

LIONS DISTRICT 25 A NEWSLETTER

Coming Together to Serve

DISTRICT CONTACTS

District Governor

Lion Patty Cooke-Furlong
patty.cooke@gmail.com

First Vice District Governor

Lion Jim Furlong
jimful179@aol.com

Second Vice District Gov

Lion David Dickinson
daviddickinson20@yahoo.com

Cabinet Secretary

Lion Robin Smith
mswolfen@aol.com

Cabinet Treasurer

Lion Elinor (Sally) Davis
csdavis61@comcast.net

Newsletter

Lion Jackie Katz
jpkatz1984@gmail.com



IN THIS ISSUE:

PAGE 2: DISTRICT GOV LION PATTY COOKE-FURLONG

PAGE 3-4: 1ST VICE DISTRICT GOV LION JIM FURLONG

PAGE 5: LCIF

PAGE 6-14: NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

PAGE 15: PIN CONTEST FOR 2026

PAGE 16: NEW MEMBERS

PAGE 17: DG PATTY COOKE-FURLONG'S CALENDAR

PAGE 18: GLOBAL ACTION TEAM

PAGE 19: REPORTING

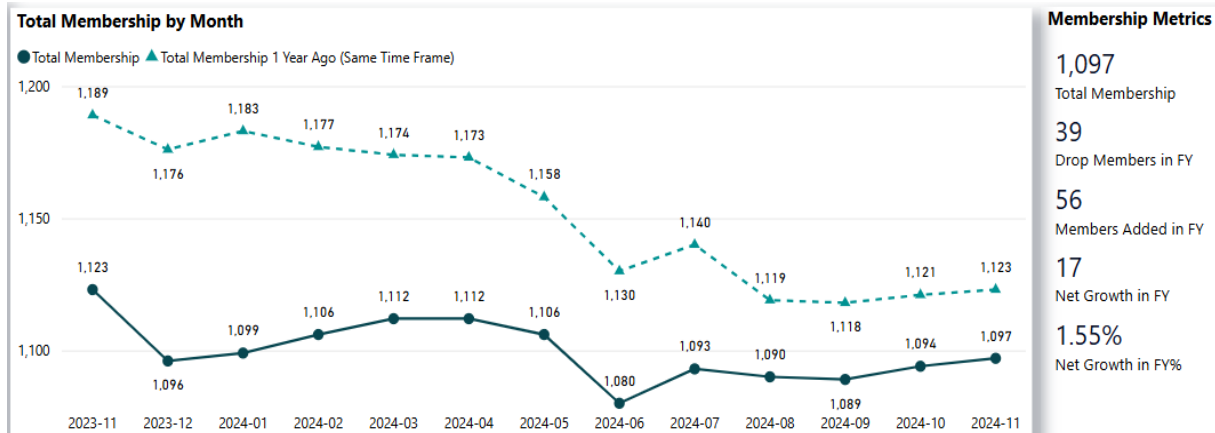
PAGE 20: SPEECH AND HEARING HOLIDAY INVITATION

District Governor: Patty Cooke-Furlong

Hello 25A Lions:

I hope you are all doing well and enjoyed a great Thanksgiving with your friends and family. Lion Jim and I enjoyed hosting the feast with our family. However, this is also a time of tremendous giving – ensuring that other people in our communities also have a meal to share with their families and friends.

‘We Serve’ is the big sales pitch of Lionism! This is why we all joined – to serve others! We plan and work with our fellow Lion’s to raise funds so that we can ‘serve’. We seek out opportunities to give! And we have all had those moments in our giving where we see and feel the difference we make. In that moment we recognize what is truly important in life. We need to be selling that feeling – letting others in on our secret. So, do you advertise to friends, family members, neighbors, co-workers, friends of family members. . .? Do you have your 3-minute speech ready to invite that person to join you on your next service project? And do you have a membership form ready when they say ‘Yes’ to serving?



Above is membership data for 25A. You can see where our numbers have fallen since last November. We are at a plus 17 right now – a big thank you to those clubs who have added new Lions. For Mission 1.5, our goal is to add 117 new members! Write those sale pitches – maybe rehearse the ‘ASK’ at a club meeting – have a membership form ready. That is all it takes to find that new member!

And if my Official Visit to your club has not been scheduled, please contact me. There is still a lot of room in my schedule!

Take Care and Thank you for all you Do!

