DISTRICT 35 L

LIONS INSIGHT

District Governor Message

October has been a busy month for District 35-L. Our team, PDG Tony Stefanowicz, FVDG Susan Oliva, and I, canvassed the Belleview, Florida, area and found 14 individuals interested in forming a Lions club in Belleview.
Many clubs have been collecting food for holiday baskets and helping fight hunger across Florida. The Crestview and Baker 2 Lions have been feeding those affected by Hurricane Isias. Milton, Florida, sustained significant damage from the hurricane, and the Lions were there to provide food and water to the community. Additional supplies are being donated to help meet the community's needs. Where there is a need, there is a Lion.

Last week in Jacksonville, Florida, we conducted a KidSight project, screening approximately 500 middle school students from the surrounding area. This has been an annual program for the past three years. We were proud to help kids see clearly and support a brighter future!



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

Memorium



Lion Margaret "Peggy" Trousil
08/04/1933 to 09/28/2026

Lion Peggy was a Lion for 21 years, belonging to the Ocala OTOW, Silver Springs and the Ocala 200 Lions Clubs.

She was a Melvin Jones recipient.

Lion Berenice Moore
02/22/1931 to 10/12/2026

Lion Berenice was a Lion for over 26 years, belonging to Wewahitchka, Ocean Springs and the Ocala 200 Lions Clubs.

She was a Progressive Melvin Jones recipient.



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Can Your Lions Club Use PayPal? Yes!

Lions clubs operating as 501(c)(4) nonprofits can establish a PayPal Business account to offer convenient electronic payment options. During registration, select “Nonprofit Organization” as the business type. Account approval is subject to PayPal’s verification requirements.

Know the Difference

A nonprofit Business account is different from PayPal’s Confirmed Charity status. A club’s 501(c)(4) status alone does not qualify it for the special charity processing rates or PayPal Giving Fund benefits generally available to eligible 501(c)(3) organizations. Plan for applicable standard processing fees.

What You’ll Need

Gather the following before starting:

- The club’s full legal name, address, telephone number and EIN.
- A club-controlled email address.
- The club’s bank account and routing numbers.
- An authorized officer’s identifying information. PayPal may request a Social Security number, date of birth, address and identification.
- Supporting documents if requested, such as IRS paperwork, organizational documents or a bank statement.

Steps to Get Started

- Visit PayPal.com and choose to open a Business account.
- Select “Nonprofit Organization” when prompted for the business type. Answer all tax-status questions accurately.
- Enter the club’s information, using the legal name and EIN shown on its records.
- Complete identity verification for the officer authorized to manage the account. Submit any additional documents PayPal requests.
- Link and confirm the club’s bank account by following PayPal’s instructions.
- Review available payment tools and fees before sharing payment instructions with members or supporters.

Keep the Account With the Club

For continuity, use a club-controlled email address and bank account, enable two-step verification, and document who is authorized to manage the account. Include PayPal access and records in your officer-transition process.

PayPal is a payment tool; opening an account does not change the club’s IRS classification or make payments automatically tax-deductible.

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WHAT DOES THE PRESIDENT DO?

Great Clubs Don't Just Happen... They're Led!

THE ROLE:

The President leads with **vision**, serves with **heart**, and **empowers others** to make a difference.

WHAT THEY DO:

- **Lead** meetings and set the tone
- Work with officers and members as a **team**
- Plan and guide **service projects** and **events**
- Make **decisions** and keep the club moving forward
- **Represent** the club in the community and Lions family
- **Inspire, motivate**, and **recognize** members

THE GOAL:

Build a **strong, united club** that **serves** boldly and **grows** in membership and impact.

WHY IT MATTERS:

- Provides **leadership** and **direction**
- Creates a **positive** and **engaged** culture
- Turns ideas into **action** and **impact**

REMEMBER:

You don't have to do it all alone – you just have to **lead, believe**, and **bring out the best in others!**



LEADERSHIP. SERVICE. IMPACT.
That's the President Effect!

