



News from 5M8



Midwinter Convention Registration Deadline to register:
January 23, 2026
See you there!

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Registration Questions? Kim Stommes
320-333-2004
kimberly.stommes@gmail.com

One form per family unit.

Clubs may bundle individual forms and submit group payment.

Registration deadline is January 23, 2026
Information for the Friday night events will be forthcoming. The hospitality rooms of the past will not be happening this year. Please read the 5M8 newsletter for up-to-date information.

Name(s) _____
Title(s) _____
Your District Club(s) & Name(s) _____
Phone Number _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zipcode _____
Email _____

\$AMOUNT

Full Hospitality Book **First Timers Full Hospitality Book \$65.00
Saturday Banquet Steak _____ Chicken _____

\$95.00

Registration Only (A la Cart Menu choices below)

\$15.00

Saturday Breakfast **\$15.00**
Saturday Luncheon **\$20.00**
Saturday Banquet Steak _____ Chicken _____ **\$45.00**
Sunday Brunch **\$20.00**

**Total
Amount
Due:**

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Make Checks payable to:
5M-8 Convention Committee

Mail To:
5M-8 Committee
803 W. Saint Germain Street
St. Cloud, MN 56301

Hospitality Book (and First Timers) increases by \$10 starting December 1, 2025
Hotel Reservations: Best Western Plus Kelly Inn, St. Cloud
320-253-0606
Lions 5M8 Mid-Winter Convention block rate \$139.00+tax & fees

QR code for online only registration



DAVID W. WENTWORTH INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR



David W. Wentworth from Omaha, Nebraska, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as an international director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 107th international convention in Orlando, Florida, USA, July 13 through July 17, 2025. Director Wentworth has a master's degree in broadcast management and is currently vice president of sales for CFM Global, a filtration manufacturing company with locations in Nebraska, Wisconsin and Ohio. He has provided over 35 years of service to the company from working his way through college to overseeing their premier line of filtration products sold around the globe. He has been a Lion since joining the Millard Lions Club in 1991 and has held numerous offices within the association, including president, secretary, zone chair, region chair, MD 38 leadership chair, mid-winter convention chair, second vice district governor, first vice district governor, district governor, council chair, centennial chair, cabinet secretary and Global Membership Approach Champion. Additionally, he has served as USA/Canada Lions Leadership presenter and faculty for several Lions Leadership Institutes. He

has also been a presenter and chairperson for multiple Lions Leadership Forums. As Sponsors Chair, he founded the "Friends of the Forum" sponsorship program. Director Wentworth has received numerous awards including Lion of the Year, the International President's Award, the International President's Leadership Award and multiple International President's Certificates of Appreciation. He is also a Nebraska Lions Foundation Dennis Hull Fellow and a recipient of the Hascall/Biggs Legacy Award. Director Wentworth was instrumental in establishing KidSight Nebraska in 2016 and championed the effort to raise \$87,000 to go along with a \$67,000 grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation. As a result of this initiative, 20 vision cameras — five in each district — have screened more than 25,000 children to date. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Wentworth and his wife, Valerie, also a Lion and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have two daughters who are both Lions. In his spare time, Director Wentworth plays baseball in a men's senior baseball league.

5M8 MID WINTER CONVENTION DOOR PRIZE KELLY INN FEB 6,7,8, 2026

EACH YEAR AT THE MID-WINTER CONVENTION IN 5M8 WE ASK EACH CLUB THAT ARE COMING TO THE CONVENTION TO BRING A GIFT WORTH \$25 THAT WILL BE USED ON SATURDAY LUNCHEON OR SUNDAY BRUNCH FOR A DRAWING.

WHEN COMING BRING THEM TO THE REGISTRATION DESK PLEASE!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTION CALL 320.251.1130

LION DONNA MAE AND BILL LANDWEHR

5M8 2026 Midwinter Convention Information

For the 5M8 Foundations that would like to have a table for presenting information about the Foundation represented, ½ of a table is available at no cost to those who request one.

There will be a limited number of full tables available depending on how many table requests are received. If you desire a full table, you must state that clearly in your table request to Trisha. She will let you know after all requests are in if you have a full table or not. Please contact Lion Trisha Thiel at tlbboots@yahoo.com or 320.241.0515.

2026 Convention Committee request for information

The District 5M8 Convention Committee is working on the various aspects of the Convention and one of the pieces of information we would like from the Clubs, is information regarding deceased members for the past year. If your club has had a member or members pass away between January 2025 and January 2026, please forward a picture, and information regarding that member to:

David Thompson dthompson7053@yahoo.com or

David Thompson 3160 181st Ave NW Cedar, MN 55011.

This information will be only used for recognition and acknowledgement during the Celebration of Life Service on Friday night at the Convention. Dave would appreciate receiving this information no later than February 1, 2026.



**5M8 Mid Winter Convention
February 6 – 7 – 8, 2026
Tentative Schedule
Kelly Inn, St Cloud, MN**

Friday: February 6

11:00 am – 7:00 pm	Registration/Credentials	Lobby
11:00 am – 7:00 pm	Eyeglass/Hearing Aid Collection	Lobby
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Foundation Meeting	University B
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Cabinet Meeting	University B
4:00 pm – 7:15 pm	Hospitality Room open	Husky Room
6:30 pm – 6:45 pm	1 st Timers Meeting	University B
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Opening Service/Celebration of Life	Grand Ballroom
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm	Hospitality Room open	Husky Room
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm	DJ and Cash Bar	Grand Ballroom

Saturday: February 7

6:30 am – 8:00 am	<u>Continental Breakfast</u>	Poolside
7:00 am – 11:40 am	Registration/Credentials	Lobby
7:30 am – 8:00 am	Foundation Meeting	Grand Ballroom
8:00 am – 7:00 pm	Eyeglass/Hearing Aid Collection	Lobby
8:00 am – 9:30 am	Annual Business Meeting	Grand Ballroom
10:00 am – 10:30 am	Voting	University A
10:00 am – 11:30 am	Meet ID David Wentworth	Weidner Room, Conv Ctr
11:00 am	Leo's Meeting	University A
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	<u>Noon Luncheon – Daniel Marney Elkins</u>	Grand Ballroom
2:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Registration	Lobby
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Program: Bri's Lodge	Grand Ballroom
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Program: Fraud, Amber Appel	Weidner Room, Conv Ctr
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Program: MN Lions Hearing Fdtn, Mike Appel	Bell Room, Conv Ctr
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm	Hospitality Room open	Husky Room
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Catholic Service	Weidner Room, Conv Ctr
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Evangelical Service	Bell Room, Conv Ctr
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	ID Reception	Grand Ballroom
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	<u>Governor's Banquet</u>	Grand Ballroom
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm	Hospitality Room open	Husky Room

Sunday February 8

8:00 am – 9:00 am	Registration	Lobby
8:30 am – 9:15 am	Parade of Green	University B
9:30 am – 11:15 am	<u>Brunch – ID Bert Nelson</u>	Grand Ballroom

Thank you for coming to our Convention, we hope you learned a lot. Please reach out to lionzach-wosmek@gmail.com with any concerns.

1st Vice District Governor Diann Belmont

FROZEN PORCH NOTES District 5M8 – January 2026

A New Year of Blessings and Accomplishments of 2025

As we begin this New Year in Lions and count our blessings, we can be proud of the success we've achieved together. District 5M8 has much to celebrate:

- ✓ **Central Lakes Leo's Club** – Newly formed!
- ✓ **Central Minnesota Citizen Police Academy Lions Club** – A new partnership for service!
- ✓ **Stearns County Heartland Champions Lions Club** – Growing out reach! The service brought to our communities by all Lions has created **friendships, joy in helping others, and countless blessings**, that ripple far beyond what we can measure.

