

JULY 2025

# Lions Insight

District 35L  
Informational Newsletter



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The 2025 Lions International Convention in Orlando is just days away, and we want to extend our best wishes for safe travels to all the dedicated volunteers and members heading to this exciting global event. As we come together to celebrate service and fellowship, please remember that Florida summer heat can be intense. If you're volunteering or attending outdoor activities, be sure to stay hydrated, wear sunscreen, and take shifts or breaks as needed to avoid heat-related issues. Thank you for representing District 35L with pride. Stay safe and enjoy the convention!

**BE SURE TO READ BRAGGING  
RIGHTS BULLETIN TO SEE  
WHAT THE CLUBS ARE UP TO  
IN OUR DISTRICT!**

All **blue font** and  are links to a web page.

[FLdistrict35L@gmail.com](mailto:FLdistrict35L@gmail.com)

<https://www.district35l.com>





# District Governor Message by Lion Dr. Gregory N. Seltzer



Dear Lions of District 35 L:

As this is my last message to you as District Governor, I wanted to share some exciting things with you as Lion Year 2024-25 ends and my term as your District Governor ends on July 17<sup>th</sup> at the 107<sup>th</sup> International Lions Convention in Orlando. I have been honored by Lions Clubs International to be named to serve as the International Hospitality Chair for that Convention. I hope to see many District L Lions there as I know many of you have registered.

I have just finished up a whirlwind month of June travelling with my Partner-in-Service and your Cabinet Secretary Lion Judi doing Club installations. This month I was honored to install new officers at three Lions clubs within our District L.



Officer Installation Crestview Lions Club



Officer Installation Pensacola  
Lions Club



Officer Installation Alachua Lions Club where John Hopkins won the Lion of the Year Award



# District Governor Message continued

As you can see, the installations were a joy to all of the clubs and especially to myself and Lion Judi.

I do have exciting news to share as we have qualified this year as District L for the Lions International District Excellence Award and are in the running for the 5 Star District Excellence Award. The major emphasis on achieving these awards are establishing new Clubs, Club Branches and Specialty Clubs in furthering MISSION 1.5, and our International President Fabricio Olivera's motto this year of "Make Your Mark". I have also been informed that we have the status in Constitutional Area 1 of being a most improved District during Lion Year 2024-2025. The award measured areas in Service, Membership, LCIF donations, organization and excellence and marketing.

Past International President Dr. Patti Hill commended our District for the increased membership in the Lions Legacy Society. She told me this "was evidence of paying service forward and thinking outside the box for the future of our Lions Foundation". The Legacy Society recognizes Lions who have in their estate planning designated at least \$10k to LCIF as a gift.

All of the above involved TEAMWORK. Our Third International Vice President Dr. Manoj Shah from Kenya shared an old African proverb with me that went as follows: "If you want to run fast, you run alone. If you want to run well, you run as a TEAM."

Lions of District L, you certainly have demonstrated TEAMWORK that I as your District Governor am extremely proud and gratified by.

I have met and made many new Lion friends throughout the District this year. I leave you all with my definition of "SHIPS":

"There are wooden ships and sailing ships, and steamships that sail the seas. But the greatest ships are FRIENDSHIPS, and they are the SHIPS for me!"

My motto for this year has been: "In Kindness and Love, WE SERVE".

Thank you, Lions, ALL of District L for the privilege and honor of serving as your District Governor.

May God Bless you ALL real good,  
Dr. Greg Seltzer



# Who Are We? by DGE Susan 'Suzi' Rodgers



Lions aren't just volunteers — they are leaders. Lions International provides members with valuable opportunities to grow their leadership skills through service projects, club administration, and international collaboration. We need young members, especially through programs like Leo Clubs, to gain confidence and character by stepping into real-world leadership roles. Being a Lion means developing courage, compassion, and clarity to lead with purpose.

Wearing the Lions emblem is a symbol of pride — not just in the club, but in the values it represents kindness, inclusion, integrity, and service. Lions believe that kindness matters. They believe that one person — one club — can make a difference. And they live each day with the purpose of leaving the world better than they found it.