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Resources Quicklist

Lions International

MD-35 Regional Lions Leadership Institute

March 11-14, 2027

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

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

Registration Fee of only $250 includes:

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

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

Institute Topics:

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

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

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

LEADERSHIP ROOTED IN SERVICE

Fillable Application

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👉 View the registry here:

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

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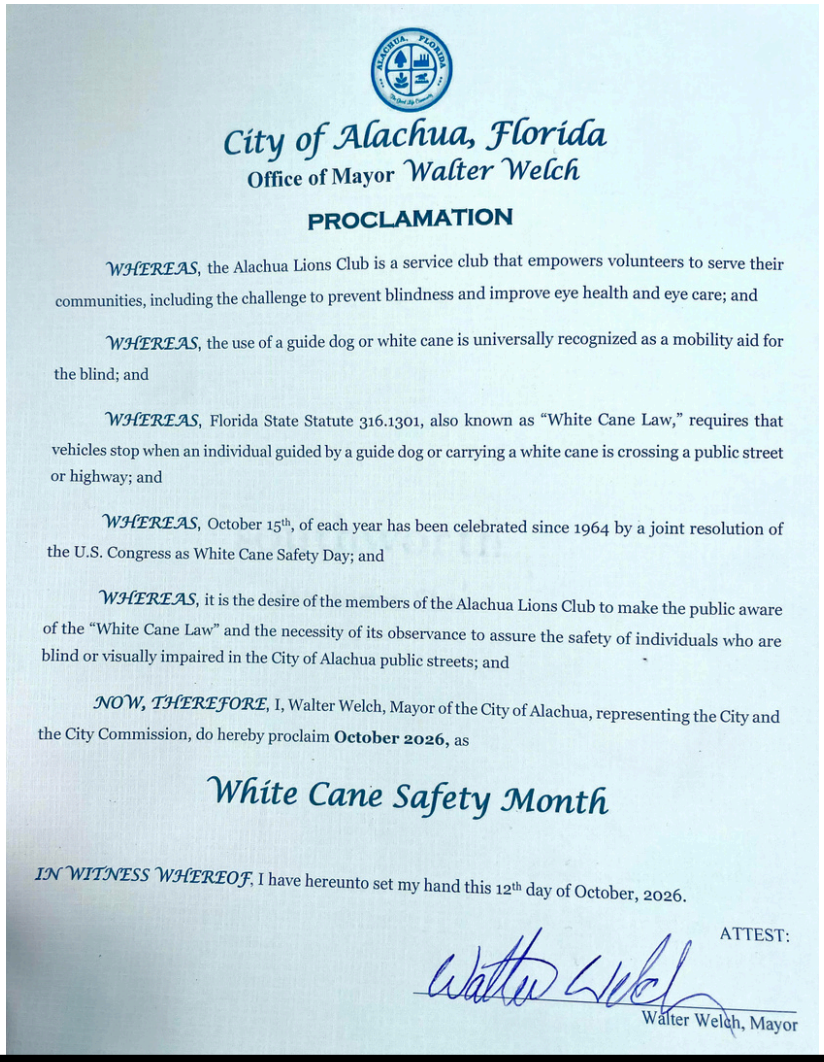
Alachua Lions Receives Proclamation From the City of Alachua

The Alachua Lions Club received a Proclamation of Service from the City of Alachua Commissioners on October 12, to commemorate the White Cane Day. The City Commissioners are very supportive of the Alachua Lions, and they assist the Club with many of their service projects throughout the year. These projects include Coats for Kids Project, the Food Basket Distribution Project, and the Annual Cattlemen's Banquet.

Shown in the picture are the City Commissioners, Lion Gib Coerper, several members of the Scout Troop 88, which the Alachua Lions sponsor, and one of the Troop's Scout Leaders.



City of Alachua, Florida
Office of Mayor Walter Welch

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Alachua Lions Club is a service club that empowers volunteers to serve their communities, including the challenge to prevent blindness and improve eye health and eye care; and

WHEREAS, the use of a guide dog or white cane is universally recognized as a mobility aid for the blind; and

WHEREAS, Florida State Statute 316.1301, also known as "White Cane Law," requires that vehicles stop when an individual guided by a guide dog or carrying a white cane is crossing a public street or highway; and

WHEREAS, October 15th, of each year has been celebrated since 1964 by a joint resolution of the U.S. Congress as White Cane Safety Day; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the members of the Alachua Lions Club to make the public aware of the "White Cane Law" and the necessity of its observance to assure the safety of individuals who are blind or visually impaired in the City of Alachua public streets; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Walter Welch, Mayor of the City of Alachua, representing the City and the City Commission, do hereby proclaim **October 2026**, as

White Cane Safety Month

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of October, 2026.

