

LIONS DISTRICT 4-A1 NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026 ~ VOLUME 68 – Number 7

"WE SERVE" - Northern San Joaquin Valley & Sierra/Nevada Foothills
501(c)(4) Organization - EIN 23-7426310🌐 WEBSITE: lions4-a1.org ~ ✉ DISTRICT EMAIL: 4A1LIONS@gmail.com📘 FACEBOOK: [4A1LionsClub](https://www.facebook.com/4A1LionsClub) ~ 📺 YOUTUBE: youtube.com/@lions4a1📷 INSTAGRAM: [4a1Lions](https://www.instagram.com/4a1Lions) ~ HASHTAG #4A1Lions🌐 DISTRICT NEWSLETTERS: [LINK](#) ~ EDITOR: Lion Gail Cates✉ NEWSLETTERS' EMAIL: newsletter@lions4-a1.org🌐 [2025-26 DISTRICT DIRECTORY LINK](#) (Ask Zone Chairs for password & PDF file)**~ CALENDAR of EVENTS ~****DISTRICT 4-A1 ONLINE CALENDAR****MD4 GOOGLE CALENDAR****LIONS INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR**Jan 1-March 31: California Lions Foundation's Hunger -Youth Grants – [LINK](#) – [DOWNLOAD APPLICATION](#) - [FLIER](#)1st & 3rd Wednesdays: Pickleball [Lessons](#) – Oakdale Lions - [FLIER](#)Present-June 30: Round 9 Bags For Benches – Stockton San Joaquin Lions - [FLIER](#)January 1: [Lions Float](#) in Pasadena Rose Parade - [LINK TO WATCH IT](#) - [LINK](#)January 9: [Burson Bingo Night](#) – 2nd Fri - Tri Dams LionsJanuary 3-11: [MD4 Hunger](#) Service Week – [FLIER](#) – [FLIER2](#)Jan 6, 12 & Feb 3 & 17: [LionsUSA](#) [Growth Workshop](#)January 10: Cioppino Feed – Linden Lions - [FLIER](#)January 10: Lions Club Carnitas Dinner 4pm at Le Grand American Legion Hall – Le Grand Lions
[FLIER](#) – [LINK](#)January 15: [MD4](#) Masterclass #4 – Branding & Logos – California Lions Marketing Committee –
[REGISTER](#) - [FLIER](#)January 15: Pre-Register for Don Osborne Memorial Run – [LINK](#) – [REGISTRATION FLIER](#) - Oakdale LionsJanuary 15: [Lions Int'l](#) Peace Poster Kits 2026-27 [available](#)January 16-17 (Corrected Date): [District 4-A1](#) Meeting – Escalon – [FLIER](#) - [SCHEDULE](#)January 16-18: [LionsUSA](#) Regional Institutes West Coast California trainingJanuary 17: Surf & Turf – Denair Lions - [FLIER](#)January 23-25: [MD4](#) Regional Lions Leadership Institute – Sacramento - [FLIER](#)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 December's newsletter – [FLIER1](#) – [FLIER2](#)January 31: Crab Feed – Sold out – Notify club if you want to be on the wait list - Linden Lions -
[FLIER](#)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 6: Crab Feed – Please contact Lion Don at 209.765.6830 for tickets \$80 per person -
Turlock LionsFebruary 7: Don Osborne Memorial Run – [LINK](#) – [REGISTRATION FLIER](#) - Oakdale LionsFebruary 7: Green and Gold Gala – Jackson Lions – See article in the Clubs News Section - [FLIER](#)

February 7: 51st Annual Crab Feed – Mariposa Lions [FLIER](#)
February 7: [Tasteful Meet & Greet](#) – Upcountry 88 Lions
February 7: Valentine's Vendor Event – West Point Lions Club - [FLIER](#)
February 13: [Burson Bingo Night](#) – 2nd Fri - Tri Dams Lions
February 15: [International Childhood Cancer Day](#)
February 17: Drive-Thru Tri-Tip Dinner – Patterson Lions - [LINK](#)
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 21: **MD4** Club's Student Speaker Contest Deadline - hosted by today - [LINK](#)
February 21: 2nd Amendment – Waterford Lions - [FLIER](#)
February 26: Leo-Lion Board Liaison Town Hall - [LINK](#)
February 28: Health & Vision Fair – See info in Clubs' Section of this newsletter - Mokelumne Hill Lions
March 13: [Burson Bingo Night](#) – 2nd Frid - Tri Dams Lions
March 14: 75th Anniversary Gala Dinner & Dance – RSVP by February 22nd - Linden 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
March 20: Lions Day with the United Nations – New York, NY - [LINK](#)
March 21: March Madness Bazaar – West Point Lions - [FLIER](#)
April 10: [Burson Bingo Night](#) – 2nd Fri - Tri Dams Lions
April 18: **4-A1** Lions Allstar Football Banquet – see article
April 18-26: **MD4** [Environment](#) Service Week – [FLIER](#)
April 18: 75th Anniversary Gala – West Point Lions – [FLIER](#)
April 23-26: **District 4-A1** Convention – [Black Oak Casino Resort](#) – [SAVE-THE-DATE FLIER](#) – See message from DG Matt in this newsletter
May 2: Gardening & Plant Fair – West Point Lions - [FLIER](#)
May 15: Leo Club Excellence Award Deadline – See information in the Leo Section of this newsletter.
May 16: Antique & Classic Wooden Boat Show – Bass Lake Lions – [FLIER](#)
June 7: Lions Virtual's Tel-A-Thon 6 – Supporting LCIF - [REGISTER](#)
June 20: **4-A1** Lions Allstar Football Game & Girls Flag Football Game – See article in this newsletter
June 12-14: **MD4** Council of Governors [Meeting](#) – 4th 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 - 1st Tuesdays
District 4-A1 Membership Orientations – ALL LIONS ARE WELCOMED! 6:30pm - every 4th 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 - 4th Mondays
District 4-A1 Rebuild Club Meetings – (Zoom) 4th Friday of the month 6:45pm

District 4-A1 Newsletter Deadline – Flyers, articles & photos due 25th of the month -
newsletter@lions4-a1.org

From the DISTRICT GOVERNOR's DESK

Happy Holidays, Lions of District 4-A1

Fellow Lions,

As we reach this special season of the year, I want to wish you and your families a very Happy Holiday and a Merry Christmas. This is a time to reflect with gratitude—on our blessings, on the friendships we share, and on the difference Lions continue to make every day in our communities.

I am proud to say we have had a very strong first half of our Lions year. Your dedication to service, your leadership in your clubs, and your commitment to showing up when your community needs you has made an impact that truly matters. Thank you for all you do.

We are also making meaningful progress toward our district membership goal. Our target remains 2,000 members, and we are currently at 1,664. That is a solid foundation—and it also means the finish line is within reach. Please keep inviting prospective members to join your club, sharing your service story, and creating opportunities for others to get involved. Growth is not just about numbers; it is about expanding our ability to serve.

Looking ahead, please start planning now for an exciting District Meeting in January. I hope to see a strong turnout as we come together, connect, and prepare for a productive second half of the year.

And don't forget—Convention is coming in April, and we are honored to welcome International Director Lion Gary Steele and his wife Elizabeth, who hail from North Carolina. Their visit will be a highlight for our district, and I encourage every club to promote convention participation and start building momentum now.

As we enter the new year, let's renew our energy for service projects and recommit to what Lions do best: serving our communities and the world.

Yours in service,

~ Lion Matthew Stickler

District Governor, District 4-A1



DISTRICT 4-A1 CONVENTION IN APRIL

Hello Lions of District 4-A1,

Convention season is fast approaching, and I am beginning to compile an early interest list for our District 4-A1 Convention, April 23–26, at Black Oak Casino Resort.

