

The Imagineers Tale



Lions District 35i – Florida

JULY 2026

District Governor Beverly Flynn

Imagine, Inspire, and Serve

As you receive this edition of *The Imagineers Tale*, I am in Hong Kong experiencing the excitement, energy, and fellowship of the Lions International Convention. My journey as your District Governor officially begins when I am sworn into office by our new International President, Mark Lyon. It is both an honor and a privilege to serve, and I am incredibly proud to have the opportunity to help lead our outstanding District and Multiple District as we continue our mission of service together.

With a new Lions year before us, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the support, encouragement, and dedication of our members. Your commitment to serving others is what makes our district strong, and I am honored to serve alongside each of you.

I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead and look forward to seeing what our Lions can "Imagine" when it comes to service projects, fundraising ideas, and innovative ways to meet the needs of our communities. When we combine our creativity, passion, and spirit of service, there is no limit to what we can accomplish together.

I am also thrilled to welcome the new Lions Clubs to our district and new members into our established clubs. Each new Lion brings fresh energy, new perspectives, and additional hands and hearts to help us make an even greater impact. Our District membership is growing and we want to keep this momentum going.

Together, let us continue to Imagine, inspire, and serve. Thank you for all that you do, and I look forward to an incredible year of fellowship, growth, and service with each of you.



Just **iMAGiNE** what Lions can do!

Beverly Flynn
District Governor

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Calendar and Upcoming

July 11, 18, 25 District 35I trainings for Club officer positions, in-person or via Zoom

July 18 Zephyrhills Lions Club Dining in the Dark Event

September 3-5 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum

September 18 Fort Myers Lions Club Annual Charity Golf Scramble

Service Spotlights 2026-2027

July

Emergency – Disaster

August

Humanitarian

September

Childhood Cancer

October

Mental Health

November

Diabetes

December

Military/Veterans

January

Hunger

February

Elder Citizens

March

Vision

April

Environment

May

Youth/Reading Action

June

Hearing

Helpful information will be provided to you in this newsletter to assist your Clubs in planning service activities for the causes.



Please send your calendar announcements to:
paulapaquette@aol.com.

Message from 1st VDG Drew Ogden

Changing Lives, One Person at a Time

by Lion Drew Ogden, First Vice District Governor

Every day, Lions around the world live by a simple but powerful motto: “**We Serve.**” In our communities, that commitment is more than just words—it is action. Whether providing vision and hearing screenings, supporting local food banks, assisting veterans, helping children, or responding to community needs, working in food banks, Lions are making a difference where it matters most.

The true strength of Lionism is found in the lives we touch. A child who receives their first pair of glasses can succeed in school. A senior who receives hearing assistance can reconnect with family and friends. A family facing hardship can find hope through the support of caring volunteers. These individual acts of service create a ripple effect that strengthens our entire community.

As Lions, we understand that meaningful change often begins with one person helping another. We may not solve every challenge overnight, but together we can improve lives one person, one family, and one community at a time.

We also invite our friends, neighbors, and community leaders to join us in this mission. Becoming a Lion offers an opportunity to serve, build lasting friendships, develop leadership skills, and leave a positive legacy. No matter your background or experience, there is a place for you in Lions.

If you have ever wanted to make a difference, don’t wait—take the first step today. Contact us now at 407-859-7174 or visit <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-approach/club-locator> to get started. We invite any potential member to join us at a meeting and see immediately how your time and talents can create real change in our community.



When we serve others, we don’t just change their lives – we change our own.

Act now and become part of something bigger than yourself. Your involvement can bring hope, support, and opportunity to those who need it most—starting today. Join the Lions family and begin making a meaningful impact right away. If you want to change something in this world, you have to be the source of that change. Lions offer that opportunity to be of service and make a difference.

JULY SERVICE SPOTLIGHT -

EMERGENCY - DISASTER

Prepared Lions Are Ready Lions

A message from Peter M. Casamento, M.A.

District Disaster/Emergency Chair, Florida Lions Clubs District 35-I

We are in the season. Whether it is a named storm churning toward our coastline, a sudden flood, or a community crisis none of us anticipated, the question is never *whether* emergencies will come. The question is whether we will be ready when they do.

District 35-I is answering that call. Under the direction of District Governor Beverly Flynn, I am proud to announce that our **ALERT Disaster Operations Plan, Version 4**, takes effect July 1, 2026, providing every club with a clear, coordinated structure for disaster response.

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL ALERT PROGRAM — MISSION STATEMENT

“To provide Lions with a standardized structure and network to deliver needed services to people in emergency situations.”

That mission is the heart of why we do this work, and with this plan, District 35-I is ensuring that every club, every zone, and every Lion has what they need to answer that call.

