

Informer



March 2026

Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead

In This Issue:

Welcome New Members
Awards-MWC 2026
Calendar of Events
Can Do Canines
Childhood Cancer
DG Governor
DGE-District Governor Elect
VDGE1-Vice Dist. Governor Elect
VDGE2-Vice Dist. Governor Elect
Diabetes
Disaster Relief
Environment
Event Flyers
GET-Global Extension Team
GMT-Global Membership Team
GST-Global Service Team
Hearing
Humanitarian
Hunger
KidSight
Mid-Winter Convention 2026
LCIF
Leader Dog
LEO's
Lions International Trading Pin Club
Lions Serving
Media Minute
Mental Health
Mid-Winter Convention 2026
Multi District 5M Convention
Project New Hope
Special Olympics
TEAM Sheehan
Vision
Youth Exchange & Youth Camps
Zone Chairs



Congratulations!

Orono Lions

*Celebrating 74 Years!
March 16, 1952*

Brooklyn Center Lions

*Celebrating 71 Years!
March 30, 1955*

Maple Grove Lions

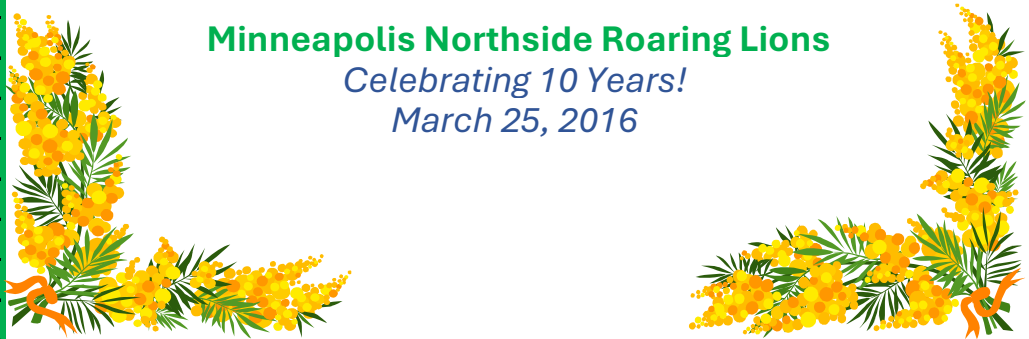
*Celebrating 63 Years!
March 5, 1963*

Minneapolis Downtown Next Generation Lions

*Celebrating 17 Years!
March 18, 2009*

Minneapolis Northside Roaring Lions

*Celebrating 10 Years!
March 25, 2016*



Spring Forward
March 8th





WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Way to go Lions and Clubs – We are GROWING!

Thank you for all your dedication and commitment to strengthening our Clubs, our District, and Lions International. Your hard work is paying off, and our increasing membership means we can achieve even more together.

New Members = More Service!!

New Member	Sponsor	Club
Candice Zapata	John Knutson	Dayton
Barbara Pearson	Cindy Thompson	Eden Prairie Lioness'
Raed Kakish	Twila Johhson	Maple Grove
Kenna Dooley	Julie Hoffman	Mpls DT Next Generation
Luann Ladue	Thomas Chirhart	Plymouth
John Osborne	Annika Russel	Robbinsdale
Dani Rauton	Melodie Neff	Robbinsdale
Heidi Russell	Annika Russel	Robbinsdale
Shannon Vento	Annika Russel	Robbinsdale

Congratulations! You're now a part of the world's largest humanitarian service organization. This means that you've joined a global community of kind-hearted, service-minded people, dedicated to making a positive impact.

We couldn't be happier to have you as a Lion!

[Click here for more information from Lions Club International](#)



Let's Keep PUMPING UP THE 5M-5 PRIDE!

Thank you to all members who shared the opportunity!!

You Rock!!

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sumit events to: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

March 2026			
03/01/2026	Excelsior Meat Raffle Sunday	Haskell's Port of Excelsior	1 PM to 3 PM
03/01/2026	Hopkins 4th Annual Gertens Spring Plant Sale/Fundraising	www.gertensfundraising.com	Store ID: 803 Hopkins Lions Club
03/01/2026	New Hope Lions Pancake Breakfast	Crystal Community Center 4800 Douglas Drive	8 AM to 12 Noon
03/01/2026	Robbinsdale Lions Puzzle Contest	Wicked Wort Brewing Co. 4165 West Broadway	3 PM to 5 PM
03/07/2026	MN Lions Diabetes Foundation Research Update	Best Western Plus Kelly Inn 100 4th Ave. S., St Cloud	11 AM Registration & Social 11:30 AM Lunch 12:30 PM Program 2:30 PM Meet & Greet w/ Scientists
03/07/2026	Robbinsdale Bingo & Meat Raffle	Wicked Wort Brewing Co. 4165 West Broadway	3 PM to 6 PM
03/11/2026	Crystal Lions Steak Fry	Crystal VFW 5222 Bass Lake Road	5 PM to 7 PM
03/14/2026	Council of Governors	TBD	TBD
03/15/2026	Excelsior Meat Raffle Sunday	Haskell's Port of Excelsior	1 PM to 3 PM
03/20/2026	Northern Pride Forum	Radisson Harborview Duluth, MN	
03/20/2026	Rogers Lions Fish & Shrimp Fry	21st Century Bank 12716 Main St	4:30 PM to 7:00 PM
03/20/2026	Brooklyn Park Waffle Breakfast	Brooklyn Park Community Center 5800 85th Ave N	7:30 AM to Noon
03/20/2026	Eden Prairie Lions Cribbage Tournament	Camp Eden Wood 6350 Indian Chief Road, Eden Prairie	6 PM Light Dinner 7 PM Tournament Start
03/20/2026	Club Video Challenge Ends		
03/27/2026	Rogers Lions Fish & Shrimp Fry	21st Century Bank 12716 Main St	4:30 PM to 7:00 PM
03/29/2026	Bloomington Pancake Breakfast	Bloomington Event Center 1114 American Blvd	8 AM to 1 PM
03/29/2026	Excelsior Meat Raffle Sunday	Haskell's Port of Excelsior	1 PM to 3 PM
03/30/2026	5M5 Cabinet Meeting	TBD	TBD
03/31/2026	GMT Speed Learning	Hamel Community Center	6 PM to 8 PM
April 2026			
04/08/2026	Crystal Lions Steak Fry	Crystal VFW 5222 Bass Lake Road	5 PM to 7 PM
4/10/2026 to 04/19/2026	Bloomington Lions-Royal Canadian Circus	Mall of America North Lot	Sign up foir money earning opportunitnes!
04/11/2026	Can Do Canines Fetching Gala	Raddison Blu Mall of America	
04/12/2026	Excelsior Meat Raffle Sunday	Haskell's Port of Excelsior	1 PM to 3 PM
04/13/2026	All Club Meeting	Crystal VFW 5222 Bass Lake Road	5:30 PM-Social 6:00 PM-Dinner
04/13/2026	Mystery Raspberry Themed Basket	Crystal VFW 5222 Bass Lake Road	Tickets on Sale at All Club Meeting

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Summit events to: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

04/17/2026	Emerging Lions Leadership Institute	Holiday Inn Detroit Lakes, MN	Registration Due 4-1-26
04/19/2026	Eden Prairie Lions Pancake Breakfast	True Friends Camp Eden Wood 6350 Indian Chief Road	8 AM to 12 Noon
04/23/2026	Council of Governors	Sheraton Minneapolis West	7 AM to Noon
04/23/2026	MD5M Convention, Registration	Sheraton Minneapolis West	5 PM to 7 PM
04/24/2026	MD5M Convention, Day 1	Sheraton Minneapolis West	Noon to 11 PM
04/25/2026	MD5M Convention, Day 2	Sheraton Minneapolis West	6:30 AM to 9 PM
04/25/2026	Northeast Mpls Liouons Bowling Event	Elsie's Bowling & Restaurant 729 Marshall Street	11 AM Sharp
04/26/2026	MD5M Convention, Day 3	Sheraton Minneapolis West	7 AM to 12:15 PM
May 2026			
05/01/2026	Project New Hope Retreat Dates	Camp Shetek Slayton, MN	NA
05/04/2026	Club Officer Training	Can Do Canines	6:00 PM
05/13/2026	Crystal Lions Steak Fry	Crystal VFW 5222 Bass Lake Road	5 PM to 7 PM
05/15/2026	Bloomington Lions 75th Anniversary	Minnesota Valley Country Club 6300 Auto Club Road	5:00 PM
June 2026			
06/05/2026	Project New Hope Retreat Dates	Osprey Wilds Sandstone, MN	NA
06/10/2026	Crystal Lions Steak Fry	Crystal VFW 5222 Bass Lake Road	5 PM to 7 PM
06/20/2026	Special Olympics USA Games -	(June 20th to 26th)	DONATE
July 2026			
07/09/2026	Hamel Rodeo - MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation Night	Corcoran	
07/12/2026	Hamel Rodeo - MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation Night	Corcoran	
October 2026			
10/02/2026	Project New Hope Retreat Dates	Good Earth Village Spring Valley, MN	
10/24/2026	Thanksgiving for Vision	Holiday Inn & Suites St. Cloud, MN	
December 2026			
12/04/2026	Project New Hope Retreat Dates	Faith Haven Camp Battle Lake, MN	
4/18 to 26	Service Initatives from IP A. P. Singh-Environment	Clubs & Districts plan accordingly.	
July 2029			
06/29/2029	LCI Convention Day 1	Minneapolis, MN	Various
06/30/2029	LCI Convention Day 2	Minneapolis, MN	Various
07/01/2029	LCI Convention Day 3	Minneapolis, MN	Various
07/02/2029	LCI Convention Day 4	Minneapolis, MN	Various
07/03/2029	LCI Convention Day 5	Minneapolis, MN	Various



DISTRICT GOVERNOR Lion Sara McFee, DG



Serve with Passion! 100 %

Across District 5M-5 we are busy serving. One way our members and clubs are making a difference is through their support of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).

