



**5M8 Midwinter Convention
International Guest**

Welcome

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR

DAVID W. WENTWORTH

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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.





News from 5M8

Happy February, Lions of 5M8!

We have an amazing and exciting month ahead, and I couldn't be more energized about all that's happening across our district and beyond. Midwinter convention season is officially upon us, and our **District 5M8 Midwinter Convention** is just a couple of weeks away! I truly hope to see many of you there as we come together to celebrate the incredible service, leadership, and impact happening locally and globally through **Lions Clubs International**.

As Diann prepares for her year ahead and I begin the back half of my District Governor year, I want to sincerely thank *each and every one of you* for welcoming me so warmly. Serving as your District Governor has been an honor. Please know that even next year, I will continue to be a happy resource and will be giving my full support to Diann as she transitions into the role of District Governor. I have no doubt she will make our district incredibly proud.

If you haven't already, please reach out and **schedule your District Governor visit as soon as possible**—available dates are filling up quickly!



Exciting Events & Opportunities Ahead

If you haven't yet heard from either myself or IPDG Deb, we are *thrilled* to share news about the **Ball for All** initiative. Lions will be providing balls to **all Special Olympic athletes** competing at the U.S. Games happening this summer in Minnesota, in partnership with **Special Olympics**. Volunteer opportunities will be announced very soon—keep an eye out!

I also *highly recommend* attending the **MD5M Multiple District Convention** in Minnetonka this year. We will be joined by our International President, **AP Singh**! Even more exciting—if you have someone special in your life who hasn't yet become a Lion, there will be a unique opportunity for them to attend the convention and be inducted *by the International President himself*. Details can be found later in this newsletter.



Shout-Outs & Gratitude

I want to give a **HUGE shout-out** to a few outstanding Lions and a remarkable club:

GET Vince and Trisha Thiel, along with **FVDG Diann Belmont**, for their tireless work in developing an exciting new club opportunity in the Albany area—one that will complement and work alongside the existing club. Your dedication and leadership do not go unnoticed!

A heartfelt **thank you to the Sauk Rapids Riverside Lions Club** for taking the *Lions' share* (pun absolutely intended!) of helping me put on our Midwinter Convention. Without your incredible support, I would be a blubbering mess. Your teamwork and commitment mean more than I can say.

As we move forward together, expect to hear more as we work hard to **finish this Lions year strong**. Thank you for all you do—for your clubs, your communities, and our district.

With gratitude and Lion pride,-

Zach Wosmek

District Governor - District 5M8

(320) 905-7803 // Cell



MISSION 1.5

We're on a mission to grow.



**FROM THE DESK OF THE 1ST VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR
OF 5M8**

“Spreading the Sunshine of Service”

Dear Lions of District 5M8,

As the days grow a little longer and we welcome more sunlight into our lives, it is fitting to reflect on how Lions continue to spread the **“Sunshine of Service”** throughout our communities. This season reminds us that even small rays of service can make a powerful difference when shared together.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: 5M8 Mid-Winter Convention

I hope to see many of you at our **District 5M8 Mid-Winter Convention** being held:

February 6–8, 2026, at the **Kelly Inn in St. Cloud, Minnesota**. This year's theme, **“Broadcast Your Roar,”** encourages every Lion to proudly share our impact...our stories, and our passion for service. It promises to be a weekend of learning, connection, and—of course—**Lion fun!**

RECENT VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR VISITS & CONVENTIONS

Recently, I had the pleasure of attending a District Governor visit with DG Zach Wosmek in Little Falls, MN, where I was warmly welcomed by Lions from three incredible clubs:

Little Falls Lions

Little Falls Lindbergh Lions

Little Falls Dandee Lions

This area is rich in Lion history, and it was truly inspiring to see the dedication and camaraderie shared among these clubs.

Multiple District Convention Attendance

I have also had the opportunity to attend several neighboring district conventions, including the **5M9 and 5M1 Mid-Winter Conventions**. Each experience has been rewarding—filled with learning, inspiration, new Lion friendships, and plenty of shared laughter. These gatherings truly remind us of the strength of our Lions family beyond district lines.

Collaborative Service in Action

A highlight of my convention visits was witnessing the power of district collaboration. On Friday, January 9th, District 5M8 assisted 5M9 in conducting a **KidSight screening session**—a wonderful way to meet Lions who love to serve and to demonstrate our commitment to vision care across multiple districts.

