

# SERVICE JOURNAL

JANUARY 2026 / VOLUME 242 / ISSUE 7

Meet **new** people. Do **cool** things.



2025-2026  
District Governor  
Cathe Picek

5M9



## Dates to Note

5M9 MW5M9  
MW  
Convention

Grand Casino  
Mille Lacs  
Onamia MN  
January 9 –  
11, 2026

Roar for a  
Cause  
Special  
Olympics &  
LCIF

Chanhassen  
Dinner  
Theaters  
February 28,  
2026

Northern Pride  
Lions Forum  
Lions  
Leadership

Radisson  
Harborview  
Duluth MN  
March 20 – 21,  
2026

MD5M Multiple  
Convention

Sheraton  
Minneapolis  
West  
Minnetonka MN  
April 24-26,  
2026

USA Special  
Olympics  
Host of MD5M  
Family Night

U of M and  
Blaine MN  
June 20 -26,  
2026

## Bringing Ideas to Life: Featured Speakers at our 5M9 2026 Mid-Winter Convention

### International Director

Dr. Mark Mansell



### Past District Governor

Debbie Mansell



### Minnesota Lions Kidsight

Dennis W. Kelly III



### Lions Gift of Sight

Sean Poppoff



### Corneal Transplant Recipient

Rick Odenthal



### Jacob's Voice

Kaitlyn Schroeder



### B93 Program Director/On-Air-Person

Bill Satre



### Sheltered Reality Drumline

Steve Schlosser



JANUARY 2026





# Message from the 5M9 District Governor Cathe Picek

**[cathe.picek@gmail.com](mailto:cathe.picek@gmail.com)**

## LIONS SERVICE SHINES!

Welcome to the second half of our 5M9 Lions year! I'm looking forward to celebrating our success with many Lions at the 2026 Mid-Winter Convention. It is going to be so much fun seeing, talking, and interacting with Lions from all corners of the district. To spend time together and share our experiences, participate and discover new service project ideas, learn new things from our guest speakers, relax, have fun and enjoy each other's company.

We are supporting our [Hunger Week of Service](#) (1/3 -1/11/2026) with a Zone Hunger Food Drive. The 5M9 zone that brings in the highest number of pounds in food will win a \$200.00 GC to apply toward a zone event. Other forms of [hunger relief](#) and food security service ideas can be found here. Submit your hunger service [reports and videos](#) by January 23, 2026, for a chance to be featured in the [Weeks of Service Video Showcase](#).

As one collective 5M9 Lions Team we have accomplished so much in the first six months. Support the district's global causes of Vision and Youth. Aim for a net gain of three new members per club. We have achieved our goal of one new club, started a second club and our stretch goal is to establish three additional clubs. To reach this target, we should consider innovative approaches beyond our usual concepts of club structure.

Additional goals include 100% Lion and Leo clubs service reporting (which we still need to work on), 95% club officers trained (completed at 100%), 100% of zone chairs attend training (completed) and 100% club donations to LCIF (any amount qualifies) and ask each member to donate \$5.00 or more to reach our goal of 60% of member donations to LCIF.

It is up to all of us to continue that momentum and reach the goals and complete the plans in the second half of our Lions year. We Can Do It!

Thank you for your Lionism, talents, vision, time, and your passion to serve your communities.

**Believe in Yourself! Believe in Lions!**  
**Lion Cathe Picek**  
**5M9 District Governor**



## **Message From 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor**

**Sheri Greenwaldt**  
**[lionqsherri@gmail.com](mailto:lionqsherri@gmail.com)**

Lions of 5M9,

The new year always brings new resolutions. With a new year, it invites us to pause, reflect, and look forward with hope. The turning of the calendar is more than a fresh start; it is a renewed promise to serve with compassion, courage, and unity. Our resolutions are not just words; they are commitments that we live daily through service.

Through Lions Clubs International, we are reminded that every act of kindness, no matter how small, has the power to change a life. As we begin this New Year together, let us embrace resolutions that inspire action and strengthen our shared mission.

Let's resolve to serve with passion. May we continue to see the needs in our towns and rural communities and respond with open hearts and willing hands. Our service is the light that reminds others they are not alone. Let's resolve to lift one another up. Our district is strong because of Lions like you. I am so proud of all of you! Let us encourage, mentor, and support one another, celebrating successes and standing together through challenges.

