

LIONS DISTRICT 4-A1 NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026 ~ VOLUME 69 – Number 4

Northern San Joaquin Valley & Sierra/Nevada Foothills - "WE SERVE"

501(c)(4) Organization - EIN 23-7426310



🌐 WEBSITE: lions4-a1.org ~ ✉ DISTRICT EMAIL: 4A1Lions@gmail.com

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

🌐 DISTRICT NEWSLETTERS: [LINK](#) ~ EDITOR: Lion Gail Cates ~

✉ NEWSLETTER EMAIL: newsletter@lions4-a1.org

🌐 **NEW** - [2026-27 DISTRICT DIRECTORY](#): [LINK](#) (Ask Zone Chairs for password & PDF file) ~

HASHTAG: #4A1Lions

SECTIONS IN EACH NEWSLETTER

Calendar of Events

Main Section

Upcoming Events (in Date-Order)

Alpha and Omega Leo News Section

Club News Section (Lions & Leo-Lions)

Directory

~ CALENDAR of EVENTS ~

[DISTRICT 4-A1 ONLINE CALENDAR](#)

[MD4 GOOGLE CALENDAR](#)

[LIONS INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR](#)

Now thru Dec 31: [Lions For Access](#) – Club Banner Patch

Now thru Feb 2027: California Lions' Move Be-Cause Campaign – see article in this newsletter - [LINK](#)

Now thru Jun 2027: "Bags for Benches, Round 10" kicks off – Stockton San Joaquin Lions - [LINK](#) - [FLIER](#)

Oct 1: Deadline to order mailed Peace Poster packets - [LINK](#) [FLIER](#)

Oct 1: Vision Screening - Farmdale Elementary School – Merced Breakfast Lions

Oct 1-31: Food Drive – West Point Lions - [FLIER](#)

Oct 3: Oktoberfest – Linden Lions - **CANCELLED**

Oct 4: Harvest On Main – Escalon Lions – [FLIER](#)

Oct 8-18: Lions Int'l VISION Week of Service - [LINK](#)

Oct 9: Blood Drive – Sutter Creek Lions - [FLIER](#)

Oct 10: Bingo Night – Escalon Lions – [FLIER1](#) – [FLIER2](#)

Oct 10: LI's World Mental Health Day - [LINK](#) - [WEBPAGE](#)

Oct 10: White Cane Awareness 11 AM-2 PM – Stockton San Joaquin Lions - [REVISED FLIER](#)

Oct 15: New Teachers' Night – hosted by Ripon Lions

Oct 16: Tri-Tip Fundraiser – Los Banos Lions

Oct 17: Pancake Breakfast – Ripon Lions - [FLIER](#)

Oct 18: Bunco – Lathrop Lions - [FLIER](#)

Oct 23-25: MD4 Council of Governors Meeting – see "Upcoming Events" section – Virtual/Online - [LINK](#)

Oct 23: Surf & Turf Dinner – Sonora Lions - [FLIER](#)

Oct 24: Got Talent – Mokelumne Hill Lions - [FLIER](#)

Oct 24: Prime Rib Dinner – Hughson Lions - [FLIER](#)

Oct 27: Charter Night – Merced Breakfast Lions - [FLIER](#)

Oct 31: Registration Deadline for 11/7 [District Meeting](#)

Oct 31: Harvest Faire – West Point Lions - [FLIER](#)

Oct 31: [LI's Club Excellence Award](#) – Officers' Training Cut-off date – see article in this newsletter - [FLIER](#)

Nov 7: District Meeting in Jackson CA – [FLIER](#) - [REGISTER](#)

Nov 7: Turkey Shoot – Sierra Lions – [FLIER](#) – [REGISTRATION](#) - [CHART](#)

Nov 14: 5K Walk/Run – Stockton Healthy Leo Lions – [FLIER](#)

Nov 14: World Diabetes Day – Download LI's new Diabetes Service Program Overview - [LINK](#)

Nov 15: Peace Poster Contest – deadline to submit - [LINK](#)

Nov 21: Rib Dinner Fundraiser – Los Banos Lions

Dec 5: Winter Wonderland Craft Showcase – Westpoint Lions - [FLIER](#)

Dec 19, 26, 27: Lions Float Decorating - [LINK](#)

Dec 19: Wreaths Across America – Linden Cemetery 9am – Linden Lions

~ FUTURE EVENTS ~

Jan 9: District Meeting - San Joaquin Region- 444 Argonaut St., Manteca CA - details to follow...

Jan 16: Cioppino Dinner – Merced Breakfast Lions - [FLIER](#)

Jan 16: Dining in the Dark – District 4-A2 - [FLIER](#)

Feb 1: Deadline for entering Environment Photo Contest - [LINK](#) - [FLIER](#)

Feb 13-21: Lions Int'l YOUTH Week of Service - [LINK](#)

Feb 17-18: MD4 [Mid-Winter COG](#) in Rohnert Park CA

Feb 19-21: MD4 Convention in Rohnert Park CA - [LINK](#)

Feb 19: MD4 Student Speakers Contest - Club Contest to be held on or before today. [LINK](#) See article in this newsletter

Feb 27: 100th Anniversary – Jackson Lions – [LINK](#) - [FLIER](#)

Mar 20: Lions Eyes Across California's Awareness Day

Apr 1-4: District 4-A1 Convention at Black Oak Casino/ Resort - Tuolumne CA- [LINK](#) - [FLIER](#)

May 15: District Meeting in Stanislaus Region - Waterford Community Center 540 C ST, Waterford CA - [LINK](#)

May 29-Jun 6: [Lions Int'l ENVIRONMENT Week of Service](#)

June 11-13: MD4 Joint COG in Modesto CA

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

Sep 16-18, 2027: [USA/Canada Forum](#) – Huntsville AL

Jun 23-27, 2028: [Lions Int'l Convention](#) – Singapore

Jun 29-Jul 3, 2029: [Lions Int'l Convention](#) – Minneapolis MN

~ ONGOING EVENTS ~

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

District 4-A1 Cabinet Zoom Meetings – 1st Wednesdays – monthly - at 5:45 PM. This meeting is open to all district Lions as listeners. The zoom meeting ID is 874 8047 7903 and the passcode is 144617. Link is on [District's Calendar](#).

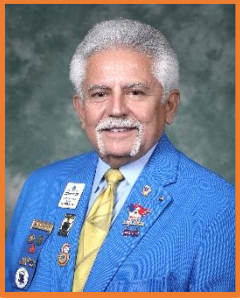
District 4-A1 Membership Orientations – ALL LIONS ARE WELCOMED! 6:30pm - every 4th Tuesday on [Zoom](#) except November, December, June & July

District 4-A1 Club Officers' Town Hall Meetings – 6pm - 3rd Monday of the month

District 4-A1 Marketing Meetings – 7:30pm - 4th Mondays

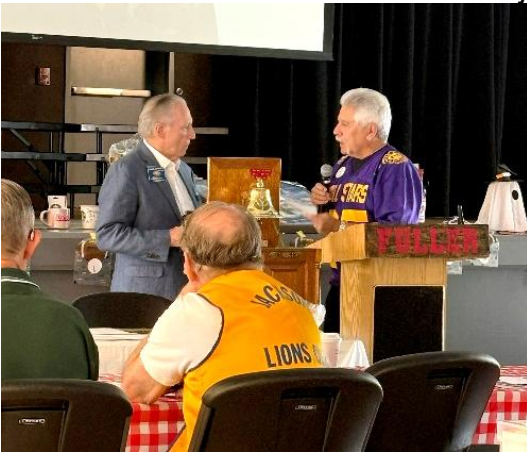
District 4-A1 Newsletter Deadline – Fliers, articles & photos due 25th of the month –

gfcion@gmail.com

MESSAGE from DG STEVE MOORE

Greetings Fellow Lions of District 4-A1,

This month we conducted our second District Meeting in Chowchilla! Kudos go out to Zone Chair Karla Gran for coordinating a great football-themed meeting. I also recognize the support of Lion Paula Hansen in procuring a great location, coupled with meaningful behind the scenes support. Attendees were encouraged to wear attire representing their favorite football team. As you can see, I was able to dust off an old Lions All Star football jersey to sport at the meeting.



We were able to begin and end on time, with the day starting with a great speaker, Lion PDG John Posey - the CEO of the Lions Eye Foundation. Lion PDG John provided us all with better insight into what services are available to all District Clubs through the Lions Eye Foundation, that we can use to provide assistance to those in our communities needing support with vision issues. [He provided an interesting presentation of what the Eye Foundation does. [Slide show presentation's [LINK](#)

Lion ZC Shawn Monnin provided a quality review of how to conduct our upcoming Student Speakers Contests. The focus was to ensure that all contestants received the same opportunities at each level of the contest by a consistent application of all contest rules set by the Student Speakers Foundation. Clubs were reminded to submit their request for hard copies of the contest materials no later than **October 1st, 2026**. [If you missed his presentation and zoom meeting, please contact him at shawnpmonnin@gmail.com. Jeff Hammar, Peace Poster/Essay Contest chair, got the group going with cheers--We--Serve! He shared common reasons why posters get disqualified. If you have questions, contact him at jhammar@muhs.org.]

