



Roar 'n Growl

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Coming Events

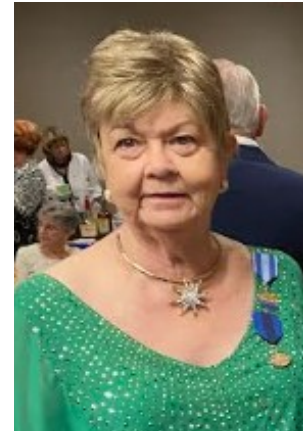
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|--------|---------------------------------------|
| Jan 1 | New Years Day |
| Jan 4 | Back to School Bash Lake Alfred |
| Jan 10 | COG Lake Alfred |
| Jan 24 | 3rd Advisory |
| Jan 26 | Zone 3 Mtg LSLC 6:00 P.M. |
| Jan 26 | Palm Coast DG |
| Feb 2 | PRTS ZOOM |
| Feb 6 | Deadline YESTF |
| Feb 7 | Potential Leaders Seminar |
| Feb 9 | Zone 5 Meeting Kathleen LC |
| Feb 10 | Inverness DG |
| Feb 12 | High Point DG |

MMXXVI January #7

PDG Harry Williams, Editor



*A Message from Your GLT
PDG Vivian Henegar*



Dear Lions of MD-35,

I encourage all Lions to consider attending the Florida Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI) on March 19–22, 2026 at the Life Enrichment Center in Fruitland Park, FL. RLLI is a powerful weekend of leadership development, fellowship, and Lions enrichment designed to strengthen both you and your club.

If cost is a concern, please ask your club to sponsor you. Many Lions are supported by their clubs—and it benefits everyone when members grow their leadership skills.

I'm also asking all Lions Clubs in Multiple District 35 to consider sponsoring a deserving member. The registration fee is only \$200, which includes:

3 nights lodging

8 meals

All instructional materials

Friday fun night

Registration forms will be available on the MD-35 website and each district website. Also available on the adjacent page.

Registration closes January 15, 2026.

PDG Vivian Henegar

GLT

Global Leadership Team



**Lions Club International
MD-35 Florida Regional Lions Leadership Institute**

**Life Enrichment Center
4991 Picciola Road
Fruitland Park, FL 34731**

March 19-22, 2026

Check in after 3:30 Thursday - Depart Sunday 11:30

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____

Institute Topics:

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

Registration Fee of only \$200 includes:

- Lodging 3 Nights
- Eight Meals (Thu Din through Sun Bkfst)
- Instructional Materials
- Friday Night Campfire / Fun Night.

Please inform us of any special needs or diets.

*Lodging Accommodations
Double Occupancy*

(Single Occupancy available add \$75)
Roommate (if applicable - list below)

**Registration Cut
off is
January 15th**

**Make Checks Payable to:
Lions of Florida MD-35
Mail Checks and Registration to:
Lion Vivian Henegar
9069 High Point Blvd.
Brooksville, Florida 34613**

**Checks must be
received NLT
February 15th.**

Lions of Florida and the South East come and enjoy 3 days of Lions Learning, Lions Fellowship, and Lions Enrichment with 30 Lions from MD-35 and beyond. You will experience a Lions event you will remember for years to come. You will go home energized and ready to help Lead your Club and District to success while making lifelong friends. Sounds like when you were a kid at camp, well you could be right. All for the **LOW** price of only \$200. Any questions? Call Lion Vivian at 810-444-4109. Reserve your spot now before they're gone! **Registration ends January 15th, 2026.**

Potential Leaders Seminar

Saturday, February 7, 2026

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Lunch Provided

WHO:

1. Potential Governors (SVDGs & FVDGS).
2. Open to all Lions intersted in District Leadership.

Where:

MD35 Office Conference Room
331 W. Central Avenue, Suite 246
Winter Haven, Florida 33880

(any change of loction will be announced in advance)

Topics:

1. Constitutional Requirements & Guidelines.
2. Duties of a District Governor.
3. Role of the Partner/Companion in Service.
4. Time Commitment.
5. Preparing a Budget.
6. Expenses and Reimbursements.
7. Chosing your Cabinet.
8. Chosing MD Officers & their Duties.
9. Protocol.
10. Recognition.

