

Lions Tales

DISTRICT 25-G

Volume 18, Number 9

March 2025

District Officers

District Governor

Lion Warren Allender
30009 CR 16
Elkhart, IN 46516-1007
574-361-7942
warrenallender@comcast.net

1st Vice District Governor

Lion Jackie Kurley
20233 Fall Creek Dr.
Goshen, IN 46528
219-689-8424
kurmon@comcast.net

2nd Vice District Governor

Lion Steve Weld
1438 Bower St.
Elkhart, IN 46514
574-742-1357
Smweld.AF@gmail.com

Cabinet Secretary

Lion Kim Polk
5378 E 975 S
LaFontaine IN 46940
260-571-6125
kkpolk61@gmail.com

Cabinet Treasurer

IPDG Ron Guth
2386 W. Broadway
Bunker Hill, IN 46914
765-460-7177
guthron@comcast.net

See the final page of the newsletter for contact information for other district staff members.

A Message from District Governor Warren Allender

There's been a lot of verbiage bantered around recently using the word "preemptive" so, as your District Governor, I thought it fitting that I get in the fray. It must be recognized that in order to issue a preemptive anything there must be an activity or event, past, present, or in the future. In this case the activity is in the future. It is OUR/YOUR District Convention being held at Oakwood Resort in Syracuse, Saturday, March 8th. There is still time to call for a reservation or just show up and participate. It's not the State Convention, it's not the International Convention, it is OUR/YOUR District 25-G's Convention. A short drive from anywhere in the district.



Moving on, since our newsletter comes out at the first of the month, I am going to issue "PREEMPTIVE THANK YOU's" to those who have contributed so much to OUR/YOUR District Convention.

I will begin with the International Director Marie Cunning. Thank you for traveling so far and offering us so much hope and inspiration for Lions.

Next would be Past International Director Nick and Lion Gretchen Xinopoulos. Thank you, too, for traveling to Syracuse and sharing your time at our Convention.

(continued on next page)

Have you scheduled the District Governor's visit to your club?

District Governor Warren Allender would like to attend one of your club meetings, share his vision for our district, and hear your concerns. Check his calendar in this newsletter, then give him a call at 574-361-7942, or send an email message to warrenallender@comcast.net.



"What does it mean to Make Your Mark? It means stepping up in our clubs and our communities and changing lives. It means amplifying the voices that may go unheard. It means showing the world that Lions care and we are here to stay." 2024-2025 Lions International President Fabrício Oliveira



A Message from District Governor Warren Allender

(continued from previous page)

Next in line will be the Warsaw High School Army JROTC members who will be presenting the colors during the opening ceremony. They are truly a testament to our youth of today and our hope for tomorrow. Thank you.

Moving on with a preemptive "thank you" that will be bestowed on District Chaplain Laura Doty, for her caring and compassionate words recognizing all the Lions who have passed on during this last year. Each was special in their own way, but always a Lion at heart.

We wouldn't want to forget our Service Seminar presenters. Past District Governor Tom Polk will be speaking about Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how Lions Virtual is a new tool for all of us to use to grow Lionism. Lion Mike Webb will be sharing a more somber subject - children sleeping without a bed. Unimaginable. Sleep in Heavenly Peace is a great opportunity for Lions' service. Both of you are recipients of a preemptive "thank you".

One of the most important tasks at OUR/YOUR District Convention is the election new officers. A preemptive "thank you" is therefore issued to Lion Sopheap Long for conducting the election and to Lions Jackie Kurley and Steve Weld for tackling new leadership roles. I can hardly wait to see and hear what lies ahead for Lions in District 25-G.

We have just begun to list all who are to receive this preemptive "thank you". Your District 25-G Cabinet members and State project trustees will also all receive the preemptive "thank you". Without each of them, doing what they do, where would we be? Many pieces of a big Lions Project come together at OUR/YOUR District Convention.

You can see that there is much in store for us at OUR/YOUR District Convention. Now what we need from you is your participation!! Next month, we're going to have pictures. We need YOU to be in those pictures.

DG Warren Allender

Celebrating 198 Years of Service

District 25-G recognizes Lions Clubs chartered during the month of February. These clubs have been serving their local communities for a total of 198 years. Each has impacted its local community in its own unique way, and has supported district, state, and international projects. Each is an example of DG Warren Allender's theme - "Cooking Up Service - Back to the Basics" and IP Fabricio Oliveira's theme - "Make Your Mark".

Congratulations on your years of service and leaving your mark on your community and beyond!

CLUB NAME	CHARTER DATE	YEARS OF SERVICE
Mentone	March 31, 1933	92
Lydick	March 3, 1958	67
Mexico	March 3, 1986	39

A Message From 1st Vice District Governor Jackie Kurley



This February was truly remarkable for me. I had the pleasure of celebrating my sister's 65th birthday along with my great niece's first birthday at the beginning of the month. Then it was preparing for the intense training at the Q Center. The facility was beautiful and large, ninety-five acres I believe, and that was just to get to the dining hall. Just kidding. But there was a lot of walking. Going from different classes or going to specific areas was sometimes a challenge. Thank goodness there was plenty of help to get us from one area to another. For sure, there was always plenty to eat, and we all liked the soft serve ice cream. Just ask my other FVDGs. To be honest, I was a little concerned about the rooms. They were what I will call cozy. There was just enough room for the bed and the desk, but most of our time was spent meeting and getting to know people from other clubs and countries so overall the accommodations were fine.

