

The IOWA LION



Dec. 2022 / Jan. 2023

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Wyoming Lions Create Iowa's "Christmas City"

*By PDG Debbie Doty
Editor*

A small town in Iowa with a population of only 525 gets turned into a holiday spectacular each year thanks to the Wyoming Lions Club.

Located centrally between Cedar Rapids, Davenport and Dubuque in District 9EC, Wyoming is known as Iowa's "Christmas City" and turns on the holiday lights each year on the night before Thanksgiving.

With the help of volunteers, Christmas Lights



WELCOME. A welcome sign at the edge of Wyoming, Iowa, lets visitors know they are entering "The Christmas City," made so each year by the Wyoming Lions Club and volunteers.

Committee co-chairs Jim Eichhorn and Kenny Hansen cut and decorate 40 live Christmas trees and string the lights across three blocks of Wyoming's Main Street (Highway 64/136)

It may be a lot of work to get all those lights put up, but the spectacular view it creates coming down the hill into downtown Wyoming and then back up the hill is worth it.

"There's no automatic switch," said Eichhorn, who lives at the top of the hill, where the lights start right outside his door. For each of the 30-some nights of the Christmas display, he makes the trip down the hill



ALL AGLOW. Downtown Wyoming, located in Eastern Iowa, twinkles with the thousands of lights that cover the downtown area during the Christmas season. The lights are on from the night before Thanksgiving are on nightly through New Years Eve thanks to the Wyoming Lions Club.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec. 1** District deadline to submit one Peace Poster to Council Chair
- Dec. 4** Christmas City Celebration
Wyoming, Iowa
- Dec. 5** International Leo Day
- January** Hunger Awareness Month
- Jan. 7** Council of Governors meeting
via Zoom
- Jan. 13** Melvin Jones' Birthday
- Jan. 15** 2023 Peace Poster Kits go on sale
in the LCI Store
- Jan. 24** International Day of Education
- Jan. 28** Lions Toy and Craft Show
Montezuma
- Feb. 7-9** FVDG/DGE Seminar
St. Charles, Illinois
- Feb. 13** 2023-2024 District Goals
Reporting Platform Opens
- Feb. 15** Childhood Cancer Day
- Feb. 25** Council of Governors meeting
Johnston
- Feb. 25** Vice District Governor training
Johnston
- Mar. 3-4** 9NW District Convention
Fort Dodge
- Mar. 10-11** 9SW & 9MC Joint Convention
Atlantic
- Mar. 17-18** 9EC District Convention
Eldridge
- Mar. 24-25** 9SE District Convention
Mount Pleasant
- Apr. 1** 9NC District Convention
Clear Lake
- May 5-6** Iowa Lions State Convention
Cedar Falls



UP HIGH. Cole and Noah Lineburg work in a tower on a forklift, securing the overhead lines of holiday lights in Wyoming, Iowa. Sometimes they end up 25-30 feet in the air to do their task.

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twice a day to turn the lights on and off. “I head down the hill about quarter ’til five to turn off the street lights and turn on the Christmas lights, and I head back down later at night to turn the street lights back on.”

Lights are on from 5-10 p.m. Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday nights, and from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Tuesday, Friday and Saturday nights. Eichhorn explained they are later on Tuesdays and Fridays because those are high school basketball game nights. There are buses full of players and the cars full of fans traveling up and down Highway 64/136.

Eichhorn said he inherited the chairperson job in 1978 or ’79 when the barber who had been doing it was killed in a car accident.

“After we found out about the insurance available from Lions (Clubs International), the Lions took over the lighting project. Before that, it was elves,” joked Eichhorn.

The town of Wyoming also holds a Christmas

City Celebration on the first Sunday of December each year. From 3:30-7:30 p.m. The event features a tree lighting, wagon ride tours of the holiday lights and a lighted Christmas parade. Vendors sell crafts, a soup supper, and other holiday delights, including the caramel corn the Wyoming Lions are known for.

“We’ll sell 250 bags that night,” said Eichhorn. “Some people buy five or 10 bags and put it in the freezer.”