Let's resolve to lead with courage and integrity. Whether in a formal leadership role or simply leading by example, may we step forward with confidence, guided by our values and our commitment to serve.

Let's resolve to grow and adapt. A new year brings new opportunities. Let us remain open to fresh ideas, new partnerships, and innovative ways to expand our impact while honoring the traditions that make Lions who we are.

Let's resolve to serve with gratitude. May we never forget to say thank you to our fellow Lions, our families, and our community partners. Gratitude fuels joy and strengthens our purpose.

As Lions, our New Year's resolution is timeless: to serve where needed, lead with heart, and leave a legacy of kindness. Together, let us make 2026 one filled with meaningful service, strong fellowship, and hope for the communities we proudly serve.

I am looking forward to seeing you all next week at the Midwinter convention! It will be a blast and a way to reconnect with our fellow lions and to also "Meet new people and do cool things!"

Lion Sheri- 1<sup>st</sup> VDG



## Message From 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor Diane Kunze



As I begin to look ahead to the upcoming new year, I am reminded of International President A.P. Singh's motto, "Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead".

Are the service projects in our communities inspiring others to offer an opportunity to lead a new project that you are passionate about?

Are these projects exciting others to join your club in the valuable projects that your club has chosen to take part in?

Keep the ideas flowing into the new year. Don't settle into repeating the same routines without growth or change. Create new and refreshing projects. Brainstorm and share any idea—none are wrong. Be inclusive, ensuring that as many as possible can benefit or take part in these new projects. It can be as simple as a new spin on a previous idea. For example, instead of a spaghetti dinner, try a baked potato bar or a taco bar.

Take those first nervous steps into leading projects not just taking part in them. Our future leaders are those that are doing just that. Finding the courage to get out of our comfort zone and lead. Every member who is willing has this ability.

Your community needs your leadership. Your club needs your leadership. Growth is not always easy. It takes time and energy for those courageous few that are willing to take that step.

Yours in service,  
Diane Kunze  
2nd VDG



## 5M9 Convention Schedule

Friday, January 9, 2026

Registration & Information	NOON - 9:00 p.m.	Foyer
Credentials	NOON - 9:00 p.m.	Foyer
Zone Hunger Food Drive Drop Off	NOON - 9:00 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Foundation Displays Set Up	NOON - 4:00 p.m.	Eagle, Lynx, Bear, Wolf
LIONS Games	NOON - 8:00 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
5M9 Cabinet Meeting	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Autumn
PDG Meeting	4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Autumn
Vision & Hearing Screening	4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Bullhead
5M9 Foundation Displays	4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Eagle, Lynx, Bear, Wolf
Silent Auction	4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Eagle, Lynx, Bear, Wolf
District Service Projects Eyeglasses, Hearing Aids, Cell Phones & Ink Cartridges	4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Eagle, Lynx, Bear, Wolf
Box Lunch Dinner	5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Speaker: PDG Dennis Kelly III MN Lions KidSight	6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Cash Bar	6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
First Timers Meeting	7:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Autumn
Entertainment "Name That Tune" with Bill Satre Games	7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer



## 2026 MID-WINTER CONVENTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 2026

Registration & Information	7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Foyer
Credentials	7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Foyer
Silent Auction & Service Projects	8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Eagle, Lynx, Bear, Wolf
5M9 Foundation Displays	8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Eagle, Lynx, Bear, Wolf
Coffee Station	7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
All Lions Pride Breakfast Speaker: ID Dr. Mark Mansell	7:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Business Meeting	8:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Election Voting	10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Speaker: PDG Debbie Mansell	10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Break	11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Color Guard & National Anthem	11:45 a.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Lunch	12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Tail Twisting	12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Youth Scholarship Awards		Winter, Spring, Summer
Speaker: Sean Popoff MN Lions Gift of Sight	1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer



## 5M9 Convention Schedule

Saturday, January 10, 2026



5M9 Service Projects	2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Eyeglass Service Project		
The Portal – Q & A		Winter, Spring, Summer
Zone Hunger Food Drive Weigh In	3:00 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
5M9 Foundation Displays Closed	3:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Service of Remembrance	3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Autumn
Silent Auction Open	4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Eagle, Lynx, Bear, Wolf
First Timer Book Turn In	4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Cash Bar	4:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.	Winter Spring, Summer
ID Reception with All Lions	4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Winter Spring Summer
ID Dr. Mark & PDG Debbie Mansell		
Dinner	5:45 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Speaker: ID Dr. Mark Mansell	6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Awards Presentation	7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Entertainment	7:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Sheltered Reality Drumline		
Music & Dancing	8:45 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Silent Auction Payment/Pickup	9:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Eagle, Lynx, Bear, Wolf
First Timer Books Tabulated	9:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Autumn