I have sent out a survey to all District 4-A1 club presidents to get their input on whether or not to hold the District Student Speakers Contest at our upcoming District 4-A1 Convention at Black Oak Casino, **April 1st – 4th, 2027**. Initially, we received a 20% response, so the survey was sent out again to provide the clubs the opportunity to weigh in on scheduling this important event for the youth in our district. All club presidents are encouraged to respond to the survey, as I truly do want to know what you all believe is the most appropriate course of action.

Our service project was engaging as we sorted through a huge number of donated eyeglasses in preparation to have them delivered to Lions in Sight, in Vallejo CA. There was great coordination by GST Beth Estante, Lion Xena Ferrario, and PDG Don Allen in engaging those attending the meeting to participate, and process 8,000 pairs of eyeglasses and 400 pounds of pull tabs.

I was honored to induct a new Lion into the San Joaquin Lions Club in our ongoing effort to meet the Mission 1.5 goal. New Lion David Valdez was honored by the challenge of PDG Kent Christensen and PDG Don Allen, including those in attendance, in making his first donation to LCIF! Way to go team! We were also fortunate to be able to handout the initial number of District Directories to those clubs, PDGs, and cabinet members in attendance. The second round of distribution will be available soon, but not later than our next [district meeting](#) in Jackson, CA, on **November 7, 2026**.

Lion Mike Ostrom, Convention Chair, gave a briefing on our upcoming District 4-A1 Convention, **April 1-4, 2027**, with save-the-date fliers. Please see the flier posted on the [4-A1 website](#) and in this newsletter. [FLIER](#)

Lions District 4-A1

2027 Convention Membership Drawing

The winner of the drawing is entitled to an all expense paid trip to the Lions District 4-A1 2027 Annual Convention at Black Oak Casino Resort

The package includes registration, all convention meals, and two nights deluxe accommodations (April 2nd & 3rd) at Black Oak Casino Resort.

Recommended Donation \$20.00 per Ticket

Drawing to be held Feb 1st 2027, donation not required to win
Proceeds to District 4-A1 Convention Committee Account

For our membership who are considering attending this Mardi Gras-themed convention, you have a great opportunity to participate in a Lions-only drawing which includes Convention registration, two nights deluxe accommodations at the Black Oak Casino Hotel, and all convention meals. Some fortunate Lion will enjoy a great experience at the upcoming convention with all new activities and experiences. Tickets will be available for \$20 suggested donation from other Lion members. Drawing is to be held on **February 1st**. Proceeds will go to the District 4-A1 Convention Committee Account. Check the [district website](#) later to find out how to obtain a chance to participate. Lions who plan to stay at the RV park and would like to participate in the drawing would receive a voucher of equal value towards their convention expenses.

An announcement was made for a second time that our district's clubs' online web presence will be transitioning to individual subdomains of the official District 4-A1 website, lions4-a1.org. Under this new structure, each participating club will have the chance to change to a website address similar to: yourclubname.lions4-a1.org. This web presence will be available to all clubs at no additional cost. The transition will begin on **October 1st, 2026**, and will be coordinated with each club on a one-by-one basis to select an option which best suits each individual club. Lion Gail Cates will be reaching out to each individual club with specific options available to them for their continued web presence.

I ask each club to work with Lion Gail Cates in a collaborative manner to preserve the opportunity of each club to have a suitable web presence while ensuring the financial solvency of District 4-A1, in being able to provide a web presence to all clubs. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated during this process, as each club may be asked to review and confirm:

- Club officer and contact information
- Meeting dates, times, and locations
- Current service projects and fundraising activities
- Club photographs and logos
- Social media links
- Upcoming events and membership information

Our goal is to create a strong, unified online web presence while allowing every club to maintain its own identity and highlight the service it provides within its community. Thank you for your cooperation and support as we make this transition which is in keeping with my motto "Solidarity Through Service."

Yours in Lions Service,

~ Lion Steve Moore, District Governor - District 4-A1

PS: Please refer to the District Meeting Notes by CS Lion Debbi Hopman, posted on the District 4-A1 website for additional details of the activities at the September 19th District Meeting. [LINK](#)

MESSAGE from 1VDG MIKE BOHL

Hello Fellow Lions,

September has been a very busy month for District 4-A1 as Lion DG Steve Moore has been working to complete as many of his early projects. A major completed item was the publishing of our District 4-A1 directory, which is an extremely valuable tool when trying to keep track of what is happening within our district and which Lions are responsible for keeping things moving. Make sure you get a copy of the directory, I know I use mine all the time. [Here's the online [LINK](#) for it – ask your Zone Chair for password.]

By all reports, DG Steve and District Secretary Debbi along with a tremendous amount of help from Zone Chair Karla Gran and her family and Lion Paula Hansen held a very successful district meeting on Saturday, September 19, in Chowchilla. Approximately 60 Lions attended and lot of information was exchanged and items accomplished. Thank you for everyone who attended the meeting and for those who worked so very hard behind the scenes to pull it all together.



Photo: Lion First VDG Mike Bohl (right) of the Jackson Lions Club receives a certificate of Achievement from MD4 Council Chair Patrick Pothier for attending a two-day training recently in Visalia.

Second VDG José and I were unable to attend the district meeting because we had a mandatory two-day VDG training in Visalia that weekend. We joined all the other 1st VDG and 2nd VDG from throughout the state and Hawaii to get a better understanding of our responsibilities, and learn how to better communicate to help our years as a district governor run more smoothly. Both Saturday and Sunday sessions were very intense, but we also enjoyed our time with other Lions who are moving up the district chairs.

With that in mind, after 48 years as a member of the Jackson Lions Club, I had been able to successfully avoid district participation. But, for some reason, I (along with wife Rita's approval and offers from many to help me, lol), I decided to jump into the fray and expand my Lions Club experiences. I will admit that it has been a huge step for me to take, but I have already experienced a strong sense of accomplishment by taking on the challenge.

I am currently working on many projects for my upcoming year as your DG and I am looking for help. There are many district positions available, and I urge everyone to consider expanding their level of Lions involvement. If you're interested in an aspect of Lionism on a district level, please contact me, and I would love to discuss with you expanding your involvement in areas where you are passionate.

Remember- Many hands make for light work!

Best wishes,

~ Lion Mike Bohl - District 4-A1 1stVDG

MESSAGE from 2VDG JOSÉ M. ALDACO



Find Your Passion, Find Your Place

~ By: José M. Aldaco

Every member of our Lions family walked through the door for a different reason. Maybe it was a love of the outdoors, a heart for children, a passion for health, or simply a desire to give back. At this year's Vice District Governor's training in Visalia, California (September 2026), one truth stood out clearly. The strongest clubs are the ones that take the time to discover what truly excites each member, and then open the door for them to lead in that space.

Growth does not happen by asking people to fit into what we already do. It happens when we ask new and prospective members one simple question. What are you passionate about? When we listen closely and connect that passion to real service opportunities, membership becomes personal. People stay involved when they feel their gifts are needed and valued.

This is also where leadership takes root. A member who is empowered to shape a project around something they care about naturally grows into a leader for that cause. Multiple District 4 is stronger when we have many voices driving many kinds of service, from health screenings, to environmental work, to youth programs.

So here is our invitation. Whatever your passion is, whether it is helping children read, protecting sight, supporting Veterans, or caring for our environment, there is a place for you in Lions International. Come as you are, bring what you love, and let's serve our community together.

IRS 990 ANNUAL TAX FILING REMINDER



Dear Lion,

Please remember that all Lions clubs, districts and multiple districts with annual gross receipts less than US\$50,000 that are not required to file Forms 990 or 990-EZ must file the e-Postcard (also known as the 990-N). Please be advised that this filing relates specifically to the 501(c)(4). If your Lions club, district or multiple district has a foundation, which is a separate legal entity, the appropriate form will need to be filed as well.

Please review the Annual Tax Filing information below. Thank you!

[Annual Tax Filing Information](#)

Please note that Lions Clubs International is not authorized to provide guidance regarding your filing. For specific questions, please contact a local tax professional or the IRS.

Kindest regards,

Legal Division, Lions Clubs International

PROUD LION and MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Pictured is a 5x7 [Membership Application](#) template to help with recruiting efforts. It uses Avery 95348 card stock.

Below that is the [Proud Lion form](#) for anyone in your club who wants to earn a Proud Lion pin in the coming year.

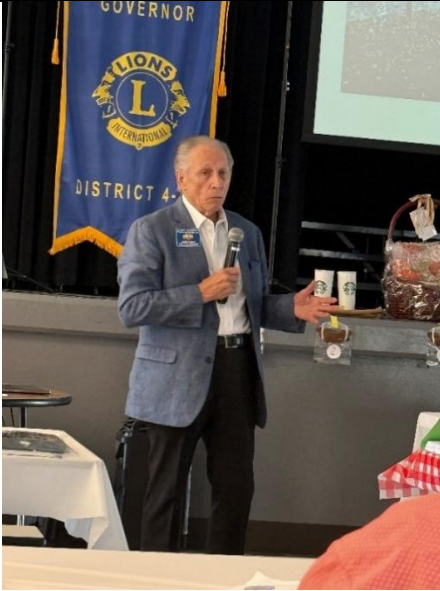
Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to your club in regards to my GMT (recruitment, engagement, retention) role. (Click on links) ~ Tom Machado

RECYCLING INK/PRINTER CARTRIDGES



Please note that Lions in Sight is no longer accepting ink cartridges.
Ink cartridges can be taken to your local hazardous waste locations.