WHAT THE PLAN PROVIDES

The plan establishes a clear chain of command, from District Governor Flynn, through the District Disaster Chair, to our North and South Region Chairs, and down to Club Disaster Chairs at the local level. It covers three emergency levels, from a Level One affecting a few individuals to a Level Three affecting thousands across a region, and identifies resources already in place, including our Disaster Trailer, Food Trailer, and active Starlink satellite communications, to support a swift, coordinated response.

A NEW ROLE FOR EVERY CLUB: CLUB DISASTER CHAIR AND THE MASTER ROSTER

As part of this plan, we are introducing a new position in every club: the **Club Disaster Chair**. This role is the local link that connects your club to the district response network, and it comes with a practical tool to support it.

The **ALERT Master Disaster Response Roster** is a shared Excel workbook with a dedicated tab for every club. Disaster Chairs record their volunteers' names and contact information and submit that roster to their Region Disaster Chair: Zones 1-4 to North Region Chair Barbara Klingensmith, Zones 5-7 to South Region Chair John Raymer. Together, those rosters give the district a complete picture of our personnel resources, so when the call comes, we are already prepared.

We hope every club will make appointing a Disaster Chair a priority at your next meeting. Your participation is what makes this system work.

Access the Plan: Version 4 will be uploaded to the Lions Multidistrict 35 Florida website under District I > Resources. Download a copy, share it with your Disaster Chair, and keep it on hand.

Questions? Reach out to me at lionpeter35i@gmail.com or 201-280-6029. I am happy to help.

Because when challenges come, and they will, prepared Lions don't just show up. They lead.

In the spirit of Lionism and in service to our communities,

Respectfully, Peace and All Good!

Peter M. Casamento, M.A.

District Disaster/Emergency Chair, Florida Lions Clubs District 35-I

President, Laurel-Nokomis Lions Club

Service spotlights will include information for your Lions Clubs for projects to do, speakers to invite, topics to discuss, committees to form. Supporting you to support your communities.

Message from 2nd VDG Christine Timmons-Malone

Imagine What's Possible

District 35I Newsletter Series

by Lion Christine Timmons-Malone, Second Vice District Governor

JULY –

Imagine Your Next Step

As we begin a new Lions year under our District Governor's theme, Imagine, I find myself thinking not only about what our clubs can accomplish, but also about what each of us can become.

Imagine where you could be one year from now if you said yes to growth. What if this is the year you attend a training, step into a new role, mentor another Lion, or discover a strength you did not know you had? Growth in Lions often begins with one simple decision to learn more, serve more, and stretch a little farther than before.

One of the things I am most passionate about is leadership development. Our association offers so many opportunities to grow—from club officer training and district learning opportunities to the courses available through Lions University. Imagine beginning that journey now and, one year from today, looking back at how much you have grown in confidence, knowledge, and leadership.

This year, I hope to use this space to encourage each of us to imagine what is possible when we invest in learning, leadership, and service. Sometimes the next step is smaller than we think—but it can still lead somewhere meaningful.

Imagine your next step—and then take it.



August Service Spotlight **Humanitarian:**

“Projects that meet you where you are”

by *Lion Nicole Blauers*

“**We Serve.**” It’s more than a motto—it’s the heart of who we are as Lions. Yet we also recognize that while many of us *want* to serve, not every project fits every Lion’s skillset, physical ability, or schedule. True service begins with meeting people where they are, and that includes our fellow Lions.

Serving in Ways That Fit Every Lion

This August, we’re focusing on service opportunities that offer flexibility and variety. Food insecurity continues to rise, but it rarely exists alone. Housing instability, unemployment, and lack of access to skill-building resources often make it difficult for families to find long-term solutions.

To support both our members and our community, consider partnering with organizations that offer multiple ways to get involved, such as:

- Metropolitan Ministries
- Feeding Tampa Bay
- Feeding America
- Ronald McDonald House

These organizations provide a wide range of volunteer options, allowing each Lion to serve in a way that feels meaningful and manageable. You can cook a meal. You can hand out food. You can organize a food drive. You can teach a class on food, housing, or financial instability.

This approach helps us meet people where *they* are—while also meeting Lions where *they* are.

Why This Matters: A Personal Reflection

As a child, my family faced many of these same challenges. Volunteers, food pantries, churches, and programs like Toys for Tots made a tremendous difference in our lives. I still remember the kindness, the generosity, and the hope those moments brought us.

Those experiences shaped my heart for service. Giving back to the organizations that once supported my family is deeply meaningful to me, and I believe that when we show compassion during someone’s hardest moments, we demonstrate what it truly means to be a Lion. Sometimes, that simple act of kindness can even open the door to a future conversation about membership.

