

The Imagineers Tale



Lions District 35i – Florida

SEPTEMBER 2026

District Governor Beverly Flynn

We are on FIRE! 🔥

Lions, what a meeting!

As I reflect on our recent District meeting, I am filled with gratitude and pride. The energy in the room was unmistakable. I could feel your **support, enthusiasm, and commitment** from the moment we gathered together and we had **FUN!**

Thank you to every Lion who attended, participated, shared ideas, encouraged others, and helped make the meeting such a success. Your presence demonstrated something very important: **we are not simply individual clubs—we are one District, working together toward a common purpose.**

And Lions, we have a lot to celebrate!

When we look at the goals we established for our District, we are seeing exciting progress in **Membership, Service, Leadership, and LCIF**. These four areas are essential to the strength and future of our organization, and you are helping us move forward in every one of them.

🔥 **MEMBERSHIP** – We are bringing new people into the Lions family and giving them opportunities to experience the joy and fulfillment of service.

🔥 **SERVICE** – Our clubs continue to identify needs in their communities and, more importantly, take action. Every project, every volunteer hour, and every life touched makes a difference.



🔥 **LEADERSHIP** – Lions are stepping up. We are developing new leaders, encouraging one another, and building the leadership strength necessary to carry our District into the future.

🔥 **LCIF** – Our support of the Lions Clubs International Foundation allows us to extend our reach far beyond our individual communities. Together, we are helping Lions make an even greater impact around the world.

When you put all of this together, there is only one way to describe what is happening in our District:

WE ARE ON FIRE! 🔥

But here's the important part: **A fire doesn't always start with one spark.**

It takes many sparks coming together.

Every Lion who invites a prospective member is a spark.

Every club that completes a service project is a spark.

Every Lion who steps forward to lead is a spark.

Every contribution to LCIF is a spark.

Every time we encourage another Lion, we add another spark.

And together, those sparks have created a fire that is spreading throughout our District.

I want us to remember this feeling—the excitement, the camaraderie, the pride, and the belief that **we can accomplish great things together**. We still have work to do, and our journey is far from over. But I am confident in our Lions. I am confident in our clubs. And I am confident in what this District can accomplish when we continue to work together. And most importantly, **let's keep our Lions spirit burning bright!**

Thank you for believing in our District and for giving me the privilege of serving alongside you. I am incredibly proud to be your District Governor, and I am even more excited about what lies ahead.

LET'S KEEP THE FLAME BURNING!

Beverly Flynn
District Governor

Just **iMAGiNE** what Lions can do!

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Calendar and Upcoming

September 3-5, 2026 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum

September 18, 2026 Fort Myers Lions Club Annual Charity Golf Scramble

November 6-8, 2026 Fall Conference, Multiple District 35, Orlando, The Florida Hotel

March 11-14, 2027 Regional Lions Leadership Institute, Orlando, The Florida Hotel



Service Spotlights 2026-2027

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



Message from 1st VDG Drew Ogden

Leadership is the Heartbeat of Service

by Lion Drew Ogden

First Vice District Governor, District 35I

Leadership Is the Heartbeat of Service

When people think of Lions Clubs, they often think first about **service**—helping someone see more clearly, providing hearing assistance, supporting families in need, helping our youth, or simply stepping forward when our communities need us.

But behind every successful service project, every growing club, and every Lion who feels inspired to become more involved, there is something else at work: **leadership**.



Leadership is the heartbeat of service.

Leadership in Lions is not about a title, a position, or having your name printed on a business card. Leadership is about inspiring others to believe that what we do matters. It is about creating an environment where Lions feel welcomed, appreciated, involved, and excited about serving.

The strongest Lions leaders don't simply ask, "**What can our club do?**" They ask, "**What can we accomplish together?**"

Great leadership begins by listening. Every Lion brings something valuable to the table – experience, ideas, talents, relationships, and a desire to make a difference. Our responsibility as leaders is to recognize those strengths and give people opportunities to use them.

