



5M8 News

We Serve

5M8 Newsletter
www.lions5m8.org
August 2026

Lions
International
2026-2027
President
Mark Lyon



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Executive Officers 2026-2027



Mark S. Lyon
Intl. President



A.P. Singh
LCIF Chairperson



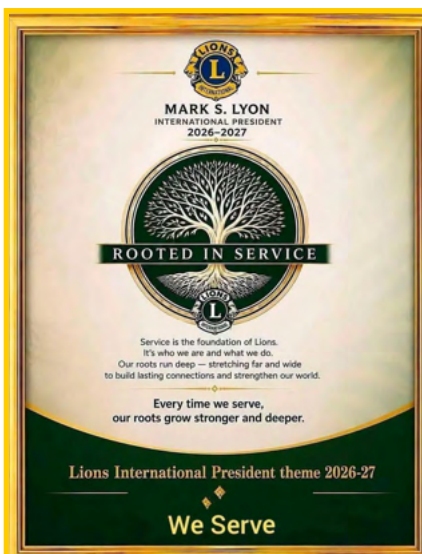
Dr. Manoj Shah
Intl. First Vice President



Tony Benbow
Intl. Second Vice President



Robert Rettby
Intl. Third Vice President





News from 5M8



District Governor's Porch Notes

From the Porch of District Governor Diann

As we begin a new Lions year, our nation is also celebrating a remarkable milestone—250 Years of Freedom. This historic anniversary reminds us of the importance of community, citizenship, and service. It is my hope that we carry this spirit of celebration and pride throughout the year as we continue to grow our impact across District 5M8. It is hard to believe how quickly time has passed. In February 2024, I accepted the opportunity to begin the journey toward serving as your District Governor. Since then, it has been an incredible and rewarding experience filled with learning, growth, and inspiration.

Alongside eleven other District Governor candidates from across Multiple District 5M, I participated in extensive leadership training and preparation. Through this journey, lasting friendships have been formed, and I have been blessed with an amazing support team throughout District 5M8 and Multiple District 5M.

Bob and I are still recovering from the major jet lag after attending the 107th Lions International Convention in Hong Kong, China. Fourteen hours on an airplane is certainly an adventure! Thankfully, we arrived safely, well-fed, and ready for an unforgettable experience. Our accommodations at the Four Points by Sheraton were wonderful, and the convention activities began bright and early the next morning.

Each day was filled with leadership training, celebrations, and inspiring events. One of the highlights was participating in the special International President Induction Ceremony and hearing International President Mark Lyon share his vision for the year with the theme, "Rooted in Service." His message was both inspiring and motivating. The cultural performances throughout the convention were absolutely amazing. We experienced traditions from around the world and built new friendships while celebrating our shared commitment to service. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to visit my Facebook page or the District 5M8 Facebook page to see photos from the convention.

One unforgettable experience was helping set a Guinness World Record on July 7 by joining more than 4,000 Lions in

a mass Tai Chi event at the Asia World-Expo Convention Centre. Although Hong Kong was very warm, humid, and in the middle of its rainy season, we thoroughly enjoyed every moment. Highlights also included an evening harbor cruise to view the spectacular Symphony of Lights and riding the Ngong Ping Crystal Cabin gondola—with its glass floor—to visit the beautiful Po Lin Monastery and the magnificent Tian Tan Buddha. The breathtaking views of Lantau Island made it an experience we will never forget.

Let Service Ring

My theme for this Lions year is "Let Service Ring." Service has always been my passion and my calling.

Every day, Lions throughout District 5M8 demonstrate their commitment to improving lives and strengthening communities. Whether providing handmade blankets and pillows for cancer patients, supporting American Red Cross blood drives, assisting local food shelves, conducting vision screenings, maintaining parks, or bringing joy to residents of senior living communities, our Lions continue to answer the call to serve.

Across District 5M8, our clubs are making a lasting difference through countless service projects that strengthen, beautify, and enrich their communities. Your dedication reminds us that when Lions serve, communities thrive.

As we begin this new year together, we have an incredible opportunity to strengthen our district through expanded service, leadership development, member engagement, and membership growth. Your District Leadership Team is committed to supporting every club as we work toward these goals.

I encourage every Lion to embrace new opportunities to serve, continue growing through Lions educational programs, and invite others to experience the fellowship and fulfillment that come with being a Lion.

Thank you for your dedication, your compassion, and your unwavering commitment to serving others. I am honored to serve alongside each of you, and I look forward to all we will accomplish together during the coming year.

Let Service Ring!
Yours in Service,
District Governor
Diann Belmont
Lions District 5M8



MISSION 1.5

We're on a mission to grow.

HELP NEEDED !

District 5M8 is seeking Lions leaders to serve as **Zone Chairpersons for Zone 6**. This is a great opportunity to support clubs, encourage communication, strengthen leadership and help clubs succeed throughout the district. A Zone Chairperson serves as a link between the clubs in the zone and the district leadership. In this role you will:

*Lead Zone meetings (3 annually), Support club health and growth *Encourage service, leadership and membership development, *Help strengthen communication between clubs and district leadership.

If you enjoy working with others. Supporting local clubs and helping Lions make an even greater impact, this may be the perfect opportunity for you.

If you are interested in serving as Zone Chairperson for Zone 5 or Zone 6 or would like to recommend a qualified Lions, please contact District 5M8 Leadership Team.

PCC Jack Breitzkreutz
jabre@izoom.net

PCC Todd Neuman
deerhilltgn@gmail.com

Step up, get involved, & help make a difference across District 5M8!



Looking for- Eyeglass Recycling Chair to take over the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center program. Contact DG Diann @ dibellmont@gmail.com for further information and questions.



MD5M 2026-2027 District Governors



A few highlights for DG Diann in Hong





August 2026

Notes from VDG MARTY

Rooted in Service!

As Lions we have a passion to serve. We all have a desire to give a helping hand to those in need. Every club is able to help in their own way. Clubs that don't have the financial means to help can extend their time to other organizations with labor support. Just being there supports the community. Where there are Lions there is service.