Melvin Jones Birthday Service Project January 13th – Hunger Relief Focus

This month, as we honor the birthday of our founder, Melvin Jones, on January 13th, District 5M8's service focus is **Hunger Relief**. What better way to celebrate Melvin's legacy than by addressing food insecurity in our communities? We encourage all clubs to plan a hunger-focused service project this month.

Why Are You a LION?

I'd like to share why I'm proud to be a Lion, and I encourage you to reflect on your own reasons for serving:

My Journey:

Attending the District 5M8 Conventions has been transformative for me. I've had the privilege of hosting a room where fellow Lions could earn their Oogga Bogga Pin – and in doing so, I discovered the true heart of Lionism.

Through convention seminars, I've learned about our global causes:

- Vision and eye care
- Hearing and audiology
- Diabetes prevention and support
- MN Childhood Cancer support
- Leader Dog programs
- Can Do Canines service animals

And so much more

But more importantly, I've had the opportunity to **interact with Lions from all over the District** – to hear their stories, their passions, and their commitment to service.



What Impressed Me Most:

The dedication, loyalty, integrity, and willingness of Lions members to help whenever asked – and to **have fun doing it**. There's a special spirit among Lions that transcends geography, age, and background. We are united by a single mission: **to serve**.

The Impact:

Lions change people's lives and help their communities improve because of their service. It feels good to be part of an international organization that helps people worldwide. When you serve alongside fellow Lions, you realize you're part of something much bigger than yourself.

INVITATION:

District 5M8 Mid-Winter Convention February 6-8, 2026 Theme: "Broadcast Your Roar"

I encourage all members to attend the 5M8 District Mid-Winter Convention! This is your opportunity to:

- ✓ Connect with Lions from across the district;
- ✓ Learn about our global causes and service opportunities;
- ✓ Hear from International Directors and passionate Lions leaders;
- ✓ Earn recognition pins and celebrate achievements;
- ✓ Have fun and build lasting friendships;
- ✓ Be inspired to serve even more powerfully in your community;

"Broadcast Your Roar" – Let your voice be heard. Share your passion for service! Celebrate what makes you proud to be a Lion!

As DG Zach Wosmek, is making DG club visits this year, I welcome your invitation, as 1st VDG, to attend your meeting and share the load of DG visits... to the seventy-three clubs in 5M8.

IN SERVICE;

Diann Belmont
1st VDG District 5M8





TO: District Governor Zach Wosmek and Fellow Lions of District 5M8
FROM: Cold Spring Home Pride Lions
DATE: November 17, 2025
RE: Seeking endorsement as 5M8 District Governor for 2026-2027

At our November, 2025, Board Meeting, the Cold Spring Home Pride Lions Board, and membership approved the endorsement of Lion Diann Bellmont, to rise to the position of District Governor for the calendar year of 2026-2027.

It is with great honor and pride and that we, the Cold Spring Home Pride Lions Club, support Lion Diann in her decision to run for District Governor of 5M8. She is exceptionally congenial, and has a wide range of friends in Lions throughout the 5M8 District. She brought stability to our Club with the skills she used as CSHP Secretary for 20 years, receiving the 100% Secretary award of District 5M8 many times. Her accomplishments and experience in Lions are:

Joined the Cold Spring Lioness Club in 1989; Tail Twister of CS Lioness, 1992-1993; CS Lioness President, 1995-96; Secretary CS Lioness, 1997; **Charter Member of Cold Spring Home Pride Lions, September 13, 1999**; Served on the Planning Committee for the 2007, 5M8 District Convention; Chaired the First Timer contest at the 2007, 5M8 Convention; Brought laughter and fun serving on the CSHP Ooga Booga Committee at 5M8 Conventions for many years and recently, in 2023; Received the Hearing Award, in 2011; **Received the Melvin Jones award in 2008**; Chaired Zone R4-2 of District 5M8, 2009-2012; Served on the 5M8 District Cabinet as Youth Exchange/Youth Trustee 2013-2014; Served on 5M8 District Cabinet as MN Lions Diabetes Foundation Trustee, 2018-2020; Cold Spring Home Pride Secretary, 1999-2020; Received the Dream Catcher Award in 2023; received the International President's award for co-chairperson of starting the new Stearns County Heartland Champions Lions Club. CSHP President, 2023-2024; 1st VP President, 5M8, 2023-2024. Lion Diann attended many 5M8 Conventions, and the 2019 Multiple held in Mahanomen, MN. Also attended the Northern Pride Leadership Institute in 2025, and the Lions USA/Canada Leadership Institute in Atlantic City, NJ in September 2025. **Lion Diann is a graduate of the Lions Leadership Institute!**

Lion Diann is currently 1st VDG of 5M8 and Past CSHP Lions President. She is a member of the Cold Spring Historical Society; She serves on committees at River of Life Assembly of God Church; has volunteered at the Cold Spring Library. She was a Stearns County Licensed Child Care Provider, 1985-2010, receiving the Stearns County "Provider of the Year Award", in 2009, from the SBCCA.

We are proud as members and officers of the Cold Spring Home Pride Lions Club, to support Lion Diann in her journey with the Lions of 5M8 District. We are grateful for her service to the Cold Spring Home Pride Lions Club! WE SERVE!

June Rossman
CSHP Lions President

Kathy Haselhorst
CSHP Treasurer

November 17, 2025

To: District Governor Zach Wosmek and Fellow Lions of District 5M8

Dear Governor Wosmek, and Fellow Lions,

Please accept this "Letter of Intent" to run for the position of 5M8 District Governor for the 2026-2027 term.

Membership and Club Service

I am an active member in good standing of the Cold Spring Home Pride Lions Club, having joined in October, 1989. I currently serve as Vice District Governor of 5M8. I am Past President of the Cold Spring Home Pride Lions Club, and have been a dedicated and active Lion for over 35 years.

District Leadership Experience

Throughout my service to District 5M8, I have held several leadership positions, including:

- CSHP Club President; Secretary;
 - Zone R4-2 Chairman (2009-2012)
 - Youth Camp and Exchange/Youth Trustee (2013-2014)
 - Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation Trustee (2018-2020)
- Current member of the 5M8 District Cabinet

Recognition and Awards

I am honored to have received the following recognition for my service:

- Melvin Jones Fellowship Award (2008)
 - Dream Catcher Award (2023)
 - 100% Secretary for my CSHP Club many times
- International President Award for co-chairing the forming of the Stearns County Heartland Champions Lions Club.(2025)

Professional Development

I am committed to continuous learning and leadership development:
Graduate of the Lions Leadership Institute, attended the Northern Pride Leadership Institute and LIONS USA/ CANADA Leadership September 2025.

Completed the first session of 2VDG training (October 19, 2024) VDG Training October 2025.

Currently, completing online VDG virtual courses.

Additional Service

I have served on several planning committees for District 5M8 Conventions and have contributed to the Ooga Bogga Room at conventions, bringing fun and laughter to our gatherings. I also attended the 2019 Multiple District Convention in Mahanomen, MN and 2025 M5 Convention in Bloomington, MN.

Community Involvement

Beyond Lions, I am actively involved in my community:

- Member of the Cold Spring Historical Society
 - Member of River of Life Assembly of God Church in Cold Spring
 - Former Stearns County licensed childcare provider (1985-2010)
- Recipient of the Stearns County "Provider of the Year" Award (2009)

Commitment:

I am excited about the opportunity to serve District 5M8 as District Governor and am committed to supporting our District's goals, fostering membership growth, and advancing our humanitarian service mission.

WE SERVE!

