

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 MEETING WILL BE A REGULAR
CLUB MEETING & OUR ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS PARTY AT JOHNNY BLACKS
ON DECEMBER 3rd.**



OUR PREZ SEZ:



Hello Lake Orion Lions

Thank-you to all members for making our November fund raisers a success. I appreciate all you do for our club.

See you at our club meeting and Christmas Party held at Johnny Black's on December 3rd. Social hour starts at 6pm and a short meeting at 7pm then it's party time. If you haven't already, please send me an email if you're attending so I can get

Don't forget your white elephant wrapped gift if you're participating. (\$15.00)

Merry Christmas to all.

God has given each of us special abilities; Use them to help others and pass along His many Blessings.

President Wendy Siegle

"WE DO BETTER TOGETHER"

From the Desk of our 1st Vice President:

Lake Orion Lions,

It's almost Christmas and we all know what that means! That's right, our Basket Program is upon us. For those of you who are new to the club the Basket Program is our club's largest service project of the year. Approximately two hundred families and fifty seniors will be provided with two weeks' worth of food, including a ham for a traditional holiday meal. This service project is led by Lion Dave Tucker and Lion Cathi Williams and they need as much support as we can give them. Please consider volunteering for this service project. Volunteers are needed for Friday December 19th and Saturday December 20th at the CERC Center. If you can find the time to help, I guarantee you will come away with a feeling of great personal satisfaction. If you listed all the different fundraisers and service projects our club does every year this one is my favorite. Lion Dave and Lion Cathi do an outstanding job organizing it, please support it as much as you can.

Thanks,

Lion Mike Pikelis – 1st Vice President, Lake Orion Lions Club

CLUB NEWS & INFORMATION:

2025 Christmas Auction Recap and Thank You:

2025 Lake Orion Lions Christmas for Everyone Auction

By Cathi Williams and Mike Pikelis

On Saturday, November 1, 2025, the Lake Orion Lions hosted its Christmas for Everyone Auction fundraiser. The purpose of this fundraiser is to support the Christmas Basket Program that takes place in December. This was the second year the event was held at Eagle Creek Academy, and some subtle improvements were made to improve the experience. To execute this event successfully, it takes a small army of club members. To everyone who donated an auction item, gave their time supporting the event before, during, or after, or worked behind the scenes, please be proud of your efforts. You were the main reason the event was executed perfectly and was a successful fundraiser. This fundraiser raised almost \$14,000. The money raised will be used to purchase food and gifts for the Christmas Basket Program. This program helps many local families have a proper holiday meal and gifts for their children.

The layout was slightly modified to improve the flow of people after the auction, and we bought back the "Live Auction" for some of the higher-end items. We also spent a little more on the caterer and improved the menu. The food was fantastic, and the layout changes were successful.

After dinner, the silent auction was closed, and the winners were determined. There is a lot of work behind the scenes to get all the receipts ready for the winners to pay. To make this happen without distractions, we were fortunate to have Traci Tribble from Lions Bear Lake Camp speak to everyone about the camp. This was a terrific way to highlight some of the amazing things Lions do for our supporters. Traci did a fantastic job representing the camp and shared a very touching video highlighting it. When Traci finished, our club Secretary, Jim Leach, took over and did a wonderful job as the auctioneer for the Live Auction items. When the Live Auction ended, Mike Pikelis and Jim Leach handed out the door prizes. There were so many door prizes this year, thanks to the hard work of Lion Dave Tucker. Lion Dave went to every business from the Palace to the White Horse Inn in Metamora to solicit donations. I do not know how many donations Lion Dave collected, but it was substantial. Many door prizes were given out, and people were happy with what they received.

After all the door prizes were handed out, it was time for everyone to pay for the auction items they won. The new, improved flow worked perfectly. There was plenty of volunteer support to move the winners through the line to pay, then to the pick-up area, and out to their cars. I did not hear one complaint; it moved very quickly and seemed to be over before it started.

Once all the guests had left, we had about 45 minutes to break down everything and leave the facility. So many club members stayed late and helped. We cannot remember all of you but thank you for staying and helping. It takes a lot of energy to stay after and help. Thank you again to each one of you.

2025 Christmas Auction Recap and Thank You Continued:

So many people helped, and everyone is important and appreciated. There are a few we would like to give a special thanks to:

- Lion Steve Tobias – Thank you for all the up-front support and taking care of Zeffy. You were a bigger help than you realize.
- Lion Kim Leach – Thank you for all the shopping you did for auction items. You do a wonderful job finding deals and sales, so our auction items are profitable.
- Lion Roger Brodeur – Thank you for helping with the database and bid sheets. It's a thankless job, and you're the best person for it!!!
- Lion Sherry Gillen (James) – Thank you for generously donating the "Booze Basket." It is always a big hit and raises a lot of money for the club. Also, thank you for joining the club!
- Lion Sherry Fitzgibbon (Art Schrah) – Thank you for chairing the Cookie Box Station. Your baking skills are unparalleled and appreciated.
- Lion Denise Hood – Thank you for chairing the Wine Basket Raffle. Many people told me they were trying to win; the baskets looked great.
- Lions Jack and Charlotte Patton – Thank you for providing the "Mystery Box." What was inside is still a mystery; we never heard but thank you for coming up with the idea and selling the cards.
- Lions Jim and Jennifer Barry – Thank you for running the 50/50 Squares. Your "Festive" attire was a nice touch, making the event feel more like Christmas.
- Lions Barry and Hallie McCombe – Thank you for staffing the Pop and Water Station all night.
- Lion Ron Hines – Thank you for selling the raffle tickets for the Booze Basket and not stealing any of the alcohol. I know this was difficult for you.
- Lion Jim Leach – Thank you for coordinating with Traci Tribley (Lions Bear Lake Camp), being the live auctioneer, and helping with the door prizes. The club can always count on you to jump in and help with whatever needs to be done.
- Lion Pam Kline and your sister Sam! You both did a fantastic job organizing all the auction items before the event and carefully packing them up for our guests at the end of the evening. Your help truly made everything run smoothly and added a special touch to the occasion.
- Lion Sue Erickson, Thank you for all your wonderful work on the Auction's program. It looks fantastic!
- To ONTV and the Lake Orion Review – Thank you for the coverage and support for all our fundraisers and service projects.
- To the Milosch family for the generous donation and for the many years of using your facility for the auction. You will always be a part of the Lake Orion Lions Christmas for Everyone Auction.
- To everyone who donated an auction item – Thank you for giving so generously. Without your items, the fundraiser would not be the success it has become.

