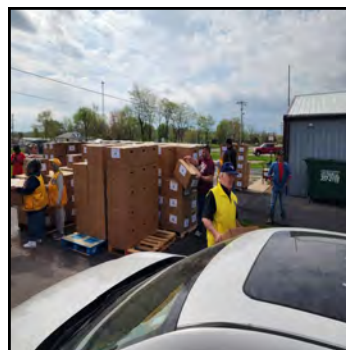


The Illinois Lion & Leo

MD-1 MAGAZINE FOR MAY 2025

PDG Joni McMillan, Editor

MD-1 LIONS COMING TOGETHER TO HELP THE RESIDENTS OF DISTRICT 1-CS AFTER BEING HIT BY TORNADOES





Council Chairperson DG Tom Drez (1BK)

MAY 2025



SPRING IS A TIME OF RENEWAL

Hello MD-1 Lions,

Spring has arrived, and seasonal renewal has arrived with it. Renewal also applies to our multiple district, comprised of all 10 districts and nearly 13,000 Lions. All districts have now completed annual celebrations, conventions, and annual meetings to identify and elect their new leadership for next year. And, now May 1-4 in Springfield, we will convene our state-wide Lions celebration/convention. We will come together to elect and appoint new state leaders as well as to learn new things and to renew relationships with Lions from around the state that we may not see very often.



Those that attend the state convention are in store for a real treat. Our special international guests will be Past Int'l President Gudrun Yngvadottir and her husband Lion Dr. Jon from Iceland. PIP Gudrun was last with us at our 2017 annual convention, the 100th anniversary of Lions Clubs Int'l! Be sure to renew your relationship or to introduce yourself to them!

Our Lions Clubs are looking for **ways to recognize their dedicated, committed Lions** that have volunteered all year long helping with various service projects and fundraisers. We Lions do not volunteer for the accolades, but a little recognition for volunteers goes a long way to let them know they are very much appreciated. We don't get our pay doubled for what we do or cut in half for what we don't do. Congratulations to all Lions for their volunteer efforts in your communities!

Melvin Jones Fellowship



The Melvin Jones Fellowship is named in honor of our founder. It is the highest honor from the Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF). A minimum donation of \$1,000 is required to name a Melvin Jones Fellow. Those that have been named more than once are known as Progressive Melvin Jones Fellows. Lions' clubs and Lions' districts often recognize outstanding members with the Melvin Jones Fellowship. The recipient does not have to be a Lion member.

Two excellent ways to recognize dedicated Lions that are always ready to serve are by presenting a Lion with a Melvin Jones Fellowship from our Lions Clubs Int'l Foundation or a Foundation Fellow from our Lions of Illinois Foundation. Application forms for both are online and in this eMagazine.

Lions of Illinois Foundation Fellowship



An LIF Foundation Fellow is the greatest level of recognition that can be bestowed by the Lions of Illinois Foundation and can honor anyone, Lion or non-Lion. It can be presented to a person who donates \$500 to the LIF Endowment Fund, or it can be used as a way for others to honor a person's dedication to the club, community, Lions District, LIF, and/or Lions in general.

Lions Clubs International provides
two club excellence awards:



Club Excellence Award
Clubs that achieve the award criteria
for Membership, Service, Donations,
Leadership and Marketing will receive
a banner patch and pin.



Club 5 Star Excellence Award
Clubs that meet the criteria for the
standard Club Excellence Award
have the opportunity to apply for
the Five Star Excellence Award by
completing the additional criteria
stated on the Club Excellence
Award application.

**EVERY LIONS & LEO CLUB
SHOULD APPLY FOR THE CLUB
EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR THIS
LION YEAR. THE APPLICATION is
only a page a half – EASY -- and
due in mid-August to your District
Governor. The applications are
online and in this eMagazine.
Please review and fill them out
now.**

Your MD-1 Council of Governors is working very hard to fully support all districts, clubs, and Lions. Every day, they are visiting clubs, renewing relationships, meeting new Lions, inducting new Lions, assisting with service projects, celebrating clubs and Lions and all you do, recognizing long time Lions having major milestone service anniversaries, serving as a conduit from clubs to Lions International, conducting the considerable business and administrative activities of their district and the Lions of Illinois each and every day while also planning for the future.

The Council of Governors for the Lions of Illinois is an open book for all Lions of Illinois. You can find all the materials from all Council of Governors (COG) meetings on the state website at www.illinoislionsmd1.org. We held a Special Meeting of the COG on March 30th to review and select the sites for the Sep 2025 & Feb 2026 COG meetings. Meeting minutes are posted on our website. The 5th and final COG meeting of the year will be held May 2, 2025 @ the State Convention in Springfield. These are public meetings open to all Lions. All IL Lions are encouraged to attend and to get involved in your district and state activities, if so inclined. The more the merrier.