This year's theme is Holidays, and we are planning a weekend filled with fun, fellowship, and games. We are also pleased to welcome our International Guest, International Director Gary Steele (North Carolina).

If you are interested in attending (or think you may attend), please reply by email at your earliest convenience so we can plan appropriately for headcount, lodging, and event logistics.

Thank you for your support, and I look forward to celebrating with you at convention.

In Lionism,

~ Matthew H. Stickler,

District Governor, MD-4 A1

(559) 416-9821 matthewhstickler@gmail.com



District 4-L4 Lions is at Doubletree by Hilton Hotel-Rosemead Ca.

18h · Los Angeles · 🌐

...

MD4 Council of Governors. The Grey Team is with International President A.P. Singh, PID Sangeeta Jatia, PID Ken Ibarra and ID Liz Crooke at the President's Reception in Rosemead.



EDITOR'S NOTE: Here's your District Governor Matt at the Council of Governor's meeting (back row, 5th from left).

50th LIONS ALLSTAR FOOTBALL & GIRLS ALLSTAR FLAG FOOTBALL



The banquet date is Saturday, **April 18, 2026**, at St. Joseph's Hall in Modesto, CA. More information to follow.

We are excited to celebrate our 50th Lions Allstar Football Game this year at Tracy High School Wayne Schneider Stadium in Tracy CA on Saturday, **June 20, 2026**. We hope to see you there!

The coaches have been chosen for the North and South teams!

Head Coach for the North Team is Coach Varnum of Manteca High School in Manteca, and the Head South Coach is Frank Marques of Hilmar High School in Hilmar.

Exciting news - we are adding Girls Flag Football this year!

North Girls Team Head Coach is Coach Rios of Kimball High School in Tracy and the South Girls Team Head Coaches are Atwater's Coaches Ramirez and Abbasi.

Gates and concession open at 4 pm (credit cards accepted).

Girls Allstar Flag Football starts at 5:00 pm.

Lions Allstar Football starts at 7:15 pm.

Game tickets, at the gate, are \$15.00.

Tickets will be available on GoFan soon.

Thank you for your support and Happy New Year!

~ Elizabeth Olson

CALIFORNIA LIONS CAMP



This month, California Lions Camp Board awarded grants to I Can Swim for \$1500, Jessica's House for \$5,000, and \$5,000 to Candlelighters/Parker's Prom.



I Can Swim! Forty more swimmers will be enrolling in January!



Jessica's House will be purchasing more supplies for grief therapy sessions.

ATTENTION: Your club officers may have received a letter in a blue envelope with a return address of "California Lions Camp 1836 K Street, Merced, CA 95340, Camp Pacifica.Org". Inside was a letter from Merced Healthy Leo Lions Club president Asia Joaquim regarding a January 31st Service Carnival at Camp McConnell along with a flyer. Please note that this was NOT from the California Lions Camp board. California Lions Camp is NOT sponsoring this service carnival. The envelope was used in error. ~ Debbi Hopman

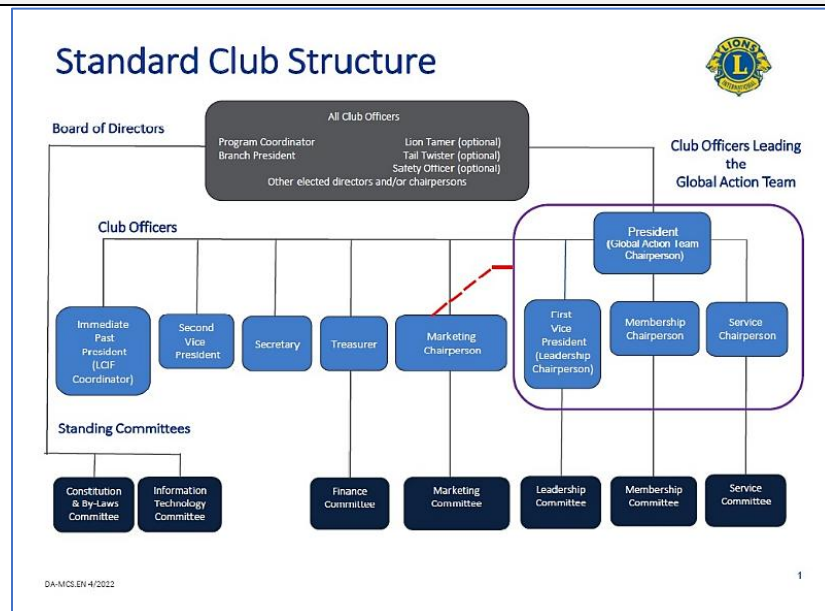
Lion AI

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



"Lion AI provides quick, personalized assistance and streamlined access to what you need, and it all starts with Ellie, your AI assistant for all things Lions International. Whether you have a question about a program, need to find a specific resource or just want a recommendation, your AI assistant is here to help. Please keep in mind that Ellie is still learning, and we'll continue working to make our AI even better over time so we can create an even better experience for you."

NEXT YEAR'S CLUB OFFICERS?



Time to start looking for your 2026-2027 club officers. The revised Standard Club Constitution and Bylaws have specific direction when it comes to the nomination of officers. Here is a link to download the PowerPoint presentation that covers why and how to use the prescribed nominating committee to help smooth this process: [LINK](#). If your club president put you on the nominating committee, take the time to interview club members. You might have the perfect board member just waiting to be asked. Also, a list of duties for each office is included. Happy New Year and good luck.

~ PDG Gabby McKechnie

From the LIONS INT'L DISTRICT DIGEST



Plan Service for International Childhood Cancer Day on February 15

Now is the time to start planning a childhood cancer service activity to support patients and families, assist organizations and facilities and raise awareness in your community. Use our childhood cancer service area resources to get started. [LINK](#)

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 and 209-596-1219.

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

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

Town Hall Meetings (Zoom) **3rd 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) **4th 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.

OTHER TRAININGS & OPPORTUNITIES

New LINKS have been added to our District's website <https://lions4-a1.org/contact-links/> FYI.

Here are some Training options for you to find out more about LIONS:

- * Sign into the Lion Portal and research classes given in the "Lions Learning Center"
- * Lions International's YouTube has lots of training/ available: <https://www.youtube.com/lionsclubs>
- * Lions International's website has training links - <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center> and go to the "TRAINING" tab. Here's one of the options to learn more about LIONS: <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/leadership-development-institutes>
- * MD4 (California) Lions website has this tab: <https://md4lions.org/training>
- * Our District 4-A1 website has this webpage with training suggestions: <https://lions4-a1.org/training/>

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. If you know anyone who might be interested, "email" them my way! [EMAIL](#). 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)**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

MD4 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

[Hunger Relief](#) Jan 3-11

[Environment](#) Apr 18-26

Hey California Lions!

Save the date and start planning your service project now as we join service with clubs and districts worldwide to serve awareness. Club partnering/district-wide projects are encouraged. Plan event outreach early to maximize community visibility, engage volunteers and community

Raise Awareness • Inspire Action • Serve Together

Individual Lions: Simple Ways to Make an Impact

Host a Facebook Fundraiser to support local food banks, pantries, or meal programs.

Prepare or donate a meal for a neighbor, senior, or family in need.

Launch a "Fill the Pantry" Challenge — share photos of donated food, meals, or grocery bags.

Wear Orange or Gold and post why hunger relief matters to you and your community.

Lions Club Ideas

Host or volunteer at a food pantry, soup kitchen, or community meal.

Organize a club food drive with clear goals (pounds collected or meals served).

Create blessing bags or weekend meal packs for students, seniors, or unhoused neighbors.

Partner with local schools, churches, or nonprofits addressing food insecurity.

Run a club service challenge — most meals served, most families supported, or most creative project.

