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Volume 241
Issue 7



5M9 Service Journal

District Governor Denise Laudenbach



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Letter from
the President to You
International
President
Fabrício Oliveira



We are driven by a desire to serve. As Lions, we're always thinking about others and the work that needs to be done to help them, both in our communities and around the world. And when we grow our membership, we're also growing the amount of service we can do — and the impact we can make together.

I know we can serve more people than ever before this year, thanks to your service and your support of *MISSION 1.5*. So let's serve and grow to make our mark like only Lions can.

At your service,

Fabrício Oliveira
Let's take action together

Lions answer the call to service whenever and wherever we're needed. We're bound by kindness and driven by the desire to create a better world. Watch President Fabrício's *Lions Take Action* video to see just how we're taking action to serve a world in need and how we're making our mark together.

And be sure to check out our [global causes](#) and the great services resources that can help you take action!

HAPPY
New Year

District Governor Denise Laudenbach



Dear Lions of District 5M9,

As we stand on the threshold of a brand-new year, let us take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've shared and the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. The start of a new year is a time of hope and renewal—a chance to recommit ourselves to caring for one another and embracing the true spirit of service that defines who we are as Lions. Together, we have the power to make a difference in our communities, to lift up our neighbors in need, and to inspire a brighter future for all.

This is also a time to cherish what is most important in life: the relationships we build, the connections we nurture, and the impact we leave behind. Let us never forget the importance of serving with compassion and purpose, striving not only to meet the needs of others but to do so with humility and grace. As we move forward into this new year, let us be grateful for the friends and family who stand by us, the fellow Lions who walk alongside us in service, and the countless lives we touch with our collective efforts.

May this new year bring renewed energy, shared successes, and a deeper appreciation for the values that unite us as a district. Together, we can achieve great things—building stronger communities, fostering meaningful relationships, and truly living the Lions' motto, *"We Serve."* *Here's to another year of serving, caring, and making a difference.*

With gratitude and best wishes,
Denise Marie Laudenbach



**“Changing the World”
by being a
Lion!**



We’re really ready to Grow and Serve more People!

It’s time to **FOCUS** on the balance of 2024-2025 as a Lion, a club, a zone and a district to achieve our goals for this year!

We are links in a chain that enables Lions Clubs International to notice what we are known for in our communities, District 5M9, MD5M and the Region. We can be very proud of the accomplishments we have made in the past six months and use that pride and energy to focus on the next six months to achieve our goals.

It has been said over and over that **SERVICE** is the key to our success and to make our **SERVICE** known it is necessary for service reporting by every Lions club.

Are you still confused or frustrated by The Portal? Make a resolution for this year to make The Portal a useful tool to help your club’s **SERVICE** be known. It takes practice and repetition and patience. Reach out and ask a fellow Lion secretary, your Zone Chair, Service Chair, District Service Chair or me to help you make reporting **SERVICE** easier for you and your club.

This month I’m including links and directions for The Portal from the Lions Resource Library and YouTube.

[Resource Center | Lions Clubs International](#) (keyword Portal) 24 Resources for you to choose from. Lion Portal Quick Guide-Create a Report-Copy a Meeting, Service Activity Full Walk Through and Service Activity Image Management are three Key resources to start you out. Other information in this area will help with upkeep and changes that are often made during the year.

Google - Lion Portal youtube for another resource for access to and use of The Portal in many ways.

I hope you find this information useful and encourage you to use it to **“Make a Mark”** this next six months.

Believe in yourself, believe in Lions!

Happy NEW YEAR!

1st VDG Lion Cathe



Sheri Greenwaldt 2nd Vice District Governor

Lions of 5M9,

As we start 2025 fostering stronger engagement within our Lions Club communities is more critical than ever. Active participation not only ensures the success of our initiatives but also deepens the sense of belonging among members. I have found some great strategies to help enhance member engagement and strengthen our impact!

1. Energize Meetings with Purpose and Inclusion

Define Clear Agendas: Share meeting agendas in advance to keep discussions focused and productive.

Rotate Roles: Empower members by rotating leadership roles in meetings or projects, fostering a sense of responsibility and inclusion.

Celebrate Achievements: Recognize milestones and contributions of individual members to reinforce appreciation and motivation.

2. Leverage Technology for Connection

Virtual Meetings: Use platforms like Zoom or Microsoft Teams to ensure all members can participate, even if they're geographically dispersed.

Interactive Tools: Incorporate polls, Q&A sessions, and live chats to make virtual meetings more engaging.

Member Portal: Create a digital space for resources, updates, and member interactions.

3. Promote Community Involvement

Collaborate Locally: Partner with schools, businesses, or other organizations to co-host events and extend outreach.

Highlight Service Projects: Use social media to showcase the tangible impact of our projects, attracting more volunteers and donors.

Engage Youth: Create initiatives like Leo Clubs to involve younger generations in community service.

4. Encourage Personal Connections

Mentorship Programs: Pair new members with seasoned Lions to build relationships and share knowledge.

Social Gatherings: Organize informal events like potlucks or sports days to foster camaraderie outside of service activities.

