

# DISTRICT 1-CS NEWSLETTER



## 1CS District Governor

**Retha Eurales**

PDG Derek (Spouse)

PO BOX 694

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618-967-5551

[retha27@earthlink.net](mailto:retha27@earthlink.net)

MOUNDS LIONS CLUB

**1<sup>st</sup> VDG Van Quick**

913 STATE ST

ELDORADO, IL 62930

903-617-1196

[CUBBYFANINTX@ICLOUD.COM](mailto:CUBBYFANINTX@ICLOUD.COM)

Eldorado Lions Club

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**District Secretary/Treasurer**

**PDG Steve Griffin**

725 Karns

Eldorado, IL 62930

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Eldorado Lions Club

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**Lions of Illinois Foundation Trustees**

**PDG Heather Abell Castlebery**

5964 Chandler Drive

Carterville, IL 62918

618-925-1712

[LION.HEATHER.ABELL@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LION.HEATHER.ABELL@GMAIL.COM)

Carterville Lions Club

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**PDG Helen Ferguson**

12241 Hafer

Carterville, IL 62918

618-694-6963

[RJFERGUSON1950@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RJFERGUSON1950@GMAIL.COM)

Johnston City Lions Club



**District Governor Retha Eurales presents PDG Heather Abell Castlebery with her PDG plaque at the cabinet meeting.**

**Visit us weekly for any updates. And check each page for changes.**

**[District 1-CS - Lions e-District Houses](#)**



by Lion Larry McGuire, Past District Governor

(Global Membership Chair, Zone Chair, Constitution and Bylaws Chair)

As the end of the month approaches, I find myself struggling to connect two thoughts and come up with an inspirational idea for this column. However, I will do my best.

First and foremost, I want to express my gratitude to Mounds Lion Retha Eurales for getting our district up and running. She has appointed her cabinet, held her first cabinet meeting, and is serving as the Lions of Illinois state chaplain. She is truly a go-getter.

I also want to extend a big thank you to Christopher Lion Jim Taylor for successfully launching our website. Moreover, Lion Jim deserves even more accolades for consistently making updates. Want to know who is in charge of club extensions? Look it up on our website. Want to know my email address? Check the website. Curious about what our constitution or bylaws say regarding a topic? You can find that information online as well. Visit <https://www.e-district.org/sites/1cs/index.php> and see the wealth of resources we now have available; I'm sure you'll be impressed.

Now, we must focus on our membership. Currently, we have the fewest Lions members in the state of Illinois, which is a shame. To quote Past District Governor Larry Mehring, "Membership. We can't live without it."

This simple statement carries significant weight. How are we doing with membership? As of June 30, 2025, we had a total of 498 members across 23 clubs, averaging 21.6 members per club. We recruited 34 new members but also dropped 38, leaving us with a net loss of four members at the start of our new Lions Year.

These numbers reinforce what I've been saying all along: "They're coming in the front door, but we're letting them slip out the back door." As your district membership chairperson, I truly appreciate the 34 new members we brought in, but we need to focus on retaining those who leave.

What does your club do to keep members? Do you ask why they stopped attending? Do you inquire whether we are meeting their needs or expectations? Are the dues too high? Is the perception that we are just an "old men's club" keeping them away? Do you have conversations about what we can do to retain them? Have you checked on members who may be ill? Are you asking anything at all?

I once heard a club member say, "We don't have to ask! They know when we meet!" Such comments make me ponder why that club ultimately disbanded. We can't ignore that our membership is aging. Younger people are often committed to family time and may not want to attend weekly, bi-monthly, or monthly meetings. That's acceptable as long as they participate in our service projects.



by Lion Larry McGuire, Past District Governor

(Global Membership Chair, Zone Chair, Constitution and Bylaws Chair)

For absent members, we can keep them informed about club activities through email, sending out meeting minutes, calendars, and other updates. We need to be creative in attracting and retaining our members. Our outdated ways of thinking are becoming obsolete; the traditional Lion is fading away, while a new generation of Lions embraces family values even as we continue to lose members daily.

