



Notable Quotes: "Our prime purpose in this life is to help others." — Dalai Lama

DECEMBER 2025

District Governor's Message



Dear Fellow Lions,

Thanks to all who came to the November Cabinet Meeting. We had another great turnout, with lots of information shared, peace poster judging, good fellowship, training and some Lions Q&A. Congratulations to the District Peace Poster winner Amber Juahsz from Central Lake. If your club didn't participate in the peace poster contest, consider it for next year. Lion Jean Manning will have all the info and materials you need at the district convention.

We also had a presentation from John Peiffer at Michigan Ski for Light. He presented a unique opportunity we have here in Northern Michigan to serve as Lions.

You don't need to be a skier to help with this amazing event where the blind can SKI!



It takes place at Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center on January 16-18, 2026.

Visit their website for more information and a link to sign up: <https://msfl.org/> Please consider volunteering your time, and also reach out to friends and acquaintances who are visually or mobility impaired who would enjoy coming to this annual event.

The convention planning team is working hard to make our District Convention at Treetops Resort in Gaylord a success. It's going to be a roaring great time as we celebrate in Roaring 20's style! Please mark your calendars for April 24-26, 2026 and watch your inbox and the district website for signups and more details.

Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

DG Marie

District 11-E2 Website: lionsdistrict11e2.org

2025-2026 DISTRICT OFFICERS REFERENCE LIST

DISTRICT GOVERNOR Central Lake Lions Marie Leathers lionmarieleathers@gmail.com 231-350-0286	IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR East Jordan Lions Dennis Gocha 231-350-1906 dennygocha@gmail.com
VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR NA	GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM District Coordinator NA
2nd 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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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@yahoo.com 989-739-2779	Beaverton, Hale, Harrisville, Lincoln, Oscoda, Rose City

**Lions International**

Dear Club Officer,

You are off to a successful year as club officer. As we approach the halfway point, it is important to review your club's roster, update email addresses and assist your vice president as they are preparing for their term. Below are some key reminders and helpful tools for your club to stay on track

Unique email address: It is advised that each member register a unique personal email address in the Lion Portal to guarantee uninterrupted communication from Lions International.

Maintaining your club roster: Reviewing your club's roster helps to avoid being billed for inactive members. Log into the [Lion Portal](#) or your regional reporting system. For questions regarding the Lion Portal, please visit the [Lion Portal Resources webpage](#) or contact us at lionssupport@lionsclubs.org.

Service reporting: Every club is responsible for ensuring its service is reported. Service reports showcase your club's impact, instill pride and attract potential members, partners and donors. They also qualify clubs for awards and recognition and boosting morale and visibility. By sharing your success stories, you inspire communities and help strengthen the Lions' global mission. Learn more on our [Service Reporting webpage](#).

Weeks of Service: Join the fight against hunger! From January 3-11, Lions are coming together for the [Hunger Weeks of Service](#) to combat food insecurity. Support community meals, organize food drives or start a garden. Explore our [Hunger Service Area](#) resources to plan your project and make a lasting impact.

Club Officer Guide: This new [guide](#) is designed to support you in your role throughout your term as a club officer. It provides tools and resources to help you excel not only in your individual role and responsibilities, but also as a leader of a unified and effective team of club members and officers.

Support future leaders: As your club is preparing for the second half of the Lion year, connect with your vice president with online courses in the Lions Learning Center (LLC), located in Learn within the Lion Portal. As your club moves toward the future, make sure that the club's vice president reviews the following courses:

1. *Club Officer Training*
2. *Leadership Succession*
3. *Goal Setting*

And more

We look forward to supporting you and your club. Please contact us if you have any questions by emailing us at clubofficers@lionsclubs.org.

Thank you for your service!

Sincerely,

District and Club Administration Division



Lions International

Highlight your impactful Week of Service!

Lions and Leos are showcasing their Weeks of Service projects with a video of their service projects in action. Area leaders and constitutional area leaders will select videos to be featured in our online showcase, so show the world how we're taking on these global challenges!

Celebrate Lions' impact in the fight against hunger by participating in the Hunger Weeks of Service Video Showcase, highlighting our shared commitment to empowering communities worldwide.

The second Week of Service for Hunger is January 3-11, 2026, and as a Lion leader, you have an exciting opportunity to help coordinate the Video Showcase.

Please download the Weeks of Service Video Showcase Resource below to learn more about your role, the submission and selection process, and deadlines. Top videos will be featured in the showcase event following each service week.

Thank you for your participation in this initiative. You'll be part of three impactful weeks dedicated to creating positive change and making a difference in communities around the globe — together!

[Learn more](#)

Have any questions regarding Weeks of Service and the Video Showcase?

Contact us at serviceactivities@lionsclubs.org.

This message was sent to the following: GAT Constitutional Area Leader, GAT Area Leader, Multiple District GST Coordinator, District GST Coordinator, Club President, Club Service Chairperson, Leo Club President.





New Service Initiatives FOR 2025-2026

FROM INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT-ELECT A.P. SINGH

**MENTAL
HEALTH &
WELL-BEING**

OCTOBER 4-12, 2025



OCTOBER 4-12, 20

HUNGER



January 3-11
2026

ENVIRONMENT



APRIL 18-26, 2026



On the Taking the Lead podcast, we recently had one of those conversations that sticks with you, and I couldn't wait to share it.

We sat down with Stephanie Enyart, the Chief Public Policy & Research Officer at the American Foundation for the Blind.

Stephanie has spent more than 20 years advocating for people with disabilities, turning research into real change through policy, leadership, and persistence.

What stood out to me most was how she bridges research and advocacy, using data not just to inform, but to inspire action.

[You can listen to Stephanie's episode here.](#)

Thank you for being part of the Taking the Lead community and for supporting stories that move inclusion forward

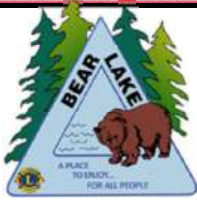
You can listen to Stephanie's episode here.

- 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





Welcome to this Month's Newsletter



Dear Lions, Supporters, and Camp Family,

December settles in differently at camp. The world feels quieter. The lake holds still under the cold sky, and the snow rests lightly across the trails and rooftops. What looks calm from the outside remains full of work, planning, and purpose behind the scenes. The rhythm may slow, but the heart of camp keeps moving.

Even when cabins aren't filled with kids running from activity to activity, there is still life here. Retreat groups gather, staff prepares for the next season, repairs are made, schedules are formed, and the mission continues with the same care and intention it carries in July.

🔥 CAMPFIRE CHATS

This month's Campfire Chats highlights two stories that show just how deeply connection lives here. We're honoring Camp Champion **Denise Freshney**, whose quilt retreats and generosity have helped fill camp with support and creativity, and we welcome back **Justice for Lily**, a group whose return brings warmth and community every year.

🌿 CAMP UPDATES

A lot continues to move forward behind the scenes. Thanks to incredible support and coordination, new kitchen equipment and tables are already helping us prepare for a busy year ahead. We also wrapped up another successful Bear Lake Crafting Weekend, filling camp with creativity, laughter, and new handmade ornaments now hanging on the camp Christmas tree.

