



FEBRUARY 2026

Notable Quotes: "Healing yourself is connected with healing others." — *Yoko Ono*

District Governor's Message



Dear Fellow Lions,

I'm happy to announce that the District LCIF Hunger Grant has been approved! Together we have raised \$44,000 of our \$50,000 match. Will you or your club help us over the finish line? This grant will provide \$200,000 of equipment for the new food bank distribution facility in Gaylord, which will impact the lives of so many people throughout Michigan, especially the northern lower peninsula and the upper peninsula.

This grant is a great example of how Lions live out Helen Keller's quote:

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."

- As an individual we can feed someone who is hungry
- Lions clubs with pop up pantries and backpack programs for schools feed even more
- Lions Districts through Hunger Grants from Lions Club International feed thousands!

Another highlight of the month was helping at the Michigan Ski for Light alongside Roscommon Higgins Lake Lions and other Lions from around the district. For 50 years they have been promoting the physical fitness of visually and mobility impaired adults, in an environment where "we can't is replaced with we can.

What does *your* community need? Are you doing what you can to meet those needs? It might mean asking others in your community with a passion for your project to join you. It might mean asking neighboring clubs to join in your efforts. It might mean working with other organizations to accomplish something bigger. It might mean applying for a grant to make those dreams for your community come true.

Not sure where to start? *Plan to attend the District Convention on April 24-26, 2026 at Treetops in Gaylord!* You will be surrounded by others who have a heart of service where you can share your success stories and learn from your peers. You will also hear some amazing motivational speakers like Retired Major Jonathan Turnbull, who was blinded and severely injured by a suicide bomber in Syria. He will also be available for Q & A and to autograph his book "Zero Percent Chance."

The convention is for Lions and non-Lions young and old, so encourage your fellow club members to attend and invite a friend! Visit the district website lionsdistrict11e2.org for more information and registration.

Thank you for all you do. WE SERVE!

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 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 www.lionsdistrict11e2.org / 989-657-9277	

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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

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

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 bjlander618@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



[contributions to LCIF bring us all closer to success](#)



Dear Lions and Leos,

Throughout 2025, Lions and Leos around the world have continued to serve millions, improving lives and communities through your generosity. LCIF grants have empowered your clubs and districts to reduce hunger, restore vision, help communities recover, rebuild after disaster, and so much more.

Thanks to your dedication and support, we are making strong progress toward our fundraising goals this fiscal year. As we move forward in 2026, please keep inspiring others to support LCIF and explore [grant opportunities](#) to expand your impact. Remember to invite new donors to make their gifts to LCIF in recognition of Melvin Jones' 147th birthday. [Every donation](#) makes a difference to someone in need and helps us leave our mark on the world.

At your service,

Fabrício Oliveira, LCIF Chairperso

Celebrate Melvin Jones' Birthday with LCIF

Honor our founder's 147th birthday this January by donating to LCIF. Lions and Leos can earn special recognition for their gifts and inspire new donors to join in supporting our global foundation. Together, we continue Melvin Jones' legacy of service.

[Donate Now](#)



Lions International

Dear Lions Club Officer,

As your club looks ahead to its district and multiple district conventions, below are several steps your club can take to ensure it remains in good standing. With most conventions taking place in March, April or May, now is an ideal time to begin preparing.

1. **Convention dates:** Confirm the dates of your district and multiple district conventions in the [Lion Portal](#) with your club officers. Verifying these dates helps your club determine the number of delegates allowed and identify any outstanding dues or fees that must be paid.
2. **Number of delegates:** With the assistance of your club officers, review the Certified List with Eligible Member Count Report on the Lion Portal. This information becomes available on the first day of the month preceding the month in which the convention is held.

For assistance regarding the Lion Portal, please contact our Member Service Center at memberservicecenter@lionsclubs.org.

3. **Club balance:** Work with your club treasurer to ensure your club's account is not outstanding for more than 30 days. All balances must be paid at least 15 days before participating in district and multiple district conventions. Failure to pay outstanding balances may result in your club being ineligible to vote.

