

Anchored in Service



Lighting the Way Forward

# District 11-E1

## Mar 2026 Newsletter



Michigan Lions Serving 16 Counties &amp; 35 Clubs!



Governor's Corner:

### Momentum Matters

#### Upcoming Events:

- 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:

- May 18: Arcadia
- May 27: Northport
- June 2: Cadillac
- Baldwin: TBD
- Sand Lake: TBD

**Momentum** is a powerful thing.

It does not begin with something big. It begins with something small — a decision to show up, a choice to invite someone, a willingness to raise your hand. But once it starts, momentum builds energy. And energy builds growth.

As Lions, we know how to serve. We know how to care. What transforms a good district into a thriving one, however, is momentum.

**Momentum** looks like attending the District Convention — not just because it's on the calendar, but because we believe in being part of something bigger than our own club. When Lions gather, ideas spark. Friendships strengthen. Vision expands. That energy carries back home and lifts entire clubs.

**Momentum** looks like adding one new member. Not ten. Not twenty. Just one. If every Lion invited one person to join us in service, imagine the strength and vitality our district would experience. New members bring new ideas, new enthusiasm, and new possibilities. Growth fuels momentum.

**Momentum** also looks like stepping into leadership. It doesn't require perfection. It requires willingness. Every strong club and every strong district is built by Lions who simply said, "I'll help." Leadership is not about titles – it's about influence, encouragement, and moving forward together.

The future of our district is not determined by one event, one officer, or one decision. It is shaped by the steady build of positive momentum — Lions choosing to engage, to grow, and to lead.

Imagine where we could be one year from now if each of us committed to:

- Showing up
- Adding one
- Stepping forward

Small actions. Powerful results.

**Momentum matters** — because when it starts moving, it carries all of us forward.

**Yours in service,**  
Lion Jeff Schafer  
DG 11-E1



## District Team

### District Governor:

Jeff Schafer (Coleman)  
(812) 325-3130  
[jeff.schafer1@comcast.net](mailto:jeff.schafer1@comcast.net)

### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor:

Vacant

### Assist 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor:

Heather Dourron(Cedar-Maple City)  
(248)-644-1963  
Hdourron1963@gmail.com

### Cabinet Secretary:

Donna Vangessel (White Cloud)  
(813)-713-4909  
[walmartredhead@yahoo.com](mailto:walmartredhead@yahoo.com)

### Cabinet Treasurer:

Jaymie Ricksgers (Weidman)  
(805) 551-0248  
[jaymie.ricksgers@gmail.com](mailto:jaymie.ricksgers@gmail.com)

### Global Membership Chair:

Jeff Morse (Lake Ann)  
(231) 620-5333  
[inlandfirechief@gmail.com](mailto:inlandfirechief@gmail.com)

### Global Leadership Chair:

Vacant

### Global Service Chair:

Steve Adsmund (Fremont)  
(231) 740-7076  
[adsmund@comcast.net](mailto:adsmund@comcast.net)

### LCIF Chair:

PDG Sheryl Schafer (Coleman)  
(812) 325-7762  
[sheryl.schafer1@comcast.net](mailto:sheryl.schafer1@comcast.net)

### District Administrator:

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Anchored in Service



Lighting the Way Forward

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

The third meeting of Lions Club District 11 E-1 Region-2, Zone-1 was convened on January 28, 2026, at the Shepherd Bar and Restaurant. The principal focus of the meeting was Leadership Training, aimed at enhancing the skills of club officers.

Comprehensive training outlines for the positions of President, Secretary, and Treasurer were provided from the Lions Portal Learning Center. The essential functions and duties of each office were elaborated upon in detail. Officers received targeted information pertaining to their respective roles, including protocols for nominations and election processes, accurate maintenance of club minutes, and the implementation of Best Practices for Financial Transparency.

Further leadership development opportunities for club members were presented and discussed. These included the District Governor's Town Hall Meeting, District and State Newsletters, District Conventions, the Michigan Forum, Leadership Institute Training at the MacMullen Conference Center, and instructional sessions offered by the District Global Leadership Coordinator.

The membership was encouraged to participate in the upcoming Convention in Cadillac.

**-Lion Chuck Dinsmore, R2Z1 Chairman**

## Prayer List:

PDG Peggy Walls (Stanwood)  
PDG Laura Johnson (Baldwin)  
PDGs Pam Schroeder & Dan Gibbons (Onkama)  
PDG Pete Conarty (Midland)



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 Adsmund

## District 11-E1 Convention Evergreen Resort, Cadillac Fri-Sat, March 27-28, 2026

7880 Mackinaw Trail, Cadillac, MI

Details including registration, Tidbit forms, Exhibit forms, Apparel Contest details, and Lodging in this Newsletter

**Bring an item for the Silent Auction!**

**Bring your Banner Too!**



Lions Clubs International  
**FOUNDATION**

## March Focus: Supporting the Lions Clubs International Foundation

March is a special time to highlight the incredible work of the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) — our global foundation that empowers Lions to serve communities both locally and around the world.

LCIF provides grants that make large-scale service projects possible, including disaster relief, childhood cancer initiatives, hunger programs, vision services, diabetes awareness, youth development, and humanitarian efforts. When natural disasters strike or communities face urgent needs, LCIF is often among the first to respond — funded by the generosity of Lions.