Personal Check-ins: Reach out to members who may have become less active to understand and address any barriers to participation.

Together, we can amplify our efforts and create a lasting impact in our communities. Let's make this year one of unparalleled service and engagement. Thank you for your unwavering dedication to Lions Club International's mission of serving others. I hope these give you some great ideas for serving your communities!

Lion Sheri Greenwaldt



Letter of Intent for District Governor 2025-2026

November 15, 2024

Denise Marie Laudenbach
5M9 District Governor
Lions Club International



Dear District Governor Denise,

It would be an honor to be considered as the candidate on the ballot in January 2025, for the position of District Governor for District 5M9.

I have been involved with the Lions since 2010 serving in the following positions:

Deerwood Lakes Lions Club as president and as secretary (2010-2015)
Bay Lake Area Lions Club as president, secretary, and as treasurer (2015-2020)
Club merger co-chair of Bay Lake Area Lions and Garrison Lions Clubs (2019-2020)
Garrison Bay Lake Area Lions Club as treasurer, vice president, project chair and president (2020-present)
5M9 Zone Chair (2022-2023) and 5M9 Zone Chair Advisor (2023-2024)

I have attended leadership training sessions, conventions and forums including:

RLLI Training (2013)
5M9 District Leadership Training (2010-2023)
MD5M Conventions (2017, 2022, 2023, 2024)
International Conventions (2019, 2023, 2024)
ALLI Training (2022)
USA/Canada Forum (2022, 2023, 2024)
2nd VDG Training (2023)
2023 Mid-Winter Convention Coordinator
1st VDG Training (2024)
Leader Dog Workshop (2024)
Guiding Lions Training (2024)

Award recipient (2016-2023):

Melvin Jones Fellow and Progressive Melvin Jones
Hearing Research Fellow, Dream Catcher, and Top Dog
Certificate of Appreciation – International President Gudrun Ynjvadottir
PID Bruce Beck 5M9 Outstanding President
Club Excellence Pin and Membership Key 2

I am proud to be a member of 5M9, MD5M and Lions International and I am willing to accept the role and responsibilities included with the position of District Governor 2025-2026.

Sincerely,
1st VDG Cathe Picek

Jake Jacoby-Vergas Lions

Letter of Intent 1st Vice District Governor

November 25th , 2024

Denise Marie Laudenbach
5M9 District Governor
Lions Club International



Dear District Governor Denise,

It would be the highest honor to be on the ballot at the 5M9 Mid-Winter Convention in January 2025 as a candidate for the leadership role of 1st Vice District Governor of District 5M9.

Since joining the Lions in 2017, I have been fortunate to have many roles and responsibilities within my clubs and our district and to attend many leadership training sessions within the Lions as listed below.

- 2nd Vice District Governor for 5M9 2024- present
- Zone chair advisor 2024- present
- Guiding Lion for the Jacobs Crew Lions Club 2024- present
- Current member of Vermdale Lions 2023- present
- Can Do Canine Co-chair 2019- present
- 5M9 District Secretary 2021-2024
- Hewitt Club 2nd Vice President 2019-2020
- Hewitt Club 1st Vice President 2020-2021
- Hewitt Club President 2021-2022
- Hewitt Club Service Chair 2022-2023
- Hewitt Club LCIF Chair 2022-2023
- USA/Canada Forum attendee 2020 (virtual) and 2021
- Lions International Convention Attendee 2021 (Virtual), 2022 and 2023
- Attended many 5M9 District Conventions
- Attended many MD5M Conventions
- Emerging Lions Leadership Institute Graduate 2019
- Regional Lions Leadership Institute Graduate 2019
- Advanced Lions Leadership Institute Graduate 2022
- Lions University Bachelor Graduate
- Lions University Masters Graduate
- Attended many 5M9 District Leadership Trainings

Recognitions that I have received within the Lions organization:

- Melvin Jones Fellowship
- Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship
- International Presidents Leadership medal
- 2 International President's Certificate of Appreciation
- GAT Chairperson's medal
- Dream Catcher Award
- Friends of Kamp KACE Award
- Club Excellence Award

I am very proud to say that I am ready to join the leadership team within District 5M9 as the 1st Vice District Governor. I am aware of the dedication and responsibilities of being a 1st Vice District Governor and I am excited for the next step in leadership. I love being a lion and I am very proud to be a member of Lions International, Multiple District 5M and District 5M9!

