

# DISTRICT 11-E2 NEWSLETTER



**MARCH 2026**

Notable Quotes: " The more one does and sees and feels, the more one is able to do." — Amelia Earhart

## District Governor's Message



Dear Fellow Lions,

Are you ready to ROAR??? Step back into the fun of the roaring 20's as we look forward with confidence at the district convention, April 24-26, 2026 at Treetops in Gaylord.

Are you a new Lion? This convention is for YOU!

Are you a long term Lion? This convention is for YOU!

Have you never been to a convention? This convention is for YOU!

Have you been to a bunch of conventions? This convention is for YOU!

Are you young? Or old? Or somewhere in between? This convention is for YOU!

Maybe now you're wondering why you should go to the convention....

- ★ **Discover** additional resources to help those in need in *your* community
- ★ **Feel** the impact of how giving the gift of sight has personally changed lives
- ★ **Experience** the joy of being a Leader Dog puppy raiser
- ★ **Learn** how to free yourself from stress
- ★ **See** how Lions help the blind to ski
- ★ **Remember** those fellow Lions who have passed away
- ★ **Voice** your opinion
- ★ **Win** some great prizes
- ★ **Recognize** those who have led the way
- ★ **Serve** by preparing bags for Honor Flight
- ★ **Weigh** in pop tabs for Ronald McDonald house challenge (had you worried?)
- ★ **Socialize** with old friends and meet new friends
- ★ **Have FUN!**

We have some great guest speakers you won't want to miss. Retired Major Jonathan Turnbull, blinded survivor of a suicide bomber in Syria, and author of Zero Percent Chance will be speaking at the awards luncheon. He'll also be available to sign books and ask him questions after lunch. Lions International Director Liz Crooke, who has traveled the world serving those in need will be speaking at our awards dinner banquet.

Are you ready to register? Go to [lionsdistrict11e2.org](http://lionsdistrict11e2.org) where you can register online or download forms to fill out. Need another way to register? E-mail convention chair Ray Kuiper at [kuiperrl72@gmail.com](mailto:kuiperrl72@gmail.com) or call him at 616-581-1863.

Room Reservations can be made directly thru Treetops Resort: 989-732-6711 and ask for the Lions group rate. Rooms are \$129.29 per night plus tax and resort fees through March 19, 2025.

See you at the convention! WE SERVE!  
DG Marie

**District 11-E2 Website:  
lionsdistrict11e2.org**

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2025-2026 DISTRICT OFFICERS REFERENCE LIST	
DISTRICT GOVERNOR Central Lake Lions Marie Leathers <a href="mailto:lionmarieleathers@gmail.com">lionmarieleathers@gmail.com</a> 231-350-0286	IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR East Jordan Lions Dennis Gocha 231-350-1906 <a href="mailto:dennygocha@gmail.com">dennygocha@gmail.com</a>
VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR NA	GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM District Coordinator Dennis Gocha 231-350-1906 <a href="mailto:dennygocha@gmail.com">dennygocha@gmail.com</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR Kris Roberts Central Lake Lions Club <a href="mailto:krobdi@gmail.com">krobdi@gmail.com</a> 701-409-9160	GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM District Coordinator BJ Sander <a href="mailto:bisander618@outlook.com">bisander618@outlook.com</a> 989-464-9885
CABINET SECRETARY/ TREASURER Barb Durflinger Hillman Lions Club <a href="mailto:lionbarb@comdac.com">lionbarb@comdac.com</a> 989-742-2790	GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM District Coordinator Rod Leathers <a href="mailto:leathersrod@gmail.com">leathersrod@gmail.com</a> 231-350-0567
GLOBAL EXTENSION TEAM COORDINATOR Steve Murch <a href="mailto:stevemurch49707@gmail.com">stevemurch49707@gmail.com</a> / 989-657-9277	



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



**Lead to Serve,  
Serve to Lead with  
International President  
A.P. Singh**

**Lion**

When you join Lions, you may focus on how you will give back to others through service. What you may not immediately realize is how much Lions gives back to you. Becoming a Lion opens the door to experiencing more — more belonging, more purpose, more leadership and more community.

Lions is not only the world’s largest and best service organization; it’s a way of life. As a Lion, you grow as an individual while discovering how your unique talents and passions can make a real difference in the world. Lions is your place to shine.

