

Anchored in Service



Lighting the Way Forward

District 11-E1

Sep 2025 Newsletter

Michigan Lions Serving 16 Counties & 35 Clubs!



Governor's Corner:

Upcoming Fall Conference: Learning, Service & Fun!

Lions, mark your calendars! Our **Fall Conference** is right around the corner, and this year's program promises to be both **educational and inspiring**. Whether you are a long-time Lion or brand-new to service, this is your chance to connect, learn, and grow together.

Training Sessions Designed for Every Lion

We are offering a lineup of practical, hands-on workshops to strengthen your skills and help your club thrive:

- **Portal Help Desk** – Get step-by-step guidance for setting up your Lions Portal and navigating to enter a Service Activity and other essential tools.
- **How to Use LionsService2Grow, Market2Grow, & Map2Grow ChatGPT** – A tool to help Lions partner with community organizations to create a Service Carnival; guide Lions in growing clubs by using asset mapping, outreach, GMA and action plans; transforms Lions service reports into a press releases, social media content, and other posts.
- **Marketing Your Club for Membership Growth** – Discover proven strategies to tell your Lions story, attract new members, and keep your club strong for the future. Lion Doug Klein (MD-11 Marketing Chair) will be our speaker.

Service in Action: Parade of Checks

One of the highlights of our conference will be the **Parade of Checks**, where clubs present contributions to our state and district projects. This tradition reflects the power of Lions working together to fund vital initiatives that change lives in our communities and beyond.

Fellowship and Fun

Of course, no Lions gathering would be complete without a little fun! Attendees will have a chance to win during our **50/50 drawing** and exciting **door prizes** throughout the event.

Don't Miss Out!

This conference is more than just training—it's about **building connections, celebrating service, and strengthening our future as Lions**. We encourage every club to send representatives so your team can bring back fresh ideas, practical tools, and renewed enthusiasm.

Together, we grow stronger. Together, we serve better.

See you at the **Fall Conference on Saturday, September 27 at the Luther Lions Hall (1003 State Rd., Luther, MI)**. See the Flyer in this newsletter.

With gratitude and dedication,
Lion Jeff Schafer
 DG 11-E1

Upcoming Events:

- Sep 20: IPDG Tom Mac Naughton's Appreciation Dinner
- Sep 27: Fall Conference, Luther Lions Hall
- Oct 3-4: CoG Mtg, Treetops Resort, Gaylord, MI
- Oct 18: District 11-E1 2nd Cabinet Mtg, Onekama Lions Den
- Nov 7-9: 2025 Lions of Michigan Leadership Forum, R.A. MacMullan Ctr, Roscommon, MI
- Dec 5-6: CoG Mtg, Hilton Garden Inn West, Lansing, MI

Upcoming Official Visits:

- Sep 8: Big Rapids
- Sep 15: Fremont
- Oct 2: Hart
- Oct 8: Lakeview
- Oct 13: Mt. Pleasant
- Oct 14: Weidman
- Oct 15: Evart
- Oct 16: Central Montcalm
- Oct 20: Kaleva
- Oct 27: Onekama
- Oct 28: Shepherd

Zone Chairperson(s) Corner: Region 2 Zone 1

(Coleman, Harrison, Midland, Mt. Pleasant, Shepherd, & Weidman)

Hello Fellow Lions:

District Team

District Governor:

Jeff Schafer (Coleman)
(812) 325-3130
jeff.schafer1@comcast.net

1st Vice District Governor:

Vacant

2nd Vice District Governor:

Vacant

Cabinet Secretary:

Donna Vangessel (White Cloud)
walmartredhead@yahoo.com
813-713-4909

Cabinet Treasurer:

Jaymie Ricksgers (Weidman)
(805) 551-0248
jaymie.ricksgers@gmail.com

Global Membership Chair:

Jeff Morse (Lake Ann)
(231) 620-5333
Inlandfirechief@gmail.com

Global Leadership Chair:

Vacant

Global Service Chair:

Steve Adsmond (Fremont)
(231) 740-7076
adsmond@comcast.net

LCIF Chair:

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

Newsletter Editor:

Paula Rigling (Arcadia)
(512) 791-4701
district11E1Newsletter@gmail.com

I am just back from my first meeting with my zone I want to thank the club members that were there for their attendance. It was exciting, we had 100% representation from clubs within our zone along with District Governor Jeff Schafer. At this meeting I provided handouts about the Special Olympics Opening Eyes Vision Screening Program which occurs at Central Michigan University, not only in Lions District 11 E-1 but in our Zone and encouraged my Clubs to become more active in this very worthwhile service project. Additional handouts included: a printout of the State and District Programs, Leadership Institute Training at the MacMullen Conference Center in Roscommon, and a list of Acronym descriptions. These handouts can be copied and provided to club members to assist with their better understanding of club functions.

Highlight of the meeting was a presentation by District Governor Jeff about monetary support for Lions to attend training at the Leadership Institute. There are funds available from the District to assist with one third of the admission fees for Lions to attend leadership training on November 7-9, 2025. DG Jeff encouraged clubs to cover one third, and the attending Lion the remaining amount or if the club has funds available to pay all the remaining amount. This support would be in the form of a reimbursement as it would take time to process the check.

In addition, DG Jeff provided a short talk on the District and Club Community Impact Grants (DCG) which are available through Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF). He explained that when clubs donate to LCIF, they should choose the "Empowering Service Fund" for the area of giving. This fund covers both the "disaster relief fund" area of giving along with all the other areas that LCIF provides relief. In addition, when clubs give to the "Empowering Service Fund" it allows eligible clubs and districts to utilize some of their donations to LCIF to apply for a grant to support local humanitarian projects. Our district has earned additional credits during the 2024-25 fiscal year, and our balance is \$5,014.23. He stated that more information on how to apply for these grants will be coming out in the September 2025 District newsletter in addition to an email will be sent to Club Presidents.

