



# LIONS DISTRICT 4-A1 NEWSLETTER

**JUNE 2025 ~ VOLUME 67 – Number 12**

**"WE SERVE" – Northern San Joaquin Valley & Sierra/Nevada Foothills  
501(c)(4) Organization - EIN 23-7426310**



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**DISTRICT NEWSLETTERS' LINK** ~ **EDITOR:** Lion Gail Cates ~ 
 **NEWSLETTER'S EMAIL:** newsletter@lions4-a1.org  
**2024-25 DISTRICT DIRECTORY's LINK** (Contact a Zone Chair for password or PDF) ~ **HASHTAG** #4A1Lions

## ~ CALENDAR of EVENTS ~

[DISTRICT 4-A1 ONLINE CALENDAR](#)

[MD4 GOOGLE CALENDAR](#)

[LIONS INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR](#)

**Now – June 30:** Bags for Benches Round 8 is now through June 30<sup>th</sup> – STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions - [FLIER](#)

**June 2025:** Commemorate 100th Anniversary of [Helen Keller](#) asking the Lions to become Knights of the Blind!

**June 1:** Helen Keller Day – See *Vision* article in this newsletter - Wikipedia [LINK](#)

**June 7:** Merced County All-Star Baseball Game – [SPONSORSHIP LETTER](#) – [SPONSORSHIP INFO](#)

**June 7:** Hot Summer Nights Car Show – Dos Palos Lions - [FLIER](#)

**June 7:** Deadline for registering for June 14<sup>th</sup> Club/Leo Officer Training - [FLIER](#)

**June 7:** Club Officer Team Training 8am-3pm

**June 7:** Health Fair – Mokelumne Hill Lions – [NEW FLIER](#)

**June 8:** Women in Lions – virtual event - [FLIER](#)

**June 9:** 4-A1 Cabinet Meeting 7:45pm – Merced CA – Email [PCC Claudia](#) to reserve a spot

**June 12:** Installation of Officers – Tracy Tank Town Lions

**June 12:** Officers' Installation Dinner & Ceremony – see *information in Clubs Section* – Merced Breakfast Lions

**June 14:** Installation! 6:00pm - The Deubert Estate, 4244 Marston Ct Turlock – Modesto 500 Lions

**June 14:** Lion/Leo Club Officer Training Workshop - [FLIER](#)

**June 14:** Merced County All-Star Flag Football at 5:30pm and North and South Football Game at 7:30 p.m. Golden Valley HS – [SPONSORSHIP LETTER](#) – [SPONSORSHIP INFO](#)

**June 14:** [Flag Day](#) – [Download PDF](#)

**June 18:** Installation of Officers/Potluck – Clubhouse – 5:30pm – Upcountry 88 Lions

**June 21:** Lions All-Star Football Game – see *article in this newsletter* – [NEW FLIER](#)

**June 21:** Senior Driver Education Class – Merced County Law Enforcement Lions - [FLIER](#)

**June 25:** Installation of 2025 – 2026 Officers - Senior Center – Sonora Lions

**June 25-26:** Escalon Park Fete – Escalon Lions – [LINK](#)

**June 27:** [Tacos & Tequila Event](#) - Community Center for Blind & Visually Impaired (*Not a Lions-Sponsored Event – see article in Vision News section of this newsletter*)

**June 28:** San Joaquin Lions Club for our Helen Keller Mural Dedication (Stockton-San Joaquin Lions) and the District 4-A1 Helen Keller Bench Dedication 1-2 PM in Stockton - [WEBSITE](#)

**June 30:** Deadline for applying for California Lions Foundation Hunger or Environmental Grants – See *flier in this newsletter*

**June 2025:** Commemorate 100th Anniversary of [Helen Keller](#) asking the Lions to become Knights of the Blind!

**July 1-4:** Fireworks Booth – Modesto 500 Lions - [FLIER](#)

**July 1-4:** Fireworks Booth – Chowchilla Lioness Lions

**July 3:** Fireworks Show – Jackson Lions - [LINK](#)

**July 4:** 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks – co-sponsored by Madera Evening Lions - [FLIER](#)

**July 12:** Installation of Officers – Linden Lions

**July 13-17:** [Lions International Convention](#) - Orlando, FL

**July 14-15:** Demolition Derby – Turlock Lions

**July 14:** 4-A1 Cabinet Meeting 7:45pm

**July 25:** Cornhole Tournament - Escalon Lions - [FLIER](#)

**July 26:** DG Matt Stickler – [Installation](#) – Memaw's Country Thangz, 25791 Tamarisk Dr, Madera - [FLIER](#)

**August 22-24:** Council of Governors – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter COG

**August 23:** Bowling Tournament – Upcountry 88 Lions - [FLIER](#)

**September 12:** Blood Drive – Sutter Creek Lions

**September 13:** Autumn Cruise – Escalon Lions

**September 14-20:** Celebrate Community – See *article in this newsletter* - [LINK](#)

**September 16:** Walk to end Alzheimer's – Modesto 500 Lions - [LINK](#)

**September 18-20:** [USA/Canada Forum](#) - Atlantic City, NJ

**September 19-20:** District Meeting in Yosemite Region

**October 24-25:** Council of Governors – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter COG

**July 3-7, 2026:** [Lions Int'l Convention](#) - Hong Kong

**July 2-6, 2027:** [Lions Int'l Convention](#) - Washington DC

## ~ ONGOING EVENTS ~

**Membership Orientations** – ALL LIONS ARE WELCOMED! 6:30pm [Zoom](#) every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday except Nov, Dec, Jun & Jul

**Club Officers' Town Hall Meetings** – 6pm - 3rd Monday of each month – See [District Calendar](#) for Zoom link

**4-A1 Marketing Meetings** – 7:30pm - 4th Monday of each month – See [District Calendar](#) for Zoom link

**MD4 California & 4-A1 Lions Care Service Projects**  
Website: [md4lions.org/project-care](http://md4lions.org/project-care)

**District 4-A1 Newsletter's Deadlines** – Items are due by 25<sup>th</sup> of each month - [EMAIL](#)

**GAT MD4-A1 Meetings** – Every 2 weeks on Tuesdays 6-7pm – See [District Calendar](#) for Zoom link

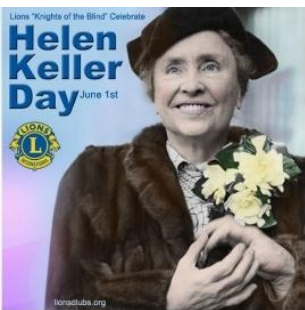
## DISTRICT 4-A1 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS ARE LOCATED TOWARD THE END OF THIS NEWSLETTER



April 24 - 27, 2025  
District 4-A1 Convention 2025

Join us Lions for  
"All Things DISNEY"

## JUNE VISION NEWS



**June 1** is Helen Keller Day! Have you thought about a new vision service project to try this year? I hope you can join the San Joaquin Lions Club for our **Helen Keller Mural Dedication** and the **District 4-A1 Helen Keller Bench Dedication** on **June 28**, 1-2 PM in Stockton. More details coming soon! Websites: [californialions.org/helen-keller-challenge](http://californialions.org/helen-keller-challenge) and [md4lions.org/helen-keller](http://md4lions.org/helen-keller)  
See the fliers for a few opportunities.

The Community Center for the Blind & Visually Impaired in Stockton is holding a **Tacos & Tequila fundraiser** on **June 27** with some of the proceeds benefiting scholarships for blind students, the Ron Valverde Scholarship. It will be at St. Bernadette's Catholic Church, 2555 Country Club Boulevard, Stockton. This is a 21 and over event. Tickets cost \$50.00 per person available

online at [ticketstripe.com/tacosandtequila-2025](https://ticketstripe.com/tacosandtequila-2025) or by phone at (209) 466-3836. Menu includes tacos, chips and salsa, rice, beans, bottled water, three tequila shots. Beer, soda and top shelf tequila available for additional purchase. (On October 4th, there will be a Dining in the Dark event...save the date.) - [FLIER](#)  
Please contact the San Joaquin Lions if you can help with **occasional rides** for blind passengers trying to travel throughout the county for activities, or if your club might be willing to help sponsor and volunteer on a **trip for blind adults to visit the Three Senses Trail in Arnold**. You can log volunteer hours by signing up as a volunteer for the "[Be My Eyes](#)" app. [FLIER](#)  
Keep recycling eyeglasses and sunglasses! Cheer on the Mokelumne Hill Lions as they hold their [health and vision fair](#) on **June 7<sup>th</sup>**. See me, Jennifer, for Lions Clubs & Helen Keller Challenge 2.0 pins, ideas, and more!

Here's the YouTube link for the **Lions Clubs & Helen Keller Challenge 2.0 Presentation** on May 10, 2025 at the Lions 4-C6 Convention: [https://youtu.be/h8IL9Q5\\_rE8](https://youtu.be/h8IL9Q5_rE8). MD4 Marketing Chair Elizabeth Steves, 4-C6 FVDGE Dave Kaplow, and 4-A1 Vision Chair Jennifer Gass were speakers.  
– And if you missed it, here's the other [YouTube Link](#) "Eyes Forward: Championing Vision for the Next 100 Years", is a groundbreaking promotional initiative designed to enhance public awareness of Lions Clubs' vision-related service efforts across California and around the globe throughout 2025.

### Album Lions "Bags for Benches" Recycling Project

STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions Club added 6 new photos — [👉 feeling excited with MD4 A1 Lions Clubs and 3 others.](#)  
May 23 at 9:17 AM · 🌐

🌱 exciting news, bench dedications are in the pipeline! The District 4-A1 Lions Clubs Helen Keller Challenge 2.0 bench will be dedicated June 28 (along with our Helen Keller Mural) and it is sounding like our "Bags for Benches, Round 8" bench will be placed at Oak Park Senior Center in August. The excess plastic in this round (passed the 1000 pound goal) is going toward a bench for Lodi selected with Leo input. Stay tuned and thank you always for your continued support! 🌱... See more

### STOCKTON SAN JOAQUIN LIONS CLUB'S "BAGS FOR BENCHES" PROJECT

Save these clean, dry items for us and drop them off at one of our public donation sites during Round 8: 05/01/2024 - 06/30/2025.



~ Jennifer Gass, Vision Chair [jengass73@gmail.com](mailto:jengass73@gmail.com)



## YOUTH CAMPS & EXCHANGE (YCE) SUMMER PROGRAM 2025

<https://sites.google.com/view/md4lions-yce>

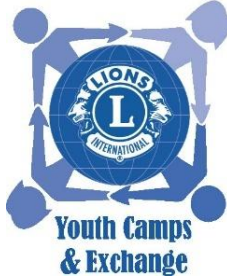
MD4 & DISTRICT 4-A1 YOUTH EXCHANGE's Chair is PDG Doug Campbell.

We have students coming to California on August 1st. They will attend the youth camp from August 1-7. Then they will go to their host families from August 7-22. We're always looking for host families so we can accept more students.

Application Link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BY5SeF2Q2Pc8OVMAAdImazu2EOy0RO0yh/view>

Here is a list of Lions Youth Exchange Students traveling abroad this summer. All of them are sponsored by Madera Evening Lions.



<u>Alpha Leos</u>	<u>Traveling to</u>	<u>From</u>
Giselle G A	Japan	Madera South High
Rodrigo R	Germany	Matilda Torres High
Leonel R-V	Japan	Matilda Torres High

<u>Omega Leos</u>	<u>Traveling to</u>	<u>From</u>
Nelley Guzman-Dominguez	Japan	Fresno City College
Jasmin Fonseca-Garcia	Japan	Fresno State
Elizabeth Gonzales-Cortes	Japan	UC Irvine

## STUDENT SPEAKERS CONTESTS

[md4lions.org/studentspeakers](https://md4lions.org/studentspeakers)



Photo from completion of District 4-A1's Student Speakers Contest at our Convention 2025.

State's Final Contest was May 31st @ the Council of Governors Meeting. Click on the above link to suggest a topic for the 2025-2026 Student Speakers Contest. *See an update in the Clubs' Section under "Merced Breakfast Lions."*



## CALIFORNIA LIONS CAMP



California Lions Camp recently awarded two grants. A \$5,000 grant was given to Mind in Motion, a new sensory gym located in Sonora. Founder, Jamie Tholcke, will open her gym in June, offering experiences for neuro-diverse children. The grant enabled her to buy equipment and offer scholarships.



Pictured are Laura McCullough, Jamie Tholcke, and Debbi Hopman

The second grant, of \$13,200 was awarded to Camp Taylor to help build a ropes course. As Kimberlie explained, children with heart conditions have been told so many times, "You can't do this, you can't do that." With protective equipment, guidance, and support, this high-level ropes course will challenge children physically and mentally while promoting teamwork, communication, and problem-solving.