PHOTOS FROM September's District Meeting



PDG John Posey and Director of the Eye Foundation spoke at the District Meeting.



ZC Shawn Monnin went over Student Speakers Contest Guidelines.



ZC Karla Gran welcomed 61 Lions, Leos, and Cubs to the Yosemite District Meeting.



We sorted eyeglasses as our Service Project.



Lions Paula and Donnie Hansen with son, Jonathan McGuirk, were setting things up for District Meeting.



DG Steve installed new Stockton San Joaquin member Lion Dave Valdez with sponsor Lion Jennifer Gass.



ZC Ron Cutler bought "just a few" raffle tickets!



PDG Pat Casey-Gillum was definitely a raffle prize winner!



DG Steve with his Partner in Service, Robyn, calling out raffle prize winners.



CS Debbi Hopman with ZC Ron Cutler

LIONS EYE FOUNDATION POWERPOINT PRESENTATION from Sept District Meeting



LINK: <https://district4a1lions.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/lions-eye-foundation-sept-2026-a1-presentation-tm.pptx>

GIVERS ATTRACT TAKERS (& SCAMMERS)



Did you know there is a scam going on where scammers impersonate the Club President by creating a fake email account using yahoo or Gmail with the name of the actual President and they send the actual treasurer of the club directions to mail a check out payable to the scammers own account? Warn your club treasurer ASAP to always confirm via text or phone call that all requests for donations and funds are legitimate! The fraudsters must be getting away with this to continue spending time and trying to get more and more creative with these requests!

Lions are King of the jungle, but remember there's monkey business in every jungle - so don't fall victim to this scam. Stay alert, be safe, and ask that all treasurers carefully check communications with officers to know the requests for checks or donations are legitimate.

Also, it's going around again – an email - supposedly from Claudia Miller, and mentioning District Treasurer Pat C-G. But luckily, it went to Spam. NOTE: When they hovered over Claudia's name, it was from jdkskdash@gmail.

~ Daisy Borba-Vega

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION UPDATE

[August 2026 LCIF Newsletter's LINK](#)

Ways to Give

Donate online
lionsclubs.org/WaysToGive

Make a Pledge
lionsclubs.jotform.com/90524105483149

Wire transfer
JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
ABA Routing Number: 021000021
10 S. Dearborn St.
Account Name: Lions Clubs International Foundation
Chicago, IL 60603 USA
Account Number: 754487312
Swift International Banking number: CHASUS33

Mail
Mail USD checks drawn from a U.S. Bank and payable to LCIF to:
Lions Clubs International Foundation
Department 4547
Carol Stream, IL 60122-4547 USA
Visit [lionsclubs.org/WaysToGive](#) for mailing checks in Canada and India

Email a copy of your receipt or transfer form – along with your name, Member ID, club name, and district name – to donorassistance@lionsclubs.org.

If requesting recognition for someone else, please include the recipient's name, Member ID, club name, and district name.

Contact Donor Services
For assistance, contact Donor Services at +1.630.203.3836 or donorassistance@lionsclubs.org.

Lions Clubs International Foundation
300 W. 22nd Street, Oak Brook, IL 60523 USA
www.lcif.org

Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

YOUR US\$100 GIFT CAN HELP LCIF...

- Provide vision screenings for 50 at risk youth through Vision Grants.
- Offer immediate relief to 39 victims of a natural disaster through Emergency Grants.
- House one family during their child's cancer treatment through Childhood Cancer Grants.
- Screen 98 individuals at risk for diabetes through Diabetes Grants.
- Improve access to food for 90 hungry people through Hunger Grants.
- Fund Lions Quest curriculum for one year for an entire classroom through Lions Quest Grants.

100% of your donation supports LCIF grants and programs.

➤ **Donate Today** | lionsclubs.org/WaysToGive

VISION NEWS



Lions International Weeks of Service kick off with Vision | **October 8–18**, 2026! Plan a service activity for World Sight Day on **October 8** or International White Cane Day on **October 15**! The new Vision Service Project Ideas resource can help you get started with popular service activities such as vision screening and eyeglass recycling, as well as some new ideas. Join Lions and Leos around the world as they improve the lives of the visually-impaired and help prevent avoidable blindness.

Learn more about vision programs and service ideas on the Vision Global Cause webpage:

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

Reach out if you need any inspiration or to share what your club is doing! San Joaquin Lions would love to have you join in the White Cane Awareness Walk on **October 10**! [REVISED FLIER](#) You can start working on your tactile quilt squares for the “Patchwork of Purpose”; we will be diving deeper into this project at the **November 7th District Meeting**.

<https://clubhouse.everythingcalions.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/2026-2027-MD4-PatchOfPurpose-Complete-Accessible.pdf>

PATCHWORK OF PURPOSE

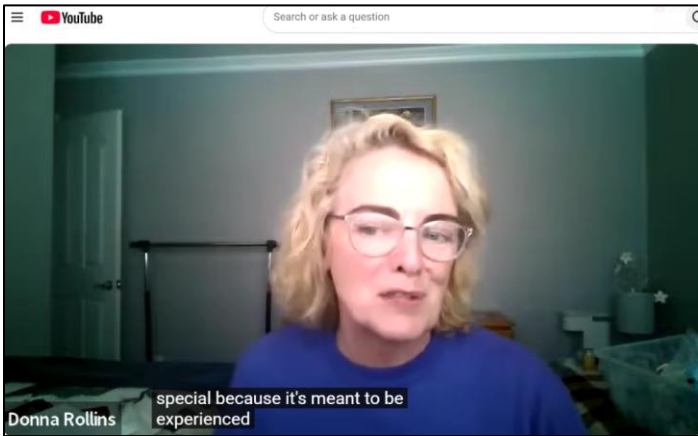
One Square. One Story. All Hands and Hearts.



A Traveling Tactile Quilt Project

Create a **6-inch square** and help stitch MD4 service together.

2026–2027 MD4 Lions for Access Project



Here is a short video to overview the project: <https://youtu.be/GWA7jonvGeE?feature=shared>



Please continue collecting eyeglasses for recycling at Lions in Sight! 4-A1 Lions are vision champions!

<https://www.lionsinsight.net/>



Here is a 6" x 6" square, unfinished, sitting on top of an 8" x 8" piece of material, as an example by our Cabinet Secretary Debbi Hopman.

~ Jennifer Gass, Vision Chair

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 - resolve challenges. Short trainings are provided throughout the year. HELPFUL LINKS have been added to our District's website: <https://lions4-a1.org/contact-links/>

TRAINING OPTIONS:

- * 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 – At this link, <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center>, go to the "TRAINING" tab.

EXAMPLE: <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/leadership-development-institutes>

* MD4 (California) Lions website has this Training tab: <https://md4lions.org/training>

* Our District 4-A1 website has this webpage with training suggestions: <https://lions4-a1.org/training/>

CLUB WEBSITE ASSISTANCE?



WANT HELP WITH YOUR CLUB'S WEBSITE? DOES YOUR CLUB HAVE AN E-CLUBHOUSE WEBSITE? Questions, let me know. Any club wanting help updating their club's website, OR if you have questions, contact Lion Gail gfclicion@gmail.com, I.T. Chair for District 4-A1

UPCOMING EVENTS SECTION (in date-order)

MD4 CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARDS **now thru Oct 31st**

MD4 2026-2027 EXCELLENCE AWARDS
Celebrate Service. Lead with Excellence. Make an Impact!

★ RECOGNIZING LIONS CLUBS THAT GO ABOVE AND BEYOND! ★

MEMBERSHIP:

- Achieved a net growth of two (2) members or 10% or more members (Reinstated members and charter members above the minimum 20 members will qualify.)
- OR
- Sponsored a new Lions club or Club Branch

SERVICE:

- Report a minimum of four (4) service activities. (Three (3) must align with our [Global Causes](#) around Youth, Vision and Environment (one in each Global Cause) these service projects can be completed throughout the 2026-2027 Lion year.)

LEADERSHIP & ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE:

- Clubs in Good Standing; not in Status Quo or Financial Suspension. Club dues paid and no unpaid balance with Lions International greater than US\$50 outstanding 90 days or more.
- Report newly elected club officers for the 2027-2028 Lions year in the [Lion Portal](#) by May 15, 2027, of the current Lions year.
- Club officers to attend instructor-led club officer training (in person or virtual), organized and reported in Learn by GLT coordinator, between March 1, 2026 - October 31, 2026.
- The club president for the current Lion year must not have served in that role more than two consecutive years.
- 10% of the club's members complete any three (3) courses in the [Lions Learning Center](#).

LCIF:

- Contributed to LCIF a minimum of the club's membership total at the start of the 2026-2027 Lion year multiplied by US\$20.

DISTRICT, REGION AND ZONE CRITERIA:

For the District, Zone Chairperson and Region Chairperson, 50% of the clubs must earn the club excellence award for them to receive this award.

Let's work together to build stronger clubs and better communities!