To prepare for our training in St. Charles, the incoming District Governors were divided into thirty diverse groups and had met earlier during Zoom meetings to get acquainted with each other. My group, Group 25, had Lions from the United States, Canada, Ireland, Dubai, and our group leader was from India. At one point we participated in a class discussion with another group that only spoke Portuguese. Using Google Translator and with the help of an interpreter, we had great presentations. We gained insights into our leadership styles and learned the importance of adapting our styles to ensure every member feels included in the club. At the beginning of each day, all seven hundred of us assembled in a large auditorium and listened to panel discussions with various key members of Lions Clubs International. Discussions included what makes a successful District Governor, how driving membership to do more service is the key to stronger clubs, the importance of Lions Clubs International Foundation, and my favorite, the Great Global Action Team debate. This was an exchange of opinions between our First International Vice President A.P. Singh, his partner in service Sangeeta Jatia, the panel moderator, and Sunil Kumar R., one of the group leaders. It was all about debating which one is more important service, membership, or leadership. It was quite comical as they pleaded their case but the moral was how important all three are in making our clubs stronger and around for another hundred years.

In class, we worked on our District goals and how important it is that we work as a team to accomplish those goals. We also exchanged ideas on successes and struggles we have had in growing our own districts. One of the major things I learned at the training that week is that our individual clubs are just a tiny grain of sand in the vast landscape of Lions Clubs International.

It was a very beneficial training session, and I am now one step closer to having my ribbon pulled in Orlando as I become your District Governor. But before then, we have our District Convention on March 8th in Syracuse for our elections, and our State Convention in Shipshewana, April 25-27. I hope to see all of you there and share in the celebrations that make us "Quite Possibly the Greatest Service Organization in the World"!

Lion Jackie Kurley, 1st Vice District Governor



A Message From 2nd Vice District Governor Steve Weld



We hear much on the importance of service reporting, but the system is not particularly intuitive. Here is a brief outline of the process, moving from identifying all the important data regarding an activity which serves our community (the activities which are the very heart of who we are as Lions) to the final submission of the report, which I hope will help some of our Lions to become more comfortable with reporting for their Clubs.

The reporting process begins with understanding the service activity itself, and building the story of what is happening. Lions International offers a pamphlet called "[Measuring Service Impact](#)" which provides useful guidance including how LCI defines service and what the common measures are for a service activity. The essential facts needed to report an activity are:

- Title – A descriptive name for the activity.
- Cause – Select from among the Global Causes where this activity best fits.
- Start and end dates.
- Description – A summary of what happened, including community benefits and partnerships.
- People served – Sometimes the number of individuals who benefited from the activity is straightforward, and sometimes it can be difficult. The "Measuring Service Impact" pamphlet provides some recommendations on how to make estimates.
- Total number of volunteers and total volunteer hours – Count both Lions and non-Lions, as well as non-Lion family members of Lions. Include time spent planning and promoting the activity in total hours. If this is a joint activity with other Clubs, coordinate with your co-laborers in the other Clubs how to enter numbers to avoid unnecessary overlap or gaps in service reporting.

Two other elements are also worthy of note. First, is this a signature activity, a recurring activity that represents your club/district identity or specialization? Second, is this activity funded by an LCIF grant? These questions can help place the importance of the activity in context.

After this information is gathered, you are now ready to report your service activity. Login to the [Lions Portal](#) and select "My Activities" under "Service". This most likely will bring up a listing of "My Club Activities (Last 3 Months)". To enter a new activity, select the blue "Create Service Activity" button. You will then be prompted for which organization you are reporting, as some Lions may have multiple assigned organizations or roles. Next, enter the Title of the activity, and select "Service Project". This creates the base record into which all the information about the activity can be entered. Select the "Edit" icon from the upper right or any of the pencil icons in the data fields. Now enter into the mandatory fields all the data you had collected earlier, plus one more: Project Type. This is selected from a drop down list of options which are unique to each Cause and are made available after the Cause is selected.

If you scroll to the very bottom of the page and select "Save", your activity will be assigned the status of Ready to Report. Now an authorized individual in your Club, such as the Secretary, President, or Service Administrator, can pull up this report, review it in whatever way the Club sees as appropriate, select the "Report Complete" box, and "Save". Please note that any Lion with Lions Portal access can create a service activity. Once created and entered, it then requires an authorized individual to mark the report as complete.

Would you like to know more? The Lions Portal has a [FAQ page](#) as well as a [YouTube channel](#) which offers additional instructions.

Lion Steve Weld, 2nd Vice District Governor

A Message From District Cabinet Secretary Lion Kim Polk



When I wrote my February article, I thought there might be hope that when I was writing my March article, the weather would be warmer. However, this week has been cold and blustery as well. By the time you read this, the weather is supposed to be warmer. I hope so, because I am very much looking forward to spring.

At our club's last meeting, we began discussions about our club's officers and who would be taking those positions. The Vice President is stepping up as President, others may continue in their positions, and there are positions open that new individuals may be asked to fill. As your club begins their process of officer elections and filling positions for the 2025-2026 Lion's year, think about the roles (hats) you wear in your club. Don't automatically say "yes" to continuing the same roles. There may be someone in your club that would love to be involved. Don't be like my granddaughter in this photo – unable to decide whether she wants to wear grammy's headscarf or poppy's Lions hat!



Secretaries, now is a good time to verify your members' contact information in the portal. Make sure that their addresses, phone numbers and email addresses are correct. Correct member information helps LCI and the District tremendously. Also, as your club holds elections and fills positions for the 2025-2026 Lion's year, please enter that information into the LCI portal. This will aid the District and LCI in preparing for the upcoming year. If you need help in downloading a report for your club or entering officer information into the portal, please contact me and I will assist you.