Mini Forum 5M8

Mark your calendar for this year's Mini Forum which is planned for October 13, 2026 at Jack and Jim's in Duelm. Registration form will be available soon. Still working on menu and cost.

Looking Forward

As we move into late summer, I want to share a brief personal update and encouragement for the weeks ahead.

I will be on the mend for a few weeks starting August 13. My travel will be limited, but I will do my best to stay in touch.

Wishing you all great success with your service projects, and please remember to report all you do so we can share your stories with the district. 5M8 rocks! WE SERVE!

Marty Breuer,
1st District Vice Governor, 5M8





Registration Form

Lions 5M8 Mini Forum and Awards Banquet

All Lions, Lionesses, and Leos are invited to attend the 5M8 Mini Forum

Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Place: Jack & Jims Duelm

Time: Social Hour 5:30 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Program to Follow

Menu: Roast Beef, Mashed potatoes, Gravy, with sides, coffee, water, and milk

Special Dietary Requirements _____

Registration: \$29 Per Person if registered before September 29, 2026.

\$31 after cutoff with October 6, 2026 the deadline

Make checks payable to **District 5M8.**

Mail registration form with payment to:

1VDG Marty Breuer 2454 Rainbow St. Brook Park , MN 55007

For additional information:

Please contact me at mjbreuer@msn.com or call 320-336-8600

Guest Speaker: Dr. Jim Molde from Kidsight

Lions/Leos and Guests Title/Name

_____	Club _____
_____	Club _____
_____	Club _____
_____	Club _____
_____	Club _____
_____	Club _____

Please use the back to add more registrant names.



2026-2027 District Governor Club Visit Request Form

Date Requested: _____

Club Requesting: _____

Preferred Date: _____

Alternate Date: _____

Address of Meeting: _____

Social: _____ Meal: _____ Meeting Time: _____

DG Attire (Circle) : DG Suit or Lions Business Casual

Point of Contact for Visit: _____

Preferred Phone #: _____ Email: _____

List if more than one Club is attending:

Club Name:

Pres/Sec/Treasurer Names:

Special Requests/Inductions: _____

My Chosen Charities:

LCIF

MN LIONS VISION FOUNDATION

MN LIONS DIABETES FOUNDATION

Diann Bellmont

15433 - 241ST Street

Cold Spring, MN 56320

Email: LIONPRIDECS@GMAIL.COM

Cell: (320)492-1974

5M8 DISTRICT GOVERNOR CONTEST 2026-2027

Club Activities:	PTS	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Submitted Service report on the LCI Portal	20													0
Submitted held a Club Meeting report on the LCI Portal	20													0
Club Newsletter or Minutes sent to the DG, VDG & Zone	20													0
Post Club Updates to Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn or Twitter	50													0
New Members added or Reinstated (per member)	30													0
Total Membership at year end is at plus 1 - 7/1/26 -6/30	20													0
5 members reported reading the District 5M8 Newsletter	50													0
Members reported or watched a Podcast or Webinar (each)	20													0
Members reported participated in Learning Activity on Facebook	30													0
2 or more Clubs do an fun activity together (Fundraiser-10 pts per limit @ 50 pts)	30													0
Governor Visit scheduled by 12/20/2026	30													0
1st half of LCI Dues paid by 7/28/2026	50													0
2nd half of LCI Dues paid by 1/28/2027	50													0
Attend other Clubs Fundraiser (10 pts per limit @ 50 pts)	10													0
Total														0

District Committee Club Presentations	PTS	Date of Visit	Donation Made	PTS	Total
LCIF	30			50	
Leader Dog	30			50	
Leos	30			50	
Diabetes	30			50	
Hearing Foundation	30			50	
Vision Foundation	30			50	
KidSight	30			50	
Can Do Canines	30			50	
Project New Hope	30			50	
MN Childhood Cancer	30			50	
Global Membership Team	30				
Global Leadership Team	30				
Global Service Team	30				
Global Extension Team	30				
Orientation	30				
Total				0	



5M8 DISTRICT GOVERNOR CONTEST 2026-2027 Page #2

PTS

Additional Pts

Bring Eyeglasses to MidWinter Convention Collection 50
 Club Officers attend Zone Meeting (Pres, VP, Sec, Treas) 30
 General Member attend Zone Meeting (5 Members) 20
 Club Officers attend Convention (Pres, VP, Sec, Treas) EA 40
 General Member attend Convention (5 Members) 20
 Host Exchange Student pts per 50
 Club host an Service Project Mental Health Cause 40
 Club held an Membership Drive Event with a gain of 2 n 50

Total 0

Activities Total

Presentation Total

Donations Total

Additional Pts Total

Total Of All

Secretary/President

Club

Contact #

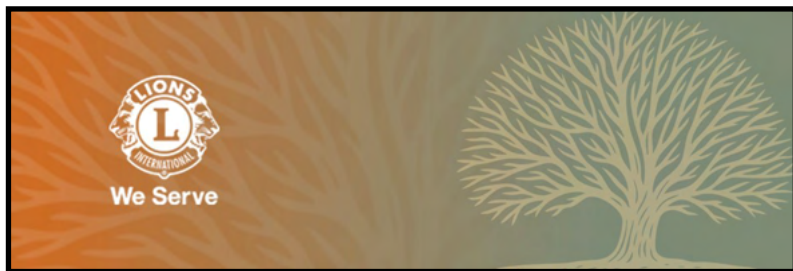
Zone Chair

Date

Club Presidents or Secretaries prepare and send to
 your Zone Chair by August 15, 2027

If you wish to participate in the contest

DG Diann Bellmont
 15433 241st Street
 Cold Spring, MN 56320
 320-492-1974
 LIONPRIDECS@GMAIL.COM



International President Mark Lyon, from Brookfield, Connecticut, USA, has a down-to-earth approach that is guided by tradition and rooted in service. Learn more about him, his presidential priorities and his vision for our future by visiting his presidential theme page to read his presidential theme book, watch inspiring videos and more.