Sincerely, Lion Sheri Greenwaldt

MID-WINTER CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Friday, January 3rd

Registration	12:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Credentials	12:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Raffles	12:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Cabinet Meeting	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
PDG Meeting	4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Hospitality Tables	4:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Social Hour, Band, Dinner	4:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Glucose Service Project	4:00 PM - 7:30 PM
First Timers Meeting	7:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Let's Make A Deal Game Night	8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Saturday, January 4th

Early Riser Coffee Hour	6:00 AM - 7:00 AM
Guest Speaker - Lions and the Law w/ Lion Mike Molenda	6:15 AM - 6:45 AM
Walk the Track in Tamarac	6:00 AM - 7:00 AM
Registration/Information Open	7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Raffles	7:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Credentials	7:00 AM - 8:30 AM
Pride Breakfast	7:00 AM - 8:15 AM
Business Meeting	8:15 AM - 10:00 AM
Voting	9:45 AM - 10:00 AM
Youth Speaker - Leo-Lion Alicia Beer	10:30 AM - 11:15 AM
Lunch, Music, Color Guard	11:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Youth Scholarship Awards	12:00 PM - 12:30 PM
Grow Your Pride: Marketing for Modern Lions	12:30 PM - 1:00 PM
Guest Speaker - Lion BJ Blahnik with Leader Dogs	1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
Leader Dogs with Leos	2:00 PM - 2:45 PM
Eyeglasses Service Project	2:00 PM - 2:45 PM
Service of Remembrance	3:15 PM - 4:30 PM
Past International President Reception	4:30 PM - 5:30 PM
Arrival for the Big Event	5:30 PM - 6:15 PM
Past International President Brian Sheehan	6:15 PM - 6:45 PM
Madrigal Dinner	6:45 PM - 9:15 PM
Awards	9:15 PM - 9:45 PM
Raffle and Prize Pickup	9:45 PM - 10:15 PM

Sunday, January 5th

Early Riser Coffee Hour	6:00 AM - 7:00 AM
Walk the Track in Tamarac	6:00 AM - 7:00 AM
Registration	7:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Raffle and Prize Pickup	7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
Club Presidents with PIP, ID's, DG's, Zone Chairs	7:00 AM - 7:30 AM
Devotions/Church Service	7:30 AM - 8:00 AM
Breakfast	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Motivational Speaker, Lion Lori Sheehan	9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
Business Meeting Conclusion	9:45 AM - 11:00 AM
Awards	11:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Closing, Color Guard, Retire the Colors	11:30 AM - 12:15 PM

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

What to Pack for Mid-Winter 2025

Friday, Jan 3rd

- Lions attire for dinner
- Cash for raffles, auctions, LCIF, and exclusive merch
- Costume for 'Let's Make a Deal'
- Fill your purse or pockets to win during 'Let's Make a Deal'

Saturday, Jan 4th

- Walking shoes for AM walk on the indoor track
- Lions attire during the day
- Optional whites for dignitaries for dinner and awards
- Formal or gala attire requested for dinner and awards

Sunday, Jan 5th

- Walking shoes for AM walk on the indoor track
- Business casual attire, but wear a Pink or Purple shirt for the group photo

Agenda Notes

- There will be wheelchair escorts and shuttles available
- Tamarac Center = Sports Center
- Pine Ballroom = Lakeshore Ballroom

5M9 MID-WINTER CONVENTION

LET'S MAKE A DEAL

FRIDAY, JAN 3

8:00 PM

HOSTED BY THE

**Brainerd
Breakfast Club**



**Wear your best costume and don't forget to fill
your pockets or purses with a variety of objects!**

Jaw-dropping prizes are waiting for YOU!

Get ready to wheel, deal, and win!

HEAR YE!

Step into the enchantment of the
Renaissance with a

Madrigal

DINNER Saturday, Jan 4th
6:45 PM

Join us for an entertaining evening with the
Brainerd High School A Cappella and Windfall
Choirs, featuring music, laughter, and theatrical
delights fit for royalty.

Don't miss this unforgettable experience—

**REGISTER TODAY FOR THE
5M9 Mid-Winter Convention**

Huzzah!

Club Activities



The **Park Rapids Lions** celebrated the spirit of the season by collecting socks, hats and mittens for the Alternative learning students at the December 9th meeting followed by caroling on the 10th. A good time was had by all.



Mr. and Mrs. Claus had some great Elves to help put on a Great **Parkers Prairie** Christmas Event !

Lions Ashley Iverson, Kelli Hoffman, Kaylee Wilke and Kristi Fyrie.



New Osage Lions member-Cami Crane with 1st VDG Cathe Picke and Brad Smith as Sponsor



Congratulations Lion Ken from Sebeka Lions Club on your Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation Dream Catcher Award.



Congratulations!



The Parkers Prairie LIONS held an Invitational recently for New Members. Potential New Members were treated to a Limousine Ride to the meeting. It was a Great Evening with Good Food, Great Conversation and a Lot of Fun !!

Underwood Lions



Greg and Julie Kugler from the Underwood Lions handed out dictionaries to the 3rd students at Underwood School. The children enjoyed looking through the dictionaries and learning how to use them. They were excited to see the different things they can learn from the dictionary. Along with learning how to spell a word, the dictionary can teach them sign language, information about each state, multiplication tables, U. S. Presidents and so much more. This is the 11th year that The Underwood Lions are enjoying sponsoring the dictionary project.



Once again, this year the Underwood Lions will be ringing the bell for the Salvation Army in front of the Fergus Falls, Fleet Farm. Also, again this year the Underwood Lions will be matching Up To \$1,000.00 Dollars put into that red kettle at Fleet Farm, on two different days. The dates of those days are December 14, 2024, and December 21, 2024. Stop by on one of those days and Make Your Donation Count Double!



