

Bragging Rights Bulletin

DISTRICT 35L

◆
Club Events
and News



MEMBERSHIP CONTEST

District 35-L◆

January 1 – June 30, 2026
Positive **net gain** in *membership*

More Lions = More Service

When we grow, our impact multiplies.



Learn more at District35L.com →



Florida Lions • District 35-L

Club Anniversaries

Fort Walton Beach Sonic City 3/9/1964

Gainesville 3/10/1944

Gainesville University City 3/20/1961

High Springs 3/7/1947

Jacksonville Riverside/Argyle West 3/31/1945

Newberry 3/25/1943

Ocala 3/19/1926

Williston Youth 3/25/2021

Memorium



It is with great sadness for ourselves that we inform our Lions of the passing of Lion Andrew (Barry) Jackson Jr., from complications of Parkinson's disease. Now relieved of this burden, Barry passed today at 12:09 pm, at Haven Hospice in Palatka, with his loving wife present. During the week that Barry was at Haven, he was visited by many of his family members and friends.

During his membership with Palatka New Vision Lions Club, Lion Barry collected, sorted, packaged, and delivered, more that 10,000 pairs of eyeglasses for refurbishment and distribution. We were lucky to have him and his wife, Bobbie, join and serve with our club until the end. In his death, Lion Barry still serves, in that

his remains will be sent to UF Parkinson's Research, for study of the effects and how better the disease can be treated. Information will be shared later regarding services.

We leave you with this prayer:

"May God grant us through pain and torment, the strength to live with grace and humor. May we discover through doubt and anguish, the strength to live with dignity and holiness. May we discover through suffering and fear, the strength to move toward healing. May it come to pass that we be restored to health and vigor. May God grant us wellness of body, spirit and mind. AND, if this cannot be so, may we find in this transformation and passage, moments of meaning, opportunities for love, and the deep and gracious calm that comes when we allow ourselves to move on. We ask these blessings of God Almighty, through his son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

Lion Barry certainly did these things.

Do not hesitate to send your words of sympathy and encouragement to Mrs. Barbara (Bobbie) Jackson, 312 S. Fern Street, San Mateo, FL 32187.



DISTRICT 35 L ADVISORY MEETING

Hosted By:
Tallahassee Lions Club

Tallahassee Moose Lodge
1478 Capital Circle NW
Tallahassee, FL 32303

APRIL 11, 2026



LIONS REGISTRATION | 8:30 AM CST

BREAKFAST | 8:30-9:30 AM CST

Start your day off with coffee and an assortment of donuts or pastries.

BOARD MEETING | 9:00-10:15 AM CST

Includes all cabinet officers and zones.

GENERAL SESSION | 10:30 AM CST

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!

LUNCH | \$25.00

Sonny's Barbeque

REGISTER NOW

Carol Dobson
ckdobson1950@hotmail.com

Pay at the Door



BACK TO TOP

Dear Lions,

As we move through the 2025–2026 Lions year, we are working to highlight and document the incredible service our clubs provide to the communities we serve.

To help us do that, we are requesting each club share a brief summary of **non-profit contributions** your club has **made or plans to make** during the 2025–2026 Lions year.

Please send your information to Brittany no later than March 18, 2026.

All contributions will be **compiled and reviewed during our District Mini Convention in Tallahassee in April 2026.**

When responding, please include:

- Name of the non-profit organization
- Type of contribution (financial, in-kind, volunteer support, etc.)
- Amount or estimated value (if applicable)
- Whether the contribution has already been made or is planned

This information allows our district to:

- Accurately report the impact of our service
- Strengthen grant opportunities
- Celebrate and share the amazing work of our clubs

If your club does not have contributions planned at this time, a quick response letting us know is appreciated.

Thank you for all you do to serve with Lion hearts and make a lasting difference in our communities. We look forward to sharing the strength of our service at the mini convention.