Remember, every one of you is needed, important and valued. Thank you for all you do, and I look forward to seeing how you continue to grow on your Lions journey.

Together in service,

**A.P. Singh**  
**International President**



**Get Ready for Our Environment Week of Service**

Take action during our [Environment Week of Service, April 18-26](#), by helping reduce electronic waste in your community. We are encouraging clubs to lead e-waste collection drives, host recycling events and educate neighbors on the safe disposal of electronics.

Every effort keeps harmful materials out of landfills and protects the environment we share. Join Lions around the world and make a visible, meaningful impact through e-waste service.

As you plan your projects, be inspired by the innovative service of our 2024-2025 [Kindness Matters Service Award winners](#). Congratulations to all our winners!

**Show the World How Lions Experience More**

You know how great it is to be a Lion and now you can share it with the world. With our new [Experience More Marketing Campaign Toolkit](#), your club has the tools to showcase what makes your club meaningful and memorable.



The best part? The kit is fully customizable for your club, giving your marketing a distinctive edge that helps you stand out — and attract new members. Download the kit today and start sharing your impact.

Be sure to watch and share our video, "[Why Are You a Lion?](#)" to hear from fellow Lions about how they’re experiencing more every day, through every act of service.



**Our Peace Poster Contest Brings Your Community Together**



The Peace Poster Contest invites young people around the world to express their creativity while sharing their unique vision of peace. [This special blog](#) shows the powerful impact the contest has on our clubs, our youth and our communities.



# MISSION 1.5 Bulletin

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

**Answering Helen Keller’s Challenge**

One hundred years ago, Helen Keller challenged Lions to become knights of the blind. Lions have responded by providing eyeglasses, vision screenings and cataract surgeries to millions all over the world. Our hearts of service continue to bring light to the darkness every day.

### Webisode Eleven

Our guest, PDG Pat Mills, talks about a truly innovative service project that allows visually-impaired people in Australia to drive a car around a racetrack. These Lions are redefining what is possible.

► [Watch now](#)



### Members Added

These members' lives will be forever changed, as yours has since becoming a Lion, and the lives impacted by these members will be countless. (Data is from 7/1/25-1/31/26)



### New Clubs Formed

Just as your club transforms your community, these groups unite to create lasting change in theirs. (Data is from 7/1/25-1/31/26)



**Dear Club Officer,**

This year, the 108th Lions International Convention is in Hong Kong. We look forward to seeing all voting delegates cast their votes for executive officers and international directors.

According to our records, your club does not have a delegate assigned to vote at the international convention 2026. In order to vote, club delegates must:

1. Be assigned as a voting delegate by their club secretary or other duly authorized officer in the Lion Portal.
2. Be registered for the international convention. [Register for the convention here.](#)
3. Have a unique email address. Use the same email as registering for the international convention 2026.
4. Provide their member identification number when registering for the convention.

All delegates must be assigned before July 1, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. You may assign a delegate in the Lion Portal until the July 1 deadline. If you are assigning a delegate with your local system or through your council office, please check with your council chairperson for their submission deadlines, as it will likely be before July 1, 2026.

For more information visit:

- [International Election webpage](#)
- [International Election Frequently Asked Questions](#)

If you think you have received this email in error, please contact [memberservicecenter@lionsclubs.org](mailto:memberservicecenter@lionsclubs.org) and include your club number.

Thank you for your service and leadership!

This email was sent to Club Presidents and Club Secretaries of clubs that have not assigned a voting delegate to the 108th Lions International Convention.



**Kelsey Martin-Gardner <kelsey.gardner@leaderdog.org>**

The March edition of Leading the Way is ready for you to share with your newsletter editors or directly with your districts. This edition showcases a pair of Lions who raised their first Future Leader Dog over the last year. It also includes information about our symbolic puppy sponsorship, Legacy Society, and Leader Cats.

I am sharing this edition [with a link](#), rather than an attachment. You can share the newsletter by forwarding this email, copying the hyperlink pasted below, or by downloading the newsletter and sending it on as an attachment. For the latter, click the link. When it opens a web browser, right-click on the newsletter version you want, then click "Download" to save it to your computer.

Link to share: **[March 2026](#)**

Just a reminder I will be on vacation beginning today, February 6 after 4 p.m. EST, through February 17. If you are in need of immediate assistance, please email [LionsSupport@leaderdog.org](mailto:LionsSupport@leaderdog.org) and one of my team members will reach out to assist you.