ATTEST:

Walter Welch, Mayor



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Alachua Lions Scarecrow Row Sponsorship

During the month of October, the City of Alachua sponsors a Halloween program in which they invite businesses in Alachua and residents to decorate a street light pole along Main Street. The City then holds a Trick or Treat activity where all residents are invited to get candy and treats for the businesses that participate in the event.

The Alachua Lions is sponsoring two poles this year and Troop 88 took on the responsibility of decorating the light poles. The Trick or Treat event will be held on Saturday, October 31. The pictures show two of the poles and shows just how intricate and exciting the decorations are.





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NEW EXHIBIT
HISTORY OF THE SEAFOOD FESTIVAL
at the CEDAR KEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM
+ PRIVATE COURTYARD!

Explore our new exhibit on the festival's history since 1970—historic photos, newspaper articles, and memorabilia—plus two buildings filled with Cedar Key's remarkable history.



Temporary—so don't miss it!

609 Second Street
$5 | Kids 12 & under FREE
Thursday – Sunday
11 AM – 3 PM

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On Saturday, October 24th, the **High Springs Lions Club** held its 5th annual bike/car show in downtown High Springs. Months of planning, gathering sponsors, and setting up the final details came together in an amazing show! Over 80 entries participated! This annual car show is held as a fundraiser for the Florida Diabetes Camp for children with type 1 diabetes where they are educated on diabetes, gain confidence, and knowledge to achieve their full potential. The weather was beautiful for the event and as always, the Lions Club showed off their cooking skills with providing their famous pulled pork sandwiches! It was fantastic! Best of show award, chosen by the diabetes camp, went to Kevin Blackburn for his entry of a 1932 Ford Coupe 3 window. The Lion John Sullivan award chosen by Lion John's family, went to Gerald 'Jerry' Howd, Nina and grandson Daniel for his entry of a 1956 Dodge Customer Royal Lancer.
Lion Marsha would like to thank everyone who helped with this event: High Springs Lions Club, Turkey Creek Lions Club, all the volunteers both behind the scenes and event day, all the sponsors, those who donated raffle items, and those who stopped by just to take a peek!

Plans are already in the works for next year's show! A great time was enjoyed by all!










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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
1776
250
2026
HIGH SPRINGS LIONS CLUB

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On Monday August 24th, the **High Springs Lions Club** welcomed our new district governor George Niles to our club social.
DG George was treated to brisket and all the fixins.
As we already had five new members ready to be inducted, the president, Lion Jerry, asked Lion George if he would like to do the honors...of course he said yes!
We are happy to welcome our new DG George and our five new members.
A great time was enjoyed by all!!







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Jax Beach Lions Club

Such a pawsome event!
Here is a big batch of impressions and highlights from yesterday's Eyespy Fashion Pawty. A huge THANK YOU to Eye Spy Foundation and to everyone who made this day so special - enjoy the recap!















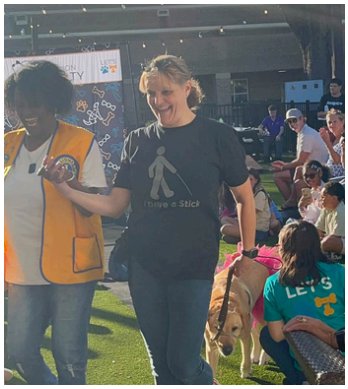


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Jax Beach Lions Club

It was an absolute honor for the Jacksonville Beaches Lions Club to be the Merch Store Sponsor of the Eye Spy Fashion PAWty.

Here is a quick look at the fantastic merch booth setup!







