

DISTRICT 36R Q4 2026 CABINET MEETING AGENDA

Date: May 23, 2026 **Time:** 10am

Location: Yachats Lions Clubhouse, 344 4th St. Yachats, OR 97498

*Zoom will also be available

Schedule:

9:30 arrival – Refreshments will be available. Donations welcome!

10:00 am Opening

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Moment of Silence
- Introductions
- Welcome - DG Karen Norton
- Approval of Minutes from Q3 Cabinet Meeting

Officer Reports

- District Governor – DG Karen Norton
- Immediate Past District Governor – PDG Linda Stent
- First Vice District Governor – Lion Allan Oakes
- Second Vice District Governor – Open
- Cabinet Secretary – Lion Diane Bash
- Cabinet Treasurer; Finance & Budget – Lion Brian Rangitsch

Administration Reports

- District Administrator – Lion Diane Bash
- District Marketing Chair – Open
- Information Technology – Lion David Nielson
- Public Relations & Lions Information – Lion David Nielson

MD Representative Reports

- Constitution & By-Laws – Lion David Nielson
- District Honorary Committee – PID Ed Gear
- International Understanding & Cooperation – PID Ed Gear
- LCIF Coordinator – Lion Pat Paradis
- PDG Association Rep – PDG Linda Stent
- Policy Manual – OPEN

DISTRICT 36R Q4 2026 CABINET MEETING AGENDA

Global Action Team Reports

- Extension – DG Karen Norton
- Leadership – Lion Susan Pfanner
- Membership – PCC Lynn Coon
- Service – PDG Rod Bach

Region/Zone Reports

*Discussion – Rezoning of Zone Chair Responsibilities, led by DG Karen Norton

▪ **Region 1**

Zone 1 – Fran Camacho-Silbernagel (Mill City, Salem Downtown, Salem South, Stayton)

Zone 2 – John DeBo (Central, Dallas, Keizer, Mt. Angel, Salem West, Silverton, Woodburn)

Zone 3 – Bill Scheler (Albany East, Corvallis, Jefferson, Philomath)

▪ **Region 2**

Zone 1 – Lion Edwena Matychuck (Alvadore-Franklin, Central Linn, Eugene Bethel, Junction City)

Zone 2 – Lion Henry Miller (Mohawk Valley, Springfield)

Zone 3 – Lion Reilly Newman (Cottage Grove, Elkton, Eugene Downtown)

▪ **Region 3**

Zone 1 – Lion TiAnne Rios (Newport, Yachats)

Zone 2 – Lion Linda Stent (Florence-Siuslaw, Gard/Reeds, Lakeside, Mapleton, Waldport)

10 min Break

Committee Reports

Convention Updates

- One multidistrict convention next year, possibly in April.

Service Chairperson Reports

- Camps Rep – Monica Henkle
- Canine Services – Open
- Childhood Cancer – DG Karen Norton
- Diabetes Awareness & Action – PDG Holly Sparks
- Disaster Response – Jim Origliosso
- Environmental – Susan Pfanner
- Hearing Preservation, Awareness and Action – Open
- Hunger Relief – Open
- Sight Preservation, Awareness, and Action – Dr. Tim Arbow

DISTRICT 36R Q4 2026 CABINET MEETING AGENDA

Opportunities for Youth Reports

- Leos – Cassidy Vassalo
- Lions Quest – Open
- Peace Poster Contest – TiAnne Rios
- Reading Action Program – Judy Bachman
- Scouting
- Youth Exchange (international exchanges) – Open

Old Business

New Business

- District opportunities to - Mary Cole Days in Marcola, June 13th & Driving books to Elkton on June 15th
- Open positions on the Cabinet-need help
- To Zone chairs- discuss redoing clubs assigned to zone chairs=discussion
- Leadership & Zone Chair Training 8/22
- Dates for 2026-27 Cabinet meetings: 8/22 (Tangent), 11/7, 2/13/27 & 5/22/27
- Locations for Cabinet meetings-options are Alvadore, Keizer & Yachats, right now, or?
- Opinions on having a one day conference in February
- Overall plans for 2026-27 Lion's year

1:00 Adjournment

DISTRICT 36R Q3 2026 CABINET MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 6th, 2026 **Time:** 9am-12:00pm

Location: Holiday Inn Express, 919 Kruse Way – Riverbend 3 Room, Springfield, OR 97477

Attendance: 19 Lions were present, including Past International President Patti Hill.

