

DISTRICT 35 L

LIONS INSIGHT

District Governor Message

International President Mark Lyon's theme for 2026-2027 is Rooted in Service. Anything worth doing is doing. Let's make 2026-2027 a year of service. Get out into your community and let's show that Lions can make a difference. We need to attract new members to our clubs. Service is the answer. People want to belong to a group or club who is out in the community making a difference. Whether it's vision, hunger, hearing, mental health, cancer, disaster, diabetes, Lions make a difference. What does our community need? Where can we make a difference? This year let our community see our gold vests in the community. Where there is a need, there is a Lion. Let this be our motto. We need to be associated with our community. Our communities need us. Remember "We Serve". We serve our community and their needs.

Yours in Lionism
George Niles DG35L

DISTRICT 35L

DISTRICT MEETING

AUGUST 12

Collecting 

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

 Together, we can help students be prepared for a great school year!

 **THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS!**



Congratulations

to the **2026-2027 Council of Governors!**

Installed in Hong Kong this week!



George Niles District L	Gaston Correa District N	Elbio Gimenez Council Chair	John Hanna District O	Beverly Flynn District I
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District 35L Cabinet Meeting

August 12, 2026

Arlington Lions Club
6523 Commerce Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32211

Tours and Education classes- 2-4pm

PDG Meeting 4-5pm

Cabinet Meeting 6-9:30pm

MENU

Smothered Pork Chops
with
Green Beans, Rice and Salad
including
Banana Pudding Dessert and Sweet / Unsweet Tea

COST

\$10.00 / person in advance - \$15.00 / person at the door

**Remember as Usual for Early Arrivals
A Free of Charge
Lunch**

Hamburgers and Hot Dogs
with the fixin's
Served from 11:30am – 1:30pm

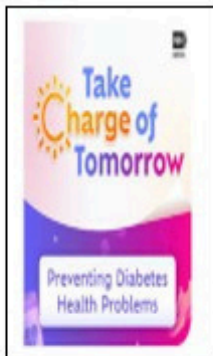
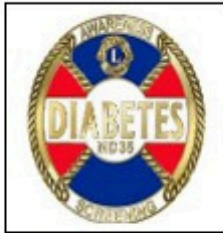
RSPV

PDG Tony Esposito at PDG.Tony.35L@gmail.com prior to
August 7, 2026

Please Include attendees and Club Name



JUST DO IT....Join us for diabetes screening training



Florida Lions Diabetes Foundation

1. New Screener Training : 10am-2pm

2. Re-Certification Class: 1pm-3pm

When: Thursday August 13, 2026

Where: Jacksonville Arlington Lions Club House-
6523 Commerce Street, Jacksonville FL 32211

Lead Trainers: Lion Norma Callahan and
Lion Judi Seltzer (addl trainers if needed)

*Please bring your screening kits if applicable for updates.

*Lunch /Snacks will be provided.

* Since training will be ongoing, **no** child care provided

RSVP: Lion Judi/ lionseltzerjudi@gmail.com 443-910-7604



1 in 12 people have diabetes.



50% of people with diabetes do not
know they have it.



Diabetes affects every community.



1 in 3 adults have pre diabetes.



To know diabetes could mean no
diabetes.



Get screened for diabetes.



The National Vision Screening Summit will be held on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, in Kennesaw, Georgia. Dr. Ed Cordes of Lions KidSight will be one of the featured speakers. The Summit will take place from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Please note that transportation and lodging are the responsibility of each attendee. However, a discounted hotel rate has been arranged for Summit participants.

Hotel Information:

Embassy Suites by Hilton Kennesaw

A special NVSS2026 group rate of \$149 per night (plus applicable taxes) is available.

Reservations may be made by:

- Calling 770-420-2505, selecting Option 1, and requesting the NVSS2026 group rate.
- Booking online through the personalized group reservation page.

Your hotel stay includes complimentary breakfast and parking.