AND MUCH MORE!

Contact either PDG Gary LaSpina or PDG Vivian Henegar
NLT January 23, 2026 to reserve your spot!

PDG Gary M. LaSpina
md35execsec@md35lions.org
407-859-7174

PDG Vivian henegar
vivianhenegar64@yahoo.com
810-444-4109

If no answer when calling leave a message!



EYEGLOSS SORTING & READER PROCESSING

Project: Right to Sight

Saturday, January 17th

Ocoee Lions Club

108 Taylor Street, Ocoee, FL

9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon



**Everyone is welcome. Bring friends!
Volunteers!**

Bright Futures Community Service Hours Available
for further information contact:

Lion Dennis Dulniak at:

ddulniak@ucf.edu 407-592-6670

CONGRATULATIONS DISTRICT O!

YOUR PEACE POSTER WON OUR MD 35 CONTEST

To All 4 MD 35 Governors and our Council Chair, the District O Peace Poster Chair (Zuzana Talbot), the President of North Lakeland Lions Club (Harry Porter):

The 2025 MD 35 Peace Poster Winner is Isabel Parra Giddings (13). She attends Union Academy in Lakeland. The North Lakeland Lions Club sponsor her and the Peace Poster Chair for their club is Lion Judy Hubbard. The International Theme for this year was "Together As One".

Because the original winning poster had to be sent to Chicago, I have attached a picture of the 6 judges and Isabel's painting. It's an incredible work of art. I hope you can zoom in and see all the detail of her work.

The Prize awarded to the student will be \$500 and plans to present it to the student at the MD Convention are to be finalized with the parents and the MD Administration.

Congratulations to all Lions involved. It was a wonderful contest this year and such great art from the students.

Please share this info with your clubs.

Lion Karen Douglas
MD35 Peace Poster Chair
727-585-7470



**YOU ALWAYS HAVE A
CHOICE.**



**CHOOSE
KINDNESS**



CLUB NEWS - Lake Sumter Lions Club

Lake Sumter Lions welcome back Cheryl Pavell and Doug Seiders. Immediate Past Club President Jaci Newmark finally got to present awards from last Lions year: Cheryl - Certificate of Appreciation for her work with Operation Shoebox and Doug - Life Membership from the Florida Foundation for the Blind. Congrats to both Lions.



**Thank you FVDG John Hanna and
Lion Bernice Hanna for organizing
this social event.**



At the Lake Sumter Lions Club Holiday party, Club President and SVDG Sonia Hernandez Saylor awarded a Life Membership to Lion Sharon Nelson. Lion Sharon is a Charter member of the Lake Sumter Lions Club. Congrats!



Santa AJ Theiler entertained The Villages Train Show Club this weekend. He said there were lots of children, but no pics.

**Happy
New Year!**

Lake Sumter Lions conducted glucose screening at the American Legion Post 347 at the monthly Breakfast (2nd Saturday of the month). BTW - Post 347 has the largest American Legion membership in the US. Thanks Todd Saylor for the photos.



CLUB NEWS - Lake Sumter Lions Club

Lake Sumter Lions Chuck LeGare, Linda and Dennis Ryan, Jon Joel, Barb Goeske and Pat Lewis screened the vision (aka KidSight) of 371 students at The Villages Lady Lake Elementary on December 18. Wow!



The Lake Sumter Lions were out this 2025 Holiday Season ringing bells for the Salvation Army. If you saw a Lion ringing SA bells, and contributed \$\$, thank you!. We wanted to win again for the Service organization receiving the most donations.



Lake Sumter Lions assisted visually impaired golfers in a 9-hole round of golf at the El Santiago Golf Course in The Villages. Thanks Lion Bill Sheehan for leading this activity (and for the photos).