Sometimes that means encouraging a newer member to take responsibility for a project. Sometimes it means asking a long time Lion for advice. And sometimes it means being willing to hear a new idea and say, "**Let's try it.**"

Leadership also means being willing to change. Our communities are changing. The way people communicate is changing. The expectations of volunteers are changing. If Lions Clubs want to continue growing and serving for generations to come, we must be willing to evolve while remaining true to the values that have made Lions such an extraordinary service organization.

We must also remember that **leadership creates more leadership**.

One of the greatest accomplishments of any Lions leader is not what happens during his or her year in office. It is the number of people who become stronger Lions because that leader encouraged them, mentored them, trusted them, and gave them an opportunity to lead.

Imagine what could happen if every Lion made it a personal goal to inspire just one other person to become more involved.

Imagine if every club identified and developed its next generation of leaders.

Imagine if every member felt that his or her ideas were important and that their contribution truly mattered.

That is how we strengthen our clubs. That is how we increase membership. That is how we expand service. And that is how we ensure that Lions continues making a difference far into the future.

Leadership does not always mean standing in front of the room. Sometimes leadership is setting up chairs before a meeting, welcoming a new member, making a phone call to a Lion we haven't seen recently, volunteering when nobody else raises a hand, or thanking someone for a job well done.

Leadership is action. Leadership is encouragement. Leadership is service.

As Lions, we have been given an incredible opportunity. Every day we can positively affect someone's life. But our ability to serve tomorrow depends upon our willingness to develop leaders today.

So, as we move forward, I challenge each of us to ask ourselves:

- **Who can I encourage?**
- **Who can I mentor?**
- **Who can I invite to become involved?**
- **And what can I do differently to make my club stronger?**

Because when leadership is strong, service becomes stronger.

And when Lions unite behind inspired leadership and a shared commitment to service, there is almost no limit to what we can accomplish.

Leadership is the heartbeat of service—and service is the heartbeat of Lions.

We Serve.

Yours In Service, Drew Ogden, VDG

September Service Spotlight **Childhood Cancer:** Therapeutic Coloring

When children are in the hospital they often need something to help pass the time. Coloring can be a wonderful activity and has been found to help them relax and further has shown to improve mental health and fine motor skills.

When you color the brain enters a semi-meditative state, releasing dopamine, the ‘feel-good’ hormone. Consequently it is reducing stress and bringing the feeling of calm (Happy Colorist, 2023) .

The challenge to all of you will be, to buy coloring books and crayons or colored pencils and distribute to Moffitt Cancer Center or Golisano Hospital if it is near you or to any hospital with a pediatric cancer ward or physician office where children with cancer are being managed.

This is a wonderful project for your Club and is always so appreciated by the children’s hospitals.



Happy Colorist (October 16, 2023). *The Healing Power of Coloring*.
<https://www.happycolorist.com/therapeutic-coloring/the-healing-power-of-coloring/>

Submitted by, **Lion Diane Clifton**

Childhood Cancer Chair, District 35 I

Next Month Service Spotlight: October – Mental Health

Message from 2nd VDG Christine Timmons-Malone

Imagine What's Possible

District 35I Newsletter Series

by Lion Christine Timmons-Malone, Second Vice District Governor, District 35I

SEPTEMBER –

Imagine the Impact of Learning

Every strong club is built on more than good intentions. It is built on Lions who are willing to learn, adapt, and grow together.



Imagine the impact we could make if more of us committed to learning just a little more this year. What if one training helped a secretary feel more confident? What if one conversation helped a president lead more effectively? What if one class, one workshop, or one new skill helped a member feel prepared to take on a larger role?

Learning is not about collecting certificates or checking a box. It is about becoming better equipped to serve. When Lions learn, clubs become stronger. Meetings become more productive. Communication improves. Service projects become more effective. Members feel more confident, more connected, and more ready to contribute.

As Lions, we are called to serve, but we are also called to grow. Growth allows us to lead with greater wisdom, greater skill, and greater impact. That matters—not just for us personally, but for every community we touch.

Imagine what learning could strengthen in your club this year—and then say yes to it.



District 35-I Meeting | Saturday, August 15, 2026

Our District meeting on August 15 was well-attended and a great and informative time was had by all. Thank you to all the Lions who attended and thank you to all the Venice Lions Club Lions who did the organizing and hosting duties! The meeting was held at: Park East Mobile Home Park Clubhouse in Sarasota.

