

5M4 Newsletter



IN THIS ISSUE

- Page 2 - Note from DGE Susan ; Hector Lions news
- Page 3 - DGE Susan's pics from DGE Training
- Page 4 - March in like a Lion! - 1VDG Jason Kerfeld
- Page 5 - Sauk River Champions and Sauk River Lions news
- Page 6 - KidSight updates' CORRECTION; Diabetes Thank you
- Page 7 - Lions Day at the Capitol
- Page 8 - Leader Dog Update
- Page 9 - LCIF GO FOR THE GOLD GALA!;
Cabinet Secretary Needed!
- Page 10 - Sauk Centre Pancake Day; Morris KidSight
- Page 11 - CanDo Canines Open House; Camp Confidence
thank you; Consider sponsoring a student; ELLI info.
- Page 12 - MARKETING! Community Partnerships
- Page 13 - MD5M CONVENTION INFORMATION
- Page 14 - LCIF news; ELLI Mar.14-16 event/registration
- Page 15 - LCIF Disastic updates/Donation update
- Page 16 - Diabetes Foundation March 15 Research day info
- Page 17 - Foundation contacts/Grant info. and more!
- Page 18 - Cabinet member contact list

**Happy St.
Patrick's Day!
Monday, March 17**



Greetings, Fellow Lions!

I want to take a moment to reflect on our Mid-Winter Convention! We were thrilled to welcome 34 first-time attendees, and our goal is to have them back next year—along with a friend! Again, a heartfelt thank you to everyone who voted on district business, listened to the speakers, and gained some insight to bring back to your clubs by visiting our foundation tables.

Looking ahead to March, our District Governor-Elects will have training where they will visit the vision, hearing, and diabetes foundations and visit the Can Do Canine facility to get a firsthand look and updates on each of these foundations. They will follow this up by sitting in at the Council of Governors meeting in preparation of carrying on Multiple District business next July.

We also have several exciting events coming up:

- **ELLI Training in Willmar, MN (March 13-16).** Emerging lions learning institute. The sign up deadline was extended so please contact me as soon as possible for availability. REMEMBER \$50.00 will be reimbursed to you upon completion by our Past District Governor Association.
- **Happy St. Patrick's Day! March 17**
- **March 18 - Lions Day at the Capitol** - Join us as we meet with legislators one-on-one to advocate for legislation that supports our mission. (See the enclosed "Lions Day at the Capitol" letter on page 7 for full details.)
- **March 29 - LCIF "Go for the Gold" Gala** (More details enclosed)

Thank you for your continued dedication to service.

Let's keep making a difference together!

Yours in Service

Ask One ... Keep One ... and continue to Serve.

2024-25 5M4 DG Jacques Heinen

lionheinen@gmail.com

320.249.6536



PCC Dennis Heinen and DG Jacques Heinen

5M4 Cabinet last meeting date: April 30, 2025.



A note from Susan

Greetings 5M4!

I want to take another opportunity to say "Thank You" to all those that participated in our Mid-Winter Convention! It was a great weekend to celebrate with DG Jacque and each other. I am still receiving Parade of Green donations – if you need to send yours yet, it is not too late! Send to Buffalo Lake Lions Club, PO Box 5, Buffalo Lake, MN 55314. The deadline will be March 14th, I can then distribute them at our March cabinet meeting.

(See next page for photographs) A couple of weeks ago, I had the incredible opportunity to be in Chicago for DG Training. What an experience!! We were honored to have VP AP Singh in attendance, as well as our own PIP Just Brian. From the pre-assignments and classroom training, to the leadership panel discussions, and the personalized coaching from our VP that we will be working with this coming year, every aspect was a great experience - not just for becoming a stronger Lion Leader, but also for personal growth.

Engaging in discussions with fellow attendees sparked a fresh vision for leading 5M4. We shared ideas on how others do life as a Lion, the service projects they do that we could be doing as well, and learned about their cultural elements that would or wouldn't align with ours. Fun was had in the evening as well! Some of our 5M4 leaders and new friends sang karaoke with PIP Brian. It was an "AWESOME" night, and although I wouldn't say we have the most talented group, we certainly had fun!

One of the highlights (to a person that loves travel!) was the Passport activity, we meet people from around the world and learned greetings in their languages; Hello, My Name Is, Goodbye, Thank You. It was a fantastic way to make new friends. And I did, with other Lions from Portugal, India, China, as well as Missouri, New York, and Canada. My husband was thrilled when I told him I've already figured out our next travel plans, thanks to my new friend Miriam from Ireland! I can't wait to see her again!

Visiting our International Headquarters was another awesome experience. The staff were super friendly or working hard, in spite of hundreds walking by them all day! Seeing the offices firsthand provided a deeper appreciation for how this global organization operates. I am grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of this experience! Be sure to check out the newsletter for photos that better tell the story of my time at this training and our visit to headquarters.

Next on my journey is a few more days of Multiple District training in Roseville MN, where I'll reconnect with all our Lion Leaders from MD5M. We'll be attending the next Council of Governor's meeting and we will select additional leadership roles to ensure MD5M continues to thrive under our leadership as well. Our current DG team, including DG Jacque, will be there to guide us through our next steps.

As we continue working on the goals set forth by DG Jacque, I am also preparing for the future by assembling my cabinet to ensure a seamless transition come July 1. First and foremost, I want to express our sincere gratitude to Lion Kelsey Somerville (Willmar) for dedicating her time as our cabinet secretary this year. We are especially appreciative that she has agreed to take on another critical role within our district, which means the Secretary position will soon be open. If you are interested in getting more involved with our District, and willing to take notes at just four meetings throughout the year, this is a great opportunity for you! Please don't hesitate to reach out to me, DG Jacque, or IVDGE Jason for more information.