8:30 arrival – Morning Refreshments and lunch were provided courtesy of the Springfield and Junction City Lions Clubs.

9:00 am Opening

- DG Karen Norton
- Pledge of Allegiance – Past Council Chair Lion Lynn Coon led us in the pledge.
- Moment of Silence for those who have passed on. Those in mind are Lion Carl West's wife, Lion Paul Nordling, Steve Moser.
- Introductions – Special recognition of PID Dr. Patti Hill
- Announcements - DG Karen Norton
 - Service projects – Making valentines for Heartfelt House after the meeting today, and eyeglasses sorting after the meeting today.
 - Quarter 4 Cabinet meeting will be on May 23rd at Yachats Lions Clubhouse at 10 am.
 - Voting rights at the cabinet meeting will be extended to all those present that are on the District Cabinet.
- Approval of Minutes from Q3 Cabinet Meeting – Kelly Tharp
 - PCC Lion Lynn moved to accept the minutes from the previous cabinet meeting as presented; Lion Rod Bach seconded; motion carried.

Officer Reports

- District Governor – DG Karen Norton – March Madness membership drive is coming up. She thanked those who participated in the recent food drive. There is still no Vice District Governor. Please consider anyone who is qualified and willing to step up.
- Immediate Past District Governor – PDG Linda Stent had no report
- First Vice District Governor – Open
- Second Vice District Governor – Open
- Cabinet Secretary – Diane Bash summarized her report. Encouraged cabinet members to seek out more information as needed to do their position. Still working on assisting club secretaries.
- Cabinet Treasurer; Finance & Budget – Brian Rangitsch – Report summary shared by DG Karen Norton - not many changes, the convention expenses won't show up until next quarter.
 - New Hunger grant proposal will be for a freeze dryer purchase for emergency preparation.

Motion: PCC Lion Lynn moved to approve the treasurer's report, Lion Henry seconded. Motion carried.

Administration Reports

- District Administrator – Diane Bash. I have resumed my duties so have full access to the Portal. The portal has changed. It seems more intuitive. I can change membership and check information. Club administrators can assist the Club secretary in recording service.
- District Marketing Chair – Open
- Information Technology – David Nielson – Website is the main source of information for clubs. Newsletters "The Roar" goes out monthly, but to receive it, members are encouraged to supply a personal email address into the Portal system with membership information, as business email addresses usually don't go through. The Governor's page has photos and info. about clubs she visits. The "Information" link takes you to Cabinet Meeting and Convention pages, including past and current reports.

DISTRICT 36R Q3 2026 CABINET MEETING MINUTES

- Public Relations & Lions Information – David Nielson – He posts newsletters of clubs sent to him, as well as Facebook and website links. Google calendar is available for others to connect to. Advertisers are listed in this section.

MD Representative Reports

- Constitution & By-Laws – David Nielson – A record of Resolutions must be kept for legal and historical purposes.
- District Honorary Committee – Ed Gear – No report
- International Understanding & Cooperation – Ed Gear spoke about the privilege of having Patti Hill with us and their history as Lion friends.
- LCIF Coordinator – Pat Paradis – report on website. Lion Rod Bach was asked to report on the LCIF grants, how generous they can be. Requests must be done correctly. Food bank is being built partially from a \$75k grant. It will serve 5 counties. Our donations to LCIF help others and can come back to us in funding.
- PDG Association Rep – Linda Stent – Meetings are open to others, next one is this Sunday night at 7 pm, Zoom.
- Policy Manual – OPEN

Global Action Team Reports

- Extension – DG Karen Norton – Plan to start pushing for clubs in Veneta and Sweethome.
- Leadership – Susan Pfanner – not present
- Membership – Lynn Coon – More members, more service! Down 16 members in the District. March Membership Madness is coming up to increase membership. Invite others to get come to do service, come to a meeting. Orientation for members is important, and everyone needs to be reminded and learn changes in Lions. Host a membership event, inviting others, plan new activities, and follow through. He has an “Exit Survey” available for those who left your club, as a tool to follow up. He has tips for gaining membership through service opportunities.
- Service – Rod Bach – Service means more members! Presented prizes including a pie to Reilly Newman from Cottage Grove Club for their contribution to the food drive from this quarter. 3,427 pounds of food have been collected since the beginning of the Lion year.