LIFE is relationships! District to District, Club to Club, Lion to Lion. Take advantage of your Lions network!!



CC Tom

tom@drez.net

630-240-5024



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

Expand your reach with LCIF

LCIF grants support humanitarian projects and empower Lions to better serve our communities. By reading the *LCIF Grants Opportunities Guide*, you will learn more about our grant options, recent updates and increased funding.

[Download](#) 



New LCIF Vision Grant. The new Vision Grant supports efforts to address preventable blindness and assist the visually impaired. Learn more about this grant and how you can improve eye health in your community. ➤ [Get details](#)



Increased grant funding. LCIF Hunger and Matching Grants have increased to US\$150,000. Take advantage of expanded funding to serve more communities. Explore the LCIF Grants Toolkit to learn more. ➤ [Access toolkit](#)



Disaster relief support. LCIF Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Grants have increased to US\$15,000. When your community needs help most, these grants can expand your disaster relief efforts. ➤ [View grants](#)

Watch the [webinar](#) to learn more about these exciting grant updates (available in English only).

Contact us at LCIFGlobalGrants@lionsclubs.org.

The Melvin Jones Fellowship Program



The Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) Program is a generous way to show commitment to the humanitarian work of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).

The MJF Program was established in 1973 in honor of Melvin Jones, the founder of Lions Clubs International. The MJF program recognizes donations of US\$1,000 to LCIF.

New MJFs receive a pin, commemorative plaque and a letter from the LCIF Chairperson. If the donor so chooses, they may use their donation credit to recognize another individual with a MJF.



The Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship Program

The Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship (PMJF) provides an opportunity to advance in the Fellowship program. For each additional donation of US\$1,000 to the MJF beyond the initial contribution, donors will receive a unique PMJF pin. This applies for donations up to US\$50,000, and the pin will correspond to their level of giving. Additional levels of recognitions are available on lionsclubs.org. Like MJFs, donors can recognize another individual with PMJF donations.

Areas of Giving

LCIF can globally help improve health and well-being, strengthen communities and support those in need through humanitarian services and grants. Donors will receive MJF and PMJF credit when directing their support to:

Empowering Service Fund: All the causes the foundation supports.

Disaster Relief: Specifically reserved for disaster relief.

Did you know...

Districts, clubs and individuals can donate to LCIF through the MJF program, but only an individual can receive the recognition. MJF applications using collective donations from multiple donors must be accompanied by written consent from all donors to use their donations for MJF recognition for the individual specified on the application.

Melvin Jones Fellowships can be named in honor or in memory of an individual.

Melvin Jones Fellowships do not need to be paid in full at one time; minimum installments to LCIF of US\$100 can be paid over a five-year period to total US\$1,000, at which time the MJF Application can be submitted.

Complete the MJF application on the next pages or visit lionsclubs.org/MelvinJonesFellowship and submit with payment.

INDIVIDUAL COMPLETING THIS FORM

Name _____ Date _____
E-mail _____ Phone _____

AREA OF GIVING



EMPOWERING SERVICE FUND

A donation to LCIF and all the causes the foundation supports.



DISASTER RELIEF FUND

A donation to LCIF specifically reserved for disaster relief.

Please note that donations to the Disaster Relief Fund are not eligible to receive District and Club Community Impact Grants.

MJF credits to be used from previous donation:

Note: This section is applicable only if sufficient funds have been previously deposited with Lions Clubs International Foundation. By completing this section, you are indicating your desire to utilize Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) credits from a prior donation. Please provide the necessary details, including the source of the credits and your corresponding identification number.

Use Credits From: _____ ID#: _____

CONTRIBUTION DETAILS

Donor Name (individual, club, company, foundation) _____

Donor ID, Donor District, Donor Club _____

AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION

☐ Full Payment ☐ Installment ☐ Final Installment

Donors making personal donations towards MJF or PMJF also receive credit as a Presidential LCIF Supporter. The LCIF Supporter recognition is an annual program that recognizes three levels of support:

Bronze Pin - US\$50 to US\$99.99 | **Silver Pin** - US\$100 to US\$199.99 | **Gold Pin** - US\$200 and above

☐ **Yes!** In addition to receiving MJF credit, I would like to receive Presidential LCIF Supporter recognition for my donation. *Note: The supporter pins will be auto shipped to your member preferred address as listed on your Lions International Membership record.*

GIFT TYPE (Make donations via the web at lionsclubs.org/donate)

- ☐ **Credit Card** (visit lionsclubs.org/donate and please attach a copy of your online transaction receipt)
- ☐ **Wire/Bank Transfer** (please attach bank transfer receipt)
- ☐ **US\$ Check Enclosed** (payable to LCIF, drawn on US bank)
- ☐ **Local LCI Deposit** (please attach bank deposit ticket)