Service is the foundation of our organization. It's at the very root of what we do and who we are as Lions. Meaningful service fuels growth, increases our impact and strengthens our communities and our world. It's why people join us — and why they stay.

That's why my presidential theme this year is "Rooted in Service." I encourage all of us to reconnect with our Lion roots and focus on what matters most. Get creative with your service. Have fun. Look for new ways to meet the needs of your communities. And remember, no act of service is too small — every effort makes a difference.

I look forward to serving alongside you as your international president. Thank you for all the ways you already serve, and I can't wait to see what we accomplish together.

In friendship and service,

Start Planning for our Vision Week of Service



Join Lions and Leos around the world as we work to improve the lives of the visually impaired and help prevent avoidable blindness during our Vision Week of Service from October 8-16, 2026. For inspiration on how you can contribute, check out our new Vision Service Project Ideas resource. And remember, supporting one of our global causes is a great service activity at any time of the year. Visit our global causes webpage to learn more about the ways we serve.



Maximize Your Service for a Thriving Club

Service engages your club, fuels club growth and so much more. Here are some ways you and your club can make the most of your service:

Service reporting – Reporting helps tell your story, measures impact and grows membership. You can still enter your service for the 2025-2026 Lion year in the [Lion Portal](#) through July 31, 2026.

Kindness Matters Service Awards – Find out how you can be recognized for your outstanding service on the [Kindness Matters Service Award](#) webpage.

Promote your service with great marketing – Visit the [Marketing matters](#) webpage for the tools you need to generate interest in your club and your projects

Your service matters, so amplify your marketing and watch your impact grow!

PDG Amy Leidenfrost & PCC Deb Harms

GST Team

Last year, supporters were introduced to Future Leader Dogs TICA, Jackson and Harper as they began their journey toward becoming trusted Leader Dogs. Thanks to dedicated volunteer puppy raisers, they spent their early months learning basic obedience, building confidence and being socialized with the people, places and experiences that help prepare a puppy for future guide dog work.

Now, they are moving into the next important stage of the Leader Dog journey. After Future Leader Dogs return to our campus in Rochester Hills, they receive a wellness exam and evaluation before entering formal guide dog training. During this stage, they work with Leader Dog instructors to build the skills needed for guide work — from curb identification and straight-line travel to obstacle avoidance, traffic awareness and more advanced training in complex environments.

Every step of this journey is made possible because of supporters like you.

Leader Dogs for the Blind is 100% donor-funded, which means the care, training and support each Future Leader Dog receives depends on the generosity of people who believe in our mission. With a \$500 donation, your club can symbolically sponsor one of this year's selected puppies, all being raised by dedicated volunteer Lions Puppy Raisers: [Hunter](#), [Leyah](#), and [Presley](#).

Whether your club sponsors a puppy or gives the symbolic sponsorship as a meaningful gift, you are supporting the incredible journey from playful puppy to working Leader Dog.

Join us in shaping something extraordinary.

Together we serve,
Lion Kelsey Martin Gardner
Director of Philanthropy for
Lions Engagement
Leader Dogs for the Blind



Volunteers Needed at the Minnesota State Fair!

Please consider volunteering at the **Minnesota State Fair Vision, Hearing, and Diabetes Booth** located in the **Education Building**. You do **not** need to be a current or past board member of any of the Minnesota Lions foundations to volunteer. This is a great opportunity to serve, meet fellow Lions, and educate fairgoers about the important work Lions do across Minnesota. Make it even more enjoyable by signing up with a fellow Lion! To view available dates and sign up, visit the SignUpGenius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C49ADAD2EA3F49-62998506-2026#/> Thank you for helping showcase Lions' commitment to vision, hearing, diabetes awareness, and community service at the Great Minnesota Get-Together!



MINNESOTA LIONS
VISION FOUNDATION

Cabinet Meeting dates:

Monday November 30

Monday March 29



East side VFW, St. Cloud
5 pm social
5:30 Foundation
6 pm meal
6:30 meeting

THE WATKINS LIONS CLUB PRESENTS



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
2026
POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

TUESDAY, AUG. 4TH
5PM - 7PM

MCCARTHY PARK

FREE!

WATERSLIDE & BOUNCE HOUSES
GUNNY SACK RACES
YARD GAMES
FACE PAINTING
EMERGENCY RESPONSE VEHICLES
HOT DOGS, CHIPS & DRINK
ROOT BEER FLOATS
LIVE MUSIC BY THE VALLEY GARAGE BOYS



SPECIAL THANKS TO BUD'S BAR AND THE WATKINS CHAMBER FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS

CHAMPIONS LIONS
COLOR DASH

SUNDAY
AUGUST 16, 2026
AT THE
STEARNS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
1105 ASH ST S
SAUK CENTRE, MN 56378

RUN. WALK. GET COLORFUL.
HAVE FUN. SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY!

RAIN OR SHINE!
WE'RE COLORING OUR COMMUNITY!

FREE TO ALL DASHERS!

A COLOR RUN T-SHIRT WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE FIRST 200 PARTICIPANTS!

IT'S A COLOR RUN! PLEASE WEAR OLD CLOTHES, SHORTS, SOCKS AND SHOES AS THE COLOR MAY STAIN.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SIGN UP BEGINS AT 2:00 PM TO PICK UP YOUR T-SHIRT	COLOR RUN KICK OFF AT 3:00 PM	LUNCH AT 5:00 PM	DANCE 4:00 - 6:00 PM WITH DJ PETE!
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CHAMPIONS OF ALL ABILITIES. TOGETHER WE SHINE!

Celebrating ability. Building friendships. Creating a more inclusive community together!

DANCE WITH DJ Pete!