District Governor Beverly Flynn conducted the first DISTRICT 35 I meeting of the year.



Lions assembled 300 basic hygiene bags for unhoused persons in Venice.





Immediate Past Governor Linda Gregory (left).



2nd Vice District Governor Christine Malone (right).



1st Vice District Governor Drew Ogden

Governor Beverly's Cabinet was ON FIRE and the energy was felt by everyone.





The Tail Twister fined almost everyone in the room.

Laurel-Nokomis Lions Club President Peter Casamento was recognized with the Governor's Achievement Award.

A special thank you to Venice Lion and Zone 5 Chair Pamela Brown and PDG Patty Jean Strong for photo submissions!





The Lions District 35I Past District Governors Association. 556 years of service to our communities. Including seven past council chairs and one past international director. Ranging from 18-59 years of service.

Thank you for your service as leaders!

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



We want to hear from Lions across Florida!

Our Multiple District 35 (Florida) is conducting a survey to get the opinions of Lions across our great state concerning future priorities and service needs. The survey is your chance to share your ideas about how we can make our conferences and conventions more engaging, enjoyable, and worthwhile for everyone. Your feedback can help shape future events, bring more Lions together, and inspire greater involvement in the work we all do to serve our communities. Every voice matters—please take a few minutes to share yours and help us make the Lions experience even better!

A promotional poster for a survey conducted by MD 35 Lions. The poster features a blue and yellow color scheme. At the top, there is a background image of four people (two men and two women) smiling and interacting. In the center, the Lions International logo is prominently displayed. Below the logo, the text "MD 35 Lions" is written in large, bold, blue letters, followed by a small yellow heart icon. Underneath, the text "Please Take Our Survey" is written in bold, dark blue letters. To the left of this text, there are three circular icons: a speech bubble, a group of people, and a right-pointing arrow. Each icon is accompanied by text: "Your voice matters", "Help shape the future of our district.", and "Take the Survey" respectively. To the right of the text, there is an illustration of a clipboard with a checklist titled "SURVEY" and a blue pen. At the bottom of the poster, there is a blue banner with the text "WE SERVE • WE LEAD • WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE" in white, flanked by two heart icons.

Check out the survey below and let your voice be heard.

[ENTER HERE](#)

PRO TIP: Could Your Lions Club Be Missing Out on Grant Funding?

Many Lions Clubs may not realize how many grant opportunities are available to nonprofit organizations.

Local businesses and corporations, community foundations, state programs, and national foundations may offer grants that can help support projects and programs in our communities.

As 1st VDG Drew Ogden pointed out in his August newsletter article, one simple place to begin your search is by using ChatGPT and asking: **“Please give me a list of grants available in [MY COUNTY] that are available to [MY LIONS CLUB].”**

Lion Drew tried this for Lee County, Florida, and found numerous companies offering grant opportunities to organizations in their area.

Consider asking someone in your club to take on the task of researching potential grants. Imagine what your club could accomplish with additional funding for vision programs, hunger projects, youth programs, community improvements, disaster relief, or other local service needs. If we don't look for these opportunities and apply, we may be leaving valuable resources on the table.

Lions World Vision Institute invites Lions members to join our Vision Forward Series—an opportunity to learn about the future of vision care and the lasting impact of the new Vision Health Center. Attendees will hear how this innovative project will expand access to vision care, advance research, educate future vision professionals, and serve thousands of children and families for generations to come. Guests will also receive updates from LWVI leadership, view renderings of the new facility, ask questions, connect with fellow Lions, and take an optional behind-the-scenes tour. We hope you'll join us to see how, together, we can continue transforming lives through the gift of sight.

Interested in learning more? We invite you to join us for one of our upcoming Vision Forward Series sessions and discover how the new Vision Health Center will shape the future of vision care in our community.

