

Lighting the Way Forward

District 11-E1 Nov 2025 Newsletter



Michigan Lions Serving 16 Counties & 35 Clubs!

Governor's Corner:

Serving with Gratitude

As November arrives, Lions across District 11-E1 are reminded of the values that unite us — service, gratitude, and compassion. This month gives us four opportunities to reflect on who we serve and why we serve.

Honoring Our Veterans – November 11

On Veterans Day, we honor the brave men and women who have worn the uniform of our nation. Many of our fellow Lions are veterans themselves, continuing their service to others long after their military days. To every veteran in our district — we thank you for your courage, sacrifice, and leadership. As Lions, let us also remember those veterans who struggle after service, especially those facing homelessness, health challenges, or isolation.

World Diabetes Day – November 14

Lions around the world unite on this day to raise awareness about diabetes **prevention and care** — one of our five global causes. Diabetes touches nearly every community, and Lions play a vital role in promoting early detection, healthy living, and community education. Clubs can participate by hosting screenings, sharing resources, or encouraging physical activity. Together, we can help light the way to better health.

National Homeless Awareness Month

November is also National Homeless Awareness Month — a reminder that thousands across Michigan, including veterans and families, live without stable housing. This is a powerful call for Lions to act:

- Support local shelters and food banks.
- Organize coat, blanket, or hygiene drives.
- Partner with community organizations to help families rebuild their lives. Even a small act of kindness can provide warmth and dignity to someone in need.

A Season of Thanksgiving – November 27

As Thanksgiving approaches, may we all pause to reflect on our blessings — our families, our communities, and our shared mission as Lions. Service is the purest form of gratitude. By helping others, we give thanks for the opportunities we have and for the trust our neighbors place in us.

This November, let's continue to be Anchored in Service and Lighting the Way Forward, honoring our heroes, strengthening our communities, and promoting health and hope for all.

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

Upcoming **Events:**

- Nov 7-9: 2025 Lions of Michigan Leadership Forum, R.A. MacMullan Ctr, Roscommon, MI
- Nov 12: R2Z1 Mtg, Shepherd Bar/Grill, Shepherd, MI
- Dec 5-6: CoG Mtg, Holiday Inn/Suites, Mt. Pleasant, MI
- Feb 7: District 11-E1 3rd Cabinet Mtg, Mt. Pleasant, MI
- Mar 27-28: District 11-E1 Convention, Evergreen Resort, Cadillac, MI

Upcoming Official Visits:

- Nov 3: Greenville
- Nov 4: Midland
- Nov 5: Remus
- Nov 11: Howard City
- Nov 24: Cedar-Maple City
- Nov 25: Shepherd
- Dec 3: Edmore
- · Dec 8: White Cloud
- Jan 12: Crystal

District Team

District Governor:

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

1st Vice District Governor:

Vacant

Assist 2nd Vice District Governor:

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Global Leadership Chair:

Vacant

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

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2025-2026 Club Excellence Award Criteria

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

- 1. **Induct** a minimum of two (2) or 20% new members, whichever is greater (does not include transfer, reinstated, or charter members). Eligibility is determined based on the Club's membership count on June 30, 2025.
- 2. Or sponsor a new Lions Club.
- 3. **Report a minimum of four** (4) service activities in the Lions Portal. Three of these service activities must show participation in each of the three International "Weeks of Service."
 - a. Mental Health & Well-Being: October 4-12, 2025
 - b. Hunger: January 3-11, 2026
 - c. Environment: April 18-26, 2026
- 4. **Report newly elected club officers** in Lion Portal by May 15, 2026 of the current Lion Year.
- 5. A minimum of 10% of the club's members **complete any three courses** in the Lions Learning Center.
- 6. **The Club President** for the current Lion year must not have served more than two consecutive terms.
- A minimum of two or more club officers (president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer. Of which, one must be the club President) complete Club Officer Training (on-line with Lions Learning Center or in-person as reported by a GLT coordinator) between May 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- 8. **Contribute to LCIF** a minimum of the Club's membership total on June 30, 2025 of the previous Lion year, multiplied by \$20.

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

To all Certified Vision Screeners

This is just a reminder that whenever you have a Gaze Referral, it is vitally important that you take a second "picture" to make sure that the child's head is not turned. I have received word from KidSight that there has been a spate of false referrals for gaze.

Here is something I did not know and now I am sharing it with you all: When a child's head is turned, you will very often get a false-positive referral for Gaze. That is why it is important to get a second screen while making doubly-sure that the child's head is straight on.

I learn something new almost every day.

Thank you so much for your dedication to this valuable project!

PDG Jim Patterson
District 11-E1 KidSight Coordinator



What is LCIF Empowering Service?

By PID Linda Tincher, District 25E

Empowering Service has been part of Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) for three or four years, but many Lions do not fully understand how Empowering Service benefits ALL the LCIF donation categories. In the past, Lions have been encouraged to select one of the LCIF causes such as Disaster Relief when making a donation, but now Lions are encouraged to **select Empowering Service**, **even if it is for Disaster Relief**, **because Empowering service donations** go into the area that needs the most support. If Disaster relief is low, then it goes to Disaster Relief. If Hunger is low, it goes to Hunger or any other category. When requested during an emergency LCIF will see that the money goes to where it is needed! This is a major change from what Lions are used to doing but once Lions understand they agree it is a win for everyone.