Yours in service,
Lion Kim Polk
District 25-G Cabinet Secretary

LCIF Coordinators Update

Become a Presidential LCIF Supporter

Recognizing individual generosity

At LCIF, we deeply value the incredible generosity of our individual donors. To honor your commitment and support, we are thrilled to introduce the Presidential LCIF Supporter program. This initiative aims to recognize and celebrate individuals who have contributed with heart and soul, making a significant impact on our mission.

By participating in the annual program, you become an integral part of our honored supporters. Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) credits will be earned based on the one-time donation amount you provide. Your generosity not only earns you well-deserved recognition but also helps us make a lasting difference in the lives of those in need.

Contact your LCIF Coordinators for more information:

Lion Sopheap Long (sopheap.long@gmail.com) or 1VDG Jackie Kurley (kurmon@comcast.net)

A Message From District Cabinet Treasurer PDG Ron Guth



Hello Lions of District 25-G,

We are making steady progress towards our goal of reaching 1.5 million Lions by July 2027. Achieving this target is possible, if we all contribute by inviting new members. New members bring fresh ideas for serving our community. It is important to embrace innovative approaches rather than adhering strictly to traditional methods.

Through my travels and interactions with fellow Lions, I have observed that many members are not particularly enthusiastic about attending meetings (really). However, they are willing to participate in fundraising events or service projects when needed. To make meetings more engaging and enjoyable, consider having interesting speakers and activities. Oh, and great snacks are always a draw.

Club officers, directors, and chairs should seek input from club members regarding their preferences for meeting content. You can always find a speaker who wants your club to donate to their cause and that's fine, but also look for speakers that inform. It is essential to find subjects and activities that resonate with all members, regardless of gender or age.

Consider soliciting feedback from younger members on what they would like to see in the club and provide them with opportunities to implement their ideas. This inclusive approach will help ensure the continued growth and vibrancy of our organization.

Has your club established a slate of officers for the 2025-2026 Lions year? The slate should be presented to the club members on two occasions before being voted on in April. It is important that this process is completed by April and not postponed to May or June. The new officers must be recorded in the members portal, and the incoming President and Secretary should be submitted to 1VDG Jackie Kurley. It is essential to provide new officer information for the district directory, which will be printed in June.

As we plan ahead for the July dues billing for the 2025-2026 Lions Fiscal Year, please note that LCI dues will undergo the final increase scheduled three years ago. The LCI dues will be \$25.00 for six months or \$50.00 annually for standard membership. Family members will continue to receive a discounted rate of \$12.50 for six months or \$25.00 annually. The district dues will remain unchanged at \$9.00 for six months or \$18.00 for the year.

If your club bills members annually, it will be \$50 plus \$18, totaling \$68.00 for the year, along with any additional amount your club may add to cover administrative needs. For instance, some clubs charge a bit more to pay the \$35 new member fee to LCI instead of having the new member pay it.

We are Lions, and we Roar!

We Serve,

CT PDG Ron Guth
2386 W Broadway, Bunker Hill, IN
765-460-7177

Global Leadership Team

It's Getting Cold In Here!



I'm sitting here in the dining room watching the snowflakes flitting past, settling on my sidewalks and driveway. I'm also hoping my wife won't notice and make her usual strong suggestion that I clean the walks again. If it weren't so cold outside, shoveling wouldn't be such a bad job, but this cold takes all the fun out of it. I guess the simplest solution is just to close the drapes and hope she won't notice.

My last two articles were on the election for next year's Club officers. As an outgoing President, it occurred to me that our Club, and probably others, lost an office due to COVID, that of Hospitality Committee, or less formally known in our Club as "the greeters." This Committee was responsible for greeting members, speakers, and guests at the door, helping them find any Lions they were supposed to meet, answering questions about the Club or the supplies they needed. Other Clubs had similar greeters, but COVID put an end to all that. Somehow, we never restarted this greeter tradition. It would be interesting to find out how many Clubs did restart this tradition and how many did not.

I'd like to recommend we all re-examine the idea and start the greeters again. It's a great way to make all Lions feel wanted and needed, as well to see who is or isn't there, or possibly even collect news for the President. We can find out who is sick or went elsewhere for a warmer climate, who is working, or who has the grandkids. It might also provide some tidbits of information for the Tail Twisters.

Having greeters also provides a good way to connect Lions, like new Lions with veteran Lions to get questions answered on the history or traditions of the Club. Guests and speakers can be made to feel welcome, as well. Some more adventurous greeters might carry a pocketful of membership applications or other Lions literature. Greeters can be a great all-purpose introduction to your Club.

I'm not exactly sure why our Club didn't restart the greeters. Maybe we had a lingering fear of personal contact. Maybe we got too used to ZOOM meetings. Who knows? I'm going to recommend our Club restart the Hospitality Committee or officer for next year, someone willing to take on some of the duties I've mentioned above. In this era of bemoaning membership losses, we need to work harder to show that we are a great bunch of men and women who not only care about Lions as an organization, but about each other as well.

So which Club will be the first to celebrate hospitality? Best of luck to you. My wife still hasn't looked out the windows to see how much snow there is. The sidewalks are still safe.

PCC Dave Eisen, Global Leadership Team Coordinator



Global Membership & Extension Team



MISSION 1.5 * We are on a Mission to Grow

Lions of District 25-G: What does it mean to be a member?

We are all members of a local Lions Club as well as a great community of Lions around the world. We are aiming to have a membership of 1.5 million by 2027.