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/atlkse-nss-e91278bb-ebd6-459e-93b9-d21ac63408c9/>



**National VISION SCREENING
SUMMIT
2026**

08/18/26
Hilton Embassy Suites,
Kennesaw, GA
'By Invitation Only'

Endorsed by: 

**Uniting Lions vision-screening coordinators
through education, interaction, and purpose.**

- Lions KidSight Vision Screening in the US and Internationally
- LCI perspective: the importance of data collection, grants, certification
- Opportunities for partnerships in screening
- Programmatic obstacles and achievements
- Mechanisms of training: train the trainer

SPEAKERS



Dr. Edward V. Cordes, OD, FAAO
Past International Director, Lions International
Chair, Lions KidSight USA Foundation
Technical Advisor, Lions KidSight,
Lions International



PID Phil Nathan MBE
Life Chartered FCSI, FIOD
Freeman of the City of London.



Sally Stein
Special Olympics Sr. Clinical Program Mgr.,
Opening Eyes
Licensed Optician BS, LDO, ABO, NCLE



Designated Speaker
from Lions Club International



**SIGN UP
HERE!**



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MD 35

MARK LYON'S

WEEKS OF SERVICE

*Lead to Serve. Serve to Lead.*Three weeks. Three powerful causes.
ONE GLOBAL IMPACT.

LIONS SERVE. COMMUNITIES THRIVE.



TOGETHER, WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD!

**VISION**

OCTOBER 8-18, 2026

Opening eyes. Changing lives.

Promote eye health and support sight-saving initiatives in your community and around the world.

**YOUTH**

FEBRUARY 13-21, 2027

Empower today. Lead tomorrow.

Invest in our youth through service, mentorship, and programs that build brighter futures.

**ENVIRONMENT**

MAY 29-JUNE 6, 2027

Protect today. Preserve tomorrow.

Take action to care for our planet through sustainability, conservation, and clean community initiatives.

BE A LION. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**GET INVOLVED. INVITE OTHERS. HAVE FUN!**

Core Values of Lionism



SERVICE

DEDICATION
TO EXCELLENCE

INTEGRITY



COLLABORATION



DIVERSITY



INNOVATION

“
TOGETHER,
WE SERVE MORE.
TOGETHER,
WE CHANGE LIVES.”



JOIN THE DISTRICT 35L LIONS ALERT TEAM

"WE SERVE" WHEN OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS US MOST

Be Ready. Be Trained. Be the Difference. Emergencies don't wait — and neither can we.

The Lions Alert Team is a dedicated group of Lions members who help communities during disasters, emergencies, and times of crisis. Whether assisting with communication, coordination, logistics, or community support, Lions step forward when help is needed most.

WHY JOIN?

MAKE A REAL IMPACT

Help support families and communities during emergencies and disasters. Your actions can provide hope, safety, and critical assistance when it matters most.

LIVE THE LIONS MOTTO: "WE SERVE"

Serving on the Alert Team is a powerful way to demonstrate leadership, compassion, and commitment to your community.

GAIN VALUABLE SKILLS

Disaster preparedness
Emergency communication
Team coordination
Leadership and community support

THERE'S A ROLE FOR EVERYONE

Not everyone responds in the field.
You can help with:

Alerts & communication
Logistics & coordination
Volunteer support
Community outreach
Flexible participation

WHY IT MATTERS

When disasters strike, communities need people who are prepared, organized, and ready to serve.

Lions have always answered the call.

Now we need YOU.

JOIN THE DISTRICT 35L LIONS ALERT TEAM TODAY!

Be the calm in the storm.
Be the helping hand.
Be the difference.
Emergencies don't wait — and neither can we.

For information or to sign up:

Please Contact District 35L Alert Team Chair - Lion Barbara Kowats High Springs Lions Club

Email: humbledbygodstudios@gmail.com With the following:

Name: _____ Club: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____



DISTRICT 35L

BE READY WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

HELP US STOCK OUR DISASTER RELIEF TRAILERS

SHOP OUR AMAZON REGISTRY

DISASTER RELIEF
WE SERVE

NO PERISHABLE ITEMS
(FOOD, ETC.)

HAVE ITEMS TO DONATE?
EMAIL US FIRST!
fldistrict35L@gmail.com
so we can remove them from the list.