CLUB NEWS - Satellite Beach Lions Club

We delivered 103 Christmas Food "Baskets" to families and organizations last week. We did it in two parts - first to Sea Park Elementary and Veterans on Wednesday and then to Churches and others on Saturday. We sincerely thank everyone who donated money to this project. We appreciate you so much



CLUB NEWS - Ormond by the Sea Lions Club

Congratulations to Lion Marcia Pizzimenti who was presented a Melvin Jones Fellowship. "What an honor and surprise.," said Lion Marcia. "I want to thank Lion Susie Smith for directing me to Ormond by the Sea Lions Club, and all of its members ."



Every year Members of the OBTS Lions Club ring the bell for the Salvation Army.
[to the left]



Presenting our donation to Habitat for Humanity! Giving Santa my list at Habitat for Humanity breakfast this morning.
[right]



Ready to pack Christmas blankets [left]



Thank you Ormond By the Sea community for your generosity. Thanks to you, many children at Beachside Elementary will have a Merry Christmas! [right]



CLUB NEWS—Satellite Beach Lions Club

On December 16, members of the Satellite Beach Lions Club held their annual Christmas Party. Over 50 people attended including SVDG Sonia Saylor and Partner-in-Service Todd.

Heather Betz from the Marine Corps from Toys for Tots was the guest speaker. Over 100 toys were collected for the project. Even PID Neil Spencer got into the act dressing in a Lion costume. A good time was had by all!



#1 - Lion Gini Black and
PCC Helene Thompson



Toys collected for Toy for Tots



Heather Betz, SVDG Sonia
Saylor and PID Neil Spencer



CLUB NEWS - South Daytona Lions Club

Lion Carene Darcy dropped off the gifts on Wednesday, December 17, at Aviata Rehab Center, Reed Canal Rd. The nursing team was so happy to receive the gifts. Thanks again to all South Daytona and our Associate Lions for everything you do for the club and for our neighbors. Said Lion Carene: "I truly appreciate your generosity, and I am humbled to be a part of this great club. Merry Christmas to you all."



Today was a great day as South Daytona Lions were able to donate over \$2,000 in toys and games to Children's Home Society, The Salvation Army and to Hope Place to make sure our area children have a nice Christmas. The club could not have done this without the help from Hannah's Family Restaurant, The Axe Restaurant, The Turn Restaurant and Holy Cross Lutheran Church and especially our own Lions who always give to our local charities more than their fair share. Special thanks to all our friends and the Shamrock's hockey team that donated toys at Lion Karen's parties.



We loved seeing our Citizens Alert members last night at the City Council Meeting! Mayor Hall surprised Carene Darcy, Ming Gorry, Jean Klune, and Doug Quartier with the 2025 Citizen of the Year Awards. These four tireless volunteers give so much of their time and energy to our amazing City.

Thank you, Mayor Hall, for recognizing their dedication. They truly are Volunteers Making a Difference!



CLUB NEWS—Ormond Beach Lions Club



Ormond Beach Lions Club and the Seabreeze Leo Club donate toys for kids at Shands

CLUB NEWS—Crystal River Kings Bay Lions Club



Food collected at Crystal River Kings Bay Lions Club



Delivered food and snacks to Jesse's Place in Crystal River



Lions Club in front of Publix in Crystal River

CLUB NEWS - Spring Hills Nature Coast Lions Foundation



CLUB NEWS - Oviedo Winter Springs Lions Club

Please join us in welcoming our newest member, Carleen Parlato!

We are absolutely thrilled to have Carleen join our club. A Nurse Practitioner by profession, Carleen has spent years volunteering throughout our community, especially with individuals experiencing homelessness. She brings invaluable experience in caring for our most vulnerable neighbors, along with a deep passion for service.

Lion Carleen, we are so grateful to have you with us. We know we'll learn from one another as we continue to grow and serve together. Welcome to the pride!



