

DISTRICT 35 L

LIONS INSIGHT

District Governor Message

September was a busy month for 35L. The Baker Lions are up and serving their community. The charter night was well attended and everyone in attendance enjoyed the program and fabulous food. The large crowd shows that the city is proud of their new club.

Spooktacular is scheduled for October 29, 2026. PIP Joe Preston is our guest and he is interested in seeing our Kid Sight program and how it benefits the community of Jacksonville FL. We have the opportunity to provide eye screening and glasses in our community.

We had the opportunity to canvass Belleview FL this past week. Our team learned about the community and we met some individuals who remembered the old Lions club. One individual told of her twin daughters receiving glasses from the Lions due to the fact she couldn't afford two pair of glasses for them. Once again "We serve"

Keep up the good work in our communities and getting more members for our Clubs. Lets's make 2026-2027 a year of growth for the LIONS.



Note from the Editor: There will only be ONE Newsletter this month. Thank you for your support.



Spooktacular

Coming Soon

Where: Jacksonville Florida

When: October 29

Where: Prime Osborne Convention Center

Pull out your vision cameras and join us for a day of vision screening in Jacksonville. We need screeners and cameras. Our goal this year is to screen 500 children in the area.

We will also be holding a dinner of appreciation for all of our volunteers at the Jacksonville Arlington Lions Club House on Wednesday evening 10/28.

More information will be coming soon but hold the date for a **SPOOKTACULAR** event!