MORE INFO & REGISTRATION AT FB OFFICIAL SAUK CENTRE LIONS CLUB PAGE



KIMBALL LIONS CLUB
5K 2026 RUN - WALK

KIMBALL **AUGUST 8TH** DAYS

REGISTRATION DETAILS

PRE-REGISTRATION DUE
JULY 25, 2026
\$30.00 PER PERSON
Pre-Registered Participant will receive a T-shirt
Registration Form can be found at <https://www.kimballlionsclub.com/>
Harvest Bank - Kimball
Contact Information
(320) 249-7000 * Steve Gohman
(612) 741-9589 * Wayne Roth

RACE DAY
7AM * REGISTRATION
8AM * RACE START
WILLOW CREEK PARK
LIONS SHELTER

AWARDED METALS BY AGE AND GENDER GROUPS

WALK-INS ARE WELCOME

FOLLOW GRIN'S STORY ON 

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT "ERIN DIFFLEY KJER"

Sturgeon Lake Lions Club
46th Annual Sunfish Contest

August 1st, 2026
1 - 4 pm

Starting Point: Edelweiss Resort on the west side of Sturgeon Lake
Entry Fee per boat:
\$25 pre-register or \$30 day-of
2 occupants per boat
Prizes awarded for total weight of fish. Limited to 50 boats on a first come basis. All boats must register to compete.

Raffle!!
Buy tickets & Win prizes!

Prize money based on net entry fees:
1st Place-20%
2nd Place-15%
3rd Place-10%
4th Place-5%
5th Place-5%
6th thru 10th place other prizes

Mail registration fee to:
Sturgeon Lake Lions
C/O Brian Birkholm
33215 Co Rd. 43
Willow River, MN 55795
Checks payable to: Sturgeon Lake Lions

Grasston Lions Crappie Fishing Contest Rules:

1. \$40.00 per boat entry fee (no refund).
2. Maximum of 2 people in each boat.
3. Live wells will be inspected.
4. Must display fishing flag on boat.
5. Boats must not leave from landing before 1 p.m. when the signal is given.
6. Boats must be back on shore at 4 p.m. (You will be disqualified if late)
7. Must not get closer than 30 feet from another boat during the contest.
8. Maximum of 20 Crappies to be weighed in per boat. Automatic disqualification if more than 20 crappies are brought in for weighing.
9. Prize placement based on TOTAL WEIGHT of no more than 20 Crappies. In case of ties for places 1 through 4, the prize percentages will be added and then split equally.
10. Prize money is based upon the number of entries minus expenses.
11. Contestant will be responsible for their catch of fish.
12. Pokegama Lake fishing only. Disqualification if you leave the lake. No river fishing.

DECISIONS OF CONTEST JUDGES WILL BE FINAL.

*The Grasston Lions Club would like to thank you for participating in our Annual Crappie Contest.
Have fun and remember, safe boating.*



Grasston Lions 17th Annual Crappie Fishing Contest Lake Appel Bar & Grill

August 8, 2026 1-4 p.m.

PRIZES FOR TOP 4 PLACES

RAFFLE TICKETS SOLD ONLY DURING CONTEST

Raffle drawing after the contest...

Must be present to win!

PREREGISTER AND CONTEST RULES:

Grasston Lions Annual Fishing Contest
Grasston Lions
PO Box 132, Grasston, MN 55030

For more information contact
Pat at 320-237-5489
Butch at 320-496-3559



VOLUNTEER TO HELP



**Lions
KidSight**

SIGN UP TO WORK A SHIFT AT THE



FREE ADMISSION INTO THE FAIR & MILEAGE IS REIMBURSED!



Scan the QR code to access the online sign-up app and choose any shift that works for you! Onsite training will be provided. Below are the job descriptions for each position.

Team Lead (District Director) : Oversees the event and team operations.

Vision Screener (2) : Conducts screenings using the Welch Allyn SPOT or PlusOptix devices.

Greeter (2) : Welcomes families, explains the screening, assists with consent forms, checks for completeness, and manages the waiting line until a screener is ready.

Escort (2) : Guides families to the screener, delivers results, and files paperwork.

Note: Greeter and Escort roles require standing and interacting with families: Escort also requires attention to detail.



***Come join the Sauk Rapids Lions
Club at the Benton County Fair
August 4-9 -starting at 5pm Tues-
Fri & Sat & Sun at 12 noon***



SAUK RAPIDS LIONS CLUB
Steak Fry



 **Sauk Rapids VFW**

 **Friday**
September 11, 2026
5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

 **Steak**
Baked Potato
Salad
Dinner Roll & Cookie

 **\$17.00**

 **CONTACT DR TOM JOHNSON**
@ 320-249-2149
OR EMAIL: saukrapidslions@gmail.com




Make someone smile
when its cloudy and grey.

A small act of kindness will brighten their day

We Serve





Can Do Canines Open House
Tuesday, August 18, 6-8 p.m.
9440 Science Center Drive, New Hope, MN

Potential volunteers, clients, or anyone who might be interested in finding out more about our organization can join us 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 five of the types of dogs Can Do Canines trains: 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.

Can Do Canines strives to provide accessibility for all attendees. Please email accommodations@cardocanines.org if you need an accommodation to attend this event.

More information about Can Do Canines is at CanDoCanines.org.

5M LIONS QUEST WEBINAR SERIES

LIONS QUEST WEBINAR #2
IGNITE THE QUEST

Learn about Lions Quest and how your club can get involved!

A five-part webinar series for ALL Lions members to learn about Lions Quest - our Social Emotional Curriculum for youth - and the impact you can make in your community.

August 18, 2026
7:00 - 7:45 PM

Zoom: Join Virtually
Meeting ID: 828 0316 4131
Passcode: 087451

Or email: robrandmn@gmail.com for invite

Seminar Dates (tentative):
Webinar 1: June 16, 2026
Webinar 2: August 18, 2026
Webinar 3: October 20, 2026
Webinar 4: December 15, 2026
Webinar 5: February 16, 2027

Topic: Ignite the Quest
Topic: Map the Territory
Topic: Start the Conversation
Topic: Build the Partnership
Topic: Train, Prepare, Celebrate!

Lead the Pride. Launch the Quest!

AUGUST 2026 LIONS QUEST

BUILD THE PRIDE

Momentum is growing as Lions across Multiple District 5M begin their Quest for Impact. Now it's time to strengthen our foundation by building engagement within our clubs.

