

DISTRICT 1-CS NEWSLETTER



1CS District Governor

Retha Eurales

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MOUNDS LIONS CLUB

1st VDG Van Quick

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Eldorado Lions Club

District Secretary/Treasurer

PDG Steve Griffin

725 Karns

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Eldorado Lions Club

Lions of Illinois Foundation Trustees

PDG Heather Abell Castlebery

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Carterville Lions Club

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Johnston City Lions Club



Hello from District Governor Retha Eurales 1CS.

These past couple of months have been very exciting. 1CS is on the move.

Our membership is growing, and our goals are on target.

A new club is about to charter in a few months.

A branch club is also coming in soon. Our new website is up and looking very nice.

The tech person, Lion Jim Taylor, is doing a fantastic job. We are very blessed to have him in 1CS.

You all are welcomed to send information to him at jimtayloror4383@yahoo.com. The website is 1CSe-district.org

During my virtual club visit with the Red Bud Lions Club, I was informed that they are no longer an all male club.



They have four new females with possibly one more joining.

“1CS IS ON THE MOVE” AND PROUD OF OUR SUCCESS

The Cobden Lions Peach Festival was a big success as always, with lots of games, food and fun for all ages.

The Peach Cobbler and Lemonade Stand were the best.

The Eldorado Lions Club sold their famous Homemade Corn Dogs during their fall festivals days, September 17th through the 20th.

The club started selling the corn dogs during World War II and the tradition carries on today. People visit from miles around, coming just for the corn dogs.

As I said earlier, 1CS is on the move. WE SERVE “ROAR”

**Yours in Lionism,
District Governor Retha Eurales – 1CS**

Chester Lions Club



CHESTER LIONS CLUB MET CHALLENGE: The Lions of Illinois Foundation issued a challenge to the Illinois Lions Clubs to contribute to their favorite causes. The Chester Lions Club accepted this challenge and received recognition for their efforts. The club donated to the Foundation's low vision screening program, sponsored a camper for Camp Lions (for children who are visually and hearing impaired), and made a contribution to support individuals who are hard of hearing. This achievement occurred during the term of Immediate Past President Richard Pautler. The Chester Lions Club was one of only two clubs in the district to meet this challenge. Pictured are current Club President Larry Soellner, OD (left), presenting the recognition to Past President Richard Pautler.



WANTED: A passionate individual eager to enhance Lionism within Lions District 1-CS. If you are ready to serve, take direction, and put in the hard work needed to inspire growth in our district and within our district and within our communities, we want to hear from you! To qualify, you must be a Lion and possess a genuine commitment to service. Seize this incredible opportunity to make a meaningful impact! Interested candidates should reach out to Lion Governor Retha Eurales at retha27@earthlink.net or incoming Governor Van Quick at cubbyfanintx@icloud.com. Your journey to drive a change starts here!

Membership Monday

**We're not just growing—
we're roaring
louder than ever.
Grow, Lions, Grow!**

SPARTA LIONS CLUB



The Sparta Leo's have collected dresses and will be at the Sparta Lions Club until noon. Visit the Club to receive a FREE formal dress for homecoming or prom.

August 2025 Activities

1. Club donated \$44 (four chicken dinners) to Sparta Senior Center fundraising campaign.
2. Two members worked eight hours as Leos advisors.
3. 3 members worked 11 hours at 3 bar functions, raising \$217.



Fellow Lions,

Please mark your calendar to attend the upcoming District Convention to be held on Saturday, October 18, 2025, in Mt. Vernon, IL. We are planning a one-day event on Saturday, beginning with a service project to put together some packets for the Midwest Distribution Agency. We have a Lions International Director lined up to speak to us. There will also be additional Lions-flavored sessions and a Celebration of Life Service to honor the valued service of recently deceased members of our District. If your Club has a member who has passed away and needs to be honored, please reach out to me, Lydia Ellis, or Mo Ritzel with the information. We will also be holding our District officer elections for 2026. Your attendance and that of your fellow Club members are important and appreciated. Lunch is included in your registration of \$65.00. Spouse lunch cost of \$25.00

HELP US SPREAD THE WORD TO YOUR CLUB MEMBERS!