RSVP today: lwvi.org/vision-health-center

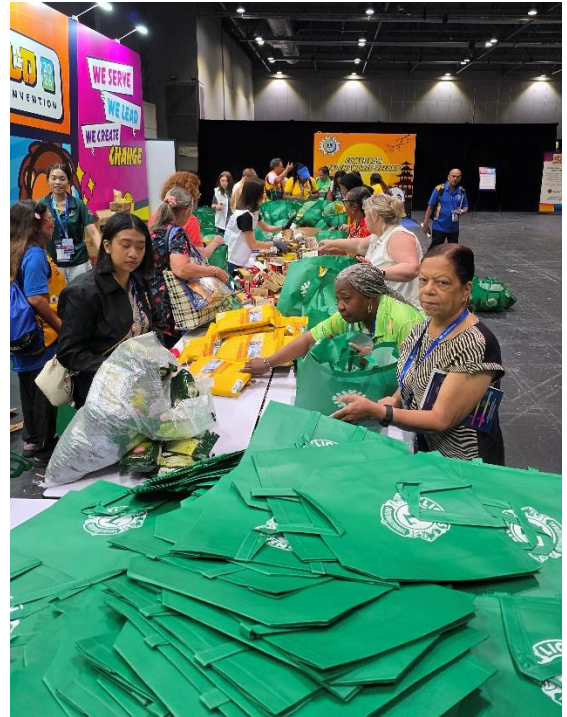
If you have any questions, our Foundation Team is happy to help.

Phone: 813-289-1200 **Email:** Foundation@LWVI.org



At the International Convention in Hong Kong...

Lions Serving Community Making Food Bags



At every International Convention, there are many educational and networking opportunities. There are also service opportunities for those who want to do a project while they're at Convention. Of course, there are also organized sightseeing times and the International Parade!

Lions Clubs in Zone 5 – Meetings Scheduled

Zone Chair Pamela Brown

September 9, 2026 – 5:30pm

Englewood Lions, 4611 Placida Rd., Englewood

November 11, 2026 – 5:30pm

Laurel-Nokomis Lions, Our Savior Lutheran Church, 2705 Tamiami Trail, Nokomis

January 21, 2027 – 5:30pm

Venice Lions, 1289 Jacaranda Blvd., Venice

April 27, 2027 – 5:15pm

Punta Gorda Lions Club, Eagles Aerie, 2311 Harborview Rd., Port Charlotte



It's That Time of Year Again –

Fall Conference Registration is LIVE!



Registration is officially LIVE for the
Multiple District 35 November Fall Conference!

 November 6–8, 2026

 The Florida Hotel – Orlando, Florida

Get ready for a great weekend of fellowship, learning, Lions, and FUN!
This is always a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Lions from
across Florida, meet new friends, exchange ideas, and attend
interesting and informative seminars.

Ready to register?

Simply click the registration sign on the attached flyer or scan the QR
code with your phone or tablet to get started.

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/lionsofmd35/2369372>

Make your plans, invite your fellow Lions, and get registered!

We can't wait to see everyone in Orlando this November! 🦁 🌴

See you at Fall Conference!

Multiple District 35 – Florida Lions





Environmental Challenge:

Even though Earth Day is not until April, I know that many of you are already doing your part for Mother Nature. Many of you have electric/hybrid cars. Most of us try to recycle when we can. We carpool whenever plausible. Lots of clubs participate in beach, road or neighborhood cleanups on a regular basis. **Many of us use refillable water bottles and coffee mugs.** We have become more aware of the packaging of items we buy and perhaps are choosing items with less disposable plastic and other materials.

One fun idea to help the environment is the upcoming. The 41st Annual **International Coastal Cleanup**, coordinated by **Cleanups & ICC - Ocean Conservancy**, is on Saturday, September 19th. Even if you don't live near the coast, there may be a lake, pond, river, stream, a retention pond or even a park that your club can help clean up on that day.

The website, **oceanconservancy.org**, gives you all the details you need to organize a cleanup, including data sheets, in your area if there is not an organized one already planned.

I challenge each club in District 35 I to participate in this event. I would like to recognize top three clubs at our next District meeting.