Lions Quest offers something powerful: the ability to create lasting change by supporting youth where they learn and grow every day. By partnering with schools and youth organizations, Lions move beyond one-time service projects into long-term impact.

If Quest is new to you or your club, I would be happy to visit your club, zone, or cabinet meeting. This would be a chance to provide you / your club with specific information about Quest and answer any questions to help start Quest in your area. You can reach out to me with any questions or schedule a visit using the contact information below.

THE ASK...
This month, your goal is to engage your fellow Lions. Share information at meetings, invite discussion, and identify members who are passionate about youth development. Every club should consider: How can we be part of this mission?

WE NEED YOU!
Clubs are encouraged to:

- Appoint a Lions Quest contact
- Discuss potential local partners
- Begin forming a small action team

Remember, you don't have to do everything—just start somewhere.

When Lions work together, even small steps can lead to extraordinary outcomes.

The pride is strongest when we move as one. Let's build that strength now.

CONTACT FOR MORE INFO:
Name: *Lion Keith Schleper*
Phone: *320-493-3524*
Email: *drschleper@gmail.com*

Lead the Pride. Launch the Quest

<https://www.lions-quest.org/>

WEEKS OF SERVICE
THREE WEEKS. THREE POWERFUL CAUSES!
2026-2027

LIONS SERVE. COMMUNITIES THRIVE. ❤️ TOGETHER, WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD!

VISION
OCTOBER 8-18, 2026
Opening eyes. Changing lives.
Promote eye health and support sight-saving initiatives in your community and around the world.

YOUTH
FEBRUARY 13-21, 2027
Empower today. Lead tomorrow.
Invest in our youth through service, mentorship, and programs that build brighter futures.

ENVIRONMENT
MAY 29-JUNE 6, 2027
Protect today. Preserve tomorrow.
Take action to care for our planet through sustainability, conservation, and clean community initiatives.

LUXEMBURG LIONS

Last Hamburger Sale of 2026!

Friday September 4th 10:00am - 6:00pm
St Wendelin School Parking Lot

Proceeds Benefit our Local Community!

Thank You for all Your Support!



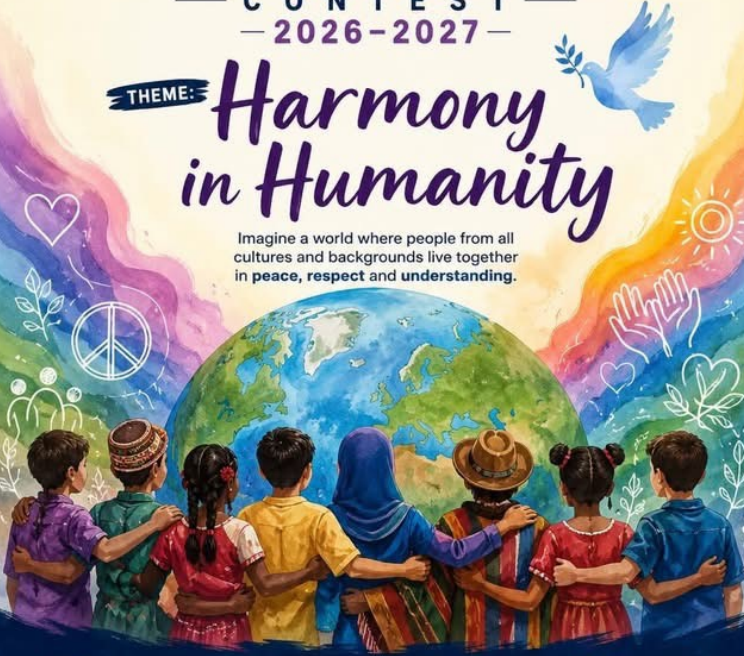
Bring your old eyeglasses and hearing aids repurposing.

Place larger pick-up orders in advance with a call to
John Honer @ 320-266-0337

LIONS INTERNATIONAL
PEACE POSTER CONTEST
2026-2027

THEME: **Harmony in Humanity**

Imagine a world where people from all cultures and backgrounds live together in peace, respect and understanding.



WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?
Children who are 11, 12 or 13 years old as of November 15, 2026

CREATE WITH HEART
Use your imagination to express peace through art.

SPONSORED BY YOUR LOCAL LIONS CLUB
Ask your art teacher or local Lions Club for details.

YOUR ART CAN INSPIRE THE WORLD
Your poster could be an international winner!

CREATE PEACE. INSPIRE THE FUTURE.
One World. One Dream. One Peace.



DID YOU KNOW ...

Since 1925, Lions International has been a champion in helping combat vision impairment and blindness?

With this same conviction, Lions have also been a force in providing medical care and education to help prevent hearing loss.

source: www.lionsclub.org



Lions International Convention
support available: Contact Lion
Carrie Shofner@
davecarrieshofner@gmail.com



2029 Lions International Convention Fundraiser

Brought to you by the Host Committee for the 2029 Minneapolis International Convention

2029 Convention Pins and Snowman Patches

The International Convention is coming to
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Now is your chance to get a piece of history and help raise the needed funds to Host this great Lions event.

Build the Snowman patch fundraiser.

\$50 per piece for a total of \$200

Limited Edition

2029 Minneapolis Pin with Charms



Pin- \$100
Charms \$25 or
all 4 for \$75



Charms are approximately:
1" x 1"; 1" x 3/4"; 1" x 3/4"; 1" x 1/2"

davecarrieshofner@gmail.com

PROJECT NEW HOPE

Military Family Retreats
at no cost to Veterans



"At Project New Hope, we are driven by our mission - to provide education, training and skills necessary to manage their lives after wartime service."



FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO
WWW.PROJECTNEWHOPE.NET OR SCAN THIS CODE:

2026 MINNESOTA RETREATS

2026 MAY 1-3

Camp Shetek near Slayton, MN

2026 JUNE 5-7

Osprey Wilds near Sandstone, MN

2026 OCTOBER 2-4

Good Earth Village, Spring Valley, MN

2026 DECEMBER 4-6

Faith Haven Camp near Battle Lake, MN

Save the Date!

