



# 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](http://lions4-a1.org) ~ ✉ **DISTRICT EMAIL:** [4A1LIONS@gmail.com](mailto:4A1LIONS@gmail.com)

📘 **FACEBOOK:** [4A1LionsClub](https://www.facebook.com/4A1LionsClub) ~ 📺 **YOUTUBE:** [youtube.com/@lions4a1](https://www.youtube.com/@lions4a1) ~ 📷 **INSTAGRAM:** [4a1Lions](https://www.instagram.com/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](#)

**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 Lions

**January 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 Lions

**January 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 training

**January 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 Lions

**February 7:** Don Osborne Memorial Run – [LINK](#) – [REGISTRATION FLIER](#) - Oakdale Lions

**February 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** – 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)

### 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 [matthewstickler@gmail.com](mailto:matthewstickler@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

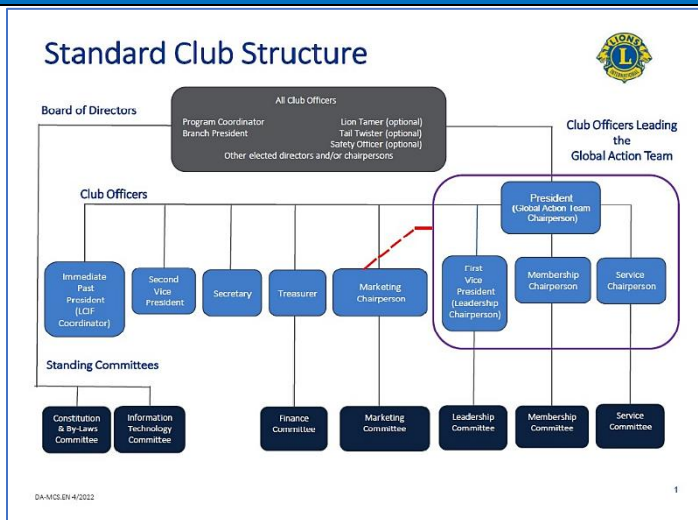
<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/lion-ai>



"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](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.

## 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](https://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

[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](https://marketing.calionsclubs.org) and  
<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center/service/global-causes-initiatives/weeks-of-service>

**MD4 California LIONS CLUBS**

**2025/2026 New Service Weeks Initiative**  
*Inspired by 1P-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](https://marketing.calionsclubs.org) for event ideas at [marketing.calionsclubs.org](https://marketing.calionsclubs.org)

California Lions Global Service Team Coordinator- Lion PCC Craig Durand  
LionCraig414@gmail.com (714) 936-5778  
Service 1st California Leads the Way! [CaliforniaLions.org/MD4Lions.org](https://CaliforniaLions.org/MD4Lions.org)

### LionsUSA GROWTH WORKSHOPS

**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](#)



**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

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

?s membership@lionsusa.org

## 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/>



**MD 4 A1 District Meeting and Club Service Carnival**

Escalon Community Center  
1055 Escalon Ave  
95320

**January 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**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 Carling & 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**

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."

## 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



**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**
- Debuting 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!



**Register now for  
the best price on  
registration.**

[lionscon.org](https://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](https://lionscon.lionsclubs.org) #LionsCon26

## ALPHA & OMEGA LEO NEWS SECTION

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



**DISTRICT LEO CHAIRPERSON – Paul Wagner**

[lions4-a1.org/district-projects/projects-youth/leo-clubs](https://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](mailto:matthewstickler@gmail.com)

## 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.

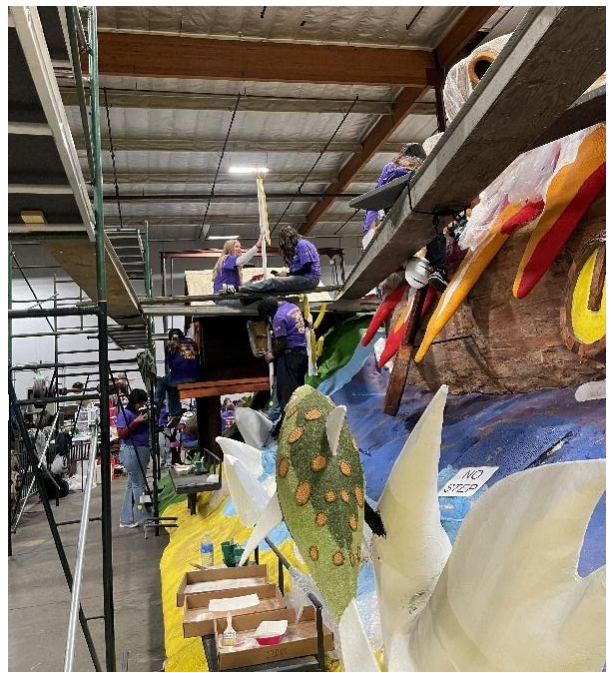
Today, they delivered several bags to Lion Jennifer Gass in support of the impactful Bags for Benches project—an initiative that turns plastic waste into meaningful change for our community.

