

Anchored in Service



Lighting the Way Forward

District 11-E1

Jan 2026 Newsletter



Michigan Lions Serving 16 Counties & 35 Clubs!



Governor's Corner:

Nourishing Hope: Kicking Off the New Year with Hunger Relief

Upcoming Events:

- Feb 7: District 11-E1 3rd Cabinet Mtg, Mt. Pleasant, MI
- Feb 27-28: Lions of Michigan Forum, Delta Marriott, Kalamazoo, MI
- Feb 27-Mar 1: CoG Mtg, Delta Marriott, Kalamazoo, MI
- Mar 27-28: District 11-E1 Convention, Evergreen Resort, Cadillac, MI
- May 14-16: MD-11 State Convention, Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire, MI

Upcoming Official Visits:

- Jan 8: Edmore
- Jan 12: Crystal

As we welcome a new year filled with promise, Lions across our district are preparing to make an immediate and meaningful impact. January 3–11 marks the official *Lions Clubs International Week of Service for Hunger*, and it's the perfect opportunity for us to recommit to one of our most fundamental missions: ensuring that no neighbor goes to bed hungry.

Hunger remains one of the most widespread and urgent challenges facing our communities. From families facing unexpected hardship to seniors struggling with fixed incomes, the need is real—and Lions are stepping forward with compassion and determination. Throughout the week, clubs across the district will be hosting food drives, stocking local pantries, assembling weekend meal kits for children, and partnering with community organizations to fill the gaps where help is needed most.

Every act of service, big or small, nourishes more than a stomach. It nourishes hope. This week of service is more than an initiative on the calendar—it's a chance to start 2026 with purpose, unity, and heart. It's an opportunity for Lions to show what it means to be *Anchored in Service, Lighting the Way Forward* as we live out our mission with tangible impact.

Whether your club is planning a hands-on project, raising funds for local hunger programs, or collaborating with area partners, your efforts make a difference. Let's use this week to shine a bright light on the power of service—and to remind our communities that Lions are here, ready to serve.

Together, let's make this January a month of generosity, dignity, and renewed hope for all.

Yours in service,
Lion Jeff Schafer
 DG 11-E1



Avi's Corner:



Avi Turns One!

Our Leader Dog puppy in training, **Avi**, celebrates her **first birthday on January 10, 2026!** December was a big month of learning and adventure for her. Avi joined us for a **holiday puppy outing at the Midland Mall**, attended **several Lions Club meetings**, and even traveled with us from **Michigan to Texas in our RV**—handling every new experience with growing confidence and maturity.

As Avi enters her second year, we're excited to watch her continued growth, maturity, and leadership potential. Raising a Leader Dog puppy is a journey built on patience, joy, challenge, and countless small victories. Avi is well on her way, and we're grateful to share her progress with our Lions family.

Here's to Avi's first birthday—and to the important mission she represents: empowering independence, one step (and paw) at a time.



District Team

District Governor:

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1st Vice District Governor:

Vacant

Assist 2nd Vice District Governor:

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Anchored in Service



Lighting the Way Forward

Message from the 11-E1 Region 2, Zone 1 Chairperson

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving with your families. Personally, I had a fantastic holiday—though I think I gained about 15 pounds! Living here in the USA, in our great state of Michigan, I encourage everyone to remember those who do not have the privilege of overeating and often go to bed hungry.

Zone's Second Meeting Highlights

As the Christmas holiday winds down, I am pleased to share details about our Zone's second meeting. I have the privilege of taking over a strong zone, previously championed by Lion Diane Fleming. Once again, every club in our zone participated, with a total of 27 Lions in attendance.

Focus on Membership Growth

The primary focus of our second meeting was increasing membership. Zone members received valuable information, which was originally presented by PDG Ron Sharp at the Fall 11 E-1 Conference. This presentation covered how to use Artificial Intelligence to analyze community demographics, create membership growth plans, and utilize digital tools for recruiting new members.

Additionally, we explored the Lions Portal for resources on membership growth, which included useful articles such as "Tips to Grow Your Club," the "8-step Plan to Increase Lions Membership," and an example of an Elevator Speech for sharing concise Lion Club information with prospective members. Each club also received a copy of the Lions International "Just Ask" toolkit, which offers a wealth of information and forms to help develop a member recruitment team.

District 11 E1 Convention Details

Information was shared regarding the upcoming District 11 E-1 convention, scheduled to be held at the Evergreen Resort in Cadillac on March 27th and 28th. This centrally located venue offers an excellent guest room rate of \$99 plus 15% taxes, and the meal prices have been discounted to \$20 each, making the event more accessible to all members.

The convention's Service Project will involve constructing 15 beds for the "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" initiative. Clubs are invited to sponsor a bed with a \$250 donation, which covers all costs associated with the project.

New Member Induction

After breaking for dinner, District Governor Schafer inducted three new members into the Shepherd Club: Renee and Thomas Chisplell, sponsored by Richard Hetherington, and Kim Lavigne, sponsored by Robert Gates.

Club Project Updates

Following the induction, each club was invited to share updates on their projects since the last Zone meeting. It was inspiring to hear about the wide range of activities our clubs are undertaking in their communities, the list is truly extensive.

Looking Ahead

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Conference in Cadillac.

-Lion Chuck Dinsmore, R2Z1 Chairman

2026
Happy New Year!



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

LCIF: Strengthening Our Impact as We Begin a New Year

As we step into 2026, it's a great moment to highlight the incredible impact of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and the vital support it provides to Lions service worldwide. From disaster relief and vision programs to youth support, hunger initiatives, environmental efforts, and humanitarian aid, LCIF is the force that helps Lions turn compassion into meaningful, lasting change.

As your District LCIF Coordinator, I want to express sincere gratitude to the clubs and individuals who contributed to the foundation in 2025. Your generosity helps communities rebuild after disasters, supports children in need, equips local projects with essential resources, and strengthens Lions service on a global scale.

Looking Ahead in 2026

This year, I encourage every club to explore how LCIF grants can help expand or enhance your local service projects. Whether you're planning a new community initiative or looking to deepen an existing program, LCIF offers opportunities that can multiply your impact. I'm always available to assist with grant questions and help you discover the best fit for your club's goals.

Personal Giving Makes a Big Difference

While club donations are essential, **personal donations** from individual Lions are equally powerful. Even small monthly contributions add up quickly and help sustain LCIF's ability to respond when and where help is needed most. Becoming an individual donor—whether through a one-time gift, a recurring donation, or working toward a Melvin Jones Fellowship—is a meaningful way to live out our mission and support the causes we care about.

A Simple Goal for the New Year

If every Lion in our district made a personal donation—no matter the size—we would significantly strengthen LCIF's capacity to serve and support communities around the world. Together, we can make 2026 a year of inspired generosity and expanded service.

Thank you for your continuing commitment to LCIF and to being Lions who are *Anchored in Service, Lighting the Way Forward*.