In Lionism We Serve,


Suzi Rodgers
DG 35 L

Stronger Together, Limitless Possibilities





Alachua Lions Club



Alachua Lions Donates to Schools Care Closets

When the Alachua Lions Club delivered coats, hats, and gloves to schools in their area in November and December, school staff members informed them of an everyday need that they have within their schools. The Lions were informed that almost on a daily basis there are kids who had incidents that require them to need a change of some item of clothing, shirts, pants, socks or other items.

To help meet this need, the Alachua Lions Club donated \$250 each to Alachua Elementary School, Irby Elementary School, Mebane Middle School, and Santa Fe High School to assist with purchases of emergency clothing and supplies.

The school staff members were very excited and showed great appreciation for the gift from the Lions Club.

Pictured at Alachua Elementary are Lions Katy Plein and Terri Warrington, with School Counselor Jazzlyn Harrell. Lions Plein and Warrington delivered the donation to Counselor Kathleen Endorf at Santa Fe High School.

Lions Sandy Burgess and Gladys McMillian delivered the donation to Principal Burton at Irby Elementary and Elizabeth Matos at Mebane Middle School.





Alachua Lions Club



Alachua Lions Club Attends Promised Land Gala

The Alachua Lions donated \$300 to the Promised Land Family Ministry and attended their Boots, Bling and Blessings fundraiser on February 3, at the Pine Grove Barn in Lake Butler, FL. Promised Land is a 501(c)(3) organization in North Central Florida that manages a 54-acre farm on which they raise a variety of fruits and vegetables, which are processed and donated to families in the community. They also offer an agricultural teaching program, a wellness education program, and after school tutoring services. Promised Land is currently in the process of constructing a building, which will include a teaching kitchen, technology lab, and meeting rooms to further expand their services to the community. They are looking for volunteers and donors to help with this effort. Please take a look at their website at PromisedLandFM.org or give them a call at 386-515-5903 and schedule a visit to their farm.

Pictured left to right are: Lion Jim Emerson, his wife Gail, Lion Gladys McMillian, Lion Joel DeCoursey and John Hall, Co-Founder of Promised Land.





Cedar Key Lions Club



2026 Lions Lenten Food Drive for the Cedar Key Food Pantry

Sat. February 21 through Sat. March 28

**Local Families needing food help
is up 25%!**

The Cedar Key Food pantry currently serves 125 families *every* week (UP 25%!) That's 400 family members, grandparents, parents and children in need. *Please donate!*

What: Much needed dry goods such as
*Breakfast Cereal Pasta Noodles Ketchup
Mustard Mayo Fruit Jellies Jams*
Personal hygiene items such as
*Deodorant Bath Soap Toothpaste etc
Toilet Paper Female Hygiene items*

Where: Cedar Key Lions will be accepting food, essential needs as well as cash & check donations every Saturday morning during Lent (2/21 - 3/28) from 9 to 11:30 on the Medical Clinic grounds next to the Post office parking lot.

Plus... **Donation drop off boxes** will be located in City Hall, The Library, The Island Hotel, The Daily Grind Coffee Shop & Dollar General. *Thanks!*





Cedar Key Lions Club



Fresh off the successful 2026 revival of our Valentine's Day Dinner Dance fundraiser, cancelled in 2024 and 2025 because of hurricane damage, the Cedar Key Lions welcomed Lion Malcolm Hay District 35L Zone Chairman as guest speaker at our Feb 24 meeting. Lion Malcolm shared valuable information and tips on new member acquisition, member retention, community relations and, on a personal note, shared what it means to him to be a Lion. Thank you Lion Malcolm!



Valentine's Day guests socialize before dinner



Lions Faye, Susan and Donna greet guests to the Cedar Key Lions Valentine's Day Dinner Dance and Silent Auction.



Zone Chair Malcolm Hay was guest speaker at the Cedar Key lions Club meeting Feb. 24.

Cedar Key Vision Chair Lion Bob Piscura, Lion Dave Schiess, Zone Chair Lion Malcolm Hay, CK Lion President Robert Belair and Lions Treasurer Faye Sanders sharing ideas.