Here is how Empowering Service works to help everyone: At the end of the Lions year, clubs that have selected Empowering Service and donated \$5,000 or more, have 15% of the total amount placed in a District Community Grant (DCG grant) which is kind of like a savings account for you at LCIF. Donations may remain in a club account and accumulate for up to 15 years or be requested through the LCIF Grants department for a project that betters the club or area.

Since we all know some of our clubs are not financially able to donate \$5,000, if they donate something to Empowering Service, their donations are totaled together to benefit their district. Their district will be awarded 15% of the total and placed into a DCG grant where it can accumulate for up to 15 years or be used for the good of the district or be used to meet the 25% match required when a club or district applies for an LCIF grant.

The ability to use DCG money for a match for an LCIF is a significant asset. Recently, one district learned they had \$9,000 in DCG monies. They decided to ask for \$6,000 to buy a trailer to deliver tornado supplies. The LCIF Grants department advised instead to apply for an Emergency \$15,000 Preparedness grant. Buy the trailer, and have it painted with Lions Logos. Then take rest of the money and purchase supplies to put in the trailer. Sounded good, but the match for \$15,000 was \$3,750 which they did not have. The LCIF Grants dept suggested taking \$3750 from the \$9000 DCG fund. Money is still left in the DCG fund for another project or to continue accumulating; and the district will soon be ready for the next disaster response.

Donate to LCIF - Empowering Service and watch your District Community Grant grow

If you have questions please call, text or email me – **PDG Sheryl Schafer, District 11-E1 LCIF Coordinator** Call/Text: 812-321-7762 or Email: sheryl.schafer1@comcast.net



Peace Poster Contest Due By November 14, 2025

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

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

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

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



CONTACT US:

DG Jeff Schafer 975 Outback Ridge

Welcome New Members!

Club	Member	Sponsor
None		

For the month of October, we added no new members! Overall, we have added 32 new members, transferred in 7 members & 27 dropped members, gain of +12.

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

Midland, MI 48640 Cell: 812-325-3130

jeff.schafer1@comcast.net

We're on the Web at: www.MILions11e1.org

It's official — today is Paws With A Cause Day!

November 6, 2025, marks a monumental moment in PAWS history as we celebrate the official proclamation of Paws With A Cause Day and the grand unveiling of our newly renovated national headquarters!

This milestone represents years of dedication, growth, and community support. To everyone who has been part of this journey, thank you. You are the reason PAWS exists, and the reason we're able to continue changing lives through the incredible partnerships between people and dogs.

Here's to the future of PAWS — and all the lives yet to be transformed!



facebook.

Visit our facebook page.

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



Prayer List:

PDG Jim & Peggy Walls
PDG Pam Schroeder and PDG Dan Gibbons



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

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

Avi's Corner:

Pictured to the right is Avi (white Lab), Molly (11 yr old black Lab) and Lil Ann (15 yr old Cockapoo). Avi has been busy traveling with DG Jeff and PDG Sheryl during his official club visits along with traveling to Onekama Lions Club for the 2nd District 11-E1 Cabinet Town Hall meeting during October. She has also been busy with Leader Dogs for the Blind puppy outings with the mid-Michigan puppy group. She even attended a couple Therapy Dog Handling tests where she was the "distraction dog." She did a great job with her socializing skills and kept her distance from the dogs in training, along with showing them how to settle and relax. During November she plans on participating in puppy outings at the Bay City Mall and Midland Community Center, and watch/observe the Santa Parade in Midland





Global Leadership Team (GLT) Corner:



Leadership Opportunities Await – Step Forward to Serve District 11-E1!

District 11-E1 continues to thrive because of the dedication, heart, and leadership of Lions who step forward to serve. As we look ahead to the coming year, we are seeking Lions who are ready to take that next step in leadership and help guide our district into an even brighter future.

We currently have several **key leadership positions open** in District 11-E1:

- First Vice District Governor
- Global Leadership Team (GLT) Coordinator
- Second Vice District Governor (for the upcoming Lion year)

These positions are vital to the strength and success of our district. The First Vice District **Governor** works closely with the District Governor and Cabinet, learning every aspect of district leadership while helping clubs succeed and preparing to one day serve as District Governor.

Our Global Leadership Team (GLT) Coordinator helps Lions grow by developing leadership at every level—offering training opportunities, mentoring new leaders, and ensuring our clubs have the tools and confidence to serve effectively.

Looking ahead, the Second Vice District Governor role provides a wonderful opportunity for a Lion who is eager to learn, serve, and grow into future leadership. This position is the foundation for building experience and relationships that will prepare you for greater responsibilities within the district.

If you have a passion for service, enjoy helping others succeed, and want to shape the future of Lionism in our communities, District 11-E1 needs you! Leadership within Lions isn't just about holding a title—it's about inspiring others, sharing your skills, and ensuring our legacy of service continues

For more information, qualifications, or to express your interest, please contact: **DG Jeff Schafer** 812-325-3130 Jeff.schafer1@comcast.net

Let's continue to Serve, Grow, and Lead—Together in District 11-E1. Because when one Lion steps up, our entire district roars louder!

