

The Lions International Convention is worth the trip

The 108th Lions International Convention was held in Hong Kong, China, from July 3 to 7, 2026. A small but mighty band of Hoosier Lions was there to celebrate our incoming governors.

It was an amazing weekend of information and inspiration with many friendships created and renewed. We were excited to be part of a world record-setting Tai Chi exhibition, and we were happy to celebrate International President Mark Lyon as he leads us into the final year of Mission 1.5.

There were three amendments to the Constitution that passed, including a reduction in the number of international directors from the U.S. from eleven to nine, and a dues increase of \$2 per year starting in 2028 and ending in 2033, for a \$10 increase, and a clarification that Past District Governors still need to be a member of a Lions Club in good standing to vote.

Make plans now to come to the 109th Convention in Washington, D.C. from July 2 to 6, 2027!



Photos provided (TOP LEFT, from left) Lion Gloria Careins, DG Mike Careins, and PDG Jim Bush participating in the world-record Tai Chi event. (TOP RIGHT, back row, from left) PCC Julia Kozicki, 2VDG Jeff Kozicki, DG Tom Schultz, and PCC Reed Fish. (Front row, from left) DG Mike Careins, Lion Gloria Careins, DG Robert Deming from Arkansas, DG Steve Weld, Lion Sylvia Fonseca, and DG Beth Kohli enjoying the entertainment at convention. (ABOVE) The Indiana Lions during dinner at the convention: (from left) PCC Reed Fish, DG Steve Weld, Lion Peggy Bush, PDG Jim Bush, DG Beth Kohli, Lion Sylvia Fonseca, DG Tom Schultz, Lion Gloria Careins, 2VDG Jeff Kozicki, DG Mike Careins, and PCC Julia Kozicki.



Council Chairperson's Corner

CC Jackie Kurley
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Lions are rooted in compassion, growing in action

The 2026-2027 Lions year is underway, and there is tremendous excitement across Indiana as Lions Clubs prepare for another year of making a difference.

It is an honor to serve as this year's Council Chairperson for Multiple District 25 and to work alongside our seven District Governors as we support the incredible volunteers who strengthen communities across our state.

My name is Jackie Kurley, and this September I will celebrate my 11th year as a member of the Dunlap Lions Club in District G. Earlier this year, I retired after a 47-year career – nine years in healthcare following 38 years in retail. Retirement has given me the opportunity to devote more time to the things that matter most to me, especially serving others through Lions. While I recently said goodbye to my two beloved Shichon dogs after 14 wonderful years together, I know this new chapter is one filled with purpose, service, and the opportunity to help others.

This year is especially exciting because more than 600 new Lions joined clubs throughout Indiana last year. To our newest members ... welcome! Whether you've been a Lion for decades or have just begun your journey, you are now part of the world's largest service organization dedicated to improving lives.

Many people may wonder what a Council Chairperson does. My role is to help connect Lions Clubs International with our seven Indiana districts by sharing information, encouraging collaboration, supporting District Governors, and helping ensure our clubs have the resources they need to succeed. I also serve as the Multiple District Global Action Team Chairperson, focusing on four key areas: membership, service, leadership development, and creating new club opportunities that allow even more people to serve.

This year's International President, Mark Lyon, has chosen the inspiring theme **"Rooted in Service."** His vision reminds us that meaningful service begins with strong roots in our communities and grows through teamwork, compassion, and leadership. His priorities include strengthening community service, developing future leaders, promoting inclusivity, and continuing to grow Lions membership so our impact reaches even more people around the world.

These goals are not just for Lions leaders – they belong to every member. Every service project, fundraiser, vision screening, food drive, scholarship, or act of kindness helps fulfill that vision. Together, we have the power to make our communities stronger and more connected.

My theme, to go along with our International President's theme is **"Rooted in Compassion, Growing in Action."** This explains the transition from inward empathy to outward impact. The roots show that genuine care must be supported by tangible effort

See Rooted . . . Page 2

Let the world know about your service

By Lion Anita Hines
MD25 Global Service Team Coordinator
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Hello Lions of Indiana!
I've been a Saratoga Lions Club member since 2013 and have served as Club Marketing Chair, Club Service Chair, Club Secretary, and am currently Club 1st Vice President.
For District 25D, I have been the Global Service Team Coordinator for the past three years and I am the Cabinet Secretary this year. For the Multiple Dis-

trict, this will be my third year serving as the GST Coordinator and I have a goal of 100 percent of MD25's active clubs reporting at least one service activity to LCI. I have a passion for service and helping those in our community. I volunteered as a Case Manager with the VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters) post tornado in Randolph County in 2024 and also serve as a member of the Randolph County Tourism Board.

My career is being a Radiologic Technologist and Sonog-

rapher for 45 years and currently Manager of Medical Imaging Services and Specialty Clinics at Ascension St. Vincent Randolph Hospital.

The current Lion year has a focus on service with IP Mark Lyon's theme of "Rooted in Service." Our clubs and Lions do a tremendous amount of service but sometimes forget to let the world know about it. Your District GSTs and I will continue working with clubs to enter their service activities into the Lions Portal, use social media, and community partners to

spread the word.

We talk a lot about getting new members to do more service, but doing service can also bring more members to Lions. Clubs should start planning their activities for the Weeks of Service, with the first week being Oct. 8 to 18 highlighting VISION.

If you need assistance with the Lions Portal or have questions regarding activities, please feel free to contact me via email or at (765) 546-0643.

Read more reports from the Global Action Team on Page 3.

District LCIF Coordinators are ready to help

By PDG Ken Faulkner
MD25 LCIF Chairperson
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What does your Foundation do for you? I was asked to tell all Lions in the state the answer to that question.

The mission of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is to empower volunteers and partners to improve health and wellbeing, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian service and grants that impact lives globally, while encouraging peace and international understanding. This is a great mission statement, but how does that help the Lions in our local clubs? LCIF pro-

vides so many amazing grants to strengthen our communities. To help with this, each district has several coordinators who are the liaisons to LCIF.

Let me introduce them to you:

District A – PDG Randy Greer & PDG Nick Gonzalez; District B – PDG Terry Marker & PDG James Bush; District C – CT Karen McKellar & IPDG Paul Scheetz; District D – PDG Steve Holtzleiter & PDG Mike Imbler; District E – 2VDG Debbie Ellis, Lion Laura Davis, and Lion Christy Nolan; District F – PCC Sue Topf; District G – CC Jackie Kurley & Lion Sophie Sopheap Long, with myself being State Chair.

Do we know everything?

We do not, but we do know where to find the answers. We are lucky to have PID Linda Tinchin in MD25 as she is the Area C Co-Leader. We rely on her to lead us and assist when we don't know the answers. We also have our own contact at LCIF who advises, assists, and leads us with the issues we have had.

At the recent International Convention, LCIF did announce that we have raised \$84,864,256 worldwide. If you donated last year, thank you as you contributed to this total. The goal is for all club presidents (and EVERYONE) to donate. Last year in Constitutional Area One we ended up with only 12 percent of club

presidents making a donation. This needs to be raised as more LCIF money is passed out as grants in CA-1 than came in as donations.

All your coordinators have been invited to the CA-1 Strategy session in New Orleans, Aug. 14 to 17. Following this, we will have in-person training on Oct. 4 at the Clermont Lions Club. Everyone is welcome to attend, but please let me know if you are coming so we have the right head count for food.

Your District Coordinates are ready to help with any LCIF questions. Just reach out as we are in the directories. Our mantra is, "We will not let you fail!" and that includes assisting with your questions about LCIF.

Indiana Lions change lives with vision screenings

By Lion Karlene Roe
Indiana Lions Operation KidSight State Coordinator
kidsight@att.net

The Lions of Indiana came together last year to vision screen nearly 15,000 children from August 2025 through July 2026. Every child screened is an opportunity to change lives.

The Operation KidSight program continues to identify children with potential visual problems, focusing on measurements from our equipment that could indicate amblyopia (lazy eye). Up to 30 percent of children have lazy eye! This is why early

and regular screening, long before Kindergarten, is so critical. Failure to treat lazy eye could result in lifelong vision problems, up to loss of vision. Lions have the potential to screen children as young as age 18 months!

There are over 175,000 kids under about 6 years old enrolled in licensed facilities in the state. Based on historical numbers, over 5,000 of these may have lazy eye. While the 15,000 children screened is great, we are barely reaching 8 percent of the "screenable" population of kids. But, if anyone can work together to ensure more children are saved from the issues related to

untreated vision problems, it's the Lions.

I am hopeful we will expand our current rosters of pre-Kindergarten age facilities and reach every corner of our communities. Just like a salesman gains new business by speaking confidently about their product and earning trust, we must do the same when approaching new locations and in maintaining relationships with long time places. Pointing to successful outcomes and taking the time to educate ourselves about exactly what we are looking for, the program's goals, and how our equipment works, is a necessary

base for expanding the program.