CLUB NEWS—Davenport Lions Club



Snow, Santa, and Sparkle: Davenport's Winterfest 2025 Returns

The holiday season in Central Florida reached its peak as Davenport hosted its annual Winterfest and Christmas Parade. On Saturday, December 13, 2025, the city transformed into a winter wonderland, proving that you don't need sub-zero temperatures to capture the magic of the North Pole.

From snow slides to dazzling floats, here is a look at the highlights from this year's "biggest event of the year."

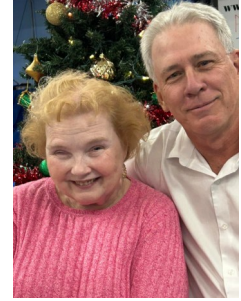
The festivities centered around the Tom Fellows Community Center, which served as the hub for a marathon of holiday cheer from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Families from across Polk County gathered early to claim their spots, with the air smelling of kettle corn and festive treats from a variety of local food vendors.

Santa, Mrs. Claus and the snowman were around meeting people at the event. The Davenport Lions Club is always happy to be part this seasonal event. We Serve!



CLUB NEWS - Lake Alfred Lions Club

On Friday, December 12, members of the Lake Alfred Lions Club, their partners and special guests, gathered together to celebrate the season. Special guests included PDG Vivian Henegar and Lion Karen Stowers; FVDG John Hanna and Bunny, SVDG Sonia Saylor and Todd were present from Lake Sumter Lions Club, Lion Michele Tighe, president of Davenport, was also there as well as MD Secretary Gary LaSpina and Diane. There was food, singing of carols, games, and of course, the exchange of gifts.



The next week LA Lions gathered at the clubhouse to pack 1600 candy bags for the Santa in the Schools event on Thursday. Bags were also prepared for the Lake Alfred Assisted Living and Southern Gardens residents. Of course, our resident Santa and Mrs. Claus helped prepare the bags for delivery on Thursday.



On Thursday, December 18, members of the Lions Alfred Fire Department, LA Lions and "Mr. & Mrs. Claus traveled to Hartridge Academy, Lake Alfred Elementary and Karen Seigel. In the afternoon they went to Lake Alfred Assisted Living Facility and Southern Gardens.



Hartridge Academy



Lake Alfred Elementary



Karen Siegel Academy



Several Lake Alfred Lions also assisted the Salvation Army in filling hundreds of bags with gifts for children in the Winter Haven-Lake Alfred Community: Lion Rosemarry Daniels, Lion Tiny Johnson, Lion Steve Fawcett. We must also thanks the generous participants at our auctions who donated enough toys for Toys for Tots to fill over 7 boxes.

We have had sickness and a few other problems but we ended the year well. May we all look forward to 2026 as an opportunity to do better, to do more, to be kinder, to be more patient. And strive to be the best Lion we can be.



LIONS DISTRICT 35-0 ZONE 4 MEETING



27 JAN
2026

6 30
PM

\$10
DINNER

GUEST SPEAKER: REBECCA CHRISTENSEN
PROGRAM DIRECTOR, FLORIDA KIDSIGHT FOUNDATION

HOSTED BY THE MOUNT DORA LIONS CLUB
7101 WRIGHT AVE. TANGERINE FL, 32757

RSVP: ADAM.PARRISH@UCF.EDU

District 35-O Third Advisory Meeting

Saturday, January 24, 2026



Wildwood Community Center
6500 Powell Road, Wildwood 34785

8:00am Early Registration with Pastries & Coffee

9:00am Past District Governors Meeting

9:30am Executive Officers Meeting

10:00am to 2:00pm General Membership Session

Lunch - choice of Ham & Cheese Sub or Chicken Salad Sub,
with potato salad, chips, cookie, and soda/water.

\$15 per person

RSVP

By January 17th

To: FVDG John Hanna
nfdw2retired2@gmail.com
with count and choice of Sub.
Can pay at the Door.



*Advisory Meeting sponsored by
the Lake Sumter Lions Club.*

Extra!

Please bring a new
white elephant gift.
These gifts, along with
PID Littlefield's book,
will be used to make 8
baskets which will be
raffled off at future Zone
meetings. Profits to
go to LCIF.