Finding the Right Fit for Your Club

If these particular projects don’t align with your club’s focus, remember that there are countless other opportunities available in your community and on the Lions Club portal. There is always a way to serve—and always someone who needs what Lions have to offer.

August Service Spotlight: Meeting Lions Where They Are

District 35I Region, Zone and Club Officer's Training Schedule for 2026/2027

Good Afternoon District 35I Lions,

We are now heading into a new year with new roles and responsibilities. I am asking you all to attend the appropriate training for your position. We are scheduling the meetings on Saturday through the month of July and it should take about two hours. **Please RSVP me if you are coming so we have sufficient material for your training. PDG Dave Hollern 814-573-2568 or dhholler@hotmail.com** If you can't join us in person we will also offer the training through the Zoom Meeting Program (the link is good for each session). To join the meeting hold the control button and click on the link at the bottom. We now have had our first session for Region and Zone Chairs. I want to thank all who attended especially 1st VDGE Drew and 2nd VDG Christine who put on a great presentation. I look forward to seeing our club presidents on the 11th at the Venice Lions Club 1289 Jacaranda Blvd Venice FL..

District 35I District and Club Officer's Training Program				
Topic	Presenter	Location	Date	Start Time
Club President Training	PDG Dave Hollern	Venice Lions Club	7/11/26	10:00 AM
Club Secretary Training	2nd VDG Cristine Malone	Venice Lions Club	7/18/26	10:00 AM
Club Treasurer Training	Lion Barb McGillicuddy	Venice Lions Club	7/25/26	10:00 AM

To Join the meeting by using Zoom

This link will be good for Each Meeting

David Hollern is inviting you to a Lions Training Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89488928317>

Join instructions

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/89488928317?signature=-ZlNm5TQ8IWA8Cb-kXgoMlit7lVWHBOsg7mpaJnGK5M>

Thank you for your service!

PDG Dave Hollern

Lions International - News



Lions International

Dear Lion Leader,

As a reminder, we are asking district and club leadership to provide information on any Lions foundation by completing the [Lions Foundation Annual Report Form](#) by **July 15, 2026**.

Completing the form, including service conducted by the foundation that has not been previously reported, will ensure that Lions Clubs International has the appropriate documentation as well as updated contact information for each foundation, allowing us to provide necessary information for the foundation to remain compliant with relevant association policy.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Legal Division directly at legal@lionsclubs.org.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

Legal Division
Lions Clubs International

Future LIONS International Conventions

Washington D.C. July 2-6, 2027

Singapore, June 23-27, 2028

Minneapolis, MN 2029

San Antonio TX 2030

Helsinki Finland 2031

Future USA/Canada LIONS Leadership Forums

Memphis, Tennessee

September 3 - 5, 2026

Huntsville, Alabama

September 16-18, 2027

Around Our District – Celebrating Service



Englewood Lions members Rosalie, Kathy, Heather, Sharon, and Dave (taking the picture) attended the Filipino Festival in Port Charlotte’s Centennial Park, to promote Lionism in the community. We raffled a gift basket and hopefully secured several new Lions and potentially a new club. In photo number 2 are Lions Heather, Rosalie, and Kathy

**Please email your news, notes, photos and announcements
for our 2026-27 Lions District 35I newsletter to:**

paulapaquette@aol.com

(newsletter editor)

Photos can be emailed in any format as an attachment.

Please email documents in Word (not as a pdf).

THANK YOU!

Congratulations Lighthouse Lions Club



Members of the Southwest Florida Lighthouse Lions Club were inducted June 26. The Event was held at the Venezia Hotel in Venice.



Lion Pamela Brown, the Guiding Lion for the new Southwest Florida Lighthouse Lions Club consults with the new President, Lion George Heudorfer.

Governor- Elect Beverly Flynn welcomes Lions to the Charter Celebration of the new Southwest Florida Lighthouse Lions Club and introduces Lion Peter Casamento, the District 35I Chaplain.



Congratulations Riverview Lions Club



District Governor Linda Gregory ('25-'26) and incoming District Governor Bev Flynn ('26-'27) congratulate the new Riverview Lions Club on the occasion of their Charter Party. The event was held at The Atrium Building in Sun City Center on June 13.

Warm welcome and heartfelt congratulations to this wonderful group of Lions!

Certificates of appreciation were presented to Lions Bernadette and Dr. Robert Kalle for their efforts!



Members of the new Riverview Lions Club – inducted June 13.

Our Deepest Appreciation to IPDG Linda Gregory



An appreciation luncheon to honor outgoing District Governor Linda Gregory was held on June 6 and was hosted by the Englewood Lions Club.

The “Do what makes your heart sing” luncheon was enjoyed by all. Presentations lauded IPDG Linda for all her exceptional efforts and accomplishments for District 35I this past Lionistic year.