Inspiring International Leadership

I was also privileged to hear inspiring messages delivered by:

International Directors Mark & Debbie Mansell (Washington)

International Director Melissa Washburn (Carlsbad, New Mexico)

Their passion and vision for Lions service continue to energize our commitment to global impact.

YOUTH EXCHANGE OPPORTUNITY: HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

Exciting News! Students from around the world have expressed strong interest in visiting Minnesota through our **5M8 Youth Exchange Program!**

To make these life-changing exchanges possible, **we are in urgent need of host families for the month of July**. If you or someone you know may be interested in hosting an **International Student**, please reach out by phone or message. Additional information will be provided to help you understand what is involved and how you can make a **life-changing impact** on a young person's future.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share Minnesota hospitality and build global friendships!

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE -

We are currently seeking dedicated Lions to step into the following leadership roles:

- 📧 **Hearing Coordinator**
- 📧 **Environment Coordinator**
- 📧 **Lions Quest Coordinator**
- 📧 **Zone Chair Positions**

These roles are **“vital to our success”** and provide meaningful opportunities for personal growth and leadership development. If you are interested in any of these positions or would like more information, please to reach out to me.

IN CLOSING

Thank you for all that you do to serve, lead, and inspire. Together, let's continue to **“Broadcast Our Roar”** and shine the **“Sunshine of Service”** throughout District 5M8 and beyond.

I look forward to seeing you at the 5M8 Mid-Winter Convention, to continue our journey of service together.

In LIONISM,

Diann Belmont - 1st Vice District Governor District of 5M8

Happy Valentine's Day!



**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.

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.

CASH \$10,000 RAFFLE

Need not be present to win cash raffle prizes. Cash raffle drawing at 4:30 on Green Lake.

& Princeton Lions 39th Annual Gerald Boser Memorial Ice Fishing Contest

Sunday Feb. 22, 2026
1:00 - 4:00 P.M.

on Green Lake (Isanti County)



Over \$30,000 in cash & prizes*

*Based on retail values of 2025 contest for all fishing and raffle prizes.

Largest Fish: \$1000 donated by Crystal Cabinets**

2nd Largest Fish: StrikeMaster 40V Lithium Auger donated by StrikeMaster**

3rd Largest Fish: \$500 cash donated by the Boser Family**

Additional prizes awarded for 4th-10th Largest Fish!

**Prizes subject to change. A complete list of additional prizes is available upon request. Must be present to win Fishing Contest prizes and on ice raffles.

**9 Special Raffles held on ice!
50/50 raffle!**

Must be 18yrs of age to purchase raffle tickets or win a raffle prize.

**FREE KIDS
DRAWING**

**All kids 12 and
under get a free prize.**

\$10 tickets (\$7.00 raffle/\$3.00 fishing) available on ice and **presale** at:



Marv's True Value Princeton
Tales and Trails Sport Shop Zimmerman
Gary's Barber Shop



Like us @ www.facebook.com/PrincetonLions

Further info available at: www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/princetonmn

No shelters allowed. All holes predrilled.

Contest rules available online and on ice. Not responsible for accidents. Maximum 2 holes per angler. 1 hole per ticket.

Permit# 05-X48002-999



**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



Annual FISH FRY

Friday, February 20, 2026

Fish - Mac & Cheese
Coleslaw - Baked Beans - Bread
Adults \$14.00
Seniors 65 & Older \$13.00
Children 6-10 \$9.00 5 and under free
CARRY OUT AVAILABLE
VFW Little Falls
4:00 PM to 7:30 PM



Sponsored by the Lindbergh Lions — Little Falls

SAINT STEPHEN LIONS CLUB

54th Annual



1972 2026

WALLEYE FRY

at the St. Stephen Parish Hall
Friday February 13th, 2026
Serving from 4:30pm to 8:00pm
St. Stephen, Minnesota
Sponsored by
St. Stephen Lions Club

Everyone Welcome

Proceeds for Lions Eye Bank,
Senior Citizens Day
and other Local Projects
Silent Auction Upstairs

\$20 IN ADVANCE \$22 AT THE DOOR

Tickets sold Here!

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.



Host: Maple Grove Lions

To sign-up click the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0945A4AF2DA3FCC34-60193134-2ndannual>



SAVE THE DATE: SHE LEADS ~ A Global Lions Symposium
Sunday, March 8, 2026 ~ International Women's Day
8 a.m. Central Standard Time

This International Women's Day, join us for She Leads—a powerful, global, symposium uplifting women in Lionism and shaping the future of inclusive leadership in service.