Lion Judi Seltzer

lionseltzerjudi@gmail.com



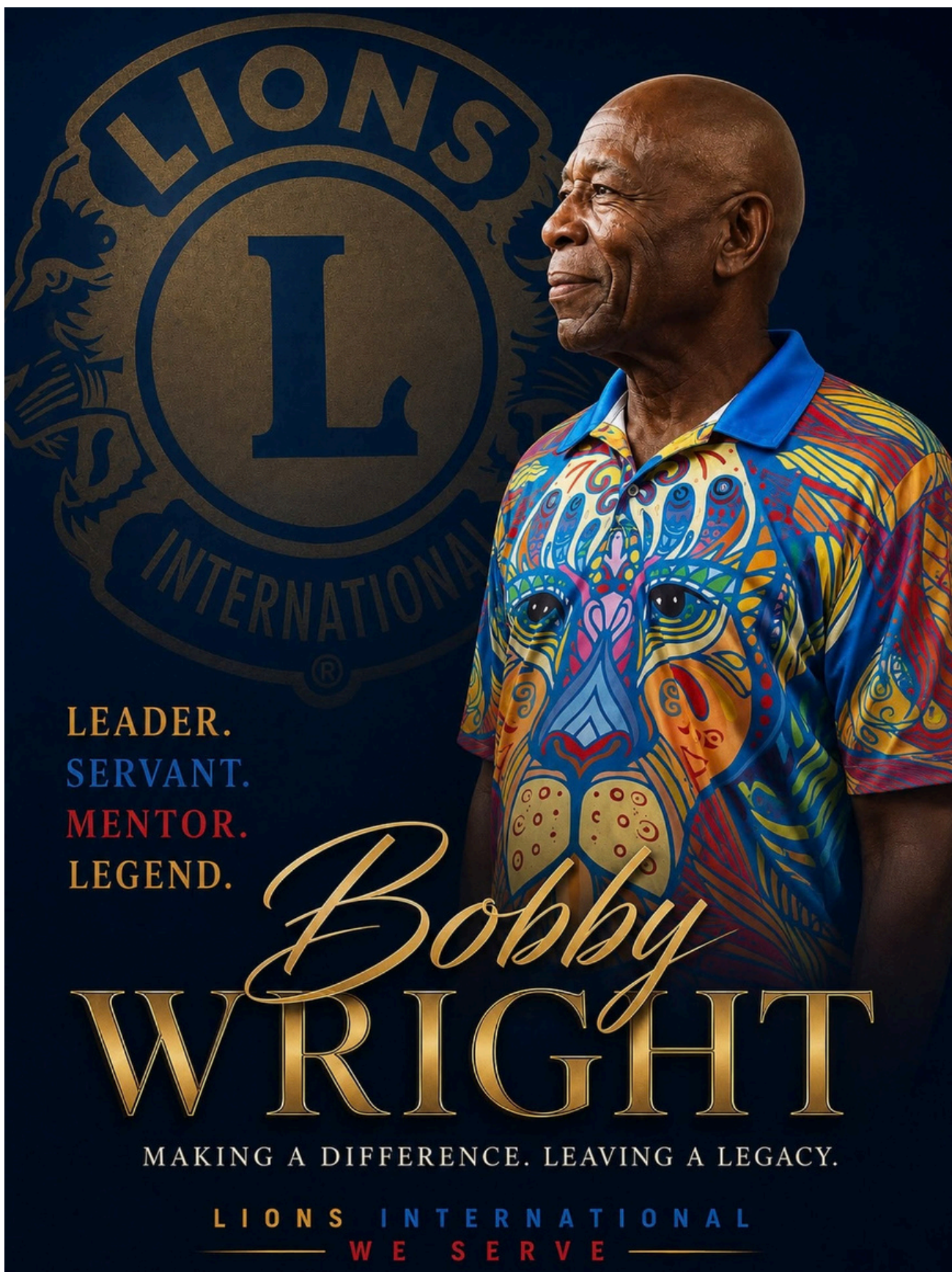


Photo by Tia Reed of the Jacksonville Riverside Argyle Lions Club.



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Prepared By: Cabinet Secretary: Lion Judi Seltzer

District Governor, George Niles got down to service immediately after his installation in Hong Kong. His first act of service was presiding over his First Cabinet meeting. District L was once again appreciative to the Jacksonville Lions Club, where the meeting was held. It was an honor to all of us to be there once again. We were deeply saddened with the loss of PDG Bobby White and a Memorial to him was made during the evening.



Dinner was provided by the Jacksonville Arlington Lions Club, with once again impeccable service and be assured it was delicious.

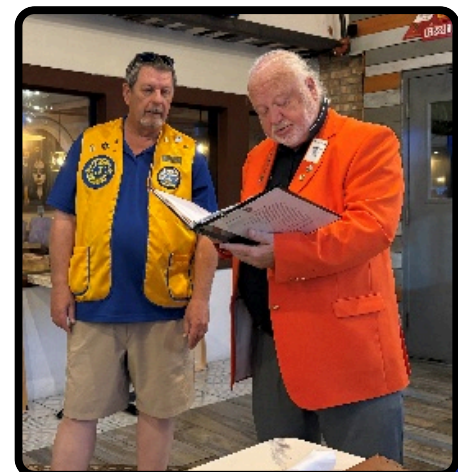
Pictured: DG George Niles, PDG Tony Esposito (Jacksonville Arlington Club host) and PDG Lou Jones accepting his award for membership.



There were also installations this summer:

Gulf Breeze Lions Club held their re-charter service. - Acting on behalf of DG George Niles, PDG Greg Seltzer conducted the installation.

Pictured: Charles/ Tail Twister, Kathleen/ Secretary, Diamond/ Service Chair and Mike/Treasurer being presented their certificates by PDG Greg Seltzer.



Baker Lions Club

The Baker Lions Club 2 has been revamped after many years. The evening was a beautiful gathering of not just older memories but also of creating new memories. We were honored to have in attendance Okaloosa County Commissioner Sherri Cox along with State Representative Patt Maney. Lauren Suell from Crowning Jewel Photography provided expert photography during the dinner. PDG Greg Seltzer was the Master of Ceremonies for the evening and PCC John Hart from Fort Walton gave the invocation. DG George provided the Baker club with hope and reassurance of leadership and stability as they embark on this journey to provide Lions service throughout their area. The DGs remarks were met with a true appreciation of both his and his Cabinet advisors. Pins and certificates were presented by DG George with assistance from Cabinet Secretary Judi Seltzer. PCC Lou Jones, PDG Charlotte Jones along with Lion Sarah Stone from the Crestview Club will continue to provide assistance as needed to the now newly installed Baker Lions Club.

Pictured: DG George Niles, PDG Lou Jones, PDG Charlotte Jones, PDG Greg Seltzer.

Also pictured: the newly installed President and Treasurer of the Baker Lions Club- Curtis and Benjamin. Providing a gift to the club is non other than Mary and Helen from the Fort Walton Sonic City Lions Club (On a special note- both Helen and Mary are probably members of the longest running Lioness club in our District). What an accomplishment!

Well done Lions!



50th Lions Forum in Memphis Tennessee

The Forum is a chance to not only meet with lions across the US and globe, it is also a chance to renew just why you became a Lion in the first place. There is learning and activities throughout the 3 day conference that help you to grow in Lionism. And this was never more apparent than this year in Memphis.

This year congratulations are in order for

Susan Olivia, 1VDG, who earned her Masters degree in Lionism

PDG Greg Seltzer, who earned his Masters degree in Lionism

Lion Judi Seltzer, who earned her Bachelors degree in Lionism

Lets give them all a big hand for a job well done!



The Forum also honored District L for their fantastic efforts for New Club Extensions.

Receiving this award was DG George Niles, PCC GMT Lou Jones and PDG GET Greg Seltzer. This truly an honor and as you can see by this picture there were only 2 districts in MD 35 who received this award with District L being one of the two.