Lion Patty Cooke-Furlong

District Governor



1st Vice District Governor Jim Furlong

Jimfurl179@aol.com

630-699-4278

Reporting Service Matters Even When the Lions Portal Faces Challenges

In the dynamic world of community service, the importance of accurately reporting our activities cannot be overstated. At Lions Club, our commitment to serving the community goes hand in hand with our responsibility to document and report our efforts. This documentation ensures that our collective achievements are recognized, our resources are efficiently allocated, and our legacy of service continues to grow.

However, like any other technological tool, the Lions Portal, our main reporting platform, may sometimes encounter technical glitches or downtimes. These issues can cause frustration and may hinder our ability to record and showcase the invaluable work done by our members. Despite these challenges, it is crucial to remain steadfast in our reporting practices.

Why Reporting Still Matters

1. *Accountability:* By consistently reporting our service activities, we uphold the transparency and integrity that are the hallmarks of Lions Club. This accountability builds trust within our community and with our partners.
2. *Recognition:* Detailed reports of our service projects ensure that the hard work and dedication of our members are acknowledged. This recognition can motivate volunteers and attract new members to our cause.
3. *Funding and Resources:* Accurate reporting helps us demonstrate our impact to potential donors and grant-making bodies. It provides evidence of our effectiveness and can lead to increased funding and resources for future projects.
4. *Strategic Planning:* Thorough reports allow us to analyze our past activities, identify areas for improvement, and strategically plan for more impactful future initiatives.

Overcoming Portal Issues

When faced with issues on the Lions Portal, here are a few steps to ensure your service activities are still reported effectively:

-*Alternative Documentation*: Keep detailed records of your activities offline. Use spreadsheets, written logs, or other digital tools to document your work until the portal is back up. You can email that alternative documentation to me and I will get it entered. My email address is at the top of this article.

- *Communicate with Leadership*: Inform your club's or district leadership team about the issues you're facing. They can provide guidance on alternative reporting methods or temporary solutions.

- *Utilize Support Channels*: Reach out to the Lions Portal support team for assistance. They can help resolve technical issues and provide updates on the status of the portal.

Conclusion

In conclusion, while technical challenges with the Lions Portal can be daunting, they should not deter us from reporting our service activities. By maintaining thorough records and seeking support when needed, we can continue to uphold the values of accountability and transparency that define Lions Club. Our dedication to reporting ensures that our service legacy remains strong, inspiring current and future members to continue our mission of making a positive impact in the community.

Yours in Lionism,

Jim

Lions Clubs International Foundation



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

PDG Nick and I hope all Lions in our District had a Happy Thanksgiving.

LCIF was right there when Hurricane Helene devastated the Southeast. LCIF has sent 14 grants so far. Almost \$400,000 has been sent to this area, including 2 Catastrophic Grants for \$100,000 one to Florida and one to North Carolina. Over 300 people died and there was over 100 Billion in property damages, some small towns are completely gone. Lions from all over the United States have sent much needed supplies. Many areas have sent Semi's filled with clothes and other much needed items.

District A has sent over \$5,000.00 to Disaster Relief. We collected for Hurricane Helene Relief Fund from over 15 Lions Clubs. Other Clubs and Individuals have sent Money and supplies to individual Lions Clubs affected by the Hurricane. Great work District 25A.

Most of us know about buying a square on a Football Board. We started a Melvin Jones Board. For \$10.00 you can take a chance to win \$1,000.00 and put it into your own personal LCIF account, or your club's account. If you would like to purchase a square contact PDG Nick or PDG Randy, only 80 Squares are left. We will be selling them at Zone Meetings, Cabinet Meetings, and at the District Convention. We hope to draw the winner at the convention.

PDG Nick and PDG Randy wish every Lion and their Family a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

PDG Nick & I have information regarding the amount that you have donated to LCIF. Please contact one of us with any questions you may have about LCIF!

PDG Randy Greer

219-728-8432

lionrandy@yahoo.com

PDG Nick Gonzalez

219-588-4893

Nsg1917@yahoo.com



News Around the District--Munster Lions

The Indiana Lions Foundation presented the Munster Lions a Matching Grant for \$1,000.00 to upgrade their clubhouse. The presentation took place at the Whiting Lions District Governor official visit on November 14. Pictured are: DG Patti Cooke-Furlong, ILF Trustee and Whiting Lion Andy Dybel, Munster Lions President Greg Erminger, and Leader Dog Trustee and Munster Lion Joy Robinson. For more information on the Indiana Lions Foundation and Matching Grants, visit www.indianalionsfoundationmd25.org.