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

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

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





Global Service Team (GST) Corner:

How Do You Serve to take the Chill Off?

I woke up to 34 degrees F yesterday and thought to myself...What would my workday/school day be like if I didn't have a warm coat to easily put on before I walked out my door? What would my workday/school day be like if I didn't have breakfast because my fridge and pantry were empty? What is your club doing in Service this cold season? I'm good at listening to your club's service project ideas and passing them on in this newsletter so pick up the phone and call me.

If you don't have a Cold Season Service Project and need one in Michigan, you don't have to look far. All the summer project money your club has received can be turned around for good works in your town...It could be a Coat Drive for a homeless shelter, Thanksgiving basket, Senior Center visit, a child's holiday shopping trip or just someone in need of anything. Please be aware and conscience of what you as Lions can do in your own area of Michigan. Make it a Blessed season from the Lions of Michigan to the people of Michigan.

If your club needs ideas for who needs help in your community this cold season ask a teacher, principal, pastor, or emergency responder. Not only will they tell you but will be potential LIONs once they know you care and want to help someone they know or have seen who needs any help. We just had mental health awareness week and I can't think of anything that will help mental health better than warmth and a healthy meal.

FYI - The NEXT Global Service Week is Jan 3-11, 2026. The focus is HUNGER. As you complete a project related to HUNGER this holiday season please pass this along to your club service chair or club secretary so they can report the project to participate in the Global Service Week and then be sure to report it in January by January 12!!! This way your club gets credit for participating in Global Service Week. I don't make this up, just passing it on... If anyone needs help reporting in the portal, please call me at two three one 740 seven zero seven six.

Wishing you all a blessed Holiday Season helping those in need because as Lions, WE SERVE!!

Service to the Mitten! -Lion Steve Adsmond, GST Coordinator, District 11-E1 231-740-7076

Medical Equipment Availability

The Luther Lions Club has an abundance of medical equipment, crutches, walkers, shower chairs, and portable toilets.

If your members or Club are interested in any of these items, please call Luther Lions President Linda Wellman at 503-799-3105.





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

Rally for Change: Hunger Week of Service

Our Hunger Week of Service, January 3-11, is your chance to make a difference. Rally your club to strengthen food security, provide meals and raise awareness. Together, Lions and Leos can fight hunger and inspire lasting change worldwide.

Update Your Club Roster

By maintaining your club roster, your club will be billed only for members who are active in your club. It also ensures that your members receive all the benefits of being a Lion. Log into the Lion Portal or your local reporting system to review your club's roster for accurate billing.

Take Action on World Diabetes Day

World Diabetes Day is November 14, so take time to explore our diabetes programs. Encourage your club to host awareness activities, promote healthy living and learn how Lions are making an impact in the fight against diabetes.

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

4th Annual Ice Plunge – Lions Bear Lake Camp

Enclosed (pages 13-15) you'll find the flyer, sponsorship form, and registration form for the **4th Annual Ice Plunge**, benefiting **Lions Bear Lake Camp** on **Saturday**, **February 7**, **2026**.

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

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

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

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

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

With appreciation,

Chrissy Andre Ice Plunge Chair/MD11 LBLC State Chair



LIONS DISTRICT 11 E-1 CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENT

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

Special Guest Room Rates

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

Discounted Meal Packages

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

Supporting the Convention

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

Service Project: Sleep in Heavenly Peace

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

Stay Tuned for Updates

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

Charles Dinsmore, Chairman 11 E-1 Convention Committee

Summary of the 1st Quarter Board of Trustees Meeting Lions of Michigan Service Foundation Saturday, November 1, 2025

Club Donations to the Foundation

As of the end of the first quarter, Lions have donated \$99,619.89. This includes both club and individual donations. Data from District 11-E1's fall Parade of Checks is not available currently so the total donation for our district to this point is listed as \$341.

Grants and Assistance

As of the end of the 1st Quarter, demand for emergency grants and assistance has been very light.

Emergency Assistance Grants Changes

As we continue to lose Lions Clubs, there are large areas of Michigan without any associated Lions Club. It is becoming more difficult to find sponsoring clubs for grant requests from these Club "deserts." The foundation leadership is investigating ways to deal with these grant requests in a timely manner.

New Revenue Stream

The continued loss of Lions Clubs means that the foundation must start looking for an alternative revenue stream to fund our grants and assistance programs. The board of trustees has authorized a committee to investigate opening a resale shop in the Greater Lansing metro area. Lions Clubs in other areas have been very successful in this venture. More information to follow.

Further, it is important that we encourage every Lion Club to donate to the foundation. It is also important to encourage individual donations.

Eye Care Assistance Program

So far this year, the foundation had provided eye care to 54 recipients state wide with two of those in 11-E1.

Lions Robert Mathog Hearing Scholarships

Only two applicants for the four annual \$1,000.00 scholarships this year. It is necessary for clubs to contact their local high schools and colleges to make sure they have this scholarship information. It is estimated that EVERY high school in Michigan has at least one hearing-impaired student who qualifies.