Thank you for helping us share our mission with your Lions Clubs and communities. I

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend!



**Kelsey Martin Gardner**

Director of Philanthropy for Lions Engagement

**Leader Dogs for the Blind**

P: 248.218.6227 | [LeaderDog.org](http://LeaderDog.org)

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



***Upcoming time off:*** I will be out of the office from **February 8 to February 17**

To ensure you receive any materials or responses before I leave for vacation, please submit **all requests by February 4**. Otherwise, I will follow up when I return. Thank you!

**Jess VandenBoom**

Feb 6, 2026, 9:55 AM

<[Jess.VandenBoom@leaderdog.org](mailto:Jess.VandenBoom@leaderdog.org)>

Good morning,

I'm Lion Jess, reaching out to introduce myself as your direct contact for the Lions & Leader Dog partnership. I am a member of the St. Clair Shores Lions Club and have been a member of the Lions Engagement Team at Leader Dog since 2024, working with Lions of the western United States and across Canada. Moving forward, I also get to work with you and all other Lions here in Michigan.

Previously, your primary contact at Leader Dog was Lion Claudia. Claudia is still with our team, but I found that I have capacity to do more, and she wanted the Lions of our home state to have more access to our team and mission. **I will be available to you for any questions, event needs, materials requests, or just to talk about the cause of vision.** I will also be the one to reach out to you with updates and recognition to thank you for your support of our clients.

I grew up in southeast Michigan, and some of my earliest donations were to Lions and Leader Dog – my local Lions Club partnered with the neighborhood ice cream shop to set up donation jars for each. I was inspired by Helen Keller when I was very young, which led me to study American Sign Language and behavior analysis, and to work for organizations that focus on accessibility and empowerment. At Leader Dog, in addition to supporting Lions in the western United States, Canada, and now Michigan, I write the Lions Leading the Way newsletter. **I'm proud to be a Leader Dog nerd, so if you're ever curious to learn more about our programs or how we support**

Please save my contact information and reach out for any needs or just to say hi. This spring, I will be attending the District 10 Convention, MD-11 Convention, and District 11-A2 Convention. I hope you'll let me know if you'll be there so we can meet in person. I'm so looking forward to working with the Lions of my home

Call: 248.218.6318

Email: [JessVandenBoom@leaderdog.org](mailto:JessVandenBoom@leaderdog.org)

Attached image description: I am pictured on the far right at a community event where my club, the St. Clair Shores Lions Club, tabled for Lions and Leader Dog. Future Leader Dog Georgie, a yellow Labrador retriever, is pictured with his puppy raiser.



**Lion Jess VandenBoom** (she/her)  
 Manager of Philanthropy for Lions Engagement  
**Leader Dogs for the Blind**  
 P:248.218.6318 | [LeaderDog.org](http://LeaderDog.org)  
[1039 S. Rochester Rd., Rochester Hills, MI 48307](https://www.leaderdog.org/1039-S-Rochester-Rd-Rochester-Hills-MI-48307)





**Chrissy** <[chrissy@bearlakecamp.org](mailto:chrissy@bearlakecamp.org)>

Thu, Feb 19, 11:02 AM

Dear Fellow Lions,

I hope this message finds you well as we begin planning for the year ahead.

I am reaching out to share an exciting statewide opportunity to make a direct and lasting impact on the children and families we serve through Lions Bear Lake Camp. From January 1 through May 1, 2026, we are launching the Lions of Michigan Camper Sponsorship Challenge, and we are inviting every club and district to take part.

Lions Bear Lake Camp provides life changing outdoor experiences for youth who are blind, visually impaired, Deaf, or hard of hearing. While the true cost of sending a child to a weeklong residential camp is \$995 and a family weekend camp is \$500, families pay only \$100. The difference is made possible because Lions step forward.

This challenge is about going just a bit beyond our annual giving and engaging our communities in the process.

Clubs and districts are encouraged to:

- Sponsor one or more campers at \$995 each, or sponsor a family weekend camp at \$500
- Reach out to local vision and hearing centers, eye doctors, audiologists, and related professionals to promote the camp and encourage sponsorship
- Engage local businesses, civic groups, and individuals who may be willing to help sponsor a child or family

To keep things fun and meaningful, we will recognize:

- The Lions Club with the most camper and family sponsorships
- The Lions District with the highest percentage of club participation

Winners will be honored at the MD11 State Convention and featured in Lions Bear Lake Camp's statewide communications.

