



# LIONS DISTRICT 4-A1 NEWSLETTER

**DECEMBER 2025 ~ VOLUME 68 – Number 6**

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



🌐 WEBSITE: [lions4-a1.org](http://lions4-a1.org) ~ 📩 DISTRICT EMAIL: [4A1LIONS@gmail.com](mailto:4A1LIONS@gmail.com)

FACEBOOK: [4A1LionsClub](#) ~ YOUTUBE: [youtube.com/@lions4a1](https://youtube.com/@lions4a1) ~ INSTAGRAM: [4a1Lions](#)

🌐 DISTRICT NEWSLETTERS: [LINK](#) ~ EDITOR: Lion Gail Cates ~ 📩 NEWSLETTERS' EMAIL: [newsletter@lions4-a1.org](mailto:newsletter@lions4-a1.org)  
🌐 2025-26 DISTRICT DIRECTORY [LINK](#) (Ask Zone Chairs for password & PDF file) ~ HASHTAG #4A1Lions

## ~ CALENDAR of EVENTS ~

[DISTRICT 4-A1 ONLINE CALENDAR](#)

[MD4 GOOGLE CALENDAR](#)

[LIONS INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR](#)

**1st & 3rd Wednesdays:** Pickleball [Lessons](#) – Oakdale Lions - [FLIER](#)

**Present-June 30:** Round 9 Bags For Benches – Stockton San Joaquin Lions - [FLIER](#)

**December 2:** [4-A1](#) Cabinet/GAT Meeting – Zoom Link on [District's Calendar](#)

**December 3-5:** Pete Arellano Memorial Girls Basketball Tournament – Escalon Lions

**December 3-4:** Christmas To Remember – Moke Hill Lions, West Point Lions, Tri-Dam Lions - [FLIER](#)

**December 4:** [MD4](#) Master Class – District/Club Newsletter Training – Gail Cates hosting - [LINK](#)

**December 5:** Downtown Madera Christmas Light Parade – Madera Evening Lions - [FLIER](#)

**December 5:** [Lions International](#) Leo Day

**December 6:** Free Hot Chocolate at Christmas on Main 3-8pm – Escalon Lions - [LINK](#)

**December 6:** Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser – Sonora Lions - [FLIER](#)

**December 6:** Holiday Bazaar – See article in [October's Newsletter](#) - West Point Lions

**December 11:** Ripon Christmas Light Parade – Float entered – Ripon Lions

**December 11:** West High School Concessions – Tracy Tank Town Lions – See article in this newsletter

**December 12:** Burson Bingo Night – 2nd Fridays - Tri Dams Lions - [FLIER](#)

**December 13:** 27th Annual Crab Dinner – Tracy Breakfast Lions - [FLIER](#)

**December 13:** Wreaths Across America – see article in [November's Newsletter](#) – Linden Lions

**December 15:** Children's Christmas Shopping Tour – Oakdale Lions - [FLIER](#)

**December 19:** Red Shield Senior Luncheon – Modesto 500 Lions – see article in this newsletter

**December 29:** Lions Float International President Reception – Rosemead CA - see flyer in this newsletter

**January 1:** Lions Float in Pasadena Rose Parade - [LINK](#)

**January 9:** Burson Bingo Night – 2nd Fridays - Tri Dams Lions - [FLIER](#)

**January 3-11:** [MD4](#) Hunger Service Week – [FLIER](#) – [FLIER2](#)

**Jan 6, 12 & Feb 3 & 17:** [LionsUSA](#) [Growth Workshop](#)

**January 10:** Lions Club Carnitas Dinner 4pm at Le Grand American Legion Hall – Le Grand Lions – [Facebook](#) [LINK](#)

**January 15:** [Lions Int'l](#) Peace Poster Kits 2026-27 [available](#)

**January 17-18:** [District 4-A1](#) Meeting – Escalon - [FLIER](#)

**January 16-18:** [LionsUSA](#) Regional Institutes West Coast California training

**January 31:** Al Pena Enchilada Dinner – Mokelumne Hill Lions – [CORRECTED FLIER](#) (Note- date has been changed)

**January 31:** Service Carnival – help clean up Camp McConnell – Merced Healthy Leo Lions Club – See article in this newsletter – [FLIER1](#) – [FLIER2](#)

**February 1:** Deadline for [MD4](#)'s Environmental Photo Contest's entry - [LINK](#) - [FLIER](#)

**February 3:** [4-A1](#) Cabinet/GAT Meeting – Zoom Link on [District's Calendar](#)

**February 7:** 51st Annual Crab Feed – Mariposa Lions - [FLIER](#)

**February 7:** [Tasteful Meet & Greet](#) – Upcountry 88 Lions

**February 13:** Burson Bingo Night – 2nd Fridays - Tri Dams Lions - [FLIER](#)

**February 18-19:** [MD4](#) [Council of Governors](#) – 3rd Quarter in Long Beach on the Queen Mary – District 4-L2 - [FLIER](#)

**February 20-22:** 107th California Lions [MD4](#) [Convention](#)

**February 28:** Health & Vision Fair – Mokelumne Hill Lions

**March 13:** Burson Bingo Night – 2nd Fridays - Tri Dams Lions - [FLIER](#)

**March 14:** Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner – Escalon Lions

**March 15:** Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner - [FLIER](#) and Cayucos Drawing – [Cayucos FLIER](#) – Tracy Tank Town Lions

**March 20-21:** [District 4-A1](#) Meeting

**March 20:** Blood Drive – Sutter Creek Lions

**April 10:** Burson Bingo Night – 2nd Fridays - Tri Dams Lions - [FLIER](#)  
**April 18-26:** MD4 [Environment](#) Service Week – [FLIER](#)  
**April 23-26:** [District 4-A1 Convention](#) – [Black Oak Casino Resort](#) – [SAVE-THE-DATE FLIER](#)  
**May 16:** Antique & Classic Wooden Boat Show – Bass Lake Lions – [FLIER](#)  
**June 20:** [4-A1 Lions Allstar Football Game](#) – Tracy CA – *See article in this newsletter* - [LINK](#)  
**June 12-14:** [MD4](#) Council of Governors Meeting – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter- District 4-L3 in Los Angeles  
**June 13:** [MD4 Student Speakers](#) Final Contest @ COG  
**June 26-28:** [MD4](#) Council of Governors Meeting in LA  
**July 3-7:** [Lions Int'l Convention](#) - Hong Kong [FLIER](#)  
**September 3-5:** [USA/Canada Forum](#) – Memphis TN  
**July 2-6, 2027:** [Lions Int'l Convention](#) – Washington DC  
**Sept 16-18, 2027** – [USA/Canada Forum](#) – Huntsville AL

### ~ ONGOING EVENTS ~

(Zoom links can be found on the [District Calendar](#))

**District 4-A1 Cabinet/GAT Meetings** – 7pm - 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays  
**District 4-A1 Membership Orientations** – ALL LIONS ARE WELCOMED! 6:30pm - every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday on [Zoom](#) except November, December, June & July  
**District 4-A1 Club Officers' Town Hall Meetings** – 6pm - 3rd Monday of the month  
**District 4-A1 Marketing Meetings** – 7:30pm - 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays  
**District 4-A1 Rebuild Club Meetings** – (Zoom) 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month 6:45pm  
**District 4-A1 Newsletter Deadline** – Flyers, articles & photos due 25<sup>th</sup> of the month - [newsletter@lions4-a1.org](mailto:newsletter@lions4-a1.org)

### Message from DISTRICT GOVERNOR MATT STICKLER



#### Holiday Greetings from the District Governor

Dear Lions, Leos, and Friends of District 4-A1,  
 As we enter this joyous holiday season, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude for your dedication, compassion, and service throughout the year. Each of you have embodied our International President Dr. A.P. Singh's message of "Leading from the Heart"—bringing light, hope, and kindness to communities across our district.

The holidays remind us of the power of unity and the spirit of giving that defines what it means to be a Lion. Whether you're feeding families, supporting youth, protecting our environment, or simply offering a smile to someone in need, you make a difference every day.

As we look to the year ahead, may we continue to serve with purpose and passion— growing stronger together and inspiring others to join our mission of service.

On behalf of the entire District 4-A1 Leadership Team, Maggie and I wish you and your loved ones a joyful holiday season filled with peace, laughter, and love.

Happy Holidays and Roar with Pride,  
 ~ Lion Matthew H. Stickler  
 District Governor, District 4-A1 - Lions International

### SERVICE CARNIVAL



Join us for an enriching Camp Carnival that brings together our esteemed chartered organizations for a day of connection and community building. We invite you to come and help us beautify Camp McConnell while sharing insights into the missions, challenges, and successes of our respective organizations. This will be an excellent opportunity to network, learn, grow, and build great bonds.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be provided. If individuals have dietary restrictions, we ask that you bring your own food. A free night of camping will be offered to all attendees! Please bring your own camping gear if you choose to participate.

Use the QR code to register your organization today!



Questions? Email [Robin.Wilson@scouting.org](mailto:Robin.Wilson@scouting.org)

The Merced Healthy Leo-Lions have hit the ground running these past couple of months as a new club! Two service projects, monthly meetings, and lots of community outreach have kept them busy! The club is so excited to be able to join the amazing legacy of Lions International and serve the Central Valley/Merced County area one day and one person at a time! Thank you to everyone who has been so supportive of their charter and service efforts so far, here's to much, much more!!

