



Lions Connections

April 2025

District 11E1 Newsletter

District Dispatches

Reports from District Officers



District Governor Tom McNaughton

I am happy to announce that the Coleman lions have received a \$1000 grant from LCIF and Harrison Lins have applied for a community grant.

In other news our District convention will be April 25 and 26 at the Doherty Hotel in Clare, Mi. It will be a lot of fun, and all Lions are invited. Here are just some of the things that will be offered:

- Exhibits to visit

- A 50/50 cash drawing.
- We will have a fishing apparel contest from 5-6 pm Friday so come dressed for fishing.
- From 5-6 pm we will also have a meet and greet time with **PID Bruce Beck**,
- Dinner will be at 6:00 and following that we will have **The Incredible Dr. Pol**, a National Geographic TV celebrity, as a speaker.
- Our service project for the evening will be making pet toys. Donate your clean socks, even the holey ones (Stuffing).
- The hospitality room opens at 9:00pm.

Saturday is a whole new day, where we will:

- Have President training, Secretary training, Voting, Memorial Service, and a Silent Auction.
- **PID Bruce Beck and Wife Lion Erin** will speak at lunch and dinner.

Our Saturday session speakers include:

- Golden Key Camp speaker. This is all about having families with kids who have cancer have a good time together.
- Lion Jeff Morse of the Lake Ann Lions, sharing how their club grew membership from 6 to 32 Members in one quarter.
- Lion Dave Hamlin will speak at one of the seminars on how to get nonprofits together and how this helps lions.
- Assembling back packs for kids with cancer.
- We will close out the evening with a hospitality room.

Lions Clubs, make sure your voting members are registered.

The convention committee has been able to reduce the cost of meals by \$18.82 to help make it more affordable for your club.

The registration form is included in this issue and should be returned to jeff.schafer@comcast.net. For more information on the convention, see Jeff's Schafer's article below.

I hope to see you at the Spring Convention!

DG Tom





District 11-E1 Convention

Let's Go Fishing

Exciting news—our **Spring Convention** is right around the corner on **April 25-26 at the Doherty Hotel in Clare!**

The event will be a wonderful opportunity for Lions from across our district to come together, celebrate our achievements, and plan for an even brighter future of service. We have **Dr. Jan Pol** (known for his work on the National Geographic Wild Network show The Incredible Dr. Pol) as a guest speaker for Friday night dinner. We have **four seminars planned** for Saturday to include new club officer training, membership growth, and Golden Key Camp for Kids. Golden Key Camp is a Michigan nonprofit with a goal and mission and purpose of giving kids with cancer some time in nature with their families. We also have **two service projects planned**. The first service project (Friday evening) will be making toys for pets which we plan to distribute to various pet shelters and humane society throughout our District. The second service project (Saturday morning) will be making comfort bags for Golden Key Camp for children with cancer. Our **Lion guest** for the weekend will be **PID Bruce Beck** from Minnesota and his lovely wife Lion Erin.

Register today to lock in the lower rate! Simply print out the registration form that's included in this newsletter or register online at:

<https://form.jotform.com/242058990523157>

We can't wait to see you there—let's make this Spring Convention one to remember!

Club Banners Requested

As we prepare for our **Spring Convention**, we want to make sure every club is proudly represented! We kindly ask that you bring your **Club Banner** to display during the Convention. There will be a Banner Parade at noon on Saturday, April 26. Club banners add to the spirit of Lions, showcase our unity, and highlight the amazing service each club provides. If you or another member can bring the banner along with a banner pole and/or stand that would be great. The district has 12 extra stands that will be set up for those who don't have their own.



Thank you for helping make our convention a great success—we look forward to seeing you and your club's banner there!

Tidbits Ad

Our **Spring Convention** is the perfect time to celebrate and recognize the amazing Lions in our district! You can do just that by purchasing a **Tidbit Ad** in our convention program.

Use a Tidbit Ad to:

- ♥ Recognize a fellow Lion for their dedication and service
- 🙌 Share a heartfelt thank-you message
- 📣 Announce an upcoming club event
- 🎂 Celebrate a milestone, anniversary, or achievement

Tidbit Ads are an easy and meaningful way to support our convention while highlighting the people and moments that matter most.

To purchase your ad, simply print out the Tidbit registration form that's included in this newsletter or contact PCC Jeff Schafer. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to PCC Jeff.

Silent Auction

As we gear up for our District's **Spring Convention**, we are excited to host a **Silent Auction** to help defray the cost of the event. To make this a success, we need your help!