Theme: Empowering Women. Inspiring Action, Leading Together
For Lions, Leos, Allies and Change-makers worldwide. It's Global & Worldwide!

Register at: <https://lionsvirtual-org.zoom.us/j/niwkOFXDTL6HfoHKwAVWeQ>
Meeting ID: 879 1014 7859 Passcode: 636835

Full Join Instructions ~ Expect powerful panels, Regional spotlights and hold dialogue on:

- Leadership & Visibility
- Global storytelling & allyship
- Strategies for growth and inclusive innovation

Together, we rise. Together, She Leads.

#SheLeads #LionsWomenLead #IWD2026 #GlobalSymposium #LeadToServe



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!



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



**Northern Pride
Lions Forum**



March 20th & 21st, 2026

Radisson Duluth Harborview



2026 Registration Form

Your District & Club Name _____ Circle if

Name & Title _____ Gluten or Vegetarian

Lions Membership# _____ Circle if

Companion Name & Title _____ Gluten or Vegetarian

Companion Lions# _____

Address _____

City/Town _____

State/Prov/Zip/Postal _____

Email _____

Registration Fee \$110.00 (US)

Registration includes Friday evening Meet & Greet, Seminars on Saturday, Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner with dynamic guest speakers

Checks payable to: Northern Pride Lions Forum

Mail to: Lion Dennis Heinen, 12069 Bluegill Dr, Sauk Centre, MN 56378

Hotel Reservations: Duluth Radisson Harborview

800-333-3333 Group Northern Lions Forum

<https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/IZ07S7>

**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

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.**



CALLING ALL HEROES!
A SUPER HERO-THEMED SERVICE CARNIVAL For the WHOLE COMMUNITY!

Grab your cape and unleash your superpowers—you're invited to an action-packed **Service Carnival** celebrating the amazing work of our Lions foundations and community partners!

What's Happening?

- ✓ FREE KidSight Vision Screenings
- ✓ FREE Hearing Screenings
- ✓ Meet the amazing heroes from all our foundation programs
- ✓ Connect with **United Way**
- ✓ Fun, family friendly activities & PRIZES!

WHEN & WHERE:
MARCH 10TH, 2026
4:00 PM – 8:00 PM
ST. CLOUD GREAT RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY

How You Can Be a Hero

- Attend and support local service organizations
- Spread the word to friends and family
- Volunteer!** We can always use more helping hands

PRIZES!

Whether you come to learn, support, or serve—every hero makes a difference.
Suit up, show up, and help us make our community stronger—one superpower at a time!

A person's most useful asset is not a head full of knowledge, but a heart full of love, an ear ready to listen and a hand willing to help others.





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 Belmont, 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 Boogga Room at conventions, bringing fun and laughter to our gatherings. I also attended the 2019 Multiple District Convention in Mahnommen, 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,

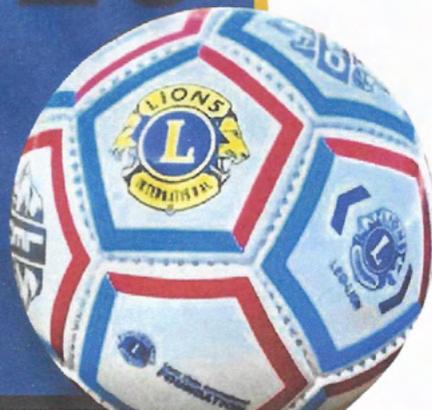
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Stommes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kimberly Stommes Sauk Rapids Riverside Lions Club



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 !!



2026 DONATION OPTIONS



SPECIAL OLYMPICS
USA GAMES
MINNESOTA 2026

LCIF Special Olympics Donation Link

LCIF has launched a dedicated QR code and donation link for the Special Olympics USA Games. Donations from individuals or clubs count toward Melvin Jones Fellowship credits.

[Click Here to Online Donate!](https://lionsclubs.org/special-olympics-2026)

<https://lionsclubs.org/special-olympics-2026>



Scan QR code
to Donate



MD5M / Roar-For-A-Cause – Registration is Live

**Signup
made
easy!**

Option#1: ONLINE

*Fast, secure, and easy.
(Service fee is optional)
Select "Other" and enter 0.)
Instant confirmation!*

[Click here to Register Online!](#)

Option#2: PAPER:

Fill out the attached form
Check
Venmo:
Paypal:

**Table Sponsorships
Available:**

Bring a group or make a bigger impact—
details included on both registration options.