Pictured are Taylor Gamino, Debbi Hopman, PDG Steve Granlees, Laura McCullough, PDG Dave McCullough, Bob Abraham, and Kimberlie Gamino - ~ Debbi Hopman

## CALIFORNIA LIONS FOUNDATION HUNGER OR ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS

[californialionsfoundation.org/hunger-or-environmental](http://californialionsfoundation.org/hunger-or-environmental)



### California Lions Foundation ENVIRONMENTAL GRANT or HUNGER GRANT

Make A Difference in Your Community  
Apply for A CLF Hunger or Environmental Grant

- March 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025
- Maximum aggregate grant is \$2,000 per Lions District in MD4
- Maximum grant per Lions Club is \$500



[www.californialionsfoundation.org](http://www.californialionsfoundation.org)

## !!! WAY TO GO !!!



**Glasses: 25,000** As your Chairperson for glasses recycling, I wish to thank the many clubs who have contributed 25,000 pairs of glasses that have been taken to Vallejo so far this year. These will be cleaned, scanned for prescriptions, boxed, and either sent to existing Lions in Sight facilities around the world for distribution, or used in temporary clinics in many third-world countries. Your contributions are being put to good use. Actually, we do not know exactly how many were donated - because there were many boxes/bags of glasses with no names or amounts on them. If you are coming to a District Meeting, or if I'm picking them up, please remember to put at least your club's name on each container and (if you have time) the number of glasses within. Thank you.

**Pull-Tabs: 295** Nearly 200 pounds of pull-tabs were picked up at the District Meeting. These, along with another 100 pounds, were taken to the Ronald McDonald House in Sacramento - for a total donation of more than 295 pounds, or more than \$1,000 (because of matching recycler funds). Chowchilla Lions were a big contributor, with more than 50 pounds donated.

## !!!WAY TO GO!!!

Remember to record your donations in the Lion Portal.

If you would like me to pick up your glasses and/or pull-tabs - no matter where, please call Paul Wagner at 510-910-3755 - and it will happen.

## DISTRICT 4-A1 TRAINING & OPPORTUNITIES

[June 14, 2025 CLUB/LEO Officer Training – Register Early - FLIER](#)

The District Global Action Team is here to help. We don't tell you what to do. We provide information and brainstorm with you. You make the decision(s) as to what is best for your club. We can come to you. **Clubs may request training** for their Club, Zone, or Region. Contact Global Leadership Coordinator Claudia Miller at [ckay613cayucos@gmail.com](mailto:ckay613cayucos@gmail.com) 209-596-1219.

Zoom links are on [District Google Calendar](#).

**Member Orientation** (Zoom) **2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month** 6-7PM, except for November & December and June & July. [for new Lions and ALL Lions]

**Town Hall Meetings** (Zoom) **3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month** 6-7PM. Focus is on assisting officers and Lions with Lion Portal challenges, general questions, finding resources, and training on areas identified by district members. Ask questions and resolve challenges. Short trainings will also be provided throughout the year.

**Rebuild Club Meetings** (Zoom) **4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month** 6:45PM. Any Lion or Club is welcome to join the meeting. Focus is to assist Clubs that want to increase membership and grow service and assist clubs in identifying [S.M.A.R.T. goals](#) to increase membership and strategies to make that happen. We share successes and flops, learn from each other, and work together to address challenges.

## WIN A 1-WEEK STAY AT THE COAST



As a reminder, clubs that report service in all eight initiative areas by the end of the Lion year (**6/30/25**) will be entered to win a ONE WEEK STAY at the coast in the Cayucos vacation home of PCC Claudia Miller. If you need assistance with entering service into the Lion Portal, you may contact myself, Beth Estante [bestante@gmail.com](mailto:bestante@gmail.com), Lion Claudia Miller, or Lion Maggie Stickler. ~ Beth Estante, 4-A1 GST



## NEW 4-A1 INITIATIVE



## MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

(Focus is during **October 4-12**)

Here are three links with more information:

[LINK](#) – [LINK](#) – [LINK](#)

**California LIONS CLUBS**  
2025/2026  
**New Service Weeks Initiative**  
*Inspired by IP-Elect A.P. Singh*

**Mental Health & Well-Being**  
October 4-12, 2025

**Hunger**  
January 3-11, 2026

**Environment**  
April 18-26, 2026

- ✓ Hey California Lions! Save the dates and start planning your service projects now as we join service with clubs and districts worldwide
- ✓ Club partnering/district-wide projects encouraged
- ✓ Plan event outreach early to maximize community visibility, engage volunteers, share out and inspire
- ✓ Visit [Service Resources](#) for event ideas at [marketing.calionsclubs.org](#)

California Lions Global Service Team Coordinator- Lion PCC Craig Durand  
LionCraig4L4@gmail.com (714) 936-5778  
Service 1st California Leads the Way! [CaliforniaLions.org/MD4Lions.org](#)

When reporting your club's service project on the Lion Portal, indicate the appropriate [Lions International Global Cause](#). Clubs are recognized regardless of when they do the service activities. The activities are not listed in any order. Clubs get to choose when they do the service activities. Please report your service activities in the Lion Portal. Contact Maggie Stickler or Claudia Miller if you have reporting challenges. ~ The Global Action Team

- An estimated 700,000 people die by suicide every year** (World Health Organization).
- On average, 2% of health budgets go to mental health** (World Health Organization).
- People who are exposed to adverse circumstances – including poverty, violence, disability and inequality – are at higher risk of developing a mental health condition** (World Health Organization).
- Depression is the leading cause of disability globally, affecting an estimated more than 300 million people worldwide – the majority of them women, young people and the elderly** (United Nations).
- For depression, the gaps in service coverage are wide across all countries: in high-income countries, an estimated 23% of cases receive minimally adequate treatment for depression and in low- and lower-middle income countries this is estimated at 3% of cases** (World Health Organization).
- More than 80% of all people with mental disorders live in low- and middle-income countries, where the vicious cycle between mental health and poverty is particularly prevalent because of a lack of welfare safety nets and poor accessibility to effective treatment** (World Health Organization).

## Service Ideas

- Promote education, awareness and advocacy resources and tools from reputable organizations such as the World Health Organization and World Federation for Mental Health.
- Explore the World Health Organization's mental health and well-being stigma reduction resources and promote them using social media to highlight the importance of lessening mental health stigma and debunking common misconceptions.
- Contact local, state/province and federal government representatives to advocate for increased mental health funding and expanded services. Use our [Lions Advocacy Toolkit](#) to get started.
- Explore ways to increase access to vital mental health screening services in your community among underserved groups by contacting and utilizing mental health professionals, psychologists and psychiatric physicians in your networks. Connect with local stakeholders such as schools, hospitals and community leaders to collaborate on shared goals.
- Find your region or country's suicide prevention hotline using the [International Association for Suicide Prevention's international suicide crisis hotline](#) search feature and promote the hotline at awareness events and on social media.
- Use resources, facts and statistics from the World Health Organization and World Federation for Mental Health to create a World Mental Health Day social media campaign with your club, district or multiple district. Share your impact on social media with photos, videos and other assets using the hashtag #WorldMentalHealthDay.
- Donate food, toiletries or maintenance services to a local transitional living home serving disabled individuals and/or those living with various mental health conditions in your community.
- Host a walk or event in partnership with a local mental health organization to raise mental health and well-being awareness utilizing the World Health Organization's mental well-being resources and [depression infographics](#).
- Encourage well-being and development of life skills among youth by creating a local social and membership group in your community. Get started by [watching this video](#) about Camp Conquer, a community-based youth wellness group created by Lions in Delaware, USA.
- Provide assistance to mental health agencies and treatment centers by hosting fundraisers, providing publicity on social media and collecting needed supplies.
- Use resources from the International Association for Suicide Prevention to highlight [World Suicide Prevention Day](#) in your community.
- Support [Lions Quest](#) social-emotional learning and well-being curriculum for youth in your community. Consider providing promotional support and curriculum delivery for [Lions Quest](#) by applying for a [Lions Quest Promotional Grant](#) or [Lions Quest Community Partnership Grant](#).
- Volunteer at your local center for elderly care to assist with enrichment and well-being events.

## lionsclubs.org/mental-health

## DID YOU KNOW?





Stockton Host Lions Club was one of the first clubs formed in California and is the **oldest club remaining in service** - WOW! By 1920, there were nine Lions Clubs in the "First District." The additions were: Sacramento, San Francisco, San Jose, Fresno, and Pasadena, and OUR OWN DISTRICT'S CLUB, *Stockton Host (formed August 19, 1920)*!!! Website: [stocktonhostlions.org](http://stocktonhostlions.org)

### Lions 4-A1 Marketing Team is Proud to Announce LIONS NEWSLETTER MONTHLY COMMUNITY PARTNER EDITION

The goal of the newsletter is to attract and nurture community partners that will ultimately have a collaborative working relationship with your club. These "community partners" can be businesses, non-profits, local government, schools, and even individuals. The unifying factor is these "partners" have a shared mission to one of the eight Lions' Global Causes, district projects, or clubs' signature activities. By experiencing who Lions are and what we do firsthand, the evolution between "partners" and new club members should develop organically.

Don't let Lionism be the best kept secret! If you don't feel comfortable bragging about yourself, send us an email, and **we will** brag on you!! Deadline is the same as our regular newsletter – the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

We will officially launch on July 1, with the beginning of the new term; but we will have a preview edition (for feedback) available in the next week or so. That advance edition will be going out to all presidents, secretaries and marketing chairs for comment.

#### Be a part of this exciting new venture

- 1) Please add Diana Ringer ([dianaringer@icloud.com](mailto:dianaringer@icloud.com)) to your distribution lists so she can get copied on all newsletters / community event fliers. The newsletter will have **Upcoming Events (next 30 days) | Save the Date (2-6 months)** sections for advertising upcoming public events.
- 2) Send personal stories about how our district projects/ Lions International causes have impacted you or the people you served. Testimonials, quotes, proud moments (1-2 paragraphs) are welcomed. Don't forget to add relevant web-ready photos as well.
- 3) Have something you would like to contribute, even if you missed the deadline? No worries! We are developing a dedicated website with expanded editions of the newsletters which will showcase additional content. Send your blog post / photos to [Diana Ringer](mailto:Diana Ringer), the site's webmaster, and she'll take it from there.

- 4) If you have the names and email addresses of community partners that we can send the newsletter to directly, please send those to [Gail Cates](mailto:Gail Cates). Please include the contact's first name, last name, business/non-profit name, email address, and your club's name. (We will be sending them a separate email, confirming if they want to get it.)

### MARKETING TEAM IS HERE FOR YOU!



Our Marketing Information Table at Convention is shown here with 4-A1 Marketing Chair Gail, Lion Pam Lee (Hawaii), and Sonora's Marketing Chair Irene.



Check out our webpage: [Lions4-A1.Org/Whats-Happening/Members-Page/Publicity-Ideas/](http://Lions4-A1.Org/Whats-Happening/Members-Page/Publicity-Ideas/)

(or go to LIONS4-A1.ORG & search for "Marketing")

Your Marketing Team can help you learn how to do:

- Press Releases & Public Service Announcements (PSA)
- Social media – have a digital presence (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, etc.)
- Brochures/pamphlets/fliers/posters/leaflets on what your club does
- Club Newsletters – information for public/members
- Brand guidelines & proper use of Lions logo



## DOES YOUR CLUB SEND OUT A NEWSLETTER (BULLETIN)?



Please add us to your emailing list – [gfc1ion@gmail.com](mailto:gfc1ion@gmail.com) and [dianaringer@icloud.com](mailto:dianaringer@icloud.com). Then we can glean info from there for THIS newsletter and the new community partner edition (as explained in an article in this newsletter). And just a suggestion, put your newsletter on your club's website (hopefully with identifying information removed). See how it's done on this webpage: <https://upcountry88lions.org/newsletters/>

## CELEBRATE COMMUNITY – Lions International



<https://www.facebook.com/events/1405044227342720/>

Celebrate Community, an annual joint initiative from the service organizations Kiwanis International, Lions International, Optimist International, and Rotary International, will take place the week of September 14-20, 2025. We encourage clubs and youth programs around the world to work together on projects during then. Share photos in the event page discussion and on your social channels with the hashtag #CelebrateCommunity. Together, we can do more good! To get started, find a club in your area:

[Kiwanis International](#)

[Optimist International](#)

[Rotary International](#)

## From May's LI DISTRICT DIGEST

### Be Inspired by Our Kindness Matters Service Award

**Winners:** Check out this year's winning clubs that were selected for performing an outstanding service project in one of our global causes. Be sure to encourage clubs to finish the year strong by reporting their service and

submitting nominations for the upcoming cycle, which will be live July 1, 2025. [READ MORE](#)

## CALIFORNIA LIONS TOASTMASTERS!



**WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE**

**CLUB MOTTO**  
Keep Being Epic!

**OUR VISION**  
California Lions Leading the Way Through Communication, Leadership and Learning

**OUR MISSION**  
To provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

**WE MEET ON**  
**1ST & 3RD TUESDAY**  
**@ 7PM PT ON ZOOM**

**ABOUT US**  
California Lions Toastmasters chartered on January 28, 2021. A club that builds confidence and teaches public speaking skills online in a supportive community. Members prepare and deliver speeches, respond to impromptu questions, and give and receive constructive feedback. It is through this regular practice that members are empowered to meet personal and professional communication goals.