Respectfully,

Diann Bellmont

Lion Diann Bellmont
Past President, Cold Spring Home Pride Lions Club
VDG District 5M8

Address: 15433 241st Street, Cold Spring, MN 56320
Cell: 320-492-1974
Email: LIONPRIDECS@GMAIL.COM

Date: November 20, 2025
To: DG Zach Wosmek
From: PCC Deborah Harms
Subject: Endorsement for the Office of 5M8
2nd Vice District Governor

Dear DG Zach,

I am writing on behalf of the Sauk Rapids Riverside Lions Club to share that we met Monday, November 3, 2025 for our regular membership meeting. At that meeting a motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to endorse Lion Kimberly Stommes for the office of 2nd Vice District Governor for 5M8 for 2026 – 2027.

Lion Kimberly has served our club since April 7, 2008 with great enthusiasm as President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary. At the district level, she has served as a Trustee for the MN Lions Diabetes Foundation from 2017 – 2023. Since 2017, she has been serving as their legal counsel. In the 2024 – 2025 year, she served on the 5M8 GST team. Because of her service the club has honored her with a Melvin Jones Fellow.

The Sauk Rapids Riverside Lions Club is excited and honored to endorse Lion Kimberly for the office of 2nd Vice District Governor. We believe she will do an outstanding job and will eventually be a great District Governor.

Yours in Lionism,

PCC Deborah Harms, Secretary
Sauk Rapids Riverside Lions Club



November 17, 2025

To: District Governor Zach Wosmek: Lions District 5M8

Re: Letter of Intent to Run for 2nd Vice District Governor
(2026–2027)

Dear District Governor Wosmek: I

am writing to formally declare my intent to run for the position of 2nd Vice District Governor for Lions District 5M8 for the 2026–2027 Lions year. I am a proud member of the Sauk Rapids Riverside Lions Club, where I have been an active Lion for 16 years. During that time, I have had the privilege of serving in all club offices, including Club President twice. I have also been honored to serve the district through various leadership roles, including two three-year terms as a Trustee for the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, where I continue to serve as pro bono legal consultant; a position I have held for the past eight years. These roles have given me valuable insight into district and foundation operations, as well as the opportunity to contribute to statewide service initiatives.

I also currently serve as a member of the District 5M8 Cabinet, having previously served as part of the Global Service Team and now being appointed to the Protocol position.

My lifelong connection to Lions runs deep as my grandfather was a District Governor and a founder of our club, and my grandmother and my parents were long-time members as well. Their example instilled in me a passion for service that continues to grow through my involvement in Lions.

With the endorsement of my home club, the Sauk Rapids Riverside Lions, I am honored to take this next step in leadership. I believe strongly in the mission of Lions International: to serve our communities with compassion, inclusivity, and purpose, and I am eager to continue advancing that mission across District 5M8.

Thank you for your consideration. It would be a privilege to serve as 2nd Vice District Governor and continue representing the values and vision of our great district.

Yours in Lionism,

Kimberly Stommes Sauk Rapids Riverside Lions Club

Parade of Green

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)

On Memo line write: Sight, Disaster, Youth, Humanitarian needs, area of greatest need, or show split amounts. Each \$1,000.00 accumulated donation qualifies for a Melvin Jones Fellowship.

MN Lions Hearing Foundation 501C(3) entity

Each \$1,000.00 accumulated donation qualifies for a Hearing Research Fellow.

MN Lions Vision Foundation 501C(3) entity

Each \$1,000.00 accumulated donation qualifies for a Helen Keller Award.

MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation 501C(3) entity

Each \$1,000.00 accumulated donation qualifies for a Believe Award.

MN Lions Diabetes Foundation 501 C(3) entity

Each \$1,000.00 accumulated donation qualifies for a Dreamcatcher Award.

MN Lions Missions, a 501C(3) entity.

On memo line write Eyeglass Missions.

Can Do Canines 501C(3) entity

Each \$500.00 donation qualifies for a Top Dog Award.

Leader Dogs for the Blind 501C(3) entity

Each single \$1,000.00 donation qualifies for a Leader Dog Founders Tribute. Other award categories are available.

Project New Hope Foundation

For gambling funds write check to Project New Hope Foundation of MN

For non-gambling funds write check to Project New Hope

District 5M8 Foundation 501C(3) entity

District 5M8 KidSight- On memo line write: KidSight

Leos - On memo line write: Leos

Youth Exchange – On memo line write: Youth Exchange

Youth Outreach – On memo line write: Youth Outreach

Camp Confidence

For gambling funds, complete Form LG270 and submit to MN Gambling Control Board. Upon receipt of approval write check to Camp Confidence Learning Center. For non-gambling funds write check to Camp Confidence Learning Center

TEAM Sheehan Charitable Foundation 501(c3) entity

Find more information about this foundation in this newsletter.

Hall of Fame

Purpose

To honor those Lion and Lioness members of character and substance who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment and dedication to the efforts of their club, district or multiple district and the motto of our association, "We Serve."

Award

There shall be a maximum of one (1) recipient of the MD5M Hall of Fame Award per district, inducted into the MD5M Hall of Fame each year. The award may be presented posthumously. The MD5M Hall of Fame award recipients are to be inducted into the Hall of Fame at the annual MD5M Multiple District Convention during the Saturday noon luncheon. MD5M Hall of Fame recipients shall receive a MD5M Hall of Fame award plaque and a Hall of Fame lapel pin in recognition of their induction in the MD5M Hall of Fame. In addition, a complete listing of all MD5M Hall of Fame recipients shall appear in the annual MD5M

directory and a perpetual plaque, with the names of all inductees and the year of their induction inscribed thereon, shall be kept in a prominent place in the MD5M office, when available. The presentation of the MD5M Hall of Fame inductees shall be the responsibility of the current International Director from MD5M, if there is one and he/she is in attendance at the MD5M

Multiple District Convention. If not, then the most recent Past International Director having served from MD5M in attendance at the MD5M Multiple District Convention.

Criteria

A candidate may be a Lion or Lioness, must have been a member in good standing for at least 15 years, be at least two (2) years removed from the Council of Governors if a PDG, should have qualifications above and beyond the call of duty including social and human endeavors, and he/she should be of good moral character and have a good reputation in his/her community. A nominee must be a member in good standing of a Lions or Lioness Club, or must have been a member in good standing of a Lions or Lioness Club at the time of their death.

Process

A candidate may be sponsored by any Lion, Lioness, Lions Club, Lioness Club, Zone, or District. There shall be a nomination fee of \$150.00 per each candidate nominated. The nomination fee shall be returned to those sponsors whose candidates are not elected for induction into the MD5M Hall of Fame. The nomination fee for those selected for induction shall be sent to

MD5M and shall be used to offset the cost of the award process, plaques and pin. Nominations, including the nomination fee, must be received by the District Governor at least 30 days prior to the District's Midwinter Convention.

Each individual District shall annually hold an election at their Midwinter Convention to determine the candidate (s), if any, to be inducted into the Hall of Fame for that Lion Year. Each sponsor shall have an opportunity to give a brief presentation on the merits and biographical information of their nominee prior to the election. Those elected to be inducted into the MD5M

Hall of Fame shall not be publicly announced until their induction at the MD5M Multiple District Convention.

All nominations shall use the standard form, no others shall be accepted. The nomination fee must be received at the time the application is received, otherwise the nomination shall not be considered. All successful candidates shall be inducted into the MD5M Hall of Fame at the next MD5M Multiple District Convention. The sponsor (s) and the respective District Governor shall ensure that the honoree or a suitable representative shall be in attendance at the MD5M Multiple District Convention Saturday Luncheon when the honorees are inducted. A brief biography of each inductee shall be announced to those in attendance during the induction ceremony at the annual MD5M Multiple District Convention.

