



Lions Tales

DISTRICT 25-G

Volume 18, Number 4

October 2024

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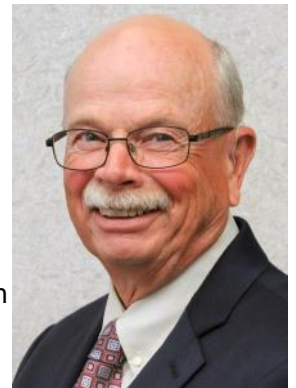
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See the final page of the newsletter for contact information for other district staff members.

A Message from District Governor Warren Allender

Well, September was sort of a hectic kind of month, or so it seems. In any case, I'm going to begin with a BIG CONGRATULATIONS to 1st Vice District Governor Jackie Kurley and 2nd Vice District Governor Steve Weld on their individual achievements of receiving their master's degree from Lions University. Those degrees were awarded at the USA/Canada Forum held in Louisville, Kentucky this past September. What an achievement and what a great example of a commitment to service through Lions.



As for myself, this was my first Forum, and I found it filled with seminars that left my head swimming. Some of the seminars Susi and I attended were 'Serving Together Partner in Service Opportunities', 'Sponsorships, How to Get and Keep them', 'Marketing Beyond Facebook', 'Creative Service Ideas', and 'Constitution and Bylaws'. It was the last one that I found perhaps the most interesting. There is so much to learn about and from our written Constitution and Bylaws. They establish a roadmap, if you will, for our International and local operations. The document is there to help us not hinder us as we serve our communities. All in all, the Forum offered a great learning experience.

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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

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September also offered me the opportunity to visit clubs in earnest—six of them to be exact. As I have said before, visiting clubs is exactly what I had signed up to do as a District Governor. I appreciate each and every club I have visited. Here is my highlight reel: Richvalley celebrated their 50th anniversary of service, Mexico inducted a new member and had a long list of service activities completed and in the works, LaFontaine honored a member with a Melvin Jones Fellowship and was getting ready for a busy weekend of fundraising, Lake City continues to carry out service activities in the community, Peru is a powerhouse in the south with service and new members, and Lakeville we'll be seeing before the month is over. We are Lions, We SERVE.

And of course, during the month, Lions International gives us inspiring and revealing information in the form of the monthly 'Health Assessment' for all the clubs in the district. The document, as I see it, is simply a tool to give those serving at the District Level a bigger broader picture of the district as a whole. I'm not sure exactly who all sees it, I do know the district leadership team sees it and zone chairs see it specific to their areas. It's not a secret document. It lets you know if clubs are reporting membership changes, new members, dropped members, deceased members, transferred members, etc. It also lets you know if service projects are being reported, club meetings, fundraising projects, work projects, etc. International doesn't do any analysis for you but it does put some information in "red" like membership below 15, 3 or more months delinquent in membership reporting, and 12 or more months since activity has been reported. The red is depressing and there's a lot of it. Enough said. Yet it's important as your District Governor that I reflect on this monthly information in relation to the goals we as a district team set, like, 92 new members by the end of the year or the stretch of 132. Well, at the end of August 35 of our 44 clubs failed to report membership information. How about the service reports? 31 clubs are delinquent in reporting service. Remember, our goal is to have 80% report service and I believe it should be 100%. Just saying there is a lot of red in this report and I'm looking for a cause and a solution. First, let me simply say if this is your responsibility, please do the reports. Secondly, I ask myself, is it the portal, or is the portal just a convenient excuse? I'm not sure. I am sure that if I hear of information that is useful in the operation of the portal, I'll pass it along. With that said, I need to give credit to District Governor Mary Ellen Sherer 13OH3 who is part of my Group 29 Governors. Her district administrator developed a number of "cheat sheets" for the portal. She shared those with Group 29 in hopes they might help. I believe they are a big step in the right direction for portal entry. I made those available to PDG Marty Juel and he has posted them on the District Website www.lions25g.com I believe Past District Governor Marty has also written information about it. That's how important it is. We, your district team, will do whatever we can to assist you with what Lions International is asking of you. That is our SERVICE to you. Your SERVICE to us is to continue to provide SERVICE to your community and then REPORT IT! Lions not in leadership roles are banking on the fact that their volunteer work, service, time and efforts are being recognized by Lions International. Believe it or not, they want to, and it will be if we simply do our part.

Also remember to **Make Your Mark** with feature photos for our District Newsletter and the Hoosier Lion.

Yours in Lionism,

Lion Warren Allender, District Governor

A Message From 1st Vice District Governor Jackie Kurley



Happy fall, y'all! There is a bit of crispness in the air, and I am OK with that after the September heatwave. For me, September was a whirlwind of training at the USA/Canada Leadership Forum, LCIF training, and the last weekend was Leader Dog Training. What a fabulous presentation at Leader Dog to learn what a cause is all about.

I knew little about Leader Dog other than it was a cause that we have for helping blind people and that it was one of my first District Governor's projects when I joined the Lions. The training was a one-day class that started with an hour bus ride to Rochester Hills from the hotel. We learned how a small farmhouse became the large campus we visited today. Our class had 57 Lions representing 10 states from Delaware, North Carolina, and Maryland on the east coast to as far west as Nevada. We learned that there are approximately 1,300,000 legally blind people in the United States and 75,000 people (about the seating capacity of the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum) will become blind or visually impaired this year.