As we get out of this bitter cold, I am looking forward to welcoming in Spring, and keeping my feet on the ground a bit more! I encourage your invitations to your meetings and service projects, or reach out if there is anything we can support you with. I am looking forward to connecting with you! There are exciting times ahead, let's all keep moving forward together!

*DGE Susan Krumrey susanreuberkrumrey@outlook.com
c v320-295-8327 (call or text)*



*DGE Susan Krumrey
with VP A.P. Singh*



MD5M DGE Leadership for 2025-26



March: In like a Lion?

It is always a very good sign to turn the calendar to March, signs all point to warmer weather and spring right around the corner, right??



Lion Jason Kerfeld,
IVDG District 5M4

March is going to be a busy month, I guess that's why they call it March Madness!...Can Do Canines is having an Open House on March 8th from Noon-2pm at their campus in New Hope. ELLI (Emerging Lions Leadership Institute) is being held March 14-16 right here within 5M4 District in Willmar, what a great opportunity so close to home. Make plans to attend the LCIF Gala in St. Cloud on March 29th, some of you may have attended last year's inaugural event in Parkers Prairie. Past International President Douglas Alexander will be on hand to pin new Melvin Jones Fellows and Progressive Melvin Jones Fellows, an enjoyable day will be in store. Also add in your local Lions Service projects and fundraisers in March at your local club and you'll see those spring-like temperatures will be right around the corner!

If those temperatures aren't hot enough you are invited to "Ignite the Lions Pride" at the MD5M Convention in Bloomington MN on April 24-27. Come celebrate what makes Lionism so great and listen to some fine speakers. I know I am excited to hear KSTP's Joe Schmit and Lion Daniel Marney-Elkins, PCC BJ Blahnik, IP Fabricio Oliveira speak. I hope many of you can join me.

We also have a few positions available within the cabinet. Please reach out to DGE Susan or myself and we can assist you in what's the best fit for you. The district team works much better when all the players are in the game. We have most of our pitchers and catchers in place we just need a few outfielders to round out the squad!

Reminder to get your club activities & pictures sent over to Anne to post on this newsletter and to promote upcoming events for your club. Let your Zone Chairs know how your club is doing? If you need any assistance from anyone within the cabinet to come out to visit, please let us know, we are here for you! I understand that Mission 1.5 might seem daunting, but let's simplify it, if every other member would get bring someone into the Lions family, it would be rather simple. Can you be that member?

Roar with you soon, IVDGE Jason Kerfeld

Lion Jason Kerfeld, IVDG District 5M4
Sauk Centre Lions Club 320-429-0794



The Hector Lions provided their annual Flapjack Festival in support of the BLHS Safety Patrol program. It was a really chilly morning - thank you to all those that came out, and to the kids that helped us serve!



*Guiding Lion Dennis Heinen swore in Mary Ann Primus as Mentor President and Brandon Reller as Mentor Treasurer for the Sauk River Champions Lions Club.
 Thank you Mary Ann and Brandon for your service!*



*The Sauk River Champions Lions Club donated about 75 stuffed animals to the Sauk Centre Centra Care Hospital ER tonight help comfort children when they need emergency care at the hospital
 The stuffed animals were donated by the Sauk River Champions Lions members and awesome donors*



*The Sauk River Lions Club chose to donate the school supplies to the Sauk Centre Public Schools to use in the classrooms
 Mentors Jackie Mead and Dianna Nelson presented the supplies to them.*



KIDSIGHT UPDATE

Kidsight screening is picking up speed again. Please contact us for equipment availability. Kudos to the clubs who are "expanding their territory" by getting into schools again or finding new groups of children not previously being screened. Let's reach out to day-cares, homeschool groups, private schools, etc. are clubs screening students at your schools? If not, how can we help?

Yours in Lions,

Lion Ron and Lion Susan Honken

Congratulations, Lori!



Miltona Lion Lori Mauloft won an International Certificate of Appreciation at the 5M4 District Mid-Winter Convention held this past January.

(We are reprinting this as Lori was misidentified as 'Deb' in last month's newsletter) Sorry!

Thank you from the Diabetes Foundation

Thank you, thank you, thank you for your support of our Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation at the Midwinter Parade of Green in January!! Those funds will go primarily toward funding research at the U of Minnesota.

A research update is being planned for Saturday, March 15 in St. Cloud at the Best Western Plus Kelly Inn. Donations toward our silent auction are welcomed. Attend to hear the progress being made in our fight for a better world for those with diabetes and to work toward a diabetes free world. (see page 16)

Lion Lori Schellberg

5M4 Trustee

320-894-8643 lorischellberg@gmail.com



For more information contact:

www.kidsightmd5m.org



According to educational experts,
80% of learning is visual.

If children can't see well,
it is more difficult for them
to learn efficiently.
That's why Lions KidSight USA
was established.

Vision Problems Undetected
by the Age of 7
Can Become Permanent.

Screening Children
6 months to 18 years of Age
Provides Early Detection.



MARCH 18, 2025
1:30 - 4:30 PM

LIONS DAY AT THE CAPITAL



The goals of Lions Day at the Capitol is to Increase Public Awareness,
Advocate for Change & Strengthen Partnerships

HOW CLUBS CAN PARTICIPATE

GENERATE ENTHUSIASM: SHARE THE EVENT DETAILS AT CLUB MEETINGS.

SET ATTENDANCE GOALS: AIM FOR 5 – 10 ATTENDEES PER CLUB TO ENSURE STRONG REPRESENTATION.

ENGAGE WITH LOCAL GOVERNING REPRESENTATIVES: SCHEDULE MEETINGS WITH YOUR LOCAL OFFICIALS IN ADVANCE TO DISCUSS KEY ISSUES AND INVITE THEM TO ATTEND.



