



Lions Connections

October 2024

District 11E1 Newsletter

District Dispatches

Notes from October 26th District Cabinet Meeting

- The All State Band audition deadline has been moved to late spring. Lions clubs are asked to promote this and share the website with local band directors lionsmiband.org
- The Michigan Forum and Council of Governors Meeting will be February 28th- March 1st at the Marriott in Kalamazoo.
- Clubs that earned more than \$50,000 in revenue are reminded to complete a Form 990 and submit it to the IRS.
- Awards presented:
 - Coleman Club- Club Excellence Award presented to Ann Roeseler
 - Empire- Club Excellence Award presented to Michael Bolton
 - White Cloud- Club Excellence Award presented to White Cloud
- LCI International [Conference](#) 2025 will be in Orlando, FL July 13th-17th
- The Michigan State Convention will be May 15th-17th at the Doubletree Hotel in Bay City. LCI international president, Fabricio Oliviera will be the keynote speaker,
- The cabinet approved a district fundraiser with Terri Lynn gourmet snacks, which will help offset dues and expenses and support our district clubs. Feel free to copy the artwork and language in this newsletter to promote the fundraiser on your club's Facebook page.



Notes from the Lions of Michigan Foundation Quarterly Trustees Meeting IPDG Jim Patterson, Trustee

The Board of Trustees met Saturday, November 2, and took the following action that affects all clubs in Michigan.

Emergency Disaster Relief/Emergency Assistance/Military Assistance Applications

Already in the first quarter of the year, the committee has expended \$38,000 of the total \$55,000 budget for these awards. For the remainder of this fiscal year:

- **Single Family Disaster Relief Applications** will be capped at a maximum of \$1,000.
- **Community Disaster Relief Applications** will be capped at a maximum of \$5,000 with no individual family receiving more than \$1,000.
- **Emergency Assistance Applications** will be capped at a maximum of \$1,000
- **Military Assistance Applications** will be capped at a maximum of \$1,000

Raffle Tickets Fundraiser

The raffle ticket sale is the largest fundraiser that the foundation has. Last year was a record year for sales even though only 39 clubs sold the tickets. Just imagine what the Emergency Grants budget would be if every club sold raffle tickets.

To expand the ease of selling tickets, the prize bundle has been increased so while the **first prize remains \$5,000, the second prize is \$2,500, and prizes three through ten are \$1,000 each.**

Remember that clubs also receive benefit from selling foundation raffle tickets:

- Sell 30 to 99 tickets and the club receives \$3.50 per ticket sold
- Sell 100 to 249 tickets and the club receives \$5.00 per ticket sold
- Sell 250 or more and the club receives \$5.25 per ticket sold.

Does selling tickets pay off? I know of more than one club that received \$500 or more last year for selling foundation raffle tickets.

Lions Robert Mathog Deaf and Hard of Hearing Scholarships

This year's scholarship application is available. Get the application out to all high school counselors and hearing agencies in your area as soon as possible. **The deadline for scholarship applications is March 15, 2025.**

Eye Care Assistance

As most of you know, those wonderful VSP Eyes of Hope gift certificates are on pause right now while the Global Eyes of Hope Foundation reworks the program. The Lions of Michigan Foundation has found an alternative foundation to partner with in the meantime. There are more hoops for the

foundation to jump through and it does take a little longer, but assistance is available. Use the Eye Care Assistance application and send it to your trustee.

How to Obtain all the Foundation's Forms

The Lions of Michigan Service Foundation's website is currently being redesigned to offer all forms used by the foundation as a download. However, that is not ready for prime time just yet.

In the meantime, you can **download any LMSF form as a PDF** from my private website.

- Open up your web browser, Google, Edge, Safari etc.
- Place your cursor in the ADDRESS LINE at the top of the window. (Where it reads "http://..." etc.) DO NOT use the search bar.
- Key in the following address: sites.google.com/view/lionjimpatterson and then press enter.
- Each form is listed, choose the one you want and click on the name. It will open in your PDF reader.

I am only one of the two trustees for our district. You may contact me or PDG Jackie Glazier with your questions regarding anything in this article. pattersonjv@comcast.net



We Serve!