Backus Lions members--Sandy Remington, Bobbi Taylor, Anita Jordan, and Brad Taylor.

On December 13, the **Backus Lions** provided sweets and snacks to the adults and staff at the Pine River DAC. Santa (in the form of Don Lohse of the **Jenkins Lions**) made an appearance and "made the day" for everyone there.

**WE CARE
ABOUT OUR
COMMUNITY**



Baxter Lions Con Molin and Jerry Leese ringing bells for the Salvation Army at Super One in Baxter! It was a busy day! It was fun to see everyone who stopped by, donated, and helped make a difference. Let's continue to bring hope and joy to those in need during this special season!



Dear District 5M9 Cabinet Members, Club Secretaries and Club Service Chairs –

As we continue to serve our communities and live out the Lions motto, “We Serve,” your role as a leader remains critical in ensuring the success and visibility of our efforts. One of the most impactful responsibilities you hold is reporting your district and club’s service activities monthly. This task may seem routine, but its importance cannot be overstated. By accurately and consistently reporting our service hours and projects, you help paint a complete picture of our collective impact as Lions. This data serves as a testament to the incredible work our members do every day to make the world a better place.

Your reports play a vital role in the broader success of Lions International. When we can clearly demonstrate the scale of our service, we strengthen our relationships with foundations, corporations, and other potential partners. These organizations are more likely to collaborate with us when they see tangible evidence of the change we bring to our communities. Accurate reporting allows us to showcase the measurable outcomes of our efforts, making it possible to secure funding, resources, and partnerships that can expand our reach and amplify our impact. Simply put, your reports are the foundation upon which larger opportunities for collaboration are built.

We deeply appreciate your diligence and dedication in fulfilling this critical responsibility. By taking a few moments each month to log our district and club’s activities, you contribute to something much greater than individual projects—you are helping Lions International shape a future where we can achieve even more for those in need. Together, we can turn these service hours into impactful stories that inspire others to join us, support us, and believe in the power of service. Thank you for your commitment to serving your community and for being an integral part of the global Lions network.

If you need help or have any questions regarding how to report your club or district service projects and hours, please feel free to reach out to our District Chair for Service, Jake Jacoby at 612-747-9894 or our newly assigned District Service Associate, PDG Jamie Huttunen at 218-639-9306. Both amazing Lions are dedicated to helping you, your club and our district.

Yours in service,

Denise Marie Laudenbach
District Governor 5M9





This is what happens when **Palisade Lions** asked our community to lend a hand on Christmas Eve Day to help distribute food through Second Harvest! God bless you every one!



Brainerd Lions host Spaghetti with Santa. Everyone had an exceptional evening. Santa visited with over 150 children. Spaghetti was delicious and the atmosphere was festive.

Lions Clubs International – Networking matters!

"I wonder what other Lions' clubs are doing for events/projects?"

"I wonder how they are promoting these activities?"

"How can we let other Lions' clubs know about what our club is doing?"



How often have you or your fellow Lions club members thought or said these phrases? Whether you are looking to promote your club's upcoming or annual events or are interested in hearing about other Lions clubs activities in your area, you may have a perfect opportunity to accomplish both of these tasks in the next couple of months.

Mid-Winter conventions will be taking place all over MD5M over the course of the next couple of months, with the exception of 5M13 who held their convention this past November. These annual events bring Lions from across your district, and also the multiple district, to get together for fun and fellowship. If you or someone from your club plans to attend a Mid-Winter convention, you should plan ahead to take advantage of this opportunity.



When heading out to a Mid-Winter convention, make sure to take along materials for promoting your club events or projects to pass along to attendees. Flyers, posters, information cards, and other promotional materials should be on hand and in plentiful supply. Make sure your club convention attendees have all the details about what activities you are promoting so they can confidently speak about the events.

The other thing your club's representatives at the convention should be doing is listening to other Lions. Please have those Lions talk to others about what those Lions' clubs are doing for activities in their communities. Learning about these events can provide your club with the information needed to organize support from your club for their activities from your club members.

Another thing to ask other Lions at the convention about is how they promote their club and its projects. You may learn new and effective ways to bring attention to your own club and what it brings to your community. Ask for details on who manages promotion and advertising in those other clubs and do not hesitate to share your own marketing methods. Let us help each other with focusing more attention upon Lions and all the benefits they bring to our local communities.

Please remember to network with your fellow Lions at the Mid-Winter convention. You can not only have some fun there, but you can also return to your club with some valuable information to benefit your marketing efforts.

Lion Lyle Goff
MD5M Marketing & Lions Information Chair
gofflt@msn.com





Thank you **District 5M9** Lions for all your donations to the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation!
John Trevold one of our MLDF treasurers and Angie Hauge in photo.

Angie Hauge and Carl Bates, MN Lions Diabetes Foundation Representatives of 5M9

The **Brainerd Lakes Area Lions Breakfast Club** had a chance to help out at The Outreach Program of Brainerd Lakes with bagging food.



The Year That Was 1994-1995

The District Governor that year was PDG Otto Kamrud from the Osage Lions. The 1VDG was Lynn Mong from the Vergas Lions.