Once again, thank you to everyone who helped in any way. The auction is healthy and will be even better next year with your continued support.

LOUMC Prescription Pill Bottle Recycling Work-Bee: This is an ongoing project that the club donated to last year. They take used prescription bottles, clean them, and then pack them up to be shipped to countries that cannot afford the bottles. The next date for this is Wednesday, December 17th and Thursday, December 18th, from 10am to noon. This will be held at the Lake Orion United Methodist Church at 140 East Flint St. in Lake Orion. They will be in room #122 and ask that you enter the building from Anderson Street by the office and follow the signs. This is a great service project if you are available. If you have any questions, please contact Lion Sue Erickson at 270-791-4937. Flyer is included for more information.

CLUB NEWS & INFORMATION CONTINUED:

Christmas Baskets: Our club has been doing this project for over eighty years. Many people in the community rely on our club to make it possible for them to have a Christmas and enjoy the holiday season. Chairperson Dave has everything in place with the schools, and we will be packing baskets on Friday, December 19th at the CERC building starting at 9 am. We will start delivering at 8 am on Saturday, December 20th. There will be several opportunities to help during the weeks prior to the packing to pick up canned goods from various locations. More information will come out about that as we get closer. We will need as many members as possible to help to get this project done. Bring your friends and family, heck, bring your friends' families! Flyer is included for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

District Christmas Party: This is always a fun time to catch up with your friends from other clubs and celebrate the holiday season. This year, the party will be on Friday, December 12th starting at 6:30 and will be held at the Sterling Heights Lions Clubhouse, just bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Flyer is included with more information.

Useful Information: Keeping with the whole Christmas theme, here is a breakdown of what it would cost if you bought your Loved One all the gifts in the song "12 Days of Christmas." Take a look; you just might pick up a few gift ideas!

Item	Cost per Item
1 Partridge in a Pear Tree	\$420.18
2 Turtle Doves	\$750
3 French Hens	\$346.50
4 Calling Birds	\$599.96
5 Golden Rings	\$1,649.90
6 Geese-a-laying	\$930
7 Swans-a-swimming	\$13,125
8 Maids-a-milking	\$58
9 Ladies Dancing	\$8,856.88
10 Lords-a-leaping	\$16,836.14
11 Pipers Piping	\$3,797.48
12 Drummers Drumming	\$4,106.08

TOTAL: \$51,476.12
Total cost with all 364 gifts (entire song): \$218,542.98

What I don't understand is how they get Maids-a-milking at \$58? Who works that cheap? I am quite sure that is even below the minimum wage!

If I don't see you at any of the events going on this month, I wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas and Holiday season!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

CLUB BIRTHDAYS:

Dan Schreiber - Monday, December 1, 2025
Erica Ihrke - Thursday, December 4, 2025
Denise Hood - Friday, December 5, 2025
Chris Barnett - Tuesday, December 9, 2025
Melissa Bowers - Wednesday, December 17, 2025
Kim Leach - Wednesday, December 24, 2025
Jim Leach - Thursday, December 25, 2025
Wendy Siegle - Wednesday, December 31, 2025

EXTENDED UPCOMING EVENTS:

Club Meeting & Christmas Party – Johnny Black’s – 7p.m.	Wednesday, December 3, 2025
Leader Dog Kickoff Dinner – Troy – 6p.m.	Thursday, December 4, 2025
Orion Lighted Parade – Downtown – 5p.m.	Saturday, December 6, 2025
Special Needs Christmas Party – CERC – 1-3pm.	Tuesday, December 9, 2025
Club Meeting & Dec. Board Meeting – Johnny Black’s – 7p.m.	Wednesday, December 17, 2025
Christmas Basket Packing – CERC – 9a.m.	Friday, December 19, 2025
Christmas Basket Delivery – CERC – 8a.m.	Saturday, December 20, 2025
Club Meeting – Johnny Black’s – 7 p.m.	Wednesday, January 7, 2026
Club Meeting & Jan. Board Meeting – Johnny Black’s – 7p.m.	Wednesday, January 21, 2026
District Cabinet Meeting – TBD – 6:30p.m.	Thursday, January 22, 2026
Region 1 Meeting at Johnny Black’s – 6:30p.m.	Wednesday, February 4, 2026
Bear Lake Ice Plunge – Bear Lake – 2p.m.	Saturday, February 7, 2026
Club Meeting & Feb. Board Meeting – Johnny Black’s – 7p.m.	Wednesday, February 18, 2026
Charity Poker – G’s Kitchen – 11:00a-6:00p	Thur-Sun, February 19-22, 2026
Lions of Michigan Forum – Kalamazoo	Fri-Sat, February 27-28, 2026

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.