**Lion Ann Roeseler
District 11-E1 Service Coordinator**

How do we as Lions Clubs live out our motto We Serve? Each Lions Club is unique, but we all do what we can to help our communities. Many clubs provide KidSight screenings and glasses for those in need. Others are doing road clean-ups or providing food service at community events. All are finding various ways to raise money so there are funds for scholarships, food pantries, libraries, charitable donations, etc.

Secretaries, Presidents and Club Service Chairs, when you report your service on the Lions International Portal, you let LCI know you are actively working to help others. They need to know our statistics – how many people are we serving and where our donations are going, so LCI has a

clearer picture of the impact of our organization. I can help you figure out how to report. Call or email me with any questions, 989-615-3959 or ann.roeseler@gmail.com

Let your fellow Lions in District 11-E1 know about your service by emailing articles and pictures to this newsletter. We help each other with new ideas when we share! Send your club news to district11e1newsletter@gmail.com



**From the desk of the Global Leadership Team (GLT) Chair
PCC Jeff Schafer GLT Coordinator**

The Lion Year is quickly moving with nearly half of it gone. Clubs are doing a great job with service projects, fundraising events, and community involvement. The percentage of clubs using the Lions Portal has increased from last year, but we can still make improvements. If you're one of the few clubs struggling with entering service projects in the Lions Portal, please find someone in your club that enjoys working on the computer, accessing portal sites and make them your "Club Administrator" in your club. This way they can make these entries and brag about what your club has been doing in your communities!

The Lions of Michigan Forum is scheduled for February 28 through March 1, 2025, at the Delta Marriott in Kalamazoo. The guest speaker will be Past International President (PIP) Brian Sheehan. Mark your calendar for this event and we hope to see you there.

Our district is planning for a two-part Zone Chairperson Training session to occur on two subsequent Saturdays in March (Mar 15th and March 22nd) from 8:30am-3pm. The event will be at the Isabella Commission on Aging in Mount Pleasant, Michigan. Our district is struggling to find volunteers to be zone chairs for our clubs, and this training will give you some information on the responsibilities of being a zone chairperson. In addition, it will give you some skills such as goal setting, action planning and problem solving that you can use in other areas of your life. There are no costs for this event and morning refreshments along with lunch is planned for both dates. A registration form is included in this newsletter and the on-line link to register is [here](#).

Last year we had new club officer training in four different time periods and locations throughout our district. I'm planning on the same number of training opportunities to include President and Secretary training planned at the District Spring Convention (April 25-25, 2025) at The Doherty Hotel in Clare, Michigan. More information will be provided in later newsletters and passed along through your Zone Chairperson. Please let me know if your club is interested in hosting one of the training sessions. Last year we had training sessions in Kaleva, Greenville, and Mount Pleasant.

I believe that people are the greatest resource any organization can possess, and it is especially true in our Lions Clubs. Only by providing leadership training can our organization continue to move forward. Over the past few years, we have struggled to find candidates for leadership position (district Vice District Governor, Club Officers (Presidents, Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, etc.)). Please take some time to think about volunteering for one of these leadership positions for next year. Contact me for more information: jeff.schafer1@comcast.net 812-325-3130.

Lions Bear Lake Camp News

Steve Glazier District 11E1 Bear Lake Camp, Chairperson

Hi Fellow Lions! Wow here we are in November!! My Mom would always say ‘Wait until you get older and see how fast time goes’. You know what? I’m finding out it goes exponentially faster each year as I get older. Lions Bear Lake Camp is thrilled to report that they have successfully almost wrapped up another fantastic camp year.

They had a new record of 1079 kids experiencing their camp this summer over an eight-week period which was a substantial increase from 785 kids last summer which was the previous record. Next year, 2025 Summer Camp will be expanded to a projected “1500 kids over 11 weeks.” We should all be proud that all Michigan Lions play a part in the success of this Camp just by being a Lion. To clarify, not all attending 1500 kids though are sponsored by Lions. Only Visually impaired and Hard of Hearing camps are financially supported by Lions at a nominal cost of \$40 per camper with Lions picking up the estimated \$800 balance per camper. Often the \$40 is even paid for by the referring Lions Club.