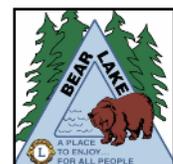
Attached you will find:

- A Camper Sponsorship Challenge overview
- A sponsorship letter you may share with potential sponsors
- A "By the Numbers" flyer highlighting the impact of Lions Bear Lake Camp

Every sponsorship represents more than a dollar amount. It represents confidence gained, friendships formed, independence discovered, and memories that last a lifetime.

Thank you for all you do for Lions Bear Lake Camp and for the children and families we are privileged to serve. If you have any questions or would like help getting your club involved, please do not hesitate to reach out.

In service,  
Chrissy Andre



# LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP

## Sponsor a Camper for \$995

## Sponsor a Family Weekend for \$500



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

### Sponsor a Child for a Weeklong Residential Camp or Sponsor a Family for a Weekend Camp

- Visually Impaired & Blind Family Camp \$500  
July 3-5th, 2026
- Visually Impaired Youth Camp \$995  
July 5th-11th, 2026
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth Camp \$995  
July 12th-18th, 2026
- Deaf & Hard of Hearing Family Camp \$500  
July 24th-26th, 2026



Did a Lions Club refer you to this sponsorship?

Yes – Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

No

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship Session(s): \_\_\_\_\_

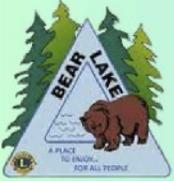
Number of Sponsorships: \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$: \_\_\_\_\_



Lions Bear Lake Camp, 3409 N. Five Lakes Road, Lapeer, MI. 48446  
 (810) 245-0726 \*\*\* [info@bearlakecamp.org](mailto:info@bearlakecamp.org) \*\*\* [www.bearlakecamp.org](http://www.bearlakecamp.org)





# Lions Bear Lake Camp

*Lions Bear Lake Camp's Mission is to develop leadership skills, build confidence, and to provide a premier outdoor educational and recreational experience year-round to all persons, regardless of ability.*

# 2025 Trail Markers: Our Year in Impact



## 1982

Founded by Big Al Kassin and the Lake Orion Lions Club. Camp opened in its current location in 2000.



## 15,000+

Number of campers & visitors since 2000.



## 25,500+

Total number of meals served by our food service team in 2025.



## 85%

Percentage of our summer camp staff who are returning campers that have been through our leadership development program.

### 2025 Campers and Visitors



# 3500+

Number of Individuals Served in 2025.

## 11

 Weeks of summer kid camps.

## 1,506

 Kids served.

### Lions Sponsored Camps

# 25

Years of providing mission focused residential camps.

**Visually Impaired & Blind Youth Camp**

**Deaf & Hard of Hearing Youth Camp**

### Camp Life

## 120

Acres of trails, nature, & adventure

## 160

Individuals we can house at full capacity in 10 cabins

## 250

Dining Hall Capacity

### Partnerships

We have many partnerships allowing us to host several summer camp opportunities

- o Camp Quality- Kids with Cancer Sibling Camp
- o MSU Kesem- Kids with Parents who have Cancer
- o PBJ- Foster Kid camp ages 6-12
- o Jack and Jill Motor City Chapter, Youth Leadership Development
- o MASTA String Camps
- o Sterling Heights Marching Band Camp

3409 N. Five Lakes Rd. Lapeer, MI 48446

[info@bearlakecamp.org](mailto:info@bearlakecamp.org) 810-245-0726 [bearlakecamp.org](http://bearlakecamp.org)





## Buffalo & Boar Wild Game Dinner

Join us for an unforgettable evening filled with great food, exciting raffles, auctions, and great company while supporting the mission of Lions Bear Lake Camp.

Every ticket helps provide life-changing camp experiences for children with disabilities.