Lion Teri Barnett
Environmental Chair
Zone 3 Chair
St. Petersburg Lions Club

District 35I Leaders - Zoom Training 9/6

As your Global Leadership Team Coordinator, I would like to reflect momentarily on our Lions Moto, "We Serve". Who have you served today, this week or who does your club plan to serve this month. Service comes in many forms. Our clubs do eye, and diabetes screening. We serve the members of our clubs and an example of this is picking up the members who need a ride to the meeting. We also can serve individually and a good example of this is bringing a meal to a housebound neighbor.

By this point you are probably wondering where your GLT is going with this? Well, let me tell you.

Continuing with the monthly Zoom sessions we will hear from our GST Loretta Barksdale and yours truly on the concept growing our Lions Clubs through service for our communities. It is scheduled for Sunday September 6th at 5:00 in the afternoon. You are all welcome to take part. Please bring your thinking hat as we will discuss our successful service projects.

David Hollern is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86834539344>

Meeting chat link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/launch/jc/86834539344>

View meeting insights

<https://us02web.zoom.us/launch/edl?muid=d3c9076a-61b9-4e41-9f16-fc238dd6ac46>

Meeting ID: 868 3453 9344

Quote of the Day by Mahatma Gandhi

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

Yours in Lionism,

PDG Dave Hollern

District 35I GLT

September Lions Training Seminar

All about Service

September 6th - 5:00 PM

Zoom Log In Below

David Hollern is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86834539344>

[Meeting chat link](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/launch/jc/86834539344>

[View meeting insights](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/launch/edl?muid=d3c9076a-61b9-4e41-9f16-fc238dd6ac46>

Meeting ID: 868 3453 9344



Regional Lions Leadership Institute

The Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI) prepares Lions and Leos who are ready to pursue leadership roles at the club, zone, district, or multiple district level. The core + elective curriculum offers a consistent foundation while allowing flexibility to meet local leadership development needs.

Core Sessions:

- Fast and Effective Teams (90 minutes): Discover how to quickly build effective teams and what makes them perform at their best.
- Keeping Members Engaged (90 minutes): Increase member engagement and retention by discussing various strategies to ensure that club members, especially new members, feel they are an important part of the club.
- International Priorities (90 minutes): Learn about and actively support our organization's international priorities.
- Overcoming Resistance (60 minutes): Recognize how to get to the root cause of resistance and how to communicate an empathetic solution. Electives Recommended for Club Level Leaders:
- Communicating in a Fast-paced World (60 minutes) : Explore the pros and cons of using digital communication tools as well as best practices to ensure digital communication is effective.
- Meeting in a Fast-paced World (60 minutes): Understand the benefits and best practices of virtual meetings.
- Delegation (90 minutes): Identify the advantages of delegating and how to implement delegation effectively.
- Goal Setting (120 minutes): Understand the value of establishing goals and develop a plan to achieve goals.

Additional Electives

- Opening Session (60 minutes): Get to know your faculty and fellow participants.
- Lions Fundamentals (120 minutes): Understand the association's history, principles and structure, while exploring the benefits of membership.
- Diversity (90 minutes): Recognize the value of diversity and the benefits it can provide clubs.
- Public Speaking (60 minutes): Use a framework for preparing speeches and learn guidelines for effective delivery.
- Time Management (60 minutes): Review the importance of time management, identify obstacles and provide strategies for overcoming those obstacles.
- Personal Mission Statement. (60 minutes): Develop your own personal mission statement
- Local Issues & Opportunities (90 minutes): Discuss topic-specific needs or interests of your local area.

Lions International MD-35 Regional Lions Leadership Institute

March 11-14, 2027 Florida Hotel, 1500 Saad 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)

Name _____ Badge Name *(if different)* _____

District _____ Club _____

Highest Office Held _____ Current Office if any _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Have you ever attended a RLLI? Y ___ N ___

Please inform us of any special needs or diets.

Room Accommodations: Double Occupancy *(Single Occupancy add \$100)*

Roommate, Special Needs & Diets *(if applicable – list below)*

Make Checks Payable to: MD-35 Lions

Send Check and Registration to: MD-35 Lions 331 W. Central Ave., Suite 246 Winter Haven, Florida 33880

LEADERSHIP ROOTED IN SERVICE



THE NEWSLETTER CONTEST RETURNS

...

Are you ready for a little friendly competition?

