

The IOWA LION



October 2024

iowalions.org

Iowa Lions Recognized for Reaching LCIF Goals

*By PID Ardie Klemish
Area D LCIF Coordinator*

Training for all the 2024-2025 LCIF Coordinators in the USA was held in San Antonio, Texas Aug. 15-19. In attendance were two Constitutional Area 1 Coordinators, 16 area coordinators, 47 multiple district coordinators, and 293 district coordinators) from the United States and Caribbean Islands.

General sessions included the Year in Review, LCIF Marketing, Planned Giving, Lions Quest, and Corporate Social Responsibility. Excellent breakout seminars were held to educate, inspire, and enthuse the coordinators, including Planning for the Year Ahead, LCIF Grants, Making LCIF's Case for Support, LCIF Development Staff, and LCIF Presence at Conventions, which PID Ardie Klemish helped to facilitate.

Globally during the 2023-2024 Lions year, LCIF awarded 1,580 grants totaling \$46 MILLION! That is only made possible by individual and club donations.

While in attendance, every district coordinator from the USA compiled their goals and action plans for the 2024-2025 Lions calendar year. They then shared them with the multiple district coordinators, who made a composite report for their multiples and shared that with the Area Leaders. At the final general session, the area coordinators each

came to the podium to share the composite goals for their area.

At the Friday evening banquet, Presidential Medals were awarded to those district and multiple coordinators who reached and exceeded their 2023-2024 goals. Three Iowans received those prestigious medals: MD9 Coordinator Jim Bixler, District 9EC Coordinator Bernadette Lane, and 9SW Coordinator Ken Klemish. The medals were presented by CA1 Coordinator PID Anne Smarsh and LCIF Trustee PID Jenny Ware.

Iowans who attended the training were: Area D Coordinator Ardie Klemish (five states), MD9 Coordinator Jim Bixler, 9EC Coordinator Bernadette Lane, 9NW Coordinator Larry Juncker, 9SE Coordinator Paul Hain, and 9SW Coordinator Ken Klemish.



Three Iowans received Presidential Medals, the 2nd highest award presented by Lions International, for meeting or exceeding their district or multiple district LCIF goals. Pictured are Constitutional Area 1 LCIF Coordinator PID Anne Smarsh (orange blouse) and LCIF Trustee PID Jenny Ware (black dress) with (L-R) 9EC District LCIF Coordinator Bernadette Lane, 9SW District LCIF Coordinator PDG Ken Klemish, and MD9 Multiple District Coordinator PDG Jim Bixler.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October	Vision Awareness Month Leo Membership Growth Month Lions Membership Growth Month
Oct 5-6	9NW Convention, Jefferson
Oct 10	World Sight Day
Oct 16	World Food Day
Oct 19	District 9EC Cabinet Meeting District 9SE Cabinet Meeting District 9SW Cabinet Meeting Northwood Lions 95th Anniversary
Oct 26	9EC Fall Rally, Goose Lake
November	Diabetes Awareness Month
Nov 1-3	Iowa Lions Fall Learning Conference, Cedar Rapids
Nov 9	Davenport Village Lions 100th Anniversary Celebration
Nov 14	World Diabetes Day
Nov 15-16	9NC & 9NE Combined Convention Independence
Nov 16	Cedar Falls Lions 100th Anniversary Celebration
Dec 5	International Leo Day
Jan 14	Melvin Jones' Birthday
February	Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
Feb 11-13	FVDG/DGE Seminar St. Charles, Illinois
Feb 15	Int'l Childhood Cancer Day
Mar 14-15	District 9EC Convention, Camp Courageous, Monticello

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Partner with Leader Dogs for the Blind for Your LCIF DCG Project

By Mara Philips

Leader Dogs for the Blind

Join us in making a difference! By selecting Leader Dogs for the Blind as your District and Club Community Impact Grant (DCG) project, you are contributing to a legacy of service and support that spans across the globe while directly impacting your local community. Together, we can empower individuals with vision loss to live more independent, fulfilling lives.

What Are DCG Grants?

DCGs allow clubs and districts to utilize a portion of the funds they donate to Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). Clubs that donate at least \$5,000, and districts that donate at least \$10,000 within a fiscal year, qualify to apply for a grant equal to 15% of their total contributions (excluding disaster donations).

Eligible Projects: DCG funds support specific humanitarian activities that highlight the role of Lions in their communities. The funds cannot be used to pay membership dues or establish reserve funds.

Why Choose Leader Dogs for the Blind as Your Project?

By choosing Leader Dogs for the Blind as your DCG project, you are directly supporting a nonprofit that serves individuals in your own community who are blind or visually impaired.

Founded by Lions Club members in 1939, Leader Dogs for the Blind has a long-standing, deep connection with the Lions Clubs International community. We've partnered with over 4,900 Lions clubs worldwide to serve more than 17,000 clients across the globe, including many in your own neighborhoods.

Lions are integral to our mission. They identify community members who could benefit from our services, provide direct assistance to clients, and help spread awareness about our programs. Lions



contribute as Leader Dog Chairs, puppy raisers, and hosts for breeding stock dogs, while also advocating for the blind and visually impaired in their communities.

By choosing Leader Dogs for the Blind, your club will help empower people with independence and mobility, fostering stronger, more inclusive communities.

Contact us today to learn more about how your club or district can partner with Leader Dogs for the Blind!

SCAN TO LEARN MORE!



International Report

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THREE Past International Presidents to Visit Iowa in October and November

Here's your chance to hear three Past International Presidents speak in Iowa. BE SURE TO REGISTER FOR THESE EVENTS to hear these dynamic world leaders for Lions International. Past International President Brian Sheehan will be the keynote speaker on Oct. 19 at the 95th anniversary celebration for the Northwood Lions Club, being held at Diamond Jo's Casino at 777 Diamond Jo Lane in Northwood (just north of Clear Lake on Interstate 35). PIP J. Frank Moore III will give the keynote address Nov. 9 at the 100th anniversary of the Davenport Village Lions Club at 4250 Middle Road in Bettendorf. Then PIP Douglas Alexander will be the keynote speaker Nov. 16 at the noon meal of the joint District 9NC/9NE convention in Independence as well as at the Cedar Falls Lions Club 100th anniversary celebration that evening at the Jorgensen Plaza, 5307 Caraway Lane, Cedar Falls. Registration forms for all events are in the digital section of this issue. Pre-registration is required for all for meals.

Iowans at 2024 USA/Canada Forum

Twenty-seven Iowa Lions were registered for the 48th annual USA/Canada Forum in Sept. 5-7 in Louisville, Kentucky. More than 1,900 Lions from around the world gathered at the Kentucky International Convention Center. Over 100 seminars were presented in three days and a successful STRIDES walk was held. The service project was food for local food pantries and warm winter scarves, hats and gloves for homeless people.

General session speakers included Sam Glenn, an inspirational artist who motivates crowds with positive attitude while painting; Randy Pierce, whose life changed when he suddenly became blind but he still competed in marathons and mountain climbing competitions; Lion Trish Wilson who challenged us to do AMAZING things as every day Lions, and Lions

International President Fabricio Oliveira challenged us to "Make Our Mark". Rich Baughman from District 9EC was the lucky winner of one of Sam Glenn's beautiful Lion paintings.

Thanks to the Iowa volunteers who helped make the 2024 Forum a success. Past Council Chair Rev. Nancy Oehler Love gave the invocation for the Saturday evening meal. She and District Governor Chris Waring helped with registration at the convention center. PDG Lisa Prochaska and DG Chris Waring worked in the Forum Store. PDG Debbie Doty was the Planning Committee Marketing Chair and facilitated a seminar on Marketing, as well as hosting a table during the Speed Learning event. PDG Ken Klemish served as a moderator and also helped PID Ardie Klemish as Planning Committee Facilities Chair, placing signage around the convention center and Galt House, packing up the Forum Office and taking it to the loading dock on Saturday.

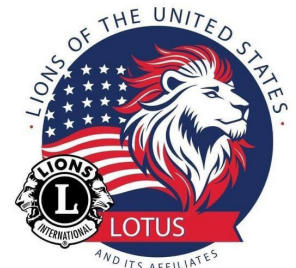
Be sure to register for the 2025 Forum in Atlantic City, New Jersey. It is scheduled for Sept. 18-20, 2025, with a gardening theme of "Learn, Grow, Lead" offering a nod to the Garden State.