### Event Details

Saturday, April 11, 2026  
Doors Open: 5:00 PM  
Dinner Served: 6:30 PM

#### NEW VENUE

Boulder Pointe Golf Club  
1 Champion Dr.  
Oxford, MI

#### Ticket Includes

- Gourmet Wild Game Dinner Buffet
- Open Beer, Wine & Mixed Drink Bar
- Access to raffles, auctions, and prizes

\$70 per person  
\$480 Reserved Table of 8

👉 **Get Your Tickets Now**  
[www.bearlakecamp.org](http://www.bearlakecamp.org) (Event Tab)

## Big Prizes & Raffles

This year's event features some incredible raffles and auction items, including:

- \$50 Mega Raffle – Chance to win a Sig MCX Regulator with scope and Pelican Vault (over \$3,000 value)
- Gun & Crossbow Card Raffles
- Fishing Charters
- Pheasant Hunts
- Kayaks
- Gas Grills
- Weekend Stay Packages
- Trail Cameras and more

You do not need to be present to win the Mega Raffle.

[Purchase Mega Raffle Ticket](#)

## Sponsorship Opportunities

Support the event while promoting your business.

#### Silver Sponsor – \$500

Logo on event banner and program, table of 4 with open bar.

#### Gold Sponsor – \$1,000

Logo recognition and table of 8 with open bar.

#### Platinum Sponsor – \$2,500

Premium recognition plus a foursome at the Lions Bear Lake Camp Golf Classic.

## Questions or Sponsorship Information

Jack Patton  
248-535-8011  
[japlapp@gmail.com](mailto:japlapp@gmail.com)

Traci Tribley  
[traci@bearlakecamp.org](mailto:traci@bearlakecamp.org)  
810-245-0728



## Welcome to this Month's Newsletter

**Dear Lions, Supporters, and Camp Family,**

Winter may quiet the lake, but camp never truly slows down. Planning is underway, projects are moving forward, and summer is already being built piece by piece behind the scenes.

Here's a quick look at what's inside this month's newsletter:

### **CAMPFIRE CHATS**

A record-breaking Ice Plunge and a special Camp Champion recognition for the Deerfield Township Fire & Rescue Dive Team.

### **CAMP UPDATES**

\$35,000 raised at our biggest Ice Plunge yet, plus highlights from our Annual Kickoff Dinner and Parade of Checks.

### **LBLC SPOTLIGHTS**

Meet Arlinda Pickett and Board Member Jim Patterson, two people who quietly help move camp forward every single day.

### **GIVE A GIFT THAT MATTERS**

Our Lions of Michigan Camper Sponsorship Challenge is underway. Help send a child to camp in 2026.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Wild Game Dinner, Workbee, Golf Outing, Baseball Fundraiser, Open House, and Clay Shoot dates are all inside.

There's so much more to read, see, and celebrate.

 **Click below to read the full Jan / Feb / March Newsletter**

With gratitude,

**The Bear Lake Camp Team**

Even in the quiet seasons, the mission keeps moving. Thank you for being part of it.

[Download Newsletter Here](#)

## 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.

***Looking Back with Pride, Looking Forward with Confidence!!***

## 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 Jonathan Turnbull for our lunch program, and International Director Lion Liz Croke 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](mailto: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](http://lionsdistrict11e2.org)**

Or e-mail filled out form to [lionsconvention11e2@gmail.com](mailto: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 <b>\$10</b>	\$
<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 <b>\$25</b>	\$
<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 <b>\$40</b>	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday hospitality room	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday Continental Breakfast	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	\$

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

### 2026 CLUB DELEGATE FORM

Please fill out this form online at [lionsdistrict11e2.org](http://lionsdistrict11e2.org)

If unable to complete online then fill out this form and email to:

[lionsconvention11e2@gmail.com](mailto:lionsconvention11e2@gmail.com)

If unable to email then mail to: Larry Taylor, 1990 Wildwood Harbor Rd, Boyne City, MI 49712

Questions: contact Larry Taylor (231)459-6095

NUMBER OF LIONS ON YOUR FEBRUARY 2025 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

NAMES OF DELEGATES:

NAMES OF ALTERNATES:

I hereby certify that the delegates/alternates listed above are members in good standing at the  Lions Club, District 11-E2, Multiple District 11, and Lions Clubs International.