Together, Lions across California can fight hunger, nourish hope, and strengthen our communities during Hunger Relief Service Weeks this January 2026 — because no one should face hunger alone.

Resources

MD4 Hunger Chair Lion Jeri Wartena wartena@comcast.net

CA Lions Projects at a Glance, view [here](#)

[California Lions Project Care Service Project Groups](#)

#LionsHelpingMorePeople #CalionsHunger - [FLIER](#)

Visit Service Resources for event ideas at marketing.calionsclubs.org and

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center/service/global-causes-initiatives/weeks-of-service>

LionsUSA GROWTH WORKSHOPS



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

Jan 6 & 12, Feb 3 & 17

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

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](#)

JANUARY MASTERCLASS Jan 15th & FEBRUARY WORKSHOP Feb 7th

MD4 Marketing is proud to present:

MasterClass – Branding: Beyond the Black and White
and MasterClass Workshop - [FLIER](#)

What You Need to Know

DATES: January 15, 2026 7-8pm - MasterClass Training

February 7, 2026 10am-2pm - Workshop

LI has gone to great lengths to preserve and strengthen the Lions brand for over 100 years. These experts have gone to great lengths to create resources and standards that clubs and groups can leverage to represent Lions in a consistent and recognizable manner. Despite those best efforts, all too often the guidelines get blurred when trying to apply them to real world projects.

This MasterClass will focus on “real world” examples, strategies, and tips from branding experts who know how to bring clarity to this sometimes-challenging topic. We will focus on the “tricky points” that can contribute to confusion and trigger branding mistakes.

[Register for the MasterClass](#), and we will automatically enroll you in the workshop. All registered participants in the MasterClass will receive a replay link. To ensure you get the most out of the experience, we will email you replays of the first three classes (one replay a day) so you will be all caught up and refreshed by the time January 15th rolls around.

February Follow-Up Workshop

Because real learning comes from doing, we will be offering a follow-up workshop on Saturday, **February 7**, from 10AM – 2:00PM. This is your opportunity to practice what we have been talking about in the first four masterclasses.

You don't need to stay for the entire time (but you are welcome to do so). Bring your real-world projects and we will help you make sure you express your club's personality and passion while staying within branding guidelines.

Let's make 2026 the best year ever!! [CALENDAR](#)

~ Lion Diana Ringer, CA Area 1, MD4 Marketing

4-A1 DISTRICT MEETING Jan 17-18

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

(on next page...)



MD 4 A1 District Meeting and Club Service Carnival

Escalon Community Center
1055 Escalon Ave
95320

January 16th and 17th
8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Lions, Leo Lions and Omegas \$20
Alpha Leos Free.
Parent of a Leo \$10.00

Succession Planning with
PCC Kevin Guess and 1VDG Jimmy Ness
of MDC4

Club Service Carnival:
Clubs are Highly Encourage to Bring and
Share Their Service Ideas

Registration Form
Pay Online




Valentines Day
Lions Caring & Sharing

District 4-A1 Meeting

January 16 & 17, 2026

Friday, January 16th - Training Day

Workshop Facilitators:

PCC Kevin Guess & 1stVDG Jimmy Ness

ZC Shawn Monnin & GLT Claudia Miller

Saturday, January 17th - 4-A1 Meeting

1055 Escalon Ave, Escalon, CA 95320

Escalon Community Center

Continental Breakfast and Lunch & Snacks Provided



Friday 4-A1 Training Day 9AM-3PM

8:30-9 - Check in

Topics

Succession Planning

Creating a Leadership Pipeline

Planning for the next 5 years

- Recognizing and developing your Club members' talents
- Identifying current and potential leaders
- Supporting leadership development

Leading with Purpose

Building a culture of change and growth

- Encouraging a questioning environment
- Bring together knowledge, skills, experience and willingness to share
- Listening to everyone
- Recognizing & celebrating talent
- Attention to compliance & safety
- Attention to fiscal transparency
- Lions Code of Conduct

Board of Directors Role & Responsibilities

- Providing strategic direction,
- Overseeing club finances and authorizing expenditures, and
- Executing club policies
- Promoting leadership development,
- Ensuring member orientation and retention

Open Forum— Q & A

Saturday 4-A1 District Meeting 7AM-3PM

7:00 Set up

8:00 Check in (coffee, juice & pastry)

8:45 Invocation, Pledge & Introductions

9:00 Leadership Pipeline

10:00 Break

10:15 Club Recognition

10:30 Service Carnival

12:00 Break

12:15 Lunch & Update on District & MD4

1:00 Leadership—Why Change?

2:00 4-A1 Convention 2026

2:30 Announcements

2:45 Wrap Up—Drive Safe

Registration

Alpha Leos free

parents of Alpha Leos \$10

Omega Leos & Lions \$20

Clubs please bring a raffle prize

See you March 20 & 21, 2026

Mountain Region

1stVDG/DGE Steve Moore

Transition Planning

Setting strategies and focus for the next Lions' Year

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
- 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 - [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/>**LIONS VIRTUAL'S TELL-A-THON June 7**<https://lionsvirtual.org/>

Register for the yearly Tell-A-Thon in support of LCIF.

-  **Tell-A-Thon 6**
-  **Debating June 7**
-  **Hosted by VP Mark Lyon**
- ✦ Inspirational stories
- ✦ Service powered by LCIF
- ✦ Music & entertainment that reflect the heart of Lionism
- 👉 **Register here:** [LINK](#)

**50th LIONS ALLSTAR FOOTBALL GAME - GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL GAME June 20**

The banquet date is Saturday, **April 18, 2026**, at St. Joseph's Hall in Modesto, CA.
More information to follow.

We are excited to celebrate our 50th Lions Allstar Football Game this year at Tracy High School Wayne Schneider Stadium in Tracy CA on Saturday, **June 20, 2026**. We hope to see you there!

The coaches have been chosen for the North and South teams!



Head Coach for the North Team is Coach Varnum of Manteca High School in Manteca, and the Head South Coach is Frank Marques of Hilmar High School in Hilmar.

Exciting news - we are adding Girls Flag Football this year!

North Girls Team Head Coach is Coach Rios of Kimball High School in Tracy and the South Girls Team Head Coaches are Atwater's Coaches Ramirez and Abbasi.

Gates and concession open at 4 pm (credit cards accepted).

Girls Allstar Flag Football starts at 5:00 pm.

Lions Allstar Football starts at 7:15 pm.

Game tickets, at the gate, are \$15.00.

Tickets will be available on GoFan soon.

Thank you for your support and Happy New Year!

~ Elizabeth Olson

LI CONVENTION July 3-7

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



July 3-7, 2026 • 108th Lions International Convention

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!



108th Lions International Convention



Register now for the best price on registration.

lionscon.org

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

lionscon.lionsclubs.org #LionsCon26

ALPHA & OMEGA LEO NEWS SECTION (and LEO LION Clubs)

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



DISTRICT LEO CHAIRPERSON – Paul Wagner

lions4-a1.org/district-projects/projects-youth/leo-clubs

-
- * 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 - [INSTAGRAM](#)
Charter Date 5/7/1999 Merced Breakfast Lions
 - * MADERA LEO CLUB
Charter Date 3/10/2009 Madera Evening Lions
 - * MADERA II OMEGA CLUB - [INSTAGRAM](#)
Charter Date 3/10/2009 Madera Evening Lions
 - * MERCED LEO CLUB - [INSTAGRAM](#)
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 - [Instagram](#)
Charter Date 1/27/2020 Tracy Tank Town Lions
 - * SAN JOAQUIN OMEGA LEO CLUB - [Instagram](#)
Charter Date 5/16/2024 Stockton San Joaquin Lions
 - * TOKAY HIGH SCHOOL LEO CLUB - [Instagram](#)
Charter Date 3/9/2015 Stockton San Joaquin Lions
 - * YOSEMITE HIGH SCHOOL LEO CLUB
Charter Date 3/29/2013 Bass Lake Lions

LEO-LION BOARD LIAISON TOWN HALL FEB 26 5pm

"Leo club advisors and district/multiple district Leo chairpersons, attend the Leo-Lion Town Hall to learn about methods and resources to support the Leo to Lion transition." [LINK](#) (from the Dec District Digest)

LEO CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD

Attention Leo Clubs of District 4-A1!