The mid-winter was held at Cragun's and the price for the hospitality book was around \$80.00, The main speaker was ID Marshall W. Cooper.

PDG Otto first joined Lions in 1970 when he joined the Park Rapids Lions where he held many offices and was instrumental in getting the Drug Awareness Program in Park Rapids. In 1983 Otto was instrumental in chartering the Osage Lions Club which ultimately endorsed him for District Governor.

It appears that PDG Otto was an avid traveler and pin collector. I was recently given his collection of 800 pins all nicely displayed. They will be on display at the 2025 mid-winter convention at Cragun's. Please take the time to see them.

See you at Cragun's!

Lion Zelda Novak
Historian.



Used Eyeglass Collection



The World Health organization estimates that 134 million people have uncorrected near-sightedness, far-sightedness, or astigmatism that could be treated with prescription glasses. Unfortunately, many have no access to eyeglasses or cannot afford them. You can help.

Please consider collecting unwanted used eyeglasses and donating them to the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation. Accepted are prescription eyeglasses, prescription and non-prescription sunglasses, and reading glasses. (No cases, please.) With your help children and adults across the world can reach their economic, educational, and social potential thanks to access to quality eyeglasses!

The Minnesota Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Pine City, Minnesota.

18TH ANNUAL VERNDALE LIONS PRIME RIB AND COMEDY NIGHT



**FEB
15
2025**



**STARRING
STEVE SABO!**

"THE CAFFEINATED
VOICE OF REASON"
AS SEEN ON... HBO,
NBC, E! AND COMEDY
CENTRAL. HEARD
REGULARLY ON SIRIUSXM
SATELLITE RADIO

***SOCIAL
HOUR 6 PM
*PRIME RIB
DINNER AT 7
*SHOW TO
FOLLOW!**

**CO-STARRING
SCOTT PUTNAM!**

"THE COMEDY KID"
MIXES HILARIOUS
OBSERVATIONS
WITH STORIES
FROM HIS
SORDID PAST



***GET READY FOR
THE FUNNIEST
NIGHT OF YOUR
LIFE! *** TICKET
COST IS \$40. ***
PURCHASE
TICKETS FROM
VERNDALE LIONS
MEMBERS,
PIRATES DEN, OR
CALL MICHELLE
(218) 639-2098**

**VERNDALE COMMUNITY CENTER
109 1ST AVE SE VERNDALE**



Follow Us On
Facebook & YouTube
@BarComedyUSA

More Info: BarComedyUSA.com
***PG-13, Adults-Only Event, No Kids**

Can Do Canines Fetching Ball Gala

Can Do Canines will host its annual Fetching Ball Gala on Saturday, February 22, 2025. This year's event will be held at the Radisson Blu Mall of America, and KARE 11 Reporter/Anchor Rena Sarigianopoulos will serve as the Master of Ceremonies.

We invite you to join us for this evening that celebrates the amazing teams of Can Do Canines. Enjoy dinner, inspiring stories, games, and silent and live auctions – all benefitting the organization. See candocanines.org/fetchingball for more information and to purchase tickets by February 12.



Two **Future Leader Dogs** sit beside each other. Behind them is a lit fir tree, Both Future Leader Dogs are black Labrador retrievers. The dedication, skill and extensive training our guide dogs receive throughout their life prepare them to one day become an unstoppable team, helping a person who is blind or has low vision travel independently.



LITPC YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION



The Lions International Trading Pin Club (LITPC) has announced for the 2024 – 2025 school year that there will be **6** US \$2,500 scholarships awarded. Graduating Leos OR graduating sons/daughters, grandsons/granddaughters of Lions are eligible to apply for the LITPC Youth Scholarship. The LITPC goal is to help our future leaders and give students a financial helping hand. This program started in 2012. Recipients have been from Connecticut (2), Delaware (2), Georgia, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota (4), New York (3), Ohio (6), Oklahoma (2), Pennsylvania (3) and Virginia (6). The 2025 recipients will be announced at the LITPC Annual Meeting in 2025.

To obtain the current LITPC Youth Scholarship information:

1. Go to the **LITPC website**: www.litpc.org
2. In the left column, click on **LITPC Scholarship Forms**.
3. Then click on **LITPC Scholarship Information**.
4. When that page comes up, click on **Scholarship Application Form**. Read and follow **ALL** directions. Be sure to fill out **ALL** the forms neatly and correctly which includes the 4 essay questions (in 350 words or less) and the question about scholarships that you have been offered along with submitting a **certified** copy of your high school transcript including activities. Plus you also need to attach recommendations from 2 persons (i.e. teacher, coach, clergy, employer, etc.) **AND** attach a recommendation letter from a Lions Club member indicating the name of the Club and state/province and country in which the Club is located.

ALL forms and letters are to be submitted by **MARCH 1, 2025** to:

Lions Bill & Marcia Guthrie, Scholarship Chairman 763-786-8072

9 101st Lane NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55448 bmguthrie9@q.com

You can either mail us your application OR email it to us.

THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK TO ALL!!!