Club Support: 100 % of 5M-5 clubs have donated to LCIF since July 1, 2025. *Congratulations 5M-5 Clubs!*

Stretch Goal: 5M-5 will reach its stretch goal by donating an additional \$14,271 to LCIF.

100 %: What is donated to LCIF goes back out grants and programs, empowering Lions service and making a difference in the lives of beneficiaries. 100 %



5M-5's Lion Bob competing in Special Olympics USA Games

Lion Bob Larson steps up to help wherever he can with his club – Bloomington Lions - and throughout the District. He always has a smile and great energy. That energy, and smile, will be a part of his competition in bowling during the Special Olympic USA Games in Minnesota June 20 – 26. You can volunteer at the Special Olympics games or show up and cheer for Lion Bob and other Special Olympians. Learn more at

<https://cerv.is/0430rLionsClub>



Help get 5M-5 listed on A Ball for All balls that will travel the world

A Ball for All balls have bells inside to help those who are blind or vision impaired, and all Special Olympians. MD5M is providing the balls to Special Olympics USA Games athletes. Clubs or individuals who would like to support the Special Olympics Games through a special branding of District 5M-5 on the balls should contact 5M-5's LCIF Chair Rob Hed hedrob33@yahoo.com

March Challenge

- **Make Your Plan to Attend the MD5M Convention** 5M-5 is honored to host this year's Multiple District Convention, April 24 – 26, at the Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel in Minnetonka. Lions International President Lion A.P. Singh is attending, in addition to other great guests. Info and registration at: <https://sites.google.com/view/md5m-multipleconvention/home>
- **Join the March Madness Membership Competition** Special recognition for clubs that increase membership during March: First 16 clubs in each district to report a new member; top 4 clubs with highest membership growth by March 31; individual Lion who sponsors most new members during March; spotlight of every club that achieves at least one new member during March recognized at district and MD5M levels.

Membership growth is about expanding Lion capacity to serve our communities and the world. See March Madness Membership Competition flyer in March Informer.

Thank you for serving your communities with passion.

Lion Sara

Sara McFee
5M-5 District Governor
Minneapolis Ambassadors Lions Club
LionSaraMcFee@gmail.com



1st VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR ELECT Lion Ken Kumpula, VDGE

Several years ago, we had a guest speaker at one of our club dinner meetings. They were there to share about one of the many organizations we support as a district. When he introduced himself, he said he was from the "best club in the district". Initially I was kind of ticked. I was like who are you to come into our house and make such a statement? I mean I was pretty impressed with my club, but I was still relatively new, so maybe there was some actual measurement for such a thing. So, I let it go as maybe he was right. I eventually learned there was no such measurement. A year or so later he was back.... Now sharing another district program we all support. And he did it again! "I am Lion Rob Hed, with the Hamel Lions, the Best darn Club in the District."

Well, this time I knew more and was willing to let him think that way. I mean why shouldn't he feel that way about his club. I feel that way about my club after all. So, there it is the question. How do you feel about your club. Is it the best darn club in the district? If not, why? What would need to change? I know there are interesting dynamics in every club, as there are different personalities driving a club in different way. But each of these different styles can all be utilized to help a club. Here it comes, the plug for RLLI. One of the sections of the training was understanding these different styles and learning how to work with each other and be flexible with one another.

I do hope you are taking pride in your club and that you do appreciate what we all do in our communities.

Yours in Lionism, Ken




GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM (GMT)

March is here—and that means it's time for March Membership Madness!

Clubs are encouraged to host energizing membership events all month long, inviting prospective members to experience our impact firsthand.

Growth doesn't happen by accident; it happens by intention. Let's Go 5M-5!

Plan to attend the All Club Meeting on Monday, April 13th to pick up your awards and PUMP UP THE PRIDE!

 DISTRICT SNAPSHOT (07/01/2025–02/28/2026)

THIS IS PROGRESS WORTH CELEBRATING - WE'RE IN THE FINAL STRETCH- LET'S MAKE IT COUNT!

- **Total Members:** 1,368
- **New Members:** 116
- **Dropped Members:** 102
- **Net Growth:** +14
- **Drop Goal:** Stay under 100! DRATZ!! What are you doing to help stop the drops? Share with us.

SAVE THE DATE: So many great things happening in our district, share with your Club members.

SUPER HEROES UNITE!

March 31, 2026 | Hamel Community Center Calling all Club Super Heroes- get ready for an energy-packed, cape-flapping, club-boosting blast of an evening! Jump into fast, fun 10-minute power sessions on making meetings exciting, growing your membership, keeping members engaged, using the Lions portal to strengthen your club, leveling up your social media so your community knows you're here, Service can be easy and FUN, and so much more. Capes, and masks encouraged! *Flyer is included in this month's informer.*

5M-5 PROMOTE YOUR CLUB-VIDEO CONTEST! Submit a 90-second video sharing why being a Lion in your Club is GREAT – and help inspire the next generation of service-minded leaders. Videos due by March 20th. Winners will be awarded at our April 13th All Club Meeting! *Flyer is included in this month's informer. Submit yours today!!*

Calling All Clubs! Let's Rally Up!

AP Singh will be inducting New Members on Saturday, April 25th, 2026 at the Multiple Convention and every Lion who joined after October 15th is invited to be part of this powerful, celebratory moment. Rally your New Members and join them in making sure they don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime experience! Cost is FREE if you do not want lunch. *Flyer is included in this month's informer.*

Submitted by: Your 5M-5 GMT Team

To join us and learn more or for Club recruiting and retaining educational materials

Please reach out to our team or LionHeidiZaworski@gmail.com
Heidi Zaworski 612-408-0242



GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM (GST)

WE SERVE IN UNITY



Childhood
Cancer



Diabetes



Disaster



Environment



Humanitarian



Hunger



Mental



Vision



Youth

March - our key area of service is **Youth Service**. Service ideas for your club:

- * **Host a Story Hour** - at your local library or where your club meets.
- * **Collect Toys** - and donate to a daycare or school.
- * **Create Holiday or Birthday Cards** - make handcrafted cards for kids.
- * **Used Book Drive** – collect used books and deliver the books to a school or daycare.
- * **Library Book House** - create a library book house in your community and stock it with used books for people to Take One and Leave One.

April - our key area of service is **Environmental Service**.

Our International Week of Service is April 18-26. Service ideas for your club:

- * **Donate your newspapers and magazine** to other people or businesses instead of throwing in the garbage.
- * **Bird Feeders** - Make a variety of treats that will feed and sustain birds and wildlife throughout the season including bird feeders using cookie cutters; suet-filled orange halves; popcorn and cranberry garlands, and more.
- * **Build Bird Houses** - then donate to bird-lovers in your community or to the elderly so they can place outside their window. Many non-mobile elderly love watching the birds.
- * **Clean Up a Local Park** - hold your meeting at a park and arrive early for a quick community clean-up session.
- * **Rain Barrels to collect Rainwater** – make and donate or sell to people in your community.
- * **Recycle Drive** - host a recycle drive to repurpose and donate gently used items.
- * **Be Green** - find ways to reduce and reuse the use of plastics in your community. Examples - reusable bags for shopping, reusable lunch bags, & use thermos instead of disposable bottles. Create list and promote in your club & community.
- * **Plant A Spot Initiative**- brighten up a local space in need of color by planting flowers or greenery.