Host: Maple
Grove Lions

To sign-up click the link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0945A4AF2DA3FCC34-54821515-lions>



MARCH | 2025

LEADING THE WAY

Leader Dogs for the Blind - Lions Newsletter



Celebrate 85 Years of Life-Changing Service

In 1925, Helen Keller challenged Lions to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness." Thirteen years later, in 1939, Lions Charles A. Nutting, Donald P. Schurr and S.A. Dodge led the Uptown Lions Club of Detroit in establishing a school to train guide dogs for people who are blind or visually impaired.

This year, Leader Dogs for the Blind celebrates 85 life-changing years in partnership with Lions everywhere. Join us in celebrating this monumental year, by donating \$25 and receiving a limited-edition Leader Dogs for the Blind 85th anniversary pin, while supplies last.

Pictured to the right is the limited edition 85th anniversary pin. Adorned with the Lions International Logo in the upper portion of the "8" and a guide dog symbol in the lower portion of the "8." The upper portion of the pin states "85 life-changing years," and the bottom portion of the pin states, "Leader Dogs for the Blind."



**ORDER YOUR
LIMITED
EDITION PIN
TODAY**

Mission Moment: Orientation & Mobility Client

"Earlier this year, I embarked on a life-changing step toward independence through White Cane training, and it has transformed not only how I navigate the world but also how I see myself within it. Thanks to Tommy's unwavering support and expertise during his visit to Florida in January, I've regained a level of confidence I didn't think was possible.

This newfound independence has allowed me to accomplish so much this year: I've started running again, hitting the local track and park in small but meaningful steps. I traveled internationally for the first time, exploring the breathtaking landscapes of Iceland. I conquered a 12-mile round-trip hiking adventure up one of the country's largest mountains! I've re-entered the networking world, meeting amazing individuals and building connections completely on my own.

Perhaps most importantly, I've begun to show my community that being blind isn't a barrier to being a successful business owner. It's been a privilege to share my story and inspire others to pursue their dreams regardless of the challenges they face." - Melissa T.





Cabinet Secretary Needed!

We are looking for another Lion leader that would be interested in learning more about Lions and our District, would be willing to take notes for us at four meetings throughout the year, and be our communication source to our Zone Chairs and Lions Clubs within 5M4. Lion Kelsey Somerville (Willmar) will be moving on to another role for us, so we are actively seeking her replacement come July 1st.

*If you are interested in learning more,
please contact*

DG Jacque Heinen or DGE Susan Krumrey.

Save the date!



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

Go for the Gold Gala

Saturday March 29, 2025

Best Western Plus Kelly Inn

100 4th Ave S.
St Cloud, MN 56301

We had such a fantastic response to last years Gala-we are going to do it again! MD5M's LCIF District Coordinators have been brainstorming to make this a fun filled event. What we know so far is that there will be a silent/live auction, "Olympic" games, raffles and perhaps a costume contest.

We are working on special guest speakers.

There will be more to come.

Invite your club members, community leaders, anyone that you think that would be interested in learning what our Foundation does for others. Yes-this is a Fun-Raiser!!

Check with your District LCIF Coordinator to find your personal balance that you have donated to LCIF. If you want to be presented with a MJF plaque or PMJF pin by PIP Douglas Alexander, then you will need to order your plague/pin by Feb 3, 2025.

You can contact LCIF Donor Services at 630-203-3836 to have the plaque/pin sent to you and bring it to the LCIF Gala if you are attending.

Any further questions please contact
Lion Anna Wickenhauser 952-913-1467 or lionannaw@gmail.com



PIP Douglas X. Alexander was our International President from 2021-2022. He is from Brooklyn, New York and his theme was "Service from the Heart".

LCIF Gala "Go for the Gold"

Saturday, March 29, 2025

Holiday Inn & Suites St. Cloud
75 37th Avenue South
St. Cloud, MN 563011
10:30 am to 4:00 pm

Who wants to get their Melvin Jones Fellowship Plaque or Progressive pin presented by Past International President Douglas X. Alexander??? Have I got the opportunity for YOU!

Check with your District LCIF Coordinator to find the personal balance you donated to LCIF. If you have donated \$1,000 and want to be presented with an MJF plaque (or PMJF pin for each additional \$1,000) by PIP Doug Alexander, then you will need to order your plague/pin by Feb 18, 2025.

You can contact LCIF Donor Services at 630-203-3836 to have the plaque/pin sent to you and bring it to the LCIF Gala if you are attending. If you or your club want to present someone with a Melvin Jones Fellowship/or a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship, the same criteria applies. Remember this Gala is not for Lions members only. Invite people who are interested in learning about our Foundation and what it does. This year, there will be stories shared from around our Multiple about the impact our Foundation/Grants had on the community.

Registrations are now available through your District LCIF Coordinator, MD5M Website, and District/MD Newsletters and will be available at your District Conventions. The cost is \$45 for each person, or if you prefer, you can purchase a table of 8 for \$500 that comes with perks. There is a PayPal, Venmo, or check option to register.

The Gala will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn & Suites, Saint Cloud. There will be a costume contest with a Gold Theme. A tentative agenda will be posted as the Gala gets closer. Remember this is a FUN-Raiser...and there will be a cash bar.

If you need a place to stay before or after the gala, a booking link with the Holiday Inn is in the registration form.

WoolHoo - Get your Lion on!!! I would love to help you with any questions.