Yours in service,

PDG Sheryl Schafer

District 11-E1 LCIF Coordinator

Message from the 11-E1 Region 1 Zone 2 Chairperson

Fellow Lions Region 1 Zone 2 will be having a Zone meeting on Monday January 12, 2026 at 6:29pm. This meeting will be held at the Kaleva Lions Club 14361 9 Mile Road, Kaleva. Dinner will be available for \$10.00. Please RSVP to 231.342.1543 with your name, club, how many lions and phone number. Be sure to leave the phone number, incase of inclement weather. Have a Safe and Happy 2026!

Arcadia - No meetings until late April 2026.

Cadillac - The Cadillac Lions are having regular meetings through the winter. SINK THE SHACK tickets are on sale now. Contact the Cadillac Lions for tickets. If you can pick the closest time and date that the Ice Fishing Shack is going down you can win cash and bragging rights. The crew is getting ready to move it out on the ice as soon as the ice is safe enough.

Kaleva - Lions are mapping out our plans for 2026. Participated in the Community Centers Craft Shop selling Pasties and recruiting new members. Made donations to several local charities. Unfortunately we have also had to give several families money as they lost their homes to fires.

Manistee - No meetings until March 2026.

Mesick - Lions had the annual breakfast with Santa. Shopped for the 10 local children they adopted for Christmas. Sent out donations to District Projects and local food drives.

Oneskama - Starting Cornhole Tournaments. Check the website or Facebook page for dates and details. My husband Lion Bill and I attended the Christmas Party. Thank you for a wonderful evening!

-Lion Karla Kasten, District 11-E1 Region 1 Zone 2 Chair

**CONTACT US:**

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We're on the Web at:
www.MiLions11e1.org

Visit our facebook page.

District 11-E1 Lions
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Lions11E1>

Welcome New Members!

Club	Member	Sponsor
Cedar-Maple City	Michael Salamino	Thomas Pleva
Central Montcalm	Tina Churchill-Spencer	Barry Anderson
Coleman	Karin Pelletier	Amy Hovey
Harrison	Deanna Renee Culp	Sandra Castle
Midland	Cyndi Breault	Thayre Talcott
Onkama	Sherry Anderson	Duane Anderson

For the month of December, we added 6 new members! Overall, we have added 59 new members, transferred/reinstated 12 members & dropped 50 members. Net gain for the year of +21.

*Bring a prospective member to a service project and remember **"Just Ask One!"***

Prayer List:

PDGs Jim & Peggy Walls (Stanwood)
PDGs Laura Johnson (Baldwin)
PDGs Pam Schroeder & Dan Gibbons (Onkama)
Lions Jeff & John Morse (Lake Ann)



Our thoughts and prayers are with those Lions who lost family members, those that have family members or friends that are sick or in the hospital or at home, and all others whose losses are unknown to us at this time.

Lions if you have prayer requests, please let me know so we can add you to the prayer list. If anyone has a concern and would like for me to pray with you over the phone, I will be glad to do that too. Prayer and trust are powerful in our lives. Hope to hear from you, Blessings. - Lion Steve Adsmond

Save-The-Date

3rd District 11-E1 Cabinet Town Hall Meeting

Saturday, February 7, 2026

from 9am-3pm

Isabella Commission on Aging
2200 S Lincoln Rd, Mt Pleasant, MI
50/50 Raffle and Door Prizes

Agenda is included in this newsletter on Page 12



Global Leadership Team (GLT) Corner:



Leadership Matters: Filling Our FVDG Vacancy for a Strong 2026–2027

As we begin a new year focused on service, growth, and planning for the future, it's important that we also address a critical leadership need within our district. As your Global Leadership Team (GLT) Coordinator, I want to bring attention to the importance of filling our **First Vice District Governor (FVDG)** vacancy—and what it means for the stability of our district moving forward.

At this time, our district does **not** have a Lion serving in the FVDG role. This position is essential because the FVDG becomes our **District Governor Elect** and, ultimately, the District Governor. If we are unable to appoint or elect a Lion to fill the FVDG vacancy—or if a Past District Governor is not willing to step forward to accept an appointment to repeat a term—our district will face a serious leadership gap for the **2026–2027** Lions year.

It is also important to note that our current District Governor is **not eligible to serve a second consecutive term**. Without a qualified Lion in place as FVDG, the District Governor position for the 2026–2027 year will remain **vacant**.

What Happens If the DG Position Becomes Vacant?

If we reach the end of the year without a District Governor Elect/Appointed in place, the responsibility for leading and supporting the district will fall to our Past District Governors or the Immediate Past District Governor. These leaders may need to temporarily share duties to keep the district operating smoothly until the 2026–2027 FVDG can be elected at the **2027 district convention** and move into the DG Elect role.

While this structure ensures our district can continue to function, it is not ideal. Lions Clubs International is strongest when leadership roles are fully staffed with prepared and enthusiastic Lions ready to guide our clubs and support our members.

This Is the Time to Step Forward

Our district is filled with capable, dedicated Lions who have the experience, passion, and heart to lead. If you—or someone you know—has ever considered serving as a District Governor, this is the moment to explore the opportunity. The GLT is here to support, mentor, and prepare future leaders every step of the way.

Strong leadership today ensures a strong district tomorrow. Let's work together to fill this vital role and keep our district *Anchored in Service, Lighting the Way Forward*.

If you'd like more information about the FVDG role, eligibility, or training, please reach out. Leadership begins with a single step—and our district needs someone willing to take it.

Yours in service,
Lion Jeff Schafer
GLT 2025-2026





Global Leadership Team (GLT) Corner: (Continued)

Understanding Our Lions Club Nomination & Election Process

Each year, our club selects new leaders to serve in key officer roles — such as President, Secretary, Treasurer, and other important positions. This democratic process helps ensure strong leadership and continuity of service. Here's how it works:

1. Nomination Meeting

In early spring (typically March), the club holds a **Nomination Meeting**. At this meeting:

- A **Nominating Committee**, appointed by the club president, presents a proposed slate of candidates for each office.
- Members may also nominate qualified Lions from the floor at this meeting.
- Notice of the meeting must be given to all members at least **14 days in advance** by mail, email, or personal delivery.

This step ensures every member has a chance to participate in selecting candidates.

2. Election Meeting

Following nominations, the club holds an **Election Meeting** (typically in April):

- All qualified nominees are listed in the official notice provided to members at least **14 days before the election**.
- Only those members present and in good standing at the meeting may vote.
- Elections are conducted by **secret written ballot**.

To be elected, a candidate must receive a **majority of the votes** cast by members present. If no candidate wins a majority on the first ballot, further rounds of voting are held until someone does.

3. Taking Office

Once elected, officers typically begin their term on **July 1st** and serve for one year. The club secretary then reports the new officers to Lions Clubs International (via the Lion Portal) within 15 days after the election.

Why This Matters

This structured process ensures transparency, fairness, and member involvement in choosing the leaders who will guide our club in serving the community. If you are interested in leadership or would like to nominate someone, mark the nomination meeting on your calendar and participate!

