Lions Tales

District 25-G

Volume 20, Number 1

July 2026

District Officers

District Governor
Lion Steven Weld
1438 Bower St.
Elkhart, IN 46514
574-742-1357
smweld@pm.me

1st Vice District Governor
Lion Jim Steen
P.O. Box 873
601 E. Water St.
Akron, IN 46910
574-835-3014
JSteen@pikelumber.com

2nd Vice District Governor
(Vacant)

Cabinet Secretary
Lion Faith Kamp
P.O. Box 344
203 Northwood Drive
Akron, IN 46910
574-835-1899
faithkamp13@gmail.com

Cabinet Treasurer
PDG 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 Steven Weld

See Clearly, Serve Boldly

On July 12, 1923, a group of men in Mishawaka, Indiana, gathered to charter what is now the oldest Lions Club in District 25-G. This month, the Mishawaka Lions Club turns 103 years old. That is 103 years of showing up — for their neighbors, their city, and the mission that Lions have carried across more than a century. Whatever this new year brings, the Mishawaka Lions are a reminder of what sustained Lions service looks like when a club keeps its eye on the community it loves.

That image — seeing your community clearly, and serving it boldly — is where this year's theme comes from.

See Clearly, Serve Boldly

To see clearly is to know your community: its needs, its people, and the gap between what is and what should be. Our district's focus causes this year — Vision and Quality Education — are needs in our communities. They are windows into real need in real communities across the seven counties of north-central Indiana which make up our district.

To serve boldly is to act on what we see. Not to wait for the perfect opportunity or a perfect plan, but to put hands and resources and energy to work. The Lions of 25-G have never struggled to find the will to serve. This year, I want to encourage you to make that service visible, meaningful, and growing.

(continued on next page)

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

District Governor Steven Weld 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 574-742-1357, or send an email message to smweld@pm.me.

A Message from District Governor Steven Weld

(continued from previous page)

Our goals for LY 2026-27:

Membership Development (Mission 1.5)

- Charter one new Lions club

- Recruit 132 new members; retain to a net gain of 8

- Support all 43 clubs with active recruitment and retention strategies

Leadership Development

- 100% of zone chairpersons complete zone chair training in Q1

- 15% of club presidents, secretaries, and treasurers complete officer training in Q1

Service Activities

- 100% of Lion and Leo clubs report at least one service activity

- District service focus: Vision and Quality Education

LCIF

- Achieve the district LCIF fundraising goal (will be set by LCIF soon)

- Earn the LCIF Presidential Award for Goal Achievement (Bronze level)

I will revisit these goals publicly in this column every month, because I believe the clubs of this district deserve to know where we stand — and because annual district goals are more meaningful when our community of clubs can follow the arc of the year together.

If you are reading this as a club president, secretary, or officer newly installed this month: reach out. Tell me what your club is building this year. I am interested, and I would like to see it firsthand. I look forward to hearing how every club is serving, and sharing your stories with the district. We Serve.

Steven Weld, District Governor, District 25-G

Dunlap Lions Club, Elkhart, Indiana

DISTRICT 25-G — BY THE NUMBERS
New members this Lions year: —
Members dropped this Lions year: —
Club officers trained: — %
Clubs reporting service: —
LCIF goal progress: —
July is our baseline. Watch this space.

A Message From 1st Vice District Governor Jim Steen

Fellow Lions of District 25-G,

As we continue our shared mission of service, I'm reminded daily of the strength, compassion, and resilience that define our district. This month, I'm pleased to highlight two Lions whose dedication reflects the very best of who we are.

Our first feature comes from **Emergency Preparedness** expert **Lion Steve Downey**, who offers timely insight into how each of us and our clubs can be ready to serve and respond when our communities need us most. **Preparedness is service, and service saves lives.**

We also share an article from **Zone Chair Wendy Yuhasz**, whose leadership and commitment to strengthening club connections continue to inspire. Her article is very informative on the involvement in service of the clubs in Zone 1 of our District. You will notice how these clubs often work together on projects. It is interesting to learn how each club serves their community, perhaps you might glean an idea or two from her section?

I'm grateful for Lions like Steve and Wendy who lead with purpose and heart. May their words motivate each of us as we move forward in service.

Yours in Lionism, **First Vice District Governor Jim Steen, District 25-G**

A message from 25-G Emergency Preparedness Chair Lion Steve Downey

No one can predict when or where a natural disaster will occur. Indiana Lions along with 30 other agencies work together in an organization called INVOAD (Indiana Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster). Each organization has a role or plays a part in helping communities after a disaster. One simple way a Lions club could help could be delivery of meals to a community hit by a disaster. If your club is interested in being active following a disaster please contact, **Lion Steve Downey at Steve.Downey55@icloud.com or 574-286-6608**. There are grants available through LCIF to provide financial assistance so Lions can serve following a disaster. Steve can work with your club and district governor to secure LCIF grants to help support your service.

District 25-G Zone 1 Clubs by Zone Chair Lion Wendy Yuhasz

Hello Fellow Lions! I am Lion Wendy Yuhasz, the Zone Chair for Zone 1 clubs.

I have been tasked with writing an article providing information about the clubs in my Zone, so without further ado, I will get started!

Clay Granger Lions Club was chartered in 1950 and currently consists of 9 members. Because of their small size, Clay Granger is holding a business meeting on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7:15pm. The meeting is held at the home of Secretary John Krzyzanowski.

Their service projects consist of giving away sapling trees in honor of Arbor Day at the Martin's Supermarket located in Heritage Square. The saplings are free, but a free will donation will never be turned down!

Clay Granger members tag team with the Lydick Club providing Operation KidSight screenings at area schools and day cares throughout the Granger, Mishawaka and South Bend area.

Fundraising events involve partnering with the Mishawaka Lions Club selling South Bend Chocolates and Amish Fried Pies. Clay Granger also plans and executes a Nelson's Port-A-Pit BBQ Fundraiser with all proceeds funding the Granger Boy and Girl Scout Troops.

Secretary John is very involved with District 25-G's Eyeglass Recycling Program as well.