Cedar Key Lion President Robert Belair and Lion Janet Hendrix welcome Valentine's Day Dinner guests.



ChIPLEY Falling Waters Lions Club

🌟 Dinner in the Dark – Thank You! 🌟

What an incredible evening! The Falling Waters Lions Club would like to send a heartfelt thank you to everyone in our community who came out to support our Dinner in the Dark event.

A special thank-you to ChIPLEY Culinary for their partnership, and to our amazing Lions Club members who worked behind the scenes cooking, preparing, and serving to make this experience so meaningful. 🍷👤

Events like this remind us how powerful community support can be—and we’re already looking forward to the next one!



BACK TO TOP



Crawfordville Lions Club



MARCH 21ST 10AM

**23RD ST. PATRICK'S
DAY
Celebration**

**PARADE | RAFFLE | VENDORS
FOOD | MUSIC**

Hudson Park | Crawfordville, FL

crawfordvillelionsclub@gmail.com



BACK TO TOP

FWB Lioness Club



Fort Walton Beach Lioness' member Mary Ogletree (left) and Helen Key (right) had a successful fundraiser recently at the Destin Community Center Craft Fair, raising over \$700.00 for Lions' programs!



FWB Sonic City



Sonic City Lions Mary Ogletree and Tony Clum recently presented Mark Young of the Fort Walton Beach Salvation Army Chapter a check for its Empty Stocking Fund



Graceville Lions Club

 GRACEVILLE LIONS CLUB

PROM-O-RAMA

A Prom for All Ages
— MUSIC BY —
The Ivey Brothers



SATURDAY, APRIL 18
GRACEVILLE CIVIC CENTER
6 PM - 10 PM

Individual Tickets \$50

Contact any Lions Club member, the Circle Grill or the **Graceville News** for more information or to purchase tickets,



BACK TO TOP



High Springs Lions Club

Cinderella's Closet at the High Springs Lions Club

Free Prom Attire

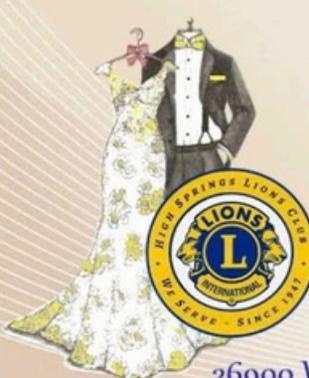
If it Fits....It's Yours

March 7th and 8th 2026

Please Join Us
Saturday and Sunday
12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Be Part of Something Special
 Formal Wear and Accessories for Men and Women
 Admission is FREE!
 Donations Accepted to help fund future Events

Door Prizes
 Raffle




26900 West US Hwy 27 High Springs, Florida 32643

Feel the Music 4

March 21, 2026

Proceeds Benefit
Florida School for the Deaf & the Blind
 Do More. Be More. Achieve More.

Tickets \$10 Gates Open @ 11a.m.

Bands - Food - Raffle - Auction

Where:
 26900 West US Hwy 27 High Springs, Florida 32643











BACK TO TOP



High Springs Lions Club

On Monday February 23rd, the High Springs Lions Club held their 17th annual chili cook off! Lots of delicious chilis, sides and desserts were enjoyed!

Congratulations to our cook off winners:

- 1st place: Lion Michael Pollack
- 2nd place: Lion Marsha Fogg
- 3rd place: Lion Katie Test

Peoples Choice award went to Lion Michael Pollack!

Once again our esteemed judges did an awesome job..and there was even a tie this year! Special shout out to Lion Tony, Ricky and Jessica Hassan, Misty Poole and Butch.

We also celebrated some awards:

- Lion Leslie Flage received her 15 year pin. Lion Tony was on hand to present the award.
- Lion Gary Lanternman received his 5 year pin awarded by Member chair Lion Jerry Bowen.
- Lion Gene Resmondo Jr received a certificate of appreciation presented by Member chair Lion Jerry Bowen.