Region/Zone Reports – please read reports online

(DG Karen asked Zone Chairs to talk about which clubs in their zone area need the most help and why.)

▪ **Region 1**

Zone 1 – Fran Camacho-Silbernagel (Mill City, Salem Downtown, Salem South, Stayton)

Some clubs are experiencing challenges like aging out, and midday meetings.

Zone 2 – John DeBo (Central, Dallas, Keizer, Mt. Angel, Salem West, Silverton, Woodburn) Challenges are low membership - Dallas has only 4 members and Mt Angel has 7 members.

Zone 3 – Bill Scheler (Albany East, Corvallis, Jefferson, Philomath) – Rick Hammil is here with Bill's report.

▪ **Region 2**

Zone 1 – Lion Edwena Matychuck (Alvadore-Franklin, Central Linn, Eugene Bethel, Junction City) – DG Karen summarized highlights for these clubs.

Zone 2 – Lion Henry Miller (Mohawk Valley, Springfield) – Read his report.

Zone 3 – Lion Reilly Newman (Cottage Grove, Elkton, Eugene Downtown) Highlighted report – EDT Club April 23rd spaghetti dinner; Cottage Grove is adding 2 new members; Elkton – hosting an Easter Egg hunt. Added a new (18-year-old) member!

▪ **Region 3**

Zone 1 – Lion TiAnne Rios (Newport, Yachats) not here.

DISTRICT 36R Q3 2026 CABINET MEETING MINUTES

Zone 2 – Lion Linda Stent (Florence-Siuslaw, Gardiner-Reedsport, Lakeside, Mapleton, Waldport) – Increase in membership in each club except Lakeside.

15 min Break

Committee Reports

Convention Chairperson Reports

- Awards, Honors & Contests – Open
- Convention Planning – PDG Linda Stent & Fran Camacho-Silbernagel – Doors open early for convention in the morning with a 9:am start time.
- Credentials – Susan Pfanner – not present but will have a report at convention 2/7/2026.
- Protocol/Parliamentarian

Service Chairperson Reports – available reports are on the website

- Camps Rep – Monica Henkle – Not present. Camps Gale's Creel and Millenium will have tables set up at convention tomorrow.
- Canine Services – Open
- Childhood Cancer – DG Karen Norton – February is Lions Cancer Awareness month. Valentines project at this cabinet mtg - making valentines for children at Heartfelt House.
- Diabetes Awareness & Action – PDG Holly Sparks – Not present
- Disaster Response – Jim Origliosso. Lion Jon Debo reported that Tillamook will have a week-long emergency preparedness event – statewide.
- Environmental – Susan Pfanner. (A week of service is happening 18-26 April, look for more information to come.)
- Hearing Preservation, Awareness and Action – Open
- Hunger Relief – Open
- Sight Preservation, Awareness, and Action – Dr. Tim Arbow – not present

Opportunities for Youth Reports

- Leos – Cassidy Vassallo – Not present
- Lions Quest – Open
- Peace Poster Contest – TiAnne Rios; DG Karen will make an at convention tomorrow.
- Reading Action Program – Judy Bachman – Shared her report. If anyone in a club is involved in Imagination Library, please let Judy know. The Smart Reader program is looking for helpers in several areas. Please explore the 6-page report.
- Scouting
- Youth Exchange (international exchanges) – Open

New Business

DG Karen is asking the cabinet members to consider the Elkton library situation, and she spoke about choices to support them, such as a grant or a book drive.

Donated LCIF funds could transfer from the District to a Club's donated funds, if they need it, to apply for a DCG Grant.