If you have questions about the timeline or how to get involved, please contact a club officer — we'd love to help you participate.

Yours in service,
Lion Jeff Schafer
GLT 2025-2026

2026
Happy New Year!



Global Service Team (GST) Corner:



2025-2026 Club Excellence Award Criteria

The Club Excellence Award acknowledges the dedication and legacy of service within individual clubs. Excellence Awards honor club leaders who demonstrate outstanding membership growth, impactful service and humanitarian contributions. This year's criteria are:

1. **Induct** a minimum of two (2) or 20% new members, whichever is greater (does not include transfer, reinstated, or charter members). Eligibility is determined based on the Club's membership count on June 30, 2025.
2. **Or sponsor** a new Lions Club.
3. **Report a minimum of four (4)** service activities in the Lions Portal. Three of these service activities must show participation in each of the three International "Weeks of Service."
 - a. **Hunger: January 3-11, 2026**
 - b. **Environment: April 18-26, 2026**
4. **Report newly elected club officers** in Lion Portal by May 15, 2026 of the current Lion Year.
5. A minimum of 10% of the club's members **complete any three courses** in the Lions Learning Center.
6. **The Club President** for the current Lion year must not have served more than two consecutive terms.
7. **A minimum of two or more club officers** (president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer. Of which, one must be the club President) complete Club Officer Training (on-line with Lions Learning Center or in-person as reported by a GLT coordinator) between May 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
8. **Contribute to LCIF** a minimum of the Club's membership total on June 30, 2025 of the previous Lion year, multiplied by \$20.

Contact DG Jeff Schafer or GST Coordinator Steve Adsmond if you have any questions.

Lions Service Project for Next District 11-E1 Cabinet Meeting (Saturday February 7)

Our next venue is the Isabella Commission on Aging, so it makes sense to do a service project to benefit seniors. By the time we meet we will be starting the month of February, which can be long and lonely for people living alone. Our project will focus on collecting items to help brighten the lives of seniors during the long, often lonely month of February.

What can you or your club collect to fill this need? Great Question...Here are some ideas...

Sudoku games, Cross Word Puzzles, Word Search booklets, Large Print Books, Craft Kits from Michael's or other similar stores, Reader's Digest magazines, Blank Cards for writing to friends, Fleece Blanket Kits, Simple paint kits for clay pots, Mosaic Tanagram Puzzles, Adult puzzle Books for seniors, Puzzles up to 500 pieces. These are just the tip of the iceberg of possibilities. Anything that might interest you may interest a person living alone, so we don't have to reinvent the wheel.

Anything in excess to what the Isabella Commission on Aging can use will be spread out to any other senior centers in our District. Come be a part of this Service Project.

-Lions Steve Adsmond
Global Service Team (GST) Coordinator
(231) 740-7076
adsmond@comcast.net



Global Membership Team (GMT) Corner:



A New Year, A New Opportunity to Grow Lionism

As we begin a new year of service, it's the perfect time to reflect on where we are as a district and where we are headed together. Membership growth remains one of our most important priorities—because every new Lion means more hands to serve, more ideas to share, and a stronger impact in our communities.

Where We Are Today

Thanks to the hard work of our clubs, we have already made meaningful progress:

- **58 new members** have joined our district
- **10 members have been reinstated**
- **41 members have been dropped**

While any membership loss is something we take seriously, these numbers also show momentum. New Lions are saying yes to service, leadership, and fellowship—and that is something to celebrate.

Our District Goals

For this year, our district has set clear and achievable goals:

- **Add 102 new members**
- **Charter 1 new Lions club**

These goals are not just numbers—they represent expanded service, stronger clubs, and new opportunities to meet unmet needs in our communities.

How Every Club Can Help

Membership growth is not the responsibility of one chair or committee—it belongs to all of us. Each Lion can play a role by:

- Inviting friends, coworkers, and neighbors to meetings or service projects
- Sharing why *you* became a Lion and what service means to you
- Making new members feel welcomed, valued, and involved
- Retaining current members by keeping meetings meaningful and service impactful

Retention is just as important as recruitment. When members feel connected and engaged, they stay—and they invite others to join.

Looking Ahead

The new year brings fresh energy, new ideas, and renewed commitment to our mission: *to serve*. If every club brings in just a few new members and focuses on keeping the Lions we already have, we will not only meet our goals—we will exceed them.

Thank you for your dedication, your leadership, and your belief in the power of Lionism. Together, we can grow stronger and serve more people than ever before.

Let's make this our Year to GROW!

For membership support or ideas, contact **Global Membership Team (GMT) Coordinator Lion Jeff Morse** at 231-620-5333 or inlandfirechief@gmail.com.

2026
Happy New Year!



Membership Monday – LET'S GROW -4th Monday of the Month

Join Past International President Brian Sheehan as we look at resources you can use to grow your club.

Register once for monthly inspiration: <https://bit.ly/MbrshpMondays>



GROWING FUTURE LEADERS

Join Lions Ed Farrington & Sue Hurlburt as they share great ideas & tips to help fill your club & district's leadership bench!



Register once. Join every month.
<https://bit.ly/LUSAWisdom>
Questions? info@lionsusa.org



Get Ready for Hunger Relief Global Week of Service

Join fellow Lions, Leos, and community changemakers for an interactive "Hungry for Service" event — your go-to session for learning how to take action during Lions Clubs International's Hunger Relief Global Week of Service.

- Simple, high-impact ways your club can fight hunger locally
- How to partner with schools, shelters, and food programs
- Creative project ideas for all ages (and budgets!)
- How your service ties into Lions International's global hunger goals
- Resources and toolkits available to support your club's initiatives

Bring your club members, invite your Leo advisors, and discover how together we can serve more, share more, and change more lives.

Questions? info@lionsusa.org



Tuesday, December 2

8pm EST / 7pm CST
/ 6pm MST / 5pm PST

Log in:
<https://bit.ly/4ooSqWl>

4th Annual Ice Plunge – Lions Bear Lake Camp

Enclosed (pages 17-20) you'll find the flyer, sponsorship form, and registration form for the **4th Annual Ice Plunge**, benefiting **Lions Bear Lake Camp** on **Saturday, February 7, 2026**.

This event is one of our biggest annual fundraisers, last year raising \$20,000 and we're aiming to raise even more this year to support camp programs that build confidence, leadership, and independence for the children we serve.

We need your help to make this year's plunge a success!

- Recruit **jumpers** to take the plunge
- Connect with **businesses or clubs** to sponsor the event
- **Share** the attached materials with your districts, club members, local organizations, and community partners

Every share, sponsor, and jumper brings us one step closer to helping more kids experience the magic of Lions Bear Lake Camp.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the camp and the kids we serve. Let's come together once again to make a splash for a great cause!