In times of uncertainty, service provides stability. In times of need, Lions bring hope. The importance of being a Lion lies in the lives touched, the communities uplifted, and the legacy left behind. It's about action over apathy, compassion over indifference, and unity over division.

This is a year of courage, cooperation, challenge, and communication.

Join in, grow and make a difference in Lionism!

*Suzi*



Lions from across the country gathered in Las Vegas this past weekend to prepare for the upcoming year. Stay tuned — the next newsletter will share key takeaways and how you can get involved!



# DISTRICT 35L CABINET

## MEETING

Hosted by Ocala On Top of the World Lions Club

**2 AUGUST 2025**

PRE-CABINET MEETING 8:30 AM  
CABINET MEETING 10:30 AM

OTOW Recreation Center Ballroom

SW 99<sup>th</sup> Street Road, Ocala

Passcode will be emailed to registrants  
to gain gate access.



**We Serve**

### JOIN US FOR A FUN FILLED DAY

Start your day off with coffee/tea, home baked muffins and fruit. Lunch will be BBQ catered by Southern Pig and Cattle. Special Guest speaker Thomas Johnson from the Florida Ocular Prosthetic's in Stuart, FL.

**Cost \$35**

### BRAG ABOUT YOUR CLUB

Plan to come and BRAG about YOUR club's past and future plans. Make sure you let all the members in your area know to come and join us for this fun day and be eligible from some pretty nifty raffle prizes.

### REGISTRATION

**Deadline: July 21st**

**No refunds.**

**No registrations at the door - due to access control concerns.**

### CONTACT

PCC Ken Vaudo, President    PDG Estelle Michelson  
kvaudo@aol.com                otowlion@gmail.com  
205-296-2223 (cell)            352-895-7598 (cell)

**Mail registration to:** OTOW Lions Club,  
PO Box 772733, Ocala, FL 34477

**Must include:** Name, Title, Club, Address,, City, State, Zip,  
Email, Phone, Amount enclosed



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Lions International

6.00 PM – 8.30 PM

**JULY 16TH, 2025**

Howl at the Moon Orlando

LIONS ROAR — PIANOS ROCK — VISION WINS!

# ROCK & ROAR!

A DUELING PIANO NIGHT FOR SIGHT

A FUNDRAISER BENEFITING

**FLORIDA DISTRICT 35-O: PROJECT RIGHT TO SIGHT**

Join Lions from around the world for a fun filled evening full of music, food and fellowship

[www.projectrighttosight.com](http://www.projectrighttosight.com)



Project Right To Sight

8815 International Drive  
Orlando, FL 32819



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## GET YOUR TICKETS HERE:

RockAndRoar.eventbrite.com

A quick 12-minute walk from the Convention Center

Sponsorships and Group Tickets Available

**\$45**  
Per Person

## YOUR TICKET INCLUDES:

Entry to the Venue / Cover Charge  
Appetizer Buffet / 6.00pm – 8.30pm  
Cash Bar / 6.00pm – 12.00am Dueling  
Piano Show – Best Show in Town!  
Karaoke – Accompanied by Live Band  
50/50 Cash Raffle, Pull-Tabs and More

### Hosts:

Florida District 35-O Lions Clubs  
Multiple-District 111-Germany  
Lions of Massachusetts MD33