The mission of Leader Dog is to empower people who are blind or visually impaired with lifelong skills for safe and independent daily travel. Think about that for a minute. Do you realize how much you walk daily? Keep track of your steps for one day and imagine doing that without sight. Two of the major programs for this campus are Guide Dog and Orientation and Mobility. O&M is how to adapt to using a white cane. One of the most important things you learn is to trust. You must have trust in your dog that they will lead you appropriately and keep you from harm's way. We toured the housing facility where there are signs in braille and subtle things to help those that are impaired. For instance, there is a bold blue stripe on the wall to let you know there is a handrail there. But what you might not know is that there is a nub at certain points on the inside of that rail letting you know there is a sign above or directly across the aisle from you. Most signs are in braille or raised lettering so you can feel the letters to read the sign.

We also visited a room where the client stays for three weeks to get acquainted with their dog and heard emotional stories about how these clients realize that they can finally start to gain more independence.

I also learned a new meaning of the word "park". Did you know that dogs can be trained to relieve themselves on all surfaces? Grass, gravel, concrete, tile, it is the command that initiates the action not the scent. Fascinating!

We were then shown the building where the dogs were housed in their suites. Yes, they are called suites, not kennels. Kennel is a dirty word in Leader Dog. We saw how the harnesses and leashes were made, the different villages based on the dog's maturity, and the sections of suites where the breeding occurs. Two dogs in each suite but usually only one bed.

We also learned how to help someone that is visually impaired. It is best to offer assistance, do not assume someone wants help. It is also a courteous act to announce yourself when entering or leaving a room, or just clearing your throat and be as descriptive as possible with directions or information.

For lunch, we were treated to the long-standing tradition of chili and donuts. I know it sounds odd, but it was surprisingly delicious. The day finished with us having dinner and listening to more touching stories of how these dogs have not only made such a difference in lifestyle, but also saved their lives more than once. The caveat to dinner was that we ate with blindfolds on. We did get a few hints that the chicken would be at six o'clock, the potatoes at ten o'clock, and the broccoli at two o'clock. The water was at one o'clock and the pepper had a rubber band around it just to make it easier to navigate our way. It was unimaginable the struggles I went through just to get my food onto the fork and into

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A Message From 1st Vice District Governor Jackie Kurley

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my mouth. I certainly have a new appreciation for my sight.

I strongly recommend that as a Lion you plan to visit this facility and take part in this incredible experience. Did I mention there is no cost to the individual during this entire process? The three weeks stay with food and housing for the client, the time and money spent training and caring for the dog is at no cost to the client. So, as Lions what can we do? Please think about organizing a fundraising event, getting a Leader Dog speaker to your club meeting, or starting a local campaign for awareness in your community like Dollars for Dogs. These types of programs make us proud to be Lions.

Yours in Lionism,

Lion Jackie Kurley, 1st Vice District Governor

A Message From 2nd Vice District Governor Steve Weld



I hope your summer was wonderful, and we can now enjoy the seasons change into the loveliness of autumn. Like any time of the year, though, Fall also seems to have a never-ending list of topics constantly demanding our time and attention, and it is easy to lose sight of what is most important. A tongue-in-cheek phrase for this challenge is: "The main thing is to keep the main thing as the main thing."

While it is important for each of us to have a clear sense of what matters most to us personally, a tool which Lions Club International offers to help us consider and pay attention to what is really important at the Club level is the Club Excellence Award. The criteria for the award covers five areas, providing a brief model of what a healthy and effective club should look like.

The five areas are: Membership, Service, LCIF, Leadership and Organizational Excellence, and Marketing. While far from a perfect evaluation tool, any Club can use this very simple application form for a quick but useful strategic review of where they are as a Club. Club members and leaders could then very easily use the discussions generated by this simple review for planning where the Club could spend its time and attention, celebrating its successes, and creating ways to invest in the areas which may detract from future strength and growth.

The deadline has already passed for submission of award applications this year, but now is a great time to start planning for how your Club could qualify next year. Information on the Club Excellence Award can be found in the Member Resource area of the Association website, including the application, as well as criteria for the more challenging and higher level Club 5 Star Excellence Award:

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center/grants-and-awards/association-awards/club-excellence-awards>

Yours in Lionism,

Lion Steve Weld, 2nd Vice District Governor

A Message From District Cabinet Secretary Lion Kim Polk



"I COOK."

On a recent day when my granddaughter was visiting, she wanted to cook. I really did not need to make anything but decided that we would make a small batch of snickerdoodle cookies. She helped get items out that we needed including her apron, mixer, bowl, measuring cups and spoons and various ingredients. I helped her put on her apron and she climbed into her toddler tower so she could reach the counter. With each ingredient she was adamant she would do it and said, "I cook, I cook".



I was able to control most of it until it came to the flour. I thought I had a fairly good idea about how much flour had been put in the bowl, but as I mixed it up, I knew that the batter was too stiff. We rolled the balls and baked them. They were edible but were much harder than they should have been. If she had allowed for more guidance the cookies would have turned out much better.

As I reflected on this cooking experience with Mattie, I thought to myself: What went wrong? We had all the right ingredients. We had all the right utensils and items to bake the cookies. What we did not have was the right attitude from the cook! By her not wanting to listen to anyone and saying, "I cook!" she caused the outcome to be not good. Do I have that "I cook" attitude at times? Sometimes, I do.

So, when we are looking at how we do projects and take on service ideas we need to be asking additional questions beyond just "do we have the right stuff?" How many times do we say, "I cook" (I can do it) when we should be saying "no"? Or if we say "yes", we then need to get others to help or get them involved. By saying "I cook" when we may already have a full schedule, we only do an okay job. It may be a job that you are so-so at and someone else may do a better job. But more importantly, by not allowing others to help, we are not being a team player. Remember there is no "I" in team.

Lions work as a team. Lions also are not just one member. Lions live and work as a group (pride) of Lions. It is a group of people that come together to work for a common cause. The next time you are about to say, "I cook", think about the people you know. Would they enjoy helping you? Would they enjoy creating something exceptional? Ask them to help!