District 34 B		District 35 I		District 35 L	
DISTRICT GOVERNOR	Sharon Rutherford	DISTRICT GOVERNOR	Beverly Flynn	DISTRICT GOVERNOR	George Niles
GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM DISTRICT COORDINATOR	Ray C Lindsey	GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM DISTRICT COORDINATOR	Linda K Gregory	GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM DISTRICT COORDINATOR	L E Lou Jones
GLOBAL EXTENSION TEAM DISTRICT COORDINATOR	George V. Head	GLOBAL EXTENSION TEAM DISTRICT COORDINATOR	Jimmy D Gregory	GLOBAL EXTENSION TEAM DISTRICT COORDINATOR	Gregory N Seltzer



Pictured: International President Mark Lyons, DG George Niles, PCC Lou Jones and PDG Greg Seltzer.

What an accomplishment for District L!



As this picture shows, MD35 was well represented at the Forum in Memphis this year. Next year is Huntsville Alabama- hope to see you there!



November Fall Conference Registration is LIVE!

Either click on the sign or scan the QR code with your phone or tablet to register.

MULTIPLE DISTRICT 35
CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 6-8
JOIN US!

Join us in Orlando at the Florida Hotel for interesting and informative seminars and of course FUN!



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[Register Here by Oct 5!](#)

PID Ed Farrington will be our Special Guest during the Multiple District 35 November Fall Conference from November 6-8, 2026. PID Farrington splits his year spending a few winter months in Naples, Florida from his home state of New Hampshire.

**EDWARD FARRINGTON
PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR**

Edward Farrington from Milford, New Hampshire, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 97th International Convention held in Toronto, Canada, July 4 through 8, 2014.

Past Director Farrington retired in February 2018 from Nora Systems, Inc. as Manager, Technical Operations.



A member of the Milford Lions Club since 1995, he has held many offices within the association, including district governor, council chairperson, district LCIF chairperson, multiple district convention chairperson and district GLT coordinator. He is currently serving as Treasurer for Lions Kidsight USA Foundation 2016-Current and Lions USA Education Committee. He has served as the GAT Area Leader 1K 2017-2019 (New England) and a Group Leader for the FVDG/DGE 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022 Training Seminar.

In recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards, including 100% Club President Award, District Club President of the Year, an International President's Certificate of Appreciation and International Leadership & Presidential Awards. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to his Lions activities, Past Director Farrington has been active in numerous professional and community organizations, including board member for the Milford planning board, school board, budget committee, ethics committee and Vice-Chair of the Milford School Building Committee.

Past Director Farrington and his wife, Elaine, also a Lion and Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have three daughters and nine grandchildren.



More Than a Toast: The Lions Promise of Unity

"Not above you, not beneath you, but with you" is the fundamental declaration of equality, unity, and unbroken fellowship that forms the moral backbone of Lions Clubs International and the fellowship of fraternal traditions.

People miss the impact because words are easy to say, but **living them is hard.**

When spoken with real intent, that toast isn't a formality—it is an oath of absolute solidarity across gender, background, and life circumstances. It's a promise that no matter how heavy the work gets or how tough life becomes, nobody walks alone and nobody looks down on anyone else.

When a group of people actually lives that toast instead of just reciting it, it changes the entire culture of a club, a family, and a community.

While often shared as a solemn toast or a welcoming affirmation, the true meaning behind these words reaches far deeper than standard etiquette:

"Not above you" — The Rejection of Superiority

No matter one's status, wealth, power, title, or length of service, no person stands higher than another. It strips away ego, hubris, and hierarchy. True leadership in service is not about authority over people, but standing shoulder-to-shoulder with them.

"Not beneath you" — The Affirmation of Worth

No individual is inferior, forgotten, or beneath dignity. It acts as an antidote to self-doubt and social division, assuring every member that their voice, presence, and contributions hold equal weight.

"But with you" — The Promise of Unconditional Solidarity

This is the core deliverable of the phrase: presence and companionship. Service and fellowship are not performed from a distance. It means facing hardship together, celebrating victories together, and carrying burdens as a unified force.

When Lions recite or toast these words, they are renewing an oath: to serve the community without patronage, to treat every person with unwavering respect, and to walk through life as true equals.



Lions International

MD-35 Regional Lions Leadership Institute

March 11-14, 2027

Florida Hotel, 1500 Sand Lake Rd., Orlando, FL

Check in 3:30 PM Thursday - Depart Sunday 11:20 AM

Registration Fee of only \$250 includes:

- Hotel Room for 3 Nights
- Eight Meals
 - Thursday Diner - Sunday Breakfast
- Instructional Materials
- Pool Time / Fun Night

RLLI offers an excellent opportunity to acquire valuable leadership skills and foster connections with fellow Lions who are passionate about serving their clubs and communities.