Have you welcomed new members this year?

Did your club lead or participate in impactful service projects? Have your Leos demonstrated outstanding leadership and community involvement?

If yes — it's time to be recognized!

Your club may be eligible for the Leo Club Excellence Award!

Let your District Team know about your accomplishments by completing the Leo Club Excellence Award [application](#).

Fill out the form and submit it to me before the deadline MAY 15. [PAGE1](#) – [PAGE2](#)
Celebrate your Leo Club's dedication, service, and success!
Let's show the world what District 4-A1 Leos are made of!
~ District Governor Matt Stickler
matthewstickler@gmail.com

[illegible]

YOSEMITE HIGH SCHOOL LEO CLUB



On Tuesday, December 9, 2025, the Yosemite Leos Club, along with two Bass Lake Lions and their teacher advisor, assembled trays of Christmas cookies and candy to deliver to all the staff at Yosemite High School - and the staff at the local Majestic Mountain Care Facility. This has been an annual tradition for the Yosemite High Leos Club for several years. ~ Bruce Alameida

**STOCKTON HEALTHY LEO LIONS CLUB**

FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Stockton-Healthy-Leo-Lions-club/61578752575566/>

and INSTAGRAM

<https://www.instagram.com/stocktonhealthyleolionsclub/>



[On December 14th,] Lion 🦁 Horacio, Lion Silvana, Lion Armando, and Lion Eugenia came together to join the Unity Run, raising funds to support the victims of the recent mass shooting in Stockton. As members of our local running community—the very community that helped create this Unity Club—we unite to serve by doing what we love most: running with purpose 🏃 🏃 ❤️ Our hearts are with the families and individuals affected. We run in solidarity, hope, and compassion, while proudly standing together as Lions. Together, we serve. Together, we heal. 💙 🦁



💎 Member Spotlight 💎

Huge shout out to 🐼 Silvana and 🐼 Vira for proudly representing our club during these amazing runs that support local food banks! 🏃‍♀️ 💙 📦

Your energy, dedication, and community spirit shine so bright!

Thank you for running with purpose and showing what it truly means to serve.

If you've ever wanted to make a difference and have fun doing it, come join our club!

Together we grow, give back, and cheer each other on every step of the way. 💛 💪

[#WeServe](#) [#stocktonhealthyleolions](#)





🌈🐯 What a DAY of service, smiles, and miles! 🏃🏃
The Stockton Healthy Leo-Lions Club was super busy spreading joy all across town! 💪💫 [above

photos]

🏆 Lion Silvana, Lion Eugenia, Don Hector, and our loyal friend Ana joined the epic Sundance Running Club's annual "Guess Your Time" Run — and guess what?! 🏆 Everyone earned medals for being so close to their estimated times! Talk about skill and teamwork! 🏆

🧸❤️ Even better, toys and funds were donated to the Stockton Police Department to support their holiday toy giveaway for families in need. Because running with purpose makes every mile matter.

🌈🏃 On the other side of town, Lion Horacio showed up strong to support the very first Color Run, joined by our amazing friends Rosa, Gloria, and David — and bringing color, energy, and community spirit everywhere they went!

💡 From medals to meaningful service, this is what it looks like when we serve together. Because service is better when it's colorful, fun, and shared! 🧡🦁💙

[#WeServe](#) [#StocktonHealthyLeoLionsClub](#)



While on break from their respective universities, Stockton Healthy Leo-Lions Club members and San Joaquin Omega Leos, Abigail and Belisario, are staying true to their commitment to service. Today, they delivered several bags to Lion Jennifer Gass in support of the impactful Bags for Benches project—an initiative that turns plastic waste into meaningful change for our community. We are proud to support projects that protect our environment while creating a cleaner, more welcoming public space. Service does not take a break, and neither do our Leos. Together, we serve. Together, we make a difference. ~ Eugenia Hernandez

MERCED HEALTHY LEO LIONS CLUB

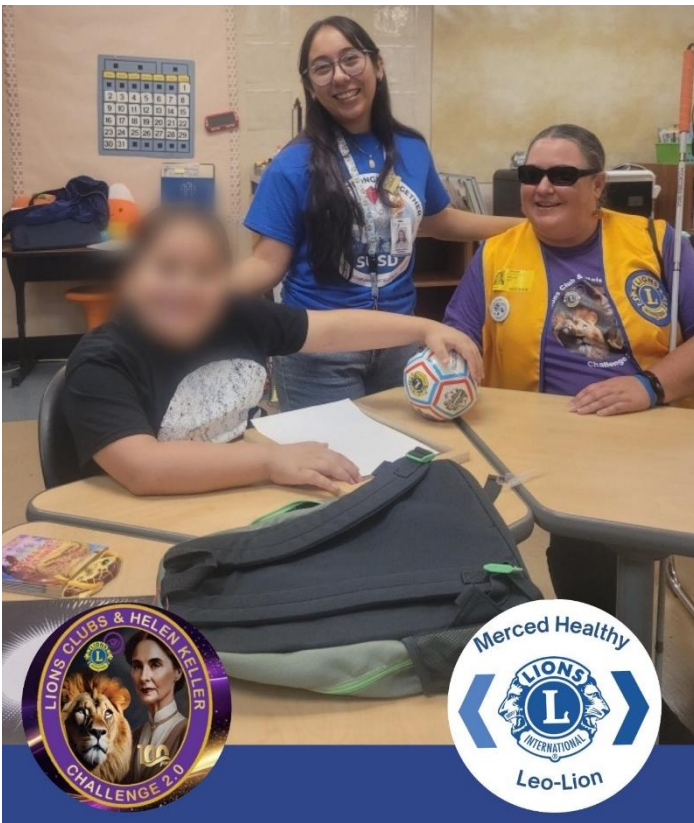
<https://www.instagram.com/mercedhealthyleolions/>

The Leo Lions would like to remind everyone of their Service Carnival at Camp McConnell on **January 31st!!** Please come out for an hour or two and volunteer with service organizations from all over the Central Valley! [Help clean up Camp McConnell.] Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner provided rain or shine!! Email Club President Asia for more information: joaquimasia35@gmail.com

– [FLIER1](#) – [FLIER2](#)



The Merced Healthy Leo-Lions had a slow December as they gear up for a booked and busy January and February! We ended 2025 with a bang as we loaded up about 140 Alpha and Omega Leos, Leo-Lions, Young Lions, and Lions on three VIA buses to head to the Rose Bowl Parade Float decorating barn in Irwindale on the 27th. A 5am departure opened a whole day of flower-cutting, scaffolding-climbing, and paintbrush-gluing to the group of volunteers. With tired hands and a stomach full from In and Out, we arrived back home at 3am (almost a full 24-hour trip!). We want to thank all the people who came on this decorating trip with us and braved the 4-hour VIA bus ride! ~ Asia Joaquim



At the end of November, the Merced Healthy Leo-Lions completed the Helen Keller Challenge 2.0 with an Instagram post and some help from the Stockton San Joaquin Lions. We had the pleasure of purchasing, inflating, and distributing 35 Rattle Balls from A Ball for All. With assistance from Stockton San Joaquin Lions, 25 balls were distributed in the San Joaquin Valley. We are so happy to be able to spread the joy of sports. The rattle ball are lightweight soccer balls, designed with bells inside for audible tracking by visually-impaired individuals. A Ball for All believes that every pupil with visual impairment should have access to quality education and the right to play. They have distributed their sound balls in 215 countries and territories. The Merced Healthy Leo Lions received their banner patch for the challenge from Jennifer Gass on December 27th!