Membership needs to be an active decision. In other words, you are not a Lion member until you decide to be one. We do not join a Lions Club just to be a joiner. We join because we want to serve our community and make a difference. To make a difference in the lives of others, we find ourselves serving and helping others in need. In that process it makes a difference in our own lives as well. We work hard to do something significant and help others.

Thank you for being a Lion. I encourage you to push the boundaries of your endeavors because there is definitely more need in your community than there are Lions to meet those needs. So **JUST ASK** others to get help in serving. That's what Lion members do!

Congratulations to the following clubs who show a net gain on the LCI records at the end of February: Akron +8, Argos +2., Leesburg +1, Lydick +2, Milford +1, Mishawaka +2, New Paris +4, Peru +4, and Rochester +1.

PDG Marlyn Fast, Global Membership & Global Extension Coordinator

Here We Grow Again

Since the start of the current Lions year, 20 district clubs have welcomed 51 new Lions to the largest and greatest volunteer service organization in the world. We welcome these new Lions and thank their sponsors for offering them the opportunity to make a difference in their communities and the world.

The following new Lions were not previously reported in the district newsletter.

Claypool Lions Club

New Member: Lion Brent Messmore
Sponsor: Lion Donald Morris

Culver Lions Club

New Member: Lion Brook Ash
Sponsor: Lion Connie Overmyer
New Member: Lion Shirley Betz
Sponsor: Lion Bruce Osborn
New Member: Lion Julie Patrick
Sponsor: Lion Gil Orangias
New Member: Lion Julie Patrick
Sponsor: Lion Gil Orangias

Lydick Lions Club

New Member: Lion Joshua Davis
Sponsor: Lion Elaine Gaulin

New Member: Lion Michael Hardman
Sponsor: Lion Karen Trzaskowski

New Member: Lion Helen Kaley
Sponsor: Lion Karen Swisher

New Paris Lions Club

New Member: Lion Ron Everingham, Sr.
Sponsor: Lion Tom Snider



MISSION 1.5

Global Service Team



Well, we have had some icy weather and rain and warm-up and cold weather again, and it's only the first of March. I hope the weather starts warming up soon, bringing spring to our door with flowers and green grass and the smell of the warm air and all that comes with spring in northern Indiana.

Regardless of the season, Lions do what they do best - they serve, and they serve with their hearts. We open our hearts all over our community and provide service. "Where there is a need, there is a Lion", as we say.

So, I am sitting here trying to piece together how I can have all clubs add their service hours to the system. Anyone can do it, even you.

We still have 15 clubs that have not reported any service hours. What can I do to help these clubs get their hours online, and help DG Warren with his goals?

I am available to help and can visit your club to explain how easy it is to add your service hours. So, who is game? I am here to help, and I want to help you have a great year with your service hours.

The Lions Motto is "We Serve" and we are alive and well in District 25-G.

PDG Mary Klempay, District 25-G Global Service Team Coordinator

maryrsb@comcast.net

574-286-4499



Tell Us About Your Club's Signature Service Project

Does your club have a signature service project ... an ongoing or recurring project that wouldn't be done if it weren't for your Lions Club ... a service project that everyone in your community associates with your Lions Club? Write a short article about your club's signature service project and send it, with photos, to PDG Paul Russell <pdgpaul25g@gmail.com> for publication in the district newsletter.

LCIF Update

Here is the latest information we have regarding Hurricane Helene and the recent California wildfire relief efforts.

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."

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

Call for Nominations for District Officers & Trustees

Letters of intent and club endorsement letters for the 2025 District 25-G elections are **NOW** being accepted for the following officer positions:

- District Governor,
- 1st Vice District Governor, and
- 2nd Vice District Governor.

Also to be elected at the District Convention will be trustees for the Indiana Lions Foundation (3-year term) and the following state projects:

- Indiana Lions Cancer Control Fund, Inc. (3-year term);
- Vision First Indiana Lions Eye Bank, Inc. (3-year term);
- Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing, Inc. (3-year term);
- Indiana Lions for the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc. (3-year term); and
- Indiana Lions for Leader Dog, Inc. (3-year term).

Each candidate must submit his/her own letter of intent to run. Additionally, the candidate's home club must submit a letter of recommendation.

Both letters must be submitted to the Chairperson of the Nominations and Elections Committee prior to the March 8th, 2025 District Meeting.

Letters can be submitted to Lion Sopheap Long, Nominations Chair, 13793 US Hwy 20, Middlebury, IN 46540. Email documents are to be sent to sopheap.long@gmail.com.

Proposed Amendment to District Constitution & By-Laws

In that District 25-G desires to engage in gaming activities as defined by Indiana statute and that the current District Constitution and By-Laws do not have a dissolution clause as stipulated in said statute, an amendment is required.

In that the District Governor directed the Constitution and By-Laws chair to draft such a document and present it to the district cabinet at their November 9th, 2024, cabinet meeting. This was done as requested. The cabinet asked for a review of the document. Such action has now been completed. The original draft as prepared by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee is now being put forward as a proposed amendment to be voted on at the District Convention, on March 8th, 2025. If adopted, this amendment will be added to the By-Laws.

Proposed Amendment:

Article VIII Dissolution

Upon dissolution, this organization's remaining assets will be dedicated exclusively to charitable purposes.

News from Around the District

Update on District's Eyeglass Recycling and Mission Programs



Lions from five district clubs—Mishawaka, Elkhart, Dunlap, Clay-Granger, and Lakeville—cleaned more than 3,000 pairs of used eyeglasses on February 18 at the processing center. Glasses for the 2025 mission to Teziutlán, Puebla, Mexico are nearly completed and are scheduled to be shipped in July. The mission team is complete and consists of 21 Lions from Indiana, Massachusetts, and Ohio, and three additional Lions from Mexico.