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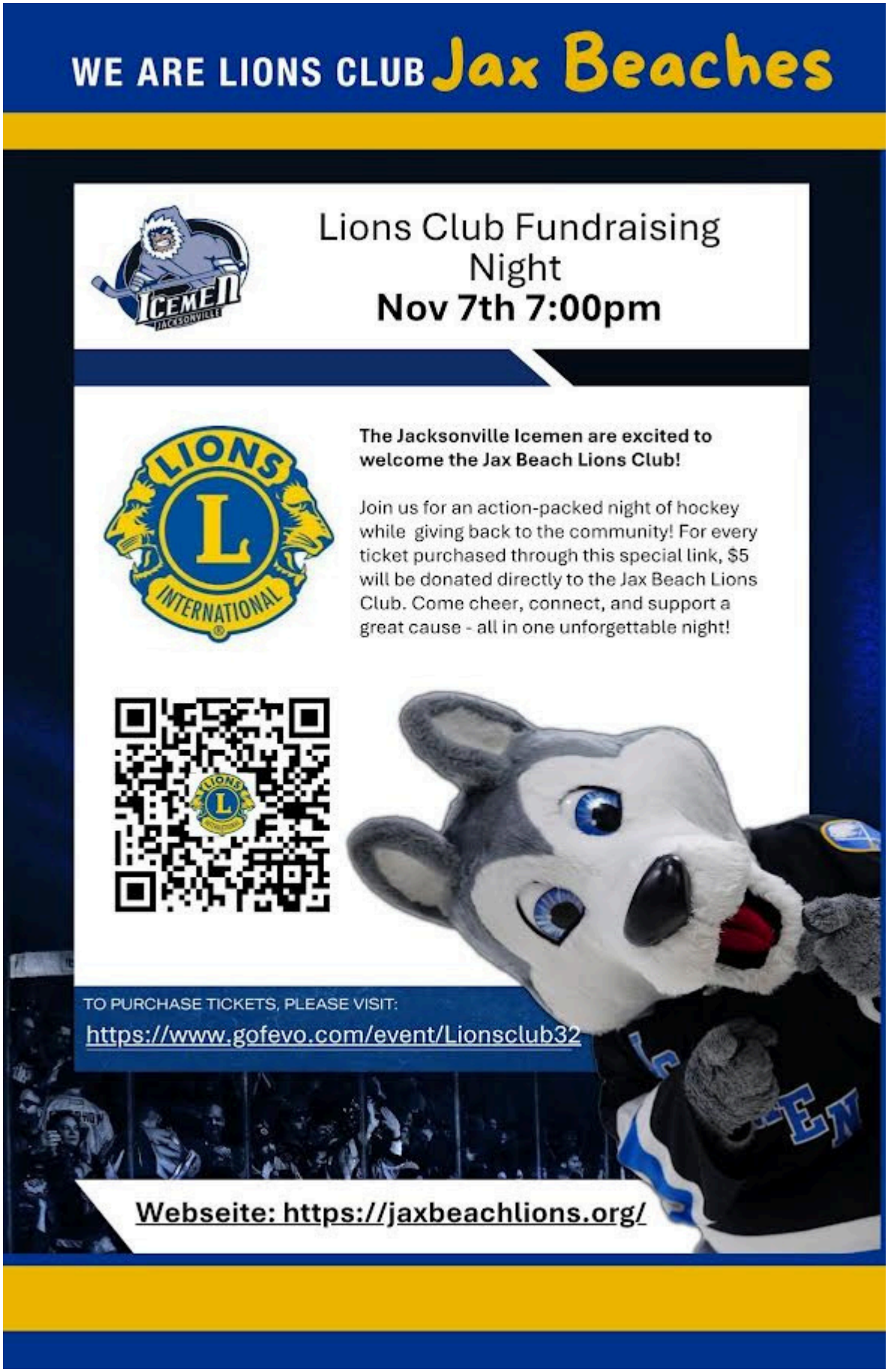
WE ARE LIONS CLUB Jax Beaches
Lions Club Fundraising Night
Nov 7th 7:00pm
The Jacksonville Icemen are excited to welcome the Jax Beach Lions Club!
Join us for an action-packed night of hockey while giving back to the community! For every ticket purchased through this special link, $5 will be donated directly to the Jax Beach Lions Club. Come cheer, connect, and support a great cause - all in one unforgettable night!
TO PURCHASE TICKETS, PLEASE VISIT:
https://www.gofevo.com/event/Lionsclub32
Webseite: https://jaxbeachlions.org/

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Jax Beach Lions Club

What a night! Barktoberfest 2026 was packed, loud, and full of heart!

We looked around the room last night and were honestly blown away by the crowd, the incredible energy, the great tunes from Broke 'Til Friday, and the delicious food catered by Ole Mexican Restaurant!

One of the best parts of the evening? Meeting puppy Sal!

Sal is the future guide dog sponsored by the amazing American Legion Sponsor Group (Post 129, Sons of American Legion, and Legion Riders).

A huge thank you to puppy raiser Teresa Ogden from Guiding Eyes for the Blind for bringing him by and showing us all the real impact of this mission!