(continued on next page)

A Message From 1st Vice District Governor Jim Steen

(continued from previous page)

Clay Granger is always seeking new members to join their club that would enable the Lion members to provide more service to their area.

New Carlisle Lions Club was chartered in 1939, and has been serving the New Carlisle community for well over 80 years. There are currently 12 members in the club. The club meets on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at their clubhouse in New Carlisle.

New Carlisle Lions are involved in recycling used eyeglasses, hearing aids, and cell phones.

They support the New Prairie High School Athletic programs and the High School Band.

New Carlisle Lion members can be seen selling food at New Carlisle Hometown Days celebration, with fresh steamed sweet corn being the biggest seller. The Lions also help prepare and serve the pancake and sausage breakfast for Sugar Camp Days at Bendix Woods County Park. The Club also provides scholarships to deserving New Prairie High School Seniors.

Greene Township Lions Club was chartered in 1970 and meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month with a start time of 7:15pm.

The Greene Township Lions Club consists of 31 members. This club has quite a few family members in the club, and it is great to see younger members being mentored by their parents and grandparents.

Greene Township Lions collect and recycle used eyeglasses, cell phones, and hearing aids. They also collect and recycle old newspapers and magazines, too.

Greene Township Lions operate and maintain a LION train that they take to various venues when asked.

The Lion members assist Camp Millhouse when needed and take the Lions train to the camp and provide train rides for the campers. The campers LOVE it!

Another main event that Greene Township Lions are known for is selling their wonderful Strawberry Shortcakes at the North Liberty Potato Creek & Lions Strawberry Festival each June. The club also has a concession food truck that can be seen at various venues in the area.

Greene Township Lions Club also maintains a large building where all sorts of hospital equipment and other healthcare items are kept. If you are ever in need of any type of medical equipment, contact the Greene Township Lions Club. They loan the equipment to the public free of charge.

The club supports Washington High School through scholarships and assists with donations for athletic equipment. They also take part in The Dictionary Project.

Mishawaka Lions Club was chartered in 1923 and consists of 44 members. They meet every Thursday at 12:15pm at the Mishawaka-Penn-Harris Library in the lower level.

Mishawaka Lions take part in eyeglass recycling, as well as hearing aid and cell phone recycling. Their members volunteer at the 1st United Methodist Church Soup Kitchen. The Club donates scholarships to High School Seniors attending Marian, Mishawaka and Penn High Schools.

The Club also supports the School City of Mishawaka, donating to the Teacher of the Year stipends; donating to the Mishawaka Fire Department for purchasing National Fire Safety Kits and supports the Mishawaka Parks Department supporting the Miracle Field Project for disabled children and adults. Mishawaka Lions have a few Junior Lions from high school that volunteer with the club on service projects.

(continued on next page)

A Message From 1st Vice District Governor Jim Steen

(continued from previous page)

Fundraising consists of chairing the South Bend Chocolate and Amish Fried Pie sale as well as their annual Flower Sale in May.

The Lydick Lions Club was chartered in 1958 and consists of 32 members. It participates in recycling used eyeglasses, cell phones and hearing aids. The club also collects, cleans, and delivers used pill and prescription bottles to Matthew 25 Ministries in Cincinnati, OH.

The Lydick Club is involved in The Dictionary Project, The Peace Poster Contest, Cultivate Food Rescue, Unity Gardens, Reins of Life, Lydick Food Pantry, Operation KidSight, and Little Free Libraries. The club has also provided assistance to S.B. Animal Care and Control and House Fire Assistance for Warren Township residents.

In the future the Lydick Lions hope to be involved in Operation School Sight, St. Vincent DePaul's Sweet Dreams initiative, and Lydick Lion John Pangani's initiative 'Mango Trees for Malawi'.

Donations to the State Projects and LCIF as well as to the Warren Township 4-H Club are services Lydick Lions support.

Fundraising this past year consisted of partnering with The St. Joseph County Fire Territory and The Lydick United Methodist Church holding an AYCE Fish Fry & Salad Bar Buffet. The Club also partnered with Mishawaka Lions on the South Bend Chocolate and Amish Fried Pie sale.

A Message From District Cabinet Secretary Lion Faith Kamp

Hello District 25-G!

My name is Lion Faith Kamp, and I am honored to serve as your District 25-G Cabinet Secretary for the 2026-2027 Lions year.

I am a proud member of the Akron Lions Club, where I have had the opportunity to become involved in a variety of service projects that have strengthened my passion for helping others. One of my greatest joys has been working with Sleep in Heavenly Peace to help ensure children in our communities have a safe, comfortable bed to sleep in.

I believe that Lions Clubs make an incredible difference through teamwork, compassion, and a shared commitment to serving our communities. I am excited to support District Governor Steve, other cabinet officers, and each club throughout District 25-G by helping keep our district organized and connected.

Outside of Lions, I enjoy spending time with family, my dogs and friends, volunteering in my community, and watching Indiana Fever basketball!

I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve as your Cabinet Secretary. I look forward to meeting many of you throughout the year and working together as we continue to strengthen our clubs and serve our communities. Please don't hesitate to reach out if I can ever be of assistance.

Here's to a wonderful year of fellowship, leadership, and service!

We Serve,

Lion Faith Kamp
C. 574-835-1899
E. faithkamp13@gmail.com

Celebrating 340 Years of Service

District 25-G proudly honors the Lions Clubs that were chartered during the month of July. Collectively, these clubs have dedicated an impressive 340 years of service to their local communities. Each club has made a unique and lasting impact—supporting not only local initiatives but also district, state, and international projects.

Their enduring commitment to service exemplifies District Governor Steven Weld's theme: "*See Clearly, Serve Boldly".* These clubs are living proof that when service is coupled with vision, it uplifts both the giver and the community.

CLUB NAME	CHARTER DATE	YEARS OF SERVICE
Mishawaka	July 12, 1923	103
Millersburg	July 20, 1945	81
Etna Green	July 5, 1946	80
Plymouth	July 12, 1950	76

A Message From District Cabinet Treasurer PDG Ron Guth

Greetings, Lions of District 25-G,

Over the past few months, I have shared information about the dues process, including how much dues are, when clubs are billed, and how to pay. I will not repeat those details this month.