President

OR

Secretary

# 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](mailto: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 8, 2026

If you have questions on ad artwork contact:  
Jack Bodis, Creative Characters  
[jackbodis@outlook.com](mailto:jackbodis@outlook.com)  
(231)544-6084

Any other questions contact:  
Ray Kuiper  
[kuiper172@gmail.com](mailto:kuiper172@gmail.com)  
(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](http://lionsdistrict11e2.org)

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

**Delegates for convention**

	<b><u>Members</u></b>	<b><u>Delegates</u></b>
Alcona	29	3
Alpena	49	5
Alpena Evening	5	1
Beaverton	32	3
Boyne Valley	28	3
Central Lake	60	6
Charlevoix	62	6
Cheboygan	7	1
East Jordan	41	4
Elk Rapids	9	1
Glennie	14	1
Grayling	12	1
Hale	20	2
Harrisville	23	2
Hillman	15	2
Hubbard Lake	14	1
Indian River	25	3
Lewiston	20	2
Lewiston Lioness-Lions	42	4
Lincoln	33	3
Mackinaw City	18	2
Mio	16	2
Oscoda	57	6
Petoskey	10	1
Roscommon/Higgins Lake	14	1
Rose City	14	1
	640	64

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](http://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

Tue, Feb 10, 3:57 PM

## District service project

The district service project at the convention this year (April 24-26 at Treetops in Gaylord- have you made your reservations yet?) will be packing goodie bags for veterans taking the Honor Flight to Washington DC. Mid-Michigan Honor Flight has given us a list of items to put in the 80 bags that we are packing for the veterans. After some discussion we decided that the best way to do it this year to ensure consistency in the bags is to ask each club to send a check for \$50, and the convention committee will purchase the items to fill the bags. We wouldn't want someone to get a bigger bag of pretzels than someone else on the flight!

Please send a check for \$50 made out to Lions District 11-E2 to me (address below). I will purchase the items, and we will all pack them at the hospitality room at the convention on Friday night. Thanks for your participation. Let me know if you have any questions. Hope to see you all there!

CST Barb Durflinger  
989-742-2790  
lionbarb@comdac.com  
14946 Royston Road  
Hillman, MI 49746

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Jean Hill

Fri, Mar 6, 2:30 PM

District 11-E2 Clubs: Each year, the clubs of our District are invited to participate in the International Peace Poster Contest. The theme of this year's contest is: "Harmony in Humanity".

The contest is open to students aged 11-13. The complete listing of rules is provided in the "kit" that is provided by the Lions International Supply Website. Our District is willing to order a kit for you - at no cost to your club. In the past, the contest rules were listed on the back of the folder titled, "Your Official Peace Poster Kit." They are not "front and center" so make sure you find the rules when you receive your kit as they are very specific.

Your District not only provides a kit to you, but also the poster paper. Again, the dimensions of the poster paper are very specific so we want to make sure that the posters you submit are accepted.

I (Jean Manning, Peace Poster Chairman from Hillman Club) will be at the April convention with a kit if you request it from me, and also a supply of paper as long as you let me know how many sheets you need.

Most clubs connect with the art department of an area school, but you may also connect with a youth group or club for submission of a poster.

If your school doesn't have an art department, see if there is any teacher (possibly a social studies teacher?) who will assist you with this contest.

The posters are not "due" to the District until October, however, if you have a student who wishes to spend a lot of time on his/her poster, it becomes possible by getting it early.

Typically each club votes on a winning poster at the end of September or early October (and it's nice if the club awards a monetary prize). Then that poster is submitted to our District for voting in November - the District awards a monetary prize of \$300. The winning District poster is submitted to the State competition by our Governor in December. From there, the poster becomes a national winner and then an international winner.

Are you willing to "give it a go?" Let me know if you have any questions.

Again, let me know if you'd like a kit and how much paper you estimate you'll need by Wednesday, April 8 so I can get the supplies to you at the Convention at Tree Tops. If you have any questions, let me know either by email or call me at 989-808-4476.

Jean



# Hunger grant

**Barb**

February 13, 2026

Fellow Lions,

DG Marie and I are delighted to announce that we were approved for a \$3,000 grant from the Otsego Community Foundation toward our Hunger grant matching funds. This puts us within just over \$3,000 more to raise (see attached spreadsheet.)

I would like to thank the Hillman Lions, the Indian River Lions, the Oscoda Lions and the Central Lake Lions for adding to their previous donations to get us this close. If your club has not yet donated, please consider helping out, and if you have already donated, please consider an additional contribution.

Thanks to everyone for your help in making this new facility in our district possible. It has been a long process- about 3 years since we started discussing it with the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan- but it is finally going to happen! Let me know if you have any questions.