We kindly ask each club to contribute a silent auction item—big or small, every donation makes a difference! Popular items include:

- 📁 Gift baskets
- 🎨 Handmade crafts or artwork
- 🍷 Gourmet food basket items like jams, jellies, specialty meats & cheeses, etc.
- 🎫 Event tickets or gift certificates
- 🎁 Regifting (like new) Item like puzzles, books, games, home décor, etc.

If you can bring an item, please let us know by contacting PDG Sheryl, so we can plan accordingly. You can bring your item Friday evening or Saturday morning. If you're unable to attend the event but still would like to donate an item, contact PDG Sheryl and we'll get someone to pick the item up from you. If you have any questions or need ideas, feel free to reach out!

Thank you for your generosity and support. Your contribution will help make this event even more special!

If you have any questions about the convention or need assistance, feel free to reach out to one of us:

Lion Chuck Dinsmore, Convention Chair, 989-600-1873, cbdinsmore@charter.net
PCC Jeff Schafer, Registration Chair, 812-325-3130, jeff.schafer1@comcast.net
Lion Ann Roeseler, Service Project Chair, 989-615-3959, ann.roeseler@gmail.com
PDG Sheryl Schafer, Silent Auction Chair, 812-325-7762, sheryl.schafer1@comcast.net



District 11-E1 Spring Convention
The Doherty Hotel
April 25-26, 2025



The Doherty Hotel
604 N McEwan St., Clare, MI

The District's Spring Convention is open to ALL Lions and their guests (if not a Lion, please insert "Guest" in where you would state your Club. All events at the Convention are open to anyone to attend which includes cabinet meeting, training seminars, business meeting, etc.

**** Two name(s) may be listed on one registration form if both reside at the same address. ****

Person 1 Name: _____

First

Last

Title

Person 2 Name: _____

First

Last

Title

Address: _____

Street

City

State Zip

Club: _____ District: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Emergency Phone: _____

	First Name(s)	Qty	Price	Total
<i>Registration Fee</i>	N/A		\$25*	
<i>Friday Dinner</i>			\$25	
<i>Saturday Breakfast</i>			\$20	
<i>Saturday Lunch</i>			\$20	
<i>Saturday Banquet</i>			\$35	
<i>DG Tom's Pin</i>	N/A		\$3	
			TOTAL:	

*Registration fee will increase to \$25 on April 2, 2025.
No meal reservations will be accepted after April 14, 2025.

Make checks payable to: "Lions District 11 E1" and mail to PCC Jeff Schafer, 975 Outback Ridge, Midland, MI 48640. For questions call PCC Jeff at (812) 325-3130 or Email: jeff.schafer1@comcast.net.

Friday Dinner: Dinner will be buffet style to include three cheese & beef lasagna, garlic & herb baked chicken, Mac & cheese, real mashed potatoes with gravy, soup of the day, mix salad greens/dressing, tuna salad, Italian pasta salad, cottage cheese, dessert, and beverages (Tea, coffee, soft drink).



2025 District 11-E1 Convention

April 25-26, 2025

The Doherty Hotel

604 N McEwan St. Clare, Michigan



Exhibit & Project Application

*We're asking each project/exhibit to bring their own table for their material to be displayed to help reduce our costs. If you're unable to, please note below and we'll provide one for you.

*Setup will be on Friday (April 25) from 4-9pm or Saturday (April 26) before 9am. Location will be in the back lobby and our meeting room area.

*Tear down should be no earlier than 3pm and prior to 6pm on Saturday, April 26.

*There is no fee to display your exhibit if you're signed up to attend the 2025 District 11-E1 Convention. If not, then the registration fee of \$15 is required. Please make your check payable to "*Lions District 11-E1.*"

Please return this form (by April 13) to PCC Jeff Schafer, 975 Outback Ridge, Midland, MI 48640 or email to: jeff.schafer1@comcast.net.