Anna Wickenhauser 952-913-1467 or lionannaw@gmail.com



MD5M "Go for the Gold Gala"

March 29, 2025

Holiday Inn & Suites
75 37th Avenue South
St. Cloud, MN 56301

Name _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____ Club: _____

Tickets: Individual \$45.00 Tables of 8 \$ 500.00

Pay online or return Registration form, no later than March 14, 2025.

Make checks payable to: **LCIF Gala**

c/o Rose Thies

21515 371st Ave.

Green Isle, MN 55338

Pay online by Venmo or PayPal, please scan or email your registration form to: rthies001@gmail.com or 612-756-1316.

o **PayPal:** Rosemary Thies [paypal.me/GreenIsleLions](https://www.paypal.me/GreenIsleLions)

o Venmo: [@Rose-Thies](https://venmo.com/Rose-Thies)

Lunch Menu

Choice of Chicken Parmesan or Lasagna (Beef or Vegetarian)

Choice of Penne, Cavatappi or Gluten-free Penne

Choose two of Grilled Chicken, Meatballs, Broccoli or Mushrooms

Choice of Garlic Alfredo or Marinara

Caesar Salad and Garlic Bread sticks

Dessert: Cupcakes

Hotel Accommodations: Book Directly to Holiday Inn & Suites by calling 615-321-8259 (mention 2025 Lions Club)

<https://www.holidayinn.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=HI&locateCode=en®ionCode=1&hotelCode=STCMN&PMID=99801505&GPC=LI07cn=no&viewfullsite=true> to book online. Block held until, Monday, March 3, 2025.



The 64th Annual Sauk Centre Lions Pancake Day was held on Sunday February 2, 2025.

The Lions served 1557 people from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Whew!!!



The Morris Lions held KidSight event at ECFE Valentine's Day dance. What a great idea!





Proudly Serving People for Over 50 Years!
A Year-Round Outdoor Education Experience for People with
Cognitive and Developmental Disabilities

February 10, 2025

District 5M4 Lions Club
lionheinen@gmail.com

Dear District Governor Jacque Heinen,

On behalf of the Campers at Confidence Learning Center, we want to say THANK YOU for including us in the many charities that you support! Each day your donations are used to build confidence in our campers and bring their families together in a safe and friendly environment. Your support has a direct and lasting impact on the lives of our Campers!

The generous donations from your district is very much appreciated. It is your kindness and generosity that allows Confidence Learning Center to provide a unique year-round outdoor education and recreational experience for our campers of all ages and abilities. Your support helps to fulfill our mission by driving new and innovative programs, providing camperships, and maintaining our beautiful, accessible facilities.

Confidence Learning Center is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization, FEIN 41-0985513, and does not receive local, state, or federal funding. Your generous donation to support Confidence Learning Center is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law and very much appreciated! No tangible benefit, goods, or services were received for the above-mentioned donation.

If you know of a group or individual with physical or cognitive disabilities who could benefit from our programs, please let us know. We can mail a brochure packet, or we are also available for group presentations.

Thank you again for supporting our campers!

Sincerely,

Travis Grossman
Travis Grossman
Executive Director

Jerry Wohlers
Lions Jerry Wohlers

1620 Mary Fawcett Memorial Dr.
East Gull Lake, MN 56401
Phone: 218-828-2344
info@confidencelearningcenter.org
www.confidencelearningcenter.org



*We are so grateful
for the incredible
support! The impact
is huge!*

Can Do Canines to Host Open House March 8

Can Do Canines invites you to attend an open house on Saturday, March 8, from noon to 2 p.m., at its Can Do Canines campus (9440 Science Center Drive, New Hope, Minnesota). Potential volunteers, clients, or anyone who might be interested in supporting the organization can join us to learn how an assistance dog changes the life of a person with a disability.

Through a self-guided tour, attendees will be able to watch a trainer working with an assistance dog, hear from a volunteer dog host, talk with staff members from the volunteer department, pose questions to client services coordinators about the application process, and meet graduate teams from five types of areas Can Do Canines trains dogs: hearing, mobility, seizure, diabetes, and childhood autism.

There is no pre-registration for this event, though attendees will be asked to share some contact information when arriving.

To request a sign language interpreter for the Open House, please contact Laurie at lcarlson@candocanines.org or 763-331-3000 at least two weeks in advance. We'll do our best to accommodate late requests, but availability is not guaranteed.

More information about Can Do Canines is at CanDoCanines.org.



MD5M Willmar MN March

Thursday 3-13	Friday 3-14	Saturday 3-15	Sunday 3-16
7:30-8:15 am Breakfast	7:00-7:45 am Breakfast	7:00-7:45 am Breakfast	7:00-7:45 am Breakfast
7:30-8:30 am Late Registration		8:00-10:00 am Communication	8:00-9:30 am Join the Mission
8:30-10:00 am Opening Session			
10:00-10:15 am Break	10:00-10:15 am Break	9:30-9:45 am Break	
10:15 am-12:15 pm Lions, Past, Present & Future	10:15 am-12:15 pm Conducting Effective Meetings	9:45 am-11:00 am LCIF	
12:15-1:15 pm Lunch	12:15-1:15 pm Lunch	11:00-12:00 pm Lunch	
1:15-2:45 pm Change Management	1:15-2:45 pm Diversity	12:00-1:30 pm Ensuring Club Success	
2:45-3:00 pm Break	2:45-3:00 pm Break	1:30-2:15 pm Closing	
3:00-4:30 pm Supporting Lions Teams	3:00-4:30 pm Lions Mentoring Program	2:15 pm Departure	
4:30-5:30 pm LCIF Topic Preparation	4:30-5:30 pm Focused Discussion		
Dinner on your own	6:30 pm Appreciation Dinner		

Consider Hosting a Youth Exchange Student this summer

What is Youth Exchange?	Students from around the world come to Minnesota for the month of July and live with host families. This is an amazing way to share our culture and learn about others.
Travel Dates	Jul 1, 2025 to Aug 3, 2025
Camp Spicer Dates	July 25, 2025 to August 2, 2025...all students come together for a week of activities. No hosting required during this week.
What's next?	Stay inspired, and participate in achieving World Peace one young person at a time!

