



Notable Quote: "We must turn to each other and not on each other." — Jesse Jackson

DECEMBER 2022

District Governor's Message



DG Rod Leathers

Merry Christmas to all 11-E2 Lions,

Our Lion year is half over, the holidays are on top of us and we might be feeling a little stressed trying to get our shopping done. Lions might not be high on our priority list right now. However there are families in our communities that need our help more than ever. Let's make sure everyone in our communities can enjoy a Christmas dinner. The easiest Service Project ever is to provide a family with a turkey for Christmas. Sometimes we try to think too big on Service Projects and we forget that sometimes it is the little things like a turkey that can make a big impact in our communities. I challenge every club to look for these families and put a smile on their faces when they find a Lion standing in their door holding a turkey.

April might seem like a long way away right now but it will be on top of us before you know it. Our Convention committee is planning an AWESOME convention this year. All the presidents and secretaries should have the info. You can go to our website lionsdistrict11e2.org and register and pay electronically or download the form and send it in with a check. The convention dates are April 21st-23rd at the Ramada in Grayling make sure to save the dates. Our theme is barbershop. Your district governor is putting out a challenge. He is going to do a head, beard and mustache shave for Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) if we can raise \$10,000. On top of that our speaker PID B.J. Blankenship, who has a beard twice as long as mine, will join me if we can raise \$20,000 - except he said the mustache has to stay. With all of the clubs helping I am pretty sure we will hit the \$10,000 mark. Information will be out soon on how to donate. The shave will happen at the Friday night mixer. You will not want to miss it.

"Together We Can"

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

DG Rod





2022-2023 DISTRICT OFFICERS REFERENCE LIST

DISTRICT GOVERNOR Rod Leathers Central Lake Lions Club 231-350-0567 leathersrod@gmail.com	IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR William Gaines Oscoda Lions Club 253-219-8590 wgaines1111@yahoo.com
VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR Steven Murch Alpena Lions Club stevenmurch49707@gmail.com	GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM COORDINATOR Dave Zeller Alpena Lions Club 989-657-4702 W: 989-354-2175 dzeller52@gmail.com
2nd VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR Jill Drury Boyne Valley Lions Club 231-920-9645 drury@cctransit.org	DISTRICT GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM COORDINATOR Marie Leathers marie@centrallakerealty.com
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District 11-E2 Website:
lionsdistrict11e2.org

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

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We Serve

Lions Of Michigan Multiple District 11-E2 Counties

Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Arenac,
Charlevoix,
Cheboygan,
Crawford, Emmet,
Gladwin, Iosco,
Kalkaska,
Montmorency,
Ogemaw, Oscoda,
Otsego, Presque Isle,
Roscommon



ZONE 1	CLUBS	ZONE 3	CLUBS
ZC Dennis Gocha East Jordan Lions dennygocha@gmail.com	Boyne Valley, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, east Jordan, Indian River, Mackinaw City, Petoskey	ZC Janice Kane Alpena lions Club	Alpena, Alpena Evening, Atlanta, Glennie, Hillman, Hubbard Lake, Mio
ZONE 2	CLUBS	ZONE 4	CLUBS
ZC Marie Leathers Central Lake Lions Club marie@centrallakerealty.com	Central Lake, Elk Rapids, Grayling, Houghton Lake, Lewiston/Lewiston Lioness Lions, Roscommon- Higgins Lake	ZC VACANT	Beaverton, Hale, Harrisville, Lincoln, Oscoda, Prescott-Skidway Lake, Rose City



Vice District Governor's Message



VDG Steven Murch

When I was a sophomore in high school my family went to Florida, specifically Disney World, for Christmas. Driving on I-24 between Nashville and Chattanooga in Tennessee it seemed as if every mile there was a billboard telling motorists to visit Ruby Falls and Lookout Mountain.

Guess what the Murch family did - we visited Ruby Falls. I still remember that stop on our way to Florida fondly. Did we stop there because of the messaging or because it was a good place for a stop to get out of the car and stretch our legs? My parents never said, but my guess is the messaging, it was repetitive and regular.

This exact kind of messaging can and will work for you as Lions and for your clubs. Part of our problem as Lions is we either expect immediate results or we stop with our messaging - likely because we didn't get immediate results.

It's human nature to get frustrated by a lack of immediate results, but it's persistence that usually brings about positive results. Results mean positive reinforcement; but in this world where immediate gratification is at our fingertips for so many things, we tend to forget that some things are worth the hard work and by sticking with it the gratification that can come from it is even greater.

So now look at your efforts as Lions, both individually and as part of your club. Has everything gone your way all the time? Likely not. Have you kept pushing through or given up and decided it wasn't worth the extra effort? Hopefully, yes.

Sometimes it might not be worth the extra effort, but most times it certainly is. When we talk about serving our communities, we need to make sure we are putting forth our maximum effort and ensuring that we are helping to do our part.

But how about the messaging?

Take membership for example - are you continuing to ask people to be members or are you letting them tell you no once and leaving it at that? You also have to ask yourself what kind of response did they give you. Did they say "no" or was it "not right now"? Maybe they didn't really say no, but rather kicked it down the road in their own way and you misinterpreted it as a no.

There's a fine line between being persistent and being an overbearing, obnoxious pain in the ass. Finding that line and not stepping over it can become an art form for some, and they are the successful ones when it comes to getting new members.

How about the messaging about what your club does? Do you consistently put out messages to the public about what you are doing in your community? How do you do it, in what manner do you let the public know about your clubs efforts and successes?

We don't do what we do for praise and adulation but rather to help those who need it. The thing to remember about what we do is that we need the public's help, that same public we try and help. Without their support we aren't able to do the things we do. We wouldn't be able to fund raise, which would hamper our ability to do service. Plus, we need to appeal to potential new members and the best way to do that is to let them know what we do.

No matter the message, we can always do better and do it more consistently and frequently. Keep putting the message of Lions and your club out there for all to see.

Thanks for all you do.



LCI President's Message

We are the Good Things



Hello, Lions!

In Minnesota, even though December is cold and dark, our hearts are never more warm and filled with light than they are during this time. It's in December that we share meals with loved ones and find ways to connect with friends we haven't seen all year. We look for ways to give to those in need. And we are thankful, more than ever, for not only the things we have, but the ways in which we are able to help those who need us.

Besides my family, there is nothing in this world I'm more thankful for than the ability to serve others. I am honored to serve soup to the homeless, build parks and community gardens, and invest in the care of our environment. I am humbled by the people who allow me into their lives so that I may give to them a small portion of what the world has given to me.

Lions, as we near the end of the calendar year and start thinking about our hopes for the new year, let's not forget about the people we serve. Let's remember that we are all hoping for good things in our lives—and that we are the good things in our lives. Our loved ones, our fellow Lions, and those we serve.