We have finished the first quarter of the Lion's year. If you as the Club Secretary are still struggling with the Lion's portal, please reach out to me. I would be glad to answer any questions you might have. DG Warren has acquired new cheat sheets that might be helpful to you. We would be glad to pass them on to you.

Yours in service,

Lion Kim Polk,
Cabinet Secretary
District 25G

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A Message From District Cabinet Treasurer PDG Ron Guth



Hello District Lions and a mighty ROAR to welcome you to October.

I was sweating in the 90's last week and thinking no global warming in Indiana? I'm sure my thoughts won't be the same towards the end of October looking at frost on the ground.

Speaking of change, have we as Lions changed? On one hand, my answer is no, we still serve our community and we still do fundraisers to support our projects for the community. We still give funds to state projects and LCIF, so they in turn can serve our state, national and international programs of helping those in need. But, on the other hand, we have changed. We have made changes to how we report our service and let LCI know of membership changes. We get most of our news via

electronic means instead of a newspaper or monthly publication. How many of us still have a home phone tied to a wall? With few exceptions, we no longer sell brooms and light bulbs as fund raisers, but any type of food item still does well because we all love to eat! We don't demand that Lions attend all meetings, but still expect them to serve if they are able. There are people out in the community that would make great Lions and it's our job to find them and "Just Ask": Do you want to have fun helping others with me?

Click on the Newsletters/Links tab from the home page of our district website lions25g.org and you will see links to our district newsletters along with the Hoosier Lion. As a bonus our district leadership has posted links for easy-to-understand instructions for the member portal.

Got questions for your District Treasurer or PDG give me a shout!

Bite Em,

CT Ron Guth, guthron@comcast.net, 765-460-7177

Celebrating 320 Years of Service

District 25-G recognizes Lions Clubs chartered during the month of October. These clubs have been serving their local communities for a total of 320 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's theme - "Cooking Up Service - Back to the Basics" and IP 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
Peru	October 23, 1938	86
Atwood	October 6, 1954	70
Dunlap	October 19, 1955	69
Baugo Township	October 9, 1958	66
Roann Covered Bridge	October 11, 1995	29

Global Leadership Team



WHERE'S YOUR FINISH LINE?

Little Molly has learned to stay in her pasture, thank goodness. No more rolling under the fence to find greener grass. But if you don't hold tight to her Lead rope, she's off like a rocket, those little legs churning like an airplane propellor. She has also been to horse shows since I've last written, with the little guys riding her. Showing may be good for her ego, but not always for her riders. She carefully checks out where the finish line is, and when she has run her event, she'll go about two steps past the finish line and then stop so abruptly that an unwary rider catapults right over her head. After all, she's

done her job, why should she go any further? Just like when the farrier comes to trim her little feet. When her inner clock tells her the farrier should be done with one little foot, she jerks it out of his hand and plants it. The farrier might as well pack up and go home if he isn't quick enough. And don't even get me started about Molly and the vet. A vet visit is a full contact sport.

Last week I attended one of Zone Chair Wendy Yuhasz' Zone Meetings. Every Club was represented and was given time to talk about their activities and plans. Every Club had been busy, and after listening to the other Clubs, I'm sure everyone went home challenged to do more. I know I did.

Most of the reported activities should have been celebrated in the District newsletter, to say the least, but they seemed like well-kept secrets. If every Club in District 25-G had been that busy, just think of how well we would have demonstrated our motto "We Serve". These Clubs have all gone well beyond the finish line.

I was also fascinated how many Lions present, apparently not officers, pitched in to describe their activities. It was obvious they were quite proud. To me, that's one sign-of a good Club, when members aren't afraid to talk about it. I also guessed that the Club Presidents hadn't handed out speaking assignments before the meeting. These were spontaneous contributions.

So how does a Club leader get to the place where much is accomplished, and the members are happy about it? Perhaps the Club leader lets membership take real ownership, real decision making power, real activities. Perhaps the leader demonstrates their own enthusiasm. Perhaps the leader makes it clear where the finish line is and suggests the benefits of not stopping there.

Perhaps the leader is quick to offer praise and rewards where such are due. Perhaps the leader is more than willing to share credit for a job well done. And here's a wild idea: perhaps the leader is willing to do all of the above.

We've all heard of the concept of "servant leadership". It seems so simple, but many leaders find it so hard to embrace. Too often, we still have leaders whose motto seems to be "my way or the highway". I didn't see any of that at Zone Chair Wendy's meeting.

I'm sure there's a way to teach Molly to take a few extra steps past the finish line. We need leaders willing to take their Clubs a few more steps past the finish line with service. Our motto is still "We Serve". Our goal should be to lead a happy and productive Club, one whose members are happy to serve their communities.

PCC Dave Eisen, Global Leadership Team Coordinator

Global Membership & Extension Team

MISSION 1.5 * A Mission to Grow



Lions of District 25-G: Who have you talked to today? Would this person be community minded and willing to serve, a good candidate as a Lions member? Lions need to expand their services and a good way to do that is to increase membership. This will take team work and Lions are noted for teamwork. We need more members so that we can keep our clubs energized and growing and so (most importantly) we can provide more service for our communities. Whether you have considered it or not, one of the greatest acts of service you can do for someone else is to offer them the opportunity to be a Lion.

Yes, **MISSION 1.5** will be promoted throughout the next years. As we strive to achieve this goal, encourage community members to join us in our humanitarian service, and remember to share how Lions Clubs International Foundation enhances our impact.

Whatever you do, have fun doing it.

Thank you for all of the time and energy you put into your club and your community.

Thank you for wanting to make a difference in your community.