Most of the Summer Camps are not sponsored by Lions such as Autism, Foster Care, Grievance Loss, Cancer, and many others that are typically contracted at negotiated rates based on a variety of factors. Including the activities and facilities they utilize, which staff they require from Bear Lake and whether their mission aligns with Bear Lakes. Usually, these camps do not require as many Bear Lake Camp staff members as they often bring their own counselors, chaperons, nurses and coordinators. So, you can see that if there is a special kids’ need there probably is a Lions Kids Camp for it. If you know of a child eligible for visually impaired or deaf and hard of hearing camps made affordable by Lions or any of the other kids camp available on the web site, their parents can register directly online on LIONS BEAR LAKES CAMP website starting January 1st, 2025, or contact your local Lions Club, Bear Lake Camp directly or myself for further assistance.

A quick overview of Lions Bear Lake Camp for any new members just starting to read our Lions District 11E1 Newsletter. Lions Bear Lake Camp is owned by all Lions in the State of Michigan. It’s located on 120 acres in Lapeer, Michigan (About 20 miles west of Flint). The camp consists of 10 two-story modern cabins housing 16 people each and a main lodge all located on the camp’s own private lake.

The Summer Camp is open to ages 6 to 16 years old. Camp activities include a variety of things such as trail hikes, wheelchair accessible paved trails, rope climbing, 50-foot climbing tower, zip line, team building games and challenges, group bonding, bonfires, swimming, campfire smores, songs, crafts, fishing, boating and that’s just off the top of my head! It was founded in 1982. It is a Lions State Project with the following Bear Lake Summer Camps being “sponsored” by Lions. Visually Impaired Youth that started it all has been available for 38 years. Later in history adding Lion Summer Camps for Deaf and Hard of Hearing kids, also a special Hard of Hearing and Visually Impaired weekend camp added that includes their family attending.

Diabetes Camp for kids, while previously supported, will not be available for now due to low interest numbers and since another juvenile diabetes camp is forming about 20 minutes from the camp.

I was told by a couple of the Camp Volunteers how exciting it is to see many of these kids develop from being shy and reserved their first few days to becoming bubbly personalities with “Pick Me” – “Pick Me” attitudes. The Camp promotes independence where possible for all kids regardless of disability. Even having to make their own bed each morning and return dirty dishes and silverware back to the kitchen to be washed after each meal. An interesting fact is 85% of their Camp Counselors are former Campers themselves. I think that “speaks volumes” for what is experienced by these kids attending. Many of these kids have spent every summer with Lions Bear Lake Camp since they were 7 or 8 years old.

Bear Lake Camp needs to continue to fund the growing attendance and upkeep operations year after year. They rely heavily on the generous support of Lions Clubs throughout Michigan. Lions Bear Lake Camp still needs ongoing donations to maintain and improve their facilities, programs and accessibility. Our District Clubs and individual contributions are essential to helping them meet the needs of their growing number of Summer Campers and guests. As the above conveys, Bear Lake Summer Camp is foremost supported by contributions from Lions Clubs but additionally by individuals, corporations, service organizations and foundations. Their main revenue comes from three sources, Lion Club Donations, Grants and Off-Season rental groups/retreats.

One of the newer successful endeavors for “Adult Campers” is renting out the facility as a “Retreat” to businesses, groups and corporations for use of the 16 individual “Team Building” challenge stations for a memorable Team Bonding experience, which includes the 50-foot climbing tower and Zip Line. The Challenge Course Coordinator/Marketing Director Kenny Gillotte is himself a former camper who went on to college, received his master’s degree and who came back to give back to the Camp. In last month’s newsletter I talked about Kenny who also teaches and explains to these groups in a very fun, dynamic and expressive way how all these course challenges can be overcome as a “Team Effort” and what are perceived to be mental obstacles in each of the 16 challenges can help you navigate decisions in the business world as well as in real life. Bear Lake Camp also has many new partnerships in the local Community and State allowing them to now host even more summer camp opportunities. Their Partnerships with businesses, private groups and other entities now total “40”. All with the common goal of making Bear Lake Camp succeed. The Camp was booked completely for this year and is well underway for taking reservations for next year.