## 5M9 Convention Schedule

Sunday, January 11, 2026



Registration & Information	7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Foyer
Club Presidents/ID's DG's ZC's	7:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.	Autumn
Silent Auction Pick Up	7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Eagle, Lynx, Bear, Wolf
Prayer & Meditation	7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Autumn
Breakfast & Program	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Speaker: Kaitlyn Schroeder Jacob's Voice	9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Break	9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Business Meeting LCIF	9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Tail Twisting		
Awards/Gifts	11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
ID Dr. Mark Mansell Closing Comments	11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Color Guard Retires the Colors	12:15 p.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Winter, Spring, Summer
Convention Concludes		

# Letter of Intent

November 21st, 2025

Cathe Picek  
5M9 District Governor  
Lions Club International

Dear District Governor Cathe,

It would be the highest honor to be on the ballot at the 5M9 Mid-Winter Convention in January 2026 as a candidate for the leadership role of District Governor of District 5M9.

Since joining the Lions in 2017, I have been fortunate to have many roles and responsibilities within my clubs and our district and to attend many leadership training sessions within the Lions as listed below.

• 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor for 5M9	2025-present
• Guiding Lion for the Jacobs Crew Lions Club	2024-present
• Current member of Verndale Lions	2023-present
• 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor for 5M9	2024-2025
• Zone chair advisor	2024-2025
• Can Do Canine Co-chair	2019-2025
• 5M9 District Secretary	2021-2024
• 5M9 GST team member	2022-2024
• Hewitt Club 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	2019-2020
• Hewitt Club 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	2020-2021
• Hewitt Club President	2021-2022
• Hewitt Club Service Chair	2022-2023
• Hewitt Club LCIF Chair	2022-2023
• USA/Canada Forum attendee	2020 (virtual) 2021, 2025
• Lions International Convention Attendee	2021 (Virtual), 2022, 2023, 2025
• Attended many 5M9 District Conventions	
• Attended many MD5M Conventions	
• Emerging Lions Leadership Institute Graduate	2019
• Regional Lions Leadership Institute Graduate	2019
• Advanced Lions Leadership Institute Graduate	2022
• Lions University Bachelor Graduate	2021
• Lions University Masters Graduate	2021
• Attended many 5M9 District Leadership Trainings	

Recognitions that I have received within the Lions organization:

- Melvin Jones Fellowship
- Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship
- International Presidents Leadership medal
- 2 International President's Certificate of Appreciation
- GAT Chairperson's medal
- Dream Catcher Award
- Friends of Kamp KACE Award
- Club Excellence Award

I am very proud to say that I am ready to join the leadership team within District 5M9 as the District Governor. I am aware of the dedication and responsibilities of being a District Governor and I am excited for the next step in leadership. I love being a lion and I am very proud to be a member of Lions International, Multiple District 5M and District 5M9!

Sincerely,  
Lion Sheri Greenwaldt

# Letter of Intent



Cathe Picek  
5M9 District Governor  
Lions Club International

District Governor Cathe:

It would be an honor to be considered as a candidate for 1st Vice District Governor for 5M9.

I began my adventure in Lions 10-1-2016 in the Rothsay Lions Club. In that time I have served on various committees and led those committees. In 2017 I took on the role of Club Treasurer which I held until 2023. Served as Club President from 2022 to 2024. Club secretary and LCIF Coordinator from July 2024 to present.

My pathway to learning began with the college of leadership training 2021 through 2024. I graduated from ELLI in 2022, RLLI in 2024.

I have earned awards from my club and peers.

- Club Lion of the year 2021
- College of Leadership 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
- Club Excellence Award 22/23 and 23/24
- Certificate of Appreciation 22/23 from Dr. Patti Hill
- Leadership Medal 23/24 from Fabricio Oliveira

I have attended 5M9 conventions in 2022, 2023 and 2024, Lions Pride Forum in 2023, and the multiple 5M Convention in 2022 and plan to attend the Multiple Convention this spring.