“A Ball For All” Special Olympics Fundraiser

Our new “A Ball For All” fundraiser—an easy, fun way to raise funds. The top seven clubs will have their name and logo featured on official balls!



SPECIAL OLYMPICS
USA GAMES
MINNESOTA 2026

Corporate Plaque Program / Special Olympics USA Games

*A great way for businesses to gain recognition while supporting
an important cause!*

Local businesses can support LCIF and the *Special Olympics USA Games* through the Corporate Plaque Opportunity.

- Minimum donation: \$1,000
- Not eligible for MJ Fellow credits
- Not tied to Roar-For-A-Cause sponsorships

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@myctl.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”

ENVIRONMENTAL

There has been an article regarding the environment in District 5M8 monthly newsletters. The goal of each article was to be informative, interesting, and thought-provoking.

The September article was information about hunger statistics. The October article provided information about worldwide deforestation. The November article suggested using the Lions Club and Community Needs Assessment to discuss possible local environmental projects. The December article defined the three types of natural environments. The January article reported climate trends forecast for 2025.

Environment Committee

PDG Sandy Sandwick ssandwick.17@gmail.com

Lion Makayla Thompson

thompsonmakayla400@gmail.com



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

Can Do Canines to Host Open House February 28

Can Do Canines invites you to attend an open house on Saturday, February 28, from noon to 2 p.m., at its Can Do Canines campus (9440 Science Center Drive, New Hope, Minnesota). Potential volunteers, clients, or anyone who might be interested in finding out more about our organization can join us to **learn how an assistance dog changes the life of a person with a disability.**

Through a self-guided tour, attendees will be able to watch a trainer working with an assistance dog, hear from a volunteer dog host, talk with staff members from the volunteer department, pose questions to client services coordinators about the application process, and meet graduate teams from five of the types of dogs Can Do Canines trains: hearing, mobility, seizure, diabetes, and childhood autism.

There is no pre-registration for this event, though attendees will be asked to share some contact information when arriving.

To request a sign language interpreter for the Open House, please contact Laurie at lcarlson@candocanines.org or 763-331-3000 at least two weeks in advance. We'll do our best to accommodate late requests, but availability is not guaranteed.

More information about Can Do Canines is at CanDoCanines.org.



We at Can Do Canines appreciate your partnership in spreading the word about our inspiring assistance dog teams.

Today, I want to make you aware that we recently highlighted on our website a newer team that resides in your district:

Jenny and Hearing Assist Dog

Maury, [https://](https://candocanines.org/signals-in-the-silence/)

candocanines.org/signals-in-the-silence/

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



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

Greetings fellow Lions of MD5M,

I wanted to update you on the KidSight program across the Multiple.



We have 25 dedicated Directors across our 12 Multiple Districts who are actively screening children in all venues from preschools and daycares to public and private schools. Although our primary focus has been children 6 months to 6 years where issues of amblyopia (lazy eye) can be more easily treated, we also find value in screening older children through their senior year in high school.

In the second quarter of our Lions year, 10-1 to 12-31 of 2025, 44,467 children have been screened and 6,100 have been referred for professional care. These numbers may be greater, they represent the numbers provided to me. We are so excited to see the continued growth of this program. Your Club should be contacted by one of the Directors in your MD to present at a Club meeting, if you have not, I will provide a link to the Directors by MD and feel free to contact them to arrange a visit.

Our Foundation recently replaced 21 of our screening instruments that no longer have support from the manufacturer. This was done through funds from our Foundation and a matching grant from LCIF. Your generous support of the Foundation allows us to continue to promote KidSight and provide this valuable service to our children. Please continue to include the KidSight Foundation in your parade of green donations.

Thank you Lions of MD5M for your continued support of KidSight and feel free to contact me with any questions regarding the program.

To find the KidSight Director in your MD, visit:

kidsightmd5m.org and look under the “Where we screen” section where the contact information for all Directors can be found.

In Service,

Lion Dr. Jim Molde

Chair, MD5M Lions KidSight Foundation





Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

Greetings 5M8 Lions Clubs,

You may already be familiar with the wonderful history and the Global Causes of the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). Celebrating over 58 years of service, the Foundation has been working with Special Olympics for the last 25 years.