The Munster Lions made a donation of \$1000.00 to the DARE program during their October 16th meeting. Accepting the donation was Officer James Ghrist of the Munster Police Department.

The Town of Munster has supported the DARE program since 1988. Officer Ghrist has taught the program at various schools in the town for many years and has been recognized for his efforts.

DARE teaches kids to recognize and resist the direct and subtle pressures that influence them to experiment with alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and other drugs.



News Around the District—LOFS Lions

The LOFS Lions Honor Veterans

Chair Lion Yolanda Hernandez and her committee honored veterans at an event at the LOFS Lakehouse on November 20th. Featuring individual recognition of the veterans, the event included music and entertainment. Students from Jerry Ross students sang songs under the guidance of their music teacher.



Service Recognition Table

Pictures

In back: Lion Yolanda Hernandez and President Lion Dan Moynihan

In front: 1st VP Lion Jennifer Niemeyer with one of our veterans



Make Your Mark In Indiana!

Mark Your Calendar

Make plans now to attend the Indiana Lions 2025 Mid-Winter Conference, Saturday, January 18, 2025, at the Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Airport Hotel.



Holding the Line on Costs

It seems like the price of everything has been going up lately. That’s why we’ve decided to hold the line on the prices for the 2025 Mid-Winter Conference. The prices for the Friday night dinner and the conference on Saturday will be the same as they were in 2024.

Best Place for Learning

Some Indiana Lions say the Mid-Winter Conference is “the best place for learning” about leadership, service, and all aspects of Lionism. The following seminars will be offered:

The Lions Portal	Eyeglass Recycling (and Mission Trips)
Membership Orientation	The Secret Sauce
How To Take Care of Your Heart (Which allows us to serve better)	Building Fellowship in Your Club Through Icebreakers and Recognition
LCI Insurance and Retention: Not Just For Membership Anymore	Emergency Preparation / VOAD
Gaming Rules	Understanding Diabetes (without the big scary!)
Cancer Control	Artificial Intelligence In Promoting Lions
All You Need Is Love: Understanding Lionism Through the Music of the Beatles	LCIF From Giving To Grants To Legacy

New This Year: Speed Learning

During the last two seminar sessions, we will offer several “speed learning” sessions—short sessions that will give you an overview of a specific topic. Speed learning gives you the opportunity to learn about a number of topics in a very short time. When you arrive at this session, you will select a topic that interests you. After approximately 12 minutes, everyone will switch to a new topic. At the end, you will have received an overview of four topics that interest you.

Conferences 2024 and 2025

USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum	Indiana Lions for Leader Dog
International Convention 2025 Orlando Florida	Indiana Lions for ISBVI
Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing, Inc.	Vision First Indiana Lions Eye Bank
Indiana Lions Foundation	Having Fun In Your Club

Next Up, Orlando July 2025 (moved from Mexico City)

ORLANDO 2025
107th LIONS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

July 13-17, 2025

Convention is coming to Orlando.

Orlando, Florida welcomes Lions and Leos from around the world for sun, fun, service and the 107th Lions International Convention. Famous for its theme parks, exciting attractions and vacation vibes, Orlando is a top global destination and an exciting site for our biggest event of the year. Come celebrate service in a city that's pure magic – more info coming soon!

DON'T FORGET TO SCHEDULE YOUR OFFICIAL VISIT WITH GOVERNOR PATTY FURLONG-COOKE. GOVERNOR PATTY'S CALENDAR IS ON PAGE 17

News Around the District—South Haven Lions

The South Haven Lions were busy in the fall serving their community.



We served hot dogs, chips, water, and hot apple cider to families at the Haven Hallow Fest.



Lion Larry was setup at a Subaru Pet Adoption event. Information was handed out on eyeglass collection locations.



We decorated a trunk for a Trunk or Treat at a local elementary school.



South Haven Lion members helped fill shoe boxes for Project Operation Christmas Child. These boxes will be given to children in need.



The South Haven Lions served a free spooky themed meal at a community dinner at Portage First Methodist Church. We also played three card bingo with attendees.