I am proud to join the leadership team of 5M9 as 1st Vice District Governor. I look forward to learning my new role in Lions. I humbly and graciously accept the responsibilities of 1st Vice District Governor. I am proud to shout that I am a Lion of Lions International, Multiple 5M, District 5M9 and as a Member of the Rothsay Lions Club, "The Little Club that Can".

Sincerely  
Lion Diane Kunze

# Letter of Intent

To the District 5M9 Cabinet and Nominations Committee,

I, Lion Joe Laudenbach of the Nisswa Lions Club, respectfully submit this letter as my formal request to have my name placed on the ballot at the district 5M9 Business Meeting on January 10, 2026, for consideration as a candidate for the position of 2nd Vice District Governor Elect. It would be a privilege to continue serving our great district in this leadership capacity, supporting our clubs, and strengthening the mission and values of Lions International. My goal is to bring experience, collaboration, and enthusiasm to the role—helping inspire service and leadership growth throughout 5M9.

Over the past 15 years as a proud Lion, I have had the honor of serving in several leadership roles, including Nisswa Club President, Club Service Chair, and Service Project Chair for numerous community events.

At the district level, I have served as 5M9 Zone 1 Chair, Guiding Lion for 5M9, and GMT for two years, and I am a graduate of both the Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI) and the Faculty Development Institute (FDI). My service and dedication have been recognized with multiple honors, including 2 Presidential Leadership Medals, Helen Keller Award, Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship, LCIF Medal of Achievement, Hearing Foundation Award, Presidential Certificate of Appreciation, and recognition as a Service Partner to the MD5M Council Chair.

I am deeply committed to living the principles of honesty, trustworthiness, reliability, and accountability, always giving my time freely with no expectation of return—only the joy of serving others. I respectfully ask for your consideration and support in my candidacy to serve as your next 2nd Vice District Governor Elect.

Yours in Lionism,  
Lion Joe Laudenbach  
Nisswa Lions Club

2026 5M9



MID-WINTER

CONVENTION

LIONS SERVICE SHINES

JAN 9-11  
2026

GRAND  
CASINO  
MILLE LACS

HOSTED BY:  
GARRISON BAY  
LAKE AREA  
AND  
PILLAGER & AREA  
LIONS CLUBS



2026 5M9



**MID-WINTER  
CONVENTION  
LIONS SERVICE SHINES**

**JAN 9-11 2026**

**GRAND CASINO MILLE LACS**

**HOSTED BY: GARRISON BAY LAKE AREA AND PILLAGER & AREA LIONS CLUBS**



**Please Remember to Bring the Following to the Convention:**

**Your club banners for proud display**

**All used eyeglasses collected for Eyes for Mexico**

**Any hearing aids your Club has gathered — ideally brought separately to help the Vision Foundation avoid extra sorting**

**Lions clubs assign your voting delegates in the Lion Portal**

**And of course... bring yourself!**

**We're looking forward to seeing you there and celebrating the great work your Club is doing.**



**Dear Fellow Lions,**

We are excited to announce the chartering of the **Lake Park Audubon Lions Club**, and we invite you to join us in celebrating this milestone on **Saturday, January 17, 2026, from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the Lake Park American Legion**. Please see the attached flyer for event details.

As Lions, we are part of a global family dedicated to service, compassion, and community. The formation of a new club is not just an expansion—it's a powerful statement that the spirit of service is alive and growing. It is a spark of hope and a promise to a new community that they are not alone.

Launching a club is an exciting journey, but it comes with costs, banners, administrative materials, service supplies, and foundational training that ensure success. That's where you come in.

We are asking for your **support in the form of a financial donation** to help set the Lake Park Audubon Lions Club on a strong path forward. Your generosity will demonstrate to our new Lions that they are not just starting a club—they are joining a global family that stands together in service.

Most importantly, **we want you to show up** (present your gift in person to our new club). Your presence on Charter Day will mean the world to these new Lions. Let's show them, through our unity and fellowship, what it means to belong to a worldwide family of service.

Together, let's show them what it means to be a Lion.