Can your club hold monthly meetings via Zoom or Google Meet? Or perhaps follow the example of one club that conducts meetings through conference calls? Surely someone in your club can facilitate these ideas. If not, perhaps that's a reason we are struggling with membership

I must end on a somber note: our West Frankfort Lions Club is considering disbanding. Lion Extension Chairperson PDG Randy Ferguson, District Governor Retha Eurales, and I have met with that club, but they seem determined to dissolve. It's disheartening, as this goes beyond just member numbers; it involves losing a club that provides eyeglasses for needy schoolchildren. We may also be depriving a child of a monetary scholarship or the community of a club that sponsors important events, like free eye and hearing screenings often loses much more than just a group of volunteers.

If your club is even remotely contemplating disbanding, please reflect on this decision carefully. When a Lions Club disbands, a community often loses much more than just a group of volunteers.



# MOUNDS LIONS CLUB



DG Retha Eurales of 1CS and member of the Mounds Lions Club along with PDG Derek Eurales (not pictured), picked vegetables each Thursday at the Community Garden in Cairo sponsored by the University of Illinois. These vegetables are taken to the Daystar Food Pantry in Cairo.



DG Retha Eurales is hard at work in the Community Garden for those in need of vegetables due to the city not having a grocery store.



PDG Derek is not pictured but does the same work while assisting the same needed services as pictured DG Retha Eurales makes sure to pick everything ready for harvest. These harvested vegetables are available at the pantry for individuals to freely choose from them.



District Governor Eurales held the first cabinet meeting at the Harrisburg Lions Club on August 9th with Secretary/Treasurer Steve Griffin and First District Governor Van Quick(district chaplain) giving the opening prayer.

# MOUNDS LIONS CLUB



Opening prayer by 1st Vice District Governor Van Quick as cabinet members, District Officers, Club members along with others present in attendance.



Opened with prayer as all in attendance participate with District Governors Eurales and Quick's first cabinet meeting.



PDG Eurales poses with Harrisburg's Lions Club member, who provided an excellent meal.



DG Eurales passes out Lions material to a Christopher Club member in attendance.



Another picture of prayer with Mounds Lions Club members in yellow vest (Florence Heady) and (Josie Eason) in attendance



DG Eurales addressing the cabinet



District Governor Eurales assures the cabinet and clubs that her effort is to lead by example, to work as a team and do what we do best, SERVE.



# MOUNDS LIONS CLUB



DG Retha Eurales is proud and willing to lead with everyone's advice, support and assistance.



A comment from PDG Derek Eurales "Being up front and on the platform is not something she's familiar with, but as her partner in service looks on, I'm proud of her".



DG Eurales and 1st Vice District Governor Quick



DG Eurales preparing to pass out encouragement materials to cabinet members.



DG Eurales



DG Eurales showing her designed Governor's business cards with joining hands demonstrating together we serve as one(which she gave to all in attendance).



Encouraging gift.



Be encouraged

# MOUNDS LIONS CLUB



**Let's do our best as you've always done.**



**We can do it.**



**Let's be confident**



**I'm thankful for what you're doing**



**Thank you for your continued dedication and support.**



**Our First Vice and next district Governor**



# MOUNDS LIONS CLUB



**Arranging the flags**



**Beginning to serve**



**Preparation for service.**



**Preparation for service.**



**DG Retha Eurales and Dist. Secretary  
Steve Griffin**



**Sec/Treasurer Steve Griffin  
adjusting the microphone as DG  
Eurales looks on.**



# MOUNDS LIONS CLUB



**PDG Derek Eurales picking cucumbers in the Cairo Community Garden and transporting them along with other vegetables to Daystar food pantry for those in need.**



**PDG Eurales looking for more cucumbers which are trying to hide from his alerting eyes. Eurales is President of the Mounds Lions Club and assists the District Governor of 1CS in her endeavors to feed those hungry individuals in a town without a grocery store.**

**Lion Derek Eurales emptying Okra along with the cucumbers picked earlier to be washed, bagged and delivered to the Daystar food pantry. Each Thursday of each month, the Mounds Lions Club volunteers at the garden and does their best to accommodate those in need.**





# CHESTER LIONS CUB

The Chester Lions Club recently held an installation ceremony for the 2024-2025 term, inducting new officers including Club President Lion Larry Soellner, O.D., First Vice President Steve Platt, M.D., Second Vice President James Schoen, and Treasurer Brenda Pautler, CPA. Club Secretary Richard Brown was absent. The event also acknowledged the achievements of the outgoing president and introduced the theme for the new term.



