

SERVICE JOURNAL

JUNE 2026 / VOLUME 243 / ISSUE 12



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



**2025-2026
District Governor
Cathie Picek**



**Lead to Serve,
Serve to Lead with
International President
A.P. Singh**

As we approach the end of the year, this is the perfect time to reflect on our shared experience as Lions. While each of us brings something unique, it is our combined effort that creates the greatest impact.

When we come together in service, we achieve meaningful goals and show our communities the kindness and commitment Lions are known for. As Lions, we are never alone — we support one another, inspire one another and overcome challenges together. There is still time to join forces this year and do something great. I look forward to seeing what you and your clubs accomplish together.

Together in service,

A.P. Singh
International President

Creative Strategies Are Growing One Lions Club Fast

Every new member brings fresh energy, new ideas and greater capacity to serve — but how do you attract them? The Phoenix Asian-American Lions Club has found creative, effective ways to grow and keep members engaged. In this video, discover the strategies behind their thriving, expanding club — and how you can put them to work in your own.

Turn Your Social Media into a Membership Magnet

Is your club's social media working as hard as it could? A strong, engaging online presence can showcase your impact, promote service projects and attract new members who want to get involved. Want to stand out even more? Check out our social media webpage and get Lions gear like our Experience More collection to boost your visibility.

Supporting Mental Health Together

Mental health is one of the world's most urgent challenges — and Lions are stepping up to make a difference. And there's more: research shows that volunteering doesn't just help others — it benefits your own mental health, too. Being a Lion means making an impact and feeling good while you do good.

**USA Special
Olympics Host
of MD5M Family
Night**

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

**Lions 108th
International
Convention**

**Hong Kong
China**

July 3-7, 2026

**5M9 Lions
2025-2026
Celebration,
September 20,
2026**



June 2026





Message from the 5M9 District Governor Cathe Picek cathe.picek@gmail.com

We Did It! We Grew and Served more this year!

THANK YOU - 5M9 LIONS for your...

Team spirits and working together to achieve our goals

Hearing the ideas of new members and reacting to them

Awesome attitudes, patience and perseverance with change

Necessary passion to be a Lion – to get the work done

Kindness and generosity in donations to the Lions Clubs
International Foundation (LCIF)

Your passions in supporting our 8 Lions Global Causes – and
making a difference in our communities

Outstanding commitments to the goals of our clubs, District 5M9
and Multiple District 5M

Unified efforts to fulfill the challenges and needs of your
communities by starting new and unique clubs in our district

Leading the way with new clubs, new members and better retention

Integrity in the work that is done that shows our Lionism spirit

Out of the box thinking which will enhance our future efforts to
grow

Natural abilities and skills to make our Lions clubs & district one of
the best

Serving with integrity, passion, kindness, empathy, and respect

**MY SINCERE THANKS TO ALL LIONS FOR AN AWESOME 2025-2026 –
with one month to go we can continue to Grow and Serve more people!**

**LIONS SERVICE SHINES!
DG Lion Cathe**



Message From District Governor Elect

Sheri Greenwaldt
lionqsheri@gmail.com

Lions of 5M9

As another Lions year comes to a close, it is incredible to look back and reflect on all that was accomplished together. This past year was filled with service, leadership, fellowship, learning, and countless moments that reminded us why being a Lion is so meaningful.

Throughout the year, clubs across the district stepped up in amazing ways to serve their communities. From community events and fundraisers to environmental projects, youth programs, hunger initiatives, vision support, and disaster relief efforts, Lions continued to answer the call to serve wherever help was needed. Every project, no matter how big or small, made an impact.

This year also showed the strength of teamwork. Clubs worked together, members supported one another, and new friendships were formed along the way. The dedication and passion you all showed truly made this year special.

We also saw growth in many ways. Members attended training, clubs explored new ideas, and many Lions stepped into new leadership roles. Growth is what keeps our organization strong and helps prepare us for the future. It has been inspiring to watch members challenge themselves, learn new skills, and continue developing as leaders.

Perhaps one of the greatest highlights of this past year was the fellowship shared among Lions. Whether at club meetings, service projects, conventions, training sessions, or community events, the friendships and connections built through Lionism remain one of our greatest strengths. Lions truly become family, which is one of the reasons why I am a Lion!