Huge thanks to our dedicated Jax Beach Lions crew, to American Legion Post 129 for hosting us, and to everyone who came out to support.

You all made this night unforgettable.







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Broke Ass Friday




BSHS


American Legion
Post 12














Legion




JACKSONVILLE BEACH
LIONS CLUB






Broke Ass Friday

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Jax Beach Lions Club

A Standing Ovation for Our Barktoberfest Sponsors!
An event like this cannot happen without partners who believe in giving back.
A heartfelt THANK YOU to the incredible businesses, organizations, and families whose generous sponsorships made Barktoberfest 2026 possible!
Your contributions directly support the training and placement of guide and service dogs through Guiding Eyes for the Blind and Leader Dogs for the Blind:

Platinum Sponsors ($5,000)
• American Legion Sponsor Group (American Legion Post 129, Sons of American Legion Post 129, American Legion Riders Post 129)
• The Tucker Family – In Memory of Mark C. Tucker

Gold Sponsor ($1,000)
• American Legion Auxiliary Post 129

Silver Sponsors ($500)
• 913 Church
• Robert & Betty Habel
• Shmunes Vision

Bronze Sponsors ($200)
• Alicia M.
• Arlington Lions Club
• Gary & Deborah Pellizzaro
• Gary & Linda Zepp
• Physical Healthcare of Jacksonville
• River City Lions Club



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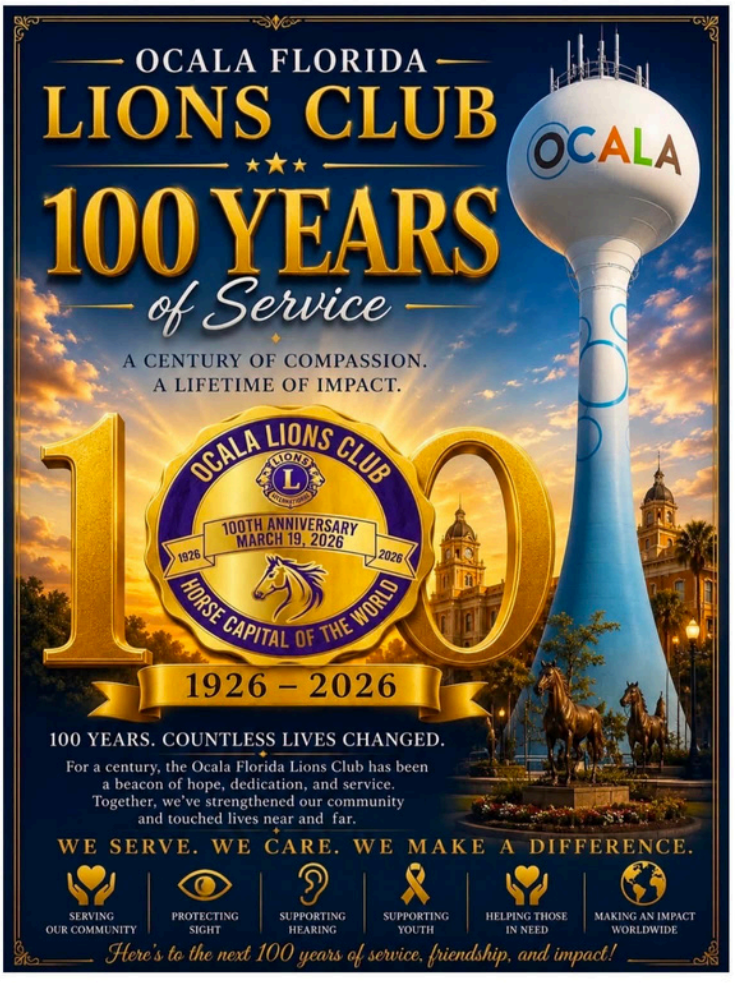
Ocala Lions Club – Bragging Rights









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Ocala 200



WELCOME LION LEE SMILEY

Lion Lee is our newest member. Lion Lee was born and raised in WIlson, NC. He attended the University of North Carolina graduating with a degree in accounting. He worked for the local government of Apex, NC for 25 years, retired, and moved to Ocala about 4 years ago. Lion Lee is married to Ann and they have a son, Richard. Lion Lee resides in Ocala Palms.