💛 LBLC SPOTLIGHTS

This month's spotlights feature **Board Member Jim Leach Jr.**, whose decades of service and steady leadership continue to shape the heart of camp, and **Food Service Director Chrissy Andre**, whose work in the kitchen and across many other areas helps carry our mission year round.

🎁 GIVE A GIFT THAT MATTERS

This season, consider giving an experience that lasts long after the holidays. Event tickets, sponsorships, and camper scholarships are available and help make camp possible for the kids who need it most.

📅 UPCOMING EVENTS

- Ice Plunge – February 7, 2026
- Wild Game Dinner – April 11, 2026
- Workbee – May 9, 2026
- Golf Outing – June 8, 2026
- Baseball Game- June 12, 2026
- Open House – June 28, 2026
- Clay Shoot – September 26, 2026

💙 GET INVOLVED

Sponsor a camper, join us for an event, or help spread the word. Every step of support helps us continue changing lives at Lions Bear Lake Camp.

With gratitude, The Bear Lake Camp Team

MELVIN JONES FELLOWSHIP NOMINATION

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

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

With above in mind, we submit the following person

Name of Nominee (Print)

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

NAME:

Club:

Address

City, State, Zip

A. NARRATIVE INFORMATION:

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

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

Name of Nominee:

Member of (club):

Years of service in Lionism:

Years with current club:

Club Offices & Years Held:**District, State Offices & Years Held:****Special Projects Involvement:****Other Community involvement****Other Information in support of Nominee**

Name/Club of Nominator (Print)

Signature of Nominator

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

-Lions of Michigan**-District 11 E-2****-Cabinet/Business Meeting Minutes, November 22, 2025- Gaylord**

Cabinet Members in Attendance- DG Marie Leathers, IPDG Dennis Gocha, ZVDG Kris Roberts, CST Durflinger, GMT Rod Leathers, GET Murch

Cabinet Members Absent- ZC's Ron Morgan, Kay Gaines and BJ Sander

Lions in Attendance -PDG Bill Gaines, Lions Shirley Hill, Dan Miller, Jennie Partin, Burt Young, Brian Graff, Linda Gocha, Julie Taylor, Larry Taylor, DiAnn Roberts, Diane LaBeau, Janelle Clayton, Ray Kuiper, David Zimmer and Kurt Tesnow

VIA ZOOM- Lions Linda Harris, John Peiffer (Ski for Light), Adam St. Onge and Jean Manning

Guests- IPDG Scott Kwarcianny (SD 10), PCC Jeff Mayuiers, PDG Julie Mayuiers (11-B2)

The meeting was called to order at 10 AM by DG Leathers. The invocation was offered by ZVDG Kris Roberts. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by GMT Rod Leathers.

Guest speaker John Peiffer of Ski for Light gave a presentation on the event which is held in Roscommon each year. Visually impaired individuals are paired with guides who help them enjoy cross country skiing. The event will be held from 1/16-18, 2026. They can use volunteers from our district to help out. Information on the event and assistance needed are attached.

Secretary's Report – Minutes of the 8/23/25 cabinet meeting were presented by CST Durflinger. It was moved by ZVDG Roberts, supported by IPDG Gocha that they be accepted as presented. Motion carried. There was no correspondence.

Treasurer's Report- The 2025-26 YTD financial reports were presented, with a beginning balance in the admin account of \$35,100.40, income of \$9,298.51 and expenses of \$8,587.56 leaving an ending balance of \$35,811.35 as of 11/29/25. This consists of \$33,948.65 in admin and \$1,862.70 in convention funds. The projects account has a beginning balance of \$28,587.65, income of \$20,276.79 and expenses of \$1,923.06, leaving an ending balance of \$46,941.38. This balance is higher than normal due to \$18,763.49 of hunger grants funds included. It was moved by IPDG Gocha, supported by GMT Leathers that the report be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business- Hunger Grant- PDG Durflinger reported that as of 11/21 we have raised almost \$35,000 of the \$50,000 match for the grant. If your club has not yet made a contribution, please consider doing so. As of now 15 of our 25 clubs have contributed. We also welcome contributions from individual Lions. Attached is a form with the address information, as well as a QR code for those who want to donate on-line. The grant has been submitted to LCIF, and will go to the International Board for review in January.

New Business- Peace Poster Judging- Six posters were submitted and the audience voted the poster submitted by Central Lake as the winner. That poster will now go on to the contest at the State Level. The winning student will be presented with a check for \$300 at the District Convention.

Winter Camp for the Blind- It was moved by IPDG Gocha, supported by GET Murch that we donate \$500 to the 11-B2 Winter Camp for the Blind. It is a weekend retreat for visually impaired adults from around the state to enjoy winter activities. Motion carried.

Donation to Convention Fund- IPDG Gocha turned in a check for \$100 from Lions items made by his son that were sold to raise funds for the District Convention.

GET Report- IPDG Murch turned in a written report. There will be Guiding Lion training following the cabinet meeting. He also mentioned that while he was hospitalized recently he observed the need for hospital staff to learn ASL. He will contact MI Michigan Health to see if they are interest in pursuing this.

GLT Report- GLT Gocha reported that 11 people attended the Zone Chair training held in Gaylord on 9/27. He also encouraged people to use the training available on Mylion.

GMT Report- GMT Leathers turned in a written report.

GST Report- ZC Sanders had no report. DG Marie noted that the clothing collection for the Gaylord schools at the last Council of Governors meeting brought in a lot of clothing for schools in Gaylord.

Zone Chair Reports- ZC Sander, ZC Gaines and ZC Morgan had no reports. ZC Roberts turned in a written report. He also noted that he is working with the Elk Rapids Club on rebuilding.

Committee Reports- Written Reports were provided for **All State Band-** Lion Kris Hoeksema, **District Editor-** Lion Dave Zimmer, **Leader Dog-** Lion Tim Rubert, **Lions of Michigan Foundation-** PDG Dennis Richardson, **MD-11 Convention-** DG Leathers, **PR/Social Media-** Lion Jennie Partin, **Project Kidsight-** Lion Linda Harris, **White Cane-** Lion Shirley Hill. The following supplemented written reports- Lion Jennie Partin noted that there is a new district FB page (the other one is a group), and asked everyone to like it. 2VDG Roberts, supported by GMT Leathers moved that we sponsor the MD-11 Convention at the \$300 level. Motion carried. PDG Durflinger reported that the LMF Sight and Hearing tickets have been received and will be sent out to clubs next week. The tickets were pre-packaged by Foundation staff with the same number that each club sold last year, so if you need more, let CST Durflinger know as she has two hundred more tickets.