RECIPIENT OF RECOGNITION (Individual person)

TYPE OF RECOGNITION REQUESTED (check one) *Fellowships cannot be presented to businesses or organizations.*

- ☐ MJF ☐ PMJF ☐ To be named later ☐ Memorial Plaque in memory of deceased

Recipient Name (Exactly as it is to be engraved on plaque) _____

Recipient ID# (if applicable) _____

Recipient Name _____

Club of Recipient _____

Club # _____

District _____

Individual to be honored (if memorial) _____

INFORMATION FOR THE MEMORIAL PLAQUE ACCOMPANIED LETTER: Please provide the name and relationship of surviving family member of MJF to whom the Memorial plaque will be presented. This information is essential for the recognition letter that will accompany the plaque. Example names include, Spouse: Mary Johnson, Children: John Johnson, Sarah Johnson, Siblings: Robert Smith, Emily Davis.

SHIP TO: (P.O. Boxes are not accepted and all fields are required.)

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Province _____

ZIP/Postal Code _____

Country _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Recognition is sent once donation and application are received and processed at headquarters. Please allow a minimum of 15 days in the U.S. and 30 days elsewhere for shipping.

A Tax ID# is necessary in various countries for compliance purposes. Examples include India's Know Your Customer (KYC), Brazil's Cadastro de Pessoas Físicas (CPF), Bangladesh's National Identity Card (NID) and Korea's Residential ID. If required, please identify your Tax ID#:

Note: Many countries may charge custom and VAT fees for importation of Melvin Jones Fellowship plaques and other LCIF recognition. These fees are the responsibility of the individual, club or district receiving the plaques.

Special Instructions/Notes

Please email your completed form and copy of donation deposit information to donorassistance@lionsclubs.org.



The Foundation uses a lock box service to receive and process all US check donations.

For US dollar checks drawn on a US Bank – please mail to following address:

Lions Clubs International Foundation | Dept. 4547 | Carol Stream, IL 60122-4547 USA

+1.630.203.3836 | Donorassistance@lionsclubs.org | lionsclubs.org



Leo Club

Excellence Award

Districts can recognize a Leo club that excels in service, membership growth and organizational operations with the prestigious Leo Club Excellence Award. The club must have completed the following requirements:

Membership

- Achieved a positive net growth of Leo members

Service

- Reported service projects in the Lions International online reporting system
- Contributed to LCIF

Organizational Excellence

- Reported the Leo club advisor, officers and members in the Lions International online reporting system for the fiscal year
- Participated in a leadership training at the district, multiple district or international level or online through a webinar or Lions Learning Center

Each district may nominate only one Leo club for this award per fiscal year. This form with the selected Leo club must be received by Lions International before **August 15**. Districts should send completed applications to: leo@lionsclubs.org or Young Lions and Leos Department, 300 W 22nd Street, Oak Brook, Illinois, 60523, U.S.A.

Nominee

Leo Club Name

Leo Club ID Number

Sponsoring Lions Club Name

Sponsoring Lions Club ID Number

Lions District

Nominators: We certify that this Leo club meets the criteria for the Leo Club Excellence Award.

District Governor 2024-2025

Member ID

Signature

Date

District Leo Chairperson 2024-2025

Member ID

Signature

Date

This page is optional. Districts can request this form from Leo clubs to help in their selection of the Leo club excellence award. This page should not be submitted to Lions International.

Membership

1. What is the net growth of members in the Leo club?

Service

2. How many service projects did the Leo club complete and report in the Lions International online reporting system?

3. What was the most innovative service project the Leo club completed this year?

4. How many people were served this year by service projects of the Leo club?

5. Did the Leo club donate funds to LCIF this year?

Organizational Excellence

6. Did the Leo club report their Leo club advisor, Leo club officers and Leo club members in the 2024-2025 fiscal year to Lions International? ☐ Yes ☐ No

7. How did the Leo club officers participate in leadership trainings to improve the operations of the Leo club?



2024-2025

CLUB EXCELLENCE AND 5 STAR EXCELLENCE AWARD APPLICATION

This application features criteria for the Club Excellence Award and 5 Star Excellence Award. As you go through the application, please check all qualification boxes that your club has met. At the end of the application are criteria for the 5 Star Excellence Award. Your club will be awarded either the Club Excellence Award or the 5 Star Excellence Award.

Club name: _____ Club number: _____ District: _____

2024-2025 club president name: _____

Member number: _____ Email address: _____

1. MEMBERSHIP

- ☐ Achieved a net growth of two (2) members or 10% or more members (whichever is greater) **or** ☐ Chartered a new Lions club.

