

INFORMER



February 2026

Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead

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Childhood Cancer	GST-Global Service Team	Special Olympics
DG Governor	KidSight	Vision
DGE-District Governor Elect	LCIF	Youth Exchange & Youth Camps
1st Vice DGE	LEO's	Zone Chairs
2nd Vice DGE	Lions International Trading Pin Club	



Congratulations to

Robbinsdale Lions Celebrating 87 Years!

February 28, 1939

Minneapolis Southwest Lions Celebrating 80 Years!

February 25, 1946





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
Anna Gerdeen	James Cain	Camden
Cam Larson	Karen Flattum	Excelsior Lions
Charlotte Havle	Julia Hoffman	Mpls Downtown Next Gen
Corey Haeder	Leo Ott	Corcoran Lions
Dale Zinkgraf	Rebecca MacKenzie	Hopkins Lions
David Blas	Michael Crenshaw	Brooklyn Park Lions
David Moos	Andrew Geir	New Hope Lions
Harrison Smith	Shane Rudd	Orono District
Harry Mercer	Jeff Engelken	Maple Grove Lions
Heather Hart	Becki Smith	Camden
Jacob Lambert	Becki Smith	Camden
James Korlon	Michael Crenshaw	Brooklyn Park Lions
Jane Hansen	Keith Hansen	New Hope Lions
Jeffery Stewart	Robert Bowes	Eden Prairie Lions
Julie Albrecht	Sue Ratliff	Excelsior Lions
Karlyn Beil	John Butz	Eden Prairie Lions
Mae Alvarez	Bernie Braegelmann	Hopkins Lions
Monica Weglarz	Clara Braddock	New Hope Lions
Nona Wood	Michael Crenshaw	Brooklyn Park Lions
Ray Brigham	Michael Crenshaw	Brooklyn Park Lions
Robb Carroll	Michael Kelly	Eden Prairie Lions
Robert Morin	William Cassen	New Hope Lions
Robin Stewart	Robert Bowes	Eden Prairie Lions
Ryan Gates	David Potter	Orono District
Sarah Rowe	Karen Flattum	Excelsior Lions
Steve Schmit	Scott Stabeck	Orono District
Steven Melbye	Robert Bowes	Eden Prairie Lions
Taiwo Oluwaseun	Michael Crenshaw	Brooklyn Park Lions
Taylor Savoie	Natalie Buckman	Mpls Ambassadors
Thy Thoeut	Natalie Buckman	Mpls Ambassadors
Todd Haugan	Bradley Hansen	Orono District
Warren Garrett	Michael North	Orono District

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!!

Welcome New Lions!

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

[Submit articles](#), news, photo for the next issue by the 25th

To this email: lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

February 2026

02/01/2026	Excelsior Meat Raffle Sunday	Haskell's Port of Excelsior 1 Water Street	1 PM to 3 PM
02/05/2026	ROAR For a Cause (registration DUE)	CLICK HERE FOR FORMS	
02/03/2026	Mpls. Can Do Canines-Pose your Paws - Valentine Puppy Pictures	Unmapped Brewing Company 14625 Excelsior Blvd.	4:30 PM to 7:30 PM
02/11/2026	Crystal Lions Steak Fry	Crystal VFW 5222 Bass Lake Road	5 PM to 7 PM
02/11/2026	Robbinsdale Lions Bake Sale	Crystal VFW 5222 Bass Lake Road	5:00 PM
02/14/2026	Robbinsdale Lions BINGO & Meat Raffle	Wicked Wort Brewing Co. 4165 West Broadway	3 PM to 6 PM
02/15/2026	Excelsior Meat Raffle Sunday	Haskell's Port of Excelsior 1 Water Street	1 PM to 3 PM
02/16/2026	Hopkins 4th Annual Gerten's Spring Plant Sale/Fundraising	www.gertensfundraising.com	Store ID: 803 Hopkins Lions Club
02/21/2026	Mpls Downtown Next Gen Designer Purse Bingo	Elsie's 701 Marshall St. NE	11:30 AM-Door Open 12:30 PM-Bingo Starts
02/28/2026	Maple Grove Lions Sip & Sample	Maple Grove Community Center 12951 Weaver Lake Road	6 PM-VIP Experience 7 PM-Tasting Event 7:30 PM-Lions Lounge
02/28/2025	ROAR For a Cause	Chanhassen Dinner Theatres 501 W. 78th St. Chanhassen, MN 55317	10:30 AM to 3:00 PM

March 2026

03/01/2026	Excelsior Meat Raffle Sunday	Haskell's Port of Excelsior 1 Water Street	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
03/07/2026	Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation Research Update	TBD	TBD
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 Water Street	1 PM to 3 PM
03/20/2026	Northern Pride Forum	Radisson Harborview Duluth, MN	
03/20/2026	Club Video Challenge Ends	CLICK HERE FOR INFO	
03/21/2026	Brooklyn Park Belgian Waffle Breakfast & Silent Auction	Brooklyn Park Community Center 5600 85 th Ave. N	7:30 AM to 12 Noon
03/24/2026	Lions Day at the Capitol	CLICK HERE FOR INFO	
03/29/2026	Excelsior Meat Raffle Sunday	Haskell's Port of Excelsior 1 Water Street	1 PM to 3 PM
03/30/2026	5M5 Cabinet Meeting	TBD	TBD
03/31/2025	GMT Speed Learning	Hamel Community Center 3200 Mill Street, Hamel	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
04/12/2026	Excelsior Meat Raffle Sunday	Haskell's Port of Excelsior 1 Water Street	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
04/17/2026	Emerging Lions Leadership Institute	Holiday Inn Detroit Lakes, MN	Registration Due 4-1-26
04/18 to 26	Service Initiatives from IP A. P. Singh-Environment	Clubs & Districts plan accordingly.	
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 12201 Ridgedale Dr	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	Worldwide Lions Induction Day	Sheraton Minneapolis West	1:00 PM
04/25/2026	Northeast Mpls Lions 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 9440 Science Center Drive	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	TBD	TBD
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	CLICK FOR MORE INFO	
July 2026			
07/09/2026	Hamel Rodeo - MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation Night	7205 County Road 101 Corcoran, MN	
07/12/2026	Hamel Rodeo - MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation Night	7205 County Road 101 Corcoran, MN	
October 2026			
10/02/2026	Project New Hope Retreat Dates	Good Earth Village Spring Valley	
December 2026			
12/04/2026	Project New Hope Retreat Dates	Faith Haven Camp Battle Lake	
July 2029			
06/29/2029	LCI Convention Day 1	Minneapolis, MN	Various



DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Lion Sara McFee, DG



Serve with Passion!