PDG Barb Durlfing  
 Grant Administrator  
 989-742-2790

**Hunger grant budget**

<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Status</u>	
<b>Lions</b>			Glennie \$200.00 collected
<b>11-E2 Community Impact Grant funds</b>	\$8765.74	collected	Grayling \$1000.00 collected
			Hale \$1000.00 collected
<b>District 11-E2 Hunger fund</b>	\$8715.87	collected	Hillman \$2615.49 collected
			Indian River \$1500.00 collected
			Lewiston Lions \$1000.00 collected
			Lewiston Lioness Lions \$1000.00 collected
<b>Individual Lion donations</b>	\$1981.73	collected	Lincoln \$500.00 collected
			Mio \$2000.00 collected
<b>Lions District 11-B1</b>	\$500.00	collected	Oscoda \$2000.00 pledged
			Oscoda \$2000.00 collected
<b>Lions Club contributions</b>			
Alcona	\$250.00	pledged	<b>Non-Lion Contributions</b> \$830.00 collected
Alpena	\$1000.00	collected	
Beaverton	\$1000.00	collected	<b>Otsego Community Foundation</b> \$3000.00 pledged
Boyne Valley	\$500.00	collected	
Central Lake	\$1000.00	pledged	<b>To be raised</b> \$3141.17
Central Lake	\$1000.00	collected	<b>LCIF</b> \$150000.00
East Jordan	\$2500.00	collected	
Elk Rapids	\$1000.00	collected	\$200000.00



## Project Connect: Day of Service for Those in Need

Mike, the Tip of the Mitt Spartans are looking for volunteers.

### When

Wednesday, March 18  
9 a.m.–12:15 p.m. or 12–3:15 p.m.

### Where

North Central Michigan College  
1515 Howard Street  
Petoskey, MI 49770

Project Connect is a day of service for those in need in Charlevoix and Emmet Counties. During this one-day event, hundreds of individuals will be connected with a range of health and human services provided by around 70 local non-profit agencies and other businesses.

Free services are available in areas such as:

- Education and employment
- Food and nutrition
- Health and wellness
- Housing and finance
- Kids and parenting
- Veterans affairs and other social services.

Volunteers are needed to help set up the event, greet and check in guests and direct attendees to the resource areas they are in search of.

Help your neighbors get connected to the free community resources they need!

[Register Now!](#)

MSU Alumni MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

This email was sent to: [mckacain2@yahoo.com](mailto:mckacain2@yahoo.com)

Advancement ID: 336193

[Update My Profile](#)

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Thank you to our Spartans Serve sponsor

# Calendar of Events

## March 2026

**March 8:** Daylight Saving Time Begins — **March 17:** St. Patrick's Day — **March 20:** Spring Begins

## April 2026

**District Convention** — April 24-26, 2026—Treetops Resort, Gaylord — Cabinet meeting and 4:00 Cabinet meeting — 7:00 Friday night mixer — 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



## PASSINGS REPORTED



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

## NO Passings Reported

## New Members Reported — February, 2025 (or Earlier)

**Boyne Valley Lions:** Sam Demel Inducted on February 25, 2026

**Total: 1 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!**

# Boyne Valley Lions

## FEBRUARY 2025

Notes for February 11, 2026

Sam Demel attended his third meeting today and was inducted into the club.



Notes for February 25, 2026

### Lions Board Meeting

- a) Will work with our last speaker Rob Reynolds, planning on a bike lane from BC to the Ironton Ferry. The board is considering putting in a bike fix station along the path as it gets developed
- b) Agreed to donate \$50 for the district project involving preparing "goodie bags" for veterans
- c) Lion Gow to talk to the DPW to move the Lions drinking fountain (our 50th anniversary gift to the city) closer to the sidewalk in the Open Area

### Upcoming Events last Wednesday

- a) The next club meeting is March 11th
  - b) Lions Board meeting March 18th
  - c) Lions District Convention April 24th thru the 26. The convention will again be held at the Tree Tops Resort in Gaylord
- (1) The Lions board have agreed to pay \$75 per Lion that attends the district convention (includes registration, lunch, and dinner)

# Central Lake Lions

## FEBRUARY 2025

PDG Rod, DG Marie, Lion Gretchen, Lion Diann, and 2VDG Kris attend Ski for Light



Lions Richard, Diann, Janelle, and community member Kim work on port pillows for cancer treatment centers in the area to distribute to their patients undergoing treatment. These pillows provide a little comfort on car rides, to keep the seatbelt from digging in to treatment ports.