Make a great day,

Lions Clubs International President Sheehan

Brian E. Sheehan

Brian E. Sheehan

International President, Lions Clubs International



We Serve.



A message from:

Jerome Thompson

**Past International Director,
GAT Constitutional Area 1 Leader**



Club Excellence

The Club Excellence Award is a great place to start reinvigorating your club for greater service to the community. To achieve the award, clubs should record positive membership growth; make a contribution to LCIF; meet service criteria; achieve leadership and organizational benchmarks and market your club through social media and/or the local media outlets.

[Read more](#) about the award.

8,000 New Members In 80 days

As you talk with Lions, please remind them of our challenge to add 8,000 members in 80 days. The contest will end on December 20, 2022. By focusing on adding new members, we will be able to better meet the needs of the community.

As of November 8th, we have added 3,610 new members in 39 days. We are on pace to meet this challenge and impact our communities with new hands.

Reminder for Clubs

As you talk with Lions, please remind them of our challenge to add 8,000 members in 80 days. The contest will end on December 20, 2022. By focusing on adding new members, we will be able to better meet the needs of the community.

Melinda.Plott@LionsClubs.org.

Thank you for all you do! Together we are making a difference in our association, as well as in our communities. Until next month, please continue to add more members, service in exciting ways and retain the members we have through engagement in meaningful hands-on service projects.

Sincerely,

PID Jerome Thompson,
Global Action Team Leader, CA 1



Three Journeys with Leader Dogs



Fifteen years ago I began my journey to receive my first Leader Dog, Callie. [Guide Dog Mobility] Instructor Sue guided me through the new experience of learning the commands, what the dog is capable of in times of any difficult path that was before me. Callie was very curious and loved to smell the fresh flowers along our paths.

Ten years later, my first dog retired and I was once again on the journey for my second dog, Hanna, with instructor Kate. She helped me to understand the need to sharpen my skills working with a new leader dog. Hanna was full of energy and determination to show me what she was capable of.



I just completed my journey for my third dog, Izzy, with instructor Linda. She helped me to appreciate the giftedness of Leader Dogs and the commitment of the instructors role in preparing these dogs for us, as clients. Izzy too is very energetic, curious and well disciplined in her work. She was a perfect match (nice job matching me with Izzy, Linda).

After each journey I learned a perspective that needs to be said. The first journey gave me a greater perspective of what Leader Dog is all about. The second journey gave me another perspective of the commitment the instructors, resident workers, kitchen staff and housekeeping staff has for us

as clients. The third journey gave me a keen perspective of what the result of having a Leader Dog means to my life.

What I want to share with all at Leader Dog is that while the instructor's responsibility is to help us bond with the dog, but more importantly learn of the safety these dogs provide in our everyday paths.

What goes beyond what the instructors may believe is important to us as clients is having a Leader Dog provides opportunities that impact our work, education and social environments going forward. Many clients will achieve not only independence but maybe a better job opportunity. They can also complete their desires to further skills for new job opportunities and to have the ability to be involved in the social environments that they live in.

To all at Leader Dog, your commitment to us as clients and to the dogs you work with goes far beyond any imagination that impacts one's life.

I believe I can speak for all clients, thank you!

— Client Mark Harris

**Lions of Michigan****District 11 E-2****Cabinet Meeting Minutes, August 20, 2022**

Cabinet Members in Attendance—DG Rod Leathers, 1VDG Murch, CSR Durflinger, GST/ZC Marie Leathers, and ZC Kane via Zoom- IPDG Gaines and GLT Dave Zeller

Cabinet Members Absent- ZC Dennis Gocha

Lions in Attendance -Jean Manning, Linda Harris, Brian Graff, Linda Gocha, Leslie Drury, Art Clark, Ron Morgan and via Zoom David Zimmer, PDG Bev Bodem, PDG Bob Gingerich, Julie Haase and Shirley Hill

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM by DG Leathers. The invocation was offered by 1VDG Murch. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by ZC Marie Leathers.

Tom Dale of the Marguerite Gahagan Nature Preserve did a presentation for us via Zoom. The Preserve is on 60 acres near Roscommon, and they are interested in our help in their efforts to create a trail for the visually impaired. Their plans include an ADA trail upgrade, a playground, enhancing the parking lot, adding ADA restrooms, Braille interpretation signs and more paved trails. They are currently working with the state for a grant from available Covid funds and with the DNR for funding. Neither of these grants is ready to present yet. They are asking us for a letter of support (prototype will be sent to DG Rod), and funding as we are able. We offered to help them with an LCIF matching grant, but as yet they have no firm plans and no budget, both of which are required for the grant.

Secretary's Report -Minutes of the 8/20/22 cabinet meeting were presented by CST Durflinger. It was moved by IVDG Murch, supported by GST Leathers that they be accepted as presented. Motion carried. There was no correspondence.

Treasurer's Report- The YTD 2022-23 financial reports were presented, showing a beginning balance in the admin account of \$38,625.41, income of \$7,782.00, and expenses of \$13,873.00, leaving an ending balance in the admin account of \$32,534.41 as of 11/17/22. This consists of \$31,454.30 in admin and \$1,080.11 in convention funds. The projects account showed a beginning balance of \$32,078.77, income of \$30,668.07, and expenses of \$30,239.07, leaving an ending balance of \$32,507.77 as of 11/17/22. It was moved by GLT Zeller, supported by 1VDG Murch that the reports be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business—None

New Business— United Way has a project right now to provide warm clothing and gifts for children in Montmorency, Alpena, Presque Isle and Alcona counties. They are working with the school resource officers in these counties to get the names of needy children. Right now they need funds for about 145 more children. 1VDG reported that the cost is about \$90/child. It was moved by IPDG Gaines, supported by ZC Kane that we donate \$1,000. Motion carried.

GLT Report- GLT Zeller reported that he is redoing a power point from a few years ago on keeping members active and engaged. It will be available to all clubs when completed.

GMT Report—DG Leathers reported that the Prescott/Skidway Lake Club is folding. This will lead to a loss of 14 members.

Cabinet Meeting Minutes Cont'd



GST Report- In addition to her written report, GST Marie Leathers commented that she would love to see us do a service project at the Gahagan Nature Preserve.

Zone Chair Reports-ZCs Gocha, Leathers and Kane turned in written reports.

Committee Reports Written Reports were provided by: **Bear Lake Camp-** PDG Zeller, **District Editor-** Lion Dave Zimmer, **Environmental-** PDG Bodem, **LCIF-** PDG Durflinger, **Leader Dog-** Lion Julie Haase, **Lions of Michigan Foundation-** PDG Durflinger, **Michigan Forum-** DG Leathers, **Project KidSight-** Lion Linda Harris, and **Website/IT-** Co-Chair Lion Marie Leathers. Lion Julie Haase noted that Leader Dog is having a luminary lighting on 12/10. You can buy a luminary for \$10, and if you are going to be downstate at that time, please stop by to enjoy the candles.