Jax Beaches Lions Club



JACKSONVILLE BEACH LIONS CLUB PRESENTS

Bowl-A-Rama



SATURDAY
April 11, 2026

REGISTRATION 11:30 PM * **BOWLING 12:00 - 3:00 PM**

JAX LANES · 8270 BEACH BOULEVARD

LANE SPONSORSHIP \$175

**Up to 4 bowlers for over 2 hours
with great prizes and raffles,
including a 50/50 cash drawing!**

**Space is limited! Reserve your lane today!
Call Jim Parker - 904.703.0794**

100% of all donations directly support people in need.
Learn more at www.jaxbeachlions.org

*Lions Club International is the world's largest service club organization.
It's 1.4 million members are dedicated to bettering the quality of life for the handicapped,
the poor, the sick and aged. Our motto is "We Serve" and Lions live this motto with enthusiasm.*

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JACKSONVILLE BEACHES
LIONS FOUNDATION INC.
REGISTRATION #: CH39656



BACK TO TOP



Jax Beaches Lions Club



JACKSONVILLE BEACH LIONS CLUB PRESENTS

Bowl-A-Rama



50/50 DRAWING

GIFT CARD RAFFLES

SATURDAY

April 11, 2026

REGISTRATION 11:30 PM * BOWLING 12:00 - 3:00 PM

JAX LANES · 8270 BEACH BOULEVARD

I WILL SPONSOR A LANE

Lane Sponsorship - \$175

Number of Lanes:

- I will provide bowlers
- I want Jax Beach Lions Club to fill my lane(s) with bowlers

I WILL MAKE A RAFFLE DONATION

- Gift Card

www.jaxbeachlions.org

The Jacksonville Beaches Lions Foundation is a 501(c)(3) Foundation that provides eye care, hearing aids, and guide dogs, while meeting humanitarian needs in our Community. Your donation helps us to provide these much-needed services. Thank you!

100% of all donations directly support people in need

Questions?
Contact Lion:

Company / Sponsor

Phone

Email

Website

Please make checks payable to:

Jacksonville Beaches Lions Foundation

Jacksonville Beach Lions Club

PO Box 50555

Jacksonville Beach, FL 32240



Space is limited, so lock in your lane today!

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JACKSONVILLE BEACHES LIONS FOUNDATION INC. REGISTRATION #: CH9666



BACK TO TOP



Jax Beaches Lions Club



Who says volunteering can't be high fashion?

Susan is hard at work sorting donated glasses for our vision programs. It's all part of our mission to help the world see a little better.



Our Jacksonville Beaches Lions have been working hard at the Arlington Eye Clinic, providing essential vision screenings for those in our community. Clear vision changes lives, and we are so proud of our members who show up week after week to make it happen.



BACK TO TOP



Ocala Lions Club

Ocala Lions Club to Celebrate 100 Years of Service

By Diane Renyhart

The Ocala Lions Club will mark a century of service to the Ocala community with a special Anniversary Gala scheduled for March 21, 2026. The event will be held at the Harvey R. Klein Center at the College of Central Florida.

Chartered on March 19, 1926, the Ocala Lions Club has dedicated itself to supporting the greater Ocala area for one hundred years. Club members are actively organizing a celebration that reflects the club's longstanding commitment and achievements. Lion Renee Thompson has designed a unique invitation featuring the 100th Anniversary Pin, created by Lion Jerry Skufe, the club's only living Past District Governor. President Barry Fies will preside over the anniversary dinner, while Judge Ray McNeal, a Life Member and the longest tenured Club member, will deliver the invocation. Lion Garry Adel, also a Life Member, will present a review of the club's history.

The keynote address will be delivered by Past International President Dr. Patti Hill from Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, who was the second woman to serve as president of Lions International. Lions International boasts 1.4 million members worldwide. Ocala President Barry Fies and Lion Jerry Skufe will accompany Dr. Hill and guests on a tour of Ocala, including visits to the Florida Center for the Blind and the World Equestrian Center.