For the Good of the Order: PIP Dr. Patti Hill talked with us about leaving a Lion Legacy. She will bring forms to the convention tomorrow. She is a current trustee for LCIF and explained how the grant applications work. Each club needs an LCIF coordinator to have official access to the account to keep track of the balance, and try to donate \$5,000 for the year. Share this information with your club members.

DISTRICT 36R Q3 2026 CABINET MEETING MINUTES

Regarding March Membership Madness – She encouraged us to go into the community in various ways to promote Lions clubs and make ourselves present.

11:30 Adjournment

Lunch was served.

The service activities included making valentines for Children's Cancer and sorting eyeglasses.

Minutes by: Lion Diane Bash, Cabinet Secretary

Q4 Cabinet Meeting – May 23, 2026 in Yachats. It will start at 10 am. The location is the Yachats Lions Club at 344 4th Street, Yachats, Oregon.

Cabinet Secretary Report
Diane Bash
Q4 Cabinet Meeting
May 23, 2026

It's time to leave the Cabinet Secretary position for me, and as they say, parting is bitter-sweet. It's hard to step away from rubbing shoulders with such amazing people, but I take with me truly great memories of the time I have spent getting to know you. I am trying not to worry about all the unfulfilled goals I had in my position and focus on the positive growth I have seen in individual clubs and within the Cabinet. People never cease to amaze me by their talents, dedication, and perseverance!

In case you are wondering, I am not leaving because I've lost interest. Rather, I have recently had an unexpected call to serve in another capacity that takes a higher priority of commitment.

We have until the beginning of July to do anything in Portal before my authorization times out, so if anyone needs help, I would love to be of assistance!

My parting advice would be – care when you can, do what you are able, and put your oxygen mask on first. Those in positions of responsibility do their jobs best when they remember WHY they are doing them, and this is usually because it ultimately can bless the lives of those who need it.

I wish the best of luck to those who will continue to serve on the District 36-R Cabinet. I have loved serving on the Cabinet and am proud to be a member of this district!

Lion Diane Bash

Membership report for District 36-R May 23 Yachats Oregon

At the time of my report our membership for the district is at a negative 14. Our target goal was to be at a positive 1 at end of Lions year 2025/2026.

As a district we have added 52 new members and our target goal was 82. We have one month to finish the year in a positive net gain, but it will take all of us and each club to add another member or two.

The Multiple district has a negative 32 members. 221 new members have been added. The Goal for the multiple district was 370 new members.

TOGETHER WE INSPIRE, TOGETHER WE INVITE, TOGETHER WE GROW.

Every new member brings new ideas, new energy, and new opportunities to serve. Let's all do our part as we as we bring our Lions of 36-R together. As a united district we could and will create unstoppable membership growth

In service GMT/PCC Lion Lynn Coon 36-R

Region 1, Zone 2 Report

4th Quarter Zone Notes

Central: 38 members counted, 5 members less than 1 year ago doing many projects. Club is doing great.

Dallas: 4 members counted, they are really struggling to get new members not meeting regularly and doing 0 projects.

Keizer: 20 members counted, had a really well attended Environment project cleaning up the property, hall is booked thru summer as a fund raiser.

Mount Angel: 7 members counted, DG Karen had a visitation May 12th did not attend due to conflict, club is doing OK.

Salem West: 14 members counted they are working and planning summer project otherwise doing great.

Silverton: 21 members counted, lost 1 member due to death from cancer, planning a free fish day in June and then selling fireworks and then Harvest Breakfast otherwise doing great.

Woodburn: No member count, Pat continues as district administrator, club finished selling See's candy as a fund raiser very successful club is doing great.