**The Merced Healthy Leo-Lions would also like to invite the Leo, Lions, and Leo-Lions clubs from across the district (and even beyond) to join them in a service carnival coming up on **January 31st** to clean up Camp McConnell in Livingston!** This is a collaboration event

with the Lions Club, Eagle Scouts, Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, Knights of Columbus, and American Legion! What a lineup of service organizations that support our community! Please sign up with the QR code in the flyer or reach out to the Merced Healthy Leo-Lions President, Asia Joaquin, at [joaquimasia35@gmail.com](mailto:joaquimasia35@gmail.com).

Thank you, the Merced Healthy Leo-Lions!

– [FLIER1](#) – [FLIER2](#)

## ★ SERVICE CARNIVAL ★ AT MCCONNELL ★ COLLABORATION-CELEBRATION-FELLOWSHIP

Let's beautify Camp McConnell!

Possible projects could be:

- Replace old posts and railings around the lodge
- Pull weeds and clear overgrown areas
- Install or repair drip irrigation systems for plants
- Plant flowers, shrubs, and vegetation
- General cleanup and organization of storage spaces

We do not have enough equipment for all attendees! Suggested items to bring:

- Work gloves, protective goggles/glasses, durable/warm clothing, hats
- Bug spray, sun protection, water bottles
- Your own food if you have special dietary needs
- Gardening tools, power tools, buckets/bags for debris collection, paint brushes, cleaning products
- If staying over night, you must bring your own camping gear and food for the following day.
- **A spirit of teamwork and enthusiasm!**

Do your Scouts need camping nights?

Come help beautify Camp McConnell and stay for **FREE!**\*

\*You must register online if you are camping at [yosemitescouting.org](http://yosemitescouting.org).

All accompanying adults must have Safeguarding Youth Leadership Training completed. Scouting Barriers to Abuse procedures must be practiced at all times.

Questions? Email [Robin.Wilson@scouting.org](mailto:Robin.Wilson@scouting.org)

## CALIFORNIA LIONS CAMP



California Lions Camp is a California, non-profit, tax-exempt, corporation. (EIN 77-0269193) Investments from the sale of Camp Pacifica, which was established in 1991 and sold in 2021, are used to provide funds to support activities and experiences,

including equipment and resources for children with disabilities residing within the District 4-A1 boundaries. Since 2022, we have donated \$109,900 to the following organizations:

Camp Krem--\$10,000  
Awesome Spot--\$10,000  
Camp Taylor--\$34,200  
Tykes/Tykes--\$10,000  
Project RIDE--\$16,000

McFall School--\$3,200  
Mind in Motion--\$5,000  
I Can Swim--\$1,500  
Tuolumne Trails--\$15,000  
Jessica's House--\$5,000

If you know of any other organizations that would benefit from this grant, please contact one of our board members.

- ~ PDG Russ Custer [lrusscuster@aol.com](mailto:lrusscuster@aol.com) 209-410-4102
- ~ PDG Dave McCullough [daveskidm@yahoo.com](mailto:daveskidm@yahoo.com) 209-324-2841
- ~ PDG Steve Granlees [stevegranlees@gmail.com](mailto:stevegranlees@gmail.com) 209-649-4696
- ~ PDG Norm Clark [clarkcut@aol.com](mailto:clarkcut@aol.com) 559-352-1509
- ~ Lion Jill Loving [jag2pick@yahoo.com](mailto:jag2pick@yahoo.com) 209-489-7533
- ~ Lion Bob Abraham [rabraham6546@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rabraham6546@sbcglobal.net) 209-769-7050
- ~ Lion Laura McCullough [daveskidm@yahoo.com](mailto:daveskidm@yahoo.com) 209-324-2842
- ~ Lion Debbi Hopman [debbihopman@gmail.com](mailto:debbihopman@gmail.com) 209-604-8612

## PEACE POSTER/ESSAY CONTEST: Together As One

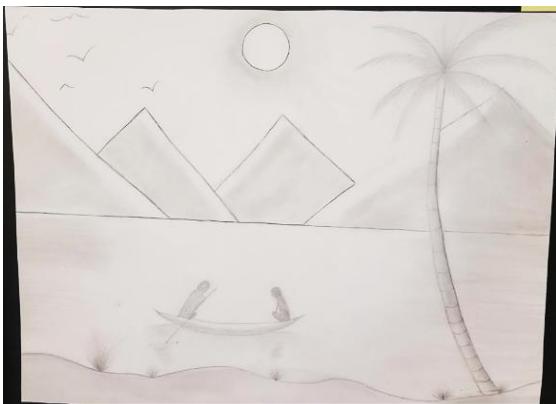


**2025-2026 District 4-A1 Winner:**  
**Brianna Rodriguez from Avery Middle School**  
**Sponsored by Murphys-Angels Lions Club**

NOTE: Several were unable to be judged; however, their artwork should be showcased as a recognition of their efforts (incomplete paperwork, age, and/or paper size).



**Savannah Cardoza from West Valley Christian**  
**Sponsored by Tracy Tank Town Lions Club**



Rigoberto Cisneros from Elmer Wood Elementary  
Sponsored by Atwater Winton Lions Club



Kinsley Britton, Peggy Heller School  
Sponsored by Atwater Winton Lions Club



Vianney Espinosa, Mitchell Senior Elementary  
Sponsored by Atwater Winton Lions Club



Briana Licea Robles, from Winton Middle School  
Sponsored by Atwater Winton Lions Club



Shayonna Young, Mitchell Elementary  
Sponsored by the Atwater Winton Lions



Eliseo Chavira, Madera Tech  
Sponsored by Madera Evening Lions



Melanie Garcia Campos Bellevue School  
Sponsored by Atwater Winton Lions Club



Sara Madrigal, El Nido School  
Sponsored by Atwater Winton Lions Club



Jocelyn Reyes, St. Anthony School

Sponsored by Atwater Winton Lions Club

**A special "Thanks" goes to the Judging Panel:****Mr. Gossett: Art Teacher Yosemite High/Local Ceramicist-****Bill Gossett Pottery****Mrs. Lo: Art Teacher Sequoia High****Mrs. Lopez: Leadership Teacher Sequoia High****Mr. Zamudio: CTE Media/Marking Teacher Sequoia****Mrs. Mendoza: Intervention Coordinator Sequoia High  
Sequoia High Media/Marking Department, Art  
Department, and Leadership Team**

A huge "thank you" goes to all the Clubs that participated this year. Sponsorship of a school can impact and empower a student to dream, hope, and discover creativity with in themselves. Winning their site competition instills the confidence in their ability to express themselves through art, not just to be seen but to be heard. Congratulations to all the participants.

~ Jeff Hammar, Peace Poster/Essay Contest Chair

**VISION NEWS**

Vision service in District 4-A1 is a site for sore eyes! I am so moved by the acts of service and kindness our vision ambassadors perform every month of the year. From vision screenings, to eyeglasses assistance, to helping the blind, you are truly making a difference - and we want to recognize you. [Instructions and flier are shown below.]

~ Jennifer Gass

Clubs that did any vision service from July 1-December 31, 2025 can earn at Lions Clubs & Helen Keller Challenge 2.0 club banner patch. [FLIER](#)

Criteria on the flyer - two simple steps:

**#1 Advertise** a vision event or vision project success story writing 7/1-12/31/2025 on website or social media- include hashtag #HelenKeller100 and mention "Clubs & Helen Keller Challenge 2.0"

\* take a screenshot or photo

**#2 Report service** - \* include hashtag #HelenKeller100 And mention Clubs & Helen Keller Challenge 2.0

\* Take a screenshot or photo

Email your evidence of marketing and service reporting to [LionDonnaR@gmail.com](mailto:LionDonnaR@gmail.com).

Banner patches are limited to 100 Lions Clubs and 15 Leos Clubs in California. First come-first served.



**MD4 California LIONS CLUBS**  
**Once in a Century Service Reward Opportunity**

**Lions Clubs & Helen Keller Challenge 2.0 Club Banner Patch**

**About the Award**

The "Lions Clubs & Helen Keller Challenge 2.0" Banner Patch will be awarded to the first 100 California Lions Clubs and first 15 California Leo Clubs in MD4 who meet the criteria outlined below

**Criteria for Earning the Patch****1. Service Activity Reporting**

- Report a Helen Keller Vision branded service activity in the Lions Portal
- The title of the activity must begin with: "Helen Keller Vision"
- Include a screenshot of this service report from the Lions Portal

**2. Branded Marketing Evidence**

- Provide a screenshot of a social media post and/or photo(s) from the event showing branding.
- Branded materials must feature either Lions Clubs & Helen Keller Challenge 2.0 logo, and/or #HelenKeller100

**3. Application Submission Instructions**

- Only the primary Lions Club sponsoring and organizing the activity may apply
- Submit only one application per club
- Continue sharing your Helen Keller Challenge-branded service activities throughout the year to help boost visibility
- Include club name, submitting individuals contact phone & e-mail, district number, and district governor name
- Deadline: All requirements must be completed and submitted no later than December 31, 2025

**Submission Instructions**

Email your supporting documentation to: [LionDonnaR@gmail.com](mailto:LionDonnaR@gmail.com)  
Lions Clubs & Helen Keller Challenge 2.0 Co-Captain Lion Donna Rollins  
Subject Line: "Helen Keller Challenge 2.0 Banner Patch"

**Recognition**

By participating in the Helen Keller Challenge 2.0, you are carrying forward the vision and mission of Lions Clubs International — serving as Knights of the Blind for the next 100 years.