Thanksgiving for Vision

Saving and Restoring
people's sight

OCTOBER 24, 2026

Holiday Inn & Suites
ST. CLOUD, MN

More Details Coming Soon!

ChatGPT

Save The Date!



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION
Changing Lives. Together.

LCIF GALA

Empowering Service.
Changing Lives.



THURSDAY

APRIL 15, 2027

Thursday night
**BEFORE THE MD5M
MULTIPLE CONVENTION!**





8 Easy Steps

To Growth Success

1. Pick 5-6 Friends or Acquaintances
2. Don't Ask Them to Join, Instead Just Ask Them to Help with a Project or Event
3. Some Will Agree to Help – They are Now Your New Member Candidates
4. Show Them What Lions Do to Serve – Introduce them to your Club members
5. No Pressure—Let Them Experience Our Service & See Lions Comradery in Action
6. Repeat if necessary— Continue to Expose Them to Lions (Invite them to a meeting)
7. Just Wait! Until They Start Making Positive Comments About Lionism...
8. Then "Just ASK" – You will be Successful! Let the Club's Action Seal the Deal

PDG Doug Harvey



FREE 18-INCH ROAD SIGNS
GET YOURS TODAY!

FREE 18-INCH ROAD SIGNS available while supplies last

LIMIT ONE REQUEST PER CLUB
Thank you for helping us spread the word!

FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED
Signs will be fulfilled on a first-come, first-served basis.

REQUEST YOUR SIGN TODAY:
<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center/marketing-events/marketing-public-relations/club-marketing/road-signs>

Show your impact.
Inspire your community.

LIONS 18" STREET SIGN

2026-2027

CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD

★ **RECOGNIZING CLUBS MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

★ *New clubs chartered after January 1, 2027, are not eligible for the award.*

1 MEMBERSHIP

- Achieved a net growth of two (2) members or 10% or more members (Reinstated members and charter members above the minimum 20 members will qualify.)
- OR
- Sponsored a new Lions club or Club Branch

2 SERVICE

- Report a minimum of four (4) service activities. (Three (3) must align with our Global Causes around Youth, Vision and Environment (one in each Global Cause) these service projects can be completed throughout the 2026-2027 Lion year.)

3 LEADERSHIP & ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

- Clubs in Good Standing: not in Status Quo or Financial Suspension. Club dues paid and no unpaid balance with Lions International greater than US\$50 outstanding 90 days or more.
- Report newly elected club officers for the 2027-2028 Lions year in the Lion Portal by May 15, 2027, of the current Lions year.
- Club officers to attend instructor-led club officer training (in person or virtual), organized and reported in Learn by GLT coordinator, between March 1, 2026 – October 31, 2026.

- The club president for the current Lion year must not have served in that role more than two consecutive years.
- 10% of the club's members complete any three (3) courses in the Lions Learning Center.

4 LCIF

- Contributed to LCIF a minimum of the club's membership total at the start of the 2026-2027 Lion year multiplied by US\$20.

5 DISTRICT, REGION AND ZONE CRITERIA

- For the District, Zone Chairperson and Region Chairperson, 50% of the clubs must earn the club excellence award for them to receive this award.

TOGETHER WE SERVE. TOGETHER WE EXCEL.

Making a Difference, Together

WE SERVE WITH COMPASSION. WE LEAD WITH PURPOSE. WE IMPACT LIVES.

2026-2027 Excellence Awards

★ *New clubs chartered after January 1, 2027, are not eligible for the award.*

Club Excellence Award criteria

Membership:

- Achieved a net growth of two (2) members or 10% or more members (Reinstated members and charter members above the minimum 20 members will qualify.)
- OR
- Sponsored a new Lions club or Club Branch

Service:

- Report a minimum of four (4) service activities. (Three (3) must align with our Global Causes around Youth, Vision and Environment (one in each Global Cause) these service projects can be completed throughout the 2026-2027 Lion year.)

Leadership & Organizational Excellence:

- Clubs in Good Standing: not in Status Quo or Financial Suspension. Club dues paid and no unpaid balance with Lions International greater than US\$50 outstanding 90 days or more.
- Report newly elected club officers for the 2027-2028 Lions year in the Lion Portal by May 15, 2027, of the current Lions year.
- Club officers to attend instructor-led club officer training (in person or virtual), organized and reported in Learn by GLT coordinator, between March 1, 2026 – October 31, 2026.
- The club president for the current Lion year must not have served in that role more than two consecutive years.
- 10% of the club's members complete any three (3) courses in the Lions Learning Center.

LCIF:

Contributed to LCIF a minimum of the club's membership total at the start of the 2026-2027 Lion year multiplied by US\$20.

District, Region and Zone criteria

For the District, Zone Chairperson and Region Chairperson, 50% of the clubs must earn the club excellence award for them to receive this award.

2026-2027

Cold Spring Lions Present 25 Year Service Awards



Past President Dick Bakken presented granite plaques to recognize 25 years of service in the Cold Spring Lions Club to Jerry Haus and Dan Ortloff. The award is reserved for those individuals who have served all officer positions and continue to contribute to ongoing activities. The plaques are installed on the wall at Lions Park with only five other members having achieved such an accomplishment: Dick Bakken, Linus Dingmann, Larry Ackerson, Frank Kaufman, and Roger Illies. We all wish to congratulate both of these men on their dedication to serve the Rocori community.



Lion Randy Riley was presented with the Lion of the Year Award by Lion Bill Gaede on



New District Historian Position

Last year, the Council of Governors voted to establish the new position of **Multiple District 5M Historian**. Lion Bob Harms and PCC Debbi Harms were appointed to serve in that role.

Because this is a new position, many decisions are still being made regarding what historical information should be collected, preserved, and archived for the Multiple District.

As a result of creating the Multiple District Historian position, each Sub-District has been asked to appoint a District Historian. I was appointed late last year and have been reappointed to serve as the **5M8 District Historian** for this Lions year.