Region 1, Zone 3
Q4 Cabinet report

Jefferson Lions is doing great things in their community their concert was successful, has there new officers installed, handed out flags and enjoying it what fun. Secratery Lion Allan Oakes is as close as he would like to be District Governor as he is 1st vice District Governor for the remainder of the 2025-2026 year ROAR

Philomath Lions is doing well and very involved in all directions of the community. Music in the park serving traditional burgers and hot dogs wensdays June 10th, July 8th and August 12th let's grove with the Music. Fundraisers June and July Fireworks June 23 thru July 4 community calendar June 1 thru July 6th Frolic Breakfast July 16th, Book sales July 23rd thru 25th. Completed spring weeding in community, year to date book sales \$342.00 working on officers nominations and awards. ROAR

CORVALLIS LIONS is busy with Fundraiser, elections of new officers, year end awards and community projects and 102nd MD 36 convention ROAR

Albany lions is busy with officers elections, awards to members, presenting scholarships to seniors at all three high schools, getting supplies lined up and ordered for there Lumberjack breakfast July 2,3,4,5th, their golf tournament October 1st at Trysting tree golf course and there 75th anniversary celebration and had just the best experience handing out flags to 1st graders and answering questions about the flag ROAR.

LION BILL SCHELER EAST ALBANY MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
Zone 3 chair



DISTRICT 36-R Q4 2026 Region 2 Zone 3 Report

Prepared by: Reilly Newman, R2 Z3 Chair

Elkton Lions

1. Interviewed the four applicants for scholarships and awarded a thousand-dollar scholarship to each. Those scholarships will be presented by Lions members during the graduation ceremony in June.
2. Assembling the data for the Lions Club community calendars by calling merchants and individuals to update and verify information for the next calendar.
3. Just prior to Memorial Day the club will place flags at the graves of all veterans in our local cemetery.
4. The summer reading program at the Elkton Community Education Center has received multiple shipments of books and checks from various Lions clubs because of the District Governor's Book Drive. The club is very thankful and will also be assisting financially and in other ways during the summer reading program.
5. The annual Lions Club Elkton Easter Egg Hunt took place at the Elkton Community Education Center for ages 0-10.

Eugene Downtown Lions

1. The annual Spring Dinner and Auction was held on April 30th at St. Thomas Episcopal Church.
2. Welcomed new members, Rachael and John. A new member training class is being planned.
3. The club's Sight and Hearing committee approved 24 eyeglasses applications, 2 glasses only and 1 hearing aid in April and May.
4. For Environmental Service Week the club helped at the Owens Rose Garden clean up on 4/22 (Earth Day), Monroe Park cleanup on 4/26 and volunteered at the Eugene Marathon on 4/25.
5. Donated \$1000 to the Candellighters to support children with cancer.

Cottage Grove Lions

1. Donated \$100 to the Coffee Creek Puppy Raising Program.
2. Lion Doug Lund generously donated part of his estate to the club so we were able to put that donation onto our Cottage Grove Community Foundation account, which pays for our high school scholarship program. This year the club awarded two students from the Al Kennedy High School each, and Lion Jeff Gowing will present those scholarships during AKHS graduation on June 6th.
3. Planning the club's annual Food Drive in July.
4. The club is planning to participate in the annual Bohemia Mining Days parade and will borrow the Lions membership banners the District purchased to advertise joining Lions.
5. Have had 4 new members join since last February District Cabinet meeting and a new and existing member orientation is scheduled for June 11th.

Region 3, Zone 2 Cabinet Report (Zone Chair Linda Stent) (6/23/26)

MAPLETON

- Mapleton Lions Jan-April 2026
- breakfast fundraiser each month
- meeting each month
- interviewed and awarded 5 Lions' scholarships totaling \$10,500; named one "Mapleton Lions Kathy West Memorial Scholarship."
- Received applications for the Mapleton Community Foundation grants; select in May
- hosted Leprechaun Bingo fundraiser
- hosted our annual Easter Egg Hunt
- hosted an Earth Day event with MSD
- elected '26-'27 officers
- various donations, including Lane County Sheriff and MHS Prom
- service hrs: Jan 46 Feb 35 Mar 38 April 71

GARDNER-REEDSPORT

- The Reedsport Lions currently have 41 active members.
- In the first quarter of 2026, we have completed the following:
 - Flags for 1st graders
 - Our annual Easter Egg Hunt
 - Our annual hanging flower basket sale

- We meet on the 1st Thursday of each month at Kismet Landing at 6:00.