ZONE CHAIRS

ZONE 1 CHAIR

(term ends 2027)

Loretto Lions
St. Louis Park Lions

[Laurie Carlson](#)

Mpls. Can Do Canines
Wayzata Lions

lcarlson@candocanines.org

New Hope Lions

ZONE 2 CHAIR

(term ends 2027)

Eden Prairie Lioness Lions
Hopkins Lions
Saint Bonifacius Lions

[Regina Aiken](#)

Eden Prairie Lions
Northwest Tonka Lions

raiken@tonkafinancial.com

Edina Lions
Orono Lions

ZONE 3 CHAIR

(term ends 2027)

Hopkins Noontime Lions
(now meets evenings and name changing soon)
Mpls Next Generation Downtown
Lions

[Amber Georgeson](#)

Mpls Northeast Lions

georgeson.amber@gmail.com

Mpls Ambassadors Lions

Mpls Northside Roaring Lions

ZONE 4 CHAIR

(term ends 2027)

Bloomington Lions
Mpls Riverview Lions
Richfield Lions

[Andy Leifort](#)

Camden Lions
Mpls Southwest Lions

andy.nextgenlions@gmail.com

Excelsior Lions
Mpls Special Olympics MN Lions

ZONE 5 CHAIR

(term ends 2027)

Brooklyn Center Lady Lions
Brooklyn Park Lions
Robbinsdale Lions

[Michael Crenshaw](#)

Brooklyn Center Lions
Crystal

bplionmichael@gmail.com

Brooklyn Park Lady Lions
Osseo Lions

ZONE 6 CHAIR

(term ends 2026)

Corcoran Lions
Maple Grove Lions

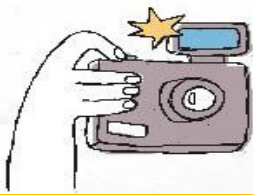
[Vickie Parks](#)

Dayton Lions
Plymouth Lions

vickieparks@gmail.com

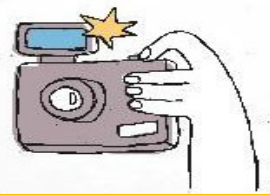
Hamel Lions
Rogers Lions





LIONS SERVING

Email Your Photos of your Lions in action.
Please include dates, names, locations etc. to this email:
lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com



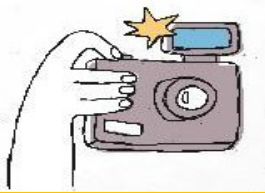
Club president Rebecca Mackenzie and member Dale Zinkgraf

For their February service project, Hopkins Lions and guests made Valentines and stuffed gift bags with Valentine's Day gifts for 60 Chapel View Care Center residents in Hopkins.



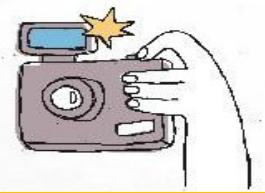
Club treasurer Rob Papke





LIONS SERVING

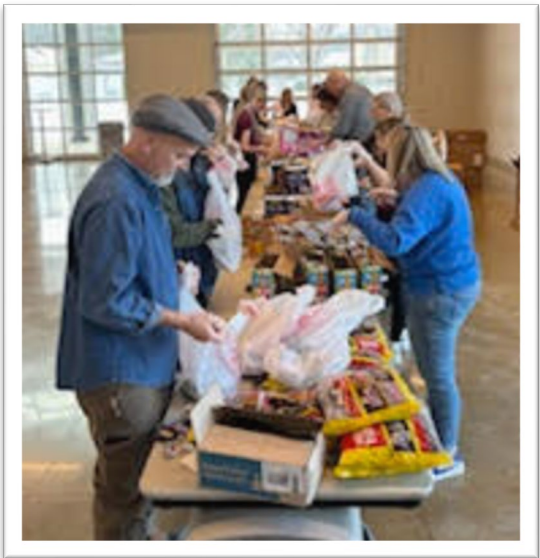
Email Your Photos of your Lions in action.
Please include dates, names, locations etc. to this email:
lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

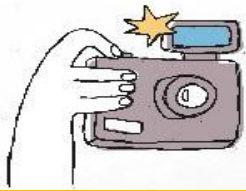


Brooklyn Park Lions Michael Crenshaw, Michael Reeves, Terry Parks, Denton Nessley, and Wife Fauna at the 2nd annual Chili Cook off for Homeward Bound.



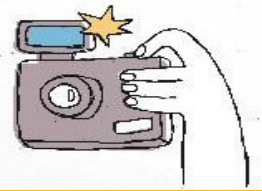
Rogers Lions packed over 1000 "Survival Bags" for Allan Law. Items included socks, hand warmers, a blanket, nuts, protein bars, and snacks.





LIONS SERVING

Email Your Photos of your Lions in action.
Please include dates, names, locations etc. to this email:
lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com



Kidsight at Wayzata Lions Pancake Breakfast

St. Patrick's Day Word Search

Find the hidden words below.



Shamrock
Lucky
Green
Gold

Rainbow
Irish
Saint
Patrick

Copyright © 2013-2014 by Education.com

View worksheets at www.education.com/worksheets



We at Can Do Canines appreciate your partnership in spreading the word about our inspiring assistance dog teams.

Today, I want to make you aware that we recently highlighted on our website a newer team that resides in your district.

Please feel free to share with your fellow 5M5 Lions.

Thanks!

Caren Hansen

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Marketing and Communication Manager

Autism Assist Dog Waverly Cues in to Logan's Needs

January 14, 2026

"We were super happy," says Keesha, recalling the moment her family's long wait for an assistance dog finally ended. Their son Logan, now 7, had been on the Autism Assist Dog waitlist for years. Reflecting on their change in status in the spring of 2025, Keesha shares, "It was emotional for me to finally meet her and know that we were so close to bringing her home. Logan was super excited to finally meet the dog that we had been talking about for so long. He had fun picking out all of her supplies, like a collar, tags, toys, and food dishes."



The "her" she's referring to is Waverly—a beautiful mix of Labrador and Golden Retriever. Keesha beams, "She's incredibly lovable. So gentle and deeply in tune with emotions. However, she doesn't understand how big she is when she crawls into your lap for snuggles. At 50 pounds, she thinks she's a lap dog!"

That emotional sensitivity has made a world of difference for Logan. When he's upset, Waverly often walks over to quietly offer comfort. Out in public, Keesha notices the calming effect as well, "When she's there, I can see a difference in him. He's a little more grounded. If he feels overwhelmed, he knows he can run to her for a hug and feel safe."

Logan has a tendency to bolt out in public, especially if something frightens him. But Waverly's tethering skills offer

peace of mind. "It gives me a huge sense of relief," Keesha says. "When he's tethered to her, I know he can't just run off. It makes a big difference."

Although Waverly doesn't currently accompany Logan to school, she rides along to bring him to school and is there to greet him at the end of the day. "He's so proud of her," Keesha shares. "He tells everyone, 'This is my dog.'" That pride shows in the way Logan helps care for Waverly—feeding her, giving treats, and playing together in the backyard. Whether they're playing tug-of-war, bouncing on the trampoline, or chasing each other around, the two are growing closer every day.

"As time goes on, their bond will only grow stronger," Keesha says. "Logan will be able to become a little more independent, not needing me right by his side all the time. He has a lot of separation anxiety, and we're hoping that Waverly can help ease that—especially at bedtime or in situations where I can't always be in the room. Just having her next to him brings him comfort."

As a former veterinary technician, Keesha was already familiar with Can Do Canines, but she's still in awe of the training these dogs receive. "There are no words to describe how grateful we are," she says. "We're just so thankful to everyone who played a part in bringing Waverly into our lives. She is such an amazing gift! From the bottom of our hearts—thank you."



Hello from the 5M5 Leo Club!

Congratulations to the Champlin Park Leo Club on earning the Kindness Matters Service Award for 2024-2025! The CPHS Leo Club is one of only 5 Leo clubs to earn the award for 2024-2025. The Champlin Park High School Leo Club, hosted a children’s clothing drive and children’s book drive, mentored and tutored students, volunteered at special events, and fund-raised at concession stands and executed a Valentine’s Day event – all to support a local elementary school where 79% of the students qualified for free and reduced lunch. Congrats to the Champlin Park Leo Club! Your efforts are inspiring.

Additionally, We have successfully delivered the hygiene kits and adoption kits to their respective nonprofits. Thank you to everyone who executed, worked on, and helped deliver all of these kits! Your efforts are valued! Keep up the hard work and stay warm!

Abby Schreiber
Leo Club District 5M5 President





WHY SHOULD I COME TO A MULTIPLE DISTRICT CONVENTION?

- Meet cool people from around the Multiple District.
- Learn about how a Multiple District works and how it affect your clubs.
- Dive into speaker sessions to turbocharge your smarts and unleash your inner motivator, whether for life or wrestling lions!
- Expand your network among Lions to acquire mentors who can guide you in leadership.



We are overwhelmed and so very grateful for the generosity of those Lions Clubs that donated to the KidSight Foundation for the “Parade” of Green at the Midwinter Convention. It is very much appreciated! Thank you!!

KidSight has been affected by the unrest in the cities. Some schools are postponing scheduled screenings and others are delaying scheduling their event. Our numbers are down but we look forward to increasing them soon.

It’s the Pancake/Waffle Breakfast season and you will find us at many of them screening those little pancake eaters. Wayzata Waffle Breakfast was a success, and we will be at the New Hope Pancake Breakfast, Brooklyn Park Waffle Breakfast and Bloomington’s Pancake Breakfast. If your club is having a public event let us know and we can help you get the kids’ eyes screened.

Exciting news from the recent KidSight Cabinet meeting. The KidSight Foundation is partnering with the University of Minnesota in a study designed to improve pediatric vision screening and outcomes in Minnesota. The study will be led by Dr Evan Chen. It will be a comprehensive, multi-year initiative with collaboration between the University and the KidSight Foundation. More to come when the study gets underway.