Oral Reports- Bear Lake Camp- Lion Ray Kuiper reported that the camp served 1506 children last year over 11 weeks. He requested support for the Camp's Polar Plunge to be held 2/7/26. It was moved by GMT Leathers, supported by CST Durflinger that we donate \$500. Motion carried. **District Convention-** DG Leathers reported that convention planning is under way. Save the date fliers have been sent out (4/24-26/26 in Gaylord at Treetops Resort). There will be a contest this year between clubs to see which can collect the most pop top tabs for Ronald McDonald House in Grand Rapids. Bring tabs collected by your club to the district convention where they will be weighed on Saturday, and the top three clubs will receive awards. Be sure to only save aluminum tabs. Many food cans use steel tabs and they can't take those. The packets for the convention will be going out soon. We need to get more advertisements from clubs this year to help pay for printing of the program and to offset convention expenses, so when you receive your packet, please consider putting an ad in the program. **District Melvin Jones-** 2VDG Roberts reported that the applications for the District Melvin Jones would be going out soon. Note that your nominee should be someone active at the District level, not just active in your club. The deadline for applications is 1/31/26. **International Convention-** DG Marie reported that the International Convention this year will be in Hong Kong from 7/3-7/7. **LCIF-** PDG Gaines reported that he has been making presentations to clubs about LCIF. He attended the Area 1 training in Atlanta, GA. He needs club LCIF coordinators. There is not much to do for this job, just pass on information to your club about LCIF. As a fund raiser he has "I Love LCIF" pins on sale for \$10, and there are still spots on his Melvin Jones raffle board for \$20. Contact him if you would like either of these. **Lions of Michigan Forum-** 2VDG Roberts reported that this year's Forum will be in Feb 27-28 at the Delta Marriott Convention Center in Kalamazoo. The service project is backpacks for the Little Heroes project for children 3-12 who have been removed from their homes due to criminal activity by their parents. It was moved by 2VDG Roberts, supported by IPDG Gocha that we donate \$200 to the project. Motion carried. **USA/Canada Forum-** DG Leathers reported that the 2026 USA/Canada Forum will be from 9/3-5 in Memphis, TN. The 2028 Forum will be hosted by the Lions of Michigan in Grand Rapids, so it is a great opportunity to attend a forum close to home.

Audience Comments- Lion Shirley Hill reported that their club is holding a community dinner on the 1st Saturday in December.

VDG Comments- VDG Roberts turned in a written report. He also commented that people need to step up for leadership.

DG Comments- DG Leathers presented membership chevrons to 2VDG Kris Roberts (10 years), IPDG Gocha (15 years), Lion Linda Gocha (15 years) and Lion Di LaBeau (20 years). She then presented IPDG Gocha with his Past District Governor plaque. She thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Following the meeting will be Guiding Lion training and a Q&A session for all Lions.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 12:04 PM. The next meeting will be on 1/31/26 and will be a Zoom meeting so we don't have to worry about the weather.

Respectfully submitted,
PDG Barb Durflinger, Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer

Global Membership Team (GMT) Report 11/22/25

We are sitting at a positive 12 members so far this Lion year. This is a great start but we need to keep it up. I will be scheduling a zoom meeting on December 3rd at 7 pm. This meeting will be for membership chairs and club presidents. We will be talking about how our year is going so far and brainstorming ideas to help all of our clubs to increase membership. I will be sending out a link with an RSVP. Working together sharing ideas will benefit all of us.

Remember "Together We Can"

11-E2 GMT PDG Rod Leathers
leathertod@gmail.com
231-350-0587

GET report for 11/22 cabinet meeting

We have a new club that has originated from the Lincoln Lions club branch. We will need to have a Guiding Lion appointed to the club to monitor its progress for the next two years. Thanks to all the members of the new club, and to Lion Larry Elmer of the Lincoln Lions who has actively been involved in this.

I had reached out to a couple of potential contacts in communities that don't have clubs in September but had a health-related issue in October, was in the hospital for nearly a week, and had to get myself back to normal. I am now back to working toward trying to establish some communications with potential communities.



Celebrating Over 49 Years
1975-2026

Michigan Ski For Light

Michigan Ski For Light is a nonprofit 501 C3 Group (Federal Identification# 38-3562887) with a mission to promote and teach Cross Country Skiing to the visually impaired by pairing them with sighted volunteers that enjoy the Sport of Cross Country Skiing, and the mobility impaired through the use of sit ski's.

It is because of the generous support from people like you that make this organization possible and allow all of us to continue the tradition that was started in 1975.

The Annual Michigan Ski for Light Event is a Regional Chapter of a parent organization, Ski for Light.

Ski for Light, Inc. is a nonprofit organization founded in 1975 by Olav Pederson to promote the physical fitness of visually and mobility impaired adults, in an environment where "we can't" is replaced with "we can."

In Michigan at about the same time, 1978 Harold Brunvand began a "Fun in the Snow" weekend with the help of his friends including the Sons of Norway. They had volunteers teach cross country skiing to students from the Michigan School for the Blind

In 1981 the event was moved to the Higgins Lake area and renamed Michigan Ski for Light as a regional event.

Each and every year as we gather on the north shore of Higgins Lake during the middle of January, our members travel from all over the State of Michigan to participate in a wonderful weekend of Cross Country Skiing and winter activities.

During this event we pair up visually and or mobility impaired individuals with sighted and able guides to spend the weekend Cross Country Skiing and having fun in the snow.

As an all volunteer organization our interests are simply helping others enjoy the Sport of Cross Country Skiing and the great outdoors.

For more information, please visit our website at MSFL.org and like us on Facebook!

*Michigan Ski for Light
"To Encourage Winter Activity"*
Michigan Non-Profit Corporation #718678
Federal ID# 38-3562887
www.msfl.org



MICHIGAN SKI FOR LIGHT INC. (MSFL)

January 16-18, 2026 Event.

Event Sponsored by:

Roscommon Higgins Lake - Lions Club
450 S. 5th St. Roscommon, MI 48653

2026 Event Notables: **Volunteers Needed as Highlighted Items 9 & 10.**

- 1) Pick Up Cross Country Ski's, Poles and Boots January 16, 2026 and set up at the Education Center entrance. About 40 Pairs expected. (Then collect them at around noon on the 18th in front of the RAM Center and return to XX Country Ski Headquarters)
- 2) MSFL Admin staff arriving between 2:00 and 3:00 pm 1/16/2026 to open event check in at the RAM Center by 4:00 pm.
- 3) Pizza and Salad drop off begins shortly after 5:45pm with MSFL dinner between 6:00pm and 7:00pm that evening. (Expect around 80 - 100 for dinner.)
- 4) MSFL opening ceremony begins at 7:00pm.
- 5) Skiing begins January 17 at 9:00am. See attached schedule. Both the Nursery Trail and Main Trail will be groomed by the DNR on Friday the 16th. The MSFL Trail committee will arrive early on 1/16/25 to set up the trails.
- 6) Bon Fires at each Trail Head.
- 7) Wagon Rides from the RAM Center to the Trail Heads and back.
- 8) January 17 afternoon Cheese and Punch Social at the Education Center Building with Silent Auction. (A chance for MSFL and Lions Club folks to meet and chat and stop by our silent auction.)
- 9) **Someone needed to DJ the Dance Saturday Night 1/17/2025 9:00pm to 11:30pm**
- 10) **Volunteers needed to help with the silent auction Saturday afternoon from 2:00pm to 5:00pm Set up at 2:00pm, help monitor with sales from 3:00pm to 5:00pm**