Mints and Mints for Military

The cost of Lions mints has increased considerably due to the implementation of tariffs. It is recommended that clubs increase their selling price to at least \$0.75 or \$1.00. Due to the tariffs and the increase in shipping costs, the suggested donation for the Mints for Military program has been increased from \$90.00 to \$105.00. New brochures are available with the updated pricing.

KidSight Screenings

At the end of the 1_{st} Quarter, there have been a total of 9528 children screened with 1,240 referrals state-wide.

In this Quarter, 9 clubs in 11-E1 have screened 290 children with 46 referrals.

Overall, the foundation is in good shape and making slow progress towards its goal of having a \$3M portfolio.

IPDG Jim Patterson

MICHIGAN WORKS! Success Stories West Central Appagament to translation and Appagament to transla

BRITTANY — Talent & Growth Fund

Brittany, a devoted mother of three children under the age of six, is the sole provider for her family of five. Her husband is unable to work due to a disability and receives Supplemental Security Income, placing the full financial responsibility on Brittany's shoulders. For the past nine years, she has worked diligently in a production role at Big Rapids Products, earning \$16.50 an hour, plus a \$1 per hour shift premium.

When Brittany's only vehicle broke down, the repair costs far exceeded the value of the car. Living paycheck to paycheck, she and her family couldn't afford to fix it or purchase a new one without facing significant financial strain. With no reliable transportation, Brittany risked losing her job — the family's sole source of income.

In need of support, Brittany reached out to Michigan Works! West Central in Big Rapids. Thanks to assistance from the Talent and Growth Fund and the Lions Club of Big Rapids, the team was able to help



her purchase a dependable replacement vehicle.

Now, with reliable trans- financial stability and p portation and no car payment, family with the security Brittany can continue commuting they need for the future. to work and supporting her family.

This vital support has helped her maintain employment, preserve financial stability and provide her family with the security and hope they need for the future.

MWWC.org

Don't Forget to Report Your Service!

Every act of service matters — and when you report it, it *multiplies* the impact!

As Lions, we serve from the heart, but when those projects are entered into the Lions Clubs International reporting portal (MyLion), they become part of a much bigger story — one that shows the world just how much District 11-E1 is doing to make a difference.

When you report your club's service activities, you help:

- Highlight your club's impact locally and globally.
- Support district and international recognition of your members' hard work.
- Inspire other clubs with new service ideas.
- Strengthen our ability to apply for grants and partnerships through accurate reporting.

Please take a few minutes after each project or event to log in and report your service through the **MyLion portal** (accessible via <u>lionsclubs.org</u>). It's quick, easy, and ensures your service counts toward our district's overall impact.

Let's make sure every hour, every meal, every pair of glasses, and every smile is recorded — because every



LIONS INTERNATIONAL TRADING PIN CLUB YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM LETTER TO THE PIN TRADING CLUBS



July, 1 2025

Dear Trading Pin Club President,

As you know the LITPC Youth Scholarship Program will provide a US\$4,000 scholarship for a graduating senior who is the child or grandchild of a Lion, Lioness and/or Leo Club member. We feel the most important aspect of the Youth Scholarship is that it will help young people pursue their education and follow their dreams.

In order to be successful, the Youth Scholarship Program needs the help and support of all pin trading clubs and areas without a pin trading club. This is another opportunity to demonstrate that pin traders are "Lions First". Teamwork has always been the hallmark of the pin trading family, and with that in mind, the enclosed guidelines will help you promote the program and distribute information and applications.

It is only by working together that we can continue a very special program to help young people and, hopefully, establish a program for future Lions. Your involvement is essential and we need your time and effort to make the program work. The Scholarship Committee is open to any suggestions of help to improve the program. Thank you for your cooperation and know that we appreciate it.

The Scholarship Guidelines, Application Form and Acknowledgement form can be found on the LTTPC web site at the following URL. www.litpc.org

Yevs Leveille, PID
President Lions International Trading Pin Club

Growing Our Pride – Let's Strengthen District 11-E1!

Every great service story begins with a Lion who said "yes" — yes to serving others, yes to fellowship, and yes to making a difference. As we continue to serve our communities across District 11-E1, let's also focus on growing our clubs so that even more hands and hearts can join our mission!

Membership growth isn't just about numbers — it's about **sustaining our ability to serve**. When we welcome new members, we bring in new ideas, new energy, and new opportunities to expand our impact.

Here are a few ways to help your club attract and retain members:

- **Invite a friend or family member** to join you at a service project seeing Lions in action is the best recruitment tool!
- Host a "Meet the Lions" social or open house at your local library, park, or community center.
- Partner with local schools, businesses, or churches many people want to serve but don't know where to start.
- Highlight your projects on social media photos of Lions in action inspire others to get involved.
- Ask members to share why they joined personal stories are powerful recruitment tools.

Remember, each new member brings new passion, connections, and creativity to your club. Let's make it our goal for every club in District 11-E1 to **invite at least one new Lion** this year!

Together, we can grow stronger, serve farther, and ensure that the spirit of Lionism continues to roar across our communities for generations to come.