5M-5 Celebrated growth and achievements at Mid-Winter with much more to come the second half of our Lion Year!

Total Membership: 1,368

Service Projects Reported: 748

Service Impact: 217,644 people helped

New Leo Club Chartered: 11/14/2025

New Members: 95

Service Hours: 29,248

Clubs Reporting Service: 100 %

What an outstanding first half of our Lions Year!

Recognition Roar!

Thank you! Eden Prairie Lions, for sponsoring Eden Prairie Leo Club!

Thank you! Eden Prairie Lions Leos Advisory Committee Members Lions Jeff Houdek, Joel Johnson, Steve Lipshultz and Bob Bowes

Thank you! Lion Mike Peach, 5M-5 Leos Chair

Welcome! Eden Prairie High School Leo Advisor Todd Organ; Charter Officers: Audra Houdek, president, Abbey McGuire, vice president, Charlotte Shivery, membership, and Viki Pham, secretary

MD5M Annual Convention — 5M-5 is Hosting!

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. As convention hosts, 5M-5 is:

- Encouraging **members from every 5M-5 club** to join Lions from Manitoba, Northwest Ontario, and Minnesota at the MD5M Convention
- Encouraging clubs to **place an ad or sponsor a table** at the convention; and
- Asking Lions to **register early and learn more** at:
<https://sites.google.com/view/md5m-multipleconvention/home>

Let's show our guests the pride, hospitality, and service spirit that define 5M-5.

February Challenge Rev Up!

- Increase your club's membership by **20% or more by June 30**.
How many new members will your club add during February?

Grow as a Lion!

- Sharpen your skills and knowledge — both as a Lion and in everyday life — by choosing topics that matter to you through **Lions online learning library**, available 24/7.

Register to Attend!

- Northern Pride Training Forum – **March 20 – 21**
- ELLI (Emerging Lions Leadership Institute) – **April 17 – 19**

Thank you for serving your communities with passion.

Lion Sara

5M-5 District Governor

Minneapolis Ambassadors Lions Club

LionSaraMcFee@gmail.com



DISTRICT GOVERNOR ELECT

Lion Bruce Strachota, DGE



Greetings from your District Governor Elect Lion Bruce Strachota,

“When voices join in song, we discover the harmony that lives within every community. Together, we become the chorus that turns compassion into action.”

As I prepare for the year ahead, I am inspired by the strength and heart of our Lions. Every club and every member play a vital role in serving our communities, and I am honored to walk this next chapter with you.

My focus this year is simple: support our clubs, expand meaningful service, and encourage new leaders to step forward. When we strengthen our foundation and work together, our impact grows far beyond what any of us can achieve alone.

My theme for the 2026-2027 Lion year is “Service with a Song in Your Heart.” I am asking anyone who is interested in forming a Lions Chorus to contact me. Together we can provide added fun for a meeting and conventions.

I am also in the process of building my cabinet for 2026-2027. Anyone with a love of service and willing to help our leadership team to make our district the best it can be is encouraged to call or email me.

Thank you for your dedication and your belief in the power of service. I look forward to all we will accomplish as a united district.

In service, DGE Lion Bruce Strachota
952-693-5911 or
brucestrachota@yahoo.com



1st VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR ELECT

Lion Ken Kumpula, VDGE



Midwinter Convention reflections--- Delegates, Tail Twisting, and Succession planning

--I was asked not once, but three times at the convention, what is expected of a Delegate. While the answer to many is obvious because we have been around forever, it tells me we need to do a better job of on boarding new members. What is the purpose of a delegate then... Well you will represent your clubs interest when it comes to voting on items that are pretty routine like "let it be resolved that the staff did a great job" to more important things like who the next District Governor will be to very important items like changes to our District Constitution and Bylaws. This year there were no items submitted for vote. Had there been, your club would have been sent thee possible changes two months prior to the convention so that your club could discuss them--- then have the delegates vote accordingly.

--Several years ago as the Tail Twister for the convention I managed to bring in about 1k. The last two times I performed this task it was a fail, IMHO. In thinking back, I recall how I did it... I had help, eyes everywhere and people were informed ahead of time that I was collecting fineable offenses. So a note to next years Tail Twister, recruit assistance.

--this one kind of hits close to home for me. I recall conventions in the past where there were actual choices to select from for the District Governor position. I am not complaining really, because I did win. But I know there is a lot of talent in our district that could perform in the role far better than I, and I am challenging you to step up. This same concern is happening in some of our clubs for the position of Club President. Lions Clubs International operates on a system of annual leadership turnover (typically every 12 months) to ensure the vitality and effectiveness of its clubs.



That have been a bit much, but it does need to be brought up.

Yours in Lionism

In Lionism,
Lion Ken Kumpula

MID-WINTER CONVENTION 2026

New Voice Award: Marketing Maple Grove Lions Club Marketing Team
Lions Nickie Ashbach, Kerri Cowden, Alison Hahn, Julie Hamilton, Mike Ostaffe

New Voice Award: Membership Eden Prairie Membership Team
Lions Bob Bowes, John Butz, Curt Conrad, Curt Goke, Bob Lattimore, Darla Lodoen, Mike Moriarity, Merrienne Nesbitt, Dan O'Neal, Chuck Rodman

New Voice Award: Service Hamel Lions Club Service Team
Lions Taylor Cotie, Hayley Davison, Rhonna Hed, Megan Ness

New Voice Award: Leadership
Lion Jim Webb, Minneapolis Downtown Next Generation Lions Club

International President's Certificate of Appreciation
PDG Lion Rob Hed, Hamel Lions Club
PID Lion Ross Thorfinnson, Minneapolis Downtown Next Generation Lions Club
PDG Jennifer Gilbert, Minneapolis Ambassadors Lions Club