The LITPC fulfills the motto of Lions Clubs International – “WE SERVE”



Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION

300 W. 22nd Street, Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842 USA | +1.630.571.5466 | LCIF.org

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a joyous time with family and friends to finalize the year of 2024. It was a busy year and as your LCIF Coordinators we had much to do. We thank you all for your support this year and your tremendous donations to those who dealt with the hurricanes and tornadoes this year. Without your help, many would be struggling harder with the tasks of cleanup and starting over after such a tragedy in their communities. As our motto goes... **'WE SERVE'**.

With the New Year of 2025 getting started, we want the Lions of 5M9 to understand what LCIF is all about and how we help others around the world. **Lions Clubs International Foundation**, is your foundation and we are all here to help those in need.

Let's begin, LCIF began in 1968 and over the past years has awarded more than 18,000 grants, totaling more than US\$1.2 billion. We believe in our foundation and support the work of our foundation. We want others to as well. The generosity of the Lions community has allowed LCIF to save sight, support youth, provide disaster relief, and address a wide range of humanitarian needs.

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest and most effective service organization, and Lions themselves are respected worldwide as the leaders in service. We serve with our clubs and make differences in each of our local communities. LCIF belongs to every Lion and empowers the service and impact of Lions everywhere. The success of LCIF is truly the success of every Lion!

LCIF helps with the following 8 causes, Vision, Diabetes, Youth, Childhood Cancer, Disaster Relief, Hunger, Humanitarian Efforts & Environment. One of the most important things you'll do as a club is to help fellow members understand why LCIF is important to your community. You just never know when you may need these funds.

The clubs of 5M9 have been fantastic about donating to LCIF each year, but there are still a few clubs that we are asking to join the cause and make us a 100% donation district. Consider doing a fundraising event, engage individual members, donation from club treasury, business members and non-lions. Individuals can start their own donations as a annual donation or set up a monthly donation that can be withdrawn from your checking account each month.

Recognition! When \$1,000.00 is donated to LCIF, a club can choose a recipient and present a Melvin Jones Fellowship in their name or a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship for the next \$1,000.00. Individuals can donate to their own account or choose another recipient of the recognition.

Happy New Year!
LCIF Coordinators – Lions Erin Beck & Linda Albrecht-Norby



EMERGING LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE ELLI



Date: March 14-16, 2025

Location: Holiday Inn, Wilmar



ELLI is for Lions who wish to pursue leadership roles within their club. You will learn the history and goals of LCI and LCIF, develop strategies for being an effective leader, creative thinking, change management and collaborate with a diverse group of fellow Lions.

You qualify for trainings if you:

- **Have NOT served as Club President**
- **Are a current member in good standing**
- **Have an interest in becoming a better Lions member.**
- **Enjoy meeting other Lions and sharing ideas**
- **Like having FUN!!!!**

Participants are required to:

- **Attend all sessions of the three-day institute.**
- **You may commute to trainings if you attend all sessions and can do so safely.**
- **Complete pre-assignments prior to beginning of training weekends**

Applications due by
Friday, February 6, 2025
Applications are due to the
District Governor

Questions, please reach out to
your GLT Chair or
your District Governor





PIP Douglas X. Alexander was our International President from 2021-2022. He is from Brooklyn, New York and his theme was "Service from the Heart".

LCIF Gala

"Go for the Gold"

Saturday, March 29, 2025

Holiday Inn & Suites St. Cloud

75 37th Avenue South

St. Cloud, MN 563011

10:30 am to 4:00 pm

Who wants to get their Melvin Jones Fellowship Plaque or Progressive pin presented by Past International President Douglas X. Alexander??? Have I got the opportunity for YOU!

Check with your District LCIF Coordinator to find the personal balance you donated to LCIF. If you have donated \$1,000 and want to be presented with an MJF plaque (or PMJF pin for each additional \$1,000) by PIP Doug Alexander, then you will need to order your plaque/pin by Feb 18, 2025.

You can contact LCIF Donor Services at 630-203-3836 to have the plaque/pin sent to you and bring it to the LCIF Gala if you are attending. If you or your club want to present someone with a Melvin Jones Fellowship/or a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship, the same criteria applies. Remember this Gala is not for Lions members only. Invite people who are interested in learning about our Foundation and what it does. This year, there will be stories shared from around our Multiple about the impact our Foundation/Grants had on the community.

Registrations are now available through your District LCIF Coordinator, MD5M Website, and District/MD Newsletters and will be available at your District Conventions. The cost is \$45 for each person, or if you prefer, you can purchase a table of 8 for \$500 that comes with perks. There is a PayPal, Venmo, or check option to register.

The Gala will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn & Suites, Saint Cloud. There will be a costume contest with a Gold Theme. A tentative agenda will be posted as the Gala gets closer. Remember this is a FUN-Raiser...and there will be a cash bar.

If you need a place to stay before or after the gala, a booking link with the Holiday Inn is in the registration form.

WooHoo - Get your Lion on!!! I would love to help you with any questions.