As a District Coordinator of LCIF, we are a partner and involved in “Roar For A Cause”, a fundraiser to support “Family Night Celebration” at the Special Olympics here in Minnesota June 20-26, 2026

LCIF/Special Olympics will be the recipient of the proceeds from “Roar For a Cause” by holding a silent auction on February 28 at Chanhassen Dinner Theater. The event is a gathering of Lions from all around the state of Minnesota, Ontario and Manitoba.

As Chair of the Silent Auction of this event, I am reaching out to our fellow 5M8 District Lions Clubs /Individual Lions to donate an item and/or basket to the silent auction.

Please call me for a pick up at 320-248-6704.

Kindly send any gift cards or certificates to:

Deb Bialke
5559 355th Ave
Hillman, MN 56338

Thank you sincerely for your time and consideration. Please e-mail me at liondebbialke@gmail.com if you would like further information.

Through our support of our collaboration with the Special Olympics, especially hosting Family Night and gift-giving a “All Ball” to each of the Special Olympic Athletes.

In service,

Deb Bialke
Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)
LCIF District Coordinator 5M8
5559 355th Ave
Hillman MN 56338

ROAR for a CAUSE



Fundraiser Registration Form-Special Olympics 2026 USA Games

Saturday, February 28, 2026 10:30 am to 3:00 pm

Chanhassen Dinner Theater 501 West 78th Street Chanhassen, MN 55317

Registration Deadline: February 5, 2026

Name _____

Email _____

Telephone _____ District # _____ Club Name _____

GENERAL ADMISSION - \$65.00 per person (includes registration, lunch, and program). Cash bar available.

of Attendees _____ Total @ \$65 per person \$ _____

TABLE SPONSOR (8 Guests)-This is a group ticket for 8 people.

of Tables _____ Total \$500.00 per table

Table sponsors receive lunch, program and one drink ticket each for eight guests. In addition, your Company/Club name (logo) will appear on the table tents and in the program, and you will be mentioned by name during the luncheon.

Sponsor/Organization Name: _____

PLEASE COMPLETE NAMES & MEAL CHOICES ON THE BACKSIDE OF THIS FORM.

Make checks payable to LCIF Roar for a Cause and mail to LCIF, Lion Rose Thies, 21515 371st Ave, Green Isle, MN 55338-2027 or pay online by Venmo or Pay Pal.
 Pay Pal: Rosemary Thies [paypal.me/GreenIsleLions](https://www.paypal.me/GreenIsleLions)
 Venmo: @Rose-Thies

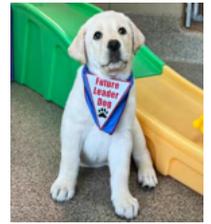
Please scan or email your registration form to rthies001@gmail.com or text information to 612-756-1316

#	Name	Email	Phone	Meal Choice Circle One
1				Chicken Chan; Sirloin Steak; Veg. Lasagna
2				Chicken Chan; Sirloin Steak; Veg. Lasagna
3				Chicken Chan; Sirloin Steak; Veg. Lasagna
4				Chicken Chan; Sirloin Steak; Veg. Lasagna
5				Chicken Chan; Sirloin Steak; Veg. Lasagna
6				Chicken Chan; Sirloin Steak; Veg. Lasagna
7				Chicken Chan; Sirloin Steak; Veg. Lasagna
8				Chicken Chan; Sirloin Steak; Veg. Lasagna

Chicken Chanhassen (chicken breast with wild rice dressing and Hollandaise sauce. Roasted seasonal vegetables. Includes side salad, baked bread and coffee.

Top Sirloin Steak (choice of one sauce: Burgundy Mushroom, Veal Demi-Glace, Gorgonzola, Chimichurri, Bearnaise) your server will ask/explain the choices at your table. Garlic mashed potatoes and roasted seasonal vegetables. Includes side salad, baked bread and coffee.

Vegetarian Lasagna (ricotta cheese, mozzarella, carrots, celery, onions, mushrooms, house marina sauce), roasted seasonal vegetables. Includes side salad, baked bread and coffee.



Subject: Awards for Your Donations to Leader Dogs for the Blind

First of all, I would like to say **THANK YOU, THANK YOU** for your generosity! At the 5M8 Midwinter Convention, we raised over **\$25,000** for Leader Dogs for the Blind.