**VISIT US**  
Do you want to improve your public speaking and leadership skills? Join us as a guest at one of our meetings.

**Visit for the First Time?**  
Visit our club is the exciting first step to building a better you, contact the club to plan your visit.  
[Visitor Request Form](#)

We allow guests to attend for free and there's no pressure to participate until you are ready and comfortable.

**Find us on Facebook**

<https://www.toastmasters.org/Find-a-Club/07852292-california-lions-toastmasters-club>

## Message from DISTRICT GOVERNOR ERIC CHEUNG



Thank you to everybody who helped with the **District Convention** and everybody who attended. Congratulations to the new Lions and awardees. Also, congratulations to **Modesto 500 and Atwater-Winton Lions Clubs** for having their 75-Year-Anniversary Celebration Dinners.

Congratulations to City of Merced Mayor **Matthew Serrato** for receiving the Lions Club International Melvin Jones Fellowship.

I thought after convention, life would be calmer. I visited the **Los Banos Lions**, who inducted seven new members this year. Their incoming President will also be a zone chair next year. And I inducted four new members (total of 10 new members this year) for the **Sierra Lions Club**. **DGE Matt, 2VDGE BBQ Rob, and CS Maggie** have helped that club throughout the year.

I had the chance to attend the **District 4-C6 Convention**. District Governor Stan Weitzman has a strong team, and he and his district will be either the top one or two of districts donating to LCIF in our Multiple District Four this year. They held a tail twister breakfast as a fundraiser where Lions bought poker chips and gave them to their favorite team of tail twisters. "The object is to generate excitement as you run through the audience with lively music and outrageous costumes, gaining as many 'tips' (poker chips) as possible from your fellow Lions." And they had "speed learning" session for talking about different district projects or foundations.

When I visited clubs this year, each club's projects made me proud. When I went to **Madera Omega Leo Club's** meeting, I was shocked when they talked about project after project, including a run on stadium stairs and run from the top of 10-story building to the end. Our Leos are doing amazing things!

I am looking forward to chartering the two, **new Leo-Lions Clubs**. Please be patient with me while I learn how to attract younger Lions to our clubs.

Most, if not all, of our Lions are hard workers. Please allow me to acknowledge PDG (Past District Governor) **Norman Clark from Dos Palos**. He has served as Club Treasurer for many years and had board positions on different Lions' foundations. He chaired their car show last year. When I visited Dos Palos's club, he came in with a bag on each hand and served ice cream during dinner. He did things quietly, and so quickly, that I couldn't find a way to offer to help him out.

Relay for Life happened in **Los Banos and Modesto** (Greater Stanislaus). Thanks for all those who attended, participated, and helped out. I wish I could have divided myself so I could go there (in addition to my work and my niece's graduation from UC Merced).

In June, I will be helping at **Mokelumne Hill Health Fair**. If you can come or help them out, please contact Mokelumne Hill Lions Club.

There are two **All Star Football Games**. Let's support the young athletes. The **Helen Keller events** at the end of the month in Stockton are detailed in the Vision article in this newsletter.

Thank you for all your hard work this year. Like International President Fabricio Oliveira mentioned, Lions doesn't end just because of a new year. My role might end, but let's keep serving and bringing more people to Lionism.

~ Lion Eric Cheung  **MISSION 1.5**

Lions International 4-A1 District Governor

## ADDENDUM - a Retrospective of 2024-2025, Accomplishments, and Proud Moments

This might be the last article published as your District Governor. Thank you to all the Lions for their contributions. Let's congratulate District Governor Elect Matthew Stickler, First Vice District Governor Elect Stephan Moore, and Second Vice District Governor Elect BBQ Rob Hyatt. It is my honor to grow, be trained, stretch, and repeat what Lions do with all our Lions Club members. We have a young group of District Leaders this year. There are still lots to work on for the remaining month. Two Leo Lions Clubs will be chartered this month. Sadly, Merced Golden Lions Club and Arnold Lions Club will disband before the end of the year.

One of my proudest moments was when the Cubs (13 years old and under) stepped up - and not in just one district project (Joy Bag Project), but also a Multiple District Project (Stuffed Animal for Southern California Fire victims). Cubs GR and Kinsey have been to more Council of Governors meetings and California State Lions Conventions than most of our Lions. Originally, I thought they wanted to start a project to have their project "talk" with other Lions. They hit the ball out of the park with their second project.

International Third Vice President Dr Manoj Shah and his wife Lion Jayna participated in it. It was a great photo op! Our District has written grant requests to Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF). One was a Disaster Preparedness Grant, and the other was a District/Club Community Impact Grant for the Joy Bag project. Imagine if the power, phone towers, and phone lines were down (no internet). Then the impacted club would communicate their needs, and District 4-A1 would bring the Disaster Trailer with its generator and Starlink internet. The grant also provides emergency supplies for clubs that might be high up in the mountains where the roads could be blocked by conditions due to fire, rain, or snow. Plus, LCIF has other grant processes to provide further support.

The Leo Clubs are doing amazing projects.

Thank you to the Leo Advisors and to the Leo Panelist (LCI position) PDG Gabrielle McKechnie. Several Leos, a District Governor, and his girlfriend represented California Lions and attended the Lions Day at the United Nations. I went to an Omega Leo Club meeting, and they talked about project after project. They are proud to work with Lions and Alpha Leos and Cubs as well.

At the same time, most of our members want to give their free time to give back to our communities. By having the Lions Club, our team effort can do more. By listening to our new members, we can have more projects to benefit our communities and attract more members.

What are you waiting for? Talk with a Lion today and share the joy of giving back.

~ Lion Eric



## UPCOMING EVENTS SECTION (in date-order)

### WOMEN IN LIONS – June 8

#### WOMEN IN LIONS "Empower the Voice Within"

Register now- for the next *Women in Lions* virtual session and meet Lion Jenny Athena Wong! Jenny's story of courage and strength will inspire us to empower the voice within. She will share how we can amplify the quiet voice within our heart, that calls us to serve. Join us to empower yourself and to empower the agency of others!

Special Guest:  
Lion Jenny Athena Wong

Lion Jenny is a distinguished Author, Speaker, Mother and Lion Leader.

She shares her own journey; a girl through motherhood and her mission to empower women who will in turn, elevate all!

[MothersLead.com](https://www.MothersLead.com)

Amazon

REGISTER TODAY  
CLICK OR SCAN



[www.womeninlions.com](https://www.womeninlions.com)

Empowering women through mentoring and networking for leadership growth and success!

VIRTUAL EVENT  
SUNDAY JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>

2-3:15 PM HAWAII  
5-6:15 PM PACIFIC  
6-7:15 PM MOUNTAIN  
7-8:15 PM CENTRAL  
8-9:15 PM EASTERN



## MERCED COUNTY ALL STAR FOOTBALL GAME - June 14

### 2025 Merced County ALL STAR FOOTBALL SOUTH Team

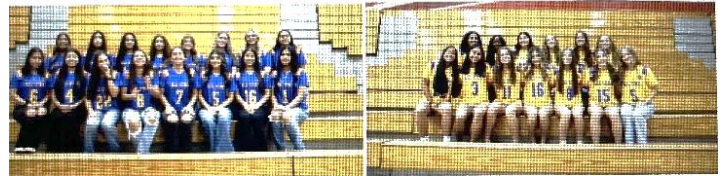
Devynn Aremnta	Madera	Alejandro Molina	Chowchilla
Issaiah Beas	Madera	Razi Molina	Torres
Rashaun Belaski	Chowchilla	Julian Mora	Merced
Colton Cash	Summerville	Adarias Morales-Saetern	Merced
Kaden Downey	Stone Ridge	David Moreno	El Capitan
Jordan Dupree	Merced	Miguel Moreno	Le Grand
Quintell Dupree	Merced	Isac Munoz	Mariposa
Juan Franklin	El Capitan	Adrian Pacheco	Madera South
Juan Garcia	Madera South	Bryce Rathmel	Summerville
Emanuel Garibay	Sonora	Earl Riley	Dos Palos
Mikey Gentis	Sonora	Aaron Rivera	Chowchilla
Dominic Gonzalez	Golden Valley	Fabian Sanchez	Merced
Dwayne Hemphill	Chowchilla	Travis Selby	Chowchilla
Juju Higareda	Merced	Lincoln Solus	Sonora
JQ Jones	Dos Palos	Davian Stephenson	Chowchilla
Benito Lara	Golden Valley	Amani Sua	Torres
Jatavvius Lewis	Merced	Kenji Tiscareno	Madera
Carson Lund	Stone Ridge	Vinnie Tome	Stone Ridge
Josue Madrigales	Madera	Diego Ulteras	El Capitan
Simone McFarland	Madera South	Karl Wall	Mariposa

Head Coach - Rob Scheidt (MERCED)

## Merced County All-Star Saturdays!!



Merced County All-Star Baseball Game  
Saturday, June 7 @ Merced Junior College, 7:15 pm



Merced County All-Star Girls Flag Football Game  
Saturday, June 14 @ Golden Valley High School, 5:30 pm



Merced County All-Star Football Game  
Saturday, June 14 @ Golden Valley High School, 7:30 pm

**Come out and support many of Merced County's finest  
High School Athletes!!!**

~ Louie Souza, Merced Breakfast Lions Club

### FLAG DAY – June 14

<https://lions4-a1.org/district-projects/projects-youth/flag-day/>

Great Service  
Project Idea:

Contact your local elementary school and offer to do a simple presentation about the USA flag.

Not sure what to do or say? Keep it simple. In this packet you will find information and suggestions. Or contact the Lion in your Club who has done this in the past. Take pictures! Post your service! ~ PCC Claudia Miller  
[Click [HERE](#) to download the 7-page .PDF file that has LOADS of information on hosting a Flag Day event.]





## LIONS ALL-STAR FOOTBALL GAME - June 21

<https://www.lionsallstarfootball.com/>

It's almost here!

The 2025 Lions All-Star Football Game at Tracy High School Wayne Schneider Stadium is on June 21, 2025. Gates open at 5 pm - come to our great concession stand! 6 pm is pre-game time. And 7 pm is game time. Cash and credit card payments are accepted. Tickets available on Gofan. They will also be available at the ticket booth at the game by using cash only. General Admission=\$15.00. Children 6 & under are free.

T-shirts and lanyards with rosters will also be for sale. Follow us on Instagram and X (Twitter) @LIONSFB4A1. Player sponsorships are \$125 per player. Placing ads are still available at \$50 per credit-card-size and up in our digital program. Email Elizabeth at [allstargame4a1@yahoo.com](mailto:allstargame4a1@yahoo.com) for further information. This is a commuter game. South practices with Head Coach Plaa are at Downey High School in Modesto from 5-7 pm on Monday through Thursday and Friday from 10:30-12:30 pm.

North practices with Head Coach Franks at St. Mary's High School in Stockton are on Monday through Friday 4-6 pm. Thank you to the Lions Clubs who are cooking after each practice.

As always, thank you for your continued support. See you at the game! [NEW FLIER](#)

~ Elizabeth Olson

Article: <https://www.mantecabulletin.com/sports/high-school-sports/six-local-seniors-selected-for-lions-all-star-game/>

## 107<sup>th</sup> LIONS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION – July 13-17

[lionscon.lionsclubs.org](https://lionscon.lionsclubs.org) [FLIER](#)

**REGISTER**

We're excited to hear from **Michael Phelps** in an inspiring conversation on mental health and well-being, moderated by **Diane Macedo** on July 16 at #LionsCon25 in Orlando! <https://lionscon.lionsclubs.org/news-resources/news-blog/second-plenary-keynote-presentation/>



Orlando, Florida welcomes Lions and Leos from around the world for sun, fun, service at the 107th Lions International Convention. Famous for its theme parks, exciting attractions, and vacation vibes, the Orlando Area is a top global destination and an exciting site for our biggest event of the year. Come be part of it all in a city that's pure magic! Here are links with more info:

<https://www.mcievents.com/lci2025/>

<https://www.promoplace.com/lcicon/shop-now.htm>

<https://district4c4.wufoo.com/forms/zj1giqm191zgna/>

Orlando, Florida welcomes Lions and Leos from around the world for sun, fun, service and the 107th Lions International Convention. Lions International Convention is the premier event of the year. You'll hear Lion leaders and global thought leaders, Learn from fellow Leos and Lions, Reconnect with old friends and make new ones, and celebrate our service in one of the most incredible city on earth. Whether you're new to Lions or have been a Lion for years, you'll leave renewed, inspired and with a vision for the future of service.

Below you will find the QR code links for registration, the official Red parade shirt and MD4 Breakfast/Caucus LIONS INTERNATIONAL

Breakfast at Orlando \$40  
RED convention shirt \$56 (+\$4.00 per size after XL)  
California pin for 2025 Orlando \$2.50 ea.  
The breakfast/caucus is at the Rosen Plaza July 14th Monday, 6:45am, and then the Parade that morning.  
All the International Convention Hotels are listed on their website.