Eichhorn said many newspapers and television stations have covered the event over the years. Once a television station in Davenport did a story on the lights. That station was affiliated with a channel out of Des Moines, who was affiliated with a station in Omaha, so they basically got coverage across the state.

If you find yourself needing some holiday cheer this season, make the drive over to Wyoming, Iowa. You are sure to leave their town with a heart full of Christmas spirit.



STRUNG OUT. WMT radio Ag & sports announcer Andy Petersen, left, and his dad, Lion Guy Petersen carry the strings of wire that will be lifted to create the overhead “spiders” that cross the streets of Wyoming.

International Report

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Take Time to Treasure Your Family During the Holidays

Thanks to each of you for your dedicated service as Lions. Remember to appreciate your family, your Lions family, partners, and friends during this special season. Together, you make a POSITIVE impact on the world!

January is Hunger Awareness Month

Help the local food pantry, donate time to stock shelves, make a personal and/or club monetary gift. Report it on MyLion.

February is Childhood Cancer Month

Make a donation to a children's cancer charity. Do a service project. See a list of suggested charities and projects on Page 31 in the digital section of this issue.



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

LCIF Chairperson Douglas Alexander has appointed coordinators for 2022-2025. Constitutional Area 1 (North America) LCIF Co-Leaders are PIDs Bruce Beck and Anne Smarsh. I am the Area D Coordinator and PID Connie LeCleir-Meyer is vice leader for Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota and South Dakota.

PDG Jim Bixler is the coordinator for Iowa.

MD9 district coordinators are:

9EC Bernadette Lane

9MC David Stoakes

9NC Darwin Meyer

9NE Stephen Becker

9SW Ken Klemish

They're happy to visit your club. Just ask!

President Brian Sheehan has challenged every club,

and every Lion to make a personal donation to LCIF this year. Even a \$10 personal donation MAKES A DIFFERENCE and CHANGES A LIFE!

LCIF's 2022-2023 global goal is to raise \$50 million. "Together, We Can!"

2023 FVDG Classes from LCI Have Begun

All first vice district governors started their virtual training sessions with their group leaders in September. They've received their Phase I (five classes) assignments in the Lions Learning Center. They will have required virtual sessions with GAT Area Leaders during the next several months.

First vice district governors and district governors elect will receive live training in St. Charles, Illinois, Feb.7-9, 2023, with final days of "in-person" classes in Boston prior to the 2023 International Convention.

More online classes (a grand total of 16) will be assigned on the Lions Learning Center beginning in January. Attendance at all LCI classes is required. If your district doesn't have an elected 1VDG, please strive to fill that position immediately so that all the MD9 1VDGs can receive ALL their training with the group leader instead of having to "cram" the mandatory classes into just a few weeks prior to the Boston convention.

As a reminder, the guidelines for filling a 1VDG vacancy are listed in the 6.28.22 edition of the LCI Constitution and By-Laws. Article 8, Section 6 states that the district governor shall convene a meeting of all PIDs and PDGs in the district, send out invitations 15 days in advance of the meeting, and convey the results to our international office within seven days, together with evidence of invitations sent and meeting attendance.

In order for a Lion to be eligible to fill a vacancy for 1VDG, he/she must:

1. Be an active member in good standing of a Lions club in good standing;
2. Secure the endorsement of his/her club;
3. Have served by the time he/she takes office as 1VDG as president of a Lions club for a full term or major portion thereof and a member of board of directors of a club for no less than two additional years;
4. Have served as zone chair or region chair or cabinet secretary and/or treasurer for a full term or major portion thereof with none of the above being accomplished concurrently;
5. Has NOT completed a full term or major portion thereof as a district governor.

Love Notes

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Greetings, Fellow Lions, and Happy Holidays!

We've reached that time of year where service is at the forefront of our minds as Lions. After all, we are Loving Individuals Offering Needed Services. Our motto, "We Serve," propels us even further into the realms of service, for that is what defines us as who we are as Lions.

As we know, service can take on many forms, whether it is as an individual or as a club-based project. It is so important that we report it to our club secretary or club administrator so that they can record it on MyLion. Better yet, download the MyLion app and report your individual service yourself. Your club secretary will still have to hit the "report" button to finalize it, but you can help the club out by putting in your personal service. Report things like picking up groceries for a sick friend or shoveling the snow from your neighbor's driveway.