WANTED



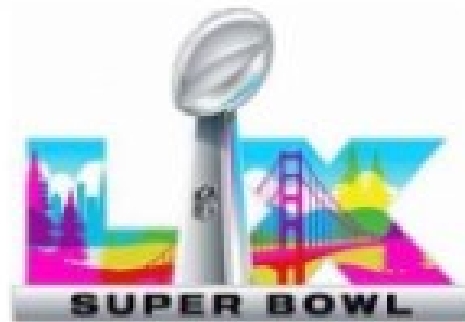
FOR
SVDG FOR DISTRICT 35 0



QUALIFICATIONS

- Be an active member of a chartered club in good standing and have secured the endorsement of the club;
- Have served or will have served as president and two other leadership positions in the club;
- Have served in some District level position such as zone chair, region chair, district global extension.

For further information please contact:
DG Maggiy Williams lionmaggiy14@gmail.com
OR MD Secretary Gary LaSpina
liongarymd35@gmail.com



February 8th, 2026

**FL Lions Diabetic Retinopathy
Foundation
Super Bowl Fundraiser 2026**

\$5,000.00 IN PAY OUTS

\$1,000 1st Quarter, \$1,000 Half Time
\$1,000 3rd Quarter, \$1,000 4th Quarter and
\$1000.00 Final Score

\$100.00 a Square

The Florida Lions Diabetic Retinopathy Foundation provides free services to 1,000's of Floridians each year, educating them on the effects of Diabetes and providing free screening for Diabetic Retinopathy. This is our major annual fundraisers, and we thank you for participating.

Your \$100 secures a football square that corresponds to a score at key points in the 2026 Super Bowl. You will be notified before the game what scores your box corresponds to. It truly adds excitement to the game.

When your funds are received, your name will be put on a Square. Squares are first fund, first allocated. The board will be frozen, and the numbers assigned when all the squares are sold but no later than the day before the Super Bowl. We will publish the board at that time. Winners will be determined by the official NFL score.

If you square is a winner, you will be contacted, and the prizes issued within 10 days of the event.

All net proceeds benefit the **FLORIDA LIONS' DIABETIC RETINOPATHY FOUNDATION, INC** and the services it provides to the community.

The Entry the Form is Online

Use the QR code or this link to open form

<https://zfrma.com/3LTa8iGlc1yQPqwQV5eJ>

Pay online or

Mail payment to **Greg Evans P.O. Box 2885 Ormond Beach FL 32175**

If you have question you may contact

Bobby Wright District I at bobw1619@gmail.com

Eric Rumold District I at ericthetawik@yahoo.com

Tom Mavor District I at tmavor@wclions.org

Greg Evans District O at Liongregewans@gmail.com

Karen Stowers District O at Sunmurtz0507@gmail.com

Jane Colona, FVDG District N at Lionjanecolona@gmail.com



Lions Conquering Blindness

SightFirst

LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

Florida Lions Diabetic Retinopathy Foundation

*A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435- 7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

VALENTINE'S DAY MARATHON BINGO

Hosted by the Lake Alfred Lions Club



**Saturday,
February 14**



**Doors Open
at 7:00 AM**



✓ **Over 80 Games**

✓ **Over \$3,000 in Payouts**

\$45
Per Person



Fried Chicken Lunch Included!

Lake Alfred Lions Club

175 North Nekoma Ave
Lake Alfred, FL 33850

For More Information:

www.LakeAlfredLionsClub.com

or Visit Us at the Club!



Zone 5 Meeting

February 9, 2026

Kathleen Lions Club
1st Street & Central Avenue
Kathleen FL 33849

Registration 6:00-6:30

Meal 6:30-7:00

Cost \$15.00

Meeting 7:00 -8:00

RSVP by February 6
lionhwilliams01@gmail.com

THE LIGHTER SIDE

I'd like to give a
shoutout to anyone
who's hard of
hearing!