Thank you for offering the opportunity to do the same.

PDG Marlyn Fast, Global Membership & Global Extension Coordinator

Here We Grow Again

Since the start of the current Lions year, 8 district clubs have welcomed 10 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.

Elkhart Lions Club

New Member: Lion Teri Cooper
Sponsor: Lion Linda Choler

Lapaz Lions Club

New Member: Lion Ethan Kertai
Sponsor: Lion Don Balka

Madison Township Lions Club

New Member: Lion Jamie Frickison-Fox
Sponsor: Lion Cheryle Schlarb

Peru Lions Club

New Member: Lion Jeffrey Sinkovics
Sponsor: Lion Kenneth Magers

New Member: Lion Karla Sinkovics
Sponsor: Lion Kenneth Magers



Global Service Team



Good day Lions,

I hope everyone had an awesome September and we finally get the rain we need after 22 days in the drought. My husband and I were at Virginia Beach for my niece's daughter's wedding this past weekend. What a blast! We had so much fun and it was a beautiful day, a gorgeous wedding day. We stayed at the Indian Cove Resort. What an amazing place! Then it was time to head back home. The drive back home was so relaxing, just watching this amazing scenery as we left Virginia Beach. I hope everyone had a great weekend.

In talking with DG Warren, he told us that our Service Hours are way down, so we would like to share this with you to see how we can help you. Reporting your service hours is very helpful for LCI. We don't have very good news about our Service Hours reporting for August. Only 34% of clubs reported any Service Hours. Our goal is to try and get up to 80% and I don't understand why we don't have 100%. Maybe we can do more specific training for secretaries on reporting. We are open to suggestions. How can I help your Club report your Service Hours? I want to help. Here is some information for you.

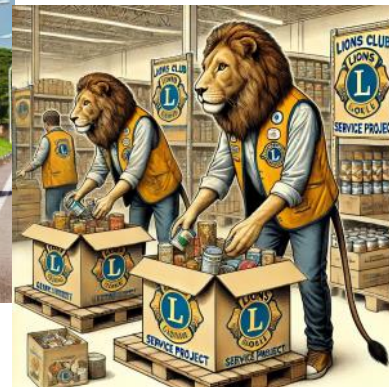
Who can report service?

It's important for your club to know who is responsible for service reporting, so your club receives the benefits. In a Lions Club, the Service Chairperson is responsible for service reporting, although many clubs choose to have the Club Secretary or Club President report. In a Leo Club, the President, Secretary, or Leo Club Advisor can report service. Your club can appoint an administrator to handle service reporting.

See the documents entitled 'Service Activity Information' and 'Why Report Service' for additional information about Service Reporting. They should have been attached to the email message with this newsletter. You can also find information about Service Reporting on the LCI website at <https://lionsclubs.org/service-reporting>.

Thank you,

Lion PDG Mary Klempay, Global Service Coordinator
574-286-4499



LCIF Coordinators Update



**Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION**

Hello Lions! I am your LCIF District Co-Coordinator Sopheap Long (call me Sophie). You all know my other half, 1st VDG and LCIF District Coordinator Lion Jackie Kurley! To tell you a little bit about me, I am from Middlebury, I am Cambodian American, I have a 13-year-old daughter who I like to refer to as my "mini-me", I am a Boilermaker (Go Purdue!), I love food, I love to travel, and I am SUPER proud of being a Lion!

Now, I have to admit, when I joined the team, I honestly didn't know what this role meant. What the heck does a District Coordinator do??? To put it in simple terms, we are ambassadors for LCIF. We are here to educate and promote the Mission. We promote LCIF fundraising efforts. We provide grant application assistance. We encourage Lions to give annually. We work closely with District Governors and other Lion leaders. But the greatest role of all, WE HAVE FUN! So, after attending meetings, conferences, and training sessions, we are ready to SERVE you!

Lion Jackie and I are looking forward to visiting your Club and working hand in hand with your Club Coordinator to help promote LCIF's humanitarian work.

"Make your Mark!"

Lion Sophie Long, LCIF Coordinator

sopheap.long@gmail.com

District Website

Need help with the LCI Portal?

'Cheat Sheets' to use the LCI Portal
Click on an item below to download the file

[To Add an Officer](#)
[To Delete an Officer](#)
[To Drop a Member](#)
[To Add a Member](#)
[To Record Service Activities](#)
[Treasurer's Reports](#)

If the new LCI Portal has you somewhat confused, we've added several 'cheat sheets' for six of the common areas that secretaries and treasurers can use to simplify their work. We've put these on the district's website, www.lions25g.com. When you get the home page, click on '**Newsletters and Useful Links**' on the left side. At the bottom of the page that opens, you will see the box as shown to the left. Click on the topic you want for detailed 'how to' instructions.

(Submitted by PDG Marty Juel, Elkhart Lions Club)

Did you know?



Have you misplaced the district newsletter you just downloaded and can't find it on your computer? Would you like to see a previous issue of the Hoosier Lion but can't find it? Are you looking for names of district leadership individuals, or the names of Lions with specific responsibilities? Well, you can do all this on our district website (www.lions25g.com). Go to the website and click on '**Newsletters and Useful Links**' on the left side.

(Submitted by PDG Marty Juel, Elkhart Lions Club)

News from Around the District

District 25-G Lions Attend USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum

District 25-G was represented at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Louisville, Kentucky in September by 9 Lions and family members from 2 district clubs:

Baugo Township Lions Club: District Governor Warren Allender and Susi.

Dunlap Lions Club: 1st Vice District Governor Jackie Kurley, 2nd Vice District Governor Steve Weld, Lion Laura Doty, Past District Governor Marlyn Fast and Lion Amanda, Lion Kori Fortunato, and Lion Judy Gable.