According to mission leader PDG Marty Juel, future dates and locations for missions have been arranged: 2026 Salamanca; 2027 Morelia; 2028 Uriangato; and 2029 Aguascalientes. Of course, all these are STC (Subject To Change). We will have an information table at the District Convention in Syracuse and the State Convention in Shipshewana.

(Submitted by PDG Marty Juel, Elkhart Lions Club)

District 25-G Eyeglass Mission Project Featured on Texas Lions Club Podcast

Listen to this 20-minute podcast with PDG Marty Juel and Lions Andrea and Vernon Tucker, hosts of The Roaring Lions Podcast from Alpine, Texas. Listen from this link:

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/6eagesn1SEntU2n8SoFEbC>



News from Around the District



District 25-G recycling extends beyond Mexican eyeglass missions in making a difference

While many think of our district's eyeglass missions to Mexico when referring to our eyeglass recycling efforts, we also supply used eyeglasses to other groups, both here in the US and other countries. Recently two separate requests for glasses were received and glasses were supplied.

The first was from a local pastor and his volunteers who makes several trips to Africa to help individuals through empowerment programs. Much of the work of individuals involve reading assignments through courses. Reading is a problem for many because they do not have corrective glasses to be able to read the reference books. Accordingly, we supply several hundred prescription glasses each year for individuals to take to Africa and distribute to those who need them.

Another example of a partnership is with one of our sources that we recycle eyeglasses with gold content. Today, few glasses contain gold, but when we receive glasses that are gold-plated, gold-filled or otherwise have some gold content, we send them to a company that recycles the gold and sends us reimbursement for that value. This income helps us with the many expenses to run our recycling and mission programs. The company we work with in gold recycling works with several non-profits and we provided reading glasses that were shipped to a Native American Reservation in South Dakota.

Below, left: Some of the recipients of reading glasses contributed to the District 25-G recycling/mission program. These individuals are from various communities in the south-central Congo DRC.

Below right: Some of the glasses recently sent to a Native American Reservation in South Dakota.



Submitted by PDG Marty Juel, Elkhart Lions Club

Lydick Lions Package Meals for Kids at Cultivate Food Rescue



On January 28th, seven Lydick Lions helped package 1,584 meals for kids at Cultivate Food Rescue. Great teamwork!

Back row (l. to r.) Lion Elaine Gaulin, Lion Howard Morse, Lion Cindy Finney

Front row (l. to r.) Lion Karen Swisher, Lion Marcia LaBelle, Lion Christine Bella, Lion Jim Day

(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)

News from Around the District

Roann Covered Bridge Lions Sell Concessions at RC Races

The Roann Covered Bridge Lions Club sold concessions at the Remote Control races at the Brickhouse in Roann on Saturday, February 8th. The club does this October through April once a month at the "trophy race" for the weekly races. This is a big event in our small town, as it brings in racers from all over the Midwest. There are participants of all ages from 11 years old and up. The cars have a computer chip in them that tells how fast they go per lap and how many laps. Just like NASCAR!

(Submitted by Lion Donna Harman, Roann Covered Bridge Lions Club)

Lydick Lions Support Lydick UMC Food Pantry

During the month of January, our club's community project was supporting the Lydick United Methodist Church Food Pantry. Our club collected food items and paper products for the pantry. Later in the month, several members teamed up with the food pantry to put together 70 bags for distribution at their food pantry. It was a morning of teamwork, fellowship and lots of smiles supporting our community. Nice job, Lydick Lions Wendy Yuhasz, Christine Bella, Elaine Gaulin, and Karen Swisher along with friends Helen Kaley and Barbara Amick. Teamwork!



Pictured above (l. to r.) Lion Christine Bella, Helen Kaley, Lion Karen Swisher, Lion Elaine Gaulin, Lion Wendy Yuhasz, and Barbara Amick.

(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)

Editor's Note: Helen Kaley joined the Lydick Lions Club after this article was submitted.

Lydick Lions Club & Cultivate Food Rescue

In 2024, the Lydick Lions Club volunteered 10 times at Cultivate Food Rescue in South Bend and packaged 12,599 meals! That's enough meals to feed 2,100 children for an entire weekend! Thank you to our members, along with members of the Lakeville Lions Club and Clay Granger Lions Club, and our friends for helping us accomplish this.

We continue to volunteer in 2025, once each month, and we hit a new record of 1,822 meals packaged in one night. Way to go, Lydick Lions! Great teamwork!



Volunteers pictured at left:

Front Row (l. to r.): Vickie Jones, Stephanie Sczepankiewicz, Heather Downey, Marcia LaBelle, Teckla Lane

Back Row (l. to r.): Bernie Ferro, Steve Downey, Cindy Finney, Jim Day, Howard Morse, Cathy Day, Karen Swisher, Elaine Gaulini, Mike Lane, Leroy Wise and Lori Ferro

(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)

News from Around the District

Lydick Lions Launch KidSight 2025

We have completed our first KidSight screening for 2025! Lydick Lions Club members Mike & Teckla Lane and Christine Bella, along with Clay Granger Lions Club member Dave Coffman and Lakeville Lions Club member Lloyd Mehaney (not pictured) screened 27 children from the ages of 2 to 5 years at First English Lutheran Preschool. Way to go, Lions!