Institute Topics:

- Diversity
- Lions Fundamentals
- Motivating Club Members
- Global Membership Approach Success Plan
- District Success
- Setting and Reaching Club Goals
- Personal Mission Statement
- Public Speaking
- Time Management
- Working in Teams
- and much more!

Clubs that sponsor a member invest not only in their future but also in the club's, district's, and even multiple district's future.

For more information email
Gary M. LaSpina, PDG, MD-35 GLT Coordinator
liongarymd35@gmail.com
or call and leave a message at
863.617.5537

LEADERSHIP ROOTED IN SERVICE



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[Fillable Application](#)

ALACHUA LIONS CLUB EYEGLASS SORTING PARTY

The Alachua Club met at their clubhouse on September 24, for an Eyeglass Sorting Party and were graced with the presence of Denise Williams, who is the Partner in Service to District Governor George Niles and a Global Team Leader for the District. Denise shared some very helpful information and ideas on Lionism with the Alachua members before the party started. After Denise's presentation, they sorted 850 pairs of eyeglasses, about 300 pairs of sunglasses and several hundred eye glass cases.

This is a very active project for the Alachua Lions as the eyeglass drop box in front of the building is a popular spot for eyeglass drop offs. It also helps that there is an Optometrist Office just up the street from the clubhouse and they collect any unwanted glasses that their patients want to donate.

There were several spouses of active Alachua Lions who helped with this effort, and they were quite amazed when they learned about the process of how Lions recycle these glasses and send them to needy people all around the world.



Left to right: Denise Williams, District 35L Partner to the District Governor, Lions Jess Irby, Tommy Harris, Terri Warrington and John Hopkins.



Seated is Lion Gib Coerper, standing left to right is Lion Jack Zuidema, Paul Good and his wife Mary Good.



Baker Lions Club Marks a New Beginning at Charter Night

By Baker Club Secretary Stephanie Raney

On Sept. 14, the newly established Baker Lions Club marked a major milestone by celebrating its Charter Night at the Blackman Community Center. The initiative originally began as a Crestview Lions Club effort to expand Lions service into the Baker community.

Initially organized as a Club Branch, the Baker group quickly recognized its potential and desire to become an independent club dedicated to the Lion mission. Within just a few months, early branch members engaged the local community and recruited enough new members to officially charter. The Charter Night celebration brought together Lions members from Baker and Crestview alongside their families, Lions throughout District 35-L—including District Governor George Niles and Past District Governor Dr. Gregory Seltzer—and community leaders such as Florida State Rep. Patt Maney and Okaloosa County Commissioner Sherri Cox.

Following the successful Charter Night, the club is actively shifting its focus toward local service initiatives.

Key initiatives and upcoming community service goals include:

- Food Security: Ongoing support for the established Baker Backpack Buddies program to assist local students.
- Health Services: Developing a KidSight vision-screening program and seeking diabetes training and educational resources.
- Youth Leadership: Exploring the creation of a local Leo Club to engage young residents in community service and leadership development.
- Community Engagement: Participating in upcoming events like the Munson Heritage Festival and Baker Heritage Day to connect with residents and identify key needs.

As the Baker Lions Club embarks on its inaugural year, its strong foundation and enthusiastic members position it to make a lasting impact in the community.

Notes from a Guiding Lion - Sarah Stone

Initiating the Baker Branch with Lion Lou Jones as my mentor was an amazing experience; it was so great to be able to collaborate with so many service minded individuals that truly care about their community. What was slow going at the beginning took off like wildfire with just a few key members jumping in, most notably the newly appointed Baker Club President Curtis Raney. Curtis and his team brought together family, friends, local businesses and community leaders that truly want to help the people of Baker. It is an honor for both myself and Lou Jones to be the guiding Lions for this exceptional group of people.





Cedar Key Lions Club

DON'T BE A VICTIM!

KNOW THE SCAMS. STOP THE CRIME.

**EMPOWER
YOURSELF
PROTECT
WHAT MATTERS
MOST!**

★

FREE SCAM AWARENESS SEMINAR

PRESENTED BY THE SENIORS VS CRIME PROJECT

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CEDAR KEY LIONS
AND CEDAR KEY POLICE CHIEF JENKINS

LEARN HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Discover the latest scam methods and how scammers target seniors.

REAL CASES. REAL IMPACT.

We share real case experiences and practical tips to keep you safe.

INFORMAL & INTERACTIVE

Relaxed talk followed by Q&A—your questions, answered.

COMPLETELY FREE!

There is no charge or fee for this service.