The evening of the Anniversary Gala will begin with a musical prelude by Lions Bob Cabbage and Bill Thomas. Dinner will be served and catered by La Casella. Ocala Photographer Amanda Rodriguez and Sensational Selfies will be present to capture memorable moments. The night will conclude with a post Social Event featuring the Smith Brothers' Band. Attendees will receive a commemorative envelope stamped with the anniversary date, designed by local artist Susan Primeau and prepared by philatelist Lion John Renyhart. Guests will also receive an Anniversary Program.

The Ocala community is fortunate to have organizations like the Ocala Lions Club supporting its residents. Throughout its history, the club has had a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, State Legislators, Mayors of Ocala, Sheriffs of Marion County, Judges, decorated Veterans, Physicians, County Commissioners, and Ocala City Council Members to name just a few notables. There is even a school named for a member. Its 100 years of service have made and will continue to make a difference in the lives of its citizens. True to our motto, "We Serve," the Ocala Lions Club continues its tradition of service.





Ocala Lions Club



You are cordially invited to join us for an elegant celebration of 100 years of service to the Ocala community and acknowledgement of the club's contributions throughout the years.

Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Patti Hill

Past International President,
Lions International

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada



WHEN: Saturday, March 21, 2026 5:30 PM Reception, 6:00 PM Dinner

WHERE: Harvey R. Klein Conference Center, College of Central Florida, 3001 SW College Road, Ocala, Florida

COST: \$35.00 per person, surf and turf meal

ATTIRE: Business Attire

To make a reservation, please complete the Reservation Form below by March 5, 2026 and mail, along with a check, to **Ocala Lions Club, P.O. Box 801, Ocala, FL 34478**. Please make checks payable to Ocala Lions Club

Name: _____

Title: _____ District: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Number of Guests: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Contact Information, Lion Linda Caldwell, lindacaldwell57@gmail.com and

PDG Jerry Skufe, jskufe@comcast.net

Download/Print form at district35l.com





Ocala Lions Club

The Ocala Lions Club made a \$1,000 donation to the Florida KidSight Foundation. The Foundation is in need of funding to continue in partnership with the Lions of Florida and the Bahamas.

Lion Michael Rutledge was presented with his Lifetime Membership Award at a recent Club meeting. President Barry Fies gave the award accompanied by Hon. Raymond McNeal.



District
35L

ROAR with Pride!

**Share your clubs
achievements.**

NEWSLETTER

CONTACT DETAILS

FLDistrict35L@gmail.com

All submissions due by the 26th of the month.



BACK TO TOP



Ocala 200 Lions Club



CRAFT FAIR

A great success!! Thanks to Lions Marion Brenon and Helen Anderson it was a great event. Lots of vendors, great gift baskets, and plenty of baked goods. And we had helpers with Lions Susan Oliva, Patti Barto, Toni Ancrum, Alan Verrier, Sandy Verrier, Bob Barto and potential new member Kim Lau. Also thanks to the Lions that baked goods or made baskets, helped with the banners. It was a team effort to make it a very successful event.





Ocala 200 Lions Club



FLEA MARKET

Another great fund raiser. With a beautiful day, and plenty of vendors (>40) we had a very successful day.



Major Jason Smith, Salvation Army

Featured speaker at our February meeting. Gave a history of the Salvation Army, as well as his life as a fourth generation Salvationist. The Salvation will be celebrating its 100 year in 2027. We support the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign every December.





Ocala OTOW Lions Club

Walmart Grand Opening (Ocala Maricamp Rd.): We are accepting a \$4,000 contribution for Casino Night at this event.



Health Fair: We are also participating in the health fair at On Top of the World.



First Federal Bank: We received a check for the past quarter from the debit card percentage program.





Ocala OTOW Lions Club



OTOW LIONS CLUB PRESENTS: **CASINO NIGHT!**



SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026
5 - 8 PM
CIRCLE SQUARE CULTURAL CENTER



Gaming includes Roulette, Craps, Blackjack, and Texas Hold 'em. Must be 21 to play.