With appreciation,

Chrissy Andre
Ice Plunge Chair/MD11 LBLC State Chair



LIONS DISTRICT 11 E-1 CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENT

Lions of District 11 E-1, save the dates! The District Convention will take place on March 27 and 28, 2026, at the Evergreen Resort in Cadillac, Michigan. This event promises to be one of the most conservative conventions held in recent years, and we are excited to welcome you.

Special Guest Room Rates

The Evergreen Resort is offering a special rate for convention attendees. Guest rooms are available for \$99 plus 15% taxes, bringing the total to \$113.40. This rate includes a complimentary continental breakfast, ensuring a comfortable and convenient stay for all participants.

Discounted Meal Packages

The Convention Committee has arranged for a significant discount on meal packages. Attendees can enjoy meals for just \$20, representing a savings of \$28.72. We hope this makes the convention more accessible to everyone.

Supporting the Convention

To help provide these discounts, we are asking for your support. Clubs are encouraged to advertise their events in the District 11 E-1 Tidbits flyer, which will be distributed to all convention attendees. Additionally, clubs are invited to contribute an item for the Silent Auction. Extra revenue is expected to be generated through 50/50 raffles, table release, and various games.

Service Project: Sleep in Heavenly Peace

Steve Adsmond has identified an outstanding service project for this year's convention: building beds for children in need through the "SHP"—Sleep in Heavenly Peace program. The project will be divided into two parts. The first part will take place on Friday before the convention begins, at an SHP construction site where bunk beds will be assembled. The second part will occur during the convention, where participants will assemble blanket quilts by cutting the edges and tying them together.

Stay Tuned for Updates

The Convention Committee is still finalizing the exact times for all events. Please watch for upcoming newsletters for the latest updates and schedules. Expect a nautical theme for this year's convention and get ready for a memorable and enjoyable experience.

Charles Dinsmore, Chairman
11 E-1 Convention Committee



Save the Date March 27-28, 2026



Anchored in Service Lighting the Way Forward

District 11-E1 Spring Convention

The Evergreen Resort, Cadillac, Michigan
7880 Mackinaw Trail, Cadillac, MI 49601

***The Early Bird registration fee until March 8, 2026 is only \$15. After March 8 registration fee goes up to \$25. Registration begins in January 2025**

***4 informative seminars + 2 service projects**

***Meals:** Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast (free if staying at the resort, otherwise \$15), lunch, and banquet dinner. All meals are \$20 and have been discounted for a total savings of \$28.72 to make this event more affordable!

***Friday Night Speaker:** TBD.

***Lodging:** 25 Standard Rooms available at The Evergreen Resort at a discounted rate until March 8. Rooms are \$113.40 (resort fee & tax included) and includes complimentary breakfast (a \$15 savings)!

***Silent Auction, State & District Projects, 50/50 drawing, Memorial Service, Voting, new member inductions, Peace Poster winner recognition, and more!**

District 11-E1 Town Hall Meeting Agenda**Isabella Commission on Aging**

2200 S Lincoln St, Mt Pleasant, MI 48858

February 7, 2026

8:30	Registration/Sign in	CS Donna Vangessel CT Jaymie Ricksgers
9:00	Honorary Meeting	
10:00	Call to Order	DG Jeff Schafer
	Pledge of Allegiance	ZC Heather Dourron
	Patriotic Song "America the Beautiful"	PDG Sheryl Schafer
	Invocation	Lion Steve Adsmond
	Welcome	DG Jeff Schafer
	Roll Call	CS Donna Vangessel
	Update from Around the State	DG Jeff Schafer
	Secretary Report	CS Donna Vangessel
	Treasurer Report	CT Jaymie Ricksgers
	LCIF	PDG Sheryl Schafer
	GLT Report	DG Jeff Schafer
	GST Report	Lion Steve Adsmond
	GMT Report	Lion Jeff Morse
	Zone Reports	
	Zone Chairs Heather Dourron, Karla Kasten, Chuck Dinsmore, Dave Hamelund, Jacob Ricksgers, & Debra Salada,	
	Tail Twister	PDG Sheryl Schafer
12:00	Lunch	
1230	Service Project	Lion Steve Adsmond
	State & District Projects:	
	Lions of Michigan Service Foundation	PDG Jackie Glazier
	Bear Lake Camp	Lion Steve Glazier
	Leader Dog	Lion Ken Theobald
	All State Band	IPDG Tom Mac Naughton
	Michigan Eversight	DG Jeff Schafer
	Paws with a Cause	Lion Mike & Tina Hoy
	Project Kidsight	
	Committee Reports:	
	Constitution & By-Laws	PDG Tim Anderson
	Diabetes	PDG Bill Bradfield
	District Convention	Lion Chuck Dinsmore
	District Editor	Lion Paula Rigling
	Information Technology	Lion Ron Sharp
	MD-11 State Convention	PDG Laura Johnson
	Peace Poster	PDG Sheryl Schafer
	Speech and Hearing	Lion Peggy Frank

3:00 Adjourn**Upcoming Events:****Lions of Michigan Forum****February 27-28, 2026*****Delta Marriott Hotel, Kalamazoo, MI*****District 11-E1 Spring Convention****March 27-28, 2026*****Evergreen Resort, 7880 Mackinaw Trail, Cadillac, MI***

DISTRICT 11E1 DELEGATE CERTIFICATION FORM for March 28, 2026 Convention Voting**CLUB NAME** _____ **Number of Members** _____

ARTICLE VII, SECTION 2 of the District 11E1 Constitution and By-Laws: CLUB DELEGATE FORMULA. Each chartered club in good standing in Lions Clubs International and its district shall be entitled in each annual convention of its district to one(1) delegate and one(1) alternate for each ten(10) members, who have been enrolled for at least one year and a day in the club, or major fraction thereof, of said club as shown by the records of the international office on the first day of the month last preceding that month during which the convention is held (February 1, 2025) The major fraction referred to in this section shall be five (5) or more members. Further, full delegate status shall be accorded each Past District Governor who is a member of a Club in this District, independent of the Club delegate quotas herein above specified. Each certified delegate present in person shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote only for each office to be filled by, and one (1) vote only on each question submitted to, the respective convention. Unless otherwise specified herein, the affirmative vote of a majority of delegates voting on any question shall be the act of the convention. All eligible delegates must be members in good standing of a club in good standing in this district. Delinquent dues may be paid and good standing acquired up to fifteen (15) days prior to the close of credential certification (12 noon, Saturday, March 28, 2026)

PRINTED NAME OF DELEGATES(D) ALTERNATES(A)	(D)(A)	MEMBER SIGNATURE AT CONVENTION
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

PRINTED NAME PAST DISTRICT GOVERNORS (PDG)	PDG SIGNATURE AT CONVENTION
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

I hereby certify that the delegates and alternates listed above are in good standing with Lions of Michigan & Lions Clubs International: _____ Club President/Secretary or DG at Convention

Note: TO VOTE delegates MUST be registered and certified BEFORE 12 NOON, Saturday, March 28, 2026.

MAIL form by MARCH 10th to District Credential Chairperson: Janalee McClure, Box 177, Brohman, MI 49312



Bear Lake Camp Update: We're Planning for an Incredible 2026!