News From Around the District—Koontz Lions Spooktacular

Koontz Lake Lions held their first Halloween Spooktacular Event on Saturday October 26th. Activities included a Haunted Trail, Paper Pumpkin decorating competition, Puzzles, Halloween Cootie Catchers, Feel Boxes (Brains, Eyeballs, worms and a surprise monster handshake). Chocolate Pong (like the beer version but using Hershey’s kisses and ping pong eye balls), and of course CANDY!

Prizes were given out for costumes and for best pumpkin face & the Trophies were golden skeletons. We had about 100 visitors to the event and a great time with our community promoting Lionism!

Pictures:

Lion Sandy giving out cookies and cider



Under the Pavillon



Coffin Fun



Lions Sara & Jim, the main organizers of the event.

News Around the District—Crown Point Lions



Our own Lion, Paul Sills (left) spoke to the club about the Community Help Network and the many service opportunities.

Brandi Hisel, (right) Administrative Assistant of Activities and Events, St. Francis University, told the club about their food pantry which benefits the needs of the students and staff of St. Francis.



Lions Mary Jane DiMichele, Sharon and Al Thom, Carla Smolek, Louise Moore, Jim and Donna Worst (pictured Left) worked the concessions for the Coin Club at St. Mathias. This is one of our fundraisers as well as service to the Coin Club.

Lions Beata Eagan, Carla Smolek, and Pam Gray (pictured right) did eye screening for preschool children at the YMCA. 188 children were screened. Here what one child said when finished testing. “goodbye smiley face ladies “ because of the smiley face on the camera.



Pictured left, Lions Louise Moore, Carla Smolek, and Sharon Thom deliver items to Little Help Food Pantry on a regular basis.



News Around the District—Crown Point Lions



The Club Excellence Award was given to 2023/2024 Lion President Mary Jane DiMichele by Past District Lion Governor Stephen Helmken. Pictured left to right, District Governor Patty Cooke-Furlong, Lions Carla Smolek, Louise Moore, Mary Jane DiMichele, PDG Stephen Helmken and Lion Donna Worst. Congratulation Crown Point Lions Club.



Congratulations to Mackensi Keilman, the recipient of the University of St. Francis Crown Point Lions Club Scholarship Fund. Pictured right with Lions Donna Worst, Pam Gray, Carla Smolek and Beata Eagan.



News Around the District—Door Village Lions Host Bingo

On Thursday November 14th at 2:30 pm members of the Door village Lions hosted a bingo party for residents at Brickyard Terrace with lots of prizes, including some tasty snacks. Julie Jones, Activities Assistant at Brickyard, had already gathered the interested residents in the dining hall where Lion Bonnie Olson, President of Door Village Lions assisted by Lions Cindy and Dennis Fischer, had prepared the Bingo Caller's table and the cart full of prizes; and with all that in place the games began. Lion Gene Flickinger called the numbers and the shouts of Bingo! soon filled the room. Lions Cindy and Dennis confirmed the bingos as each one was called while Lions Bonnie and George Morley and George's wife Dory, along with Brickyard Activities Director, Charlie McLemore, assisted players with various limitations.

The games were changed up several times by bingo caller Lion Gene and others throughout the session and along with the variety of games and Lion Gene's occasional jokes offered between called numbers, the party was a sparkling success. And it was obvious the residents enjoyed the stuffed toys, snacks and sundry items they chose from the Prize Cart, the party ended with all those who did not bingo having the opportunity to make a selection from the Prize Cart.

The project was spearheaded by Lion Bonnie, who regularly volunteers at the Salvation Army where she heard that Brickyard was seeking organizations to host events at the Terrace. She brought the idea to club members, and it was approved and planned for with Lions Bonnie buying the prizes and organizing the project. Lions everywhere are constantly working to help those in need and to contribute to their community, and Door Village Lions were certainly pleased they were able to contribute to this new project, and continue with their motto, "We Serve".



Left to right standing: Lion Dennis Fischer, W/bingo prize cart ; Lion Cindy Fischer, confirming Bingos; Charlie McLemore, Activities Director

MD-25 LIONS
2026
International Pin Design Contest!

 2024  2025  **What will be 2026?**

Let your Creative side shine and you could be the next designer chosen!

The International Convention is heading to HONG KONG, CHINA JULY 3-7, 2026.

Pins **MUST** include: - MD 25 Indiana (as text)
- The Intl Convention year – 2026
- Lion Club Intl Logo
- Intl Convention Host City representation

*MD 25 graphic representation of MD-25 usually includes a race car and/or the outline of Indiana.