For more information about this incredible opportunity please contact your District Youth Exchange chair or PDG Sue Mullen/ES Cindy Walters at MD5MLionsyouthexchange@gmail.com.

Not able to host this summer?								
Perhaps you/your club would consider sponsoring a Camp Activity								
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$8,800	Bussing for the week	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,200	Valleyfair	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250	Camp Confidence Team Building
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$3,500	Brainerd Housing (3 nights)	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$600	Zoo Event	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250	T-shirts
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$4,000	Metro Housing (3 nights)	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$400	Banquet facility rental	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100	Evening Snacks
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$2,700	Chanhausen Dinner Theater	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$400	A Meal for Camp	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10	Any amount is helpful!!!
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$2,500	Dorm Housing (2 nights)	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$300	Mini-Golf			

Any and all donations are greatly appreciated by the students and staff of MD5M Youth Exchange. MD5M Youth Exchange Foundation is a 501(c)3 and can accept gambling funds. (EIN #46-4182698)

Checks can be mailed to: MD5M Youth Exchange Foundation, attn: Cindy Walters, 1915 Waterford Circle, Chaska MN USA 55318





Lions Clubs International – Partnerships Matter!

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."— Helen Keller

How many of you have heard this Helen Keller quote before? This is one of the most quoted statements from a pivotal person in Lions Clubs International history. While this quote does describe the importance of Lions joining together to provide service to our communities and beyond, this insightful statement can also apply to how we Lions interact with others in our towns and globally.



All Lions clubs have groups and organizations in their communities that perform similar duties (service projects, fundraisers, community outreach, etc.). Many of these organizations we easily recognize (Rotary, Jaycees, Knights of Columbus, Kiwanis, Masons). We all know the youth-oriented organizations in our area (Leos, Scouts, youth sports teams, school teams & clubs). You also know of other groups that are active in your community (Firefighters, Police, City staff, Medical center staff, Professionals associations, Homeless shelters, Food shelves, etc.).



All of these various organizations are potential partners for your Lions club events and service projects. In addition, partnering with these other groups may provide you with opportunities to help those organizations with their community events and projects, or the possibility to collaborate on new community activities & fundraisers.

Make sure your Lions club reaches out to other community groups when promoting your events & projects. Develop a partnership with these organizations to help in the planning, promoting, and execution of these events. See if you can utilize the other organization's marketing contacts to help in promoting your individual and joint projects. Spend time meeting with these groups to learn about what they do in the community and how they do things when organizing and operating their projects. You may learn tips on how to better your own projects.

Lions and other local organizations should not be adversaries. All of these groups have a common goal: the betterment of our communities. Please reach out to these other organizations. Find ways to work together and make sure to promote your Lions club's involvement.

Yours in Lionism,

Lion Lyle Goff
MD5M Marketing & Lions Information Chair
gofflt@msn.com



IGNITE **2025 Lions MD5M Convention Schedule**
"Ignite the Lions Pride"
 (times, sessions, speakers and details subject to change)
Airport Hilton Hotel
Bloomington, Minnesota

REV 1-2025

Thursday, April 24, 2025

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM **Registration Opens**

Friday, April 25, 2025

7:00 AM—12 Noon **Council of Governors Meeting**

11:00 AM—6:00 PM **Registration & Credentials**

1:00 PM—5:00 PM **Foundation Service Projects**
Foundation Display Tables

3:30 PM—4:30 PM **2029 Int'l Committee Meeting**

5:00 PM—6:30 PM **PDG Social & Dinner**

6:00 PM—6:30 PM **First-Timers Meeting**

6:30 PM—7:00 PM **Opening Session & Flag Ceremony**

7:00 PM—8:00 PM **Service of Remembrance**

8:30 PM—12:00 AM **Welcome Reception**
 Social, DJ, Games, Cash Bar

Saturday, April 26, 2025

6:45 AM—8:30 AM **Breakfast**

7:00 AM—6:00 PM **Registration & Credentials**

7:30 PM—8:30 AM **Foundation Meetings**

9:00 AM—5:00 PM **Silent Auction Open**

9:00 AM—10:00 AM **General Business Meeting**

10:00 AM—5:00 PM **Foundation Display Tables**

10:00 AM—11:15 AM **Seminar I**
 Joe Schmit & Katie Shatusky

Saturday, April 26, 2025 (continued)

11:30 AM—1:30 PM **Luncheon**

1:45 PM—2:15 PM **Lions in Motion - Salsa Dancing**

2:30 PM—3:30 PM **Seminar II**
 CC Judy Zewers
 DG Mary Curtis

3:45 PM—4:30 PM **Seminar III**
 Lion Daniel Marney- Elkins

5:30 PM **Reception & Cash Bar**

6:30 PM—9:00 PM **Banquet**
 IP Fabricio Oliveira

Sunday, April 27, 2025

7:00 AM—7:45 AM **PDG Business Meeting**

7:45 AM—8:40 AM **Int'l Convention Meeting**
 For those going to Florida

8:00 AM **Silent Auction & Raffle Results Posted**

8:45 AM—11:00 AM **Brunch & Closing Session**
 PCC BJ Blahnik

11:00 AM **Adjourn**

11:15 AM—12:15 PM **Council Chair-Elect & Past Council Chair Meeting**



Ignite the Lions Pride MD5M Multiple District Convention April 25-27, 2025



Lions of MD5M,

Attendees of the MD5M 2025 Convention in Bloomington, Minnesota will be in for a real treat with the lineup of guest speakers scheduled to appear. These speakers will provide you with heart-warming stories and inspirational talks on mental health, inclusiveness, service dogs, and helping others while making a mark in your community.