WE SERVE

FOOTER: SERVE. LEAD. INSPIRE. BE EXCELLENT!

LI Club Excellence Awards 2026 – 2027 - [LINK](#) - [FLIER](#)

TRAINING DEADLINE IS APPROACHING - A reminder that the cutoff date for Club Officer Training for this Lions Year is **October 31, 2026**. For a club to be eligible for the award, the Club President, Vice

President, Secretary, and Treasurer must attend training no later than **October 31st**. Additionally, 10% of the club must complete three courses in the Lions Learning Center before **June 30, 2027**.

PEACE POSTER/ESSAY CONTEST – now thru Nov 15

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center/marketing-events/events-programs/international-peace-contests/peace-poster-contest>

Reminder: Clubs can mail winners to me: 1440 High St., Atwater, CA 95301 or bring them to the November [District Meeting](#). ~ Jeff Hammar

**THE 2026-2027 CONTEST**

Theme: "Harmony in Humanity"

When we treat each other with respect and kindness, peace can flourish. This year, we invite young people to imagine a world where people of every culture and background live together peacefully — celebrating differences, finding common ground and creating true harmony in humanity.

Digital kit (\$11.95)

Each kit contains:

- Downloadable Official Club Contest Guide & Rules
- Downloadable Official School or Youth Group Contest Guide and Rules
- Downloadable participant flier to print and give to participating students to take home
- Downloadable winner sticker (to attach to the back of the winning poster)
- Digital certificates to print for contest winner and school or youth group

Physical kit (\$11.95)

Each kit contains:

- Official Club Contest Guide and Rules
- Official School or Youth Group Contest Guide and Rules
- Participant flier to duplicate and give to participating students to take home
- Winner sticker to place on back of winning poster
- Certificates for contest winner and school or youth group



District 4A1

Lions serving the heart of California
and beyond...

Vision
Hunger
Diabetes
Environment
Childhood Cancer
Humanitarian Effort
Disaster Relief
Youth

2026 - 2027 Peace Poster Contest

Theme:
Harmony in Humanity





Order a Peace Poster Contest Kit.

Deadline October 1st

Lions clubs can order a contest kit for each contest they sponsor.

Key Reminders:



Poster Dimensions
(Qualify with regulations)

Artwork must be no smaller than 13 inches by 20 inches and no larger than 20 inches by 24 inches.
Do not mat or frame artwork.



Students Age (Double Check)

The Lions Peace Poster competition theme for 2026-2027 is **"Harmony in Humanity."**
Artists must be 11, 12 or 13 years of age to enter the International Competition.



• **Parent or Legal Guardian's Signature**
(Winner Sticker)

LIONS FOR ACCESS CLUB BANNER PATCH – now thru Dec 31

Lions for Access Club Banner Patch, extended until **DECEMBER 31, 2026!** ~ Jennifer Gass



Calling All Accessibility Ambassadors!
An Exclusive Service Reward
Opportunity for California Lions & Leos
**Lions for Access
Club Banner Patch**

Accessible
version here
[Lions for
Access Banner
Patch Criteria](#)



California Lions Clubs are invited to step forward, lead with purpose, and be **recognized for meaningful accessibility service** through the **Lions for Access Club Banner Patch** program.

About the Award: The Lions for Access Club Banner Patch will be awarded to:

- The first 45 California Lions Clubs, and
- The first 5 California Leo Clubs in MD4 that successfully meet all outlined criteria. *This is a first-come, first-recognized opportunity.*

Qualifying Projects: Service projects that:

- Serve people with disabilities, and/or
- Intentionally include individuals with disabilities as participants, leaders, or partners in service

Criteria for Earning the Patch

1. Service Activity Reporting

- Report a **Lions for Access-branded** service activity in the Lions Portal
- Activity title **must begin with:** "Lions for Access"
- Include a **screenshot** from the Lions Portal

2. Branded Marketing Evidence

- Submit a screenshot or photo of:
 - A social media post **and/or**
 - Photos from the service event
- Must include:
 - The **Lions for Access logo and/or**
 - **#LionsForAccess**

3. Application Submission Guidelines

- Only the **primary sponsoring/organizing Lions or Leo Club** may apply
- **One application per club**
- Continue sharing the Lions for Access-branded service throughout the year
- Include:
 - Club name, Contact person's information, District number
- **All requirements must be completed and submitted by December 31, 2026**

Submission Instructions: Send all required documentation to Lion Jennifer Gass LionsForAccess@gmail.com Subject Line: "Lions for Access Banner Patch"

This is more than a patch. It's leadership. It's visibility. It's service that opens doors.

Questions: Lion Jennifer Gass LionsForAccess@gmail.com

Lions for Access
Toolbox /resources



CaliforniaLions.org
#LionsForAccess

MD4 ENVIRONMENT PHOTO CONTEST – now thru Feb 1

Environmental Photo Contest is in Full Swing -

Lions and Leos — show California through YOUR lens! Get outside. Get creative. Show us California!

This year's contest celebrates how we care for, connect with, and celebrate our natural world. Clubs can submit one 8x10 print per category (six categories total), of original photos taken during the current Lions year. Submit photos no later than **February 1, 2027**. Winners will be announced on February 20th at the MD4 Convention. For full details and rules, visit the "Totally California" Environment Experience [Facebook group](#).

California Lions and Leos are invited to showcase the beauty of our environment, the connection between people and nature, and the many ways Lions serve their communities through the 2026–2027 MD4 Environment Photo Contest. Contest categories include:

Core Environment

Human Connection

Special Focus/Technical

Wildlife

Rooted in Service

Move Be-Cause—Show Off Your Best Moves!

Entries are due **February 1, 2027**.

Scan the QR code to download and share the official contest flier. Please read the complete contest criteria before preparing and submitting your entry.

Capture the moment. Share your perspective. Celebrate our environment through photography!

Flier here: <https://clubhouse.everythingcalions.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/2026-2027-Enviro-Photo-Contest-official-1.pdf>

Accessible version on the Accessible Center <https://clubhouse.everythingcalions.org/accessibility-center/> - [FLIER](#)



STUDENT SPEAKERS CONTEST

* Club Contest **now thru Feb 19**

ATTENTION CLUBS – digital Student Speakers Contest packets are available on the MD4 website.

You can now order your packets here: <https://md4lions.org/studentspeakers>

Multiple District 4 has announced the topic for the 2026-27 Student Speakers Contest--Should We Return to Teaching "Life Skills" in the High School Experience?

More information regarding how to order club packets will be forthcoming. As you develop your club's calendar, please note the following due dates:

Club Contest to be held on or before **February 19, 2027**

Zone Contest to be held on or before **March 12, 2027**

Region Contest to be held on or before **March 31, 2027**

District Contest to be held on or before **April 26, 2027**

Area Contest to be held on or before **May 21, 2027**

Final Contest to be held on the **Saturday** of the June Council of Governors' Meeting. ~ Garrett Becker

2026-2027

MD4 STUDENT SPEAKERS CONTEST

SPEAK. INSPIRE. LEAD. SERVE.

THIS YEAR'S TOPIC:
Should We Return to Teaching "Life Skills" in the High School Experience?

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
<https://md4lions.org/studentspeakers>

California Lions' MOVE BE-CAUSE CAMPAIGN LIVE – now thru Feb 28

California Lions Move Be-Cause

Move for a Cause. Make a Difference.

MD4 California LIONS CLUBS

#LionsHelpingMorePeople

Learn more and get involved at CaliforniaLions.org

♥ Move Your Body. ♥ Lift Your Community. ♥ Be the Reason Someone *Thrives*.

Move Be-Cause is a statewide invitation from California Lions to turn everyday movement into everyday impact. From **July through February***, you choose how you move and which of the eight Lions Global Causes you want to support — one, a few, or all eight.

Pick Your Cause | Pick Your Move | Pick Your Team (or build one) | Move It | Log It | Celebrate!
Local clubs host activities all season long, opening the door for family, friends, neighbors, co-workers — and everyone you know — to see what Lions' service looks like up close. No experience, no membership, no minimum mileage — just show up and move.

Start your journey here, at MoveBecause.org

~ Diane Ringer

*The event culminates in an in-person Move Be-Cause event at the annual MD4 Convention February 19-21.

Lions Int'l WEEKS OF SERVICE**Oct 8-18 - Feb 13-21 - May 29-Jun 6**

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

**SERVICE IDEAS:****Host or Support Vision Screenings**

Help detect vision issues in your community.

Collect & Donate Eyeglasses

Give new life to used eyeglasses.

Educate Your Community

Share information about eye health and the importance of regular eye exams.

Partner with Professionals

Work with local eye care professionals, schools and community partners.

Improve Access to Care

Support initiatives that help remove barriers to vision care.

**MD4 COUNCIL CHAIR CHALLENGE**

Strive to be your District's Top Club in Vision Service!

Your Service Makes a Difference!

**Don't forget to REPORT YOUR SERVICE!**

Every service project counts. Let's show the impact California Lions are making!

CALIFORNIA LIONS CLUBS

*Lions Helping More People.***California Lions LCI Vision Service Week****October 8–18, 2026**

Theme “Clearer Vision. Brighter Futures.” Lions - help change lives through vision service. Service ideas include hosting or supporting vision screenings, collecting and donating eyeglasses, educating the community about eye health, partnering with eye care professionals and schools, and improving access to vision care. Clubs are encouraged to participate in the MD4 Council Chair Challenge, strive to be their district's top club in Vision Service, and report every service project. “California Lions Clubs — Lions Helping More People.”