Oral Reports- Peace Poster- Lion Jean Manning presented the 3 posters turned in for the Peace Poster contest this year. A fourth poster was turned in, but it was smaller than the required dimensions. The attendees, in present and Zoom, voted and the poster turned in by Elk Rapids won. DG Leathers will take it to the state contest in December. The winner will be contacted, and invited with her family to attend the convention luncheon where her prize will be presented. Lion Jean commented that we should consider purchasing paper and providing it to the clubs next year with their Peace Poster kits as the size is so odd. It was moved by ZC Kane, supported by 1VDG Murch that we do this next year.

District Convention- DG Leathers, PDG Gingerich and PDG Durflinger reported that planning is proceeding. The forms should be available next week, and will include an on-line registration option. The theme is Barber Shop, and if we can raise \$10,000 for LCIF, DG Rod will again shave his head and beard. PIO Blankenship, our International Guest has offered to be shaved as well if we raise \$20,000. Information will go out soon on how to make contributions to this fundraiser.

District Melvin Jones- IVDG Murch reported that forms were mailed out to apply for the award, and reminders will be sent out this week. The deadline to apply is 12/31, and clubs are reminded that this award is for a lion who has provided service on the district level.

International Convention- 1VDG Murch reported that there will probably be a bus organized to take people to the Intl. Convention in Boston. Details will be provided when available.

MD-11 Convention- The MD-11 Convention will be on May 18-20 in Muskegon. The picnic this year will be on the USS LST 393. The service project is a sock collection. Each district is asked to bring 25 each of men's, women's and children's socks. If you are not planning on attending the state convention, socks can be sent to GST Marie. Also, if you do donations of socks in your own community, make sure you get pictures and send to Marie as they will count toward our district donations.

Audience Comments- The Indian River Club was thanked for the use of their clubhouse for the meeting. IR President Ron Morgan invited any club that wants to visit to come for dinner on the 3rd Tuesday, or come and play Bingo any Friday.

VDG Comments- IVDG Murch commented that we need to be vigilant on maintaining and working with clubs. He suggested a +1 goal for membership in all clubs. Right now we have 7 clubs with fewer than 15 members and 4 counties in our area with no club at all, which means there are at least 100,000 people in communities with no Lions.

DG Comments- DG Leathers asked that everyone promote attendance at the district convention. He commented that "Just Ask" is the most effective method of adding members, but be sure and ask people more than once. Ask them to come to activities, and one day you they will find the activity that makes them want to be a lion. District polo shirts (\$30) and sweatshirts (\$25) are still available. Just



send your order to CST Barb along with the name you want embroidered on the shirt (this is included in the price).

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 11:42. The next meeting will be on 12/10 at 10 AM. This will be a Zoom meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
PDG Barb Durflinger, Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer

11-E2 GST Report

Cabinet meeting **11-19-22**

In addition to the great service that our Lions clubs are doing in their own communities, here are some service activities available to participate in:

The Multiple District has put out a challenge to see what district can collect the most socks by Dec 3. If your club collects and distributes socks please count them and send me a picture by Dec 2 for our district to be included in the challenge count.

The Forum service project will be putting together Sack Suppers for the Kids Food Basket. Each district will be providing 100 of one of the items, and our district was assigned to bring quart size Ziplock bags. The Forum Feb 24-25 in Grand Rapids, with the service project taking place on Friday evening.

The service project for the State Convention will be another sock project. They are asking each district to bring 25 pairs of women's, 25 pairs of kid's and 25 pairs of men's socks to the convention that will be donated to area agencies. The state convention is May 18-20 in Muskegon.

GAT Success Story will be submitted by PDG Barb Durflinger for the service our district did in tornado clean up in Gaylord. This will provide \$500 to the district. Thank you to the Lions that participated in the cleanup.

Of the 26 active clubs in our district, eight clubs have reported one or more service activities during this fiscal year which started July 1, 2022. As our activities slow down for the winter months, now is a good time to get caught up with reporting the great activities your club has been doing over the summer and fall. If your club is not listed below and they have done a service activity please let me know the details and I can help you get it reported.

Oscoda	23
Hillman	10
East Jordan	9
Lewiston Lioness	3
Cheboygan	2
Grayling	2
Houghton Lake	2
Central Lake	1

GST Marie Leathers

Cabinet Meeting Minutes Cont'd



**comdac@comdac.com**

From: "Dennis Gocha" <dennygocha@gmail.com>
 Date: Monday, November 7, 2022 9:00 AM
 To: "ComDaC" <barb@comdac.com>
 Subject: Zone Chair report

Zone Report - Dennis Gocha - I will be hunting in the UP!**Petoskey Lions - have 10 members**

They are participating in the eye glass recycle program. They tried to participate in bringing a Kids Sight trailer to a festival, but it was canceled. They are co-owning the Chippewa Boy's cabin at Camp Daggett with the East Jordan Lions Club. Both clubs help with maintenance to it. They are still trying to implement a dog park near Harbor Springs. They have collected \$1000 for their White Cane Drive.

Mackinaw City Lions - has 30 members

This club is active in the community. It shares its clubhouse with the Seniors in the community, and the Lions recently repaired the roof on it. They assist people with hearing aids. They are planning a Trunk or Treat event in which they set up a tent and give out candy. They are soon having a Soup in a Bread Bowl fundraiser with mystery envelopes to purchase for \$20. The envelopes could contain \$20 - \$250 of certificates from local businesses.

East Jordan Lions - has 33 members

Nine members cleaned, painted and repaired the Boy's Chippewa cabin at Camp Daggett in September. They have sold bundles of wood all summer at Tourist Park to campers and have been able to purchase a new refrigerator and ceiling fans for the clubhouse from this. They are preparing to sell Christmas trees in town as a fundraiser starting around Thanksgiving. They are also preparing to do the drive-thru, lit up Christmas Village at Tourist Park. The club is striving to obtain new members and have gotten one new member in October.

Indian River - has 20 members

They have their own clubhouse which they rent out. They have bingo quite often at the clubhouse. They are assisting people with hearing aids. They have helped with the Gaylord tornado clean up and are preparing to collect for White Cane on October 8th. They would like to do Kidsight testing and Diabetes testing. They have done a Hunter Safety class. They have recently obtained 2 new members and are trying to obtain more.



Zone 2 report Cabinet meeting 11-19-22

Central Lake had another record year with White Cane fundraiser, which they do on Labor Day weekend and set up at grocery stores, gas stations and downtown areas instead of on the street. Their annual golf outing was in memory of PDG Bill Stenback this year and was another successful event. Their meetings are also available on Zoom now that they have members out of the area for the winter. They are sponsoring the reindeer for annual Window Night when Santa visits the town. They will be bell ringing for Salvation Army. MyLion reporting includes bell ringing and their ongoing project of collecting pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House.