Most importantly, this past year reminded us that service matters. Because of the dedication of Lions, lives were changed, communities were strengthened, and hope was shared with so many people. The work done this year reflects the very best of what it means to live out our motto: "We Serve."

As we look ahead to a new Lions year, we should all feel proud of what was accomplished together. Thank you to every Lion who gave their time, talents, energy, and heart this past year. Your service made a difference, and our district is stronger because of you.

One final thing... I am still looking to fill a few positions on the cabinet! We currently have openings for Zone Chairs in Zones 3, 4, and 6, as well as positions for Lions Vision Foundation (East Side), KidSight (East Side), and Youth Exchange (either side).

If you have ever considered becoming more involved at the district level, this is a wonderful opportunity to grow as a leader, meet new people, and do cool things. Serving on the cabinet has truly been a blast, and I have loved the friendships, learning opportunities, and experiences that come with it. Honestly, each of these positions has your name written all over it! We all have unique talents to share, and sometimes stepping into a new role can become one of the most rewarding parts of our Lions journey.

If you are interested, curious, or would simply like to learn more about any of these leadership opportunities, please reach out. I would love to visit with you and help you find the role that fits you best.

DGE Sheri 😊

Message From 1st Vice District Governor Elect Diane Kunze



Reading our International President's article this month, I agree that by working with other groups within our communities we can make a larger impact with our service. Lions do not need to do things alone. Clubs across our district come of all sizes. From clubs under 10 members to clubs with over 100 members.

This speaks to the smaller clubs. Pair with another club and we can do more. Make a project bigger, increase the impact of the project. Show the community how much fun we have providing service to our communities.

Also, by pairing with another club, you may gain a member or two at the same time.

As I have talked to clubs this year with the 4 words. Meaningful, Relevant, Inclusive and Fun. If a project lacks meaning or relevance, do not be afraid to mix things up. Make French toast instead of pancakes. Do not be afraid of falling on your knees. We can learn something even by falling on our knees.

Diane Kunze
1st Vice District Governor Elect

Message From 2nd Vice District Governor Elect Joe Laudenbach



As your Second Vice District Governor-Elect, I am very excited for the upcoming Zone Chair Training on June 18th. This training is an important opportunity for us to prepare our Zone Chairs for a successful Lions year ahead. Together, we will focus on helping clubs grow, strengthening communication, and supporting clubs in achieving their goals.

We will also be discussing plans for scheduling Zone Fairs, club visits, and both the Fall and Spring Zone Meetings. Strong Zone Chairs help create strong clubs, and I am looking forward to working alongside each of you as we continue building momentum across our district.

Being a Zone Chair is not only a meaningful leadership opportunity — it is also a lot of fun! You get the chance to visit clubs, meet Lions from across the district, share ideas, celebrate successes, and build new friendships along the way. It is a rewarding role that gives you a front-row seat to all the great things happening throughout our district.

We still have opportunities available in Zones 3, 4, and 6 for Lions interested in serving as Zone Chairs. If you have ever considered taking on a leadership role and helping clubs succeed, this is a great opportunity to get involved and make a difference.

Please feel free to reach out to me, Sheri, or Diane with any questions or if you would like more information about serving as a Zone Chair.

Thank you for all you do for Lionism and for the communities we serve!

5M9 2nd VDGE Joe Laudenbach



CONGRATULATIONS!

to

**5M9 Minnesota
Lion Vision Foundation
board member**

**PDG Lion
Jim Arvidson!**



Lion Jim was inducted into the
MD5M Hall of Fame at the
MD5M Convention!

At the convention, he received this honor from
International President A.P. Singh and
Past International Director Debra Wasserman.

★ *Well done and well deserved!* ★

Aitkin Lions Club — 100 Years!



Congratulations to all and thank you for a century of service.

Aitkin Lions President **Tom Bruss** kicked off the evening as emcee. **Brian Sheehan** presented a **TEAM Sheehan Foundation Fellowship Medal** to **Carroll Jansen** — congratulations, Carroll! **Peggy Gibbons** and **Steve Harvey** were also honored with **International President's Certificate of Appreciation** recognition. What a wonderful night of celebration and gratitude.



Day of Learning Highlights

The newly elected officers of the **Henning Lions Club** participated in the annual **District 5M9 Day of Learning**, joining Lions from across the region for a full day of leadership development, collaboration, and preparation for the upcoming service year.