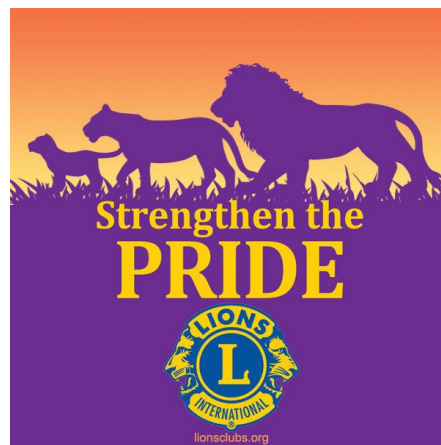
Fundraiser examples put on by Lions Bear Lake Camp each year (one recent other coming early next year) also play an integral part in maintenance upgrades and in keeping the camp open for year-round memory-making fun.

ULTRA MARATHON The Ultra Marathon was held October 5th and is well attended with more participants and growth every year. They were thrilled to announce that this year they had a record number of 140 entries. It’s a race for beginners and experienced Ultra Veterans alike. Runners loop around the Bear Lake Camp along rolling hills on a wide groomed trail over dirt, grass and a bridge completing as many loops as you want over the 3.1 miles length and at any pace you’re comfortable with over “24 hours” (or much less for most of us) Breaks are allowed at any time and you can walk, run or jog. Rest, snack, hydration stations and volunteers are positioned along the entire length of the lighted trail. Maybe we can sponsor a district officer next year. District Governor Tom McNaughton or PDG Jim Patterson do you suffer from insomnia or drink strong caffeinated coffee? Just curious!

ICE PLUNGE Sub Zero Hero polar ice plunge and dinner February 1st, 2025. This event is for the adventurer, warm blooded or a total supporter of Lions Bear Lake Camp. THATS ME!!! A total supporter of the camp! I have already signed up for the ice plunge (one more thing off my “bucket list.”) and as a volunteer. Bear Lake has graciously provided me with free lodging on Friday and Saturday night. Spectators can attend with dinner for \$25 if anyone is interested, see the enclosed flyer.

Other upcoming fund-raising events coming up next year are to be featured in future newsletter issues. So, stay tuned!!

*Please remember Bear Lake Vision and Hearing-Impaired Summer Kids Camp in your donation budget. Thank you!



From the Global Membership Team
Al Roeseler District 11- E1 Membership Coordinator

LCI's goal of increasing global membership to 1.5 million members is in full swing. There are several events and activities planned to assist in working towards that goal. One of those events, the Michigan Membership Summit, was held last Saturday. Chaired by CC Terri Huffman, the meeting included live and recorded presentations from seven different Lions including the Multi District Membership, Leadership, Service, and Extension chairs.

Some of the major takeaways included:

1. Service is a vital key to attracting new members.
2. Clubs are urged to set goals and develop action plans to achieve them.
3. “Close the back door!” We are really very good at attracting new members, we need to be better at retention.
4. Work with community partners to achieve goals and increase visibility.
5. Districts are encouraged to start at least one new club. In January there will be a series of new club development workshops.

Governor Tom has as one of his goals to increase membership by 27 members. At the end of September our district had already recruited 25 new members, unfortunately we lost 26. If DG Tom is to meet this goal, he needs all our help. This must happen at the club level. I am available to assist any club that wants to work on any of the above-mentioned strategies to increase membership. Al Roeseler District 11- E1 Membership Coordinator aroeseler1947@hotmail.com



Lions Bear Lake Camp

3RD ANNUAL ICE PLUNGE & DINNER Fundraiser

DRESS UP AS YOUR FAVORITE SUPERHERO AND ENJOY A FUN FILLED AFTERNOON. JOIN OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR AN ICE PLUNGE, FOLLOWED BY A DELICIOUS DINNER.