For inquiries regarding your club's balance with Lions International, please contact our A/R & Club Accounts Service Department at membershipbilling@lionsclubs.org.

To learn more, review the voting delegate information for multiple district and district conventions [document](#) today.

4. **Preparing for Club Leadership Succession:** As your club prepares for future leadership, encourage members to explore the online courses available in the [Lions Learning Center \(LLC\)](#) located under Learn in the Lion Portal. These resources support developing strong leadership skills and ensuring continuity as your club moves forward. Recommended courses include:

Club Officer Training
Leadership Succession
Goal Setting
And more

Please contact the District & Club Administration Division with any questions, inquiries or support your club may need. We can be reached by email at clubstatus@lionsclubs.org.

Thank you for your service!

Sincerely

District & Club Administration Division



Lions International

Dear Lions Club Officer,

Congratulations on your club's success during the start of this exciting 2025-2026 Lion Year.

As the first half of this exciting Lion year approaches, it is important to review your club's roster ahead of the upcoming dues billing. By reviewing the club's roster, you are ensuring that it is up to date, and your club avoids being billed for inactive members. Log into the [Lion Portal](#) or your regional reporting system to update.

For questions on how to access the portal or make changes, visit the [Lion Portal Resource webpage](#) to review videos, FAQs and more. For additional assistance, contact us at lionssupport@lionsclubs.org.

Lions International has gone paperless. Log into the [Lion Portal](#) and navigate to My Club – Club Statements to check your club's balance, make payments and see outstanding balances. Reviewing and paying your club's balance regularly helps keep your club in good standing. For questions regarding your club's statement, please contact Membership Billing at membershipbilling@lionsclubs.org.

Thank you for your continued leadership and dedication to strengthening your club and serving your community. We appreciate your efforts to keep your club's information current and your membership strong. For club support, please contact us at clubofficers@lionsclubs.org.

Sincerely,

District & Club Administration Team



On Wed, Jan 14, 2026, 12:18 PM Claudia Gregory <Claudia.Gregory@leaderdog.org> wrote:

Good afternoon, Leader Dog Chairs.

At the risk of rushing the year along already... February's Leading the Way newsletter for Lions is ready for you to share. **Please forward this email on to your newsletter editor** so your district gets the latest updates from Leader Dog. This edition includes an interactive activity any Lion can run at a convention or meeting to help illustrate the impact of blindness and low vision on people in our community. It also celebrates Lion Melissa Weisse, President & CEO of Leader Dog, for receiving the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award from the Royal Oak Lions Club.

Please also invite Lions to join us on campus this March for our Lions Tour Experience the afternoon of Saturday, March 14th. An event exclusively for Lions, attendees will receive a tour of campus and hear from a client. Each attendee should [register online](#) - please note, tickets are limited to ensure the best experience for all attendees.

Our team is finalizing travel for ourselves and client speakers through spring - **now is the time to request a speaker for any events through April**. We will do our best to accommodate requests, but the earlier they are submitted, the better chance we have at providing a speaker to meet your needs. You can [request a speaker](#) or [request materials](#) like flyers and blindfolds at the Lions Club Resources page of our website.

I hope to see you **this Thursday at our Leader Dog Chair meeting**. The meeting will begin at 7pm ET on Thursday, January 15. Join through Zoom for the latest news and to meet Dr. Gail McRae, DVM, Director of Canine Health and Breeding.

Meeting link: <https://leaderdog-https://leaderdog-org.zoom.us/j/88563105374?pwd=3E8yhBsibIGQqsvXNTidLdDsVgfFRi.1&from=addon>

Thank you!



Lion Claudia Gregory

Manager of Lion Engagement

Leader Dogs for the Blind

P: 248.339.2005 | LeaderDog.org

1039 S. Rochester Rd., Rochester Hills, MI 48307



Dear Fellow Lions,

On behalf of myself, my guide dog Tucker, and the 18,000 other men and women whose lives have been forever changed by the gift of independence, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to Lions Clubs across North America for your unwavering support of Leader Dogs for the Blind.