QR codes for registration and breakfast are provided.



**MD4A1 INSTALLATION – JULY 26**


**You're Invited!**

Please join us for the  
District 4-A1 Installation of Officers

**Saturday, July 26**  
6:00 PM

Location: Memaw's Country Thingz  
25791 Tamarisk Dr. Madera CA 93638  
Cost: \$25 per person  
Food Provided by Taco Man

We are honored to have Lion Mark Piva as our Installing Officer for the evening.

**Theme: Disney's Cars**

Feel free to dress in your favorite Cars-inspired attire or bring your best Radiator Springs spirit!

Let's celebrate our new and outgoing officers and enjoy a fun-filled evening together.


**You're Invited!**Join us for the **MD4A1 Installation****July 26<sup>th</sup>****Madera**

Be part of this special event as we come together to celebrate and connect!

✨ Space is limited—don't miss out!

📱 **Scan the QR code on the flier to RSVP today** (Or go to this [LINK](#))

We can't wait to see you there!

We have a request that if you have members who can attend, please send in a raffle prize.

Thank you!

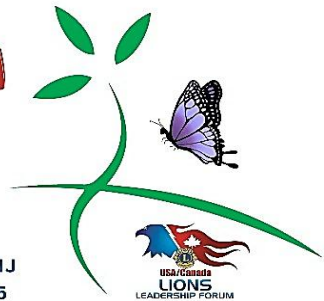
~ Maggie Vaiarello Stickler

**USA/CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUM****September 18-20**

**LEARN  
GROW  
LEAD**

ATLANTIC CITY, NJ  
SEPT. 18-20, 2025

<https://lionsforum.org/>



**ALPHA & OMEGA  
LEO NEWS SECTION**

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/discover-our-clubs/about-leos>

**IDEA FOR DISTRICT 4-A1 LEOS' NEWSLETTER**

I have an idea! How about we do a separate newsletter – just for LEOS? Email me your thoughts. ~ [Lion Gail](#)

**TOKAY HIGH SCHOOL LEO CLUB**

[@Leotokayhighschoolclub](#)



Leo of the Year nomination and plaque winner: President Meredith Garcia! 🐾 We're honored to have Stockton San Joaquin Lion Club's support and thrilled for Nathalie Carbajal on her scholarship! Plus, President Meredith Garcia received a scholarship from Stockton Delta Pacifica

Lions Club. Here's to our amazing Leos! Wishing you continued success!

### @stocktonsanjoaquinlions

💖👏 so proud of all our Leos have accomplished and wishing you a wonderful summer and much success as you follow your dreams! I know you will go far. Thank you for your dedication and service to our youth Leo Advisor @a\_hernandez1983 and thank you for your support this year @stocktondeltapacificallionsclub, @lodilionsclub, Linden Lions Club and @4a1lions! Best of luck @helpcharteranewlionsclub!



The school year for Leos is wrapping up, and a new cycle is about to begin. Big thanks to all Leo members who made the Safari Leo trip unforgettable.



Make an impact! Our Service Project collects pull tabs to provide meals for families with cancer patients at the Ronald McDonald House 🏠



We're still buzzing from the Multicultural Fair! 🦁 A huge shoutout to Mrs. Cortez, Sandra Medina, and Silvana for being absolute rockstars. Thanks to their help, the event was a huge hit. If you took any epic photos, please share them with us - Mrs. Hernández was too busy making it all happen to snap any! (18 other photos are also on this Instagram post.)

Huge shout out to all the Lions clubs that have supported us during all our events, especially the upcoming Multicultural Fair project: San Joaquin Lions Club, 🦁 Linden Lions Club, 🦁 Stockton Delta Pacifica Lions Club 🦁 Lion Gabrielle, 🦁 District Governor Eric, San Joaquin Omega Leos Club, and the soon-to-be-chartered club, Stockton Healthy Leo-Lions Club. Special thanks to Lion Sandra and Silvana for your dedication and support.

~ Lion Hernández 🦁

### MADERA OMEGA LEOS





From April 25th to April 27th, fourteen members of the Omega Leo Club proudly attended the District Convention in Sonora.



On Friday evening, the Omegas hosted their own booth as part of the event's Disney-themed festivities. Our booth, titled Plaza de la Familia Omegas, provided a warm and engaging space for conversations with fellow Lions from across the district.



On Saturday night, our club was honored with two awards: Project of the Year for our Angel Tree Project, and recognition for our Dawson Dodgeball Tournament. These achievements reflect the hard work and dedication of our Omega Leos throughout the year.



Sunday morning, our committed members were up bright and early preparing and serving a pancake and sausage breakfast. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase not only our service to the community but also our culinary talents!



## SAN JOAQUIN OMEGA LEO CLUB

[@Sanjoaquinomegaleo](#)

From the Multicultural Fair!

See more posts in Tokay High School Alpha Club's section.

~ Lion Hernández 

## CLUB NEWS SECTION

Check out the clubs' fundraisers & events in the *Calendar* on page 1 of each NEWSLETTER and on our district's [Calendar](#), [Facebook](#), & [Instagram](#).

**CLUBS – Please send a quick notification to Newsletter Editor Gail each time you have social media posts to include in upcoming District's Newsletters!**

## TRACY TANK TOWN LIONS

"Tank Town Lions donate second bench to Valpico cemetery". Here's the [LINK](#) to the newspaper article. Tracy Tank Town Lions have been busy in April--helping at the All Star Football Banquet and at the District 4-A1 Convention.

Through our fundraising efforts, Tracy Tank Town Lions awarded five-\$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors. We received 16 applications! This year, we eliminated the grade point average in our selection rubric, wanting to emphasize community service.



**Chowchilla Fair BBQ:** In a continued spirit of service, members of the Madera Evening Lions and the Madera Omega Leos volunteered at the Chowchilla Fair BBQ. Omega Natalia and Omega Jasmine played an active role in serving lunch and connecting with the Chowchilla Lions. Their support was genuinely appreciated, and the event further strengthened our bond within the Lions community.



~ Arly Murillo





President Carol Metivier presented a scholarship to Gavin S. from Kimball High.



Left photo: Lion Marie Patterson presented a scholarship to Delanie M. from Delta Charter. Right photo: President Carol Metivier presented a scholarship to Wenlun L. from West High School.



Left photo: President Carol Metivier presented a scholarship to Reijah J. from West High School. Right photo: President Carol Metivier presented a scholarship to Tanya S. from West High School.



President Carol Metivier with hubby Jerry, Director Marie Patterson with hubby Lion Roy, and Secretary Debbi Hopman with Joe Vallery attended the District 4-A1 Convention at Black Oak Casino.



We participated in the Food Faire, collecting \$33 for our Krispy Mickey Mouse treats. We added additional money, allowing us to donate \$100 to the California Eye Foundation.



Left photo: Debbi, Carol, and Marie are ready for the food faire. Right photo: Marie, Debbi, and Carol



Joe, Debbi, Jerry and Carol enjoying breakfast.





Tracy Tank Town Lions' President Carol was showing our Food Faire participation patch!

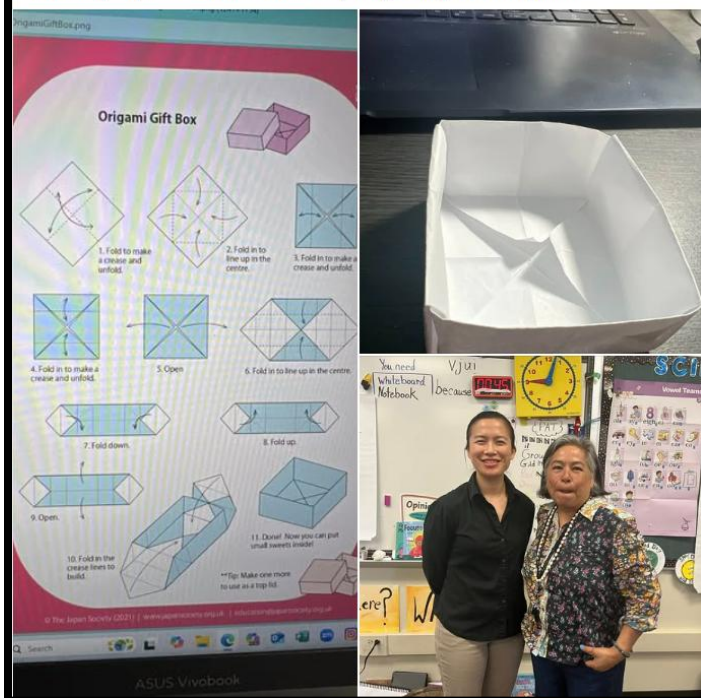
~ Debbi Hopman

## LATHROP LIONS (from Beth Estante's Facebook entry)

Beth A Estante  
April 22 · 🌐

Happy Earth Day!

Lathrop Lions got to celebrate Earth Day with **Lathrop Elementary School** today. We got to share about Monarch Butterflies being an endangered pollinator. We made origami planter boxes and each child got a packet of milkweed seeds and potting soil to plant in their planter.



Lion Brian attended convention. He's shown here with a Lion (DG Eric) as the band was setting up.



**District Convention Summary** - Lions Brian and Gail attended the recent District 4-A1 Convention near Tuolumne City. Lion President Gail received the International President's Certificate of Appreciation in Recognition of Distinguished Achievements Fulfilling the Mission of Lions Clubs International. This was awarded for her District work. Our club had also received the MD4 Medium Club Project of the Year Award for our help at the Pine Grove Elementary School Fall Festival at MD4's Convention.



## UPCOUNTRY 88 LIONS

**August 23, 2025 - Bowling Tournament -**

[goldcountrylanes.com](http://goldcountrylanes.com) 81 Ridge Rd, Sutter Creek CA. Get a 4-person team together, or we'll put you on one.

Sponsorships are available. Arrive by 9am in time to get shoes, balls, etc! Bowling fun for the whole family. Mini-golf, laser tag, bounce house, arcade, VR laser maze, and billiards are also available. Pizza provided. Bar available. Prizes. Raffles. Check online for updates.

[Upcountry88Lions.org/bowling-tournament](http://Upcountry88Lions.org/bowling-tournament) -  
[Facebook.com/upcountry88lions](https://Facebook.com/upcountry88lions) -  
[Instagram.com/upcountry88lions](https://Instagram.com/upcountry88lions) - [FLIER](#)





Our Tasteful Meet and Greets on March 19, April 16, and May 18 were a blast. Lion Marie made and discussed healthful salads, salad dressings, appetizers, and desserts. She handed out recipes. We had a registered dietitian, Suzy Mazrolle, from Sutter Amador Hospital speak about diabetes. Members were encouraged to attend and greet any of the public that participated. Gail and Marie were on the radio several times to help advertise the events. Thank you to District 4-A1 for helping with the expenses!



We celebrated our 75th Anniversary as a club! The night included a fabulous dinner, wonderful community support, outstanding silent and live auctions, and superlative fellowship. Thank you to all of club members who worked to make this event an absolute success!

## ATWATER-WINTON LIONS



## MOKE HILL LIONS

Moke Hill Lions will be having their 1st Health Fair on **June 7th** from 9AM-5PM at the Moke Hill Elementary School. We are very excited about this and hope, if successful, it will become an annual event to support the



health of our local community. If you would like to volunteer to help with this event or would like additional information, you can contact Lion David LeGrande at 301-503-9165 or [davidelegrande1@gmail.com](mailto:davidelegrande1@gmail.com) – [NEW FLIER](#)  
~ Cindy Pederson

### TRACY BREAKFAST LIONS

We've done two pancake breakfast servings in two weeks for the local high schools; plus, we had our installation dinner. We will have a BBQ set up at the annual Tracy Boys and Girls Club's golf tournament at the Ruby Hills Country Club on **June 16th**. Attending will be many active and retired 49er football players. This is the 30<sup>th</sup> year of the event and it's always sold out.

~ Roy Hawkins, Marketing Chair

<https://www.kcra.com/article/retired-49ers-linebacker-wife-serving-tracy-youth/64923475> and on [Instagram](#)

### RIPON LIONS

The Ripon Lions winded down the year with one final gathering of all the volunteers and members who served at our annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser in February on May 23rd. President Mark McLaughlin is finishing his 2nd term as President in June, while Brian Shearon will be taking on the President's position in July. Overall attendance at meetings increased this fiscal year as we look forward to more interesting meetings in the next fiscal year. Our new Marketing Director (Director Kelly Donahue, CEO of the Ripon Chamber of Commerce) has dramatically increased our social media presence this year. ~ Damon Woods, Secretary, Ripon Lions 2020-2031

### BASS LAKE LIONS



On Saturday, May 17, 2025, the Bass Lake Lions hosted the 33rd Annual Antique & Classic Wooden Boat Show at Miller's Landing from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. The Bass Lake

Lions served coffee and donuts to boat owners from northern and southern California in the early morning and passed out tri-folds to visiting tourists from nearby and as far away as Costa Rica! A raffle was conducted by the Bass Lake Lions during this event and proceeds went toward college scholarships or other charitable endeavors. 23 beautiful and well-kept wooden boats were on display; while over a dozen classic cars were displayed near the pier. The cars were recognized during the daytime. Trophies were awarded for several categories later that evening for the boats. Not only did Miller's Landing host this event for the third consecutive year, but they also added a live band to keep everyone entertained with music from the 1960s through the 1990s. What a great time it was for everyone!