It is a new Lions year, with District Governor Steve Weld assuming leadership of the district from PDG Jackie Kurley, who will continue her leadership as Council Chair for MD 25.

Our district has always brought out the best in our Lion members, and it will continue to do so as we lead both today and in the future. Will you be a future leader? You and many others have already excelled in your clubs and communities through your dedication to our motto, "We Serve." Now is the time to share your talents and experience with others throughout the district.

Please contact me or other members of the leadership team and we will work together to share your talents and experience with our fellow Lions.

We Serve,

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

Random Thoughts From A Random Mind

- The older I get, the more I appreciate GPS. Not because I don't know where I'm going, but because I enjoy having someone else to blame when I miss a turn.
- Experience is discovering that the shortcut you found twenty years ago is now a four-lane highway with three construction zones.
- Somewhere in the garage is the perfect tool for this job. Unfortunately, it's in the last place I'll look … which is exactly where it always is.
- I have finally learned that "I'll remember that" is not a storage system.
- I don't worry nearly as much about artificial intelligence becoming smarter than people. I worry about natural intelligence becoming optional.
- The good news is that I remembered where I put it. The bad news is I have no idea what "it" was.

Global Leadership Team

SO NOW WE'RE BOTH RIGHT

In my last newsletter article, we discussed conflict and the need to resolve it before it causes real damage. We also mentioned that Lions International had published several documents relating to conflict resolution, hopefully helping to create a win-win solution to that conflict. Note that I didn't say "perfect solution" to the problem. Some issues may be so longstanding and so deeply embedded that there may never be a "perfect solution."

First of all, to help with resolving a conflict, it may be necessary and desirable to bring in a moderator, someone to act as referee to keep discussion civil and on track, and assure that all parties have equal opportunities to state their cases. Any moderator selected must be neutral to the conflict and the conflicting parties before, during, and after any meetings or email exchanges. Another good reason for a moderator is to help defuse the likely "he said-she said" comments or accusations made by the conflicting parties.

Lions International lists five possible outcomes in conflict resolution: (1) avoidance, "I lose/you lose"; (2) domination, "I win/you lose"; (3) accommodation, "you win/I lose." (4) compromise, "semi-win/ semi-lose," and (5) collaboration, "I win/you win." In the realm of conflict resolution, avoidance, domination, and simple accommodation are outcomes typically not desirable since they do not really settle a conflict but tend to prolong it. Compromise may be a strong possibility toward resolving conflicts, but there may still be strong undercurrents of resentment, whether stated verbally or not.

Lions International promotes the collaboration method whereby both parties work together to arrive at a solution which meets the needs of both parties, which is arrived at by both parties, and with which both parties can logically claim "victory." If this is a Club issue, the whole Club wins.

From a mediator's perspective, the basic steps in the process are:

1. The various parties explain the issue(s),
2. The moderator paraphrases the issue(s),
3. The moderator explains the issue(s) in his/her own words,
4. The moderator then checks for understanding,
5. Together you all work to choose the best possible solution,
6. Together you all work to create a path to that best possible solution,
7. Together you all ensure that the solution is correct.

On paper this all looks so simple. In real life, it likely will not be so. Egos, pride, or other long-simmering issues may hamper a quick and easy solution. It may take far more time than anyone expected. But if the parties to the conflict talk to each other, a solution may present itself without having to go through the process listed in 1-7 above. It is far better to talk than to hold everything inside.

So if you, or your Club, is involved in a conflict, choose some impartial person and start the conversation. If you can't agree on an impartial moderator, ask your District Governor and Vice District Governors for help. For your sake, and your Club's sake, we hope you will be glad you did.

PCC Dave Eisen

Global Membership Team

***MISSION* 1.5 * A Mission to Grow!**

Lions of District 25-G:

Congratulations to the 70 Lions who have sponsored 121 new Lions as of June 30th.

District 25-G has a net loss of 19 for this fiscal year, as of June 30th.

- We are serving a world in need, one act of kindness at a time.
- Assess your club and your community to find out what you need for a successful recruitment of members.
- A high-visibility service project will help attract new members and engage with the community.
- Have ways to involve new members in your club activities.
- Thanks for being a Lion!

PDG Marlyn Fast, Global Membership Coordinator

Welcome New Members

During the 2025-2026 Lions year, 31 district clubs welcomed 121 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.

Argos Lions Club
New Member: Lion Aaron Jones
Sponsor: Lion Monty Peden

New Member: Lion Dorothy Nellans
Sponsor: Lion Jean Coby

Atwood Lions Club
New Member: Lion Elva Resendez
Sponsor: Lion Greg Swanson

Lake City Lions Club
New Member: Lion Katrina Calhoun
Sponsor: Lion Duane Griner

Lydick Lions Club
New Member: Lion Delia Davis
Sponsor: Lion Joshua Davis

Middlebury Lions Club
New Member: Lion Dan Lyles
Sponsor: Lion Sopheap Long

Syracuse Lions Club
New Member: Lion Renee Howard
Sponsor: PDG Ronald Guth

New Member: Lion Todd Howard
Sponsor: PDG Ronald Guth

New Member: Lion Lynette Messer
Sponsor: CC Jackie Kurley

Urbana Lions Club
New Member: Lion Robin Plough
Sponsor: Lion April Burruss

You joined a Lions Club because someone offered you the opportunity to make a difference in your community. Offer that same opportunity to someone else.

Global Service Team

Listen First. Serve Better.

PDG Tom Polk
PDGTomPolk@gmail.com
260-571-5123

In my last article I challenged every club to do one new service project in the next 30 days. But, how do we know what our community actually needs?

That is exactly the right question. And the answer is short. **Do not guess. Ask.**

Most clubs choose projects from memory. We ran a coat drive last winter, so we will run one again. We cleaned the park two years ago, so we will clean it again. Those are good projects. But "what we have always done" is not the same as "what people need right now." The only way to tell the two apart is to collect information from the people you serve.

That is what a community needs assessment does. It is a short, organized way to ask your town what it needs and to write the answers down. A handful of questions, a few dozen responses, and your club stops guessing. You start serving on purpose.