IPDG Linda served as a Lion leader who showed up, did the work, set an example, set goals and quietly accomplished them. Her service was an encouraging presence to all. THANK YOU!



Organizational Meeting June 6



The Lions District 35I Organizational Meeting was held on June 6. The event was hosted by the Englewood Lions Club. Incoming District Governor Bev Flynn officiated. The event marked the transition from the administration of DG Linda Gregory to DG Bev Flynn.

Lions leaders and project chairs for the 2026-27 Lionistic year were introduced and gave presentations about their goals for the upcoming year.

Presenters included the Vice District Governors, Cabinet officials, LCIF, Global Action Team, Region and Zone Chairs, service spotlight coordinators, and Committee Chairs.



At the organizational meeting, Lion Bob Jenkins was presented with a progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship. Incoming DG Bev Flynn listed the starting of two new clubs as one of her goals. Lion Tim Forman is assuming the duties of a new position – Retention Chair. The District will be focusing on supporting Clubs with memberships less than 20. Thank you to all Lions who attended the organizational meeting with so much Lions enthusiasm!



ZEPHYRHILLS LIONS CLUB
PRESENTS

DINING IN THE DARK



SATURDAY,
JULY 18TH, 2026



DOORS OPEN:
4:30 PM
DINNER BEGINS:
5:00 PM



DINNER MENU
TO BE ANNOUNCED
*A full meal included
with ticket.*

\$35

PER TICKET



RESERVE A TABLE
FOR SIX!
*A shared experience
with friends.*

TICKETS MUST BE
PURCHASED IN ADVANCE



RSVP FOR TICKETS:

Carla Myers (Lion Carla)
lioncarlamyers@gmail.com
813-788-1441



WE SERVE
ZEPHYRHILLS LIONS CLUB

AN UNFORGETTABLE
SENSORY EXPERIENCE
*What happens when you take away sight
and heighten other senses?*

Join us for a unique
and immersive evening
where guests will enjoy a full
dining experience while blindfolded,
gaining a deeper understanding of
the daily challenges faced by
those with vision loss.



ENGAGE YOUR
SENSES
IN A NEW WAY



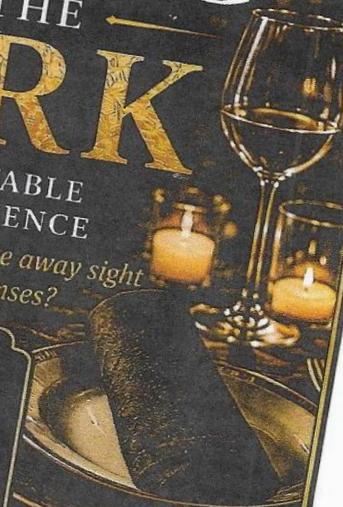
BUILD EMPATHY
AND AWARENESS



SUPPORT ALLIANCE
MISSION OF
VISION SERVICES



PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE
ZEPHYRHILLS LIONS
VISION PROGRAM
*Helping provide eyesight,
glasses and vision care
for those in need.*



Contact the Zephyrhills Lions Club for more information or tickets. The contact information is above.

USA/Canada LIONS Leadership Forum



LAST CALL!

SEPTEMBER 3 – 5, 2026 – MEMPHIS

CONNECT

BE INSPIRED

LEARN

**Come for the
learning. Stay for the
fellowship. Leave
inspired to serve.**

****FOR MORE INFO SCAN BARCODE OR GO TO [LIONSFORUM.ORG](https://lionsforum.org)****

Questions?? Call Lion Pat McNally 718-810-4749 or email statpat123@aol.com

LIONS INTERNATIONAL

Making a global impact

1.4 million Lions serving

50,000 Lions clubs

200 countries and regions served

US \$1.3 billion in grants





**FORT MYERS LIONS CLUB
ANNUAL CHARITY**



GOLF Scramble



Eastwood Golf Course

4600 Bruce Herd Lane,
Fort Myers, FL 33905



Friday, September 18th, 2026

Shot Gun Start: 1 pm

Entry Fee:

- **\$100 per player**

Prizes & Awards:

- **1st Place**
- **2nd Place**

Contests:

- **Longest Drive**
- **Putting Contest**
- **Closest to the Pin**

Hole Sponsorship

- **\$100**

Mulligans Available
for Purchase

Lunch Included

**Single Players Welcome
RSVP Today - Spots are filling
fast**

**Register Online - in advance
www.fortmyerslions.com**

“We Serve”



**Contact Jeremy :
239-822-8134**



jeremyjtotten@gmail.com



**Fort Myers Lions Club
239-313-5603**



www.fortmyerslions.com



**All proceeds will support Fort
Myers Lions Club's Prevent
Hunger Program**