Media toolbox here: Learn more: <https://md4lions.org/helen-keller>

**REPORTING SERVICE HOURS & DONATIONS****Our global service impact**

Our service changes lives. In the past fiscal year, Lions and Leos around the world, with support from I-CIF, improved the lives of 410 million people. See how we served across our global causes.



Your Club's Secretary enters the service hours and donated funds \$\$\$ from your club members.

Representing Lions, if you have donated to a charity (clothes, food, money) or served in some capacity, email the information to your club's Secretary. Every bit counts and is reported - all the way to the top of the Lion chain, and is included in the Lions International total report of service. We can be part of that! See the other ways reporting service benefits your club at this [LINK](#) and in the "Why Report Service" PDF resource - [DOWNLOAD](#).

## DISTRICT 4-A1 TRAINING & OPPORTUNITIES

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) and 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.

## LEARN HOW TO MAKE A CLUB NEWSLETTER MD4 MARKETING ANNOUNCEMENT

### LINKS TO [WEBSITE](#) and [CALENDAR](#)

MasterClass with 4-A1's Own Lion Gail Cates,  
Creating Engaging Newsletters

Dec 4, 7:00PM [Register Today](#)



The one, the only, 4-A1's own Lion Gail Cates will be hosting a MasterClass on December 4, starting at 7:00pm PST. Gail will be sharing her brilliance in what it takes to create engaging District Newsletters. She will be spilling all the tea...tips, tricks and strategies we all can use, whether it's at the club, district, or MD4 Level (or bigger???). Can't make it? All registrants will receive a private link to the replay. Register at

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/DDP4-83GTiudPsORjQt9Ag>

For more information on any of these activities and more, please visit the [MD4 Marketing Page](#).

~ Diana Ringer, MD4 Area 1 Representative - [dianaringer@icloud.com](mailto:dianaringer@icloud.com)

## California Lions Foundation MENTAL HEALTH, YOUTH & FIRST RESPONDERS GRANTS

<https://californialionsfoundation.org/mental-health-grants>

California  
LIONS FOUNDATION



## California Lions Foundation MENTAL HEALTH, YOUTH & FIRST RESPONDERS GRANTS



Help make a difference in your  
community & apply for a CLF grant



- October 1, 2025 to December 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)



RE: California Lions Foundation (CLF) Specialty Grants for the period of **October 1 through December 31, 2025**...

**Maximum aggregate grant is \$2,000 per Lions District in MD4 – AND maximum grant per Lions Club is \$500**

For questions or additional information, contact PDG John Schroeder [PDGJohnCLF@gmail.com](mailto:PDGJohnCLF@gmail.com) 408-890-7119.

Allow 2-3 weeks for your completed grant application to be processed. Email completed grant application to [PDGJohnCLF@gmail.com](mailto:PDGJohnCLF@gmail.com) or hard mail to:

California Lions Foundation, c/o John Schroeder

5970 Waterfront PL, Long Beach CA 90803

[DOWNLOAD APPLICATION](#)

## STOP THE DROPS MD4-California Lions

Calling all Lions! Engage your Lions. Find their passion and help them achieve their goals in service to our communities. Contact your at-risk members, get them involved in service, and turn the ship. Ignite all your

members in service and we can meet our Mission 1.5 target!!!



**STOP THE DROPS**

**service + fun = happy Lions**

When members feel valued, connected & proud of what their club does, they don't leave. Retention isn't about keeping numbers – it's about keeping hearts engaged in service.

December & June drops are often the result of clubs purging their rosters before the semi-annual billing deadlines. But that behavior is symptomatic, not the root cause. Let's stop the drops by addressing both prevention & perception.

**DECEMBER & JUNE DROPS HAPPEN BECAUSE:**

- Clubs don't want to pay for inactive members.
- Members feel disconnected or unengaged or unheard or unappreciated.
- There's a "clean-up culture" rather than a renewal mindset.

**REACTIVATE THROUGH SERVICE**  
Promote a December service project where **EVERY** member has a role, even if it's small.

**MEASURABLE GOAL -** At least one contact/engagement for every Lion by November 30.

**Let's make every Lion proud to stay a Lion.**



**What Do You Want From Your Time & Talents?**

This is about you.

You want your time to matter. You want to grow as a person & a professional. You want real friendships & meaningful purpose. The Lions help you achieve all that – & more.

- Personal Fulfillment through service
- Leadership Opportunities in real-life settings
- On demand, virtual & in-person skills training that apply to all aspects of your life
- Professional Networking with purpose
- Global Impact with local heart
- Friendship & Belonging in a connected world

You want more than a place to show up – you want a place to belong, lead, grow, and truly make an impact.



100+ year history  
Local Heart  
1.4 million members



Real People  
200+ countries

**MD4-California  
PROJECT CARE CALENDAR**

[md4lions.org/lions-service](http://md4lions.org/lions-service)

Accessible version here  
[Project Care Q2](#)

MD4 California LIONS CLUBS Project Care  
2nd Quarter Service Projects 2025/2026



Veterans



First Responders



Vision



Diabetes

**Key Dates**

**October**  
LCI Mental Health Service Week October 4-12<sup>th</sup>  
Lions and Leos Membership Growth  
Vision Awareness Month  
White Cane Day Oct 15<sup>th</sup>  
Create a Leos Day Celebration Oct 4<sup>th</sup>- 19<sup>th</sup>  
First Responders Day Oct 28<sup>th</sup>

**November**  
National Diabetes Awareness Month  
Nov:14<sup>th</sup> is World Diabetes Day  
Humanitarian Efforts World Kindness Day Nov 21<sup>st</sup>

**December**  
Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> International Day of Persons with Disabilities  
Humanitarian Efforts, Disaster Relief (LCIF), Youth, Women & Families, Music, Arts, Sports, and Lions For Access suggested all months.



Everything that is CA Lions Service. Ideas, success stories, volunteer opportunities, awareness months & days, and [more](#)

[DOWNLOAD Serving the Global Causes .PDF](#)

**LionsUSA**

**Checkout What LionsUSA is doing!** Join some exciting and beneficial calls. For more information, go to <https://lionsusa.org/programs>

 <p>MEMBERSHIP MONDAYS</p>	 <p>NEW CLUB Navigator CHART YOUR COURSE</p>	 <p>WISDOM WEDNESDAYS</p>	 <p>ROAR &amp; POUR JOIN THE PARTY</p>
4 <sup>th</sup> Mondays	3rd Mondays	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesdays	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursdays

For those who want to carry on the conversation into 2026 and beyond, LionsUSA has a WhatsApp dedicated to all things SERVICE, you can participate in around the clock discussions around things like service carnivals, Global Service Weeks and more. Register and become a part of the dialog: <https://bit.ly/LUSAService>

## STAY CONNECTED ON WHATSAPP



From Lions International's November District Digest:

"From inspiring stories to practical tips, videos and resources, our new WhatsApp Channel keeps you informed and ready to grow." [LINK](#)

## AI-POWERED ASSISTANCE FOR LIONS

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/about-lion-ai>

"We've brought the power of AI to lionsclubs.org. Our new AI assistant, Ellie, is designed to help Lions and Leos do more and get more out of the resources on our website. So, let's get to know the technology and how it can help you save time and find the assistance you need."

## AI tools developed by Lions

- [LionsMap2Grow](#) – Develop a plan to grow your club.
- [LionsMarket2Grow](#) – Turn service into great marketing.
- [LionsServe2Grow](#) – Organize a service carnival.
- [LionsLearn2Grow](#) – Develop training and solve problems.

FROM THE DISTRICT INTERNET TECH CHAIR  
- HELP WANTED -

I'm looking for a Lion to help with co-managing several of our District's websites through WordPress.com (example: <https://upcountry88lions.org/>) and e-Clubhouse.org (example: <https://livingstonlions.org/>). See complete list of clubs in our District 4-A1 [lions4-a1.org/about/clubs-in-district](https://lions4-a1.org/about/clubs-in-district). If you know anyone who might be interested, "send" them my way! [EMAIL](#) me. I can give them some training if needed. Also, if your club would like updates on your website, FB, or IG page, maybe I can help. ~ Lion Gail

UPCOMING EVENTS  
SECTION (in date-order)

LionsUSA HUNGER FOR SERVICE – Dec 2

[SEE FLIER BELOW]

Get Ready for Hunger Relief  
Global Week of Service

Join fellow Lions, Leos, and community changemakers for an interactive "Hungry for Service" event – your go-to session for learning how to take action during Lions Clubs International's Hunger Relief Global Week of Service.

- Simple, high-impact ways your club can fight hunger locally
- How to partner with schools, shelters, and food programs
- Creative project ideas for all ages (and budgets!)
- How your service ties into Lions International's global hunger goals
- Resources and toolkits available to support your club's initiatives

Bring your club members, invite your Leo advisors, and discover how together we can serve more, share more, and change more lives.

Questions? [info@lionsusa.org](mailto:info@lionsusa.org)



Tuesday, December 2

8pm EST / 7pm CST  
/ 6pm MST / 5pm PST

Log in:

<https://bit.ly/40oSgWI>

LIONS FLOAT INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT  
RECEPTION – Dec 29

YOUR INVITED...