I can't find any
petrified wood...
but the oak is
pretty afraid.

My favorite
allergy is
Blowin' in the Wind
by Peter Pollen Mary.

The + is missing
from my calculator.
Something doesn't
add up.

The inventor of the
suspenders
Has just been
awarded the
No-Belt Prize.

How do 39
mathematicians
load a 38 seat bus?
They carry the one.

Colonoscopy
pre songs:
Here I go again!
Eruption!
I Can See Clearly Now

Relations are like
Algebra...
You look at your X
and wonder
Y.

I challenged Death to
a pillow fight but I
wasn't ready for the
reaper cushions!

Local zoo makes their
animals do chores to
earn their keep.
The lion sweeps
tonight.

Coach put the
frog in center field
because he's good
at catching flies.

Man arrested for
stealing seaweed.
Turns out he's a
kelptomaniac!

I used to work in a
coffee shop but I got
tired of the daily
grind.

Knock, knock.
Who's there?
Doorbell
repairman

Maybe I don't want
to find my
marbles ...



The poster features the Lions International logo at the top center, a yellow 'L' inside a blue circle with 'LIONS' above and 'INTERNATIONAL' below. Below the logo, the text 'LIONS INTERNATIONAL' is in white, followed by 'NEW SERVICE INITIATIVE 2026' in large yellow and white letters. Underneath is 'SERVICE WEEK • JAN 3-11' in white. The poster is divided into three vertical panels. The left panel, titled 'MENTAL HEALTH' with a heart icon, shows a woman and a man talking, with a brain icon in a speech bubble and the text 'IT'S OKAY TO TALK'. The middle panel, titled 'HUNGER' with a fork and plate icon, shows a Lions volunteer in a yellow vest and cap serving food to a child, with the text 'FEED WITH DIGNITY'. The right panel, titled 'ENVIRONMENT' with a tree icon, shows a boy in a green shirt and cap planting a seedling, with a wind turbine in the background and the text 'SERVE TO EARTH'. At the bottom, the slogan 'HEALTHY MINDS. FULL PLATES. GREEN PLANET.' is written in blue, red, and green.

LIONS INTERNATIONAL

NEW SERVICE INITIATIVE 2026

SERVICE WEEK • JAN 3-11

MENTAL HEALTH

IT'S OKAY TO TALK

HUNGER

FEED WITH DIGNITY

ENVIRONMENT

SERVE TO EARTH

HEALTHY MINDS. FULL PLATES. GREEN PLANET.

DISTRICT OFFICERS

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Maggi Williams (Harry)
1980 Stonebridge Dr SW
Winter Haven FL 33880
863-521-4152/863-299-9575
lionmaggiy14@gmail.com

1st VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

John Hanna (Bunny)
1076 Summerton Street
The Villages FL 32162
352-502-5966
nfdw2retired2@cloud.com

2nd VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Sonia Saylor (Todd)
3242 Woodbridge Dr
The Villages FL 32162
912-228-2150
soniasaylor@bellsouth.net

DISTRICT SECRETARY

Joy Helmold
1780 Alyssum Loop
Lakeland FL 33803
207-522-0123
lionjoyhelmold@gmail.com

DISTRICT TREASURER

Joe Langelo
2323 N State Street Unit 58
Bunnell FL 32110
363-793-6888
Joelangello@yahoo.com



MULTIPLE DISTRICT 35

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/TREASURER

Gary LaSpina PDG, Executive Secretary
Paula Beach PDG, Treasurer

Phone: 407-859-7174

331 W. Central Avenue Suite 246
Winter Haven FL 33880

Email: md35Lionsoffloridaandbahamas@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.lionsmd35.com>



INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS

President, A. P. SINGH, India
First Vice President, MARK LYON, Brookville CT, USA
Second Vice President. DR. MANOJ SHAH, Kenya
Third Vice President. TONY BENBOW Australia

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Website: <https://Lionsclubs.org>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/Lionsclubs>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/Lionsclubs/>

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Oak Brook IL USA 60523-8842