TOP SCAMS WE COVER:

- TELEPHONE SCAMS
- INTERNET & EMAIL SCAMS
- DOOR-TO-DOOR SCAMS
- DATING & ROMANCE SCAMS
- INVESTMENT SCAMS
- IRS & TAX SCAMS
- FINANCIAL FRAUD, THEFT & ABUSE

JOIN US! STAY INFORMED. STAY SAFE.

LOCATION:

The Episcopal Church
4054 D Street
Cedar Key, FL 32625

DATE:

Wednesday,
October 14, 2026

TIME:

6:30 PM –
7:30 PM

★ REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED! ★

**SENIORS
VS CRIME
PROJECT**

Seniors vs Crime
A Special Project of the Florida Attorney General

CEDAR KEY LIONS

Committed to Service.
Dedicated to Our Community.

**CEDAR KEY
POLICE CHIEF
JENKINS**

Working Together for a
Safer Cedar Key

STAY INFORMED.
STAY SAFE.

Together we can
PREVENT CRIME
and **PROTECT**
OUR SENIORS.

★

DON'T BE SCAMMED!



Fort Walton Lions Club

Nursing Home Visit

08/20/2026

The Fort Walton Beach Lions Club recently visited Emerald Coast Nursing Home in Fort Walton Beach.

Lions Teresa McClure and Mary Van Dorn led the visit. The group prepared body lotion, shampoo, toothbrushes, pens, arts and crafts supplies, cookies, and candy for the residents, who were delighted to see them. It was an enjoyable and rewarding day.

Tina Henderson handmade and donated the wreaths for the residents' doors.

Pictured are Lions Cathy Cauley, Mary VanDorn, Director of Emerald Coast Nursing Home, Tere Brenci and Teresa McClure.

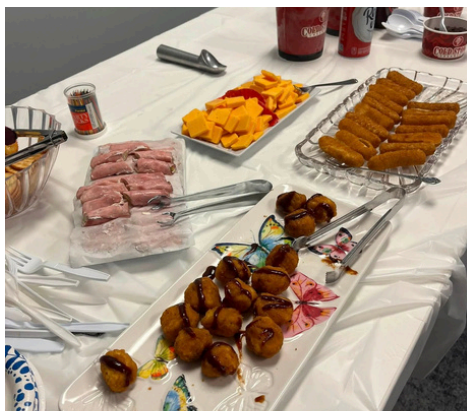


Jax Beach Lions Club

A wonderful evening at Eye Spy Social: Mocktails & Mingle!

From great conversations and accessible games to delicious treats and mocktails, it was a great night of connection for the blind and low vision community. Our Jacksonville Beaches Lions Club volunteers were proud to be part of it—guiding guests and helping out wherever we were needed! One highlight of the night was meeting Fahad. Fahad is a graduate of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind (FSDB), where he previously received a scholarship from a local Lions Club. While our specific club wasn't the one that sponsored him, meeting Fahad was a powerful reminder of why we do what we do.

It shows the incredible effect that Lions clubs have across generations: empowering students and staying connected long after graduation! A huge thank you to Eye Spy Foundation for hosting such a fantastic event at the Ellie Mental Health- Ponte Vedra, FL location.



Jax Beach Lions Club

A big thank you to the River City Lions Club for their generous donation to our upcoming Barktoberfest!

In the photo, you can see our club members Stephen M. Smith and Alicia Matayoshi accepting the checks alongside Joanne and Monique from the River City Lions, who also presented a wonderful support check for the Eye Spy Foundation.



To ensure our local heroes know they are always in our hearts, Meredyth Mason from our Lions Club visited the Jacksonville Beach Police Department and Fire Department today to show our deepest gratitude.

A special thank you to Linda Zepp for baking delicious homemade cookies, and Meredyth's driver Nick Hamman for kindly providing transportation for free!

Jax Beach Lions Club

Serving Community, Saving Lives, and Shaping Futures!

At our latest Jacksonville Beaches Lions Club meeting, we had the honor of welcoming guest speakers from the Civil Air Patrol (Jacksonville Composite Squadron based at Craig Executive Airport) — including our very own club member, Lt. Col. Brad Choate, alongside Capt. Clayton Vandiver!

It was a fascinating presentation about an organization with a rich history dating back to December 1, 1941. Today, the Civil Air Patrol serves as the official Air Force Auxiliary, playing a vital role in our nation:

Emergency Services: Conducting about 80% of inland search and rescue missions in the U.S., disaster relief, and humanitarian support.

Cadet Programs: Shaping future leaders through youth and STEM education.

Aerospace Education: Fostering aviation and leadership skills across communities.

Because we believe in their mission to serve others and support our community, our club is proud to support them with a donation to help fund their incredible work!