Other information at the meeting was about the State Fair. It will be here before we know it! Watch for the Sign-Up Genius to be posted soon.

We are needing to get more clubs and Lions to be involved in KidSight screenings. From our years of experience, we believe strongly that childhood vision screening and correction of poor vision is one of the most effective and cost-efficient health care interventions in the world. Give the children in your clubs area that opportunity to be screened. We would be glad to come to your clubs meeting to tell you more and get you started.

Lion Shari Thurston
612-790-0507
seethurston@comcast.net

Lion Tim Conaway
612-269-0027
liontimconaway@gmail.com



One of the most meaningful ways we can serve is by stepping in when a family in our community is facing childhood cancer.

The Minnesota Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation (MLCCF) Matching Funds Program was created to help your club make an even greater impact.

♥ How the Matching Program Works

If your Lions Club raises funds to support a local child battling cancer, MLCCF will match your donation dollar-for-dollar up to \$500.

If your club donates \$200 → MLCCF matches \$200

If your club donates \$500 → MLCCF matches \$500

If your club donates \$1,000 → MLCCF matches \$500

It's simple, powerful, and immediate support for families who need it most.

Since April 1, 2022, the Foundation has matched club donations, contributing over \$39,000 directly to families in need.

We would like to do more. (Actually, we'd prefer to do none — because that would mean no children are suffering from cancer.)

Until there is a cure, we will continue to raise funds to help those in need and use research to fight the battle against childhood cancer.

📌 Interested in Participating?

If your club is currently supporting a family — or becomes aware of a need — please contact your MLCCF Trustee for application details. Matching Funds materials available on our website <https://mnlionschildhoodcancerfoundation.org/matching-funds-program-1>

Together, 5M5 Lions can ensure no family fights alone.

Thank you for your continued compassion and commitment to serving children and families across

Gary Stevens, Chair

612-867-7249

edenprairiegary@gmail.com

Colleen Patterson, Secretary

612-275-7785

cmp55422@gmail.com



LGS Eye Donor Recognition Program

On April 12, 2026, Lions Gift of Sight will hold its Eye Donor Recognition Program. All Lions are welcome!

The program will honor eye donors from 2025 and express appreciation for the people who help make donations happen – eye donor families and friends. It is an opportunity to express gratitude and support and also raise awareness about the work of the Lions, the University of Minnesota, and the eye bank.

Lions Gift of Sight has held donor recognition events since 2004, and more than 500 people now typically attend each one! In case you are not familiar with the programs, you can check out some past events on the Lions Gift of Sight website: <https://lionsgiftofsight.umn.edu/Recognition-Program>.

Please come as a guest or as a volunteer.

Reach out to Community Liaison Lion Jodi Altenhofen at 612-624-0446 or magnu007@umn.edu for more information.



Lion David Danielson
612-327-5872
daviddanielson2@gmail.com

Lion Kathy Barkley
952-201-1348
1kathybarkley@gmail.com

The leadership at Project New Hope would like to extend a HUGE THANK YOU to all of the Lions Clubs that donated to us at the 2026 5M5 Midwinter Convention.

We sincerely appreciate all of the support!

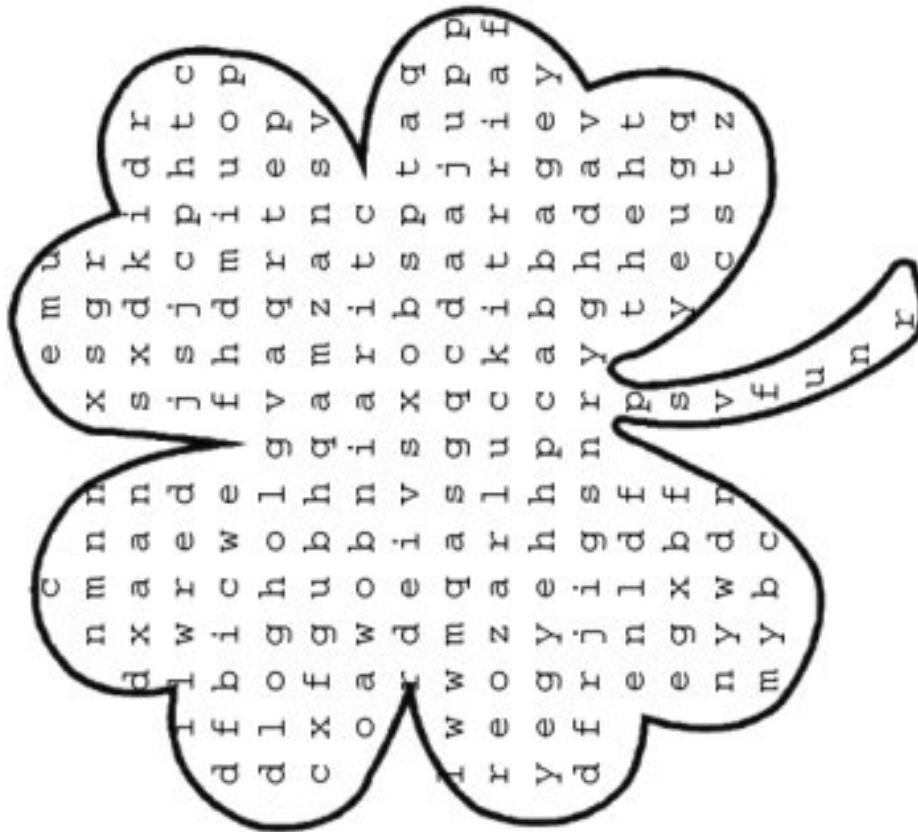
Lion Kevin Harris

Lion Dick Ketzelman



St. Patrick's Day Word Search Puzzle

Find and circle the words from the word box.
The words may be forward, backward, up, or down.



- | | | | | |
|----------|-------|-------|---------|---------|
| luck | green | March | gold | rainbow |
| shamrock | pot | jig | cabbage | parade |

Funding Opportunity



Special Olympics USA Games – Minneapolis, June 2026

The Lions Clubs of MD5M are sponsoring Family Night during the games. Not only will there be volunteer opportunities, but we need to raise funds to support this.

- **Goal:** Provide a specially designed ball (with bells inside for sound tracking) to ~3,050 athletes at no cost during Family Night.
- **Commitment:** MD5M has pledged to raise **\$350,000** to sponsor Family Night and supply these balls. To date \$141,000 has been raised.

How Your Club Can Help - Make a Financial Contribution

Ways to Contribute

- **Donate to LCIF**
 - Include “**MD5M Special Olympics**” in the memo of your check.
- Donate During MD5M Mid-Winter Conventions
 - If there’s a **Parade of Green**, contributions can be made there.

Recognition for Top Donors

- The **top seven donating clubs** will have their **logo added to the ball**, alongside **LCIF, MD5M, and Special Olympics** logos.
- Minimum donation of \$5,000.
- Deadline to have logo included on the ball is March 30th.

2026



For more information contact:

PDG Rob Hed at hedrob33@yahoo.com or 763-300-9454.

Mail checks to: Rob Hed 17440 45th Ave N Plymouth, MN 55446

Volunteer for the Special Olympics USA Games

Make a difference. Have Fun. Serve with the Lions.

Fellow 5M5 Lions, the Winter Olympics might have just ended, but the Summer Games are about to gear up, more specifically, the Special Olympics USA Summer Games!! And you do not have to travel to another country to participate in them. They are right here in your own backyard!!! They will be hosted here on the U of M Campus and Blaine Sports Complex. We will be hosting 3500 athletes and their families, coaches, etc. here in town in the month of June. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!**

Unlike the previous years where we are only screening the eyes of the athletes on 1 day during the summer games, since this is the NATIONAL games, with all 50 States involved, we are screening ALL athletes EVERY DAY of the games (2 shifts each day for most days) and we need all the help we can get. Bring your family, friends and anybody else that wants the experience of a lifetime down to help out. You will be part of something meaningful for athletes, families and our community—AND WE WILL BE IN AIR CONDITIONING (unlike the last many years 😊).

These shifts are given priority to 5M5 Lions before they are opened up the public on March 20th, so make sure to sign up fast!! They will fill up quickly.

Three Easy Steps:

1. **Register:** Scan the QR Code or use the link below to sign up. Registration includes uploading a photo if you want. **(Reservation Code: LionsClub)**



<https://cerv.is/0430rLionsClub>

2. **Choose Your Volunteer Role:**

Opening Eyes Vision Screenings
Friday, June 19 - Thursday, June 25

Family Night Guest Service
Wednesday, June 24 & Thursday, June 25 (4:30-9:30 PM)

3. **Show up and enjoy the experience:**



HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

- The youth all speak English so there should be no language barriers.
- Meals at home should be provided.
- If they would like to be taken to a specific restaurant they will usually always pay.
- The one stipulation is they need to have their own bedroom and bed.
- There is a \$300 stipend to cover gas and food for their stay with their host family.
- Great opportunity to show them the best of Minnesota and learn something from them.