This event provided valuable opportunities for officers to strengthen their skills, connect with district leaders, and gain insight into the programs and mission of Lions International.

Henning Lions Club Officers at the Day of Learning

Left to Right – 2026-2027 Incoming Officers of the Henning Lions Club: Tres. Elect. - Beth Gettner; Sec. Elect. Lori Smith; Pres. Elect. Charity Coates; Member Lisa Dreyer (photo by David Coates)





Dear Lions of 5M9,

Thank you all for helping 5M9 achieve its membership goal this year! Because of your hard work, enthusiasm, and willingness to invite others to serve alongside us, we have welcomed more than 250 new members into our clubs this year. That is truly something to celebrate.

More members means more friendships, more hands-on service, stronger relationships, and more people being served throughout our communities. Every invitation you extended, every story you shared, and every new member you welcomed made a difference.

Thank you to every Lion in our district for all that you do. Thank you for sharing the joy of Lionism, for sharing your stories, and for simply being you. Your passion for service continues to inspire others and helps keep our clubs growing and thriving.

It has been an honor serving as your GMT this year. I am excited to see the great things our district will continue to accomplish together in the years ahead.
Thank you again for an incredible year!

Yours in Service,
Joe Laudenbach
District 5M9 GMT



Baxter Lions Kenn Shepherd and Ann Powers presented scholarships to Emma Jetsch, Julia Phillips, Sophie Silvernail. Andrew Kargel not shown.



Bonnie Lehrke presented \$500 Osage Lions scholarships to both Vivian Shepersky and Mason McCarthy.

NISSWA LIONS CLUB 2026 Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to this year's recipients

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Addison Herriges | Landon Gangl |
| Avah Meierding | Nick Foster |
| Caleb Rademacher | Nikki Crocke |
| Carter Erickson | Ryder Schulz |
| Kaiden Raske | Tiana Herron |
| Kamryn Kraemer | Wyatt Brown |



Proudly supporting local students and their future

MERRIFIELD LIONS Scholarship DEADLINE!

Don't miss this opportunity to invest in your future!

JUNE 16, 2026

SEND US A **PM** FOR AN APPLICATION!

June 2026





Induction of Phyllis Haldimann and Mary Laha was led by 5M9 Governor Cathe Picek. Pictured L-R Cathe Picek, Jill Anderson, Phyllis Haldimann, Mary Laha and Robin Purgett.



May induction of Ann Theno, Katy Sax, Diane Peters, Liz Bildsoe, Lori Dallun & Mary Lynch was led by MD5M Council Chair Denise Laudenschach
L-R Front Ann Theno, Katy Sax, Diane Peters
L_R Back Joe Laudenschach, Liz Bildsoe, Robin Purgett, Jill Anderson, Lori Dalluhn, Mary Lynch, Kevoyn McGartwaite and Denise Laudenschach

Teresa Linn, Colette McConville and Kevin McGartwaite were inducted during previous meetings.

"Neighbors Helping Neighbors"



Environment

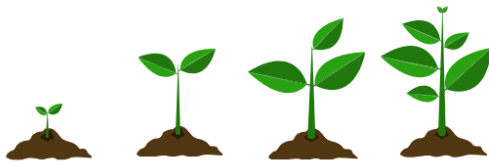
Weeks of Service
April 18-26, 2026

Hackensack Lions and a member from the Backus Lions Club participated in "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" on Saturday, May 16th.



Neighbors Helping Neighbors –

At a local resident who needed help with outside spring clean-up. We loaded up 3 large tarps with leaves, twigs, and pine needles.



Members and friends of the **Hackensack Lions club** completed their ditch clean-up on State Hwy. 371 during Environmental week April 18 – 26th.



June 2026





Park Rapids Lions Marge Hobson, Zelda Novak and Dick Kimball were proud to present \$500.00 scholarships to three deserving seniors.



At the Annual McGregor Lions Academic and Athletic Banquet, five student were awarded scholarships from the McGregor Lions. One student was awarded scholarship from an anonymous donor, a former McGregor Lions scholarship recipient.





STANDING UP TOGETHER: LIONS AGAINST BULLYING

Kindness Today. Stronger Tomorrow.