Name of Lions club: _____

2. SERVICE

- ☐ Started a new service project. Consider one of our global causes! Explain: _____

- ☐ List three service activities your club participated in that were reported to Lions International:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. LCIF

- ☐ Contributed to LCIF an amount greater than or equal to the club's membership total multiplied by US\$10.

Year-end membership count _____ x US\$10 = _____

4. LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

- ☐ Club is in Good Standing: Not in Status Quo or Financial Suspension. District dues paid and no unpaid balance with Lions International greater than US\$50 outstanding 90 days or more.

- ☐ Reported club officers to Lions International.

- ☐ Key officers participate in club officer training.

☐ District

☐ Webinars

☐ Multiple district

☐ Lions Learning Center

☐ International

5. MARKETING

- ☐ The club has publicized its service activities through local media or social media.

Provide a link to where they were publicized: _____

Learn more about [promoting your club and activities](#), and learn about the Marketing Award.

DOES YOUR CLUB QUALIFY FOR THE 5 STAR EXCELLENCE AWARD?

- ☐ Achieved the Club Excellence Award.
- ☐ Membership increase of 20% (minimum of five (5) members for small clubs).
- ☐ Minimum donations of US\$20 per member or US\$1,000 (whichever is less).
- ☐ Annual service and membership report submitted.

2024-2025 district governor signature*: _____ District: _____

District governor member number: _____ Date: _____

**If sent from district governor's registered email, it qualifies as signature on applications submitted electronically.*

Due by: August 31, 2025

Send to: clubexcellenceaward@lionsclubs.org

Awards mailed to: 2025-2026 district governors

Request to review award eligibility from a disqualified club will be considered only if received at Lions International Headquarters within 12 months after completion of the Lion year, provided that the original application form is already filed at Lions International.

MEET YOUR LIONS OF ILLINOIS STATE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

This team is your team to provide any assistance you may wish in their respective areas.



Lions of Illinois

The Birth Place of Lionism

Multiple District 1
MD-1

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Council Chairperson: DG Tom Drez (18K)
Vice Council Chairperson: DG Joe Hackett (1H)
Council Secretary: DG Lorna Bentley (1D)
Council Treasurer: DG Ruthie Wierbley (1M)

APPOINTED COUNCIL OFFICERS

Council Chaplain: DG Judy Bell (1G)
Council Tail Twister: DG Chuck Lansing (1F)
Parliamentarian: Dan O'Reilly, PD (1A)

GLOBAL ACTION TEAM (GAT)

GAT Chairperson: CC Tom Drez (18K)
GLT Chairperson: Darren Van Duyn, PCC (1M)
GMT Chairperson: Nicole Fruit, PDG (1D)
GST Chairperson: Bill Walpe, PDG (1M)
GET Chairperson: Barbara Stewart (1D)

STATE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Campaign & Liaison

Bob Block, PD (1A)
615 205th Place
Dyer, IN 46311-1121
219-671-0287
lonbobblyck@gmail.com
Liaison: DG Joe Hackett (1H)

Constitution & By-Laws

Eric Fenton, PCC (1G)
1014 University Street
Carlinville, IL 62626
217-851-5572
ericfenton1014@gmail.com
Liaison: DG Heather Abell Castleberry (1CS)

Finance

Lori Chasse, IPCC (1-J)
841 Lawrence Avenue
West Chicago, IL 60185
630-740-5670
lonlorc@gmail.com
DG Ruthie Wierbley (1M)

Global Extension Team (GET)

Barb Stewart, PDG (1D)
8104 N Schedler Road
Freeport, IL 61032
815-997-2511
barbstewart@gmail.com
Liaison: DG Judy Bell (1G)

Global Leadership Team (GLT)

Darren Van Duyn, PCC (1M)
1618 Danville St.
Westville, IL 61883
217-260-8169
lonvanduyn8@yahoo.com
Liaison: DG Joe Hackett (1H)

Global Membership Team (GMT)

Nicole Fruit, PDG (1D)
1765 Divine Drive
Rockford, IL 61107
815-529-5008
lon1dnicolefruit@gmail.com
Liaison: DG Jeff Cholewa (1J)

Global Service Team (GST)

Bill Walpe, PDG (1M)
2533 Georgetown Road
Danville, IL 61832
217-474-9210
bwalpe45@hotmail.com
Liaison: DG Chuck Lansing (1F)

Information Technology (IT)

Dan Kallbrier (1H)
700 Linden Lane
Macomb, IL 61455
217-313-1547
daniel.kallbrier@gmail.com
Liaison: DG Tom Drez (18K)

International Convention

Tom Elvey, PDG (1A)
2101 Newcastle Avenue
Westchester, IL 60154
708-865-7042
thomaselvey@gmail.com
Liaison: DG Brenda Stevens (1A)