Please note that the completed design will be NO larger than 1 ¼ inch to 1 ½ inch in diameter when it is finished, so make your design includes all of the above while maintaining clarity.

Each Club can submit one design. If there are multiple designs submitted by one district, one design will be selected by the District Governor. All District designs need to be submitted to your district chair by January 3, 2025. You can scan and attach it to an email and send it to pccmsg@comcast.net. Each District's selected design will be presented to the State Council on January 19, 2025. You will be notified if your design was chosen. Remember: pin designers do not have to be (a) Lions, you do NOT need to be a professional designer, and jewelers can clean up your drawings.

State Pin Committee Contact: PCC Michael Gutyan

Membership

District 25-A New Members

<u>Club</u>	<u>New Member</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
Bass Lake	Robert Galen	Jon Novotny
Hamlet	Nancy Malas	Susan Rowles
Hebron	Sondra Reis	John Spinks
	Thomas L Reis Jr.	John Spinks
La Crosse	Katlin Wright	Kelly Kiel
Mill Creek	Bill Spence	Thomas Sharp
	Patrick Spence	Mike Berby
Ogden Dunes	Barbara Schultz	Kenneth Thompson

DECEMBER 2024

Governor Patty Cooke-Furlong's Calendar

Kouts OV	Thursday	12/5/2024	
South Haven OV	Thursday	12/12/2024	
MD25 Holiday Gathering	Saturday	12/14/2024	
Speech & Hearing Brunch	Sunday	12/15/2024	
Star City OV	Tuesday	12/17/2024	
Crown Point OV	Thursday	1/2/2025	
Midwinter		1/17/2025	1/18/2025
3rd Council	Sunday	1/19/2025	
3rd Cabinet	Saturday	1/25/2025	
Lowell OV	Tuesday	1/28/2025	
Westville OV	Thursday	2/6/2025	
Family visit to San Diego	Thursday	2/14/2025	2/17/2025
Schererville Central	Tuesday	2/18/2025	
Michiana	Tuesday	2/25/2025	
25A Convention		3/7/2025	3/8/2025
MD25 Convention / 4th Council Meeting		4/25/2025	4/27/2025
5th Council		4/27/2025	
Last Cabinet	Sunday	6/8/2025	