MSFL Committee Structure as updated in 2026:

- 1) **Fund Raising Committee** (Chair = John P) (Includes Apparel, Purchasing, and Donations)
 - a Auction, Talent Show, 50/50 Raffle, hand out Pins. (Sarah, Ted, Beverly, John P, Kim E.) Volunteers 1 or 2 needed to assist with Silent Auction. Volunteers needed to bring auction items as a donation.
 - b Auction Donations, (Kim E. and Bev M.)
 - c MSFL apparel and gear, (shirts, blankets, jackets, hats, pins, etc.) (John P. & Sarah B.) Volunteers 1 or 2 needed to help sell gear at event.
- 2) **Skier Guide Recruitment** (Chair = Sarah B) (Includes Communications and Web Site)
 - a Website (Beverly Mapes)
 - b Use of multi-media, email, social media platforms, etc. for future communications. (Sarah B)
 - c RAM Center Communications and Menu. (John P)
 - d Roscommon Lions Club Details. (John P)
 - e Guide Training (Steve Peak and Nino.)
 - f Event Announcements (Ted Ellickson)
 - g Opening ceremony, announcements and Pairing. (Ted, Sarah B.)
 - h Annual Meeting and elections. (Ted)
- 3) **Registration** (Chair = Hayley and Nick) (Includes "Event Preparations")
 - a Event (Friday) check in and payments. (John P., Hayley and Nick.)
 - b Insurance (Roscommon Lions)
 - c Cell Phones (share numbers among main trail group and Exec Board) (Steve, Hal, John.)
 - d Pre-Registration/ Room Assignments. (Hayley and Nick)
 - e Transportation and travel from Lansing (John P.), Detroit, Grand Rapids. (All) Volunteer is needed to assist with Transportation around the State of Michigan. To and from the event.

- f. Westminster and Westminster Food (Sarah B.)
 - g. Sit Ski's (Roscommon Lions for transport, Ted Ellickson pair with Guides.)
 - h. Rental Ski prep and collection on last day. (John P. and Roscommon Lions)
 - i. Event Packets, Event Schedules and Name Tags (Hayley and Nick)
- 4) **Safety Committee** (Chair = Kim E)
- a. Skier and Guide Safety
 - b. First aid
 - c. Event Accident and Emergency prevention and preparedness.
- 5) **"Event Activities."** (Chair: Hayley Laskowski)
- a. Event Pictures, (TBD) Volunteers 1 or 2 needed for taking pictures out on the trails or at the trail head and throughout the event.
 - b. Trail Preparation, signage, outhouse, trail extension. (Steve Peak, Brad Horton, Hal Wolfe)
 - c. Race. (Steve Peak)
 - d. Poker Run. (Kim Ellickson)
 - e. Awards, (John P and Sarah)
 - f. Opening and Closing ceremony (Ted)
 - g. Additional Food Snack Items. (Nino and Marie)
 - h. Dance and after Dance Cleanup and DJ assignment. (Sarah Bradley, Jeff Crouch.) Volunteer's 1 or 2 needed to be lead DJ or assist.
 - i. Friday Event Pizza and Salad, Food Cleanup. (Roscommon Lions, Kim E, Jim E, and Fred O.)
 - j. Euchre and Games

A Total of five MSFL Committees.

- 1) Fund Raising / Apparel Committee
- 2) Communications, Recruitment and Web Site Committee
- 3) Registration and Event Preparations Committee
- 4) Safety Committee
- 5) Event Activities Committee

It was also suggested that we look for opportunities to set up some small tables at each year's annual event and provide information about each Committee and recruit new Committee members to help with the following years event.



Lions Clubs of Michigan Campaign to End Hunger

The Lions Clubs of Michigan, in collaboration with the Michigan Lions Foundation, are proud to champion the **Northern Expansion** of the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan—a transformative initiative aimed at delivering fresh, nutritious food to underserved communities across the state. This expansion will significantly increase access to healthy food throughout Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula.

This new facility represents a powerful partnership between the **Food Bank of Eastern Michigan** and **Feeding America West Michigan**. Together, they will collaborate with more than **1,200 partner agencies** to serve **62 of Michigan's 83 counties**, dramatically improving food security where it's needed most.

By connecting with local farmers, this expansion will ensure that more families in rural areas receive fresh produce and wholesome meals—putting good food to good use.

We've set a goal to raise **\$50,000**, which will unlock an additional **\$150,000** in matching funds from the Lions Clubs International Foundation.

Every donation makes a difference. Join us in building a healthier, stronger Michigan—one meal at a time.

Checks Payable To:

Lions District 11-E2
(add "Hunger Grant" in the memo)

Mailing Address:

c/o Barb Durlinger
14946 Royston Road
Hillman, MI 49746

For more information, contact:

Marie Leathers
Lions District Governor
lionmarieleathers@gmail.com
(231)350-0286



The Food Bank of Eastern Michigan is an equal opportunity provider.

Barb

From: Kris Roberts [lionkrisroberts@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2025 08:27
To: Lion Barb Durfinger
Subject: Zone 2 Chair Report

After the August 23 Cabinet meeting, between Lions activities and meetings, personal business, and fall/winter property prep, things have gotten a bit hectic. Therefore, club meetings and the Advisory Committee have suffered.

August 28, the Elk Rapids club meeting was attended, with 4 members of the 8 total members present. Turnout was disappointing, but were planning their late summer MDOT Road Cleanup. Lion John asked me to look into what happened to his 50 year chevron. I followed up with LCI and found that he hadn't received the last 3 chevrons, and asked that they be sent to me for presentation. On September 25, I briefly attended the Elk Rapids Club Early Christmas Party and presented Lion John with his 45, 50, and 55 year Member Chevrons.

September 27, at the District Zone Chair Training session in Gaylord, we heard concerns from the Elk Rapids Club, and I was assigned as a Guiding Lion to the club. I have since had a long telephone conversation with the club vice president (who has no intention of succeeding to president again). From that conversation and that at the ZC training mtg, I have decided to start with a SWOT report with each club member separately by telephone. As I understand, many of the 8 members are Snow Birds, and so the club doesn't meet in January to March. My plans are to finish and analyze the SWOT report with the GAT team and come up with a workable plan to suggest to the club.

On October 1, DiAnn and I, with GLCIF Coordinator Lion Bill Gaines, attended the Lewiston Lioness Club meeting. The meeting was well attended, and we were warmly welcomed. In addition to Lion Bill's LCIF presentation, Lion DiAnn introduced the 2026 District Convention first Service Project, The Pop Tab Challenge to benefit the Ronald McDonald House in Grand Rapids. Most members were not only aware of the program, several had stories of friends who had had to take advantage of the program. Look out District 11E2 Clubs, the Lewiston Lioness Lions are out to win the challenge.

