

District 11 - A2
District Governor Mark Scicluna
Official Theme: "Planting Seeds for Success"
1st VDG Kimberly Thiede
2nd VDG Rick DeClaire
Region Chairperson Pat Wojas
Zone Chairperson Jim Pettinato
International President A.P. Singh – Official Theme "Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead"

Lake Orion Lions Club
Lake Orion, Michigan
President Wendy Siegle
Club Phone Number: 248-975-6378
Club Website: www.lakeorionlions.org

LAKE ORION LIONS NEWSLETTER



**OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE,
NO FOOLIN,' ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1st, AT
JOHNNY BLACKS**



YOUR PREZ SEZ:

To My Fellow Lions,
As we move further into the spring season, I am struck by the incredible momentum our club has built. It is an exciting time to be a Lion. We aren't just maintaining a legacy; we are actively shaping how our neighbors see us and how we serve them.
Our strength has always been our **"We Serve"** spirit, but our impact is amplified when we work together with a clear, professional, and unified voice. Thank you for the precision and dedication you bring to every project, whether it's organizing a fundraiser or representing us at a local event.
Let's keep this energy going as we head into April. I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting.

Yours in Lionism,
President Wendy

From the Desk of our 1st Vice President:

Lake Orion Lions,

I would like to congratulate and welcome our Cabinet and Board of Directors for next year! It is great to see new faces step up and assume leadership roles. It is a great learning experience and a big commitment to helping our community. I would also like to thank and encourage those who didn't win to run again next year. It is important for new Lions to step up so our club evolves with the times.

Everyone needs to mark their calendars for Wednesday June 3, 2026. That will be our annual Installation Meeting for next year's Cabinet and Board of Directors. Lion Pam Kline and Lion Sherrie Fitzgibbon have stepped up to organize the extravaganza. There will be regular updates at our meeting so stay tuned for this "Must attend" event.

Thanks,
Lion Mike Pikelis
VP Lake Orion Lions Club
Mpikelis@charter.net
(248) 390-9002

Words of Service from our 2nd Vice President:

April is Volunteer Month. That seems fitting for us, because service has always been part of what brings us together, even if it looks a little different for each of us.

From the first day someone becomes a member, we hear that Lions are committed to giving our time, money, and expertise. It really does describe the diverse ways people help keep our club strong.

For members who may not have participated as much as they would like recently, Volunteer Month can simply be a reminder that there is always a place to step back in. No pressure or expectations — just the understanding that every contribution matters.

“We Serve” is a simple motto, but part of its lasting value is that it allows each member to define what service looks like whenever they can give it.

Best,

Lion Matt

2nd Vice President

CLUB NEWS & INFORMATION:

Congratulations to...: Grant Raymor! Grant is about to finish Central Michigan University’s MD-MBA program, and he matched into CMU’s Psychiatry/MIDOCS Program. He will also be giving a commencement speech this year to represent the class of 2026. Not sure what all those letters mean, but it has something to do with Grant is on his way to do fantastic things in this world!



Congratulations & Thank you to...: Matt Sebastian! Matt applied for and received a grant from his company, Morgan Stanley, for \$2,000! This money will be used for our community assistance programs and will go a long way in helping those in need. It is opportunities like this that help our club be able to be a presence in the community and provide the services and assistance that we do. Thanks, Matt, for taking the time and effort to think about the club and applying for this grant.

CLUB NEWS & INFORMATION CONTINUED:

Congratulations to...: Jim Boomer! At the District Convention held March 20-22 in Grand Rapids, Jim received that one vote required for him to be elected as our next 2nd Vice District Governor! Jim campaigned all night long to make sure he secured the nomination. Jim will make an outstanding District Governor and the next few years watching him ascend to the position are going to be fantastic!



Who knew twenty years ago that a young Jim Boomer would someday be in line to be the next leader of the greatest District in all of Lions?

Yet here we are!



Congratulations to...: Ron Hines! At the Awards Breakfast at the Convention, I had the honor of recognizing Ron and his wife Elaine for their years of service and dedication to the Lions Bear Lake Camp. Many years before Elaine passed away, they would come up to camp whenever our club or the Lioness club had an event going on. When something was needed at the camp, they were always one of the first people to help financially. After Elaine passed, Ron donated money in her name for a camper scholarship every year to help cover the cost of running the visually impaired session. Ron has donated money in honor of Elaine every year at the Kickoff dinner and when he heard the camp needed money to buy new parking lot lights, he paid for those as well. It is with the help of gracious and caring people like Ron and Eliane that the camp can function and provide a unique camping experience to children who might not get it otherwise. As President of the Board, I want to say thank you Ron! I can hear Elaine saying, "Oh, Ronnie, we did good!"



One more Convention picture, of almost all the members from the club who went. We didn't get a picture of everyone together this year.