WEEKS OF SERVICE
THREE WEEKS. THREE POWERFUL CAUSES.
2026-2027

LIONS SERVE. COMMUNITIES THRIVE. ❤️ TOGETHER, WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD!

VISION
OCTOBER 8-18, 2026
Opening eyes. Changing lives.
Promote eye health and support sight-saving initiatives in your community and around the world.

YOUTH
FEBRUARY 13-21, 2027
Empower today. Lead tomorrow.
Invest in our youth through service, mentorship, and programs that build brighter futures.

ENVIRONMENT
MAY 29-JUNE 6, 2027
Protect today. Preserve tomorrow.
Take action to care for our planet through sustainability, conservation, and clean community initiatives.

adoptable & adaptable service project ideas
<https://bit.ly/CALionsOwnIt>

Own it! Details From idea to impact in 4 simple steps

accessible version [here](#)

"This initiative unites Lions and Leos worldwide to address the critical issues of vision, youth and the environment. By participating, you'll be part of three impactful weeks dedicated to creating positive change and making a difference in communities around the globe — together. So, get involved and help drive collective action for a better future!" MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Oct 8-18: Weeks of Service – Vision

Feb 13-21: Weeks of Service – Youth

May 29-Jun 6: Weeks of Service – Environment

FALL COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS – VIRTUAL – Oct 23-25

<https://md4lions.org/cog>

Here is the access link to the proposed agenda for the upcoming COG on **October 24th**. Please review. More information to come on the Friday night fun! [LINK](#)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

February 17-18, 2027 Mid-Winter COG in Rohnert Park CA

February 19-21, 2027 MD4 Convention in Rohnert Park CA

June 11-13, 2027 Joint COG in Modesto CA

Save the Date!
FOR
**LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL
MULTIPLE DISTRICT 4**
— LIONS YEAR —
2026 - 2027

**COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS
MEETINGS AND CONVENTION**

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETINGS

1ST MEETING – ORGANIZATIONAL COG
AUGUST 21 – 23, 2026
Ontario, CA
Host L5

2ND MEETING – FALL COG (VIRTUAL)
OCTOBER 23 – 25, 2026
Virtual

3RD MEETING – MID-WINTER COG
FEBRUARY 17 – 18, 2027
Rohnert Park, CA
Host C2

4TH MEETING – JOINT COG
JUNE 11 – 13, 2027
Modesto, CA
Host A1

MD4 CONVENTION 2027
FEBRUARY 19 – 21, 2027
Rohnert Park, CA
Host C2

**TOGETHER
WE
SERVE**
We Make a Difference

— LIONS GLOBAL CAUSES —

ENVIRONMENT	HUNGER	VISION	DIABETES
CHILDHOOD CANCER	DISASTER RELIEF	HUMANITARIAN SERVICE	YOUTH

SERVING COMMUNITIES + CHANGING LIVES
United in Purpose. Guided by Service. Committed to Impact.

Accessible Version - [HERE](#)

DISTRICT 4-A1 MEETING Nov 7th

District 4-A1 Meeting – Mountain Region – November 7, 2026 – Mel & Faye's Diner, 31 CA-88, Jackson CA.

Time to show your Lions' Spirit.

[REGISTER](#) - [LINK](#) - [FLIER](#)

LIONS DISTRICT 4-A1 MOUNTAIN REGION MEETING




WHEN & WHERE

- Saturday, November 7, 2026
- Registration 8:30 AM
- Meeting 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM



Mel & Faye's Diner

31 CA-88, Jackson, CA 95642

THEME: LIONS SPIRIT!!
 Lions SPIRIT!! Wear your
 shirts, vests, etc.
 Bring your club Banner

MEMBERS-ONLY RAFFLE

Each club is asked to bring a raffle prize.

Members & Guests: \$20 Pre-reg / \$25 Door
 Leos (Non-students): \$15 Pre-reg / \$20 Door
 Leos (Students): FREE

Registration Deadline: October 31, 2026
 RSVP to Rich Ferro richferro@volcano.net




Please make checks payable to:
 Lions District 4-A1
 Mail checks to: 14445 Lupe Road
 Pine Grove, CA 95665

WE SERVE

ROSE PARADE FLOAT DECORATION

Dec 19, 26, 27

<https://lionsfloat.org/>

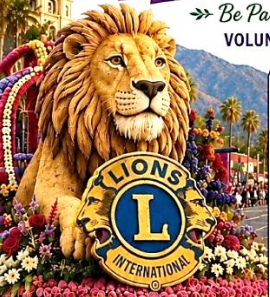


LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL ROSE PARADE

Float Decoration OPPORTUNITIES

» Be Part of Something Beautiful. «
 VOLUNTEER. CREATE. CELEBRATE.





DRY DECORATION

Saturday, December 19, 2026

Shift 1: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
 Shift 2: 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

FLORAL DECORATION

December 26, 2026 – Saturday

Shift 1: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
 Shift 2: 4:00 pm to 11:00 pm

December 27, 2026 – Sunday

Shift 1: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
 Shift 2: 4:00 pm to 11:00 pm

MORE DATES AVAILABLE
 Join the Yucaipa Valley Lions volunteers
 on one of these dates for the first shift.

*Together,
WE SERVE.
TOGETHER,
WE BLOOM.*



Scan the
QR code to
email us.



CALL OR TEXT
 Lion Michele with the
 Yucaipa Valley Lions Club
(909) 312-1363



No experience needed!
 Must be 14 years or older
 to volunteer.



Make new friends.
 Be part of tradition.
 Help create magic!



Your time helps
 bring the Lions'
 vision to life on
 the world's stage.

SIGN UP TODAY! | A willing heart and helping hands appreciated ♥

MD4 CONVENTION Feb 19-21

MD4 Convention in Rohnert Park CA – <https://md4lions.org>

**DISTRICT 4-A1 CONVENTION**

at [Black Oak Casino Resort](#)

Apr 1-4

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

Lions District 4-A1 Convention - [FLIER](#)

Save the Date: **April 1-4, 2027**

Black Oak Casino Resort, Tuolumne, California

Four Days of Fun, Food and Fabulousness!

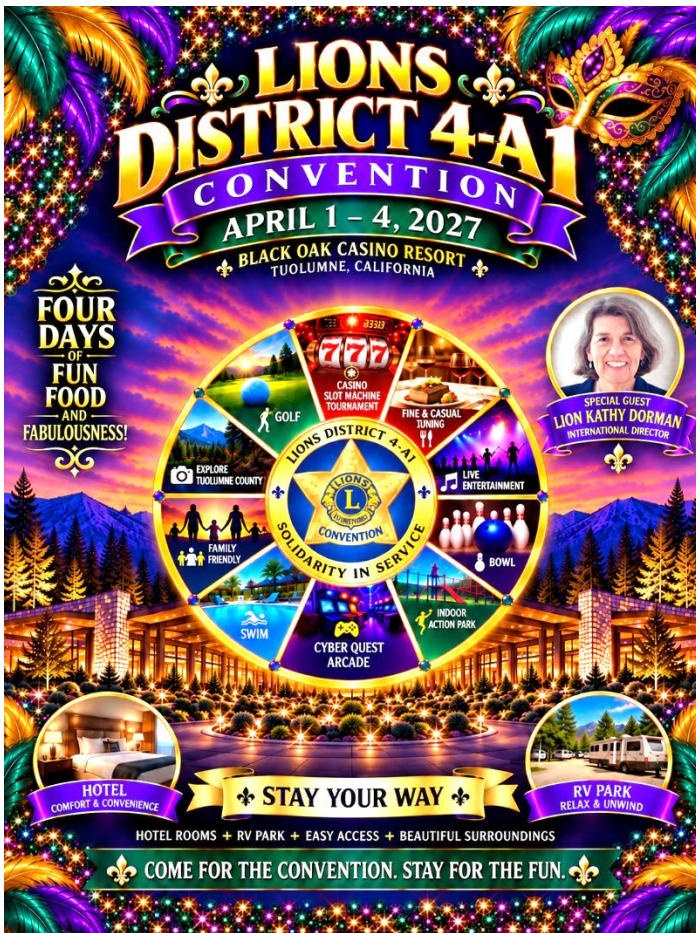
Special Guest: Lion Kathy Dorman, International Director

Theme: Solidarity in Service

Things to do at the convention:

Golf - Casino slot machine tournament - Fine and casual dining - Live entertainment- Bowling - Indoor action park - Cyber Quest Arcade – Swimming - Family-friendly activities - Exploring Tuolumne County.

Stay Your Way: Hotel: comfort and convenience. RV park: relax and unwind. Hotel rooms, RV park, easy access, and beautiful surroundings. Come for the convention. Stay for the fun.