Hall of Fame Nomination

District _____ Date _____

Nominee: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Club _____

Sponsor: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Club _____

Nominee's Biographical Information (Lions, Community Service, Family, Work – length of service, positions/ offices held, committees, service projects, and awards. (Attach an additional sheet of paper if more room is needed. _____

Why is this person being nominated for the MD5M Hall of Fame?

Nominations must be received by the respective District Governor at **least 30 days prior** to the

District's annual Midwinter Convention. A nomination fee of \$150.00 must accompany this

form. Only this official form shall be accepted and the nomination shall only be accepted if

accompanied by the nomination fee. The cost of attendance at the MD5M Convention and Saturday Luncheon shall be at the expense of the sponsor or the individual, not MD5M or the MD5M Convention Host Committee



Family & Women Specialist



RETENTION! What does that mean to you and your club? Does your club work with its members suggestions? If a new idea is suggested, what is your response “we did that 10 years ago and it wasn’t successful!” Does your club form a committee to work out the details and give it another try? Too many times, have we heard the first response. If you want to retain your members, your club has to be open to ideas from your members, especially your newer, younger and yes... inexperienced members. Maybe you need to form a committee with a few “open minded” experienced members to join the panel. Make changes on running the event, making it more successful than last time. New ideas from members who did not participate in the event the last time could make this event more exciting and an achievement! Remember, negativity can lose your members and every club needs members to make their club a hit, that is what attracts others to join.

We are halfway through this Lions year of 2025-2026. Membership has had a slow start getting more women to join your clubs. We have gained 32 new women and we dropped 38 for a total of MINUS-6. We have a lot of work to do to make our goal this year. We have to ASK women to join your clubs. Revitalize your club with new members. Make your club “family friendly”. You’re giving more people in your community an opportunity to be part of a service organization while they juggle their busy life. Your club will see healthy growth that leads to a larger service impact in your clubs.

If your club is an all-male OR all-female club, this article still applies to you. **WHY?** As we look at our 5M8 Club Assessments we have 73 Lions Clubs with 27 Clubs Monthly Growth at 0.00% and 23 Clubs Monthly Growth at a minus growth! **WE CHALLENGE** every club to gain 1 new member in the month of January. **5M8... ARE YOU UP TO THE CHALLENGE?!!** **“WE SERVE”**

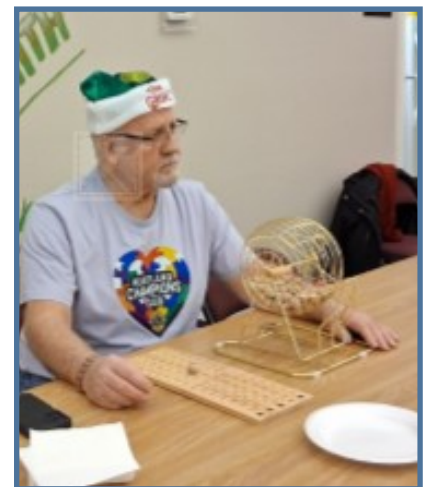
PDG Donna Mae Landwehr

PDG Bill Landwehr

Lion Cheri Appel



the Christmas party for the Heartland Champions on December 16. They enjoyed pizza, lemonade and Christmas cookies. They enjoyed Playing Bingo prizes were candy canes, other treats. A good time was had by All.





LITPC YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION



The Lions International Trading Pin Club (LITPC) has announced for the 2025 – 2026 school year that there will be **8 US \$4,000** scholarships awarded. Graduating Leos OR graduating sons/daughters, grandsons/granddaughters of Lions are eligible to apply for the LITPC Youth Scholarship. The LITPC goal is to help our future leaders and give students a financial helping hand. This program started in 2012. The 2026 recipients will be announced at the LITPC Annual Meeting in 2026.

To obtain the current LITPC Youth Scholarship information:

1. Go to the **LITPC website**: www.litpc.org
2. In the left column, click on **Scholarship Application Form**.
3. Read and follow **ALL** directions. Be sure to fill out **ALL** the forms neatly and correctly which includes the 4 essay questions (in 350 words or less) and the question about scholarships that you have been offered along with submitting a **certified** copy of your high school transcript including activities. Plus, you also need to attach recommendations from 2 persons (i.e. teacher, coach, clergy, employer, etc.) **AND** attach a recommendation letter from a Lions Club member indicating the name of the Club and state/province and country in which the Club is located.

ALL forms and letters are to be submitted by **MARCH 1, 2026** to:

Lions Bill & Marcia Guthrie, Scholarship Chairman 763-232-9357

9 101st Lane NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55448 bmguthrie9@mycti.net

You can either mail us your application OR email it to us.

THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK TO ALL!!!

The LITPC fulfills the motto of Lions Clubs International – “WE SERVE”



Mrs. Claus helped out with some awards at the Sartell Lions club



TEAM SHEEHAN FOUNDATION

ON

BEHALF OF THE TEAM SHEEHAN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION. I'D LIKE TO THANK ALL THE MD5M LIONS FOR THEIR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE TEAM SHEEHAN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION. AS YOU MAY KNOW. "THE MISSION OF THE TEAM SHEEHAN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION IS TO EMPOWER MD5M LIONS CLUBS TO PROVIDE GREATER SERVICE BY BOOSTING THEIR ABILITY TO COMPLETE COMMUNITY PROJECTS WITH MATCHING GRANTS".

WE'RE VERY PROUD OF THE GRANTS WE WERE ABLE TO AWARD DURING OUR FIRST YEAR OF MATCHING GRANTS. WE GAVE OUT GRANTS EVERY QUARTER OF THE JULY, OCT, JAN AND JUNE. THIS LAST YEAR WE RECEIVED OVER 25 GRANTS APPLICATIONS. WE GAVE OUT 12 DIFFERENT GRANTS WITHIN THE MD5M IN 2024-2025 YEAR.

IN 2025-2026- THE FIRST QUARTER WE HAVE GIVEN OUT 3 GRANTS IN July 2025

\$3000.00 Tracy Lions Club District 5m3 – for Bed project which supplies to kids in need

\$3000.00 Milroy Lions Club District 5m3 – Install new roof on the American Legion Hall

\$1500.00 Minnesota Lions Club District 5M13 – Playground Equipment & Turf at the day care facility.

IN 2025-2026- THE SECOND QUARTER WE GAVE OUT 3 GRANTS IN OCTOBER 2025

\$3000.00 Raymond Lion District 5M4 installation of intergenerational swings in Playgrounds

\$2000.00 Minnesota Lakes Lions Club District 5M2 Replace windows in the community Kremer House Library Museum

\$1000.00 Duluth Lions District 5M10 Install new playground space for head start program at Stowe Elementary School

IF YOUR GRANTS DO NOT GO THROUGH. PLEASE TRY AND RESUBMIT IT AGAIN MAKE SURE TO SEND MINUTES FROM MEETING AGAIN

OUR GRANTS HAVE BEEN VARIOUS BOTH IN PURPOSE AND LOCATION TO ENSURE THE GOOD WORK LIONS DO THROUGHOUT THE MULTIPLE. WE ARE TRULY GRATEFUL FOR THE GENEROSITY AND FAITH THE LIONS OF MD5M HAVE BEEN WITH THE TSCF DONATION AND HOPE YOU AGREE THE TSCF IS WORTHY OF YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

Grants Application are on line at www.teamsheehan.foundation

Please send the grant application to Donna Mae Landwehr TSCF 5M8 Director

billanddonnal@myctl.net



ENVIRONMENTAL

Lions 5M8 January 2026 Environmental report

Key Climate Trends in 2025: Did these expectations prove true?