Thank you for your continued commitment to our mission. We look forward to celebrating with you in January. In service and fellowship,

Lion Jay Norby  
Guiding Lion  
Lions Clubs International *We Serve.*  
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JANUARY 2026





# LAKE PARK AUDUBON LIONS CLUB CHARTER CELEBRATION

**Saturday, January 17, 2026**

at the

Lake Park American Legion

2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

**Burger and Salad Bar**

**\$20.00/person**

**Reserve your spot today**

by calling PDG Jay Norby,

218-298-1031

or email [ljnorbs@arvig.net](mailto:ljnorbs@arvig.net)



# January Service

5M9



# HUNGER WEEK OF SERVICE

**JANUARY 3 – 11, 2026**

This January, Lions and Leos, with the support of LCIF, improve food security and access to nutritious food to help alleviate hunger.

Scan the QR code to reach the Hunger Global Cause webpage.



This initiative unites Lions and Leos worldwide to address the critical issues of mental health and well-being (October 2025), **hunger (January 2026)**, and the environment (April 2026). By participating, you'll be part of three impactful weeks dedicated to creating positive change and making a difference in communities around the globe – together. So get involved and help drive collective action for a better future!

**Create or support projects that fight hunger, strengthen food security, and raise awareness and show the world the power of Lions united!**



# Here we Grow Again!



**Hill City Lions** had their annual membership drive and Vikings watch party. What a great game!! Thank you to our District Governor Cathe for joining us. We had 9 new members join our awesome organization today. What a great day, very AWESOME!! Kyle Woodford, Brent Welk, Steeven John Smith, Dylan Fett, Dylan Enga, Shawn Pehrson, Not Pictured: Shelly Welk, Larry Pexa, Aldo Mercado.

We are so excited, to show these new people what our club does for our small town.



Crosslake Fire Chief Chip Lohmiller accepted a \$15,000 donation to the Crosslake Fire Department from the **Crosslake-Ideal Lions Club**.



Santa Brings Smiles at the Laporte School Bazaar! Santa stopped by the Laporte School Bazaar and the kids left with smiles and free gifts from the **Laport Benedict Lions Club**!

## Lions at Work!



The **Battle Lake Lions** working on their winter service project: sorting, cleaning & reading prescriptions lenses in donated glasses. Pictured: John Peterson, Becky Koplin, Jerry Begley, Jon Tamke, Kathy Neese, Brian Kvebak & Connie Krusemark.



**Parkers Prairie Pride of LIONS** with Santa Claus ( and Mrs. Claus ) at Prairie Christmas.



**Deerwood Crosby Area Lions**

Cups of Cheer for area seniors made by L to R Lions Sarah Halvorson Brunko, Angelina Likens, Joyce Johnson, Dan Deleney, Cathe Picek and Shane Miles.



**Wadena Lions** Sang Christmas Carols and handed out over forty gifts to residents of Fair Oaks Lodge Nursing Home, A tradition for over 50 Years.



The **Garrison Bay Lake Area Lions** Christmas Party was a joyful gathering filled with festive fun and community spirit.”



We are overjoyed to receive generous donations to Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)!

A special thank you to the **McGregor Lions** and the **Nisswa Lions**, who each donated \$10,000 in December to support the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games, coming to Minnesota in June.

Your generosity will make a meaningful difference, and we are truly grateful for your support!

Photo: Dale Christensen and Joe Laudenbach, Nisswa Lions, present check to LCIF District Coordinator Erin Beck.



A few of the Park Rapids Lions spent a few hours caroling at the nursing homes on Dec. 10. Lions Phil Sailer, Zelda Novak, Mike Carroll, AJ Wibe, Terry Meaurtag, Frank Bender and Bickey Bender.

## Amplify your club's impact during Weeks of Service

This initiative brings Lions and Leos together worldwide to tackle mental health, hunger, and environmental challenges. Join three powerful weeks of service that create real, positive change in communities across the globe. Get involved and help drive collective action for a better future!

 **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

**JAN**  
**HUNGER**  
(JAN. 3-11)  
**DIABETES**  
**HUMANITARIAN**  
**VISION**

**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).

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

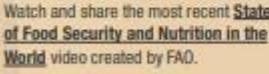
**Vulnerable populations**, including those who are lower-income or underrepresented, are **most likely to be undernourished** (World Health Organization).

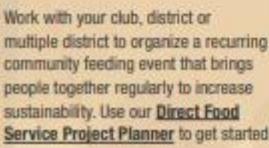
While it can vary, **food insecurity is higher among rural communities** while lower in urban areas, highlighting the need to support rural populations globally (Food and Agriculture Organization).