International Presidential Award Medal
Lion Michael Crenshaw, Brooklyn Park Lions Club

John Lutter Award
Lion Patricia Fischer, Brooklyn Park Lady Lions Club

District 5M-5 Peace Poster Winner
CJ Salin, (age 13; 3rd year 5M5 winner) Edina Lions Club submission

Club Excellence Awards (for Lions Year 2024 – 2025)
Brooklyn Center Lady Lions Club, Brooklyn Park Lions Club, Minneapolis Riverview Lions Club, Robbinsdale Lions Club

Hospitality Room Décor
1st Place Bloomington Lions Club (Trophy plus \$150)
2nd Place Excelsior Lions Club (\$100)
3rd Place Rogers Lions Club (\$50)

Crock Pot Challenge (Trophy) Brooklyn Park Lions Club

Dessert Challenge (Trophy) Minneapolis Riverview Lions Club

Auction Winners
Boom Box – Hamel Lions Club *Code of Ethics – Rogers Lions Club*
Gong – Rogers Lions Club *Small Bell – Hamel Lions Club*

2026 Parade of Green Results

Can Do Canines	\$14,325.00	MN Lions Vision Foundation	19,475.00
Confidence Learning Center	\$4,325.00	Project New Hope	8,725.00
LCIF	34,112.00	Special Olympics MN	4,875.00
Leader Dogs for the Blind	21,500.00	TEAM Sheehan Charitable Foundation	7,450.00
Leo's	4,375.00	True Friends	6,050.00
MD5M Lions Kidsight Foundation	12,950.00	Youth Exchange	4,000.00
MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation	16,100.00	2026 TOTAL	194,062.00
MN Lions Diabetes Foundation	17,175.00		
MN Lions Hearing Foundation	18,625.00		

GLOBAL EXTENTION TEAM (GET)

Hello 5M,

The Global Extension Team is actively working on organizing a membership recruitment event for the Minnetonka area. This event is designed to introduce Lionism through a hands-on service project, allowing prospective members to experience firsthand the impact Lions have in our communities.

We have secured a location and are currently finalizing the remaining details with the hosting business partner. Our goal is to reach our magic number of 20 members, allowing us to successfully launch a new club—an important step in strengthening and growing our District.

If you are interested in joining the Global Extension Team and helping to start and build this new club, please email me. We would love to welcome additional Lions who are passionate about growth and service.

While this team is focused on the Minnetonka area, we will also begin exploring other opportunities throughout the district to expand Lionism even further.

By being part of the Global Extension Team, you can Make Your Mark and Serve with Passion as we work together to grow our District.

In Lionism,

Lion Michael Crenshaw

We Lead to Serve.
We Serve to Lead.



GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM (GMT)



Calling All Clubs! Let's Rally Up!

AP Singh will be inducting New Members 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.



District Snapshot (07/01–01/31/2025)

We've Built Incredible Momentum — Now Let's Make These Next 5 Months Our STRONGEST Yet!

- **Total Members:** 1,368
- **New Members:** 106
- **Dropped Members:** 92
- **Net Growth:** +14
- **Drop Goal:** Stay under 100 — *Eek!* How can YOU help **Stop the Drops**?



Why Drops Happen — and How We Change the Story

Drops rarely happen because of dues... they happen because of **disconnection**. Let's reconnect, re-engage, and remind every Lion they matter.

- **Roster “clean-ups” replace re-engagement** Call a member who hasn't attended lately. Do they need a ride? Have they been ill? A simple check-in shows they matter.
- **Inactive Lions drift away quietly** Ask what caused the disengagement — and listen with care
- **Members feel unseen or unappreciated** Recognition and gratitude go a long way. Ask what they need and take action.

Retention is everyone's responsibility. Let's keep every Lion we worked so hard to welcome.



New Members = New Energy

They bring **fresh ideas, future leaders, and more hands for service**. Let's empower them from day one.



Lions, It's Time to Shine!

Submit a **90-second video** sharing why being a Lion is GREAT — and help inspire the next generation of service-minded leaders.



SAVE THE DATE: SUPERHEROES UNITE!

March 31, 2026 Hamel Community Center Costumes encouraged — capes, masks, and all! Celebrate the heroes of service and discover tips and tricks to help your club grow stronger and healthier.

Submitted by: Team GMT —

Heidi Zaworski

LionHeidiZaworski@gmail.com

612.408.0242

GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM (GST)

WE SERVE IN UNITY



Childhood
Cancer



Diabetes



Disaster



Environment



Humanitarian



Hunger



Mental



Vision



Youth

Global Service Team Update

Happy New Year!

February service of the month is **Childhood Cancer**. We ask that your club does a service project in this area of service this month. The project can be large or small. Here are some ideas:



- Check with a local cancer treatment facility and see what is on their Wish List. Donated requested items.
- Make and donate knitted, crocheted, or fleece hats to a children's cancer facility.
- Donate gas money, parking money, or food gift cards to a childhood cancer center so they can give to a family in need.
- Assemble bags filled with puzzles, crafts, playing cards, stuffed animal and cards of encouragement. Then, donate them to childhood cancer facility.
- Shovel snow to help a family that has a child with cancer.
- Baby-sit for parents who need to take a child to treatment.
- Deliver meals to a family that has child suffering from cancer.

Thanks for all the service work you and your club have done so far this year!!
Together, we have impacted the lives of 274,875 people so far this Lion Year!!
You are making an impact!