Fishing with
Eden Prairie Lions



For more visions fun visit these links:

[2025, Day 6](#)

[2025, Day 7](#)

[2025, Day 8](#)

Lion Grant Hendrickson

5M5 Lions Youth Exchange Foundation/Camp Spicer

612-508-9461

grant@southsideservice.org

EVENT FLYERS

Email your Flyer or event information to: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

March 1, 2026

HOPKINS LIONS CLUB IS HAVING its 4th ANNUAL GERTENS SPRING PLANT SALE/FUNdraiser FOR LIONS GLOBAL CHARITIES.



Our custom web page will be ready to start selling on **Monday February 16th!**

Your customers will be able to access your custom website via www.gertensfundraising.com and enter the unique Store ID code (**803**)

To access the site and place an order for your fundraiser group:

1. Go to www.gertensfundraising.com
2. Enter the Store ID code provided into the text field and click 'Enter ID to Continue'.
3. Please ensure that the **buyer's name and phone number** is associated with the order for easier sorting Store ID code for **Hopkins Lions Club: 803**

Your site will open **February 16** and close at **10 PM on Thursday April 2nd**
We cannot accept any late orders past the deadline.

--If you try to access the site before it opens or after it closes there will be an error message—the site will be inactive at this time.

****PLEASE NOTE: Quantities are limited on fundraiser items. If an item sells out, it will be marked sold out on your website and customers will not be able to continue to order that item.**

Encourage your sellers to promote and have their end customers get their orders in early to avoid limited item availability.

Your customers should shop directly from your site.

Do not collect orders and hold to enter later.

**Pickup available starting on
Tuesday May 5th after 1pm,**

@ Aiken's home 1811 Traymore Road, Minnetonka 55305

March 1, 2026

73 years - WE SERVE- 1953-2025

New Hope Lions Annual



PANCAKE BREAKFAST



**Sunday, March 1, 2026
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

Adults	\$10.00
Kids (6-13)	\$7.00
Under 5	Free



**Crystal Community Center
4800 Douglas Drive North, Crystal, MN**



Free Kids Sight Vision screening for children from 6 months through 12th grade

<https://www.newhopelions.org/>

Proceeds to benefit community and international projects

Bring your used eyeglasses for a donation to those in need.

March 1, 2026



MEAT RAFFLE

Sundays

1 - 3 PM • HASKELL'S PORT OF EXCELSIOR

Feb 1 • Feb 15 • Mar 1 • Mar 15 • Mar 29 • Apr 12

Thank you for supporting the Excelsior Lions operations fund.

SPONSORED BY:



March 1, 2026



Robbinsdale Lions Club Jigsaw Puzzle Contest



Sunday, March 1, 2026 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Wicked Wort Brewing Company
4165 West Broadway, Robbinsdale



\$10/person
2 - 4 players per table

Gift Cards from local merchants awarded for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place

Arrive early, tables fill up fast, no reservations.

Food and drinks will be available for purchase
Bring your old eyeglasses to recycle for those in need.

EVENT FLYERS

Email your Flyer or event information to: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

March 7, 2026



17th Annual Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation Research Update
March 7, 2026

Hosted by the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, Inc.

More than 29 million people in the United States are living with diabetes—a growing number that includes 340,000 people in Minnesota alone. Unfortunately, that number is on the rise.

Join us at the annual Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation *Research Update* to hear from University of Minnesota scientists, who are conducting leading-edge research aimed at both preventing and curing diabetes. Learn first hand how these scientists, funded by the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, are making a direct impact in our community, state, and beyond.

Following the research presentations, guests will have the chance to interact with the scientists one on one, learn more about their research, and ask questions. There will also be silent auction items where you will have the opportunity to support the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation in their mission.

Saturday, March 7, 2026

11 a.m. Registration and Social
11:30 a.m. Lunch
12:30 p.m. Program
2:30 p.m. Meet n' Greet with Scientists

**Best Western Plus Kelly Inn
State/Sunwood Ballroom**
100 4th Ave. S.
St. Cloud, MN 56301

Faculty Research Presentations:

Among the Faculty Research Presentations by scientists will be:

- Comprehensive analysis of human antibody reactivity to porcine (pig) xenogeneic antigens in patients currently on the waiting list for human organ transplantation - Dr. Bernhard Hering, Dr. Adams, Dr. McGregor
- Adoption of islet cell transplants from adult cells as a functional cure for type 1 and type 2 diabetes (GOAL - Islet cell transplants without need for antirejection drugs) - Dr. Bernhard Hering

RSVP by Tuesday, February 24

RSVP via email to MNLionsDiabetesFdn@gmail.com

A Zoom Link will be emailed to those unable to attend in person.

Please request Zoom link by email above.

A confirmation email will be sent prior to event.



March 7, 2026

BINGO ★
SATURDAY
March 7th 3:00 PM
Wicked Wort Brewing Co. - Robbinsdale

\$20 Per Pack of 10 Games

\$2 for an Extra Sheet per Game

CASH Prizes Awarded Each Round



MEAT RAFFLE:

- Meat Raffle is held between bingo games
- \$2 and \$5 rounds

**Support the
Robbinsdale
Lions Club**



March 11, 2026

Crystal Lions Steak Fry



March 11, 2026

5:00-7:00 PM

Crystal VFW Post #494

5222 Bass Lake Road, Crystal

\$14 Includes:

8 Oz. Sirloin Steak Baked Potato
Coleslaw Texas Toast Beverage

We Appreciate your support!

Proceeds benefit our community & Lions Projects!

March 15, 2026



MEAT RAFFLE
Sundays
1 - 3 PM • HASKELL'S PORT OF EXCELSIOR
Feb 1 • Feb 15 • Mar 1 • Mar 15 • Mar 29 • Apr 12

Thank you for supporting the Excelsior Lions operations fund.

SPONSORED BY:



EVENT FLYERS

Email your Flyer or event information to: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

March 20, 2026

NORTHERN PRIDE LIONS FORUM



March 20-21, 2026
Duluth, MN

ROAR LOUDER.
SERVE BETTER.
LEAD STRONGER

Join us for a high-energy weekend dedicated to the **heart of Lionism**. Whether you're a new member or a seasoned leader, this forum is designed to help you drive **Mission 1.5** and elevate your club experience.

REGISTER TODAY:
Scan the QR code for hotel information and registration.



WHY YOU SHOULD BE THERE?

1. Empower your leadership
2. Master the tools
3. Tell your story
4. Modernize your service

BREAKOUT HIGHLIGHTS

Some of our breakout sessions will cover topics such as:

- Attracting new members
 - Developing leaders within your club
 - Portal training
 - Lions Quest
 - Engaging youth
 - Influencing at every level
 - Online storytelling
- Fostering a positive club culture

WHAT TO EXPECT

FRIDAY NIGHT: The Kickoff (6:00 PM – 10:00 PM)

Welcome Mixer & "Speed Fellowship" Icebreakers.

MD5M Pride Showcase & Music.

SATURDAY: The Educational Forum (8:00 AM – 4:30 PM)

Morning Keynote Speaker: PID Bruce Beck (Lions USA).

Interactive Breakout Sessions (Choose your own path!).

"Northern Pride in Action" Closing Challenge.

Evening Keynote Speaker: PID Lee Vrieze Insights (Mission 1.5).

Inspiring Growth Through Service & Leadership "Be part of the movement to make MD5M stronger than ever."

March 20, 2026

EDEN PRAIRIE LIONS CLUB CHARITY CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT

The EP Lions is once again proud to sponsor an Annual Charity Cribbage tournament on Friday, March 20, 2026, at the True Friends in Eden Prairie. This is a relaxing event competition and fellowship while raising funds for people impacted by homelessness community. New this year, we have changed "Guys Night Out" to a "Guys and Gals Night Out".



Camp Eden Wood focused on friendly awareness and in our broader the event from a

We are proud to continue our partnership with **Simpson Housing Services** as the benefactor for the event. Simpson's mission is to **house, support, and empower** people impacted by homelessness. To deliver on its mission, Simpson has recently partnered with its local community, individual donors, corporate partners, as well as federal, state, and local governmental agencies to build a new shelter and transitional housing. This facility is unique in that it brings key stakeholders together to support the impacted people who use a variety of services.

The format for the event is unchanged. Register through the Simpson website as a team of two. Singles will be accommodated provided there are an even number of singles. There is no requirement that teams be co-ed. Teams play three qualifying games. After the qualifying games, the top 16- or 32-teams (depending on total teams) get seeded for tournament play. The tournament will be single elimination until the champions are crowned and receive the Traveling Cribbage Trophy. The winning team keep the trophy for one year, proudly displaying it prominently in that special place in their house(s)!



DATE: March 20, 2026

TIME: 6pm for light dinner, 7pm for tournament start

LOCATION: Camp Eden Wood, 6350 Indian Chief Road, Eden Prairie

DONATION: \$75 per individual, \$150 per team. \$10-12 will be allocated for the dinner.

WHO: Tony Szczepaniak, tony.szczepaniak@gmail.com, 952-250-6937

REGISTER: <https://give.simpsonhousing.org/ge/cribbage4shelter>

March 20, 2026

JOIN US!