October Is Vision Awareness Month

World Sight Day is Oct. 10. It would be a great month to make a club and/or personal donation to Leader Dogs for the Blind, PO Box 5000, Rochester Hills, MI 48308-5000..

Lions of the United States (LOTUS)

Lions of the United States (LOTUS) was introduced at the USA/Canada Forum by 2nd International Vice President Mark Lyon and the past international presidents from the United States. LOTUS will help the Constitutional Area 1 (USA) Global Action Team to reach our Mission 1.5 goals by June 20, 2027. All multiple districts from the USA will march together as one unit in the parade at the 2025 International Convention in Mexico City, walking behind the LOTUS flag/banner. More news will be coming in the future.



All Clubs and Districts - File your 990N by Nov. 15 with the IRS to retain your tax-exempt status!

A View from the Chair

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What a crazy summer we have had! Tornadoes hit 9SW and floods hit 9NW. Ironically enough, the movie “Twisters” was released this year in the movie theaters as well.

In relation to this, we are working hard to get disaster trailers in two parts of the state so we can help those in need when and if a disaster strikes. If this does occur, we need all Lions’ hands on deck to be ready to move out and help those in need, no matter where they are in the state. After all, this is what we as Lions do. Once we get these trailers in place, we will be looking for donations of items and possible funds to load these trailers with items such as shovels, rakes, buckets, garbage bags, phone cords for cell phone charging and so much more.

The biggest barrier that we found when dealing with disaster relief is that we simply do not have total access to finding those in need. Once we get these trailers ready, we need to spread the word to our communities that we are ready to help if needed.

Speaking of disasters, both districts 9SW and 9NW applied for grants and received funds from LCIF. I want to emphasize how important it is to keep donating funds to LCIF because they are there when we need them. Our donations help us get these grants. Keep those donations coming, for not only did the state of Iowa receive money, but so have many others throughout the world.

As we wind down summer and move into fall, please remember that the Iowa Lions Fall Learning Conference is just around the corner. You can find the registration form on Page 23 of this magazine. I would love to see a huge turnout. These meetings are always a good opportunity to learn new things, meet fellow Lions, and chat with Lion friends.

State Secretary Nancy Love has been working hard getting the state “Who’s Who” ready to go to the printers. Well, it is done. Congratulations, Nancy, for another year of hard work on this. It keeps looking better and better. Thank you so much for all that you do.

As I sign off this month, I want to remind you to take time to watch the leaves change, buy a pumpkin for a child, and enjoy our beautiful Iowa fall. There is nothing better than fall in Iowa. Stay safe, healthy, and keep on doing the wonderful things that you all do.



PRESIDENTIAL HONORS AT THE FORUM. Lions International President Fabrício Oliveira (right) congratulates Past International Director Ardie Klemish immediately after presenting her with an International President’s Award medal at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Louisville, Kentucky. PID Ardie received the award for her dedication as Group 31 Leader of the District Governor Elect/Vice District Governor training. Group 31 included the 2024-2025 district governors from multiple districts 9 (Iowa), 5M (Minnesota and Northwest Ontario) and 26 (Missouri).

PRE A Little Prefix That Might Help in Preventing Diabetes

*By PDG Bill Shuttters
MD9 Diabetes Chair*

We are encouraged to live in a proactive world. We take precautions to prevent a future perverse occurrence. Or we are in a preparatory mode to insure we have completed all prerequisites for future preferences. We hear many words like preCOVID or precancerous that conjure a dark place we wish to preclude.

That simple word PRE is a preposition, oft used as a prefix and sometimes a suffix. Synonymous with before, prior to, or earlier than. General use: no hyphen when used as a prefix, except to separate two e's or when followed by a proper noun.

One pre word we seldom hear is prediabetes. Prediabetes is a condition when ones A1C is between 5.7 and 6.4 on two separated tests (normal is less than 5.7 and diabetes is greater than 6.5). Prediabetes is also considered when ones blood glucose is between 100 and 125 mg/dL on two separated tests (normal is less than 100 and diabetes is greater than 125).

According to the American Diabetes Association, for individuals over 45, the probability of developing Type 2 diabetes over the next 10 years is 9% to 14%. Prediabetes is very common in the United States, 1 in 3 people under the age of 45 have prediabetes and half of those over 65 have prediabetes. Overall, 29%, or 100 million U.S. citizens, have prediabetes and 80% of people with prediabetes are unaware they have it, since the symptoms may not severely impact their lifestyle.

These symptoms may include one or more of the following:

- Increased thirst
- Frequent urination
- Increased hunger
- Unintended weight loss
- Fatigue

- Blurred vision
- Bad breath
- Numbness or tingling in hands or feet
- Frequent infections
- Slow healing sores
- Dry or itching skin
- Darkened skin in armpits or neck
- Skin tags

The major risks for prediabetes are:

- Age
- Gender (Men have a higher rate but women have more complications)
- Family history
- Race and Ethnicity
- Diet (high in red meat and ultra-processed foods)
- Weight
- Waist (men waist size over 40" and women over 35")
- Obstructive Sleep Apnea
- Smoking
- Gestational diabetes

The good news about prediabetes is it's reversible.

Having prediabetes does not mean that you are destined to have diabetes mellitus!

Some of the risk factors we cannot change, but some we can with a lifestyle change. We can lower our risk and have a normal blood glucose level. With effort, we can make these changes in our lifestyle.

1. Maintain a healthy weight . (A 7% reduction in body weight can reduce the onset of Type

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

2 by 55%.)

2. Be physically active. (Moderate activity (walking) for 30 minutes a day for 5 days per week will lower your blood glucose.)
3. Eat more complex carbohydrates, fruits and vegetables and lean protein. Avoid highly processed red meat and foods and sugar sweetened beverages. Read labels.
4. Get a smaller plate and eat 6-8 small meals per day rather than 3 large meals.
5. Don't Smoke and use alcohol moderately.
6. Manage stress.
7. Take care of your mental health
8. Manage cholesterol and high blood pressure.
9. Work with your healthcare team.
10. Educate yourself about diabetes.

Things to Remember

1. Changing habits may be difficult and things may not always go as planned.
2. Focus on a few realistic goals at a time, too many goals at once can be overwhelming.
3. Value your progress. Any positive change is a plus. Don't obsess over perfection.
4. There will be good days and a few not so good days.
5. Be kind to yourself.

November is Diabetes Awareness Month and Nov. 14 is World Diabetes Day. It is the birthday of Sir Fredrick Grant Banting, a Canadian physician who led a team that first isolated and purified insulin and then used insulin to save the life of a 14 year-old boy, Leonard Thompson, in January 1922.

Your Lions club could observe World Diabetes Day or Diabetes Awareness Month by completing one of the projects under [Service-Global Causes-Diabetes](#) on the Lions International website. Perhaps set up a booth in a local place of business on a Saturday and, with the aid of a nurse, provide glucose testing for the patrons and/or provide them with information on prediabetes.

MISSION 1.5 Makes Us Stronger Together at Every Level

Global change comes from local efforts. MISSION 1.5 is the drive to reach 1.5 million members worldwide on July 1, 2027, so we can better meet the growing needs of our communities and serve more people than ever before.

When we invite new members to our clubs and build new vibrant clubs, it does more than make our communities stronger. It makes the world a kinder, healthier and better place to live.

Membership Focused

MISSION 1.5 is a dedicated effort. We have committed the next four years to reaching this historic Lions Clubs membership goal.

Teamwork Ready

Every Lion has an important part to play. Together, we can grow Lions Clubs to extraordinarily new heights, serving an untold number of people in need.

Proven Process

Our Global Membership Approach is designed to revitalize existing clubs, charter new ones and inspire all Lions through fellowship and exciting service.

Resources

There are many resources available on the Lions International website at both [Mission to Grow page](#) and [Global Membership Approach page](#).



MISSION 1.5 

District 9NE

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WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club	Member	Sponsor
Dyersville	Allison Farrell	Cindy Oberbroeckling
Urbana	Kristy Bruce	James Bruce
Urbana	James Floyd	Sara Floyd

As I sit here watching the hummingbirds flit around, I can't help but think of how they remind me of our Lions members and clubs. Though tiny, the hummingbird plays a vital role in sustaining life, much like how each of our members makes a meaningful difference, no matter the size of their club or community. Their swift, graceful movements embody adaptability, constantly changing direction with ease and responding to challenges with agility.