Elk Rapids has lost long time member PDG Bob Loper, who passed away Nov 3. They will be hosting their annual community dinner Dec 3 from 4-7 pm, where they provide a full dinner to anyone at no charge, and also have a canned food drive to collect for the food pantry.

Grayling Lions I visited on Oct 26. Prior to the meeting President Bob Gingerich and Treasurer Carlajeon Gingerich showed us the gazebo that their Lions club built years ago. The gazebo is in a city park and the city was to maintain it, but since the city has not, they are going to reach out to the other partners that are listed in the gazebo that helped with the original building of it to do some needed repairs. If they still need help they can reach out to the zone and we can make it a zone project. They will be collecting toys for Toys for Tots, and have a KidSight screening set up at the local school. They report hearing aid and eyeglass recycling in MyLion.

Houghton Lake President Sandy Egbers has been very involved in the district convention planning. Their club will be providing centerpieces for the banquet and help in the printing and mailing of convention materials. She's also found live entertainment for the Friday mixer. They have reported service projects in MyLion, including highway cleanup plus a very interesting project where one of their Lions members completed a mission trip to Ukraine. He was able to take and distribute 250 pairs of glasses to those in need in Ukraine during the war with Russia.

Lewiston Lioness Lions reports in My Lion, including being greeters at the Historical Society where one was restoring old records, plus White Cane and bake sale fundraisers. I have not been in contact with them yet.

Lewiston Lions I have not been in contact with as of yet.

Roscommon Higgins Lake Secretary Michael Ritchie reached out to the district to help with the SensoryNision Impaired Trail Project for the Gahagan Nature Preserve in Roscommon. Tom Dale, director of the preserve will make a presentation to the district at the cabinet meeting. I would like to see our zone actively participate in the project.

ZC Marie Leathers

Cabinet Meeting Minutes Cont'd





Lions District 11E-2

Zone 3 Report

Jan Kane

A zone meeting was held Nov 12 with 12 participants. Unfortunately all attendees were from Alpena and Hillman Clubs despite all zone clubs being invited. CST Barb gave a great explanation of the various funding sources available to clubs, and offered to help clubs looking for funding. A written summary was provided to clubs.

Zone chair will be traveling south January through April but will be available by phone, email and zoom.

Lions Bear Lake Camp Update

GENERAL UPDATES

As stated in the last report, the camp is rented out through November. After November is the slow time of year; it's the time to work on the cabins. We will not be closing down the cabins this year. The heat and water will stay on.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

December and January is the perfect time to clean and put on a fresh coat of paint in the cabin bathrooms. This will complete the renovations on all the cabins.

The three new pavilions did get painted.

Please contact the camp directly if you or your club would like to help clean and paint the bathrooms. Talk to Executive Director Traci or Jesse to set up dates and times for this work.

The trails did get cleaned up for the Ultra Marathon, thanks to Lion Jack and Lion Adam Becher, along with Lion Jim Lykins.

FUNDRAISER UPDATES

The Ultra Marathon was a great success with more runners and sponsors this year. Thanks to chairman Rob Lykins and all the volunteers that worked this event.



**District 11-E2 Newsletter Editor Report: November 19, 2022 Cabinet Meeting**

Lion Barb:

Clubs sharing information since our last Cabinet Meeting are shown in the table below.

Club newsletter submissions for September through October: 8 Clubs - 30.0%

Name	Months Participated	Name	Months Participated
Alpena	1	Hillman	1
Boyne Valley	3	Lewiston	2
Central Lake	2	Oscoda	2
East Jordan	2	Petoskey	1

It seems that monthly club submissions are steadily around 1/3 of our 27 clubs every month. While it's obvious that not all 27 clubs will have news (events/donations/etc.) every month to report, it's likely that more than 1/3 of the District clubs are doing things that are not reported. And the submissions that are received are usually the same group of clubs, which is good - they are very active and deserve to be noticed. But there must be many more acts of Service that we never know about from clubs that don't report. Perhaps some clubs do things but don't have a photo, and so don't think it's worth submitting. NOT SO! Text alone submissions are certainly welcome. Any activity, with or without a photo, is worthy and needs to be publicized so others can appreciate their enterprise.

Sharing our club activities gives out information that may help another club, give others ideas for their own club's activities, and it gives a participating club deserved publicity and respect. We know other things are happening in our District. We need to increase the participation of District Clubs to let everyone know the scale of what's going on.

I noted in the last Cabinet Meeting report that "it would be very helpful if every photo would be labeled to identify everyone pictured." I'd like to note that pictures of events that include crowds or other "civilians" cannot be identified, so don't worry about that, just send it.

Again, any District Lions Leaders who want to share something inspiring or informing to submit letters/columns/notes/ or photos are welcome to do so. (I recently received a submitted photo for the first time, which will be in the next issue Photo of the Month.)

Any suggestions for newsletter enhancement are also welcome.

Thanks to all for your support. Stay Safe.

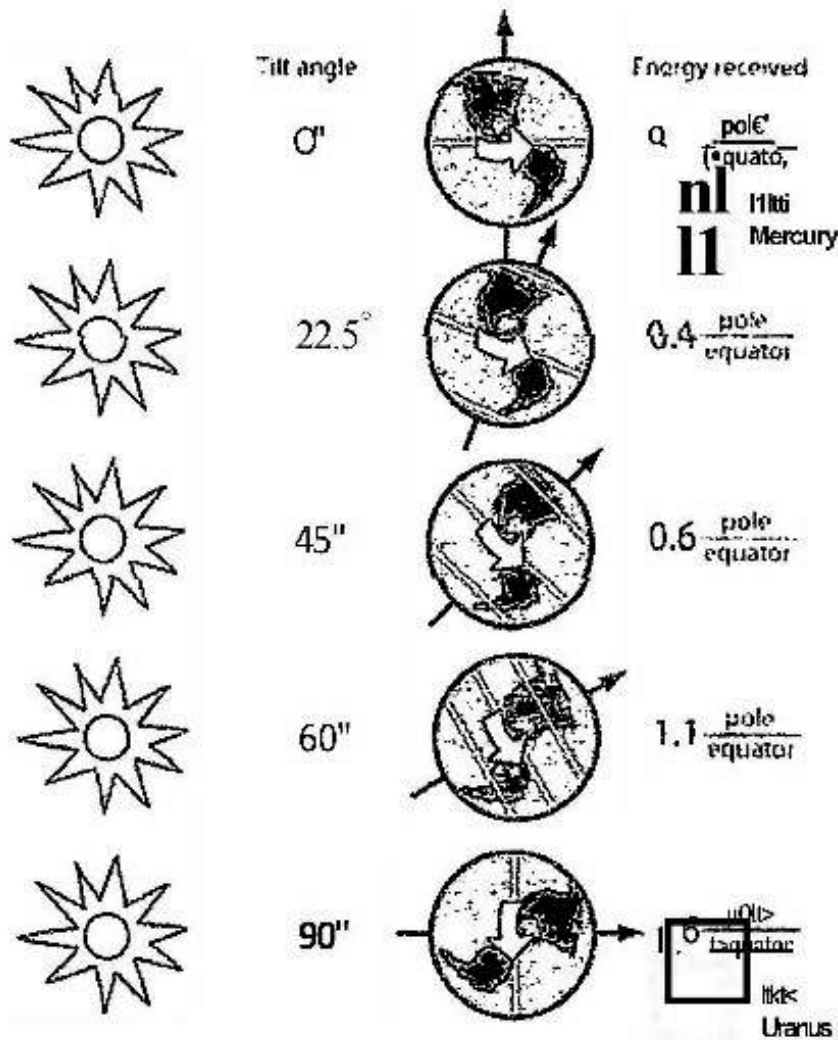
Lion David J. Zimmer
District 11-E2 Newsletter Editor
dlzim47@gmail.com