Record Heat Streak:

2025 is virtually certain to rank in the top five hottest years, extending a streak with 2023 and 2024. The 2023–2025 period is expected to temporarily surpass 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, signaling a significant climate milestone, notes the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

Greenhouse Gases:

Carbon pollution from fossil fuels continued to rise, reaching record levels, driving global warming.

Ocean Warming:

Ocean heat content reached new records, contributing to extreme weather and ecosystem stress, with unprecedented impacts on marine life.

Extreme Weather:

Increased frequency and intensity of heatwaves, droughts, wildfires, and heavy rainfall disrupted lives and ecosystems globally, according to reports from [Climate](#) Central and others.

Cryosphere Impacts:

Arctic sea ice extent after winter freeze was the lowest on record, with Antarctic ice also below average.

Have you noticed any difference in local weather/ climate from years ago?

Contact District 5M8 Cabinet Environmental Chairs

PDG Sandy Sandwick psandwick.17@gmail.com

Lion Makayla Thompson thompsonmakayla400@gmail.com



NORTHERN PRIDE LIONS FORUM

To strengthen leadership skills, membership, and service impact through learning, networking, and inspiration

MARCH 20-21, 2026
RADISSON HARBORVIEW, DULUTH
ALL LIONS ARE WELCOME

FRIDAY: WELCOME SOCIAL

SATURDAY: EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

REGISTER HERE



SCAN HERE!



SAVE THE DATE

ROAR

for a

CAUSE



Special Olympics & LCIF are partnering for the
2026 Special Olympics USA Games in Minnesota

Saturday February 28, 2026

Chanhasen Dinner Theatres
501 W 78th St, Chanhasen, MN 55317



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

MARCH 24, 2026
1:30 - 4:30 PM

LIONS DAY AT THE CAPITOL



The goal of Lions Day at the Capitol is to Increase Public Awareness,
Advocate for Change & Strengthen Partnerships

How Clubs Can Participate:

Generate Enthusiasm: Share event details at club meetings.

Set Attendance Goals: Aim for 5 - 10 attendees per club to ensure strong representation.

Engage with Local Governing Representatives: Schedule meetings with your local officials in advance to discuss key issues and invite them to attend.

To sign-up click the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0945A4AF2DA3ECC34-60193134-2ndannual>



Host: Maple
Grove Lions



EMERGING LIONS
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
ELLI



Develop. Lead. Inspire.

The Emerging Lions Leadership Institute (ELLI) is a leadership development experience designed for Lions and Leos who are ready to grow, lead, and serve at a higher level.

This interactive weekend builds confident leaders who will strengthen clubs, districts, and the future of Lions in MD5M.

Join Us April 17- 19, 2026
Holiday Inn Detroit Lakes

Why Attend ELLI?

- Develop practical leadership and communication skills
- Learn how to lead without a title
- Strengthen teamwork and collaboration
- Build confidence to lead projects, committees, and clubs
- Network with emerging leaders across MD5M
- Learn from experienced Lions leaders
- Create a personal leadership action plan to take home
- FUN, FUN, FUN

Who Should Attend?

- Lions or Leos in good standing within MD5M interested in leadership growth and service
- Willing to actively participate in all sessions
- Committed to applying learned skills in their club or district
- Lions who have **NOT** served as Club President



Registration due April 1, 2026
Use QR code to Register

Contact your District GLT for more information
Lion Carrie Shofner
davecarrieshofner@gmail.com





**Cold Spring & Homepride
Lions Clubs**

All You Can Eat Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner

Includes garlic
bread and
beverages



Adults: \$10
Kids 12 and Under:
\$5

Red River Inn
All Dinners are
from 5 to 7 pm

First Monday of the Month
October 6th, November 3rd
December 1st, January 5th,
February 2nd, and March 2nd

**HELP NEEDED 5M9 Lions are asking 5M8
Lions to help in January to run a Vision
and Hearing Screening at Mille Lacs.**

**Please TYPE the link below into your
search bar and it will give you all the de-
tails. There is a sign up form attached and
explains the times and duties. Also watch**

DG Zach Facebook page

Link: [https://forms.gle/
JDLfextEyVg66G656](https://forms.gle/JDLfextEyVg66G656)

**Paynesville Lions (and LEOS) "Bloodies and
Blankets" All are welcome to join!**

**Saturday, January 17, 9:00 AM
until whenever.**

**Queen Bee Bar and Grill, downtown Paynes-
ville. Cutting and tying (mostly tying) fleece
blankets. No experience necessary. Also col-
lecting small LEGO kits, activity games and
books, colored markers and pencils, travel
sized personal care items, etc.**

**For young patients and siblings) at M Health
Fairview Masonic Children's Hospital, Cen-
traCare, EMS crews, etc. Lion Jeff**



PROJECT NEW HOPE



**Military Family Retreats
at no cost to Veterans**



*"At Project New Hope, we are
driven by our mission - to provide
education, training and skills
necessary to manage their lives
after wartime service."*



**FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO
WWW.PROJECTNEWHOPE.NET OR SCAN THIS CODE:**

**2025-2026
MINNESOTA
RETREATS**

2025 OCTOBER 3-5
Good Earth Village - Spring Valley, MN
2025 DECEMBER 5-7
Faith Haven Camp near Battle Lake, MN
2026 MAY 1-3
Camp Shetek near Slayton, MN
2026 JUNE 5-7
Osprey Wilds near Sandstone, MN



2029 Lions International Convention Fundraiser

Brought to you by the Host Committee for the 2029 Minneapolis International Convention

2029 Convention Pins and Snowman Patches

The International Convention is coming to Minneapolis, Minnesota

Now is your chance to get a piece of history and help raise the needed funds to Host this great Lions event.

Build the Snowman patch fundraiser.

\$50 per piece for a total of \$200

Limited Edition

2029 Minneapolis Pin with Charms

Pin- \$100

Charms \$25 or

all 4 for \$75



Charms are approximately:

1" x 1"; 1" x 3/4"; 1" x 3/4"; 1" x 1/2"



davecarrieshofner@gmail.com

2026 MD5M Convention

April 24-26, 2026

Minnetonka Beach Party

Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel

12201 Ridgedale Drive

Minnetonka, Minnesota 55305

Hosted by District 5M-5



Sign up today and save!

First 150 Receive a Free souvenir Beach Ball with early sign up.

Cost May 1, 2025 thru
December 31, 2025
\$185 US - \$266 CDN

Cost January 1, 2026 thru
March 31, 2026
\$195 US - \$280 CDN



Lions International
Convention support
available: Contact
Lion Carrie Shofner

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Thanksgiving for Vision Celebration! The celebration included physicians updating attendees on groundbreaking research and treatments made possible through the support of the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation (MLVF). We were also honored to recognize this year's Helen Keller Award recipients for their exceptional service to sight. Powerful personal stories—including a father who donated his son's eyes and a cornea recipient whose vision was restored—highlighted the life-changing impact of eye donation. Guests enjoyed a delicious meal and participated in a Silent Auction, with proceeds supporting sight-saving projects in partnership with the University of Minnesota Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Neurosciences We hope to see even more of you there next year.



Cold Spring Home Pride Lions and one Heartland Champion Lion at Thanksgiving for Vision



1VDG Diann and her husband Heartland Champion Lion Bob Bellmont with MLVF Director Sherri Schmitz with her husband, Allen at Thanksgiving for Vision.