In the same way, Lions show that even small acts of kindness, when combined with our willingness to adjust to new needs, create a positive impact. Whether it's through service projects or reaching out to those in need, like the hummingbird, we Lions bring energy, flexibility, and purpose wherever we go. Let's continue to embrace this spirit of service and adaptability, knowing that together, we have the power to truly make a difference.

October is Vision Awareness Month and many of your clubs are in the process of, or getting ready to do, KidSight screenings. Thank you for looking after our youth and providing this wonderful service to your communities. If your club doesn't have the ability to do screenings, there is a wide variety of ways you can support. Lions International provides a list of vision project ideas ranging from collecting glasses to partnering with a school for the blind. This list of ideas can be found on Page 27 of this issue.

November is Diabetes Awareness Month

Diabetes is a growing epidemic in the USA, according to the World Health Organization. Currently, at least 62 million people in America live with diabetes,

and that number is likely much higher—around 40% of people with the disease are unaware they have it. If current trends continue, the number of people with diabetes in the region is projected to reach 109 million by 2040.

This alarming rise in diabetes cases over the past three decades is tied to increasing risk factors. Two-thirds of adults in America are overweight or obese, and only 60% get enough exercise. Even more concerning is the growing impact on young people: over 30% of youth in the region are now considered overweight or obese, almost double the global average.

As Lions, we can play a critical role in raising awareness and combating this epidemic. Explore ideas for your club to take action and help address this urgent health crisis by checking out the [Diabetes page](#) on the Lions International website. Let's make a difference!

District Convention Nov. 15-16

This year, we're bringing together the 9NE and 9NC conventions for an unforgettable event you won't want to miss! Get ready for an exciting lineup, including a "Dinner in the Dark" fundraiser for Leader Dogs for the Blind, a special luncheon with Past International President Douglas Alexander as our speaker (he'll also be presenting awards!), and an inspiring talk by BJ Blahnik with Leader Dog Jackson. And to top it all off—you'll have the chance to throw a pie in my face! This is one event you'll definitely want to be a part of! You'll find the registration form on Page 17 of this issue of the magazine.

Cedar Falls 100-Year Anniversary Celebration

PIP Douglas Alexander will also be the keynote speaker at the Cedar Falls 100-Year Anniversary Celebration the evening of Nov. 16. See attendance information on Page 28 in the digital section of this issue.

*We are sorry for the loss
of these dedicated Lions*

Club	Member	Years a Lion
Balltown	Clarence Dietz	23 years
Belle Plaine	Frank Gauley	10 years
Decorah	John Tjostem	35 years

SAVE THE DATE



9NC/NE Convention Nov. 15-16, 2024 Independence, Iowa

See registration form on Page 17

Strengthening the Pride

CEDAR FALLS provided Honor Guard services for four funerals; helped clean out the Iowa Lions State Office in Marshalltown and moved office items to the new office at Camp Courageous; held its 4th annual Cedar Falls Lions Golf Outing (pictured below) which was reportedly a blast and raised over \$9,600 to support several charitable causes.



JESUP is selling beautiful mums to raise money for KidSight (pictured right).



GARRISON worked in cooperation with the Library Board to raise money for a new sidewalk and curb for the Farmers Mercantile; sold burgers and hotdogs; held a bake sale.

FREDERICKSBURG donated \$300 to Leader Dogs for the Blind.

HUDSON bought \$675 worth of school supplies (Project Pencils) for students in need; provided the community with two bicycle racks that were refurbished by the Lions.

INDEPENDENCE donated 100 hours to a local church!



SHELLSBURG installed a fence around a basketball court (pictured above), paid for by the Lions and a Benton County Grant.

WAVERLY refurbished motorized wheelchairs and scooters damaged by the floods in northwest Iowa.



FINISHING MOVE. Several 9NE Lions finish packing up the State Office in Marshalltown and move items to the new location in Monticello. Pictured (L-R) are PDG Dale Schrad, PDG Bruce Piehl, Lion Dave Beaty and PDG Doug Welton.

District 9SE

District Governor

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Club visits are under way. I have several clubs visited and more planned the next couple months. With things as they are, I have requested past district governors of the district to volunteer to visit some of the clubs. PDG Debbie Doty has the master list, which shows the clubs to pick from. The clubs with red dates are the open clubs to pick from. The dates are suggested and if you can finalize one, that would be great.

I ask as PDGs visit clubs they remember to collect eyeglasses and hearing aids. When eyeglasses come in, make sure that the eyeglasses are complete, with no broken frames or missing lenses or nose pieces. No loose lenses either please. Those with eyeglasses, please contact me and I will meet with you and collect them and store them until convention so you are not tripping over them at your home.

Hearing aids are in a similar situation, we just need the hearing aid, not cases, batteries or instruction booklets. Please, this information is being repeated as we are receiving extras that are not needed for the recycling process.

On a happier note, I have been to clubs celebrating anniversaries. In the last issue, I talked about New London Lions celebrating their 50-year anniversary in July. Coming up Nov. 6 is a 50-year anniversary party for

Keosauqua. There are milestones of Lions clubs all around us. Celebrate, toot your horn to let people know what your clubs have been doing in your communities.

Many of the clubs have been doing suppers, KidSight screenings, giving back with grants to the community and scholarships to the students in the school district. This is just a few of the ways Lions clubs give back. You can think of other ways to give back that are unique to your area.

I am still looking for zone chairpersons in three areas and had an inquiry about anyone in the Ottumwa area. I also need a zone chair in the Oskaloosa and Iowa City areas. Anyone who has been a club president that is willing to step up would be greatly appreciated.

As the year goes on, a transitioning will be going on to have more persons other than past district governors filling the cabinet positions as this makes it difficult for persons to move up towards district governor if a person so desires. The succession listings have hit an all time challenge as we begin this year. I am watching and looking hard for new leadership in the district for Lions year 2025-2026.

If you are asked to take a position above club level, please consider it thoughtfully. As a former council chair once said, "We will give you the tools to make you successful."

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Member	Club	Sponsor
Bryan Cox	Columbus Junction	Earlene Lekwa
Laura Cox	Columbus Junction	Earlene Lekwa
Brittany Quint	Columbus Junction	Benjamin Quint
Vernon Rode	Columbus Junction	James Howell
James M Alberhasky	Lone Tree	Gene Zdrazil



NEW MEMBER LINE UP. Columbus Junction Lions recognize new members and their sponsors. Pictured (L-R) are sponsor James Howell, new Lion Vernon Rode, Past Council Chair Nancy Oehler Love, sponsor Benjamin Quint with new Lion Brittany Quint, new members Laura and Bryan Cox with sponsor Earlene Lekwa.

CLUB ACTIVITIES



FALL FESTIVAL FUN. Lone Tree Lions held their annual Kiddie Tractor Pull at the Lone Tree Fall Festival. Forty-six children entered the pull. Winners of the five weight classes were awarded model tractors (pictured above) sponsored by local businesses. Each participant received a Fall Festival ribbon and a complimentary ice cream cone from the local BP station. The club had two floats in the Lone Tree Fall Festival parade (pictured below), one promoting the Kiddie Tractor Pull and the other promoting the Flags Over Lone Tree project.



WELCOMING A NEW MEMBER. Wayland Lions welcome a new member at their annual district governor visit. Pictured (L-R) are new member Donna Kaufman, District Governor Mike Renken, sponsor Brude Eichelbetger and Wayland Lions Club President Theresa Ferdig.



BURLINGTON NOON participated in the Burlington National Night Out (pictured above).

COLUMBUS JUNCTION repaired poles for street signs around town (pictured right).



GRANDVIEW- LETTS donated \$200 to the MCSA, \$500 to the Louisa County Fair Board and \$150 for bus repair for the Youth Exchange; bought a pair of eyeglasses for a gentleman.

IOWA CITY screened 150 kids for KidSight; donated \$76 to Iowa Lions Youth Exchange for campers' meals.

LONE TREE conducted a KidSight screening and Lions Pediatric Cancer projects.