Every dollar contributed to LCIF supports life-changing projects. From vision screenings in our own communities to international relief efforts, the Foundation multiplies the impact of our service.

In addition to one-time or club donations, Lions may consider setting up **automatic recurring contributions** through:

- **Employer payroll deductions** (where available), or
- **Automatic monthly bank transfers or credit card withdrawals**

Small, recurring contributions often go unnoticed in a paycheck or bank account, but over time they create a powerful and lasting impact. This consistent method of giving allows Lions to support LCIF in a manageable and meaningful way.

As we move through March, I encourage each club and Lion to:

- Learn more about LCIF grants and programs
- Consider making a personal contribution
- Explore recurring giving options
- Review ways your club might apply for a grant
- Promote awareness of the Foundation's impact

LCIF is our Foundation. It exists because of Lions, and it serves because of Lions. Together, we continue to strengthen our ability to serve — not just as individual clubs, but as a global network of compassion and action.

**Yours in service,**  
PDG Sheryl Schafer  
District 11-E1 LCIF Coordinator



### Avi Shines at the Lions of Michigan Forum!

This past weekend, our Leader Dog for the Blind puppy, **Avi**, attended the Lions of Michigan Forum — and she did an outstanding job representing our club and the Leader Dog program.

The Forum provided a wonderful opportunity for Avi to continue her socialization and training. She met many new people, was exposed to large crowds, encountered other dogs, and experienced a busy event environment — all important parts of her development.

We are proud to share that Avi maintained excellent impulse control and behaved exactly as she should throughout the weekend. She demonstrated calmness, focus, and confidence in every situation.

Experiences like this help prepare her for her future role as a working Leader Dog, and we are grateful to everyone who took the time to greet her appropriately and support her training.

Way to go, Avi! 🐾

Picture from left to right: DG Jeff Schafer & FLD Avi, LDB Puppy Counselor Amy Schupska & FLD Kipper standing in front of Leader Dogs for the Blind Booth





### CONTACT US:

DG Jeff Schafer  
975 Outback Ridge  
Midland, MI 48640

Cell: 812-325-3130  
jeff.schafer1@comcast.net

We're on the Web at:  
[www.MILions11e1.org](http://www.MILions11e1.org)

facebook

Visit our facebook page.

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

## Welcome New Members!

Club	Member	Sponsor
Shepherd	Trent Reynolds	Kent Roth

For the month of February, we added 1 new member. Overall, for the year, we have added 60 new members, transferred/reinstated 19 members & dropped 64 members. Net gain for the year of +15.

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

## District 11-E1 Convention Service Project

### Friday, March 27, 2026

Come be part of a Bed Build at Sleep In Heavenly Peace, Lake City (1551 S. Morey Rd.) on Friday afternoon from 12:00-3:00 pm or a Blanket Tying for Sleep In Heavenly Peace at the Evergreen Resort (7880 Mackinaw Trail, Cadillac) during the same timeslot for anyone that would like to participate. Our goal is to complete construction of 15 beds ready to take to children who live in Missaukee and Wexford Counties and surrounding townships in neighboring counties as well.

Sleep In Heavenly Peace has a wood shop that will accommodate a maximum of 50 Lions and family who want to participate. All the wood will be cut ahead of time so we will do all the fabrication of bed sections and finish the wood, including sanding & staining so the beds will be ready for delivery when we are done.

You are not required to be registered for the convention to participate.

Click: [Lions Club Convention Build](https://volunteer.shpbeds.org/opportunities/EAI61zI3F4) to register for the bed build.  
(<https://volunteer.shpbeds.org/opportunities/EAI61zI3F4>)

If anyone has trouble with the link to register, please call Steve Adsmond 231-740-7076.



## Global Service Team (GST) Corner:

### Service with Purpose



Service is at the heart of Lionism — but there is something especially powerful about **hands-on service**.

Fundraising is important. It allows us to support causes, fund programs, and expand our reach. But hands-on service creates something different. It creates connection. It creates perspective. It creates impact we can see and feel.

When we roll up our sleeves and physically serve — whether packing food, cleaning parks, or building beds for children — we move beyond writing a check. We become part of the solution.

There is a profound difference between raising money for beds and actually building one.

When you assemble a bed frame, sand the edges, tighten the bolts, and lay down the mattress, you cannot help but think about the child who will sleep in it. You picture a young boy or girl who may have been sleeping on a couch, on the floor, or sharing a crowded space. And then you realize — this bed represents dignity, comfort, and stability. It's more than wood and screws. It's security, it's hope, it's a fresh start. That is service with a purpose!



## Global Leadership Team (GLT) Corner:

### The Future of Lionism in 5 Years

What will our district look like five years from now?

That future is not something that simply happens to us — it is something we intentionally build. And leadership development will determine what that future becomes.

Five years from now, our district can be stronger, younger, more diverse, and more dynamic. We can have clubs that are energized, officers who are confident and well-trained, and members who feel engaged and valued. But that future depends on what we do today.

#### Leadership Development Shapes the Future

Strong clubs are led by prepared leaders. When Presidents understand their role, Secretaries feel confident in reporting, and committees are empowered to act, clubs thrive. Leadership training is not a formality — it is the foundation for stability and growth.