Attempts to convene a Zone 2 Advisory Committee meeting have so far not gotten off the ground. From indications, and because not all Zone 2 officers have emails or internet access, a meeting will likely be a combination of personal telephone calls and a zoom meeting in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,
Lion Kris Roberts, Zone 2 Chair
lionkrisroberts@gmail.com
71-400-9160

Join the Lions of Michigan



All State Band!



All high school musicians are invited to join the Lions of Michigan All State Band as we travel and serve!
Future destinations include Hong Kong, Washington D.C., Singapore, San Antonio, and Finland!
For more information, visit lionsbandmi.org.



LMASB CHARITIES, INC.
LIONS ALL STATE BAND

For application
details:





LIONS OF MICHIGAN ALL STATE BAND
 DESTINATION: HONG KONG & MACAU, CHINA
 DATES: JUNE 29 - JULY 7, 2026



INCLUDED IN TRIP:

- Round-Trip Airfare United Airlines Flight
- Local Motor Coach Transportation
- 6 nights' accommodations at local hotel
- Daily dinners and 5 lunches are included
- Complimentary Second Checked Bag (up to 50 lbs)
- Round Trip Transportation to Airport
- Gratuities for your motor coach driver(s)
- Breakfasts at hotel
- US \$100 prepaid card for meals on your own

ITINERARY: (see complete itinerary on Lions band website)

Monday, June 29 and Tuesday, June 30 -travel days

- Bus from band camp to Chicago O'Hare airport; flight from Chicago to San Francisco; flight from San Francisco to Hong Kong

Wednesday, July 1

- Victoria Peak and Peak Tram
- Aberdeen - Sampan ride/Night Market

Thursday, July 2

- LMASB performance at a local school
- Kowloon Park/comics Walk of Fame/Ladies Market
- LMASB performance in the park
- Avenue of Stars and Clock Tower/Harbor City Mall

Friday, July 3

- LMASB performance at a local establishment and Lions International Prade

Saturday, July 4

- Lantau Island
- Ngong Ping 360 Monastery, the Big Buddha and Wisdom Path
- Bauhinia dinner cruise

Sunday, July 5

- Disneyland Hong Kong with possible LMASB performance

Monday, July 6

- Trip to Macau via turbojet
- Ruins of St. Paul's, Senado Square and A-Ma Temple
- Group farewell dinner and awards at Macau Tower

Tuesday, July 7

- Return to USA via San Francisco and Chicago

Double occupancy \$4,995



Scan to learn more!

2026 Lions Band Tour

www.lionsmiband.org

Marketing Report November 2025

Objective - Help grow individual clubs' social media presence. This will be accomplished in two ways: by utilizing a District Facebook page and group to help promote clubs and share ideas, and by providing training and mentorship to club marketing chairs to help aid in establishing, growing, and maintaining social media club accounts.

I am working on reaching out to individual clubs to see how I can best help them in enhancing their social media presence.

If you haven't already, be sure to like the District Facebook page and join the group! Be sure to share both with your clubs.

District Page: <https://www.facebook.com/LionsDistrict11E2/>

District Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/115205905173714>

Lion Jennie Partin
District Marketing Chair
lionjenniepartin@gmail.com
231-350-2416

District 11-E2 Newsletter Editor Report: November 22, 2025 Cabinet Meeting

Lion Barb:

Clubs sharing information for August, September, October, and November Newsletter issues are shown in the table below.

*Club newsletter submissions for August - November: **8 Clubs - 31%***

<u>Name</u>	<u>Months Participated</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Months Participated</u>
◆ Alpena	2	◆ East Jordan	4
◆ Beaverton	1	◆ Hillman	1
◆ Boyne Valley	4	◆ Oscoda	4
◆ Central Lake	2	◆ Petoskey	1

31% of our District Clubs were again sharing their club's activities in the Newsletter.

As always, any District Lions Leaders who want to share something inspiring or informing are welcome to submit letters/columns/notes/ or photos. Seriously, I would like to hear from anyone from any club who has something to say to all of our District Lions. We are all different human beings, but we are also all Lions who want to do something to help others in need. We all want to Serve our communities. The more we work together the more we can accomplish. Sharing your activities and ideas with others is one step to Serving the goals of the Lions Mission.

Any suggestions for newsletter enhancement are also appreciated.

Thanks to all for your support. Stay Safe and Serve on.

Lion David J. Zimmer
District 11-E2 Newsletter Editor
djzim47@gmail.com

Upcoming Leader Dog Events

1) Nov. 24 : Light up Leader Dog (Upcoming Leader Dog Events)

<https://www.leaderdog.org/light-up-leader-dog/>

2) Jan. 18: Frozen Paw 5k

<https://www.leaderdog.org/frozen-paw-5k>

3) March 14 : Lions Exclusive Tour Experience. There are only 19 spots left.

<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/leaderdogtour/experiences/event/date/>

Other Helpful Links

1) Lions online materials .

<https://www.leaderdog.org/lions-club/resources/>

2) Request a Speaker .

<https://www.leaderdog.org/resources/request-a-speaker/>

3) Request Materials.

<https://www.leaderdog.org/lions-club/resources/orderpromotional-items/>

Recent Updated Donations for all of MD 11.

DISTRICTS 11-A-1 THRU TO 11-E-2 DONATIONS TOTALED \$ 69,186.03 SWEEET !! OUR DISTRICT 11-E-2 RAISED \$2,777.00 GOOD JOB LIONS !!

We are also heading up the Dollars for Dogs Fundraiser with local businesses where people can donate monies to receive different Leader Dog logos and represent different pups for training and continued training for older dogs ..If any Lions Clubs would like to give this a shot to help further along and better Leader Dog resources ,PLEASE contact me for the Dollar for Dogs Fundraiser kit and all the information that you'll need to get the ball rolling and make it happen ... Contact me at

timothyrubert@gmail.com

or call me at (231)-290-0495 .I will get your info and get the kits to you ASAP.

Thank you for your hard work and time ..

WE SERVE !!!

Sincerely

Lion Tim Rubert

11-E-2 Leader Dog Chair

May 14-16, 2026 MD 11 Lions Convention
Shanty Creek Resort - Bellaire, MI (231) 533-3083
Room Rate: \$119/\$149 Studio/Parlor
Cutoff for reduced rate: April 15, 2026

Details are still being worked out, here's an overview:

Renaissance theme

Thursday Night, May 14: Service project to benefit Bellaire Youth Initiative. This organization provides after school and beyond experiences for students in the area. Some of the programs include Music, Archery, Lego Club, Martial Arts, Student Garden, Cooking and more. There will be a list of items to be donated.

Thursday Night Picnic: Possibly at Cellar 1914, Central Lake. Will need volunteers from our district to help and will have a sign up sheet once we have a list of duties.

Friday: Breakout sessions (details to follow)

Friday evening reception: DGs and District would be encouraged to create their "Coat of Arms" banner to bring into the banquet hall. Renaissance theme entertainment, renaissance costumes encouraged.