The IT committee is actively involved in setting up online registration and payments for the district convention. A Square account is set up and is connected to the district account so that other electronic payments will be able to be made to the district. Cabinet meetings will continue to be available to attend on Zoom, as well as any committee meetings or club meetings can use the zoom account as requested.

Marie Leathers
 ITco chair

**Environmental Committee Report for November 12, 2022**

Interesting information regarding the "tilt of the earth".



Hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/Astro/orbitilt.html

Earth had a dangerous axis tilt 84 million years ago (<https://the-swaddle.com> Oct. - 20, 2021)

According to the Guardian "Climate crisis has shifted the earth's axis. Massive melting of glaciers as a result of global heating has caused many shifts in the Earth's axis of rotation since the 1900s. Over periods of time (41,000) years, the earth's axial tilt will vary from 22.1 degrees to 24.5 degrees. (forbes.com)

Climate change has altered the earth's tilt (Space.com news, science & astronomy).
Researchers have measured the phenomenon for 176 years as of Oct. 21, 2021.

"In the 1990s the earth's axis underwent a major shift. It is normal for the earth's axis to move a few centimeters each year. But, in the 1990s, the direction of polar drift shifted suddenly and the rate of drift accelerated.





The way the water is distributed as the ice melts in the polar regions, and joins the ocean, the weight of that water spreads across a different area.

According to business insider the earth's axis has shifted due to melting ice in the last 25 years. A study (as of April 28, 2021) published found that the earth's axis started shifting so drastically in 1995 that the direction of that polar drift changed. The poles were slowly moving south. But they turned left and shifted to the east at an accelerated rate, about one-tenth of an inch each year. The poles' average drift speed between 1995 and 2020 was 17 times faster than from 1981 to 1995.

The reason I chose this subject for my report is that around 1995 I noticed a change in the angle of the sun at our house. Prior the sudden shift in the axis we had art work on two walls in the dining room. Each morning we had to cover the art work to keep the sun from fading out the pictures. After 1995 I noticed that I no longer had to cover the prints each morning as the sun was not coming through the dining room windows and beating on the art work. I had wondered why this happened until a friend told me that there was a news clip stating the shift in the angle of the sun.

(This information was taken from business insider, space.com, nasa.gov and other sources)

**Submitted by Beverly Bodem, Chair
Environmental Committee**

District 11-E2 Cabinet meeting
November 19, 2022

LCIF Report

Campaign 100 ended on June 30, having raised over \$325 million worldwide. Over the course of the campaign the Lions of District 11-E2 contributed \$66,739, or an average of \$96/member, so we did well. We had three clubs, Hillman, Elk Rapids and Rose City, that elected to become Model Clubs, which meant they committed to contribute (club and personal commitments) at least \$500/member. I am pleased to announce that the Hillman Club has completed their commitment to Campaign 100. Elk Rapids and Rose City have until 6/30/24 to complete their commitment.

On May 20, there was a devastating tornado in Gaylord. As there is no longer a Lions Club in Gaylord, the district took over relief coordination. Part of that was a \$20,000 Rebuilding grant from LCIF, which is being used to renovate mobile homes in the Nottingham Forest Mobile Home Park, which received severe damage. Part of that grant was a requirement that local clubs assist in the renovations, and we had 4 work days to help out there, and I would like to thank all of the Lions that helped. Our Foundation is always there to support us when disasters like this happen, so keep that in mind when your club is budgeting your support to LCIF.

If anyone would like me to do a presentation of LCIF, please feel free to contact me.

PDG Barb Durflinger

Cabinet Meeting Minutes Cont'd





Leader Dogs for the Blind November 2022 Report

First Quarter 2022-2023

District 11-E2 donations total \$1,000.00

Dogs Issued: 31

O&M Clients Served: 33

Orientation and Mobility {O&M}

Celebrating 20 years of Orientation & Mobility Training. Erica Ihrke, LOB Manager of Extended Services said, "O&M skills allow people to get out of their home on their own, to rejoin their community, to find and keep gainful employment or return to school to reach their educational goals." Most O&M training is provided by vocational agencies and school systems. There was a gap in available services for seniors and other people who were stay-at-home parents or people planning to retire. Leader Dogs stepped in and filled this gap. To date, Leader Dogs has helped over 1,100 people between the ages of 16-87 gain O&M skills and increase their independence.

Taking the Lead

Join Leader Dogs during their podcasts "Taking the Lead" to explore various topics related to the blindness community. These 30 minute sessions are enlightening and often entertaining!

Gary Sinise Foundation:

Leader Dogs is very proud to announce that the Gary Sinise Foundation has awarded Leader Dog with a \$350,000 grant to support their service of veterans, defenders and first responders who are blind or visually impaired with highly skilled guide dogs. As part of the grant, the Gary Sinise Foundation is sponsoring seven Future Leader Dogs!

Dollars for Dogs

Dollars for Dogs is great way to have a soft donation for Leader Dogs from your club without much effort on your part and a fantastic way to raise awareness of Leader Dogs for Blind in your community. <https://www.leaderdog.org/lions-club/resources/order-promotional-items/>

Light Up Leader Dog-Saturday, December 10, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

For a \$10 donation, a luminary will be placed in your honor on Leader Dog's campus this holiday season. Let's show our support for Leader Dogs by helping light up the campus! Your personal donation can also count as a soft donation for your club.

On Saturday, December 10, you can join Leader Dogs on campus to enjoy the display! Guests will have the opportunity to browse through the marketplace, partake in some warm, winter beverages and tasty food, enjoy the sounds of a holiday choir, walk the paths of luminaries, and view the Leader Dog campus all lit up!