ZONE CHAIRS

ZONE 1 CHAIR (term ends 2027)

Loretto Lions
Mpls. Can Do Canines
New Hope Lions

Laurie Carlson

lcarlson@candocanines.org

St. Louis Park Lions
Wayzata Lions

ZONE 2 CHAIR (term ends 2027)

Eden Prairie Lioness Lions
Eden Prairie Lions
Edina Lions
Hopkins Lions

Regina Aiken

raiken@tonkafinancial.com

Northwest Tonka Lions
Orono Lions
Saint Bonifacius Lions

ZONE 3 CHAIR (term ends 2027)

Hopkins Noontime Lions (*now meets evenings
and name changing soon*)
Mpls Ambassadors Lions

Amber Georgeson

georgeson.amber@gmail.com

Mpls Next Generation Downtown Lions
Mpls Northeast Lions
Mpls Northside Roaring Lions

ZONE 4 CHAIR (term ends 2027)

Bloomington Lions
Camden Lions
Excelsior Lions
Mpls Riverview Lions

Andy Leifort

andy.nextgenlions@gmail.com

Mpls Southwest Lions
Mpls Special Olympics Minnesota Lions
Richfield Lions

ZONE 5 CHAIR (term ends 2027)

Brooklyn Center Lady Lions
Brooklyn Center Lions
Brooklyn Park Lady Lions
Brooklyn Park Lions

Michael Crenshaw

bplionmichael@gmail.com

Crystal
Osseo Lion
Robbinsdale Lions

ZONE 6 CHAIR (term ends 2026)

Corcoran Lions
Dayton Lions
Hamel Lions

Vickie Parks

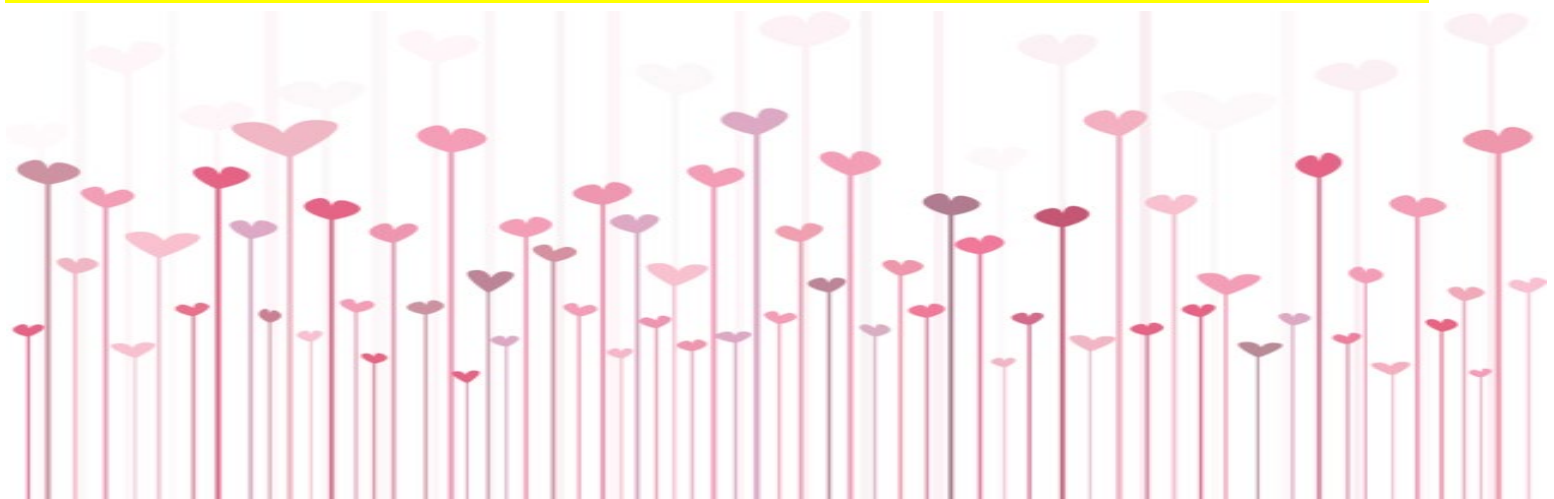
vickieparks@gmail.com

Maple Grove Lions
Plymouth Lions
Rogers Lions

REGION CHAIR

Heidi Zaworski

LionHeidiZaworski@gmail.com



MEDIA TIPS FOR CLUBS

SHOW YOUR IMPACT

Demonstrating the Impact of Your Club's Donations on the Community

Photos of checks do not adequately communicate the real benefits your club is delivering. Are your contributions genuinely supporting meaningful causes, or are they directed towards something that doesn't resonate with people?



CLUB VIDEO CHALLENGE

Join the 5M-5 Recruitment Video Competition by March 20th.

- Your video should be **90 seconds or less**.
- Ensure it is filmed in a **vertical orientation** for optimal social media display.

Winners will be announced during the **All-Club Meeting** on April 13th, with first, second, and third place recognized.

- Video submissions will be voted on by our cabinet members.

All entries will be featured on our social media and website.

JOIN THE DISTRICT 5M5 LIONS NETWORK

The District 5M5 Lions Network on Facebook is just for our **5M5 members!** Share updates or ask for help using your personal or club Facebook account. Just search the name and look for the yellow cover photo. Join today and start posting!

Hannah Maxwell
Marketing/ Communications
Cabinet Chair

hannahmax2021@gmail.com
(763)-412-7384

Contact me for any questions relating to marketing and communication for your club.



MD5M CONVENTION

Minnetonka Beach Party Multiple District 5M Convention April 24 - 26, 2026



In April 2026, Lions from Minnesota, Manitoba, and Northwest Ontario will gather in Minnetonka for our **MD5M Multiple District Convention**. It will be a weekend of learning, fellowship, and celebration of the service that unites us as Lions.

We invite Lions clubs, foundation and businesses and organizations to help make this convention a success through **advertising and sponsorships**. These are wonderful ways to recognize friends of Lions, honor your club, thank district leaders, or spotlight special projects.

Advertising and Sponsorship Opportunities *for clubs, individuals, and organizations

Platinum Sponsors – \$600-Full-page (5" X 8" finish ad size) color ad (back cover), sponsor honor roll listing, event signage

Premier Sponsor – \$500-Full-page (5" X 8" finished ad size) color ad (inside front or inside back cover), sponsor honor roll listing, event signage ***Platinum and Premier ad spots are limited and first-come, first-reserved. Reserve your ad soon!**

Gold Sponsor – \$400-Full-page (5" X 8" finished ad size) color ad inside booklet, sponsor honor roll listing, event signage.

Silver Sponsor – \$200-Half-page (5" X 3.75" finished ad size) color ad inside booklet, sponsor honor roll listing.

Bronze Sponsor – \$100-Quarter-page (2.25" X 3.75" finished ad size) color ad inside booklet, sponsor honor roll listing.