This year, the District is sponsoring a contest to recognize some of the best Lions Club's communication newsletters.

NEWSLETTER CONTEST RULES:

Here is the criteria for scoring, each category is worth **10 points** –

1. Masthead – Name of the newsletter, the edition number or the month published
2. Club name, City, State and website
3. Announcement of day, time, and place of the club meeting
4. A Member's Message – A Club President's message or any other club member sharing an idea or thought for the good of the club
5. List of upcoming events for the club, zone, district, etc., with the date
6. Items about the zone and district events
7. Committee reports
8. Club Activities planned for club socials
9. Announcements of activities or projects completed by the club with pictures
10. Names of the Club President, 1VP, 2VP, Secretary and Treasurer along with the Newsletter Editor's name (email addresses if permitted)

25 POINTS EXTRA CREDIT: Personal interviews or stories about club members – “Getting to know our members”

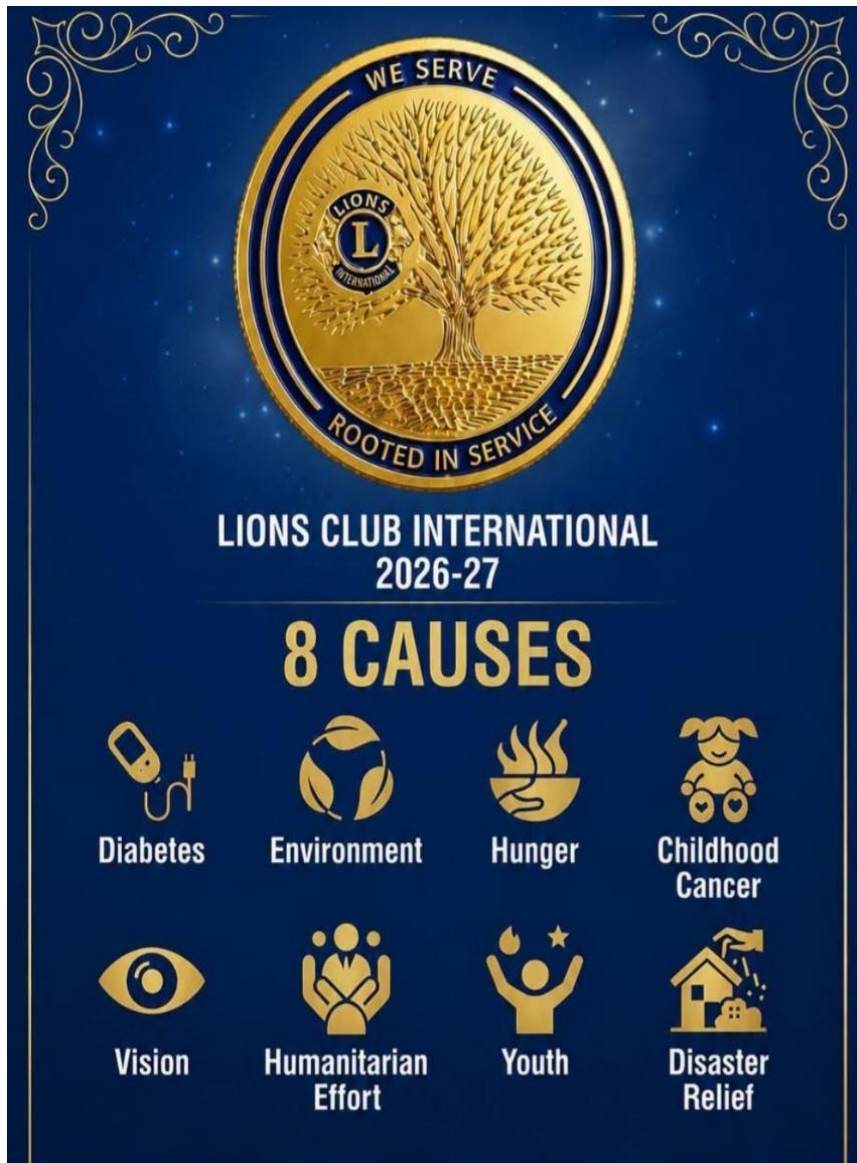
The contest will run from September through April. The winners will be recognized at the Multiple District Convention in May. The District Governor's home club, as well as the club judging the contest, will abstain from participation in the contest.