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

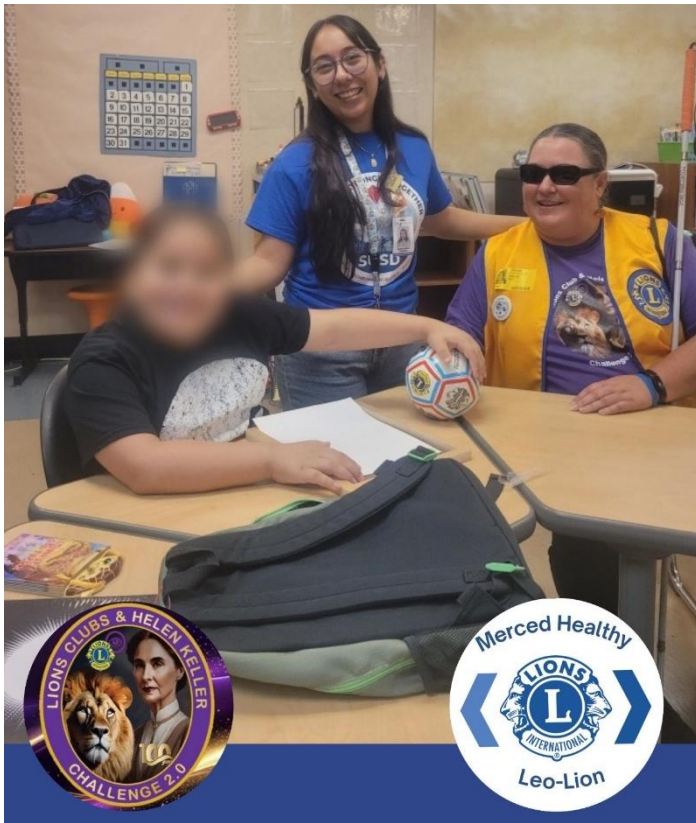
<https://www.instagram.com/mercedhealthyleolions/>

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](mailto: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



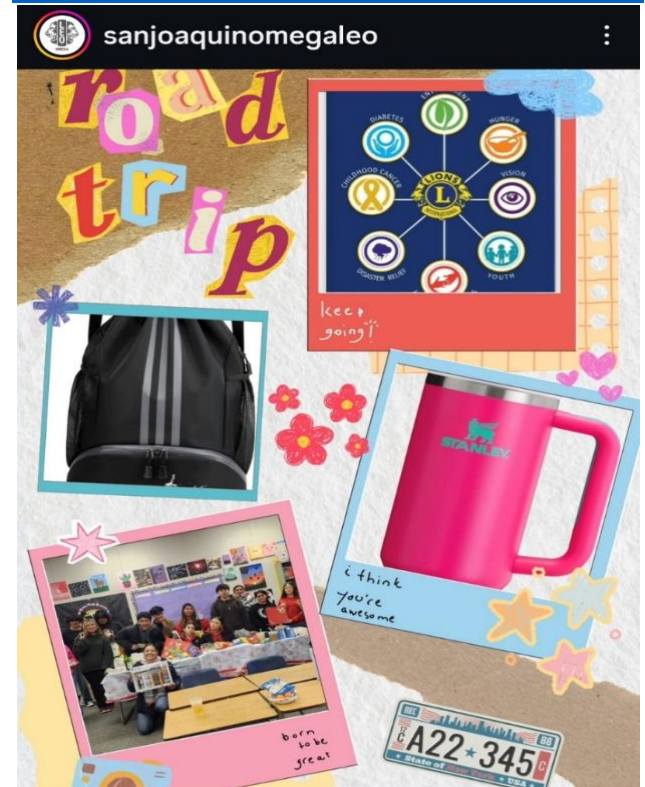


At the end of November, the Merced Healthy Leo-Lions completed the Helen Keller Challenge 2.0 with an Instagram post and some help from the Stockton San Joaquin Lions. We had the pleasure of purchasing, inflating, and distributing 35 Rattle Balls from A Ball for All. With assistance from Stockton San 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/>