International  
President's  
Reception

TICKETS ARE \$35 AND ARE ON SALE NOW. ONLY 300  
TICKETS ARE SOLD – DEADLINE DEC. 20, 2025

COMPLIMENTARY WINE & TWO STATIONS OF HORS  
D'OEUVRES AS WELL AS A CASH BAR

FUN RAFFLE

DECEMBER

MONDAY | 29 | AT 5:30 PM

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON ROSEMEAD  
888 MONTEBELLO BLVD., ROSEMEAD,  
CA 91770

CONTACT PCC ROGER POWELL  
562-708-2409 OR  
ROGER.POWELL1556@GMAIL.COM



We Serve

## MELVIN JONES' BIRTHDAY – Jan 2026

Lions Clubs International Foundation is recognizing [Melvin Jones's](#) 147th birthday in January 2026. Help honor our organization's founder with your first donation to our foundation — or add to your existing support. Encourage your fellow Lions and others to join you with their gifts to LCIF. [DONATE NOW](#) (from LI's District Digest)

## MD4's SERVICE WEEKS INITIATIVES

Hunger Jan 3-11

Environment Apr 18-26

Is your club doing service projects during these weeks?

Here's the website for Lions International "WEEKS OF SERVICE" <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center/service/global-causes-initiatives/weeks-of-service>

## LionsUSA GROWTH WORKSHOPS

Jan 6 & 12, Feb 3 & 17



## Learn how to grow Lions & our impact

Join Lions & Leos across the U.S. & its Affiliates for Let's Grow, a 4-part interactive workshop designed to help you start new clubs, rebuild existing ones & ignite unstoppable momentum in your community.

You'll learn proven strategies, share ideas & leave each session ready to grow your pride.

BONUS: All new success stories, inspiration & interaction!

### Our Focus:

- January 6: Process & Club Types
- January 20: Recruiting
- February 3: Marketing & PR
- February 17: New Club Application & Keep Growing

### Perfect for:

- GAT Coordinators & Team Members
- Lions & Leos hungry for growth & impact

January 6 - February 17  
(Every Other Week)  
8 pm EST / 7 pm CST  
/ 6 pm MST / 5 pm PST

Register Now: <https://bit.ly/GrowthWkshp26>

?s [membership@lionsusa.org](mailto:membership@lionsusa.org)

February 3: Marketing & PR

February 17: New Club Application & Keep Growing

I highly recommend that ALL incoming DG Team, GAT Coordinators and members, and District Leo Advisors attend this workshop. It would also be a good idea to market this to Leo Advisors and **interested Lions and Leos in our District** to attend this workshop series also.

All the Cabinet members are critical in supporting membership growth, service impact, and leadership development. This is an opportunity to develop a strong team, understand each other's skill sets, develop strategies, and much more. [...] I will be a Moderator at this workshop series and hope (since we have advanced information) that we get a strong showing from our district and use this as an opportunity to continue to strengthen our team. ~ Lion Claudia, GLT - [FLIER](#)

## 4-A1 DISTRICT MEETING Jan 17-18

<https://lions4-a1.org/convention-district-meetings/>



## MD4'S ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTO CONTEST – Deadline Feb 1

<https://md4lions.org/california-lions-environmental-photo-contest>



Join the MD4 Lions and Leos in showcasing your commitment to the environment through original photography. Capture moments that reflect our dedication to improving and preserving the natural world around us. **Categories:**

- **Core Environmental** – Stunning landscapes, wildlife, and natural wonders

This is important for planning and transition. The next Growth Workshop will be on the following dates: **1/6, 1/20, 2/3, & 2/17** - 5PM. Focus Topics are as follows:

January 6: Process & Club Types

January 20: Recruiting

- **Human Connection** – Volunteers, cleanup efforts, or local green initiatives
- **Special Focus or Technical** – Aerial perspectives on environmental beauty or destruction
- **Wildlife** – Any wildlife in its natural habitat

**Rules:** Photos should be original, unaltered, and taken by the individual submitting the photo. Photos should be printed on high-quality photo paper and measure 8" x 10". All photographers accept responsibility for the cost of all photos. Only one submission per club per category will be accepted. (Leo & Lions Clubs count individually) Photos must be taken during the current Lion year and submitted by **Feb 1, 2026**. Photos will be judged impartially based on originality, artistic merit, and technical quality. Voting will take place at the MD4 Convention in Long Beach on February 20th and 21st.

Winners will be announced February 21st during the Saturday night awards ceremony. Include your name, Club name, District, and a brief description of the photo. Photos must be received by **Lion Nichole Muller, MD4 Environmental Chairperson** no later than **February 1, 2026** via mail. **Mail photos to:** Lion Nichole Muller, 320 Main St. Suite D, Seal Beach, CA 90740 or **Email to:** [nikkislbions@gmail.com](mailto:nikkislbions@gmail.com) - **FLIER**

## MD4 CONVENTION Feb 20-22

<https://md4lions.org/convention>



"Join us aboard the historic **Queen Mary in Long Beach, California**, for the **107th California Lions MD-4 Convention**, happening **February 20-22**. Lions from across the state will come together for three days of fellowship, leadership development, inspiring speakers, and celebrations of service. Don't miss this unforgettable opportunity to connect with fellow Lions while experiencing one of California's most iconic landmarks."

## DISTRICT 4-A1 CONVENTION Apr 23-26

<https://lions4-a1.org/convention-district-meetings/>



## 50th LIONS ALLSTAR FOOTBALL GAME

June 20

50 years of Lions Allstar Football Games!!

Game Date: Saturday, June 20, 2026

Where: Tracy High School Wayne Schneider Stadium in Tracy CA

Times: Gates and concession stand open at 4 pm. Game time – Kick off is 7:15 pm.

GoFan tickets will be available soon!

Ads are available for our digital program and on our website [www.lionsallstarfootball.com](http://www.lionsallstarfootball.com) for a year!

Email [allstargame4a1@yahoo.com](mailto:allstargame4a1@yahoo.com) or mail to address:

PO BOX 974, LINDEN CA 95236

Players' Banquet information is TBA.

North and South head coaches will be selected in the beginning of December.

Player selections start shortly after the coaches accept the North and South coaching positions.

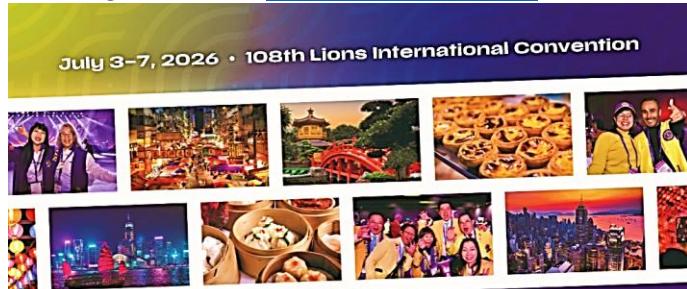
**Please feel free to contact your local high school coaches to nominate their all-star players for our teams this year.**

Thank you for 50 years of support and Happy Holidays!

~ Elizabeth Olson

**LI CONVENTION July 3-7**<https://lionscon.lionsclubs.org/> – **FLIER**

Join us at the 108th Lions International Convention. The vibrant city of Hong Kong, China will host thousands of Lions and Leos to celebrate the joys of strengthening communities, helping those in need and just having fun. So come for the fellowship, but stay for all the sights, sounds, and mouth-watering smells Hong Kong has to offer. Register now at [#LionsCon26](https://lionscon.lionsclubs.org)



## Let's shine bright in Hong Kong.

With visa-free entry for more than 170 countries, it's never been easier to join us at the biggest Lion event of the year! So get ready to make memories that will last a lifetime as we celebrate our service in vibrant and bustling Hong Kong, China.

- Take in the stunning skyline, mountains and harbor
- Wander the buzzing night markets and savor the sights, sounds and smells
- Taste the flavors of Hong Kong, from dim sum to Cantonese classics
- Experience the glitz, glamour and unbelievable allure of Macau

It's all happening here in Hong Kong – don't miss the 2026 international convention!



Register now for the best price on registration.

[lionscon.org](https://lionscon.org)

## ALPHA & OMEGA LEO NEWS SECTION

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



**DISTRICT LEO CHAIRPERSON** – Paul Wagner

**\* BUHACH COLONY HIGH SCHOOL LEO CLUB**

Charter Date 3/23/2022 Atwater-Winton Lions

**\* EL CAPITAN HIGH SCHOOL LEO CLUB**

Charter Date 8/22/2013 Merced Breakfast Lions

**\* GOLDEN VALLEY LEOS**

Charter Date 5/7/1999 Merced Breakfast Lions

**\* MADERA LEO CLUB**

Charter Date 3/10/2009 Madera Evening Lions

**\* MADERA II OMEGA CLUB**

Charter Date 3/10/2009 Madera Evening Lions

**\* MERCED LEO CLUB**

Charter Date 3/7/1988 Merced Breakfast Lions

**\* MERCED COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT JUNIOR**

Charter Date 1/15/2021 Merced LE Lions

**\* MERCED COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT SENIOR**

Charter Date 1/15/2021 Merced LE Lions

**\* MOUNTAIN HOUSE LEO CLUB**

Charter Date 1/27/2020 Tracy Tank Town Lions

**\* SAN JOAQUIN OMEGA CLUB**

Charter Date 5/16/2024 Stockton San Joaquin Lions

**\* TOKAY HIGH SCHOOL LEO CLUB**

Charter Date 3/9/2015 Stockton San Joaquin Lions

**\* YOSEMITE HIGH SCHOOL LEO CLUB**

Charter Date 3/29/2013 Bass Lake Lions

## INTERNATIONAL LEO DAY – Dec 5

"Join Leos from around the world as we celebrate the 68th anniversary of the Leo Club Program. Watch the winning 2025 Leo Video Contest entries (#HeartofaLeo) and hear about new opportunities for Leos." - [REGISTER](#)

## YOSEMITE HIGH SCHOOL LEO CLUB

See the photo and article in the Club News Section of this newsletter under "Bass Lake Lions".