All newsletters must be emailed and received by the judging committee no later than the 10th of the month of the newsletter edition.

All entries should be sent to: The Riverview Lions Club at bkalle813@gmail.com



Lions International – News



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

Lions International has carefully curated its EIGHT GLOBAL CAUSES. The association has undertaken thoughtful study and conversation to find its primary focuses within these eight needs that impact every Lions service area around the world. Here in District 35I, we strive to positively impact these needs in our local communities to make all of the todays and tomorrows brighter for those WE SERVE.



Be a GRAND LION

by Lion Bair S. “Chip” Kunka, PCC

President, LIONS SAVING SIGHT

You should all be incredibly proud of your foundation. In the first quarter of this year alone, we have processed 98 surgical cases at a cost of over \$172,000. This puts us on target to handle as many as 400 cases this year.

We truly make a difference, but continuing this vital work requires funding. One of my primary goals this year is to sell 100 Grand Lion Awards. For a donation of \$1,000, individual Lions can purchase this beautiful award. Clubs can also make a like donation to present this special honor to a deserving member.

To lead by example, I am personally committing \$1,000 to the foundation. I challenge individual Lions and Lions Clubs alike to match my contribution. By donating to our foundation, we give the gift of sight to those in financial need. Please help us achieve this goal so we can sustain our life-changing mission.

For more information, please visit our website <https://www.lionssavingsight.org/life-memberships>





Lions International Peace Essay Contest

The International Peace Essay Contest gives visually-impaired children ages 11-13 the opportunity to share what peace means to them through writing. Each year, Lions clubs around the world sponsor the contest in schools and organized youth groups, giving young people the opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings about the current year's theme through the written word. They'll also have the chance to win a prize of US\$5,000, an award and an invitation to a Lions International event.

How to sponsor a contest

Gather your team-Sponsoring a Peace Essay Contest takes teamwork. Start by identifying club members who will help you plan and run your contest, and reach out to your district Peace Essay chairperson for additional guidance. Together, your team will help you identify local partners and spread the word about the contest.

Connect with your community- Peace Essay Contests can be sponsored in schools and organized youth groups. Work with your team to reach out to these schools and youth groups and express your interest in sponsoring a contest with them.

Download the contest form- The official [International Essay Contest](#) form outlines the contest theme, rules, criteria and includes the official entry form to be completed and sent with each essay.

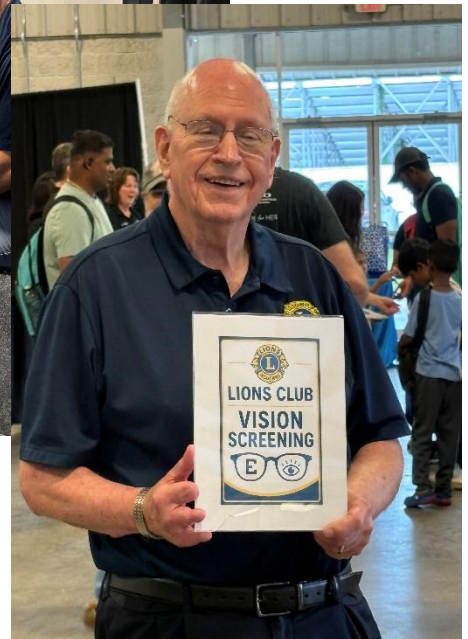
Club Important Dates

- **November 15:** Postmark deadline for a club to send one winning essay to the district governor. Note: A participating club should notify its district governor in advance of sending an entry and confirm the date of the district judging at that time.
- **December 1:** Postmark deadline for a club not belonging to a district to send one winning entry directly to the Brand & Creative Department at Lions International Headquarters.
- **February 1:** The president of the club that sponsored the grand prize winner's school or youth group will be notified on or before this date.

For more information contact District 35I Peace Essay Chair, Lion Pat Maguire @ patmaguirept@gmail.com or 239-777-4508.

