

The Lions Tale

February 2025



A Publication of the Elgin Lions Club
PO Box 276, Elgin, Illinois 60121

Hello Elgin Lions,

The District 1-J bowling event was great fun! They raffled off baskets and had a large 50/50.



From left to right is John, Sue, Gary, Mary, Annette, & Steve (John's sisters and brother-in-law)

Lion Sue

SERVICE INITIATIVES

Eyeglasses Program - Our Eyeglasses Program has been active for many years and is arguably our primary service activity in Elgin. There are many students and individuals in Elgin that cannot afford to buy their own eyeglasses. We work with the U46 School District nursing staff and the Elgin Crisis Center to provide eye examinations and glasses based on an individuals' financial needs. To date we have provided **38** adults and **47** children with eye exams and glasses.



Food Drives – Our members continue to work with the Northern Illinois Food Bank at their food distribution events. In addition, we have food collection bins for nonperishable food items at a number of Elgin schools during the school year. The food collected at the schools is donated to the Elgin Crisis Center in support of their food distribution program.

Regular Meeting

Our next dinner meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 0615 pm at the American Legion Post 57 located at 820 N. Liberty Street, Elgin, IL.

Board Meeting

Our next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 0615 pm at the American Legion Post 57 located at 820 N. Liberty Street, Elgin, IL.

OUT AND ABOUT

See note from the President above.

Sight and Sound Sweepstakes

You may ask what is the Sight and Sound Sweepstakes? It is a cash raffle held every year by the Illinois Lions Foundation to raise money to be used locally or statewide to help those with visual and hearing needs through programs such as Camp Lions for children/adults and free vision/hearing screenings. Booklets are \$10 for 3 tickets or you can sell the individual tickets for \$4.00. Drawing is May 5th at the State Convention, with early bird drawings on February 5th and March 5th. You can sell to your family, friends, co-workers, neighbors. It's for a great cause!

LET'S CELEBRATE



February Birthdays

Lion Mario Martinez – 02/20
Lion John Sheehan – 02/26

Anniversaries

Lion John Sheehan – 2 years
Lion Rickey Sparks – 2 years
Lion Dan Symonds – 10 years
Lion Bob O'Connor – 41 years

Important Dates

Zone Meeting – February 26, 2025 (Huntley)
District 1J convention – April 4-5, 2025
Next Meeting – March 4, 2025
Next Board Meeting – 18, 2025

Membership - Attention all Elgin Lions!

The number of charitable endeavors we can become involved in as a club depends on how many active members we have in our club. Many non-profit organizations are having a challenging time regarding the recruitment of new members. We are no different but, as Elgin Lions, we have a responsibility to do what we can to recruit new members.

Miscellaneous Items - Appropriate Lions clothing and insignia are required at our monthly meetings. The vest is always appropriate as is the Lions lapel pin. Our Tail Twister has been advised to fine all offenders.

Members are also reminded to keep the housing committee chairperson advised of their plans to attend the monthly dinner meeting to ensure that food is available for all attendees and that no food is wasted.

Fundraisers

Rose Day: You will be able to pre-sell them soon. We would ask that everyone try to be available from 4/16 to 4/18 to deliver roses to the schools or homes in the area. Times are flexible.

February Fun Facts

February was not always the second month of the year. In the ancient Roman calendar, it was originally the last month, following January.

February is unique among all months due to its connection with leap years. This quirk of the calendar system has led to some interesting facts and traditions.

The chance of being born on February 29th is about 1 in 1,461. People born on this day are sometimes called “leaplings” or “leapers.”

Valentine’s Day, celebrated on February 14th, is named after Saint Valentine, a Roman priest who performed secret marriages for soldiers forbidden to wed.

In the United States, February is [Black History Month](#), dedicated to recognizing the contributions of African Americans to the nation’s history.

[Groundhog Day](#), observed on February 2nd in the United States and Canada, is based on the Pennsylvania Dutch superstition that if a groundhog sees its shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter.

In Shakespeare’s play “Much Ado About Nothing,” the character Benedick says, “When I said I would die a bachelor, I did not think I should live till I were married,” a line often associated with February’s connection to love and marriage.

The poem “February” by Margaret Atwood describes the month as “Winter. Time to eat fat and watch hockey.”

The Super Bowl, the annual championship game of the National Football League (NFL) in the United States, is typically held on the first Sunday in February.

The Winter Olympics are often held in February, showcasing a variety of cold-weather sports on a global stage.

Doings At Other Clubs – please see
the District IJ Journal for upcoming
events



We Serve