- Steve Glazier Bear Lake Camp 11E1 Chairperson

From all of us at Bear Lake Camp we hope you and your family experienced a **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year** in 2025!

While our successful year-end season is winding down, the activity and energy levels at Bear Lake Camp are still exceptionally high and buzzing with excitement. Our leadership management team has been hard at work, building relationships across Michigan to raise awareness of the camp's goals and inspire even more Lions involvement in 2026.

Key 2026 Camp Dates & Registration

Planning is well underway for another fantastic year! Here are some key dates to put on your calendar and for planning your weekend get-aways::

Summer Camp Registration Opens January 1, 2026

If you know a Michigan child eligible for our **Visually Impaired** or **Deaf and Hard of Hearing Summer Camp**, please help us spread the word!

- **Affordable Camp Weeks:** Thanks to the incredible generosity of **Michigan Lions**, the cost for the Visually Impaired or Deaf and Hard of Hearing camp week is mostly financed by all Lion Clubs in Michigan as a state project.
- **How to Register:** Parents can register directly online, contact their local Lions Club, or contact the Bear Lake Camp directly or myself for assistance.

Visit: lionsbearlakecamp.org to view all available activities and register a child.

Save the Dates: Upcoming 2026 Fundraisers & Events

Mark your calendars now for these fun events that help support Bear Lake Camp programs:

Date	Event	Focus / Details
Feb 7	Ice Plunge	See details below! Jump, sponsor, or attend to cheer us on!!!!
Apr 11	Wild Game Dinner	A popular annual fundraiser.
May 9th	Spring Work Bee	Lions Bear Lake Camp clean up day preparing the camp for Summer Kids Camp. Starts at 9AM Free Lodging Friday night for District 11E1 and lunch included. More info to Come.
June 8	Golf Outing	Hit the links to raise funds.
June 12	Baseball Game	5 th annual fun family-friendly event.
June 28	Open House	The perfect chance to visit and tour the facilities.
Sept 26	Clay Shoot	Our second-year fundraiser at the Fenton Sportsman's Club. More details to follow!

Spotlight: 2026 Summer Camp Schedule

These are the weeks your club's support makes possible:

- **July 3–5th:** Visually Impaired and Blind **FAMILY Camp**
- **July 5–11th:** Visually Impaired and Blind **YOUTH Camp** (Ages 6–16)
- **July 12–18th:** Deaf and Hard of Hearing **YOUTH Camp**
- **July 24–26th:** Deaf and Hard of Hearing **FAMILY Camp**

NOTE: All camps include: Swimming, Boating & Fishing on our private lake, Trail Hiking, Archery, the Climbing Tower & Zipline, a 16-Station Team Bonding Challenge Course, Campfires, and much more!

Bear Lake Camp Ice Plunge: Dive into Winter Support!

Save the Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026

I've already signed up and paid my registration to take the plunge and for the later afternoon dinner, drawings, raffle, and huge silent auction event again this year! Let's show our 11E1 appreciation for all Bear Lake Camp does for those kids in need at our Lions of Michigan owned Camp. Lets have our District demonstrate a high **volume of club participation for this event by making just a small donation.**

'Pledge Your Support: Please consider donating just **\$20** to sponsor a jumper or contribute that amount directly to Bear Lake Camp to the cause. Late donations are always accepted and appreciated! Be sure to note your from District 11E1 so our district can get participating credit.

Encourage Action: Urge your club members to **jump, sponsor, volunteer, or just cheer** everyone one!

Remember lodging is free at the camp if you call in advance to secure a dorm building.

- **Ticket Alert:** There is a limit of **200 tickets** to be sold this year, so don't delay purchasing tickets if you plan on attending.
- **Donation Details:** Contact Chrissy Andre Phone: 989-627-3808 chrissyandre113@gmail.com or myself at steveglazier96@gmail.com for more donation details or any questions.

Make a Weekend of It!

We encourage everyone to come tour the camp facilities and see the impact of your support firsthand while at this event. Ill even give or arrange a personal tour.

Special Offer: FREE LODGING is available Friday night, **February 6th** and **Saturday Feb 7th** but be sure to contact Traci or Chrissy in advance to reserve your room at the Camp. Please bring your own bedding as its off season and housing staff is minimal. Dorm style single bed arrangements at the Camp are only available or off site motels are obtainable if preferred. Phone Bear Lake Camp: 989-277-7437 or 810-245-0726 for additional information.

Why Your Club's Support Matters

Lions Bear Lake Camp's success relies on the continued generosity and support of Lion Clubs. We are thrilled and grateful that so many of our District 11E1 clubs are dedicated supporters. **Thank you!**

- **Direct Impact:** Your donations directly address the challenges of running a year-round camp—from maintaining heavily used facilities to expanding accessibility.
- **Keeps Camp Affordable:** Crucially, your funds ensure our Summer Camps remain affordable for Visually Impaired and Hard of Hearing children our core reason for Kids Summer Camp. (Initiated by Lion Big Al Kassin in 1982 and moved to its current location in 2000). This year 2025 Lions of

Michigan made an incredible difference in the lives of **107 kids** with impaired vision and hearing to attend our truly life-changing summer camp. For most of them this would have been an impossible dream without the financial support of Lions. Please consider donating just \$20 towards the Bear Lake Camp Ice Plunge noted above. Board discussions are already being held about raising the \$40 summer camp charge per each impaired vision and hearing youth camper (Lions pick up the \$800 balance). This is due to inflationary upkeep cost to run and maintain the camp. Just search “Google” to see how much \$1 is worth today compared to as little as 5 or 10 years ago. Please consider this when budgeting your Clubs 2026 State Project donations.


- **Beyond Funds:** Beyond funds, your volunteer time and advocacy are just as vital to our success.

If it's been awhile since your last visit, we'd love to welcome all **11E1 Club Members** back to the camp grounds for our upcoming **Ice Plunge**. There is truly no substitute for seeing the mission in motion—walking the campus, connecting with our dedicated staff, and witnessing firsthand the incredible impact your generosity creates."

Big Thanks to the Chippewa Lake-Mecosta Lions Club!

We would like to extend a Heart Felt Thank You to the Chippewa Lake-Mecosta Lions Club for their incredible generosity. This monetary gift helps ensure we can continue providing unforgettable experiences for our vision and hearing impaired campers. We are honored to have your support.

Thank You! -Lion Steve Glazier



Beat the Winter Blues and Play Euchre!