April 24-26, 2026
106th - MD5M Multiple Convention
Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel
2026 MD5M Registration Form



☐ Lion ☐ Leo ☐ Guest
☐ Check if this is your 1st Multiple Convention

☐ Lion ☐ Leo ☐ Guest
☐ Check if this is your 1st Multiple Convention

Name: _____ Name: _____
Address: _____ Address: _____
City: _____ City: _____
Prov/State: _____ Zip: _____ Prov/State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____ Email: _____
Title: _____ District: _____ Title: _____ District: _____
Club: _____ Club: _____

Full Hospitality Book:

Cost May 1, 2025 thru
December 31, 2025

\$185 US - \$266 CDN _____

Cost January 1, 2026 thru
March 31, 2026

\$195 US - \$280 CDN _____

*Hospitality book includes convention and all meals

Separate Meals:

*Do not select if you have purchased a hospitality book

Friday Night Social	\$25 US - \$36 CDN _____	\$27 US - \$39 CDN _____
Saturday Breakfast	\$36 US - \$52 CDN _____	\$38 US - \$55 CDN _____
Saturday Lunch	\$41 US - \$59 CDN _____	\$43 US - \$62 CDN _____
Saturday Banquet	\$68 US - \$98 CDN _____	\$70 US - \$101 CDN _____
Sunday Brunch	\$38 US - \$55 CDN _____	\$40 US - \$58 CDN _____

Total amount if separate meals chosen: _____

Please specify dietary needs: ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Gluten Free ☐ Other: _____

No meals available after March 31, 2026.

Make Checks payable to: 2026 MD5M Conv.

Mail registrations to: 2026 MD5M Convention c/o Rhonna Hed, 17440 45th Ave N, Plymouth, MN 55446

-OR- you may pay by Venmo to: @Rhonna-Hed Then Email your registrations to: rhed@summitfire.com

Please provide an email address or phone # if you'd like to receive a confirmation _____

HOTEL INFORMATION: Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel, 12201 Ridgedale Drive Minnetonka, Minnesota 55305

Call (952) 593-0000 to book your room reservation. Ask for the "Lions 2026 Convention" rate.

Room rates are \$135.00 per night plus taxes and fees. Room reservation cut-off is April 9, 2026.

[Book your group rate for MD5M Lions 2026 Convention here](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION contact: PCC Rob Rand at (612) 715-6055, robrandmn@gmail.com

Lion Rhonna Hed at (651) 248-0749, rhed@summitfire.com

Lions District 5M8 Governor, Zach



Wosmek visited the Farming & St Martin Lions Clubs .

Sartell Lions , along with PCC Jack & Lion Carol Breitreutz and Lion Lori Steinemann from Sauk Rapids Lions held Kidsight screenings at Sartell Elementary schools. There were 1504 students with 111 referrals. The students went home with sunglasses and a smile.



Sauk Rapids Lions kicked off the holiday season with a toy drive for children in Benton County and Annual Awards night. PCC Steve Hovanes and PDG Joe Steinemann presented Lions Tim Reuter and Lion Mike Miller Hearing Research Fellowships, and Lion David Barthel a Top Dog Award . Lion Barb DuHamel was presented Lion of the Year by IPP Lori Steinemann



The Cold Spring Home Pride Lions packed weekend food for the ROCCORI Action Packs for 80 students in need in the Roccori school district. They also, along with Heartland Lions brought some "Merry" to the Benedictine Living Community.



On December 14th, the Farming Lions and neighboring Lions Clubs helped package 750 gift bags for the Christmas Care Drive, bags were delivered to local residents.



Global Service

A message from International President A. P. Singh

Plan your hunger Week of Service

Lions know that change doesn't just happen – we make it happen. The Hunger Week of Service, which takes place January 3-11, is an opportunity for Lions around the world to showcase how we take action in our communities.

There are countless ways you can support the fight against hunger, so use our resources below to get started.

Food Collection, Preparation and Distribution
Community Feeding Events
Agricultural Development and Support
Hunger Initiatives for Women and Children
Hunger and Nutrition Awareness, Education and Advocacy

Plus, be sure to visit the Weeks of Service webpage for even more tools, ideas and inspiration – and join the movement to create global change!

If your club is able to please plan an activity for Hunger Week of Service. Many club members already volunteer at their local food shelves, do Meals on Wheels, work at a senior dining center or a soup kitchen. Please let your secretary know so it can be reported on the LCI Service Portal. Zone chairs, please check these activities and let Lion Amy Leidenfrost know so it can be reported on the District Lions Service Portal. Thank you Lions for all of the services you do for your community.

Global Service Chairs
PDG Amy Leidenfrost
PCC Debbie Harms



An Important Message from your GLT Team:

As the first half of this exciting Lion year approaches, it is important to review your club's roster ahead of the upcoming dues billing. By reviewing the club's roster, you are ensuring that it is up to date, and your club avoids being billed for inactive members. Log into the Lion Portal or your regional reporting system to update.

For questions on how to access the portal or make changes, visit the Lion Portal Resource webpage to review videos, FAQs and more. For additional assistance, contact us at lionssupport@lionsclubs.org.

Lions International has gone paperless. Log into the Lion Portal and navigate to My Club – Club Statements to check your club's balance, make payments and see outstanding balances. Reviewing and paying your club's balance regularly helps keep your club in good standing. For questions regarding your club's statement, please contact Membership Billing at membershipbilling@lionsclubs.org.

Thank you for your continued leadership and dedication to strengthening your club and serving your community. We appreciate your efforts to keep your club's information current and your membership strong.

Please contact a Member of the GLT Team if you have further Questions!

Happy Holidays! Carrie, Jack and Allen, 5M8 GLT



Mrs. Claus made a visit to the St Martin Lions





Lions International

LIONS AND LEOS, WITH THE SUPPORT OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION (LCIF), IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY AND ACCESS TO NUTRITIOUS FOOD TO HELP ALLEVIATE HUNGER.

Food Collection, Preparation and Distribution

Agricultural Development and Support

Hunger Initiatives for Women and Children

Hunger and Nutrition Awareness, Education and Advocacy



COMMUNITY FEEDING EVENT

Promote wellness and nutrition by providing meals and community engagement for local families.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. The 17 goals are an urgent call for action by all countries — developed and developing — in a global partnership. Achievement of the SDGs also relies on the involvement of volunteer organizations who connect governmental strategies and initiatives with complementary, yet essential, community action.

THIS SERVICE AREA SUPPORTS SDG #2

2 ZERO HUNGER



END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE



Approximately **2 billion people** globally do not have regular access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food (United Nations).



While it can vary, **food insecurity is higher among rural communities** while lower in urban areas, highlighting the need to support rural populations globally (Food and Agriculture Organization).



Densely populated areas experience food insecurity due to rises in urban poverty, inequality and other health risks associated with city living (World Food Program).



Rising food prices, regional conflict, environmental disasters and economic instability all **affect a person's ability to access food**, leading to a consistent rise in hunger (World Food Program).



Vulnerable populations, including those who are lower-income or underrepresented, are **most likely to be undernourished** (World Health Organization).



Eating with community members can **improve quality of life** and overall feeling of **hopefulness** (Oxford University).



Lions International

LIONS AND LEOS, WITH THE SUPPORT OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION (LCIF), IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY AND ACCESS TO NUTRITIOUS FOOD TO HELP ALLEVIATE HUNGER.

Food Collection, Preparation and Distribution

Agricultural Development and Support

Hunger Initiatives for Women and Children

Hunger and Nutrition Awareness, Education and Advocacy



COMMUNITY FEEDING EVENT

Service Ideas

lionsclubs.org/hunger



Use the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) **Hunger Map** to research the prevalence of undernourishment and food insecurity around the world and in your community, and explore what issues are most impactful for your club, district and multiple district.



Consider collaborating with local food organizations and businesses for support with your community feeding event. Use our **Developing Local Partnerships guide** to start planning.



Provide community members with meals during local or regional celebrations and significant holidays.



Watch and share the most recent **State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World** video created by FAO.