As GLT, my role is to:

- Identify emerging leaders early
- Provide meaningful training opportunities
- Encourage mentorship between experienced and new Lions
- Create a culture where leadership is supported, not avoided

Five years from now, we should see:

- A clear leadership pipeline in every club
- Lions stepping into roles with confidence
- Vice Presidents preparing intentionally for President
- Zone and Region leaders mentoring consistently

#### Engaging the Next Generation

If we want Lionism to flourish in five years, we must actively engage younger members now. That means:

- Offering flexible service opportunities
- Using modern communication tools
- Valuing new ideas and innovation
- Encouraging younger Lions to serve on committees and boards

The future district will not look exactly like it does today — and that is a good thing. Growth requires adaptation.

#### Building a Culture of “Yes”

In five years, imagine a district where:

- When Leadership positions open, Lions step forward
- When new members join, they are quickly engaged
- When training is offered, attendance is strong
- When challenges arise, collaboration is immediate

That culture begins with each of us saying “yes” more often — yes to learning, yes to mentoring, yes to serving.

#### The Vision

Picture our District in 2031:

- Clubs growing instead of shrinking
- Multiple candidates for Leadership positions
- Increased participation at Convention and Training
- More LCIF grants secured
- Greater visibility in our communities





## Global Leadership Team (GLT) Corner: (Continued)

This vision is achievable — but it requires intentional leadership development today.

The future of Lionism in our district will not be determined by chance. It will be determined by preparation, encouragement, and the steady development of leaders at every level.

### ***The next five years begin NOW***

#### **Lions Memorial Breakfast at the District 11-E1 Convention (March 28, 2026)**

We hold a Memorial Breakfast to honor and remember the Lions who have passed away since our last District Convention (April 2025). Please send Chaplain Steve Adsmond a favorite photo and the Lions Bio of what these Lions did as a Lion's member of your club. Family members are welcome to participate, and they may light a candle in memory of each Lion and ring the bell on their behalf. Breakfast is included for those staying overnight at Evergreen Resort or can be purchased at the door for \$15. Attendees are not obligated to eat breakfast.

The following Lions will be remembered. If there is an asterisk (red font) next to the name I have not received information or a photo yet for these Lions.

Harrison Lions Club: PDG Jerry Brandt  
 Baldwin Lions Club: PDG Harry Johnson  
 Stanwood Lions Club: PDG Jim Walls  
 \*Cadillac Lions Club: Gary Williams  
 Lake Ann Lions Club: James Morse, Sr.  
 Midland Lions Club: Oliver Juengel  
 \*Mt. Pleasant Lions Club: Charles Kiel  
 Onekema Lions Club: Jerry Wilson  
 \*White Cloud Lions Club: Lavern Brandt & Jerrylyn Miller

If your club has a deceased member who is not on this list, we don't have record because that member has not been reported deceased.

Please notify Steve Adsmond and have the Club Secretary drop the deceased member in the Lions Portal ([www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)).

### **District 11-E1 Convention Service Project**

We also need to pay for the materials to make the wood beds and Sleep In Heavenly Peace (SHP) donors will cover the bedding cost for the beds. Our goal is to cover the cost for 15 bed builds and 15 blankets. We are looking for Lions or Lion Clubs in our District 11-E1 who will sponsor a bed build for \$250. For Lions who would like to be involved in this project with a smaller donation, we are also needing blanket sponsors for \$24 each. To date we have 12 donors for both the bed builds and blankets (we're looking for 3 more for each).

Bed builds donors include the **Central Montcalm Lions, Coleman Lions, Midland Lions, Mt. Pleasant Lions, Onekema Lions, Weidman Lions (2), White Cloud Lions, Lion Chuck & Barbara Dinsmore, Lions Peggy & Mark Frank, DG Jeff & PDG Sheryl Schafer, and Lions Steve & Brenda Adsmond.**

Blanket sponsors include **Coleman Lions, Onekema Lions (2), Lions Jaymie & Jake Ricksgers (2), PDG Al & Lion Ann Roeseler (4), Lions Steve & Dana Rundoni, and DG Jeff & PDG Sheryl Schafer (2).**

You are not required to be registered for the convention to participate in the service project.

Please send your bed sponsorship, blanket sponsorship, and for participation in blanket tying to Service Chair Lio Steve Adsmond, 411 E. Maple St., Fremont MI, 49412. Checks should be made out to Lions District 11-E1. Email [adsmond@comcast.net](mailto:adsmond@comcast.net) with Subject: LIONS BED BUILD if you have any questions.



## Global Membership Team (GMT) Corner:



### Add One: A Simple Membership Challenge

Growing our District does not require a complicated strategy. It does not require a major campaign. It begins with something simple:

#### Add One.

What would happen if every Lion in our district invited just one person to join their club this year?

One new member brings:

- A new set of skills
- A new perspective
- New energy and enthusiasm
- New connections within the community

Growth does not have to be overwhelming. It starts with a conversation — inviting a friend, neighbor, coworker, or family member to attend a meeting or participate in a service project.

#### Why “Add One” Matters

Membership growth strengthens everything we do:

- More hands for service projects
- More ideas for fundraising
- More leaders for tomorrow
- More visibility in our communities

It also builds momentum. When clubs grow, excitement grows. When excitement grows, engagement grows. And engaged clubs thrive.