A needs assessment is not extra paperwork. It is the missing step between good intentions and the right project. It tells you which needs are real, which are urgent, and which ones your club is actually sized to meet. It also gives you something to show the community: we asked, we listened, and here is what we did about it.

How an Assessment Strengthens SERVE

Look at how asking first improves every letter of the SERVE test:

S — **Service, not just fundraising.** Survey answers tell you the direct help people want, not just the money they think you should raise.

E — **Effective impact.** You cannot measure impact against a need you never identified. The assessment gives you the baseline.

R — **Relevant to the community.** This is where it matters most. Relevance is not a guess. It is an answer you collected.

V — **Visible Lions in action.** When you serve a need the community named out loud, people recognize the help and remember who showed up.

E — **Easy to accomplish.** A short survey surfaces the small, reachable needs you can finish in 30 days.

How to Run a Simple Assessment

1. **Keep it short.** Ten to fifteen questions is plenty. Long surveys do not get finished.
2. **Ask the right people.** Send it to members, community partners, and neighbors. A pantry director, a school counselor, a township trustee, and a few residents will teach you more than a year of meetings.
3. **Use a free tool.** A Google Form takes an afternoon to build and costs nothing to send.

4. **Leave room to listen.** End with an open comment box. Some of your best project ideas will come from that last question, not the multiple choice.
5. **Read the results together.** Bring the responses to a club meeting and look for patterns. Two or three needs will rise to the top. Those are your next projects.

You Do Not Have to Start From Scratch

I have a sample Community Needs Assessment built and ready to share. It runs about fifteen questions, takes a few minutes to complete, and ends with an open comment box for the ideas a checklist would miss. If your club wants a copy to adapt, email me and I will send it.

The 30-Day Challenge, Next Step

- Build or request a short community needs assessment.
- Send it to at least ten people inside and outside the club.
- Read the responses together at your next meeting.
- Pick one need that passes the SERVE test.
- Launch the project within 30 days and report it in the Lions Portal.

Bottom line: You cannot serve a need you never heard. Listen first, and the right project will find you.

"You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else." – Melvin Jones, Founder of Lions Clubs International

---

June Service in a Box

Summer Service — Three Ways to Show Up This Month

School is out, the lakes are full, and the days are long, and summer changes what our communities need. Children who counted on school meals are home. Parks and shorelines see their heaviest use of the year. And a hot Indiana June is hardest on older neighbors living alone. Each project below is sized for any club. Pick the one that fits the hands you have this month, accomplish it and then report it in the portal.

PDG Tom Polk
PDGTomPolk@gmail.com
(260) 571-5123

Project 1. Summer Meal Gap — Feeding Kids When School Is Out

When school ends, so do school breakfasts and lunches. For many local children, that is the difference between three meals a day and one. Lions can help close that gap all summer long.

Global Cause: Hunger

Small Club (1–5 members)

Goal: Keep a summer snack-pack supply running for one site.

Steps

1. Partner with a food pantry, library summer program, or church day camp.
2. Assemble 30–50 snack bags once or twice a month: granola bars, fruit cups, shelf-stable milk, peanut butter crackers.
3. Drop the bags off for staff to hand out to kids who need them.
4. Restock as the summer goes on, and share a photo and a count with the club.

Medium Club (6–10 members)

Goal: Staff a summer pantry or mobile food distribution.

Steps

1. Contact a local food pantry or regional food bank about their summer schedule.
2. Commit the club to one distribution shift each month, same day and same place.
3. Divide Lions across check-in, drive-through loading, and restocking.
4. Wear club apparel so families see who is helping, and report households served in the portal.

Large Club (10+ members)

Goal: Support a community summer feeding site.

Steps

1. Find the nearest USDA Summer Food Service Program site; schools, parks, and libraries often host one.
2. Offer volunteers for serving, cleanup, and a family activity table.
3. Add a small giveaway such as books, sunscreen, or a Lions craft for the children.
4. Promote it on social media, and capture contact information from new volunteers for follow-up.

Project 2. Lakes, Rivers, and Parks Cleanup

June is when Indiana heads outdoors. Trails, parks, and shorelines take their heaviest use of the year, and they show it. A cleanup is visible, satisfying work that the whole community notices.

Global Cause: Environment

Small Club (1–5 members)

Goal: Clean one public space or tend one garden bed.

Steps

1. Pick an adopted road mile, a trailhead, or a public garden bed.
2. Bring gloves and trash bags, plus safety vests if you are near a road.
3. Spend 60–90 minutes clearing litter, or weeding and watering.
4. Separate recyclables where you can, and post before-and-after photos.

Medium Club (6–10 members)

Goal: Host a park cleanup and restoration morning.

Steps

1. Choose a county or town park, and call the parks department for tools and disposal.
2. Split into teams for litter, invasive plant removal, and bench or trail touch-ups.
3. Work three to four hours on a Saturday morning.
4. Track bags collected and areas restored, and share the results with the community.

Large Club (10+ members)

Goal: Adopt a lake or river shoreline for the day.

Steps

1. Pick a public shoreline: Wawasee, Winona, Maxinkuckee, the Mississinewa, or a local river.
2. Coordinate with the DNR property manager or the lake association.
3. Put one team on shore with bags and grabbers, and another on kayaks or pontoons pulling debris from the water.
4. Invite the public, schools, or scouts, then weigh the haul and report the total back to the community.

Project 3. Senior Summer Wellness — Beating the Heat

A hot, humid Indiana June is hardest on older neighbors living alone, especially those without good air conditioning. A check-in, a working fan, or a safer home can prevent a trip to the emergency room.

Global Cause: Humanitarian

Small Club (1–5 members)

Goal: Check in on homebound seniors through the heat.

Steps

1. Get names from the township trustee, a senior center, or the area agency on aging.
2. Pair one or two Lions with each senior for a weekly visit or phone call.
3. Bring water, confirm fans or AC are working, and watch for signs of heat stress.
4. Note any needs such as groceries, a ride, or a repair, and flag them to the club.