1st Vice District Governor Jackie Kurley (left) and 2nd Vice District Governor Steve Weld (right) received their Lions University Masters Degree certificates from Lions International President Fabrício Oliveira.

Dunlap Lions Club members 1st Vice District Governor Jackie Kurley and Lion Kori Fortunato are pictured here with their luncheon table host Past International Director Ken Ibarra.



Middlebury Lions Club Donates Personal First Aid Kits to Local Food Bank



The Middlebury Lions Club donated 50 personal first aid kits to the Middlebury Food Pantry. The kits were assembled by Lions volunteers at the Mid-Winter Conference and State Convention. The kits were divided between the 7 District Governors for distribution in their respective districts.

Pictured here, left to right, are Lion Timshel Buchen , a Volunteer Coordinator and Executive Assistant at the Food Pantry, Lion Sopheap Long, and Pam Bingaman, Executive Director of the Food Pantry.

(Submitted by 1st VDG Jackie Kurley, Dunlap Lions Club)

News from Around the District

Culver Lions Welcome District Governor, Perform Vision Screening



Left: The Culver Lions Club welcomed District Governor Warren Allender and Susi to their meeting on August 28th. DG Warren and Susi are pictured here with Lion Dan Adams.

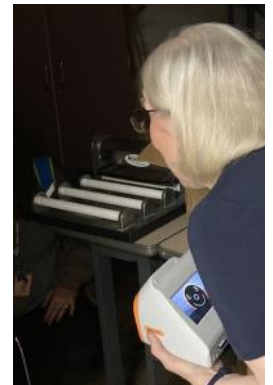
Right: During the meeting, Lion Lynn Davis (seated) was recognized as the Lion of the Month.



The Culver Lions Club was well-represented at the District's Banner Night celebration. Lions pictured here are (seated, l. to r.) Jill Neidlinger, Marilyn Kelly, (standing, l. to r.) Dan Adams, Joy McCarthy, Kellie Harris, Jennah Fairchild, Laura Anderson, and Maureen Dickinson.

On September 11, the Culver Lions screened the vision of 212 amazing students at Culver Elementary and Middle School! Grades 1, 3, 5, and 8 were the focus, ensuring our young learners are seeing the world clearly. Families will be notified if a formal optometrist screening is needed, and the Lions are here to help with financial assistance for those in need.

Pictured below: Our dedicated Lions working hard to screen both elementary and middle school students, including using the Opti-Plex computerized camera designed especially for ages 2-6!



(Submitted by Lion Laura Anderson, Culver Lions Club)



Your club news could be here. Send articles and photos to PDG Paul Russell <pdgpaul25g@gmail.com> by the 25th of the month.

News from Around the District

Elkhart Lions Install Officers, Use Yard Signs to Promote Membership



At the Elkhart Lions Club meeting on September 18th, Past District Governor Brian Thomas officially installed the club officers for the 2024-2025 Lions year.

Pictured here (l. to r.) are PDG Brian Thomas, Secretary Sandy Iavagnillo, Vice President Cliff Yehle, Director Denise Polachek, Director Larry Moor, and President Dick Trowbridge.

The club has installed yard signs like the one pictured here in members' yards on a rotating basis and has received several positive responses and inquiries.

(Submitted by PDG Brian Thomas, Elkhart Lions Club)



Lydick Lions Lead the Way with Operation KidSight in St. Joseph County

In September, the Lydick Lions Club began Operation KidSight vision screening in St. Joseph County for the 2024-2025 school year. This is our 2nd year and the list of facilities has grown. We have 18 schools scheduled ... just the beginning of a LONG list ... as scheduling and screening continues. We have been assisted by members of the Mishawaka, Clay Granger, and Lakeville Lions Clubs. We have also been assisted by Lion Naphtali Chilenga, a Lions Club member from Malawi, Africa. He is studying nursing at a college in South Bend and enjoys connecting with Lions Club to help where he can.

It's a pleasure to serve the children, to help ensure they get the help they need.

Many thanks to all the Lions who are assisting with this service.



Left: Lions Cathy Day, Jim Day, Connie Price, and Wendy Yuhasz at Lafayette Early Childhood Center.

Right: Lions Karen Swisher, Mike Lane, Naphtali Chilenga, Teckla Lane (not pictured) at East Bank Learning Center.



(Submitted by Lion Teckla Lane, Lydick Lions Club)

News from Around the District

Lydick Lions Build Step and Handrails for Local Couple

Lydick Lions members Christine Bella and Marie Briggs had an idea to help their friends Mike and Sandy. They explained to our club their friends were in need of some help getting into their house. Our Lions members, Mike Lane, Leroy Wise, Mark Perkins and Chris Bella worked together to construct a new step and handrails for their front porch. It's now much easier for them to get in and out of their house. Mike and Sandy are very happy with the outcome and appreciate everything we did! Well done Lydick Lions!!

Below left: Lion Mike Lane and Lion Leroy Wise

Below center: Lion Mark Perkins, Lion Chris Bella, Lion Mike Lane, Lion Leroy Wise

Below right: The project is complete!



(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)

Lydick Lions Distribute Dictionaries to Third-Graders at Holy Cross School

It's dictionary season for the Lydick Lions!! Our club's distribution of dictionaries to third graders in our community has begun! On September 10th, Lions Wendy Yuhasz, Leroy Wise, Christine Bella, and Karen Trzaskowski handed out 21 English dictionaries and 25 Spanish/English dictionaries to the third graders at Holy Cross Grade School in South Bend. We received a huge welcome and a big thank you from some excited kids! Along with presenting each student with their own dictionary, Lion Leroy shared facts about the Lions Club and some tips on using the dictionary. Thank you to Holy Cross Grade School for allowing us to meet your third graders!