Joe Schmit is an award-winning broadcaster, community leader, author, and popular keynote speaker. He is a long-time youth mentor committed to advocating for several community organizations and has contributed time to many other charitable organizations including Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund, The Mind over Matter Foundation, VEAP, and the Fairway Foundation. Joe is also an author of three books: "Silent Impact, "The Impact Blueprint" and "The Right Thing To Do," a children's book about Minnesota Twins Hall of Famer Joe Mauer.



Katie Shatusky is the Executive Director and Co-Founder of Thumbs Up, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping others and uplifting the community. In 2014, she co-founded Thumbs Up in honor of her late grandfather, Bob Schmit, who died by suicide in 2010. Katie is also the author and illustrator of the children's book, *The Ladybug Hug*. One of her most profound experiences was donating a kidney to a complete stranger in October 2020, exemplifying her commitment to making a difference in the lives of others.



PDG Daniel Marney Elkins is a professional drug prevention specialist and is the executive director of the Bellevue Community Center. He specializes in creating youth leadership programming by teaching strategic thinking and service learning. PDG Daniel is one of the founders of the Lions Virtual movement and has presented at several International Conventions, USA/Canada Forums, Europa Forums, Anzi Forums, ISAME Forums and at district conventions around the world. He was appointed to the Lions' International Board of Directors in 2023 by Dr. Patti Hill. PDG Daniel has also served as a new club development consultant for Lions Clubs International.



Ignite the Lions Pride MD5M Multiple District Convention April 25-27, 2025



Convention Keynote Speaker



Lions of MD5M,

Attendees of the MD5M 2025 Convention in Bloomington, Minnesota will be in for a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Our current International President, Fabricio Oliveira, will be at our multiple district convention. His presence gives you the opportunity to engage with him and to learn more about the work being done by our international association across the globe.

A member of the Catolé do Rocha Lions Club since 1985, International President Fabricio has held several offices in the association. In recognition of his service as a Lion and to the association, he has received several awards including multiple International Presidents' Certificates of Appreciation, Leadership Medals, Presidential Medals, and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor awarded by the association to its members. International President Fabricio and his wife, Amariles, also a member of the Catolé do Rocha Lions Club and a Melvin Jones Fellow, have two daughters, a son and a granddaughter.

International President Fabricio's theme for this year is Make Your Mark. The IP believes there's a leader inside every Lion. And all leaders know that, through collective action and individual commitment, we can inspire and empower whole communities. This inspiration and empowerment make our communities healthier and stronger than ever before, thus making our mark in the process. Every day provides us with a chance to make our mark as Lions, so it is time to act!

IP Fabricio will be our keynote speaker at the Saturday evening dinner. Take advantage of hearing on how you can make your mark as a Lion from the man who has envisioned it. Come to the MD5M 2025 Convention, hear IP Fabricio's inspirational words, and take them back to your community to share with your fellow Lions. Please register today for the MD5M 2025 Convention!

Thank you for your consideration,

5M7 Lions MD5M 2025 Convention Planning Committee



Ignite the Lions Pride MD5M Convention April 25-27, 2025

Hilton Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport
3800 American Boulevard East
Bloomington, MN 55425

Join Lions from across Minnesota, NW Ontario & Manitoba

Explore opportunities for service
 Learn what is going on throughout Lionism
 Hear from inspirational speakers
 Build Lions knowledge and leadership
 Hear updates from all Lions Foundations
 Meet new friends and have fun



To register online use the QR code
 (click "skip advertisement" box)

For more convention information
<https://sites.google.com/view/md5mmultipleconvention/home>

NOTE: Please submit this completed application to your District Governor by February 6, 2025. The registration fee for the Institute will be \$125 USD. This fee is payable to MDSM by check or credit card BEFORE you can attend the Institute. You will be notified of your acceptance and provided with the payment information by February 7, 2025.



LCIF Update

Hurricane Helene

The Wake of Hurricane Helene: LCIF's Response to the Devastating Storm

In late September 2024, families were plunged into darkness when Hurricane Helene tore through the southeastern United States. This storm was the deadliest to strike the U.S. mainland since Hurricane Katrina in 2005, causing severe destruction and heartbreak.

Knowing these victims had a long and painful road to recovery ahead of them, LCIF approved 14 grants totaling US\$380,000 in response to Hurricane Helene. This includes 12 Emergency Grants of US\$15,000 each across Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee, plus two Major Catastrophe Grants of US\$100,000 each awarded to North Carolina and Florida. These grants helped Lions provide things like water, food, cleaning supplies, toiletries, flashlights and linens.

The essential supplies and physical assistance go a long way in rebuilding the community, but for many, the emotional support can be just as effective. District 35-I District Governor Patty Jean Strong says, "It's not just about the material goods because those things are transient. They need humanity and empathy, and that's what we give."

You can read the full story in LION Magazine. (click the link "read the full story")

LA Wildfires

Raging wildfires in California destroy entire communities

Several destructive wildfires swept through the Los Angeles area of California in the United States are devastating entire communities.

More than 28 people have died, and more than 180,000 people have been evacuated.

The fires have burned over 50,000 acres and destroyed more than 16,000 structures, including homes, displacing countless families.

When a humanitarian crisis of this magnitude strikes, we, as Lions, are ready to help. Right beside us is Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), our global foundation.

LCIF is mobilizing funds, including 2 Emergency Grants awarded and disbursed for \$15,000 each for immediate relief supplies and a

US\$100,000 Major Catastrophe Grant, to empower Lions in California to help their communities recover.