Because of you, people who are blind or visually impaired have found their way safely, confidently, and independently. Because of you, lives have been restored, dreams rekindled, and barriers broken. The story of Leader Dog begins with the Lions, and its success continues because of you.

Our Shared History

More than 85 years ago, Lion Dr. Glenn Wheeler lost his vision and needed support. When he was denied access to the only guide dog organization around, three of his fellow Lions took on the challenge to build their own. **From day one, the Lions and Leader Dog have been inseparable. Without the Lions Club, there would be no Leader Dog.** That partnership remains one of the greatest testaments to our motto: We Serve.

As a Leader Dog client myself, I've personally experienced the life-changing power of this mission. I received both Orientation & Mobility training and my first guide dog through Leader Dog in 2022. My dog, Tucker, has given me more than just mobility, he's given me freedom, confidence, and the ability to serve others again.

Every day, I see how your support makes this possible, not only for me, but for countless others. Many of these people are in your very own district.

A Challenge for Today's Lions

Leader Dogs for the Blind provides all its services completely free of charge to clients, but the cost to train one guide dog exceeds thousands of dollars. That's why your continued involvement is absolutely vital. Leader Dog's entire mission is sustained through donations, and the Lions are the heart of that support.

You have already built something extraordinary. But the need is greater than ever.

Across the world, millions of people who are blind or visually impaired are longing for mobility and independence. So, I challenge every Lions Club in the U.S. and Canada to:

- **Continue and increase your financial support.** If your club already donates, thank you! Consider increasing your contribution or setting a new fundraising goal this year. Every dollar makes a difference.
- **Encourage members to get involved personally.** Become puppy raisers, breeding hosts, or district-level Leader Dog Chairs. Your time and leadership multiply the mission far beyond financial giving.
- **Promote awareness in your communities.** Host a Leader Dog presentation or invite a graduate like me to speak. Share the story of how your club's support changes lives. People give when they see the results.
- **Strive to become a Top Dog Club.** Clubs that contribute \$5,000 USD or more in a fiscal year earn this distinction, recognition of true dedication to the legacy Lions began in 1939.

My Personal Gratitude

Because of the Lions, a single act of service in 1939 continues to ripple outward, touching lives across the world one cane and one harness at a time. From the bottom of my heart, thank you. Thank you to every Lion who ever raised a puppy, made a donation, referred someone to Leader Dog, or who simply believed in the power of independence.

My guide dog Tucker and I are the result of your service. Every step we take is a reminder of your compassion, your vision, and your enduring commitment to serving others.

Continued 

 Continued



But our work isn't finished. The next person waiting for their chance to walk freely is counting on us. Let us honor the Lions who came before us, those who founded Leader Dog and lit the path of service we walk today by ensuring that path continues forward.

Let's renew our commitment. Let's expand our reach. Let's ensure that every person who is blind or visually impaired can experience the same independence that your support has made possible.

The world needs more independence. Leader Dog needs more Lions. And together, we make that happen.

With deepest gratitude and respect,
Lion Joseph Johnson
Client, Leader Dogs for the Blind
Zone Chair, District 18-N
Augusta Lions Club
Leader Dog Alumni Board

Thank you for taking the time to read Lion Joseph's words. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to our team at LionsSupport@LeaderDog.org.

Yours in Lionism,
Lion Claudia Gregory
Manager of Philanthropy for Lions Engagement
Leader Dogs for the Blind

On Wed, Jan 14, 2026, 12:18 PM Claudia Gregory <Claudia.Gregory@leaderdog.org> wrote:

Good afternoon, Leader Dog Chairs.

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Meeting link: <https://leaderdog-org.zoom.us/j/88563105374?pwd=3E8yhBsibIGQqsvXNTidLdDsVgFRi.1&from=addon>

Thank you!