Medium Club (6–10 members)

Goal: Hold a senior home-safety Saturday.

Steps

1. Identify three or four low-income senior households through the trustee or aging agency.
2. Ask a hardware store to donate box fans, batteries, and small supplies.
3. Install grab bars, fans, and smoke-detector batteries; rake, trim, or fix porch steps.
4. Leave a simple heat-safety checklist behind, and report households served.

Large Club (10+ members)

Goal: Host a senior mobility and falls-prevention day.

Steps

1. Book a community center; partner with the Area Agency on Aging and a physical therapy practice.
2. Set up stations for vision and hearing screening, blood pressure, balance, and cane fittings.
3. Hand out home-safety checklists and a free lunch.
4. Staff registration, walk each guest through one-on-one, and plan for 30–60 seniors.

LCIF Coordinators Update

A New Lions Year, A New Opportunity to Serve Through Lions Clubs International Foundation

As we begin another Lions year, we would like to take a few moments to talk about something that is at the heart of our service—the **Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)**.

Before anything else, we simply want to say **thank you**. Because of your generosity, our district reached its LCIF fundraising goal last year. Every donation, regardless of the amount, helped us get there. Whether you gave $10 or $1,000, your gift made a difference, and we are truly grateful for your support.

We were also very fortunate that our district was spared much of the destruction caused by Mother Nature this past year. Many other districts were not as fortunate and relied heavily on LCIF disaster relief funds. That is the beauty of our Foundation. When you donate to LCIF, you are helping Lions respond wherever the need exists—whether that is in our own district, across our state, throughout our country, or anywhere in the world.

Did you know that our state once again received **more in LCIF grant funding than we contributed**? That is something we can all be proud of, but it also reminds us of an important opportunity. The funds are there to help our communities. This year, one of our district's goals is to apply for more LCIF grants than ever before. Together, we can bring even more resources home to support meaningful service projects.

If you've been thinking about making a donation, LCIF makes giving easy. You can donate online using a credit card or PayPal, set up recurring monthly gifts, make a wire transfer, or simply mail a check. If you are working toward a **Melvin Jones Fellowship** or a **Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship**, your Club or District LCIF Coordinators will gladly help with the paperwork to ensure you receive proper recognition.

LCIF also offers meaningful ways to give through planned gifts. By including LCIF in your will, establishing a charitable gift annuity, or naming LCIF as a payable-on-death beneficiary, you can leave a legacy of service that continues to change lives for generations.

The important thing to remember is that we always want to donate to the **EMPOWERING SERVICE FUND.** Even if there is a disaster you can be assured the funds from the **EMPOWERING SERVICE FUND** will go towards any disasters.

Every gift is appreciated. Through the **Presidential LCIF Supporter Program**, donors receive recognition from the International President with commemorative pins based on their annual giving. It's a wonderful way to celebrate the generosity of Lions who continue to support our Foundation.

You may also wish to consider becoming a member of the **Lions Legacy Society** through a future gift to LCIF. It is a meaningful way to ensure your commitment to serving others lives on long into the future.

Finally, remember that every club has an LCIF Club Coordinator. If no one has accepted that role, it is filled by the previous year's club president. These coordinators, along with your District LCIF Coordinators, are here to keep you informed about LCIF programs, grants, and giving opportunities. Please use them as a resource—we are always happy to answer questions and help your club make the most of everything LCIF has to offer.

Thank you again for everything you do as Lions. Your generosity, your compassion, and your dedication to service are changing lives every day. Together, we are strengthening our communities and making a difference around the world—one act of kindness at a time.

Yours in Service,

Your District 25-G LCIF Coordinators

Lion Sopheap Long sopheap.long@gmail.com

Lion Jackie Kurley kurmon@comcast.net

News From Around the District

In Loving Memory of Lion Jason Smith

It is with profound sadness and heavy hearts that we mourn the sudden and unexpected passing of our newly installed president, Lion Jason Smith, on Saturday, June 20, 2026.

Jason was more than a leader—he was a friend to everyone who had the privilege of knowing him. His warmth, generosity, and unwavering commitment to service defined who he was, both within our club and beyond. He gave selflessly of his time and energy, whether preparing meals for our meetings, organizing and leading fundraisers, or lending his hands and heart to nearly every service project we undertook.

His dedication embodied the true spirit of Lionism. Jason didn't just participate—he made things happen. He inspired others through his example, lifted those around him with kindness, and helped build the strong sense of community we cherish today.

Beyond our club, Jason's greatest pride was his family. He leaves behind five children who carry forward his legacy of love, compassion, and strength. Our thoughts and prayers are with them, and we hope they find comfort in knowing just how deeply their father was respected and loved.

Our club feels an immeasurable loss. The void Jason leaves behind cannot be filled, but his memory will continue to guide and inspire us in our service. His last words to our membership were: "Every day, strive to make someone smile!"

Lion Jason, you will forever remain in our hearts.

Lion Jason Smith with PDG Marlyn Fast

(Submitted by Lion Duane Klein, Dunlap Lions Club)

News From Around the District

District 25-G Closes a Remarkable Year Under DG Jackie Kurley

The Lions of District 25-G gathered for a memorable and meaningful final district meeting, marking the conclusion of District Governor Jackie Kurley's inspiring year of leadership. The meeting served not only as a celebration of accomplishments, but also as a heartfelt moment of gratitude and vision for the future.

District Governor Kurley took time to sincerely thank her Cabinet and the many leaders throughout the district who helped make the year such a success. She emphasized that the achievements of 25-G were truly a team effort—powered by dedicated Lions who answered the call to serve in their communities with compassion, energy, and commitment.

Throughout her remarks, DG Kurley reflected on a year filled with service, growth, and strengthened fellowship. From impactful service projects to increased collaboration among clubs, the district demonstrated what is possible when Lions unite around a shared mission. She expressed deep appreciation for the countless hours volunteered and the spirit of teamwork that defined the year.

Looking ahead, DG Kurley encouraged all Lions to continue building on this strong foundation. She challenged members to keep the momentum moving forward—continuing to serve, to lead, and to seek new ways to make a difference in the lives of others. Her message was clear: the work of Lions is never finished, and the opportunities to serve are limitless.