#### Don't Forget Former Members

Another powerful opportunity is right in front of us: former Lions.

Many past members did not leave because they stopped believing in service — life simply became busy.

A simple invitation to return can reopen the door. Reviewing your club's past membership list and personally reaching out could make a meaningful difference.

#### A District-Wide Vision

Imagine where we would be one year from now if every club added just one new member — or every Lion brought one guest.

That is not a distant dream. It is an achievable goal.

Growth does not require perfection. It requires intention.

This year, let's keep it simple.

Let's make it personal.

Let's make it possible.

#### Add One.

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





## 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 9, 2026 is only \$15. After March 9 registration fee goes up to \$25. Registration begins in January 2026

\*Online Registration Link: [Click Here.](#)

\*4 informative seminars + 2 service projects

\*Bring the theme "**Anchored in Service – Lighting the Way Forward**" to life with your convention apparel! Whether inspired by anchors, lighthouses, Michigan's Great Lakes, or service and Leadership, we invite Lions to showcase their creativity and Lion pride. Individual, group, and club entries are welcome. Awards presented for several fun and themed categories. Join in and let your Lion spirit shine!

\***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:** Mekoe & David Peterson - Sleep in Heavenly Peace (Wexford & Missaukee County's Chapter).

\***Lodging:** 35 Standard Rooms available at The Evergreen Resort at a discounted rate until March 8. Rooms are \$113.85 (resort fee & tax included) and includes complimentary breakfast (a \$15 savings)! Request a room in the "29581" block of rooms.

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

### EPIC District 11-E1 Convention Service Project

Come be part of a Bed Build at Sleep In Heavenly Peace, Lake City on Friday afternoon from 12:00-3:00 pm or a Blanket Tying for Sleep In Heavenly Peace at the Evergreen Resort during the same timeslot for anyone that would like to participate. Our goal is to complete construction of 15 beds ready to take to children who live in Missaukee and Wexford Counties and surrounding townships in neighboring counties as well.

You are not required to be registered for the convention to participate.

Sleep In Heavenly Peace, 1551 S. Morey Rd., Lake City MI has a wood shop that will accommodate a maximum of 50 Lions and family who want to participate. All the wood will be cut ahead of time so we will do all the fabrication of bed sections and finish the wood, including sanding & staining so the beds will be ready for delivery when we are done.



We also need to pay for the materials to make the wood beds and Sleep In Heavenly Peace donors will cover the bedding cost for the beds. We are looking for 8 more Lions or Lion Clubs in our District 11-E1 who will sponsor a bed for \$250. For Lions who would like to be involved in this project with a smaller donation, we are also needing blanket sponsors for \$24 each, for a total of 15 blankets. Currently we have beds sponsored by White Cloud Lions, Midland Lions, Coleman Lions, Chuck & Barbara Dinsmore, DG Jeff & PDG Sheryl Schafer, Audible Hearing Center-Peggy and Mark Frank, Brenda & Steve Adsmond, Weidman Lions (2), Onekama Lions, Central Montcalm Lions, and Mt. Pleasant Lions. Blanket donations includes Ann and PDG Al Roeseler have donated four blanket kits, DG Jeff & PDG Sheryl (2), Jaymie and Jake Ricksgers (2), Onekama Lions (2), Colemand Lions (1), and Steve & Dana Rudoni (1). Thank you to these generous Lions!

We will sign up for participation on a first-come basis, with a maximum of 50 people for the bed build using the link below to register for the bed build. No registration is required for the blanket tying service project, just show up at the Evergreen Resort. Please send your bed sponsorship, blanket sponsorship, and for participation in blanket tying to Service Chair Steve Adsmond, 411 E. Maple St., Fremont MI, 49412. Checks should be made out to Lions District 11-E1. Email [adsmond@comcast.net](mailto:adsmond@comcast.net) with Subject: LIONS BED BUILD

Click: [Lions Club Convention Build](#) to register for the bed build.

(<https://volunteer.shpbeds.org/opportunities/EAI61zI3F4>)

If anyone has trouble with the link to register, please call Steve Adsmond 231-740-7076.



**Saturday Lunch:** Lunch will be buffet style to include penne and cavatappi pasta, marinara and alfredo sauce, and bolognese sauces, seasoned chicken, garlic bread, house salad with toppings and dressings, and assorted cookies.

**Saturday Banquet:** Banquet will be buffet style to include marinated chicken breast, char-grilled 6oz sirloin, baked potato, asparagus, house salad with toppings and dressings and assorted cookies.

**All meals have been discounted for a total savings of approximately \$28.72 to make it more affordable for Lions to attend those events.**

**Meal tickets will be provided for each meal purchased and must be presented during the meal.**

**Seminars:** There will be two time periods for seminars this year, one between 9:30 – 10:15am and the other between 10:30 – 11:15am with two seminars per time period. Seminars will be in meeting Cadillac and Wexford rooms.

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI)
2. Club President
3. Club Secretary
4. TBD

**Seminar Description:**

**Artificial Intelligence (AI):** The various AI tools focused on recruiting new members, creating membership growth plans, researching demographics within a community, help with converting service projects from the Lions Portal to a marketing brochure, creating service carnival or other events to recruit new members.