Serve meals at a soup kitchen, homeless shelter or feeding event organized by a local organization alleviating food insecurity.



Host a feeding event to provide relief in times of crisis, such as a natural disaster (earthquakes, floods, tsunamis, droughts), conflict, famine, emergency or other occurrences that displace people and communities.



Work with your club, district or multiple district to organize a recurring community feeding event that brings people together regularly to increase sustainability. Use our **Direct Food Service Project Planner** to get started.



Identify groups in your community that can benefit from feeding events and explore how your club can engage with them. Use our **Club and Community Needs Assessment** to get started.



Plan a community feeding event to bring people together to address food insecurity on an international day of action, such as **World Food Day** on October 16. Share your impact with photos, videos and other assets on social media using the #WorldFoodDay hashtags.



Sponsor a community kitchen or cooking class where families can be involved in creating their own meals while learning useful cooking skills and gaining important nutrition education.



The 2026 Special Olympics USA Games will take place in Minnesota 20-26 June 2026, bringing together 4,000 athletes, 1,500 coaches, 10,000 volunteers, and 75,000 fans from all 50 states. The Games will feature 19 sports and highlight the abilities and strengths of people with intellectual disabilities. For the first time in USA Games history, the sports of Corn hole and Pickle ball will be making their official debut.

16 games (10 @ the University of MN, 6 @ the Blaine Sports Complex)

3000+ Participants

Event Champion: Brian Sheehan

Advisor: Bruce Beck

Special Olympics USA CEO: Christy Sovereign

Operations and Family Night: Glenn Kaufmann

Funding: Anna Wickenhauser

Marketing: *LCIF is now listed as a Bronze Partner on the Special Olympics USA Games website:*
<https://2026specialolympicsusagames.org/get-involved/partnerships>

Opening Eyes: Ray Moonen, Jim Cain, and Laura Maki

Opening Eyes provides a complete eye exam, conducted by eye doctors and eye care professionals. During the Opening Eyes screening, Athletes have the opportunity to receive new eyeglasses, sunglasses or sports goggles, free of charge!

There will be 276 (non-clinical) volunteer opportunities for Lions to fill. The Special Olympics Volunteer Outreach has finished our volunteer portal (think of Sign Up Genius on steroids). The Family Night volunteer opportunities are delayed from the SO team, so we are going to wait to release all the slots until everything is ready.

All-Ball: Lori Sheehan

Nothing new on the All-Ball purchase.

SOUSA confirmed athletes capped at 3,050 due to lodging capacity at UofM.

\$28 per all-ball X 3,050 = an additional \$85,400 needed from LCIF pass-through.

Most District LCIF Coordinators have begun a campaign to contact their "gambling clubs" for a higher-than-normal LCIF donation.

Family Night: Glenn Kaufmann

What kind of volunteers do we need? *The SO Team is putting together the Family Night Volunteer Portal and assigning 350 volunteer opportunities for Lions (and friends). This was originally to be given to Lions early October. They have given us an estimated delivery of the end of November.*

We will reach out to Andria Rademacher to ask for an assist developing marketing to get everyone excited about volunteering for both events.

Are any Lions invited to the event? *We will be invited to several events (Opening Ceremony, Closing Ceremony, and of course the Family Night event)*

Would there be an additional cost? *No*





SPECIAL OLYMPICS
USA GAMES
MINNESOTA 2026

2026
Coming to
MINNESOTA
JUNE
20-26



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

We are also hosting a very special Family Night Celebration, and each athlete will receive an "All Ball"—branded with the logos of MD5M, LCIF, LEOs, and Lions USA. This is more than just a ball—it is a symbol of unity, fun, and the spirit of inclusion we all believe in.

Our Multiple's role in this partnership:

- Raise \$350,000 to sponsor
- Family Night for 3,500 Olympians and their families.
- As well as provide every athlete with A Ball for All, a goodwill gift specially designed for the athletes.

How you can help:

- Consider designating club or individual donations to LCIF's MD5M Special Olympics Fund.
- Gifts still count towards Melvin Jones Fellowships (but not District or Community Grants).
- All donations, no matter what fund they go to, are greatly appreciated!

We are asking every club in MD5M to support this effort through a contribution to LCIF, earmarked for the 2026 Special Olympics Games in Minnesota. Any donation is a good donation!

Send all checks made out to LCIF to:

PDG Frank Leidenfrost
110 4th Ave NE
Staples MN 56479
or
IPDG Deb Bialke
5559 355th Ave
Hillman MN 56338

***** Note MD5M Special Olympics**
on memo line !!



Lion Ann Meyer
 Lion Ken Eickhoff
 Lion Roger Voit
 Lion Donald Heurung
 Lion Michael Shay
 Lion Heather Padolf
 Lion Spencer Stone
 Lion Donald Honer

Cold Spring Home Pride Lions Club
 Albany Lions Club
 Albany Lions Club
 Avon Lions Club
 Avon Lions Club
 Kimball Lions Club
 Sturgeon Lake Lions Club
 St. Joseph Lions Club

5M8 is very excited to welcome these new Lions to help us "SERVE" our communities and world. We look forward to working with you, side by side and striving to make a difference while having fun doing so. The list of new members is taken from the Lions International reports. If a new member is not listed yet, it is due to when Lions International receives the new member information from the club.



WELCOME NEW 5M8 LIONS MEMBERS



Eileen Kopp
 Thomas Kopp
 Zachary Dingmann
 Nancy Kjar
 Any Guck
 Eric Hubbard

Isle Lions Club
 Isle Lions Club
 Melrose Lions Club
 Paynesville Lions Club
 Pierz Lions Club
 Staples Host Lions Club



5M8 Membership update as of

December 2025

2777 Lions Members & 73 clubs

121 dropped members in FY

80 members added in FY

-421 Net growth in FY

-1.48 % net Growth in FY



5M8 Fiscal Year to Date

Service

as of **December, 2025,**

402,389 overall people served in FY

42,979 overall volunteer hours in FY

90% clubs reporting

DATES TO REMEMBER



5M8 Midwinter Convention

February 6-8, 2025 St Cloud MN

Northern Pride

March 20-21, 2026 Duluth MN

MD5M Multiple Convention

April 24-26, 2026 Sheraton Minnetonka MN

April 16-18, 2027 Kahler Hotel Rochester MN

April 28-30 Bid submitted by 5M8 to host in St Cloud

Lions International Convention

July 3-7 2026	Hong Kong
July 2-6, 2027	Washington DC USA
June 23-27, 2028	Singapore
June 29-July 3, 2029	Minneapolis MN
June 28-July 2, 2030	San Antonio TX
July 4-8, 2031	Helsinki, Finland

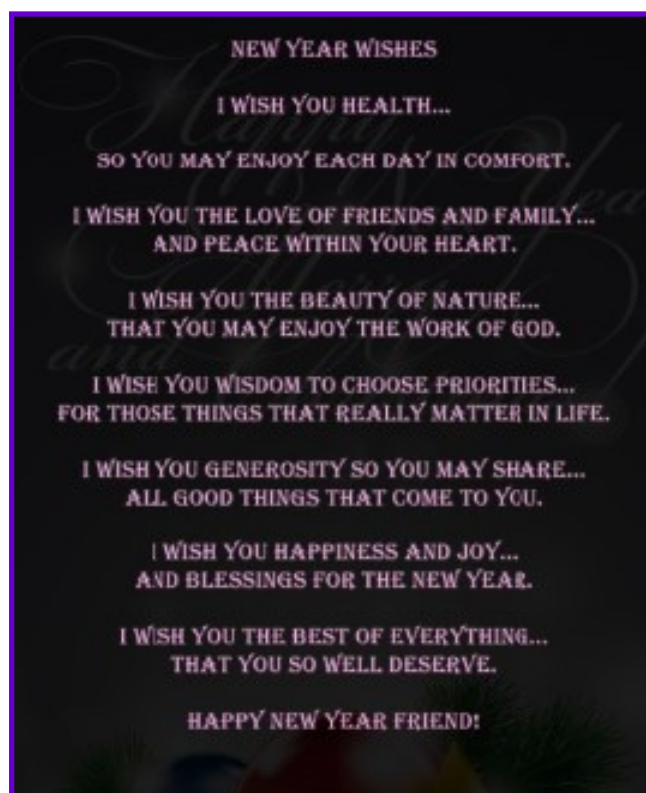
USA/CANADA Forum

September 3-5, 2026	Memphis Tennessee
September 16-18, 2027	Huntsville Alabama



Hunger
January 3-11, 2026

Environment
April 18-26, 2026



Our Vision To be the global leader in community and humanitarian service.