SAN JOAQUIN OMEGA LEO CLUB

<https://www.instagram.com/sanjoaquinomegaleo/>



sanjoaquinomegaleo The countdown is officially on as we get ready for our road trip to Pasadena to decorate the International Lions Club Rose Parade Float. This is an exciting service opportunity, and we want everyone prepared for a smooth and successful experience. Please review these important reminders carefully:

- Leo application must be completed and on file
- Waiver must be signed
- No cups without lids will be allowed on the bus
- Dress in layers — early mornings will be cold
- Bring a small bag to carry your personal items
- @MercedHealthyLeoLionsClub will be providing breakfast burritos.
- Most importantly, bring your positive attitude and be ready to serve

Let's travel safely, work together, and represent our Lions and Leos with pride. Pasadena, here we come.

TOKAY HIGH SCHOOL LEO CLUB

<https://www.instagram.com/tokayfolkloricclub/>

Stockton Healthy Leo-Lions Club, M.e.ch.a club, Alpha Leos Tokay High School club, and Hispanic Honor Society club 🐾 ✨:

🌱 ❤️ COMMUNITY COLLECTION DRIVE ❤️ 🌱

Together, we can make a BIG difference—one donation at a time! We're inviting our community to support local and district causes by donating the following items:

♻️ Pull Tabs Collect your pull tabs to help benefit the Ronald McDonald House, supporting families during difficult times.

🕶️ Eyeglasses Donate your old prescription glasses to help improve someone's vision and quality of life.

♻️ Recycle Bags for Benches (Recycling) Recycle your bags to support the Bags for Benches project, turning waste into something meaningful for our community.

🐾 Pet Food Donations Help support local unhoused pets by donating pet food items—because every paw matters.

❤️ Purpose Together, we can create a positive impact and continue serving our community with heart.

🧩 Want to get involved or donate?

☎️ 209-922-1753 📍 @stocktonhealthyleo-lionsclub

✨ Together, WE SERVE 🐾 🐾 ❤️ [FLIER](#)

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)

ATWATER WINTON LIONS

December has been filled with community, fellowship, and celebration for the Atwater-Winton Lions Club. Members started the month off by participating in the Atwater Christmas Parade held on December 5, 2025. Lion members Reggie Boesch and Frank Dutra organized the team and designed the float for the parade. Ultimately, many members decorated and rode on the float. The parade was a grand success as there were many parade entries; and the streets were packed with supportive spectators.



Left Photo: Lion Reggie Boesch at the wheel of the float at the Atwater Christmas Parade. Right Photo: Lion Eric Cheung and President Jennifer Ruiz with Lion Lou prepared for the Atwater Christmas Parade.



Atwater-Winton Lions members were well-represented at the Atwater Christmas Parade.



Left Photo: Lions Jeff Hammar and Richard Lopez.



Right Photo: Lions Amanda Baptista and Mary Pereira at the Atwater Christmas Parade.

Atwater-Winton Lions held their annual Christmas Dinner Party on December 10, 2025 at Bettencourt Ranch in Turlock, CA.

Members gathered to celebrate the holiday season with dinner, games, gifts, and fellowship.

As in past years, Atwater-Winton Lions Club sponsored gift baskets for families in need.



Left photo: Current Atwater-Winton Lions Club President, Jennifer Ruiz and Immediate Past President, Barbara Dutra. Right Photo: Lions Joe and Josephine Dutra at the Annual Christmas Dinner Party.



Atwater-Winton Lions Club Christmas Dinner Party 2025



Photo: Lions Mary Pereira and Amanda Baptista with guest, Pam Boesch.



Left Photo: Lions Dee Heller and Mary Pereira at the Annual Christmas Dinner Party. Right Photo: Lions Connie Garza and Amanda Baptista.



Left Photo: Lions Frank Dutra, Barbara Dutra, and Reggie Boesch. Right Photo: Lions Jeff Hammar and Eric Cheung enjoyed the Christmas celebration at Bettencourt Ranch.



Lion Jeff Hammar served as the auctioneer for the club's dessert auction. Fun was had, and funds were raised! It was a win-win event.



Veteran Lion Frank Dutra, Sr. and Lion Michael Hammar were at the Annual Christmas Dinner Party on December 10, 2025.

OAKDALE LIONS [FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

Oakdale Lions Club presents the 34th Annual Don Osborne Memorial Run 2026 -5K Run and 1-Mile Run/Walk.

Where: Race begins at the William Meyer Park (G Street and South Second Ave). Behind the Oakdale Library.

Course is on flat, paved city streets with traffic control

When: Saturday, **February 7th, 2026** (RAIN OR SHINE)

Registration- shirt and bib pickup 8:00 a.m.


1 Mile Run/Walk 9:00 a.m.

5K Run 9:45 a.m.

Awards Ceremony 10:45 a.m.


Registration: Pre-Registration by **January 15th** (includes T-Shirt) \$25.00 Adults \$10.00 Children (9-18) under 9 Free. Make checks payable to: Oakdale Lions Club. Mail to: Oakdale Lions Club P. O. Box 550 Oakdale, CA 95361

Race Day and Online Registration \$25.00 - [FLIER](#)

 Oakdale Lions Club - Oakdale, CA
Yesterday at 1:21 AM · 🌐

<https://www.oakdaleleader.com/.../oakdale-lions-club.../> ✓

Again, we thank the Oakdale Leader for their support for what we do in our community.

 **OAKDALELEADER.COM**
Oakdale Lions Club helps provide plenty of cheer for local youngsters
While the kids selected to receive the gift cards enjoyed the pizza party with their families, the special guest of honor also arrived at the Community Center, as Santa Claus stopped in for a visit.

 Oakdale Lions Club - Oakdale, CA is with Scouting America Troop 43 and Cherilyn Bairos at Oakdale Citizens Cemetery. ...

December 18 at 7:15 AM · Oakdale · 🌐

Mayor [Cherilyn Bairos](#) was live in the Circle and captured Doug Creekpaum's presentation. Thank you Ms. Mayor!
<https://fb.watch/E3QM7Zbf0I/> ✓

 **Cherilyn Bairos · Follow**
· Dec 13 · 🌐





Oakdale Lions Club - Oakdale, CA is at Oakdale Citizens Cemetery. ...

December 18 at 5:23 AM · Oakdale · 🌐

<https://www.oakdaleleader.com/.../laying-of-wreaths.../> ✓

A Big Thank You again to the Oakdale Leader (especially the awesome Marg Jackson) who has dutifully reported on our events and encouraged support for us.



OAKDALELEADER.COM

Laying of wreaths serves as reminder of sacrifice

Send message



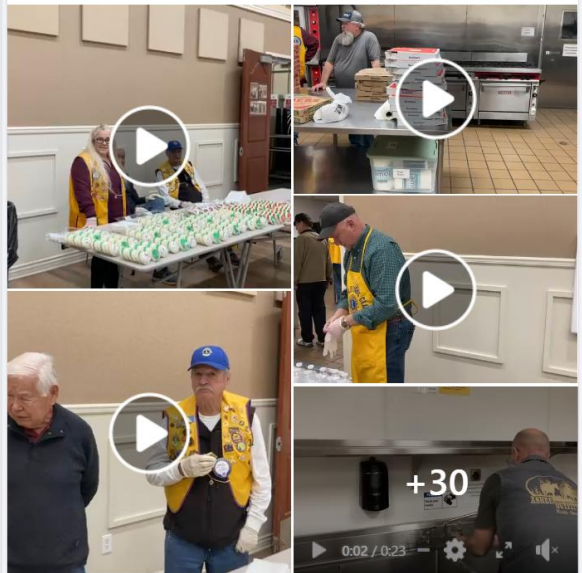
Oakdale Lions Club - Oakdale, CA is at Gene Bianchi Community Center. ...