Hospitality room (need club(s) to sponsor)

Saturday: Awards breakfast, Breakout sessions, Awards banquet
Hospitality room (need club(s) to sponsor)

Sponsorship opportunities attached

Lions of Michigan Foundation Report November 22, 2025

As we are well into completing the first half of our Lion's year, hopefully each of our clubs is well on their way to finalizing plans for a successful year of service. The Lions of Michigan Foundation is a State Project of the Lions Of Michigan and assist our clubs in the following ways: Provide KidSight equipment so we can do children's eye screening locally, provide financial assistance for sight and hearing, provide financial assistance for emergency disaster relief, provide financial assistance for emergency individual need, military families and veterans relief, provide mints for the military, etc.

Our Foundation's largest fundraiser is the Sight and Hearing Sweepstakes Raffle and it won't be long before your club will receive a supply of tickets. Please note that besides being a valuable fund raiser for our Foundation it can also be a meaningful fund raiser for your club. For example if you sold 200 tickets your club would receive a check in excess of \$1000 as your share of the proceeds. Could be called a "win win" and the tickets seem to sell quite easily.

Being a State Project of the Lions of Michigan it is hoped that 100% of our clubs support our Foundation financially. A reminder that there are three fellowship awards your club can use to honor deserving Lions or community members based upon your support:

- Kenneth E Lautzenheiser Fellowship - \$500
- Helen Keller Fellowship - \$750
- John S. Noel Fellowship - \$1000

The 2026 Hall of Fame nomination is coming up. We need to have the applications turned in to the cabinet secretary (Barb Durlinger) by 02/01/2026. We can nominate 1 living Lion and 1 deceased Lion. The selection will be voted on by the district cabinet. Please use the attached nomination form for your nomination.

If you have any questions or need assistance feel free to contact either of your Lions of Michigan Foundation Trustees:

PDG Rod Leathers - leathersrod@gmail.com 231 350-0567

PDG Dennis Richardson - den7rich@gmail.com 231 944-0587

PDG Dennis Richardson, Foundation Trustee
PDG Rod Leathers, Foundation Trustee

Barb

From: Linda Harris [lindish72@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2025 18:53
To: Barb Durlinger
Cc: Linda Harris
Subject: KidSight Screening Report For 11-22-2025 District 11 E-2 Cabinet Meeting

No updated report at this time.

If your club is interested in scheduling a KidSight screening, please feel free to contact

--Dr. Nate Slezak at 989-657-1995 or BigNate34@gmail.com

--Linda Harris at 989-225-1396 or lindish72@hotmail.com

Sincerely,

Linda Harris

KidSight Co-Coordinator

Barb

From: lhirley@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2025 19:09
To: Barb
Subject: Re: Cabinet meeting

White cane committee is looking for students who are interested in this scholarship. I have given the application to both Kalkaska and Elk Rapids high schools. The deadline is coming up fast.

Shirley Hill
Sent from my iPhone

NOTE: Scholarship application was forwarded to all clubs



Lions Bear Lake Camp

4TH ANNUAL ICE PLUNGE & DINNER Fundraiser

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT

ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

Dinner Includes Jumper Contests

**Soup Bar
Bread Bowls
Salad Bar
Hot Chocolate Bar
Dessert
Cash Bar**

**Prizes for
Best Costume
Best Jump (no diving)
and Most Money Raised**

FEBRUARY 7TH 2026

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



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



**Seating limited to 200
so get your tickets early.**



For More Information Contact

traci@bearlakecamp.org

chrissy@bearlakecamp.org

810-245-0726

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

ROARING 20'S
THEME

SOMETHING FOR
ALL LIONS!

SAVE THE DATE

DISTRICT CONVENTION

APRIL 24-26, 2026
TREETOPS RESORT, GAYLORD



CELEBRATE THE IMPACT LIONS ARE MAKING
ACROSS THE DISTRICT
LEARN NEW SERVICE IDEAS YOUR CLUB CAN
BRING HOME
DISCOVER NEW PARTNERSHIPS TO EXPAND YOUR
CLUB'S SERVICE
BE INSPIRED BY KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AND
SUCCESS STORIES
RECONNECT WITH THE PURPOSE OF BEING A LION
REIGNITE YOUR PASSION FOR SERVING YOUR
COMMUNITY






lionsdistrict11e2.org



WHICH PRIDE WILL PREVAIL?

DISTRICT 11-E2 POP TAB CHALLENGE

-  Collect pop tabs from now until the district convention (April 25, 2026)
-  Tabs will be weighed at the convention, with the top 3 clubs receiving recognition for their efforts!
-  Pop tabs go to support the Ronald McDonald House, a wonderful organization that provides support to the families of children undergoing medical treatments. Families receive free family style housing and meals, for as long as the family needs it.

Barb

From: Kris Roberts [lionkrisroberts@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2025 09:05
To: Lion Barb Durlinger
Subject: 2VDG Report

As stated in my ZC2 Report, it has been an interesting last 4 months to say the least. Rather than write about each event or meeting attended, I am just listing dates and titles.

August 12 - Attended VDG Training and Council of Governors Meeting in Mt Pleasant

August 23 - Attended the 1st 2025-26 District 11E2 Cabinet Meeting.

August 24 - Attended and installed officers at the Indian River Annual Picnic. What a great experience.

August 25 - Joined a GAT Area E Zoom meeting.

August 27 - Attended the District Zone Chair Training meeting in Gaylord.

September 2 - Joined the Mission 15 60-Day Summit follow-up Zoom meeting

September 4 - Attended the 1st 2026 District Convention Planning meeting and was assigned as Secretary.

September 24 - As assigned, joined the Michigan Lions Forum Planning Committee 1st meeting on Zoom.

October 2 - Attended the 2nd 2026 District Convention Planning Committee meeting.

October 3,4 - Attended VDG Training and Council of Governors Meeting at Treetops, Gaylord.

October 7 - Joined the Mission 15 90-day Summit follow-up Zoom meeting.

October 18 - Attended the 2nd Michigan Lions Forum Planning Committee meeting in Lansing.

October 27 - Joined the GAT Zone E conference call on Zoom.

November 5,8,10,13,18,21 - Have taken part in the Second Vice District Governor Training Seminars on Zoom

November 6 - Attended the 3rd 2026 District Convention Planning Committee meeting.

November 16 - Attended the 3rd Michigan Lions Forum Planning Committee meeting on Zoom.

November 22 - Will be at the 2nd 2025-26 District Cabinet Meeting.

I am proud to serve the district, but am surprised, and a bit overwhelmed with all this involvement. ☐

2VDG Lion Kris Roberts
[lionkrisroberts\(a\).gmail.com](mailto:lionkrisroberts(a).gmail.com)
701-400-9160

2025 Lions Clubs of Michigan Scholarship for the Visually Impaired

There will be up to three \$3,000 scholarships awarded.



Please mail completed scholarship application to:

The Lions of Michigan State Office

Attn: Scholarship Committee

5730 Executive Drive

Lansing, MI 48911

www.lionsofmi.com

Email: lions@lionsofmi.com

Fax: (517) 887-6642

Phone: (517) 887-6640

1. Must be legally blind and provide verification (letter from optometrist or ophthalmologist or letter from vocational counselor).