Ad Specs & Submission-Ads must be press-quality PDF, PNG, EPS, TIFF, or JPG.

Submit ads to: Lion Rob Hed. hedrob33@yahoo.com

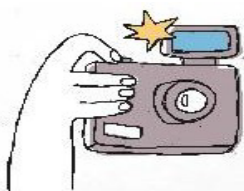
Make checks payable to "2026 MD5M Convention" and mail to:

2026 MD5M Convention
c/o Lion Rhonna Hed
17440 45th Ave N
Plymouth, MN 55446

Your support ensures a successful convention and showcases the spirit of Lionism across MD5M. Thank you for helping us make this a memorable gathering for all!

Yours in service, 2026 MD5M Convention Committee

Thank you for supporting Lions and helping us serve more communities!

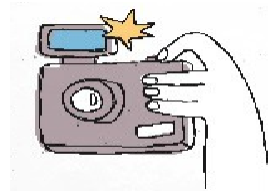


LIONS SERVING

Email Your Photos of your Lions in action.

Please include dates, names, locations etc. to this email:

lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com



John Lutter Award winner Lion Pat Fisher from Brooklyn Park Lady Lions



Leos at the convention

**Maple Grove Lions
Every Day Hero Award winners
Lions Kerri Cowden and Jenn Laitinen
with 1VDGE Ken Kumplua**





*Maple Grove
Lions at
2026 Mid-
Winter
Convention*



Maple Grove Lions Waffle Breakfast



Hello from the 5M5 Leo Club and Happy New Year!

It has been a great start to 2026 for the 5m5 Leos Clubs.

The Leos Midwinter Convention was a success! Thank you to all of the Lions who volunteered and talked to our Leos. Our Activities consisted of Diabetes Awareness, Blindness Awareness, Tug toys and Tie blankets, Adoption Kits and Hygiene Kits. The Hygiene Kits have officially been delivered to Sharing and Caring hands and the other projects have either been delivered or are on the way. We will be hosting a meeting next week to discuss how the clubs felt about the convention to review what may need tweaked for future years.



We would like to give a warm welcome to Eden Prairie as they were officially installed as a Leo Club on the 19th. We look forward to seeing all the amazing work they will do as a Leo Club. In a community already defined by a strong spirit of service, a new Leo Club has taken root in Eden Prairie. Sponsored by the dedicated Eden Prairie Lions Club, this youth-led club aims to empower the next generation of leaders through the Leo Club Program. Audra Houdek (President), Abbey McGuire

(Vice President), Charlotte Shivery (Membership Chair), and Viki Pham (Secretary) were installed as charter officers. Eden Prairie High School English teacher Mr. Todd Organ serves as the club's advisor.

These new Leos have already collaborated on staple community events such as Schooner Days, the Wild Game Feed, and the annual Corn Feed at Round Lake Park.

Beyond local festivals, the club will focus on Lions International's global causes, including vision screenings and support for local causes such as Camp Eden Wood. By joining, these Eden Prairie youth gain access to the Lion Portal for leadership training and the opportunity to apply for global roles like the Leo Advisory Panel. This new chapter ensures that the "We Serve" motto remains a vibrant part of Eden Prairie's future."

We look forward to sharing more Leo Club updates as Clubs get back into the swing of things now that we have returned from break.

Stay Warm!

Abby Schreiber

5M5 District Club President





Seizure Assist Dog Brings Merrie-ment Back into Amy's Life-Amy has epilepsy due to HSV-1 Encephalitis. Her epilepsy was compounded by a stroke in 2020. Prior to her stroke, she was attempting to continue teaching math, but unable to proceed, her days became quiet and isolated. "After teaching for over 20 years, years which were packed with daily activities and interactions with people, most days I am now sitting home alone. I also experience a lot of fear and anxiety, because I don't have controlled epilepsy. I often wake up alone after seizing, wondering what has happened and wondering who can assist me. Because of her companionship and training, Merrie is helping to change that." Prior to her stroke, Lisa Monson (a colleague at Amy's previous job who also volunteers for Can Do Canines) recommended she apply for a Seizure Assist Dog. Amy had an elderly dog at home at the time, but applied later and was happily matched with Merrie. "I knew right away that my life was going to change in a positive way when I met her." Follow this link for the full story: [Amy and Seizure Assist Dog Merrie](#)

Joe's Mobility Assist Dog is Beyond his Wildest Dreams-"When the door opened and I met Dreamer, a beautiful Chocolate Lab, for the first time, I was over the moon," Joe says. "It felt like welcoming home a family member."

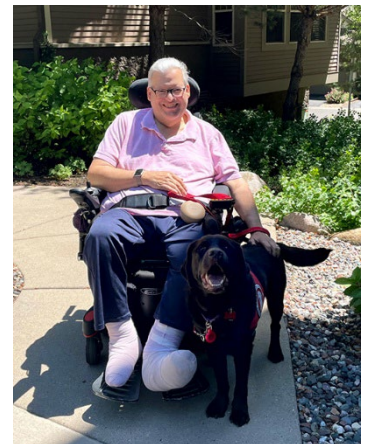
Dreamer has a great personality and friendly demeanor. He has a short tail that never stops wagging, a great smile, and very expressive eyes that a neighbor lovingly describes as "sunflower eyes."

The easiest part of working with Dreamer has been getting him to accept Joe as his handler. The harder challenge Joe faced with Dreamer was memorizing all the cues and skills that Dreamer has. To help, Joe's wife made him some flashcards so he could practice and remember them all.

Hmm, now who is being trained? Prepared as a Mobility Assist Dog, Dreamer picks things up for Joe. He also opens doors, pushes automatic door buttons, and even takes Joe's laundry to the washing machine.

With Dreamer, Joe has a loyal companion who follows him wherever he goes and gets him out of the house several times a day for regular "mental health breaks."

"Because of Dreamer, I can go grocery shopping and cook my own meals rather than rely on services like DoorDash for food deliveries." Follow this link for the full story: [Joe and Mobility Assist Dog Dreamer](#)



Kansas is Making a Difference in Minnesota-Airreon works as a Youth Outreach Officer for the Columbia Heights Police



Department. As a Facility Dog, Kansas partners with him every weekday to visit different schools in the district each week. "Kansas and I walk through classrooms, hallways, and common areas, checking in with students and staff to offer support, comfort, and a friendly face," Airreon reports. "Kansas greets students individually and sometimes stays in a classroom if someone needs extra comfort or a short break. She loves to sit with kids while they read, do homework, or just need a quiet moment with her by their side."