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

Changes to the Lions of Michigan Foundation's Emergency Grants

PDG Jim Patterson

As we approach the onset of cold weather and the furnaces come on, there is always an uptick in the number of house fires. Michigan Lions have long used the LMSF's Individual Emergency Grant to help folks in their community affected by house fires, as well as with other emergencies. At the August 2 Board of Trustees meeting several permanent changes were made to the emergency grants offered by the foundation.

First, ALL application forms have been updated. DO NOT use older application forms to apply for emergency grants. If you keep the forms on file, discard them! Further, you can no longer download application forms from the internet.

When you need an application, whether it is for individuals, communities, medical emergencies, or veterans help, contact one of the trustees or the foundation directly to ask for the correct application form. This is the only way to ensure you have the newest version of the application.

Here are the major points regarding the permanent changes to each grant.

Emergency Disaster Relief – Single Family

- Grant maximum is \$1,000
- Clubs must donate 10% of requested amount to foundation.
- The income information requirement has been removed.

Emergency Disaster Relief – Multi Family

- Grant maximum is \$5,000 total with no more than \$1,000 to a single family.
- Clubs must donate 10% of requested amount to foundation.
- The income information requirement has been removed.

Emergency Individual Assistance - Non-Military

Grant maximum is \$2,000 for medical needs only.

Emergency Individual Assistance – Military

• Grant maximum is \$2,000 and may be used for non-medical purposes.

If you have any questions about how to apply or which grant to apply for contact your Lions of Michigan Foundation trustees:

PDG Jim Patterson (231) 250-0925 pattersonjv@comcast.net

PDG Jackie Glazier (231) 534-4932 jackieglazier14@yahoo.com



LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP

ICE PLUNGE & DINNER FUNDRAISER

FEBRUARY 7TH, 2026 2:00PM

3409 N. FIVE LAKES RD LAPEER, MI 48446

ICE PLUNGE REGISTRATION FEE & PLEDGES

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

\$50 Registration Fee: Plunge, Dinner, T-shirt, Medal \$100 or More: Plunge, Dinner, T-shirt, Tote Bag, Medal

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

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

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

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

Event Sponsorship Opportunities

Polar Legend Sponsor - \$2,500

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

Sub Zero Hero Sponsor \$1,000

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

Arctic Champion Sponsor \$500

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

Frosty Friends Sponsor \$250

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

Ice Breaker Sponsor \$100

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

Donations Welcome!!! Donated raffle and prize items are appreciated.

Donors will be acknowledged throughout the event via announcements Please visit the "Events"

page on

bearlakecamp.org or

send check to:

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





Lions Bear Lake Camp Jumper & Dinner Reservation Form

Name:		Zip:		
Address: Email:				
Email:Phone: T-Shirt Size (Jumpers Only) (S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL, XXXXL):				
Participation Selection (Check	One);			
Jumping & Dinner – \$50 Initia	Pladde (includes dinner & T.sh	siet)		
Dinner Only – \$25 per adult ti		,		
If purchasing dinner only , pleas	e indicate the number of ticket	8:		
Adult Tickets:x	\$25 = Total: \$			
Child Tickets:x	\$10 = Total: \$			
	r Jumpers Only):			
Initial Pledge (Required	d to Jump): \$50			
Additional Pledged Am	ount Turning in Today: \$			
Total Pledge Donation Submitt	ed Today: \$			
(Any remaining pledge amounts	can be turned in on the event d	ay.)		
T-Shirt Pre-order (Non-Jumper	s) \$10 Each			
To purchase an Ice Plunge T-Shir	• •	w many you would like o	feach size.	
Youth Sizes				
Small Medium La	ingeX-Lange			
Adult Sizes				
Small Medium	LargeX-Large	2XL 3XL	4XL	
Total Payment (Jumpers & Dinr	er Reservations)			
Pledge Donation Total; \$	_			
Dinner Ticket Total: \$				
T-Shirt Preorder Total \$	_			
Additional Donation (Optional)	: \$			
Grand Total Payment; \$	-			
Payment Method:				
☐ Cash ☐ Check (Payable to Lio	ns Bear Lake Camp) 🗆 Credit C	ard		
For credit card payments:				
	sit www.bearlakecamp.org und			
 If paying by phone, plea 	ase call the camp office at (810	245-0726		
Return completed forms to:				
Lions Bear Lake Camp				
3409 N. Five Lakes Rd, Lapeer,				

🔯 chrissy@bearlakecamp.org | 📞 (810) 245-0726



DONATE TO LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP

Your Gift Makes a Difference

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

Enclosed is my gift for \$ to Lions Bear Lake	Camp.
Please bill me for \$ as my gift to Lions Bear L	.ake Camp.
This gift is for: General Donation Visually Impaire	ed & Blind Youth Camp
Sponsor a Camper Deaf & Hard of	Hearing Youth Camp
To make a secure credit card payment please visit our web www.bearlakecamp.org under the "Donations Tab" and clic QR code.	
This gift is in memory of:	4
This gift is in honor of:	
Mailing Address:	
Mailing Address: State: Zip Code	
Telephone:Email:	

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

Bear Lake Camp News

Steve Glazier, District 11E1 Bear Lake Camp Chairperson

District 11E1 Lions did you know Bear Lake Camp is Licensed by the State of Michigan?