Just a couple of weeks ago, I picked up an elderly man in Ottumwa and drove him to the Marshalltown Veterans Home. He wanted to spend two hours with his wife who has dementia and lives in the VA Memory Care Unit. I had the joy of getting to know this man and his life story on our way to and from Marshalltown. What a beautiful way to serve!

Maybe you drive someone to a doctor's appointment once in a while. Perhaps you volunteer once a month for a shift at the local Hospice or food pantry. This too is service, so be sure to report it!

International President Brian Sheehan's theme for the year is this: "Together We Can!" I believe that it is by inviting prospective Lions to participate in new and exciting service projects that we can grow our clubs and maintain our current membership.

Several years ago, as I headed out to do some shopping, I was reminded that the holiday season was upon us as I saw the ubiquitous red kettle and heard the tinkling of the bell outside the store. I only had a \$20 bill in my pocket.

"Way too much to put in the kettle," I thought to myself. "I'll put in a dollar on my way out when I have some change." But on my way out, I realized that I had paid for everything with a credit card, and walked right past the bell ringer, hands in my pockets, wishing him a Merry Christmas.



Guilty as charged. Where is Christ in Christmas? Where is the holy in these holidays?

A couple of days later, I found myself once again in the proximity of the ubiquitous red kettle, the bell ringing away. As I listened this time, I heard myself being called to the manger to bring a gift to the Christ child. So I not only opened my wallet, but also my heart as I pushed that \$20 through the hole in the red kettle. "Merry Christmas," I said.

And Happy Holy Days to you!



ART SCENE. International Director Lee Vrieze visits with Council Chair Nancy Love during the Friday night social at the District 9NE Convention in Cedar Falls.

Or Diseases of the Liver Part 1

MD9 Diabetes Awareness Chair

The Liver, a.k.a., Hepar, is a 3 pound football-shaped organ that lies on the right side of the body below the stomach and outside of the rib cage. The liver is the largest internal organ of the body and performs over 500 functions. The liver collects and filters blood from the intestine, processes and stores nutrients absorbed from the intestines, changes some nutrients into energy or substances your body needs to build tissue, makes bile to help digest fat, digests and stores nutrients such as glucose, synthesizes blood clotting substances and regenerates itself (compensatory hyperplasia).

Because it filters and detoxifies the blood and is outside the protection of the rib cage, it is subject to several serious diseases and violent trauma. Signs and symptoms of liver failure are vast and varied.

Symptoms of Liver Failure

- Abdominal pain or a feeling of fullness in upper right side of the abdomen
- Nausea, loss of appetite or weight loss
- Yellowish skin and whites of the eyes (Jaundice) with dark urine
- Swollen abdomen (ascites) and legs and ankles (edema)
- Extreme fatigue, weakness
- Mental confusion, difficulty thinking, personality disorders, sleep disorders
- Swelling of the liver (cirrhosis) and spleen
- Enlarged blood vessels just under the skin
- Red palms (Palmar erythema)
- Bruising and bleeding easily
- Severe itchy skin
- Hot or smelly feet
- Clay colored stools

Since it is called HEPAR in anatomy, the name for many liver conditions begin with the prefixes HEP or HEPA.

Trauma to the Liver

Being outside of the rib cage and being the largest organ with an extensive circulatory system, it is the most frequently trauma-damaged organ. Most liver traumas are caused by blunt force trauma or impact from motor



Photo 799104 / Football Golf Tee © John Young | [Dreamstime.com](#)

vehicle crashes, falls, bicycle accidents, sports injuries, violence or by penetrating injury that tear or cut the liver, such as, gunshot or knife wounds.

The traumas can range from minor lacerations or bruises with minimal morbidity and mortality to hepatic avulsions (the surrounding tissue is torn creating an opening which exposes the liver) or the circulatory system of the liver is ruptured. Excessive bleeding in the abdomen can cause high mortality.

Liver injuries often heal without treatment. In severe cases, surgery may be performed to stop the bleeding, repair the injury or remove part of the liver.