SUGGEST AN ITEM?
Let us know if there's something we should add to the list!

TOGETHER, WE CAN BE PREPARED, EQUIPPED & READY TO SERVE.

👉 **View the registry here:**

https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/28AAL6RVPR2K6?ref=cm_sw_r_cp_ud_ggr-subnav-share_GNCSAD04XT3Y3MZEM22K

August

Month of August
National Eye Exam Month

August 10
World Lion Day

August 12
International Youth Day

August 13, 2020
Calhoun-Liberty Lions Club Anniversary

August 17
National Nonprofit Day

August 19
World Humanitarian Day

August 31, 1944
Century Lions Club Anniversary

August 31, 2021
Yulee Nassau County Lions Club Anniversary

**District
35L**

ROAR with Pride!

**Share your clubs
achievements.**

**NEWSLETTER
CONTACT DETAILS**

FLDistrict35L@gmail.com

All submissions due by the 26th of the month.





**NEED
LIONS
RESOURCES?**

Everything in One Place!

**MD-35
RESOURCE
QUICK LIST**

 lionsmd35.com/resource-quick-list

Visit the Resource Quick List here:

<https://www.lionsmd35.com/resource-quick-list>

Club Officer Roles & Responsibilities:

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

District Cabinet Roles & Responsibilities:

<https://www.lionsmd35.com/district-cabinet-roles...>

Chairpersons Roles & Responsibilities:

<https://www.lionsmd35.com/chairpersons-roles...>

Multiple District Roles & Responsibilities:

<https://www.lionsmd35.com/multiple-district-roles...>





Lions Clubs International

EXPLORE LEARN ON LION PORTAL

Get Ready for the New Lions Year



LEADERSHIP
TRAINING



MEMBERSHIP
GROWTH



CLUB OFFICER
TRAINING



SERVICE
REPORTING



MARKETING
SKILLS



NEW MEMBER
ORIENTATION

**LEARN ANYTIME.
LEAD EVERYWHERE.**
Tools and training to help
you and your club succeed.

 We Serve Through *Learning & Leadership* 

Service Idea

Looking for a simple, low-cost project your club can do to make a real difference in your community?

Since Lions Clubs already collect donated eyeglasses, many of those donations also come with eyeglass cases. While some cases can't be reused for glasses, larger ones can be repurposed into small hygiene kits for the unhoused.

Fill each case with a few essential items such as:

Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Band-Aids, Safety Pins, Comb, Soap, Hand Wipes, Glasses Cloth

You can even place a small sticker on the case showing your Lions Club provided it.

It's a simple way to recycle, serve with compassion, and provide practical help to someone who may truly need it. Small acts of kindness can leave a lasting impact.



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Official District 35-L Entities

Arlington Eye Clinic/Recycling
6161 Arlington Expy in Jacksonville, FL

[*Conklin Davis Center for the Visually Impaired*](#)

Diabetes Awareness Foundation
Lions Diabetes Foundation of MD35
PO Box 1407, Deland, FL 32721

Disaster Relief*
Mail Check to District Treasurer

[*Dogs Inc*](#)

[*Florida Center for the Blind*](#)

[*Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind*](#)

[*KidSight Project**](#)
Mail Check to District Treasurer

[*Leader Dog*](#)

[*Lions Club International Foundation*](#)

[*Lions Quest*](#)

[*Lions Saving Sight*](#)

[*Paragon Service Dogs*](#)

*Disaster Relief to be made out to District 35L with "Disaster Relief" in Memo
KidSight to be made out to District 35L with "KidSight Project" in Memo

Note: Clubs must also record the donation under
service on Lions Portal to ensure they receive
credit for the donation.



Official MD-35 Entities

[Lions Saving Sight](#)

Assists in providing funds to pay for eye surgeries for individuals who either can't afford it or if their insurance doesn't cover.

[Florida Lions Diabetic Retinopathy Foundation](#)

[Diabetes Awareness Foundation of MD-35](#)

Work on preventing blindness caused by diabetes by providing diabetes and vision screenings. Supports the maintenance on cameras utilized to check vision and supplies needed for diabetes testing kits.