I am writing to make you aware of the opportunities your club has to honor someone in your club, community, or another organization for their support of Leader Dogs for the Blind. Blindness can slow a person down—but free services from Leader Dog make people unstoppable.

Millions of people are blind or visually impaired and lack the means to travel independently. Leader Dog programs change that. With your club’s continued support, your donations help people achieve independence for years to come.

Below are the ways your club can donate to Leader Dog and receive recognition. Please note:

All donations must be made within one fiscal Lions year. Amounts no longer accumulate over multiple years.

Your donation of \$_____ allows you to choose an award. Here are the giving options and how to check your club’s donation totals:

Leader Dogs for the Blind – Quick Reference for Club Awards

Deadline to Order Awards: July 1, 2026

Donation Options & Award Recognition

Donation	Award / Recognition	Notes
\$500	Puppy Sponsorship	Includes 5x7 photo, 4 wallet-size photos, puppy profile, certificate, plush puppy
\$500	Large Brick	Installed at Rochester Brick Plaza; keepsake miniature brick sent 8–14 weeks after order
\$250	Small Brick	Same as large brick but smaller
\$1,000	Lion Leader Dog Medalion	Symbolizes partnership between Lions and Leader Dogs
\$5,000+	Top Dog Club Recognition	Choose 1+: patch for banner, Top Dog pins, mini certificate, plush puppy; recognized on social media; personal call from Leader Dog client

Check Your Club or District Donations

Visit: <https://www.leaderdog.org/lions-club/club-donation-reports/>

(Updated the first week of each month)

Send Donations To:

Kelsey Martin-Gardner
Director of Philanthropy for Lions Engagement
Leader Dogs for the Blind
P: 248-218-6227
1039 S. Rochester Rd.
Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Your tax-deductible gift helps make people unstoppable.

Tax ID: Federal 38-1366931 | Michigan A-152543

Deadline to order awards: July 1, 2026

I am always available to visit your club to provide a demonstration or to answer any questions. Please reach out anytime at **320-630-1264**.

PDG Tracy Voigt 320-630-1264
mnhomeof4@hotmail.com

5M8 Hearing Foundation Report

The 5M8 Hearing foundation has been busy in the district the past few months. A number of hearing screenings have been conducted with the schools in the district. Some schools that participated are: Willow River, Long Prairie Catholic, Long Prairie Elementary and High School, Ogilvie, Cambridge Elem, Milaca Elem. And High School and Albany Elementary school. We have also had the audiometer out for several events and Senior events. We had 22 places where hearing was screened. We have screened 2027 individuals in the past year plus. We had 276 referrals from our screenings. Our official name for our new program is the "Lions All Ears" program. We are heading into the season of club fish fries, pancake breakfasts, health fairs and other community activities. Let's get out there and doing some hearing screenings with our audiometers. Remember we have one in every zone. Contact your zone chair and request the use of the audiometers. If you need training or help, just contact me. I'm happy to announce that we will have another member on the Hearing Foundation here in 5M8, Bev Dozel from Staples will replace Bob Harms . I am glad she has accepted the position. I will have a speaker at the midwinter on Saturday afternoon. They are coming from the Univ. Of MN Children's Hearing Clinic. After the session I will be available to do hearing screenings.

Mike Appel, District 5M8 hearing trustee



Rich, Guide Dog Client from Michigan, pictured with Leader Dog Timber

Mission Moment

"When you lose your vision, you lose your independence, and that was the hardest thing. Leader Dog Timber will make it a little easier to keep going.

I've never been a very emotional person, but meeting Leader Dog Timber was emotional. **It was this overwhelming happiness and feeling that this is going to work out.** It's a hard feeling to describe. It's not just having a companion but thinking about our life together."



Lions International Convention support available: Contact Lion Carrie Shofner

FYI: The Sandstone Quarry Lions have changed the monthly membership meeting to the 4th Monday. Location El Mexico restaurant, Sandstone Time: 4:30 social, 5:00 Meeting / Dinner



DG Zack, Don Feige (was presented Progressive Helen Keller Award) & Jerry Lochner (president of Little Falls Lions) and inducted Charlotte Chatfield into the Little Falls Lions Club sponsored by Lion Karleen Schmeidt



Cold Spring Home Pride Lions and Heartland Champion Lions at community Spaghetti dinner. Home Pride Lions made a donation to the



Purse winners at Riverside Lions Bingo!