OSKALOOSA held its 14th annual Lions Golf Shootout, clearing over \$1,900 (pictured below).



SIGOURNEY gave out ice-pops at the Fountain Family Festival.

VICTOR provided medical transportation to doctors appointments and placed flags in the community.

District 9SW

District Governor
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If you happen to be reading this online let me recommend that you back out to the Iowa Lions website and click on the 9SW link. Something marvelous has happened. You now go into 9SW instead of 9SE. Most of all, if you click on ENGAGE you will be able to check the calendar, get forms, make reports and all sorts of other things. Take a look at the brochures you can print out and use for membership and other purposes. You can even sign up to have your district governor come visit your club. Everything is up to date! We have our 9SW IT Chair Juanita Reynard to thank for this. She is doing a great job and it is so nice to have our website brought back to life.

Kristin and I attended another USA/Canada Leadership Forum (this time in Louisville, Kentucky) and it occurs to me that no matter how smart you think you are or how much knowledge of Lions projects you think you have, you always get nuggets from the seminars you attend. I got a lot of nuggets. A big thank you to our own Ardie Klemish for her tireless work on the Forum.

Some of the nuggets I learned at the Forum:

- Did you know the US Postal Service will send eyeglasses for free? You have to fill out a special form (Publication 347). Did you know that 88% of all vision problems are treatable and 90% of those problems can be treated with glasses? This is why eyeglass collection is such an important mission. Only about 20% of the collected glasses actually wind up on another person's face, but that impact is huge. The other 80% of collected glasses do wind up being recycled. Did you know that only Americans go on medical missions to other countries to help the poor with vision problems? Most of those missions go to Central and South America. Americans are the best.
- There was a great session on "Branding Your Lions Club." What do people think of when they see your club in action? What is your club's visual identity? Are you using the current Lions logo in all your advertising? BUILD YOUR BRAND. Have you heard of "tabling"? Create a table to take to events – portable table, tablecloth with Lions logo and QR Code for your website. There are a lot of photos available on the Lions International website. Look at those photos and then recreate the picture using your own members. Instead of using grip-and-grin photos, use photos of members actively doing service (stocking shelves at the food

pantry or serving food at a fundraiser).

- When was the last time you updated your club Facebook page or your club website? Does your Facebook page/ website include up-to-date club meeting location/time information? Does it include an invitation to join you at a meeting?
- Another idea: "Wear it Wednesday." Wear your Lions gear to other-than-Lions events on Wednesdays such as to the gym, the store, lunch.
- "Creative Service Projects" was another great learning session. We learned two new initialisms: BBTP (Bring Back the Passion) and MLFA (Make Lions Fun Again). Project ideas included: pay off school lunch debts; plogging (picking up litter while jogging); [Magic Yarn project](#) (making wigs out of yarn for kids); sponsor a student of the month; promote a movie night in a park; make a word search activity book to give out at events rather than candy; make activity kits for children in hospitals; team up with other clubs in your zone to sponsor a project; collect used crayons for the [Crayon Collective](#); collect plastic bags for local food banks; so many ideas!
- We do a fair job of creating partnerships with other organizations to get a multiplier effect for our projects, but we could do a lot better. We should all take a moment when we set out to plan our events to consider other organizations and corporations to see if there is a connection that would be beneficial to both parties. As an example, coordinate with local nursing students to come to the food pantry to do diabetes testing. Partner with the Boy Scouts to donate meals to a local homeless shelter or Ronald McDonald House. Be creative! It can really boost your project.
- Past International President Brian Sheehan presented perhaps the most energetic session we saw. His topic: Mission 1.5, or as he calls it "Mission Possible". He taught us another initialism: E-I-E-I-O or Everyone Is Excited, Inspired, Optimistic (about Lions). Have pride in this organization. AND THAT'S A FACT, JACK!

I also learned that, unfortunately, there seems to be some animosity and foot-dragging toward jumping on the new Lion Portal. We are so lucky to have had Rick and Ann Baughman with us at our officer training meeting to help us get our feet on the ground with this new computer system. If you still have questions, let me know and I will get you in touch with the appropriate resource (Baughman's, Allen Zobel, our IT guru Juanita, or my wife, Kristin). Reporting is key for Lions International. Many of the foundations we partner with (ex. Gates Foundation) look at our impact metrics for viability when measuring whether they will give us grants or partner with us.

I'd be honored to attend one of your club meetings. You can fill out the [9SW Official Governor's Visit Request Form](#) to request a visit.

9SW CLUBS MAKE OUR MARK...THROUGH SERVICE

ZONE 1

COUNCIL BLUFFS collected eyeglasses.

GLENWOOD delivered Meals on Wheels; attended training; donated \$50 to Glenwood Library in memory of the wife of a Lions member.

NEOLA volunteered at the Iowa Lions State Fair booth; attended district officer and district cabinet training.

VILLISCA donated to Tornado Relief; worked rides, rode in the parade and held a pancake breakfast at Villisca Heritage Days; attended officer training; assisted with RAGBRAI, held a disc golf tournament

ZONE 2

ATLANTIC donated eyeglasses.

AUDUBON attended officer training; raised \$580 manning the inflatables for the T-Bone celebration on the city square.

EXIRA worked its Hoagie Sandwich fundraiser, making \$4,135 for LCIF, Iowa Lions Foundation and other Lions projects; hosted an Exira-EHK staff appreciation dinner; donated blood; attended officer training.



YOU SAY IT HOW? District Governor Gary Glockhoff poses in front of a selfie station sign at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Louisville, Kentucky.

ZONE 4

ADEL worked at the Sweet Corn Festival.

PERRY volunteered at the local junior college and the neighborhood assistance program.

WAUKEE donated \$300 to supply backpacks to students; hosted the MD9 Council of Governors meeting; collected over 800 pairs of eyeglasses; volunteered at the Farm Progress Show and at the Iowa State Fair Booth.

ZONE 5

INDIANOLA NOON volunteered at the Warren County Fair Root Beer Stand; held a pancake breakfast clearing \$408; donated \$1,200 to Indianola Schools STEM Program, \$500 to the Zone School Program, \$1,000 to Leader Dog, \$1,200 to Indianola High School Music Program, \$1,200 to Warren County Youth Shooting Club, \$752 to Simpson College Scholarships; worked concessions at the National Balloon Classic; provided lunch for exchange students at the fair; hosted an exchange student from Brazil; volunteered at Indianola School Music Program and the Greater Des Moines Community Band.

ZONE 6

ADAIR provided lunch music at various locations; worked Adair food pantry; attended USA/Canada Forum and GAT Ambassadors meetings; attended club officer/zone chair training and district cabinet meeting; served food at ACGC Back to School Bash; worked on LCIF Recovery grant application for Greenfield, sent cards to shut-ins.

FONTANELLE ran a concession stand at Adair County Fair; served pancakes at Greenfield Airport Fly-in Breakfast.

DIAGONAL made park improvements, including adding a shelter to the grill area, a patio to the shelter house, and improved the steps.

MOUNT AYR collected 183 pairs of eyeglasses and eight hearing aids.

MAKE YOUR MARK...WITH NEW MEMBERS

Member	Sponsor	Club
Benjamin Ewert	Donna Ewert	Harlan
Dan Schumacher	LaDonna Havick	Harlan
Sarah Schumacher	LaDonna Havick	Harlan
Mallory Wells	Becky Kolosik	Indianola
Mike Boswell	Kelly Everett	Lamoni
Chaz Cornelison	Kayla Bailey	Lorimor
Ginny K. Quick	Rosemary Hullinger	Mount Ayr
Jimmy Graham	Monty Chew	Murray
Nick L Eakins	Ray Harden	Perry
Raymond J Harden	Ray Harden	Perry

District 9MC

District Governor
Bill Pollard

2401 8th St. Court SW
Altoona, Iowa 50009

515-480-2110

billpollard54@yahoo.com



Kindness Matters ... No Matter How Small

An old gentleman who was a writer loved to walk along the ocean beach each morning before he began writing. Early one morning after a violent storm, he noticed the beach was covered with starfish as far as the eye could see. As he walked, he noticed in the distance a young lady doing what he perceived as a dance. When he approached, he noticed she was bending down to pick up a starfish and then throwing it into the sea.

He called out, "Good Morning! May I ask what are you doing?"