4

Liked by stocktonsanjoaquinlions and others

**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/E3QM7Zbf0/> ✓



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



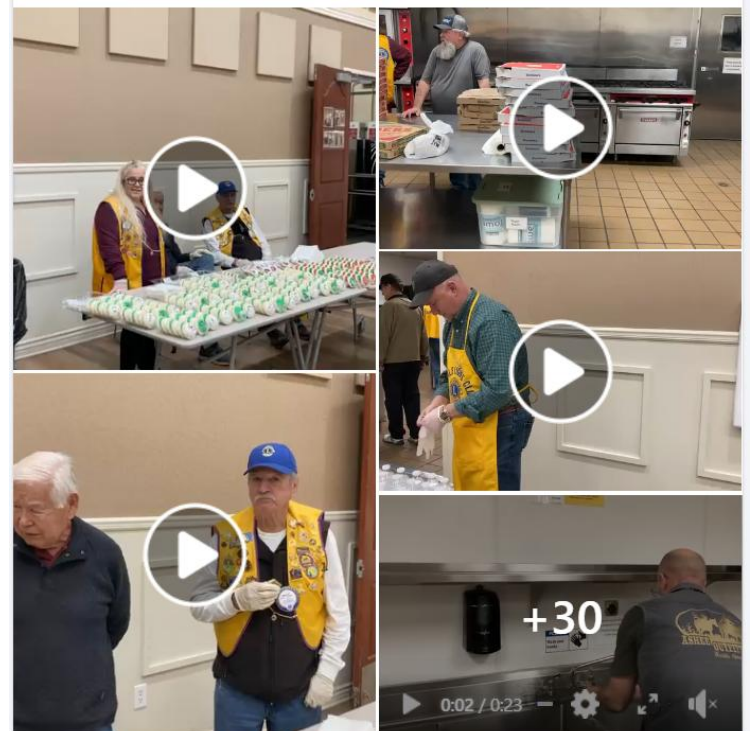
Oakdale Lions Club - Oakdale, CA is at Gene Bianchi Community Center.

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](http://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!**





## 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@suttercreekions.org](mailto:info@suttercreekions.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@suttercreekions.org](mailto:info@suttercreekions.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.



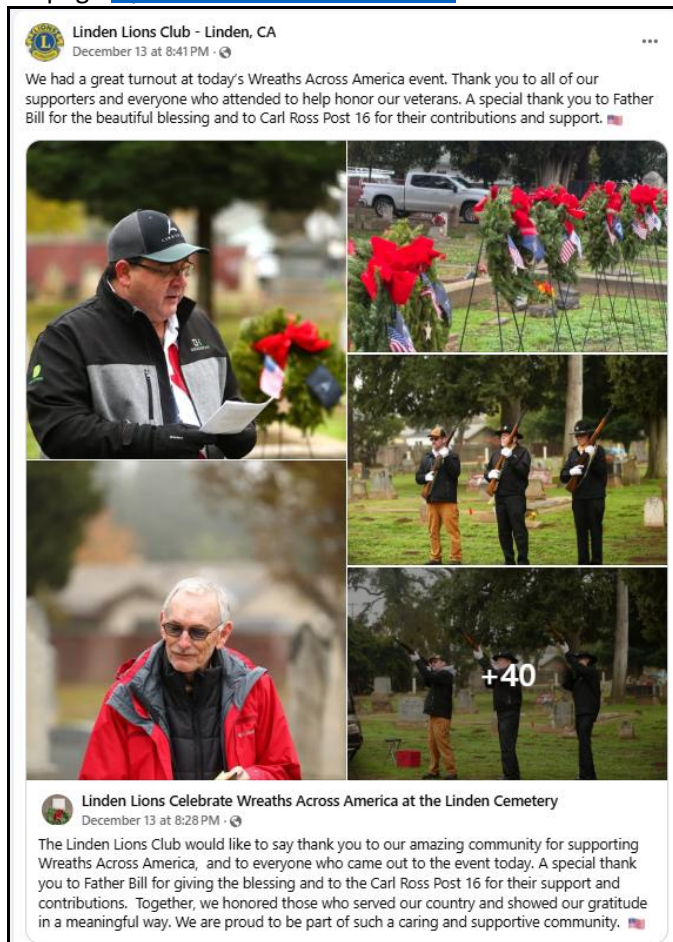
**GUEST SPEAKER - Jateen Bhakta**, from Open Innovation Centers, gave a presentation on A.I. education opportunities in this area. He explained what AI can do, its evolution over the years, and what they can do. He discussed ChatGPT and other search engines, data privacy, etc. Danny Monchaca assisted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