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# Year Entity Donations

Club Total for the Year		
Alachua	\$5,800.00	
Crestview	\$50.00	
Fort Walton Beach	\$1,900.00	
Fort Walton Beach Sonic City	\$600.00	
Gainesville	\$1,225.00	
Jacksonville River City	\$7,000.00	
Jacksonville RAW	\$100.00	
Madison	\$100.00	
McIntosh	\$9,500.00	
Middleburg Black Creek	\$1,300.00	
Newberry	\$7,175.00	
Ocala	\$3,000.00	
Ocala 200	\$11,040.00	
Ocala Ft. King	\$15,627.39	
Ocala On Top Of The World	\$10,108.56	
Quincy	\$1,200.00	
Silver Springs	\$7,000.00	
St. Augustine	\$6,500.00	
Turkey Creek	\$25,852.00	
	TOTAL	\$115,077.95
<b>ENTITY TOTAL DONATIONS for DISTRICT 35L</b>		
Lions Saving Sight (Florida Lions Foundation for the Blind)	\$5,250.00	
Paragon Service Dogs (International Hearing Dogs)	\$1,950.00	
LCIF	\$30,800.00	
Conklin Center	\$3,050.00	
District 35L Disaster Relief	\$4,500.00	
North Florida Lions Eye Foundation	\$5,950.00	
Dogs, Inc. (Southeastern Guide Dog)	\$9,125.00	
Leader Dog	\$2,625.00	
KidSight	\$650.00	
Diabetes Awareness Foundation	\$3,475.00	
Florida Center for the Blind	\$6,560.00	
Florida School for the Deaf & the Blind	\$5,200.00	
Arlington Eye Clinic/Recycling	\$1,150.00	
Lions Quest	\$1,740.00	
Other	\$33,052.95	
	TOTAL	\$115,077.95





Lions Clubs International  
**FOUNDATION**

# YOUR US\$100 GIFT CAN HELP LCIF...

- Provide vision screenings for 50 at risk youth through Vision Grants.
- Offer immediate relief to 39 victims of a natural disaster through Emergency Grants.
- House one family during their child's cancer treatment through Childhood Cancer Grants.
- Screen 98 individuals at risk for diabetes through Diabetes Grants.
- Improve access to food for 90 hungry people through Hunger Grants.
- Fund Lions Quest curriculum for one year for an entire classroom through Lions Quest Grants.

**100%** of your donation supports LCIF grants and programs.



➤ Donate Today | [lionsclubs.org/WaysToGive](https://lionsclubs.org/WaysToGive)





## ONLINE DISTRICT CALENDAR

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[Click here to view the  
online calendar!](#)

**July 1**  
**New Lion Year Begins!**

**Month of July**  
[Dry Eye Awareness Month](#)

**July 4**  
**Independence Day**

**July 13-17**  
**2025 International Convention**

**July 30**  
**International Day of Friendship**



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# Official District 35-L Entities

Arlington Eye Clinic/Recycling  
Conklin Davis Center for the Visually Impaired  
Diabetes Awareness Foundation  
Disaster Relief\*

Dogs Inc (Formally Southeastern Guide Dog)

Florida Center for the Blind

Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind

KidSight Project\*

Leader Dog

Lions Club International Foundation

Lions Quest

Lions Saving Sight

Paragon Service Dogs (formally International Hearing Dog)

\*Disaster Relief to be made out to District 35L with "Disaster Relief" in Memo  
KidSight to be made out to District 35L with "KidSight Project" in Memo

Note: Clubs must also record the donation under service on Lions Portal to ensure they receive credit for the donation.



**Lions Clubs International**  
**FOUNDATION**



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# Official MD-35 Entities

## [Lions Saving Sight](#)

Assists in providing funds to pay for eye surgeries for individuals who either can't afford it or if their insurance doesn't cover.

## [Florida Lions Diabetic Retinopathy Foundation](#)

### [Diabetes Awareness Foundation of MD-35](#)

Work on preventing blindness caused by diabetes by providing diabetes and vision screenings. Supports the maintenance on cameras utilized to check vision and supplies needed for diabetes testing kits.

## [Beauty of Sight](#) (formerly known as Florida Lions Eye Bank)

Located at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute – University of Miami Health System. Supports research and transplants.

## **35-I Hearing Foundation**

Assists in funding hearing tests and providing hearing aids.

## **35-I Sight Foundation**

Assists in funding in support of Digital Retinal Imaging Eye Cameras.

## [Conklin Davis Center for the Visually Impaired](#)

Their goal is to enhance the lives and opportunities of our clients through job training, and employment, Independent Living, Technology training and children's services as well as a multitude of community services.

## [Florida Lions Eye Clinic – Bonita Springs, FL](#)

Provides eye care for those who have no insurance.