Bullying continues to impact young people in schools, online, and in everyday life. From hurtful words and social exclusion to cyberbullying on social media, many youth carry emotional wounds that affect their confidence, mental health, academic success, and sense of belonging.

LIONS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Lions can play an important role in preventing bullying by supporting schools, mentoring youth, promoting diversity, and modeling respectful communication. The Emerging Lions Leadership Institute materials emphasize the importance of communication, diversity, mentoring, and teamwork in creating healthy environments where every person feels valued and heard.

EVERY LION CAN HELP



Speak up against bullying behavior



Encourage kindness and inclusion



Support youth mentoring opportunities



Partner with schools and community organizations



Listen to young people with empathy and understanding

**TOGETHER,
WE CAN BUILD
A WORLD WHERE
KINDNESS WINS.**



WE SERVE

Since its founding by Melvin Jones in 1917, Lions Clubs International has believed in the power of service, compassion, and leadership. Our motto, "We Serve," reminds us that service is not only about meeting physical needs—it is also about protecting dignity, encouraging hope, and building stronger relationships within our communities.



Youth today face pressures previous generations never imagined. Cyberbullying can follow a child home, reaching them 24 hours a day through phones and social media. Lions clubs can respond by partnering with schools, hosting awareness events, sponsoring youth leadership workshops, supporting mental wellness initiatives, and encouraging peer mentoring programs. Even small acts of kindness can have life-changing effects for a young person who feels isolated or afraid.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Lions lead by example. The values of Lionism—Service, Integrity, Collaboration, Diversity, Dedication to Excellence, and Innovation—teach us that strong communities are built when people are treated with respect and compassion. By creating welcoming club cultures and supporting inclusive service projects, we show youth what positive leadership looks like.



BULLYING PREVENTION IS ONE OF OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS

The global causes of Lions include Childhood Cancer, Diabetes, Disaster Relief, Environment, Humanitarian Efforts, Hunger, Vision, and Youth. While these causes guide our service, the true mission of Lions is always to meet the needs of the community. Bullying prevention is one of those important needs.



YOUTH



HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS



VISION



HUNGER



ENVIRONMENT



DIABETES



CHILDHOOD CANCER



DISASTER RELIEF

*Together
We Serve*



“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”
—Helen Keller



LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

WE SERVE

www.lionsclubs.org

LCIF CO-CHAIRS



Linda Albrecht-Norby
218-298-4743
pdglinda@gmail.com



Erin Beck
218-845-2204
elb_18@yahoo.com



LCIF
LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL
FOUNDATION



DEERWOOD
CROSBY
AREA
LIONS
&
CUB PACK 100



Community Spaghetti Dinner



Join us for a delicious evening of food, fun, and community spirit!

WEDNESDAY
JUNE 10

DEERWOOD
AUDITORIUM
5 TO 7 PM

Free Will Donations Benefit
DCA Lions & Pack 100 projects!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



5M LIONS QUEST
WEBINAR SERIES

ALL LIONS INVITED! IGNITE THE QUEST

Learn about Lions Quest and
how your club can get involved!

A five-part webinar series for ALL Lions members to learn about Lions Quest - our Social Emotional Curriculum for youth - and the impact you can make in your community.

June 16, 2026
7:00 - 7:45 PM

Zoom: Join Virtually
Meeting ID: 828 0316 4131
Passcode: 087451

Or email: robbrandmn@gmail.com for invite



Seminar Dates (tentative):

- Webinar 1: June 16, 2026
- Webinar 2: August 18, 2026
- Webinar 3: October 20, 2026
- Webinar 4: December 15, 2026
- Webinar 5: February 16, 2027

- Topic: Ignite the Quest
- Topic: Map the Territory
- Topic: Start the Conversation
- Topic: Build the Partnership
- Topic: Train, Prepare, Celebrate!

Lead the Pride. Launch the Quest!



LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

FREE 18-INCH ROAD SIGNS GET YOURS TODAY!



FREE 18-INCH ROAD SIGNS
available while supplies last



LIMIT ONE REQUEST PER CLUB
Thank you for helping us spread the word!



FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED
Signs will be fulfilled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Show your
impact.
Inspire your
community.