During the meal break our Zone's past chairperson Diane Fleming reported on a Service Project that occurred at the August Council of Governor's meeting at the Comfort Inn in Mt. Pleasant. For that meeting a request had went out to obtain clothing and personal items for the Mt. Pleasant R.I.S.E. Advocacy, Inc. which deals with domestic violence and sexual assault. When she had gone to pick up the items she was overwhelmed by the response that had come in from all over the State. Diane went on to say that it took 3 trucks and a car eight trips to move the items to the R.I.S.E. storage facility. What a statement of how Lions care about helping other people.

Once the meeting officially resumed the clubs provided a description of their unique Service and/or Fund-Raising Projects. More on these in latter newsletters.

Lion Chuck Dinsmore

Saylor & Avi's Corner:

My puppy raisers, DG Jeff and PDG Sheryl picked up their new Future Leader Dog puppy, Avi on Wednesday, August 20th. She is a 7-month-old yellow female Lab (white with some shades of yellow, but AKC calls them yellow since there are only three colors for Labrador



Retrievers: Black, Chocolate, and Yellow). She is a pass a-long puppy that was raised at the Chippewa Correctional Facility in the Upper Peninsula. Most of you probably won't see me again since my return date is Sunday, September 14 and I'll go into quarantine on Monday, September 1 (Labor Day). I've had a great time visiting the great Lions Club throughout the District and meeting many of you while traveling with my puppy raisers. Wish me luck on my next phase of life and hopefully I'll make it through and someday be a true Guide Dog! Until we meet again, FLD Saylor signing off -- Woof Woof!

Answering the Call to Lead in District 11-E1

Every Lion has a story of why they joined this great organization. For some, it began with a desire to serve their community. For others, it was the encouragement of a friend who said, “*You’d make a great Lion.*” Over time, those small moments of service grow into something bigger, something that changes lives, including our own.

Now, District 11-E1 is inviting you to take the next step in your Lions journey.

We have several **leadership opportunities waiting to be filled**:

- **First Vice District Governor**
- **Zone Chair (Baldwin, Barryton, Big Rapids, Chippewa Lake-Mecosta, Evart, Luther, & Remus Clubs)**
- **Global Leadership Team (GLT) Coordinator**
- **Eversight Michigan Chair**

These roles are more than positions on a chart; they are chances to inspire, to guide, and to help our district flourish. Leadership in Lions isn’t about having all the answers. It’s about showing up with a servant’s heart, a willingness to learn, and the courage to say, “*Yes, I will help lead the way.*”

Why You?

Perhaps you’ve already been quietly mentoring others in your club. Maybe you’ve felt a nudge to do more, to reach beyond your community and help strengthen the work of Lions across our district. Stepping into leadership will not only make an impact on others, it will also grow your own confidence, skills, and vision.

The Heart of Service

Positions like **First Vice District Governor**, **Zone Chair** or **GLT Coordinator** aren’t about titles, they’re about connecting Lions, empowering service, and ensuring that every club feels supported. Serving as **Eversight Michigan Chair** means carrying forward the life-changing mission of sight and vision, bringing hope where it’s needed most.

Testimonial Spotlight

“When I first agreed to serve as a Zone Chair, I wasn’t sure I was ready. But I quickly discovered that leadership in Lions isn’t about being perfect, it’s about being willing. I grew more than I ever expected, and the friendships I built along the way will last a lifetime.”

— A District 11-E1 Lion Leader

The Invitation

If you’ve been waiting for a sign, consider this your invitation. District 11-E1 needs passionate leaders to step forward. And perhaps, just perhaps, it’s your turn to answer the call.

Interested? Let’s talk.

Contact: Lion **Jeff Schafer**, DG 11-E1

812-325-3130

Jeff.schafer1@comcast.net

Together, let’s build a stronger tomorrow for Lions and for the communities we serve



**Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION**

District and Club Community Impact Grant Program

District and Club Community Impact Grants (DCG) empower Lions to support humanitarian activities in their communities. Funded by contributions from clubs and districts to LCIF, these grants incentivize Lions' donations and service projects that align with the foundation's key areas of focus. Under the program, 15% of qualifying unrestricted donations are set aside for DCGs, with all projects requiring LCIF approval. This initiative is available to both districts and clubs. Only donations to the Empowering Service Fund are eligible for DCG funding.

DCG Grant examples include supporting humanitarian projects that enhance community welfare and showcase Lions' impact; Fund health initiatives, such as wellness programs; and develop community engagement activities that foster collaboration between Lions and local organizations. DCG funds can be used to support specific humanitarian activities and highlight Lions in communities they serve. Grant funds are not eligible to pay membership dues or establish a reserve fund. The District and Club Community Impact Grant program is a new program, and though possible scenarios have been anticipated, LCIF may update criteria as additional scenarios are proposed.

Grant applicants must submit their proposal using the LCIF District and Club Community Impact Grant application form. Applications should be submitted to LCIF at minimum 90 days prior to project commencement to allow adequate processing time.

Projects receiving DCG funding shall be clearly identified as being made possible by Lions and LCIF through appropriate recognition, signs, and public relations activities. Upon project completion, grant recipients are responsible for submission of a report detailing project results and use of DCG grant funds. Projects should be completed within one (1) year of approval by LCIF.

For the current Lion Year (2025-2026) District 11-E1 has \$5,014.23 in their DCG grant fund. To learn more about this new grant program attend the upcoming Fall Conference scheduled on Saturday, September 27 at the Luther Lions Hall.