Lion Claudia Gregory
Manager of Lion Engagement
Leader Dogs for the Blind
P: 248.339.2005 | LeaderDog.org
1039 S. Rochester Rd., Rochester Hills, MI 48307



Lions Clubs of Michigan

SD10 and MD11, Lions International

Club Secretaries - please share with your Club Members!

Dear Club Secretaries,

We are so excited about the upcoming Michigan Lions Forum!

Please extend this invitation to your club members and join us for this year's Michigan Lions Forum February 27-28, 2026, at the Delta Marriott, Kalamazoo. This year's program features seminars on a wide variety of educational topics. We'll have many of the standard favorites and there will be some exciting new sessions and speakers too. Come and enjoy professional speakers, listen to keynote speaker, Kathleen Marcath, Author and Founder of ASL Picture Books, and enjoy fellowship with other Lions and guests while we Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead.

Sixteen sessions will be presented in four time slots throughout the morning. Participants will select one session to attend during each time slot. ***Bring along members of your club to attend as many sessions as possible!***

Friday evening there will be a group service project to be held at the hotel. This year we will support **Forget Me Not Little Heroes**, an organization providing unique backpacks filled with supplies for children in foster care, domestic/homeless shelters, etc. Holly Tessman, Forget Me Not Little Heroes, will join us for this special evening of service. ***Your club can help purchase a backpack by making a \$40.00 donation! Ask for details!***

Friday registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday registration begins at 7:00 a.m. The opening General Session is scheduled for 8:10 a.m. and breakouts begin at 8:30 a.m.

There will be a large room set up for our many exhibitors and an open area for registration, allowing for socializing over plenty of hot coffee/tea and water stations! Updates and online registration can be found on the Lions of Michigan web site: www.lionsofmi.com.

To register, simply fill out the registration form and mail it along with a check for \$60 per person. The registration fee covers the breakout sessions, lunch, keynote address, and a proceedings book containing information and handouts on each breakout session. In addition, every registrant is automatically entered in a drawing for door prizes. **Hotel reservations** are handled directly with the hotel by calling the Delta Marriott Kalamazoo direct at 269-375-6000 using code **Lions Michigan Forum**, or Best Western Plus Kalamazoo Suites 269-350-5522.

If you order **White Cane supplies** ahead of time, you can pick them up during the Michigan Forum and avoid postage charges. They'll be ready when you arrive! There will be no on-site sales, so please place your order in advance.

We look forward to seeing you at the Forum!

Sincerely,

Lion Julie Mayuiers

PDG Julie Mayuiers, Chair
Michigan Forum Committee

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



MICHIGAN LIONS FORUM



LEAD TO SERVE < SERVICE TO LEAD
February 27-28, 2026

LIONS MICHIGAN FORUM SERVICE PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

Forget Me Not Little Heroes is an organization dedicated to supplying backpacks full of essential items to fostered, sheltered, and underprivileged children ages 3-12 years old. They have been selected as our Forum Service Project this year.

Why Backpacks?

Most children arrive at foster homes and shelters with nothing but a garbage bag. When the organizers heard of this, they stepped up to make a change. Items are designed to fit in a backpack. It makes them feel special, keeps them organized and teaches them to care about their belongings.

What Can You Do to Help?

Our goal is to fill 300 backpacks with color coordinated items in their very own backpack. **The cost for one backpack is \$40.00.** Through districts, clubs and grants, our goal is to raise \$12,000.00. Each club is being asked to donate as much as they can afford as part of a club service project, enabling us to provide many more of these special items for special kids. Please consider donating to this worthy cause!

Checks can be written and mailed to Three Rivers Lions Club:

Three Rivers Lions Club
PO Box 134
Three Rivers, MI 49093
Attn: Forum Service Project

Contact PDG Julie Mayuiers, Michigan Lions Forum Chair, with any questions you may have. 269-254-1938 or jumayuiers@gmail.com.

Thank you.

MICHIGAN LIONS FORUM



LEAD TO SERVE, SERVE TO LEAD!