Around Our District – Celebrating Service

On August 1, the Lion clubs of Riverview, Plant City, Brandon, and Fishhawk worked together at a back-to-school event and vision-screened 123 children. The process worked well, and everyone at the event was thankful that we could provide this service to the community.



**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 e mailed in any format as an attachment.

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

Lake Placid Lions

Caladium Festival Participation

The Lake Placid Lions Club participated in the Chamber of Commerce Caladium Festival with an information booth set up to acquaint attendees with the Lake Placid Lions Club and what we provide to the community.

Lions PDG Karl Cox and wife Lion Kaye Cox organized the event, and it was supported by club members that were available.

Over 45 gift certificates and donations were raffled off, and we had over 250 folks participate in the raffle. We did not provide anything, but information and Lion Kaye Cox was recognized as the individual who used her talents to showcase the Lions club.

To drive home the fact that you can find Lions anywhere at any time a family from Taiwan came by our booth. They were members of their local Lions Club in Taiwan. It truly is a Lions' world!



We Serve

Somebody is \$300 richer!

The newly Chartered Southwest Florida Lions Club sold 50/50 tickets at the recent 35-I District Meeting on August 15th. The ticket sales were extended to Lions until 6:00 pm on Tuesday, August 18th. At exactly 6:30 pm the winning ticket was drawn during their Board of Directors Zoom meeting.

The pot had reached a whopping \$625.00. The winning ticket was drawn by their Vice President's 10 year old grandson, Odin.

Just to be fair, it was announced beforehand that if anyone present on the SWFL Lions Zoom meeting had the winning number, they were to refrain from claiming the pot until the number had been posted in the September District Newsletter.

Winning Ticket



Check your tickets.... the winning ticket is worth \$312.50! If you have the matching number, please contact Lion George Heudorfer at (631) 965-0683 to claim the prize no later than September 25th. The winner's name will be posted in the October newsletter. The Southwest Florida Lions Club will host another 50/50 at the upcoming Zone 5 meeting on September 9th. Thank you to everyone who participated!

District 35I Cookbook Coming

Once again, our District will be putting together an amazing cookbook. All recipes will fall into specific categories. Watch our District Facebook page and our District 35I website in September for details! So, start thinking of your grandmother's favorite Sunday recipes, or your wife or husband's favorite dish! Do you have a secret BBQ sauce? Want to share it?

The plan is to have it printed and ready for sale at our Mini Convention and then the MD Convention. The project will benefit Lions Clubs International Foundation.

PDG Patty Jean Strong

Tampa Downtown Lions joined up with Lighthouse for the Blind to present them with a \$2500 check to be a sponsor for the White Cane Walk November 7th. We love supporting such a wonderful organization!!



News and notes from Cape Coral and North Fort Myers

Cape Coral has been teaming up with North Fort Myers Noon and participating in recruiting events at Churches in the street, Anthony's on the BLVD, upcoming at the VA and other places. They are setting up tables and providing information about Lions and selling mints. They are also attending Churches on the Street Tuesday dinner and donation giveaways. They continue to hand out readers and sunglasses to community members there.

Several members of the Cape Coral club will be attending the Diabetes Screening certification and recertification classes on August 26th in Bonita Springs.

The Cape Coral Lions are also planning on volunteering at the German American Social Club's Oktoberfest in October. Anyone can volunteer for this. For more information, contact Spencer Specially.

Bradenton Lions serve year-round!

For the Bradenton Lions Club, forty hours of service were provided by Lions Steve Haynes, Brian Handleman, Jan Kunka, PCC Chip Kunka, and John Perez who conducted vision screenings at Day4Hope Back to School events at area churches.

Lion Jan was assisted by two energetic LeCom students, Neha and Hamlet.



The Bradenton Lions Club began their Manatee schools vision screenings at Anna Maria Island Elementary....141 kindergarten, first and third grade students were screened.

From the Lions Kunka from Convention Hong Kong

The young lady (lower right) was the "bus coordinator" for transportation to the convention site. Google translator allowed us to make friends and joke around. (She could read "Simplified Cantonese".)



We met Lions from all over the world. Even when we were touring Hong Kong!. This cheerful Lion (left) was from Romania. Lion smiles from Japan (upper right)!





**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**