FLORENCE-SIUSLAW

- Awarded three scholarships
- Shipped several boxes of eyeglasses to OLSHF
- Participated in the Earth Day event in Miller Park
- Attended Florence Area Community Coalition Annual Volunteer Recognition and Celebration
- Held an election of club officers
- Cinco de Mayo luncheon
- Monthly coffee huddles for discussions on any subject
- Donated to a junior high schooler who is being honored for his achievements; selected by Val Hoyle to travel to Washington DC to do a presentation.
- Planning for the Rhody Days car show and shine
- Planning for the annual Bass Tournament

WALDPORT

1. We have 3 new members.
2. We have purchased 20 new flags for the Flag Program.
3. We have been collecting donations from the Waldport Business for the Flag Program.
4. The Backpack Program is going extremely well. We have received Socks, gloves, and beans for the students.
5. We received a grant of \$1500 from WaFd Bank for the Backpack Program.

LAKESIDE

No report submitted. Assuming they are continuing their Bingo sessions.

Leer en español



Family Connections

Newsletter | Spring 2026



Dear Candlelighters Families,

Spring has sprung and all of our Candlelighters staff is buzzing in preparation for this year's Family Day! This is our third year hosting Family Day and we're excited to make it special this year with an old time carnival theme. Our staff and volunteers have been working very hard to bring it to life—we can't wait for everyone to see!

These past months have been full of so many meaningful interactions and moments with our families. From the launch of our Survivorship group, our very first Mom's Retreat, suite tickets at the Thorns, and much more, the year has been off to an amazing start.

We hope you will all be able to join us at our upcoming events across the state during May and June which you can learn about below!

With all the warmth of the sun,
Nicole Ek, Program Director

Here for Families



Our New Survivorship Group Has Launched!

For many years, we have recognized the need for a dedicated survivorship group at Candlelighters. A childhood cancer diagnosis is a lifelong journey, and we want to create spaces for survivors of pediatric cancer that are 21 years of age and older to connect and spend time together.

After working closely with the survivorship program at [OHSU](#), we celebrated the launch of our brand new Survivorship program in March! We gathered at the Candlelighters' office for pizza and discussion, helping us brainstorm ideas for future get togethers. We are excited to continue to grow the program and plan events for survivors to build community together.

Interested in joining our survivorship group? Check out the [affinity groups page](#) on our website to learn more and become a member!

Learn More & Join!



Candlelighters Welcomes Thorns FC's Sam Hiatt at Randall Children's Hospital Lunch-and-Learn!

In April, we were joined by a special guest during our lunch-and-learn at Randall Children's hospital. Sam Hiatt from the Portland **Thorns FC** came to meet families and help serve lunch. Families were so grateful to have the opportunity of enjoying a delicious catered meal, learn more about Candlelighters and all of the programs that we offer, and, of course, meet Sam in person.

As a Candlelighters' ambassador, Sam loves to connect with our families. More fun opportunities to come in the future! Stay tuned for details.

Partner **Spotlight**



Candlelighters' Moms Enjoy a Day of Relaxation at Balanced Active Recovery in Hood River!

In April, we hosted our first Mom's Retreat at **Balanced Active Recovery** in Hood River. Moms spent the day together enjoying rest and relaxation with group activities, a sauna and cold plunge, and a delicious, healthy meal. A huge thank you to Lisa Pacheco, Leah Marshall, and Catalina Solberg for volunteering their time and expertise to make this event so special. An extra thank you as well to Kruse Way Rotary quilters for creating gorgeous quilts for the moms to take home.

Candlelighters' Mom's Group exists to support and connect moms with a diagnosed child. Through various events throughout the year like this and our Mom's Night Out, moms get the chance to meet and bond with others going through similar experiences.

Want to be a part of our Mom's Group and learn about future events like this? Explore the [affinity groups page](#) on our website to learn more and join!

Learn More & Join!



Visit Wildlife Safari in Winston Oregon for FREE During DreamNight at the Zoo!

On June 27 from 6-8pm, **Wildlife Safari** in **Winston Oregon** will be holding a free night for families with children with chronic and terminal illnesses. There will be games, activities, a pizza dinner, and of course lots of animals!