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT
ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

Dinner Includes Costume Contest

- Soup Bar
- Bread Bowls
- Salad Bar
- Hot Chocolate Bar
- Dessert
- Cash Bar

- Prizes for Best Costume
- Best Jump (no diving) and Crowd Pleaser

FEBRUARY 1ST 2025

2:00 PM Check-In 3:00 PM Ice Plunge followed by Dinner

\$50 - Jump/Dinner
\$25 Dinner for Spectators Only
(Ages 0-5 Free, 6-12 \$10)



Seating limited to 200 so get your tickets early.

For More Information Contact
Chrissy Andre 989-627-3808 chrissy@bearlakecamp.org
Traci Tribley 989-277-7437 traci@bearlakecamp.org

Sign up online at bearlakecamp.org under the "Events" Tab

****Costumes are encouraged, birthday suits highly discouraged.****

LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP ICE PLUNGE & DINNER FUNDRAISER

FEBRUARY 1ST, 2025 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. Jumpers Receive:

\$50 Registration Fee: Plunge, Dinner, T-shirt, Medal

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

\$250 or More: Jump, Dinner x2, T-shirt, Tote Bag, Medal

\$500 or More: Jump, Dinner x4, T-shirt, Tote Bag, Medal, Event Hoodie

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Event Sponsorship Opportunities

Sub Zero Hero Sponsor \$1,000

Sponsor's Logo will be featured on back of T-shirt and sponsor banner, Table of 8 Dinner Tickets, Exhibitor Table, 5 Minute speaking opportunity to promote services during dinner.

Arctic Champion Sponsor \$500

Sponsor's name or Logo will be featured on back of T-shirt, 4 Dinner Tickets

Frosty Friends Sponsor \$250

Sponsor's name will be featured on back of T-shirt, 2 Dinner Tickets

Ice Breaker Sponsor \$100

Sponsor's name will be featured on back of T-shirt

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**



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Every purchase of premium nuts, gourmet confections and sweet & savory snack mixes benefits our cause.



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District 11-E1 Terri Lynn Fundraiser

Check out our new Fundraising Webstore at <https://Lions-District-11-E1.terri Lynn.com> A portion of every sale goes to support our cause—and you get delicious nuts, snacks, and confections delivered right to your door. Just in time for the holidays! Typically takes 8-10 business days for deliveries. Please shop and share to help Lions District 11-E1 Michigan raise money for this important cause! If you're planning to send holiday gifts to family, friends or clients, these would make an excellent choice while supporting our District fundraising efforts. Also, feel free to publicize this site on your club's Facebook page and promote it to your family and friends to use for their holiday gifting!

The Lions of Michigan District 11-E1 serve in 16 counties in central & northwest Michigan. Our Lions are working to help support their local clubs in their communities. You can help too by purchasing these delicious nuts, snacks, and chocolates. Every purchase brings us one step closer to reaching our goal of \$500. Please help us with a purchase today!



Save the Date
April 25-26, 2025



Grab an Oar and Let's Start Rowing District 11-E1 Spring Convention The Doherty Hotel, Clare, Michigan

*The Early Bird registration fee until April 2, 2025 is only \$15. Registration begins in December 2024

*4 informative seminars + 2 service projects

*Meals: Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch, and banquet dinner. Meals have been discounted \$18.82 to make this event more affordable!

*Friday Night Speaker: Dr. Pol, America's favorite country veterinarian and star of National Geography WILD's hit TV series, The Incredible Dr. Pol.

*Lodging: Rooms available at The Doherty Hotel at a discounted rate until March 25. King or double Queen at \$132 + taxes, Double Queen Fireside at \$152 + taxes

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

November Chapter Chronicles

Big Rapids



The Big Rapids' Lions Club and Rotary Club joined hands and started a Mecosta County-wide Giving Day in 2020. This local event was inspired by National Giving Tuesday, which is always the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving. The event takes place at local Big Rapids Eagle Lodge 2535. This year 46 non-profits serving Mecosta County will greet potential donors at the event from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM on Tuesday, December 3, 2024. Participation in this event is free to both the non-profits and the public. In addition, the non-profit executive directors are served a free lunch. The interaction between organizations and the attendees who donate their time, talent and treasure make it a fun day.