## [Leader Dogs for the Blind – Michigan](#)

Train people who are Deaf/blind and instructed in using American Sign Language (ASL) with a guide dog, provide orientation & mobility (cane travel) training, offer free GPS units and training, and run a Teen Summer Camp for those visually impaired.

## [Dog's Inc.](#) (formerly Southeastern Guide Dogs)

Provide guide and service dogs for people, veterans, and children with vision loss and those battling depression throughout the United States—at no cost to the recipients.

## [Lions World Vision Institute](#) (formerly Lions Institute Eye Transplant & Research)

Recover, process and distributes organ, eye, and tissue from donors to hospitals, do Ocular Research to improve cornea transplant surgical procedures.

## [Lions Club International Foundation \(LCIF\)](#)

Provides grants to Lions clubs to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian services that impact lives locally and globally.

# AWARDS AND CONTESTS

Lions do not serve others in order to receive rewards. The rewards they seek are less tangible, but no less real. Lions' rewards lie in the satisfaction of demonstrating their commitment to the work of Lionism; serving as an effective team member on club, district and international projects and activities; and focusing on the community in terms of less fortunate individuals and projects and activities for the betterment of the community.

While the purpose of being a member of this wonderful organization is not to receive awards, we do recognize that members who make a significant contribution are deserving of recognition, encouragement, and appreciation.

We encourage every club and every member to become familiar with the available awards and work toward obtaining one or more. Nominations should be submitted to the appropriate Awards Chair by the dates indicated for each award.

See [www.district35l.com/award-information](http://www.district35l.com/award-information) for ALL Awards information and applications.

See [lionsclubs.org](http://lionsclubs.org) for International Awards.

## Governor's Achievement Award – New Lion

This award is designed to assist the NEW LION member to become thoroughly familiar and fully involved in the activities and purposes of Lionism. This award is available only to NEW members in their first year of membership, beginning with induction.

See [www.district35l.com/award-information](http://www.district35l.com/award-information) for ALL Awards information and applications.

## Order of the Golden Chain

Any Lion who completes the requirements between January 1st and December 31st shall earn the Golden Chain Award. The award may be earned each year the qualifications are met.

See [www.district35l.com/award-information](http://www.district35l.com/award-information) for ALL Awards information and applications.

MD Chair: Karen Douglas 727.585.7470 3054 Adrian Ave Largo, FL. 33774 <a href="mailto:dnarek23@aol.com">dnarek23@aol.com</a>	35L Chair: Tony Clum 850.273.0580 24 Oakdale Rd NW Ft Walton Beach, FL 32547 <a href="mailto:tony57talla@yahoo.com">tony57talla@yahoo.com</a>
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## Governor's Achievement Award – Transfer Lion

This award is designed to assist the new Transfer Lion to become thoroughly familiar and fully involved in the activities and purposes of Lionism. This award is available only to new Transfer Lions in their first year of membership, beginning with induction into the club they transferred.

See [www.district35l.com/award-information](http://www.district35l.com/award-information) for ALL Awards information and applications.

## Peace Poster

For over three decades, Lions clubs around the globe have been sponsoring a very special art contest in schools and youth groups. Creating peace posters gives children everywhere the chance to express their visions of peace and inspire the world through art and creativity.

[www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-approach/youth/peace-poster](http://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-approach/youth/peace-poster)

35L Chair: Blanche Day  
[lionblanche2015@gmail.com](mailto:lionblanche2015@gmail.com)

## Anchor Award

The purpose of this award is to provide recognition for the "Grass Root Lions" who are the anchors and stability of our association.

The club secretary shall collect each tally sheet, tabulate its points, and submit it to the District Awards chair by July 31st of each year to be eligible.

See [www.district35l.com/award-information](http://www.district35l.com/award-information) for ALL Awards information and applications.

# AWARDS AND CONTESTS

## Dr. Walter H. Campbell Pilot Award for Lionism

The Pilot Award is designed to recognize a Past District Governor (PDG) in each of the Districts, and a PDG in MD-35, with a prestigious award for outstanding efforts, dedication, and contributions during the preceding calendar year on behalf of Lionism. All entries must be submitted to the Multiple District 35 (MD) Office and postmarked no later than January 31st of the following year to the contest.