February 27–28, 2026

Featuring Keynote Speaker Kathleen Marcath

Delta Marriott Kalamazoo

2747 S 11th Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Room Reservations call 269-375-6000

CODE: LIONS MI FORUM

Cost: \$119.00 Cutoff date: 2/1/26

Alternate Hotel:

BEST WESTERN SUITES KALAMAZOO

269-350-5522 Room Rate: \$112.00

Registration Cost: \$60.00/person

Please complete the registration form and send it along with a check to:

Lions of Michigan

5730 Executive Dr., Lansing, MI 48911

Telephone 517-887-6640 or Fax 517-887-6642

-OR-

Register online at www.lionsofmi.com

Name _____

Address _____

Club Name _____

District _____

Contact Phone _____

Email _____

Names of Registrants

1. _____

2. _____

Early Registration Deadline: February 14, 2026

_____ Registrants at \$60.00/person* = \$ _____

*Registration includes lunch, Forum, and proceedings booklet.

List food allergies or dietary requirements:

REGISTER EARLY

To help us plan, prepare materials and guarantee lunch!

FRIDAY EVENTS: Registration open 6:30 pm

- 7:00 p.m. Service Project Forget Me Not Little Heroes
- Hospitality – Mingle at Lift inside the Hotel

SATURDAY SESSIONS:

7:00 a.m. Registration Delta Marriott Conference Center

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Breakout Sessions - Lunch to follow

Session 1 Breakout Session - 8:30 a.m. (Check One)

- Leadership Challenge
- Managing Your Club on the Web
- Officer Training; President
- LCIF / LMF

Session 2 Breakout Session - 9:30 a.m. (Check One)

- Building Membership through Specialty Clubs
- Cybersecurity
- Club Secretary / Service Reporting
- Leader Dog / Puppy Raisers

Session 3 Breakout Session - 10:30 a.m. (Check One)

- Serving Together: Partners in Service
- Flipping for Fundraisers / LCI Legal Rules
- Officer Training; Treasurer
- Elder Law & Estate Planning

Session 4 Breakout Session - 11:30 a.m. (Check One)

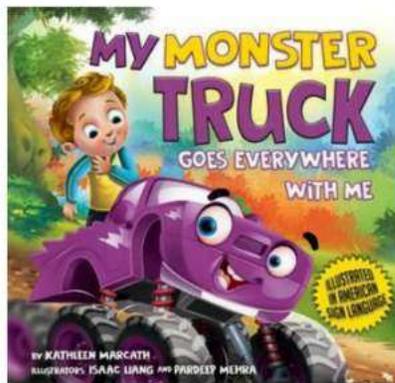
- Attracting Younger Members
- Service Carnival
- Tail Twister / Ice Breakers
- Eversight

12:45 p.m. Luncheon, Scholarships, Keynote Address by Author Kathleen Marcath, Raffle Drawings



Keynote speaker and author Kathleen Marcath’s presentation, delivered in an **inspirational storytelling format**, shares the moving story of how one language—**American Sign Language**—opens hearts, minds, and possibilities. From the moment young *Alice Cogswell* learned her name for the first time at age nine, to children inspired by *My Monster Truck Goes Everywhere with Me*, the talk invites audiences to experience the power of connection and the importance of communication for every child—regardless of hearing, vision, or circumstance.

At its core, her message echoes the Lions' values through their service: compassion, inclusion, and community. ASL Picture Books exist to help children feel *seen, heard, and valued*—and to remind us all that **ASL is an untapped resource with limitless potential for our children.**



Your \$40 donation helps every child experience the joy of simply being a kid.

We are an organization dedicated to supplying backpacks full of essential items to fostered, sheltered, and underprivileged children ages 3-12 years old.

How you can Help!



- Donate to support our little heroes.**
- Volunteer to help Forget Me Not Little Heroes.**
- Tell others about Forget Me Not Little Heroes and how to donate.**

Donate Here to help children in need.