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).

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

 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.

 Watch and share the most recent [State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World](#) video created by FAO.

 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.

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

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

 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.

 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.

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

 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.

 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.

NISSWA LIONS CLUB

THURSDAY  
JANUARY  
22

4:30-  
7 PM

HELD AT  
YE OLD  
PICKLE  
FACTORY

# 2026 DIAPER DRIVE



Donate a box of infant or adult diapers and enjoy  
Rafferty's Pizza plus beer & wine tasting from  
Spirits of Nisswa.

***Door prizes and drawings  
throughout the night!***

Donated diapers will be given to the  
Relationship Safety Alliance, Lakes Area  
Pregnancy Support Center, Central Lakes  
College and the Lakes Area Food Shelf.

**Don't have time to shop for diapers?**

Buy them at the door the night of the event!

**Can't make it to the event?**

You can still drop off diapers during normal business  
hours at the Nisswa Chamber of Commerce.

**Rafferty's**  
PIZZA



Thank you to Brainerd General  
Rental for providing a trailer  
to help us store and deliver  
diapers to families in our  
community!



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 Michelle Nickolausen  
goodman.michelle@rocketmail.com





## Serving With Compassion: How Lions & LCIF Fight Hunger Every Day

Across the world, millions of families face the uncertainty of not knowing where their next meal will come from. Hunger is more than an empty stomach, it's a barrier to learning, to working, and to living with dignity. As Lions, we recognize hunger as one of the most urgent issues facing our communities, and we step forward with the courage to serve.

Hunger is one of Lions Clubs International's eight global causes—alongside Childhood Cancer, Diabetes, Disaster Relief, Environment, Humanitarian Efforts, Vision, Youth—and it remains a powerful reminder that service begins with meeting the most essential human needs. But every community is different, and Lions know that meaningful service starts by listening first. Whether it's a small-town pantry, a school backpack program, or a large-scale food distribution, Lions shape their service to the unique challenges around them.

### The Power of LCIF: Turning Compassion Into Impact

While Lions serve locally, **Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)** strengthens that service with the resources to reach further and help more people. Through LCIF grants, Lions are empowered to expand hunger-relief programs with greater scale, innovation, and sustainability.

LCIF supports Lions in: **Launching or expanding food pantries, Funding refrigeration or storage for perishable goods, providing meals during disasters and emergencies, supporting farming, nutrition, and food security initiatives, creating long-term programs that break cycles of hunger.**

These grants turn local passion into lasting change. They help Lions transform a simple food drive into a lifeline for families. They help clubs move from temporary relief to sustainable solutions. And most importantly, they allow us to extend hope with dignity and compassion.

### Service Rooted in Our Values

Our work to fight hunger reflects the core values of Lionism: **Service** that meets immediate needs. **Integrity** in how we support and uplift those we serve. **Collaboration** with local partners, food banks, and community leaders. **Diversity** in understanding that hunger affects people of all backgrounds. **Dedication to Excellence** in ensuring our programs make measurable impact. **Innovation** in creating new ways to support long-term food security.

### A Call to Serve

Every meal shared is an act of love. Every partnership formed is a step forward. And every Lion who raises their hand to serve becomes part of a global movement working to ensure no family is overlooked and no child goes hungry.

Together—with LCIF we can build stronger, healthier, more nourished communities. Let us continue to lead with hearts open, hands ready, and a commitment to serving where the need is greatest.

**Where there's a need, there's a Lion—and together, there is hope.**

### 5M9 LCIF Co-Chairs

Lion Erin Beck  
218-845-2204  
[elb\\_18@yahoo.com](mailto:elb_18@yahoo.com)

Lion Linda Albrecht-Norby  
218-298-4743  
[pdglinda@gmail.com](mailto:pdglinda@gmail.com)

# Ways to Give



Lions Clubs International  
**FOUNDATION**

## Donate online

[lionsclubs.org/WaysToGive](https://lionsclubs.org/WaysToGive)



## Make a Pledge

[lionsclubs.jotform.com/90524105483149](https://lionsclubs.jotform.com/90524105483149)

## Mail

Mail USD checks drawn from a U.S. Bank and payable to LCIF to:

Lions Clubs International Foundation  
Department 4547  
Carol Stream, IL 60122-4547 USA

Visit [lionsclubs.org/WaysToGive](https://lionsclubs.org/WaysToGive) for mailing checks in Canada and India

## Wire transfer

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.  
ABA Routing Number: 021000021  
10 S. Dearborn St.  
Account Name: Lions Clubs International Foundation  
Chicago, IL 60603 USA  
Account Number: 754487312  
Swift International Banking number: CHASUS33

Email a copy of your receipt or transfer form – along with your name, Member ID, club name, and district name – to [donorassistance@lionsclubs.org](mailto:donorassistance@lionsclubs.org).