Club Video Challenge



Highlight what makes your club special to inspire others to join as Lions!

Enter the 5M-5 recruitment video competition by March 20th .



VIDEO REQUIREMENTS :

- Videos must be **90 seconds** or shorter.
- Videos must be filmed in a **vertical orientation** for optimal social media display.

OTHER INFO:

- **Video Submissions:** Please send videos to Lion Hannah Maxwell by **March 20nd**.
o Email: Hannahmax2021@gmail.com
- **Winners Announcement:** First, Second and Third place winners will be announced at 5M-5's April 13 All-Club Meeting.
- **Note:** Video submissions will be featured on 5M-5's social media pages and website.

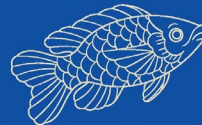
TIPS:

- CapCut is a great app for editing your videos.
- Enjoy the process!
- Share your club's Lion story

MAY THE BEST VIDEO WIN!

March 20, 2026

Rogers
Lions
Club



Fish & Shrimp Fry

FUNDRAISER



Join us for our annual Fish & Shrimp Fry community fundraiser event!

Friday, March 20

Friday, March 27

21st Century Bank
Event Center
4:30PM - 7:00PM

Adults Children
\$15 \$10

Dinner includes: Fish, Shrimp, French Fries, Mac & Cheese, Coleslaw, and a Roll

Cash bar and family-friendly beverages available. Lemonade included with paid meal.

All proceeds go back into the community!

March 21, 2026

SATURDAY March 21st 7:30 — NOON

Belgian Waffle Breakfast & Silent Auction
Brooklyn Park Crime Prevention Association
BROOKLYN PARK LIONS



ALL YOU CAN EAT:

Belgian Waffles
Coffee - Orange Juice
Sausage



\$10 - Adults

\$6 - Children 3 - 7

Brooklyn Park Community Center
5600 85th Avenue North Brooklyn Park
All proceeds from this event will benefit BPCPA Programs

March 24, 2026

MARCH 24, 2026
1:30 - 4:30 PM

LIONS DAY
AT THE
CAPITOL



The goal of Lions Day at the Capitol is to Increase Public Awareness,
Advocate for Change & Strengthen Partnerships

How Clubs Can Participate:

Generate Enthusiasm: Share event details at club meetings.

Set Attendance Goals: Aim for 5 – 10 attendees per club to ensure strong representation.

Engage with Local Governing Representatives: Schedule meetings with your local officials in advance to discuss key issues and invite them to attend.



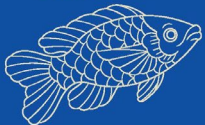
Host: Maple Grove Lions

To sign-up click the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0945A4AF2DA3FCC34-60193134-2ndannual>

March 27, 2026

Rogers
Lions
Club



Fish & Shrimp Fry

FUNDRAISER



Join us for our annual Fish & Shrimp Fry community fundraiser event!

Friday, March 20

Friday, March 27

21st Century Bank
Event Center
4:30PM - 7:00PM

Adults \$15 **Children \$10**

Dinner includes: Fish, Shrimp, French Fries, Mac & Cheese, Coleslaw, and a Roll

Cash bar and family-friendly beverages available. Lemonade included with paid meal.

All proceeds go back into the community!

March 29, 2026

JOIN US FOR THE BLOOMINGTON LION'S ANNUAL

Pancake Breakfast

SUNDAY MARCH 29TH

8AM-1PM

BLOOMINGTON EVENT CENTER
1114 AMERICAN BLVD

STORYTIME FOR KIDS @ 9:15

EASTER BUNNY AVAILABLE FOR FREE PHOTOS 9:30-11:30

(YOU PROVIDE THE CAMERA WE PROVIDE THE BUNNY!)

FREE VISION SCREENING FOR CHILDREN BY KIDSIGHT



\$10 ALL YOU CAN EAT
\$5 KIDS 10 & UNDER
KIDS UNDER 4 EAT FREE

Breakfast includes Pancakes, Sausage, Coffee & Juice

Online Tickets in advance :

<https://tinyurl.com/pancake2026>

SAUSAGE & MAPLE SYRUP PREORDERS CAN ALSO BE MADE VIA THIS LINK

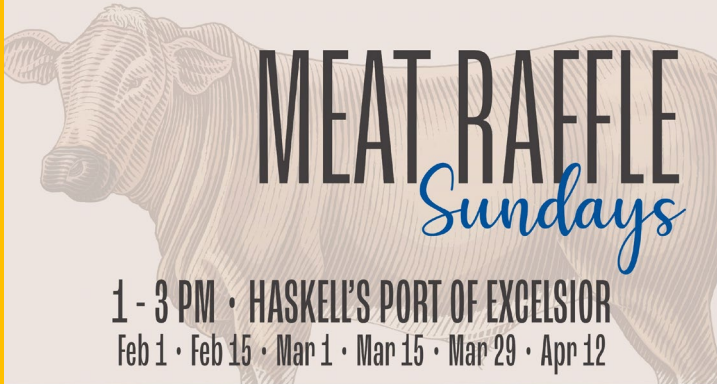
Tickets also available at the Door or from a Bloomington Lion



EVENT FLYERS

Email your Flyer or event information to: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

March 29, 2026



Thank you for supporting the Excelsior Lions operations fund.

SPONSORED BY:



March 30, 2026

CABINET MEETING

March 31, 2026

REGISTER TODAY!
TUES. MAR. 31, 2026
6-8PM
HAMEL COMMUNITY CENTER

BRING YOUR WHOLE CLUB
RSVP BY 3/27/2026
to LionHeidiZaworski@gmail.com

SUPER HEROES UNITE

SPEED LEARNING WITH GMT

Empowering Lions to be superheroes and bring change to their clubs.

April 8, 2026

Crystal Lions Steak Fry



April 8, 2026

5:00-7:00 PM

Crystal VFW Post #494

5222 Bass Lake Road, Crystal

\$14 Includes:

8 Oz. Sirloin Steak Baked Potato
Coleslaw Texas Toast Beverage

We Appreciate your support!

Proceeds benefit our community & Lions Projects!

EVENT FLYERS

Email your Flyer or event information to: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

April 10, 2026

Come One, Come All
Volunteer!
 RAISE MONEY FOR
FOR YOUR LIONS CLUB
 BY VOLUNTEERING FOR
THE ROYAL CANADIAN CIRCUS
 AT THE MALL OF AMERICA'S NORTH LOT

**10 DAYS!
 17 SHOWS!**

**PICK ONE
 OR WORK 'EM ALL!**

APRIL 10-19th

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/CIRCUS26](https://tinyurl.com/circus26)

**SIGN UP ON SIGN
 UP GENIUS**



WELCOME TO THE
CIRCUS

Hi there!
 BLOOMINGTON LIONS

CIRCUS DOES NOT USE EXOTIC ANIMALS

April 11, 2026

Fetching Ball Gala



Celebrating Can Do Canines

Join us for an evening celebrating the amazing teams of Can Do Canines. Enjoy dinner, games, and silent and live auctions – all benefiting the organization.

Saturday, April 11, 2026
 Radisson Blu Mall of America

For questions regarding The Fetching Ball, please contact
 Melissa Herman at mherman@candocanines.org.

Buy Tickets

April 13, 2026

LIONS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 5M5 **LIONS INTERNATIONAL**

ALL CLUB MEETING
 APRIL 13TH

Don't need to purchase a meal to attend - but you still need to register
 Everyone Welcome - Bring a Friend

5:30 PM SOCIAL
 6:00 PM DINNER

RSVP by Sunday April 5th



Scan the QR Code
 or
 Click on the QR Code
\$22 per person

- Fun and Camaraderie
- Service Project Ideas
- Making Meetings FUN Tips
- Upcoming Events
- Training Opportunities
- Prize Drawings
- Awards

No Ticket Sales at the Door
NO REFUNDS

Roasted Pork or Baked Chicken
 Garlic Mashed Potato & Mixed Veggies
 Beverages available for purchase
 Dessert provided by Zone Chairs

CRYSTAL VFW POST 494
 5222 BASS LAKE ROAD
 LOWER LEVEL

April 13, 2026

MYSTERY!
 Raspberry Themed Gift Basket
Valued at \$100



\$2 for one ticket • \$5 for three tickets

Tickets on sale April 13th ONLY at the All Club Meeting
 All proceeds will go to the MD5M Lions Convention in Minnetonka, MN

SPONSORED & DONATED BY:
Hopkins Lions Club



EVENT FLYERS

Email your Flyer or event information to: lionstdistrict5m5@gmail.com

April 15, 2026



Lions Clubs of District 5M5:

District 5M5 is hosting the 2026 MD5M Multiple Convention April 24-26, 2026, in Minnetonka.

We are in process of putting together the articles for the "Welcome Bag" to be given to attendees upon arrival.

We are asking for donations of items to be placed in the bag complements of your club. It can be something specific to your club such as post it notes, bookmarks, pens, candy or snack bars, or something pertaining to our theme of a "Minnetonka Beach Party". You can be creative!