LIONS 18" STREET SIGN



REQUEST YOUR SIGN TODAY:

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center/marketing-events/marketing-public-relations/club-marketing/road-signs>





Pequot Lakes Cherry Car Show and Craft Fair

FREE to Spectators!

Date: June 6, 2026

Place: Trailside Park, Pequot Lakes

Registration: 7AM, Show runs from 9AM to 3 PM.

Trophies awarded at 1PM.

Fee: \$10.00 pre-registration and \$15 day of the show. Pre-registration - \$10 checks must be received by mail prior to the event.

Host: Pequot Lakes-Breezy Point Lions Club

The Cherry Car Show is entering its 18th year and is located in Pequot Lakes at beautiful Trailside Park on the corner of Patriot Ave & highway 11. Early registration is recommended as cars are first come first serve. The city of Pequot Lakes is located in the center of the Brainerd Lakes area where fun is easy to find! A craft fair is happening at the same time so there will be fun for everyone.

For more information, please call (218) 821-2496 or email info@plbplionsclub.com



We would LOVE to see you ... and your car!

Like us on Facebook to follow our events!



Hackensack Lions



Pancake Breakfast



When: First Sunday of each month

May through October 2025

Where: Hackensack Community Building

Time: 8 to 11am

Park Rapids Community Garage Sale



Sponsored by the Park Rapids Lions

Saturday June 7th

9 AM – 3 PM

Hubbard County Fairgrounds

Paulson Livestock Pavillion

Reserve a space

Rental Fee \$25

For more information or to register,
email parkrapidslions@gmail.com or
call (218) 252-6410



PORK CHOP AND CHICKEN DINNER

WITH AU GRATIN POTATOES, BEANS & COLESLAW, ROLL, ICE CREAM AND COOKIE

HEWITT LIONS CLUB

FRIDAY, JULY 17 2026



**SERVING FOOD
5-7 PM**



HEWITT COMMUNITY CENTER

TICKETS:

ADULT AT DOOR - \$18

PRESALE - \$15

9 YRS & YOUNGER - PRE-SALE \$6, \$7 AT DOOR

COME HUNGRY AND READY TO EAT

CONTACT ANY HEWITT LIONS MEMBER
OR CALL 218-639-6348



June 2026



McGregor Lions Charter Night

Chartered by Aitkin Lions 11/9/1965

Please come and help us celebrate!

Monday June 15, 2026



Social Hour begins at 5:30 pm

Meal & Program 6:30-8 pm

**\$14 Steak, Baked Potato, Veggies,
Dessert, Hors d'oeuvres**

**Special guest:
DG Cathe Picek**

**McGregor Community Center
41442 Hwy 65, McGregor, MN 55760**

RSVP by June 2 to McGregor President, Robert Swedeem,
612-205-5468 or rswedeem@gmail.com or Secretary Terry Carter,
763-691-5192, tcarter51@msn.com

Importance of New Member Orientation – Lions 101

A major focus of the day was New Member Orientation, a foundational component of building strong, informed, and engaged Lions. Orientation ensures that new members understand:

- The goals and mission of Lions International
- The history and traditions of Lionism
- The structure and function of their local club
- Their role in serving the community and district

When members feel informed and connected, they are more confident, motivated, and ready to serve.

The 5M9 Global Leadership Team (GLT) will continue offering New Member Training sessions in both spring and fall. These sessions are open to all new Lions and any current member wishing to expand their knowledge.

For more information, contact:

GLT Coordinator Michelle Nickolauson
goodman.michelle@rocketmail.com



KidSight Highlights MD5M Convention in Minnetonka

KidSight was proud to be present at the MD5M Multiple District Convention in Minnetonka, where International President A. P. Sing delivered an inspiring keynote address. His message was clear: the Lions of MD5M are poised for growth, and now is the time to expand our service and strengthen our impact.

One powerful way to support that growth is by bringing a KidSight visionscreening program to your club. KidSight offers Lions a hands-on, high-impact service project that directly benefits children and families in our communities. Many clubs have already seen how KidSight can energize membership, increase visibility, and create meaningful partnerships with schools and childcare centers.

I encourage any club interested in learning more to consider launching a KidSight program. I am available to visit your club, answer questions, and share how easy it is to get started.