**Club President/Secretary:** Club officer training for new Club Presidents and Secretaries

**District Service Projects** will be on Friday. Steve Admond (District GST) 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 (12-3pm), at an SHP construction site (1551 Morey Rd.) where bunk beds will be assembled. The second part will occur during the convention at two different times, where participants will assemble blanket by cutting the edges and tying them together. The first session to assemble blankets will be from 12-3pm at the Evergreen Resort and the second session will be from 7:45pm-9pm in Wexord room. If you're interested in building beds, please be aware that you're going to get dirty, so wear the appropriate clothing and shoes.

**Lodging:** 35 standard rooms at a nightly rate of \$99 plus taxes (approximately \$113.85), per single or double adult occupancy has been set aside for the Lions of District 11-E1. Resort overnight guests receive a complimentary breakfast. To reserve a room, call 1-231-775-9947 and request a room in the "29581" block of rooms. **March 4 will be the DEADLINE for room reservations to receive the discounted rate.**



## 2026 Lions District 11-E1 Convention

### Anchored in Service – Lighting the Way Forward

Bring the theme “**Anchored in Service – Lighting the Way Forward**” to life with your convention apparel! Whether inspired by anchors, lighthouses, Michigan’s Great Lakes, or service and leadership, we invite Lions to showcase their creativity and Lion pride. Individual, group, and club entries are welcome. Judging will take place during Friday nights “Meet/Greet the International Director,” with awards presented for several fun and themed categories. Join in and let your Lion spirit shine!

Award Categories:

**The Guiding Light Award:** Awarded to a Lion or group that most powerfully represents “Anchored in Service – Lighting the Way Forward” through creativity and symbolism.



**The Great Lakes Lion Award:** Honors the best use of Michigan, Great Lakes, or local maritime pride woven into their apparel.

**The Lion Crew Award:** Given to a club or group that demonstrates teamwork, unity, and coordinated spirit – Sailing together as one crew.



**The Service & Honor Award:** Acknowledges a thoughtful tribute to service, duty, and commitment – reflecting the values of Lionism and military service.





## 2026 District 11-E1 Convention

March 27-28, 2026

*The Evergreen Resort*

*7880 Mackinaw Trail, Cadillac, Michigan*



### Exhibit & Project Application

\*Setup will be on Friday (March 27) from 4-9pm or Saturday (March 28) before 9am. Location will be in Wexford A.

\*Tear down should be no earlier than 3pm and prior to 6pm on Saturday, March 28.

\*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 **March 18**) to DG Jeff Schafer, 975 Outback Ridge, Midland, MI 48640 or email to: [jeff.schafer1@comcast.net](mailto: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





## 2026 Tidbits



### Anchored in Service Lighting the Way Forward

#### 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 March 15, 2026.**

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

Email: [jeff.schafer1@comcast.net](mailto: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 District 11-E1!**

**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 10<sup>th</sup> to District Credential Chairperson: Janalee McClure, Box 177, Brohman, MI 49312

## Bear Lake Camp News

Steve Glazier

District 11E1 Chairperson



Greetings, Fellow Lions! The **Lions Bear Lake Camp Subzero Hero Plunge** was an absolute success. After shattering records last year with \$20,000, we crushed that milestone by another 75%. Our preliminary total stands at a record-breaking **\$35,000**—and that's before verifying the final results.

This success is a testament to Lions Bear Lake Camp Event Director **Chrissy Andre**, Executive Director **Traci Tribley**, and their dedicated team. They seamlessly managed the behind-the-scenes logistics and pivoted through last-minute changes when the event kicked off in low-digit temperatures. Of course, none of this would be possible without our generous donors, local businesses, tireless volunteers, and the **courageous 40 plus divers** who braved the elements.

To combat the afternoon chill, outdoor heaters were deployed, and the ice divers were staged in a heated cabin. Yet, fueled by the spirit of the cause, many of us stood outside awaiting our icy challenge turn. After plunging into the freezing water, first responders and a safety team rushed participants to hot showers and warm changing rooms. Unsurprisingly, there was very little hesitation this year—everyone was keen to get in and out of the lake as quickly as possible! Meanwhile, spectators were able to stay cozy in the **Main Lodge**, enjoying snacks and drinks while watching the action via a live-streamed big screen this year due to the cold.

The overwhelming interest from kids and families speaks volumes about the quality of our programs and staff. Our growth has been explosive:

- **Three years ago:** 785 Youth in need campers (over 8 weeks)
- **Two years ago:** 1,100 Youth in need campers (over 8 weeks)
- **Last year:** 1,506 Youth campers (over 11 weeks .....with only 1400 initially projected)

**\*\*\*This incredible demand to attend our Kids Summer Camp underscores why your support is more vital than ever as we continue to serve our community's and State of Michigan's "special needs" youth. Lions, Please consider this when budgeting this year's State Project donations which hopefully includes Bear Lake Camp**

### Interesting Fun Stats to share from 2025 Lions Bear Lake Camp programs.

\*Over 3,500 people experienced Lions Bear Lake Camp in 2025 through programs, retreats, school trips and events.