Monetary donations to help defray the costs of bag contents would be appreciated as well.

This would also be an opportunity to place any information, flyers, or pamphlets you would like to share about your clubs' events coming up in the future.

Please contact me for more information, questions or to let me know what you would like to contribute to the bag.

We will need your donations by April 15 as we are packing bags on the weekend of April 18.

We appreciate your consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Lion Shari Thurston

Convention Planning Committee

seethurston@comcast.net

612-790-0507

April 17, 2026



**EMERGING LIONS
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
ELLI**



Develop. Lead. Inspire.

The Emerging Lions Leadership Institute (ELLI) is a leadership development experience designed for Lions and Leos who are ready to grow, lead, and serve at a higher level.

This interactive weekend builds confident leaders who will strengthen clubs, districts, and the future of Lions in MD5M.

**Join Us April 17- 19, 2026
Holiday Inn Detroit Lakes**

Why Attend ELLI?

- Develop practical leadership and communication skills
- Learn how to lead without a title
- Strengthen teamwork and collaboration
- Build confidence to lead projects, committees, and clubs
- Network with emerging leaders across MD5M
- Learn from experienced Lions leaders
- Create a personal leadership action plan to take home
- FUN, FUN, FUN

Who Should Attend?

- Lions or Leos in good standing within MD5M interested in leadership growth and service
- Willing to actively participate in all sessions
- Committed to applying learned skills in their club or district
- Lions who have **NOT** served as Club President



Registration due April 1, 2026
Use QR code to Register

Contact your District GLT for more information
PDG Jennifer Gilbert
winn0004@gmail.com



April 18, 2026

SAVE THE DATE



NEW SERVICE INITIATIVES FOR 2025-2026

FROM INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT-ELECT A. P. SINGH

**MENTAL
HEALTH &
WELL-BEING**

OCTOBER 4-12, 2025



OCTOBER 4-12, 2025

HUNGER



January 3-11
2026

ENVIRONMENT



APRIL 18-26, 2026

Please have clubs/districts plan accordingly.

April 19, 2026

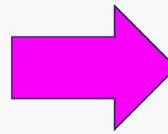


EDEN PRAIRIE LIONS CLUB



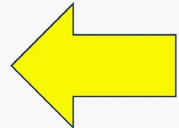
Join us at the EP Lions Club Annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Pancake batter & syrup donated by Original Pancake House



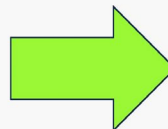
When

Sunday, April 19, 2026
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon



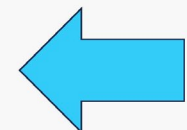
Where

True Friends Camp Eden Wood
6350 Indian Chief Road
Eden Prairie, MN 55346



Cost

Single Ticket: \$10.00
Family Ticket: \$25.00
Children under 5: Free



Cash, check, credit cards accepted. Visit our website at: www.eplions.com

EVENT FLYERS

Email your Flyer or event information to: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

April 20, 2026

WHY SHOULD I COME TO A MULTIPLE DISTRICT CONVENTION?

- Meet cool people from around the Multiple District.
- Learn about how a Multiple District works and how it affect your clubs.
- Dive into speaker sessions to turbocharge your smarts and unleash your inner motivator, whether for life or wrestling lions!
- Expand your network among Lions to acquire mentors who can guide you in leadership.



April 24, 2026

MD5M LIONS BEACH PARTY

APRIL 24-26, 2026
Minnetonka, Minnesota
Hosted by District 5M-5



Sign up today!

Cost January 1, 2026 thru
March 31, 2026
\$195 US - \$280 CDN

April 24, 2026



April 24-26, 2026
106th - MD5M Multiple Convention
Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel
2026 MD5M Registration Form



<input type="checkbox"/> Lion	<input type="checkbox"/> Leo	<input type="checkbox"/> Guest	<input type="checkbox"/> Lion	<input type="checkbox"/> Leo	<input type="checkbox"/> Guest
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if this is your 1 st Multiple Convention			<input type="checkbox"/> Check if this is your 1 st Multiple Convention		
Name: _____			Name: _____		
Address: _____			Address: _____		
City: _____			City: _____		
Prov/State: _____		Zip: _____	Prov/State: _____		Zip: _____
Email: _____			Email: _____		
Title: _____		District: _____	Title: _____		District: _____
Club: _____			Club: _____		

Full Hospitality Book: Cost January 1, 2026 thru
March 31, 2026
\$195 US - \$280 CDN

*Hospitality book includes convention and all meals
Separate Meals:
*Do not select if you have purchased a hospitality book

Friday Night Social	\$27 US - \$39 CDN	_____
Saturday Breakfast	\$38 US - \$55 CDN	_____
Saturday Lunch	\$43 US - \$62 CDN	_____
Saturday Banquet	\$70 US - \$101 CDN	_____
Sunday Brunch	\$40 US - \$58 CDN	_____

Total amount if separate meals chosen: _____

Please specify dietary needs: Vegetarian Gluten Free Other: _____
No meals available after March 31, 2026.
Make Checks payable to: 2026 MD5M Convention.
Mail registrations to: 2026 MD5M Convention c/o Rhonna Hed, 17440 45th Ave N, Plymouth, MN 55446
-OR- you may pay by Venmo to: @Rhonna-Hed Then Email your registrations to: rhed@summitfire.com

Please provide an email address or phone # if you'd like to receive a confirmation _____

HOTEL INFORMATION: Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel, 12201 Ridgedale Drive Minnetonka, Minnesota 55305
Call (952) 593-0000 to book your room reservation. Ask for the "Lions 2026 Convention" rate.
Room rates are \$135.00 per night plus taxes and fees. Room reservation cut-off is April 9, 2026.
[Book your group rate for MD5M Lions 2026 Convention here](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION contact: PCC Rob Rand at (612) 715-6055, robrandmn@gmail.com
Lion Rhonna Hed at (651) 248-0749, rhed@summitfire.com

April 25, 2026

Lions Worldwide Induction Day!

Register Today!



5M Multiple Convention

Saturday, April 25, 2026, 1:00 PM

Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel
Minnetonka, Minnesota

WWID is a global membership celebration held on the last Saturday in April to unite clubs around the world in welcoming new members.

MD5M is hosting a Worldwide Induction Day at this years Multiple Convention.

We welcome any new member (joining around Oct. 1 or after) to be inducted by International President AP Singh. Register using the QR code or this link:

<http://bit.ly/4202Uec>



EVENT FLYERS

Email your Flyer or event information to: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

April 25, 2026



**NE Minneapolis Lions
Annual Charity Bowling Event**
Saturday, April 25th, 2026 @ 11:00AM
Elsie's Bowling & Restaurant

729 Marshall Street NE Minneapolis
Bowling starts at 11:am sharp, ends at 3pm sharp.

Event Includes: Shoes, Bowling and Taco Bar (Taco Bar starts at 12pm)
\$195.00 Per Lane fee (Maximum 6 bowlers per lane)

Please arrive 15 minutes early, to get those fancy shoes, find the PERFECT ball and find your Lane! Lanes will be posted at the main counter.

Registration opens January 10th, 2026!

Event is limited, to secure a lane, register and pay for your lane today!

Lane Fee: \$195.00 per lane (Maximum 6 bowlers per lane)

Questions: Please call Lion Sherrie @ 651-295-3017

Would you like to be one of our amazing Lane Sponsors for only \$100.00: Yes

Lane Sponsor Name: _____

Register and Pay for the event online @ www.nelions.org

THANK YOU!

May 1, 2026



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

May 4, 2026



5M5 CLUB OFFICER TRAINING

Monday, May 4, 2026 • 6:00 p.m.



Club officer training is in person!

What to Expect:

- Light dinner to begin the evening
- Training sessions grouped by officer position
- Each session is **45 minutes**, including Q&A
- Designed for new and returning officers
- Great refresher for experienced Lions



RSVP by: April 30, 2026

RSVP to: PDG Jennifer Gilbert
winn0004@gmail.com

- \$10 per participant (collected at check-in)

Questions?

Contact PDG Jennifer Gilbert
651-226-0205
winn0004@gmail.com

Training Offered For:

- Club Presidents
- Secretaries
- Treasurers
- Membership Chairs
- Any Lion interested in learning about club officer roles



May 13, 2026

Crystal Lions Steak Fry



March 11, 2026

5:00-7:00 PM

Crystal VFW Post #494

5222 Bass Lake Road, Crystal

\$14 Includes:

8 Oz, Sirloin Steak Baked Potato
Coleslaw Texas Toast Beverage

We Appreciate your support!

Proceeds benefit our community & Lions Projects!

EVENT FLYERS

Email your Flyer or event information to: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

May 15, 2026

Please join the Bloomington Lions
in celebrating 75 years of service

75 years

MAY
FRIDAY **15** AT 5:00 PM

5PM COCKTAIL HOUR
6PM DINNER
AFTER DINNER DUELING PIANOS!