She replied, "Throwing the starfish into the ocean. The tide washed them up on the beach and they can't return by themselves. When the sun gets higher, they will die unless I throw them back into the water."



ID 16930131 © Feverpitched | Dreamstime.com

"But there are so many that you cannot really make much of a difference," he responded.

She bent down, picked up a starfish and hurled far out into the ocean, stating, "It made a difference to that one."

That's what Lions do. **LIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE.** Lions make a difference in the life of one person at a time.

That was the concept that guided Melvin Jones as he called the many groups together at the LaSalle Hotel on June 7, 1917. It is the idea that they embraced when they formed the **ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS.** It is what we as second century Lions do, Make a Difference.

As we invite a prospective member to join us, it is what we are asking of him/her. If they assent, they

will truly become a Lion.

Your club serves your community with numerous projects which make a difference in the lives of many. Your club supports the Iowa Lions Foundation with a donation which makes a difference in the lives of many citizens of Iowa and beyond its borders through the Iowa Lions Eye Bank, the Iowa Lions Hearing Aid Bank, the Iowa Lions Hearing and Cochlear Implant Center, and Iowa KidSight. You do not limit your service, you support Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) which makes a difference in the lives of individuals around the world in the areas of vision, youth, disaster relief, humanitarian aid, hunger, environment, diabetes and childhood cancer.

Share this with your new members and with your community, ask them to join you in making a difference. This is how we will accomplish **MISSION 1.5.**

WELCOME NEW LIONS

Member	Club	Sponsor
Jeremy Stenda	Dysart	Daniel Hartwig
Amanda Grunklee	Reinbeck	Dale Wambold
Linda Koch	Reinbeck	Sue Buskohl



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT. Dysart Lions (L-R) Judy Raub, Don Lyons and Donny Lyons prepare hot dogs for Dysart's first National Night Out. The club served hot dogs, chips and drinks, as well as had a booth, during the event in cooperation with the Dysart Police Department, Dysart Development Corporation, Dysart EMT, Tama County Sheriff's Department and the Tama County Drone Program.

WE SERVE

AMES collected 891 pairs of used eyeglasses; provided new eyeglasses for three individuals; worked at the Farm Progress Show and earned \$1,755.

BONDURANT held a scholarship pizza night for the May scholarship recipients and their parents; sponsored the annual Tractor Ride with 53 tractors participating (pictured below); transported cornea tissue for the Iowa Lions Eye Bank.



MARSHALLTOWN EVENING popped popcorn each week at HyVee; held the annual Candy and Nut Sale; collected and recycled used eyeglasses.

MARSHALLTOWN NOON held its first golf outing to benefit community projects; completed the 8th transfer of used eyeglasses to the Anamosa prison; and restocked the Necessity Pantries twice during the month.

REINBECK held their monthly Bingo Event.

STORY CITY completed landscaping at the Story County Golf Course; collected and sorted used eyeglasses; and restocked the Lions mints displays.



TRAEER operated the Traer Theater Concession Stand the first Sunday of the month; had a games booth at the Winding Stairs Festival (pictured above) with the proceeds going to Diabetes and the Lions Youth Exchange; pulled a float and distributed candy at the Winding Stairs Festival Parade; conducted the annual Cow Chip Bingo event; and worked in the ticket booth at the North Tama High School football games.

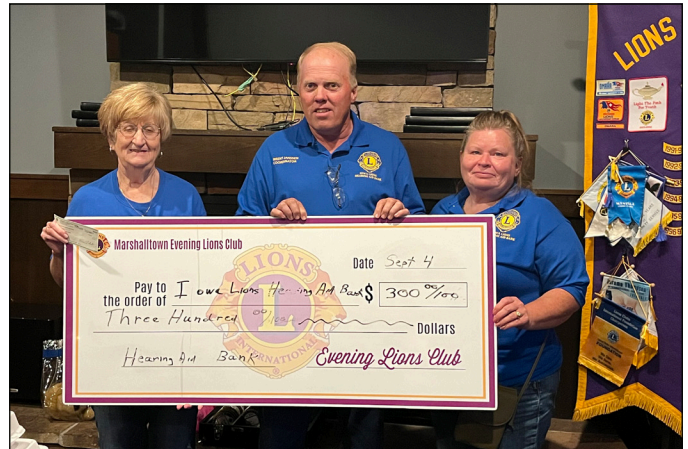
URBANDALE served hotdogs and chips at the UCAN Back-to-School fundraiser; transported cornea tissue for the Iowa Lions Eye Bank.

In Memoriam

Wendell Giesking – Reinbeck



COMMUNITY DONATIONS. (Above) Marshalltown Evening Lions give \$500 to the Eastern Iowa Honor Flight. (Below) Marshalltown Evening Lions Club President Debi Esperson (left) presents a \$300 check to Iowa Lions Hearing Aid Bank Coordinators Brent and Dawn Janssen.



RUNNING AWAY WITH THE CIRCUS. Dysart Lions host the Culpepper & Merriweather Circus at the Dysart City Park.

District 9NC

District Governor
Mike Ravera

209 North Shore Drive
Clear Lake, Iowa 50428

563-357-5133

lionmikeravera@yahoo.com



Greetings, Lions team!

I was on my morning walk the other day listening to a favorite podcast. The podcaster spoke about almost stepping on a rattlesnake and was saved because he heard the distinctive rattle even though he was wearing earbuds. The snake gave a warning that the man was in danger if he didn't change course and avoid the snake.

My analogy here (might not be the best one, but I'll let you decide) is with what Past International President Brian Sheehan shared during his presentation at the just-concluded USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum. PIP Sheehan spoke about how Lions in Constitutional Area 1 (that's all of us in the USA) need to start working harder than we ever have to change course regarding what we do within our clubs to keep members happy and engaged.

Plus, we need to also work hard to improve how we are perceived by the public. We have got to make sure people know we are doing awesome and fun projects in the community and are working to complete more and more of them. Our members deserve to be working on exciting and fulfilling projects and they deserve to be heard when they have a new idea for a project! Keep those "outside the box" ideas coming and do not be afraid to try something new.

How to Report Your Service Activities

I have written a few times in this newsletter about reporting service projects and am thinking that a mini tutorial might be helpful. So, I'll take a stab at putting together a "menu" for getting to the location in the Lion Portal that ALL Lions can use to report service activity. Here goes:

- Log in to the portal.
- From the "Home" page click on "Service" and then click on "My Activities."
- Click on "Create Service Activity" (blue box in the upper left corner of the page).
- At the "Create Service Activity" box, click on the bubble next to your club's name and then click on "Next."

- You will see two dialog boxes. In the upper dialog box, enter a title for the service activity.
- In the lower dialog box, click on the up or down arrow to select an activity type (donation, fund raiser, meeting or service project) and then click "next."
- You will be taken to a "Details" page where you enter the pertinent event information. Do the best you can here and do not worry if you do not have data to enter where it is asked for at this page. When you are done entering data, click "Save."
- Note that on the "Details" page, you can click on "Image Gallery" to upload any photos of your event. To do that, go to the right side of the page and click on "Upload Images" and then follow the directions.
- After you have completed entering your event, please let your club Secretary know so they can log in to the Portal following the same instructions above to then complete the report at the "Details" page of the service report page.

If you have issues with my "tutorial", please give me a shout and we can go through things together. I'm happy to help as much as you might need!

Official Club Visits

As I noted in the past couple of months, Past District Governor Stan Johnson and I are happy to come to a club meeting to see how things are going and answer any questions you might have. I know Stan has been busy with club visits and was out helping with new member inductions just in the past few days.

Additionally, Stan and PDG Darwin Meyer are working on getting a new club started in the northern part of 9NC. They have a couple of smaller clubs that can possibly combine with folks from the city of Rudd to start the new club.

You might remember that Stan and Darwin worked successfully to get LCIF grant dollars for Rudd after a tornado hit the town a couple years ago and destroyed their library. The dollars were used to replace computers and a printer. That great work led to interest by some Rudd citizens to start a Lions club.

Now that August has come and gone, I will be able to work more club visits into my schedule. I am planning to get in contact with club secretaries to schedule those visits. Both Osage and Floyd have contacted me and I'm looking forward to seeing them again!