December 17 at 5:10 AM · Oakdale · 🌐

Monday Evening was our annual Childrens Christmas Shopping Tour Pizza Party. Two hundred kids were awarded gift certificates for Kohl's and a little extra Christmas Cheer they might not otherwise have. Pizzas were either donated or sold to us at a deep discount by Mountain Mike's Pizza along with Round Table and Dominoes Pizza. An appearance by the Jolly Old Elf Himself who gave out a present to each child in attendance.

Over \$20,000 was raised to give these underrepresented kids a bit of Holiday Joy. The Oakdale Lions Club raises money for CCST throughout the year. Should you want to help fund this outreach, checks can be sent payable to Oakdale Lions Club is PO Box 550, Oakdale, CA 95361 (memo CCST)

We continue to be grateful for the support of our community to make this happen





Oakdale Lions Club - Oakdale, CA is in Sonora.

December 11 at 12:06 AM · 🌐

...

As a part of the Sonora Christmas Parade, your facebook manager's float (Railtown 1897) was staged right next to the Sonora Lions float. Staging is LONG for the Sonora Parade so we had plenty of time to talk. And shoot a Merry Christmas video from our friends up the hill



Oakdale Lions Club - Oakdale, CA is at Oakdale Citizens Cemetery.

December 9 at 12:45 AM · Oakdale · 🌐

...

The Oakdale Lions Club are very active participants in Wreaths Across America <https://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/> ✓

Remember the fallen. Honor those who serve. Teach the next generation the value of freedom. It's the mission of Wreaths Across America. You can join us by sponsoring a wreath, volunteering or partnering with us on National Wreaths Across America Day and every day.

Scenes from Wreaths Across America 2021



MOKELUMNE HILL LIONS

February 28: Health Fair 9am-4pm at Mokelumne Hill Elementary School. This is being held free to families. It will include several medical exams: vision screening and acuity, free eyeglasses, A1C diabetes, STD/HIV testing, blood pressure, blood oxygen, and body mass index.



Moke Hill Lions celebrated December starting with our yearly fundraiser to provide children in our community money to buy new clothes. Tri-Dam, West Point, and our club, along with the San Andreas Rotary, raised over \$13,000 for the children this year. It was the best we've ever done.



Santa (Lion Mike Moran) made an appearance many times during this month.



And our yearly Christmas Party was grand. We look forward to 2026! ~ Cindy Pederson

JACKSON LIONS

On **February 7th**, join us for a fun night at our First Annual Green & Gold Gala to benefit Argonaut High School Student Leadership. It's a Surf & Turf plated dinner with a no-host bar. The student leadership team will be serving you a wonderful steak and scampi dinner with all the fixings. An unforgettable night of dinner, auctions, raffles, and community awaits you. Just sit back and enjoy! For tickets, see a member of the Argonaut Student Leadership, a Jackson Lions member, or go online to jacksonlionsclub.org - [PURCHASE TICKETS](#) - [FLIER](#)

BASS LAKE LIONS

(There is also an article in Leo Section under "Yosemite High School Leos.")





Once again, the Bass Lake Lions gave away free hot chocolate at the annual Pines Winter Parade, and sold cotton candy to help fund scholarships and local needs. Over 500 cups of hot chocolate were distributed to anyone in attendance, while 109 cotton candy cones were sold for the low cost of \$3 each. Locals and visitors were grateful for the hot chocolate, while the low cost of cotton candy helped families treat their children without stressing their budgets. ~ Bruce Alameida

MURPHYS-ANGELS LIONS

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER



Some of our wonderful cooks.



Some of our amazing volunteers along with their families.

**THANK
YOU**

THANKSGIVING DINNER



Happy Thanksgiving to all of our Lions' Friends and Families. a great night had by all, and a spectacular meal prepared by our lovely cooks.



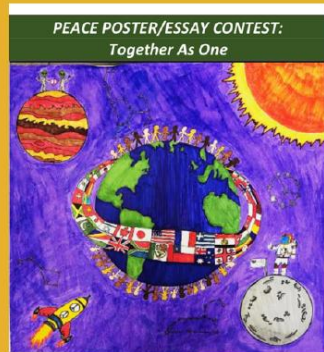
PEACE POSTER CONTEST UPDATE

As previously, mentioned in the last newsletter Brianna was selected as the peace poster contest. She has now been selected as the **District 4- A1 Winner**. We now wait to see how she does at the next Level.



President Sue, Secretary/Treasurer: Carolee Kane, and Winner: Brianna Rodriguez.

Congratulations!



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

TOYS FOR TOTS



THANKS TO MEMBER'S DONATIONS, THE LIONS CLUB WAS ABLE TO DONATE A TABLE FULL OF GIFTS FOR "TOYS FOR TOTS" THIS CHRISTMAS.

CHRISTMAS DINNER



Lions family Christmas Dinner. Great time had by all. Merry Christmas.



MURPHYS-ANGELS CLUB CALENDAR

Thursday, January 8 -Board Meeting -Missy from Amador Hospice to talk about Valentine's Day Fundraiser

Thursday, January 22 - Family Dinner -Katie McCoy to present Award -Jared Hungerford from CCOE to talk about Calaveras County Education

TURLOCK LIONS



Toy Donation - Turlock Lions Club wore their Santa hats to shop for over \$5000 dollars of toys to make a happy holiday season for children in the Turlock area.

Christmas Party Photos – see below...





SUTTER CREEK LIONS

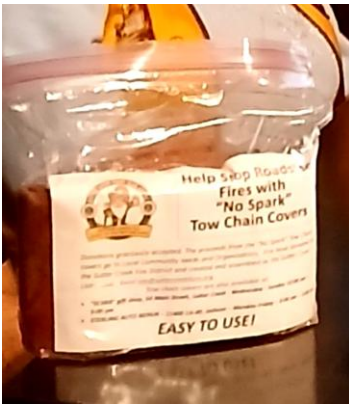




'Tis the season to be merry! The Sutter Creek Lions received a text from Santa and joined other community members in decorating Main Street just in time for their annual open house on December 5-6.



December 9 - At our Sutter Creek Lions meeting, a Scout from Troop 633 gave a presentation on his Eagle project to partner with the Amador County Library and develop a Children's Literacy & STEM Program using Legos.



We are always looking for ways to collaborate to achieve goals; and it was decided that we would provide Zach with our packages of "No Spark" Tow Chain Covers for him to raise the funds he needs for this project.

The covers are intended to provide a barrier between metal tow chains and asphalt, thereby preventing sparks that could ignite dry roadside vegetation.

Tow chain covers are made from retired, heavy duty fire hoses that are no longer used for firefighting. The Sutter Creek Fire Department has donated their retired hoses for this project; and the Sutter Creek Lions package them into pairs of covers.

Our meeting was held at Rosa's Cocina on Eureka Street where we enjoyed great food and great service.

Thank you, Rosa's! If you're interested in a pair of covers, email info@suttercreeklions.org.

Grant Received - Sutter Creek Lions received a \$500 grant from the [California Lions Foundation](https://www.californialionsfoundation.org/) to partner with First 5 Amador to create emergency "Go-Bags" for young children.



Press Release

The Sutter Creek Lions are proud to announce they have received a \$500 grant from the California Lions Foundation to create emergency "Go-Bags" for young children. Working in partnership with First 5 Amador, Amador County Public Health, and the Sheriff's Department, this project will provide comfort and resources to 50 children and their families during emergencies such as natural disasters or family crises.