Leo Clubs & Youth Activities

Amy Hill, IPDG (1M)
PO Box 391
Paris, IL 61944
217-808-2868
pokemvaja@gmail.com
Liaison: DG Heather Abell Castleberry (1-CS)

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)

Austin D'Souza, PDG (1A)
906 Durling Avenue
Forrest Park, IL 60130
708-771-3177
avsd1984@gmail.com
Liaison: DG Jim Hauenschield (1CN)

Lions Eye Health Program (LEHP)

Bob Jike, PDG (1J)
7466 Princeton Circle Drive
Hanover Park, IL 60133
630-606-9519
bjike@aol.com
Liaison: DG Jeff Cholewa (1J)

Long Range Planning (LRP)

Lori Chasse, IPCC (1J)
841 Lawrence Avenue
West Chicago, IL 60185
618-615-1885
lonlorc@gmail.com
Liaison: DG Chuck Lansing (1F)

Marketing

(vacant)

State Convention

Feg Morris (1M)
1704 Danville Street
Westville, IL 61883
217-474-6178
pegmorris734@gmail.com
Liaison: DG Lorna Bentley (1D)

State Magazine

Joni McMillan, PDG (1A)
15230 S Hamlin Avenue
Midlothian, IL 60445
708-539-3297
joni@lionsmag.com
Liaison: DG Jeff Cholewa (1J)

Lions of Illinois Foundation (LIF)

Liaison: DG Jim Hauenschield (1CN)

Unused/Vacant

Protocol
Diabetes Education & Research (inactive, rely on IIF)
Rescheduling



EASTER EGG HUNTS AROUND MD-1



Bolingbrook Lions Club



Braidwood Lions Club



Milford Lions Club



Durand Lions Club



Fox Lake Lions Club



Winthrop Harbor Lions



AlWood Lions Club



Aurora Lions Club



Darien Lions Club



Elburn Lions Club



Athens Lions & Leos



Westville Lions Club



Chicago Ridge Lions Club



Crest Hill Lions Club



Cedarville Lions Club



Cobden Lions Club

**EASTER EGG HUNTS AROUND
MD-1
(cont'd)**



Leaf River Lions Club



Orangeville Lions Club



Batavia Lions Club



Mokena Lions Club



Morris Lions Club



Byron Lions Club



Malta Lions Club



Prospect Heights Lions Club



Shorewood Lions Club



Hardscrabble Lions Club



Staunton Lions Club

**DISTRICT 1-A GOVERNOR
BRENDA STEVENS**



**Berwyn Lions Club March
Madness Fun!**



**Brookfield-LaGrange Park Lions
Club induct a new member**



**Calumet City Lions Club Pancake
Breakfast**



**Chicago Healthcare for Alliance
Lions Club pack food for Feed My
Starving Children**



**Chicago Ecuadorean Lions Club
helping Feed My Starving Children**



**Chicago Filipino
American Lions Club**



**Chicago Puerto Rico Lions Club
inducted 3 new members**



**Stickney-Forest View Lions Club 's
Strides for Diabetes Awareness Fun
Walk**



**Willow Springs Lions Club induct
a new member**



**Windy City Lions help pack
and serve 100 meals for
Night Ministry**

DISTRICT 1-A (continued)



**District 1-A Helen Keller 5K Walk
& Run Fundraiser**



**Chicago Indo-US Lions
Club and FIA Chicago
planting trees to help the
environment**



**Chicago Bayanihan Sampaguita
Lions Club Anniversary &
Induction of Officers**



**Orland Park Lions presentation of
gift cards to the Orland Township**

DISTRICT 1-BK GOVERNOR

TOM DREZ



Thank you to all Illinois Lions that attended our annual district celebration/convention in Bolingbrook. We sincerely appreciate your attendance and support as we hit a new post-pandemic attendance record. IT was great to see everyone and catch-up! District 1BK Lions will be out in force at the state convention in Springfield. We will forward to seeing everyone from around the state!

Have a great MAY!! DG Tom tom@dre.net 630-240-5024



Channahon Lions Club inducted 4 new members



Joliet Noon Lions Club played host to two of their Students of the Month in April



DG Tom presented Lemont Lions Club with the Excellence Award patch and pin

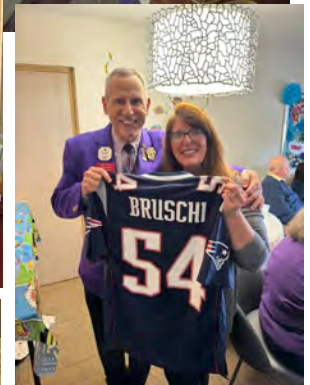


Oswego Lions Club Spaghetti Dinner



Wilmington Lions Club inducts a new member

1-BK CONVENTION



DISTRICT 1-BK (continued)



Bradley Lions Club induct 2 new members



Bradley Lions Club Ham Dinner



Crest Hill Lions Club donates a "Buddy Bench" for the Richland School District



Crest Hill Lions Club induct 3 new members



Crete Lions Club celebrates 85 Years of Service



Frankfort Lions Club delivered 21 Easter meals to local families



Hardscrabble Lions Club Battle of the Bars



Herscher Lions Club inducts a new member



Lemont Lions Food Drive



Minooka Lions Club welcomed Colin Haake and his family to our member dinner meeting, where we honored him with the Heart of a Lion Award.