WHEN? 2nd and 4th Fridays
January 9 & 23, February 13 & 27, March 13 & 27
1:00 to 3:00 pm

WHERE? Empire Township Hall

ENTRY FEE: \$2 per person PLUS a Canned Food item for Empire Food Pantry

Brought to you by the Empire Lions
Coffee will be provided.
You may bring a dish to share if you wish
Singles or Couples
For questions, please email
Tom Haiderer at
thomas2011thomas@gmail.com



Lions Bear Lake Camp 4TH ANNUAL ICE PLUNGE & DINNER Fundraiser

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT

ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

Dinner Includes Jumper Contests

**Soup Bar
Bread Bowls
Salad Bar
Hot Chocolate Bar
Dessert
Cash Bar**

**Prizes for
Best Costume
Best Jump (no diving)
and Most Money Raised**

FEBRUARY 7TH 2026

2:00 PM Check-In 3:00 PM Ice Plunge
followed by Dinner



Sign up online at
bearlakecamp.org
under the "Events" Tab



\$50 - Jump/Dinner
\$25 Dinner for Spectators Only
(Ages 0-5 Free, 6-12 \$10)
Seating limited to 200
so get your tickets early. 

For More Information Contact
traci@bearlakecamp.org
chrissey@bearlakecamp.org
810-245-0726

****Costumes are encouraged, birthday suits highly discouraged.****

LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP ICE PLUNGE & DINNER FUNDRAISER

FEBRUARY 7TH, 2026 2:00PM

**3409 N. FIVE LAKES RD
LAPEER, MI 48446**

ICE PLUNGE REGISTRATION FEE & PLEDGES

There is a \$50 registration fee to jump. Jumpers may collect pledges to support Lions Bear Lake Camp. The Jumper that raises the most money will receive a commemorative plaque. Based on pledge amounts, Jumpers Receive:

\$50 Registration Fee: Plunge, Dinner, T-shirt, Medal

\$100 or More: Plunge, Dinner, T-shirt, Tote Bag, Medal

\$250 or More: Priority Jump, Dinner, T-shirt, Tote Bag, Medal, Event Beanie

\$500 or More: Priority Jump, Dinner, T-shirt, Tote Bag, Medal, Event Beanie, Hoodie

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Sponsorships support the event. Pledges are collected by participants to reach prize levels—two separate ways to make a difference.

Event Sponsorship Opportunities

Polar Legend Sponsor - \$2,500

Exclusive top placement of Sponsor's Logo on T-shirt, Recognition as Presenting Sponsor during event announcements & speaking opportunity, Recognition on Social Media, Table of 8 Complimentary Dinner Tickets, 2 Complimentary Jumpers, 2 Ice Plunge T-shirts, Premium Sponsor Plaque

Sub Zero Hero Sponsor \$1,000

Sponsor's Logo will be featured on back of T-shirt and sponsor banner, Recognition on Social Media, 2 Complimentary Jumpers, 4 Complimentary Dinner Tickets, 1 Ice Plunge T-shirt. Sponsor Plaque.

Arctic Champion Sponsor \$500

Sponsor's name or Logo will be featured on back of T-shirt, Recognition on Social Media, 2 Complimentary Dinner Tickets, 1 Complimentary Jumper, 1 Ice Plunge T-Shirt.

Frosty Friends Sponsor \$250

Sponsor's name will be featured on back of T-shirt, Recognition on Social Media, 2 Dinner Tickets, 1 Ice Plunge T-Shirt.

Ice Breaker Sponsor \$100

Sponsor's name will be featured on back of T-shirt. Recognition on Social Media.

Donations Welcome!!!

Donated raffle and prize items are appreciated.

Donors will be acknowledged throughout the event via announcements

Please visit the "Events" page on bearlakecamp.org or send check to:

**Lions Bear Lake Camp
3409 N. Five Lakes Rd
Lapeer, MI 48446**





Lions Bear Lake Camp Jumper & Dinner Reservation Form

Participant Information:

Name: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
 Email: _____ Phone: _____
 T-Shirt Size (Jumpers Only) (S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL, XXXXL): _____

Participation Selection (Check One):

- ☐ **Jumping & Dinner** – \$50 Initial Pledge (includes dinner & T-shirt)
☐ **Dinner Only** – \$25 per adult ticket, \$10 per child ticket (ages 12 & under)

If purchasing **dinner only**, please indicate the number of tickets:

- **Adult Tickets:** _____ x \$25 = **Total:** \$ _____
- **Child Tickets:** _____ x \$10 = **Total:** \$ _____

Additional Pledge Donation (For Jumpers Only):

- **Initial Pledge (Required to Jump): \$50**
- **Additional Pledged Amount Turning in Today: \$ _____**

Total Pledge Donation Submitted Today: \$ _____

(Any remaining pledge amounts can be turned in on the event day.)

T-Shirt Pre-order (Non-Jumpers) \$10 Each

To purchase an Ice Plunge T-Shirt please select and indicate how many you would like of each size.

Youth Sizes

Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ X-Large _____

Adult Sizes

Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ X-Large _____ 2XL _____ 3XL _____ 4XL _____

Total Payment (Jumpers & Dinner Reservations)

Pledge Donation Total: \$ _____

Dinner Ticket Total: \$ _____

T-Shirt Preorder Total \$ _____

Additional Donation (Optional): \$ _____

Grand Total Payment: \$ _____

Payment Method:

☐ Cash ☐ Check (Payable to Lions Bear Lake Camp) ☐ Credit Card

For credit card payments:

- If registering online, visit www.bearlakecamp.org under “Events” tab
- If paying by phone, please call the camp office at **(810) 245-0726**

Return completed forms to:

📍 **Lions Bear Lake Camp**
3409 N. Five Lakes Rd, Lapeer, MI 48446
 📧 chrissey@bearlakecamp.org | 📞 **(810) 245-0726**



DONATE TO LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP

Your Gift Makes a Difference

Your generous contribution helps us continue providing life-changing experiences for children of all abilities. Every donation goes directly to supporting our programs, enhancing our facilities, and ensuring that Lions Bear Lake Camp remains a place of adventure, learning, and growth for generations to come. Thank you for your support in helping us fulfill our mission of empowering youth and fostering leadership in an inclusive, welcoming environment.

☐ Enclosed is my gift for \$ _____ to Lions Bear Lake Camp.

☐ Please bill me for \$ _____ as my gift to Lions Bear Lake Camp.

This gift is for:

☐ General Donation

☐ Visually Impaired & Blind Youth Camp

☐ Sponsor a Camper

☐ Deaf & Hard of Hearing Youth Camp

To make a secure credit card payment please visit our website:

www.bearlakecamp.org under the "Donations Tab" and click "Donate" or scan the QR code.



This gift is in memory of: _____

This gift is in honor of: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Lions Bear Lake Camp 3409 N. Five Lakes Rd. Lapeer, MI 48446 bearlakecamp.org 810-245-0726 info@bearlakecamp.org



KidSight Wrap Up

At the beginning of 2026, it's worth looking back at the KidSight Michigan project in our district and all that we accomplished in 2025. We were pretty much at a standstill after the Covid lockdown. This year was a "waking up" for us. We've had more activity this year than before 2020. We're still way down in our numbers but things are looking up!

This year everyone with expired background checks, except two, renewed their status. We now have 34 certified volunteers and 30 certified vision screeners in the district.