I encourage all Lions interested in promoting or being involved in the Operation KidSight Program to visit the Lions KidSight USA webpage (lionskidsightusa.org) and look into the certification process. There is an easy-to-follow manual and links to instructional YouTube videos that are invaluable when it comes to explaining why vision screening is important and allow us all to champion the KidSight program wherever we go.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Lion Karlene Roe via email at kidsight@att.net or call (317) 220-8486.

The Hoosier Lion needs your input!

Dear Fellow Lions,

For years, *The Hoosier Lion* has been our proud link to local service stories as well as District, State, and International Lions news. To remain good stewards of our state resources, we are currently re-evaluating how we deliver our newspaper.

Rising postage rates and strict postal regulations have made printing and mailing traditional physical issues increasingly expensive. We want to ensure every dollar spent directly supports our mission and programs, while still keeping every single Lion informed and connected.

Whether you prefer reading online, receiving a paper copy in the mail, or picking one up at your local club meeting, **your feedback is vital**. Please take two minutes to fill out our quick preference survey here:

► Hoosier Lion Survey ◀

Thank you for your time, your input, and your continued dedication to serving our communities!

Yours in Lionism,

The Hoosier Lion Publishing Team

Get to know your State Committees

State Diabetes Committee

Information on continuous glucose monitors

By Angela Mounsey
Chair, Diabetes Committee

A Continuous Glucose Monitor (CGM) is a medical device that monitors your glucose (blood sugar) levels in real time. Unlike a traditional blood sugar monitor that requires a fingerstick, a CGM attaches to your stomach or arm. It uses a tiny plastic tube to monitor your glucose levels from interstitial fluid (fluid between cells) just below your skin. They are recommended for anyone with diabetes, but especially those who:

- Have type 1 diabetes.
- Have type 2 diabetes and use insulin.
- Frequently test their blood sugar.
- Have difficulty managing their blood sugar levels.

CGMs are more widely available for people with diabetes and prediabetes and even for people without these conditions. Some people choose to use a CGM short- or long-term to enhance their health, nutrition, or physical fitness goals. A



Graphics provided

(LEFT) Dexcom lasts 15 days, then needs replaced. (CENTER) Libre 3 lasts 14 days, then needs replaced. (RIGHT) New: Eversense is an implant and lasts up to 180 days, then needs to be replaced.

CGM can also share results with your health care team. This allows for closer monitoring by your health care provider and more effective medication management.

The main benefit of using a CGM is that you can see your glucose level at any time without a fingerstick. They send results to a smartphone or other device to display your glucose levels. Results are automatically sent every few minutes and constantly change in response to your meals, physical activity, and other daily routines. Many CGMs also

send alerts if your blood sugar is quickly rising or falling. It is important that the alerts are set correctly in the smartphone or other device. Other benefits:

- Help avoid or delay serious, short- and long-term diabetes complications
- Can save money with improved diabetes management and fewer events such as hypoglycemia which leads to medical emergencies
- Provides information in real time, which allows people to modify their diet or insulin dose as directed by the

health care provider. Which may reduce the patients' risk of hypoglycemia (low blood glucose) or hyperglycemia (high blood glucose)

Most private insurance plans, Medicare, and Medicaid cover CGMs for people with type 1 diabetes with minimal monthly costs. CGMs are typically also covered for people with type 2 diabetes who take daily injections (like insulin), use an insulin pump, or have had severe low blood sugar. Please talk with your medical professional for more information.

State Resolutions Committee

By PDG Paul Russell
Chair, Resolutions Committee

As detailed in Article XI, Section 6 of the MD25 Constitution and By-Laws), the role of this committee is to review the resolution sub-

mitted by a State Committee which wants to become a State Project and prepare the ballot for the next State Convention. We are currently waiting to receive such a resolution from a State Committee.

State Parliamentary Committee

By PDG Vern Tinch
Chair, Parliamentary Committee

The role of the parliamentary committee is to provide a parliamentary session at the State Convention and at each Council meeting. Their duties involve providing advice on parliamentary procedure and rules. Key responsibilities include:

Interpret and apply rules of order for meetings and assemblies, ensuring fair and efficient discussions. Offer nonpartisan advice to leaders and members on Constitution and Bylaws, plus Roberts Rules of Order. Provide guidance on questions of order, appeals and parliamentary inquiries when Chair is making rulings.

State Environmental Committee

By PDG Mike Imbler
Chair, Environmental Committee

The goal of the Environmental Committee is that every club in MD25 do at least one environmental project this year. Districts and clubs do many different projects including:

- Road Clean-up programs.
- Picking up trash along their county roads.
- Sweeping the streets along certain locations in their cities.
- Converting club and city buildings to LED bulbs to reduce energy consumption.
- Recycling items such as aluminum cans, brass keys, plastic bags, and used clothing. Walmart, Meijer, and other grocery store chains can recycle your

plastic bags.

- Eye glasses recycling locations. Four districts use the recycled eye glasses and take them to a third-world country and give them out to the people who need them.
- Recycling of hearing aids through the State Speech and Hearing project.

There are many more environmental projects that clubs are doing. Let your district environmental director know what environmental projects your club is doing. An environmental work project can be done in every season of the year. Lions International Environmental work week is April 17 to 23, 2027.

A great way to get new members is to invite people to help on an environmental project.

State Constitution & By-Laws Committee

By PDG Ken Faulkner
Chair, Constitution & By-Laws Committee

This committee, which is comprised of the district committee chairs, maintains the rules by which the Multiple District 25 is governed by. The committee is also tasked with making sure any Lion in good standing who wishes to put forth a new or amended by-law has done it in the correct manner, and that it doesn't conflict with any other already in

the C&BLs. Any proposed amendment must be in the committee's hands no later than 30 days prior to the January council meeting. Our committee then sends it to the Council of Governors for approval at the January council meeting.

At last year's state convention, we had 14 amendments that were on the ballot. There were several meetings in which the committee met and that is what we sent to be voted on. These amendments must receive a two-thirds vote of

the ballots cast at the time of voting at our state convention.

This year's committee is comprised of:

- District A – CT Dennis Fischer
- District B – PDG Roger Cash
- District C – CT Karen McKellar
- District D – PCC Julia Kozicki
- District E – PDG Vern Tinch
- District F – PDG Ken Faulkner (Chair)
- District G – Lion Su-

san Arneaud

This is just a quick summary and there are other rules to this procedure that you can find in the Constitution and By-Laws Amended at the 2026 State Convention in Plainfield, Ind. Please ask your District committee chair for more info and/or for a copy.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your district committee member or myself as chair and we will be happy to answer your questions or concerns.

State Project Profiles

VisionFirst

By Reed Fish
VisionFirst Trustee

VisionFirst – Indiana Lions Eye Bank exists to eliminate corneal blindness by providing donated eye tissue for transplantation, research, and education.

Founded nearly 50 years ago, VisionFirst was originally established as the Indiana Lions Eye Bank and has grown into the largest eye bank in Indiana and one of the most reliable providers of corneal tissue. Its 35-plus employees work together in distributing more than **2,000** corneas annually.

The transition to the name VisionFirst symbolized a broader mission beyond its local roots, highlighting its dedication to innovation, collabora-

tion, and national impact. Its primary mission is to change lives by supplying high-quality corneal tissue for transplant surgeries. These transplants help patients suffering from conditions such as keratoconus, corneal scarring, or other vision-threatening diseases. It also supports surgeons by providing ocular tissue for advanced procedures like DMEK, DSAEK, and ALK, as well as specialty grafts such as pre-loaded grafts and preserved corneas.

Beyond transplantation, Indiana Lions Eye Bank supplies tissue for research and education, enabling scientific progress in ophthalmology and training for medical professionals. The eye bank emphasizes partnerships with medical pro-

fessionals and the broader community to foster awareness about eye donation, other organ donation and to expand access to sight-saving procedures. It offers the Ocular Surgery & Treatment Assistance Program that helps many Indiana residents receive needed financial assistance. Indiana residents who are without insurance and are ineligible for government aid can apply for support under this assistance program. Details of this program can be found on the [VisionFirst website](#) or by contacting your trustee.

VisionFirst Eye Bank stands as a beacon of hope for individuals facing corneal blindness and helps thousands of patients regain sight. With nearly 50

years of service, it has transformed from a local Lions Club initiative into a nationally recognized leader in eye banking throughout the world. With contributions from MD25 clubs, it also funds and operates Indiana Lions Operation Kidsight program, a vision-screening project that identifies treatable or preventable causes of blindness in preschool children. VisionFirst provides much of the equipment, supplies and support with Lion Karlene Roe serving as the State Program Coordinator.

For additional information regarding VisionFirst, Operation KidSight or to schedule a program, please contact any of the trustees or Lion Karlene; their contact info can be found in the District and State directories.

Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing

By Lion John Brown
Chair, Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing

It is my honor to be the Chairman of the Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing State Project as we kick off our 46th year of service to the citizens of Indiana.

Founded in 1980, the Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing Project is best known for providing Loaner Hearing Aids. We will soon surpass 8,000 hearing

aids loaned to Hoosiers who need hearing assistance. This is all made possible by the generous support of the Lions Clubs of Indiana and other donations we receive on a yearly basis. Each of the seven Lions Districts in Indiana are represented by three trustees who serve the hearing impaired and make sure Hoosiers receive the help they need.

We are also proud to work with Riley Hospital for Children, not only with our

loaner bank project, but providing grant money so Riley can improve the care they provide to patients from all across Indiana.

This year, our Trustees will host our Annual Holiday Luncheon on Sunday, Dec. 6th at the Indiana School for the Deaf. During this event, we present scholarships to worthy students from Purdue, Indiana University, Ball State, and Indiana State who are pursuing degrees in Audiology, Speech Pa-

thology, and American Sign Language. We invite the Lions of Indiana to attend this wonderful yearly event!

If you happen to be at the Indiana State Fair on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 9, look for approximately 20 Lions representing Indiana Speech and Hearing working at the Gates supporting the Indiana Lions Foundation. It is our way of saying thanks to the Indiana Lions Foundation for their support of our project!

Nick's Notes

By PID Nick Xinopoulos
International Liaison



Xinopoulos

My responsibility as your liaison is to relate information coming from our Lions International Executive Officers and the International Board of Directors. I am very proud to represent the Lions of Indiana! We are the best of the best and I am confident that if we all work together, we are going to accomplish our goals of serving those people who are in need. My motto as always been, "Working Together for a Better Tomorrow."

Communication is the key to our success! District Governors, I ask that you communicate with each other. District Governors communicate with your zone chairs, zone chairs with their clubs, and clubs with each other. If we can all share our thoughts, our successes and our failures with each other, I am confident that we will be successful in helping our fellow Hoosier Lions.

In years past, I have enjoyed virtual meetings. It is a great opportunity to learn from each other. I encourage everyone to share thoughts and ideas on a regular basis (online and in person) and share information with your clubs and district.

Let's concentrate on increasing our membership, retaining our current members and starting new clubs and/or branch clubs. Everyone is relevant to our success. A few recommendations I have are: Take a survey of your club members and ask questions of your members about any ideas on how to increase club membership, fill out a community assessment form, and find ways to be more visible in our communities.

Don't let the clubs in your community be the "Best Kept Secret."

Congratulations to our 2026-2027 District Governors and Council Chair Jackie Kurley. I wish you all the best for a successful year. Our 2026 International Convention in Hong Kong is now over. I hope that more of us will have the opportunity to participate in our 2027 convention in Washington, D.C.

ROOTED

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to make a real difference. Our District Governors have already developed ambitious goals and creative plans for the coming year. They are committed to building vibrant districts, supporting local clubs, and expanding opportunities for service. Their success depends on all of us working together.

For those who are not yet Lions, I encourage you to learn more about what we do. Lions serve wherever help is needed – supporting vision care, fighting hun-

ger, assisting disaster relief efforts, empowering youth, protecting the environment, and so much more. There is a place for everyone who has a heart for service.

Multiple District 25 has a bright future. Together, we will continue growing our organization, strengthening our communities, and demonstrating that when people unite in service, incredible things happen.

Here's to an amazing 2026-2027 Lions year, **Rooted in Service.**

Keep up to date at LionsClubs.org

Indiana Lions Foundation awards grants to clubs & state projects

By **Lion John Wilkins**
President, Indiana Lions Foundation

The Indiana Lions Foundation recently awarded a total of \$12,000 in grant funds to our five state projects. The Foundation also announced that \$10,000 of the upcoming Indiana State Fair proceeds will be divided equally among the state projects after the conclusion of the Fair. The Foundation announced that it has awarded \$32,000 in Matching grants during the 25/26 fiscal year to 22 clubs and two Districts. The Foundation approved a motion that the maximum matching grant amount be raised to \$2,000 as of July 1, 2026. The grant application and the grant criteria may be accessed at indianalionsfoundationmd25.org/what-we-do/foundation-matching-grant.

At its June meeting, trustees approved a budget of \$173,500 for grants to clubs and state projects as well as grants to support the mid-winter conference and the state convention. A grant will also be awarded to the Lions of Indiana State Office Holding Corporation to continue to lease an office suite at 9002 Vincennes Circle for the Lions of Indiana offices. Room was left in the budget for new grant categories suggested by clubs, districts, and the Council of Governors in support of our state goals.

The trustees recognized the outstanding leadership of PDG Kathy Lozier as she completed her two-year term as Foundation and Holding Corporation President. The trustees elected Lion John Wilkins as President, PDG Mike Imbler as Vice President, PDG Jeff Locke as Secre-



(ABOVE LEFT) Indiana Lions Foundation and Lions of Indiana State Office Holding Corporation President, PDG Kathy Lozier, was recognized for her outstanding service during her two-year term as President by incoming President, Lion John Wilkins. (ABOVE RIGHT) Indiana Lions Foundation Vice-President John Wilkins awarding a \$2,400 check to Vision First President and CEO, Timothy Fischer.

tary and PDG Marlyn Fast as Treasurer.

The Indiana State Fair is almost upon us and many shift opportunities

still exist for volunteers. Register at indianalionsfoundationmd25.org/what-we-do/indiana-state-fair-volunteer.

Volunteers earn credits for each shift worked that may be used to obtain community service grants or W. P. Woods Fellowships. Five

shifts can earn 10 credits which may be used for a \$200 community service grant to a club, district, project or LCIF.

The Latest from the Global Action Team

Where did our Lions go? Welcome to the GMT Team

By **PCC Rocky Simpson**
MD25 Global Membership Team Coordinator
master21chief@sbcglobal.net

If you have been a Lion for a month, a year or for fifty years, you know Lions membership in the US is decreasing while it is growing in other parts of the world. This trend is the primary focus for Lions Clubs International.

Recently, all of the incoming US District Governors were invited to Atlanta, Ga. along with their State and District GMT and GET Coordinators to discuss and try to change this trend. The

goal of this weekend was to build and review action plans starting with the first 30, 60, and 90 days of our new Lions year. Ask your District Governor what their plan is and how you can help.

Congratulations!

If you are a Lion, you are on the Global Membership Team. We can't do it without you! I have seven fine District Global Membership Chairs who will be posting lists of new members in the district newsletters and into the *Hoosier Lion*. People need to know that we are on the move and serving our communities in

ways that our communities need. But we need you too!

The way to be successful this year is through action. We need every Lions Club in the state to host at least one recruitment day, dinner, or festival. Each club needs to have a Membership Chair and each Club Board should make membership a priority. One of our Clubs rented a bounce house, offered free hot dogs, and cookies and got two new members. It wasn't hard and the event was scheduled and executed in less than a week!

I'm sure you have people who have ideas of how to bring in new members.

An idea by itself just sits there – you have to put wheels on it and make it go. Put four Lions together and plan a recruitment event. Make a member and guest dinner or tailgating at the high school football game. Whatever you dream up can become a recruitment opportunity.

Finally, I ask you to carry a Lions brochure and Membership Application with you because you never know when you might say, “Hey, you want to be a Lion?”

Keep the Lions you have, but ... **BRING ME NEW LIONS!**

Happy New Year, Indiana Lions!

By **PDG Jim Bush**
MD25 Global Extension Team Coordinator
25b.dg.2425@gmail.com

As your MD GET Coordinator, I have been charged with assisting our District Governors in the formation of new Lions clubs throughout Indiana and extending Lionism. We have already identified several new locations for clubs, but that is just the start.

International President Mark Lyon's theme is “**Rooted in Service.**” This perfectly describes who we are. We are rooted in service to our neighbors, our com-

munities, and the world.

As I write this, I'm watching the World Cup Final. It reminds me so much of the importance of teamwork. These teams have battled through many rounds of competition, and now they're fighting through overtime for the championship with only 11 players on the field. The Lions of Indiana have more than 7,000 teammates. We all need to work together. We hope that every Lion will sponsor a new member this year. Imagine the dramatic impact that many Lions would make in serving the people of our com-

munities.

If you've been following my articles, you already know how grateful I am to my sponsor, Charlie Crawford, for inviting me to become a Lion. Charlie loved being a Lion, and he did me an enormous favor by asking me to serve. Although I was a stranger when he invited me, he became a very good friend.

Was I looking for a new community or a new friend? No, but I found both, and the rewards have been tremendous.

There are many potential new friends and future Lions out there who don't

even realize they're waiting to be asked. So, ask yourself, “Who can I invite to serve with me?” I Then, make a list of these people. Then, Make the Invitation. You might be surprised at what happens.