Ocala 200 SERVICE

Special Olympics Swimming: Thanks to Lions Kim Lau, Susan Oliva, Bob Barto and Patti Barto for supporting the Regional Swimming Championships and the Florida State Championships held at FAST.
Peace Poster Contest: Lion Toni Ancrum reports that Osceola Middle School and Howard Middle School will once again be participating. Entries must be submitted by November 1. Last year our club selected a winner from Osceola Middle School, who then went on to be the winner of District 35L.

Inter-Club: Lion Bob and Lion Patti Barto supported the Ormond By The Sea Lions Club in their blood glucose screening and clothing giveaway.

Poinsettia Sales: From October 1 until November 13, we will be selling Poinsettias. They are red in color, 6.5 inch pots with festive paper, 15 inches high. We sell them for $11 each. Keep a record of your sales and turn all money into Lion Helen Anderson, Treasurer. Delivery will be the week after Thanksgiving.

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Ocala Fort King Lions Club

A Spooktacular Night of Glow Ball!

It was another Spooktacular night last Thursday as golfers hit the links for a funtastic evening of Glow Ball! Even our little Minions were out in full force, causing a little mayhem and adding to the Halloween fun. The course was hopping with costumed players, all hoping to take home the coveted Winner title!

Along the way, residents joined in the festivities by sharing delicious Halloween-themed treats with golfers as they drove by. From mummy wieners and meatball eyes to Jell-O shots and scary punch, there was plenty of spooky goodness to enjoy!

A special congratulations goes to Cheley Cierech, Teresa Thomas, and Jill Hoover, our winners for the best-decorated homes and yummy food. Thank you for helping make the evening so festive and fun!

And the Winners Are...

The competition was fierce, the costumes were fantastic, and everyone brought their A-game!

- 1st Place: Jamie Krebs, Fred & Jan Kinner, and Stacy Masters
- 2nd Place: RGV's team of David Uran, Jeff Harding, Brett Sojack, and Coty Terrell
- 3rd Place: Jason Grundstrom and Kevin Laird

AWESOME PLAY, EVERYONE! Congratulations to all our winners and a big thank-you to every team that came out to play!

A BIG THANK-YOU to Our Volunteers!

The Ft. King Lions Club would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to everyone who helped make this event a glowing success!

- Jeff Harding, Pro Shop Manager, for helping with setup and guiding us through the Glow Ball game.
- Joe Jutras, for his instrumental role in recruiting all the teams.
- Larry Titemore and Andy Craig, for lending a hand with setup, scoring, and breakdown.
- And thank you for generously shared their Glow Ball supplies with us. Your time, teamwork, and support helped make this a truly memorable evening!

We hope you enjoy the photos from this spooktacular event. We can't wait to see everyone next year for another rousing round of Glow Ball!

Mark Your Calendars!

Our next Ft. King Lions Club event is the Holiday Home Tour on Monday, December 7! Get ready for an evening of festive decorations, holiday cheer, and community fun. We look forward to seeing you there!

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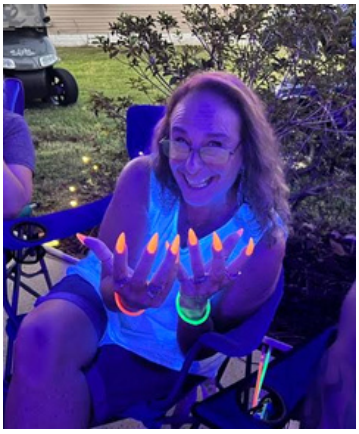
Ocala Fort King Lions Club

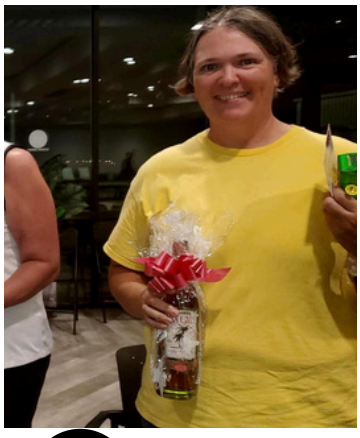












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Sopchoppy

The Sopchoppy Lions Club proudly announces the addition of a new Melvin Jones Fellow Award winner in its membership! Lion member Randy Anderson was selected for the prestigious award in July of this year. The Melvin Jones Award, named for the founder of the Lions Clubs, is presented to Lions for years of continuous and exemplary service. Randy Anderson, a member of the Sopchoppy Lions for 50 years, joins Lion Warren Harden who received the award in 2025.