[Beauty of Sight](#) (formerly known as Florida Lions Eye Bank)

Located at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute – University of Miami Health System. Supports research and transplants.

35-I Hearing Foundation

Assists in funding hearing tests and providing hearing aids.

35-I Sight Foundation

Assists in funding in support of Digital Retinal Imaging Eye Cameras.

[Conklin Davis Center for the Visually Impaired](#)

Their goal is to enhance the lives and opportunities of our clients through job training, and employment, Independent Living, Technology training and children's services as well as a multitude of community services.

[Florida Lions Eye Clinic – Bonita Springs, FL](#)

Provides eye care for those who have no insurance.

[Leader Dogs for the Blind – Michigan](#)

Train people who are Deaf/blind and instructed in using American Sign Language (ASL) with a guide dog, provide orientation & mobility (cane travel) training, offer free GPS units and training, and run a Teen Summer Camp for those visually impaired.

[Dog's Inc.](#) (formerly Southeastern Guide Dogs)

Provide guide and service dogs for people, veterans, and children with vision loss and those battling depression throughout the United States—at no cost to the recipients.

[Lions World Vision Institute](#) (formerly Lions Institute Eye Transplant & Research)

Recover, process and distributes organ, eye, and tissue from donors to hospitals, do Ocular Research to improve cornea transplant surgical procedures.

[Lions Club International Foundation \(LCIF\)](#)

Provides grants to Lions clubs to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian services that impact lives locally and globally.

AWARDS AND CONTESTS

Lions do not serve others in order to receive rewards. The rewards they seek are less tangible, but no less real. Lions' rewards lie in the satisfaction of demonstrating their commitment to the work of Lionism; serving as an effective team member on club, district and international projects and activities; and focusing on the community in terms of less fortunate individuals and projects and activities for the betterment of the community.

While the purpose of being a member of this wonderful organization is not to receive awards, we do recognize that members who make a significant contribution are deserving of recognition, encouragement, and appreciation.

We encourage every club and every member to become familiar with the available awards and work toward obtaining one or more. Nominations should be submitted to the appropriate Awards Chair by the dates indicated for each award.

See www.district35l.com/award-information for ALL Awards information and applications.

See lionsclubs.org for International Awards.

Governor's Achievement Award – New Lion

This award is designed to assist the NEW LION member to become thoroughly familiar and fully involved in the activities and purposes of Lionism. This award is available only to NEW members in their first year of membership, beginning with induction.

See www.district35l.com/award-information for ALL Awards information and applications.

Order of the Golden Chain

Any Lion who completes the requirements between January 1st and December 31st shall earn the Golden Chain Award. The award may be earned each year the qualifications are met.

See www.district35l.com/award-information for ALL Awards information and applications.

MD Chair:	35L Chair: Tony Clum
Mercy Ceron	850.273.0580
ceron_7@hotmail.com	24 Oakdale Rd NW
	Ft Walton Beach, FL
	32547
	tony57talla@yahoo.com

Governor's Achievement Award – Transfer Lion

This award is designed to assist the new Transfer Lion to become thoroughly familiar and fully involved in the activities and purposes of Lionism. This award is available only to new Transfer Lions in their first year of membership, beginning with induction into the club they transferred.

See www.district35l.com/award-information for ALL Awards information and applications.

Peace Poster

For over three decades, Lions clubs around the globe have been sponsoring a very special art contest in schools and youth groups. Creating peace posters gives children everywhere the chance to express their visions of peace and inspire the world through art and creativity.

www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-approach/youth/peace-poster

35L Chair: Blanche Day
lionblanche2015@gmail.com

Anchor Award

The purpose of this award is to provide recognition for the "Grass Root Lions" who are the anchors and stability of our association.

The club secretary shall collect each tally sheet, tabulate its points, and submit it to the District Awards chair by July 31st of each year to be eligible.

See www.district35l.com/award-information for ALL Awards information and applications.