Quite often, immediate medical attention is not received. The injured person may have pain and tenderness in the abdomen that radiates to the shoulder, because blood in the abdomen irritates the abdominal tissue. When the bleeding is severe the abdomen may be swollen. The patient may have symptoms of shock – rapid heartbeat, rapid breathing, cold clammy, pale or bluish skin. Children may have pain in the abdomen or the right back or top of right shoulder. At this point, immediate medical attention is warranted.

Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD) is the term used for a number of liver ailments. NAFLD affects people who consume little or no alcohol and is characterized by an accumulation of fat in the liver. It is the most common liver disease in the U.S., affecting 25% of the population. It is more common in individuals of Hispanic, Asian, American and Alaskan Indians ancestry than European or African ancestry.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

NAFLD has few symptoms and is often discovered in tests for other conditions which point to liver disease. The risk factors are obesity, gastric bypass surgery, high cholesterol and Type II diabetes. If left untreated, it can cause inflammation and scarring of the liver (cirrhosis), liver cancer and liver failure.

At present there is no medication to treat the NAFLD. However, it can be treated and possibly reversed by lifestyle change. This includes choosing a healthy diet, lowering cholesterol and triglycerides, exercising and being more active, maintaining a healthy weight, controlling diabetes and protecting the liver.

The damage done to the liver from heavy alcohol use is similar to the damage from NAFLD.

Hepatitis

Hepatitis means “inflammation of the liver.” When the liver is inflamed or damaged, it cannot function to process nutrients, detoxify the blood or fight infections. Heavy alcohol abuse, medications, some medical conditions, genetic conditions, toxins, an overactive immune system and viruses can cause hepatitis.

Hepatitis can be acute, which means it flares suddenly and then disappears, or chronic, which is long-term, usually producing more subtle symptoms and progressive damage. There are five viruses that cause the viral forms of hepatitis: hepatitis A, B, C, D, and E.

Hepatitis A is a foodborne disease spread through contaminated water and unwashed food by the fecal-oral route. It is easy to transmit, especially in children. Another cause is eating shellfish from water contaminated with raw sewage.

The incubation period is 2 to 6 weeks, during which time the infected person is contagious. It can be resolved by proper sanitation and proper hand washing.

The prognosis for recovery is good with complete recovery within 6 months. There is usually little or no long-term damage to the liver or health in general.

Hepatitis B can be transmitted through exposure to contaminated blood, needles, body fluids and from mother to child.

There are two types of Hep B. The acute form is when the person is first infected with the symptoms ranging from none to liver failure.

Acute Hep B usually resolves on its own. There are some new medications which will suppress the virus, slow the liver damage and reduce long-term medical complications. Usually, 9 out of 10 adults recover in 4 to 8 weeks with no further problems.

Most adults do not develop chronic Hep B. Infants and children may develop chronic Hep B since they are less able to rid the virus from their system due to an undeveloped immune system. Medications play an important role in their treatment. Patients with chronic Hep B are at an increased risk for liver cancer.

Hepatitis C is spread by contact with contaminated blood, for example sharing needles, unsterile tattoo equipment or from mother to newborn. Hep C can develop without any signs or symptoms or the symptoms may be short lived.

There are three phases of Hep C and the symptoms change from phase to phase. The first phase is called the prodromal phase. The second the preicteric phase. The third the icteric phase.

Now with modern medicines, Hep C can be cured. Hepatologists have an arsenal of treatments for the different phases and virus types. The treatments often takes 8 to 12 weeks. They often recommend a lifestyle change.

When left untreated, Hep C causes liver cirrhosis and advanced fibrosis with a greater risk of liver cancer.

Hepatitis D is caused by an RNA virus discovered in 1977. Its structure is unrelated to Hep A, B or C viruses. It requires the presence of the Hep B virus to replicate and infect other hepatocytes, the essential cells of the liver that metabolize, detoxify, manufacture protein and provide immunity. This is why Hep D is only found in people with Hep B.

The course of Hep D is varied and ranges from an acute self-limited infection to acute severe and sudden liver failure. If it becomes chronic, it can lead to end-stage liver disease with many complications.