On Tuesday, November 4, 2025, the Yosemite Leos, along with their advisors Lions Diane, Jennie (pictured) and teacher advisor Rebecca Hardison (pictured), planted daffodils on the high school campus. This event has occurred annually for several years and adds a bit of color and joy for all students and staff to admire.



On Thursday, November 6, 2025, the Yosemite Leos Club hosted a potluck nacho dinner in Rebecca Hardison's classroom, starting at 6 p.m. Fifteen Leos, four Bass Lake Lions, and Rebecca, their advisor, attended and enjoyed a good meal and companionship.



Besides enjoying a meal together, the Yosemite Leos played a game to help break the ice with one another, and later made toys for dogs from old water bottles and socks. The toys were donated to the Eastern Madera County SPCA.





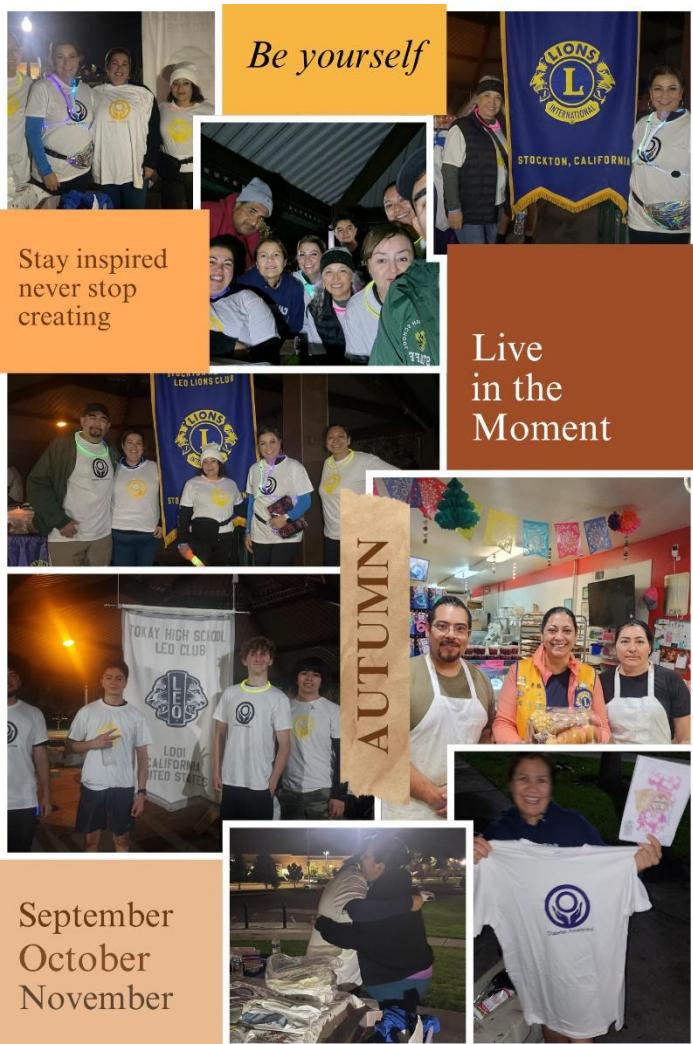
On Saturday, November 22nd, three Yosemite High Leos, two Bass Lake Lions, and one Leo's parent traveled to the Eastern Madera County SPCA facility in Ahwahnee to deliver 150 dog toys that they had made at a recent potluck. While there, the visitors were given a tour of the facility and visited all the animals. The EMCSPCA has hit an all-time record for finding housing for their animals this year! ~ Bruce Alameida

### STOCKTON HEALTHY LEO LION CLUB, TOKAY HIGH SCHOOL ALPHA LEOS CLUB, and SAN JOAQUIN OMEGA LEOS CLUB

[instagram.com/stocktonhealthyleolionsclub/#](https://instagram.com/stocktonhealthyleolionsclub/#)  
[facebook.com/profile.php?id=61578752575566](https://facebook.com/profile.php?id=61578752575566)

Here few images of our recent events. These are collaborations with Stockton Healthy Leo-Lions Club, Tokay High Alpha Leos Club, and San Joaquin Omega Leos Club.





September  
October  
November



San Joaquin Omega Leo Angel was recognized as Leo of the month for his support, recruited and active service.



Tokay High Alpha Leo Lazarus recruited eight new members during the October Leo Recruitment and will be getting a certificate from Lions International.

## 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!**

### STOCKTON HEALTHY LEO LIONS CLUB

(News from them will be in the Leo News Section)

### MERCED HEALTHY LEO LIONS CLUB

(News from them will be in the Leo News Section)

### SIERRA LIONS (Oakhurst Area)



We have had so much fun this month! We participated in the Coarsegold Rodeo Trunk or Treat with our Lions "Welcome to the Jungle"-themed car and passed out 12 huge bags of candy. We also helped VFW place and take down flags at Oakhurst Cemetery for Veterans Day.

[FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

### PATTERSON LIONS

The Patterson Lions had a busy dinner meeting in November.

We presented a lifetime membership to long-time member Mike Mahaffey to thank him for everything he has done for the Patterson Lions Club and our community. Next, we presented Mentor Mason and namesake Taylor from Camp Taylor with a check for \$1,100 to support their family camp programs. <https://www.kidsheartcamp.org/>



And finally, we had a presentation from Invest In Me, and then we presented them with a check for \$1,000 to be a sponsor for their upcoming Youth Empowerment Conference.



~ Shawn Monnin

### TRACY TANK TOWN LIONS



Congratulations to Savannah Cardoza, West Valley Christian School student, who won the Peace Poster Contest. Thank you to Lion Marie Patterson for chairing this contest and presenting Savannah her certificate and a \$25.00 gift card. [See article about contest winners earlier in this newsletter.] Tank Town Lions' members are holding an appreciation dinner meeting to recognize our members, friends, and family who volunteer for the West High School Concessions on Thursday, **December 11th**. We are also welcoming our District Governor and cabinet at this meeting. Upcoming events include our Student Speakers Contest, Annual [Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner](#), and [Beach House Raffle](#).

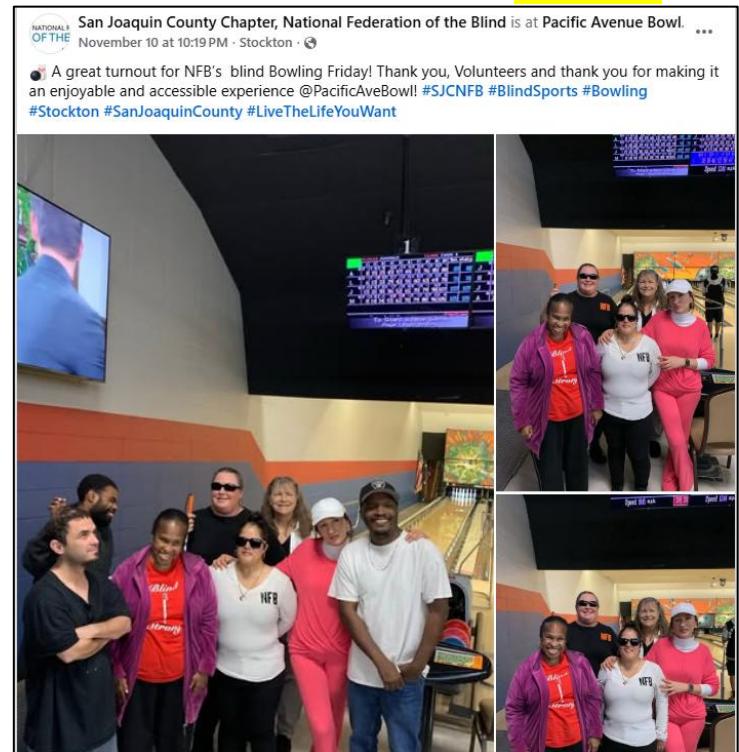


It's amazing what you can find on Facebook. While vacationing in Cabo San Lucas, Debbi found **Club de Leones Los Cabos**. After messaging them, she was able to meet with Lions Angie (center) and Marcela (right); and we exchanged ideas. Marcela's father started their club many years ago, and she is continuing his legacy as a Lion. Their club does hearing screenings, feeding the hungry, and is very active within the community. Their next event is December 6th--a hearing aid clinic. ~ Debbi Hopman