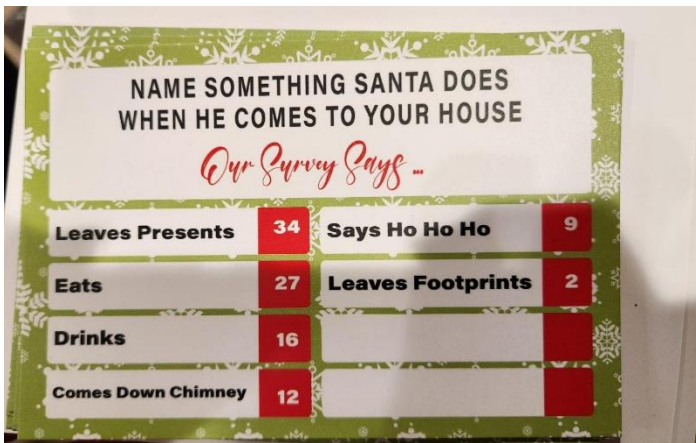
## MODESTO 500 LIONS



**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

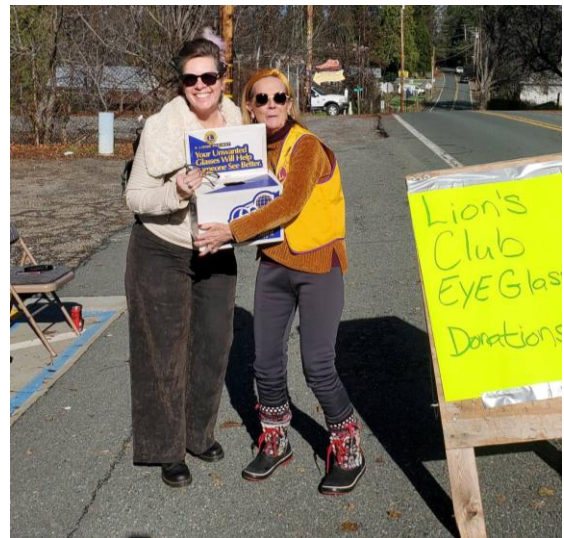


## SIERRA LIONS (OAKHURST AREA)



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](#)

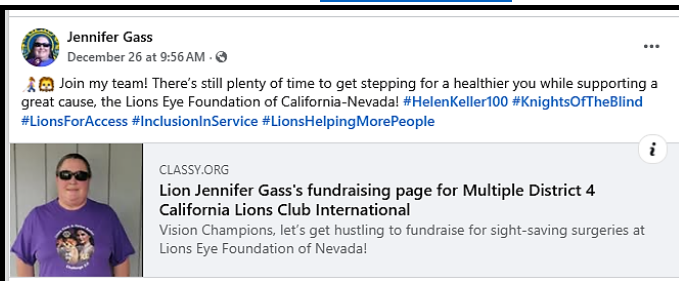


Post about sock donations: [FACEBOOK LINK](#)





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



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](#)



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



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! 🙌



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

## 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 Rodrigo AND Lion Karen



Lion Jane—our Food Fairy! AND Lion Max



Lion Lilia AND Thank you, Kim and Joe



Lion Marie AND Thank you, Gary!



Lion Lou AND Lion Lou and CS Maggie



Thank you, Derrick AND Lion Rose



### 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](#)

### 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



### STOCKTON HOST LIONS FACEBOOK PAGE



Merry Christmas from Stockton Host 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](#)



### 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-STEVENSON](#) (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<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 &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!**