(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)

News from Around the District

Lydick, Clay Granger, & Mishawaka Lions Volunteer at Cultivate Food Rescue

What does it take to package 1,183 meals to feed approximately 200 kids? 16 volunteers from 3 Lions Clubs! Hats off to the crew of volunteers who helped accomplish this on Tuesday, September 24th at Cultivate Food Rescue! Great job Lions!

Who are these Masked Marvels?

Lydick Lions - Bernie Ferro, Stephanie Szczepankiewicz, Mike & Teckla Lane, Jim & Cathy Day, John Pangani, Barbara Kidd, Elaine Gaulin, Leroy Wise and Christine Bella, along with our friends Marcia Labelle and Vickie Jones.

Clay Granger Lions - John Krzyzanowski

Mishawaka Lions - PDG Lana Wilson

Below left: Left Side (Front to Back) Elaine Gaulin, Teckla Lane, Mike Lane; Right Side (Front to Back) Christine Bella, Marcia Labelle, Vickie Jones

Below center: Bernie Ferro

Below right: Left Side (Front to Back) John Krzyzanowski, Jim Day, Lana Wilson, John Pangani, Stephanie Szczepankiewicz; Right Side (Front) Leroy Wise



Left to Right: Unidentified Cultivate Volunteer, PDG Lana Wilson, Bernie Ferro, Vickie Jones, Stephanie Szczepankiewicz, Mike Lane, Teckla Lane, Jim Day, Cathy Day, John Pangani, Barbara Kidd, Elaine Gaulin, John Krzyzanowski, Leroy Wise, and Christine Bella

(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)

News from Around the District

LaFontaine Lions Promote Community, Welcome DG, Recognize 13-Year Member for Service



Left: The LaFontaine Lions Club collaborates with the LaFontaine Community Alliance to promote and support the LaFontaine Community. Lions Stephan Polk, Donna Pattee-Ballard, Dave Ballard, and Bubba Pattee pop and serve up our famous Kettle Corn at the LaFontaine End of the Summer Block Party.



Right: LaFontaine Lions hosted DG Warren and Susie at their meeting on September 12th. Lions were inspired to continue cooking up service by DG Warren. PDG Tom Polk and Lion Kim presented DG Warren & Susie with a basket of goodies from local businesses around the theme of cooking. DG Warren was greatly interested in the cookbook that was included in the basket!



Left: The Club honored Lion Andy Kirk with a Melvin Jones Fellowship presented by DG Warren for his ongoing service and commitment to the Club and the community. Lion Andy is a 13-year member of the LaFontaine Lions Club.

(Submitted by Lion Kim Polk, LaFontaine Lions Club)

LaFontaine Lions Support Childhood Literacy Through Dictionary Project



LaFontaine Lions are invested in the youth of our community. On September 17th, Lions Ethel Eib, Dave Ballard and Jerry Wilson distributed dictionaries to 68 third-grade students at Southwood Elementary. Students and teachers greatly appreciate the dictionaries every year.

(Submitted by Lion Kim Polk, LaFontaine Lions Club)

News from Around the District

LaFontaine Lions Cooking Up Kettle Corn and Ham & Beans at Wabash Founders Day



On September 13 & 14, the LaFontaine Lions were busy at Wabash Founders Day popping and serving Kettle Corn and cooking up Ham & Beans DG Warren's style in cast iron pots! It was a very hot weekend for our Ham & Beans, but participants didn't seem to mind as long as they could wash it down with our cold Sassafras Tea! We sold out!



(Submitted by Lion Kim Polk, LaFontaine Lions Club)

Peru Lions Cooking Up Service

Peru Lions Club has been very busy with a visit from DG Warren Allender and Susi, inducting 2 new members, giving over 300 dictionaries to our two local schools (Peru Community Schools and Maconaquah School Corporation), unloading food trucks for the Buddy Bag program, and we started our School Site Vision Screening for the year.



Left: Lion Kenny Magers, President Kim Burton, Lion Karen Magers, Lion Beth Guth, Lion Chrystal Burton, Lion Dennis Eckerley, Lion Susie Landgrave and IPDG Ron Guth distributing dictionaries to Peru Community Schools.

Below: IPDG Ron Guth, Lion Valerie Nelson, Lion Beth Guth, Lion Karen Magers, Lion Willie Nelson and Lion Kenny Magers distributed dictionaries to Maconaquah Elementary 3rd graders.



Left: IPDG Ron Guth loves to act silly after Lion Beth gives a short talk about why we are there.

(Submitted by Lion Beth Guth, Peru Lions Club)

News from Around the District

Peru Lions Club Welcomes 2 New Members (Just Ask)

During his official visit to the Peru Lions Club on September 17, 2024, DG Warren Allender had the honor of inducting 2 new members into the Peru Lions Club.

Both of these new Lions had helped us in our "Tenderlion" trailer during this year's Circus City Festival, had so much fun doing it, and were asked to join, and said "YES".

Sometimes all you have to do is "Just Ask" for help, and have fun, and then ask both husband and wife to join. Then you've got 2 new members instead of 1.



Pictured (L-R) DG Warren Allender, (sponsor) Lion Ken Magers, (new) Lion Jeff Sinkovics and (new) Lion Karla Sinkovics.

(Submitted by Lion Ken Magers, Peru Lions Club)

Lakeville Lions Welcome District Governor, Raise Funds for Childhood Cancer

The Lakeville Lions Club welcomed District Governor Warren Allender and Susi to their dinner meeting on September 24th.

Club President Lion Jim Tibbs informed the members that the club has raised more than \$800 for childhood cancer with its food trailer at the First Friday events in North Liberty. The total includes both net profits and tips.