Name: _____

Club/Project/Group Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Table Needed: Yes: _____ No: _____

Skirting Needed: Yes: _____ No: _____

Thank you for supporting the Lions of Michigan District 11-E1



2025 Tidbits



Grab an Oar and Let's Start Rowing District 11-E1 Spring Convention

Personal Tidbits Ad Fund-Raiser

Do you have a member of your club you'd like to honor? You can recognize that special someone's Birthday. Would you like to share a special "Thank You" for something or someone that needs recognition? **This is the year to show your appreciation to someone. Just let us know, we'll publish it for you.** Fill in the blanks below or create your own ad, email the ad to me then mail a check made out to "Lions District 11 E1" for \$25 for each ad. **Deadline is April 13, 2025.**

Mailing address: PCC Jeff Schafer, 975 Outback Ridge, Midland, MI 48640

Email: jeff.schafer1@comcast.net

Cell Phone/Text: 812-325-3130

Honoring: _____

Why? _____

Anything Else to Include? _____

**** Tidbit Ads can be Campaign Ads, Club Fund-Raisers (BBQ Chicken Dinners, Pancake Breakfast, Fish Fry, etc.), Club Anniversary Celebration, Individual Birthdays or Wedding Anniversary, Thank You Note, and anything else you want to share with the Lions of Michigan District 11-E1!**

2025 Lions District 11-E1 Convention

Fishing Apparel Contest

At Friday's Meet & Greet before dinner wear your best Fishing Apparel. Get in the boat and **"Grab an Oar and Start Rowing"**



"Let's Go Fishing", cast out your best baited line to Hook, Snag, Net, Lure in new Lions Club members.



Win a \$25 Gas Card to get you and your boat out to the lake after the convention to catch that big one!

Building Tomorrow's Leaders:

Lions Club Elections and Leadership Opportunities

As Lions, we know that strong leadership is the foundation of strong service. That's why **election season is a critical time** in the life of every Lions Club and District—it's our opportunity to select, empower, and support the leaders who will guide us into the next year of meaningful service.

Every spring, Clubs across the District hold elections to fill key leadership roles, including **Club President, First and Second Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chair, and more**. These roles aren't just titles—they're vital positions that shape how our clubs' function, grow, and serve.

Why Leadership Matters

Lions Leaders help:

- Inspire and motivate members
- Plan and execute impactful service projects
- Manage communication and club records
- Represent the club at zone, district, and international levels
- Ensure that our values and mission remain strong

Who Can Lead?

Anyone with a heart for service and a willingness to learn can lead. Whether you're a longtime Lion or a newer member looking to get more involved, there's a role that's right for you. Training and mentorship are always available through your District's Global Leadership Team (GLT) and Lions Clubs International resources.

Open Positions – Step Up and Serve

Now is the time to consider how *you* can make an impact. If you or someone you know is ready to take on a leadership role, talk to your club's nominating committee or leadership team.

Election Timeline Tip:

Most clubs hold elections by **April 15** to meet LCI's reporting deadlines. Club officers must be submitted via **MyLCI** by **May 15** to be reflected in the official LCI directory.

Leadership is Service in Action

Being a club or district leader is a rewarding way to grow as a Lion—and as a person. You'll build new skills, forge lifelong connections, and play a key part in shaping the future of service.

Let's step up, lead with heart, and continue the proud tradition of **"We Serve."**

How to Get Involved

If you are interested in taking on a leadership role (within our District) or want to learn more, please reach out to **PCC Jeff Schafer** (812-325-3130, jeff.schafer1@comcast.net) or **IPDG Jim Patterson** (231-250-0925, pattersonjv@comcast.net). We encourage all members to consider how they can contribute to shaping the future of our clubs and district.

Strong leadership ensures that we can continue making a lasting impact in our communities. **Will you step up and lead?**

[Yours.in.Service?](#)

PCC Jeff Schafer
Global Leadership Team (GLT) Coordinator
District 11-E1

Club Officer Training



Programs planned during the training:

Awards Available (District, State, International)

Projects (District, State)

Dues & Financial Responsibilities

MyLion & Accessing Lionsclub.org

Officer Training (President/VP, Secretary, Treasurer, etc.)

Upcoming Dates & Locations

April 26	District Convention, The Doherty Hotel, 9:30 & 10:30 am (Pres/Sec Only)
May 8	Thursday 5-7pm, Kaleva Lions Club (14369 9 Mile Rd, Kaleva)
June 7	Saturday 9-11am, 1 st Congregational Church (126 E Cass St., Greenville)
June 28	Saturday 9-11am, Isabella Commission on Aging (2200 S Lincoln Rd., Mt. Pleasant)

Note: Only need to attend one event. The training at the District Convention (The Doherty Hotel, 604 N McEwan St., Clare) will only be for the President and Secretary.

If you have any questions or to RSVP please contact PCC Jeff Schafer, jeff.schafer1@comcast.net or call/text 812-325-3130.