Very Special Events for 9NC Lions

Another friendly reminder that Northwood will be holding their club's 95th anniversary celebration Oct.

19 at the Diamond Jo Casino just north of Clear Lake on I-35. PIP Brian Sheehan will be the featured speaker so you don't want to miss this event. Registration information can be found on Page 25 of this issue, but be sure to fill it out soon. They'd like reservations by Oct. 5.

Also, make sure to plan to attend the 9NC/NE convention Nov. 15-16 in Independence. Our guest of honor will be PIP Douglas X. Alexander! The registration form is on this page.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club	Member	Sponsor
Iowa Falls	Brandi Levis	Michelle Nederhoff
Iowa Falls	Nicole Pergande	Michelle Nederhoff
Stanhope	Peggy Phipps	Mabelle Romp
Stanhope	Phil Phipps	Roger Hayes

CLUB ACTIVITIES

CLARION donated \$300 to a local organization focused on fine arts programs for students, \$300 to Clarion-Goldfield-Dows school district for youth sports, \$300 to Clarion-Goldfield-Dows school teachers for purchasing supplies, \$300 to Leader Dog, and \$240 to a local family to help with roof repairs.

CLEAR LAKE EVENING served popcorn at three concert events at The Surf Ballroom, raising \$1,832; held the annual Hamburger/Sweetcorn Feed (pictured below) and served over 950 meals.



EAGLE GROVE collected food at the local food bank; donated \$300 to a local family with a cancer diagnosis; donated 20 pairs of eyeglasses to the local eye clinic.

OSAGE sold rib eye sandwiches, burgers, hot dogs, nachos and chips at three Friday Night Out events over the summer, raising \$2,125.



9NE and 9NC Joint District Convention

Registration Form

Nov. 15-16, 2024

River's Edge Sports & Fitness Community Room
206 2nd Ave. SW, Independence, IA 50644

Name: _____

District: _____ Club: _____

Ph. # _____

Email: _____

Please note any Dietary needs: _____

I need a display table for: _____

Please mark what you plan to attend:

FRIDAY, NOV. 15

_____ Dinner in the Dark **Reservations required**
No late or seating at the door. This is a Fundraiser for Leader Dogs for the Blind

___ First Timer Friday Meal - \$25*

___ Friday Meal Only - \$40

SATURDAY, NOV. 16

_____ Convention — Speakers, Awards & Elections

___ Saturday Only - \$30* includes Sat. Lunch

___ First Timer Saturday Only - \$20* includes Sat. Lunch

___ Saturday Registration Only - \$15 No Meals

_____ Full Weekend — includes Fri. Dinner in the Dark & Sat. Lunch

___ Full Weekend - \$60

___ First Timer Full Weekend - \$45*

**Definition of First Timer: If this is your 1st District Convention from your district, you qualify for the discount.*

Registrations Due by Nov. 1

Make checks payable to: **Clear Lake Evening Lions**
and mail to: Lisa Prochaska
113 Orchard Ln.
Clear Lake, IA 50428

Hotel Information:

Comfort Inn & Suites, 2100 Swan Lake Blvd., Independence, IA
PH: 319-334-6400 Rooms are blocked under Independence Lions until
Oct. 31, 2024. Guest room reservations are your responsibility to arrange.

District 9EC

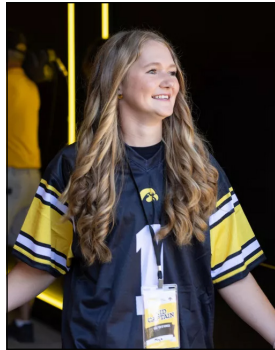
District Governor
Phillip Larabee

908 W 1st St
Monticello, Iowa 52310
319-465-5006
phillip.larabee@gmail.com



Fall Rally

The District 9EC Fall Rally is scheduled for Saturday Oct. 26 at Millennium Banquet Hall in Goose Lake. The event will include numerous speakers from our district but the featured speaker is Brooke Gilchrist and her daughter Mya Gilchrist of Center Point. Many of you may have seen Mya as a University of Iowa Hawkeye Football Team Kid Captain for the Iowa vs. Troy football game on Sept. 14. This young woman and her mom will talk about Mya's journey through a life of Pediatric Cancer. The first time I met Mya and her mom, Brooke, I found the story of her journey amazing. I feel you will enjoy listening to Mya and Brooke, too.



Mya Gilchrist

At the end of the day there will be a parade of checks, so bring your checks for your club's donations to Lions-affiliated entities. See you at the Fall Rally. The registration form is located on the next page.

Zone Meeting for Clinton and Jackson County Lions Clubs

It is time for zone meetings to start happening. My first zone meeting as your district governor is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 7, 2024 at Vista Grande, 2141 16th St. NW in Clinton. The evenings guest speaker is Gary Dolphin, the Voice of the Iowa Hawkeyes. The zone chairs for Clinton and Jackson County and I were lucky to get Gary Dolphin to speak as he would be on his way back home from an afternoon appointment in Iowa City. The zone meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. and the cost is \$16 per person. Please contact Karen Tack of the Clinton Lions Club at 563-357-5590 with your reservations by Oct. 1, 2024. We are expecting a large crowd.

Fall Learning Conference

The 2024-25 Fall Learning Conference is set for

Friday through Sunday Nov. 1-3, at the Radisson Hotel, 1200 Collins Rd. NE, in Cedar Rapids. The first day is mainly for the Iowa Lions Foundation and Council of Governor meetings. Also on Friday afternoon are tours of the Iowa Lions Eye Bank and KidSight. The balance of the event on Saturday and Sunday will include wonderful learning seminars and motivational speakers. See you at the Fall Learning Conference. The registration for the Fall Learning Conference is located on Page 23.

Davenport Village Lions Club 100th Year Anniversary

Davenport Village Lions will celebrate their club's 100th anniversary on Saturday, Nov. 9 at Tanglewood, 4250 Middle Road, in Bettendorf. The cost is \$30 per person and the guest speaker is Past International President J. Frank Moore. Come and have a great time celebrating Davenport Village Lions Club's 100th Anniversary. The registration form can be found in the digital section of this issue on Page 26. RSVPs are due by Oct. 26. Dress is Business Casual



J. Frank Moore III

LCIF Upcoming Events in Our District

At the time of writing this article, I know there are a series of upcoming LCIF events in which PIP J. Frank Moore will be in attendance. Please watch your District Newsletter for the announcements and registration forms as the events are currently in the planning stages.

PDG Rick Baughman

On Sept. 12, I had the pleasure of presenting Immediate Past District Governor Rick Baughman his PDG Pin during a joint visit to the Cedar Rapids Noon Lions Club. Congratulations Rick on an excellent year as district governor of 9EC.



CLUB ACTIVITIES

ALBURNETT – Seal Picnic Tables, Deploy and Gather Flags

ANAMOSA – Build and Repair Flags, Deploy and Gather Flags, Pick-up Donation Containers

BELLEVUE – Assist w/Delmar Tractor Ride through, Deploy and Gather Flags, Iowa State Fair KidSight Screening

CENTER POINT – Volunteered at Urban Days

DEWITT – Assistance with Immigrant Resident, Maintenance Butterfly Garden

ELDRIDGE – Eyeglass Collection and Recycling, Meal Delivery, KidSight, Food Pantry Collection, Park Maintenance, Junior High Back to School Night

LOW MOOR – Lunch Wagon at Tunes in the Park, Golf Activity

MARION NOON – White Cane Fundraiser

MILES – Yard of the Month

OTTER CREEK – Park Maintenance, Meals on Wheels, Legion Hall Maintenance

PRESTON – Multiple Community Donations

STANWOOD – Aid to Resident

WEST BRANCH – Assist High School Fundraiser, Deliver Eyeglasses for Reuse, Multiple Times Host Open Gym for Pickleball, Attended Lowden’s Fundraiser, Iowa State Fair Booth KidSight, Host Kids Tractor Pull and Prairie Run at Hoover Hometown Days, Deploy and Gather Flags