DECEMBER 2024

Global Action Team

Leadership – Training, Find New Leaders

GLT Pat Greer

(C) 219-928-3618

patricia.agreer6@gmail.com

Membership – Help grow clubs

IPDG Stephen Helmkin

(C) 219-561-3561

lionstephenjh@gmail.com

Service – Reporting, Find New Service Ideas

GST Jay Ferrell

(C) 219-718-4765

lionjayferrell@gmail.com

Extension – Charter New Clubs

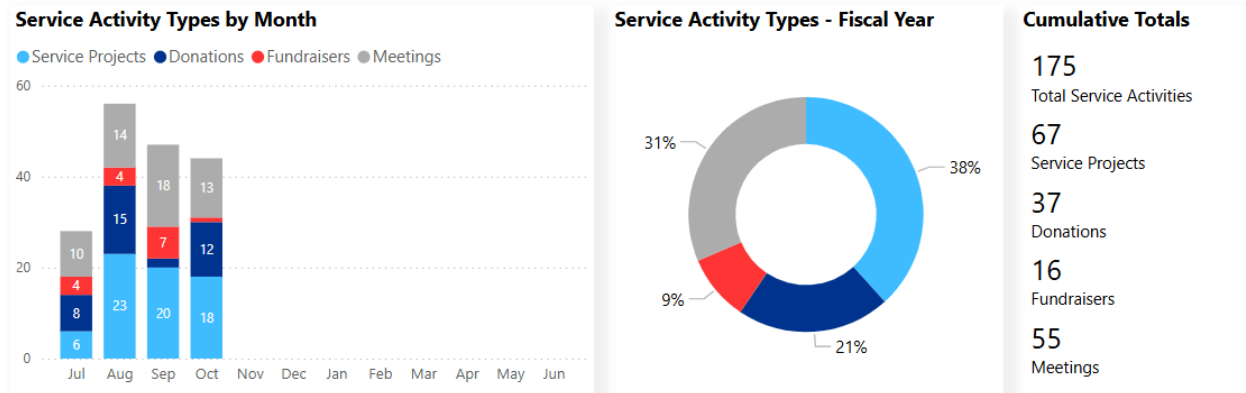
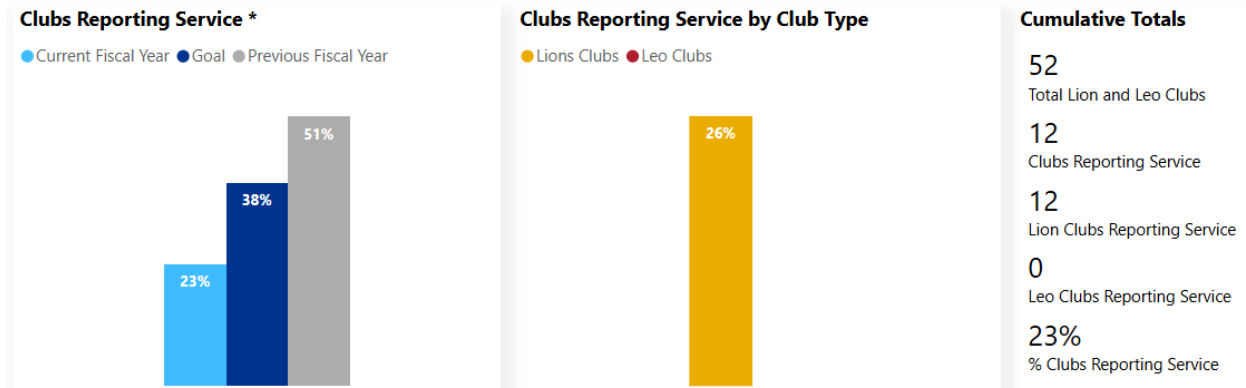
PCC Mitch Semans

(C) 219-508-1224

bogey2308@gmail.com

Reporting

Reporting service activities is one of the key metrics that Lions International measures. Showing how many service hours that Lions do helps LCI obtain money from their partners. **This enables us to serve more people!** Currently, we only have 23% of our clubs doing this task. At the end of last year, we reached 51%. But we now have a new tool – the Portal. If you want more information about Service reporting, contact GST Jay Ferrell. If you are having problems with the Portal, please contact either Lion Jeanne DeLasCasas or GLT Pat Greer.



Cumulative Totals

175	Total Service Activities
67	Service Projects
37	Donations
16	Fundraisers
55	Meetings

Constitutional Area	Total Service Activities	Service Projects	% Service Projects	Donations	% Donations
U.S. and Affiliates, Bermuda and Bahamas					
Multiple District 25					
District 25 A	175	67	38%	37	21%

Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing Annual Holiday Luncheon



**Indiana Lions
Speech and Hearing, Inc.
Annual Holiday Luncheon**

You are invited to attend! The Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing, Inc. Board of Trustees will have our annual holiday luncheon on Sunday, December 15, 2024, at the Indiana School for the Deaf Brown cafeteria, 1200 East 42nd Street, Indianapolis, across from the State Fair Grounds. Activities will begin at 12:30 p.m. Plan to arrive early to check in at the registration table and visit with friends. The cost per person is **\$25 in advance and \$30 at the door.**

Our special guests will be the deaf high school students, your donations helped sponsor, who attended the Deaf Youth Leadership Camp for four weeks in Stayton, Oregon last summer. As a highlight of the luncheon program, the students will report on their experiences while attending the Leadership Camp.

Also attending will be staff members of the Indiana School for the Deaf, staff members from the Riley Children’s Hospital Audiology & Speech Department, and Riley Children’s Foundation. Faculty representatives from our four state universities as well as scholarship recipients will be in attendance.

In support of your project, the Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing trustees hope you will join us for this inspiring occasion. We encourage you to bring other Lions and friends to experience the excellent work we do in fulfilling our motto “We Serve.” **Please complete the form below and return it with your check to arrive at the address shown below no later than** December 7, 2024. Thank you for your support.

We will be having a silent auction, if you have an item you would like to donate, please bring with you on December 15th.

Please reserve _____ dinners at \$25.00 each. (Children under 4 no charge)

Amount enclosed: \$_____ Make check payable to Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing, Inc.

Name	Title	District	Club

Mail to: Dan Richison
5100 W Churchill Ct
Muncie, IN. 47304-5323
765-717-2014
drichison1@outlook.com