Jax Beach Lions Club

A powerful and authentic report from our club member Meredyth Mason
Meredyth recently attended the Lion Summer Visit 2026 and is sharing her very personal impressions of this unforgettable experience at Leader Dogs for the Blind:

„Lion summer visit 2026 brought together 50 Lions from all the country, including Minnesota, Texas, Georgia, Florida just to name a few. We gathered to learn about the history of Leader Dogs hear from current client journeys during a panel, participate in activities such as a white cane walk and a dining in the dark dinner, and took tours of the campus. The long relationship between Lions and Leader Dogs began 86 years ago when the uptown club of Detroit founded Leader Dogs for the blind. Lions Club's have been huge benefactors for Leader Dogs and donate more than 10% of their total operating budget. Thank you to Lion Susan Oliva the first vice governor for district 35L for passing along her invitation so I may return to campus four years after I graduated in August 2022. I will forever be grateful to the Lions Club for continuing support of Leader Dogs for the blind and deeply love being a client of Leader Dog and my cherished relationship with my beautiful guide dog Luna.“

We are incredibly proud to have Meredyth and her guide dog Luna in our club!



Jax Beach Lions Club

What an incredible Eyespy Fashion Pawty! A huge shoutout to the amazing team at Eye Spy Foundation for putting together such a wonderful event.

A few of us from the Jacksonville Beaches Lions Club had the absolute pleasure of helping out today. Here is a quick group snapshot of our helper crew! Stay tuned - more fun highlights and all the great impressions are coming your way over the next few days.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart.”

- HELEN KELLER

Ocala Lions Club – Bragging Rights September 2026

Membership Key Awards were given to two Ocala Lions Club members. Lions Herb Drum and Patti Palermo were presented with Key Pins by President Renee Thompson in September. Their enthusiasm for spreading the work of the club is helping our membership numbers to grow!

Chevrons were presented to 11 of our members in September. The awards recognize the years of dedicated service to the Ocala Lions Club and making a difference in our community through Lionism. Awards were presented to Lions Garry Adel, Scott Cross, Bob Cabbage, Nathan Garcia, Jim Hall, Frank Lawson, Ben Poole, Andy Possuto, Billy Rodgers, Bob Ruddick, and Ted Warner. Lions Garry Adel and Jim Hall have each been proud Lions for 40 years!

Ocala Lions Club also received a letter from the Plains Lions Club in Plains, PA. Lion Steve Friedman is a member of the club and a Philatelist (stamp collector). He read about the Ocala Lions Club in the March issue of Linn's Stamp News and of Florida's postmark celebrating our 100th Anniversary and our efforts to help children's vision.

Ocala Lions Club member John Renyhart responded to Lion Steve and sent him one of the souvenir cache envelopes from our 100th Anniversary and also explained the process for creating it. Every club member and guest at our 100th Anniversary Dinner in March received an envelope.

The 33rd annual Jerry Cullison Memorial Golf Tournament will take place on Saturday, December 5th at the Ocala Palms Golf & Country Club, 5000 US Highway 27 in Ocala. The tournament includes a free pancake breakfast and lunch and prizes for winning teams. For additional information about playing in the tournament or to become a sponsor, contact Lions Garry Adel – 352-895-1084 or Barry Fies – 352-362-7713. This is a major source of funding for the many charities and programs that our club sponsors.

The Ocala Lions Club supports two special charities each month. On the first Thursday of the month, food is collected and taken to the Food 4 Kids Program at



Interfaith Emergency Services. Our Club is now a “Member of the Pack” for our continued participation in the program that benefits 1500 children each month.

On the third Thursday of the month, a second charity receives donations from the Club. The charity is chosen from area groups in need of assistance and they often come to speak at our weekly meetings.

The Ocala Lions Club has a new mascot – Cubby the Lion Cub is a small stuffed animal and accompanies Club members as they travel around the US and the World. Cubby has met the Pilot on his way to Denmark and the Concierge of the hotel in Oslo. Cubby traveled to the University of Maine and the Bar Harbor Inn. Cubbie Jr. visited Barcelona touring Sagrada Familia and Cubbie was then off to the Balkans in September. Using the mascot is a great way to meet people and share Lions Club experiences.

Our pre-owned glasses campaign continues to grow. Lion Lou Barnes directs the collection of used glasses. In September our Club and other volunteers collected 627 glasses and packed 374 cases. Lion Lou has delivered donations to local charities and countries outside the US. Other Lions Clubs are helping us with the program.

A special thank you to President Renee Thompson for creating the new Ocala Lions Club website. The link is www.ocalalions.com. It is a wonderful way to share the work that we are doing in our club.