Pictured here (l. to r.): Lion Dave Coffman, Lion Christine Bella, Lion Teckla Lane, Lion Mike Lane

(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)

Lydick Lions Provide Supplies for Local Pre-School

The Lydick Lions Club chose the Lydick ECM Daycare/Preschool as our February Service Project. Our club donated money for the organization to purchase a new high chair for the daycare. Individual members also donated Washable Markers, glue sticks, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, coloring books, and watercolor paints and brushes so that the children can work on their artistic skills.

Nice job, Lydick Lions!



(Article by Lion Wendy Yuhasz, Photo by Lion Christine Bella, Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro)



Early Deadline for April Newsletter

The deadline for submission of articles and photos for the April 2025 issue of the District 25-G newsletter will be Monday, March 17th. This is a one-time change. The newsletter needs to be edited and published by March 24th due to the editor's personal schedule.

Baugo Lions Club
3rd Annual
PANCAKE
and sausage
Breakfast!

Ticket
\$10



• **SAT, MARCH.01.2025** •

JAMESTOWN UM CHURCH

59218 CR 3 - Elkhart, Indiana

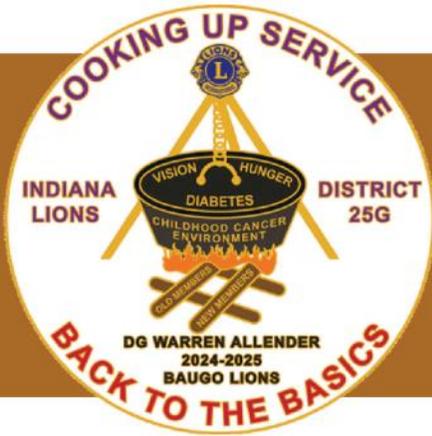
7:30am - 11:30am

**BISCUITS
& GRAVY**

• **ALL YOU CAN EAT** •

**JUICE &
COFFEE**

Kids K-12 Eat Free



District 25-G CONVENTION

Oakwood Resort
702 East Lake View Road
Syracuse, IN 46567

Saturday
March 8, 2025
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Special Guest ID Maria T. Cunning



Maria T. Cunning from Phoenix, Arizona, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of LCI in July 2023. She has more than 35 years of experience in real estate development and currently manages and operates three companies. She speaks 3 languages—English, Filipino and Spanish. She is a third generation Lion with a passion for service and going on medical missions. She joined the Phoenix Barangay Lions Club as a charter member in 1996 and has served with them ever since. Additionally, she has served as guiding Lion for two clubs in the Phoenix area. In recognition of her service to the association, she has received numerous awards including an International President's Award and an International President's Leadership Award. She is also a LCIF Progressive Lead Donor and a LCIF Legacy Society member. Director Cunning has two wonderful adult sons and hopes that grandchildren are in her future. Her hobbies are service, recruiting new Lions and travel.

\$30*
Per Person

Enjoy morning coffee, juice & rolls and a noon lunch buffet.

For room reservations, call the Oakwood Resort (574) 457-7100. Courtyard view (\$129) and lake view (\$149).

DISTRICT CONVENTION RESERVATIONS

Name _____ Club _____

Name _____ Club _____

Name _____ Club _____

Name _____ Club _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ for _____ reservations at \$30 each.

Mail this reservation and your check payable to District 25-G
by Feb. 26 (Payments after March 1 will be \$35 per person) to:

CT PDG Ron Guth ♦ 2386 W. Broadway ♦ Bunker, Hill, IN 46914
(765) 460-7177 ♦ guthron@comcast.net

Indiana Lions State Convention

Time Is Running Out to Register for the Indiana Lions State Convention in Shipshewana



As I look out into my back garden, I can only envision the arrival of Spring. Surely under all that melting snow are flowers and green grass accompanied by rising temperatures. While this may seem like wishful thinking, the one thing for sure is the arrival of the 2025 Indiana Lions State Convention in Shipshewana on April 25-26-27. While you can sit back and wait for the arrival of Spring you need to take action to insure your participation at the Convention. The deadline for room registration and Convention registration is March 26. This date is critical, if you wish to stay at the Farmstead Inn, due to the appearance of two well-known entertainers at another venue, the Inn will not take room reservations past the 26th. The committee has secured several rooms at other lodgings in Shipshewana, but they are in short supply. We can hedge on the March 26th date for Convention registration, if you are not planning on overnight stays, but we need to give our

caterers a definite number of attendees two weeks prior to the Convention. Thank you for your understanding of this request.

There is still time for individual District 25-G clubs to purchase an ad in the program book that would highlight your favorite project and accomplishments. Contact Middlebury Lion Sopheap "Sophie" Long for details. Her email address is sopheap.long@gmail.com, her phone number is 574-215-9474.

The committee has arranged for a memorable Convention with informative seminars, a full exhibit and vendor area, interaction with fellow Lions, and of course, delicious food. That combined with the various attractions around the Shipshewana area will insure a marvelous weekend. Our special guest, Past International President Jimmy Ross, and Saturday luncheon speaker, local weatherman/poet/storyteller Gary Seiber will certainly inspire you to magnify your involvement in Lions and community involvement.

The committee has done just about everything we can do, now it's up to you. We hope to see you at Convention!

PDG Marlyn Fast
PDG Brian Thomas



Indiana Lions State Convention

JIMMY M. ROSS **PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT**



Jimmy M. Ross of Quitaque, Texas, USA, was elected to serve as 2006-2007 president of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association's 89th International Convention, held in Boston, Massachusetts, USA June 30 - July 4, 2006.

Past President Ross is a rancher and a retired judge.