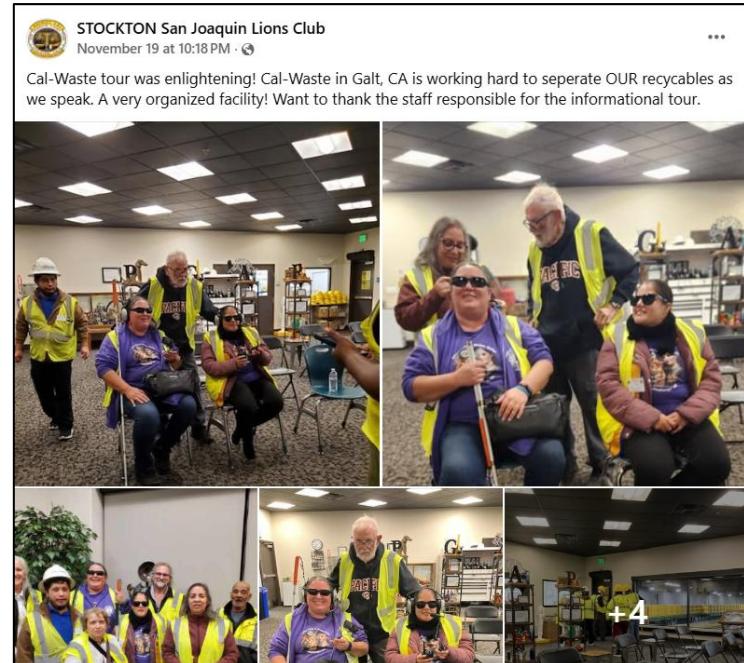
### STOCKTON SAN JOAQUIN LIONS

In the air, there's a feeling of Christmas! We are continuing to collect new socks for Audrey's Sock Drive

For the Homeless and gently used or new sneakers to recycle and help others in need. Looking forward to see how many pairs we can get at our joint Christmas party with Stockton Delta Pacifica Lions Club on **December 3**!



Lion volunteers hit the lanes again at Pacific Avenue Bowl to assist with Blind Bowling and will do so again on **December 5**. [FACEBOOK LINK](#)



On November 17, members enjoyed our tour of President Rodrigo Jr's work place, Cal-Waste Recovery Systems in Galt. We learned a lot about recycling and have the pictures to prove it. [FACEBOOK LINK](#)



STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions Club added a photo to the album: CLF Grant helps provide Tactile Art Supplies for Blind Students — with Lions Clubs & Helen Keller Challenge 2.0 and California Lions Foundation.

November 20 at 9:13 PM ·

San Joaquin Lion Jennifer had the privilege of meeting up with student Orlando, Teacher Stephen Torres Esquer and other students at Stockton Unified School District's Young Adult Program this week. It even made the YAP News at around 5 minutes, 30 seconds in!  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zN\\_EaQwDPANG](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zN_EaQwDPANG)

#HelenKeller100 #LionsForAccess #LionsClubs #DisabilityAwareness #KnightsOfTheBlind #WeServe #Stockton #CLF #2025



We were excited to receive a \$500 grant from California Lions Foundation, enabling us to purchase tactile art supplies for 24 blind students. We are distributing them, along with some cool rattle soccer balls decked out with Lions logos donated by PDG Gabrielle McKechnie and Merced Healthy Leo-Lions Club. Lions even made the [YAP News](#) at Stockton Unified's Young Adult Program.

[FACEBOOK LINK](#)

We have recycled over 750 pounds of plastic since September 1 and will continue with Round 9 **through June 30**, thanks for your continued support! This bench will be dedicated at another local park in Stockton. We are still seeking a spot for the Lodi bench; and we are still working out replacing the **stolen** District 4-A1 Helen Keller Centennial Bench. ~ Jennifer Gass

...

## ESCALON LIONS

**Community Barbecue** - Our Community barbecue was deemed to be a success by the Lions who attended. We had some community members attend, and we celebrated the completion of the Hogan Park Barbecue renovation!! Thanks to all who attended.

**Another Picnic** - And if one picnic wasn't enough, we had another one - our own barbecue and potluck. And, [it was] another success story. Thanks to our barbecueers, Mike Poweres, Jeremy Engle, and Brandon Scully. (My apologies if I missed anybody.) There were lots of terrific dishes, and plenty of steaks and chicken. Well done!!

~ Mike Caskey

*(From the November 14th Bulletin)*

**Family Game Night** - For our November 20 meeting, we are going to have a family GAME NIGHT. This is for the whole family. We'll be serving Burgers, Hot Dogs, and Chips. Of course, there will be water and soft drinks, along with libations for the adults. Rumor has it that the stores in the area are being bought out of prizes for the BINGO winners so come prepared to win some cool stuff. Best part of the deal is your BINGO cards are free, as is the dinner. We'll begin at 6:00, so you might want to arrive a little early, since parking can be problematic at the Grange. See you Thursday!!

**Last Meeting** - At our last meeting, we initiated three members into the Escalon Lions Club: Kyle Ballard, Justice Naraghi, and Kyle Nixon. If you haven't had a chance to introduce yourself yet, make it a point to do so ASAP. You'll be glad you did. And THANK YOU, Jack Deegan, for doing a nice job with the initiation.

**Girls Basketball Tournament** - The Pete Arellano Memorial Girls Basketball Tournament is rapidly approaching. It will be held **December 3, 4, and 5** in the Escalon High School Gymnasium. Several of you have signed up to help, but we still have several openings [...]. Please contact Lion Secretary Mike Caskey to let him know which of these openings you can take. This is really easy duty, and you can catch some pretty good basketball in the process.

**McHenry Road Clean-Up** - According to the San Joaquin County Public Works Department, all the Road Clean-Up activities have been placed on hiatus. We will be notified when they have been reinstated. We probably will not be looking at another try at the clean-up until the spring.

**Christmas/Hanukkah Party** - Our annual party will be held at the H-B in Oakdale, **December 18**. No-host cocktails will begin at 6:00 PM, with dinner served at 7:00 PM. The H-B will be serving rib eye steak and breast of chicken. And we'll have our annual Gift Exchange.

**Christmas On Main Hot Chocolate Booth** - Once again, the Escalon Lions Club will be hosting the Hot Chocolate

Booth at the Christmas On Main in the evening of **December 6**. Lion Mike Powers is already preparing. We will NEED Help with the Set-Up and Take- Down. Please plan to participate and HELP. [FLIER](#) ~ Mike Caskey

## UPCOUNTRY 88 LIONS



We had our first Fun Bowling Night on November 18th with teams that had four of our members, four members from Pine Grove Civic Improvement Club (our [Community Partner](#)), and four members from [ATCAA](#). We were told by the [Gold Country Lanes](#) that we had the loudest cheering section! We're planning on doing it monthly. Other Lions in the area – this is YOUR invitation!

### UPCOUNTRY 88 LIONS' Calendar

December 3: CANCELLED GENERAL MEETING

**December 17:** CLUB'S HOLIDAY DINNER/PARTY – [FLIER](#)

**January 7:** GENERAL MEETING with Guest Speaker/TBD – 5:30pm Social/Appetizers and 6:00pm Meeting starts.

**February 4:** STUDENT SPEAKERS CONTEST – Club-Level. 6PM sharp at 14074 Irishtown Rd, Pine Grove, Clubhouse on right. Lions Marie and Gail are co-chairs. Wear your club vests or shirts and invite your friends!

**February 7:** TASTEFUL MEET & GREET – 2pm at Clubhouse, 14074 Irishtown Rd, Pine Grove - [FLIER](#)

## OAKDALE LIONS

**December 15:** Children's Christmas Shopping Tour - [FLIER](#)

Want to learn pickleball? Let your Oakdale Lions Club teach you the game. Lion Glen will put you through the paces as an expert coach. [LINK](#) - Beginner Pickleball Lessons – **1st & 3rd Wednesdays** – [FLIER](#)



This one is a little tough for our Club. You may have noticed the "cover photo" [on [our Facebook page](#)] has

changed from the usual group shot of Club members at one event or another, to the focus of one Lion. We lost Erwin Schali on November 15th. He loved our Club, and we loved him. His last conscious moments were at one of our regular dinner meetings, one where the agenda had us honoring our Lion veterans. Two days prior, "Schali" had ridden in Lion Marc's Willy's Jeepster in the Oakdale Veterans Day Parade. He left our Earth doing what he loved and with the people he loved.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Wednesday, **December 3** at River Oak Grace Church in Oakdale at 12pm. [Here is the link to] the obituary, courtesy of the [Oakdale Leader](#) -

<https://www.oakdaleleader.com/obituaries/erwin-joseph-sch%C3%A4li/>



Photo: Dr. Tom inspected his knife in anticipation of the next round of turkeys.



Photo: [Scouting America Troop 43](#) are always a great part of Spirit of Oakdale.

**November 27:** Oakdale Lions Club hosted the "Spirit Prep Party" where club members, scouts, and other volunteers joined together to carve turkeys, peel potatoes, make the stuffing, set up the room, and do all things necessary to feed several hundred people [on November 28th]. Thanks to the local [Scouting America Troop 43](#), the room was set up with tables, chairs, and other furnishings. Thanks to all who signed up to volunteer in all operations. We were "over blessed" with volunteers who joined in the fun - or just hung out to visit! A very special heartfelt "thank you" to family members of recently departed Erwin Schali, who came tonight "to honor Erwin" by helping out in many areas. [There are 30 photos/videos on Facebook.]