ALPHA & OMEGA LEO NEWS SECTION

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



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

Leo Club Name	Sponsoring Lions Club Name	Leo Club Type
Buhach Colony High School	Atwater Winton Lions	Alpha (School-based)
Chowchilla	Chowchilla Lions	Alpha (not specified)

Leo Club Name	Sponsoring Lions Club Name	Leo Club Type
El Capitan High School	Merced Breakfast	Alpha (School-based)
Golden Valley	Merced Breakfast	Alpha (School-based)
Madera	Madera Madera Evening Lions	Alpha (Community-based)
Madera II	Madera Madera Evening Lions	Omega (Community-based)
Merced	Merced Breakfast Lions	Alpha (School-based)
Merced County Law Enforcement – Senior	Merced County LE Lions	Omega (Community-based)
Merced County Law Enforcement – Junior	Merced County LE Lions	Alpha (Community-based)
Oakdale High School	Oakdale Lions	Alpha (not specified)
San Joaquin	Stockton Healthy Leo Lions	Omega (not specified)
Tokay HS Leo Club	Stockton Healthy Leo Lions	Alpha (Community-based)
Yosemite High School	Bass Lake Lions	Alpha (Community-based)

ATTENTION LEO CLUBS

Please send an email to gfc1ion@gmail.com with photos and an article updating us on what your club has been doing. Or email a notification to Newsletter Editor Gail when you have social media posts to include in upcoming District's Newsletters!

LEOS' INVITATION TO MD4 ENVIRONMENT PHOTO CONTEST

See flier and details in the Upcoming Events section. [FLIER](#)

CHECK OUT INSTAGRAM FOR LEOS' NEWS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Several of our district's Leo Clubs post on Instagram. Click on the blue links in the above chart.

Note to Leo Clubs – email Lion Gail gfc lion@gmail.com the information if you want it in this newsletter – it really helps! Thank you.

YOSEMITE HS LEO CLUB

Yosemite High School held its Back to School Night on Wednesday, August 26th. The Yosemite High Leos were present and sponsored an information and recruiting table at this schoolwide event. The previous day the Bass Lake Lions Club sponsored Yosemite High Leos Club held its first meeting for the 2026-2027 school year with 20 students in attendance. 2026-2027 promises to be an active and productive year for our Leos! ~ Bruce Alameida

MERCED HS LEO CLUB

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



Leos served at the D Street Shelter. The Leos made time in their busy schedule to prepare and serve a wonderful meal for the D Street Shelter! The delicious menu featured: roasted chicken, rigatoni with pink sauce, fresh salad, dinner roll & butter, and cookies for dessert.

Thank you to our dedicated Leos for caring for our community and providing a great, warm meal!



The Leos have been busy giving back to our community!

A group of Leos spent the day at Lake Yosemite, helping with a variety of activities and assisting with coordination during the Boat Races. Their willingness to step in wherever needed helped make the event a success.

Another group of Leos volunteered at the Merced Breakfast Lions Club Casino Night, helping keep the appetizer buffet replenished throughout the evening and pitching in with cleanup afterward.

We are proud of these young volunteers for giving their time, working together, and demonstrating the true spirit of service to our community.

Embarking on a Journey of a Lifetime: Our Leo Ambassadors returned from Japan, crossing ocean and continent.

Two of our Merced Breakfast Lions Club's very own Leos recently returned from a transformative 18-day cultural exchange program in Japan. Sponsored as student ambassadors by the Merced

Breakfast Lions Club, Saorse Barahona and Valery Chavez represented our community on an unforgettable journey defined by service, discovery, and global friendship. From the moment they landed, Saorse and Valery were immersed in the rich rhythms of daily life in Japan through local host family stays.



Opening their homes and hearts, these families provided our Leos with an authentic look into Japanese hospitality, daily customs, and tradition. Beyond the warm home stays, the daily itinerary packed in remarkable sights and meaningful service.

The Leos explored iconic, centuries-old temples, and partnered with local Japanese Leo clubs to complete community service projects, demonstrating that the Lion spirit of service truly speaks a universal language.

Between service initiatives, the ambassadors dove head-first into Japan's rich cultural heritage. Saorse and Valery tried their hands at traditional calligraphy, learned classical Japanese dance steps, and mastered local culinary preparations.

Returning home with broader horizons, lifelong international friendships, and an abundance of stories, both ambassadors proved to be stellar representatives of our club. We are immensely proud to have supported Saorse and Valery on this incredible journey.

CLUB NEWS SECTION

CLUBS – Please email a notification to Newsletter Editor [Gail](#) when you have social media posts to include in upcoming District's Newsletters!

CHECK OUT RECENT FACEBOOK POSTS FROM THESE CLUBS IN OUR DISTRICT 4-A1

Lathrop x3
Chowchilla x2

LeGrand x2
Los Banos
Madera Evening x2
Moke Hill
West Point x2
Atwater-Winton
Stockton San Joaquin x3
Tracy Tank Town x4
Patterson
Merced Breakfast
Stockton Healthy Leo Lions x3
Stockton Host x2
Sutter Creek
Jackson
Tracy Breakfast x2
Ceres x3
Turlock
Sierra
Dos Palos
Livingston

STOCKTON SAN JOAQUIN LIONS

Rededication of the Helen Keller Centennial Bench & Mural was August 29, 2026 at the Maya Angelou Library.

Here's a link to our YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/@SanJoaquinLionsclub>

EDITOR'S NOTE: Although it was past the deadline for August's Newsletter, here are photos and videos of the dedication.

Here's a link to PDG Eric Cheung's photos:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/16Qhv4OxJGrC6GejUD_VQOWjAzPNaugnO



The San Joaquin Lions Club welcomed Helen Keller Mural Artist & Advocate Diana M. Buettner, District 4-A1 Lions Clubs, county and city representatives, members of the public and disabilities community of San Joaquin County to join us for a rededication of the Helen Keller Mural at the Maya Angelou Library August 29, 2026.

https://youtu.be/j1PooHRV9QU?is=Lsva09FbLw_y316



District 4-A1 Lions Clubs Vision Chair/"Bags for Benches" Chair Jennifer Gass and the San Joaquin Lions Club hosted a rededication of the Helen Keller Centennial Mural & Bench in Stockton, CA. California Lions (MD4) Past Council Chair Claudia Miller kindly donated a replacement "Bags for Benches" bench for the District 4-A1 Helen Keller Centennial Bench Dedication in the backyard of the Maya Angelou Library. The original bench was earned through Lions Clubs recycling over 1000 pounds of soft plastics and placed during a ceremony held June 28, 2025 to commemorate 100 years since Helen Keller challenged the Lions Clubs to become Knights of the Blind in the crusade against darkness. Sadly, that original green bench was reported stolen in August 2025 and was never recovered. As expressed today by 4-A1 District Governor Steve Moore, we still hope for someone to do the right thing and return the bench. Our San Joaquin Lions are grateful for the kindness shown by all partners collaborating to make our Helen Keller Centennial Mural & Bench Project complete once again as a lasting tribute to Helen Keller's Legacy - and the art, advocacy, and resilience of the disability's community of San Joaquin County. #HelenKeller100

STOCKTON San Joaquin Lions were excited to learn more about Stockton Healthy Leo-Lions Club's diabetes walk as they shared as our guest speakers at our September 2nd meeting and reached out for other Clubs' support. We plan to take part in the event to reach the community.

Our gourmet popcorn, pretzel, and cotton candy fundraiser has been extended through **October 7** if you would kindly consider a purchase to help us continue serving. [LINK](#)



Above photo: New San Joaquin Lion David Valdez and sponsor, Lion Jennifer Gass
Club members had a great time at the District Meeting in Chowchilla and were excited to have DG Steve induct our newest member, Lion David Valdez!



Above two photos: Rodrigo and Jennifer took these at the glasses sorting at September's District Meeting.

Also, it was really meaningful to sort eyeglasses in honor of the memory of Lion Paul Wagner. It was a wonderful experience tabling at the Special Olympics at Edison High School Wednesday and spreading disability awareness. Our members will be attending Disability Faires on **October 2** (Modesto) and **October 9** (Stockton).

We hope you can join us **October 10** for our 8th Annual White Cane Awareness Walk & Celebration! [REVISED FLIER](#) - There are various activities to participate in between 11 AM and 2 PM. The fundraiser, benefiting the National Federation of the Blind, goes from 9:30 AM to 9:30 PM at Mountain Mike's, 1000 W. Robinhood Dr., Stockton. We continue to recycle eyeglasses, readers, sunglasses, hearing aids, pull tabs, athletic sneakers, and soft plastics. Thank you for your continued support!
~ Jennifer Gass

WEST POINT LIONS

7th Annual Food Drive – **October 1-31, 2026**

Please help us help others. These are locations where we will have our donation cans. Every little bit helps. Please - no expired cans. These are going to our community food pantries. ~ Brenda Hagerman
- [FLIER](#)

BASS LAKE LIONS

(See photos and articles in the Leos Section for the club we sponsor, Yosemite HS Leos.)

ESCALON LIONS

  BINGO NIGHT IS COMING TO ESCALON!  

Who's ready to yell BINGO?! Join the Escalon Lions Club on Saturday, **October 10th** at the Escalon Community Center for a fun evening of Bingo, cash prizes, and supporting a great community project!

 Progressive Cash Payouts — \$150 to \$500 per game!

 Early Bird Specials begin at 5:30 PM

 Regular Bingo starts at 6:00 PM

 Must be 18+ to play

And the best part?  All proceeds go toward the Hogan Field Expansion Project!