A Lion since 1969, Past President Ross is a member of the Quitaque Lions Club. He has held many offices within the association, including club president, multiple district secretary, state membership & extension chairperson, multiple district convention chairperson, multiple district council chairperson and international director. Additionally he has taken part in eyeglass recycling missions to South America and been involved in chartering more than 500 clubs.

Past President Ross has also been active in numerous professional and community organizations. He was a member of both the Water Control & Improvement Board and the District Juvenile Probation Board and chairperson of the board of the All Emergency Systems in 26 counties of Texas.

Past President Ross's special interests have been in membership extension, the strengthening of clubs and community service. In recognition of his work on behalf of the association, he has received many awards, including District Governor Appreciation Awards, International President's Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor bestowed upon association members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Past President Ross and his wife, Velda, have three daughters, two granddaughters and two grandsons.





2025 Indiana Lions 104th State Convention

Hosted by District 25-G
April 25-27, 2025



**Farmstead Inn and Conference Center, Shipshewana, Indiana
With Special Guest PIP Jimmy Ross**

PLEASE RESERVE YOUR LODGING BY MARCH 26, 2025
Farmstead Inn and Conference Center, 370 S Van Buren St, Shipshewana, Indiana 46565
Call (260) 768-4595 and reference LIONS
Room Rate: \$159 + taxes per night (includes hot breakfast)

Please use one form per person

Deadline: All registration forms must be postmarked by March 26, 2025
Please clearly print name and Lion title as desired to appear on Name Badge:

Name and Lion Title: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

District: _____ Club: _____

Is this your FIRST Indiana Lions State Convention? (please circle one) YES NO

Please list any Special dietary needs here: _____

Friday Evening Dinner \$15 _____

Authentic Amish Haystack Dinner, hosted by Dunlap Lions Club

Saturday Lunch \$25 _____

Buffet: baked pineapple ham, meatloaf, cheesy potatoes, mixed vegetables, salad, pie

Saturday Strides Walk T-Shirt: \$20 _____

Size: S M L XL 2XL 3XL (please circle one)

Saturday Dinner: \$35 _____

Plated: roast beef & poppy seed chicken, mashed potatoes, noodles, green beans, salad, pie

Total Registration Due: _____

Mail this form with payment to:

Lion Jeanine Juel, 3204 Village Ct, Goshen, IN 46528

Jeanine@martyjuel.com or (574) 370-2475

Registration must be postmarked by March 26, 2025

Make checks payable to: **Indiana Lions State Convention**

2025 Indiana Lions 104th State Convention

Hosted by 25 - G

April 25, 26, 27, 2025

Farmstead Inn Shpshewana, Ind.

With Special Guest - Past International President Jimmy Ross

Exhibit and Vendor Applications

Each 10'x12' Booth includes 8' table and two chairs

Lions Exhibitor \$25

Non-Lion Exhibitor \$50

Electrical hookup \$20

Additional Booth \$50

Vendor room will be available for set up starting at 9:00 A.M. on Friday April 25th

Vendor's hours: Friday 1:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. Saturday 9:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Please return the completed form and payment by March 15, 2025, to

Lion Marlin Culp

54239 Riverview Drive

Elkhart, Ind 46514

Make payment to Lions of Indiana Inc. - c/o 2025 State Convention

Questions, please contact

Lion Marlin Culp

mcgto@aol.com (574)596-7095

or PDG Brian Thomas

brian10kaol.com (574) 596-7411

Name of Exhibitor _____

Organization Lion Club _____

Phone _____ Email _____

____ Lions Exhibitor ____ Non-Lion Exhibitor ____ Electricity ____ Additional Booth

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Thank You for Supporting the Lions of Indiana – WE SERVE!



Sponsorship Levels



Premier Level - \$10,000

This sponsorship includes your logo on all printed materials, including a full page ad in the program book, logo in all ads in the Hoosier Lion newspaper (sent to all members in December, February and April), logo in the convention information on the state website, public acknowledgement at all meals and a speaking slot to showcase your business to the attendees during the Saturday lunch.

Platinum Level - \$5,000

This sponsorship includes your logo on all printed materials, including a full page ad in the program book, logo in all ads in the Hoosier Lion newspaper (sent to all members in February and April), logo in the convention information on the state website, and public acknowledgement during all meals.

Gold Level - \$2,500

This sponsorship includes a half page ad in the program book, logo in the April Hoosier Lion, logo in the convention information on the state website and a public acknowledgement during the Saturday lunch

Silver Level - \$1,000

This sponsorship includes a half page ad in the program book and a public acknowledgement during the Saturday lunch.

Lion Cub Banner - \$500

This sponsorship level is a one-time advertisement opportunity to display your physical banner at the entry hall during our events.



Sponsorship Levels



Program Advertisements

- \$300 full page ad 8 x 10
- \$200 half page ad 8 x 5
- \$75 quarter page ad 4 x 5

Silent Auction Donations

We are also accepting gift donations for the Silent Auction fundraiser. These may include things like gift cards, gift certificates, gift baskets, etc.

Please provide the following information:

Company Name: _____

Sponsorship Level: _____

Contact Information: _____

Invoice needed: Yes ___ No ___

We thank you for your generous support. If you have additional questions please feel free to reach out at any time to:

PDG Lion Brian Thomas (574) 596-7411
PDG Lion Marlyn Fast (574) 596-538-1090

Indiana Lions State Projects & Foundation



State Projects & Foundation Trustees

Contact one of our district trustees to schedule a program for your club.

Lions Cancer Control Fund of Indiana, Inc.