If requesting recognition for someone else, please include the recipient's name, Member ID, club name, and district name.

## Contact Donor Services

For assistance, contact Donor Services at +1.630.203.3836 or [donorassistance@lionsclubs.org](mailto:donorassistance@lionsclubs.org).



**Lions Clubs International  
FOUNDATION**



## Why Moving Forward with Technology Matters

Lions have always been leaders in service. For over a century, we have adapted to meet the changing needs of our communities—guided by our core values of **Service, Integrity, Collaboration, and Dedication to Excellence**.

Today, embracing technology is one more way we continue that proud tradition.

Technology is not about replacing the heart of Lionism; it is about **strengthening our ability to serve**. It helps us communicate more effectively, reach new members, reduce administrative workload, and focus more of our time and energy on what truly matters—service.

Across our district, technology allows us to:

- Share service opportunities and success stories more widely
- Engage younger members and new Lions who connect digitally
- Coordinate projects and respond more quickly to community needs
- Highlight our impact in areas such as **Vision, Hunger, Diabetes, Youth, Childhood Cancer, Disaster Relief, Environment, and Humanitarian Efforts**

Service comes in all shapes and sizes, and technology helps us better understand and respond to the unique needs of each community we serve.

Change can feel challenging, especially in an organization rich in tradition. But Lions have never stood still. We lead by serving, and sometimes serving well means learning new tools that help us work smarter—not harder.

By moving forward with technology, we honor our past while building a stronger future—one where our service is visible, accessible, and impactful for generations to come.

Together, let us continue to ask not, “*Why change?*” but “*How can we serve better?*”

In Service,  
PDG Jay Norby  
CA1 GAT Area C Leader  
ND/SD/MN/WI/IA

SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
**USA GAMES**  
MINNESOTA 2026

**2026**  
Coming to  
MINNESOTA  
**JUNE**  
**20-26**

Save the Dates

•  
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•

**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**

**Chanhassen Dinner Theatres**  
501 W 78th St, Chanhassen, MN 55317



**Lions Clubs International  
FOUNDATION**



**HONG KONG 2026**  
108th Lions International Convention



SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
**USA GAMES**  
MINNESOTA 2026

**2026**  
**Coming to**  
**MINNESOTA**  
**JUNE**  
**20-26**



**Multiple District 5M**  
proudly announces...



## **Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION**

Your donations designated to  
Special Olympics USA Games  
Minnesota to LCIF will help make  
our \$300,000 grant possible!

### **Family Night!**

For all athletes & their families

### **Opening Eyes®**

Vision Screening for  
participating athletes

### **A Ball For All**

A sensory ball is gifted  
from MD5M to all  
participating athletes.

Scan this code  
for more about  
All Balls



# Through the Years: A Journey in Time

by District 5m9 Historian Lion Zelda Novak

## 1948 & 1993 Rose Bowl Parade Floats

The history of the 1948 Lions Rose Bowl float is marked by its initial participation in the Rose Parade and the subsequent commitment to continuous float entries since 1992. The float's design and production were a significant undertaking, with the Lions involved in the creation of their first float in 1948. Despite the effort, the Lions decided not to participate in the parade again in 1967. However, their decision was reversed in 1968, and since then, the Lions have been a consistent presence in the Tournament of Roses Parade.



1948 entry



1993 entry

photos from the “lionsfloat.org” site 1948 & 1993 Rose Bowl Parade Floats

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# SERVICE PLANNER

LIONS YEAR 2025-26



\*YELLOW HIGHLIGHTS A SERVICE FOCUS THAT LIONS CLUBS  
INTERNATIONAL IS PROMOTING THOSE WEEKS



## 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](http://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**  
**9 101<sup>st</sup> 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”**

2026 MDSH CONVENTION IS HAVING A...

# BEACH PARTY!

APRIL 24-26, 2026

5M

MANITOBA  
MINNESOTA  
N.W. ONTARIO



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.