Our entire Global Action Team (GAT) stands ready to support our districts and clubs, but growing Lions in Indiana is a responsibility we all share. One of the greatest ways we serve is by inviting new members and helping them grow into engaged Lions.

**More Lions
More Service
More Friendships**

Leadership Lines from the GLT Coordinator

By **PCC Julia Kozicki**
MD25 Global Leadership Team Coordinator
julia@thekozickis.org

USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum
Memphis, Tenn.
Sept. 3-5, 2026

Register at lionsforum.org

NOW IS THE TIME to register for the 50th USA/Canada Forum. The Forum is the best place to expand your Lions knowledge and network, and Memphis is only a seven-hour drive from Indianapolis.

This is the 50th anniversary of the Forum, and we'd love to have 50 Hoosier Lions attend. We have some spots left in the van – reach out to Julia at julia@thekozickis.org or (317) 294-8064 if you want to ride along. Join the fun!

Club Officer Training

Are you serving as a club officer in the 2026-27 Lions year? If so, to earn the 2026-

27 Club Excellence Award, the club president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer need to attend an instructor-led club officer training before Oct. 31, 2026. This can be in-person or virtual. The Multiple District will schedule additional Zoom trainings for these officers. Reach out to Julia if you would like to join the training.

Midwinter Conference

This year's Midwinter Conference will be held on Saturday, Jan. 16, 2027, at the 502 East Event Centre in Carmel, Indiana. Past International Director Dave Wineman will share a keynote message of positivity and encouragement and we will have training on service opportunities, recruiting tips, and fun classes for Leos and Lions alike! Save the date!

*Yours in Lionism,
PCC Julia*



MD 25 Calendar

In an effort to better publicize Lions events across Indiana, the state office asks that clubs, districts, state projects and state committees please send notice of meetings and anniversary celebrations to State Administrative Secretary Ann Ninness as soon as they are scheduled at ann@indianalions.org.

August 2026

Aug. 7 to 23: Lions Working the Gates at the Indiana State Fair. Indiana Lions Foundation's Largest Fundraiser.

Aug. 22: Indiana Harbor-East Chicago Lions Club's 100-Year Celebration. Cost: \$60 pp or \$480 per table of eight. Dynasty Banquets, 4125 Calumet Ave., Hammond. Call Lion Christine Russell for more information: (219) 678-1087.

Aug. 29: District F Banner Night. 5 p.m. Social Hour. \$25 pp or \$30 after Aug. 20. Moorhead Community Resource Center, m 8400 E. 10th St., Indianapolis. Dress Code is Hawaiian. Includes silent auction and 50/50 raffle. Make checks payable to Lions District 25F and mail to Angie Crouch, 9051 Greystone Ct., Indianapolis, 46234 or email mwam2893@gmail.com.

Aug. 29 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Leader Dogs for the Blind Trustees Meeting at Indiana Lions State Office, 9002 Vincennes Circle, Indianapolis.

Aug. 29 at 11 a.m.: ISBVI Board of Trustees Meetings at 2701 N. Devon Ave., Indianapolis

September 2026

Sept. 3 to 5: USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Memphis, Tenn.

Sept. 12: District G Banner Night at Camp Mack, 1113 E. Camp Mack Rd., Milford

Sept. 13: VisionFirst - IN Lions Eye Bank

Sept. 13 at 8:15 a.m.: Audit Committee Meeting for Cancer Control at Indiana Lions State Office, 9002 Vincennes Circle, Indianapolis

Sept. 13: 10 a.m.: Cancer Control Meeting at Indiana Lions State Office, 9002 Vincennes Circle, Indianapolis. Worship Service from 9:15 to 9:50 a.m.

Sept. 13: at 2 p.m.: Long Range Planning Committee Meeting at Indiana Lions State Office, 9002 Vincennes Circle, Indianapolis

Sept. 20, afternoon time TBD: Guiding Lions Training. Pending location, Indiana Lions State Office, 9002 Vincennes Circle, Indianapolis

Sept. 26: District C Banner Night in Spencer. More info coming soon.

Sept. 26: District E Banner Night at Pines Evergreen Room in Seymour. Social Hour at 5 p.m.; activities at 6 p.m.

October 2026

Oct. 3: Ben Davis 75th Anniversary at Clermont Lions Club House, 3201 Tansel Rd., Clermont

Oct 3: PDG Weekend in Wabash

Oct. 10 at 9 a.m.: 2nd Council Meeting 2026-27, tentatively in Auburn with 25B to host. Location TBD.

Oct. 10: District B Banner Night at Hamilton Fish & Game Club, Hamilton.

Oct. 17: District F Fall Cabinet Meeting

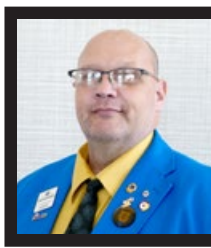
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Roars from District A

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Build friendships & serve those in need

By David Dickinson
District 25A Governor

Hello Lions, my name is David Dickinson, and it is an honor to be the 2026-27 District Governor for District 25A.

I have been an active member of the Westville Lions Club since 2004. I have held almost every position in my club and at the district level including Zone Chair, Region Chair, Global Service Team Coordinator, and Trustee for the Indiana Lions Foundation. I was on my path to District Governor for 2021 but due to severe health problems and a stroke, I was unable to continue that path. My health has improved and now I am ready to lead my district.

I have received various awards and recognitions including the International President's Medal and the International President's Certificate of Appreciation. I am also a W.P. Woods and Melvin Jones Fellow, a graduate of the Advanced Lions Leadership Institution and attended the Indiana MD25 Leadership Conferences. I thoroughly enjoy all the district meetings and conventions. Let me en-

courage all Lions to attend the Mid-Winter Leadership Conference and the USA/Canada Forums. It is a wonderful opportunity to network with other Lions and gain valuable lion and life skills. It is well worth your time to attend.

On the professional side I have a degree in Accounting/Business Management and worked for Carter Lumber for 29 years. I have coached girls high school volleyball, little league, travel club volleyball, and proudly collaborated with Cub Scouts.

On the personal side, I am married to my lovely wife, Tina, and have three children. My mother and sister are also Westville Lions. I challenge every Lion to bring a new Lion into your club this year and let's get to work!

Together with my dedicated support team and the caring Lions in our district, I know we will meet the goals I have committed to for District A. I look forward to meeting Lions as I visit the clubs in the district and around the state.

We will **"Build Friendships**Serve Those in Need."**

Crown Point Lions Club presents \$3,000 grant to Operation Charlie Bravo

On June 30, 2026, the Crown Point Lions Club proudly presented a \$3,000 matching grant from the Indiana Lions Foundation to Operation Charlie Bravo.

The grant reflects the Crown Point Lions Club's ongoing commitment to supporting veterans and organizations that make a meaningful difference in their lives. Through the generosity of the Indiana Lions Foundation and the dedication of local Lions members, this funding will help Operation Charlie Bravo continue its life-changing mission.

Operation Charlie Bravo is a 501(c)(3) veteran non-profit organization founded by Jason Zaideman. The organization's mission is "To lower the suicide rate and prevent homelessness by providing therapeutic, hands-on, programs for Veterans suffering from PTSD, TBI, and or depression."

In the organization's 11 years of service, more than 4,000 veterans have participated in its programs. Remarkably, not a single veteran who has completed the program has become homeless or died by suicide – a testament to the effectiveness of the organization's mission and the dedication of its volunteers, partners, and supporters.

"The Crown Point Lions Club is proud to support our veterans and organizations like Operation Charlie Bravo that are making a measurable impact," said club representatives. "We are honored to partner with the



Photos provided (ABOVE) The Crown Point Lions presented a \$3,000 check to Jason Zaideman, founder of Operation Charlie Bravo. (BELOW) Lion Donna Worst takes a look at the merchandise in the Operation Bravo Store.

Indiana Lions Foundation to help ensure these vital programs continue to serve those who have sacrificed so much for our country."

The Crown Point Lions Club (e-clubhouse.org/sites/crownpointin) remains committed to serving the community through charitable giving, volunteer service, and partnerships that improve lives throughout Northwest Indiana. Supporting organizations like Operation Charlie Bravo aligns with the Lions' commitment to serving those in need and honoring the sacrifices of our nation's veterans.

For more information about Operation Charlie Bravo, visit OCBravo.org.



Going all out for this year's parade



Photo provided

The Munster Lions helped celebrate our nation's 250th birthday with a parade float in Munster's annual 4th of July parade. The Munster Lions has sponsored the parade along with the Town of Munster for over 50 years. This year's parade had participants from schools, organizations, and businesses, and was well-attended by residents.

Lions Clubs International



Improving the Lions Park

The Lake of the Four Seasons Lions Club placed two sets of concrete cornhole games in Lions Park in early June, as part of their goals to improve and add to our local parks.