MINNESOTA VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB
6300 AUTO CLUB ROAD
BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA

TICKETS
\$75

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/LIONS75YEARS](https://tinyurl.com/lions75years)

TO RSVP, PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS AT THE LINK
ABOVE AND YOUR ATTENDANCE WILL BE CONFIRMED



June 5, 2026



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

June 10, 2026

Crystal Lions Steak Fry



June 10, 2026

5:00-7:00 PM

Crystal VFW Post #494

5222 Bass Lake Road, Crystal

\$14 Includes:

8 Oz. Sirloin Steak Baked Potato
Coleslaw Texas Toast Beverage

We Appreciate your support!

Proceeds benefit our community & Lions Projects!

June 20, 2026

Funding Opportunity



Special Olympics USA Games – Minneapolis, June 2026

The Lions Clubs of MD5M are sponsoring Family Night during the games. Not only will there be volunteer opportunities, but we need to raise funds to support this.

- **Goal:** Provide a specially designed ball (with bells inside for sound tracking) to ~3,050 athletes at no cost during Family Night.
- **Commitment:** MD5M has pledged to raise **\$350,000** to sponsor Family Night and supply these balls. To date \$141,000 has been raised.

How Your Club Can Help - Make a Financial Contribution

Ways to Contribute

- **Donate to LCIF**
 - Include "MD5M Special Olympics" in the memo of your check.
- Donate During MD5M Mid-Winter Conventions
 - If there's a **Parade of Green**, contributions can be made there.

Recognition for Top Donors

- The **top seven donating clubs** will have their **logo added to the ball**, alongside **LCIF, MD5M, and Special Olympics** logos.
- Minimum donation of \$5,000.
- Deadline to have logo included on the ball is March 30th.



For more information contact:

PDG Rob Hed at hedrob33@yahoo.com or 763-300-9454.

Mail checks to: Rob Hed 17440 45th Ave N Plymouth, MN 55446

EVENT FLYERS

Email your Flyer or event information to: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

June 20, 2026

Volunteer for the Special Olympics USA Games
Make a difference. **Have Fun. Serve with the Lions.**

Three Easy Steps:

1. Register

Scan the QR Code or use the button below to sign up. Registration includes uploading a photo.

<https://serv.la/0430rLionsClub>

[Register](#)



2. Choose Your Volunteer Role

Family Night Setup

Tuesday, June 16 (1:00-6:00 PM)

Opening Eyes Vision Screenings

Friday, June 19 - Thursday, June 25

Family Night Guest Service

Wednesday, June 24 & Thursday, June 25 (4:30-9:30 PM)

Family Night Greet Team

Wednesday, June 24 & Thursday, June 25 (5:00 - 7:00 PM)

3. Show Up and Enjoy the Experience

You'll be part of something meaningful for athletes, families, and our community.

Early Access for Lions, Family & Friends through March 20

Feel free to share - the best spots will fill quickly.



June 20, 2026



2026 DONATION OPTIONS



LCIF Special Olympics Donation Link

LCIF has launched a dedicated QR code and donation link for the Special Olympics USA Games. Donations from individuals or clubs count toward Melvin Jones Fellowship credits.

[Click Here to Online Donate!](#)

<https://lionsclubs.org/special-olympics-2026>



Scan QR code to Donate



MD5M / Roar-For-A-Cause — Registration is Live

Signup made easy!

Option#1: ONLINE

Fast, secure, and easy.
(Service fee is optional)
Select "Other" and enter 0.)
Instant confirmation!

[Click here to Register Online!](#)

Option#2: PAPER:

Fill out the attached form

Check

Venmo:

Paypal:

Table Sponsorships Available:

Bring a group or make a bigger impact—details included on both registration options.



"A Ball For All" Special Olympics Fundraiser

Our new "A Ball For All" fundraiser—an easy, fun way to raise funds. The top seven clubs will have their name and logo featured on official balls!



Corporate Plaque Program / Special Olympics USA Games

A great way for businesses to gain recognition while supporting an important cause!

Local businesses can support LCIF and the Special Olympics USA Games through the Corporate Plaque Opportunity.

- Minimum donation: \$1,000
- Not eligible for MJ Fellow credits
- Not tied to Roar-For-A-Cause sponsorships

Any questions please contact Lion Rob Hed - hedrob33@yahoo.com

June 20, 2026



Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION

Make a Donation to Support LCIF at the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games

Join fellow Lions in celebrating inclusion and empowering athletes of all abilities. Your donation strengthens LCIF's global grants and programs and supports meaningful partnerships like Special Olympics.

100% of your gift qualifies for Melvin Jones Fellowship or Progressive MJF credit.

Together, we can turn compassion into meaningful action.



[Donate Here](#)

June 20, 2026



SPECIAL OLYMPICS USA GAMES MINNESOTA 2026

2026 Coming to MINNESOTA JUNE 20-26



Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION

We are also hosting a very special Family Night Celebration, and each athlete will receive an "All Ball"—branded with the logos of MD5M, LCIF LEOs, and Lions USA. This is more than just a ball—it is a symbol of unity, fun, and the spirit of inclusion we all believe in.

Our Multiple's role in this partnership:

- Raise \$350,000 to sponsor
- Family Night for 3500 Olympians and their families.
- As well as provide every athlete with A Ball for All, a goodwill gift specially designed for the athletes.

How you can help:

- Consider designating club or individual donations to LCIF's MD5M Special Olympics Fund.
- Gifts still count towards Melvin Jones Fellowships (but not District or Community Grants).
- All donations, no matter what fund they go to, are greatly appreciated!

Send all checks made out to LCIF to:

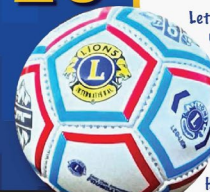
Rob Hed, 17440 45th Ave N, Plymouth, Mn 55446

• Please note that you'd like the donation made to go to the MD5M Special Olympics Fund

We are asking every club in MD5M to support this effort through a contribution to LCIF, earmarked for the 2026 Special Olympics Games in Minnesota. Any donation is a good donation!

Let's make the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games unforgettable—not just for the athletes, but for every volunteer, every family, and every community touched by the spirit of the Games. Thank you for your leadership, generosity, and continued commitment to serving others.

In service,
POB Rob Hed 5M-5 LCIF Coordinator
Hedrob33@yahoo.com



EVENT FLYERS

Email your Flyer or event information to: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

July 9, 2026

October 24, 2026

July 9th is
MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation
Night at the Hamel Rodeo!!



*You're in Luck!!!
It's time to think
about the
Hamel Rodeo!!*



For every ticket sold for the July 9th show,
MNLCCF will receive a portion of the ticket sales!

Rodeo starts at 7:30 PM
 Gates open 2 hours before the show

5 shows throughout the weekend

Thu. 7-9	Fri. 7-10	Sat. 7-11	Sat. 7-11	Sun. 7-12
7:30 PM	7:30 PM	1:00 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM

Order tickets: <https://www.hamelrodeo.org>



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

October 2, 2026



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


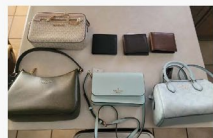
2026 DECEMBER 4-6
Faith Haven Camp near Battle Lake, MN

Items for Sale
First Come / First Sold
 Photos of some, but not all, items shown.

Minneapolis Riverview Lions Club has the following items available for purchase. Contact Lion Matt Romain for information mromain@burnomaticmn.com

- Coach Men's Wallets – dark brown
- Green Bay Packer Camo hoodie
- Green Bay Packer Crucial Catch cancer hat
- Green Bay Packer gray hat
- Green Bay Packer Headline hoodie
- Green Bay Packer Lanyard
- Green Bay Packer space dye
- Green Bay Packer Trucker hat
- Green Bay Packer Mini helmet
- Kate Spade blue purse
- Kate Spade turquoise purse
- Kate Spade green purse
- Kate Spade purple wallet
- additional wallets and purses, not listed
- Michael Kors pink / brown purse
- Aaron Rodgers Jersey
- YETI tumbler

EVENT FLYERS

Email your Flyer or event information to: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

July 1, 2029



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



To purchase pins or patches, donate to the convention or volunteer:
Contact Lion Jennifer Gilbert, 5M5
winn0004@gmail.com
651-226-0205
Club or Individual donations accepted - Thank you!

July 1, 2029

MD5M PARADE SHIRT ORDER FORM



These shirts are a button up style shirt and run 1 size small. (order accordingly)



Date: _____

Submitted By: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

Email order form to Executive Secretary Cindy Walters at:
excutivesecretary@lionsmd5m.org

Complete Form and Mail to: **Checks can be made out to MD5M Lions.**
MD5M Lions
1915 Waterford Circle
Chaska, MN 55318

ADULT	PRICE EACH	SIZE	QUANTITY	TOTAL AMOUNT
1. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	Small		total smal
2. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	Medium		total medium
3. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	Large		total large
4. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	1X		total 1 x
5. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	2X		total 2 x
6. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	3X		total 3 x
7. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	4X		total 4 x
8. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	5X		total 5 x
			total shirts	total
			additional credit card charge:	card fee

Credit Card Information:

Name On card: _____

Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVC Code: _____