Contact us:
745 South US Highway 131, Three Rivers, MI 49093
Email: Forgetmenotlittleheroes@gmail.com
Phone: (269) 858-3343



Hello Lions!

Are you ready for a roaring fun weekend at the annual District Convention at Treetops Resort on April 24-26, 2026? Get ready to **step into the Roaring 20's**-where energy, excitement, and service come alive! You are cordially invited to join us at the **District Convention**, a weekend filled with fellowship, inspiration, celebration, and the unmistakable roar of ALL Lions who are making a difference.



This year's theme, "**Roaring Through the 20's**" captures the spirit of both the historic 1920's and the bold new era we are entering together as Lions. Just as the original Roaring 20's were filled with innovation, courage, and community spirit, our convention will showcase the powerful impact Lions are making today.

1920's Style - 2020's Purpose!!

What's Happening at the Convention?

- **Fun Friday Night Mixer & Service Project** - come in 1920's costume or come as you are! Bring your smile for photos with a fun themed backdrop and be ready to enjoy some roaring 20's fun, games and fellowship! The service project will be packing goodie bags for veterans going on the Honor Flight, or you can write personalized cards to thank a Vet for their service.
- **Saturday's Sessions** will include inspirational and informative messages from Leader Dogs for the Blind, Eversight, Ski for Light and our great Foundations that provide resources to help build our communities. We'll also have a Memorial to honor those Lions who have passed away in the past year, the pop tab challenge weigh-in, the raffle prize drawing and more!
- **Guest speakers** include Retired Major Johathan Turnbull for our lunch program, and International Director Lion Liz Crooke highlighting our dinner banquet, both very inspirational and energetic speakers!

Why You Should Be There

- **Reconnect** with fellow Lions who share your passion for service
- **Learn, grow, and get inspired** through uplifting speakers and engaging workshops
- **Celebrate** the accomplishments of clubs and members across the district
- **Shape the future** of our district through meaningful conversations and collaboration
- **HAVE FUN!** Enjoy the fellowship, the theme, and the joy of being part of something bigger than ourselves

Whether you're a longtime Lion or newly inducted, your presence brings energy and strength to our district. We serve best when we come together-sharing ideas, building connections, and reigniting our collective ROAR.

We Want YOU There!

Your voice matters. Your service matters. **You matter** to this district and to the communities we serve. Join us as we celebrate the past year, prepare for the future, and step boldly into a new Roaring 20's of Lionism.

We cannot wait to welcome you, celebrate with you, and roar forward together.

Let the Roar Begin!

We'll see you at the District Convention!

In Lionism,
Central Lake Lions
Convention Committee

More information or questions contact:
Ray Kuiper, Convention Chair
(616)581-1863 kuiperr172@gmail.com



CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Registrations are due April 6, 2026

Treetops Room Reservation cutoff is March 19, 2026 (details below)

Online registrations and payments can be made at lionsdistrict11e2.org

Or e-mail filled out form to lionsconvention11e2@gmail.com

If you prefer to mail registration and payment please see instructions below



Check all that apply: Lion Spouse Leo Guest

Club Name:

Attendee Name:

Name you want on your badge (if different):

Address:

Phone Email

Please check all events you plan on attending so we can prepare accordingly.

All events are free with registration unless otherwise noted.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Registration Fee \$10	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday Cabinet Meeting	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday Night service project/Hospitality room	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday Continental Breakfast	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday District Business Meeting	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday morning sessions (see itinerary for details)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday Lunch with guest speaker Jonathon Turnbull \$25	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Memorial	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday afternoon sessions (see itinerary for details)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elections	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Raffle prize drawing (tickets for sale \$5 each or 3 for \$10)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Happy Hour (pay as you go)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday Banquet with guest speaker International Director Liz Crooke \$40	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday hospitality room	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday Continental Breakfast	
	TOTAL	\$

Please mail check payable to Lions District 11-E2 Convention with registration form(s) to:

Central Lake Lions Club, PO Box 233, Central Lake, MI 49622

One form for each person, one check may be written for multiple registrations. Check # _____

Room Reservations can be made directly thru Treetops Resort: 989-732-6711.