The clubs start in September getting non-profits signed up and then work with them on publishing their individual passions via radio and newspaper. This is a yearly event and has become a critical part of the non-profits' marketing campaigns. This style of event could easily be repeated throughout the State of Michigan. For more information on how your club could replicate this event, contact Lion Dave Hamelund at 231-598-2241.



The Big Rapids Lions were proud to donate to a fundraiser organized by Ferris State University and the Michigan College of Optometry that raised \$5,800 for Leader Dogs for the Blind.

Central Montcalm

The Central Montcalm Lions are gearing up for the holidays with four different holiday projects in the works. We were also happy to host our Zone meeting on November 7th. We have recently filled two eyeglass requests, and we are wrapping up our Peace Poster entry. We will soon start selling our Site and Hearing Sweepstakes raffle tickets and will begin working on our Golf Fundraiser right after the first of the year. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!!!

Coleman

October was a very busy month for Coleman Lions members! First, we had two different opportunities to work concessions. One week a group of six, four Lions and two friends, worked in the high school football concession stand. They were warm and dry during the delayed game unlike those in the stands!



The next weekend another group of four Lions worked at the Community Variety Show held in the High School to raise money for fireworks at the Christmas parade. Both groups sold popcorn, candy and pop.



The last night of October found us at the Community Center providing games, prizes and popcorn to families during the annual Halloween party. A good time was had by all!



The biggest event of the month was our annual Charter Night fundraiser party, which raised almost \$8,000. We had the largest attendance ever. Our guests seemed to enjoy the games and auctions. We are always amazed at the generosity of our community and those attending! That night we also honored Lion Chuck Dinsmore for all that he does by presenting him with a Melvin Jones award. We also presented a “Heart of a Lion” award to a local man, Ken Germain, for the volunteering he does with the school and community athletics.





Luther

Nov. 15th, Friday, we will have our last BINGO of the 2024 year. Doors open at 5:00pm, Early Bird Specials at 5:30pm and Bingo starts at 6:00 pm. Food/Drinks available for sale during bingo.

Thank you to anyone who attended our annual Oct. Auction. It was a great success! And to our cooks for the Baked Potato Bar with all the fixings.

Dec. 8th is our next All You Can Eat Breakfast. The hours are 8:30am to 10:30 am. Some food items include eggs, meat, pancakes, French toast and juice or water, and much more. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 6-12 yrs. Under 6 are FREE.

Please, come join us on Dec. 14th for our CHRISTMAS PARTY AND DANCE. Doors open at 5:30pm and snacks and Hors d'oeuvres being served at 6pm. Enjoy a live DJ, Dancing and Karaoke. Cost is just a Donation! Hope to see you there!

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE for one of these events. Any questions feel free to call our Lions phone number: 231-388-2467.

Midland

Midland Lions hosted the Stoppert Award Honoree on October 15. This year the Coach of the Year was Tanner Smith, Meridian Girls Basketball coach.

Smith was presented with the 2024 Bob Stoppert Coach of the Year Award during the Midland Lions Club's meeting at Midland Country Club, making him the 17th recipient of the award named in honor of Midland Coach and Midland Lion, the late Bob Stoppert.

Presenting the award is Committee Chairman Dave Marsh.



Stanwood

Lions Peggy & Jim Walls were nominated and honored as Volunteers of the Decade by Stanwood Lions Club at the Mecosta VFW Volunteer Dinner held on September 21st.



Members of Stanwood Lions Club are committed to picking up along a 2 mile stretch of Northland Dr from 11 Mile to 13 Mile Roads. Coordinated with DOT they pick up 3 times a year.



Weidman

The Weidman Lions had a very busy year, participating in multiple events including Spring Wheatland, the White Cane Fundraiser, Whitbecks Grocery (Clare) Fundraiser, Weidman Sawmill Days, a Blood Drive, and Fall Wheatland. District Governor, Jim Patterson, inducted four new members to the Club, as well as installing new officers for 2024-2025.



Have some club news to share of your own? Want to showcase some of your club's achievements? Send your club news and photos to District 11E1 Newsletter Editor, Paula Rigling, Arcadia Lions at District11E1Newsletter@gmail.com.

Please send your articles by the 7th of each month.