Their drive-through safari will also be available free of charge for attending families.

To learn more and reserve a ticket for the event, visit the event page on the [Wildlife Safari website](#).

[Learn More & Reserve Tickets](#)

Upcoming Family Activities

MAY
2

Luminaries - Let's Play Board Games!

Candlelighters Office, 3 - 5pm

Candlelighters teens—join us for a fun time playing board games in our Portland office! Snacks and drinks will be provided!

[Learn More & RSVP here by April 29](#)

MAY
3

Mid-Willamette Valley Mini-Golf

Location TBA, 2:00pm

Families will play mini-golf together then all meet for pizza!
Location will be announced closer to the date and is dependent on weather.

[Learn More & RSVP here by May 1](#)

MAY
11

Mid-Willamette Valley Paint & Sip for Moms

Pudding Paint Studio, Eugene, 5:30-7:30pm

This is a Mother's Day evening out for Mid-Willamette Valley Candlelighters' moms! We will get together and paint a picture!

[Learn More & RSVP here by May 1](#)

MAY
17

Family Day Carnival 2026

Main City Park, Gresham, 11am - 2pm

Join us at this year's Family Day! We will be transporting you to an outdoor carnival full of activities, games, and fun!

[RSVP closed](#)

JUN
6

Mid-Willamette Valley Family Barbecue

River Road Park, Eugene, 12:30 - 3:30pm

Come enjoy an outdoor barbecue with other Candlelighters families packed with food, activities, and more!

[Learn More & RSVP here by May 25](#)

JUN
14

Bereaved Family Picnic

Cook Park, Tigard, 12-2pm

Our bereaved family picnic is a chance to remember our children and connect with other bereaved families.

[Learn More & RSVP here by June 10](#)

JUN
27

PDX/Vancouver Solo Parents Night Out

Red Robin, Beaverton, 5 - 7pm

Connect with other solo Candlelighters parents during a night out at Red Robin—dinner on us! Childcare is also included.

[Learn More & RSVP here by June 23](#)

If your family is unable to attend an event you have RSVPd for, please email our [Program Director, Nicole Ek](#), at least 24 hours prior to the event.

Join Candlelighters

Not a Candlelighters family yet? There are a couple of ways to join so that your family can enjoy all of our programs.

- For families requesting Emergency Financial Assistance, contact your social worker for instructions on how to apply and join Candlelighters.
- Families not requesting **Emergency Financial Assistance** can contact Program Director, Nicole Ek, nicole@candlelightersoregon.org to join.

April 30 – Candlelighters' Blood Drive

Candlelighters is partnering with the American Red Cross to put on a blood drive at our office! Giving blood helps patients of all ages and a great way to give back to the community.

Donors will receive a \$15 e-gift card to merchant of choice (see rcblood.org/hope)!

[Learn More & RSVP](#)

Update on OMSI Passes

If you live in Portland or are visiting, Candlelighters' families can request

LIONS DISTRICT 36R CABINET
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE
2026 – Q2 REPORT
MAY 19, 2026

The following activities are reported for Q1-2026

- No DPP activations
- No DPP Committee meetings
- January 14 testimony before House Committee about MD36 Disaster Preparedness activities (joint with Lion Ed Glad).

Upcoming activities:

- On June 14 the ODART Cascadia Exercise will include full scale activation of the Creswell Resilience Hub, including participation of South Lane County Lions Clubs in ground operations and vehicular transport. Contact Jim Origliosso or Bruce Curtis
- Preparation of an LCIF Hunger Grant application to obtain 2 or more Freeze Dryers for use in District 26R Disaster Response, Food Pantry Support, and fundraising activities. (See L.I.O.N.S Business Plan) Contact Jon Debo or Jim Origliosso
- Readiness for potential activation due to dry conditions portending a serious upcoming fire season

READING ACTION PROGRAMS—MD36-R CABINET

May 23, 2026

Lion Judy Bachman (Springfield Lions)

dbjbb2013@gmail.com

WALK TO READ

See Google or *The Register-Guard* from May 8 about **Walk To Read**—a new building-wide literacy initiative in Eugene School District 4j. **Exciting!**

DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY of Oregon

Laurie McNichols, State Director lmcnichols@or.imaginationlibrary.com

How are the Lions involved with the Imagination Library? With which of our partners are Lions currently connected?