Taking nearly four years to complete, the project included fundraising from the community during the annual July 4th parade and grants from the Indiana Lions Foundation and Ed Paine Care and Helping Hands.

With help from the Maintenance and Opera-

tions Department, the cornhole bases, each weighing 630 pounds, were installed on six-inch-thick concrete bases. Thanks to Lion Tony for helping us find a concrete contractor, Lion Chuck for proposing the project, and the Lions Club at large for all their support of this project.

The cornholes sets have a Lions logo and a Lakes of the Four Seasons logo, which reflects the joint nature of the project.

The Lions have provided not only more recreation



Photo provided

for Lions Park with these cornholes, but they recently put in a tree and pollinator garden, supporting Lions environmental goals.

Drop by Lions Park

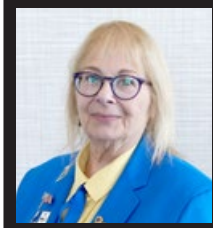
and BYOB (bring your own bags!). Look for more fun things the Lions have in store for everyone this summer as we celebrate 50 years of service to LOFS.

Westville hosts District 25A Banner Night



Photos provided

On Saturday, Aug. 1, District Governor Dave Dickinson held his Banner Night, hosted by his home club, Westville. DG Dave spoke about everyone needs to be doing service no matter how big or small and everyone needs to work together. Shown is DG Dave, 1st Vice Wendy Semans and 2nd Vice Carlyle Edwards. Also pictured is the PDG's passing the torch of 25A to District Governor Dave.



Roars from District B

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The day you become a Lion

By DG Beth Kohli
District 25B Governor

Hello to all Lions. My name is Beth Kohli and I am the 2026-27 District Governor for District 25B (the BEST!). I am a second-generation Lion; my dad is PDG Bob Howard and my mom is longtime district newsletter editor Lion Jean Howard. We are all proud members of the Hamilton Lions Club. (Fun fact: I believe Dad and I are the first parent/child DG's in the district.)

I have been a member of my club since 2012, but I became a Lion after attending our first service project, which was playing bingo in a nursing home. We served cookies and ice cream and played bingo for just a couple of hours. To this day, I don't know who had more fun, the Lions or the residents.

Our motto, WE SERVE, became more than just words to me that day. It became the way I try to live my life every day, even though some days I may fall short. And it can be as simple as holding a door open for somebody or just offering a smile to a stranger.



You never know what someone else is going through and how much a smile can mean. I hope that we can all do that throughout the year through many acts of service, which I hope to inspire through my slogan this year: "Together we grow, Together we serve."

We have all heard the expression "many hands make light work." The same is true for the Lions. The more members we have the more service we are able to provide to our communities. Our focus this year is going to be not only gaining new members, but keeping the members we have. District 25B has only started one new club in the last several years (Go Warren!), so we are going to start new clubs this year. And we are going to do more service because our communities need us! I am asking each club to start one new service project this year. It doesn't have to be anything big or elaborate. You can piggyback on another project; collect canned goods at a fundraiser, collect eyeglasses and hearing aids at a pancake breakfast.

I believe in you! You can do this!

Arcola Lions recycle for sight

On April 21, the Arcola Lions Club sorted and boxed 11,550 pairs of used eyeglasses that were then delivered to the District 25A recycle center at Wanatah for processing at the Westville Prison. There they are cleaned, tested, and packaged for use in mission trips around the world.

The Arcola Club had Lions help from Churubusco, Columbia City, Huntertown, Waterloo, and Albion Clubs. We also had help from the Cubs from the Albion Club.

In 2013, PDG George Stieglitz and PCC Greg Jeffrey asked the Arcola Club to take over collecting and sorting glasses from the Fort Wayne area clubs. At that time, this was the source of



Photo provided

eyeglasses that PCC Greg used for the district's International Understanding Mission Trips to Central America. We are still providing glasses to Dr. Eric Purdy that has continues serving the communities our

District served in the past as a continuation of our International Relations project.

Since 2013, we have delivered over 196,375 pair of glasses to Wanatah for use in mission trips around the world.

Attention: They will be sorting again in September, so look for information in the 25B newsletter and on the district's Facebook page for anyone who would like to help with this signature district project.

Heritage Lions & Heritage High School partner for Hoagland Community Park

Visitors to the Hoagland Community Park playground area will soon have some brand-new places to sit thanks to a collaborative effort between the Heritage Lions Club and the students at Heritage High School.

The Heritage Lions Club generously donated the funds covering all necessary raw materials for the project. With funding secured, Mr. Shirey's high school shop class stepped up to handle the construction, turning the lumber and hardware into three sturdy, expertly crafted picnic tables.

This joint initiative not only provides a lasting upgrade to the local park but also gave the high school students a hands-on opportunity to apply their wood-



Photo provided

(From left) Ken Sorg, Jonah Case, Elijah Case, Owen Sorg, Jack Clear, Marvin Sorg, Dan Beer, and Allan Doctor.

working skills toward a meaningful community service project.

The completed tables have now been delivered to the Hoagland Community Park, ready for families and residents to enjoy for years to come.

Great job, Cromwell Kimmell Lions



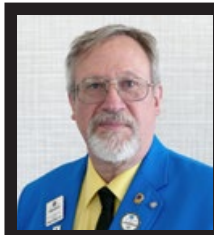
Photos provided

The Cromwell Kimmell Lions Club worked hard on another great service project. They built and installed another ramp for community members in need. (ABOVE LEFT, from left) Lion Tom Fish (front) and Lion Chuck Sweeney (back) take a look at their progress. (ABOVE RIGHT) Lions Chuck Sweeney, Tom Fish, and Mike Fletcher.



Photos provided

Cromwell Kimmell Lions Mike Fletcher, Ken Cripe, and Craig Atz have been hard at work making 10 new picnic tables for The Stone Trace Historical Society to use during their annual festival and throughout the year.



Roars from District C

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Meet your new District Governor

By **Tom Schultz**
District 25C Governor

I was born and raised in Lorain County, Ohio (next county west of Cleveland and near Lake Erie). I moved to Indianapolis to attend trade school, receiving a diploma in Auto/Diesel/Truck Technology. I moved there in October of 1972 with intentions of moving back to Ohio after graduating. Well, to put it short, life happens!

I worked for L.S. Ayres & Co. and started with them on June 12, 1972. Macy's and Ayres merged in 2005. I retired with Macy's after 52 years, 8months, 2 weeks, and 2 days. I worked as a Maintenance Engineer and at one point was working in three states at multiple locations. I met my wife Marj at the Greenwood Ayres location and both of us had been married previously with no children. In 1983, after I commuted for about a year to oversee construction of the L.S. Ayres College Mall location we moved to Bloomington, Ind. We lived in there for 30 years and raised three daughters before moving to Poland, Ind.

We moved next door to a lady who was a charter member of the Poland Community Lions Club. We

moved into the new home in August of 2013 and were invited to a Lions meeting in April of 2014. We were hooked! They asked if I would be the club president, but having no knowledge of what Lions were all about, I declined the request.

We both became members and one year later I was the vice president. Then I served as president the following year and went almost six years as president before transferring to the Spencer Lions Club where I am finishing out my term as club president. Both of us had made the switch to Spencer where Marj became the club president, and I was vice president. She was re-elected as president in 2025, and I was re-elected as vice president. She was actually 2VDGE in 2025 and I was elected as 1VDGE at the same time.

She unexpectedly passed away on May 30, 2025 after almost 46 years of marriage. It's been a very difficult year for me adapting to the major change in my life, but I am making it! I am looking forward to my year as District Governor and visiting all the clubs in our district and making new friends!

*Yours in Lionism,
DG Tom Schultz*

What is Banner Night?

By **2VDG Rebecca Mannan**
Banner Night is a uniquely Indiana tradition of fun and fellowship to kick off the new service year.

All the Lions Clubs in the district are asked to bring their club banners and put them on display. It's a sign of club unity as well as support for the incoming leadership team in the district. The event will include the transfer of the district banner to the home club of the incoming District Governor.

Each celebration is different and represents the personality and style of the incoming District Governor. This is a great opportunity to make new Lion friends as

well as reconnect with old Lion friends. A typical evening event includes: dinner, a social hour, sometimes music, an educational/keynote speaker, often a silent auction/fundraising event, and sometimes a service opportunity as well.

25C District Governor Tom Schultz will celebrate his Banner Night on Sept. 26; however, the other districts in our state will have events as well. All Lions are welcome to attend any and all events! If you would like more information or a registration form, please reach out to me and I can assist: RebeccaMannan@nbofi.com.