**Camp Events**

1,506 kids served during our Summer Programming and Partnerships  
 More than 25,500 meals served from our kitchen, each one made with heart and teamwork.  
 175 active days with campers, groups, or events on site, nearly half the calendar year.  
 40+ organizations and schools partnered with us for leadership, education, and outdoor adventure.  
 70+ volunteers joined our May Workbee to help clean, repair, and prepare camp for summer.  
 Over 120 acres of trails, wildlife, and waterfront explored this year by campers and visitors.

**Inside the Kitchen**

Over 21,000 eggs used this year for baking, scrambled eggs, breakfast sandwiches, and more.  
 13,000+ dishwasher loads run, keeping plates shining for every meal.  
 Over 5000 gallons of coffee brewed to keep staff and volunteers fueled.  
 Hundreds of pounds of vegetables chopped for our full salad bar each day.  
 Most popular desserts: Brownies, chocolate chip cookies, cupcakes, rice Krispie treats, all homemade.  
 Favorite staff meal: Pizza and Tacos  
 Fastest meal served: 160 people in under 3 minutes. Breakfast Sandwiches, Hashbrown Patties, Mandarin Oranges.

**Adventures Camp Life**

Over 60 days of climbing tower and 16 station challenge course programs.  
 1000+ zipline rides this year, every one ending with a cheer and a smile..  
 20 campfires hosted under the stars, filled with songs, stories, and s'mores.  
 11 weeks of summer programming  
 85% of summer staff are former campers who returned to give back to the place that helped shape them.  
 Many staff members began in our Leadership Development Program before stepping into counselor and specialist roles.  
 Hundreds of campers faced fears, found friendships, and built confidence that lasts long after camp ends.

**Groups & Community**

Great Lakes Deaf Quilters spent 8 creative days at camp, 703 meals and countless laughs shared.  
 MSU Camp Kesem brought 175 campers and staff, our largest group of the year.  
 Camp Quality, MASTA, and PBJ Foster Camp all returned for another incredible summer.  
 Runners from across the U.S. participated in the Bear Lake Ultra Marathon, raising funds and awareness for camp.  
 Businesses, Local schools and community groups used the property for team-building, retreats, and educational programs.

**Bear Lake Camp History Snapshot**

\*Founded in 1982, by Lake Orion Lions Club as Lions Visually Impaired Youth Camp Initiated Big A Al Kassin, which originated at Camp Franklin Settlement in Lake Orion

\*In 2000, Lions Bear Lake Camp was purchased \*Camp has been available for free for a total of 38 years to our visually impaired youth, later incorporating our Deaf and Hard of Hearing youth and families. \*Incorporated as a 501C3 in 1992

\*Became a state project of Lions of Michigan Multiple 11 District in 2003

\*We are completely supported by contributions from Lions Clubs, individuals, corporations, services organizations, and foundations.

\*Our revenue comes from 3 sources, Club Donations, Grants and Off-season rental group. Bear Lake

\*Bear Lake Camp is open year round and we can house 160 when at full capacity

\*The following Camps are sponsored and supported by the Lions of Michigan. Visually Impaired and Blind Camp, ages 6-16 Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth Camp, ages 6-16 weekend family camps for both Deaf and Blind

\*We have a great Leadership Development program that prepares teens ages 15-17 to prepare them to be counselors. 85% of our summer staff is returning campers. Many have spent every summer with us since the age of 7 or 8.

### **We have many partnerships allowing us to host several additional Summer Camp week opportunities for kids with specific special needs. Examples:**

- **Autism:** Inclusive sessions designed for individuals on the autism spectrum
- **Juvenile Diabetes (T1D):** Specialty sessions tailored for children managing type 1 diabetes.
- **Cancer:** Residential camp programs for children currently in treatment or in remission is primarily sustained by financial support as a Lions State Projects from **Lions and Leo Clubs** across the state.
- **Specialized Health Foundations:** To reach specific camper populations, the camp partners with organizations such as the **Arthritis Foundation** (for juvenile arthritis programs) and **Heartland Hospice** (for bereavement programs).
- **Program-Specific Collaborations:** Recent summer programs have included partnerships with **Providing a Better Journey (PBJ) Camp**, the **Sterling Heights Marching Band**, and **Camp Quality**.

### **Accreditation and Regulatory Partners that we have voluntarily submitted to independent appraisals to insure safety and best practice methods**

- **American Camp Association (ACA):** The camp maintains [ACA Accreditation](#), ensuring we meet over 300 national standards for health, safety, and program quality.
- **State of Michigan:** We are licensed by the State of Michigan and undergo annual reviews by the Department of Human Services to ensure we are in compliance in the areas of safety, site suitability, activities and staffing among other standards of which we meet and exceed requirements.

Thank You for reading our District Newsletter, Lion Steve Glazier





## Summary of Lions of Michigan Foundation Meeting

The Board of Trustees met for their 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter meeting at the state office in Lansing. The 2025 audit report was completed in December by the accounting firm of Straley Lamp & Kraenslein PC. The foundation's assets increased slightly to \$2.6M and the total of liquid and fixed assets grew from \$2.749M in 2024 to \$2.808M in 2025. No issues were reported.

A proposal to change the way the Emergency Assistance Application is administered was presented. Because large areas of Michigan are no longer served by a Lions Club and requests for assistance can come from these areas, it was offered that an application can be presented by a district as well as a club. The proposal was approved to advance to the May meeting where it will be voted on to become a permanent change in the policy. If the policy change is approved there will be two Emergency Assistance Applications:

1. Non-Military – for an existing medical condition only.
2. Military – which can be used for non-medical needs.

It was reiterated that applications **MUST BE APPROVED BY A TRUSTEE** before being sent to the foundation. Sending applications directly to the foundation will only slow down the approval process.

