see their stories and feel the spirit of Bear Lake that continues long after summer ends.

With appreciation,

The Bear Lake Camp Team



Lions Bear Lake Camp

Our Mission is to develop leadership skills, build confidence, and to provide a premier outdoor educational and recreational experiences year-round to all persons, regardless of ability.

October 1, 2025

Dear Lion Club President

About 2 weeks ago a challenge was sent out about a special fund raiser for Lions Bear Lake Camp that is located just north of Lapeer Mi. The mission of Lions Bear Lake Camp is to provide a premier educational outdoor recreational experience for children with special needs.

About 5 years ago, with the help of a generous grant, we were able to put new metal roofs on the Main Lodge, the Activities Center and all the Cabins. We are currently looking for help on putting new Roofs on the Directors house, the Nature Center and the Arts and Crafts building. This is where we need your help.

If every club in the state found a minimum \$250.00 in their budget to give for this worthy project, along with the challenge from the Shelby Township Lions Club to match the first \$32,000 raised, we would be able to pay the cost of the replacement metal roofs. These are a 30-year roof so \$250.00 investment divided by 30 years amounts to just \$8.34 a year. Our campers or worth a lot more. Your donation will be much appreciated.

Checks payable to: Lions Bear Lake Camp
 Mail to: Lion Jay Caldwell
 Bear Lake Board Member
 3505 31 Mile Rd.
 Washington Mi. 48095

Thank you so much. Please contact me with any questions.

Leo Schaefer, P.D.G.

11A-2 2020-2021

Shae71par@hotmail.com (586) 843-3222

This \$250 is over and above your regular donation to the camp.

3409 N. Five Lakes Road • Lapeer, MI 48446 • PH: (810) 245-0726 • FAX: (810) 245-0750



Calendar of Events

November 2025

★ **Election Day** — Tuesday, November 5 ★ **Veterans Day** — Tuesday, November 11
 ★ **Thanksgiving Day** — Thursday, November 27

Cabinet Meeting — November 22, 2025 — 10:00 am — VFW Post, 1200 Gornick Ave, Gaylord
 — Will include judging of the Peace Poster Contest at the District Level. — Guiding Lion Training following the cabinet meeting.

February 2026

Cabinet Meeting — February 07, 2026 — 10:00 am — TBD

April 2026

District Convention — April 24-26, 2026 — Treetops Resort, Gaylord — Cabinet meeting and Friday night mixer — More info to come.



PASSINGS REPORTED



Boyne Valley Lions: Lion Bob Prebble passed Oct. 6, 2025. "Bob was a dedicated member of our club and a true friend to many. His commitment to service and our community was an inspiration, and his presence will be deeply missed. We were fortunate to have known him and to have served alongside him." — *From BV Lion Larry Taylor*

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

New Members Reported — October 2025 (or Earlier)

Central Lake Lions: new members Lion Lori and Lion Terri, inducted by DG Marie Leathers

Total: 2 New Members Reported

Information From Club Activities Sent In

On the Mend Reported

On the mend:

We wish all unwell Lions a successful and rapid recovery from their ailments!

No Reports Received

Boyne Valley Lions

OCTOBER 2025

From October 22 meeting



Left: Guest Speaker Kathy Anderson from Good Neighbors Pantry with King Julie Hasse.



The Wait is Over! Lions' Famous Pasties Are Back!

Fall's coziest tradition has returned! The Lions are thrilled to partner once again with the talented students of the **Boyne City High School Hospitality Class** to bring you our legendary, oven-ready pasties.

These aren't just pasties; they're a hearty, delicious meal perfect for a crisp autumn evening, and still only \$8 each.

Choose Your Comfort:

- **Michigan Beef:** The rich, savory favorite you know and love.
- **Classic Roasted Vegetable & Mushroom:** A golden-baked harvest, hearty and delicious.

Don't Wait—We SOLD OUT Last Year!

Our pasty sale is a community favorite, and these will go fast. Secure yours today!

- **Order Deadline:** Tuesday, November 11, 2025
- **Pickup Date:** Friday, November 21, 2025
- **Pickup Time:** 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM
- **Pickup Location:** Hospitality Classroom, S. Park and E. Main (across from the library)

Additionally, you can place your order and pay for it by credit card as you have done before. So easy, and so delicious!