We hope to see you at the convention, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 222 Potomac Blvd, Mt. Vernon, IL, on Saturday, October 18, 2025. This will be a one-day convention. We start at 8:00 a.m. with a short on-site service project and are finished by 6:00 p.m. Please feel free to invite your spouse to come along, as there are opportunities for shopping and exploring the Cedarhurst Art Museum in Mt. Vernon.

Click [here](#) to register for the event. Credit/debit cards, Apple/Google pay, and EChecks

Contact the hotel for rooms, 618-244-7100. \$129 for a standard room. There will be a small hospitality suite for out-of-town guests,

DG Bob Homan
618.567.8201



Why wait for Lions classes to learn leadership skills when everything is online? Put together a self-study group and just do it.

Lion Larry McGuire



CARBONDALE LIONS CLUB



The Carbondale Lions Club presented the David Kenney Service to Country and Community Award to Dr. Ella Lacey. Dr. Lacey (on the right) is the recipient of numerous national and local awards and honors for her efforts. They include the Presidential Volunteer Service Award from the Peace Corps, the 1991 University Women of Distinction Award, the 1993 Ida B. Wells-Barnett Award, and the 2004 Rosemary Berkel Crisp Award. She is an SIU Carbondale Distinguished Alumnus and received the Inspiring Women of Achievement Award in 2007. She was honored in 2009 by the Carbondale Rotary Club with a Service Above Self Day in recognition of her work to fight polio, secure clean water, provide HIV/AIDS testing, and improve children's lives, and for fighting discrimination against women in countries including Ghana, Ethiopia, Egypt, India, Malawi, and Sierra Leone. Lacey is one of just about 150 Rotarians among about 1.2 million members worldwide to receive this honor.

In her impromptu speech tonight, she spoke briefly of her time in Malawi, the 8th POOREST country in the world. She said 5 Phrases make all the difference when communicating in a new country (AND, here at home). These five are: Hello, Please, Thank You, Excuse Me, and I'm Sorry. What a wonderful world this could be if we all incorporated these into our language!

Club President Gary Metro is shown making the presentation.

CARBONDALE LIONS CLUB



Mike Dismore from the Carbondale Lions Club came by the police department to donate some tickets for the upcoming Fall 2025 Lions Club Pancake Days Breakfast on Saturday, September 27, 2025, at the Carbondale Civic Center. Thanks, Mike, and everyone at the Lions Club.



MEMBERSHIP

By Lion Larry McGuire

At our last cabinet meeting, we were taken aback to hear that two senior clubs in our district are considering surrendering their charters.

“Why?” you might wonder. The reasons cited included “Lack of membership,” “No one wants to join our club,” and “We’re old.”

While it’s true that our club membership is aging, we must ask ourselves a crucial question: Why did we let this happen? The answer is clear: we’ve focused primarily on recruiting people from our own age group and neglected to reach out beyond that.

Our children and grandchildren have shifted their priorities. When our parents returned from World War II, they were eager to give back to their country and community, and that desire was passed down to us. Today, however, our younger generations prioritize family time over community service.

Attending a school activity for their child is often seen as more important than volunteering.

Recent reports suggest that younger individuals are eager to contribute to their communities, but they aren’t interested in the traditional commitment of attending regular meetings. And honestly, who can blame them? They believe in putting family first, and rightfully so. Personally, I’ve always held that “God first, our country second, and family third. Lions come somewhere further down the line.”

So, how do we shift this dynamic?

It’s simple: we need to embrace change, one step at a time. We must adapt our approach. Can a young person join your club while not attending every meeting? Absolutely! They can also skip meetings, but must be present for service projects. Furthermore, live-streaming meetings is not just a possibility; it’s a practical solution.

“Live-stream?” you might exclaim.

Yes, it’s time to evolve. If a member of your club can connect with their grandchild via cell phone, then they can certainly navigate live streaming. At 82 years old, I’m proud to say I can use my phone for calls, texts, emails, photos, games, and video calls. If I can master these technologies, so can members of your club.

Let’s shift our mindset from outdated methods to innovative approaches. This is how we attract younger members—by showing them that we’re evolving. By doing so, we can increase our membership and enhance the valuable services we provide to our communities.

Remember, membership isn’t just a numbers game; it’s about the impact we make. If we give up, who will serve our communities?

Let’s step up, Lions. Let’s grow together. Let’s grow!



This little pin? It roars louder than it looks.



DG RETHA AND PDG DEREK EURALES