(A person is considered legally blind when their vision acuity is 20/200 or less in the better eye with best correction, or when their field of vision is 20 degrees or less in the better eye.)

2. Applicants must be a United States Citizen or have an F1 Visa (Official proof required).

3. Scholarships will be awarded with PRIORITY given: 1st to Michigan residents, 2nd to other state residents (state ID required), and 3rd to international residents with an F1 Visa.

4. Applicants must be either attending or accepted by an accredited trade or business school, college or university (Documentation on school letterhead required).

5. Applicants' GPA must be a minimum of 2.5 (transcript required).

6. Applicants must complete the official scholarship application and submit an essay outlining need for funds. One (1) letter of recommendation is also required.

7. Winners are strongly urged to attend the Lions of Michigan Forum luncheon on 2/28/26 in Kalamazoo, MI. Actual checks will be issued to trade or business college/university upon acceptance.

8. Completed scholarship applications must be postmarked **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 30th, 2025.**

Scholarship Selection Process

Lions of Michigan Scholarship Committee will review all applications during January.
This scholarship will be awarded in February annually at the Michigan Forum.

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Zip _____

City _____

State _____

Email Address _____

Date of Birth _____

Degree of visual acuity (Legally blind is defined as best corrected vision in both eyes of 20/200 or less and/or visual fields of less than 20 degrees).

How did you hear about the scholarship? _____

Education Information

High School you attended _____

What college or other institution are you attending/planning to attend? _____

Have you been accepted? _____

What do you plan to study? _____

What are your personal and educational goals? _____

How will the scholarship funds be used? (Check all that apply)

☐ Tuition☐ Books☐ Housing☐ Specialized Equipment (please specify) _____☐ Other (please specify) _____

Organizations, Activities and Awards

Describe briefly your most significant public service, community, or campus activities associated with your education and/or future career goals. _____

Special honors and awards _____

Special talents and training _____

Date _____

Applicant's Signature _____



11-E2 DISTRICT NEWS



Social Media Marketing

Jennie Partin <lionjenniepartin@gmail.com>

Club Presidents and Secretaries,

Please forward to the Lions managing your club's social media pages and marketing efforts, or a Lion that you think would be a great social media manager if you don't currently have someone actively running your social media. If you are involved in the marketing of your club, or would like to be more involved, keep reading!

Marketing gurus,

For those that I haven't met yet, I'm Lion Jennie Partin and I'm your district marketing chair. If you're on Facebook, I would like to invite you to join a new group we've created to help each other grow our club's social media presence, and help with marketing efforts. This group is designed to give each other ideas to post to keep our pages active (especially in slower months when we have less club activity to share!), share what's working well with our marketing efforts, and get help with what's not working well. Whether you're less experienced with social media, or a social media guru, I hope you'll join the group - there is so much we can learn from each other!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/835681422524863>

Looking forward to working with you,

Lion Jennie Partin

District 11-E2 Marketing Chair



Hillman Lions Peace Poster Contest Winner

Adelena Kiel, 7th grade at Hillman Jr High School, is the winner of the Hillman Lions Club International Peace Poster Contest.

Adelena's poster will now move on to District competition.

Pictured with Adelena is Hillman Lions Club member, Jean Manning.

Charlie Cone's New Book and Website

Barb: I serve with Charlie on the LMF finance committee. He is a great guy, and I'm sure this book will be a great read!
Ladies and Gentlemen,

PDG and Lions of Michigan Foundation Past President Charlie Cone (twc2484773825@earthlink.net - 248-719-2567) has written and published a book about his life. The book is a great read and details Charlie's love for flying and his time flying a fighter jet and serving our country in 3 wars. The book is available on Charlie's new website: www.charlesccone.com.

As some of you are aware, Charlie will be 100 years-old in January 2026. Please take a moment to congratulate Charlie on the new book and thank him for his service to our country and our Lions association, and please forward this information on to your family and friends.

Best regards!

Chad

From: Chad McCann [mailto:cmccann@lmsf.net]



11-E2 DISTRICT NEWS



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All State Band!



All high school musicians are invited to join the Lions of Michigan All State Band as we travel and serve!
 Future destinations include Hong Kong, Washington D.C., Singapore, San Antonio, and Finland!
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LMASB CHARITIES, INC.
 LIONS ALL STATE BAND

For application
 details:





LIONS OF MICHIGAN ALL STATE BAND
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 DATES: JUNE 29 - JULY 7, 2026

**INCLUDED IN TRIP:**

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- Local Motor Coach Transportation
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ITINERARY: (see complete itinerary on Lions band website)

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- Ruins of St. Paul's, Senado Square and A-Ma Temple
- Group farewell dinner and awards at Macau Tower

Tuesday, July 7

- Return to USA via San Francisco and Chicago

Double occupancy \$4,995



Scan to learn more!

Calendar of Events

December 2025 — Pearl Harbor Day — Sunday December 7, 2025
 Winter Solstice — Calendar Winter Begins Sunday, December 21, 2025
 The Christmas Holiday arrives on Thursday, December 25.

January 2026

Cabinet Meeting — January 31, 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



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

The Cheboygan Lions Club regret to announce the death of Sally Spray. Sally was the first female member of the club that was established in 1958.

New Members Reported — November, 2025 (or Earlier)

NO NEW MEMBERS REPORTED:

Total: 0 New Members Reported

Information From Club Activities Sent In

On the Mend Reported

On the mend: No Reports Received

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

Alpena Lions NOVEMBER 2025

The Alpena Lions Club put together gift bags for residents of MediLodge on Tuesday evening...

and Lion Tamer Gary Stevens delivered them Wednesday morning.



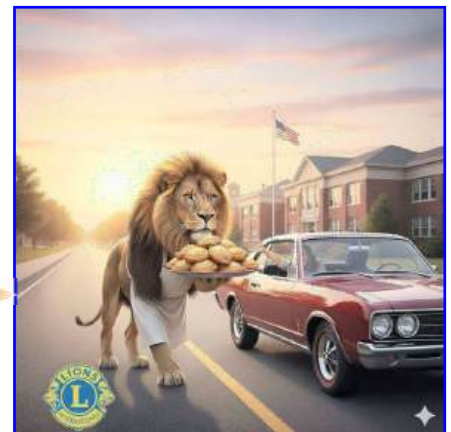
The Alpena Lions Club recently presented \$2,500 to The Salvation Army from its recent Old Newsboys street sale.

Boyne Valley Lions NOVEMBER 2025

From November 12 meeting notes

Friday, November 21 from 3 pm - 5 pm the Lions will hand out the pasties to those that have ordered them. We have orders for over 400 pasties and we need 5 Lions to walk the pasties from Chef Cole's classroom to the customer's cars.

Pasty orders have topped last year by over 77 pasties and now exceed a total of 444 pasties. 26% of the orders are Veggie!



Central Lake Lions

NOVEMBER 2025

After filling up on turkey and pumpkin pie, Central Lake Lions were out in full force to ring bells for the Salvation Army, bringing in \$979 over Thanksgiving weekend!