Reports from the various committees for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters follow.

### Contributions to the Foundation

The total of all club contributions through the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter total \$97,455.44 with 18 11-E1 clubs contributing \$13,341.00.

The total of all grants and individual contributions total \$198,811.52 for a grand total of \$296,266.96. While club contributions are ahead of last year, this is down slightly from last year.

### Grants and Assistance

Total Programs and Projects (aid to individuals) distributions were \$11,637.50. Total distributions from Donor Advised Accounts totaled \$49,015.80.

### KidSight Screenings

NOTE: These numbers are from July 2025 through December 2025. My earlier report gave totals for the entire calendar year.

Total screenings for all of MD-11 totaled 28,486 with 3,357 (12%) referrals.

Total screenings for 11-E1 totaled 981 with 74 (8%) referrals.

### Affordable Hearing Aid Program

There has been at least one person served in every district so far this year. 81 persons were given hearing aids and 46 persons received various audiology services.

The availability of over-the-counter hearing aids has reduced expenditures to 50% of the budgeted amount.

### Eye Care Assistance

Again, at least one person in every district has received assistance. State wide 83 adults and 47 children have received eyeglasses. In 11-E1, 6 adults and 1 child have been assisted with eyeglasses.

### Raffle Tickets

The 40<sup>th</sup> annual ticket sale is underway. All ticket stubs must be returned prior to May 2. This is a great fund raiser for clubs as well as the foundation. The seller's **drawing will be at the May 2** trustees meeting with the winner's drawing May 16 at the MD-11 state convention.

PDG Jim Patterson  
LMSF Trustee 11-E1  
231-250-0925, [pattersonjv@comcast.net](mailto:pattersonjv@comcast.net)

**ONEKAMA LIONS CLUB**



# **QUARTER PADDLE AUCTION**



**Sat. April 25th, 2026**

**DOORS OPEN @ 2:30PM**

**STARTS @ 4:00PM**

At the Onekama Lions Den on the  
Manistee County Fairgrounds

Food and Cash Bar  
available

Paddles are \$5.00 each

No bid is more than 4 quarters

**Support your Lions Club and  
community and have a blast doing it!**

To make a donation, or for more information, call  
(231) 690-5790

**Proceeds to the Onekama Lions Club**

**State of Michigan Raffle License #R84104**

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# Pancake Breakfast

**Saturday, March 7th, 2026**  
**American Legion Hall, Greenville**

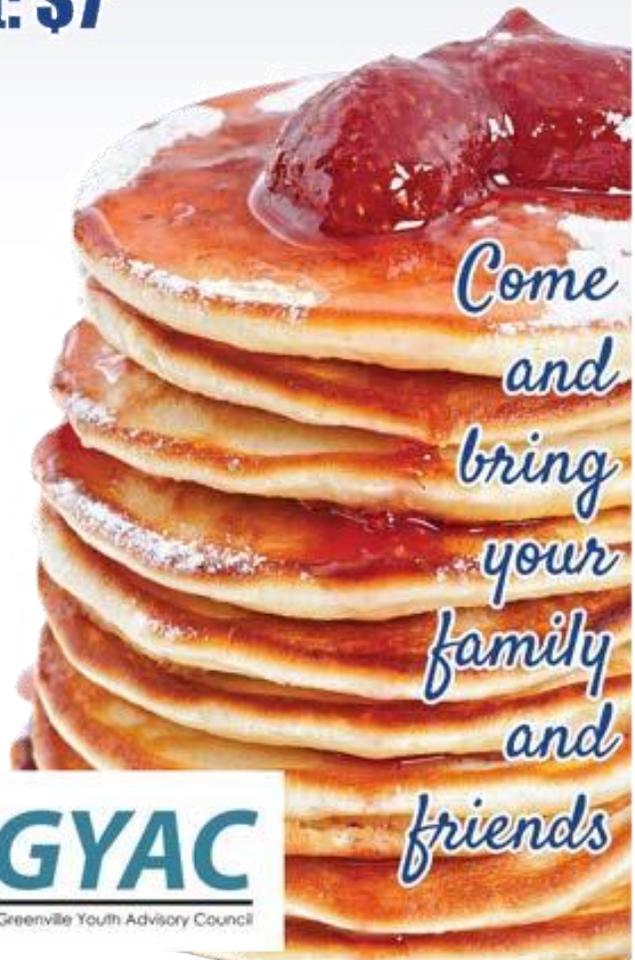
**8:00 - 11:00 am | Cost: \$7**

Ages 5-10 \$5 (4 & under free)

**Includes pancakes,  
sausage, scrambled eggs  
& a drink!**

**Proceeds to fund  
spring break food  
baskets for Greenville  
Public Schools families.**

Sponsored By:



*Come  
and  
bring  
your  
family  
and  
friends*



# Greenville Lions Club Kreitner Memorial Golf Classic

*"In memory of Lions passed"*



**DATE:** June 20th, 2026  
**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.

**Title Sponsor:**



**Premier Sponsors:**



Please return the bottom section with your team entry fee.