CLUB NEWS & INFORMATION CONTINUED:

Congratulations & Thank you to...: The Lake Orion High School's Black Student Union group! I will let our Eyeglass Collection Dude fill in the story. Lion Jimmy, take it away!
Wednesday/March 25, I received a call from Mike Pikelis- He has received a call from a Lake Orion High School Advisor/Counselor, regarding an eyeglass collection project by a student group there- I called her and she informed me that this student group had collected 180 pairs of eyeglasses- Her name was Patricia Humes and we arranged for me to pick up the glasses on Thursday morning/March 26- She was a most enthused lady and so very proud of what her student group, Lake Orion High School Black Student Union, had accomplished in just a couple weeks- AND RIGHTLY SO!! I picked up the glasses, and they will be included in the next full count of this ongoing Lake Orion Lions Club Project!!

Here is a brief note from Ms. Humes: The Lake Orion High School Black Student Union collected **180 used eyeglasses** for the **Lake Orion Lions Club** this year. This was our **first eyeglass drive**, and we are excited to partner with your club. We know that our efforts are helping individuals who are less fortunate, and we are grateful for the opportunity to make a meaningful difference in our community.

Thank you Lion Jimmy for taking the time to get those glasses! I know you were in a bit of a time crunch due to spring break about to hit the High School!

Congratulations to...: Our newly elected Board! Under President Mike's guidance and leadership, our club is set up for a fantastic year! In case you missed it: Immediate Past President – Wendy Siegle; President – Mike Pikelis; 1st Vice President – Matt Sebastian; 2nd Vice President – Sherrie Fitzgibbon; Membership Chair – Jennifer Barry; Secretary – Jim Leach; Treasurer – Angie Boomer; Lion Tamer – Pete Sharpe; Tail Twister – Barb English; Directors – Jim Barry, Jim Boomer, Roger Brodeur, Jimmy Childers, Dan Hartwell, Ron Hines, Pam Kline, John "Flaco" Kontos, Barry McCombe, Jack Patton, Art Schrah, Steve Tobias, and Cathi Williams. I would like to thank all the members who stepped up this year and agreed to run for a position. It's because of wonderful members like you that we have such an amazing club!

Welcome to...: Our new members! We have been extremely fortunate to have seven new members since the start of the year in July. Some of these members have been mentioned before in newsletters, but it doesn't hurt to recognize them again. If you happen to see one of these members at a meeting or event, please make sure to introduce yourself! Here they are John "Flaco" Kontos, Myranda Hoover, Jamie Hoover, Susan Lardie, Paul Biondi, Kiersten Ihrke, and Sherrie Kontos. Thank you all for wanting to be a member of the Lake Orion Lions Club.

Thank you to...: Our own Branch Club, or more widely and better known as the Lake Orion Lioness Club. For almost 40 years, they have served the Lake Orion Community either right alongside us or on their very own projects. Due to declining membership, they have made the sad decision to close. The remaining members will distribute the rest of the club funds on May 8th and then they will close the books on this part of their history. Included with this newsletter, you will find a write-up done in 2018 when the Lioness were celebrating their 30th anniversary. Very interesting read.

Lion Races: Chairperson Hartwell has this event planned for Saturday, April 25th at Boulder Pointe. He has been giving updates at every meeting and through numerous emails. This is going to be a magnificent event. Many changes have been made that will make this year's race the best one yet. Dan still needs a few volunteers, if you are interested, here is the signup genius link:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/9040B4DAEA62DA20-61754809-lion>

CLUB NEWS & INFORMATION CONTINUED:

Jubilee: As mentioned at last month's meetings, the Jubilee has a new home! Due to some unavoidable changes, the Jubilee will be held out at Civic Center Park with the bands playing at Wildwood. This is a much bigger space for the carnival to set up with the potential for more rides. Parking will be much easier for people attending also. Many other improvements are scheduled. I am sure our Co-Chairs will be filling us in at the meetings leading up to June 25th!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Bear Lake Buffalo and Boar Dinner: This is always a major event. Chairperson Jack has done a fantastic job in the new venue, Boulder Pointe, on Saturday, April 11th starting at 5 p.m. The club has a lot of members going already, but there is always room for more. I have heard that it is almost sold out so if you do want a ticket, please go to the camp's website or check out the flyer that is included with newsletter.

Love INC Fundraiser: If you are looking for something to do on the Saturday between the Bear Lake dinner and the Lion Races, look no further than helping one of the area's best charities, Love INC. Their annual fundraiser will be on Saturday, April 18th at Indianwood Country Club. For more information, please see flyer that is included with the newsletter.

Well, that is all I have for this Issue. See you at the Meetings. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please let me know. This is your newsletter and if you want to see something here, I need to know about it!

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Yours, In Lionism, Jim Leach, Jr.