This Year's Banner Nights

25A for DB Dave Dickinson on Aug. 1 in Westville
25B for District Governor Beth Kohli on Oct. 10 in Hamilton
25C for District Governor Tom Schultz on Sept. 26 in Spencer
25D for District Governor Mike Careins on July 18 in Matthews
25E for District Governor Brad Nolan on Sept. 26 in Seymour
25F for District Governor Brenda Wilson on Aug. 29 in Indianapolis
25G for District Governor Steven Weld on Sept. 12 in Milford

No tail twisting required for these new Spencer Club officers



Photo by Lions Anton Neff

2nd Vice District Governor Rebecca Mannan installed the Spencer Lions Club officers at their Tail Twister party. (From left) 2nd VDG Mannan, DG Tom Schultz, Tail Twister Tony Neff, VP Anita Kay (front), Treasurer Sandy Miller (back), Director Doris Hammond, Secretary Charlotte Query, and President Jimmy P.M. Query.

Dr. Neely honored by ISBVI



Photo provided

Trustees of the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ISBVI) presented the Fellowship Vase and Braille-overlaid certificate to Dr. Dan Neely, Pediatric Ophthalmologist, who was the keynote speaker at the Lions Sate Convention Saturday luncheon. Dr. Neely's informative and motivating speech helped those in attendance better understand how the eye works, what issues can occur, especially in the young the benefits of early eye screening. Since 2002, Dr. Neely has invested much of his time training and mentoring our eye care partners online, in local hospitals & on the Flying Eye Hospital. (ABOVE, from left) ISBVI Trustee PDG Pat Short, Dr. Dan Neely, ISBVI School Superintendent James Michaels, and ISBVI Treasurer Lion Bob Jessen.

A visit to the Lizton Lions Club



Photos provided

Immediate Past District Governor Paul Scheetz visited the Lizton Lions Club. During the meeting, new member Cameron Sullivan was inducted, three members received Certificates of Appreciation, and the 2026-2027 Club Officers were installed. (ABOVE LEFT) Lizton's newest member Cameron Sullivan is pined by his sponsor Lion Dave Groover. (TOP RIGHT) IPDG Scheetz installs Lizton Lions Club's 2026-2027 Officers. (From left) 1st Vice President Keith Asbury, 2nd Vice President Dave Groover, Secretary Wendy Asbury, Treasurer Greg Stier, President Sam Goldsberry, and Lion Tamer Karen Martin. (ABOVE RIGHT) Club President Goldsberry and IPDG Scheetz present Lion Wendy Asbury with the District Governor's Certificate of Appreciation.

Zionsville welcomes three new members



Photo by Lion Gail Robbins

Zionsville's Awards Night was a night to celebrate every member, plus add a few more Lions! (From left) Zionsville President Jason Baker, Membership Chair Tom Robbins, Sponsor Nancy Veszey, new members Larry Kriete, Eric Hyten, and Jill McGinnis, and Sponsor Donna Fisher. Welcome to the Zionsville Lions Club!

You can be the sunshine to young people

Imagine 50 to 60 youngsters standing outside your Lions Club singing "You Are My Sunshine" and holding homemade Thank You cards at the end of the summer because the Lions provided a free lunch every

weekday for them. This is what touched DG Tom's heart and prompted him to join the Spencer Lions Club. The Lions building has been home to the Summer Food Service Program for 24 years now. This is a USDA

program, directed by the Indiana Department of Education, and is available to any group willing to work it. The Spencer Lions are currently feeding 175 to 200 children per day, Monday through Friday. Lots of

work but lots of fun! Perhaps your club would be interested in trying this in your community. You can find information online under SFSP or contact Lion Charlotte Query at jequery@bluemarble.net.



Roars from District D

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Growing the Lions Family

By **DG Michael Careins**
District 25D Governor

Welcome to a new Lions year! I cannot tell you how excited I am about what we have ahead of us. We are ready to kick things off in a big way, build some serious momentum, and most importantly, grow the Lions family!

Recruiting will be one of our biggest priorities this year. In District 25D, our new **40 Under 40 Challenge** is going to be an exciting part of that effort. We want to bring a new generation of Lions into our clubs while continuing to invite people of every age who have a heart for service. One of the easiest ways to recruit is also something Lions already do extremely well: serve our communities! When we are out there doing visible, meaningful service, people notice. Every project is an opportunity to show our neighbors who we are, what we do, and why being a Lion matters. So don't forget to wear your Lion gear and have Lions signage so people can make the connection between service and Lionism.

Of course, sometimes we still have to do the most important thing: **Just Ask!**

We are working on a new "Just Ask" recruiting training program designed to make talking with potential new Lions easier and more comfortable. We get better at everything when we train and practice, and recruiting is no different.

This year, we will also focus on International President Mark Lyon's Weeks of Service. **Vision Week, Oct. 8 to 18**, will focus on protecting sight and promoting eye health. **Youth Week, Feb. 13 to 21**, will give us opportunities to mentor, encourage, and empower the next generation. **Environment Week, May 29 to June 6**, will bring Lions together for conservation, cleanups, tree planting, and projects that make our communities better places to live.

This is our opportunity to make some noise, be visible, serve boldly, and invite others to come along with us. Every Lion can make a difference. Every Lion can invite someone. Every club can grow.

Let's make this a year people remember. Let's grow the Lions family and show our communities what happens when we come together as **Volunteers In Action!**

Doug Lozier receives Indiana Distinguished Lion Award

Past International Director Doug Lozier of the Carmel Lions Club in District 25D was the recipient of the Indiana Lions Distinguished Lion Award for 2026. He was one of 18 nominees from MD25 coming from all across the state of Indiana.

The Indiana Distinguished Lion Award is presented each year by the Indiana Lions Foundation at the Indiana Lions State Convention. This prestigious award recognizes an outstanding member of the Lions of Indiana. A nominee must be a Lion in good standing in a Lions Club in Indiana, and must have been a Lion for at least 25 years.

PID Lozier is a 50-year Life Member of the Carmel Lions Club and has held all of the offices at club level. He served as a District Governor in 1986-1987 and as State Comptroller from 1992-1998.

PID Lozier was elected

to the International Board of Directors at the 2008 International Convention in Bangkok for a two-year term. While on the board, Director Lozier served on the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, chairing it in 2009-2010. He also was named by President Wirfs to a special ad hoc committee that reorganized MERL into the GMT and GLT programs. In 2016-2017, he was an Appointee to the International Board of Directors by President Corlew on the Finance and Headquarters Committee and on the Long-Range Planning Committee.

PID Lozier is the recipient of the Ambassador of Goodwill, the highest award that a Lions member can receive from the Association. He has received several International Presidential Medals and 2 International Presidents Leadership Medals, and the 100 percent Distinct Governor Award.



Photo provided

PID Doug Lozier (left) receives his Indiana Distinguished Lion Award from District 25B PDG Donald L. Cooper.

He holds a membership advancement Key, is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, and a Progressive W.P. Woods Fellow.

Past International Director Doug has served and rep-

resented Lions Club International, His Club, His District and the Lions of Indiana with Vision, Leadership, Dignity, and a spirit that shows the world Where there is a need, there is a Lion.

Doggone good job, Noblesville Lions!



Photo provided by Noblesville Lions Club

Noblesville Lions went to the dogs last weekend! On Saturday, Aug. 8, Lions Club members served at the Humane Society of Hamilton County's Woofstock Survivor 5K and Dog Walk at Launch Fishers. They passed out water and bananas to over 300 participants. It was a tail-wagging good time for everyone! (ABOVE) Lion Jen was called upon to use her medical training to help a Husky in need of first aid.

Noblesville Lions induct new member & install new officers



Photos provided by Lisa Dick, Noblesville Lions Club
At their June meetings, the Noblesville Lions installed 2026-2027 officers and welcomed a new member. (ABOVE) The 2026-2027 officers include (from left) Secretary Dana Meyer, Treasurer Jeff Kozicki, Director Joe Connerley, District 25 Past Council Chair Rocky Simpson, 1st Vice President Josh Kozicki, President Cheryl Helton, Marketing Chair Lisa Dick, Tail Twister Mark Bachar, Director Lisa Rohe, Director Jeff Dick, and Membership Chair Greg Clouse. (RIGHT) Katrina Washington (center) was inducted as a new member by Lion Julia Kozicki (right), with her sponsor John Terhune (left).



Westfield Lions Foundation partners with Westfield Fire to provide life-saving training

By **STU CLAPMITT**
news@readthereporter.com

The Westfield Lions Foundation and Westfield Fire Department have begun a partnership to save lives by offering free CPR training and certification. The first round of that training was on Sunday, July 12 at the Westfield Lions Foundation Clubhouse, 1101 E. 169th St.

This session was exclusively for Lions as a way to make sure everything will be perfect when this program opens to the public later this year.

"This was our inaugural test run," Westfield Lions Foundation Board President Mike Birk told The Reporter. "It was done with all Lions. We wanted to get the pulse and see what worked and what didn't work. It was a full CPR certification class that was run with an approved American Heart Association training course."