The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services reviews and audits Lions Bear Lake Camp annually, to ensure we are in full compliance in the areas of Health and Safety, site suitability, camp activities and staffing, along with other requirements to insure we meet and sustain these standards. Bear lake Camp has been commended by MDHHS for "surpassing" these requirements for example by now prohibiting any known individual with a felony record from entering camp property as an additional safety precaution.

Hi Fellow District Lions! I would like to acknowledge an appreciative "Thank You" to all Lion Clubs that supported Bear Lake Camp at the Fall Conference in Luther in late September. The success of the Lions Bear Lake Camp is a direct result of the generous support from District 11E1 Lions Clubs, and we are incredibly grateful. Your donations, especially those presented recently during the annual Convention's Parade of Checks to Lions Bear Lake Camp and of course to other District Projects represented there demonstrate District 11E1's unwavering commitment to helping individuals in need. We at Bear Lake Camp would like to Thank and give Recognition to the following District Lion Clubs for their generosity: White Cloud, Kaleva, Coleman, Cedar/Maple City and Central Montcalm. Also, an EXTRA SPECIAL THANKS is reserved for the following Lion Clubs: Midland, Harrison, Onekama, Hart and Cadillac for their extraordinary commitment to our Camps cause. The main reason for the existence of Lions Bear Lake Camp is our longest-running and largest program: the Bear Lake Summer Kids Camp, which runs June thru August. We had a record 1,423 kids this summer compared to last year's record of 1,100. The overwhelming interest from kids who want to attend this camp speaks volumes about the quality of the programs and the excellence of the staff, which I can personally vouch for.

Running a year-round camp comes with a unique set of challenges and unexpected expenses. We are constantly maintaining and improving our buildings and facilities, expanding accessibility for all abilities, and creating new programs to meet the needs of every attendee. Your contributions are crucial for replacing aging equipment, enhancing safety, and making the camp a welcoming place for everyone. Most importantly, these funds help make our summer camps for visually impaired and hard-of-hearing children affordable and accessible.

Beyond our core impaired vision and hearing programs, we also host summer camps for children with a variety of special needs, including those with autism, those in foster care, and those affected by grief or cancer as examples. These partnerships with other organizations are vital, and the rates we charge for these programs are determined by the specific activities and facilities they utilize, as well as their staffing needs. These special needs camps often bring their own counselors, nurses, and coordinators, which helps us to focus on providing the best possible experience while still making it affordable.

Your support truly makes a difference to everyone who experiences our camp. On behalf of Traci and myself, we would like to extend an invitation for you to visit Lions Bear Lake Camp and experience

Dive into Action! Support the Ice Plunge for Lions Bear Lake Camp

the impact of your contributions firsthand. Just imagine the upkeep on 20 buildings at the Camp (per my memory count while writing this). —your support keeps it all running smoothly. Our Camp is a place where kids build confidence and create lifelong memories and friends. This is all made possible by your donations. On behalf of the Bear Lake Camp staff, our special needs campers, and their parents, "Thank You" again for helping the camp thrive and grow. Your financial support and volunteer time ensure that Bear Lake Camp remains a place where lives are changed futures are brightened and Lions legacy to never be forgotten.



Are you ready to make a splash for a great cause? Lions Bear Lake Camp's annual **Ice Plunge** fundraiser is just around the corner on **Saturday**, **February 7**, **2026**! This exhilarating event raises vital funds to support our year-round programs, creating life-changing experiences for individuals of all abilities.

Here's how you can help make the Ice Plunge a roaring success:

- Sponsor the Event: Your sponsorship will directly impact the camp, helping us provide premier outdoor experiences to those we serve. Every donation counts and brings us closer to empowering more special needs campers.
- 2. Take the Plunge: Encourage your District 11E1 Governor and Vice Governors, friends, family, or club members to dive into the icy waters! It's a fun and daring way to show your support.

Bring Your Family & Friends: Not ready to jump? Join us as a spectator! Purchase a **dinner ticket** and enjoy the warmth of community while cheering on the participants.

For a few years, as your District 11E1 Bear Lake Chairperson I've had the privilege of sharing stories

For a few years, as your District 11E1 Bear Lake Chairperson I've had the privilege of sharing stories and incredible experiences made possible by your support at Lions Bear Lake Camp. It's a place where dreams come to life for those kids who need it most, and it's all Thanks to you Lions.

As a new member of the Bear Lake Camp Board of Directors as of this year, I have been able to view the camp from a different perspective—one that offers a realistic look into the essential repair work and worrisome critical funding gaps that happens behind the scenes. These repairs and upkeep are critical to keeping the camp safe, viable, and welcoming for all.

Like any of us that own homes and property, the camp requires consistent preventative maintenance and upkeep. We have identified several critical infrastructure buildings needs that must be addressed immediately to prevent more costly damage down the line and safety issues.

- New roofs are required for the Director's House, the Art Center, and the Nature Center. We are incredibly grateful for the generous matching commitment of \$32,000 from Shelby Township toward these much-needed repairs. This is a fantastic start, but we still need your help to complete this project. (All other facility roof repairs were completed just before COVID hit and when business donations were substantially higher then currently).
- A safety priority is the non-functioning lighting in the Bear Lake Lodge parking lot and along the roadway entry. Limited vision in these areas poses a significant safety risk. Our goal is to replace all pole lighting with modern, energy-efficient LED fixtures. We're keeping costs minimized by reusing all existing poles and wiring and have even secured donated labor and equipment rentals!