On Monday, May 5, 2025, fourteen senior high students at Yosemite High School were awarded college scholarships for either \$500 or \$1,000 from the Bass Lake Lions. The awards were presented by Bass Lake Lions Jennie and Diane.

### CHOWCHILLA LIONESS LIONS

The Chowchilla Lions Lioness Club will have a Fireworks Booth starting **July 1st and going through July 4th**. We will be located at the Save Mart Shopping Center at 1225 E Robertson Blvd. ~ Sylvia Gutierrez

### ESCALON LIONS

We heard from Sally Hale - Great Valley Writing Project. This is a project was geared to help students learn about writing and its importance as a life skill. At the same time, the project also provides training for teachers who teach



writing. And, not surprisingly, The Great Valley Writing Project can always use volunteers. Here's their Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/GreatValleyWritingProject/> As a side note, the Board voted to donate \$500 toward the project.

**McHenry Trash Pick Up** - We did our periodic trash pick-up that coincided with Love Escalon on April 26. We started around 9:00 am and finished around 11:00 am. Following the pick-up, Dick and Karyn Dawson provided a GREAT lunch for us. Thank You, Karyn and Dick!! And we send out a special "Thank You" (in no particular order) to Jeremy Engle, Richard Miller, Jeff Miller, Tom Machado, and Tyson Texeira. Plus, a REALLY SPECIAL "Thank You" to Heather Texeira. And, McHenry Avenue looks really CLEAN!!

**Scholarships** - The scholarship committee met Wednesday, April 16 at Lion Gary Haskin's home to select the recipients for this year's Escalon Lions Club scholarships. The awards ceremony was held in the "New" gym at Escalon High School, May 21 at 6:00 pm.

**Autumn Cruise (Again)** - The Autumn Cruise is coming up. It may appear to be a long way off, but there is a "boatload" of things to be done. To start with, the annual envelope "stuffing party" was held at the Grange Hall, Thursday, April 24. Second, and REALLY IMPORTANT, we will need raffle prizes for the Cruise. Donate a prize (or prizes), and/or have a friend, co-worker, customer, etc. provide a prize (or prizes). You can purchase a trophy (and select a recipient at the show) for \$60. We'll have more in subsequent bulletins. [CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT FLIER](#)

**Upcoming Summer Events** - The Escalon Lions Club usually does not meet in June, July, or August - with the exceptions listed here: President's Dinner, Park Fete ([LINK](#)), and Escalon Lions Summer Picnic. However, there are other exceptions on occasion.

### TURLOCK LIONS

Turlock High School installed some new flag poles that we donated to. They had us out on Monday for an unveiling. If you couldn't make it, maybe drive by one of these days and take a look. **Parking Schedule For the Fruit Yard - June 7, 13, 28. August 23. September 6, 27.** All club members are needed. Plan on volunteering as much as possible, or at least three events. Please let King Lion Ryan know which events you will be volunteering.

### MERCED BREAKFAST LIONS

The Merced Breakfast Lions Club Installation Dinner and Ceremony will be on **June 12th** at the Italo American Lodge at 6pm. Dinner will be pork lion, roast potatoes,

green beans, bread, salad, plus a dessert of limoncello cake and chocolate Kahlua cake with ice cream. Cost is \$30 per person. Matthew Strickler, the new district governor, will conduct the MBLC officer installation ceremony. This is always one of the highlights of our year. We hope to see you there. RSVP to this [email](#).

~ Michael Belluomini



Lions and Leos shared a cloudy day of fun at Saturday's **Leo Appreciation Day** at Lake Yosemite. The Leo turnout was low, but those who came out enjoyed a bounty of friendship, food, and games. Some event highlights: Lions Celeste and Tim's incredible mocktail bar expertly served up with the help of Lions Wesley and Hugo; Lou Souza's "Left Right Center" dice game, Leos showing their teamwork and determination in solving the "Human Knot" game; and Lions Kevin and Lou's excellent officiating of a few "Tug of War" battles. Thank you to Lions Ray, Edgar, Anne-Marie, Michael [Bandoni](#), Michael Belluomini, Nancy, Chai, and Allen for also joining in on the fun. - Reporting by Gary Eno



Lou and Kent enjoy some time by the fire pit at this month's **Cooking for the Homeless** event. - Reporting by Ray [Wenham](#)



**Abby Samuelson**, El Capitan High School Senior and long-time friend of the Merced Breakfast Lions Club was the Winner at the **District 4-A1 speech contest**, held in conjunction with the annual District Convention at Black Oak Casino. Supporters in the audience were Steve Teranishi, Ken Harrison, and Bill Halpin.

She competed against three other entries, one each from Los Banos, Ripon, and the Stockton San Joaquin Lions Club. Two of the candidates were second-year contestants.

Abby's next stop will be May 10th, 2025 for the Area Competition which is composed of District 4-C1 (from north of Sacramento, through Chico, and up to the Oregon border, and Region 4-C5 which includes Sacramento, Yolo, Placer, El Dorado, Nevada and Sierra Counties).

The competition will take place at the Roseville Sunrise Lions Club House, 1200 Gabrielli Dr. Roseville, CA. Doors open at 12:30 PM. - Reporting by Ken Harrison



We have collected 200 pair of glasses from our collection "mailbox," doctors' offices, and donations. We also collected hearing aids and cell phones. We are renovating the eye glass collection "mailboxes." They will be wrapped. One will be placed at Save Mart and one at Raley's. Edgar would like people to comment on his mock-up of mailboxes and provide suggestions. (See photos). The El Capitan Football Team will be staffing the fireworks booth with us this year. Lions are also welcomed to take a shift.

**The Results from the Lions Club Area Student Speakers Contest – May 10th, Roseville, CA** - reporting by Ken Harrison. Many of you will remember Abby Samuelson's initial presentation at our club in early February 2025. She was our club winner and went on to win the Zone, the Region, and the District Competition at Black Oak Casino during our District's convention. At that point, her winnings totaled \$4,825. Next stop was the Area Competition, competing against two other winners for the opportunity to win a \$6,500 Scholarship grant. The Lions Club Speech Area Contest was held at the Roseville Sunrise Lions Club house in Roseville, CA. Each District had an applicant competing in the Area Competition. One was from Marysville, CA, representing District 4-C1, one from Elk Grove, CA, representing District 4-C5, and one from Merced, CA, representing District 4- A1. All the speakers had a very good grasp of the subject matter, "Artificial Intelligence: friend or foe". While Abby did not win the Area Competition, in my opinion, her presentation skills were slightly above the winner's, while the contest winner presented a more detailed or in-depth presentation about the value of Artificial Intelligence. The winners' next stop will be in the San Diego area, vying for a \$10,000 scholarship grant.

## LINDEN LIONS



May 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting - The 2025 Cherry Festival Queen was introduced. Abigail Samuels was presented with a scholarship for \$500.00 by President Dr. Richard Boden. Abigail talked about her experiences in winning the Queen contest. She had an interview, a 5-minute prepared speech, and an impromptu question. She must have done well because she won. Past President David Frison introduced 2025 San Joaquin County Teacher of the Year: Lion Brian Neugebauer. Neugebauer is an exceptional high school science teacher with 20 years of experience who teaches biotechnology and chemistry to students in 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade at Linden High School (Linden Unified School District). Neugebauer knows his students well. He makes science accessible and meaningful. Congratulations for a job well



done! May 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting was Past Presidents Night—each one in attendance was given an opportunity to share their memories/accomplishments at the podium.

P.P. David Frison 1996/97, P.P. Steve Moore 1998/99

P.P. Jay Colombini 2001/02, P.P. Dennis Gogna 2005/06

P.P. Bobby Arrigone, Jr. 2011/12, P.P. Dan Leone 2014/15



PDG Doug Campbell had the honor of presenting Membership Key pins to Lions who have sponsored two new members: Lion Johnny Sousa, Lion Nelson Lares (not present) and P.P. Reggie Katzakian.

I.P.P. David Stagnaro was presented with a Membership Advancement Key for five new members and P.P. Bobby Arrigone Jr. was presented with a Builder Key for 10 new members.





Dr. Kass was invited to speak about sleep apnea and new developments in the treatment of sleep apnea. He discussed new headwear, masks, and electronic implants. Also, he talked about sleep apnea-induced headaches. His presentation was extensive. If you are interested in additional information, please contact Club President Dr. Richard Boden.



### MODESTO 500 LIONS

**Fireworks Booth!** It's that time again! Modesto 500 will once again hold our annual fireworks booth, **July 1-4**. We will only be open for four days and the first two days will be reduced day schedules. Please contact [PP Robin](#) to schedule a block of time (or two!). This is our first

fundraiser of the year and many hands make light work! Here is their [FLIER](#).



**Club Meeting April 23** - Speaker Bonnie Rae with the Alzheimer's Association lead a great discussion on understanding Alzheimer's and how it differs from dementia. Many questions were asked (but I can't remember what they were!). Don't forget, we will have a Modesto 500 team at the local Alzheimer Walk Saturday, **September 16**. We welcome you to join PP Robin and walk with her in honor of someone you may know or have lost to this terrible disease. Here's the link for the [team](#).



We had a great turnout for the meeting!



PP Robin thought she'd get away from the group photo by taking the picture, but PP Jerry had other ideas (drat!!)



**Modesto Red Shield Kidz Day!** Salvation Army's Red Shield Kidz Day was Tuesday, May 13. PP Clayton and PP Gabrielle, along with their clients from VCDI/TCDI, sold special editions of a Morris

Newspaper publication. This project benefits at-risk youth. - [LINK](#).





**Love Modesto** - Employees of Camp Taylor, a camp for children with heart disease and their families, put together the 4th & 5th TREX benches, donated by the Modesto 500! They have placed both in their vegetable and flower garden, including our plaque, so people can rest and enjoy the fruits of the students' labor!



PID Howard Hudson was our honored guest, along with his wife Lynn, delivered a heartfelt presentation.



President Dennis Miner lead the evening welcoming guests and club members and moved the agenda along.



In addition to the Hudson's, PDG Claudia and incoming District 4-A1 President Matt Stickler and Cabinet Secretary Maggie Stickler joined us for the evening.



Past Modesto 500 members PP Jim and Pat Syvertsen drove all the way to Modesto from Arizona, bringing their scrapbook, to join the party!



Remember him? PP Mike Tozzi joined the festivities and shared some of his club memories.



Past Modesto 500 member, PP Wayne Hill played taps to honor those members we have lost.



We had a great attendance and the DoubleTree staff did a great job taking care of us!



In addition to the raffle prizes, there were so many scrapbooks with Modesto 500 history!



Some of the raffle prizes donated by cub members.

**Modesto 500 75th Anniversary!** What a great success and a delightful evening! PP Carol and Lion Lori put together a beautiful event! Past International Director Howard Hudson and his wife Lynn joined us for the evening; and Lion Howard extolled the virtues of Lions and the Modesto 500 Lions Club. Many Modesto 500 past presidents shared their scrapbooks so everyone could get a glimpse of Modesto 500's history. It was also great to see former members and members not seen in a while enjoying the evening. Thanks to PP Jerry Cooper, who

took photos of the guests who received a memento of their evening! Thank you also to those who contributed items to the free raffle opportunity. Let's bring in some new members so the club will be around to celebrate their 100th!

## SONORA LIONS



**May 10** – Here's our Mother's Day Parade Float, courtesy of Jerri & Bud Regelin. Left to right are Bud Regelin, John Nolen, Joe Skaff, Phil Baylis, Don Rolle, Fuzzy Lion, Jerri Regelin, Jill Schwab, and Irene Wetzel.

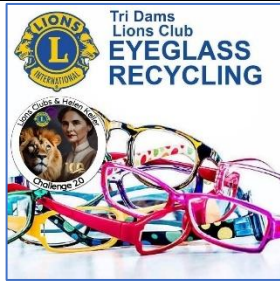
During the month of April, we awarded six \$1000.00 **scholarships** to deserving Columbia College students. \$6,000.00! Not bad for a small club. By the way, Lion President-Elect Joe Skaff headed up this event. According to what's been reported, during April nine Lions donated a total of 147 hours to worthwhile **community projects**. Many hours by Nick and "Cat" Reuter doing their part to control populations of wayward cats.



Our own Glenn Gottschall received a well-deserved award for his years of chairing Club and District Student Speakers Contests. Presenting his award were District Governor Eric Cheung (right), and 2nd Vice District Governor Steve Moore (left).



## TRI DAMS LIONS FACEBOOK PAGE



The Tri Dams Lions Club has placed eyeglasses collection boxes at nine locations in Valley Springs, San Andreas, and Mountain Ranch. Prescription eyeglasses and any sunglasses are gratefully accepted.