DG Warren spoke to the club about the district goals for membership growth. He also encouraged the club to support two services areas: Leader Dogs for the Blind and initiatives to address childhood cancer. He presented the club with a candle from the Lions Cancer Control Fund of Indiana, Inc. (CCF) and explained that he is asking each club to use the candle as a fundraiser for childhood cancer. Past President Lion Larry Ort conducted a Progressive Auction in which each bidder contributed the amount of their bid when they made their bid. The opening bid was \$5, the final bid was \$26, and the Progressive Auction raised \$136 for CCF's Riley Challenge.



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.

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

PDG Marlyn Fast (Dunlap)	mafast1107@gmail.com	574-538-1090
Lion Rose Russell (Lakeville)	RoseWRussell@gmail.com	574-250-0125
(vacant)		

Indiana Lions Foundation



233 Lions, Leos, family members, and friends representing 67 Lions Clubs and Leo Clubs from throughout the state of Indiana worked 6,971 hours for the Indiana Lions Foundation at the 2024 Indiana State Fair. This includes 25 volunteers from 9 clubs in District 25-G.

This project is the Foundation's single largest fundraiser and we want to thank every volunteer who helped make this our most successful year.

The Foundation has announced that W.P. Woods Fellowship credits earned at the Indiana State Fair can be transferred to another individual or club, or used to request a \$200 Community Service Grant for an Indiana Lions Club or district, an Indiana Lions state project, LCIF, or the Foundation. The rules governing the use of W.P. Woods Fellowship credits are appended below, and a form to transfer credits or request a Community Service Grant is on the next page.

(Submitted by Lion Rose Russell, Trustee, Indiana Lions Foundation)

Rules for Redeeming State Fair Credits Announced

A person (Lion or non-Lion) may use their state fair credits in one of three ways as follows:

1. Expend 10 of their accumulated credits for a W. P. Woods Fellowship for oneself or to give to another person (Lion or non-Lion) in recognition of their commitment to community service
2. Expend 10 of their accumulated credits for a \$200 Community Service Grant for a Lions club located in Indiana. A check for \$200 will be made out to the designated club and mailed to the person using the credits for their presentation to the club in a manner of their choosing.
3. Expend 10 of their accumulated credits for a grant to one of the five Indiana Lions state projects, LCIF, one of the seven MD25 districts or the Indiana Lions Foundation. A check for \$200 will be made out to the designated state project, LCIF, district or the Foundation and mailed to the requesting person for their presentation to the receiving organization. A person may wish to present the check to one of their district trustees of the designated state project or perhaps mail the check with a cover letter to the state project with a personal note relating why they are supportive of the work of that state project.

A person (Lion or non-Lion) can transfer their credits to an Indiana club, an MD25 District or to another Lion. Two or more Lions who don't have 10 accumulated credits as individuals could band together and decide to transfer their credits to one person or to a club, who could then amass the required 10 credits to use in one of the three ways stated above. A Lion or non-Lion may wish to transfer their credits to an MD25 District to allow the District Governor to present W. P. Woods fellowships.

In a fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) a person or club may only use 10 of their accumulated credits either for the \$200 Community Service Grant to a club or for a \$200 grant to one of the state projects, LCIF, MD25 district or the Foundation.

If you have any questions contact one of the Indiana Lions Foundation trustees in your district or one of the following individuals:

Lion Rose Russell	574-250-0125	RoseWRussell@gmail.com
PCC Sue Topf	317-332-5450	pccsue@indianalions.org
Lion John Wilkins	317-408-7515	jw6222@earthlink.net

TRANSFER STATE FAIR CREDITS

Transfer Credits From: _____
(Name of individual or club)

Transfer Credits To: _____
(Name of individual, club, or district)

APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT

CLUB REQUEST (One \$200 grant allowed per year)

Club Name: _____

Club Address: _____

APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT

INDIVIDUAL REQUEST (One \$200 grant to an Indiana Lions State Project, LCIF, or Indiana Lions Foundation per year)

Individual Name: _____

Individual Address: _____

Check will be made payable to Grant Recipient specified below and mailed to individual named above.

Grant Recipient (check one):

- ☐ Cancer Control Fund
- ☐ Eye Bank
- ☐ ISBVI
- ☐ Leader Dog
- ☐ Speech & Hearing
- ☐ LCIF
- ☐ Indiana Lions Foundation

Complete this form and send it to PCC Sue Topf.

Email: PCCSue@indianalions.org

Mail: PCC Sue Topf
9152 Key Lane
Clermont, IN 46234

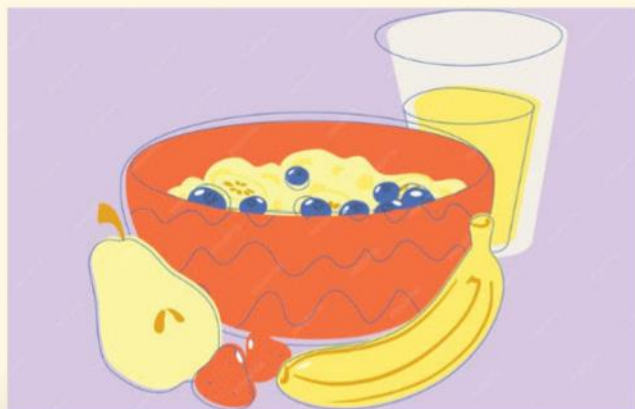
This box is for Indiana Lions Foundation use only.

Credits verified by:

Saturday
Nov 9

Breakfast: 9-9:30 am
Meeting 9:30 am-Noon

Hosted by
Argos Lions
B&R Building
152 S. Michigan St.
Argos, IN



\$8⁰⁰ *each*

Menu: Fruit bowl,
rolls, juice, coffee.