Anna Wickenhauser 952-913-1467 or lionannaw@gmail.com



MD5M “Go for the Gold Gala”

March 29, 2025
Holiday Inn & Suites
75 37th Avenue South
St. Cloud, MN 56301

Name _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____ Club: _____

Tickets: Individual \$45.00 Tables of 8 \$ 500.00

Pay online or return Registration form, no later than March 14, 2025.

Make checks payable to: **LCIF Gala**

c/o Rose Thies

21515 371st Ave.

Green Isle, MN 55338

Pay online by Venmo or PayPal, please scan or email your registration form to: rthies001@gmail.com or 612-756-1316.

- o **PayPal:** Rosemary Thies paypal.me/GreenIsleLions
- o Venmo: [@Rose-Thies](#)

Lunch Menu

Choice of Chicken Parmesan or Lasagna (Beef or Vegetarian)

Choice of Penne, Cavatappi or Gluten-free Penne

Choose two of Grilled Chicken, Meatballs, Broccoli or Mushrooms

Choice of Garlic Alfredo or Marinara

Caesar Salad and Garlic Bread sticks

Dessert: Cupcakes

Hotel Accommodations: Book Directly to Holiday Inn & Suites by calling 615-321-8259 (mention 2025 Lions Club)

<https://www.holidayinn.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=HI&locateCode=en®ionCode=1&hotelCode=STCMN& PMID=99801505&GPC=LIO7cn=no&viewfullsite=true> to book online. Block held until, **Monday, March 3, 2025.**

SAVE THE DATE

Go for the Gold Gala



Saturday March 29, 2025

Best Western Plus Kelly Inn

100 4th Ave S.
St Cloud, MN 56301



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

Save The Date!

5M9

5M9 LIONS DAY OF LEARNING

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025

12:30 TO 5:00 PM

Wadena Deer Creek School
600 Colfax Ave SW, Wadena, MN

ALL LIONS are welcome to join us for a day of Lions Learning. All Current and new officers for 2025-2026 are encouraged to attend!

Seminars will include the most recent LCI training for President/Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Service, Membership, Marketing, LCI, & more!

Coffee, water & light lunch will be served.



Pre-register by April 4, 2025 with your Zone Chair for a chance to win one of 5 \$100 Visa GC*
*attendance required to win



THE LIONS PRIDE

Ignite the Lions Pride MD5M Convention

April 25-27, 2025

Hilton Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport
3800 American Boulevard East
Bloomington, MN 55425

Join Lions from across Minnesota, NW Ontario & Manitoba

Explore opportunities for service
Learn what is going on throughout Lionism
Hear from inspirational speakers
Build Lions knowledge and leadership
Hear updates from all Lions Foundations
Meet new friends and have fun



To register online use the QR code
(click "skip advertisement" box)

For more convention information
<https://sites.google.com/view/md5mmultipleconvention/home>



13

Jul 13, 2025 at 8 AM - Jul 17, 2025 at 12 PM CDT

107th Lions International Convention - Orlando

District 5M9 Youth Outreach Poster Contest 2024-2025

Your Youth Outreach chairpersons are asking that each club sponsor this contest in their school by awarding some prizes at the local level and to bring your winning poster to the Mid-Winter Convention.

Contest Rules:

Eligibility: Contest open to 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students in all schools in District 5M9.

Dates: Contest runs from now to January 3, 2025.

The clubs will have to set up a date to pick up the posters at the schools so that you may do your voting and pick the local winners and the overall winning poster that you will bring to the convention

Size: 18"x24" poster quality material. We recommend Pacon Tagboard; Item #5220; available at office supply stores and online. (@\$30 per 100) All others sizes will be disqualified.

Medium: Any directly applied paint, crayon, marker, pencil, etc. Nothing may be glued, stapled or attached to the artwork in any way.

Suggested Subject: Drug/Alcohol abuse, Awareness, Violence, Volunteering, Citizenship, Peer Pressure, Healthy and Positive aspect of life growing up. **NO COPYRIGHT SUBJECTS! NO LICENSED IMAGES!** (Cartoon characters).

Large lettering on the poster is encouraged, because it will show up better.

Keep the message simple. Posters should be similar to a highway billboard sign.

Have students put their name on the **back** of the poster, along with their school, grade, and sponsoring club. One student per poster; no partnering.

Judging: Each Lion and Lioness club is to submit their winning poster to the District Youth Outreach Chairperson on or before 10:30 a.m. on Saturday of the Mid-Winter Convention in January. Everyone attending the convention will have a chance to vote for his or her favorite.

Winners will be announced prior to the close of the convention.

Prizes to be awarded by 5M9 Youth Outreach: 1st place - \$100, 2nd place - \$75, 3rd place - \$50. All other participants will receive a \$25 gift card.

Poster images become the property of District 5M9 and may be used for display, etc.

13. Posters and prizes will be released to the sponsoring clubs at the end of the convention.

If you have any questions contact:

Lion Evie Ladd
48372 Great River Road
Palisade, MN 56469
218 845-2932
evieladd.5@gmail.com

Lion Mike Kern
15545 Big Buck Drive
Menahga, MN 56464
218 849-4577
mjk20030@yahoo.com

Mid-Winter Invitation

Dear Lions of 5M9,

I hope this letter finds you well! I am writing to personally invite you to the upcoming **5M9 Mid-Winter Convention**, which will take place from **January 3-5, 2025**, at Cragun's Resort in **Brainerd, MN**. This annual event is an incredible opportunity for Lions across our district to come together, learn, connect, and celebrate the remarkable service we provide to our communities.