Come out, bring your friends, have some fun, win some cash, and help the Escalon Lions Club continue investing right here in our community.

 For more information, contact Jeremy Engle at 209-505-1929. [FLIER1](#) – [FLIER2](#)

2026-2027 Upcoming Events →→→

10/4 Harvest On Main (Sunday) – [FLIER](#)

11/11 Veteran's Day Parade

11/26 Thanksgiving

12/1 Hospice Tree Lighting

12/3-5 Pete Arellano Memorial Tournament

12/5 Christmas On Main (Chocolate Booth)

12/17 Holiday Dinner

2/4 Escalon Lions Speech Contest

2/?? Flag Presentations

31?? Zone Speech Contest

3/13 Corned Beef Dinner

4/21 Farmer's Market

5/19 Farmer's Market

5/20 Escalon Lions Board Election

6/3 Escalon Lions President's Dinner

6/16 Farmer's Market

STOCKTON DELTA PACIFICA LIONS

Here's a picture of our newest Lion, Lion Warren Wigfell. His father, Lion George, is his sponsor and ZC Ron Culter inducted him into our club at our Tuesday night Lions meeting. We are so happy to welcome Lion Warren into the Stockton Delta Pacifica Lions Club!

~ Carrie Guadagnolo

MERCED BREAKFAST LIONS

Charter Night is Tuesday, **October 27, 2026** at UC Merced Campus. – [FLIER](#)

Cioppino Dinner is **January 16, 2027** - [FLIER](#)



Casino Night was a smashing success! The cards were hot, the dice were rolling, and the hall was absolutely buzzing for our annual Casino Night fundraiser! Thanks to the incredible organization by Lions Tim and Celeste Sharp, the evening ran like a finely tuned clock and brought our community together for a fantastic cause.

The room was packed with high rollers and enthusiastic beginners alike, all testing their luck at the gaming tables. When guests needed a break from the intense action, they were treated to a magnificent feast. A huge shoutout goes to our incredible local dining spots for keeping everyone energized and ready to play.

Because of your ticket purchases, raffle buys, and competitive spirit, this event was a massive fundraising win. Every dollar raised stays right here to fund our local community service projects!

LATHROP LIONS





We had such a wonderful evening at the Family Promise Gala of San Joaquin County! ✨ It was a beautiful night, filled with great company, meaningful connections, and support for an organization dedicated to helping families in our community.

We're grateful to be part of an event that brings people together for such an important cause. Thank you to Family Promise of San Joaquin County for the incredible work you do and for hosting such a memorable evening. ❤️ Lathrop Lions Club bought two tables for this event.

~ Anna Melissa Pascual

TRACY BREAKFAST LIONS



Zone Chair Lion Ron Cutler stopped by and had breakfast with us.



We helped out Tracy Tank Town Lions at the West vs Tracy football game.



Above two photos: Six of our members made a visitation to the Stockton Host Lions Club.

SUTTER CREEK LIONS





The Sutter Creek Lions made and donated 300 bookmarks for the StoryWalk in Sutter Creek (see photos). Organized by the Amador County Library, the first page of the story began in the parking lot behind the auditorium. Instructions were to follow the prompts to find out where the next page was. The story was up in participating store windows throughout the month of September.

During our Blood Drive on September 11, the Sutter Creek Lions held a Food Drive to benefit the Interfaith Food Bank at the Sutter Creek Community Building from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Paper and plastic bags were also being collected. Items needed to be non-perishable.

Thank you for your commitment in helping to save lives through blood donation.

The next Sutter Creek Community Blood Drive is scheduled on Friday, **October 9**, and the details are below. Please feel free to share this with friends and family! [FLIER](#)

Sutter Creek Community Blood Drive

Friday, October 9 from 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sutter Creek Community Center, 33 Church Street, Sutter Creek, CA 95685

Please schedule an appointment through the QR code on the [flier](#) or call Vitalant at 877-258-4825

Donors can schedule a Whole Blood or Power Red appointment and donate whole blood.

Walk-ins are welcome and will be accommodated if space allows. Donors will also be entered into a Vitalant drawing for a chance to win a \$10,000 gift card!

To prepare for your donation:

For eligibility questions call Vitalant at 800-289-4923 or go to <https://www.vitalant.org/eligibility/blood-donation-requirements>

Donors must be 16 years old and there is no upper age limit. The blood donation process takes about one hour, and the actual blood donation takes about 10 minutes.

Donors must weigh at least 110 pounds and be symptom-free of COVID, cold, and flu for five days.

To learn more about making a Power Red donation click here - <https://www.vitalant.org/donate/types-of-blood-donation/power-red>

Please bring a photo I.D., eat a hearty meal, and drink plenty of water prior to donation. Know the time you spend donating can help save a life! Thank you for being a blood donor and helping to save lives with us!

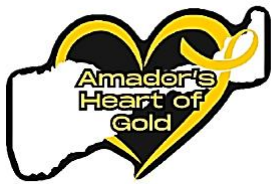


As a special Thank You to blood donors, you'll be able to choose a patriotic charm (while supplies last). We'll also have popsicles to share — a small treat to brighten your day.

You don't need to be a blood donor to help. Anyone can drop off food donations for the Interfaith Food Bank. Items may be left on the porch between 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

Thanks to your generosity, our September 11 drive collected over 60 pounds of food.

~ Nancy Champlin & Patricia Tara, Blood Drive Coordinators



California
LIONS FOUNDATION



The Sutter Creek Lions are proud to announce they have received a grant from the California Lions Foundation to create a "Comfort Pack" for children who travel for cancer treatment outside the county. Working in partnership with Amador's Heart of Gold and Amador STARS, this project will provide packs for five families.

These funds will allow our club to purchase tote bags, soft blankets, emesis bags, phone/tablet charger, car activities, snacks, etc. Ashley Costello, President of Amador's Heart of Gold, shared that they are Amador County's Childhood Cancer Support and Resource Foundation. Their mission is to provide financial, emotional, and educational support to families affected by childhood cancer residing in Amador County. Nina Machado, Board Member at Amador STARS, added that these items are designed to reduce stress, provide comfort, and offer engaging activities during challenging times.

The Sutter Creek Lions and their partners plan to complete the project by February 2027, continuing their commitment to supporting children and families in our community. ~ Nancy Champlin

TRACY TANK TOWN LIONS

Tracy Tank Town Lions hosted District Governor Lion Steve Moore's visit. He presented his motto for this year - "Solidarity Through Service". He was joined in his visit by Lion Tom Machado, who presented three highway/road "Adopt a Highway" clean-up programs for club participation. DG Steve Moore did an induction of our new member Clare Atkins. It was a positive, warm welcome to Lions for Clare.

We are continuing with our busy West High football concessions fundraising with the help of the West High ROTC students working toward their volunteer hours.



LOS BANOS LIONS



We have a Rib Dinner fundraiser **November 21st**, tickets are being sold now. Also our Poinsettia fundraiser is starting up. Above photo: We represented our club at the September District Meeting. Here's our Facebook page link: <https://www.facebook.com/LosBANosLionsClub> and our new email is LBlionsclub@yahoo.com.

MURPHYS-ANGELS LIONS

August Fun at Ironstone



**Kane Brown
Concert**



Page 2



Thank you to our cooks for the
delicious meals this month!

**AUGUST BOARD MEETING
DINNER COOK:
JIM FRAGUERO**



<https://lrcac.org/>



**AUGUST FAMILY
DINNER POTLUCK**



LINDEN LIONS

December 19: Wreaths Across America – Linden Cemetery 9am



August 25th Guest Speaker: PDG Don Allen gave a presentation on LCIF and the programs they are supporting. Some of the programs support vision care and those with hearing impairment. He told us how we can become involved by donating to multiple programs. 1st VP Paul Castillou presented a Certificate of Appreciation to PDG Don Allen.



Next was the induction of another New Member. PDG Doug Campbell called sponsor DG Steve Moore and New

Member Scott Ostrander to the podium. PDG Doug gave a history of the Lions Club and explained the responsibilities of new members. Scott agreed to all that PDG Doug stated and then some! Lion Scott received his Certificate of Membership and had an opportunity to share some of his life / family with us.

CHOWCHILLA LIONS



Chowchilla Lions' members joined the Leos Club Officer Installation at the home of Patience Ferriea. In attendance was Troy and Liz Bockhop, Duarte Goncalves, and Shellie Kuhr. Also in attendance was the District Governor, Madera Omega Lions, and members of the Madera Evening Lions Club. Everyone enjoyed a potluck.



Chowchilla Lions welcomes two new members: Brandi S. (left) and Katrina M. (right) and their sponsor Liz Bockhop (center). Brandi and Katrian will be the advisors for the Chowchilla's Leos Club. They both have backgrounds in educational instruction and will be a great asset to the club.





Prior to the Ride for Hero's Rodeo event, we helped the Chowchilla Fair get ready by making some very needed repairs to our concession and storage booth. We replaced some weather-beaten boards and put on a coat of paint.

Lions Tim Alford, Norman Kuhr, Duarte Goncalves, Alvara Reyna, and Dianne Alford did a lot of work repairing the water-damaged wood siding on the Storage Building and replacing the wood around the roof of the Concession Booth and the gazabo – and did painting to make the buildings look nice for the big event for Riding for Hero's Rodeo. They did an excellent job.