VDG Diann and other 5M8 Lions attended 5M9 Midwinter Convention .VDG Diann with International Director Mark Mansell and his partner in service

Sandstone Quarry Lions had a food drive at Chris' Food Center on January 8th. They organized this food drive to help address food insecurity in their part of Pine County. Pictured are Lion Jodie Ice, Chairperson of the event and PCC Judy Loken.



5M1 Midwinter visiting VDG's





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



Lion Marilyn O'Regan
Lion Duane Sorensen

Motley 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



Troy Tvedt
Andy Welinski
Charlotte Chatfield
Kori Maas
Jeanne Jacobson
Katy Loween
Brad Riebel
Glen McDowell
Edith Harris
Curt Schaefer
Daniel Sparring
Luke Throener

Hinckley Lions Club
Holdingford Lions Club
Little Falls Lions Club
Paynesville Lions Club
Pine City Pine Area Lions Club
Pine City Pine Area Lions Club
Richmond Lions Club
Sandstone Lions Club
Sauk Rapids Riverside Lions Club
St. Martin Lions Club
St. Martin Lions Club
Swanville Lions Club



5M8 Membership update as of

January 2026

2774 Lions Members & 73 clubs

137 dropped members in FY

93 members added in FY

-44 Net growth in FY

-1.59 % net Growth in FY



5M8 Service update

as of **January 2026**

1,930 overall activity count

480,257 overall people served in FY

51,099 overall volunteer hours in FY

94% 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 |



**Environment
April 18-26, 2026**

SERVICE PLANNER

LIONS YEAR 2025-26

JULY PLAN FOR THE YEAR	AUG YOUTH	SEPT DISASTER & MENTAL HEALTH	OCT MENTAL HEALTH
NOV HUNGER & DIABETES	DEC MENTAL HEALTH & HUMANITARIAN	JAN HUNGER & DIABETES	FEB VISION
MARCH HUNGER	APRIL ENVIROMENT	MAY ENVIROMENT	JUNE CHILDHOOD CANCER



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

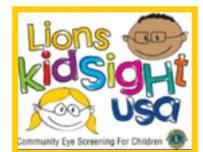


KIDSIGHT kidsightmd5m.org/resources.php

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

mpsaklein@live.com

Lion Jean Euteneuer—C: 320-290-6991

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 tltboots@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 Breikreutz jabre@izoom.net

Lion Carrie Shofner davecarrieshofner@gmail.com



Global Service Team Coordinators

PDG Amy Leidenfrost head coordinator frankandamy135@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 tltboots@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 requirements 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

5M8 District Governor Contest 2025-2026														
	Pts	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Total
Club Activities:														
District M&A submitted by end of month	20													
Submit Membership Report to LCI by month end	20													
Submit Service report to LCI by month end (Don't forget your meetings count)	20													
Club newsletter sent to DG, 1VDDG, & Zone Chair	20													
Post Club Updates to Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, or Tiktok monthly	50													
New Members added or reinstated (Per Member)	30													
Total Membership at year end plus 1 (Membership beginning July 1, 2025- end June 30, 2026)	20													
5 members reported reading District Newsletter or Watched On Track with DG Zach weekly	50													
2 or more clubs do something fun together (Help with fundraiser, join meeting, etc.	30													
Governor Visit Scheduled by 12/20/25	20													
1st half of dues paid 7/28/25	50													
2nd half of dues paid 1/20/26	50													
Attend other Lions Club Fundraiser (10 pts per/max50)	10													
Host Youth Exchange (per youth)	30													
Club host a Service Carnival	50													
District Committee Club Presentations	Pts													
LCIF	30													
LeaderDog	30													
Leos	30													
Diabetes	30													
Hearing Foundation	30													
Vision Foundation	30													
Kidsight	30													
Can Do Canines	30													
Project New Hope	30													
MN Childhood Cancer	30													
Global Membership Team	30													
Global Leadership Team	30													
Global Service Team	30													
Global Extension Team	30													
Orientation	30													
Additional Pts														
Bring Eyes Glasses to Mid Winter Collection	50													
Club Officers attend Zone meetings (Pres, VP, Sec, Treas)	30													

General Members attend Zone Meetings (5 Max)	20													
Support a Mental Health Cause	50													
Club _____														
Zone Chair _____														
Date _____														
Activities Total														
Presentations Total														
Donations Total														
Zone Meeting Total														