**ENTRY FORM:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

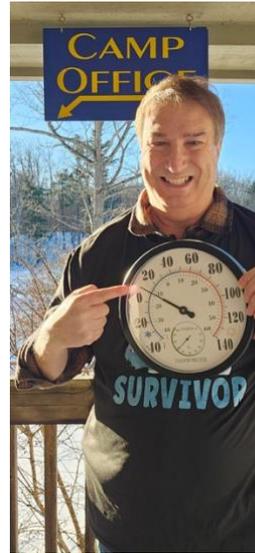
email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Chapter Chronicles

### Lions Bear Lake Camp Ice Plunge

February 7 brought the largest fundraiser of the year, and it exceeded every expectation. The 2026 Ice Plunge raised over \$35,000 and welcomed more than 150 attendees, and featured 42 brave jumpers, making it the most successful plunge to date! Pictured below is our own Lion Steve Glazier in his "Superman" costume, 2<sup>nd</sup> year jumper medal, outside temperature and an unknown female jumper.



### Luther Lions Club

Luther Lions Club News. Pictured below is the line for the All you can eat breakfast at a previous event.

1. March 1 8:30-11am: All You Can Eat Breakfast. Cost: \$12 Adults/\$6 Children 6-12 Yrs. This event is the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month (exception of April due to Easter).
2. March 9 @ 2:30pm: Feed America Truck at the Luther Lions Club Parking Lot. Distribution of food.
3. March 21 @ 5pm: Luther Lions Club first BINGO of the year! Early bird BINGA starts at 5:30pm with regular BINGA starting at 6pm. Food will be available for purchase. Upcoming Bingo are April 18, May 16 and June 20.



### Hart Lions Club

The Hart Lions Club donated \$1,800 to the Oceana County Sheriff's Office for a new Automated External Defibrillator (AED). The new AED will replace the older obsolete model and placed in locations where there currently isn't one.

Pictured in the photo is Sheriff Craig Mast and the Hart Lions Club.



## Empire Lions Club

We have four transfer members to our Empire Lions Club. They are Heather Dourron, Steve Glazier, and Thomas and Jean Peterson. We have a roadside service project (along M22) coming up on April 4, 2026. In addition, the Empire Lions Club donated to the Glen Lake Schools and LIFT (Leelanau Investing For Teens) Program so they can enjoy a presentation from North Sky Raptors which will be held on March 19. It's an on-site demonstration of a Raptor behavior. Finally, the Empire Lions Club is looking into a service project of planting trees for Earth Day in April.

Pictured from left to right: Lions Claude Fields, Steve Lewis, Matt Young, Dianne Hammersmith, Steve Wilson, Steve Glazier, Linda Chase, and Jim Sorbie



## Onekama Lions Club

The Onekama Lions Club hold a ten (10) week Cornhole Tournament every Friday from January 2<sup>nd</sup> through March 6<sup>th</sup>. On March 13<sup>th</sup> we will have a corned beef dinner and a non-tournament cornhole to round out the season. They also have a great Paddle Auction coming in April (see flyer on page 20).



## Central Montcalm Lions Club

The Central Montcalm Lions are having a busy winter and are looking forward to warmer days. They have continued their service project of volunteering with Feeding America to help distribute food every month. Not only has this been a fun and fulfilling service project, it looks like we are going to gain a new club member from our partnership. They have also made a monetary donation to Feeding America, the Sheridan Food Pantry and IM Kids 3<sup>rd</sup> Meal which are all organizations to help strike out hunger. They also are happy to contribute to the District project to sponsor a Bed Build for the Sleep in Heavenly Peace Service Project at the upcoming District Convention.

Finally, they are gearing up for their 16<sup>th</sup> annual fundraiser golf outing which will be held on June 19<sup>th</sup>. While we are at capacity for their teams, they are still excepting hole sponsors for \$100. If you would like to sponsor a hole for your business, in someone's memory, or just because, please reach out to Lion Barry Anderson, 989-576-3327, [qtat41@yahoo.com](mailto:qtat41@yahoo.com).



## *DG Club Visit & Town Hall Meeting*

The District 11-E1 3<sup>rd</sup> Town Hall meeting was held at the Isabella Commission on Aging building in Mt. Pleasant. The service project during this event focused on collecting items to help brighten the lives of seniors during the long, often lonely month of February. DG Jeff Schafer delivered all the items to the folks at the Isabella Commission on Aging. We would also like to thank Lion Steve and Dana Rudoni for the wonderful meal and a thank you to Lion Dianne Fleming for setting up the venue to host the meeting. Pictured (left) below from left to right (back row) includes Lions Jake Ricksgers, Steve Rudoni, Dana Rudoni, PDG Pam Schroeder, Chuck Dinsmore, Debra Salada, PCC Janalee McClure, Jeff Morse, Peggy Frank, Nicole Ferguson, PDG Sheryl Schafer, Steve Adsmo, Karla Kasten. Front row from left to right: PDG Dan Gibbons, Donna Vangessel, DG Jeff Schafer.

DG Jeff also made his official visit with the Mesick Lions Club in mid-February and presented a 20-year Length of Service Chevron to Lion Kim Nyman (Club Treasurer). Pictured (right) is DG Jeff and Lion Kim.