Each Go-Bag will include blankets, flashlights, activity books about emergencies, and social-emotional storybooks. These items are designed to reduce stress, provide comfort, and offer engaging activities during challenging times, shared Nina Machado, Executive Director of First 5 Amador.

The Sutter Creek Lions and their partners plan to complete the project by February 2026, continuing their commitment to supporting children and families in our community.




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

We are looking for new members who would like to give back to their community. If you're interested in joining, email us at info@suttercreeklions.org. Visit us on Facebook and Instagram - Sutter Creek Lions Club, PO Box 71, Sutter Creek CA 95685

LINDEN LIONS

January 10: Cioppino Dinner - [FLIER](#)

January 31: Crab Feed – Sold out – Notify club if you want to be on the wait list - [FLIER](#)

March 14: 75th Anniversary Gala Dinner & Dance – RSVP by February 22nd - Linden Lions - [FLIER](#)

Ladies Night Meeting - Veterans Day - 11-11-2025



Photo L-R: President Albert Dondero, PDG Don Allen, Lion Father Bill Kraft, and Lion Shane Dondero (sponsor) WELCOME LION FATHER BILL KRAFT! PDG Don Allen has honored the Linden Lions Club once again. He induct[ed] Father Bill Kraft. Lion Shane Dondero is his sponsor. Both were called to the podium for the ceremony. PDG Don Allen gave a brief history of Lions International and its scope and purpose. He asked if Father Bill understood and asked him if he agreed to the responsibilities. Answer was "yes." Lion Shane Dondero (sponsor) was asked if he was willing to support Father Bill in fulfilling his responsibilities, and Lion Shane answered "yes." PDG Don Allen welcomed Father Bill into the Linden Lions Club.



GUEST SPEAKER - Jateen Bhakta, from Open Innovation Centers, gave a presentation on A.I. education opportunities in this area. He explained what AI can do, its evolution over the years, and what they can do. He discussed ChatGPT and other search engines, data privacy, etc. Danny Monchaca assisted by providing handouts, class info, etc. For more info, go to their webpage OpenInnovationCenters.com




Linden Lions Club - Linden, CA

December 13 at 8:41 PM ·

We had a great turnout at today's Wreaths Across America event. Thank you to all of our supporters and everyone who attended to help honor our veterans. A special thank you to Father Bill for the beautiful blessing and to Carl Ross Post 16 for their contributions and support. 🇺🇸



Linden Lions Celebrate Wreaths Across America at the Linden Cemetery

December 13 at 8:28 PM · 

The Linden Lions Club would like to say thank you to our amazing community for supporting Wreaths Across America, and to everyone who came out to the event today. A special thank you to Father Bill for giving the blessing and to the Carl Ross Post 16 for their support and contributions. Together, we honored those who served our country and showed our gratitude in a meaningful way. We are proud to be part of such a caring and supportive community.



Linden Lions Club - Linden, CA

December 12 at 10:00 PM · 🎵 Jingle Bells · Brent Bourgeois · 🌐

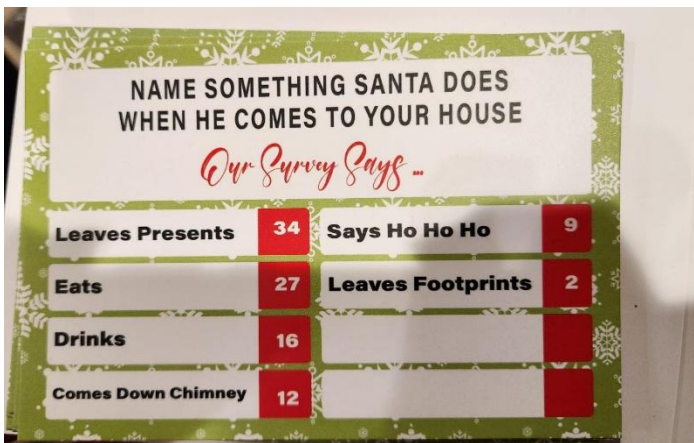
Thank you to everyone who came out to the Linden Lions Club Dinner last Sunday! Santa and Mrs. Claus joined us with gifts, the ugly sweaters looked amazing, and this beloved annual tradition was full of holiday cheer. 🍷🍷🍷🍷



MODESTO 500 LIONS



Club Meeting Recap-December 2 - Colleen Garcia from the Children's Crisis Center shared the work they do to provide support for abused, neglected, and high-risk children, and provide services to help support the parents as well. They try to intervene before they are harmed. They currently have four 24/hour centers in Stanislaus County, where they provide emergency and childcare for children ages birth to 17. Modesto 500 looks forward to continuing to support the center in the future!





Modesto 500 Holiday Party! Oh, what fun we had! From Pat & Frank's beautifully decorated home, to the tasty chili made by Frank - and his famous cookies, to the crack-up Family Feud game, to the funny gift exchange (ask PP Dennis about the candle!), the evening was filled with fun, food, and the best...a gathering of Lions enjoying each other's company!

TRACY BREAKFAST LIONS



Our club served over 260 pancake breakfasts at the annual breakfast with Santa at Banta Elementary School. ~ Jack Guzman

SIERRA LIONS (OAKHURST AREA)

The Oakhurst Sierra Lions had a blast volunteering with Toys for Tots! ~ Liz Winterton

WEST POINT LIONS



On December 27th, the West Point Lions Club [had a] drive-up and drop-off of eyeglasses event.



We are having a vendor event on **February 7th** – [FLIER](#). It's a fundraiser for our West Point Lions Club. We will have all kinds of great Valentines gifts and baked goods. The event is at the West Point Community Hall from 9am to 4pm. February's vendors are full.

Join us for **March 21st** ([FLIER](#)) and **May 2nd** ([FLIER](#)). Our vendor spaces are \$25.00 per vendor.

These events are fundraisers to help us keep the Community Hall open. The Community Hall is our warming center and cooling center it also acts as our emergency shelter if needed.

April 18 is our West Point Lions' 75th Anniversary Gala — [SAVE THE DATE FLIER](#) ~ Brenda Hagerman

STOCKTON DELTA PACIFICA LIONS




STOCKTON SAN JOAQUIN LIONS




Photo is from San Joaquin Lions/Delta Pacifica Lions' Christmas party.



Backpack giveaway to Blind students' photo album: [FACEBOOK LINK](#)

 STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions Club is with American Desi Society and 2 others.
December 15 at 9:14 PM · 🌐

🌱🍂 today was our last collection day for Audrey's Sock Drive for the Homeless. We were able to collect 100 pairs of socks and 25 hand warmers! A huge thank you to Verttu and the American Desi Society, President Carrie and Stockton Delta Pacifica, Lions Club plus other guests for your collaboration in this meaningful project. Heartfelt thanks to Lew Brown for his dedication to bringing warmth to those in need, year after year. Merry Christmas everyone!
[#LionsClubs](#) [#WeServe](#) [#STOCKTON](#) 📷



*Audrey's
12th Annual
SOCK DRIVE*

In memory of Audrey Long,
who started this drive 12 years
ago - will stop again for
collecting socks to be hand-
delivered to St. Mary's Home
Near the new before
Christmas.

Post about sock donations: [FACEBOOK LINK](#)



STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions Club

December 4 at 12:22 PM · 🌐

Want to thank everyone at Dignity Health! It was an honor to work with the team gathering all the contents to assemble "Warm Woolies"! Yesterday was the day to prepare several hundred Warm Woolies to give those in need through partnering community agencies. Thank you Sister Katherine!