It occurs more commonly in adults with risk factors of a history of intravenous drug use or of Mediterranean basin ancestry. Treatment consists of support, but a liver transplant may be required if there is liver failure.

Hepatitis E is found predominately in Africa, Asia and South America. Hep E is often called enteric Hepatitis (related to intestines) and is transmitted via the fecal-oral route. It is similar to Hep A and is generally not fatal, though it is more serious in pregnant women and can cause fetal complications.

Most Hep E patients recover fully. It is often recommended that people get vaccinated for Hep A and Hep B. Vaccination for Hep B also protects against future Hep D infection. At present there is no vaccination for Hep C, Hep D or Hep E.

There are some other forms of Hepatitis, as well as other diseases of the liver, which we will cover in Part 2 in the February issue of *The Iowa Lion*.

District 9NE

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9NE Fall Convention

Saturday, Nov. 5, was a GREAT 9NE Fall Convention for all our Lions to remember. International Director Lee Vrieze and Lion Mary Vrieze from Jim Falls, Wisconsin gave a great report on international issues: a new IT system, membership, and of course what makes Lions GREAT: Service. Many thanks to PID Ardie Klemish and PDG Ken for arranging ID Lee to represent International at our convention.

What makes a GREAT convention? Fifty Lions plus seven Leos, representing 24 clubs from across the state. We also had 10 past district governors and many club presidents in attendance.

We had GREAT speakers. Lion Aaron Horn presented on “Childhood Cancer, Beat Cancer Today” with an inspiring message to make all Lions think and act on Childhood Cancer. Our second speaker was PDG Richard Congdon presenting on the Cedar Falls Lions’ Diabetes Garden. He showed how a community hospital and Lions Club can come together to create a legacy to SERVE the community.



GREAT PRESENTATIONS. (Left) Past District Governor Rich Congdon tells how the Cedar Falls Lions Club partnered with a local hospital to create a Diabetes Learning Garden for the community. (Right) Lion Aaron Horn of the Children’s Cancer Chairty Beat Cancer Today tells his family’s children cancer journey and how Lions can partner with local charities for Childhood Cancer projects.

Both sessions show how Lions can make a difference in the five Global Causes: Diabetes, Environment, Hunger, Vision and Childhood Cancer.

Of course, every GREAT convention cannot be complete without the election of officers. As 9NE is a leader, I feel we have again elected a GREAT Leadership Team: District Governor Elect Bruce Piehl, 1st VDGE Chris Waring, 2nd VDGE Mark Miller. So 9NE is set for another great year in 2023-2024. I also was confirmed to serve a two-year term for the Iowa Lions Foundation as a trustee.

As a DG, I feel our team has had a GREAT convention and want to thank all the members who have made this successful. Now I can relax and look forward to the rest of the year.

See more photos on Page 28 of the Digital Only Section of this magazine.



GET EXCITED. International Director Lee Vrieze encourages Lions to get members excited about service again, which will help keep members in the club and gain new ones.



DISTRICT 9NE LEADERSHIP. District leaders elected for the 2023-2024 Lions year are (L-R) District Governor Elect Bruce Piehl, 1st Vice District Governor Elect Chris Waring, 2nd Vice District Governor Elect Mark Miller and Iowa Lions Foundation Trustee Dale Schrad.



LEARNING HOW IT'S DONE. (Above) Oelwein Lion Judy Malget teaches Denver Leo Josiah Swales how to read the prescriptions on recycled eyeglasses during a service project at the 9NE District Convention. (Below) Denver Leos (L-R) Kevin Browning, Grace Swales and Malea Gonnerman wash recycled eyeglasses before sending them to the next station for processing.



WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club	Member	Sponsor
Janesville	Vicki G. Fisher	Virginia Robinson
Shellsburg	Darwin Jones	Judy Shaeffer
Shellsburg	Maybell McDaniel	Judy Shaeffer

In Memoriam

We are sorry for the loss of this dedicated Lion.

Club	Member
Shellsburg	L. John De Klotz Jr.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

BALLTOWN donated \$1,500 each to Sherrill, Holy Cross and Asbury fire departments; \$1,500 to Albrect Acres and \$1,600 to families with hardships.