Tickets are a \$50 donation. Included with your ticket:

- \$300 in fun money for the games of chance.
- Hoagies, Drinks, and Snacks.

Gaming prizes include an Electric Adult Tricycle and a Large Screen Smart TV.

In addition, raffles for gift baskets, a liquor wagon, and a 50/50 drawing will be available.

Purchase tickets at:

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Farmers Market 9:00am–12:00pm Thursdays | OTOW Lions Club Members |
| • Ticket Tuesdays 9:00am–12:00pm Tuesdays
@ Arbor Dance Studio III | First Federal Bank
(Circle Square Commons)
Wednesdays/Thursdays |

Your charity donations benefit Children's and Veterans causes in Marion County.

Additional fun money can be purchased at the event. Cash bar available.

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR!

For more information, call Carol 352.300.3995

or Sherri 704.975.4573.



BACK TO TOP



Orange Park Lions Club

Orange Park Lions Club receives love one day and gives love to others the next week!

Love was in the air this February for 2 weeks in a row wherever the Orange Park Lions went. First stop on Thursday February 12th was the 2nd annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast put on by Impact Clay. The breakfast was to thank and honor the dozens of volunteers from Non-Profits all over the county who made the Impact Clay Train a success at all the stops throughout Clay County in 2025. The fellowship and a great breakfast were enjoyed by all the volunteers. Awards were handed out with special awards given to groups who have been at every Impact Clay Train stop for two years including one to the Lions Club that was accepted by Secretary Lion Mike Poweleit. All the wonderful volunteers honored including Dave Vencil, Mike Poweleit, and Celia Vencil from the Lions Club (in their vests).



Orange Park Lions Club’s Mike Poweleit accepts the award from Connie Thomas of Impact Clay





Orange Park Lions Club

Dave and Celia Vencil and Mike Poweleit display their award.



The next stop of the weekend was at the 2nd Impact Clay Train of 2026 and this one was at Clay Hill Elementary School in Middleburg on a beautiful Saturday Morning from 10 AM till noon. The train served over 100 folks who showed up to visit the area. Some of the services and items offered included Clothing from Seeds of Love Outreach, Medical services from the Emmanuel project, books from Clay County Public Library, haircuts, food from Waste Not Florida, and hot meals provided by the Salvation Army Food truck. The Lions Club performed vision screenings for 25 children and adults inside the mobile unit from Kids First of Florida, the new Clay Train Partner with the Lions Club. Lions participating included Ginger Smienta, Dave Vencil, Richard Campbell, Celia Vencil, Mike Poweleit, Kitty and Don Minor.





Orange Park Lions Club

The final love sharing event in February was on Saturday afternoon after the Impact Clay Train at the Safe Animal Shelter at 2913 County RD. 220 in Middleburg Florida. The Lion's Club was informed that February is kitten month at the shelter due to the large influx of kittens arriving daily. Richard Campbell, Vicky Crosby, Dave and Celia Vencil, and Carl Crosby from The Orange Park Lions Club came to the rescue! Several bags and cans of kitten food, dog food, kitty litter and other items were brought by the group to help their four-legged friends. Time was also spent at the shelter visiting workers and the kittens and pups in the lobby.

Safe Animal Shelter is the oldest no-kill shelter in Clay County. It receives no government funding and the homeless cats and dogs they take in are provided with quality care only through private donations. Their goal is to reduce the number of cats and dogs euthanized in Clay County and NE Florida.

The shelter is really in need of everyone's help right now. The road in front of the shelter is closed right now for construction and will be for a while. This closure prevents passing traffic from seeing their sign along the road expressing what they need right now. All the great care the animals receive is all from community support. All donations are appreciated and if you can't help with food, or time, or money, or adoptions; there is a real need for foster homes for adorable furry friends. There are also Chewy and Amazon wish lists on their website . Contact the shelter for more information: (904) 375-9122. Hours: Wednesday-Sunday Noon-5PM.



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BACK TO TOP