Orange Park Lions Club had a busy September

One warm Saturday in Keystone Heights, the Orange Park Lions Club served the community well. It was at the monthly appearance of the Impact Clay Train. Several nonprofits appear once a month all over the county bringing food, services, and other supplies to several folks. This stop in Keystone was a bit of a challenge. Two of the food trucks broke down on the way and the Mobile Unit from Kids First that the Lions Club uses for vision screening was also unavailable. It was all hands-on deck. Waste Not Want stepped in at the last minute to provide bread and fresh fruit. Several volunteers stepped in to distribute the food. The Salvation Army Food truck also had issues getting there on time but arrived just a little late to provide hot meals and water for visitors and volunteers. The Lions Club was able to make use of a community school room there at Keystone Jr./Sr. HS to provide screenings. Because of the great help from providers and volunteers the Clay Train was able to serve:

- 144 Guests
- 72 volunteers
- 10 vision screenings provided by the Lions Club
- 7 haircuts
- 184 Hot meals served.

Lions taking part in the event were (pictured left to right): Mike Poweleit, Dave Vencil, Kitty Minor, Don Minor, Eric Lown, Celia Vencil, and Richard Campbell. They also handed out readers, sunglasses, and 3D generated toy lions.



Earlier in the month, Orange Park Lions took part in two other community events. The first was at the "904 Community Celebration Day" which took place on 9/4 of course at the Orange Park Mall. The Lions Club and dozens of other nonprofits gathered at center court of the mall passing out gifts and providing great information of the good work the organizations do throughout the "904" area code.

The other event was the Orange Park Lions Club hosting a class dealing with Veterans Suicide. Unfortunately, this is a topic needing attention in our area as there are over 6000 veterans suicides in the U.S. each year and 500 of those are in Florida. Our instructor was Ian Keane. Ian is program manager for Clay, St. Johns and Putnam counties for Fire Watch. Ian is a 22-year Coast Guard Veteran. The class provided detailed information about recognizing the warning signs of Veteran suicides as well as how to talk to them and what resources to provide to them. The class was attended by Lions from Orange Park as well as members from Riverside Argyle Westside (RAW) Lions Club and others from the area.

Pensacola ALC Avengers:

The Avengers have had a very busy summer. We started off with some needed eyeglass sorting. This was conducted at Northminster Presbyterian Church.



In attendance were: Lion Virlane, Sharon, Nancy, Linda and Judi (not pictured). Once the sorting was complete. Lion Judi took the eyeglasses to: Loaves and Fishes Homeless Feeding Ministry and Escambia County Library and where the eyeglasses were needed and accepted with great thanks. Pictured: Lion Judi with F.H and S.W.



Helping those in need is
not Charity.
It is Humanity.
Lions have this covered.
A hand up not a hand out!

AIC Avengers cont.

Again, this year, the AIC Avengers along with the Pensacola Club provided a picnic for the staff, students and parents of A.K.Suder Elementary School. Loads of food and fun was had by all. This was well attended by: Lions Glenn, Raven(not pictured)and Stanton, along with Lions Linda, Judi, Virlane and Pam. Over 100 hotdogs were prepared and enjoyed.



Continuing through the summer were multiple diabetes and vision screenings at fairs and the local library.



AIC Avengers cont.

The AIC Avengers continue to support our local Ronald McDonald house. Over the summer, we provided can tabs twice which provides financial support for the power bill at the house.



Pictured are Lions Judi, Linda, Virlane, Sharon and Nancy.

Stay tuned for the next newsletter. We have been invited to the Ronald McDonald brand reveal. Should be exciting!

That's all for the summer!

You don't need a title, a badge or a hat to be a Leader. Lead by example and let your actions inspire others in the community to WANT to follow that example. THAT is true 'Lions Leadership'.

Tallahassee Lions Club

The Tallahassee Lions Club enjoyed having Ms. Peggy Sanford from "RAGS TO BAGS" join us at our Sept. luncheon meeting to display beautiful shopping bags and gift bags made by volunteers. Rags to Bags is part of Sustainable Tallahassee, an organization that focuses on using items that would ordinarily be thrown away. Unwanted or unused fabric was used to make these bags.



Recently four of our Club members received the CHEVRON award from District Governor, Suzi Rodgers as follows:

Anne Davis
Karen Gievers
Bert Hartsfield
Steve Oakley

The CHEVRON award is to honor their many years of dedicated service to Lionism. It symbolizes their commitment to serving others and making a difference in their community. The Tallahassee Lions Club is very blessed to have them as part of our Club.



**Month of October**

Blindness Awareness Month
Leo Membership Growth Month

October 4

World Animal Day

October 5

World Teacher Day

October 8

World Sight Day

(On October 8, 1917, the newly formed International Association of Lions Clubs held its first national convention in Dallas, Texas. The date is now observed annually as World Lions Service Day.)