For more information or to schedule a presentation, please contact me at dtcoates2@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEER for the Special Olympics USA Games

Make a difference. **Have fun.** **Serve with the Lions.**

THREE EASY STEPS:

1. Register

Scan the QR code or use the link below to sign up.
Registration includes uploading a photo.
<https://cerv.is/0430rLionsClub>



2. Choose Your Volunteer Role

Family Night Setup

Tuesday, June 16 • 1:00–6:00 PM

Opening Eyes Vision Screenings

Friday, June 19 – Thursday, June 25

Family Night Guest Service

Wednesday, June 24 & Thursday, June 25 • 4:30–9:30 PM

Family Night Greet Team

Wednesday, June 24 & Thursday, June 25 • 5:00–7:00 PM

3. Show Up and Enjoy the Experience

You'll be part of something meaningful for athletes, families, and our community.

Early Access for Lions, Family & Friends through March 20

Feel free to share – the best spots will fill quickly.



A RECORD OF DEVELOPING LEADERS

SEPTEMBER 3-5, 2026

Memphis, Tennessee



Register Now at LionsForum.org

Save the Date!
Thanksgiving for Vision
Saving and Restoring
people's sight
OCTOBER 24, 2026
Holiday Inn & Suites
ST. CLOUD, MN
More Details Coming Soon!



June 2026



Lions Service for June 2026

June is Humanitarian Month

Here are examples of how you can help:



1. Humanitarian Relief & Community Support

Hygiene Kits — Assemble kits with soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, and feminine products for shelters or schools. **Senior Support Week** — Deliver care packages, host a social event, or do yard clean-ups for seniors living alone. **Emergency Preparedness Packs** — Create simple “Go Bags” with flashlights, batteries, first-aid items, and local emergency info.



2. Vision & Health Projects

Vision Screening Days — Partner with libraries, community centers, or summer festivals. **Eyeglass Collection Blitz** — A June-only challenge to collect as many pairs as possible. **Blood Pressure & Diabetes Screening Booth** — Set up at a farmers’ market or town celebration.



3. Environment & Community Beautification

Pollinator Garden Installations — June is perfect for planting. Lions can partner with schools, parks, or city councils. **Park Clean-Up & Picnic** — Combine service with fellowship.



4. Youth & Family Support

Summer Reading Kits — Provide books, bookmarks, and snacks for kids. **Youth Activity Day** — Host free games, crafts, or safety demonstrations. **Bicycle Safety Event** — Fit helmets, teach rules of the road, and offer minor bike tune-ups.



5. Disaster Relief & Preparedness (Lions International priority)

Local Disaster Supply Drive — Collect tarps, gloves, masks, and cleaning supplies for regional disaster response teams. **Lions Alert Training** — Host a June training session for club members on how to respond when disasters strikes.

Remember to report your service in the Loins Portal



WE SERVE

WE NEED YOU!



SPECIAL OLYMPICS
USA GAMES
MINNESOTA 2026

VOLUNTEER AT THE

LIONS BOOTH

FAN FEST AREA!



CHAMPIONS LIONS CLUBS

Uniting Lions and Leos
to support Special
Olympics athletes and
communities.



WE NEED WORKERS FOR ALL SHIFTS!

SUNDAY – THURSDAY
JUNE 21 – JUNE 25

11:00 AM – 3:30 PM

3:30 PM – 9:00 PM

FRIDAY
JUNE 26

11:00 AM – 3:30 PM

*Be a
CHAMPION
of
INCLUSION!*



SIGN UP TODAY!

Scan the QR code or visit:

<https://www-signupgenius.com/go/60B0B4BA892FABFE3-64057339-lions>



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REACH OUT TO

LION DENNIS HEINEN AT 320 491 3996



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.