WELCOME NEW LIONS TO 9EC		
Member	Sponsor	Club
Kathleen Kirby	Robyn Eilers	Anamosa
Philip Wiese	Williams Fleetwood	Blue Grass
Karla Thomas	Barbara Taylor	CR Noon
Karen Martin	Tracy Harris	Eldridge
Diana Screro	Tracy Harris	Eldridge
Katherine Beckler	Sarah Crock	Tipton
Timothy Beckler	Daniel McMurrin	Tipton
James Crowley	Becky Wageman	West Branch
Mary Crowley	Becky Wageman	West Branch
Glenda O’Neil	Jerry Fleege	West Branch

9EC Fall Rally

Oct. 26, 2024 • 8:00 am

*Millennium Banquet Hall
169 Obrian St., Goose Lake, Iowa*

- 8:00 am Registration/Light breakfast
- 9:00 am Welcome/Lions’ Update
- 9:20 am Care and Share Update
- 9:40 am Iowa Lions Foundation Update
- 10:00 am Mya Strong Foundation Presentation
- 10:30 am Break
- 10:40 am So You Want to Be a Zone Chair
- 11:10 am Lions Clubs International Foundation
- 11:40 am Lunch
- 12:40 pm Recognition
- 1:00 pm Mission 1.5
- 1:30 pm Parade of Checks
- 1:50 pm 50/50 Drawing
- 2:00 pm Closing remarks

Registration Form

Please print clearly

NAME #1 _____ OFFICE HELD _____
LION (Y/N) • First Time (Y/N)

CLUB/DISTRICT _____

PHONE # _____ EMAIL _____

NAME #2 _____ OFFICE HELD _____
LION (Y/N) • First Time (Y/N)

CLUB/DISTRICT _____

PHONE # _____ EMAIL _____

(OPTIONAL): I need a display table Y / N

Registration Only (no meals) # _____ @ \$15 = _____

Registration w/ Lunch/Breakfast # _____ @ \$30 = _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Mail check (payable to **Goose Lake Lions Club**)
and registration form by **Oct. 15, 2024** to:

Lion Marty Jahn
104 Louise St.
Charlotte IA 52731

In Memoriam

Member	Club	Years a Lion
Sally Shelton	Blue Grass	8 years

District 9NW

District Governor
Mike Mulroney

368 Loomis Avenue
Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501

515-570-0298

lions9nwdgmike@gmail.com



In Memoriam

Member	Club	Years a Lion
Jess R. Lewis	Fort Dodge	33 Years
Verlyn Fedders	Orange City	2 Years

48th Annual USA/CANADA Lions Leadership Forum 2024 Louisville, Kentucky

Immediate PDG Pat Essing and PDG Mark Essing attended the 48th annual USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum and reported the following:

It was a great experience to be in attendance with over 1,900 Lions members. There were great seminars to attend on various topics from planning service projects to leadership opportunities. Over 100 seminars were available. There were four different keynote speakers:

Sam Glenn, an artist who gives a motivational speech as he paints a picture; Randy Pierce, a blind man who climbs mountain peaks and runs marathons, Lions International President Fabricio Oliveira; and Trish Wilson, who talks about inspiration she drew from children who attended the Texas Lions Camp, where she once worked.

We picked up the following motivation from Saturday night closing speaker Trish Wilson's motto, "You have one more day, to do one more thing, to change one more life, so don't miss the opportunity."

KidSight Screening Success

Lion Steve Rehmann, KidSight Chair for Fort Dodge Noon Lions, is well into this important service project. Past President Susan Gill, District LCIF Chair Larry Juncker, Lion Rosemary Possehn of the Fort Dodge Evening Lions, and Steve Rehmann have "shot" over 300 kids at this point and many more sites are scheduled. Lion Steve will be leading a KidSight session at our district convention at the Wild Wood Casino in Jefferson on Oct. 5. His contact is:

Steve Rehmann

Kidsight Coordinator/Trainer

Fort Dodge Noon Lions

515-570-9095

steve.rehmann@outlook.com



SETTING THE PACE. Past District Governor Mark Essing and Immediate Past District Governor Pat Essing pose near one of many painted horses in Louisville, Kentucky while attending the 48th annual USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum.



SPECIAL DELIVERY.

Immediate Past District Governor Pat Essing delivers a Leader Dog pin from District Leaderdog Chairperson Dawn Thompson to Angie Sharbot after finishing lunch at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum. Lion Angie is International Director Joanne Ogden's traveling companion. ID Joanne was the international guest at the 9NW Convention this past spring.



FESTIVAL FUN. Badger Lions prepare to march in the Badgerfest Parade.



MEET UP AT THE FORUM. Kelsey Martin and Melissa Weisse man the Leader Dog booth at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum. Various booths were set up with information. Melissa will be attending the 9NW District convention in October.



CAMARADERIE. Akron Lions (L-R) Julie Ford, Dee Watson and Gina West enjoy camaraderie while working on a district LCIF project. If you aren't having fun, you are doing it wrong.



SPREADING AWARENESS. 9NW Leader Dog Chair Dawn Thompson gives a Leader Dog presentation at Twin Lakes Bible Camp.

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS		
Club	Member	Sponsor
Boone	Hank E. Muzney Jr	Tacy Hyberger
Orange City	Dave Aalbers	Greg Beernink
Orange City	Kevin Lourens	Loree Vander Zwaag
Orange City	Mike Mulder	Bradley De Jong



AWARDS PICNIC. Boone Lions Club recently held their annual awards picnic. (L-R) Lion Elijah Stines receives a Key Award for sponsoring two members; Karen Naumes and Past District Governor Dale Schoening receive Warren Coleman Honorary Awards; Brogan Avery and Tacy Hyberger accept Melvin Jones Fellowship Awards.

Fun and Learning at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum



SISTER FROM ANOTHER MISTER? Bernadette Lane (left) catches up with a Lion friend.



MAKING NEW FRIENDS. One of the fun aspects of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum is making new friends and catching up with old ones. Pictured (above photo) are Paul (middle) and Sylvia (far left) Hain and (below photo, from R-L) are District Governor Chris Waring, Lisa Prochaska and Nancy Oehler Love meeting and visiting with other Lions during the lunches.



SPEED LEARNING. Forum Marketing Chair Debbie Doty hosts a table on Marketing at the 2nd annual Speed Learning event.



OLD FRIENDS. Former Iowa Lions Christine and Joe Hackett attend one of the 100 seminars offered during the 3-day Forum.



**REGISTRATION FORM
2024 IOWA LIONS LEARNING CONFERENCE
"INDIVIDUALS SERVED BY IOWA LIONS"
NOVEMBER 1 - 3, 2024**



Guest Room Reservations are your responsibility and should be made at the Radisson Cedar Rapids, www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/MI67A5 or 319-393-6600. Room rates per night are \$129 plus 12% tax and 3% convention fee for a Standard Room or \$139 plus 12% tax and 3% convention fee for a King Bed Suite. **Registration rates are subject to change after Friday, September 27, 2024.**

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM COMPLETELY

NAME 1 _____ () LION () LEO () GUEST
 CURRENT OFFICE HELD _____ FIRST TIMER () YES () NO
 CLUB _____ DISTRICT _____
 ADDRESS _____
 TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

NAME 2 _____ () LION () LEO () GUEST
 CURRENT OFFICE HELD _____ FIRST TIMER () YES () NO
 CLUB _____ DISTRICT _____
 ADDRESS _____
 TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

DEADLINE: Registrations must be postmarked by Thursday, October 24, 2024.
 No Refunds for Cancellations after October 24, 2024.

If you have **SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS** please use a separate sheet with your name and needs required.

SATURDAY NOON LUNCHEON & REGISTRATION	\$45 Per person X _____ = \$ _____
SATURDAY BANQUET & REGISTRATION	\$60 Per person X _____ = \$ _____
SATURDAY PACKAGE (2 meals & registration)	\$90 Per person X _____ = \$ _____
SUNDAY BREAKFAST	\$42 Per person X _____ = \$ _____
WEEKEND PACKAGE (3 meals & registration)	\$100 Per person X _____ = \$ _____
REGISTRATION ONLY (No meals)	\$20 Per person X _____ = \$ _____

Special Rates in Blue are for First Timers

SATURDAY NOON LUNCHEON & REGISTRATION	\$30 Per person X _____ = \$ _____
SATURDAY BANQUET & REGISTRATION	\$45 Per person X _____ = \$ _____
SATURDAY PACKAGE (2 meals & registration)	\$80 Per person X _____ = \$ _____
SUNDAY BREAKFAST	\$30 Per person X _____ = \$ _____
WEEKEND PACKAGE (3 meals & registration)	\$90 Per person X _____ = \$ _____
REGISTRATION ONLY (No meals)	\$5 Per Person X _____ = \$ _____

TOTAL DUE. \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Lions Clubs of Iowa MD9 Convention.