With optimism and excitement, she shared her vision for the future of District 25-G, expressing her belief that the district is well on its way to becoming "Quite Possibly the Greatest Lions District on Earth." This ambitious and inspiring sentiment was met with enthusiasm and pride from those in attendance, reflecting a shared commitment to excellence and service.

As the meeting concluded, there was a strong sense of unity and purpose. DG Jackie assured us that leadership under incoming DG Steve Weld will continue the momentum and further the District 25-G with renewed energy and determination to reach even greater heights in the year ahead.

(Submitted by Lion Duane Klein, Dunlap Lions Club)

Madison Township Lions Present Scholarships, Donate to MT Vol Fire Dept. & Wakarusa LC

Scholarship recipients (Front L-R) Emily Smiley, Mika Wisler, Jacob Berger, Kendall Marker, (Back L-R) Henry Pfeiffer, Alex Wright, Kam Chamness, Colten Handley, Liam Gallagher

On June 9 the Madison Township Lions Club announced and awarded nine $1000 scholarships to area high school graduates during our monthly meeting. The recipients are from five area high schools; Penn, Bremen, Northwood, Mishawaka, and Marian. Each graduate stated the field of study and school they are going to attend to further their education. The recipients are: Kendall Marker, Mika Wisler, Jacob Berger, Henry Pfeiffer, Colten Handley, and Liam Gallagher.

The Lions club donated to the Wakarusa Lions Club and the Madison Township Volunteer Fire Department. Both organizations were instrumental in the success of our Pork Chop Sale.

The club also sponsors the Saint Joseph County 4-H Foodie Friends Workshop to be held at the County Fair Grounds. This workshop will help the entrants of the Foods project at the fair.

(Submitted by Lion Al Beehler, Madison Township Lions Club)

News From Around the District

Akron Lions Club to Host a Bed Build Day for Children in Need

The Akron Lions Club is proud to continue its commitment to serving local children through its partnership with Sleep in Heavenly Peace, an organization whose mission is simple but powerful: "No child sleeps on the floor in our town."

Currently, more than 75 children in Fulton County are without a bed of their own. Through the efforts of Lions and community volunteers, children in need can receive a bed, mattress, pillow, and bedding at no cost to their families.

Building on the success of last year's event, the Akron Lions Club will host its Second Annual Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build on Saturday, August 8, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to noon at the Akron Community Center. Volunteers of all ages are welcome, and no special skills or experience are required. All materials, tools, and instructions will be provided.

The bed build in 2025 brought together 113 volunteers, including a strong presence from Lions Clubs, to help launch the local Sleep in Heavenly Peace Akron Delivery Hub. Since then, numerous beds have been built and delivered to children throughout our service area, providing not only a place to sleep but also comfort and hope.

This year's goal is to build 40 additional beds for children living in the 46910 ZIP code and surrounding school communities. Once a family submits an application for assistance, local volunteers assemble and deliver the bed to the child's home.

The Akron Lions Club is grateful for the support of fellow Lions throughout the district and invites clubs and individual members to join us in this meaningful service project. Whether through volunteering, financial support, prayer, or helping spread awareness, every contribution helps ensure that more children have a safe and comfortable place to sleep.

Location: Akron Community Center, 815 E Rural St. Akron, IN 46910

Date: Saturday August 8th, 2026

Time: 8AM-Noon

Sign up to volunteer by simply scanning this QR code!

No experience necessary! Anyone of any age is welcome!

If you know someone who is need of a bed apply at:
https://sleepinheavelypeace.jotform.com/241007557123953

Contact Lion Faith Kamp at (574) 835-1899 with any questions about donations or volunteering.

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!

(Submitted by Lion Faith Kamp, Akron Lions Club)

News From Around the District

Akron Lions Present Melvin Jones Fellowship to 23-Year Member

On June 4th, the Akron Lions Club proudly presented the prestigious Melvin Jones Fellowship Award to Lion Channing Utter at his residence in recognition of his outstanding dedication and service. A committed member of the Akron Lions Club for 23 years, Lion Channing has consistently demonstrated the Lions' motto, "We Serve," through his active involvement in numerous club fish fry fundraisers and his generous contributions of time and effort to maintaining the Akron Community Center. Lion Channing's unwavering dedication, servant leadership, and passion for supporting his community makes him highly deserving of this distinguished honor.

Pictured (l. to r.): Lions Steve Nelson, Jim Steen, Channing Utter, Christina Morehouse, Dave Morehouse, and Josh Manns

(Submitted by Lion Faith Kamp, Akron Lions Club)

Akron Lions Race Into Summer

The Akron Lions are ready to hit the road this year in their freshly painted mini race car in memory of the late Lion Harvey Arthur! Hoffman's Body Shop in Akron graciously donated their time, talents, and materials to make our race car look brand new. Be sure to look out for the racing Lions at our local parades this summer!

Pictured (Left to Right): Aaron Martin, Kim Martin, Andy Martin, 1st VDG Lion Jim Steen, and Lion Faith Kamp (in the mini race car)

(Submitted by Lion Faith Kamp, Akron Lions Club)

News From Around the District

Culver Lions Install New Officers

At the Culver Lions Club meeting on Wednesday June 24th, they held their annual installation of next years officers. Each officer was sworn in and will officially take on their positions as of July 1st.

The group is looking forward to another year of serving the Culver community!

Pictured are some of next year's officers of the Culver Club.

(Submitted by Lion Faith Kamp, Akron Lions Club)

Lydick Lions Recognize Membership Sponsor

At our June meeting, Lion member Elaine Gaulin was presented with a Membership Sponsorship Pin by President Wendy Yuhasz in recognition of sponsoring three new Lions into our club. Congratulations, Elaine, and thank you for helping our club grow through your dedication and leadership! Way to go!

(Submitted by Lion Lori Ferro, Lydick Lions Club)

News From Around the District

Dunlap Lions Club Celebrates New Leadership at Installation Banquet

The Dunlap Lions Club recently gathered for an evening of celebration, reflection, and renewed commitment during its annual Installation Banquet, highlighted by the induction of new officers for the upcoming year. The ceremony was led by 1st Vice District Governor Steve Weld, who officiated the installation with a message of service, leadership, and community impact.