Rooms are \$129.29 per night plus tax and resort fees **through March 19, 2025.**

Your convention hosts are: The Central Lake Lions Club.

For more information or answers to questions please contact Ray Kuiper (616)581-1863



PROGRAM ADVERTISING ORDER FORM

2026 Lions District 11 E-2 Convention

April 24-26, 2026

Treetops Resort, Gaylord, MI



Club, Individual, or Business

Contact Person

Phone

Email

SIZE OF AD BEING ORDERED: (Sizes shown include borders around the ad)

- Full Page (5" wide x 8" high) \$125.00
- Half Page (5" wide x 4" high) \$ 75.00
- Quarter Page (2.5" wide x 4" high) \$ 50.00

Customer Signature

Full Color Ad artwork can be emailed to lionsconvention11e2@gmail.com

MAIL CHECK OR MONEY ORDER (**payable to District 11-E2 Convention Fund**)

Central Lake Lions Club, PO Box 233, Central Lake, MI 49622

FINAL DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTWORK IS APRIL 6, 2026

If you have questions on ad artwork contact:

Jack Bodis, Creative Characters

jackbodis@outlook.com

(231)544-6084

Any other questions contact:

Ray Kuiper

(616)581-1863

Suggestions for ads:

- ❖ Honor Lions who have passed away in the last year
- ❖ Honor outstanding Lions in your club
- ❖ Advertise your club fundraisers
- ❖ Show off your club service activities
- ❖ Advertise your business or offer coupons and discounts
- ❖ Share an inspirational message

WE SERVE!



MEMORIAL REPORT

Dear Club Officers:

Each year District 11-E2 holds a special Memorial Service at the convention. This is a solemn moment when we honor all the Lions who have passed away during the past Lion year.



Every club is asked to respond by submitting the names and a photo of each of your members whose service on Earth has ended. The names and photos will be played on a video slideshow at the memorial service. *Please be sure to include any Lions that may not have been a Lion when they passed away and therefore would not be included in the online reports.*

Furthermore, we ask that you honor them by attending the Memorial Service and taking a tree to plant in memory of them. The service will be held on Saturday after lunch.

If you are unable to submit electronically please fill out this form and mail to the address below.

Thank you for helping to honor your former members.

Club Name

Club Contact Person

E-mail Phone

Please submit the information and photos online at lionsdistrict11e2.org

If unable to complete online then fill out this form and email to: lionsconvention11e2@gmail.com

If unable to email then mail to: Brian Chace, Po Box 109, Frederic, Michigan 49733-0109

DECEASED MEMBERS:

Questions contact Brian Chace, (989)619-1890



Calendar of Events

February 2026

Cabinet Meeting —

April 2026

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



PASSINGS REPORTED



PDG Florence Kelpinski passed away Sunday January 11th.

Her obituary is on the Buresh Funeral Home website:

Buresh Funeral Home Hale, MI 121 S Washington St Hale, MI 48739

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

New Members Reported — January, 2026 (or Earlier)

Hillman Lions: On January 13, 2026 the Hillman Lions accepted a new member: **Faye Lewis**. Her sponsor was Carleen Klein.

Total: 0 New Members Reported

Information From Club Activities Sent In

On the Mend Reported

On the mend: East Jordan - Sally Lilak and Bill Chase recovering from pneumonia.

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



East Jordan Lions

January 2025

East Jordan and Central Lake members helped at the Ski For Light event for the visually and hearing impaired event in Roscommon.

IPDG Dennis Gocha and FVDG Kris Roberts helped on the ski trails.



Lions Linda Gocha, Diane Roberts and Gretchen Van Ormer helped assemble name tags, set up for the silent auction, and handled shirt sales.