Photo provided by Mike Birk, Westfield Lions Club

(From left) Rob Ginder, Craig Cooley, Bill Nesbitt, John Wardlow, Gary Smith, Walter Rippy of WFD, Tracy Rogers, Mark Albright, Jerry Hochgesang, Cheryl Hochgesang, and Thida Donel of WFD.

Westfield Fire Department (WFD) Community Paramedic Walter Rippy, III and WFD Community Risk Reduction Specialist Thida Donel provided certification training.

While Rippy and Donel were careful to show trainees how multiple manufacturers' AED (Automated External Defibrillator) devices function,

the equipment on hand at the Foundation Clubhouse exactly matches the equipment used by the Westfield Fire Department.

Keep reading The Reporter for details on how you can sign up for the first public CPR course, which will be offered at no cost later this year.

The Westfield Lions Foundation, the Club's

501(c)(3) charitable organization. For more information on the Westfield Lions Foundation, including how your donations could be tax deductible, go to WestfieldLionsFoundation.org.

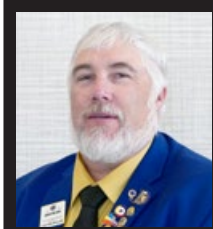
For more information on the Westfield Lions Club, how to become a member, and how to rent their community center, go to WestfieldLions.org.

Sheridan Lions present three students with \$1,000 scholarships



Photo provided by Chuck Godby, Sheridan Lions Club

The Sheridan Lions Club recently presented \$1,000 scholarships to three outstanding 2026 Sheridan High School graduates. (From left) Lion Steven Bilby, scholarship recipients Bella Prater, Emily Will, and MaKenzy Terry, and Lion Joe Brinker.



Roars from District E

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Be a visible Lion

By **DG Brad Nolan**
District 25E Governor

One of the questions I hear most often in Lions is, “How do we grow membership?” While there are many ideas and programs that can help, I believe membership growth really comes down to two simple actions.

First, we have to ask people to join.

Second, the people we ask need to know who we are, what we do.

That second point is the one that I believe we sometimes overlook. Think about the last service project your club completed. If someone drove by while you were working, would they have known they were watching Lions in action? Or would they have assumed you were volunteering through your church, employer, or another community organization?

If we’re not wearing Lions shirts, displaying a banner, or putting out a yard sign, there’s a good chance the community never realizes that Lions are making a difference right in front of their eyes.

Visibility isn’t about seeking recognition or taking credit for the good we do. It’s about making sure people know that Lions are active in their communities and that there is an organization they can join if they want to make a difference themselves. Membership doesn’t begin when someone fills out an application. It begins long before that,

when they first see Lions serving others.

There’s another question I think we should ask ourselves from time to time: Why do we belong to Lions?

We certainly don’t join for titles or awards. We don’t serve because we’re looking for applause or a pat on the back. Those things may come from time to time, and they are appreciated, but they aren’t why we do what we do.

We serve because we care.

We believe our communities are worth investing our time in. We believe a child deserves to see better, a family deserves help when disaster strikes, and a neighbor deserves to know someone cares. We believe that if each of us does our part, we can leave our communities – and our world – a little better than we found them.

The greatest thing Lions gives to us isn’t something that can be pinned on a vest or displayed on a shelf. It’s the pride and satisfaction that comes from knowing we made a difference in someone’s life.

So, the next time your club plans a service project, make Lions visible. Wear your Lions apparel. Display your banner. Tell your story. Then don’t be afraid to invite someone to become part of it.

After all, it’s much easier to say “yes” when you’ve already seen Lions in action.

*Yours in Service,
DG Brad Nolan*

Liberty Day celebrates 25 years

Eighth-graders learned the liberties protected by the First Amendment during a Lions Liberty Day Constitution program at Barr-Reeve Middle School in District 25E held in May.

Presenter PDG Bill Willis, who founded the statewide program in 2001, explains there are five liberties but only 1 percent of Americans know what they are. In this America 250 year, stu-

dents should know that our American flag is the best-known flag in the world and recognized for the acronym “HOPE”: Helping Other People Everywhere (which could also be said of Lions Clubs).

Constitution booklets are provided free to clubs coordinating an 8th-grade or 11th-grade program.

For information, contact PDG Bill Willis at wgw@bluemarble.net or call (812) 936-9450.



Fayetteville installs new officers



Photos provided

Thanks to PDG Lee Cuba for officiating the Fayetteville Lions Club’s Officer Installation for the 2026-2027 Lions Year. Now-Past President Rick Ferguson passed the gavel to incoming President Mary Barnes. Officers shown here include Brad Canada, Lynn Burch, Mary Barnes, Rick Ferguson, Dean Ricketts, and PDG Lee. Good luck to everyone on another great Lions Year ahead.

DG Brad leads the way at Oakland City Sweet Corn Festival



Photos provided

Seymour Noon Lions serve up smiles & Big Red floats

On Aug. 3, 2026, the Seymour Noon Lions marched – fearlessly, purposefully – into the Boys & Girls Club armed with ice cream scoops, fizzy soda, and the kind of enthusiasm normally reserved for championship parades.

Our mission? Deliver joy. Carbonated, creamy, unapologetically Big Red & Root Beer Floats with the intensity of a humanitarian sugar brigade.

With the precision of a well-oiled service machine and the energy of a caffeinated marching band, Lions Doug Ray, John & Rosy Jennings, Larry & Sherry Jourdan, Bill Rinehart, and

Dana Phillips transformed an ordinary afternoon into a full-scale Float Frenzy. Scooping, pouring, smiling, repeating ... these Lions executed their duties with such gusto that even the root beer seemed intimidated.

Thanks to their efforts, the Boys & Girls Club was briefly converted into the happiest soda shop this side of the Mississippi. It was service. It was chaos. It was delicious.

And it was unmistakably Seymour Noon Lions.

Until next time, Boys & Girls Club ... keep floating!

Local heart. Global reach. LION ON!



Photos provided

DG Brad Nolan served as the Parade Grand Marshal at this year’s Oakland City Sweet Corn Festival.



Roars from District F

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Are you ready for a Lionism Explosion?

By **DG Brenda Wilson**
District 25F Governor

Greetings, Roaring Lions. This is the beginning of the 2026-27 Lions year, and I am really excited to serve as District Governor for 25F. The Lions' Mission 1.5 is aimed at increasing membership, and I would love to help your club do this. My slogan is "Exploding Lionism," which is depicted on my pin as an exploding volcano as new members are added. It shows LIFE (reflecting from the mountain), FUN (the sky's the limit), MEMBERSHIP, and SERVICE (as lava races down the mountain). THAT IS LIONISM.

There are two main questions I want to ask you. First, how many new members do you have? I had a great time inducting Genita Johnson into the Indianapolis Center Township Lions Club. The next day, I inducted Lucas Preston, a third-generation, Lion into Lawrenceburg Lions Club during their 80th Anniversary Celebration. And then after our Council meeting on July 18 in Matthews, Ind.,

DG Mike Cariens, 25D, had his Banner Night and inducted a fourth-generation Lion! People want to be Lions. You just need to ask.

Secondly, what service projects have you done? When you are doing a project, I love to help, watch, and work. A great opportunity for service is at the Indiana State Fair which runs Aug. 7 to 23. Admission and parking are free when you volunteer, so have a friend come and volunteer with you. Before or after your shift, enjoy the many exhibits, rides, entertainment, and food. If you have never volunteered before, I have and it is a lot of fun! You can have a job sitting and scanning tickets and have fun and fellowship. This is a project where you are paid in points for your club's benefit. Sign up at [this link](#).

Finally, a huge shout out to the Bright Lions Club who received the 2025-26 Membership Leader Trophy Award for adding the most members to their club. They added 17! Congratulations and great work. I am so excited about the opportunities ahead of us this year.

Congratulations to all new Club Officers



Photos provided

At the beginning of each Lions Year, all clubs swear in new officers. Members who have answered the call will lead their clubs for a year, and maybe two or three years in some clubs. It is not only an honor but a privilege to serve! Pictured here are new officers from the Ben Davis, Clermont, Pike Township, Speedway, and Washington Township Lions Clubs. Congratulations to all new officers and cheers to having a great year. (From top to bottom, left to right) Speedway, Ben Davis, Pike Township, Washington Township, and Clermont.

A.N.G.E.L.s providing much needed shoes



Photos provided

Project A.N.G.E.L. (Area Neighbors Giving Extra Love) has a goal of collecting 4,500 pairs of shoes to distribute in Hendricks and surrounding counties. With the help of local Lions Clubs, Lion Janet and PCC Reed Fish dropped off a few hundred more at the Brownsburg Library, helping them get closer to the goal. Great job, PCC Reed and Lion Janet! To learn more about this project and to donate, visit projectangelofhendrickscounty.com.