2nd
DISTRICT
25-G
MEETING

Don't miss DG Warren Allender's second district meeting!
Another great opportunity for a great breakfast, and
OUTSTANDING fellowship.

There will be lots of handouts for and a chance to help fill LCIF
containers with your loose change.



2nd District Meeting Reservations

Name _____ Club _____

Name _____ Club _____

Name _____ Club _____

Name _____ Club _____

Name _____ Club _____

Mail this reservation and your check payable to District 25-G to:

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

Previews of Coming Attractions



**Madison Township Lions Club
Pork Chop Sale**

Saturday, October 5, 2024

11 AM to 2 PM

Madison Township Fire Station

66341 SR 331, Wyatt, Indiana

Pork Chops

\$8.00 each

10 or more \$7.50 each

Carry-Out Only



**Bourbon Lions Club
Annual Port-A-Pit Fundraiser**

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

11 AM to 5 PM

Bourbon Lions Den

510 Maplewood Avenue, Bourbon, Indiana

1/2 Chicken \$9 Pork Chop \$9 Pit-tatoes \$5

Carry-Out Only

For Tickets, please call Lion Peggy 862-268-1399



SMOKED PULLED PORK DINNER

Saturday, November 2 , 4:00—7:00 pm

LaFontaine Community Building—103 West Branson Street, LaFontaine

Smoked Pulled Pork Dinner:

Choice of Pork Sandwich or Pork Loaded Fries &
Choice of 2 sides: French Fries, Baked Beans or
Cole Slaw —\$12.00

Smoked Pulled Pork Child's Dinner:

Choice of Slider Pork Sandwich or small Pork
Loaded Fries & 1 side. Cost—\$6.00

Desserts available for donation.



We Serve

LaFontaine Lions Club – proudly
serving our community for 85 years

And Now For Something A Little Bit Different

We're Cleaning Out the Closet at the Elkhart Lions Club



The Elkhart Lions Club has two little libraries available to any club interested in promoting reading. One is in complete condition, the other needs some repair to the front door. Both are available for pickup in Elkhart or can be delivered at the next cabinet meeting.

Contact PDG Brian Thomas at 574-596-7411 or brian10k@aol.com.



The Elkhart Lions Club has two 10x12 tarps complete with hardware for setup. These are a bargain at \$35 each. Contact PDG Brian Thomas at 574-596-7411 or brian10k@aol.com.

Indiana Lions State Convention

Indiana Lions State Convention

The 2025 Indiana Lions State Convention will be held Friday—Sunday, April 25-27, 2025 at the Farmstead Inn and Conference Center in Shipshewana, Indiana. District 25-G will be the host district for this convention. Past District Governor Marlyn Fast and Past District Governor Brian Thomas are the co-chairmen of the organizing committee for the convention and they are still looking for volunteers. Please contact PDG Marlyn or PDG Brian to volunteer.

PDG Marlyn Fast, mafast1107@gmail.com, 574-538-1090

PDG Brian Thomas, brian10k@aol.com, 574-596-7411



Indiana Lions Mid-Winter Conference

Make Your Mark In Indiana



The 2025 Indiana Lions Mid-Winter Conference will be held Friday and Saturday, January 17-18, 2025 at the Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Airport hotel in Indianapolis. The theme for the conference will be "Make Your Mark In Indiana".

Some Indiana Lions say the Mid-Winter Conference is "the best place for learning" about leadership, service, and all aspects of Lionism. We offer seminars on club administration, community service, fundraising, and membership recruitment and retention, as well as opportunities for service, fellowship with Lions from around the state, and plain old everyday Lions fun.

We're Holding the Line on Prices! 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.

Registration forms will be available soon on the Indiana Lions website at <http://indianalions.org/>.



Indiana Lions Mid-Winter Conference Make Your Mark In Indiana



Silent Auction

We are in need of items for the silent auction at the 2025 Mid-Winter Conference. If you would like to donate something, please contact either Co-Chair Lion Gretchen Xinopoulos at liongretchen@att.net or PDG Linda Scott at lindamscott@comcast.net.

Funds raised from this silent auction will go toward support of the Mid-Winter Conference, to help defray the costs of the conference. Thank you for your willingness to make this event a success.



**Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Airport
January 17-18, 2025**



MD-25 LIONS

2026

International Pin Design Contest!



2024



2025



What
will be
2026?

YOU COULD BE THE NEXT DESIGNER CHOSEN!

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

Pins **MUST** include: **Design must be NO larger than 1 ¼ inch to 1 ½ inch
in diameter when made!**

- 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.

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 Committee chair by January 3, 2025. You can scan and attach it to an email and send it to _warrenallender@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 professional designer and jewelers can clean it up your drawings.

Be creative and have fun!

District __G__

State Pin Committee Contact: __DG Warren Allender__



District Governor's Calendar

October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 DG Visit Wakarusa LC	2	3	4	5 Council of Governors Meeting
6	7 DG Visit Milford LC	8 DG Visit Madison Twp LC	9 DG Visit North Manchester LC	10 DG Visit Laketon LC	11	12
13	14 DG Visit Lydick LC	15	16	17 DG Visit Dunlap LC	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 DG Visit Syracuse LC	29	30	31		



District Governor's Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 District Meeting, Argos
10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15 Peace Posters Due to DG	16
17	18 DG Visit New Paris LC	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanks-giving	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, Nov 9, 2024 District Meeting
B&R Building, Argos

Fri-Sat, Jan 17-18, 2025 Mid-Winter Conference
Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Airport, Indianapolis

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



Happy Halloween!