UPDATE Magazine

Check out the UPDATE Magazine for more information about Leader Dogs.

<https://28w0653aiheq2t7ow1vy4ay-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Update-Issue-1-JUN2022-FINAL-PAGES.pdf>



Lions of Michigan Foundation report- 11/19/22

The Sight and Hearing raffle tickets are out now- those not distributed at the cabinet meeting will be mailed. Last year we sold 2,725 as a district, once again leading the state in ticket sales. Our goal for this year is 3,000. I have tickets for all clubs, even if you didn't participate last year. Sale of only 30 tickets will bring \$105 into your club, and if you sell at least 100, you will receive \$5/ticket, so a great fundraiser. We have 6 clubs that were in the 100+ ticket club last year.

The cookbook fundraiser is still going on. They make great Christmas gifts. The district has a supply we purchased. The cookbooks are \$15 each, and when your club purchases 10 or more the cost is \$10 each, so another great fundraiser for your club.

The Kidsight program is active again. Contact Lion Nate Slezak or Lion Linda Harris to schedule your event. The trailer is available for your community parades or festivals, so let me know if you would like to use it. We have had several screenings this year already. We just received another camera, so there are three available in the district, so scheduling camera use is easier now.

At the recent board meeting, the individual assistance limit was raised from \$1,500 to \$2,500, and for a multi-family need from \$7,500 to \$10,000. If you have a need in your community, please contact one of your trustees, either me or Lion Diane Skop and we will assist you with the application process.

Clubs are reminded that the Foundation has funds available to assist needy veterans or military families, and the funds are NOT restricted to medical needs. In the past funds have been given for vehicle repairs, utility bill assistance, etc, so if you know of a needy veteran in your area, talk to one of the trustees about getting an aid application. Contact your local veteran's assistance office and let them know that we can help.

So for this fiscal year, we received two grants from the Foundation totaling \$2,900 to assist veterans, as well as several hearing aids and we received several VSP gifts certificates to purchase eyeglasses for children. Please remember that without our contributions and our participation in Foundation fundraisers, this assistance would not be possible.

The supply issues with mints have continued, and right now only peppermint and fizzy fruit are available in limited quantities. Effective 1/1 the cost per case will increase, so place your orders now. Also given the increased cost of shipping, feel free to contact one of the trustees and we will be happy to pick up mints for you the next time we are in Lansing.

If you would like me to do a presentation on the Lions of Michigan Foundation for your club, please contact me.

PDG Barb Durflinger
Assistant Treasurer, Lions of Michigan Foundation



comdac@comdac.com

From: "Linda Harris" <lindish72@hotmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:31 PM
To: "Barb Durflinger" <comdac@comdac.com>
Subject: LIONS KidSight Report for 11/19/22 Cabinet Meeting.

11E-2 District KidSight has screened 156 children since the last cabinet meeting.

Alpena Lions Club had 2 screenings for a total of:

156 Screened

137 Passed

18 Referrals

1 unable to be screened

Please consider putting on a KidSight Screening in your club area. Do it for the kids!!!
You can contact Dr. Nate Slezak, Linda Harris or Barb Durflinger to set up a screening event.

Currently there are no screenings scheduled.

Hillman Lions will be scheduling elementary school screenings in Montmorency and Presque Isle counties in the upcoming months.

Schools are a wonderful place to screen!!!

CONTACT Dr. Nate at Bignate34@gmail.com or
Linda Harris at Lindish72@hotmail.com

Sincerely,

Linda Harris

KidSight Co-Coordinator

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



Forum report

The Lions of Michigan Forum is February 24-25, 2023 at the DoubleTree Airport Hotel in Grand Rapids. PLAN TO ATTEND THIS FUN FILLED WEEKEND! It's a great way to meet and network with Lions from around the state, and come home with new ideas and energy to bring back to your club.

Friday Night includes an off-site Service Project at Kids' Food Basket in Grand Rapids. We will then head back to the Hotel/Conference Center and enjoy networking and fellowship at the Hospitality Suite. Saturday Morning registration begins at 7:00am, with a Welcome Message at 8:10am. We have 16 AMAZING breakout sessions for you to choose from throughout the day. Don't forget to stop by and visit all of the great exhibitors and projects. Our afternoon will conclude with a Luncheon featuring our White Cane Scholarship Recipients, and Keynote Speaker, Dustin Dale, author of *Learn to Lead by Serving*. There will be door prizes awarded at the end of the program. **The first 125 registrants will receive Mr. Dale's book, "*Learn to Lead by Serving*" a \$10 value!**

Registration is \$45 until Feb 7, or \$50 after Feb 7 and includes proceedings booklet, materials and lunch. Registration and more information is available at the Lions of Michigan website lionsofmi.com

Rod Leathers
11"E2 Forum committee chair

Melvin Jones Follow-up

Greetings Club Presidents and Secretaries,

This email is a follow-up to one that was sent in September concerning the District Melvin Jones Award. I'm simply reminding you that the deadline to submit nominations is Dec. 31, 2022, and should be sent to me. This is to award a Lion who has served the district well, so check your membership and nominate a worthy recipient.

If you didn't receive the previous email, or misplaced it, let me know and I will resend the information needed for your nominations.

Thank you for all you do,

Steve Murch
Alpena Lions Club
1st Vice District Governor
MD 11 E-2



December 2, 2022

Dear Fellow Lion,

It's time to start thinking about our 2022-23 District Convention, which will be held at the Grayling Ramada Inn from April 21-23, 2023. The convention committee has been working hard to present an interesting and informative weekend for you.

Our theme this year is Barber Shop, and it should be fun! We have a great mixer planned on Friday night, with a special service project that we will give you more information on later. Our special International guests this year are PID BJ and PDG Carolyn Blankenship from Tennessee.

To encourage early registration, there will be a drawing this year. Those registering prior to December 15, 2022 will be entered into a drawing for a free Saturday banquet dinner. Registrants prior to 1/15/23, 2/15/23 and 3/15/23 will be entered into a drawing for a free Saturday lunch buffet, so register as early as you can!

Attached is a registration form which can be used for mailing your registration, but we would like to encourage you to register on-line. You may scan the QR code below or go to the District website at LionsDistrict11E2.org to register. You can pay on-line with a credit card this year for your convenience. Also attached is the preliminary convention itinerary.

Hope to see you all there!