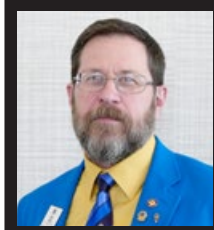
First-ever 5K at Camp Woodsmoke



Photos provided

On June 13, Camp Woodsmoke held its first-ever Roar and Explore 5K Run. It was a beautiful day and there was a good turnout for the first event on this beautiful property. Thank you to everyone who volunteered for this event, especially those that spent hours grooming the trail through woods! Thank you to all who made this a great day and we hope to see you at next year's run. (TOP) The participants in the 5K all had a great time. (ABOVE) Meet the volunteer team.

Find more Lions news at
Facebook.com/IndianaLions



Roars from District G

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See clearly, serve boldly

By **DG Steven Weld**
District 25G Governor

One in four children have a vision problem significant enough to impact their learning. Some estimates suggest that 40 percent of students diagnosed with a learning disability are, in reality, struggling with uncorrected vision. A child who cannot see the chalkboard is not always a child who cannot learn – sometimes a child just needs help to see clearly.

This is a gap that Lions Clubs fill, and what drew me into Lions. Not a single moment, but a system connecting community resources with real needs. The idea that a long chain of organized volunteers could take a pair of discarded glasses dropped in a recycle bin in northern Indiana and help a child in Mexico succeed in school. That was what held my attention: a chance to see clearly what a need was, and serve boldly enough to help meet it.

Glasses collected in shops, restaurants, and doctors' offices around the state are gathered, cleaned, measured, labeled, sorted, boxed, and shipped, involving hundreds of volunteer hours each year. The annual 25-G mission trip in September, at the end of that long line, fit those recycled eyeglasses on the faces of people who will benefit,

sometimes with life-changing effect – from elementary-aged students just starting their studies in earnest, to truck drivers in need of bifocals, to maturing farmers hoping to struggle less in reading.

On every mission trip, I have at least once had the joy of selecting and providing a pair of glasses to an Abuelita who realizes she can thread a needle or cook a meal for the first time in years – that she is able to see and to help and to serve the people she loves. That moment is the reason for this long chain of sustained effort.

I served as a U.S. Air Force officer in aircraft maintenance, logistics, and acquisition, retiring in 2013. I joined Lions in 2019, finding a new opportunity to serve. This September is my fifth eyeglass mission trip, serving first as a selector (finding glasses to meet a prescription need), then as selector lead, and this time as team chief. That progression is ordinary in Lions: show up, then keep showing up, and the opportunities to serve will continue to expand.

What I valued in the military, I still value here: finding my place in purposeful work much bigger than myself. That is what I hope every Lion in my district and across Indiana finds this year – their own place in the chain.

Helping to keep the kids cool at Camp Ray Bird

When temperatures climbed on July 1, members of the Lydick Lions Club teamed up with the Saint Joseph County Fire Territory to help campers at Camp Ray Bird stay cool.

Firefighters transformed an ordinary summer afternoon into a memorable event by opening up the fire truck's hose for an impromptu cooling station. More than 50 campers laughed, cheered, sang, and danced as they ran through the refreshing spray, providing welcome relief from the summer heat.

After the water fun ended, Lydick Lions served snacks to help the campers recharge before returning to their activities. The event highlighted the value of community partnerships



Photo provided

(From left) Mike Lane, Teckla Lane, Vicki Jones (holding the club mascot Leo), Wendy Yuhasz, Christine Bella, and Marie Briggs.

and the Lions' commitment to serving local youth. By working together, the

Lydick Lions Club and the Saint Joseph County Fire Territory created an after-

noon filled with smiles, laughter, and lasting memories for the campers.

Akron Lions partner with Kosciusko County Sleep in Heavenly Peace

The Akron Lions Club has developed a great partnership with the Kosciusko County chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP), a nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring that no child sleeps on the floor. Through this collaboration, the club is helping improve the lives of local children and families by supporting SHP's mission to provide free, hand-built beds to children in need.

SHP is a volunteer-driven organization that builds, assembles, and delivers beds complete with mattresses, bedding, and pillows at no cost to families. Each bed provides a comfortable place to sleep; it offers an opportunity for children to wake up rested and ready to succeed at home and in school.

Members of the Akron Lions Club have supported the organization through volunteer service, financial contributions, and community outreach. The Akron Lions hosted community wide bed build days in 2025 and 2026, assisted with deliveries, and helped raise awareness of



Photos provided

(TOP) The 113 volunteers who helped build 47 beds for local children. (ABOVE LEFT) Lion Bob Gagnon and Lion Bob Mills sand down the bed frame parts during the bed build. (ABOVE RIGHT, from left) Lion Josh Manns, Lion VDG Jim Steen, Lion Dave Morehouse, Lion Christina Morehouse, and Lion Pam Gagnon comprise one of the local delivery teams.

SHP's mission throughout the community. The partnership has been made possible through the continued support of the Indiana Lions Foundation, which has provided part of the funding for the project over the past several years. This ongoing investment has helped expand the program's reach and enabled more children in Kos-

ciusko and Fulton counties to have their own beds.

The collaboration between the Akron Lions Club, SHP, and the Indiana Lions Foundation demonstrates the Lions' commitment to the motto, "We Serve." By working together, these organizations address a fundamental need while strengthening families and making

a lasting impact throughout the community.

The Akron Lions Club is grateful for the opportunity to partner with SHP and appreciates the Indiana Lions Foundation's continued support of this important initiative. Together, these organizations are helping ensure that every child has a bed to call their own.

Baugo's Eggleston earns Melvin Jones Fellowship Award



Photo provided

Lion President Bob Elli (left) presents a Melvin Jones Fellowship Award to Lion Jim Eggleston during the Baugo Lions Club's regular meeting on July 20, 2026. Lion Jim was honored for his many years of dedicated service to the club, including his leadership on fundraising and community service projects, his longtime production of the Baugo Lions newsletter, and the countless behind-the-scenes contributions that have helped strengthen the club and its mission.

Culver Lions Club hosts another successful Annual Corn Roast

The Culver Lions Club proudly hosted another successful Annual Corn Roast, bringing together members, volunteers, and the community for one of the club's favorite summer traditions.

Preparations began well before the first ear of corn was served. Throughout the day, dedicated volunteers worked tirelessly to keep the fire burning and the kettles full, ensuring thousands of ears of fresh sweet corn were cooked to perfection. Behind the scenes, an incredible team of Lions and community volunteers prepared and served hamburgers, dished out ice cream, spun fresh cotton candy, and kept the food lines moving efficiently for the steady crowd.

What many visitors don't see is the teamwork required to make an event of this size successful. From unloading corn and preparing food to tending the fires, serving guests, cleaning tables, and packing everything away at the end of the

day, dozens of volunteers contributed their time and talents. Their willingness to serve is what makes this annual event possible year after year.

The Corn Roast continues to be one of the Culver Lions Club's signature fundraisers, with proceeds supporting local service projects and charitable programs throughout the community. Every hamburger served, every ear of corn enjoyed, and every volunteer hour donated helps the club continue its mission of serving others.

The Culver Lions Club is proud of the many members, families, and community volunteers who came together to make this year's Corn Roast another outstanding success. Their dedication, hard work, and commitment to service truly embody the Lions motto, "We Serve."

We look forward to carrying on this tradition for many years to come.

"Burning the fumes" – just an expression, but nevertheless a situation none of us wants to be in. We find ourselves only moments away from running out of gas.

Membership is the fuel that drives the Lions Club. Not routinely looking at the fuel gauge and recruiting new members may find us "burning the fumes."

The solution is simple: ask for help. We thank Vice-District Governor Jim Steen for his steadfast help and PDG Marlyn Fast for his encouragement and advice in seeking new members. Zone Chair Faith Kamp



Photo provided

District Governor Jackie Kurley (right) inducts three new members into the Mentone Lions Club. (From left) Blake Taylor, Joe Secrist, and Michael Croy.

and Lions Dave and Chris Morehouse from the Akron Club have regularly attended meetings.

District Governor Jackie Kurley made an official visit April 7, 2026, and inducted three new members.

We are off to good start to a new year and another year of service. Mentone Lions Club, since 1933.

Rochester Lions serve ... a tasty & delicious treat!



Photo provided

"We serve" ice cream! The Rochester Lions Club has been serving delicious, soft-serve ice cream since 1994, and before that, milkshakes and other frozen novelties. This year, we will make stops at the Fulton County 4-H fair, the Nickel Plate Music and Arts Festival, Marshall County Blueberry Festival, and the Chili Cook-Off/Red Hot Car Show. Our club members bring along family and friends to serve up chocolate, vanilla, and the fan-favorite swirl. Profits from these four events will fund most of our scholarships and donations for the whole year! (ABOVE LEFT) Lion Lisa McMillen serves up a cup of ice cream. (ABOVE RIGHT) In keeping with tradition, Rochester Lions Club members shared a meal with some of our 2026 scholarship winners before our June meeting. We love to talk with these amazing young people!