SMART Reading SOUTH VALLEY (Benton, Lane, and Linn Counties)

Elissa Kobrin, Area Director, ekobrin@smartreading.org; Elisa G. Early Childhood Literacy Specialist; Emily Midyette, Program Manager. emidyette@smartreading.org

SMART's South Valley office has served 891 elementary students in Lane, Linn, and Benton Counties in the 2025-2026 school year. The students have received a total of 9,751 new books to keep! 421 community members have been connected to local schools and have donated a total of 10,413 volunteer hours, and that's not yet including data from the month of May. We are so grateful to everyone who has made this a successful program year!

Elmira and Walterville elementary schools were highlighted in the last newsletter.

Partner Spotlight: SELCO Community Credit Union

SELCO Community Credit union continues to provide excellent support to SMART Reading through their annual book drive and cleaning, in addition to a substantial financial gift. The book drive took place at all SELCO locations from Eugene to Portland, and then SELCO employees came together for a full day of book cleaning. We are so grateful for this relationship with SELCO, which was founded by teachers!

The SMART Book Award is Here!

Each year, SMART Reading students have the opportunity to cast their votes in our annual Book Award. Below are this year's nominees. **And this year's winner is Maxine Gets a Job.**

- [Maxine Gets a Job](#) by Alexandra Garyn & Bryan Reisberg
- [Ning and the Night Spirits](#) by Adriena Fong
- [Professor Astro Cat's Solar System](#) by Dr Dominic Walliman
- [There's No Such Thing As... Unicorns](#) by Lucy Rowland
- [Weather Together](#) by Jessie Sima

SMART Reading STATEWIDE

Its Happy Volunteer Appreciation Month in Oregon! This year in Oregon 2,991 volunteers have already dedicated a collective 55,977 hours volunteering for SMART Reading.

In March, the Oregon community raised nearly \$68,000 as part of the annual **For the Love of Books** campaign. THANK YOU to all who participated. Special thanks to those who hosted fundraising pages.

Lawyers for Literacy 2026 Campaign

Lawyers across Oregon came together in friendly competition to raise awareness about the importance of early literacy and raise funds for SMART. This campaign ended May 4.

Why is reading at home so important?

- Kids 4-5 years old gain 6 months of reading ability by being read to 3 to 5 times per week.
- Children with access to 25 books at home complete an average of 2 more years of school than children from homes without any books.
- Research shows that just 20 minutes a day spent reading with a child helps them develop critical reading skills.
- Reading is a critical skill for succeeding in most school subjects.
- A child spends 900 hours a year in school and 7,800 hours at home.

SMART Reading NORTHWEST (Lincoln, Marion, Polk, & Yamhill Counties)

Sage Kiernan-Sherrow, Program Manager, skiernansherrow@smartreading.org and **Elissa Kobrin** Area Director ekobrin@smartreading.org

The Northwest Program Manager shared the Program Overview, Program Models, and Program Standards, as well as an eight-point overview of the mission of SMART Reading. Feel free to contact Lion Judy Bachman or Sage Kiernan-Sherrow for that summary information.

SMART Reading SOUTH COAST (Coos, Curry & Douglas Counties)

Della Harp Area Director, **Christine Jones** Program Manager cjones@smartreading.org

This year, in the Southwest (Coos, Curry and Douglas Counties) we read with 1,282 kids and gave away 10,519 books with the help of 206 volunteers! Our reading programs are winding down for the year and will start up again in the fall. If you're not yet a volunteer, you can [get a jumpstart on the application process online here!](#)

If you are looking for a way to help out sooner or with less of a time commitment, consider [signing up for a 2-hour book cleaning session](#). We'll guide you through the process of restoring gently used children's books that we will then distribute to local kids at book fairs and community events this spring and summer!