**Valley Springs:** Golden Bear Physical Therapy, La Contenta Golf Club, Mail Depot, Sender's Ace Hardware, and Sierra Eye Care

**San Andreas:** Calaveras Senior Center, Golden San Andreas Care Center, and Treats Grocery Store

**Mountain Ranch:** Sender's Ace Hardware & Grocery Store

Big Thank You to our local businesses for helping us with this great program! Thank you, Lions Karen Stephenson and Stacey Lea Morrill, for making it happen!

In 1925 Helen Keller asked Lions International to become Knights of the Blind. We celebrate the 100th Anniversary of this challenge with renewed commitment to the cause of sight. #HelenKeller100 #WeServe

## PATTERSON LIONS FACEBOOK PAGE



Patterson CA Lions Club is at Grayson Elementary School.

May 23 at 4:13 PM · Westley, CA · 🌐

For lunch today, 4 Lions drove out to Grayson Elementary to grill up some hotdogs for all of the students to have a special treat. Congratulations to all the students and staff on another great school year!

#WeServe #pattersoncalions



Patterson CA Lions Club

May 19 at 5:39 PM · 🌐

On Saturday evening, 4 Patterson Lions traveled to Modesto to serve tri tip and chicken dinners to volunteers at Relay for Life. We didn't count how many dinners were served, but they spent 3 hours giving food to everyone that bought a ticket. The money from each ticket sold went toward the money raised for Relay. Thanks Lions Bill, Chris, Scooter, and Jim!

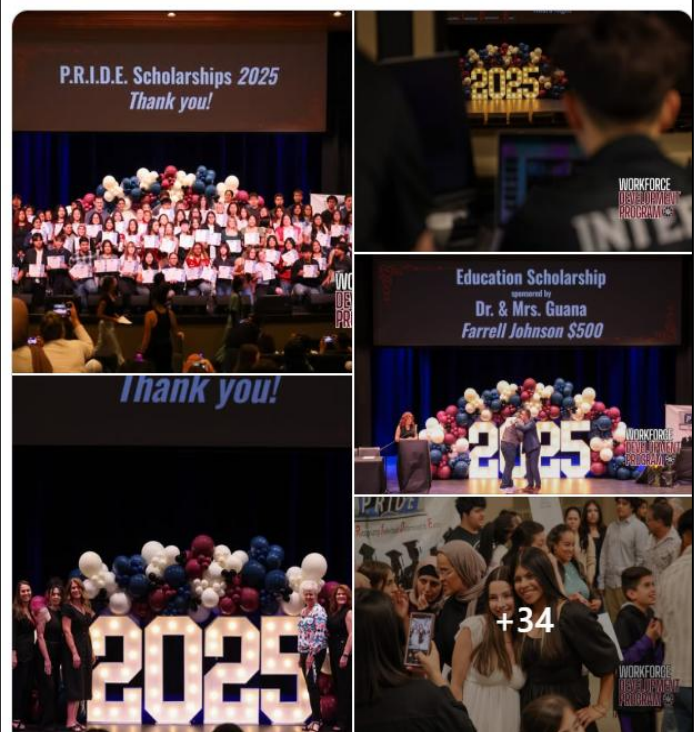
#pattersoncalions #WeServe



Patterson CA Lions Club

May 17 at 3:33 PM · 🌐

The Patterson Lions are proud to be one of the community partners that sponsored a scholarship again this year for our Patterson students. Congratulations to Andrew Soto who was the recipient for our \$500 scholarship this year.



Patterson Joint Unified School District

May 15 at 3:00 PM · 🌐

What a night! 🌟 The P.R.I.D.E. Patterson Recognizing Individuals Determined to Excel





Patterson CA Lions Club

May 17 at 3:27 PM · 🌐

We had a special presentation at our dinner meeting on Wednesday. District Governor Eric Cheung presented our very own Lion Jim Cox with the MD4 Excellence Award for everything Lion Jim has done for our Club and our District over his Lion career. Please congratulate Lion Jim for this award and everything he has done for Lions!  
#pattersoncalions



Patterson CA Lions Club is at Northmead Elementary.

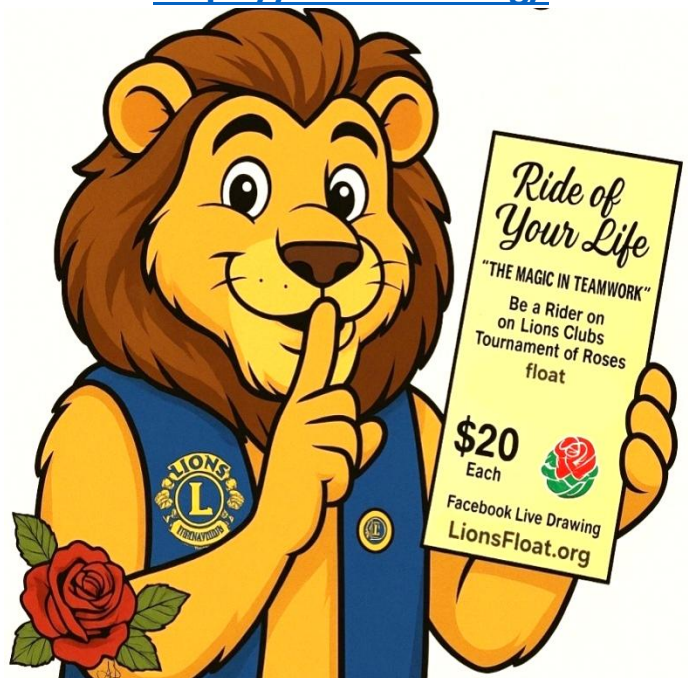
May 9 at 5:14 PM · Patterson, CA · 🌐

We're out at Northmead elementary cooking hot dogs for their carnival!



**RIDE OF YOUR LIFE - January 1, 2026**

<https://lionsfloat.org/>



Get your tickets from DG Eric Cheung, DGE Matt Stickler, 1VDGE Steve Moore, and 2VDGE Rob Hyatt!

**2026 Rose Parade theme is  
"The Magic in Teamwork!"**



Patterson CA Lions Club

May 13 at 5:30 PM · 🌐

Pictures from the PJUSD interns of the Northmead carnival last Friday, including some pictures of the Lions cooking crew for the evening



Patterson Joint Unified School District

May 13 at 12:00 PM · 🌐

Our Media & Production Interns had a great time capturing last Friday's Northmead School Spring Carnival 🌈🌈 Thank you to Northmead for welcoming our interns to o... See more



*To contact these Lions, call  
District 4-A1's message  
number at 209-418-7782 or  
ask your Zone Chair for the  
District Directory (PDF or  
hardcopy)*

## DISTRICT 4-A1 CABINET DIRECTORY 2023-2024

### District Governor

Eric Cheung

### Immediate Past District Governor

Claudia Miller

### 1st Vice District Governor

Matt Stickler

### 2nd Vice District Governor

Steve Moore

### Cabinet Secretary / Bulletin Contest Chair

Maggie Stickler

### Cabinet Co-Treasurer I - Billing

Gabby McKechnie

### Cabinet Co-Treasurer II - Receivables

Patricia Casey-Gillum

### District Administrator

Claudia Miller, GAT Chair

### Budget Team Chair

Kent Christensen

### Disaster Response

Todd Riebe to get CLF Emergency  
Grant

DG Eric for LCIF Emergency Grant

### Leo Advisor – Vacant

### Marketing & Internet Technology Chairs, Web Administrator, Newsletter Editor

Gail Cates

### Youth Protection Officer

Todd Riebe

## GLOBAL ACTION TEAM (GAT)

*\*Team= Chair, GLT, GMT & GST*

### GAT District Chairperson (District Governor)

Eric Cheung

### Global Leadership Coordinator (GLT)

Claudia Miller, GAT Chair

### Global Membership Coordinator (GMT)

Phil Williams

### Global Extension Coordinator (GET)

Gabby McKechnie

### Global Service Coordinator I (GST)

Beth Estante

### Global Service Coordinator II (GST)

Angela Barth

### Family and Women Development Specialist

Samantha Pierce Hyatt

## MOUNTAIN REGION

Region Chair - OPEN

### Mountain Zone 1 Chair

Vacant - Claudia Miller filling in

[JACKSON](#) (2263)

[MOKELUMNE HILL](#) (39671)

[SUTTER CREEK](#) (111484)

[UPCOUNTRY 88](#) (37207)

[WEST POINT](#) (2307)

### Mountain Zone 2 Chair

Vacant - Claudia Miller filling in

[ARNOLD](#) (40408)

[COPPEROPOLIS LAKE TULLOCH](#)

(47759)

[MURPHYS-ANGELS](#) (2282)

[SONORA](#) (2292)

[TRI DAMS](#) (2303)

## SAN JOAQUIN REGION

Region Chair - OPEN

### San Joaquin Zone 1 Chair

Kirk Noffsinger

[CLEMENTS-LOCKEFORD](#) (2252)

[ESCALON](#) (2258)

[LODI MEX-AM](#) (46183)

[RIPON](#) (2288)

[LINDEN](#) (2266)

[TRACY BREAKFAST](#) (2302)

### San Joaquin Zone 2 Chair

Rodrigo Acosta Jr

[LATHROP](#) (105237)

[LODI](#) (2268)

[STOCKTON DELTA PACIFICA](#)

(47862)

[STOCKTON SAN JOAQUIN](#) (2298)

[STOCKTON HOST](#) (2294)

[TRACY TANK TOWN](#) (67535)

## STANISLAUS REGION

Region Chair - OPEN

### Stanislaus Zone 1 Chair

Shawn Monnin

[CERES](#) (2250)

[CROWS LANDING](#) (2253)

[GUSTINE](#) (2259)

[LOS BANOS](#) (2270)

[MODESTO 500](#) (2279)

[PATTERSON](#) (2286)

### Stanislaus Zone 2 Chair

Shawn Monnin

[DENAIR](#) (2255)

[HILMAR-IRWIN-STEVINSON](#) (2260)

[HUGHSON](#) (135129)

[OAKDALE](#) (2285)

[TURLOCK](#) (2304)

[WATERFORD](#) (2306)

## YOSEMITE REGION

Region Chair - OPEN

### Yosemite Zone 1 Chair

Amanda Baptista

[CHOWCHILLA](#) (2251)

[CHOWCHILLA LIONESS LIONS](#)

(98271)

[MADERA EVENING](#) (61592)

[MERCED GOLDEN](#) (2277)

### Yosemite Zone 2 Chair

Jill Loving

[ATWATER-WINTON](#) (2248)

[LE GRAND](#) (2265)

[LIVINGSTON](#) (2267)

[MERCED BREAKFAST](#) (2276)

MERCED COUNTY LE (143071)

### Yosemite Zone 3 Chair – Vacant

[BASS LAKE](#) (2249) (Eric Cheung)

[DOS PALOS](#) (2256) (Matt Stickler)

[MARIPOSA](#) (2274) (Matt Stickler)

[NORTH FORK](#) (2284) (Matt Stickler)

[SIERRA](#) (2291) (Matt Stickler)



**District 4-A1****ENDORSED PROJECTS**

Click on BLUE LINK for their website.  
Other Cabinet Members are listed in  
your District Directory.

[ALL-STAR FOOTBALL](#)

Elizabeth Gibbs Olson

[BAGS FOR BENCHES](#)

Bags4Benches@gmail.com

Jennifer Gass

[CITY OF HOPE](#)

Shawn Monnin

[FLAG DAY – DOWNLOAD PDF](#)

Carrie Guadagnolo

[LIONS IN SIGHT OF CA & NV](#)

Paul Wagner

*Contact him for used glasses' pick-up.*

[LIONS PROJECT CANINE](#)[COMPANIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE](#)

PDG Don Allen

[MD4 & DISTRICT 4-A1](#)[YOUTH EXCHANGE](#)

PDG Doug Campbell

[MEDICALERT](#)

PCC Claudia Miller

[PEACE POSTER/ESSAY CONTESTS](#)

Jeff Hammar

[PULL TABS FOR RONALD McDONALD HOUSE](#)

Paul Wagner

*Contact him for pull tabs' pick-up*

[RELAY FOR LIFE](#)

Shawn Monnin

[STUDENT SPEAKERS CONTEST](#)

Angela Barth

[WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY](#)

Angela Barth and Beth Estante

**District 4-A1****ENDORSED FOUNDATIONS**[CALIFORNIA LIONS FOUNDATION](#)

Todd Riebe, Trustee

[EAR OF THE LION FOUNDATION of CA/NV](#)

Terry Brooks, Treasurer

hearfoundation@aol.com

800-327-8077

[LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION \(LCIF\)](#)

PDG Kent Christensen, Coordinator

LIONS DISTRICT 4-A1 DISASTER

RELIEF, Inc. FOUNDATION

PCC Claudia Miller 501c3 611864195

[LIONS EYE FOUNDATION of CA-NV](#)

PDG Russ Custer

[LIONS FLOAT INC](#)

DG Eric Cheung and PCC Claudia

Miller - Proxy: Eugenia Hernandez for

DG Eric (by default)

[LIONS SIGHT CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION -](#)[SPOT VISION SCREENING](#)

PDG Kent Christensen

[STUDENT SPEAKERS FOUNDATION - MD4](#)

PCC Claudia Miller

**Lions International  
[GLOBAL CAUSES](#)**[CHILDHOOD CANCER](#)

Liz Bockhop

[DIABETES](#)

Rob Hyatt

[DISASTER RELIEF](#)

Samantha Pierce Hyatt

[ENVIRONMENT](#)

Rod Smith

[HUMANITARIAN](#)

Rob Hyatt

[HUNGER](#)

Karen Moon

[VISION](#)

Jennifer Gass

[YOUTH](#)

Rob Hyatt

***Any corrections, let the District Editor and Cabinet Secretary know.***

**LIONS' CODE OF ETHICS**[LINK](#)

- **TO SHOW** my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.
- **TO SEEK** success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.
- **TO REMEMBER** that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.
- **WHENEVER** a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position of action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.
- **TO HOLD** friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.
- **ALWAYS** bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state and my community, and to give them my unswerving loyalty in word, act and deed. To give them freely of my time, labor and means.
- **TO AID** others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.
- **TO BE CAREFUL** with my criticism and liberal with my praise; to build up and not destroy.