See [www.district35l.com/award-information](http://www.district35l.com/award-information) for ALL Awards information and applications.

MD Chair: Helene Thompson, PCC  
203.731.1964  
522 Siena Court  
Satellite Beach, FL.32937  
[helenevt63@aol.com](mailto:helenevt63@aol.com)

35L Chair: PDG Tommy Dover  
904.318.2540  
6027 Greenberry Ln  
Jacksonville, FL. 32211  
[tdover@comcast.net](mailto:tdover@comcast.net)

## Millard Conklin Crusader for Lionism Award

The Millard Conklin Crusader for Lionism Award is designed to encourage participation of "Grass Root" Lions in each district and club and to select one from each district to be rewarded for outstanding dedication and contributions for their current calendar year efforts made to Lionism, and to be presented for a District award. The award shall cover the accomplishments realized only during the contest period from January 1st through December 31st of each calendar year

See [www.district35l.com/award-information](http://www.district35l.com/award-information) for ALL Awards information and applications.

MD Chair: Elizabeth Fisher  
305.434.2003  
448 Lark Avenue  
Miami Springs, Fl. 33166  
[Elizfisher7@icloud.com](mailto:Elizfisher7@icloud.com)

35L Chair: Marge Holton  
904.716.8744  
PO Box 1344  
Welaka, FL.32193  
[beachgatorgranny@aol.com](mailto:beachgatorgranny@aol.com)

## Membership Satisfaction Award

When a Lions club meets or exceeds the expectations of its members, it leads to membership satisfaction and retention. Satisfied members will keep coming back, which will keep your club healthy and vital to the community

See [lionsclubs.org](http://lionsclubs.org) for International Awards.

See [www.district35l.com/award-information](http://www.district35l.com/award-information)  
for ALL Awards information and applications.  
See [lionsclubs.org](http://lionsclubs.org) for International Awards.



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# District Club Sponsored Awards

District Awards recognition period is January 1 to December 31.

Submission Date:

Nominations are to be submitted as identified in each award by February 15th.

District Awards Program Coordinator:

PDG Jerry Skufe

## Awards:

Listed below are the current District Awards. Clubs are encouraged to submit nominations for these awards, if appropriate.

### **Austin Drinkwater Award – Sponsoring Club: Orange Park**

This award is to recognize the club with the most outstanding community betterment and civic improvement activities. Nominations are to be submitted to the District Governor for the review and selection of the winner.

### **Carl Suber Award – Sponsoring Club: Jax Arlington**

This award is to recognize the club donating the largest sum per member to the Davis-Conklin Center as determined by the District Administrator.

### **Donald Helmly Award – Sponsoring Club: Jax Arlington**

This award is to recognize the club with the most significant K through 12 projects and activities for students (school or non-school oriented). Nominations are to be submitted to the District Governor for the review and selection of the winner.

### **Francis E. “Rocky” Fowler Award – Sponsoring Club: Jax Arlington**

This award is to recognize the club donating the most money per member to the Hearing Aid Bank as determined by the District Administrator.

### **Glenn Afred Award – Sponsoring Club: Orange Park**

This award is to recognize the club having the highest percentage of participants on service projects, reported to the LCI service reporting system, based on hours divided by the average membership for the period as determined by the District GST.

### **H. E. “Buck” Murphy Award – Sponsoring Club: Orange Park**

This award is to recognize the best athletic program for school-aged students. Nominations are to be submitted to the District Governor for review and selection of the winner.

### **H. V. Griffin Award – Sponsoring Club: Mcclenny**

This award is to recognize the club having the largest percentage of members with perfect attendance for the calendar year 2024. Clubs wishing to be considered for this award are to submit their nomination to the District Governor for review and selection of the winner.

### **Maines F. Finley Award – Sponsoring Club: Mcclenny**

This award is to recognize the club with the largest percentage of net gain in membership as determined by the District GMT.