Shown from left to right are Lions Jim Schoen, Steve Platt, MD, Larry Soellner, OD, retiring President Richard Pautler, installing officer Larry McGuire, and Brenda Pautler, CPA.

# SPARTA LIONS CLUB

## July 2025 Activities

1. Club donated \$50 to LCIF Diabetes Awareness campaign.
2. Club donated \$525 to the LCIF to sponsor Camp Lion camper.
3. 10 members worked 35 hours at 15 bar functions, raising \$986.

## Sparta 2024-25 fiscal totals

- Total People Served\*8,907
- Total Volunteers377
- Total Volunteer Hours\*1,770
- Total Funds Donated\*\$10,995.00
- Total Funds Raised\*\$36,027.00



Maroon

**#LST650 Ladies**



Small to XLarge \$30  
2XL to 4XLarge \$34

**#LW809 Ladies**

Burgundy



Small to XLarge \$32  
2XL to 4XLarge \$36

**#LW808 Ladies**

Burgundy



Small to XLarge \$34  
2XL to 4XLarge \$38

Governor  
Logo  
left chest

Partner  
in  
Service  
Logo

First Name  
& District#  
right chest



Illinois  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS  
2025-2026

Illinois  
LION'S  
INTERNATIONAL  
2025-2026

Name  
MDIH

**#ST650**

Maroon



Small to XLarge \$30  
2XL to 4XLarge \$34

**#W809**

Burgundy



Small to XLarge \$32  
2XL to 4XLarge \$36

**#W808**

Burgundy



Small to XLarge \$34  
2XL to 4XLarge \$38

**#PC78ZH**

Maroon



Full-Zip

Small to XLarge \$36  
2XL to 4XLarge \$40

Style #	Size	First Name & District	Governor or Partner in Service	Qty	Total

First and Last Name

Address

Email

Phone

Shipping

\$12.00

Sub Total

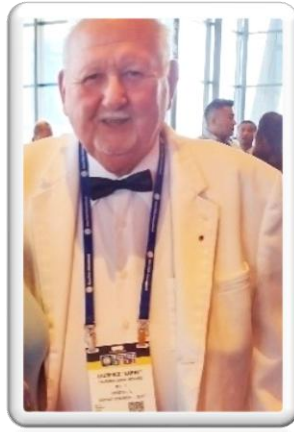
Tax: 5.5%

Grand Total

**Return & Payment**



**Bee-Seen Promotions LLC**  
645 West State Street Unit  
Hartford, WI 53027  
262-457-2114  
beeseenpromotions@charter.net



**Friends don't let friends  
miss out on changing the  
world. Invite yours during  
September's *Bring a  
Friend* Month. Let's grow  
an even bigger crop of  
members.**



# WEST FRANKFORT LIONS CLUB



**8/14/2025. Dist 1-CS visits WF Lions Club. L>R: Lion President Tom Jordan, DG Retha Eurales, PDG Helen Ferguson, PDG Randy Ferguson and PDG Larry McGuire.**



**8/14/2025- Sitting L>R: DG Retha Eurales, PDG Helen Ferguson, PDG Randy Ferguson and Lions Brenda McCluskie.**

**Standing Row 1, L>R: Lions John Gardner, Seb Pagano, Marla Summers, Bonnie Willmore.**

**Standing Row 2, L>R: Lions Tim Weaver, Dan Wells, President Tom Jordan, David Willmore, Ervin Thomas and Jim Summers.**

# WEST FRANKFORT LIONS CLUB



**8/14/2025- Sitting L> R:Dist-1CS DG Retha Eurales, PDG Helen Ferguson, PDG Randy Ferguson & PDG Larry McGuire,**

**Standing Row 1, L>R: Lions; John Gardner, Seb Pagano, Marls Summers, Bonnie Willmore.**

**Standing Row 2, L>R: Lions: Tim Weaver, Dan Wells, President Tom Jordan, David Willmore, Ervin Thomas and Jim Summers.**





**DG RETHA AND PDG DEREK EURALES**