The event marked both a continuation of the club's proud tradition of service and a fresh chapter under newly installed leadership. Lion Jason Smith was formally welcomed as President, taking the helm with enthusiasm and dedication. Supporting him in key leadership roles are 1st Vice President Lion Louann Smith and 2nd Vice President Lion Marilyn Thiess, both prepared to assist in guiding the club's initiatives and strengthening its outreach.

The club's administrative leadership was also solidified with the installation of Secretary Lion Nurse John McClure and Treasurer Lion Diann Hoyt, who will oversee the organization's records and finances. Additionally, a strong board was established with Lion Mike Dines, Lion Judy Gable, and Lion Georgia Tenney serving as Board Members, bringing valuable experience and insight to club decisions.

Special committee roles were recognized as essential components of the club's success. Lion Kathy Livings was installed as Membership Chair, tasked with fostering growth and engagement within the club. Lions Jan Robinson and Mike Dines were named Tail Twisters, responsible for promoting fellowship and fun at meetings, while Lion Jerry Smith assumed the role of Lion Tamer, helping maintain order and support club traditions.

A significant and heartfelt moment of the evening was the recognition of Immediate Past President Lion Kori, who delivered remarks reflecting on her term. She expressed deep gratitude to her board and fellow members for their unwavering support throughout her presidency. Lion Kori highlighted the accomplishments achieved during the past year, noting the teamwork, dedication, and community impact that defined her tenure. Lion Kori honored Lion Jan Robinson with the Lion of the Year Award for her outstanding service to the Club. Lion Kathy Livings was presented with the Club's President Award for all the help she provided Lion Kori as President. Finally Lion John McClure was given A Melvin Jones Fellowship for his outstanding work as Club Secretary and Board Member.

1st Vice District Governor Steve Weld commended the outgoing leadership while encouraging the newly installed officers to build on that strong foundation. He emphasized that the strength of the Lions organization lies in its commitment to service, community involvement, and the shared goal of making a difference in the lives of others.

The evening concluded with a renewed sense of purpose as members celebrated their achievements and looked forward to the opportunities ahead. With an energized leadership team and a continued dedication to service, the Dunlap Lions Club is well-positioned for another successful and impactful year.

Pictured below: Newly installed officers and board members

(Submitted by Lion Duane Klein, Dunlap Lions Club)

Editor's note: Newly-installed President Lion Jason Smith passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, June 20, 2026. A memorial article appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

News From Around the District

Mexico Lions Club Completes Community Center Water System Upgrade

MEXICO, Ind. — The Mexico Lions Club has completed a major improvement project at the Jefferson Township Community Center, upgrading key water and plumbing systems to better serve residents and community groups who use the facility.

The project included a new water heater, new ice machine, all new plumbing to replace galvanized piping, and updated women's and men's bathroom fixtures. Together, the upgrades are intended to improve reliability, safety and comfort for people attending meetings, events and community activities at the center.

The total cost of the project was approximately $10,000. Funding came through a combination of grants from the Northern Indiana Community Foundation in the amount of $3,700 and the Indiana Lions Foundation in the amount of $1,000, along with proceeds from local fundraising events organized and supported by club members and community volunteers.

The Northern Indiana Community Foundation's 2025 Miami County Community Foundation grants list includes support for the Mexico Lions Club's Jefferson Township Community Center water system upgrade, reflecting the foundation's investment in local community development projects.

For the Lions Club, the project represents another example of its long-standing commitment to practical service. Lions Clubs are known for meeting local needs through volunteer work, fundraising and partnerships, and the Mexico club has continued that tradition by helping maintain a facility that serves as a gathering place for the community.

Club members said the improvements would not have been possible without the support of grant partners, donors and residents who participated in fundraising efforts. Their combined contributions helped turn a needed facility upgrade into a completed project that will benefit Mexico and the surrounding area for years to come.

As the Mexico Lions Club continues its service work, members hope the project will encourage continued community involvement and remind residents of the impact that local organizations can make when people work together toward a common goal.

(Submitted by Lion Jeff Shrock, Mexico Lions Club

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.

PDG Warren Allender (Baugo)	warrenallender@comcast.net	574-361-7942
Lion Beth Guth (Peru)	guthbeth@comcast.net	765-210-3318
PDG Paul Russell (Lakeville)	pdgpaul25g@gmail.com	574-250-2621

Vision First Indiana Lions Eye Bank, Inc.

PDG Ron Guth (Peru)	guthron@comcast.net	765-460-7177
PDG Tom Polk (LaFontaine)	pdgtompolk@gmail.com	260-571-5123
Lion Wendy Yuhasz (Lydick)	mt_wendy7402@att.net	574-292-1846

Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing, Inc.

Lion Jerry Wright (North Webster)	(no email address)	574-457-6811
(vacant)		
(vacant)		

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

Lion Brian Bussard (Baugo)	buzzf117@comcast.net	574-226-4079
PCC David Eisen (Mishawaka)	d.eisen01@yahoo.com	574-250-1469
PDG Mary Klempay (Lakeville)	maryrsb@comcast.net	574-286-4499

Indiana Lions for Leader Dog, Inc.

Lion David Frushour (Peru)	d.frushour@comcast.net	765-473-3626
Lion Faith Kamp (Akron)	faithkamp13@gmail.com	574-835-1899
PDG Brian Thomas (Elkhart)	brian10k@aol.com	574-596-7411

Indiana Lions Foundation

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

Indiana Lions Foundation

It's almost time for the 2026 edition of the great Indiana State Fair. As in previous years, the Indiana Lions Foundation is recruiting volunteers to work as ticket sellers, ticket scanners, ticket kiosk monitors, and hand-stampers. This is the Foundation's single largest fundraiser. Last year, thanks to your help, we raised more than $80,000 to support Lions service in the state of Indiana.

Sign up today at http://IndianaLionsFoundationMD25.org/. You'll be glad you did.

The Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing project has signed up to fill 19 positions on the first Sunday of the fair, and will be earning State Fair credits that can be redeemed for Community Service grants for the project. This looks like a fun and easy way to earn money for your state project.

Top 10 Reasons to Work for the Indiana Lions Foundation at the Indiana State Fair

10. More fun than mowing the lawn.

9. Free parking and free admission to the great Indiana State Fair.

8. Escape from the boredom of daytime television.

7. It's more rewarding than people-watching at Wal-Mart.

6. Collect stories you'll still be telling at Lions Club meetings ten years from now.

5. Enjoy corn dogs, elephant ears, lemonade shakeups, and this year's strangest fair food.

4. Trade tall tales with other survivors of $2 Tuesday and $3 Thursday.

3. Take the Indiana State Fair World Tour with Lions from Brazil, Ireland, Lebanon, Milan, Peru, and Russiaville.

2. Earn credit towards a W.P. Woods Fellowship or a Community Service Grant.

1. Help the Indiana Lions Foundation support Lions Clubs' community service projects throughout Indiana.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
TRIVIA NIGHT
OCTOBER 24TH
BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE
LYDICK LIONS & LYDICK UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
MORE DETAILS TO COME

District Governor's Calendar July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	**3 International Convention**	**4 International Convention**
5 International Convention	**6 International Convention**	**7 International Convention**	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

District Governor's Calendar August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	**6 DG Visit Dunlap LC**	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	**15 Cabinet Meeting**
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

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 Tom Polk
5378 E 975 S
LaFontaine, IN 46940
260-571-5123
pdgtompolk@gmail.com

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

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

District Administrator
(for assistance with the Lion Portal)
Lion Jill Neidlinger
19420 W 19th Road
Culver, IN 46511
574-216-0526
tutoring@culcom.net

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

Mark Your Calendar

Thu-Tue, Jul 3-7, 2026, International Convention
Hong Kong

Fri-Sun, Aug 7-23, 2026, Lions Fun at the Fair
Indiana State Fair, Indianapolis, IN

Sat, Aug 15, 2026 District Meeting #1
Leesburg

Sat, Sep 12, 2026, Banner Night
Camp Alexander Mack, Milford, IN

Sat, Nov 7, 2026 District Meeting #2
Urbana

Sat, Jan 16, 2027 Mid-Winter Conference
502 Event Center, Carmel

Sat, Feb 6, 2027 District Meeting #3
Vandalia Railroad Station, Culver

Sat, Mar 6, 2027 District Convention
TBD

Apr 30—May 2, 2027 State Convention
Bloomington Convention Center, Bloomington

Sat, May 22, 2027 District Meeting #4
Fairview Grange, Dunlap

2026 FULTON FUN DAY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

Sponsored by Fulton Liberty Lions Club

Facebook: FultonLibertyLionsClub Email: fultonlibertylions@gmail.com

Times	Events
8:00 am	Mose Middleton Mushball Tournament
8:30	Caston Cross Country 5K and Fun Walk
9:00-Noon	Caston Elementary and Adult Art Show and Library Book Sale
Noon-7:00	Vendors Open
Noon	Parade: "America's Story: 250 Years Strong" *Come to see our Cuties Contest winners!*
Afternoon	Displays: Me-to-cin-yah Long Rifles, WWII, Vietnam, Woodcarver, Robotics, Liberty Twp./Fulton/Nyona Lake History
1:00-3:00	Speakers: Historical Firearms, Betsy Ross, Daughters of the American Revolution, Historical Re enactors, ABE LINCOLN, Johnny Appleseed, WWII, Viet Nam
1:00-All Day	Paintball Trailer
1:00-2:00	Chalk Art Competition
1:30	Pedal Tractor Pull
1:30	Horseshoes Tournament
1:30-2:30	Magician Norman Basille
1:30-3:00	Princess Makeover
2:00-4:00	Kids' Games: Sack Races, Hoop Rolling, Quoits, Foot Races
2:30-4:00	Bounce Houses
3:30-4:30	Foamzilla
3:45	Beard Contest
4:00	Basketball Free Throw & 3 Point Contests for Jr. High and Open, and Elementary Free Throw (Free Entry)
4:30	Free Family Bingo
4:30	Junior High 3-on-3 Basketball
5:00	Euchre
5:00	Volleyball Tournament
6:00	Open 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament

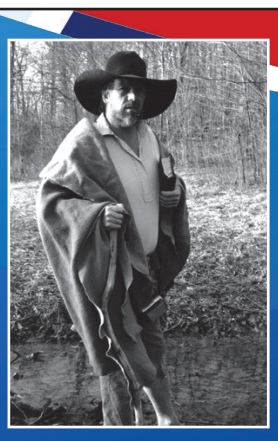
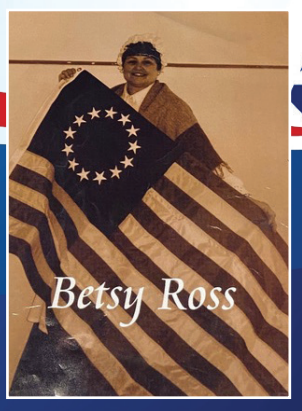
FESTIVAL SPONSORS

Zane's LP Gas
Fulton County Tourism
F. C. REMC Grant
Beacon Credit Union
Nutrien Ag Solutions
Mike's Trash LLC
Zimpleman Excavating Inc.
Zimmerman Bros. Funeral Home
Outdoor Power Equip. Station
McGrew's Well Drilling Inc.
Fulton County Solid Waste
Mary's Stitch & Knit Shop
Baker Vacuum Sales LLC
Craig Welding & Mfg. Inc.
Macy Elevator
Republic First National
The Winning Edge
Ag Source, Inc.

(Donations received after publication will be added to lists displayed at the Fulton Library & Post Office)

FOOD VENDORS

Dick's Taco
Rusty's Chicken
Homestyle Cooking and Grill
Slate's Creamery
Ben's Pretzels
Mouse Ears Troop 219
First Sip Coffee Co.

Festival Events Entry Forms may be obtained at the Fulton Library.

FULTON COUNTY IN. EST 1836