**November 28:** Spirit of Oakdale Thanksgiving Dinner 2025 [had] an amazing turnout of both diners and volunteers. While we don't keep an exact count, it is estimated that between the dine-in folks, the delivered meals, and the take-out dinners, we may have fed up to 1000 people. Oakdale Lions Club, [Scouting America Troop 43](#), and a huge contingent of "civilian" volunteers, set up, cooked, prepped, served, and cleaned up in a very efficient manner! [We] made new friends, reacquainted with old friends, (some we only see once a year), and shared laughter, stories, and a lot of the love of giving to the community. [There are 75 photos/videos on Facebook.]



On the Eleventh Day of the Eleventh Month, Eleven of our Oakdale Lions -- all Veterans -- participated in the annual Oakdale Veterans Day Parade. [It's a] great hometown event recognizing and honoring those who served our nation - and continue to serve as Oakdale Lions. [More photos are found on [Oakdale Lions' Facebook page](#).]

~ Derick Sturke

### BASS LAKE LIONS

(Check out the Yosemite Leos articles in the Leo Section of this newsletter.)



Members of the Bass Lake Lions and the Yosemite High School Leos enjoyed an afternoon luncheon with the District Governor Matt Stickler and his family at the home of the Bass Lake Lions' president and secretary on Saturday, November 1, 2025. We were also joined by our Zone Chair Paula Hanson and her husband, Donnie. Following the delicious meal and the camaraderie, District Governor Stickler chaired the annual meeting and provided suggestions on next steps for our club.

~ Bruce Alameida

### LINDEN LIONS



**October 28:** Visiting Lion Joey Chavez talked about what he is doing on the Youth Advisory Commission in Tracy. He encouraged other groups to establish similar commissions to support youth involvement in their community. Lion Joey Chevez was the judge for our beer stein contest [above photo].



Linden Lions Paul, Rich, Randy, Keith and Dan spent [the day of November 18th] cooking and serving lunch for the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House in Sacramento. The Ronald McDonald House provides a "home away from home" for families with children

receiving medical treatment. We were grateful for the opportunity to share a meal with these families.



### MODESTO 500 LIONS



**Club Meeting Recap - November 4** - Kathleen Rowe-Glendon from the Women's Haven delivered a great presentation! The Haven offers 24/7 service to survivors

of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. Their services include trauma response, shelter, and legal assistance and advocacy, among other services. Modesto 500 has offered the Haven financial support through our March Madness in the past.



**Flying Samaritans** - Lions John Peltier and Lori Begen joined the Flyer Samaritans in October to fly to San Felipe, Mexico to serve at an eyeglass clinic. They joined members of the San Felipe Lions in helping to treat 115 eye patients. In addition, all clients had their vitals taken (blood pressure, blood glucose, etc.) before having their eyes checked. There were also dental and medical clinics taking place at the same time. Thank you, Lions John and Lori for modeling the essence of what Lions are about!

**December 2** - Club Meeting - 6:00pm Denny's - Speaker from the Children's Crisis Center

**December 13** - Club Xmas Celebration @ Pat & Frank Gillum's lovely abode

**December 18-19** - Red Shield Senior Luncheon



Salvation Army Red Kettle Kickoff Luncheon for the Red Shield Center was a success! Hoping to raise \$250k, the day's final tally ended with almost \$346k! The Modesto 500 Lions were glad to be part of the day and are looking forward to ringing the bell for the Red Kettle!

**Red Shield Senior Luncheon** - President Lori Begen is chairing an event for seniors through the Red Shield program on Friday, **December 19**. Setup for the program will be Thursday, **December 18**, from 12-3pm - if anyone is interested in helping, [it's at] 1649 Las Vegas St. in Modesto. The luncheon will feature a winter wonderland theme; and seniors will enjoy a chicken lunch with all the fixings. Thank you, Lion Lori for generously taking on this wonderful service project!

## SUTTER CREEK LIONS



Sutter Creek Lions donated \$560 at the Interfaith Food Bank / KVGC "Turkey or a \$20" drive!

SAVE THE DATE – Sutter Creek Lions next blood drive will be **March 20, 2026**.

The Sutter Creek Lions meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm at Rosa's on Eureka Street. Can't make a meeting? We can also schedule to talk with you at another time. Do you have an idea of something you'd like to do and think it might be a good fit for our club? Let us know. Our goal is to grow our club and do more in the community. Email [info@suttercreeklions.org](mailto:info@suttercreeklions.org) – [FLIER](#)

~ Nancy Champlin, President



Please collect pull tabs and turn them in at the Sutter Creek Visitor Center, 71A Main Street. Pull tabs are collected to benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charities. This is a "home away from home" for families who must travel at least 30 miles to seek medical treatment for their child. Every 10 pounds of tabs collected will pay for one night's stay! Email us at [info@suttercreeklions.org](mailto:info@suttercreeklions.org) to learn more and how to get involved! [\[Facebook post\]](#)

## MARIPOSA LIONS



The Mariposa Lions Club inducted four new members at our Wednesday night meeting on November 19 - the anniversary of our 85th year of existence.

~ Nancy Cordero

Tickets are now on sale for the Annual Crab Feed - sponsored by the Mariposa Lions Club. The 51st Annual Crab Feed will be held Saturday, **February 7, 2026**, at the Mariposa County Fairgrounds. Get your tickets and join the fun! All proceeds support activities in Mariposa County. [FLIER](#)

## RIPON LIONS

In November, the Ripon Lions visited Escalon for our first meeting. We hosted the Fun Strummers Entertainment Group (a ukulele musical and singing group) in our [recent] meeting, which was very well-attended. In December, we will have our annual Christmas Dinner Meeting.

Santa Ken will be on hand for the Christmas Tree Lighting in Ripon on December 1st. Ripon Lions will enter a float in the Ripon Christmas Light Parade on **December 11th**. This year, the Ripon Lions also finalized the fundraising for the new Pancake Breakfast held in October on Main Street Days. This fundraiser was previously managed by the Ripon Fire Auxiliary; but due to a volunteer shortage, we partnered with them this year. From now on, the Ripon Lions will lead this annual event for the Ripon Community.

~ Damon Woods

## ATWATER WINTON LIONS



It is with a deeply grateful tone that we share some exciting news about a wonderful collaborative project.

The Atwater-Winton Lions Club is incredibly thankful for the opportunity to partner with the City of Atwater in a joint effort to purchase and plant 12 new trees at the Veterans Park. This project was a true community success story.

The club wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the many dedicated members who generously rolled up their sleeves and dedicated their time and energy to the planting effort. These new trees will soon provide much-needed shade for the spectators and athletes who use the soccer field. This initiative is a beautiful testament to the power of working together, and the club is truly thankful for the positive impact this collaboration will have in meeting the needs of the youth in the community. [See photos and slideshow on [our Facebook page](#).]

~ Michael Hammar

## TRACY BREAKFAST LIONS

# Tracy Press

Press staff report 5 hrs ago 0

2 of 2



Tracy Breakfast Lions dedicating the new flagpole that the club donated for Vic Alkire Field include, from left to right, Max Contreras, Greg Bidlack, Rick Hanson, Dave McClanahan, President Scott Secker, and Wayne Schneider.

Bob Brownne/Tracy Press

Tracy breakfast Lions' flag pole donation ~ Jack Guzman

## CHOWCHILLA LIONESS LIONS



The Chowchilla Lioness Lions Members presented President Paula Hansen with the Melvin Jones fellowship on November 15th. Paula joined the club on January 23, 1996. Throughout the years, she has been club president for a total of 12 times. Our membership took great pride in presenting this well-deserved [fellowship] to Paula.

~ Sylvia Gutierrez

## LATHROP LIONS





We had a wonderful time celebrating Veteran's Day by handing out donuts to our hometown heroes and their families at the Lathrop Community Center!



Lathrop Lions Club sponsored the 7th Annual Holiday Craft Fair on November 22, 2025. There were over 40 booths, and it was a huge success! Money was raised for the American Cancer Society; and people got to check off their Christmas list while supporting local crafters. Shown in the first two pictures is Linda, President of Lathrop Lions Club.





Lathrop Lions Club collected personal hygiene products for middle school students whose families are struggling during these difficult times. We purchased these great backpacks and made up these kindness kits for the local schools to have in their office. The students can come in and grab one when needed. ~ Erika Johnson

## MOKE HILL LIONS



Yahoo! We may be small, but we are mighty. We welcomed two new members to our club this month: Jennifer Tutt and Debbie Rangell. We are absolutely delighted and truly honored to welcome them as part of our club.



We also are so proud to announce Terry Weatherby has been honored with the Melvin Jones Fellow. His long work and dedication to the Lions Club have been recognized with this dedication.



The Moke Hill Lions Club was honored again this year to decorate our sweet little town. We put up wreaths down Main Street and lit the park trees, walkway, and stage with lights. It's very festive.