Mail to: Registrar Ed Ottesen, 1941 W 6th Street, Waterloo, IA 50702

Phone: 319-429-5569 E-Mail: eaohome@mchsi.com

REGISTER ONLINE: iowalions.org/event/md9-iowa-lions-fall-learning-conference



LIFE CHANGING. Musician Alma Drake performs evening gigs once again after receiving two corneal transplants in both eyes. Most music events are held at night and Drake was unable to drive to them due to Fuchs Distrophy.



THE IOWA LION

Transplant Lifechanging for Musician, Sound Healer

Alma Drake is a musician and a sound healer and spends a lot of their time listening with their eyes closed.

But when they did open their eyes, they struggled to read, recognize people, and drive, especially at night.

“Sometimes when driving, if I couldn’t see something clearly, my mind would invent stuff to explain the shape I saw and some of that could be pretty distracting” Drake says. “Part of my issue was how long it took for my eyes to focus on things, sometimes half a minute or more to read a street or road sign, even during daylight hours, and usually it was gone before I could even read it.”

Dealing with email and doing anything on the computer also was challenging, Drake says.

“There were getting to be blotchy spots in my vision that would greatly obscure whatever I was trying to focus on,” Drake says. “I’ve been a writer for much of my life, so that was extremely frustrating.”

Drake was diagnosed with Fuchs Dystrophy, a genetic disorder that affects the endothelial layer of the cornea.

After Drake received corneal transplants in both eyes,

their life changed.

“Colors seemed almost overwhelmingly brilliant,” Drake says. “I could see details I had missed for years.”

Drake also says they found joy in reading and writing again and once more can drive at night.

“I’m a musician, and (musicians) do a lot of work at night. Not having to round up a driver was great, especially for rehearsals.”

Drake says they feel safer now when they are out because they are more alert and observant, which also makes them feel more confident.

“I’ve also noticed detail work, like sewing, mending, knitting, all of that is much easier now,” Drake says.

Drake now has experienced both sides of cornea donation; their father was a cornea donor after passing away in the 1990s.

“Knowing he lived on in someone else was a huge comfort and satisfaction to me,” Drake says.

October is Vision Awareness Month. Read other stories like this on the [Iowa Lions Eye Bank website](#).

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE



Lions of Iowa: You are Invited to the

NORTHWOOD LIONS CLUB

95TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

To commemorate the 1929 Charter of the Northwood Lions Club

Saturday, October 19, 2024

**Diamond Jo's Event Center – Exit # 214 on Interstate 35
777 Diamond Jo Lane
Northwood, Iowa**

**5:00 social hour
6:00 buffet dinner (meat is BBQ brisket)**

***Keynote speaker: Lions International
Past International President Brian Sheehan***

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED – NO walk-ins!

Cost \$37.50/ person. MUST RECEIVE payment by October 5

Mail to: Northwood Lions Club
P.O. Box 162
Northwood, IA 50459
Phone 320-522-0980

Registrant #1: Name: _____
Address: _____
Cell phone: _____
Email: _____

Registrant #2: Name: _____
Address: _____
Cell phone: _____
Email: _____

***Spend an AWESOME evening with PIP Brian and Lion Lori Sheehan
Let's fill the house with Iowa Lions to welcome the Sheehans! ☺***

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE



Davenport Village Lions Club Centennial Celebration

November 9, 2024

Doors open at 5:00 pm with cocktail hour. Dinner at 6:00 pm
with program to follow

Location: Tanglewood Hills Pavilion
4250 Middle Road, Bettendorf, Iowa

RSVP DUE BY OCTOBER 31, 2024! Dress is Business Casual

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Club: _____

Cost is \$30 per person:

Number Attending: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Send Checks to:

John Hegeman, 4700 Village Drive #402, Davenport, IA 52807

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE



PROJECT IDEAS VISION

LEARN

- Invite an eye professional to your club to educate Lions and Leos on common eye diseases that may cause blindness if left untreated.
- Access the “Lions Eye Health Program” to educate yourself and your club about blindness prevention.
- Invite a person who is blind or has low vision to talk about technology that aids in mobility or navigation and activities of daily living.
- Complete the free online “Blindness Basics Course” at Hadley School for the Blind to better understand blindness.
- Serve a meal at your club and invite members to eat while blindfolded to raise awareness and build empathy.

ACT // BEGINNER

- Collect used eyeglasses and send them to the nearest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center.
- **Organize a braille, large print and audio book collection to benefit a local school, library or senior center.**
- Volunteer to create audio recordings of books and periodicals for people who are blind.

ACT // INTERMEDIATE

- **Work with local eye care professionals to provide a wide variety of community screenings including early childhood, school and all age’s vision screenings.**
- Utilizing the Lions Eye Health Program materials, host a public event to promote healthy vision and increase awareness of common eye diseases that can cause vision loss.
- Sponsor a World Sight Day event.
- Sponsor visually impaired students through camps, contests or other activities.
- Create a community arts program for children and adults who are visually impaired.
- Collaborate with an eye bank to promote the importance of corneal donations.
- Develop a directory of community resources and services available for people who are blind or have low vision.
- Volunteer at a recreational camp, rehabilitation or vocational training center for children or adults who are blind or visually impaired.
- Organize an inclusive sporting event for children with and without visual impairment.
- Host a fundraiser to purchase and donate white canes to people who are blind or visually impaired in your community.

ACT // ADVANCED

- Work with local employers to develop an employee vision screening program.
- Develop a coupon or voucher program with local optical shops for underserved populations to receive corrective eye wear at a reduced cost or for free.
- Design a transportation program for school children, working adults and seniors who are blind or have low vision.
- Host a “Beep Baseball” game or tournament.
- Support a guide dog training program through fundraising or voluntary labor.
- Develop an assistive technology library so people who have vision impairment can access resources as their needs change.
- Create a sensory garden with plants, water features, and sculptures that engage the senses of touch, smell, hearing and taste. Provide braille or audio recordings of signage.
- Partner with a school for the blind to support their curriculum, assistive technology and maintenance needs.
- Partner with an orientation and mobility specialist to provide ongoing support to teachers of inclusive classrooms and employers of inclusive workplaces.



ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE



District Governor
Chris Waring

District Governor
Mike Ravera

9NE & 9NC District Convention



FRIDAY DINNER

Friday evening Dinner in the Dark is a fundraiser for Leaders Dogs for the Blind.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED



SATURDAY

Past Council Chair BJ Blahik & Jackson of Wisconsin will be sharing an emotional and inspiring story about how Leader Dogs for the Blind saved his life. Have tissues ready!



SATURDAY LUNCHEON GUEST

Past International President Douglas Alexander will inspire both seasoned and new Lions with his powerful message of leadership and service, leaving a lasting impact on everyone in attendance.

LINK TO REGISTRATION FORM

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KvRzglecyUneoBPYQl4t5LhfBj-t0Z9t/view?usp=sharing>

Additional Presentations: Iowa Lions Youth Camp, LCIF, Leadership in the District, District memorial service, Elections, Silent Auction

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE

You're Invited!

Come help our club celebrate 100 years of service...



WHEN: Saturday, November 16,
5:30 – 8 p.m.

WHERE: Jorgensen Plaza, 5307
Caraway Lane, Cedar Falls, IA
SPECIAL GUEST:

Douglas Alexander, Brooklyn,
NY

Past International President

Send \$30 per reserved seat by 11/9/24; specify guest name(s)
and make checks payable to: **Cedar Falls Lions Club, PO Box 802,
Cedar Falls, IA 50613-0802.** You may also Venmo payment to:
@CedarFalls-LionsClub (see QR code at the right corner of this ad)



GROW THE GOOD. Lions are on a #MissionToGrow. Share your selfie with hands up with one finger on the right and 5 fingers on the left. Share on social media with the hashtag #MissionToGrow and tell everyone how you and your club have accepted the mission! Find out more at the [Mission 1.5 page](#) on the Lions International website.