## DISTRICT 4-A1 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



April 24 - 27, 2025  
District 4-A1 Convention 2025

Join us Lions for  
"All Things DISNEY"  
at Black Oak Resort & Casino  
~~~~~



We welcomed Council Chair **Kevin Guess** and **Lion Tamara**



and Immediate Past International Director **Robert Lee** and **Lion Pamela**. Other wonderful guests were **DG Stan Weitzman** (District 4-C6), **1VDG Cindy Zheny** (District 4-C4), **1VDG Angel Peil** (District 4-L2), and **2VDG Carl Steiner** (District 4-C2).

### Worldwide Induction Day (at Convention)



### Harry J Aslan Fellowships (9)

**Glenn Gottschall** (for helping with the Mountain Student Speakers Contests)

**Matthew H Stickler**, First Vice District Governor and **Maggie Stickler**, Cabinet Secretary (Madera Evening Lions Club)

**Steve Moore**, Second Vice District Governor (Linden Lions Club)

**Angela Barth**, Global Service Coordinator (Lathrop Lions Club)

**Beth Estante**, Global Service Coordinator (Lathrop Lions Club)

**Kirk Noffsinger**, Zone Chairperson (Linden Lions Club)

**Rodrigo Acosta Jr.**, Zone Chairperson (Linden Lions Club)

**Shawn Monnin**, Zone Chairperson (Patterson Lions Club)

**Amanda Baptista**, Zone Chairperson (Atwater-Winton Lions Club)

### International President's Certificates of Appreciation (4)



**Lion Eugenia Hernandez** (STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions Club). Not only is she a Leo advisor and a club officer, she helped the DG by attending some Lions Float Inc. online meetings when the DG was working. She is recruiting her runner friends and graduating Alphas and Omegas to form our district's first Leo-Lion club.

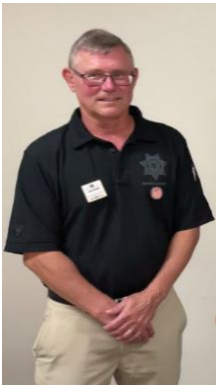




**Lion Gail Cates** (Upcountry 88 Lions Club). She wears multiple hats, including District Marketing Chairperson, District Newsletter Editor, District Webmaster (including monitoring of many clubs' website and social media sites), and President of Upcountry 88 Lions Club.



**Lion Claudia Miller** (Modesto 500 Lions Club). Besides being a PCC, DG twice, current IPDG, GLT, District Administrator, covering two zones outside of her region, plus two other zones to help out a new zone chair who is covering two zones, also the CBL chair, involved with Lions Float Inc (LCI and MD4 project), Convention Election Committee, helped out with ballots, and the Q&A person.



**Lion Todd Riebe** (Jackson Lions Club). Our district's California Lions Foundation coordinator. District Youth Protection Policy chair. He works behind the scene to decipher California laws and provide the backbone for MD4 Youth Protection Policy committee.

## International Presidential Award

**Lion Jennifer Gass** (STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions Club)  
(It is the second highest award in Lionism.)



## International Leadership Award

**Lion James Hagen** (Sierra Lions Club)  
(It is the third highest award in Lionism.)



## Membership Growth Awards (5)

**Membership Net Growth Award - Mountain Region**  
Upcountry 88 Lions Club

**Membership Net Growth Award - San Joaquin Region**  
STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions Club

**Membership Net Growth Award - Stanislaus Region**  
Los Banos Lions Club

**Membership Net Growth Award - Yosemite Region**  
Sierra Lions Club

**Membership Growth Award - (Overall Highest Percentage New Membership)**  
Lathrop Lions Club

## MD4 Excellence Awards (3)

**PDG Lion Norman Clark** (Dos Palos Lions Club)



**Lion BBQ Rob Hyatt** (Madera Evening Lions Club)





**Lion Jim Cox (Patterson Lions Club)****Dr. Howard Abrams Humanitarian Service Award****Lion Paul Wagner (Linden Lions Club)****Leo of the Year****Leo Jade Jimenez (Madera Omega Leo Club)**

In her capacity as Vice-President of the Madera Omega Leo Club, Jade has demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication. She facilitates monthly meetings, both virtually and in person, in the absence of the club president. Additionally, she represents the club at Lions meetings where she delivers comprehensive Leo activity reports. Jade maintains proactive communication with project and event chairpersons, ensuring effective coordination and execution. She also organizes initiatives designed to assist Alpha Leos in their transition to becoming Omega Leos, promoting continued community service. Under her stewardship,

the club has successfully implemented several impactful service projects, including Hygiene Closets (Omega Closets) - providing essential supplies to approximately 900 students across three middle schools, Coats for Kids - repurposing approximately 900 coats from lost-and-found collections across 15 elementary schools, and the Suitcases for Children and Youth in Transition - assisting children and students experiencing homelessness or residing in foster care. For three consecutive years, Jade has served as chairperson for the Omega Little League booth, which operates from March through June. This initiative constitutes the club's primary fundraising effort by supporting all other service projects. In the current year, Jade has undertaken the responsibility of chairperson for the 106th Annual MD4 Convention – Leo Symposium, where she coordinated the formation and preparation of five presentation teams, comprising two Omega Leos each. Her exemplary efforts were recognized through the conferral of a Resolution of Appreciation by the 2024–2025 Council of Governors. Jade has been instrumental in driving membership growth by recruiting individuals. She works in close collaboration with the membership chairperson to advance Melvin Jones' vision of meeting every community need through Lions and Leos. Her commitment is further evidenced by her active participation in esteemed Lions International events, including Lions Day with the United Nations (LDUN) 2023 in New York City, Rose Bowl Parade float decorating in Pasadena, Lions University Bachelor's Program in Reno, and the Leo Leadership Forum 2023 in Chicago. Beyond her contributions to the Lions organization, Jade is nearing the completion of her Bachelor of Science degree in Forensic Behavioral Science at California State University, Fresno. Throughout her academic journey, she has excelled in classroom, laboratory, and clinical settings across the Central San Joaquin Valley. On a personal level, Jade is a disciplined, kindhearted young adult with a pleasant demeanor. She demonstrates intelligence, diligence, and a great passion for mentoring younger Leos. Her reliability and resourcefulness have been instrumental in shaping the club's service strategies. Jade is an exceptional candidate for the 4-A1 Leo of the Year Award.

~ Jose C. Rodriguez, Omega Advisor, Madera Evening Lions

**Leo Project of the Year****Madera's Got Talent (Madera Leo Club)**

Madera's Got Talent (MGT) has been the primary fundraiser for the Madera Leo Club to buy shoes, socks and coats for children in



Madera. MGT started as an idea to raise money for the "New Shoes & Socks Project" and "New Coat Project." The Leo club has had nine Madera's Got Talent shows. This coming year will be the tenth Madera's Got Talent. What started as a fundraiser, has become a platform for talented youth in Madera to perform. We now have contestants that have been in every show, and look forward to the next show every year. A few of the contestants that have graduated from high school, then go on to college, and are now pursuing a degree in performing arts. Madera students can compete in MGT starting in kindergarten up through twelfth grade. Madera's Got Talent has not only provided a place for students to shine, it has also become a huge fundraiser for the Leo Club. Last year, MGT had three platinum sponsors of \$1000 and raised over \$4000. With the monies earned, the Leos were able to purchase 330 pairs of shoes and 1,650 pairs of socks which they personally shopped for and delivered. The students who receive the shoes and socks were identified by the school's administration. The Leos were able to give to 18 elementary schools in Madera. The Leos always look forward to every aspect of the New Shoes & Socks Project. They love shopping, sorting, and, of course, delivery day. Then they can personally assist a young child with removing old, worn-out shoes and socks, replacing them with a new pair of shoes, and giving them five pair of socks to take home. We now have Leos who are members of the Madera Leo Club, and who serve on the student Leo board, who have received shoes from a Leo when they were in elementary school.

## Project of the Year - Small Club

### Operation Santa (Merced Golden Lions Club)



In Operation Santa, he was escorted by Merced Police Department through neighborhoods with the three local Leos Clubs passing out approximately 3000 candy canes, 20 volunteers and reaching 2000 people. It was a three-day event. Volunteer Lions dressed up as Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus and sat on a sleigh that traveled through different parts of Merced. Santa's Little Helpers passed out candy canes. Lion drivers honked a Christmas melody to notify that Operation Santa was there. Kids came out, received candy canes, and got photos with the moving Santa.

## Project of the Year - Medium Club

### Lions Vision & Health Fair (STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions Club)



The STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions Club was thrilled to be able to hold a free Vision & Health Fair in tandem with Community Partnership for Families of San Joaquin's Multicultural Health & Resource Fair on October 5, 2024. We promoted the event heavily through sharing fliers to local farmworkers, shelters and other service organizations, recording a PSA, and posting on social media and community calendars. Our committee held several planning meetings with Dr. Eleanor Britter from Peninsula Special Interest Lions Clubs, Lions in Sight, optometrists, San Joaquin Delta College's nurses, and Health Careers Academy High School to get all the needed items and personnel in place. We recruited the 30+ volunteers needed for all the vision and medical services. Our club members, along with Lions partners from around the district, served on October 5 by helping perform diabetes testing, blood pressure checks, spot vision screenings, and eye doctor checks. Those in need were provided with refurbished eyeglasses and secured gift certificates to order glasses for those who could not use the glasses that were in stock. We screened 215 individuals and held two subsequent callback events to finish out the line when needed to be cut off. They took place on November 2 and 17, with two different Lion optometrists volunteering. We were able to order new glasses for 62 patients, and many went home with refurbished pairs on October 5. We sought partnerships and grant funding from two neighboring clubs, District 4-A1, and Multiple District Four to help us provide lunch for all the vendors and volunteers at both the Lions Vision & Health Fair and the Multicultural Health & Resource Fair, hoping to market membership opportunities among those service-minded students and people. We recruited a member while planning this project, and hope to keep building these relationships! Many glasses requests are coming our way because of this marketing campaign.

## Project of the Year – Large Club

### Madera's Alpha and Omega Clubs (Madera Evening Lions Club)





Project of the Year -  
Large Club  
(only 3 slides)



Project of the Year - Large Club  
continued



Project of the Year - Large Club  
continued