Post about warm woolies: [FACEBOOK LINK](#)



Jennifer Gass

December 26 at 9:56 AM · 🌐

👋 Join my team! There's still plenty of time to get stepping for a healthier you while supporting a great cause, the Lions Eye Foundation of California-Nevada! #HelenKeller100 #KnightsOfTheBlind #LionsForAccess #InclusionInService #LionsHelpingMorePeople



CLASSY.ORG

Lion Jennifer Gass's fundraising page for Multiple District 4
California Lions Club International

Vision Champions, let's get hustling to fundraise for sight-saving surgeries at
Lions Eye Foundation of Nevada!

Please join Lion Jennifer's team for a healthy, virtual walk challenge and to raise money for Lions Eye Foundation of California-Nevada! [FACEBOOK LINK](#)



STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions Club

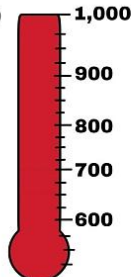
December 14 at 12:42 PM · 🌐

🎁 A gift to our community and our planet! 🌍 Thank you Plastic Partners and friends who helped us reach our goal of 1000 pounds of soft plastics kept out of the landfills and recycled to earn a beautiful bench to place in a local City of Stockton Park! 🍷 Dedication ceremony details and our list of "Bags for Benches, Round 9" Plastic Partners will be posted soon. 🍷 Please help us continue to collect Plastic to help @4a1lions through June 30, 2026.

#BagsForBenches #LionsGoGreen #LionsClubs #Stockton #WeServe

"Bags for Benches"

Round 9



them off at one of our public donation sites
during Round 9: 01/01/25 - 06/30/26

NO COLLECTIONS IN JULY & AUGUST



Plastics must be clean, dry and free of food and organic matter.

Public Donation Sites:

BURKE OPTOMETRY, 441 S. HAM LN., LODI (M-F, 9-12 & 1-5)

IN NEXTREX® PROGRAMS



DON'T SEE YOUR ITEM ON THE LIST?

The above lists to use if your plastic is acceptable or not.



Thanks for donating to Bags for Benches. It has already brought in 1000 pounds since September 1. But we are still collecting through **June 30** on Round 9! Thank you for your continued support.

[DOWNLOAD FLIER](#)

Here is the link for the Saint Joseph's/Dignity Health Fun Run where we will be collecting sneakers:

<https://www.supportstjosephshospital.org/fun-run>

~ Jennifer Gass

WATERFORD LIONS

February 21, 2026 - 8th Annual 2nd Amendment Waterford Lions Club

6 PM Door Opens - 7:30 PM Dinner - 8 PM Prizes and Games

Location: Waterford Community Center

Table Sponsor Package - \$1,000

Reserved Dinner Table for 8

1 Entry into Table Sponsor Gun Giveaway

\$200 Worth of General Raffle Tickets

\$100 Worth of Gun Raffle Tickets

8 Door Prize Tickets - Table Goodies - Gun Sponsor - \$500

Recognition during Gun Raffle

Hors d'oeuvres, Hosted Bar Beer & Wine, Prime Rib

Door Prizes & Card/Dice Games for Guns

DAVE (209) 585-6766 ~ Jose Aldaco - [FLIER](#)

RIPON LIONS





The Ripon Lions held their annual Christmas party/meeting in early December with a large attendance and a new member attending.



We also had a float in the Christmas Light parade. The club also picked two winners for our meat raffle - and one winner donated their 50lb prize to a needy family in Modesto.

MARIPOSA LIONS



Once again, our Mariposa Lions Club supported the Wreaths Across America 2025 ceremony and wreath laying in Mariposa. Wreaths were laid at eight different cemeteries, with 792 Veterans receiving a memorial wreath. ~ Nancy Cordero, Marketing Chair



Mariposa Lions Club

December 14 at 9:18 PM · 🌐

Members of the Mariposa Lions Club were at Pioneer Market this afternoon "ringing the bell" for Salvation Army. We will be there again on Monday, December 15, from 9 AM to 4 PM. Stop by and see us. All of the funds collected at Pioneer Market in Mariposa are donated back to the Mariposa community through the Salvation Army. Hope to see you on Monday! 🛎️



TRACY TANK TOWN LIONS

In December, we held our annual thank you dinner to our concessions stand volunteers. In addition, DG Matt and CS Maggie, along with their cubs attended the meeting.

~ Debbi Hopman



DG Matt addresses our club.



Lion Jane—our Food Fairy! AND Lion Max



Lion Marie AND Thank you, Gary!



Thank you, Derrick AND Lion Rose



Lion Rodrigo AND Lion Karen



Lion Lilia AND Thank you, Kim and Joe



Lion Lou AND Lion Lou and CS Maggie

LE GRAND LIONS FACEBOOK PAGE

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



[LeGrand Lions](#) were eating dinner at [Orchard Bar & Grill](#).

[December 22 at 7:27 PM](#) · [Chowchilla](#) ·

Annual Lions Club Christmas dinner. [#legrandlions](#) [#LionsClub](#) [#merrychristmas2025](#)
[#LionsClubsInternational](#) [#lionsclubchristmas](#)

STOCKTON HOST LIONS FACEBOOK PAGE



Merry Christmas from Stockton Host Lions Club!!

CERES LIONS FACEBOOK PAGE

Ceres Lions Club, California's Post

December 19th our Lions members cooked for a 3 day wrestling tournament that was held at Ceres High School.
 Friday we cooked and sliced tri tip.
 Saturday our crew fired up the flat grill and woks at 5am to have breakfast burritos to the event at 7am. Took a breather and fired up the barbecue to cook tri tips. Had them sliced and delivered by 11.
 Sunday we were back at it at 5am to get the breakfast burritos going again.
 Wrestling is a big part of our community. A big shout out to all the people that help organize and put on these events. The coaches and the parents that travel all over and spend alot of their weekends helping these kids to compete.
 It's a great day to be a Lion!
[Lions Clubs International](#)
 Ceres Lions Club



PATTERSON LIONS FACEBOOK PAGE

DRIVE-THRU TRI-TIP DINNER

Event by [Patterson CA Lions Club](#)

At The Gathering Church

Public - Come get your famous Patterson Lions' Tri-Tip Dinner on Fat Tuesday, and let us cook for you! Your \$80 ticket gets you dinner for 4 that includes a whole tri-tip, baked potatoes, salad, rolls, and cookies. Contact any Patterson Lion to get your tickets before the big day. Limited sales will be available day of, so don't miss out and get your ticket now! - [FLIER](#)

Patterson CA Lions Club
 December 13 at 1:56 PM · 🌐

Not only did we sponsor wreaths again this year, we helped set up and placed wreaths with Wreaths Across America at the Patterson Cemetery. So glad to be a part of this celebration honoring those that have served and protected what we have in this great country.
[#WeServe](#) [#pattersoncalions](#) [#PattersonCA](#)



HUGHSON LIONS FACEBOOK PAGE



Hughson Lions Club

December 7 at 8:48 AM · 🌐

...

What a great turn out yesterday at the [CenCal Trucks](#) show and toy drive! We sold out of tri tip and we were able to collect a ton of toys! Thank you to everyone who showed up! [#weserve](#)



Hughson Lions Club

December 18 at 9:16 AM · 🌐

...

Because of our community coming together to support each other, we were able to deliver presents and clothes to 10 local families last night with the help of Hughson Fire Department and the big man himself, SANTA CLAUS! Thank you to everyone who has donated items, or time to help make this happen! Merry Christmas Hughson!



DIRECTORY

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)

[MOKELUMNE 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

[FOURTH DISTRICT STUDENT SPEAKERS FOUNDATION](#)

PDG Chris Ohrmund, President

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

CITY OF HOPE

Carl Woody Legacy & Affinity Groups
626-222-7409 cwoody@coh.org

LIONS EYE FOUNDATION OF CALIFORNIA-NEVADA, INC.

PDG Russ Custer, President of LEF,
lrusscuster@aol.com 209-410-4102
John Posey, Executive Director
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 & 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 & 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!***