"One of my favorite moments was seeing how Kansas comforted a student who was having a tough day," Airreon shares. "She sat quietly next to them, resting her head on their lap until they felt better. Seeing how much happiness and calm she brings to people makes every day with her special."

The effect Kansas has on others is making an impact on Airreon. "Kansas inspires me to slow down and focus on the small things that really matter. She reminds me how important it is to

be present, patient, and kind. She has helped me build better connections with students and community members by showing how a simple act of comfort can make a huge difference." Follow this link for the full story: [Columbia Heights Police Department and Facility Dog Kansas](#)

LITPC, LIONS INTERNATIONAL TRADING PIN CLUB

Youth Scholarship Information



LITPC YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION



The Lions International Trading Pin Club (LITPC) has announced for the 2025 – 2026 school year that there will be **8 US \$4,000** scholarships awarded. Graduating Leos OR graduating sons/daughters, grandsons/granddaughters of Lions are eligible to apply for the LITPC Youth Scholarship. The LITPC goal is to help our future leaders and give students a financial helping hand. This program started in 2012. The 2026 recipients will be announced at the LITPC Annual Meeting in 2026.

To obtain the current LITPC Youth Scholarship information:

1. Go to the **LITPC website**: www.litpc.org
2. In the left column, click on **Scholarship Application Form**.
3. Read and follow **ALL** directions. Be sure to fill out **ALL** the forms neatly and correctly which includes the 4 essay questions (in 350 words or less) and the question about scholarships that you have been offered along with submitting a **certified** copy of your high school transcript including activities. Plus, you also need to attach recommendations from 2 persons (i.e. teacher, coach, clergy, employer, etc.) **AND** attach a recommendation letter from a Lions Club member indicating the name of the Club and state/province and country in which the Club is located.

ALL forms and letters are to be submitted by MARCH 1, 2026 to:

Lions Bill & Marcia Guthrie, Scholarship Chairman 763-232-9357

9 101st Lane NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55448 bmguthrie9@myctl.net

You can either mail us your application OR email it to us.

THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK TO ALL!!!

The LITPC fulfills the motto of Lions Clubs International – “WE SERVE”

MINNESOTA LIONS DIABETES FOUNDATION



Greetings Fellow Lions,

Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation met for a strategic planning session in St Cloud MN on Dec 5, 6 & 7. Brainstorming sessions were introduced with plans to ensure the continued importance of the foundation and its dedication to finding a cure for Type I Diabetes.

In addition, we voted on continued funding for projects with our research partners at the University of Minnesota.

The 4 Research Projects we have currently funded for \$25,000 each are:

#1. Identify potential patients currently on human organ transplant lists who could benefit from future clinical trials of human antibody reactivity to pig antigens in patients. This is a continuation of the #7 project from last year. (Dr. Herring)

#2. 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. Herring)

#3. Why does autoimmune diabetes develop. Expand dirty mice project #5 from last year. (Dr. Fife)

Bonus Request #2. Control the inflammatory immune cells that destroy the insulin producing cells causing Type 1 Diabetes. Continuation of #6 project from last year. (Dr. Fife)

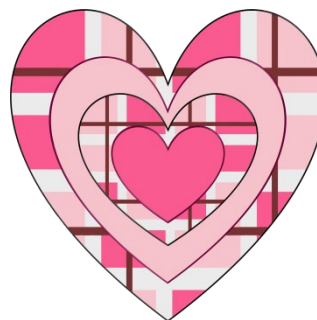
RESEARCH UPDATE!

The 17th Annual Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation Research Update is scheduled for MARCH 7, 2026, to be held in St. Cloud. SAVE THE DATE! More info to follow.

As always, Paul and I welcome your invitations to come to your clubs and speak!

Marcia Plaschko
Plaschkoma@aol.com
763-486-5064

Paul Newmann
PENewmann@cbburnett.com
612-799-4165





Ophthalmology Research

The Vision Foundation is instrumental in supporting research efforts at the University of Minnesota (a world-class research institution) and the Lions Gift of Sight eye bank.

Did you know that about one-half of the donated eyes received by the eye bank are distributed for research and education? More than 22,000 eyes are annually used in the U.S. for research and medical education, and Lions Gift of Sight is one of the largest providers of eye tissue for research and medical education in the world.

Eyes donated for research support efforts to study, treat, and find cures for diseases like macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and glaucoma. Without eyes donated for research, thousands more would still be blind.

Please consider eye donation upon your death. For transplant. For research. For future generations.

Lion David Danielson

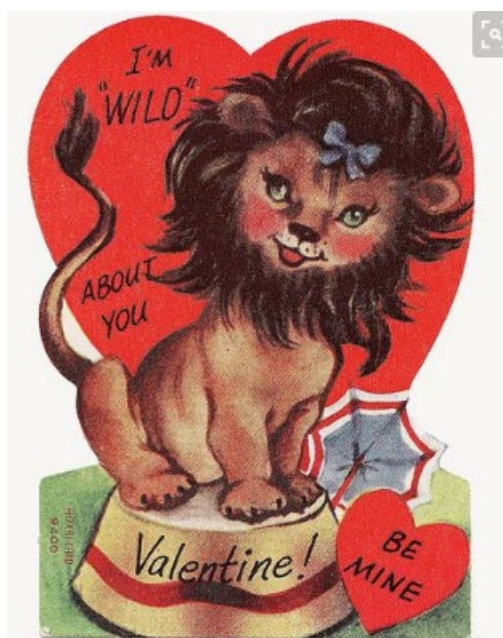
612.327.5872

daviddanielson2@gmail.com

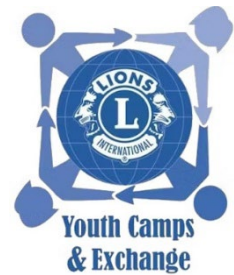
Lion Kathy Barclay

952.201-1348

1kathybarclay@gmail.com



YOUTH EXCHANGE AND CAMPS



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.