I would appreciate your ideas and assistance as we begin building our district's historical records. What information do you feel should be preserved by a District Historian? If you have photographs, documents, newsletters, club histories, awards, special event information, or other historical materials that should become part of our district archives, I would love to hear from you. Please help us preserve the history of 5M8 for future Lions.

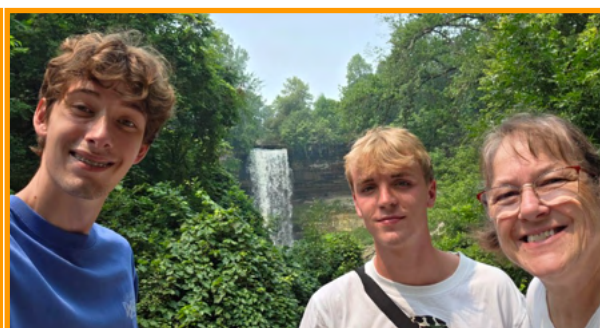
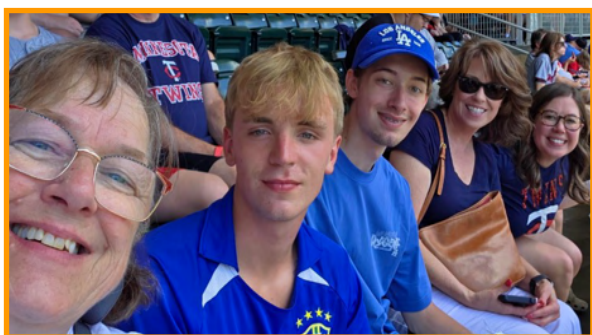
You may contact me at 1lionlady@charter.net or 320-699-0393.

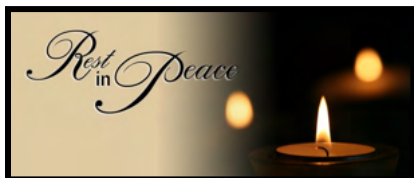
PCC Debbi Harms

5M8 District Historian
320.699.0393



Lion Becky Staneart and Lion Julie Gravgaard from St Joseph Y2K, cohosted two young men for this year's Lions youth exchange. Matías on the left is 17 and from Germany. Chris on the right is 17 and from England.





Lion Edward Jordahl
Lion Joe Wollak
Lion Laurel Larson

Motley Lions Club
Rice Lions Club
Sandstone Quarry Lions Club



5M8 is very excited to welcome these new Lions to help us "SERVE" our communities and world. We look forward to working with you, side by side and striving to make a difference while having fun doing so.

The list of new members is taken from the Lions International reports. If a new member is not listed yet, it is due to when Lions International receives the new member information from the club.

WELCOME NEW 5M8 LIONS MEMBERS

Matthew Boundy	Avon Lions Club
Jonathan Mueller	Avon Lions Club
Diane Torgerson	Cold Spring Home Pride Lions Club
Linda Jungels	Cold Spring Home Pride Lions Club
Terri Fischer	Cold Spring Home Pride Lions Club
Corey Nelson	Duelm Lions Club
Diane Nelson	Duelm Lions Club
Carol Stuckmayer	Duelm Lions Club
Gary Stuckmayer	Duelm Lions Club
Logan Nelson	Eagle Bend Lions Club
Stacie Warren	Eagle Bend Lions Club
Brian Thorson	Eagle Bend Lions Club
Zkelsi Topp	Eden Valley Lions Club
Pat Colville	Eden Valley Lions Club
Cheryl Sutton	Eden Valley Lions Club
Leaha Jackson	Hinckley Lions Club
Ed Borman	Kimball Lions Club
Kyle Sawatzke	Kimball Lions Club
Clint Krueger	Long Prairie Lions Club
Marja Krueger	Long Prairie Lions Club
Terry Scanlon	Motley Lions Club
Ryan Canpion	Sauk Rapids Tinville Lions Club
Krista Nieland	Sauk Rapids Tinville Lions Club
Marsha Ritten	Sauk Rapids Tinville Lions Club
Judy Schepers	Sauk Rapids Tinville Lions Club
Jane Odgers	St Cloud Lions Club
Darryl Kohout	St Rosa Lions Club
Kris Punsack	St Rosa Lions Club

5M8 Membership update as of **July 26, 2026**

2730 Lions Members & 73 clubs

24 members added in FY

16 Net growth in FY

-0.59 % net Growth in FY



5M8 Service update

July 26, 2026

94 overall activity count

35,522 overall people served in Fiscal Year

3,348 overall volunteer hours In Fiscal Year

29 % clubs reporting

DATES TO REMEMBER



5M8 Midwinter Convention

February 5-7, 2027 Kelly Inn St Cloud

MD5M Multiple Convention

April 16-18, 2027 Kahler Hotel Rochester MN

April 28-30, 2028 Kelly Inn St Cloud

Lions International Convention

July 2-6, 2027	Washington DC USA
June 23-27, 2028	Singapore
June 29-July 3, 2029	Minneapolis MN
June 28- July 2, 2030	San Antonio TX
July 4-8, 2031	Helsinki, Finland

USA/CANADA Forum

September 3-5, 2026	Memphis Tennessee
September 16-18, 2027	Huntsville Alabama
September 21-23, 2028	Grand Rapids Michigan

District Governor Diann events

July 31 & August 1 -MN Lions Vision Foundation
 August 10 Zone 4 Meeting
 August 11 Sauk Rapids Lions DG Visit
 August 14 Richmond Lions Club
 August 15 Rockville Lions 50th Charter Anniversary
 August 16 Sauk Center Lions Color Run @ County Fairgrounds 1 PM to 5 PM
 August 19 Cold Spring & Cold Spring Home Pride Lions DG Visit
 September 4 State Fair Kidsight 8:30 AM to Noon

“We can’t help everyone, but everyone can help someone.”

WE SERVE



Our Vision To be the global leader in community and humanitarian service.