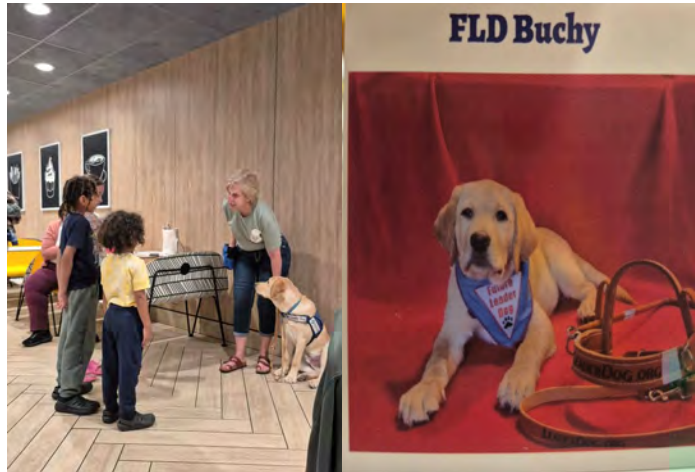


New Lenox Lions Club Free Spaghetti Dinner for Seniors

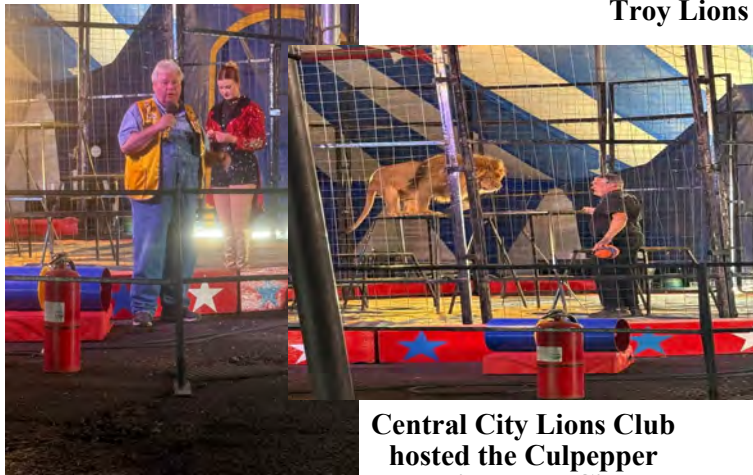


Plainfield Lions Club Spring Dinner

DISTRICT 1-CN GOVERNOR **JIM HAUENSCHILD**



Troy Lions Club meets future Leader Dog, Buchy



**Central City Lions Club
hosted the Culpepper
Merriweather Circus**



**Orion Lions Club making pork
chops and hot dogs for the
American Legion Easter Egg Hunt**



**Lebanon Lions Club planted a Sun
Valley Red Maple tree in Horner
Park to celebrate Earth Day**

Cash Calendar Raffle Winners for April 2025

Date	Amt	Calendar #	Winners Name
1	\$10	184	CARLYLE LIONS CLUB
2	\$10	196	SAM SCHAAL
3	\$10	451	ELSIE J. ARENTSEN
4	\$10	702	TIM HUEBNER
5	\$10	667	COLLINSVILLE LIONS CLUB
6	\$10	986	LINDA & BILL COUKOULIS
7	\$10	313	Collinsville/Maryville Evening Lions
8	\$10	958	LORI BENNETT
9	\$10	2??	UNSOLD-LEBANON
10	\$10	1006	LUANNE RAGLAND
11	\$10	168	TERRY STILT
12	\$10	287	BRYAN SCHMITZ
13	\$10	917	JENNIFER HOUCHIN
14	\$10	824	LYNDA MIDDLECALF
15	\$50	491	BRIAN RAY
16	\$10	942	AMANDA TROYER
17	\$10	549	GINA FEAZEL
18	\$10	4??	UNSOLD-MT VERNON
19	\$10	1053	CHRIS HARNESS
20	\$20	356	FAIRFIELD LIONS CLUB
21	\$10	1046	CHRIS HARNESS
22	\$10	749	MASCOUTAH NOON LIONS CLUB
23	\$10	599	BRIAN HECKERT
24	\$10	639	ARNOLD BARTLING
25	\$10	1102	REBECCA ZIMMERMANN
26	\$10	1152	SHERRY CATES
27	\$10	642	TERRY KOZUSZEK
28	\$10	678	COLLINSVILLE LIONS CLUB
29	\$10	461	ST JACOB LIONS CLUB
30	\$10	700	COLLINSVILLE LIONS CLUB