For more information please contact me!

Lion Grant Hendrickson
 5M5 Lions Youth Exchange Foundation/Camp Spicer
 612-508-9461\
grant@southsideservices.org

	First Name	Last Name	gen	Age	Address 03
1	Christopher	Gaarn-Larsen	M	18	UNITED KINGDOM
2	Misheel	Batjargal	F	16	MONGOLIA
3	Jargalmaa	Tumur	F	16	MONGOLIA
4	Noam	Karim	M	16	FRANCE
5	Maria Luiza	Stumpf	F	20	BRAZIL
6	Alice Vitoria	Pinheiro da Rosa	F	17	BRAZIL
7	Gaston	Voiriot	M	16	FRANCE
8	Jakub	Račák	M	18	SLOVAKIA
9	Naomi	Bage	F	17	GERMANY
10	Beatrice-Catherina	Cojocariu	F	20	ROMANIA
11	Konstantinas	Zimkus	M	18	LITHUANIA
12	Alice	Dias Penhalver Nett	F	17	BRAZIL
13	Antonina (Tosia)	Iżycka	F	17	POLAND
14	Matjaž	Renko	M	20	SLOVENIA
15	Leila	Vankó	F	16	HUNGARY
16	Sibelle	Sirapandji	F	15	INDONESIA
17	Om	Mhatre	M	19	INDIA
18	Maximilian (Max)	Rütten	M	17	GERMANY
19	Boray	Kurtuluş	M	16	TURKEY
20	Maria	Kuraxiewicz	F	16	POLAND
21	Juan Sebastian	Triviño Morales	M	16	SWITZERLAND



M5 District Peace Poster Report

The theme for the 2025 – 2026

Lions Club International Peace Poster contest theme is:

“Together as One”

Here’s what the LCIF website says about the upcoming contest:

When we come together, we can do amazing things. This year, we’re inviting students around the world to envision what can happen when a diverse group of people unites around a common cause or goal. Imagine a world where we all come together as one! As of the time of this report I am only aware of the Bloomington and Edina clubs participating. If that is incorrect, please let me know!

This is crunch time for participants – lots of drawing and painting going on. The winning entry from each club must be selected and sent to the district president, postmarked no later than 11/15. The Bloomington club will be selecting their prize winners at the meeting on 11/5. This is always a fun activity for our members.

“Peace allows people from different countries and cultures to better communicate and understand each other, making the world more diverse and wonderful!”

Congratulations to the 2024-25 Lions International **#PeacePoster** Contest Grand Prize Winner Shuwen Wang, 13, sponsored by Dalian Delong Lions Club (China)! For over three decades, the Peace Poster Contest has inspired thousands of children around the world.

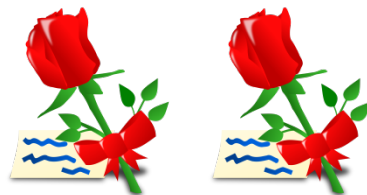
View all of the 2024-25 Grand Prize and Merit Award winning posters:
<https://bit.ly/3XRcVb8>

START TO PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR!

As always, if your club is interested in learning more about the contest, I’m happy to attend a meeting and fill you in on how I’ve been administering it for the Bloomington Club. It can really be done pretty easily, and it’s a great way to introduce Lionism to kids and their parents.

Lion Amy Sundstrom

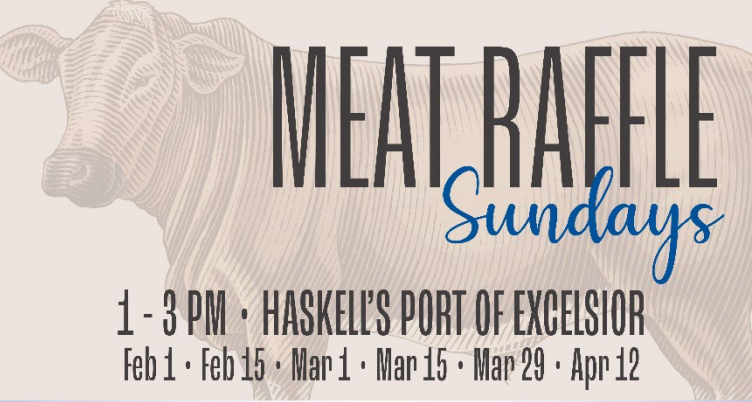
sunny.as23@gmail.com



EVENT FLYERS

Email your Flyer or event information to:

lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

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:







Pose Your Paws – Valentine Puppy Pictures

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Time: 4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Hosted by Unmapped Brewing Company*

14625 Excelsior Blvd

Minnetonka, MN 55345

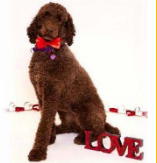
(952) 500-9622

Photographer: Kevin White Photography

Cost: No cost, however, we welcome donations

*Unmapped Brewing Company is a family- and dog-friendly business. They will also donate a portion of their profits from this night to our club.

Photos will be posted on the photographer's website where they can be retrieved. Instructions provided by the photographer at the event.



EVENT PRESENTED BY:

MC DC LIONS

MINNEAPOLIS CAN DO CANINES LIONS CLUB

ROAR for a CAUSE



Fundraiser Registration Form-Special Olympics 2026 USA Games
Saturday, February 28, 2026, 10:30 am to 3:00 pm
Chanhasen Dinner Theater 501 West 78th Street Chanhasen, MN 55317
Registration Deadline: February 5, 2026

Name: _____
Email: _____
Telephone: _____ District #: _____ Club Name: _____

GENERAL ADMISSION -
\$65.00 per person (includes registration, lunch, and program). Cash bar available.

of Attendees: _____ Total @ \$65 per person \$ _____

TABLE SPONSOR (8 Guests)-This is a group ticket for 8 people.

of Tables: _____ Total \$800.00 per table \$ _____

Table sponsors receive lunch, program and one drink ticket each for eight guests. In addition, you Company/Club name (logo) will appear on the table tents and in the program, and you will be mentioned by name during the luncheon.