Lion President Sal Martocci presented the award commenting, “Both Lions, Warren and Randy represent the true meaning of the Lions motto, ‘We Serve’. We are honored to have them in our club.”

The Sopchoppy Lions Club was chartered by Lions International in September 1952 and has served the Sopchoppy Community in a variety of programs over the years. For more information about the club’s activities/services or to join, call 850-320-5532/962-3711.



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November

Month of November

Diabetic Eye Disease Month

National Diabetes Month

In 1918 the First Lions Club Magazine was published

November 1

Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 3

Fort Walton Beach Anniversary 1949

November 6-8

MD35 Fall Conference

November 11

Veteran's Day

November 13

World Kindness Day

November 14

St Augustine Anniversary 1946 (Happy 80 years!)

World Diabetes Day

November 15

District 35-L District Advisory meeting

November 17

Graceville Anniversary 1937

November 18-19

Mission 1.5 Worldwide Reporting Day

November 26

Thanksgiving Day

District 35L

ROAR with Pride!

Share your clubs achievements.

NEWSLETTER CONTACT DETAILS

FLDistrict35L@gmail.com

All submissions due by the 26th of the month.

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Official District 35-L Entities

Arlington Eye Clinic/Recycling
6161 Arlington Expy in Jacksonville, FL
904.503.2423

Conklin Davis Center for the Visually Impaired

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

Disaster Relief*
35 L Contact: Barb Kowats - humbledbygodsstudio@gmail.com
*Disaster Relief to be made out to District 35L with "Disaster Relief" in Memo

Dogs Inc

Florida Center for the Blind
We provide comprehensive vision rehabilitation services across these eight Florida counties: Alachuam Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy, Marion, and Union
1411 NE 22nd Ave, Ocala, FL 34470
352.873.4700

Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind
Fully accredited and tuition-free, FSBD has served Florida since 1885 through state support and private donations. Each year, more than 975 students participate in its statewide parent-infant and family programs, Montessori-based Pre-K, early learning center, and comprehensive K–12 elementary, middle, and high school programs on campus.
35 L Contact: DG George Niles - liongeorgeniles@hotmail.com, 904.545.1627

*KidSight Project**
*KidSight to be made out to District 35L with "KidSight Project" in Memo
35 L Contact: DG George Niles - liongeorgeniles@hotmail.com, 904.545.1627

Leader Dog

Lions Club International Foundation

Lions Quest
*Lions Quest to be made out to District 35L with "Quest Program" in Memo

Lions Saving Sight

Paragon Service Dogs

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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 DEADLINE DECEMBER 31!!

To print awards go to

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

Governor's Achievement Award – New Member

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

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

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

Governor's Achievement Award – New & Transfer Members

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

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

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

Order of the Golden Chain Award

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

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

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

AWARDS DEADLINE DECEMBER 31!!

To print awards go to

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

Anchor Award

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

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

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

Dr. Walter H. Campbell Pilot Award

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

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

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

Millard Conklin Crusader for Lionism Award

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

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

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

District Club Sponsored Awards

District Awards recognition period is January 1 to December 31.

Submission Date:

Nominations are to be submitted as identified in each award by February 15th.

District Awards Program Coordinator:

PDG Jerry Skufe

Awards:

Listed below are the current District Awards. Clubs are encouraged to submit nominations for these awards, if appropriate.

Austin Drinkwater Award – Sponsoring Club: Orange Park

This award is to recognize the club with the most outstanding community betterment and civic improvement activities. Nominations are to be submitted to the District Governor for the review and selection of the winner.

Carl Suber Award – Sponsoring Club: Jax Arlington

This award is to recognize the club donating the largest sum per member to the Davis-Conklin Center as determined by the District Administrator.

Donald Helmly Award – Sponsoring Club: Jax Arlington

This award is to recognize the club with the most significant K through 12 projects and activities for students (school or non-school oriented). Nominations are to be submitted to the District Governor for the review and selection of the winner.

Francis E. "Rocky Fowler Award – Sponsoring Club: Jax Arlington

This award is to recognize the club donating the most money per member to the Hearing Aid Bank as determined by the District Administrator.

Glenn Afred Award – Sponsoring Club: Orange Park

This award is to recognize the club having the highest percentage of participants on service projects, reported to the LCI service reporting system, based on hours divided by the average membership for the period as determine 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 determine 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.