DISTRICT 1-CS GOVERNOR

HEATHER ABELL CASTLEBERY



On Friday, April 18, 2025, a powerful display of service and community came together as Lions from across Illinois supported a vital disaster relief food distribution initiative for Perry County residents impacted by the devastating tornadoes of March 14, 2025. This initiative was made possible through a generous \$15,000 grant awarded by the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) to assist those affected by the disaster.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to the Lions of District 1-CS, District 1-J, and District 1-CN for their active participation and support. Special recognition goes to District 1-J, which graciously donated \$2,000, and the Naperville Noon Lions Club, which contributed an additional \$1,000 toward the relief efforts.

I am also grateful for the leadership and hands-on support provided by District 1-J Governor Jeff Cholewa and District 1-CN Governor Jim Hauenschild. Their involvement exemplifies the spirit of Lionism and the power of coordinated action during times of need.

A sincere thank you goes out to the following clubs and Future Leader Dog for their essential roles in the success of the distribution:

- DuQuoin Lions Club
- Carterville Lions Club
- Carterville Cub Club
- Mounds Lions Club
- Roselle Lions Club
- New Baden Lions Club
- Future Leader Dog Cosmo

I also deeply appreciate the collaboration and support from our community partners: the City of DuQuoin, the City of Pinckneyville, and the Village of St. Johns. Their cooperation ensured that the distribution ran smoothly and reached those who needed it most.

This effort underscores what can be achieved when Lions and communities work hand-in-hand to SERVE. To all who contributed time, resources, and heart—thank you for demonstrating what it truly means to be a LION.

Together, We Serve and are Abell to Make a Difference!

Yours in Service,
Lion Heather
District Governor 1-CS

DISTRICT 1-CS (continued)



Thank you to the Lions Club s International Foundation, and all the incredible Lions Club and volunteers, who made the Perry County Disaster Relief Food Distribution a success!



Thank you to District 1-J Lions Club for your generous \$2,000 donation and support of the District 1-CS Lions Club of Illinois Disaster Relief Food Distribution



Benton Lions Club BCHS Academic fine arts honors program



Cartersville Lions Club Pancake Breakfast



Duquoin Lions Club Free Food Distribution Event



Mounds Lions Club doing a Hearing Screening



West Frankfort Lions Club 2025-2026 Officers

DISTRICT 1-D GOVERNOR
LONNA BENTLEY

DISTRICT 1-D CONVENTION



DISTRICT 1-D (continued)



Amboy Lions Club presents Chief Schultz of the Sublette Fire Department with an AED.



Byron Lions Club presents Braden Wiesner with his Eagle Scout plaque



Durand Lions Club supported the Dakota Community School Districts ct 201 with a check to help fund their prom



Durand Lions Club helped the scouts get new uniforms



Galena Lions Club donated \$1,000 to the Galena EMS



Mt. Carroll Lions Club Roses Day



Pearl Lions Club Spring Highway Clean Up 2025



Pearl Lions Club gave away bikes to 32 Pearl City School K-4th grade students



Poplar Grove Lions Club clean up of Route 173 and the park

DISTRICT 1-F GOVERNOR

CHARLES LANSING



1-F Lions at the Dining in the Dark event at 2 Chefs in Bensenville



Antioch Lions Club took to Antioch roads in an effort perform Adopt-a-Highway cleanup duties



The Barrington Lions Club make a \$1,000 donation to The Catlow 1927 Foundation



The Barrington Lions Club, D220 students, & the Troop 21 Scouts out cleaning up the Barrington roadside



The DesPlaines and Glenview Lions Club helped with a special fundraiser for Project



Grayslake Lions Club Puppies & Pancake Breakfast



Lake Villa Lions Club Pancake



Prosepect Heights Lions Club Pancake Breakfast



Winthrop Harbor Lions Club made a donation in excess of \$11000 to Mayor Lion Dr. Michael Bruno for Winthrop Harbor Park District to repair the roof on snack building

DISTRICT 1-G GOVERNOR
JUDY BELL

DISTRICT 1-G CONVENTION



DISTRICT 1-G (continued)



Carlinville Lions Club made a donation to Macoupin/Montgomery Counties Crime Stoppers.