CEDAR FALLS dedicated the Prairie Parkway Garden for instructing and growing food for healthy living; several members opened their homes for an art tour benefiting the Hearst Center of the Arts; participated in a funeral military Honor Guard; conducted KidSight screenings; worked at the Northeast Iowa Food Bank.

DUBUQUE NOON mailed 135 hearing aids to the Iowa Lions Hearing Bank.

GARRISON helped build a wheelchair ramp for a local resident.

HUDSON purchased wishlist items for the Ronald McDonald House Charity.

INDEPENDENCE conducted a scrap metal drive in the community.

JANESVILLE assisted with set up, sales and clean-up for the Cedar Falls Women's Club garage sale; donated \$60 to the Iowa Lions Foundation, \$50 to Leader Dog, \$50 to Camp Courageous, \$50 to KidSight and \$50 to Camp Hertko Hollow; performed maintenance at the United Methodist Church and parsonage; provided the chain gang at all home football games; picked up trash along Wildcat Way; had a scrap metal drive.

OELWEIN provided games and candy for Hoot for Halloween; held Senior Night Bingo; joined with a local grocery in a Halloween Celebration; conducted KidSight screenings; performed ditch cleanup.

SHELLSBURG hosted a Bingo night (pictured below).



VAN HORNE sponsored the first Fall Kids Festival with kids playing games, decorating cookies and winning prizes; held a Halloween meal deal of hot dogs, chips, cookies, and drinks for area children before Trick or Treating; served a full breakfast at the Van Horne Community Center as a fundraiser for local causes.

WEST UNION received a donation from the relatives of Lion Don Saboe to refresh Lions Park. New playground equipment was purchased, sidewalks installed, new steel shelter roof and gutters placed, built and refilled a sandbox and repaired, painted, and reinstalled the digger.

District 9NC

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Well, so much for October! That was fast! I had a great time visiting clubs in Mason City, Eldora, Forest City, Clear Lake Noon (helped with getting the plastic recycling project off to a start), Osage and Floyd.

I also had a couple of Zoom calls: "A Club Approach to Success" and the Long Range Planning committee meeting. I was also able to help serve popcorn at a couple of events at The Surf Ballroom up here in Clear Lake.

The Iowa Lions Fall Learning Conference in Newton was a great success. I was able to come back with good ideas for service projects and working with sister organizations. I would definitely recommend you consider attending this event as you will also come away with new ideas. Plus, you will really enjoy meeting other Lions and learning about what their clubs are doing.

We have a new contact person for the Iowa Lions Eye Bank. Her name is Francie Williamson. She can be reached by email at francine-williamson@uiowa.edu or phone at 319-355-4087. Please reach out to Francie if you have any questions. She might also be able to help schedule a tour of the facility if you would like to visit!

Keep up the good work recruiting new members. We were able to record 10 new members in the district in October!!

The Clear Lake Evening club lost a longtime member, Karen Sears, early in October. Karen was a super dedicated Lion and one of our club "Popcorn Champions" that was always one of the first to sign up to help pop and serve. She was responsible for helping the club raise thousands of dollars while working concert events at The Surf Ballroom.

Please take some time to reach out to your club's "seasoned members" and thank them for their many years of service.

I will continue to reach out to clubs to schedule visits. Please don't hesitate to give me a shout with a suggested date if you would like me to come to one of your meetings.

We Welcome New Members

Club	Member	Sponsor
Burt	Jane M. Boyd	Joseph Heinen
Burt	Barbara K. Harms	Joseph Heinen
Burt	Sharon K. Lovstad	Joseph Heinen
Clear Lake Eve.	Lou Ann Christensen	Janeil Olson
Clear Lake Eve	Vickie I. Hudson	Janeil Olson
Humboldt	Michael D. Stegman	George Bruder
Iowa Falls	Britney Robinson	Michelle Nederhoff
Osage	Terry Anderson	Dennis Johnson
Osage	John P. Ferrell	Mark Penney
Osage	Del Gast	Bruce Gast



HERE WE GO A-SORTING. Osage Lions counting and sorting socks at the annual Fox River sock sale.