-PDG Sheryl Schafer, LCIF Coordinator, District 11-E1



Peace Poster Contest ***Due By November 14, 2025***

It's hard to believe that September is already here and before you know it the deadline for the Peace Poster contest will be upon us (November 14). Please send your Peace Poster submissions to DG Jeff Schafer (975 Outback Ridge, Midland, MI) for selection by our judging committee.

Each club participating in the Peace Poster contest should collect their submissions and select a winner by any means the club determines. Your winning entry should be mailed to DG Jeff home for District judging by Friday, November 14. Please mail all winning posters in a mailing tube to DG Jeff Schafer address: 975 Outback Ridge, Midland, MI 48640. At the time of the mailing, please text me at 812-325-7762 so I will know to watch for it. If you prefer to deliver it to me personally, this can be arranged also by calling or texting me at 812-325-7762. Make sure your winning artist is identified on the back of the winning poster.

The District Judges will decide on the District winner and forward it to the next level of judging by the Multiple District Council Chair by December 5. Our District winner will be announced at the time of selection by way of email to Club Presidents, Secretaries, and District Cabinet members.

-PDG Sheryl Schafer, Cell/Text: 812-325-7762 or email: sheryl.schafer1@comcast.net

**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

Visit our facebook page.

Prayer List:

District 11-E1 Lions

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Lions11E1>

PDG Jim & Peggy Walls
PDG Sheryl Schafer

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!**District 11-E1 Fall Conference****Luther Lion's Hall**

Saturday, September 27 from 9am-3pm
1003 N State Rd., Luther, MI

More details included in this Newsletter

**Welcome New Members!**

Club	Member	Sponsor
Empire	Gerry Shiffman	John Einodshofer
Greenville	Christian Rasmussen	Dan Eagles
Lakeview	Makayla Knopf	Rosemary Witt

For the month of August we added 3 new members as of August 28! Overall, we have added 14 new members & 13 dropped members, gain of +1.

Congratulations to everyone that has added new members this month. Keep up the good work and remember **"Just Ask One!"**



Global Leadership Team (GLT) Corner:



Growing Through Leadership: Investing in Our Lions

Leadership is not a position — it's a mindset of service, growth, and courage. As Lions, we know that strong leadership is what empowers our clubs to make lasting impacts in our communities. Whether you've been a Lion for one year or thirty, there is always room to grow and lead in new ways.

That's why I'm excited to share an incredible opportunity coming this fall:

The Lions of Michigan Leadership Institute will be held **November 7–9, 2025**, at the beautiful **R.A. MacMullan Center** on Higgins Lake.

This weekend retreat is designed to build confidence, sharpen skills, and inspire new ways to lead — whether in your club, your district, or your community. Participants will explore topics like team building, goal setting, effective communication, and the heart of servant leadership. And equally important — you'll build lifelong friendships with fellow Lions from across Michigan who share your passion for service.

Two events being offered on the same day: Leadership Institute and Emerging Lions Leadership Institute (ELLI). See the two-page flyer included in this newsletter!

Whether you're a new member ready to take the next step or a seasoned Lion looking to refresh your leadership toolkit, this institute is for you.

Why attend?

- You'll leave energized and equipped to lead with purpose
- You'll gain tools to support your club's growth and success
- You'll enjoy fellowship and networking in a beautiful setting

Leadership isn't about knowing everything — it's about being willing to learn, listen, and step forward when needed. The Leadership Institute is a chance to do just that.

If you're interested in attending or would like to nominate someone from your club, please reach out to me. Let's continue building leaders who inspire others and strengthen our great organization.

Together, let's grow in leadership — and in service.

Below is the link to the Lions of Michigan Leadership Institute to register to attend:

<https://www.lionsofmi.com/index.php/leadership-institute/leadership-institute-2025-registration>

We are excited to share that the **District will reimburse up to \$100** for members who wish to attend the Lions of Michigan Leadership Forum, scheduled for November 7-9, 2025 at the R.A. MacMullen Center. We're hoping that each Lions Club will also contribute \$100 towards their members attending the Forum, and that would leave the member attending the Forum to only pay \$100-\$150, depending on their room occupancy.

This is a great opportunity to strengthen leadership skills, connect with fellow Lions, and bring new ideas back to our clubs. Don't miss it!

Questions? Contact DG Jeff Schafer, 812-325-3130 or jeff.schafer1@comcast.net

Another Save the Date!

2nd District 11-E1 Town Hall Meeting

Onkama Lion's Den

Saturday, October 18 from 9am-3pm
Manistee County Fairgrounds, 7587 1st St., Onkama, MI

More details to be included in the October 2025 District 11-E1 Newsletter



Global Service Team (GST) Corner:

Cabinet Meeting Service Project: Collect Teacher Supplies for three Teachers

Thank you for making our District 11-E1 August Cabinet meeting service project a great success by donating supplies needed in the classroom. One teacher told me their budget for their classroom was \$100 for the year. Almost all teachers end up buying way more than this for their needed classroom supplies. Each teacher submitted a wish list and District 11-E1 Lions responded generously. Thank you to each Lion and Lions Clubs who gave generously!

Photos show the cabinet meeting attendees posing with the collected supplies and then the three additional photos are the teachers when they received their supplies. Two first grade teachers, one from White Cloud Public Schools, Stephanie Karns and one from Beal City Public Schools, Karen Zileski as well as a high school teacher from Beal City High School, Joe Clark were contacted. Our contributions reached close to 170 kids because the high school teacher alone sees 120 students each school day.

For those clubs who participated, the next step is to log this service project in the Lions Portal as a club service project. Any member can make the report, but it takes a club secretary, president or club service chair to complete the report. I will be glad to do this if any of you cannot. The place is a check box shown with the photo that shows a report example and a cursor in the upper right corner that points to 'Report Complete'. This box needs to be checked to complete and make the report official.

Please call me or District Administrator Peggy Frank or DG Jeff who both have trained me. Any of us three will be glad to help you and you are not alone if you find this difficult the first time.

-Lion Steve Adsmond, GST Coordinator, District 11-E1



Exciting Sneak Peak District 11-E1 District Convention Service Project

District 11-E1 is going to have two exciting service projects to choose from at our District Convention. The first one is a Bed Build at Sleep In Heavenly Peace, Lake City on Friday afternoon and also Blanket Tying for Sleep In Heavenly Peace at our convention location, the Evergreen Resort, during the same Friday timeslot for anyone that would like to participate. We also will do blanket tying Friday evening for those arriving later.

Sleep In Heavenly Peace, 1551 S. Money 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 staining, so the beds will be ready for delivery when we are done.



**NO KID SLEEPS
ON THE FLOOR
IN OUR TOWN!.**

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 15 Lions or Lion Clubs in our District 11-E1 who will sponsor a bed for \$250. From our August cabinet meeting we received three bed sponsors: Audible Hearing – Lions Peggy and Mark Frank, Lion Chuck and Barb Dinsmore, and Lions Steve and Brenda Adsmond. 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.

We will sign up for participation on a first-come basis. Please send your bed sponsorship commitment, blanket sponsorship, and reservation for participation in either the bed build or blanket tying to Service Chair Steve Adsmond, 411 E. Maple St., Fremont MI, 49412. Please make checks payable to Lions District 11-E1. Email adsmond@comcast.net with Subject: LIONS BED BUILD.

-Lion Steve Adsmond, GST Coordinator, District 11-E1

**** 14 out of 35 clubs have
reported a service project
in the LCI portal (40%)!
Great Job Everyone!**

IPDG Tom Mac Naughton's Appreciation Dinner

Saturday, September 20 at the Cedar-Maple City Lions Club

100 E Bellinger Rd., Maple City, MI 49664

12:30pm Meet & Greet

1:00pm Dinner

2:00pm Awards Presentation

**Menu: Choice of pulled pork entrée, Bolognese,
and a pasta/red sauce option for vegetarians**

Cost: \$25 /person. RSVP by September 6th to lionscmc@yahoo.com



Lead to Serve,
Serve to Lead with
International President
A.P. Singh

Dear Lions,

Whether you are a new Lion or have been a member for years, you are here because someone invited you to join. To help us grow our clubs and our service — and reach our *MISSION 1.5* goals — now it is your turn to invite someone else and share the joy that service brings.

Growth is essential for us to be able to continue to improve the service that Lions are known for around the world. We are a people-driven organization where service is at the heart of everything we do — and we need dedicated Lions like you to help us make an even greater impact together.

So invite friends and neighbors who have the heart to serve. Welcome diverse individuals and groups who will offer us fresh perspectives and energy. This is how we will keep our organization growing and thriving.

Growth benefits us all — our clubs, our communities and the people we serve. I look forward to seeing your club and your service grow.

Together we serve. **-A.P. Singh, International President**

71% District Governor Official Visits Have Been Scheduled And 26% Have Been COMPLETED!

Club Presidents & Secretaries are asked to contact DG Jeff Schafer to schedule their official visit with him. In requesting the visit, please identify what subject you would like him to discuss: Lions Club International news, MD-11 & District 11-E1 news, Leader Dogs for the Blind, or Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF). He will be happy to discuss any of these or just attend the meeting and observe. In addition, please note if a service dog in training is NOT welcome. He plans to bring his Future Leader Dog puppy with him to all meetings for social exposure and training.

As of the end of August we have scheduled 25 out of 35 clubs for their official DG visit with 8 clubs completed, 3 clubs scheduled for September and another 9 for October. Don't wait, give DG Jeff a call/text or email to schedule your visit!

DG Jeff Schafer, call/text 812-325-3130, email: jeff.schafer1@comcast.net





LEADER DOGS
FOR THE BLIND

Leader Dogs for the Blind Chairperson: Lion Ken Theobald (Big Rapids Lions Club)

I would like to highlight two things for Leader Dog this month. Recently Leader Dogs hosted 122 of the Lions District First Vice District Governors in Rochester. This was a wonderful three-day event with blindfold walks to experience what it is like to use a guide dog as well as blindfolded white cane opportunities. They also held a Dinner in the Dark event. Overall, it was a fantastic opportunity for these Lions to gain a better insight of what it is like to require the services provided by Leader Dogs for the Blind.

They also have two Lion advocates that currently have guide dogs speak. Lion Joey Johnson and Lion Walker Jones. You will truly be amazed if you take a minute to check these two guys out on Facebook or Instagram.

The second item to highlight is an upcoming fundraiser event for Leader Dogs for the Blind. Ferris State University and the Michigan College of Optometry is hosting their annual fundraiser for Leader Dogs for the Blind on October 17, 2025. There is a chance that FSU might be able to provide a matching grant for the money raised at this event. We are still working out the details. If your club makes an annual donation to Leader Dogs, please consider presenting your check at this event to qualify for this potential match. Your support could have twice the impact. If you would like to participate in this event but are unable to attend, please contact Lion Ken Theobald at (231) 387-3622. Last year District 11-0E1 gave a total of \$22,277 to Leader Dog and all of MD-11 (Lions of Michigan) gave a total of \$433,844.



Photo on the left. The Lions are blindfolded at Dinner in the Dark. This event is designed to give them a glimpse of the challenges that people who are blind face every day. Eating completely blind is not as easy as you might think!



Above Photo. This is a picture of the Big Rapids club providing their check to Leader Dogs at last year's FSU fundraiser event.

Anchored in Service



Lighting the Way Forward

District 11-E1's Annual Fall Conference & Parade of Checks

Anchored in Service



Lighting the Way Forward

Where:

**Luther Lions Hall
1003 N State Rd.
Luther, MI 49656**

Door Prizes & 50/50

Date:

**September 27, 2025
10am-3pm**

Schedule of Events

- 9:30-10:00am Registration/Coffee & Fellowship
- 10:00am Lions Portal/Service Activity (Portal Help Desk)
- 11:00am Using LionsMap2Grow, Serve2Grow & Market2Grow
- 12:00pm Lunch
- 1:00pm Marketing (Lion Doug Klein, MD-11 Marketing Chair)
- 2:00pm Parade of Checks
- 3:00pm Adjourn

Menu:

**Turkey Sandwich, mashed potatoes, salad, desserts & a beverage
Cost: \$15**

Lunch Reservation -- Deadline September 22

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Club: _____ Email: _____

Lunch: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Email to DG Jeff Schafer at jeff.schafer1@comcast.net or call/text: 812-325-3130



Kid's Clothing Drive

Gaylord K-8 Schools

Hosted by the Lions of District 11-E1, DG Jeff Schafer

This October, we are collecting *new or gently used clothing* to support children in the Gaylord, Michigan School System (Grades K-8).

Needed items include:

- Comfortable tops
- Durable bottoms, sweaters, hoodies
- Leggings for girls
- Sweatpants/joggers for boys
- Unisex socks & shirts
- Closed-toe sneakers
- Weather-appropriate items: snow boots, snow pants, gloves, and hats

Your donation will help keep local kids warm, comfortable, and ready to learn!

 975 Outback Ridge, Midland, MI

Deadline: September 27, 2025

Items can also be brought to the Fall Conference

LIONS OF MICHIGAN

2025 Lions Leadership Events

Two training opportunities. one location

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The Michigan Lions Leadership Institute is a highly regarded leadership skills development program for Lions who are ready to serve at a club, district or multiple district level

Introducing Emerging Lions Institute

This Program is designed to prepare Lions for leadership positions at the club level who have not yet obtained the level of club president.

EVENT INFORMATION

Dates **November 7-9, 2025**

Location **R. A. MacMullan Center
104 Conservation Drive
Roscommon, MI 48653**

Questions? Email pdg10jen@hotmail.com
Phone (906) 399-8214



LIONS OF MICHIGAN
Leadership Institute

More Information!

Lions of Michigan Leadership Institute

There is a \$300 fee. This includes registration, course materials, two nights of lodging, and six meals. Arrival Friday morning, November 7, 2025. Registration between 10:30 and 11:30 followed by lunch.

Classes actively involve participants in the learning process and enable them to experience the concepts presented. The skills acquired can be used not only in Lions, but also at work and in everyday life.

When participants aren't in class, they make new friends, network, and exchange ideas from across the region.

Here's a sampling of classes:

Team building	Conflict resolution
Managing change	Leadership
Presentation skills	Effective listening
Action plans and goal setting	

Shirts and Totes are available for purchase



Application form Lions Leadership Institutes



Deadline: **October 10, 2025**

Send completed form and payment to:
Lions Leadership Institute
5730 Executive Drive, Lansing, MI 48911

Applicant information

First name _____

Last name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Phone _____

E mail _____

Club name _____

District _____ # years in Lions _____

Highest Lions office held _____

Have you previously attended a Michigan Lions Leadership Institute? yes ____ no ____

Which Institute do you plan to attend (check one)

Leadership _____ Emerging Lions _____

Payment Information

Make checks payable to Michigan Lions Leadership Institute

Enclosed is my check for \$350
for Single Occupancy

Handcap
Room
availability is
limited

Enclosed is my check for \$300
Double Occupancy

Room with _____

Pay by credit card online:

Visit the Lions of Michigan Website at
www.lionsofmi.com
Click on Leadership Institute

Signature _____

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS OCTOBER 10, 2025

A CANCELLATION FEE OF \$150.00 WILL APPLY AFTER
OCTOBER 17, 2025



1st Annual
LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP
BUSTING CLAYS
FOR BEAR LAKE FUNDRAISER

BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROVIDED

2025
SATURDAY SEPT 06
FENTON SPORTSMAN CLUB
1140 BUTCHER RD.
FENTON, MI

8:00AM REGISTRATION
9:00AM START

Test your skills in friendly competition while supporting our mission to provide transformative outdoor experiences for individuals of all abilities.

REGISTRATION FEE
\$75
PER PERSON
LOCK & LOAD FOR A DAY OF PRECISION & THRILLS!

Secure your spot by visiting:
BEARLAKECAMP.ORG
Limited slots available, so don't miss your chance to be part of this shooting extravaganza!

ONLY MEALS: \$20

Gun Raffle & Squares

For More Information: Kurt Stromlund
stromlund@comcast.net 810-923-4252



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

\$100 SHOOTING STATION SPONSOR

- Your business name displayed at one of the shooting stations
- Recognition on event materials and during announcements

\$325 TABLE/CHAIR SPONSOR

- 1 Free Shooter
- Recognition on event materials and during announcements

\$500 BREAKFAST SPONSOR

- 2 Free Shooters
- Your business name prominently displayed during breakfast
- Recognition on event materials and during announcements
- Special shout-out at the start of the day

\$500 LUNCH SPONSOR

- 2 Free Shooters
- Your business name prominently displayed during lunch
- Recognition on event materials and during announcements
- Special shout-out before awards ceremony

\$1000 TENT SPONSOR

- Four Free Shooters
- Recognition on event materials and during announcements
- Special shout-out before awards ceremony

Background Checks: A Must for KidSight Volunteers in District 11-E1

Protecting Our Children, Our Program, and Our Lions

In District 11-E1, our KidSight teams are doing incredible work—screening hundreds of young children each year for vision problems that could otherwise go undetected. Whether we're at a preschool, daycare, Head Start program, or community event, we are trusted to serve the most vulnerable members of our community. With that trust comes responsibility.

Why Background Checks Matter

All Lions involved in KidSight activities, especially those working directly with children—are required to complete a background check. This isn't just a district policy; it's a best practice that reinforces the credibility of our program and demonstrates our unwavering commitment to child safety.

Protecting the Children We Serve

Families and educators welcome us into their spaces because they trust the Lions. A background check confirms that each volunteer is suitable for working around children, helping parents and caregivers feel confident about the care and professionalism of our team.

Preserving Our Reputation

Lions of District 11-E1 have built a strong and respected presence throughout west-central and northern Michigan. Maintaining that reputation requires us to be proactive about safety. A single oversight could put our partnerships—and the future of the program—at risk.

Supporting Our Volunteers

Background checks also offer protection for our volunteers. When everyone has been properly vetted, it creates a safer, more secure environment for our teams. It also eliminates any hesitation from the schools and childcare centers that welcome us in.

Getting It Done Is Easy

If you're a KidSight screener, scheduler, or volunteer who enters facilities where children are present, please ensure your background check is up to date. It's a small step that makes a big impact—and it's essential to keeping our mission strong and sustainable.

If you're unsure of your background check status or need help with the process, reach out to:

Lion Jim Patterson, District 11-E1 KidSight Coordinator

✉ pattersonjv@comcast.net

📞 231-250-0925

Let's keep KidSight safe, trusted, and growing in District 11-E1—one vision screening at a time.

Lions Bear Lake Camp September News

Steve Glazier

District 11E1 Chairperson

Lions Bear Lake Camp is owned and operated by Lions as a 501C-3 Non-Profit Corporation. The Camp opened its doors in July, 2000, starting with only 53 campers our first year, we have since been able to service more than 10,000 campers and visitors. We are financially supported by the Lions, and Leos, as well as Foundation grants and individual donors throughout Michigan. Lions Bear Lake Camp's Mission is to develop leadership skills, build confidence, and to provide premier outdoor educational and recreational experiences year-round to all persons, regardless of ability.

Hi Fellow Lions

Bear Lake kids camp is extremely busy this summer with the influx of additional Camp attendees this year so Camp updates have been limited. Two years ago, they had 785 kids attending camp, last year they had 1079 kids and this summer they are projecting 1500 kids over 11 weeks compared to traditional 8 weeks previously. Through the end of July, they had about 1000 kids attending so far this year.

Before you start thinking WOW! We're going to need to schedule a couple more pancake breakfasts, pasty, BBQ's or fish dinners to help cover that number of kids. To clarify not all attending 1500 kids though are financially supported by Lions. Only Visually impaired and Hard of Hearing camps are funded by Lions at a nominal cost of \$40 per camper with Lions picking up the balance per camper. The "majority" of the Kids Summer Camp attendees "are not" sponsored or financially supported by Lions such as Autism, Foster Care, Grievance Loss, Cancer, and many others. These are typically contracted to other groups and organizations at negotiated rates based on a variety of factors and needs. Usually, these camps do not require as many Bear Lake Camp staff members as they often bring their own counselors, chaperons, nurses, coordinators and other required supporting assistance.

But remember, it is costly to run a camp year-round, and our donations help the Bear Lake facility replace aging equipment, improve safety measures and ensure that the facilities remain welcoming for all and again most importantly "help support, fund and make affordable Summer Camp for Visually Impaired and Hard of Hearing kids". So please, consider this when budgeting your District 11E1 donations.

I want to emphasize the overwhelming interest from kids who want to attend this camp which speaks volumes of the quality of the programs offered and the professionalism of the staff administering them.

Several Lion Clubs and individuals have volunteered their time to assist at different times during this busy Kids Summer Camp including, Andrea daughter of "Big Al Kassin," who was instrumental in founding Bear Lake Camp in 1982. I've had the opportunity to meet and work on camp projects with Andrea and listen to her stories of growing up at the camp as a very small child when it wasn't landscaped and was comprised of tall weeds, trees, shrubs and only a couple older buildings. Al convinced a military base (likely Camp Grayling Military base as Andrea only remembered it was military) to help move dirt, build roads and assist in developing the property grounds to what it is today

A big 'Thank You' to Lapeer County Community Foundation for their incredible \$10,000 grant in support of camperships and programming at lions bear lake camp. This gift reaches far beyond dollars, it opens doors for children to discover new abilities, make lasting friendships, and create memories they will carry for a lifetime. Grants like this make it possible for us to welcome every camper who dreams of being at Bear Lake Camp regardless of their circumstances.

UPCOMING FUND-RAISING EVENTS

First annual Clay Shoot Sept 6th

Lions of Michigan weekend Sept 26th and 27th **CANCELLED** see below

Bear Lake Ultra Marathon Oct 4th (More info to come)

Bear Lake Ice Plunge Feb 7th which I plan on doing again so expect to hear more about this!!!! (Last year they raised \$20,000 at this event Thanks in part to the generosity of Individuals and Clubs in 11E1 who helped support this fundraiser.) Who wants to join me in the plunge??

Go to bearlakecamp.org for more information about these events and additional updates on all that is happening at the camp. Also, while at the website be sure to sign up for the free Lions Bear Lake Camp Monthly Newsletter.

I am sorry to have to report the following message was received Tuesday 08/26/2025 from the Bear Lake Camp office.

We want to share that the Lions of Michigan Weekend, originally scheduled for September 26-27, 2025, has been canceled this year.

This weekend is always a special time at Lions Bear Lake Camp, where Lions from across Michigan gather to connect, celebrate service, and show support for the place that has touched so many lives. While it's hard not to welcome everyone to camp this fall, the heart of what we do here continues every single day, giving children and families a place to grow, learn, and belong.

We look forward to the next time we can gather together at Bear Lake and share the joy this camp brings to so many.



**LIONS OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION—2026 GROUP CRUISE
ROYAL CARIBBEAN - SYMPHONY OF THE SEAS
MARCH 1, 2026 - 7-NIGHTS - ROUNDTrip MIAMI, FL**

2 People - Price Includes \$100 Onboard Credit Per Cabin

4V - Interior Cabin: \$2,145.20

\$1,486.00 + \$400.20 Taxes/Fees + \$259.00 Gratuity - Size: 149 square feet

2S - Central Park View Interior Cabin - \$2,629.20

\$1,970.00 + \$400.20 Taxes/Fees + \$259.00 Gratuity - Size: 191 square feet

4D - Ocean View Balcony Cabin: \$3,413.20

\$2,754.00 + \$400.20 Taxes/Fees + \$259.00 Gratuity - Size: 182 square feet + balcony



☐ I would like a quote for a _____ Cabin ☐ I would like a 4V Interior Cabin

☐ I would like a 2S Interior Cabin ☐ I would like a 4D Ocean View Balcony Cabin

Cabin Deposit - \$250 Per Person: ___ Check ___ Credit/Debit Card ___ Pay Pal (info@lmsf.net)

Credit/Debit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVV Code: _____ Zip Code: _____

Signature: _____

Legal Name - Guest 1: _____ Birth Date: _____

Legal Name - Guest 2: _____ Birth Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

5730 Executive Drive - Lansing, Michigan 48911 - 517-887-6640 - 517-887-6642 (Fax) - info@lmsf.net

Help children like Oliver see life's simplest beauties



Oliver Chavez was born with impaired vision. For his whole life, Oliver struggled to make sense of the world around him. But thanks to the incredible gift of corneal donation, Oliver can now embrace life's simplest beauties.

His story is a testament to the profound impact of the gift of sight.

Right now, children and adults around the world are still waiting for this same life-changing opportunity. Your Club's support helps ensure that Eversight can continue making these moments possible, allowing more people like Oliver to see the beauty of everyday life.

Will your Club continue the legacy set forth by Helen Keller 100 years ago for the Lions to be "Knights for the Blind" by [making a gift](#) to Eversight today?

Thank you for your support. Please don't hesitate to reach out if Eversight can be of service to you at (734) 780-2616 or philanthropy@eversightvision.org. To honor our shared mission, Eversight recognizes Lions Clubs who give more than \$250 in unique ways each year. Contact us to learn more about our Sight Leaders program.





Past Governor's Appreciation Dinner

Hosted by Fmr DG Thomas MacNaughton

Saturday, Sept 20th at the C-MC Lions Club, 100 E. Bellinger Rd, Maple City 49664

12:30 Meet and greet

1:00 Dinner

2:00 Awards Presentation

Menu features a choice of pulled pork entree, Bolognese, and a pasta and red sauce option for vegetarians.

\$25.00 per person. RSVP by Sept 6th to
cmclions@yahoo.com

All District 11-E1 Lions welcome!



PAWS With A Cause

PAWS With A Cause has recently updated their Logo. They revealed the new Logo with a celebration at the PAWS headquarters on August 2, 2025. At that time, any PAWS "team" that was present, turned in their old "cap"es" and each dog received a new "cape" with the new Logo featured. We were not able to attend, but our field rep was going, and she picked up Cowboy's old cape and delivered the new cape a few days later. All others would receive the new cape for their PAWS dog in the mail with a return envelope to return the old cape.

Lion Mike Hoy and Cowboy have been a "team" for nearly 5 years now. Their anniversary will be on December 15, 2025. Cowboy just turned seven in August! Every two years the "team" goes through a recertification process which keeps their skills up. Lion Mike and Cowboy will be working on their recertification this Fall. Cowboy learned a new skill this year and performs it very well. Lion Mike needs to use a walker in the house and if it gets pushed too far out of reach, Cowboy can pull it closer using a special strap attached to the walker.

Lions Tina Hoy, Mike Hoy and Cowboy are still available to come to your club for a presentation about **PAWS With a Cause**, which is a District 11E1 Project. We have been asked to continue as Co-chairs.

Our Contact information: hoym@charter.net or 989-832-8354



Coleman Lions Club CHARTER NIGHT PARTY

Dinner & Auction

Friday, October 10, 2025

Unforgettable Events

5205 W Shaffer Rd, Coleman, MI

Doors open and games begin at 5:30pm

Dinner at 7:00pm Tickets: \$20.00

WIN:

- 22 Rifle
- Meat Package & Cooler
- Quilt
- Wood Art by Dan Gibbons
- And more...

Dinner Catered By:

Coleman Culinary School
Roasted Chicken & Pork
Loins, Mashed Potatoes,
Coleslaw, Pasta Salad, 3-
Bean Salad, Rolls,
Lemonade, Iced Tea and
Water



GAMES
DRAWINGS
FIFTY-FIFTY



Tickets may be
purchased at
CW Gordon
Sales & Service
or from any
Coleman
Lions Club
member.

No Ticket Sales After
October 5, 2025

Purchase at CW Gordon Sales & Service or
Email Lions Billie Jo Parker at
mimiparker68@gmail.com to reserve.
Checks can be mailed to: Coleman Lions Club,
PO Box 163, Coleman, MI 48618
Reserve a table with purchase of 8 tickets.



LUTHER LIONS CLUB

1003 State rd. Luther MI 49656
231-388-2467

Saturday September 20, 2025

Doors open 5:00pm
Early-birds start 5:30pm
Regular & Prize Bingo starts 6:00pm

Food & non-alcoholic Beverages available

Our Lions Bingos are governed by the State of Michigan.
Earlybird and Regular Bingo pay-out is based on a 50/50 split.
The more people who play the more each bingo wins.

Bring your friends & win more!

Lic.#V103756

Luther Lions Club

Ride for Charities "SCRAMBLE"

with Prizes
following dinner



Saturday October 11th

\$25 per rider (cash/checks only). Accepting EARLY REGISTRATION at Logggers Landing Saturday October 4th from 10am-2pm. DAY OF EVENT REGISTRATION will be from 9am-10am at your choice of Club 37 or The Luther Lions Club. Staging & parking will be available at both Club 37 (3803 M-37, Baldwin) or The Luther Lions Club (1003 State Rd Luther). After registration (10am) SCRAMBLE IN ANY ORDER YOU CHOOSE!

STOPS

(establishments opening hours listed)

Logger's Landing, Luther 8am
J's Elks Tavern, Irons -7am
Club 37, Baldwin -11am
Amvets, Baldwin - noon
Luther Lions Club - 9am

ACTIVITIES

Cash Prizes
Scavenger Hunt
50/50 Raffle
Poker Hand
Dinner 5pm at Luther Lions
(Donated by Logggers Landing)

Proceeds will be distributed to charities including...
Feed America, Project Kid Sight, Leader Dogs for the Blind, Disaster relief, Michigan All State youth Band, Lions Bear Youth Camp, Lions Club International Fund.

For more information call Linda at #503-799-3105 or
leave a message at the Lions Club #231-388-2467 and we will get back to you ASAP.

Luther Lions Club

1003 State Rd
Luther MI 49656
231-388-2467



Taco Bar & AUCTION!

Saturday October 18th



Dinner 6pm
with fundraising
Auction starting at 7pm

LUTHER  LIONS

Craft and Bake Sale!



Lunch & Beverages
Available

Door Prizes

10:00AM - 4:00PM
Saturday NOV. 8th

Fall Items, household items, customized items, jewelry, knitted and crochet items, metal and wood work items, food, candy & baked goods, and MANY, MANY MORE OF YOUR FAVORITES!

Luther Lions only accepts cash or checks made out to.....

Luther Lions Club
PO Box44, 1003 State rd
Luther MI 49656
#231-388-2467

Club Chronicles

Arcadia Lions Partner with Local Churches for Migrant Farmworker Donation Drive

The Arcadia Lions Club partnered with the Arcadia Methodist Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, and the Arcadia Community Center to host a month-long donation drive to support migrant farmworkers in our area. Thanks to the generosity of the Arcadia Township community, over 85 workers directly benefited from this effort.

Donations included diapers, blankets, warm clothing, household goods, sleeping bags, furniture, and appliances—all items that help meet the essential needs of families working long hours in the fields.

Each year, more than 500 migrant farmworkers come to Benzie and Manistee counties to harvest crops valued at over \$20 million. Their hard work is vital to our agricultural economy, and the Arcadia Lions are proud to stand alongside community partners in recognizing and supporting their contributions.

This initiative demonstrated the power of collaboration among service organizations, faith communities, and local residents. The Arcadia Lions extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated, sorted, and distributed items to make this project such a success.



Coleman Lions Put “We Serve” Motto into Action

At the recent Coleman **Junior and High School Open House**, the Lions served 150 hot dogs, chips and water to some hungry Junior and Senior students! They very cleverly included a poster outlining all their service projects to help increase awareness of the club!



(l-r) Lions Billie Jo Parker, Katie Huber, & Pam Render

Luther Lions Have a Busy Fall Ahead

Sept 7th is our **ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST!** Come on over and enjoy a great breakfast made with loving hands by our great Breakfast crew. Adults \$12; Kids 6-12 yrs are \$6 and under 6 yrs. are FREE! Hours are 8:30am to 11:00am

Feed America Truck will be in our Luther Lions parking lot on SEPT. 11th. Lineup starts around 3 pm. The food will be given out until gone, and we do not know at this time what we will be getting in the way of food.

Sept. 20th is our famous **Bingo** night. Doors open at 5pm with Early Bird Specials starting at 5:30pm, Regular Bingo starts at 6 pm. Food will be offered for sale that night. So please come on down and join us for a night of fun!

Oct 5th is our next breakfast. Oct.9th is our next Feed America and Oct. 18th is our annual **Lions Club Auction**. The evening starts with a dinner at 6pm and the Auction starting at 7pm. More information to follow next month. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS. You don't want to miss them!

Midland Lions Raise \$8,000 at Chicken Dinner Fundraiser

The Midland Lions Club held its annual **Chicken BBQ dinner** as part of the Midland River Days Celebration on August 2nd. Many Lions took part in making this event a complete success. Club members gathered the Friday before at Trinity Lutheran Church to wash and wrap potatoes, wrap cookies and assemble plasticware packets. On Saturday the chicken was cooked on site at the River Days Celebration near the Tridge in downtown Midland. The meals were assembled and sold at the Lions tent. Out of the 700 meals sold

Out of the 700 meals sold, roughly 300 are taken to our off site pick up for the convenience of our advance ticket buyers.

In addition to the delicious chicken dinners, we also held a **KidSight screening** using the District 11-E1 KidSight trailer. Lion Sandy House screened about 75 children and identified 5-10 children needing Eye Doctor referrals.

The weather was beautiful the chicken and potatoes were delicious - a good time was had by all! Our net profit was about \$8000!



Stanwood Lions Host District Governor at New Member Induction



During DG Jeff Schafer's official visit to the Stanwood Lions Club, he had the honor to induct Mary Engelsman into their club. Photo (left to right): Lion Pat Langworthy (Sponsor), Lion Mary Engelsman (new member), DG Jeff Schafer