We held 25 screening events district-wide. This is way up from last year. The Midland Lions Club led the pack with nine screenings followed by Coleman Lions with four, Fremont Lions with three and eight other clubs with two or one screening each.

Clubs screened a total of 1,318 children and had 98 referrals. That sounds like a lot until you realize there are approximately 111,700 school-aged children in our district. We screened less than 2% of the total kids that needed one. We have lots of room for growth.

The district has four Welsh Allyn "cameras" that I know of. We own two KidSight trailers. With all the certified vision screeners in our district, we can come to your area and do a screening event. All a club needs to do is make the contacts, do the scheduling and provide some volunteer help.

I cannot stress enough how important vision screening is. In my opinion it is one of the most important things we do as Lions! The scanner/camera is such a marvelous, easy-to-use tool and it does so much.

One of the most significant things it does is to check for conditions that may cause "lazy eye" (amblyopia.) Lazy eye is a condition where the brain favors one eye over the other. This cannot be found with an eye-chart style of exam. When not found by age seven, the condition may become permanent. If for no other reason than that, every child should be screened and you can do it.

As many of you know, I have been restricted in my activity since my spine surgery. I am happy to report that I am starting physical therapy in January and will be back to full-time activity soon. My plan is to schedule a few training sessions to help clubs get back on track scheduling screenings.

If your club has never had a vision screening event, it is time to get started. Contact me and I will assist you in contacting your local school districts, early learning centers, and day care businesses. Let's continue the rebuilding of our district's valuable KidSight program and set ourselves a goal of screening 5% of the children in our district.

Together we can do it.

- **PDG Jim Patterson, KidSight Coordinator, 231-250-0925, pattersonjv@comcast.net**

LIONS OF MICHIGAN FORUM SERVICE PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

Forget Me Not Little Heroes is an organization dedicated to supplying backpacks full of essential items to fostered, sheltered, and underprivileged children ages 3-12 years old. They have been selected as our Forum Service Project this year.

Why Backpacks?

Most children arrive at foster homes and shelters with nothing but a garbage bag. When the organizers heard of this, they stepped up to make a change. Items are designed to fit in a backpack. It makes them feel special, keeps them organized and teaches them to care about their belongings.

What Can You Do to Help?

Our goal is to fill 300 backpacks with color coordinated items in their very own backpack. The cost for one backpack is \$40.00. Through districts, clubs and grants, our goal is to raise \$12,000.00. Each club is being asked to donate as much as they can afford as part of a club service project, enabling us to provide many more of these special items for special kids.

Please consider donating to this worthy cause!

Checks can be written and mailed to Three Rivers Lions Club:

Three Rivers Lions Club

PO Box 134

Three Rivers, MI 49093

Attn: Forum Service Project

Contact PDG Julie Mayuiers, Michigan Lions Forum Chair, with any questions you may have. 269-254-1938 or 2jumayuiers@gmail.com.



The Lions Michigan Forum 2026
Delta Marriott Kalamazoo, MI
February 27-28, 2026

Keynote Speaker



Kathleen Marcath
Author & Founder, ASL Picture Books

Giving Day Unites Nonprofits



Local non-profits united at Mecosta County Giving Day, held at the Big Rapids Eagles to collaborate, compare missions and interface with the public.

-Big Rapids News Photo



Executive Director of Our Brother's Keeper, Jeffrey Auguste (left) talks to Leader Dog District Chairperson & Puppy Raiser/Counselor Ken Theobald, while Future Leader Dog Spirit lounges on the floor, at Mecosta County Giving Day. - *Big Rapids News Photo*

- By Dylan Schwartz (Staff Writer Big Rapids News)

Big Rapids – A steady stream of visitors moved through the Big Rapids Eagles 2535 as more than 50 Mecosta County nonprofits gathered for Giving Day 2025, an event organizers say brought the largest turnout of participating groups to date.

The annual Giving Day, organized by the Mecosta County Lions and the Rotary Club of Big Rapids, ran from 11am – 6pm Tuesday at the Eagles, 18361 16 Mile Road. The event invited community members to learn about local organizations, make donations and explore volunteer opportunities while giving nonprofits a chance to share resources and connect with one another.

Lions Club member Dave Hamelund said this year's participation reached about 53 nonprofits, including new additions such as AMVETS and the American Legion. "Everything's going great," Hamelund said. "We've got a lot of nonprofits, more than ever, and they're very anxious to meet the public." Hamelund said the goal of Giving Day is to place every nonprofit on equal footing, particularly when it comes to visibility and outreach. He said many organizations excel at marketing while others struggle, and bringing everyone into the same room helps ensure the public has a chance to meet groups they may not otherwise encounter. "The Lions Club and the Rotary Club put this on to level the playing field for all the nonprofits that want to participate," Hamelund said. "It raises the boat for everybody, which is the name of the game."

For some organizations, Giving Day offered an introduction to the size and scale of the county's nonprofit network.

Michelle Kauffold of the Mecosta County Optimists Club said she was surprised by the number of groups represented. "It shows how much need there is out there," Kauffold said. The Optimists participated for the first time and used the event to promote membership opportunities and their hand-drawn note cards, which Kauffold said have been a consistent fundraiser.

For others, the day provided a way to learn about lesser-known services and discover new partners.

Ken Theobald of Leader Dogs for the Blind said he first learned about several Mecosta County organizations by attending Giving Day in past years. "I think it's a great way to bring all the nonprofits in the area together and help people understand what they do," he said. Theobald said the format encourages collaboration since organizations often pick up ideas or make connections they might not find elsewhere. "The rising tide raises all ships," Theobald said. "When you find out what the needs are, you want to help meet them in some way."

Paul Griffith of Mecosta Recycles said he appreciates that the event serves the community while also giving nonprofits time to interact. "It makes it really easy for the community to come to once place and learn," Griffith said. "It also allows all the organizations to connect with each other. There's great energy."

That visibility mattered for nonprofits such as Artworks, which benefits from foot traffic and personal interaction, development coordinator Paul Zube said. Zube said visibility is often a challenge because nonprofits are scattered across the country. "It puts all the nonprofits who are doing incredible stuff in one place," Zube said. He added that the shared space made conversations about overlapping missions and collaboration easier to start.

Hamelund said he hopes the exposure strengthens each organization's ability to serve Mecosta County. "We just need the public to show up and find out what good people are doing to help our neighbors," Hamelund said.