*We are sorry for the loss
of these dedicated Lions*

Club	Member	Years a Lion
Allison	Joel W. Sult	4 years
Clear Lake Eve.	Karen J. Sears	28 years
Stanhope	Dean Larson	47 years



NEW MEMBERS. DG Mike Ravera recently installed new members of the Osage club. Pictured (L-R) are sponsor Dennis Johnson, new Lion Terry Anderson, sponsor Lion Bruce Gast with new Lion Del Gast, DG Mike Ravera and new Lion John Ferrell.

OCTOBER CLUB ACTIVITIES

HAMPTON performed KidSight screenings for 127 students at two local schools.

OSAGE performed KidSight screenings for 332 students at seven area schools; put in over 180 hours of volunteer time sorting and counting socks at the annual Fox River sock sale.

NEW HARTFORD held an omelet breakfast and raised \$1,276.

IOWA FALLS donated \$500 checks to the Iowa Falls nurses fund and the Iowa Falls senior center.



PARKS & REC. Clear Lake Evening club president Mike Yore (right) presents a \$500 check to Clear Lake Parks Superintendent Jim Jackson.



SCHOOL MONEY. Iowa Falls club president Duane Kruckenberg (right) presents a check for \$500 to Iowa Falls school nurse Laura Thies.

SAVE THE DATE
March 31 & April 1, 2023
for the District 9NC Convention
Clear Lake, Iowa

District 9EC

**District Governor
Nadine Brockert**

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Welcome to the whirlwind known as The Holidays, American-Style. Many 9EC club members are making preparations for their annual Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations that so many have been looking forward to since Dec. 26, 2021.

Not only do we celebrate with our families, we also celebrate with fellow Lions and members of our communities. Fruitland Lions make plans for food, decorations, and Santa Claus. They make contact with local businesses for giveaways to our guests at the annual Senior Christmas Luncheon. This year we have had to cap invitations at 50 due to the size of our venue and the cost of the meal that comes from club funds.

Sometimes we forget that all some folks are looking for is a conversation with a friend, sharing a handshake, or just the joy of being with other people and feeling a sense of belonging. We all have friends for whom the holidays are a struggle, financially and emotionally. Reach out to them, be it with a card, phone call or text, and let them know that you care. No matter how you choose to celebrate, the best gifts are always from the heart.

The last month of the year and first month of a new year are times that we take stock of where we have been, what we have done, what we could/should have done differently and what we hope to be able to accomplish in the next 12 months. We are five months into our current Lions year. The same process can be used to review the past five months and how to pick up the pace to accomplish in the next seven months the goals we set forth.

October was a very busy month in 9EC, as you will see from our list of activities. The Walcott Club did an amazing job of hosting the 9EC Fall Rally with 73 Lions and guests registered. The weatherman didn't disappoint, either, as it was a beautiful day.

Our keynote speaker was Jon Koch, director of Muscatine's Waste Water Resource Recovery plant and Muscatine Organic Recycling Center (MORC).

Jon gave us much to think about regarding protecting our environment and keeping waste out of landfills as much as possible.

An issue that the 9EC cabinet will be taking up at our next meeting will be succession planning and incentivizing Lions at the club level to advance to leadership positions in their clubs. Then on to the district level as a zone chair, which leads to opportunity to move up to upper level district and state offices. In this way, knowledge is shared and the district isn't in the position of having no candidates for district governor slots or offices on the state level.

Yes, there is an element of time involved, but a Lion in a leadership position has the opportunity to recognize other talent and delegate some duties, thereby enhancing the skills of others. As a member of leadership in 9EC, I find that I can draw inspiration from the service to others that our Lions members give so selflessly. My greatest joy in leadership is being able to focus a spotlight on those who have gone above and beyond in their service to their communities.

Celebrate your successes. Share your service.