Our annual fundraiser, Christmas to Remember, is the 1st Wednesday and Thursday in December and we look forward to this event every year. Our county's community comes out to support our children who are less fortunate, [by buying] new clothes for them at Walmart with the money we raise. We usually touch over 200 children through the efforts of our club, West Point Lions, Tri-Dam Lions, and the San Andreas Rotary. Come out and help us help our kids on **December 3rd and 4th. [FLIER](#)**

Our annual fundraiser, and our biggest of the year, is the Enchilada Dinner. This year, it's on **January 31st**. We would love to see some neighboring Lions Clubs join us in this delicious event. Merry Christmas to all from the Mokelumne Hill Lions Club. [CORRECTED FLIER](#)

~ Cindy Thein-Pederson

**To contact these Lions, ask your Zone Chair for the District Directory (PDF or hardcopy)**

## 2025-2026 DISTRICT 4-A1

### DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Matthew Stickler

### IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Eric Cheung

### 1ST VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Steve Moore

### 2ND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Rob Hyatt

### CABINET SECRETARY

Maggie Stickler

### CABINET TREASURER

Patricia Casey-Gillum

## GLOBAL ACTION TEAM (GAT)

Matthew Stickler – District Chair

**Global Leadership Team Coordinator (GLT)** Claudia Miller

**Global Membership Team Coordinator (GMT)** Rob Hyatt

**Global Extension Team Coordinator (GET)** Samantha Pierce

**Global Service Team Coordinator (GST)** Beth Estante

**District GMT Family & Women's Specialist** – Maggie Stickler

## MOUNTAIN REGION

Region Chair – OPEN

**Mountain Zone Chair - Claudia Miller**  
[COPPEROPOLIS LAKE TULLOCH](#)  
 (47759)

[JACKSON](#) (2263)

[MOKELEMNE HILL](#) (39671)

[MURPHYS ANGELS](#) (2282)

[SONORA](#) (2292)

[SUTTER CREEK](#) (111484)

[TRI DAMS LC](#) (2303)  
[UPCOUNTRY 88](#) (37207)  
[WEST POINT](#) (2307)

## SAN JOAQUIN REGION

Region Chair - OPEN

**San Joaquin Zone 1 Chair – Rodrigo Acosta Jr** (*Temporarily filling in*)  
[CLEMENTS-LOCKEFORD](#) (2252)  
[ESCALON](#) (2258)  
[LINDEN](#) (2266)  
[LODI](#) (2268)  
[LODI MEXICAN AMERICAN](#) (46183)  
[RIPON](#) (2288)  
[STOCKTON HEALTHY LEO-LIONS](#)  
 (181676)

### San Joaquin Zone 2 Chair - Rodrigo Acosta Jr

[LATHROP](#) (105237)  
[STOCKTON DELTA PACIFICA](#) (47862)  
[STOCKTON SAN JOAQUIN](#) (2298)  
[STOCKTON HOST](#) (2294)  
[TRACY BREAKFAST](#) (2302)  
[TRACY TANK TOWN](#) (67535)

## STANISLAUS REGION

Region Chair - OPEN

**Stanislaus Zone 1 Chair – Pedro "Rick" Hernandez Jr**  
[CERES](#) (2250)  
[CROWS LANDING](#) (2253)  
[GUSTINE](#) (2259)  
[HUGHSON](#) (135129)  
[LOS BANOS](#) (2270)  
[MODESTO 500](#) (2279)  
[PATTERSON](#) (2286)

### Stanislaus Zone 2 Chair - Shawn Monnin

[ATWATER-WINTON](#) (2248)  
[DENAIR](#) (2255)  
[HILMAR-IRWIN-STEVINSON](#) (2260)  
[LIVINGSTON](#) (2267)  
[OAKDALE](#) (2285)  
[TURLOCK](#) (2304)  
[WATERFORD](#) (2306)

## YOSEMITE REGION

Region Chair - OPEN

**Yosemite Zone 1 Chair – Karla Gran**

[CHOWCHILLA](#) (2251)  
[CHOWCHILLA LIONESS](#) (98271)  
[DOS PALOS](#) (2256)  
[LE GRAND](#) (2265)  
[MADERA MADERA EVENING](#) (61592)  
[MERCED BREAKFAST](#) (2276)

MERCED COUNTY LE (143071)  
 MERCED HEALTHY LEO LIONS  
 (182692)

**Yosemite Zone 2 Chair – Paula Hansen**

[BASS LAKE](#) (2249)  
[MARIPOSA](#) (2274)  
[NORTH FORK](#) (2284)  
[SIERRA](#) (2291)

## Lions International's GLOBAL CAUSES

### CHILDHOOD - PEDIATRIC CANCER

Liz Bockhop, District Chair

### VISION

Jennifer Gass, District Chair

## LIONS INTERNATIONAL, MD4 & 4-A1 ENDORSED SERVICE PROJECTS

### LIONS INTERNATIONAL – MD4

### CALIFORNIA & DISTRICT 4-A1 CARE SERVICE PROJECTS

Beth Estante, GST

### LIONS IN SIGHT OF CALIFORNIA & NEVADA

Paul Wagner

### LIONS PROJECT for CANINE COMPANIONS

PDG Don Allen

### LIONS SIGHT CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION - SPOT VISION SCREENING

PDG Kent Christensen

Board of Directors 2025-2026

Paul Wagner 2024-2028

Paula Hansen 2020-2024

PDG Don Allen, Treasurer 2024-2028

IPDG Eric Cheung

DG Matt Stickler

**PARKER'S PROM (Childhood Cancer)**

Liz Bockhop

**PEACE POSTER & ESSAY CONTESTS**

Jeff Hammar

**PULL TABS – RONALD MCDONALD'S HOUSE CHARITIES**

Paul Wagner

**RELAY FOR LIFE – AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY**

Beth Estante, GST

**MD4 STUDENT SPEAKERS CONTEST**

Angie Barth, District Chair

**MD4 & 4-A1 MAGIC YARN** (further down on the webpage)

PDG Linda Barbara

lbarb50@yahoo.com

**WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY**

Beth Estante, GST

**FLAG DAY**

Beth Estante, GST

**ALL STAR FOOTBALL**

Elizabeth Gibbs Olson

**4-A1 & MD4 ENDORSED FOUNDATIONS****CALIFORNIA LIONS FOUNDATION**

Todd Riebe

**DISTRICT 4-A1 DISASTER FOUNDATION**

Kirk Noffsinger, President 7/2025-6/2029

Board of Directors:  
Tom Proett 7/2025-6/2029 Mountain Region  
Claudia Miller 7/24-6/2028 Stanislaus Region  
Sam Pierce 7/2024-6/2028 Yosemite Region  
Gabby McKechnie 7/2022-6/2026**EAR OF THE LION FOUNDATION**

Terry Brooks, Treasurer

<https://earofthelion.org/>

800-327-8077

Email: [hearfoundation@aol.com](mailto:hearfoundation@aol.com)**FOURTH DISTRICT STUDENT SPEAKERS FOUNDATION**

PDG Chris Ohrmund, President

[ohrmu@aol.com](mailto:ohrmu@aol.com)<https://studentspeakersfoundation.org/>

PCC Claudia Miller, District Trustee

**LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION**

PDG Kent Christensen, 4-A1 LCIF Chair

PDG Don Allen, 4-A1 LCIF Co-Chair

**LIONS FLOAT INC.**

President Manny Sanchez, PDG

562-708-9061 [lionmanny@gmail.com](mailto:lionmanny@gmail.com)**CITY OF HOPE**

Carl Woody Legacy &amp; Affinity Groups

626-222-7409 [cwoody@coh.org](mailto:cwoody@coh.org)**LIONS EYE FOUNDATION OF CALIFORNIA-NEVADA, INC.**

PDG Russ Custer, President of LEF,

[lrusscuster@aol.com](mailto:lrusscuster@aol.com) 209-410-4102

John Posey, Executive Director

[jdposey94@gmail.com](mailto:jdposey94@gmail.com)**STANDING COMMITTEES****BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Chair – Pat Casey Gillum, Cabinet

Treasurer

District Governor Matt Stickler

1st VDG – Steve Moore

2nd VDG – Rob Hyatt

Ex Officio: PCC Claudia Miller

Ex Officio: PDG Kent Christensen

**CONVENTION MANAGEMENT**

Chairs - Rob Hyatt &amp; Samantha "Sam" Pierce

1. Bobby Arrigone Jr (1st VDG)

2. XXX (2nd VDG)

3. Doug Campbell (PDG Advisor)

4. XXX (Treasurer)

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEES****CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

Chair - Claudia Miller

Matt Stickler, District Governor

Steve Moore, 1st VDG

Rob Hyatt, 2nd VDG

**CREDENTIALS and ELECTIONS**

Chair - Matt Stickler, District

Governor

Maggie Stickler, Cabinet Secretary

1. Club member in good standing

2. Club member in good standing

**YOUTH PROTECTION PROGRAM**

Debbi Hopman

All Zone Chairs

Vice District Governors – Steve Moore &amp; Rob Hyatt

**CHAPLAIN** - As Assigned**DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS**

PDG Don Allen

PCC Claudia Miller

**HONORARY**

PDG Don Allen

**MARKETING, PUBLICITY, IT CHAIR, WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR**

Gail Cates

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Gail Cates

**SONG LEADER** - As Assigned**TAIL TWISTER**

Jill Schwab

**LION TAMER – AV AND 4-A1 ITEMS**

As Assigned

**CONTESTS & AWARDS****PROUD LION MENTORING PROGRAM**

Claudia Miller, Global Leadership Coordinator

**BULLETIN & NEWSLETTER CONTEST**

Maggie Stickler, Cabinet Secretary

**DIGITAL SCRAPBOOK CONTEST**

Maggie Stickler, Cabinet Secretary

**TOP CLUB CONTEST**Maggie Stickler, Cabinet Secretary  
Claudia Miller, Global Leadership Coordinator**EDITOR'S NOTE: Any changes, additions, or corrections, please let Lion Gail know!**