Then to officially kick off the holiday season, Lion Ray and Lion Brian welcomed Santa's reindeer to Central Lake's Window Night.

This long standing, fun and festive community event has officially kicked off the holiday season in Central Lake for decades, with Santa's reindeer being flown in specially by the Central Lake Lions for the past 7 years.



Cheboygan Lions

NOVEMBER 2025

Lions Cindy & Chris Bauer bartending at the Cheboygan Oktoberfest.



East Jordan Lions

NOVEMBER 2025

These East Jordan Lions worked on the flower gardens around town and at Community Park.

Pictured are Jennifer Thompson, Linda Poole, Faye Miller, Sherry Pursel, Linda Gocha, Dan Miller, Linda Chase and Bill Chase. Not pictured is Kim Burzych. We Serve!



East Jordan Lions voted to award \$50 to Peace Poster Winner Alexis Wenz.

Pictured are Lion Peace Poster Coordinator Linda Poole, art instructor Mike Schroeder, Alexis Wenz, King Lion Dan Miller, and Secretary Linda Gocha

East Jordan Lions welcomed Lisa Clavier from Kiersten's Ride as a suicide prevention speaker to their meeting.



Past District Governor Dennis Gocha was awarded the 2024-2025 Governor's plaque at the Lions District 11-E2 Cabinet meeting for fulfilling his governor's term. He's pictured with District Governor Marie Leathers. Thank you for your dedication and service!



Four Lions from District 11-E2 received a Chevron Service Award at the District 11-E2 Cabinet meeting on November 22nd. They were Dennis and Linda Gocha for 15 years, Di Labeau for 20 years and Kris Roberts for 10 years of service. Thank you for your service and hard work!

East Jordan Lions**NOVEMBER 2025**

Lions Bill Thompson and Bill Chase decorated the train at Sportsmans Park. East Jordan Lions decorate the train every year. ▼

**CHRISTMAS QUOTES:**

"The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other."

— Burton Hillis

"Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas." — Calvin Coolidge

"This time of year means being kind to everyone we meet, to share a smile with strangers we may pass along the street." — Betty Black

"For it is in giving that we receive." — Francis of Assisi

"There are three stages of man: he believes in Santa Claus; he does not believe in Santa Claus; he is Santa Claus."

— Bob Phillips

"Christmas is a time when everybody wants his past forgotten and his present remembered." — Phyllis Diller

"A good conscience is a continual Christmas." — Benjamin Franklin

"Gifts of time and love are surely the basic ingredients of a truly merry Christmas." — Peg Bracken

"Christmas gift suggestions: To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect." — Oren Arnold

"Christmas is like candy; it slowly melts in your mouth sweetening every taste bud, making you wish it could last forever." — Richelle Goodrich

"Love the giver more than the gift." — Brigham Young

"Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone." — Charles M. Schulz

**We Wish You All A Very Merry Christmas,
& A Happy New Year!**

December 2025: Winter Weather Begins — Peace

The month of December is when Autumn ends, and Winter begins by calendar, the Solstice on December 21. This year Autumn seemed to come and go faster, and was warmer than normal, only to see serious Winter weather appear at the end of November.

TIME FOR PEACE

At this time, science has found much evidence indicating that Homo Sapiens, we humans, first appeared around 300,000 years ago. The current consensus comes from fossils discovered in places like Jebel Irhoud, Morocco, dated to about 300,000–315,000 years old, showing early anatomical features of our species. Humans did not discover use of fire; rather, our hominid ancestors learned to control and use it. Homo Sapiens appearing 300,000 years ago were using fire from their beginning since earlier hominins already mastered it.

The earliest strong evidence of controlled fire by ancestor hominins is the Homo Erectus sites in Africa (e.g., Wonderwerk Cave, South Africa), 1,000,000 years ago. It is possible that earlier hints go back 1.5 million years, but these are not confirmed. Regular, habitual use of fire by 400,000 years ago became widespread among multiple hominins, our human ancestors in Africa, Europe, and Asia.

Invention of the bow and arrow is much more recent than discovery of controlled fire. Possible indicators from Pinnacle Point, South Africa was the earliest known evidence for bow and arrow were found to be 64,000 years ago. Recent strong evidence from Sibudu Cave, South Africa (stone points shaped like arrowheads) indicates that Homo Sapiens 60,000–70,000 years ago had definitive, widespread bow-and-arrow use. By 50,000 years ago bows and arrows were clearly used by Homo Sapiens across Africa. By 40,000 years ago, bows and arrows reached Europe and Asia with expanding modern human populations.

Fire and bows and arrows are tools that helped Homo Sapiens survive and thrive. Fire gave necessary heat in cold areas, kept bears, wolves, lions and other predators away, and cooked meat for meals. Bows and arrows helped hunters kill animals for food, and were also used to kill predators that threatened to kill humans.

These tools were necessary for our species survival, but they also used them as weapons to kill each other. Conflicts using wood clubs or throwing rocks were replaced by fire and bows and other better weapons to kill more people. Disputes became wars as new weapons were invented over years; spears, knives, axes, slings, swords, catapults, guns, bayonets, cannons, grenades, bazookas, missiles, bombs, nuclear bombs, to name a few weapons.

The concept of civilization arose about 5,000 to 6,000 years ago. Humans started developing agriculture, writing, and cities, replacing the Homo Sapiens of small mobile group hunter-gatherer societies. We have come a long way in our development of civilizations in recent centuries, especially with technology. But we have failed miserably to stop killing our own species. The history of humans is one of wars, from ancient Mesopotamia to today. The 20th Century U.S. Military Deaths in Seven Wars, from the Spanish-American War to the Gulf War, total to 623,649 U.S. military deaths. Sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers, all taken from their families.

Christmas is a time of the year where we think of gifts, giving, and peace (Jesus is often known as "the Prince of Peace"). It would be a better world if everyone kept the Christmas spirit all year round.

Achieving a world without war is one of humanity's oldest hopes. While it's incredibly difficult, history shows that real progress is possible. Peace isn't created by one solution but by many layers working together. The Lions mission of helping others, giving time and effort to those in need, is an example for peace. Ending all wars may never be perfect, but we can drastically reduce them. Humanity has already reduced torture, slavery, and dueling. The world today has fewer nations at war than most of history — proof that progress is real. War begins with fear and division. Peace begins with understanding. Peace becomes durable when people—not just leaders—demand it. World Peace will make "civilization" truly worthy of the name. Peace is possible. The question is, how long will it take?

PICTURES OF THE MONTH

Autumn Northern Lights Pictures



The Northern Lights—also called the Aurora Borealis—are caused by charged particles from the sun colliding with gases in Earth's atmosphere. The result? Those magical waves of green, pink, and purple light that shimmer across the night sky. Unfortunately, many of us have cloudy nights and don't get to see the colorful sky. I looked for this autumn auroras online and found these Michigan photos. Cameras can normally see the colors better than human eye,

Your best chance to see the Northern Lights in Michigan is between August and April, with peak visibility in October, November, and April.

Although these storms can produce great beauty with the northern lights, they can also interfere with GPS and electrical systems.



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