East Jordan Lions

OCTOBER 2025

East Jordan IPDG Dennis Gocha doing one of the final cans and trash collections along the Jordan River for the Jordan River Action Group.



East Jordan Lions IPDG Dennis and Linda Gocha, and Adam St. Onge attended the Camp Daggett Appreciation dinner. The camp celebrated its 100th anniversary. The EJ Lions maintain the Boys Spruce Cabin with many upcoming renovations.



Central Lake Lions

OCTOBER 2025

Central Lake Lions wrapped up our Summer Roadside Cleanup project- 3 times each summer.

Lions get together to take care of our 2 mile stretch of M-88.



DG Marie inducted new members Lion Lori and Lion Terri.

The 25th Annual Bill Stenback Golf Scramble was a huge success, with 15 teams and over \$8k raised to support our community!



Oscoda Lions OCTOBER 2025

The Oscoda Lions Club ramp crew was back at it again this morning building a ramp for a couple have mobility issues.

Tony Priebe, Scott Busich, John Novak, and Chuck Andrina picked up the material at 800 and had the project finished by 1100. The crew had great working weather and the project was smaller than most consisting of a 4'x7' platform and a 12' ramp. The lady of the house came out to check out the crews work when they were done and was very pleased to be able to get in and out of her home so much easier.

WE SERVE!

Picture—Scott, John Novak, Tony Priebe.
Homeowners



Oscoda Lions (Continued)

OCTOBER 2025

Fall Festival Arts and Crafts Fair

The twenty-fourth annual Lions Club Fall Festival Arts and Crafts Show on October 4th was attended by hundreds of shoppers and browsers. The commons area, hallway and the gym of Oscoda High School were filled with vendors offering a wide variety of crafts and foods along with many non-profit groups participating. A final reporting of the event will be made at the club meeting. Proceeds from the \$1.00 admissions will be donated to the Iosco Animal Shelter.



Thanks go to the many Lions who helped make this event a success – from marking booths, to assisting vendors, to staffing the kitchen, to the final clean up – all is much appreciated. Special thanks go to Lion Kay for organizing and preparing the lunches and for keeping the kitchen crew on task. Special, special thanks go to Lion Von and her assistant Lion Jane for their year-long commitment to make this annual fundraiser an overwhelming success. Fall Festival Arts and Crafts Fair

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Oscoda Lions

(Continued)

OCTOBER 2025

The Oscoda Lions Club ramp crew "recycled" a nice aluminum ramp today. The ramp had been made available to the club a few years ago. They removed it from a vacant home and reinstalled it for a lady who was in need. The lady's mother contacted the club recently and told us her mother had entered an assisted living facility and no longer needed the ramp.

Today Tony Priebe, John Novak, and Chuck Andrina disassembled the ramp and transported it to another homeowner with a need for assistance getting in and out of his home. The installation was quick and the homeowners appreciated the opportunity for easier access.

WE SERVE!



Hurricane Melissa made landfall in Jamaica as a Category 5 storm, the strongest ever recorded on the island. The storm brought catastrophic winds, torrential rainfall and life-threatening flooding. It left entire communities in Jamaica's south and west submerged, destroyed homes and caused widespread power and communications outages, as well as severe infrastructure damage, including roads, bridges and hospitals. The hurricane continued to batter additional Caribbean nations with torrential rain, flooding and landslides.

When a humanitarian crisis of this magnitude strikes, we, as Lions, are ready to help. Right beside us is Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), our global foundation. LCIF is mobilizing funds, including a US\$100,000 Major Catastrophe Grant for relief in Jamaica, to empower Lions in the impacted areas to help their communities recover.

Your donation can make a difference.

HELP NOW

Historic hurricane devastates Jamaica and the Caribbean region.

LCIF grant funding will enable Lions to help victims recover and rebuild.

[LIONSCLUBS.ORG/DONATE](https://lionsclubs.org/donate)

Your generous donation to LCIF's Disaster Relief Fund, specifically reserved for all disaster relief, helps Lions continue to serve!

To learn more about LCIF Disaster Relief grants, visit lionsclubs.org/disastergrants or email LCIFGlobalGrants@lionsclubs.org.

100% of donations benefit grants and programs and qualify for Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) or Progressive MJF credit.

This email was sent to all Lions worldwide.