To make these vital repair projects a reality, we are asking for all Districts and Clubs help throughout Michigan.. Your contribution will directly support our maintenance fund and ensure that camp founder "Big Al Kassin's" vision and mission continues into the future. Every contribution helps us preserve this essential resource for kids in need with disabilities who need help the most. We have recently received an individual donation of \$1500 from Ron and Elaine Hines from Lake Orion and a commitment from some local clubs for this badly needed work.

Will you help Bear Lake Kids Camp keep the dream alive too!

Please keep these dates in mind when planning your weekend getaways. (Also please save to your calendar or print out the Bear Lake Camp activity attachments)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Ice Plunge – February 7, 2026 Wild Game Dinner – April 11, 2026 Workbee – May 9, 2026 Golf Outing – June 8, 2026 Open House – June 28, 2026 Clay Shoot – September 26, 2026



Save-The-Date

3rd District 11-E1 Cabinet Town Hall Meeting

Saturday, February 7, 2026

from 9am-3pm
Isabella Commission on Aging
2200 S Lincoln Rd, Mt Pleasant, MI
50/50 Raffle and Door Prizes

More information on lunch and agenda will be in the December Newsletter



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

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

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

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

2025 Fall District 11-E1 Conference

September 26, 2025 Luther Lions Hall, Luther, MI

District 11-E1 2025 Fall Conference was held at the Luther Lions Hall in late September. Attendees enjoyed training, fellowship, 50/50 raffle, lots of door prizes, and the Parade of Checks where the clubs in our district donated generously to the State and District Projects. Even Future Leader Dog puppy Avigot into the lineup for Leader Dog donations!





2nd District 11-E1 Cabinet Town Hall Onekama Lions Den, Onekama, MI



District 11-E1 2nd Cabinet Town Hall meeting was held at the Onekama Lions Den in mid-October. Attendees enjoyed a service project where we created Veteran's Day cards for Veterans, fellowship, 50/50 raffle, door prizes, and reports from various projects and committees.

2nd Counsel of Governors Meeting Tree Top Resort, Gaylord MI



The MD-11 & SD-10 Council of Governors met at the Tree Top Resort in Gaylord, MI in early October. The service project for that meeting was collecting clothing (cold weather type) for the children in that area. Pictured are PDG Sheryl Schafer along with FLD Avi next to some of the clothing donated by all the District's in Michigan. DG Jeff greatly appreciated the clubs that contributed to this statewide service project.

Chapter Chronicles

Coleman Lions Club has a great Charter Night Dinner and Auction!

The Coleman Lions celebrated their 85th Anniversary with their annual Charter Night Dinner and Auction! They had over 140 guests attend the event which included a wonderful dinner cooked and served by the Coleman Culinary School, which is a career and technical education program offered by the Coleman Community Schools for high school students in Midland County. There were silent auction items, head-tails game, 50 square board for a meat package, 100 square board for a king size quilt, purchase a key unlock a lock for an inflatable kayak, a raffle for an elevated deer blind, 50/50 raffle and a live auction. The "Heart of the Lion" annual award was given to Roxy Smith for her endless hours and dedication in supporting the Coleman Community.

In addition, the Coleman Lions support a Coleman High School Concession Stand, a Variety Show and the annual Halloween Bash where they setup and support multiple games for the kids to play at the Greater Midland Community Center in Coleman. Finally, along with members from the Midland Lions Club they helped with a Kidsight Vision Screening with the Crystal Lions Club.





Kaleva Lions Celebrated their 63rd Anniversary

The Kaleva Lions Club celebrated their 63rd anniversary in conjunction with District Governor Jeff Schafer's official visit. During the visit Lion King Chris Hall was presented with the "Lion of the Year" award. There were members from the Coleman Lions and Onekama Lions attending the event too. Pictured (from left to right): Lion King Chris and DG Jeff.



Lake Ann Lions Busy with Service and Fellowship

The Lake Ann Lions Club in action with a service project putting together some power book bags!





Freemont Lions Club Support Students in Need of Eyeglasses (SINE) Program

We are thrilled to share the success of this year's Students in Need of Eyecare (SINE) program! Thanks to the incredible teamwork and dedication of everyone involved, 68 students from five local schools (grades K–12) received comprehensive eye exams at Ferris State University, with only two students absent, a remarkable participation rate compared to prior years.

Of those examined, 46 students were prescribed glasses to improve their vision. Beyond addressing refractive needs, several medical concerns were identified, some requiring prompt attention to prevent vision-threatening complications.

Each child received a summary sheet to take home, and detailed reports will be mailed directly to families, with copies provided to the Fremont Lions Club and participating schools to help coordinate any needed follow-up care. Glasses are now being made in our optical lab, with a November delivery planned in partnership with the schools and Lions Club.