District Governor's Visits

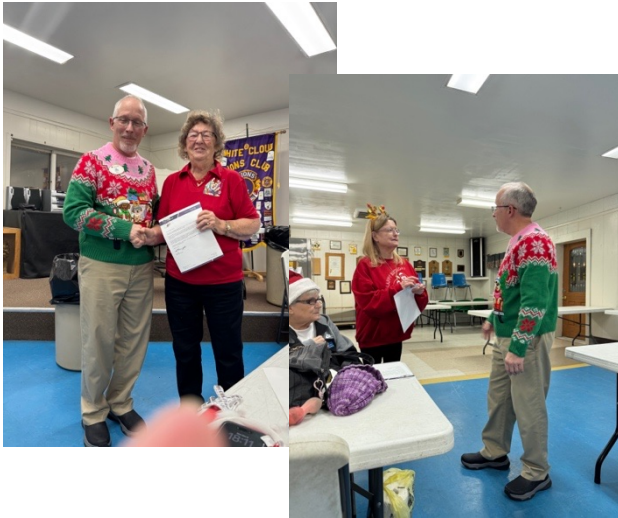
Region 3 Zone 2 Meeting



Zone Chair Debra Salada held her first zone meeting at the White Cloud Lion's Den in early December. Clubs participating included Fremont, Hart and White Cloud. DG Jeff and PDG Sheryl also made the drive over to talk about Leader Dogs for the Blind. Service Project for the meeting was collecting food for TrueNorth Community Services, focusing on empowering individuals and families, especially in rural areas, with programs for housing assistance, food security, energy help, and youth development.

From Left to Right: Steve Adsmond (GST, Fremont), Lisa Reinecke (President, Fremont), Debra Salada (Zone Chair, White Cloud), PCC Janalee McClure (White Cloud), Craig Clayton (President, Hart), PDG Sheryl Schafer (LCIF, Coleman), Jeff Schafer (DG, Coleman), Nancy Husk (Hart), and Brend Adsmond (Secretary, Fremont).

White Cloud Christmas



White Cloud Lions: During the Christmas Dinner at the White Cloud Lions, DG Jeff was able to hand out a few Length of Service Chevrons, along with enjoying the White Elephant gift exchange.

From Left to Right: DG Jeff Schafer, PCC Janalee McClure (35 yrs), Lion Jackie Kock (15 yrs), and DG Jeff Schafer.

Coleman Christmas



2026
Happy New Year!

DG Jeff was able to induct 1 new member (Karin Pelletier) during the Coleman Lions Christmas party held in Clare, Michigan. Coleman also enjoyed the White Elephant gift exchange.

Left to Right: DG Jeff Schafer, new member Karin Pelletier, and Amy Hovey (Sponsor, President).

During DG Jeff's club visit with the Midland Lions, he was able to induct Karin's son, Ryan Pellitier!

Chapter Chronicles


Empire Lions Celebrate Claude Fields Retirement!

The Empire Lions gave Claude Fields a retirement party on November 17th. Claude did all the research for our cemetery project that won international recognition. Now this Christmas families know where their loved ones are. They are no longer "lost" and will never be forgotten.

The Empire Lions will be hosting a Euchre this winter at our Townhall. It's a community event.



From left to right: Lion Steve Stepanek (Vice President), Lion Dianne Hammersmith (Secretary), Lions Sandy Wilson (Treasurer), Lion Tom Haiderer (President) and Claude Field



Beat the Winter Blues and Play Euchre!

WHEN? 2nd and 4th Fridays
January 9 & 23, February 13 & 27, March 13 & 27
1:00 to 3:00 pm

WHERE? Empire Township Hall

ENTRY FEE: \$2 per person PLUS a Canned Food item for Empire Food Pantry

Brought to you by the Empire Lions
Coffee will be provided.
You may bring a dish to share if you wish
Singles or Couples
For questions, please email
Tom Haiderer at
thomas2011thomas@gmail.com

Onkama Lions Club Christmas Activities!

The Onkama Lions had their club Christmas party on December 15th at The Bungalow Inn in Manistee. We had 39 attendees, including our Zone Chair and the President of the Manistee Lions as our invited guests.

We provided Poinsettias for each resident of the Manistee Medical Care facility in December, and on December 20th we went caroling there, bringing Christmas gifts and cookies for the residents. We also took our talents (and more cookies) to the Green Acres assisted living facility and were well received.



The Grinch joined us for Christmas Caroling at Green Acres Assisted Living.



Caroling at Manistee Medical Care Facility



Onkama Lions Club Christmas Party at the Bungalow Inn in Manistee

Coleman Lions Club



The Coleman Lions Club spent a wonderful day with their adopted senior, 92-year-old Korean War Marine Veteran, Daryl Dick. He commented that he never dreamed he would be eating a Christmas dinner with a wonderful family. Lion Billie Jo stated he said "This is unbelievable" a hundred times! Finally, he stated that it was the best Christmas he had in his 92 years!

Pictured on the right are Lion Billie Jo's daughter and husband and their two children. Lion Billie Jo Parker is standing next to Marine Veteran Daryl Dick and Lion Billie Jo Parker.



The Central Montcalm Lions are wrapping up a busy December and year! On December 4th we helped out at the Sheridan Tree Lighting ceremony at Sheridan Community Hospital. Also on the 4th, we volunteered donating food with Feeding America in Stanton, Mi. We are also in the process of passing out 40 poinsettias and Christmas Cactuses to local community members who may be alone or may have lost a loved one this year. On December 18th, we will be passing out cookies at the Stanton Tree Lighting ceremony. We have also started selling our Sight and Hearing Sweepstakes raffle tickets and look forward to having another successful fundraiser with this project.

We would like to wish all our neighboring clubs a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Central Montcalm Lions Club



Greenville Lions Club

Carl Barberi Christmas Toy Project (the 50th) Toy Giveaway, December 9-11, 2025



Thank you for all that shopped, priced, set-up and helped with the Toy Project /Giveaway. The Greenville Lions Club were able to help 311 children with toys for the holidays.

Lions Christmas Food Project Assembly/Giveaway December 17, 2025



Thanks to all the Lions Club Members who helped with our Christmas / Holiday Food Project! We helped another 40 families have a brighter holiday!

New Lions Member Induction December 15, 2025



It was a great meeting / night as we officially inducted three new members.

From left to right: Lion Heather Catt, Lion Christian Rasmussen & Lion Scott Horn. Welcome!

Lions Poinsettia Project (Delivery) December 17 - 20, 2025



Thanks to all the Lions that helped deliver 70 Poinsettia Plants! Making a Christmas cheerful for those that are unable to leave their homes, hospitals & assisted living facilities in our community.

2026
Happy New Year!



Hart Lions Club

The Hart Lions Club had their Annual Christmas Party and 2025 Fair Volunteer Appreciation Party on December 11.

They enjoyed a catered dinner and a local band.

The Hart Lions Club is having a raffle!

We are raffling off a vintage Alouette snowmobile. Please contact Lion Craig at 231-742-3755 for these hot tickets!



Luther Lions Club

Hope your Christmas was a wonderful event. Now onto a Blessed and Happy New Year to all!

Our "All You Can Eat" Breakfast will be served January 4 from 8:30 am to 11:00 am. Cost is just \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. Children under 6 are FREE.

The next breakfast will be February 1st. Same time, place and price.

Our Feed America date for January 2026 is January 8th and for February 2026 it is February 12th.

Cornhole is back up in January. Every Thursday at 6:30 pm at the Luther Lions Club Building. Cost is only \$5 dollars. Open to Men and Women.

2026
Happy New Year!