Our Mission

To empower Lions clubs, volunteers, and partners to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian services and grants that impact lives globally, and encourage peace and international understanding.

LCIF

PDG Frank Leidenfrost

frankandamyl35@gmail.com 218-820-2323

IPDG Deb Bialke

liondebbialke@gmail.com 320-248-6704

**MN Lions Vision Foundation**

Lion Sherri Schmitz

allen.sherri.schmitz@gmail.com

IPDG Zach Wosmek

lionzachwosmek@gmail.com

**MN Lions Hearing Foundation**

Lion Bev Dolezal

patrickbevdoezal@gmail.com

Lion Sheila Worm

sheila3angels@gmail.com

**MN Lions Diabetes Foundation**

PDG Dave Thompson

dthompson1530@gmail.com

Lion Cathy Talberg

cathytalb95@gmail.com

**Special Olympics Chairperson**

Lion Rose Hansen

320-293-5441

Lions Quest

Lion Keith Schleper

drschleper@gmail.com

**MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation**

PDG Jeff Thompson

lionjeffthompson@gmail.com

Lion Christine Wosmek

chriswosmek@gmail.com

**5M8 Leader Dog**

PDG Tracy Voigt

mnhomeof4@hotmail.com 320-630-1264

**KIDSIGHT Lion Marty Breuer**

mjbreuer@msn.com

Lion Kathi Schmidt

kathilou1@hotmail.com

PDG Tracy Voigt

mnhomeof4@hotmail.com

**Environmental**

Lion Jack Frechette

jack.h.frechette@gmail.com

**Can Do Canines**

PDG Pete Kleingartner—C: 763-234-9126

mpsaklein@live.com

Lion Jean Euteneuer—C: 320-290-6991

euteneuer@charter.net



MN Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center

Lion Bob Thompson teddibob@gmail.com 612-390-2629 www.MNLERC.org



Project New Hope

Lion Dave Shofner davecarrieshofner@gmail.com

Lion Adrian Feigl alfeigl@outlook.com



Leo's

Lion Trish Thiel tlbtboots@yahoo.com



Youth Exchange

Lion Jess Radamacher saukrapidsjess@gmail.com



Peace Poster/Essay

Lion Becky Staneart wonderwomanbls@aol.com

Lion Lisa Gohmen Lisa.gohman@gmail.com



Sheehan Foundation PDG Donna Landwehr billanddonnal@myctl.net teamsheehan.foundation

Global Leadership Coordinators

PCC Jack Breitkreutz jabre@izoom.net

PCC Todd Neuman deerhilltgn@gmail.com



Global Service Team Coordinators

PDG Amy Leidenfrost head coordinator frankandamyl35@gmail.com

PCC Debbi Harms (320-699-0393) 1lionlady@charter.net



Global Membership Team Coordinators

IPDG Zach Wosmek
Lion Carrie Shofner

lionzachwosmek@gmail.com
davecarrieshofner@gmail.com

GMT 5M8 Team

Global Extension Team Coordinators

PDG Vince Thiel
Lion Trish Thiel
Lion Peyton Herges

vincethiel@yahoo.com
tlbtboots@yahoo.com
pherges2002@gmail.com



GMT Women's & Family Specialist

Lion Cheri Appel
PDG Donna Landwehr
PDG Bill Landwehr

Cheri52appel@gmail.com
billanddonnal@myctl.net
billanddonnalw0@gmail.com

P.R. Chair Lion Donna Orstad

orstadacres@gmail.com

2026-2027 Lions International Officers

International Lion President Mark Lyon

Brookfield Connecticut USA

Immediate Past President Arvinder Pal Singh

Kolkata India

1st V.P. Dr Manoj Shah

Nairobi Kenya

2nd V.P. Tony Benbow South

Vermont Australia

3Rd V.P. C. Robert Rettby

Neuchatel, Switzerland

District 5M8 Officers

District Governor Diann Belmont

lionpridecs@gmail.com

Immediate Past District Governor

Zach Wosmek

lionzachwosmek@gmail.com

1st VDG Marty Breuer

mjbreuer@msn.com

2nd VDG Kimberly Stommes

kim@jssmn.com

Secretary Colleen Rosenow, Watkins

colleen.rosenow.5m8@gmail.com

Treasurer David Thompson, Princeton

dthompson7053@yahoo.com

Please send your events, announcements, and photos to: 5M8 Newsletter Editor

5M8Newsletter@gmail.com

“The deadline to submit Articles, and notices for the District 5M8 Newsletter is the **20th** of each month “

Opportunities to grow!

Lions University: Provided by the Forum since 2014, you can take all the courses you want for free, however graduation requirement do include attendance at events

@ lionsuniversity.org

Lions Learning Institute: LCI's online learning portal.

@lionsclubs.org

Lions Virtual: Ongoing Zoom educational and social activities, and a mobile app that incorporates social sharing and other resources.

Global Lions Forum: Facebook Group with great discussions on topics of interests to Lions.



Websites to know

Lions Club International: [www: lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)

Multiple District 5M: [www: lionsmd5m.org](http://www.lionsmd5m.org)

District 5M8: [www: lions5M8.org](http://www.lions5M8.org)

Lions Program Sites

Can Do Canines: [www: candocanines.org](http://www.candocanines.org)

Childhood Cancer: [www: MNlionschildhoodcancer.org](http://www.MNlionschildhoodcancer.org)

KidsSight MD5M: [www: lionsmd5m.org/lions-kidsight.html](http://www.lionsmd5m.org/lions-kidsight.html)

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF): [www: lcif.org](http://www.lcif.org)

Leader Dog for the Blind: [www: leaderdog.org](http://www.leaderdog.org)

MN Lions Diabetes Foundation: www.mnlionsdiabetes.org

MN Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center: [www: MNLERC.org](http://www.MNLERC.org)

MN Lions Hearing Foundation: www.5mhf.org

MN Lions Vision Foundation: www.mnlionsvisionfoundation.org

Project New Hope: [www: projectnewhope.net](http://www.projectnewhope.net)

Sheehan Foundation www.teamsheehan.foundation