Youth Camps & Exchange (YCE) SUMMER PROGRAM 2025



Dates to Remember:

Application deadlines:

Outgoing participants: **March 30, 2025**

Host Family: **June 30, 2025**

Incoming Youth Exchange participants:

Arrival date: **July 26, 2025**

Departure date: **August 16, 2025**

D-Bar-A Scout Ranch

Camp dates: **August 3-9, 2025**



Become a Host Family

Bring a new culture into your home!

Multiple District 11 is looking for families in the community who can open their hearts and homes for the month of summer 2025 to host a Youth Exchange Ambassador. These young adults are part of Lions International Youth Camps & Exchange program, bringing young adults from various parts of the world to the United States during the summer program July 26 – August 16, 2025.

Host families need not be Lion members, nor must they have children at home. You would be responsible for their room and board. Visiting young adults comes with spending money, and additional activities will be at your discretion.

If you are interested in becoming a Host Family, please contact:

Your District chair or State Chair Lion Elvie Marfil at 818-800-1060, email epmarfil5@gmail.com.

Facebook page: Youth Camps & Exchange - Michigan, USA

Link: [Lions of Michigan Youth Camps & Exchange](https://lionsofmi.com/index.php/youth-exchange) (<https://lionsofmi.com/index.php/youth-exchange>)

Your help is needed!

Youth Camps & Exchange Program
Lion Elvie Marfil
Multiple District 11 Chairperson

Open your heart and door to the world of Lions Youth Camps & Exchange Program. Please sign up to be a host family.

We still need host families for the following participants:

Country	Gender	Age
Japan	Female	18
Hungary	Female	16
Italy	Female	19
Spain	Female	15
Turkey	Female	18

Thank you to the following Lions and Districts for hosting.

District	Host Family	Host Club	Country
A1	PDG Roshni Patel	Detroit Renaissance Lions Club	Belgium, France & Mongolia (Female)
B1	CC Terri Huffman Lion Sandra Simon Lion Shawne Lige	Jackson Diabetes Lions Club	British Isles Czech Republic Finland (Female)
B2	2nd VDG Alice Kring	Buchana Galien Lions Club	France (Female)
C1	PDG Jim & Bev Farrell	Wyoming Lions Club	Austria (Male)
	Lions Mark & Susan Graves	Fruitport Lions Club	France and Finland (Male)
	Lion Frank & Cathie Krol	Muskegon Northeast Lions club	Germany (Male)
C2	PDG Brent Beracy	Ashley Lions Club	Mongolia & Poland (Male)

This year we have 3 outgoing youth participants:

District	Sponsored Club	Country
B2	Buchanan Galien Lions Club	Switzerland
B2	Buchanan Galien Lions Club	Germany
C1	Muskegon Northeast Lions Club	Australia

Objective: To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the people of the world.

Thank you, fellow Lions, for all you do!

Club Chronicles

Empire



District Governor, Tom MacNaughton (center), awarding the Excellence Award to Empire Lions Club President Tom Pykosz (left) and past President Mike Bolton (right).



Members of the Empire club conducted a Spring Adopt a Highway cleanup on April 5th.

Greenville



Thanks to everyone that helped with the Lions Club / Rotary Club Joint Pancake Breakfast, a (Fundraiser for Spring Break Food Boxes). We had a great turnout and support from the community!



Have some club news to share of your own? Want to showcase some of your club's achievements? Send your club news and photos to District 11E1 Newsletter Editor, Paula Rigling, Arcadia Lions at District11E1Newsletter@gmail.com.

Please send your articles by the 7th of each month.



Greenville Lions Club

Kreitner Memorial Golf Classic

"In memory of Lions passed"



Title Sponsor:



DATE: June 14th, 2025
TIME: Registration at 8:00 am. Shotgun start at 9:00 am.
PLACE: Candlestone Golf & Resort
8100 Storey Road
Belding, MI 498809

ENTRY FEE: \$75 per golfer (\$300 per team)

Entry Fee Includes:

Green Fees - 18 Holes
Cart
Catered Lunch
Each Player will receive a "Goodie Bag"

Contests:

Hole-in-one
Longest Drive
Closest to the pin
Longest putt
& many more.....

Format:

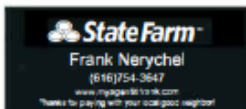
Tournament will be played in 4-person scramble format. Individuals are encouraged to sign-up and will be placed on a team.



Premier Sponsors:



True Value



Please return the bottom section with your team entry fee.

ENTRY FORM:

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

email: _____

Please make check payable to "Greenville Lions Club"
Send entry form and payment to: PO Box 721 Greenville, MI. 48838 For
more information, call 616.255.5031