Rod Leathers

DG Rod Leathers



**CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM**

Complete one form for each person
OR register online
Registrations are due March 30, 2023

Registration forms and link to online
registration and payment available at
LionsDistrict11E2.org



NOTE: You can complete this form on-line! Use your smartphone camera on this QR code—→



Circle all that apply: Lion Spouse Leo Guest

Club Name: _____

Attendee Name: _____

Name you want on your badge: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: () _____ E-mail _____

Indicate which events you are attending (see itinerary for times and locations):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday Evening Mixer - Hors' D'Oeuvres - Entertainment - Service Project	Included
<input type="checkbox"/>	Training (circle one) President Secretary Treasurer Session for all Lions	Included
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business meeting	Included
<input type="checkbox"/>	State project presentations	Included
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday Lunch Program - Taco Bar	\$23.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Special presentation with PID BJ and PDG Carolyn Blankenship	Included
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday Awards Banquet - Turkey, Ham and sides	\$40.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hospitality room	Included
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday Memorial	Included
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elections	Included
<input type="checkbox"/>	REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR ALL ATTENDEES AND TO VOTE!	
	Total:	

Room Reservations (Grayling Ramada Inn)

Reservations can be made directly thru the Grayling Ramada Inn at 989-348-7611. Ask for the Lions' Group Discount. A double room is \$94.00, Queen \$99 and Pool Side \$109 plus taxes and fees. Reservation cut off is April 6, 2023. Breakfast is included with hotel reservation.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Grayling Lions Convention Account

Mail to: Grayling Lions - Registration – 1923 Dansk Lane, Grayling, MI 49854

Enclosed is my check for meals as indicated above \$_____. Note:
One check can be written for two or more registration forms. Please place the check number in the following bracket of each form you are including. (Check#:_____)

Your convention hosts are: The Grayling Lions Club. For information or answers to questions please contact: PDG Bob Gingerich (989)348-5355, bob@danishlanding.com



Convention Itinerary

Day & Time(EDT)	Description	Location
Friday April 21st		
3 – 7 PM	Registration & Certification	Outside Pine Room
4 – 5 PM	Lions District Cabinet Meeting	Restaurant
5 - 7 PM	Dinner - on own	See list of local restaurants
5:30- 7:00 PM	V.I.P. Dinner (by Invitation)	Restaurant
7:00– 9:00 PM	District Mixer Service Project Entertainment	Pine Room
Saturday April 22nd		
7 - 9 AM	Breakfast	Restaurant (for hotel guests)
8:30 -11:30 AM, 5:30-6:30 PM	Registration & Certification	Outside Pine Room
9 - 9:55 AM	Training Sessions – President Secretary Treasurer Session for All Lions	Exact Location of each session TBD; rooms to be used: Maple, Balsam, Pine, Cedar
10 – 10:55 AM	Lions District Business Meeting	Pine
11 – 11:55 AM	State Project Presentations	Maple
12:30 – 2 PM	Lunch Program	Pine and Cedar
2:15- 3:30	“Retention through the Eyes of a Child”- PDG Carolyn Blankenship Q&A with PID BJ Blankenship	Maple
4 – 5 PM	District Raffle	Birch
Saturday April 22nd Evening		
5:30-6:30 PM	Social Hour	Pine and Cedar
6:30 – 8:30 PM	District Awards Banquet	Pine and Cedar
9 PM	Hospitality Room	Location TBD
Sunday April 23rd		
7 – 9 AM	Breakfast	Restaurant (for hotel guests)
9 - 9:45 AM	Memorial Service	Balsam and Spruce
8 – 10 AM	Registration & Certification	Outside Pine Room
10 AM	Lions District Election Convention Wrap Up Adjournment	Balsam and Spruce



Calendar of Events

District Cabinet Meeting — December 10, 2022 — 10:00 am — Free, Zoom —
Contact marie@centrallakerealty.com if you would like to attend and did not receive a Zoom invitation

District Cabinet Meeting — Marc 11
Grayling
St John Lutheran Church

Winter Solstice — First Day of Winter — December 21, 2022

Christmas — December 25, 2022

District Cabinet Meeting — April 21, 2023 — 4:00 pm — Free, Grayling Ramada

2022-2023 District Convention — April 21-23, 2023 — Location: Grayling Ramada —



PASSINGS



Charlevoix Lions: Lion **JOHN H LIGNELL** — 11/18/2022

Elk Repids Lions: Lion **BOB LOPER** — 11/03/2022

Rose City Lions: **RICHARD S DOWNING SR.** — 10/14/2022

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

NEW MEMBERS — NOVEMBER

Central Lake Lions: **DIANA POSTMUS** — Joined 11/17/22 — Sponsor: **JOANN NELL**
GREG SHOOKS — Joined 11/17/22 — Sponsor: **ROD LEATHERS**

Charlevoix Lions: **ROBERT TAMBELLINI** — Joined 11/18/2022 — Sponsor: N/A

Oscoda Lions: **CINDY WELLEN** — Joined: 11/10/2022 — Sponsor: **CAROL GAINES**

Rose City Lions: **TOM SCHNAUTZ** — Joined: 09/01/2022 — Sponsor: **EDWARD WANGLER**

On the Mend

East Jordan Lions: Lion **Joe Krumholz** who was in a motorcycle accident and has a fractured back and six broken ribs.

Lion **Bob Pursel** is recovering from knee surgery

WE WISH ALL AILING LIONS A SPEEDY RECOVERY & A FUTURE OF GOOD HEALTH



Boyne Valley Lions

NOVEMBER 2022

Lion Ralph shared that we (Boyne Valley Lions) received a \$100.00 donation to the club from Lion Sue Pepper's Estate. I wanted everyone to see this thoughtful donation from our gone too soon Lion. May she rest in peace.

December 2, 2022, has been designated as Boyne Valley Lions Bell Ringing Day from 10AM - 6PM at Family Fare in Boyne City.

East Jordan Lions

NOVEMBER 2022

East Jordan Lions welcomed new member, **Mark Fowler** to their club. Pictured are King Lion Bill Chase, 1st Vice Linda Chase and new member Mark Fowler.

(Joined 10/09/2022)



East Jordan Lions donated \$500 to the East Jordan school welding class towards the completion of the Veterans star of Dedication. It will be complete in June and on display in GAR Park. Pictured are King Lion Bill Chase with the welding instructor, David Muladore and his wife Brenda.

Lewiston Lions Lioness

NOVEMBER 2022

The winner of the 2022 Lewiston Lions Lioness Quilt Raffle was Mary Beth of Clawson, MI (r). The quilt was presented to her by Diane Bissonette, VP (l).

Thank you everyone for your support. 2023 Quilt Raffle tickets will be going on sale soon!





Oscoda Lions

NOVEMBER 2022

Tony Priebe, Bob Drogosch, and Chuck Andrina built a ramp in Greenbush. The project consisted of two platforms of 4x4' and 4x6' as well as two ramp sections of 8' and 12'. The resident is on oxygen and uses a walker to get around. She was having difficulty getting in and out of her home. We picked up the material at 8:00 am and finished up at 2:45 pm. The ground was snow covered and it snowed on us off and on all morning. The weather improved in the afternoon. We Serve.