This year's theme, "**A Sky Full of Stars**," is all about recognizing the shining contributions of every Lion and the powerful impact we make when we unite in service. Whether you are a seasoned Lion or new to the organization, this convention will offer valuable experiences for everyone. With **inspirational keynote speakers, interactive workshops**, and plenty of opportunities to meet fellow Lions, the weekend promises to be one of fellowship, learning, and inspiration.

Here's what you can look forward to:

- **Keynote Speakers** who will motivate and inspire with stories of service and leadership.
 - o PIP Brian Sheehan, Lion Lori Sheehan, Lion BJ Blahnik from Leader Dog, Former Leo-Lion Liaison Lions International Board Member Alicia Beer, and the 5M9 Marketing Team.
- **Workshops and Breakout Sessions** focused on strengthening our clubs and enhancing our service projects.
- **A Madrigal Musical Awards Dinner** where we will celebrate the outstanding achievements of Lions across the district. Breathtaking, fun and interactive performance from the Brainerd High School A Cappella Choir will leave you with a night to remember.
- Fun social events including **Let's Make A Deal game** that will provide plenty of time to catch up with old friends and make new ones.
- **2 Hand's-On Service projects** that will give us the opportunity to serve shoulder to shoulder and then bring our service work back to each community in attendance.
- **Business Meetings** that will provide progress to plan and information to the goals and objectives in District of 5M9.

We truly hope to see you at the convention to help us celebrate the amazing work of Lions in District 5M9.

Together, we can continue to build a brighter future through service. I look forward to seeing you there and celebrating all that we accomplish together as Lions!

Warmest regards,

Denise Marie Laudenbach

5M9 District Governor

Together, let's
WELCOME
New Lions
Saturday, Jan 4 at
Cragun's Resort



The Induction Ceremony is the symbolic beginning to a member's service as a Lion. We invite you to induct your New Lions at the 2025 mid-winter convention in a ceremony dedicated to the first step on the Path to Serving of our next generation of Lion Leaders! Together, let's set our new Lions on a journey of community service in the spirit of

*Meaningful Relevant
Inclusive Fun*



Meet **new** people. Do **cool** things.

For more info on inducting your New Lion as part of the 2025 Mid-Winter convention, contact **Joe Laudenbach: 218-851-5540**



Governor Club Visit Request Form Follow Link

Press Ctrl and click the link

<https://forms.gle/ESzCHJZNV5C5p6Ah7>

DG Team Club Visit Schedule

	Clubs	Chartered	Years	January
DENISE	ALDRICH	2/24/1986	39	1/23/2025
SHERI	CALLAWAY	9/29/1976	48	
DENISE	HEWITT	3/31/1978	47	
DENISE	MERRIFIELD	1/31/1986	39	1/8/2025
DENISE	NISSWA	12/26/1972	52	
DENISE	PARKERS PRAIRIE	12/9/1963	61	1/9/2025
DENISE	PEQUOT LAKES BREEZY PT.	4/3/2006	19	1/13/2025
DENISE	VERNDALE	2/21/1968	57	1/23/2025
	Cabinet Mtgs			1/3/2025
	COG Mtg			

How to submit an article

Please submit material for these sections. by the 15th of each month for the following months newsletter.

I would like to publish your most recent community service and your upcoming fundraisers, in which Lions from other clubs could, perhaps, participate.

Submit pictures, flyers or text. In photos please put names of who is in it. When possible, send photos in jpeg format and articles as a word document. Use of a pdf is also acceptable.

Contact me for assistance or with questions
Submit to: 5m9newsletter@gmail.com
Sue Stebbins editor

Websites to know

Lions Club International: [www: lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)

Multiple District 5M: [www: lionsmd5m.org](http://www.lionsmd5m.org)

***District 5M9* <https://www.lionsof5m9.org/>**

Lions Program Sites

Can Do Canines: [www: candocanines.org](http://www.candocanines.org)

Childhood Cancer: [www: MNlionschildhoodcancer.org](http://www.MNlionschildhoodcancer.org)

KidsSight MD5M: [www: lionsmd5m.org/lions-kidsight.html](http://www.lionsmd5m.org/lions-kidsight.html)

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF): [www: lcif.org](http://www.lcif.org)

Leader Dog for the Blind: [www: leaderdog.org](http://www.leaderdog.org)

MN Lions Diabetes Foundation: www.mnlionsdiabetes.org

MN Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center: [www: MNLERC.org](http://www.MNLERC.org)

MN Lions Hearing Foundation: www.5mhf.org

**MN Lions Vision Foundation:
www.mnlionsvisionfoundation.org**

Project New Hope: [www: projectnewhope.net](http://www.projectnewhope.net)



5M9 Service Journal



This publication is of, by, and for the Lions, & Leos of District 5M-9

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