AWARDS AND CONTESTS

Dr. Walter H. Campbell Pilot Award for Lionism

The Pilot Award is designed to recognize a Past District Governor (PDG) in each of the Districts, and a PDG in MD-35, with a prestigious award for outstanding efforts, dedication, and contributions during the preceding calendar year on behalf of Lionism. All entries must be submitted to the Multiple District 35 (MD) Office and postmarked no later than January 31st of the following year to the contest.

See www.district35L.com/award-information for ALL Awards information and applications.

MD Chair:
Jim Campbell
954.592.8018
jimmyc_sr@yahoo.com

35L Chair: PDG Tommy Dover
904.318.2540
6027 Greenberry Ln
Jacksonville, FL. 32211
tdover@comcast.net

Millard Conklin Crusader for Lionism Award

The Millard Conklin Crusader for Lionism Award is designed to encourage participation of "Grass Root" Lions in each district and club and to select one from each district to be rewarded for outstanding dedication and contributions for their current calendar year efforts made to Lionism, and to be presented for a District award. The award shall cover the accomplishments realized only during the contest period from January 1st through December 31st of each calendar year

See www.district35L.com/award-information for ALL Awards information and applications.

MD Chair:
Amy Gephart
amygephart@gmail.com

35L Chair: Marge Holton
904.716.8744
PO Box 1344
Welaka, FL.32193
beachgatorgranny@aol.com

Membership Satisfaction Award

When a Lions club meets or exceeds the expectations of its members, it leads to membership satisfaction and retention. Satisfied members will keep coming back, which will keep your club healthy and vital to the community

See lionsclubs.org/for International Awards.

See www.district35L.com/award-information
for ALL Awards information and applications.
See lionsclubs.org for International Awards.



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

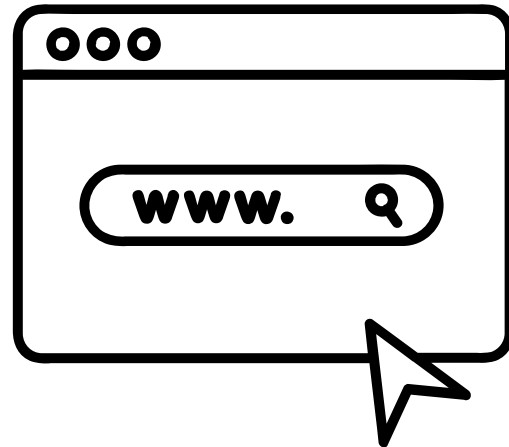
This award is to recognize the District Governor's selection of the Lion of the Year for his/her tenure as the DG.

L I O N S O N L I N E

R E S O U R C E S

WEBSITES

- lionsclubs.org
- LCIF Website
- lionsvirtual.org
- Lions Portal
- Lionsmd35.com
- district35L.com
- district35i.com
- district35o.com
- district35n.com
- lionsdistrict35n.org



YOUTUBE

- Lions International
- @LionsVirtualLive
- @USLionsRock
- Lions Video Center

FACEBOOK

- Lions International
- LCIF
- Lions USA
- Lions Virtual
- Global Lions Forum
- Lions of Multiple District 35
- Florida Lions District 35-L
- Florida Lions District 35-I
- Florida Lions District 35-O
- Florida Lions District 35-N





Back to School Sales Tax Holiday

ITEMS EXEMPT FROM SALES TAX:

- Learning aids and jigsaw puzzles selling for \$30 or less
- Most school supplies selling for \$50 or less
- Clothing, footwear, and accessories selling for \$100 or less
- Computers and related accessories selling for \$1,500 or less
(when purchased for non-commercial and personal use)

July 20, 2026 through August 20, 2026

Visit floridarevenue.com/BacktoSchool



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS SALES TAX EXEMPTION

Select disaster preparedness supplies are permanently tax-free!



Batteries (AA-cell, AAA-cell, C-cell, D-cell, 6-volt, or 9-volt)



Fire extinguishers



Insect repellent



Life jackets



Portable gas or diesel cans (max 5 gal)



Portable generators



Smoke detection devices and carbon monoxide alarms



Waterproof tarps (1,000 sq. ft. or less)



Sunscreen



Ground anchor systems and tie-down kits



FloridaDisaster.org/Kit

Florida Lions History



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