Gillespie Lions Club held their first outdoor pork chop-pork burger sandwich event



Two Highland Lions Club members received International President Certificates of Appreciation at their 50th Anniversary Celebration



Jacksonville Lions celebrated Earth Day picking up trash around Jacksonville Library



Congratulations to all of the students honored at the 51st Annual Palmyra Lions Club Honors Banquet



White Hall Lions Club Fish Fry

DISTRICT 1-H GOVERNOR

MARK BEAN



The "Dandelions" won 1st place at CICBVI Stars and Stripes fundraiser. Some members from Peoria Heights Suburban and Chillicothe clubs



Macomb Lions Club Health Fair



Peoria Heights Suburban Lions Club collecting used sneakers

DISTRICT 1-J GOVERNOR

JEFFREY CHOLEWA



Hello fellow Lions and Leo's

We just had our District Convention and may I say it was a "Swinging Success". The convention committee took a "Swing to Succeed" and they did just that. Thank you all who attended. We had just over 200 Lions and guests attend the convention. We had 16 vendors set up for us on Friday and Saturday. Thank you to our special guests for attending. International

Director Honorable Anthony Paradiso from New York, Past Council Chair Lion BJ Blahnik & Leader Dog Jackson along with Past District Governor Lion Brad Behrens from Wisconsin, District 1CS Governor Lion Heather Abell Castlebery, Past Council Chair Lion John Barsanti and Lion Joanne Barsanti My son Jacob and his wife Kirsten were also in attendance. On Friday afternoon I took our guests to visit Spectrios Institute for Low Vision where Wheaton Lion Dr R. Tracy Williams and his staff gave us a tour and explained the services and work they do there. It was an amazing two hours. We returned to the convention and we went to dinner at Coopers Hawk along with 1VDG Lion Terri and her husband Adrian and 2VDG Bob Olender. It was time well spent enjoying the company and learning about our guests and their Lions journey. After all that we returned to partake in 4 hospitality rooms and all the fun.

On Saturday we conducted our District business, gave out awards and recognition. Had our next leadership voted in. Congratulations to DGE Lion Terri, 1VDGE Lion Bob and 2VDGE Lion John. In the afternoon we had the pleasure to hear PCC Lion BJ's amazing story. He is a very powerful motivational speaker and had us all laughing and crying at the same time. Cosmo also had some of Future Leader Dogs in attendance to hear Lion BJ and LD Jackson. After his presentation we had all the puppies come up and take a group photo with Lion BJ and LD Jackson. We finally got some good ones. It was quite the spectacle getting all the puppies lined up.

After dinner we got hear from ID Honorable Anthony Paradiso speak. His presentation was fantastic and very encouraging. ID Lion Anthony and I presented International President awards and Certificates. ID lion Anthony also installed a new Lion to the Roselle Lions Club because DGE Lion Terri broke down in tears and could not do the installation when she found out it was her husband Adrian that was to be installed. All in all it was a great convention.

Thank you to everyone for attending and your support over this past year.

Remember you need to "Swing to Succeed" See you all soon. DG Lion Jeff Cholewa & Cosmo

1-J CONVENTION



DISTRICT 1-J (continued)



Algonquin Lions Club annual clean-up day



Burr Ridge-Hinsdale-Oak Brook Lions Club Annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser



Dundee Township Lions Club are Gold Sponsors for the Dundee Highlands 5K race in May



Elmhurst Lions Club's Pizza Party



Glen Ellyn Lions Club host and play Bingo at the DuPage Care Center



Huntley Area Lions Club present a \$250 donation Huntley Community Radio Station



Huntley Area Lions collecting used eye glasses



Johnsburg Lions Club Meat Raffle



Naperville Noon Lions donated \$7,500 to Feed My Starving Children



North Aurora Lions' Knit & Crochet-A-Thons



Waterman Lion Richard Smith was recognized for his work setting up the twice-weekly Community Coffees

DISTRICT 1-J (continued)



**McHenry/Wonder Lake Lions Club
will award scholarships to seniors
from MCHS who will attend
community college**



**Naperville Noon Lions Club support
area charities**



**Westmont Lions Club
preparing for their Spring
Fling**



**Westmont Lions Club
made a donation to a
family who lost their home**

DISTRICT 1-M GOVERNOR RUTHIE WIMBLEY



Lennon got her new glasses today! Her family had no idea Lennon needed them until she went to the Bismark Lions Club vision screening



Altamont Lions Club induct a new member



Arthur/Atwood Lions Club Fish Fry



Casey Lions Club received a \$250 donation from the Casey State Bank



Palestine Lions Club's 1st Uptown Pancake/Sausage Breakfast



Palestine Lions Club inducts 2 new members



Ramsey Lions Club Community Sale



Rankin Lions Club Event



Strasburg Lions Club "LEO" members made a donation to the Mary Bryant Home for the Blind in Springfield



Vandalia Lions Club Hearing & Vision Screening