October 10

World Mental Health Day

October 15

International White Cane Safety Day

October 16

World Food Day

October 17

Keystone Melrose 10/17/2024

October 28

National First Responders Day

October 31

Halloween

**District
35L**

ROAR with Pride!

**Share your clubs
achievements.**

NEWSLETTER

CONTACT DETAILS

FLDistrict35L@gmail.com

All submissions due by the 26th of the month.



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AWARDS DEADLINE DECEMBER 31!!

To print awards go to

<https://www.lionsmd35.com/award-information>

Governor's Achievement Award – New Member

The Governor's Achievement Award recognizes Lions who have shown extraordinary commitment and service during their **first year of membership**. This honor highlights those who embrace the spirit of Lionism by actively participating in projects, attending meetings, and making a lasting impact in their club and community.

All club presidents are encouraged to review their new members and nominate those who have demonstrated exceptional dedication. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor and encourage our newest Lions while celebrating the strength and future of our organization.

 Important Reminder: All nominations must be **submitted by December 31**. Don't miss the chance to recognize the achievements of your outstanding new members!

Governor's Achievement Award – New & Transfer Members

The Governor's Achievement Award is designed to help both **new Lions and transfer Lions** become fully engaged in the purpose and activities of Lionism. Eligible members complete a series of requirements—such as attending meetings, participating in service projects, and learning more about Lions International—that build a strong foundation of involvement and service..

This award not only recognizes individual dedication but also strengthens clubs by encouraging meaningful participation from members in their first year. Sponsoring Lions play a key role in guiding and supporting nominees through the process, while clubs ensure certification and timely submission.

 Important Deadline: All completed nomination forms must be submitted to the District Chair by **December 31**. Don't miss the opportunity to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of your newest Lions!

Order of the Golden Chain Award

The Order of the Golden Chain is a special recognition available to any Lion who demonstrates commitment and service throughout the year. To qualify, members must complete all five mandatory requirements—including active participation in meetings, recruiting a new member, and serving on a committee—along with 11 out of 20 optional activities such as visiting Lions Eye Banks, attending conferences, contributing to LCIF, or writing about Lions service for publication.

This award is unique because it can be **earned every year** that the requirements are met. It serves as both a challenge and an opportunity for Lions to stay engaged, expand their service, and inspire others through consistent involvement.

 Important Reminder: All requirements must be completed and forms **submitted by December 31**. Don't miss the chance to add your name to the Order of the Golden Chain and be recognized for your outstanding service!

AWARDS DEADLINE DECEMBER 31!!

To print awards go to

<https://www.lionsmd35.com/award-information>

Anchor Award

The Anchor Award recognizes the “**Grass Root Lions**” who provide strength, stability, and dedication at the club level. These are the Lions who put in at least 125 hours of service in recognized Lions activities throughout the year—whether through projects, meetings, training, or visitations Anchor Award.

This award is designed to honor the steady and committed service of Lions who often work behind the scenes to keep our clubs strong. By recognizing their contributions, we not only celebrate their efforts but also encourage ongoing engagement and reduce member dropouts.

 Important Reminder: All service hours must be certified and submitted, with completed award orders received by the District Awards Chair no later than **December 31**. Don't miss this chance to honor your club's true anchors!

Dr. Walter H. Campbell Pilot Award

The Pilot Award is one of the most prestigious honors in MD-35, recognizing a **Past District Governor (PDG)** in each district, as well as one at the Multiple District level, for their outstanding service, leadership, and dedication to Lionism. This award highlights the incredible impact PDGs make through their work at the club, district, and multiple district levels..

The contest period runs from **January 1 through December 31**, and only the accomplishments achieved during this time will be considered. This ensures that recognition is based on the most recent year of service and contributions.

 Important Reminder: All achievements must be **completed by December 31**, and applications must be submitted to the MD-35 office by the required deadline. Don't miss the opportunity to honor and celebrate the dedicated leadership of our Past District Governors!

Millard Conklin Crusader for Lionism Award

The Millard Conklin Crusader for Lionism Award honors dedicated “**Grass Root**” Lions whose outstanding service and commitment strengthen their clubs and communities. Each district selects one winner based on accomplishments during the **January 1 – December 31** contest period, with a Multiple District 35 winner chosen from among the district honorees.

This award is designed to recognize the everyday Lions who give their time, energy, and heart to projects, meetings, and service initiatives throughout the year. Nominations can be made by clubs, zone chairs, district directors, or MD-35 projects, ensuring that deserving Lions at every level have the chance to be recognized.

 Important Reminder: All accomplishments must be **completed by December 31**, with entries submitted to the MD-35 office by the required deadline. Don't miss this opportunity to shine a spotlight on the Lions who embody the true spirit of service!

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.