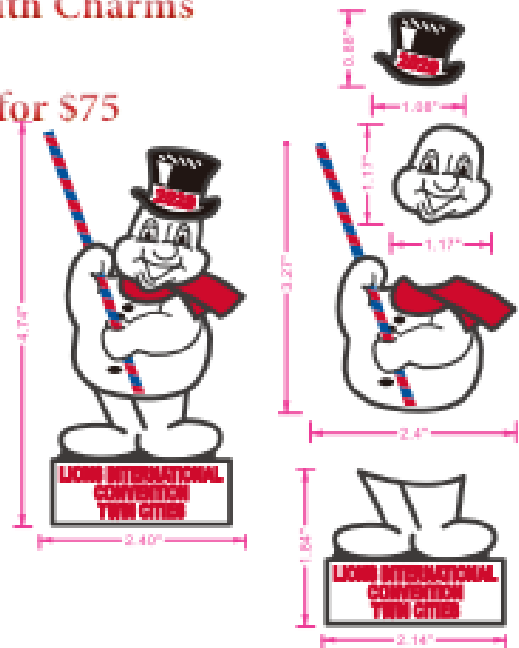
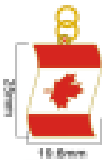
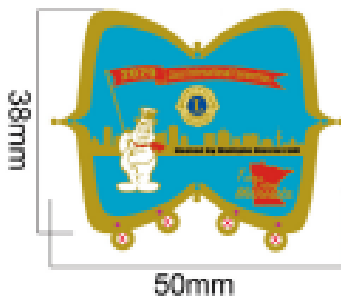
\$50 per piece for a total of \$200

Limited Edition

2029 Minneapolis Pin with Charms

Pin - \$100

Charms \$25 or all 4 for \$75



Contact Joe Laudenbach at 218-851-5540 or
joelaudenbach@gmail.com to order your pin set or patch set.
We are encouraging every club in our multiple to purchase
a snowman patch set to put on your club banner.
We appreciate your support.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS
USA GAMES
MINNESOTA 2026

2026
Coming to
MINNESOTA
JUNE
20-26



 **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:

2026
MINNESOTA
RETREATS

2026 MAY 1-3
Camp Shetek near Slayton, MN

2026 JUNE 5-7
Osprey Wilds near Sandstone, MN

2026 OCTOBER 2-4
Good Earth Village, Spring Valley, MN

2026 DECEMBER 4-6
Faith Haven Camp near Battle Lake, MN



HONG KONG 2026
108th Lions International Convention



SERVICE PLANNER

LIONS YEAR 2025-26



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

BATTLE LAKE LIONS



CHALLENGE!!!
ALL CLUBS IN 5M9

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
“D-FEET WALK/BIKE RIDE”
IN BATTLE LAKE

SATURDAY, JUNE 6TH

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

REGISTER AT THE LIONS PARK PICNIC SHELTER - ANYTIME BETWEEN 9 & 11

ALL AGES & ABILITIES - WALK or BIKE AS MUCH OR AS LITTLE AS YOU WANT

\$ DONATIONS - ANY AMOUNT - to MN LIONS HEARING FOUNDATION

THE BATTLE LAKE LIONS CLUB

Contact: Pete Eggen 507-381-8759 Connie Krusemark 218-731-2818

Stan Ekren 218-405-0400

Prizes to Clubs with most participation or donation amount.



Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation

ANNUAL WALK TO D-FEET HEARING LOSS

JUNE 6, 2026

**Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
Chaska, MN**

Registration: 9am - 10am
Walk Starts: 10:15am
Lunch Begins: 11:15am

**Diamond Point Park
Bemidji, M**

Registration: 8:30am - 9:30am
Walk Starts: 9:45am
Lunch Begins: 11:30am

- **Entry Fee: \$25 (no t-shirt) or \$35 (includes t-shirt)**
- **Fee includes entry to arboretum/park, lunch, plus lots of activities and games!**
- **Kids under 12 are free!**
- **Fun for families of all ages!**
- **A chance to change a person's life through your registration donation.**
- **Register at: <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/2026walktod-feethearingloss/>**



Minnesota Landscape
ARBORETUM



To learn more visit us at:
5mhf.org or at
facebook.com/5mhf.org





DFEET WALK

2026 MN Lions Hearing Foundation Fundraiser

Board of Trustees

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Kathleen Bleckenberg, Chair

Mike Benedetto, Vice Chair

Rose Thies & Sue Vos, Treasurers

Lori Steinemann & Bob Jechorek

Executive Secretaries

WEBSITE:

www.5mhf.org

EMAIL:

mndfeetwalk@gmail.com

Registration & Payment Info

Checks payable to:

Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation

Rose Thies, Treasurer

Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation

21515 371st Avenue

Green Isle, MN 55338-2027

Dear Lions and Friends:

Your Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation 2026 Walk to DFEET Hearing Loss is just around the corner on June 6th, 2026.