### **Riley Bracklin Award – Sponsoring Club: Jax Arlington**

This award is to recognize the club promoting the most significant interaction among other clubs in the district visitation club, zone, and district meetings. Clubs wishing to be considered for this award are to submit their nomination to the District Governor for review and selection of the winner.

### **LCIF Donations Award – Sponsoring Club: Turkey Creek**

This award is to recognize the club donating the largest sum per member to LCIF programs and activities as determined by the District LCIF Coordinator.

### **Perry Rockwood Award – Sponsoring Club: Orange Park**

This award is to recognize a Lion who contributes to the most time and effort to the upkeep and maintenance of the clubhouse. Nominations are to be submitted to the District Governor for review and selection of the winner.

### **Ron Matthews Champion for Children Award – Sponsoring Club: Ocala**

This award is to recognize a Lion who has demonstrated commitment, dedication, and compassion to helping children through personal time and effort. Please contact the club for specific information on the selection criteria. Nominations are to be submitted to the Chair of the Ocala selection Committee for review and selection of the winner.

### **District Lion of the Year – Sponsoring Club: Jax Arlington in the name of Thomas Dover**

This award is to recognize the District Governor's selection of the Lion of the Year for his/her tenure as the DG.

# Website for your club

Guerrilla Marketing can produce and host a website for your club for an annual fee of \$250 per website. This includes an optimized website with all of the information for the individual club. It also includes hosting for 12 months. Each club website can have a DONATE button that is linked to the club bank account to obtain more outside donations and the ability for members to pay their dues directly from the website. In addition, the website can offer ads to local businesses to help support the community and other charitable organizations. The amount of revenue earned could easily pay for the cost of the annual hosting fee. Each club has a calendar of events that populates the district website and therefore the [lionsmd35.com](http://lionsmd35.com) website. Here are two examples, [www.fortmyerslions.com](http://www.fortmyerslions.com) & [www.puntagordalionsclub.com](http://www.puntagordalionsclub.com) There are so many possibilities for each club to have its own website that is optimized for mobile devices. Yes, LCI does offer a landing page for each club, but we have found them difficult to edit and quite outdated. We develop websites in the latest internet language HTML5 and we host on a national platform. Please contact us direct at the information below if we can be of service. Your website will also include ADA Compliance. There is an ADA Law that states that any person or organization must make their website readily accessible and usable by individuals with disabilities if it is for use by the public. It means that your site must be navigable to disabled people using assistive technology. This is all included in the yearly fee.

Sincerely Yours In Lionism.

Drew Ogden, CEO

Guerrilla Marketing For Small Business

7181 College Pkwy Ste 40.

Fort Myers, FL. 33907

Office 239-362-3839

[www.guerrillamarketingforsmallbusiness.com](http://www.guerrillamarketingforsmallbusiness.com)

Facebook Link For Free SEO

Information: <https://www.facebook.com/GuerrillaMarketinginc/>

## District 35-L Newsletter

Brittney Young  
PCC Stanley Rodgers

PO Box 661  
Graceville, FL 32440

[FLdistrict35L@gmail.com](mailto:FLdistrict35L@gmail.com)

Send all newsletter and website items by the 26th of the month.

Photos are used if the quality and content are suitable. If possible, the name or names of the person or persons shown in a photo must accompany the photo.

Photos can be accepted as JPEG or PNG.

Email articles as plain text typed body of email, PDF, or as a Microsoft Word attachment. Include Club Name, Contact person's email, phone number, and a physical address. All Events must have a date, location, and time. Raffles need to be sent with where to buy tickets.

## MARKET YOUR CLUB WITH SOCIAL MEDIA KITS

Lions International's social media kits are designed to help you raise awareness about Lions and being a Lion. They include: • Flat graphics that are ready to post on your social media accounts. □ Sample graphic • Templates that can be customized for your club and region using [Canva](https://www.canva.com), a free design tool for non-designers. (Available for select kits.) Check out this [how-to video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) to help you get started. Check out the kits at <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/social-media/kits?48>.

Lions, let's get the word out about our service!

[FLdistrict35L@gmail.com](mailto:FLdistrict35L@gmail.com)

<https://www.district35l.com>



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