2VDG Kris, Lion Gretchen, DG Marie and PDG Rod help fill backpacks for the Little Hero Backpack program while attending the Lions of Michigan Forum



## East Jordan Lions

**FEBRUARY 2025**

Lions Denny and Linda Gocha attended the Lions Forum in Kalamazoo. The service project was backpacks for Little Heroes - for foster and homeless children. The Lions attending created 400 backpacks.



Pictured are Dave Keller and IPDG Judy Keller, Lion Linda Gocha and Lions of Michigan Secretary, Wendy Burns.



## **MARCH 2026 — Time and Change**

March brings longer daylight, St. Patrick's Day, and the Spring Equinox, the beginning of Spring and end of Winter — at least on the calendar. Winter weather weakens, but may still bring snow and cold winds, alternating with warmer weather, up and down like a roller coaster. The Ice Storm disaster last year hit on the last days of March, not typical Spring weather. Also, Daylight Savings Time changed our clocks on March 8. Good or bad, March is a month of much and constant change.

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Change is an inevitable part of life, and it impacts both humans (and pets) in different ways. Humans are generally adaptable. Change can spark growth, whether it's personal, professional, or emotional. A new environment, job, or experience often helps people develop resilience and creativity.

Change often brings new challenges that push us to learn new skills, gain knowledge, and evolve in ways we hadn't imagined. Sometimes, change forces us to rethink our values, goals, and priorities. This shift can lead to a clearer sense of purpose or more positive life choices.

Societies evolve due to constant change, leading to technological advances, better medical care, improved social systems, and so on.

Change can be a favorable and productive event for many, but for many others, constant change can lead to feelings of uncertainty and instability. Stress can result from adapting to a new lifestyle, loss of familiarity, or the pressure to meet new demands. They don't want to change for many reasons.

Some people find change frightening or overwhelming, leading to resistance. This can cause discomfort, reluctance to accept new things, or a sense of being stuck in old patterns. Major life changes (e.g., moving, career shifts, or changes in relationships) can make people feel like they've lost control, leading to frustration and even depression.

Different types of change (e.g., environmental, social, personal) will have varied impacts. Those who try to resist some version of change may find themselves left behind by social advances, or some may fight to continue the past ways that they know and can feel to be comfortable without changing. Changing or resisting change is up to the individual, and the result is in their choice.

Pets, especially dogs, can adapt to changes in their environment if the change is gradual. Moving to a new home, for example, can be stressful at first but may result in a more stimulating or comfortable living space. Changes in their owner's life, such as spending more time together or traveling with them, can strengthen the human-pet bond. Pets that are exposed to new environments, walks, or activities might benefit from increased mental stimulation, providing them with variety and challenges.

Pets, particularly dogs and cats, are creatures of habit. They can struggle when routines are altered or when they're in unfamiliar places. Common signs of stress in pets include excessive barking, destructive behavior, or changes in eating habits.

If a human in the household undergoes significant changes (such as moving, getting a new job, or having less time at home), pets may experience separation anxiety, which can manifest as destructive behavior, barking, or attempts to escape. Chronic stress due to environmental changes can weaken pets' immune systems and lead to health issues like digestive problems, lethargy, or weight loss.

Different types of change (e.g., environmental, social, personal) will have varied impacts. How humans and pets cope with change—whether through coping mechanisms, support systems, therapy, or creating new routines. And relationships with family, friends, or other pets influence how both humans and pets cope with change.

There are personal life changes, environmental changes, or societal shifts. We all have had changes, major or minor, ones we liked and ones we didn't. Change is eventually part of all our lives. Make good of it.

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# PICTURES OF THE MONTH

## 2026 WINTER PICS

*Right:* The Little Traverse Bay is covered by ice; people are walking out on the lake by the breakwater.

*Below:* Petoskey's Waterfront Park waterfall in Winter



The 2 pictures below show ice storm results, but one is not from the northern 2025 Michigan ice storm. Which is Michigan, which is not?



The Sahara Desert was visited by a blanket of snow in January 17, 2026. The last time snow was seen on the desert was 37 years ago.

The top picture is from the 2025 northern Michigan ice storm, the bottom photo is from the huge winter storm in January 2026, ice in a southern U.S. State.

# 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](mailto:dlzim47@gmail.com)

**NOTE: Submissions received after the 4<sup>th</sup> 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**



Lions Clubs  
International



Lions Clubs International  
FOUNDATION