Lion Kevin was working in the Kitchen. The Riding for Hero's opening ceremonies began with the American Flag. Then was the introduction of the riders, a little mutton busting, and the night ended with bull riding. Everyone had a great evening. The weather started out hot but ended on a cool note.

STOCKTON HOST LIONS' FACEBOOK PAGE





September 13th entry: Another amazing weekend with the Stockton Host Lions BBQ Crew. On Saturday, Feeding our great First Responders at the Welcome Home Heros event at the Atlantic Aviation Jet Center. And on Sunday, The Gospel Center Rescue Mission held their Annual Alumni Graduation, graduating 18 Stockton Residents from their program. We fed approximately 300 in attendance our famous Tri-tip and Chicken. God bless the staff and donors to this great Mission. Thank you, Lions, for all your great work!! Volunteer opportunities are always welcomed with our group.

CHOWCHILLA LIONESS LIONS

Chowchilla Lioness Lions' Bingo is on Saturday, **October 10th**. Bring a bag of pull tabs or used eyeglasses and receive a free bingo sheet. Fuller School Cafeteria 1101 Monterey starting at 12:00.

MOKE HILL LIONS

Throughout September, the Mokelumne Hill Lions have been serving Pies in the Park to build our savings fund for replacing the grass in the town park. Now in our third year, we are working toward a \$5,000 donation. Our next fundraiser is a brand-new event, and we're excited to present Moke Hill's Got Talent—dinner and a show, Moke Hill style! We hope you'll join us on **October 24** at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Hall on Main Street. It should be a hoot!

[FLIER](#) ~ Cindy Pederson



Please do not alter the Lions logo when making your club's logo.

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/brand-guidelines>

DIRECTORY

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

2026-2027 DISTRICT 4-A1

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Steve Moore

IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Matt Stickler

1ST VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Mike Bohl

2ND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

José M. Aldaco

CABINET SECRETARY

Debbi Hopman

CABINET TREASURER

PDG Patricia Casey-Gillum

LEO-LION ADVISOR

Asia Joaquim

GLOBAL ACTION TEAM [\(GAT\)](#)

Global Action Team Chair (GAT)

Steve Moore

Global Leadership Team Chair (GLT) Claudia Miller

Global Membership Team Coordinator (GMT) Tom Machado

Global Service Team Coordinator (GST) Beth Estante

Global Extension Team Coordinator (GET) Mike Bohl

MOUNTAIN REGION

Mountain Zone 1 Chair – Rich Ferro

[JACKSON](#) (2263)

[MOKELUMNE HILL](#) (39671)

[SUTTER CREEK](#) (111484)

[TRI DAMS LC](#) (2303)

[UPCOUNTRY 88](#) (37207)

Mountain Zone 2 Chair – Daisy Borba-Vega and Hector Vega

[COPPEROPOLIS LAKE TULLOCH](#) (47759)

[MURPHYS ANGELS](#) (2282)

[SONORA](#) (2292)

[WEST POINT](#) (2307)

SAN JOAQUIN REGION

San Joaquin Zone 1 Chair – Rodrigo Acosta Jr

[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 – Ronald Cutler

[LATHROP](#) (105237)

[STOCKTON DELTA PACIFICA](#) (47862)

[STOCKTON SAN JOAQUIN](#) (2298)

[STOCKTON HOST](#) (2294)

[TRACY BREAKFAST](#) (2302)

[TRACY TANK TOWN](#) (67535)

STANISLAUS REGION

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

Yosemite Zone 1 Chair – Karla Gran

[CHOWCHILLA](#) (2251)

[CHOWCHILLA LIONESSE](#) (98271)

[DOS PALOS](#) (2256)

[LE GRAND](#) (2265)

[MADERA MADERA EVENING](#) (61592)

[MERCED BREAKFAST](#) (2276)
MERCED COUNTY LE (143071)

Yosemite Zone 2 Chair – Vacant Position. Contact Debbi Hopman or DG Steve Moore jh5@msn.com

[BASS LAKE](#) (2249)
[MARIPOSA](#) (2274)
[MERCED HEALTHY LEO LIONS](#) (182692)
[NORTH FORK](#) (2284)
[SIERRA](#) (2291)

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

LIONS INTERNATIONAL – MD4 CALIFORNIA & [DISTRICT 4-A1 CARE SERVICE PROJECTS](#)
Beth Estante, GST

[LIONS IN SIGHT OF CALIFORNIA & NEVADA](#)
David Thompson & Xena Ferrario

[LIONS PROJECT for CANINE COMPANIONS](#)
Kirk Noffsinger

[LIONS SIGHT CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION - SPOT VISION SCREENING](#)
PDG Kent Christensen
Board of Directors:
Paula Hansen 2025-2029
PDG Don Allen, Treasurer 2024-2028
DG Steve Moore
IPDG Matt Stickler

PARKER'S PROM ([Childhood Cancer](#))
Liz Bockhop

[PEACE POSTER & ESSAY CONTESTS](#)
Jeff Hammar

[PULL TABS – RONALD MCDONALD'S HOUSE CHARITIES](#)
David Thompson & Xena Ferrario

[RELAY FOR LIFE – AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY](#)
Shawn Monnin

[MD4 STUDENT SPEAKERS CONTEST](#)
Garrett Becker

[MD4 & 4-A1 MAGIC YARN](#)
PDG Linda Barbara Ibarb50@yahoo.com

[WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY](#)
Lisa Rodriguez & Jennifer Gass

[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

Claudia Miller, President 7/2024-6/2028

Board of Directors:

Tom Proett 7/2025-6/2029 Mountain Region

Angie Barth 7/2026-6/2030 Stanislaus Region

Gabby McKechnie 7/2024-6/2028 Yosemite Region

Amanda Baptista 7/2026-6/2030 (at large)

[EAR OF THE LION FOUNDATION](#)

Terry Brooks, Treasurer

800-327-8077

Email: hearfoundation@aol.com

[FOURTH DISTRICT STUDENT SPEAKERS FOUNDATION](#)

PDG Chris Ohrmund, President

ohrmu@aol.com

PCC Claudia Miller, District Trustee

[LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION](#)

PDG Kent Christensen, 4-A1 LCIF Co-Chair

PDG Don Allen, 4-A1 LCIF Co-Chair

[LIONS FLOAT INC.](#)

President PCC Craig Durand

Lioncraig4L4@gmail.com

[CITY OF HOPE](#)

Dean Ballard dballard@coh.org

[LIONS EYE FOUNDATION OF CALIFORNIA-NEVADA, INC.](#)

PDG John Posey, Executive Director

jdposey94@gmail.com

PDG Clifford Cooper, President nvcoop.cc@gmail.com

[DISTRICT 4-A1 LEO CLUBS](#)

Asia Joaquim – District Leo Adviser

DISTRICT 4-A1 STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Chair – Pat Casey Gillum, Cabinet Treasurer
District Governor Steve Moore
1st VDG – Mike Bohl
2nd VDG – José M. Aldaco
Ex Officio: PCC Claudia Miller
Ex Officio: PDG Kent Christensen

CONVENTION MANAGEMENT

Chair – Mike Ostrom (DG Steve Moore)
1. Todd Riebe (1st VDG Mike Bohl)
2. TBD (2nd VDG José M. Aldaco)
3. Don Allen (PDG Advisor)
4. Kent Christensen (Treasurer)

OPERATIONS COMMITTEES**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

Chair - Claudia Miller
Steve Moore, District Governor
Mike Bohl, 1st VDG
José M. Aldaco, 2nd VDG

CREDENTIALS and ELECTIONS

Chair – Steve Moore, District Governor
Debbi Hopman, Cabinet Secretary
1. Rosie Campbell
2. Angie Barth

YOUTH PROTECTION PROGRAM

John FooSum
All Zone Chairs
Vice District Governors – Mike Bohl and José M. Aldaco

CHAPLAIN – IPDG Matt Stickler

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

PCC Claudia Miller

HONORARY

PDG Don Allen

MARKETING & PUBLICITY

Diana Ringer

NEWSLETTER EDITOR – INFORMATION/TECHNOLOGY

Gail Cates

SONG LEADER – Ron Cutler

TAIL TWISTER

Angie Barth

LION TAMER – AV AND 4-A1 ITEMS

As Assigned by District Governor or designee

CONTESTS & AWARDS

lions4-a1.org/contests-awards/

[PROUD LION MENTORING PROGRAM](#)

Tom Machado, GMT

[BULLETIN & NEWSLETTER CONTEST](#)

Maggie Stickler

[DIGITAL SCRAPBOOK CONTEST](#)

Maggie Stickler

[TOP CLUB CONTEST](#)

Debbi Hopman, Cabinet Secretary

Steve Moore, District Governor

LONG AND SHORT TAIL – VISITATION AWARDS

LIONS INTERNATIONAL CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD

DISTRICT 4-A1 MEMBERSHIP GROWTH AWARD

DR. HOWARD ABRAMS' HUMANITARIAN SERVICE AWARD

EDITOR'S NOTE: Any changes, additions, or corrections, please let Lion Gail know.