I am writing to nominate the Madera Omega Leo Club for the prestigious District 4-A1 Leo Project of the Year Award. This outstanding group of young leaders consistently exemplifies the spirit of service and commitment to community that lies at the heart of Lionism. Through their year-round efforts, they have made an exceptional impact on promoting diabetes awareness, fostering youth engagement, and encouraging physical activity. The Madera Omega Leo Club has demonstrated remarkable dedication to diabetes awareness through their participation in various events, including the Wheeler Basketball Game, the Strides for Diabetes 5K, and the organization of their very own walk/run group at the Lions Town & Country Park. Their proactive engagement in these activities not only educates the community about diabetes prevention and management, but also inspires healthier lifestyles for all participants. A centerpiece of the Madera Omega Leo Club's efforts is the annual Dawson Dodgeball Tournament, a signature project that has become a cherished event for middle schools in Madera. This year's tournament, held at MLK Middle School, saw an impressive turnout of over 400 attendees. Sixteen teams, representing 7th and 8th-grade coed groups from each middle school, competed

for the coveted championship trophy, which brings pride and bragging rights to the winning school. The success of the Dawson Dodgeball Tournament is a testament to the Omega Leos' organizational prowess. Partnering with the Madera Unified School District, they ensure all facility use is approved, proper insurance documentation is provided, and logistical operations run seamlessly. This event has garnered widespread admiration from the schools involved, as it fosters student motivation, improves behavior, promotes team cohesion, and, most importantly, keeps students active and engaged. The Madera Omega Leo Club embodies the values and mission of Lionism through their tireless dedication to community service, youth empowerment, and health advocacy. Their innovative projects and heartfelt commitment have made a lasting and positive impact on the lives of many. It is for these reasons that I wholeheartedly believe the Madera Omega Leo Club is a deserving candidate for the District 4-A1 Leo Project of the Year Award. As a side note, the Omega Leos also hosted a friendly dodgeball tournament the day prior to the main event, which included teams from the Madera Evening Lions Club, the Madera Alpha Leo Club, and the Madera Omega Leo Club. While all teams put forth a commendable effort, it was the Omega Leos who emerged victorious, demonstrating not only their athletic prowess, but also their camaraderie and competitive spirit. Thank you for considering this nomination. ~ Lion Jose C. Rodriguez, Omega Leo Advisor, Madera Evening Lions Club

## Project of the Year – Extra Large Club

### July 3rd Fireworks (Jackson Lions Club)



Why do we do it on July 3<sup>rd</sup>? 1) Cheaper to get professional fireworks then. 2) Serving Lions can be with their families on July 4<sup>th</sup>. This event has been done by Jackson Lions Club for over 50 years. Lion David Carlson has been the chair for over 40 years. It's located at Jackson Jr. High School. We keep people off the field for insurance purposes. There is a viewing area in the local park where kids can be safe and "turn them loose." The club sells safe and sane fireworks to offset the cost. More than 50 Lions help, starting weeks in advance. The event is from 5pm-10pm. Lion David is the public address announcer. There's a watermelon eating contest, water balloon toss, and 3-legged race. We partner with the Little League, which takes care of the food booth. From past years, Lions Club members from other clubs compliment how safe the area is. The local gaming tribe donates and helps with the costs.

<http://www.jacksonlionsclub.org/our-programs-events/3rd-of-july-fireworks-family-event>



## Club of the Year

### Hughson Lions Club



On behalf of the Hughson Lions Club, I am honored to share a reflection of our year, filled with dedication, service, and community impact. As we began this year last July, we set ambitious goals: to grow our membership by 15 members, retain our valued members, raise \$100,000 for our community, and continue our long-standing commitment to the people of Hughson. Our 2024-2025 journey has been marked by significant achievements that underscore our commitment to service. While we have raised approximately \$78,000 so far, we are proud of the continued success of several key fundraising initiatives. The Prime Rib Dinner was a standout event, raising over \$40,000—our most successful fundraiser to date. Additionally, our involvement in local concerts at the Fruit Yard Event Center contributed another \$28,000 to our fundraising efforts, despite the challenges posed by this year's entertainment lineup. In response to community needs, we're excited to host a second major event this April—a Crab Boil in partnership with the Hughson High School Basketball Team. Half of the proceeds from this event will benefit the team, further reinforcing our commitment to local youth. Moreover, we are planning a Car Show and BBQ during the Fruit and Nut Festival in Hughson, where we will not only raise funds for our club, but also contribute to the overall success of this community-wide event. Our Christmas season was especially memorable. The toy drive was a great success, with generous community support - and over 50 bikes donated. Our Lions were out in full force, serving tri-tip sandwiches at the event and watching the mountain of gifts grow throughout the day. A highlight of this event was the arrival of Santa, who flew in via a sheriff's helicopter, alongside Mrs. Claus. Following the toy drive, our members and their families worked together to wrap over 500 gifts in just three hours—an example of the tireless, heartwarming spirit that defines our club. The support we offered to families in need didn't end there. We partnered with the local Fire Department to deliver gifts to 28 children from underprivileged families. A few days later, we delivered to the Cold Weather Shelter and helped another approximately 75 children with gifts and food for their families. This partnership continues to serve families facing homelessness, offering resources and support to help them rebuild their lives. Our regular community events, such as the 6th Grade Camp fundraiser, the 8th Grade Graduation BBQ, and the CHP Benefit Dinner, continue to be staples in our community. These events not only raise significant funds, but also help foster

a sense of community and support for local causes. The success of our BBQs, including a \$12,000 fundraiser for 6th grade campers, speaks to our ongoing impact. We are proud to continue our longstanding tradition of supporting local seniors at Samaritan Village, where our members visit regularly to serve meals and connect with residents. Many of the veterans living there have fond memories of their time as Lions, and we cherish the opportunity to hear their stories and receive their tokens of appreciation. Additionally, our ongoing participation in local Pop Warner games demonstrates our club's presence and commitment to youth in our community. By providing meals at every home game, we ensure that our club is visible and engaged with families every week, further strengthening our ties with the community. In May, we will continue give \$21,000 in high school scholarships like we have done for over five years. One of the greatest sources of pride for our club is the energy, passion, and dedication of both our longstanding and newer members. While we may not always be the most organized club, we make up for it with an unmatched commitment to service. Our members— young and old alike—serve selflessly, embodying the true spirit of being a Hughson Lion. They are generous with their time, their hearts, and their efforts, and I am beyond proud of each one of them. As we reflect on the year's accomplishments, I am filled with immense gratitude for the incredible work done by our members. The Hughson Lions Club is truly a family, and together we strive to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who need it most. Thank you for considering the Hughson Lions Club for the Club of the Year award. We are incredibly honored to be part of such a remarkable community, and we look forward to continuing our service for many years to come. ~ President Mark Mott

## Couple of the Year

**PDG Doug and Lion Rosie Campbell (Oakdale Lions Club)**  
with their daughter Marissa





## Family of the Year

Matt & Maggie Stickler & Family



Stickler Family



## Lion of the Year

Past District Governor Gabrielle McKechnie

Lion of the Year



Photo courtesy PCC Logan McKechnie's Facebook page

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Sunday's Celebration of Life







Above photos submitted by Debbi Hopman

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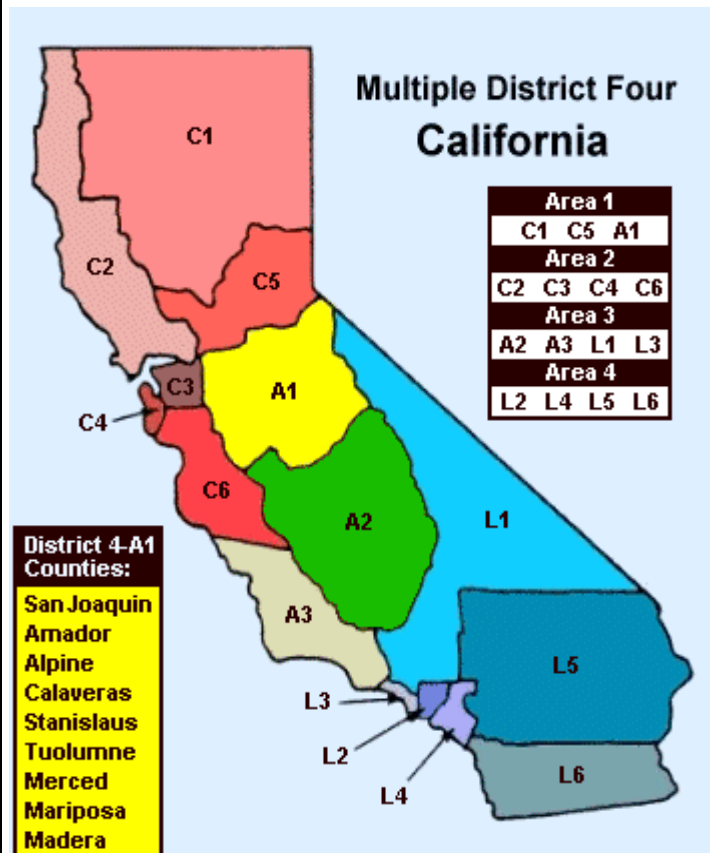
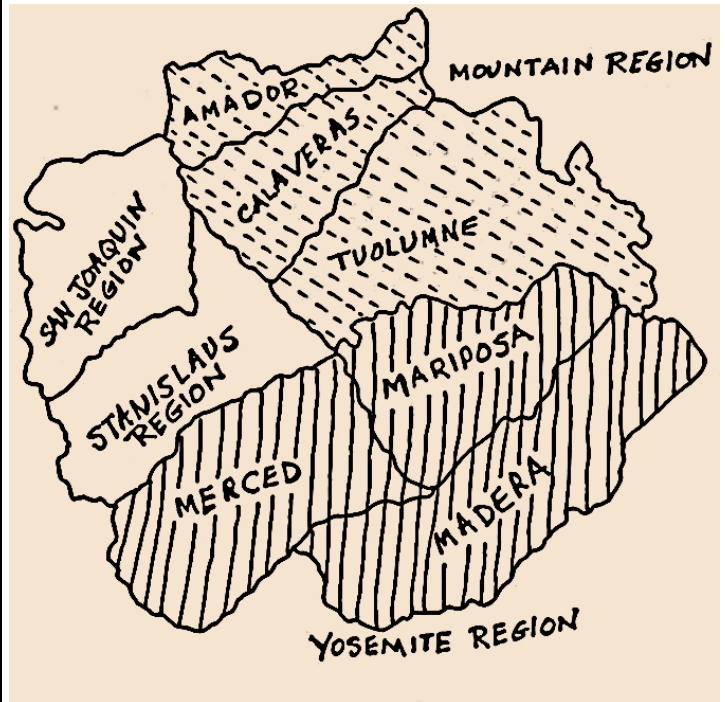


Find more photos from STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions' Facebook page in their album "MD4-A1 'All Things Disney' Convention 2024-2025"

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Editor's Note: It's possible some of you submitted photos to me...but they didn't go through. I've increased the storage of my email account. If your photos didn't appear in this month's newsletter, please re-send them for next month! ~ Gail





**DISTRICT 4-A1 AWARDS****2024-25 LION-YEAR**

<b>Lion of the Year</b>	In Recognition of Outstanding Service, Loyalty, and Devotion to Lionism	Past District Governor Gabrielle McKechnie	Atwater-Winton Lions Club
<b>Membership Growth Award - Mountain Region</b>	To Recognize the Top Club for Net Membership Growth	Upcountry 88 Lions Club	
<b>Membership Growth Award - San Joaquin Region</b>	To Recognize the Top Club for Net Membership Growth	STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions Club	
<b>Membership Growth Award - Stanislaus Region</b>	To Recognize the Top Club for Net Membership Growth	Los Banos Lions Club	
<b>Membership Growth Award - Yosemite Region</b>	To Recognize the Top Club for Net Membership Growth	Sierra Lions Club	
<b>Membership Growth Award</b>	To Recognize the Overall Highest Percentage New Membership	Lathrop Lions Club	
<b>Dr Howard Abrams Humanitarian Service Award</b>	To Recognize and Acknowledge a Lion for Participation and Assistance in Humanitarian Efforts	Lion Paul Wagner	Linden Lions Club
<b>Leo of the Year</b>	To Recognize the Outstanding Service and Accomplishments as a Leo - Leadership Experience Opportunity	Omega Leo Jade Jimenez	Madera Omega Leo Club
<b>Leo Project of the Year</b>	To Recognize the Outstanding Service and Accomplishments on Leadership Experience Opportunity (LEO)	Madera's Got Talent	Madera Leo Club
<b>Couple of the Year</b>	To Recognize the Exemplary Leadership for the District 4-A1	Lion Rosie and PDG Doug Campbell	Oakdale Lions Club
<b>Project of the Year - Small Club</b>	To Recognize a Club that Has Gone Above and Beyond in Their Service to Their Community	Operation Santa	Merced Golden Lions Club
<b>Project of the Year - Medium Club</b>	To Recognize a Club that Has Gone Above and Beyond in Their Service to Their Community	Lions Vision & Health Fair	STOCKTON San Joaquin
<b>Project of the Year - Large Club</b>	To Recognize a Club that Has Gone Above and Beyond in Their Service to Their Community	Alpha Leo Club and Omega Leo Club	Madera Evening Lions Club
<b>Project of the Year - Extra Large Club</b>	To Recognize a Club that Has Gone Above and Beyond in Their Service to Their Community	July 3rd Fireworks	Jackson Lions Club
<b>Club of the Year</b>	To Recognize a Club that Has Gone Above and Beyond in Their Service to Their Community	Hughson Lions Club	
<b>Family of the Year</b>	To Recognize the Exemplary Leadership for the District 4-A1	Stickler Family	Madera Evening Lions Club

**International President Certificate of Appreciation (4)**

Lion Eugenia Hernandez - STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions Club \* Lion Gail Cates - Upcountry 88 Lions Club \*  
 Lion Claudia Miller - Modesto 500 Lions Club \* Lion Todd Riebe - Jackson Lions Club

**International Presidential Award** - Lion Jennifer Gass - STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions Club

**International Leadership Award** - James Hagen, Sierra Lions Club

**MD4 Excellence Award (3)** Lion PDG Norman Clark \* Lion Jim Cox \* Lion BBQ Rob Hyatt

**Student Speakers Foundation Harry J Aslan Fellow** - Glenn Gottschall received it for above and beyond help with the Mountain Zone and Region Student Speakers Contest