— Reported by Chuck

Both pictures have Lions Tony Priebe and Bob Drogosch, pictures taken by Chuck Andrina



Happy Holiday Season!

We are now in the middle of the holiday season, with Halloween and Thanksgiving behind us and Christmas and New Year's Day coming up soon. Each of these holidays have different purposes and bring out different thoughts and emotions. Halloween is for fun, with its fake scares and weird costumes that delight children, and bring out the child in us as we consume left-over candy. Thanksgiving gives us the opportunity to reflect upon things that we are thankful for, reminding us that no matter what our situation is, there is always gratitude to cherish in our lives.

Christmas is a spiritual holiday, a time to think of others, to feel the Hope that Good Will for Mankind and Peace for All will become a reality – and to exercise our inherent gift of giving. Mangers, Santa, and lighted trees are all Christmas symbols, but it is the Christmas Spirit that moves us to practice Kindness and open our hearts for giving to others.

New Year's is a time to reflect on the ending year, and to embrace the Hope for a better year to come. In this Holiday Season reject fear, have fun, fill your thoughts with Gratitude for what you have, spread Kindness and go further in giving to others, and take steps to achieve your Hopes and dreams to make a better year for everyone. Go beyond the dreams and wishes of what we want.

Be Forgiveness, Gratitude, Joy, Kindness and Love to All, and change the World in which We Serve.

**CORONAVIRUS UPDATES - December 01, 2022**

This is a snapshot of the World, Nation, and State of Michigan statistics on **December 1, 2022**. Numbers may differ by the time you read this as the COVID-19 and **Variants** continue to infect more or less as data changes.

(Info from N.Y. Times, WHO, CDC, michigan.gov. & other health websites)

World Statistics Cases: 627,104,342 ❖ Deaths: 6,567,552

U. S. Statistics Cases: 97,531,207 ❖ Deaths: 1,073,315

Michigan Statistics Cases: 3,938,443 ❖ Deaths: 40,085

Vaccinations (1 or more doses) Summary:

World: 71.1% — United States: 80.6% — Michigan: 69.01%

(Statistics may vary monthly as new information and corrections are applied)

11-E2 Counties	Cases Reported	Deaths	% Vaccinated
Alcona:	1,889	76	63.07%
Alpena:	6,298	153	59.63%
Antrim:	5,132	75	65.08%
Arenac:	3,781	81	56.72%
Charlevoix:	5,743	66	69.40%
Cheboygan:	5,602	124	61.05%
Crawford:	3,102	37	57.32%
Emmet:	7,406	104	73.04%
Gladwin:	6,576	131	53.42%
Iosco:	5,548	167	62.81%
Kalkaska:	4,353	68	52.66%
Montmorency:	1,934	51	60.95%
Ogemaw:	4,908	115	50.66%
Oscoda:	1,652	59	48.06%
Otsego:	6,532	115	59.58%
Presque Isle:	2,327	65	66.42%
Roscommon:	5,434	126	61.96%
District Totals	78,217	1,613	60.11%

Vaccination % = number of county residents vaccinated (1 or 2+ doses) divided by the total county resident population 5+



COVID Update: Latest Information

- U.S. COVID cases are climbing again as new Omicron Variants spread. COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in the U.S. are rising and intensive-care-unit beds are being filled again, in a trend that may spell an end to the stable period the country experienced during the fall months. Cases are higher in 40 states, led by Oklahoma, where they have risen 89% in two weeks. The daily average for hospitalizations is up 21% from two weeks ago to 33,708. Experts are warning that new omicron subvariants are on the rise and are quickly replacing earlier ones. The most recent data release from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showed that the BQ.1.1 and BQ.1 sublineages of BA.5 accounted for 62.8% of all cases in the U.S. in the week through Dec. 3. On a brighter note, the daily average for deaths is down 3% to 274. (*Marketwatch.com*)

In the last month there have been several people we know, a neighbor and other friends and acquaintances, that caught the COVID virus, more than we've seen since COVID began. Fortunately, despite their nasty sickness not one of them has died yet. If there is a silver lining to a dark cloud, it's the fact that the Omicron varieties are easily spread, but still less fatal than the earlier COVID strains.

Evolving Together

As far as current science has been able to determine, the earliest species of modern humans date from 300,000 to 200,000 years ago, with the earliest finds of modern Homo Sapiens skeletons found in Africa. The historical timeline of Homo Sapiens keeps being pushed back as new discoveries are found, or former discoveries are re-examined. Our early ancestors, like other animals and previous early humans, had to find their own food, spending a large part of each day gathering plants and hunting or scavenging animals -- as well as trying to avoid becoming some other predator's dinner. They evolved behaviors that helped them respond to the challenges of survival in unstable environments. By 164,000 years ago modern humans were collecting and cooking shellfish and by 90,000 years ago modern humans had begun making special fishing tools. Prehistoric Homo Sapiens not only made and used stone tools, they also specialized them and made a variety of smaller, more complex, refined and specialized tools including composite stone tools, fishhooks and harpoons, bows and arrows, spear throwers and sewing needles. Even earlier, making fire had been discovered, which changed the odds of survival for humanity and allowed them to spread all over the earth.

For thousands of years small groups of humans, comprised mostly of family members, lived and worked together to survive in their environment. Because everyone is unique, with different ideas and skills, not everyone did everything the same way. Perhaps one man was a great hunter, always bringing food back from a hunt. But he was not a good stone tool maker. Another man in the group was not a good hunter, but was a very skilled tool maker, creating arrow and spear heads. He could make a bow and arrows for the hunter, who would then give him a share of the meat his arrows brought down. It is this ability, not found in most animals, to work together and share skills for the greater good that gave Homo Sapiens the advantage to survive and literally change the world.

Within the past 12,000 years, Homo Sapiens found they could control the growing and breeding of certain plants and animals. Humans transitioned to producing food by farming and herding animals -- activities that transformed Earth's natural landscapes locally, then globally. With more food available, the human population increased dramatically. Villages became towns, and towns became cities. Civilizations appeared, changing our surroundings, and leading to futures no one back then could have imagined.

Our ancestors struggled to survive, but by working together they persevered, and we are where we are now. We may not have a perfect world, with fear, strife, and chaos in some areas. Working together has, in some circumstances, been a negative thing -- creating a negative result, such as warfare. But working together has also created every good thing we have in this world.

Together, our ancestors could. Together, we can!



Pictures of the Month

Seasonal Transformation



(Above) "A smiley face maple tree" (two eyes and an up-curving mouth) shows it's Autumn colors before "leaving"; a picture taken on the morning of Oct. 30th – Submitted by Oscoda Lions Wayne and Carole.

(Below) Only a week after a day of 70+ degrees, a late Autumn storm in November left well over a foot or two of snow in Northern Michigan, sticking to the trees in wintery splendor.





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



Lions Clubs
International



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION