



5M-2 Lions' News



April 2025

www.district5M2lions.com

Looking Ahead!



Lion Lisa Kaufmann
District Governor

Hard to believe spring is right around the corner. This is the time of year which brings about change. The flowers begin to bloom, the grass turns green, and everything just seem brighter. If your club has not yet selected your club officers for the 2025-2026 Lions year now is the time to do so.



If your club officers are already selected, please enter them into the Lion Portal. DGE Shermayne has officer training scheduled for May 17th. If your officers are not entered by this date, they will not get credit for attending training. Entering your club officers timely also allows the DG Team to prepare the district directory and set-up the appropriate mailing lists for the next year. We appreciate your clubs assistance in getting this task done timely. If your club would like to conduct an officer installation and have a representative from the DG Team participate, just let us know as we are happy to attend.

As we begin to wind down the year, it is a time to celebrate what you have accomplished over the last year. It can be formal or informal but take the time to review what your club and you as an individual have accomplished. Share with your community the service you have done, where you have donated money and thank them for supporting your efforts through the fundraising you have done. There is much to celebrate indeed!

The zone meetings are coming up. These meetings are open to all club members, not just the club officers. The following zone meetings have been scheduled:



Zone 1: Wednesday, May 14 - Hutchinson

Zone 2: Thursday, April 3 - NYA

Zone 3: Wednesday, April 16 - Winthrop

Zone 4: Tuesday, May 6 - Shakopee

Zone 5: Tuesday, April 22 - Veseli

Zone 6: Thursday, May 8 (date change) - Le Sueur

Zone 7: Thursday, April 10 - Waseca

Zone 8: Tuesday, April 29 - Faribault

Watch your email and the 5M-2 Facebook page for further details on each of these meetings. There will be time for fun, fellowship and service. The DG Team wants to hear from each Lion what has gone well, what you would like to see changed, where have we been successful and how can we be more effective. We will take time during the zone meetings to discuss and share. Bag of Smiles will be our service project. Clubs are encouraged to bring donations or can make a monetary donation. See the flier in this newsletter.

See you this spring at the zone meetings!

Always have the highest bar for yourself. Wake up everyday and no matter how crappy you feel, want to change something for the better. Do something that makes someone happy. Create something that inspires someone. Be someone's light when they are hopeless.

- Dave Grohl



Contact Us:

District Governor Team

DG Lisa Kaufmann	lionlisakaufmann@yahoo.com
DGE Shermayne Cross	shermayne.c@live.com
1st VDGE Chuck Toltzman	circlethay@gmail.com

Submit newsletter articles to: 5m2newslettereditor@gmail.com



We Serve

April showers bring May Flowers...



Lion Shermayne Cross
District Governor Elect

April showers bring May Flowers-oh I hope so, with the lack of snow I'm very tired of looking at the brown world that surrounds us. April always brings me a sense of hope and renewal as nature begins to wake up; grass turns green, the early flowers bloom and the tree buds swell, then burst open revealing their green foliage and colorful flowers. I have truly missed the sunsets over the open water of the lake!

April is a busy month for the Lions of 5M-2. We start with a round of meetings in all eight zones to celebrate one Lion from each as the Outstanding Zone Lion of the Year. I have received nominations from each zone, chosen one (which was not easy) to receive the award, and eagerly awaiting the presentations. Added agenda items include Mini-SWOT and discussions, 2026 Peace Poster, club and DG Team updates. Details for each zone are being finished and invitations, if not already, will soon be sent to all clubs/members. Zone Meetings are not just for the presidents and secretaries but for every Lion in the zone. Can't wait to meet new Lions who are passionate about making a difference in their communities! #lionsrock!

One of DG Lisa's goals this year is to add 205 members to 5M-2. As of today, March 18, we are at 168 so the push

is on to add 37 more members by May 31. We are giving everyone a chance to take part in a raffle if they bring in a new member from April 1 to May 31. Keep asking and explaining what Lions all are about. Remember, we are the Best Kept Secret-that MUST change, and it starts with each one of us today.

Elections of officers should be this month and reported in the Portal under future officers. Officers, mark your calendars for the half-day Workshop on May 17, at Bethany College in Mankato. We will again learn about the foundations in a new format of speed "dating" and get their contact information so you can set up club visits with them. I will share the 2025-26 district and membership goals, LCIF contributions, and Portal issues. The last part of the morning, we will break into our respective officer groups for specialized training.

The Multiple Convention is in Bloomington, April 25-27 at the Hilton Airport. Service of Remembrance on Friday night, Saturday is the General Business meeting, Guiding Lion Training, Seminars, raffle baskets, networking, fellowship and a whole lot of fun. International President Fabricio Oliveira will be our guest speaker at the Saturday night Banquet.

Until next time.....

"Be Kind, Help Others, Have FUN, Make a Difference in Your Community"

Year to Date: 3/25/2025

Membership Metrics

2,309

Total Membership

141

Drop Members in FY

195

Members Added in FY

54

Net Growth in FY

2.34%

Net Growth in FY%

2024-2025
Mission 1.5 Goals

205 New Members

4 Net Growth

1 New Club

District 5M-2 has welcomed **172** new Lions. Lions who have been reinstated or have transferred to our district do not count toward the Mission 1.5 goals.



MISSION 1.5

District 5M-2

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

Once your club selects their officers for the 2025-2026 Lions Year, enter them in the Lion Portal as soon as possible.

This is a good time to confirm email addresses are accurate. Confirm there is an email entered for each of your club members in the Lion Portal.

Lions will only receive the newsletter if there is an accurate email on file.

Hello Fellow Lions!



Chuck Toltzman

1st Vice District Governor Elect

Happy April Lions. This is a month that the weather warms up and the feeling of getting outdoors creep in. We all get excited for flowers and lawn mowing. Sitting on the deck enjoying the warmth while having a beverage and grilling out. Sounds like fun, right?

I have just given you several things that you like to do when the weather turns warm. Then let us enjoy those ideas with our Lions family as well. Plan to get together and helping a family or person that is unable to get around as well as they used to and go Spring clean their yard. It is more fun with a group of Lions. Get some yard signs that say have the Lions message on them. To let others in the neighborhood know who you are. Ask them to join you while having fun with other Lions and then ask them to join your club. People like to be around fun positive people. Maybe afterward have grill out to celebrate your day.

This month is the start of Zone Meetings. Zone meetings are meetings that you get together with other Lions Clubs in your Zone to have some fun and a little business. But mainly it is to have fun. Lions love having fun. You get to meet so many new Lions and you start to see that there is more to Lions than just what is going on in your club. You will start to make new friends that can turn into lifelong friends. They would not be so bad, right? Come and join in

at a Zone Meeting near you. Zone meetings are for all Lions not just the Officers. You should be seeing them in the Newsletter and in your email. You can join right from there.

Now that the weather will not be so brutal plan on your club to visit another club in your Zone. You can make these arrangements while at the Zone meeting with other clubs. That would be easier than trying to find out who to contact for that club and all the back and forth trying to set up the date to visit. That person is sitting right next to you.

Lions Clubs all over are electing their new officers for next year. Your club should be also. After your election be sure to put the new officers into the portal. Then sign them up for Officer training. This year for District 5M-2 Officer training will be on May 17th in Mankato at Bethany College. Have your Officers there for more fun and learning about their new position in the club.

You guessed it. This month's article is all about having FUN. Lions have fun wherever they are.

Now for a little Lions history.

In 1948: A Lion's Club forms on Kalaupapa on the island of Molokau, Hawaii. Kalaupapa is a leper colony, and all charter members have Leprosy (Hansen's Disease)

In 1954: After an International contest among Lions, an official motto was chosen:
"We Serve"

DRIVING THE DG

Submitted by: PCC Glenn Kaufmann

APRIL 2025

- 3 - Spring Zone 2 Meeting - NYA
- 10 - Spring Zone 7 Meeting - Waseca
- 13 - Chanhassen Lions Pancake Breakfast
- 15 - Le Center DG Team Visit
- 16 - Spring Zone 3 Meeting - Winthrop
- 22 - Spring Zone 5 Meeting - Veseli
- 25-27 - MD5M Convention
- 29 - Spring Zone 8 Meeting - Faribault
- 30 - Journey For Service





IGNITE
THE LION'S PRIDE

GUIDING LION TRAINING



Lions Clubs International

Certified
Guiding Lion
Program

Empowerment is
the key to success!



The overall goal of this workshop is to familiarize the Lion with the roles and responsibilities of a Certified Guiding Lion and Give the Lion the knowledge needed to carry out these responsibilities.



MD5M Convention

Friday, April 25, 2025

1:30P-4:00P

All Lions Are Welcome





Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION

300 W 22ND STREET • OAK BROOK ILLINOIS 60523-8842 USA • 630.571.5466 • WWW.LCIF.ORG

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) through the Parade of Green, club donations, individual donations or the Go for the Gold Gala! Your generosity helps fund critical programs that support disaster relief, humanitarian efforts, and vision care within District 5M-2 and throughout the world.

Remember, individual giving is always welcomed and can be done through ACH or pledge contributions. Every donation, big or small, makes a difference in transforming lives.

If you'd like more information on how to give, please reach out to PDG Anna or Lions Rose or click [LCIF Ways to Give](#). Let's continue making an impact together!

PDG Anna Wickenhauser
952-913-1467

Lion Rose Thies
612.756.1316

Welcome New Lions Club Members

Carver:

Katee Harvey
Karen Maresch

Chaska:

Allie Westerholm

Hutchinson:

James Hauer
Troy Pullis

Jordan:

Robert Jensen

Mayer Area:

Jim Menth
Twyla Menth
Debra Pongrac

Plato:

Sandy Kunkel

Prior Lake:

Cory Lindsoe

St. Peter:

Jeff Owen
Ann Volk

Victoria:

Chrissy Engelhardt
Jen Harrington
Kevin Harrington
Liam Harrington
Sean Kolodziej

Watertown:

Scott Koehnen

Waterville:

Ashley Browning



CLUB OFFICER WORKSHOP

..... 5M-2 Lions

*Opportunity for Zone Chairs,
Presidents (1st & 2nd VPS also),
Secretaries and Treasurers to
attend. Review responsibilities,
tools and resources available to
you.*



Saturday, May 17th
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM



Bethany College
700 Luther Dr.
Mankato, MN



DGE Shermayne Cross
and 5M-2 Lions Leaders

**SHARE
IDEAS**

**MEET
FOUNDATION
CHAIRS**

**NETWORK WITH
FELLOW LIONS**



RSVP to DG Lisa Kaufmann
952-237-5361
lionlisakaufmann@yahoo.com



Journey For Service

April 30, May 1st, and 2nd, 2025

It's nearing that time of year when we will be rocking with District Governor Lisa and traveling companions on the Journey For Service. We will be traveling over 700 miles through 5m2 meeting with every Lions club collecting money for various service projects in our District.

Please verify with me the meeting place, and contact person with a phone number. District Governor Lisa and I are looking forward to another successful journey with a 100 % participation as our goal. ROCK ON !

PDG Mike Vos
Journey For Service
mike@vosconstruction.com
507-381-3752



Journey for Service: Schedule of Stops

Wednesday April 30, 2025			
Faribault	7:00 AM	Perkins	
Waterville	8:20	Veterans Memorial	
Waseca	8:40	McDonalds	
Owatonna	9:10	741 East Main	
Blooming Prairie	9:40	City Center Offices	
Ellendale	10:00	Lerberg's Grocery	
New Richland	10:20	Schmidt Trucking	
Albert Lea	10:55	McDonalds	
Albert Lea Cloverleaf	10:55	McDonalds	
Albert Lea Lake View	10:55	McDonalds	
Alden	11:15	Community Pride Project- By Lake	
Wells	11:40	Lion's Plaza	
Minnesota Lake	12:00	Breamer's House	
LUNCH			
Blue Earth	1:25 PM	Statue Park	
Winnebago	1:45	First Financial Bank	
Amboy	2:00	Linda's Place	
Lake Crystal	2:30	Kevin's IGA	
Mankato	2:55	Eagle Lake City Hall	
Mankato Sunrise	2:55	Eagle Lake City Hall	
Eagle Lake	3:10	Eagle Lake City Hall	
St Peter	3:35	River Rock Coffee Shop	
Nicollet	4:10	New Sweden Mutual Ins	
Courtland	4:30	Fire Dept	
Lafayette Area	4:50	Citizens Bank	
Gibbon	5:15	D's Pit Stop	
Winthrop	5:30	Hahn's Café	
Thursday May 1, 2025			
Arlington	8:55	Sibley East	
Green Isle	8:55	Sibley East	
Norwood Young America	9:10	OEM	
Hamburg	9:25	Park	
NYA West Carver	9:40	Harbor	
Plato	9:55	Plato Home Center	
Glencoe	10:10	Bump's Café	
New Auburn	10:35	Security Bank	
Brownston	11:00	Security Bank	
Stewart	11:20	City Hall	
Hutchinson	11:45	725 Sunset St	
Silver Lake	12:05	American Legion	
LUNCH			
Lester Prairie	1:20	Greater MN Signs	
Watertown	1:55	Citizens Alliance Bank	
Watertown Leos	1:55	Citizens Alliance Bank	
Mayer Area	2:15	Casey's	
Chanhassen	2:50	Am Legion Parking Lot	
Victoria	3:10	Old National	
Waconia	3:25	Security Bank	
Waconia Dandy	3:25	Security Bank	
Cologne	3:45	Community Center	
Cologne Leos	3:45	Community Center	
Carver	4:00	City Hall	
Chaska	4:15	Old National	
Shakopee	4:30	O'Brien Public House	
Shakopee Valley	4:30	O'Brien Public House	
Prior Lake	5:00	Velishek Auto	

Friday May 2, 2025			
Jordan	8:00 AM	McDonald's	
Jordaness	8:00	McDonald's	
Belle Plaine	8:20	320 East Century St (Josh)	
Henderson	8:45	Road Haus	
LeSueur	9:00	Pizza Ranch Parking	
Le Center	9:25	Home Plate	
Montgomery	9:40	Mackenthun's	
New Prague	10:00	Ettlin's Café	
Veseli	10:20	GoldSmith Eye Care-NP	
Lonsdale	10:40	Lions Park	
NEW	11:10	New Market Bank	
Northfield	11:45	Lions Riverside Park	

NEW MEMBER PRIZE CONTEST

Want a chance to win a great prize?

To date District 5M-2 has welcomed 170 new Lions this year! We are 35 members shy of meeting our LCI Mission 1.5 goal of 205 new members.



Anyone who sponsors a new Lion between April 1st and May 31st will receive an entry into the contest. If you bring the new Lion to a spring zone meeting to be inducted, you will receive another entry.

Email DG Lisa @ lionlisakaufmann@yahoo.com with the new Lions name.

DON'T MISS OUT ON ASKING JUST ONE TO JOIN LIONS!







Ignite the Lions Pride MD5M Multiple District Convention April 25-27, 2025



Lions of MD5M,

Attendees of the MD5M 2025 Convention in Bloomington, Minnesota will be in for a real treat with the lineup of guest speakers scheduled to appear. These speakers will provide you with heart-warming stories and inspirational talks on mental health, inclusiveness, service dogs, and helping others while making a mark in your community.



Joe Schmit is an award-winning broadcaster, community leader, author, and popular keynote speaker. He is a long-time youth mentor committed to advocating for several community organizations and has contributed time to many other charitable organizations including Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund, The Mind over Matter Foundation, VEAP, and the Fairway Foundation. Joe is also an author of three books: "Silent Impact," "The Impact Blueprint" and "The Right Thing To Do," a children's book about Minnesota Twins Hall of Famer Joe Mauer.



Katie Shatusky is the Executive Director and Co-Founder of Thumbs Up, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping others and uplifting the community. In 2014, she co-founded Thumbs Up in honor of her late grandfather, Bob Schmit, who died by suicide in 2010. Katie is also the author and illustrator of the children's book, *The Ladybug Hug*. One of her most profound experiences was donating a kidney to a complete stranger in October 2020, exemplifying her commitment to making a difference in the lives of others.



PDG Daniel Marney Elkins is a professional drug prevention specialist and is the executive director of the Bellevue Community Center. He specializes in creating youth leadership programming by teaching strategic thinking and service learning. PDG Daniel is one of the founders of the Lions Virtual movement and has presented at several International Conventions, USA/Canada Forums, Europa Forums, Anzi Forums, ISAME Forums and at district conventions around the world. He was appointed to the Lions' International Board of Directors in 2023 by Dr. Patti Hill. PDG Daniel has also served as a new club development consultant for Lions Clubs International.



2025 Lions MD5M Convention Schedule

"Ignite the Lions Pride"

(times, sessions, speakers and details subject to change)



Airport Hilton Hotel
Bloomington, Minnesota

Thursday, April 24, 2025

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM **Registration Opens**

Friday, April 25, 2025

7:00 AM—12 Noon **Council of Governors Meeting**

11:00 AM—6:00 PM **Registration & Credentials**

1:00 PM—5:00 PM **Foundation Service Projects
Foundation Display Tables**

3:30 PM—4:30 PM **2029 Int'l Committee Meeting**

5:00 PM—6:30 PM **PDG Social & Dinner**

6:00 PM—6:30 PM **First-Timers Meeting**

6:30 PM—7:00 PM **Opening Session &
Flag Ceremony**

7:00 PM—8:00 PM **Service of Remembrance**

8:30 PM—12:00 AM **Welcome Reception**
Social, DJ, Games, Cash Bar

Saturday, April 26, 2025

6:45 AM—8:30 AM **Breakfast**

7:00 AM—6:00 PM **Registration & Credentials**

7:30 PM—8:30 AM **Foundation Meetings**

9:00 AM—5:00 PM **Silent Auction Open**

9:00 AM—10:00 AM **General Business Meetin**

10:00 AM—5:00 PM **Foundation Display Tables**

10:00 AM—11:15 AM **Seminar I**
Joe Schmit & Katie Shatusky

Saturday, April 26, 2025 (continued)

11:30 AM—1:30 PM **Luncheon**

1:45 PM—2:15 PM **Lions in Motion - Salsa Dancing**

2:30 PM—3:30 PM **Seminar II**
CC Judy Zewers
DG Mary Curtis

3:45 PM—4:30 PM **Seminar III**
Lion Daniel Marney- Elkins

5:30 PM **Reception & Cash Bar**

6:30 PM—9:00 PM **Banquet**
IP Fabricio Oliveira

Sunday, April 27, 2025

7:00 AM—7:45 AM **PDG Business Meeting**

7:45 AM—8:40 AM **Int'l Convention Meeting**
For those going to Florida

8:00 AM **Silent Auction &
Raffle Results Posted**

8:45 AM—11:00 AM **Brunch & Closing Session**
PCC BJ Blahnik

11:00 AM **Adjourn**

11:15 AM—12:15 PM **Council Chair-Elect &
Past Council Chair Meeting**





**Ignite the Lions Pride
MD5M Multiple District Convention
April 25-27, 2025**

5m7lions@gmail.com



MD5M 2025 Lions Convention Clothing



T-Shirts – price per item – \$23 (S – M – L – XL) – \$25 2XL – \$27 3XL – \$29 4XL – \$31 5XL
Hoodies – price per item – \$35 (S – M – L – XL) – \$37 2XL – \$39 3XL – \$41 4XL – \$43 5XL
Polos – price per item – \$27 (S – M – L – XL) – \$29 2XL – \$31 3XL – \$33 4XL – \$35 5XL

Colors Available (all clothing) – Black – Maroon – True Royal Blue

Bee-Seen Promotions has this convention clothing available at their MD5M on-line store!

MD5M Link & QR code:

<https://www.storessimple.com/beeseenpromotions/30017>



You can also check out the merchandise on their Lions on-line store:

<https://www.storessimple.com/beeseenpromotions/10350>



**Thank you for your consideration,
MD5M 2025 Lions Convention Planning Committee**



MINNESOTA LIONS VISION FOUNDATION

Lion Wendy Goldsmith
952.224.6305

DrWendy@goldsmitheye.com

Bc

Lion Hilary Wickenhauser
952.220.0516
hwick97@gmail.com

Donate Life Month



Donate Life Month is a time to celebrate and honor organ, eye, tissue, whole body, blood, and bone marrow donors, all of whom have saved or bettered the lives of other individuals, often strangers. Each year, the Lions Gift of Sight eye bank kicks off the month with a Donate life flag raising

ceremony at their Saint Paul home.

Coffee, cookies, and wonderful speakers from Lions Gift of Sight, the University of Minnesota, and partner donation organizations help to raise awareness of the gifts of donation, before and after death. By raising the Donate Life flag, we also honor those who have already given.

Click [here](#) to learn more about donation. And join us at our flag raising on April 7th at LGS Building.

Lions Day at the Capitol

The Maple Grove Lions were the host club that coordinated the Lions Day at the Capitol. There were approximately twenty Lions and two Leos present at the gathering in the Rotunda on Tuesday, March 18, 2025.

After some brief introductions and background information, Representative Kristin Robbins from Maple Grove and District 37A said a few words about what she is trying to accomplish that would benefit charitable organizations around the state of Minnesota. She has sponsored a bill to reduce the taxes that charities pay to the state to a flat rate of 5%. There is another bill trying to eliminate taxes completely. The current tax rate starts at 8% and rises to 33.5% for proceeds over \$157,501 for charitable gambling like pull tabs. Many clubs with charitable gambling only have about 40% of their gambling

After Representative Robbins wrapped up, Lion Tim Conaway shared information about Lions KidSight and what Kidsight is doing in Minnesota and MD5M. In 2023, approximately 39,000 children between the ages of 6 months and 18 years were screened. Typically, 10-12% of those screened are identified as having a potential sight issue and are given a referral for a follow-up eye exam with eye-care professionals.



Following Lion Tim, Lion Jeff Johnson, the Executive Director of Can Do Canines, presented yellow lab Tucker, a Can Do dog that has been matched to a recipient for placement, but not yet placed. He gave information on the Whelping and Growth (WAG) Center in New Germany and their primary facility in New Hope. He thanked the Lions for their support and said that this year the Lions will surpass the \$4 million donation mark to Can Do Canines since Lions began supporting them.

There was a Lions Code of Ethics from 1921 on display courtesy of District 5M-5. Each year at the 5M-5 Convention, this Code of Ethics sign is auctioned off and the winning club gets to keep it until the next Convention. The proceeds from the auction go to LCIF and this year's winner was the Osseo Lions.

This was the first year of having Lions Day at the Capitol to get more visibility for Lions and to have a dialogue with our State Senators and Representatives about what Lions do and how we can work together.





BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Matt Huggenvik, 5M1
Kathleen Bleckenberg & Wanda
Bremhorst, 5M2
Gordon Mulder & Eric Hanson, 5M3
Barry Erdhal & Bob Kulbeik, 5M4
Cheryl Jechorek & Kevin Walsh, 5M5
Marlene Hayman & Jeff Carnes, 5M6
Mike Benedetto, 5M7
Mike Appel & Bob Harms, 5M8
Dick Kimball & Dale Christensen, 5M9
Sue Balstad & Mary Sorenson, 5M10
Gladwin Lynne, 5M11

OFFICERS

Kathleen Bleckenberg, Chair
Mike Benedetto, Vice Chair
Rose Thies & Sue Vos, Treasurers
Lori Steinemann & Bob Jechorek
Executive Secretaries

WEBSITE:

www.5mhf.org

EMAIL:

mndfeetwalk@gmail.com

REGISTRATION & PAYMENT INFO

Checks payable to:

Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation

Rose Thies, Treasurer
Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation
21515 371st Avenue
Green Isle, MN 55338-2027

DFEET WALK

2025 MN Lions Hearing Foundation Fundraiser

Dear Lions and Friends:

Your Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation 2025 Walk to DFEET Hearing Loss is just around the corner on June 7th, 2025.

It is not too late to help those with hearing-related issues.

Please consider participating in our 2025 Walk at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and at Diamond Point Park in Bemidji, MN. If you or your club cannot participate at either site, you can take a walk at your local park, bring some club members together for a walk in a park, jump on your treadmill, or ride your bike.

Levels of Support

- \$25
- \$35 includes a walk t-shirt
- \$100
- \$250
- \$500
- \$1000 gets your Club name on back of the t-shirt

Children under 12 will receive a free walk shirt.

We challenge your club to create a team to help raise funds for this important event. Please complete the attached registration form and mail to Lion Rose Thies by April 20th, 2025.

We hope you will support the Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation to raise the much-needed funds to support our mission of research, education, and clinical support to the deaf and hard of hearing community.

With regards,

Kathleen Bleckenberg

Board Chair
Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation



D-FEET WALK REGISTRATION FORM

June 7, 2025

Club Name _____ District _____

Contact Person (please print) _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Email address: _____

Donation Amount: \$1000 _____ \$500 _____ \$250 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ \$35 _____ \$25 _____

Check the box for the type of donation:

- ☐ Club Donation
☐ Personal Donation

\$25 donation with no t-shirt.

*\$35 donation includes a t-shirt. Registration form must be received by **April 20th, 2025** to receive a t-shirt.*

****Complete the next page for t-shirts***

Club Sponsorships:

\$1000 level - Club's name on the back of the t-shirt and up to 28 entrants with t-shirts

\$500 level - Up to 14 entrants with t-shirts

\$250 level - Up to 7 entrants with t-shirts

\$100 level - Up to 3 entrants with t-shirts

Check the box for which event you/your club are attending:

- ☐ Dfeet Walk at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
☐ Dfeet Walk at the Diamond Point Park in Bemidji
☐ Donation Only

Please send check and registration form to:

Lion Rose Thies, Treasurer
Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation
21515 371st Avenue
Green Isle, MN 55338-2027

Please make check payable to: Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation

T-Shirt Order

Please list each member/guest that would like to receive a t-shirt along with their email address and size. T-shirts are available in adult sizes small to 5XL and child small-large. **Save Time for Everyone! Emails are required for us to send electronic waivers before the event.**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Email Address</u>	<u>T-Shirt Size</u>
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____
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9. _____	_____	_____
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21. _____	_____	_____
22. _____	_____	_____
23. _____	_____	_____
24. _____	_____	_____
25. _____	_____	_____

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT SPECIAL OLYMPICS OPENING EYES

Special Olympics Minnesota Summer Games is at the University of Minnesota from June 20-22nd.

The university of Minnesota will host the annual Special Olympics Minnesota Summer Games! Roughly 3,000 athletes will be competing in basketball, basketball, swimming, and gymnastics throughout the weekend. Outside of competition, there will be entertainment in the athlete Village, health screenings for athletes, Celebration Ceremonies, and many other activities for everyone! Summer Games is open to the public and family friendly!

The Lions have played a major part in this competition for many years, and will once again host the Opening Eyes screening. As part of the Healthy Athletes program offerings, Opening Eyes provides a complete eye exam, conducted by eye doctors and eye care professionals. During the Opening Eyes screening, Athletes have the opportunity to receive new eye glasses, sunglasses or sports goggles, free of charge! Opening Eyes is presented by Lions Club International.

Opening Eyes in Minnesota was first undertaken by Lions Clubs of 5M5, but we need you to make this screening happen! Opening Eyes volunteers directly impact the health of SOMN Athletes! Volunteers will also have the opportunity to meet and interact with Special Olympics Minnesota Athletes, and also meet Lions from other clubs and other districts. Volunteers will receive a Summer Games Volunteer t-shirt and Volunteers working over six hours will also receive a complimentary lunch.



Summer Games volunteer shifts available:

- Friday, June 20, 9:00 pm - 1:00 pm (set up only)
- Saturday, June 21, 8:15 am - 12:30 pm
- Saturday, June 21, 11:45 am - 4:00 pm

Lions Club volunteers are needed for a number of roles, including:

- Assisting doctors
- Conducting initial eye chart exam
- Directing and escorting athletes
- Athlete registration

TO REGISTER VISIT:

[SOMN.ORG/LIONS](https://somin.org/lions)

These volunteer shifts are reserved for Lions & Friends of the Lions registration. Lions Club members, family and friends are all welcome and encouraged to volunteer!

Questions? Please contact:

Lion Ray Moonen, 952.201.7031; moonen@myinfmail.com

Lion Jim Cain, 763.232.0790; jhcain2@gmail.com.

Lion Laura Maki, 507.964.5796; relamaki@frontiernet.net

Special Olympics
Lions Clubs International
Opening Eyes®

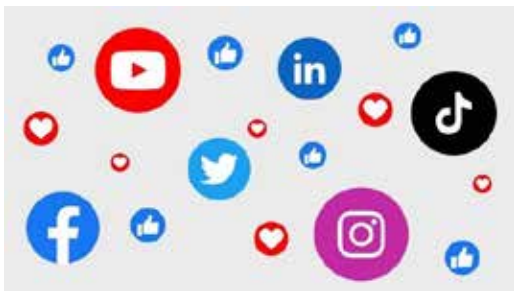


Lions Clubs International – Club Marketing Teams matter!

Club marketing is so important to what we do as Lions. There are great opportunities for Lions to get involved in the planning and execution of their club's promotion of activities and projects. There are even opportunities at the district and multiple district (MD) level for Lions ready to take on a bigger marketing role. Here is how you can put your passion for promotion to work.



Be a marketing champion in your club. Consider becoming a member of your club marketing team. Your team should have a chairperson and other members to cover the various methods of club marketing. These methods include Facebook/Social Media, Newsletters/Print, and Website. Help build a marketing culture within your club membership. Proudly wear your Lion gear when you serve and remember that you are a brand ambassador for your club and Lions everywhere.



For those inclined to take a more active role in promoting their Lions club, why not become the Club marketing chairperson? Energize and lead your club marketing efforts. Develop marketing plans for projects and membership drives, use social media to share your stories, and work with your Lions and community partners to put a spotlight on your service.

If your club currently does not have a marketing team, you are missing opportunities to promote your club events and activities in your community. This also means you are not reaching out to potential event participants as well as potential new members and community partners. Do not let other local volunteer organizations get the attention your Lions club needs and deserves in your community.



Please devote the time your Lions club needs to establish a club marketing team. With your club currently setting up its board of directors and chairpersons for next year, this would be the perfect time to establish a marketing team. This team, along with the new club leadership, can develop a marketing plan for engaging your community. To learn more about club marketing and the tools available to you, please visit the link below:

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/club-marketing>

Lion Lyle Goff
MD5M Marketing & Lions Information Chair
gofflt@msn.com

Can Do Canines to Host Open House May 18

Can Do Canines invites you to attend an open house on Saturday, May 18, from 12-2 p.m., at its Can Do Canines campus (9440 Science Center Drive, New Hope, Minnesota). Potential volunteers, clients, or anyone who might be interested in supporting the organization are invited to attend to learn how an assistance dog changes the life of a person with a disability.

Through a self-guided tour, attendees will be able to watch a trainer working with an assistance dog, hear from a volunteer dog host, talk with staff members from the volunteer department, pose questions to client services coordinators about the application process, and meet graduate teams from each of the five types of areas Can Do Canines trains dogs: hearing, mobility, seizure, diabetes, and childhood autism.



There is no pre-registration for this event, though attendees will be asked to share some contact information when arriving.

To request a sign language interpreter for the Open House, please contact Laurie at lcarlson@candocanines.org or 763-331-3000 at least two weeks in advance. We'll do our best to accommodate late requests, but availability is not guaranteed.

More information about Can Do Canines is at www.candocanines.org.



5M-2 Lions' News Newsletter Deadline: 15th of each month...

Submit your club events and Lions program articles to:
5M2newslettereditor@gmail.com

**What are your clubs doing for Service?
Share the NEWS!!**



Our Mission:
Connecting, empowering and transforming kids with Type 1 Diabetes.

2025 WISH LIST!

We appreciate your consideration to donate to Camp Sweet Life Adventures, Inc. (a 501c3 non-profit organization – EIN: 27-3206536)

Here are a few of our “Wish List” items for 2025. Or make a tax-deductible donation to support Camp Sweet Life!

- A. ~~**Juice Boxes — \$1,000**~~ (a necessary staple needed at camp) **Sponsored by PRIOR LAKE LIONS – THANKS!**
- B. Camp Staff Training - \$2,000 – necessary to have a great trained staff. In 2024 we had a staff of 37 counselors/program and 34 medical staff!
- C. Sponsor a Golf Cart(s) - \$3,000 for six golf carts needed for the week of Camp (\$500 per golf cart). **(So far sponsored by Cologne Lions (1), Waconia Dandy Lions (1))** (4 more remaining to sponsor!)
- D. Sponsor A Cabin – \$150 per cabin (room for 13 Cabin Sponsors)
- E. Sponsor a Camper - \$500 per camper (in 2024 we had 19 camperships)

Make donation today: make your check to Camp Sweet Life and mail to:
Camp Sweet Life Adventures, Inc
26486 Sioux Trail
Madison Lake, MN 56063

We would like to visit your club. Simply contact Lion Rene’

Rene’ Maes Jr.
Executive Director, Camp Sweet Life Adventures, Inc.
Cell: 507-995-6910
Email: Rene.Maes@campsweetlife.org
501c3 – 27-3206536



Fundraiser for Camp Sweet Life

Volunteer to complete consumer surveys online!

APRIL 1ST - APRIL 30TH



**Help us reach our Fundraising
Goal with HundredX & get a
FREE Camp Sweet Life Hoodie!**

GOAL: Keep the cost of Camp down for families!

**HOW: Individuals complete 75 surveys, raising
up to \$40,000 for Camp!**

How it works:



1. Text CAMP to 90412 to sign up or use the QR code.
2. Choose Camp Sweet Life as your designated organization to donate to.
3. Share your opinions on up to 75 surveys.
Limit of 25 per day - remember to come back and complete more!
4. Create up to \$120 of impact for Camp Sweet Life!

Scan here to
participate!



Once you have completed the 75 surveys needed for a free hoodie, you will be contacted by Rene Maes (rene.maes@campsweetlife.org) to get your hoodie size. Hoodies will be delivered at camp in July or alternate arrangements can be made.

Please take your time to complete the surveys. Feedback will automatically be kicked out by the system if a pattern of responses is detected or if the surveys are completed in under 45 seconds.

Fundraiser is not available until April 1st and closes on April 30th

For more information visit www.campsweetlife.org or email info@campsweetlife.org

Lions', Leos' Clubs News and Activities

Lester Prairie Lions

Libby the Lion had a wonderful time today (Feb 28th) at the LP School Readathon Awards Day! Lion Mike was a fab MC and thanks to Lion Christine for the pics!



The Lester Prairie Lions recently served delicious strawberry shortcake desserts at the Youth Task Force event for students at Lester Prairie School. Guest speaker was Chief Justin Heldt of the Winsted/Lester Prairie Police Department.

March 16th the Lester Prairie Lions Club held our first pancake breakfast in a while. It was nice to serve the community (pun intended)!!





BLUE EARTH LIONS

Meetings: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

Average Jo's Bar & Grill

Lars Bierly, President Dean Vereide, Secretary

Joe Tempel, Treasurer

NEWSLETTER

Volume 65 Number 4

February 27, 2025

Business Items

At our regular meeting on February 12, 2025, we had 11 members in attendance. Lion Dean read the minutes from the January 8th & 22nd meetings. The minutes for the 22nd meeting said that Lion Greg Holland received a Guiding Lion pin for bringing in 3 new members to the Club. Lion Greg corrected that to be on recognition for bringing in 5 new members. The amended minutes were approved. Lion Joe presented the financial report for the month of January 2025. It showed a balance in the Regular Account of \$920.34 and a balance in the Activity Account of \$8,497.39. The members present approved the Treasurer's Report. We were able to install Junior Martinez into Club, which leaves only Lion Carly Passante to go through the installation ceremony. Lion Joe received 2 requests for funding. The first was a request to renew our Chamber of Commerce membership which was approved. He also received a request from Camp Sweet Life, a camp for children with diabetes. The members voted to give a \$150.00 donation. At our meeting on the 26th, we had 2 presentations from students at the high school. The first was by 3 students who are going on the summer trip to the Bahama's. The other group was from the FFA Chapter. The Club has already voted a \$1000.00 gift to the Bahama's group and the Club voted to donate \$200 to the FFA. We also had a special guest at this meeting. Garedon Lore, our winning Peace Poster artist this year, was present at the meeting, along with his parents and siblings. We returned the winning poster to Garedon and also presented him with his prize of \$50 cash for being our winning contestant. The Club also approved donations to the Post Prom Committee, the Buccaneer Baseball Association and the BE Beautification Committee.

Always be thinking about prospects for membership!

Upcoming Events

Regular Meeting at Average Jo's
Wednesday, March 12th, 6:00 pm

Pancake Supper at St. Luke's
Wednesday, March 26th at 5:00 pm
(Hopefully)

Minnesota Lake Lions

Minnesota Lake Lions celebrate a successful Holiday Sharing Tree Season. The MN Lake Lions collaborate with the Wells Lions to help provide Christmas gifts. This year gifts were given to 229 families with a total of 481 children



Lions 5M-2 Winner the of 2025 Essay Contest "Make Your Mark" was Brielle Brown, a sophomore from Maple River High School. Brielle received a \$500 check from Lions District 5M-2, Brielle was sponsored by the Minnesota Lake Lions.

2nd Vice District Governor, Lion Deb Loehnen and District Governor, Lion Lisa Kaufmann presented the top three essay winners checks.



Minnesota Lake Lions March fundraiser - BINGO.

MARCH BINGO brings a whole community of young and old together to enjoy a night out.



Right: Trying to make up their mind which goodie to eat!

Young and old enjoy a fun night of bingo.

Mayer Area Lions

Mayer Area Lions, hoping to soon be Mayer-New Germany Lions held a FREE lunch on Sunday March 2 at the New Germany Hall. Residents and families from both communities were invited.

We had never done an outreach event such as this so it was for sure a great learning experience.

Not only did we serve lunch but we also had children's activities like the face painting in the photo. As an adult activity we displayed 4 displays boasting about Lions and what our club has done. Related to each display was a sheet with a question to be answered by what adults saw or learned at that display. That was the way adults could enter a prize drawing for 3 generous donated gift cards. Prizes were personally awarded their winning gift card during the week after the event. It was gratifying to observe the adults take the time to study each display, have an opportunity to chat with people and one attendee mentioned that he was not aware of all the things Lions do for others.



DISTRICT 5M-2 ZONE SPRING MEETINGS



Zone 1: Wednesday, May 14th
Hutchinson

Zone 2: Thursday, April 3rd
Willkommen, NYA

Zone 3: Wednesday, April 16th
Hahns, Winthrop

Zone 4: Tuesday, May 6th
Shakopee VFW, Shakopee

Zone 5: Tuesday, April 22nd
St. Patrick's Pub, St. Patrick

Zone 6: Wednesday, May 8th
Caribou Gun Club, Le Sueur

Zone 7: Thursday, April 10th
FarmAmerica, Waseca

Zone 8: Tuesday, April 29th
First English Church, Faribault



6:00 p.m. Social Time
6:30 p.m. Dinner & Program

Watch your email for the specific details for each zone meeting and who to RSVP to. You will want to come to see who is the Zone Lion of the Year!





Waconia Dandy Lions



Purse Bingo

Hosted by
Waconia Dandy Lions
Benefiting
Revitalizing Veterans Dreams
Waconia American Legion
Sales Start at Noon
Bingo Starts at 1pm
Bingo Packs are \$30 for all 10 rounds
Extra sheets are \$5 a round

**Sunday
April 13th**



Want to be a round Sponsor?
It is a great way to promote your local business and support a great cause!
\$100 gets you one round sponsor.
As a round sponsor we will have your logo posted on displays at the start of the round and announce your business.
With other great advertising options,
If interested please reach out to
Cindy Jamison
612-402-8382



GREEN ISLE LIONS

GREEN ISLE LIONS CELEBRATE PATRIOTISM WITH FIRST GRADERS



The Green Isle Lions were proud to host Flags for First Graders for students at St. Paul's Lutheran School and Sibley East Elementary. Students enjoyed a story about the American flag, recited the Pledge of Allegiance, and received their own personal flag along with a red, white, and blue sucker.

The Lions are honored to share the spirit of patriotism with the next generation!



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B45A9A72AABFE3-51742227-2025#/>



2025 State Fair Booth Volunteering

The Minnesota Lions Diabetes, Hearing and Vision Foundations host an annual information booth at the Minnesota State Fair in the Education Building. Volunteers are asked to staff the booth, hand out promotional and informational materials, plus answer questions posed by visitors.

www.signupgenius.com

MINNESOTA
STATE FAIR

Arlington Lions

The Arlington Lions had a very successful fish fry on March 7th. We had a total of 36 volunteers from the community who helped out the Arlington Lions members. It was a great working relationship with other organizations & community members. Money raised will support local projects. We served over 600 people.



LeSueur Lions

On Thursday and Friday, the Le Sueur Lions Club partnered with KidSight and the Le Sueur Henderson School district to provide vision screenings for 28 children entering kindergarten, with four children requiring referrals.





Waseca Lions

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, April 6

7:30 am to 12:00 noon

AMERICAN LEGION CLUB

Adults: \$10.00

Kids 12 & under: \$5.00 at the door

Toddlers: Free

Proceeds to be used for....

Waseca Boys Scouts, Scholarships, Lions Eye Bank
(Bring your old eyeglasses and hearing aids)

Soup 'N Sandwich Lunch

Plus Garage Sale/Bake Sale

At Plato Hall - TAKE OUT/EAT IN

Thursday & Friday, April 10th & 11th



Soup N Sandwich: Thursday/Friday 11-1

Garage Sale: Thursday/Friday 8-4

Bake Sale: Thursday/Friday 8-4



Sponsored by the Plato Lions Club



Donations will go towards Plato Lions Scholarship

Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Chicken Noodle Soup, Bottled Water/Coffee, and Dessert.

Lonsdale Lions Club



Pancake Breakfast



Sunday, April 6
8am-NOON

At the
Lonsdale American Legion

\$12 ages 12+ | \$6 ages 6-11 | FREE age 5 & under




HAMBURG LIONS CLUB

Spring

Bingo and Meat Raffle

\$10 for 20 games of bingo

Friday April 11th, 2025

Bingo starts at 6:30 pm

***Doors open 5:00 pm**
(No early admittance allowed)

Turkeys, Hams, Summer Sausage

Cash Bar – Hamburgers – Hot Dogs

Chips – Candy – Popcorn



Proceeds benefit community projects

Norwood Young America
Lions Club

OMELETE & PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SUNDAY April 13th
AT THE PAVILION

SERVING FROM 8AM TILL NOON

Free will offering

Made to order Omelets
Blueberry and Plain Pancakes
Sausage
Scrambled eggs
Apple Sauce
Coffee-Milk-Juice

All proceeds go back into the community



Stewart Lions

Annual Spring Breakfast

Stewart Fire Hall
Palm Sunday ~ April 13th, 2025
9:30am - 12:30pm

All You Can Eat

Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs,
Sausage, Applesauce, Coffee, Milk & Juice
Eggs donated by Michael Foods

Kids Corner
Coloring and Activities

Free Will Donation
Proceeds Go To
Local Projects



**Bring Your Camera For a
Photo Opportunity With the
Easter Bunny**

Chanhasen Lions

PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Sunday, April 13, 2025
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

Adults: \$10
Kids 10 & Under: \$5

 HACKAMORE
BREWING COMPANY
18651 LAKE DRIVE EAST
CHANHASSEN, MN 

YOU'RE INVITED!

Lonsdale



EST. DEC 1979

45th Anniversary!

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 | 6-8PM
at the
Lonsdale American Legion
115 2nd AVE NW - Lonsdale

Spaghetti Dinner \$15/person
cash or check at the door

RSVP BY APRIL 9
lonsdalelionsclub@gmail.com

Lonsdale Lions Club, PO BOX 314, Lonsdale, MN 55046



ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

HOSTED BY THE LE SUEUR LIONS CLUB

DATE: APRIL 19TH
TIME: 10 A.M.

LOCATION: AMERICAN
LEGION PARK


OPEN TO 3RD GRADE AND YOUNGER

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross






Blood Drive
Carver Village

Community Hall
316 Broadway Street
Carver, MN 55315


Monday, April 21, 2025
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Carver Village to schedule an appointment.

  Come give 4/14 to 4/30 for a Red Cross T-shirt, Rd. qty + chance to win \$5K prize: rcblood.org/hope 

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

Friday, April 25
4:00pm - 8:00pm
Carver Community Hall
116 Broadway, Downtown Carver



**Carver Lions
Annual Pork Chop Dinner**

*Enjoy pork chops, cheesy hashbrowns,
green beans, bread and dessert.*

**Youth & Adults \$15.00
Kids (5-10) \$7.00
4 & Under Free**

Tickets available at the door.

 **The Mayer Area Lions Club** 
cordially invites you to:



Saturday, April 26, 2025
Mayer Community Center
413 Bluejay Ave N, Mayer, MN
5:00 - Food & Beverage Service 6:30 - First BINGO Game
15 Games for only \$15

Play a 16th game for **\$500 cash** by donating \$5 cash or bringing 5 non-perishable food items for the Gather & Grow Food Shelf.

-  Food & Beverages Available
-  Great Game Prizes
-  50/50 and Meat Raffles
-  Cash Bar
-  Desserts Available



Please bring old eyewear or hearing aides to donate

 **2025 WACONIA LIONS CLUB** 
WILD GAME FEED & SPORTSMAN'S DINNER



Saturday April 26th, 4:00pm - 8:00PM
Carver County Fairgrounds, Waconia, MN

Ticket to the Event: \$40 (Kids 16 and under 1/2 price)
Tickets include Wild Game Appetizers, Dinner, Live Music & Door Prizes

Tickets available online or at the following locations:

- Bob's Barber Shop
- Mackenthun's Fine Foods, Waconia
- Cabin Fever, Victoria
- Or call: 612-396-8709 or 612-396-1358



<https://waconialionsclub.org/wild-game-feed/>

Over \$12,000 in Cash and Raffle Prizes!
Raffle tickets available for purchase during the event

The Chanhassen Lions Club Foundation Presents

**35TH ANNUAL
GOLF SCRAMBLE**

Money raised benefits the community and organizations we support.

4 AUGUST 2025 || AT DEER RUN GOLF CLUB
VICTORIA, MN

\$150 PER PERON

11:00 Registration/1:00 p.m. Shotgun Start

Lunch, Social, Prizes & Buffet Dinner

Mixed & Ladies Teams Encouraged

Prizes For:
Longest Drive
Closest to the Pin
Longest Putt

Sign-Up




www.givebutter.com/bVB8A4



<https://bagsofsmiles.org/>

Bags of Smiles is a 501C3 organization. 45-5501236

District 5M-2
Global Services Team
Launches the

Spring Zone Service Project
Watch your email and the 5M-2 Facebook
page for meeting dates.

A district wide service project
benefiting Childhood Cancer
patients across Minnesota

5M-2 Lions are asked to join together during the Spring Zone meetings to support “*Bags of Smiles*”, a Minnesota non-profit organization supporting children from birth - 18, battling cancer and other serious medical illnesses.

Bags of Smiles delivers age appropriate gift bags to patients in 11 different hospitals, from Duluth to Rochester.

Needed Items:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| * Coloring Books | * Coloring Crayons |
| * Stuffed Animals (8” - 12” height) | * Colored Pencils |
| * Lego Kits (\$7—\$10 kits) | * Sticker Packs |

*Monetary donations are used to purchase the additional items needed to fill the bags