Our Mission

To empower Lions clubs, volunteers, and partners to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian services and grants that impact lives globally, and encourage peace and international understanding.

LCIF

PDG Frank Leidenfrost

frankandamyl35@gmail.com 218-820-2323

IPDG Deb Bialke

liondebbialke@gmail.com 320-248-6704



MN Lions Vision Foundation

Lion Jordan Haukos

jordo1997@yahoo.com cell 320-828-7226

Lion Sherri Schmitz

allen.sherri.schmitz@gmail.com



MN Lions Hearing Foundation

PDG Mike Appel

leppa73@mnval.net

Vacant- Help Needed



MN Lions Diabetes Foundation

PDG Dave Thompson

dthompson1530@gmail.com

Lion Cathy Talberg

cathytalb95@gmail.com



Special Olympics Chairperson

Lion Rose Hansen

3202935441

MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation

PDG Jeff Thompson

lionjeffthompson@gmail.com

Lion Bob Thompson

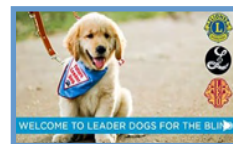
rthompson@minpack.com



5M8 Leader Dog

PDG Tracy Voigt

mnhomeof4@hotmail.com 320-630-1264



KIDSIGHT kidsightmd5m.org/resources.php

Lion Marty Breuer

mjbreuer@msn.com

Vacant- Help Needed



Environmental

PDG Sandy Sandwick

ssandwick.17@gmail.com

Lion Makayla Thompson

thompsonmakayla400@gmail.com



Can Do Canines

PDG Pete Kleingartner—C: 763-234-9126

Lion Jean Euteneuer—C: 320-290-6991

mpsaklein@live.com

euteneuer@charter.net



MN Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center

Lion Bob Thompson teddibob@gmail.com 612-390-2629 www.MNLERC.org



Project New Hope

Lion Dave Shofner davecarrieshofner@gmail.com

Vacant-Help Needed



Leo's /Youth Exchange

Lion Christine Wosmek chriswozmek@gmail.com

Lion Trish Thiel tlitboots@yahoo.com



Peace Poster/Essay

Lion Becky Stanart wonderwomanbls@aol.com

Lion Lisa Gohmen Lisa.gohman@gmail.com



Sheehan Foundation PDG Donna Landwehr billanddonnal@q.com teamsheehan.foundation

Global Leadership Coordinators

PDG Allen Bailey atbailey@eaglevalleytel.net

PCC Jack Breitzkreutz jabre@izoom.net

Lion Carrie Shofner davecarrieshofner@gmail.com



Global Service Team Coordinators

PDG Amy Leidenfrost head coordinator frankandamyl35@gmail.com

PCC Deb Harms 1lionlady@charter.net



Global Membership Team Coordinators

Lion Jordan Haukos jordo1997@yahoo.com 320-828-7226

Lion Caleb Anderson calebjohn133@gmail.com

Lion Mike Shay lionmikeshay@icloud.com

GMT 5M8 Team

Global Extension Team Coordinators

PDG Vince Thiel vincethiel@yahoo.com

Lion Trish Thiel tlitboots@yahoo.com



GMT Women's & Family Specialist

Lion Cheri Appel Cheri52appel@gmail.com

PDG Donna Landwehr billanddonnal@myctl.net

PDG Bill Landwehr billanddonnalw0@gmail.com

Opportunities to grow!

Lions University: Provided by the Forum since 2014, you can take all the courses you want for free, however graduation requirement do include attendance at events. @ lionsuniversity.org

Lions Learning Institute: LCI's online learning portal. @lionsclubs.org

Lions Virtual: Ongoing Zoom educational and social activities, and a mobile app that incorporates social sharing and other resources.

Global Lions Forum: Facebook Group with great discussions on topics of interests to Lions.

Please send your events, announcements, and photos to: 5M8 Newsletter Editor

5M8Newsletter@gmail.com

"The deadline to submit Articles, and notices for the District 5M8 Newsletter is the **20th** of each month "

P.R. Lion Mike Shay

lionmikeshay@icloud.com

2024-2025 Lions International Officers

International President

Arvinder Pal Singh

Kolkata India

Lion President Immediate Past President

Fabricio Olivera, Catole do Rocha, Brazil

1st V.P. Mark Lyon

Brookfield Connecticut USA

2nd V.P. Dr. Manoj Shah Nairobi Kenya

3rd V.P. Tony Benbow South Vermont
Australia

District 5M8 Officers

District Governor Zach Wosmek

lionzachwosmek@gmail.com

1VDG Diann Belmont

lionpridecs@gmail.com

Secretary Colleen Rosenow, Watkins

colleen.rosenow.5m8@gmail.com

Treasurer David Thompson, Princeton

dthompson7053@yahoo.com



Websites to know

Lions Club International: [www: lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)

Multiple District 5M: [www: lionsmd5m.org](http://www.lionsmd5m.org)

District 5M8: [www: lions5M8.org](http://www.lions5M8.org)

Lions Program Sites

Can Do Canines: [www: candocanines.org](http://www.candocanines.org)

Childhood Cancer: [www: MNlionschildhoodcancer.org](http://www.MNlionschildhoodcancer.org)

KidsSight MD5M: [www: lionsmd5m.org/lions-kidsight.html](http://www.lionsmd5m.org/lions-kidsight.html)

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF): [www: lcif.org](http://www.lcif.org)

Leader Dog for the Blind: [www: leaderdog.org](http://www.leaderdog.org)

MN Lions Diabetes Foundation: www.mnlionsdiabetes.org

MN Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center: [www: MNLERC.org](http://www.MNLERC.org)

MN Lions Hearing Foundation: www.5mhf.org

MN Lions Vision Foundation: www.mnlionsvisionfoundation.org

Project New Hope: [www: projectnewhope.net](http://www.projectnewhope.net)

Sheehan Foundation www.teamsheehan.foundation





2025-2026 District Governor Club Visit Request Form

Date Requested: _____

Club Requesting: _____

Preferred Date: _____

Alternate Date: _____

Address of Meeting: _____

Social: _____ Meal: _____ Meeting Time: _____

DG Attire (Circle): DGSUIT/TIE or LIONS BUSINESS CASUAL

Point of Contact for Visit: _____

Preferred Phone #: _____ Email: _____

List if more than one Club is attending:

Club Name:

Pres/Sec/Treasurer Names:

Special Requests/Inductions: _____

My Passion Charities:

LCIF

MN Lions Hearing Foundation

MN Lions Diabetes Foundation

Zach Wosmek

1697 247th Ave NE

Belgrade, MN 56312

Email: lionzachwosmek@gmail.com

Cell: (320)905-7803

2025-2026 5M8 District Governor Contest

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