<https://sites.google.com/view/md5m-multipleconvention/home>

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

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





**April 24-26, 2026**  
**106<sup>th</sup> - MD5M Multiple Convention**  
**Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel**  
**2026 MD5M Registration Form**



Lion       Leo       Guest

Check if this is your 1<sup>st</sup> Multiple Convention

Lion       Leo       Guest

Check if this is your 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:robrandmn@gmail.com)

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

# 5M9 District Governor, 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor Club Visit Request Form

[Click here for form](#)  
[Link address](#)

**District Governor,  
1st and 2nd Vice District Governor Travels**

DG/VDG	Zone	Clubs	Chartered	Years	January	February	March
CATHE	2	AITKIN	5/5/1926	99	1/20/2026		
SHERI	5	ALDRICH	2/24/1986	39	1/22/2026		
DIANE	6	CALLAWAY	9/29/1976	48			
CATHE	2	CUYUNA RANGE	12/29/1937	87	1/15/2026		
CATHE	2	DEERWOOD CROSBY AREA	10/23/2025				
SHERI	7	DUNVILLA	6/23/2016	9		2/17/2026	
CATHE	3	EMILY OUTING 50 LAKES	1/18/1982	43			3/30/2026
SHERI	4	GATEWAY- MENAHLGA	9/21/1978	46		2/3/2026	
SHERI	5	HEWITT	3/31/1978	47			
CATHE	1	LEADER	8/20/1998	26			
SHERI	5	NEW YORK MILLS	11/22/1968	56	1/14/2026		
DIANE	8	OTTERTAIL	5/5/1976	49	1/26/2026		
DIANE	8	PARKERS PRAIRIE	12/9/1963	61	1/22/2026		
DIANE	8	PARKERS PRAIRIE PRIDE					3/9/2026
SHERI	5	VERNDALE	2/21/1968	57	1/22/2026		
		Name	Zones		January	February	March
		DG Cathe Picek	1, 2 & 3				
		1st VDG Sheri Greenwaldt	4, 5, & 7				
		2nd VDG Diane Kunze	6, 8				



## How to submit an article

Please submit material for these sections. by the 15th of each month for the following months newsletter.

I would like to publish your most recent community service and your upcoming fundraisers, in which Lions from other clubs could, perhaps, participate.

Submit pictures, flyers or text. In photos please put names of who is in it. When possible, send photos in jpeg format and articles as a word document. Use of a pdf is also acceptable.

Contact me for assistance or with questions  
Submit to: [5m9newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:5m9newsletter@gmail.com)  
Sue Stebbins editor



### District Governor

Cathe Picek (Jerry Bohnsack)  
24254 Placid Dr.  
Deerwood MN 56444  
C: 218-330-7804  
[cathe.picek@gmail.com](mailto:cathe.picek@gmail.com)

### 1st Vice District Governor

Sheri Greenwaldt  
60502 Co. Hwy 40  
Parkers Prairie, MN 56361  
C: 507-456-0788  
[lionqsherri@gmail.com](mailto:lionqsherri@gmail.com)

### 2nd Vice District Governor

Diane Kunze  
210 North Circle Drive  
Rothsay, MN 56579  
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[dimarku@icloud.com](mailto:dimarku@icloud.com)

### Cabinet Secretary

Kim Donahue  
PO Box #84  
Park Rapids MN 56470  
612-968-3640  
[5M9secretary@gmail.org](mailto:5M9secretary@gmail.org)

### District Treasurer

Linda Albrecht-Norby ( Jay)  
1021 5th Ave NW  
Perham, MN 56573  
C: 218-298-4743  
H: 218-346-3200  
[pdglinda@gmail.com](mailto:pdglinda@gmail.com)

### Newsletter Editor

Sue Stebbins (Dick)  
26390 Glen Drive  
Garrison, MN 56450  
C: 218-851-2510  
[5m9newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:5m9newsletter@gmail.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 5M9** <https://www.lionsof5m9.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](http://www.mnlionsdiabetes.org)

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

MN Lions Hearing Foundation: [www.5mhf.org](http://www.5mhf.org)

MN Lions Vision Foundation:

[www.mnlionsvisionfoundation.org](http://www.mnlionsvisionfoundation.org)

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