Sponsor/Organization Name: _____

Please scan or email your registration form to:
rhies001@gmail.com or text information to 612-756-1316

*PLEASE COMPLETE NAMES & MEAL CHOICES ON THE BACKSIDE OF THIS FORM.

STEAK FRY

FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT NEAR

Enjoy a great meal. Bring friends and family.
Support your local food shelf. Includes a silent auction.

Wednesday, Feb. 11

5-7 p.m.

Charles Knaeble

VFW Post #494



Enjoy a delicious steak dinner with
baked potato, coleslaw, garlic toast,
and coffee — all for \$14!

Crystal City Council
attending as volunteer servers.

Register your spot/s for the
event online at bit.ly/49fCTLV.

For more information, contact
Julie Deshler at Julie.Deshler2@crystallmn.gov.



NEAR
FOOD SHELF
NEAR will be accepting
non-perishable food
donations during the event.





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



MPLS DOWNTOWN NEXT GENERATION
LIONS CLUB PRESENTS:

Designer Purse BINGO



\$40
Per Person

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026

DOORS OPEN AT 11:30 AM

BINGO STARTS AT 12:30 PM

ELSIE'S

729 MARSHALL ST. NE
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55413

- **Bingo Packet Includes:** 10 games (3 cards per game).
- **Must Be 18+ to Play & Win:** Valid ID required.
- **Extra Fun:** Additional packets/cards and raffle tickets available for purchase on day of event.

Reserve a spot by reserving a spot on our eventbrite! You can either scan the QR code or head to our website to sign up today.

ONLY 130 SEATS AVAILABLE



The Maple Grove Lions Club Presents the 8th Annual

Sip and Sample

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

Maple Grove Community Center

Experience a variety of craft beer,
wine, spirits, and local foods

6:00 PM

VIP Experience

Discover a variety of higher-end wines and liquors

7:00 PM

Tasting Event

Enjoy a variety of beer, wine, spirits, hors-d'oeuvres, and
desserts from local restaurants

7:30 PM

Lions Lounge

Wind down with live music

Auction

Mystery Raffle

2026 VENDORS ANNOUNCED IN JANUARY

2025 PARTICIPATING SPONSORS & VENDORS:



Proceeds help to fund local community groups, cancer, sight, poverty, hunger, domestic violence, disability, youth programs, scholarships, environmental projects, police and fire, veterans & more.

**Special Olympics & LCIF are partnering for the
2026 Special Olympics USA Games in Minnesota**



ROAR for a CAUSE

Saturday, February 28, 2026

10:30 am to 3:00 pm



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

Chanhassen Dinner Theatres

501 W 78th St, Chanhassen, MN 55317

SIGN UP TODAY!

- Great speakers
- Games and Silents Auctions
- Meet Special Olympic Athletes
- Meet a Past International President

Contact Lion Rob Hed for more information • hedrob33@yahoo.com

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.

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!

NORTHERN PRIDE LIONS FORUM

To strengthen leadership skills, membership, and service impact through learning, networking, and inspiration

MARCH 20-21, 2026
RADISSON HARBORVIEW, DULUTH
ALL LIONS ARE WELCOME

FRIDAY: WELCOME SOCIAL

SATURDAY: EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

REGISTER HERE



SCAN HERE!



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

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**.
 - Email: Hannahmax2021@gmail.com
- **Winners Annoucement:** 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!

Save the Date for the 2nd Annual Lions Day!



Tuesday, March 24, 2025 at the Minnesota State Capitol!

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 HEROS UNITE

SPEED LEARNING WITH GMT

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

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!



DISTRICT 5M5



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

CRYSTAL VFW POST 494

5222 BASS LAKE ROAD

LOWER LEVEL

Roasted Pork or Baked Chicken

Garlic Mashed Potato & Mixed Veggies

Beverages available for purchase

Dessert provided by Zone Chairs



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



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



**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



SAVE THE DATE



NEW SERVICE INITIATIVES FOR 2025-2026

FROM INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT-ELECT A. P. SINGH

**MENTAL
HEALTH &
WELL-BEING**

OCTOBER 4-12, 2025



HUNGER



**January 3-11
2026**

ENVIRONMENT



APRIL 18-26, 2026

OCTOBER 4-12, 2025

Please have clubs/districts plan accordingly.

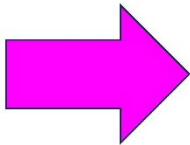


EDEN PRAIRIE LIONS CLUB



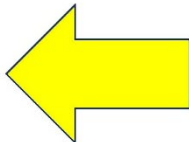
Join us at the EP Lions Club Annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Pancake batter & syrup donated by Original Pancake House



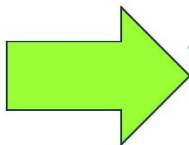
When

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



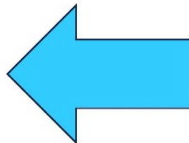
Where

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

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

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!

Lions Worldwide Induction Day!

Register Today!



5M Multiple Convention

Saturday, April 25, 2026, 1:00 PM

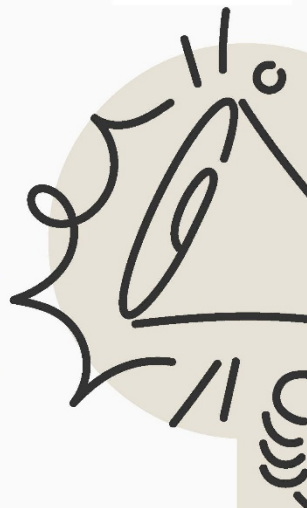
Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel
Minnetonka, Minnesota

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>



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



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

5M5
Global Leadership Team

Training Offered For:

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



75TH *Anniversary*

THE BLOOMINGTON LIONS ARE CELEBRATING!

SAVE THE DATE!!
FRIDAY, MAY 15TH

MINNESOTA VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB
BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA

TICKET INFO FORTHCOMING

ONE A DAY CHALLENGE

Across District 5M-5 add 365 members by June 30, 2026.
When our clubs grow, our service impact grows.



01

Invite Someone to Serve

02

Share Why You Joined

03

Show What Lions Do.



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)

<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—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 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

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.

Three Easy Steps:

1. Register

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

<https://lionsclubs.org/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.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS
USA GAMES
MINNESOTA 2026