It is not too late to help those with hearing-related issues.

Please consider participating in our 2026 Walk at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and at Diamond Point Park in Bemidji, MN. If you or your club cannot participate at either site, you can take a walk at your local park, bring some club members together for a walk in a park, jump on your treadmill, or ride your bike.

Levels of Support

\$25

\$35 includes a walk t-shirt

\$100

\$250

\$500

\$1000 gets your Club name on back of the t-shirt

Children under 12 will receive a free walk shirt.

We challenge your club to create a team to help raise funds for this important event. Please complete the attached registration form and mail to Lion Rose Thies by April 15th, 2026.

We hope you will support the Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation to raise the much-needed funds to support our mission of research, education, and clinical support to the deaf and hard of hearing community.

With regards,

Kathleen Bleckenberg

Board Chair

Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation



WANTED:

The Verndale Lions are looking for new, old or slightly used Lions shirts from our fellow Lions Clubs in the 5M9 district.

Any Lions shirts would be great, preferably with your clubs name somewhere on the shirt.

Contact information is below; I am willing to come pick up or have a central drop-off location. Deadline is July 15th, 2026.

(if you want to know what we are doing with them, you will need to come to the convention to find out 😊)



Contact: Lion Lindi Rousslang

lrousslang@icloud.com

text or call 218-639-5360

Jazzed for Service, United in Purpose



*Join the Krewe of 5M9 for the
2027 Mid-Winter Convention*

January 8-10, 2027

Cragun's Resort, Brainerd MN

**Early Registration Prices Through
June 30, 2026**

Hosted By: The Verndale Lions

Jazzed for Service, United in Purpose

5M9 Mid-Winter Convention Registration January 8 - 10, 2027 at Cragun's Resort Host By The Verndale Lions

Name: _____ Club Name: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

(Please circle one) **Lion Leo Guest** _____ **1st Time at 5M9 Convention**

2027 Lions Title (if any) _____

_____ **Check if Need Accessible Seating** _____ **Check and List Dietary Needs**

Full Hospitality Book:

**Includes all Meals, Entertainment,
Mid-Winter Book and Pin**

Cost until June 30, 2026 \$155 _____

Cost until Sept. 30, 2026 \$165 _____

Cost until Dec. 14, 2026 \$175 _____

Total Amount: _____

Please make checks payable to: Verndale Lions Club 2027
5M9 Convention. One form per person. Please mail form
and check to Tina Wegscheid at 13251 140th Street
Wadena MN 56482.

Venmo: @Verndale-Lions and email form to
mnverndalions@gmail.com

Credit Card Payment and Online Registration Available at
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/krewe-of-5m9-jazzed-for-service-united-in-purpose-2027-mid-winter-convention>



All Sales Are Final

Individual Meal Tickets:

(includes individual meal and entertainment/
speaker/seminar during or immediately following
until next meal)

Friday Evening \$25 _____

Saturday Breakfast \$29 _____

Saturday Lunch \$39 _____

Saturday Governors Banquet \$58 _____

Sunday Brunch \$29 _____

Convention Pin \$5 _____

Seminars & Pin (no meals) \$20 _____

Total Amount: _____

Room Reservation Must Be Booked Through Cragun's
for group rate of \$139 plus tax per night before 12/8/26

https://craguns.farmstack.com/forms/lions_5m_9_jan2027

Questions: Please Call Chelsa Beaver at 218-371-7468



5M9 District Governor, 1st and 2nd Vice District Governor Club Visit Request Form

[Click here for form](#)

[Link address](#)

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

DG Visits	Zone	Clubs	Chartered	June	
CATHE	2	CUYUNA RANGE	12/29/1937	6/18/2026	Awards
CATHE	2	MCGREGOR	11/9/1965	6/15/2026	Charter Night
CATHE	8	PARKERS PRAIRIE	12/9/1963	6/11/2026	Awards

Thank you to all of the 5M9 Lions clubs and members who the DG Team visited this year!

It was our privilege to visit, spend time, share information and have some fun with you!

DG Cathe, DGE Sheri and FVDGE Diane



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
Sue Stebbins editor



District Governor

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24254 Placid Dr.
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C: 218-330-7804
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Newsletter Editor

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Garrison, MN 56450
C: 218-851-2510
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

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)