Lion Beth Guth (Peru)	guthbeth@comcast.net	765-210-3318
Lion Lloyd Mehaney (Lakeville)	lloydmehaney@live.com	269-547-0095
PDG Paul Russell (Lakeville)	pdgpaul25g@gmail.com	574-250-2621

Vision First Indiana Lions Eye Bank, Inc.

Lion Duane Griner (Lake City)	ldgriner@comcast.net	574-551-0105
PDG Ron Guth (Peru)	guthron@comcast.net	765-460-7177
PDG Tom Polk (LaFontaine)	pdgtompolk@gmail.com	260-571-5123

Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing, Inc.

PDG Mary Klempay (Lakeville)	maryrsb@comcast.net	574-286-4499
2VDG Steve Weld (Dunlap)	smweld.af@gmail.com	574-742-1357
Lion Jerry Wright (Syracuse)	(no email address)	574-457-6811

Indiana Lions for the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc.

Lion Brian Bussard (Baugo Twp)	buzzf117@comcast.net	574-226-4079
Lion Debra Page (Dunlap)	ndpage12@aol.com	574-226-8945
Lion Steve Page (Dunlap)	ndpage12@aol.com	574-226-8945

Indiana Lions for Leader Dog, Inc.

DG Warren Allender (Baugo Twp)	warrenallender@comcast.net	574-361-7942
Lion David Frushour (Peru)	d.frushour@comcast.net	765-473-3626
PDG Brian Thomas (Elkhart)	brian10k@aol.com	574-596-7411

Indiana Lions Foundation

Lion Alan Beehler (Madison Twp)	mtlcsecabee@aol.com	574-707-2937
PDG Marlyn Fast (Dunlap)	mafast1107@gmail.com	574-538-1090
Lion Rose Russell (Lakeville)	RoseWRussell@gmail.com	574-250-0125

Indiana Lions Foundation Indiana State Fair Project



We may be shoveling snow from the sidewalk and scraping ice from the car windows now, but it's not too early to start thinking about fun and fellowship with other Indiana Lions at the 2025 Indiana State Fair. This is the Foundation's single largest fundraiser. Proceeds support the operation of the Indiana Lions State Office Building and provide funds for the Foundation's new Community Service Grants.

We have spoken to our contact at the Indiana State Fair and do not anticipate any major changes for the 2025 State Fair. The Fair will be held in Indianapolis, August 1-17, 2025, and we will need volunteers to work at six gates during the Fair.

Scan the QR code above to go to <https://indianalionsfoundationmd25.org/what-we-do/indiana-state-fair-volunteer/> and sign up to work for the Foundation at the 2025 Indiana State Fair.

If you liked our ferris wheel and carousel pins, you'll love our new roller coaster pin. The proposed design is shown here. The only way to get one of these pins is to work for the Foundation at the Indiana State Fair.

When you work for the Indiana Lions Foundation at the Indiana State Fair, you receive W.P. Woods Fellowship credits. Work a morning shift and receive 1 credit; work an afternoon shift and receive 2 credits. You may redeem 10 credits for a W.P. Woods Fellowship for yourself or another individual.

This past July, the board of trustees of the Indiana Lions Foundation approved a proposal to allow State Fair volunteers to redeem W.P. Woods Fellowship credits for Community Service Grants to benefit Indiana Lions clubs, Indiana Lions districts, Indiana Lions state projects, or LCIF. For more information about Community Service Grants, visit the Indiana Lions Foundation website at <https://indianalionsfoundationmd25.org/>.

If you need assistance signing up for this project, please contact Lion Rose Russell at 574-250-0125 or RoseWRussell@gmail.com.





District Governor's Calendar

March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 District Convention	8 District Convention
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Lake City & Baugo Twp LC	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Greene Twp LC Anniversary	28	29
30	31 Area Zoom Meeting					



District Governor's Calendar

April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 DG Visit Fulton Liberty LC	23	24	25 State Convention	26 State Convention
27 State Convention	28	29	30			

District Global Action Team

Global Leadership Team (GLT)

PCC David Eisen
1112 E. Third Street
Mishawaka, IN 46544
H: 574-255-5613
C: 574-250-1469
d.eisen01@yahoo.com

Global Membership Team (GMT)

PDG Marlyn Fast
24261 CR 126
Goshen, IN 46526
H: 574-875-5963
C: 574-538-1090
mafast1107@gmail.com

Global Service Team (GST)

PDG Mary Klempay
52140 Kenilworth Road
South Bend, IN 46637
574-286-4499
maryrsb@comcast.net

LCIF Coordinators

1st VDG Lion Jackie Kurley
20233 Fall Creek Dr.
Goshen, IN 46528
219-689-8424
kurmon@comcast.net

Lion Sopheap Long
13793 US 20
Middlebury, IN 46540
574-215-9474
sopheap.long@gmail.com

District Administrator

(for assistance with the Lion Portal)
PDG Ann Haffner
11268 N. SR 13
Syracuse, IN 46567
574-457-6118
ann_haffner@yahoo.com

District Newsletter Editor

PDG Paul Russell
P.O. Box 31
Lakeville, IN 46536-0031
574-250-2621 (call or text)
pdgpaul25g@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendar

Sat, Mar 8, 2025 District Convention
Oakwood Resort, Syracuse

Fri-Sun, Apr 25-27, 2025 State Convention
Farmstead Inn, Shipshewana

Sat, May 17, 2025 District Meeting
Roann Christian Church, Roann

Directory Updates

p. 30 Lydick Lions Club
Meeting location:
Lydick United Methodist Church
26510 Edison Rd.
South Bend, IN 46628



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