November 2025 — Thanksgiving

November is another Autumn month, like October, leading up to the Winter holidays to come. Veterans Day (November 11) and Thanksgiving (November 27) are the statutory closed banks holiday days. Other events, All Saints Day (November 1), Daylight Saving Time ending (November 2), and Election Day (November 4) are also on the calendar for those who may or not be interested.

Thanksgiving

The first Thanksgiving is commonly thought to have taken place in 1621 at Plymouth, in present-day Massachusetts. In 1620, a group of English Puritans, i.e. the Pilgrims, arrived in Plymouth Colony aboard the Mayflower. They faced a tough winter, with many dying from disease and exposure, but they were aided by the Wampanoag tribe, particularly a man named Squanto, who spoke English and helped them with farming, hunting, and fishing. In the fall of 1621, after a successful harvest, the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag came together to celebrate a feast of thanks. This event was a three-day feast, but it wasn't called "Thanksgiving" at the time. It was a harvest celebration. The meal likely included foods like wild turkey, venison, corn, beans, squash, and shellfish. There were no pumpkin pies or cranberry sauce as we know them today.

While this event is often depicted as a harmonious gathering, the relationship between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag was complicated. The Wampanoag helped to survive their first year, but tensions would later rise as more English settlers arrived, leading to a much more difficult and tragic history between the two groups.

Although the feast of 1621 is considered the "first Thanksgiving," it wasn't a one-time event or part of a tradition that continued immediately. It wasn't until much later, in 1863, that President Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a national holiday, partly as a way to unite the country during the Civil War.

The purpose of Thanksgiving today has evolved a lot over time, and it can mean different things to different people. Here are the main ways it's understood now:

- Gratitude and Reflection – At its core, Thanksgiving is still about taking time to appreciate what you have — family, friends, health, food, opportunities — and expressing gratitude.
- Connection and Community – For many, it's one of the few times each year when loved ones gather, share a meal, and reconnect. It can be a pause from work and daily life to focus on relationships.
- Cultural Tradition – In the U.S., Thanksgiving has become a cultural holiday rather than a strictly historical one. The food, parades, football games, and shared rituals help maintain a sense of continuity and identity.
- Acts of Giving – A growing part of the modern meaning includes volunteering, donating to food drives, or helping those in need — extending the "thanks" into tangible generosity.
- Re-examining History – In recent years, some people use Thanksgiving as a time to acknowledge and reflect on the history behind the holiday — especially the impact of colonization on Indigenous peoples. For many Native communities, it's also a day of remembrance and resilience.

So, the purpose of Thanksgiving now is a blend of gratitude, connection, generosity, and reflection — both personal and social.

Much of the purpose of Thanksgiving is what we do as Lions all year around. We Serve by acts of giving, volunteering our time and efforts to help those in need, and helping to keep our communities connected to their people.

It is no doubt that we are in turbulent times, with inflation and people are losing their jobs, or not able to get jobs in these dark days. It's a mess, but despite the chaotic world there is always something that gives us a gratitude feeling. Everything we do to help others helps us to feel good about ourselves. It's not what we think about things that matters — it's what we do about it. We are all able to find gratitude in our life for what we have and what we've done.

Have a joyous Thanksgiving.

PICTURES OF THE MONTH

Changing Autumn Pictures



Left: Halloween Skeleton Lion and cubs by a Detroit Lions fan.

Right: Colored trees at peak.

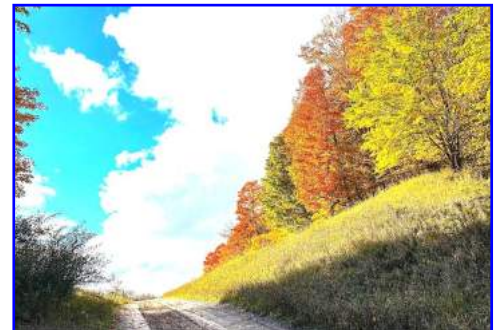


Above: Oct. Boardman Lake birds —, ducks, geese, and swans.

Left: Skeleton bencher with skeleton dog, pumpkins and weird window things in the store behind.

Below Right: Colored trees and interesting skies along the trail.

Bottom Left: A Skeleton biker being harassed by black birds and giant black spiders



Left Middle Bottom: Most of the Halloween decorations are amusing, but the "I See You" is outright scary!

Below: A red leafed tree beginning to drop its colorful leaves.



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