Lions in California continue to develop plans.

All of these grants are made possible by our generous donors, including many of you. Did you know we reached a new Planned Giving milestone? We hit the US\$10 million mark, with 275 donors joining the Lions Legacy Society. These gifts, along with other contributions, play a significant role in funding our grants.

Anyone interested in supporting California efforts should make gifts to LCIF's Disaster Fund, noting that their gift is intended for California wildfire relief. LCIF is tracking all gifts made for the California wildfires.

Local Lions are in the process of assessing needs and donations will be used to support their relief efforts. Donors may not restrict donations for a specific club or district.

With gratitude,

Lora Snow, CGW

Regional Development Specialist-USA – Areas A/B/C/D // LCIF Development

Lions Clubs International Foundation

300 W. 22nd St. Oak Brook, IL 60523

+1.630.468.7083 // Direct

Your donations to **LCIF** make a difference at home and in the world!



5M4 is proud of our contributions!
Watch this chart to see how we are supporting the amazing work of Lions at home and around the world.

JULY 2024	\$295.00	
AUGUST 2024	\$1,335	YTD: \$1,630
SEPTEMBER 2024	\$3,215	YTD: \$4,845
OCTOBER 2024	\$4,459	YTD: \$9,304
NOVEMBER 2024	\$1,755	YTD: \$11,059
DEC. 2024	\$1,405	YTD: \$12,464
JANUARY 2025	\$3,385	YTD: \$15,849
FEBRUARY 2025	\$	YTD: \$
MARCH 2025	\$	YTD: \$
APRIL 2025	\$	YTD: \$
MAY 2025	\$	YTD: \$
JUNE 2025	\$	YTD: \$

GOAL
FOR
next year
is
\$65,000

By working together, we can meet our goal! THANK YOU!



16th Annual Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation Research Update **March 15, 2025**

Hosted by the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, Inc.

More than 29 million people in the United States are living with diabetes—a growing number that includes 340,000 people in Minnesota alone. Unfortunately, that number is on the rise.

Join us at the annual Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation *Research Update* to hear from University of Minnesota scientists, who are conducting leading-edge research aimed at both preventing and curing diabetes. Learn first hand how these scientists, funded by the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, are making a direct impact in our community, state, and beyond.

Following the research presentations, guests will have the chance to interact with the scientists one on one, learn more about their research, and ask questions. There will also be silent auction items where you will have the opportunity to support the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation in their mission.

Saturday, March 15, 2025

11 a.m. Registration and Social
11:30 a.m. Lunch
12:30 p.m. Program
2:30 p.m. Meet n' Greet with Scientists

Best Western Plus Kelly Inn

State/Sunwood Ballroom

100 4th Ave. S.
St. Cloud, MN 56301

Faculty Research Presentations:

Among the Faculty Research Presentations by scientists will be:

- **Curing Diabetes by Stopping the Body's Immune System - Dr. Brian Fife**
- **Bringing Immune Tolerance to the Clinic for People with Diabetes and Kidney Failure - Dr. Sabarinathan Ramachandran and Dr. Singh**

RSVP by Tuesday, March 4

RSVP via email to MNLionsDiabetesFdn@gmail.com

A Zoom Link will be emailed to those unable to attend in person.

Please request Zoom **link by email above.**

A confirmation email will be sent prior to event.



IMPORTANT CONTACTS!



Lions Club International Foundation

Chair: Lion Allan Ulbricht -- allan.ulbricht@gmail.com



MN Lions Vision Foundation

Lions Gift of Sight

Chairs: Lion Craig Schellberg -- spicerlioncraig@gmail.com

PCC Rob Wiener -- 5m4lionrob@gmail.com



MD5M Hearing Foundation

Chairs: Lion Barry Erdahl -- barry.erdahl@gmail.com

PDG Bob Kulbeik -- kulbeik@hotmail.com



MN Lions Diabetes Foundation

Chair: Lion Lori Schellberg -- lorischellberg@gmail.com



MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation

Chairs: PDG Bob Knutson -- lionbobbyk2017@gmail.com

Lion Merlin Athmann -- athmannmer@gmail.com



Leaderdog

Chair: Lion Mary Bolas -- marybolas.mb@gmail.com



MD5M Kidsight Foundation

Chairs: Lion Sue Honken -- rschonken@frontiernet.net

Lion Ron Honken -- ronaldhonken1940@gmail.com



Can Do Canines

Chair: Lion Mike Beilke -- mbeilke62@gmail.com



Project New Hope

Chair: Lion Ron Buse -- ronbuse06@gctel.com



Special Olympics MN

Chair: Lion Dianna Nelson -- diannanelson@mainstreetcom.com



TEAM Sheehan Foundation

Chair: PIP Brian Sheehan -- bsheehan@rccbi.com

Treas. PDG Marty Athmann athmannmarty@hotmail.com



MN Lions Mission Foundation – Brand New

Foundation Awards:

- ★ LCIF – Melvin Jones Fellowship
- ★ MN Lions Vision Foundation – Hellen Keller Award
- ★ MD5M Hearing Foundation – Hearing Research Fellowship
- ★ MN Lions Diabetes Foundation – Dreamcatcher Award
- ★ MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation – Believe Award
- ★ MD5M Kidsight Foundation – Sight Saver Award
- ★ Can Do Canines – Top Dog Award
- ★ TEAM Sheehan Foundation – Lapel Pin & Foundation Medal

MD5M Multiple District Awards:

- ★ Hall of Fame Award
- ★ Al Jensen Award
- ★ Int'l Presidents Leadership Award
- ★ Int'l Presidents Presidential Award