FEBRUARY 2026 — Arctic Weather / Bad Tech

Last fall the meteorologists (scientists who study weather and climate) said that the winter would be colder and have more snow and ice than recent winters. Well, we can't say they didn't tell us what we've had this winter. It has been a winter like the winters we used to have 20 or 30 years ago. The Little Traverse Bay froze over in January, and you can't see any water from Petoskey, just ice as far as the eye can see to the western horizon of Lake Michigan. The cold turned arctic halfway through the month, with 7 days of a low temperature of zero or less, with minus 11 degrees the coldest on January 29. Skiing, snowmobiling and other winter outside activities have been the best in decades. The snow has been amazingly beautiful on the hiking trails in the forests. The high winds have helped to make for a colder experience. Those who are not thrilled by arctic temperatures have gone south if possible. The rest can be comforted to know that spring is only a six weeks away!

We all now rely on our technology in some way to get things done. We use computers for almost anything, typing documents, sending messages by email and text, getting information you want, and checking any time what the weather will be tomorrow. When I say computers, I also mean our mobile phones. The handheld device we call a "phone" is actually a computer with a connection app. Now matter where you go, walk down the street, stop for a meal, go to the grocery store, sit in a clinic waiting for a medical check, you will see people with phone in hand.

Technology is all around us, and now we can't live without it. As good as it is, it sometimes fails. I just ran into that situation myself when my computer, or the programs that run it, had a glitch that left me unable to get many things done for a few weeks, and not totally fixed yet.

In middle January one day I turned on my computer and clicked to open a program. Suddenly a box with writing in it appeared. The message said "Windows cannot access the specified device, path, or file. You may not have the appropriate permissions to access the item." I'd never seen this before, and didn't quite know what it meant. It became clear that what ever it was, it kept me from getting a program. I tried several times to open my program in different ways, but to no success.

I didn't know at first whether this was something going around with others, or if it was just my computer. I realized that it was something to do with Windows security program. I figured this happened from a download for regular security updates, to protect against viral and hacker attacks, but somehow also blocked the opening of certain programs and files. For several days I sought information on websites. I found one website that had info at top, but below had people writing their thoughts about "not getting to open their programs" and the "Windows cannot access..." message. At least I wasn't the only victim, which means many people are not happy and some tech companies will have to do something soon to end this. I did finally find a website that gave ways to overcome the blockage. It worked...for a day or 2 when it turned up again. Quickbooks, LibreOffice, PagePlus (the app that used in this newsletter) and browser Firefox, all blocked off and on.

I also sought support from the Tech companies, HP (computer), Intuit (Quickbooks), both of which did something that again worked, for awhile. I tried Microsoft (Windows), but never got beyond the robot receptionist who suggested something and then hung up the phone before I could get human tech help. In all, I went through 10 or more hours of short help.

I had work to do, including this Lions newsletter. but I couldn't get this app to work at all. I decided to get the newsletter done on paper. After a few days I had done 7 pages, and I knew I had to get the program working again. I thought about it, and decided to try AI (Artificial Intelligence). I got a lot of information and steps to take to get it fixed. Finally, I got it to work, and it still is working!

I have gone through a very stressful experience that I hope none of you who read this ever have to go through something like this. Technology is amazing and helpful... when it works. Just be aware that while tech works for us, sometime things will go wrong, and you'll find yourself facing Bad Tech.



PICTURES OF THE MONTH

2026 WINTER PICS



Ice closes in on the Bear River



When walking with our dog along the Bear River in January, we saw something moving out on the ice near the middle of the river. It had caught a fish, and was dragging it across the ice to the river edge below us. I realized that it was an otter, something I had never seen before in this area, inside the city limits of Petoskey. I was lucky to see it, and to get a picture of this creature having his fresh meal.



A Harbor Springs Winter event had lots of great ice carvings with many things to show. From T-Rex to Darth Vader, dogs, birds, and other animals, plants, and humans and their various creations were all carved by talented artists.



Above: A Tyrannosaurus rex head.



Above: A bird.



Left, A dog with a water board on his back.



Below: Darth Vader.

Below: An artistic skull.



Below left: A big rabbit.



Below: A police vehicle.



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