This initiative truly embodies the spirit of collaboration. The SINE program would not be possible without the dedication of Michigan College of Optometry staff, faculty, and administration, our school liaisons, Roger, and the Fremont Lions Club members, and the generous funding provided by the Fremont Area Community Foundation, Fremont Lions, White Cloud Lions, and Michigan College of Optometry.

This program exemplifies the power of partnership in supporting children's vision and overall well-being. We look forward to sharing the full summary data once the analysis is complete and continuing this important work in the years ahead.

Pictures include a child being examined followed by a satisfied client, and then some happy Lions: Darl Purdy, Brenda Adsmond and Rodger Bradshaw from the Freemont Lions Club.







Arcadia Lions Sponsor Halloween

On Halloween, the Club hosted a townwide Trunk or Treat held at Finch Park, complete with free grilled hot dogs and brats where area residents who live outside the village could participate in giving candy to trick or treaters. The village hasn't had door to door Trick or Treating in many years, so Lion Gretchen developed a system for interested homeowners to sign up and then she created a map of the village highlighting the 33 participating locations.





Harrison Lions Busy with Cleaning Out Closets and Storage Areas

The Harrison Lions is cleaning out their club house and transporting eyeglasses and pill bottle. With the help of Zone Chair Chuck Dinsmore (Coleman Lion) and District Governor Jeff Schafer (Coleman Lion) they were able to accomplish their goal! The two Coleman Lions transported the eyeglasses and pill bottle down to their clubhouse in Coleman where they plan to make a service project out of removing the glass cases and transporting the eyeglasses over to Ferris State Optometry School and the pill bottles will be sent down to a business in Cincinnati, Ohio.



Boxes of cleaned and uncleaned eyeglasses ready for transport to Coleman. Pictured from left to right are: Lion Rose Lay, new member Deanna Culp, President Sandra Castle and Lion Dixie Westmoreland.



Everything in the trailer including quite a few pill bottles ready for the trip to Coleman. Pictured from left to right are: DG Jeff Schafer, Zone Chair Chuck Dinsmore, and President Sandra Castle.

Big Rapids Club Supports Working Mother

Recently the Club had an opportunity to work with Michigan Works! West Central's Talent and Growth Fund to assist a working mother, whose husband is on disability, obtain a reliable vehicle to allow her to continue to work as the family's sole support. Now, with reliable transportation and no car payment, Brittany can continue commuting to work and supporting her family. This vital support has helped her maintain employment, preserve financial stability and provide her family with the security and hope they need for the future.



Luther Lions' November Full of Events

Happy Haunting Everyone and a Blessed Happy Thanksgiving to all Lions everywhere! Our Nov. 2nd Breakfast is fast approaching. It's an All You Can Eat Breakfast with all your favorites. Adults are only \$12 and kids are \$6 under the age of 6 FREE! Time is from 8:30am to 11am.

Our annual Fall Craft Show and Bake Sale is also coming up on Saturday, November 8th from 10am to 4 pm. Come browse the aisles of our Luther Lions Club for some wonderful items to purchase from our likewise wonderful Vendors! Get that Christmas shopping done sooner than later! Our Lions Club will also host a delicious Bake Sale so get your goodies for the upcoming Holidays. Freeze them and be ready when company drops in.

Our Feed America truck will be here at the Luther Lions Club parking lot on Nov. 13th. Line up starts around 3pm give or take on the time. Food items unknown ahead of time and will be given out until gone.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!

Northport Lions Grow Membership to Better Serve Community

The Northport Lions Club inducted 13 new members since September 2025. We had a very successful membership drive spearheaded by one of our board members. There will be a few more new members who will join us at our November meeting.

We meet on a monthly basis April through December. Our meeting/potluck each month features a guest speaker. In October we hosted speakers from Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities. They addressed their regional farm to school food programs, getting fresh food into the local schools for student lunches. We generally host groups that we financially support by way of annual grants. In 2024-2025 we distributed \$19,127 to local organizations doing good work for our local community. Our next fundraiser will begin in December. The money collected through the Patty DeYoung Holiday Giving Fund, named after one of past members, is used to purchase holiday gift cards for our neighbors in need. Our main fundraiser event is our annual Fly in Pancake Breakfast the first Saturday in August.

The Northport Lions are becoming the lifeline of volunteers for events held in Leelanau Township. Our members' recognizable yellow hats can be seen helping at the Northport Dog Parade, Leelanau Uncaged, Music in the Park, the Recycling Center, Holiday Toy distribution, Winter Carnival, Walk to School Day, White Cane Day, and recently serving hot dogs for those who came to Leelanau Christian Neighbors Food Pantry. Our motto is truly "We Serve."

Our officers through 2025-2027 are Marian Kromkowski, president, Steve Paciorka, vice-president, Chuck Whetsel, past president, Hank DeYoung, treasurer and Doug Whitley, secretary. We also have 10 additional board members: 3 women and 7 men.

Northport Lions (continued)



NEW Northport Lions Club members: Jan Rygwelski, Dan Malski, Tom and Martha Shaver, Ivan Paciorka, Chris McCann, Pam Strawbridge and Hugh Scott





Attendees enjoy Breakfast at the Fly-In

Juliet Hafford and Barbara Trippe cooking sausage



Chuck Whetsel and Marian Kromkowski serving hot dogs at Leelanau Christian Neighbors