District Awards:

- ★ Club Excellence Award
- ★ Heart of A Lion Award
- ★ Be Kind Award

Grant Applications:

- ★ TEAM Sheehan Foundation
- ★ LCIF website



People

Guide Dog Nonprofit 'Urgently Needs' Volunteer Puppy Raisers for 70 Adorable Pups

Leader Dogs for the Blind is in desperate need of puppy raisers! Puppies are available and waiting right now. Imagine a Leader Dog puppy in your home! It's a one-year commitment, we provide the training curriculum, and you will get guidance from your puppy counselor. It's the best thing you'll ever do! Contact PDG Sue Kulbeik for more info. kulbeik@gmail.com



2024-2025 5M4 Cabinet Directory

District Governor	DG	Jacquelyn Heinen	320.249.6536	LIONHEINEN@GMAIL.COM
1st VDG	1VDG	Susan Krumrey	320.295.8327	susanreuberkrumrey@outlook.com
2nd VDG	2VDG	Jason Kerfeld	320.429.0794	kerfeld@mainstreetcom.com
IPDG	IPDG	Sue Kulbeik	605.949.0161	kulbeik@gmail.com
Cabinet Secretary	Lion	Kelsey Sommerville	320.295.8657	kelssomerville@gmail.com
Cabinet Treasurer	Lion	Denise Sundblad	320-766-3266	district5m4@outlook.com
Can Do Canines	Lion	Mike Beilke	320.761.9406	mbeilke62@gmail.com
Childhood Cancer	PDG	Bob Knutson	320-295-1757	lionbobbyk2017@gmail.com
Childhood Cancer	Lion	Merlin Athmann	320.522.1264	athmann.mer@gmail.com
Constitution & By-laws	PDG	Kellie Knudson	320-226-4156	lionkellieknudson@gmail.com
District Admin	PCC	Dennis Heinen	320.491.3996	heinende@centracare.com
Environment	Lion	Jeff Gunderson	320-815-3478	jeffwgund@gmail.com
GET	PDG	Dan Plowman	320.219.8814	mtdrplowman@hotmail.com
GLT	Lion	Mickie Rogal	218-731-9749	mickierogal@gmail.com
GMA	PDG	Marty Athmann	320-522-0856	athmannmarty@hotmail.com
GMT	PCC	Rob Wiener	320-241-7100	5M4Lionrob@gmail.com
GST	PCC	Dennis Heinen	320.491.3996	heinende@centracare.com
KidSight Foundation	Lion	Ron Honken	320-905-6282	ronaldhonken1940@gmail.com
KidSight Foundation	Lion	Susan Honken	320-905-2412	rshonken@frontiernet.net
LCI Advisor	PIP	Brian Sheehan	320-212-7330	bsheehan@rccbi.com
LCIF Chair	Lion	Allan Ulbricht	320.267.4207	allan.ulbricht@gmail.com
Leader Dog	Lion	Mary Bolas	320.815.0343	marybolas.mb@gmail.com
Leo Chair	Lion	Jamie Shoutz	320-699-0371	JSHOUTZ1@GMAIL.COM
Lions Alert	PDG	Marty Athmann	320-579-1357	athmannmarty@hotmail.com
Long Range Planning	PDG	Ron Branch	320-460-0135	branch@rea-alp.com
Midwinter Convention		M.Athmann S.Krumrey		
MN Diabetes Fndtn	Lion	Lori Schellberg	320.894.8643	lorischellberg@gmail.com
MN Diabetes Fndtn				
MN Hearing Fndtn	Lion	Barry Erdahl	320-349-1108	barry.erdahl@gmail.com
MN Hearing Fndtn	PDG	Bob Kulbeik	605.949.0136	kulbeik@hotmail.com
MN Vision Fndtn	Lion	Craig Schellberg	320.894.6843	spicerlioncraig@gmail.com
MN Vision Fndtn	PCC	Rob Wiener	320.241.7100	5M4lionrob@gmail.com
Newsletter	Lion	Anne O'Flynn	320-815-5790	anneo@runestone.net
Nominations	PDG	Jeff Swenson	218-770-1779	jfswens@runestone.net
PDG Advisor	PDG	Kellie Knudson	320-226-4156	lionkellieknudson@gmail.com
Project New Hope	Lion	Ron Buse	218-639-1114	ron.buse06@gctel.com
Protocol	PCC	Dennis Heinen	320.491.3996	heinende@centracare.com
Public Relations	IPDG	Sue Kulbeik	605.949.0161	kulbeik@gmail.com
Special Olympics	Lion	Dianna Nelson	320.766.7412	diannanelson@mainstreetcom.com
TEAM Sheehan Fndtn	PDG	Kent Beissel	320-352-3482	KJJBESSEL@mainstreetcom.com
Technology	PCC	Dennis Heinen	320.491.3996	heinende@centracare.com
Website	Lion	Posl Pat		patrickposl@gmail.com
Youth Exch/PPoster	Lion	Todd Fritsche	507-766-7528	dragon376381@yahoo.com
Zone 1 Chair	Lion	Paul Skorheim	320.491.5738	paulskorheim@gmail.com
Zone 2 Chair	Lion	Ed Bolas	320-304-0117	edmary1973@gmail.com
Zone 3 Chair	Lion	Linda Holland	320-760-2303	lindakholland5@gmail.com
Zone 4 Chair	Lion	Tom Moe	320-413-0247	tmoe@fedtel.net
Zone 5 Chair				
Zone 6 Chair	Lion	Richard Haugen	320.522.2115	richard.haugen@yahoo.com
Zone 7 Chair	Lion	Vickie Vogt	320.282.5016	vic56273@gmail.co,
Zone 8 Chair				