We Welcome the Following New Lions

Club	Member	Sponsor
Bettendorf	Marcia Coffman	Sara Newberry
Bettendorf	Marvin Coffman	Sara Newberry
Bettendorf	Elizabeth Hanson	Roger Newberry
Bettendorf	Steven Hulsing	Roger Newberry
Bettendorf	David Myers	Robert Miller
Bettendorf	Janet Myers	Robert Miller
DeWitt Noon	Diane Ernst	Margaret Thiltgen
DeWitt Noon	Roger Oltman	Rick Mangan
Eldridge	Paula Bryant	Kathy Rhinehart
Eldridge	Judy Hovey	Jan Sebastian
Eldridge	Jim Schneider	Ann Mohr
Muscatine	Lucas Gantner	Jim Bixler
Tipton	Alycia Barclay	Judy Archer
Tipton	Denise Wheeler	Kenneth Muller
Walcott	Jordan Orcutt	Loren Claussen
West Branch	Becky Wageman	Vicki Harkins
West Branch	Tim Wageman	Vicki Harkins

9EC ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER 2022

ALBURNETT – Football game parking; KidSight screening; eyeglasses donation.

BETTENDORF – Chili supper; White Cane Safety Days; donations to Care and Share, Camp Courageous, Hertko Hollow, LCIF, Bettendorf Police chaplain needy project.

BLUE GRASS – clothing for needy; church Halloween party; trick or treat; recycle/compost; KidSight screenings; Pumpkin Dash; attended EC Fall Rally and Iowa Lions Fall Learning Conference; Durant American Legion; blood drive.

CENTER POINT – Harvest Fest; road cleanup.

DAVENPORT VILLAGE – KidSight screening.

DEWITT NITE – Service project; donations.

ELDRIDGE – Milestones meal delivery; food collection for food banks; eyeglass collection; plant and maintain flower beds; game night at retirement community; KidSight; Friendly Friday; eye tissue relay; library book sale setup.

FRUITLAND COMMUNITY – Fruitland Community Volunteer Fire Department appreciation.

OTTER CREEK – 2022 cheese sales; Meals on Wheels; American Legion hall maintenance; park maintenance.

PRESTON – Halloween party.

STANWOOD – Donations to 9EC Care and Share, LCIF and Iowa Lions Foundation; KidSight screening, club sponsorship; trunk or treat; attended 9EC Fall Rally.

TIPTON – Fall Rally attendance; donations; Hunter's Breakfast; peace poster; parking vehicles at football games; football players.

9EC Convention

Registration Form

Mar 17, 2023, 6:00 pm Optional Social

Gramma's Kitchen

3408 N Plainview Rd, Walcott, IA

(order off the menu)

☐ Count me in ☐ Sorry to miss it

Mar 18, 2023, 8:00 am – 3:30 pm

St. Ann Catholic Church

16550 290th St. Long Grove, IA

Please print clearly

NAME

CLUB/DISTRICT

LION (Y/N) First Time (Y/N)

PHONE #

EMAIL

NAME

CLUB/DISTRICT

LION (Y/N) First Time (Y/N)

PHONE #

EMAIL

(OPTIONAL): I need a display table for

Registration Only (no meals) #_____ @ \$10 = _____

Registration & Meals* #_____ @ \$25 = _____

☐ **Chicken** or ☐ **Pork lion**

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Mail check (payable to **Eldridge Lions Club**)
and registration form by **March 3rd** to:

Lion Ann Baughman

611 S 5th St

Eldridge, IA 52748

*Light Breakfast 8:00-8:55 am / Lunch 11:45 pm

Hotel: Quality Inn & Suites – 1000 E Iowa St.,
Eldridge – RSVP directly to hotel by **March 1** –
563.285.4600

Group: Eldridge Lions Club

District 9SE

District Governor

Michael D. Renken

PO Box 75

Lockridge, Iowa 52635

319-537-0073

godsworker@farmtel.net



It is time to get ready for coming together as a district again for convention. Where has the year gone? Those that are interested in being district officers have until Feb. 23, 2023 to file nomination papers to be eligible to be on the ballot. To be vice district governor, you need to serve a year as club president and then a year as zone chair. There are persons in the district that fit that criteria. If you are one of them, I am asking you to strongly consider stepping forward and serving Lions in the leadership capacities that need filled. We need to elect a district governor, 1st and 2nd vice district governors, and an Iowa Lions Foundation trustee.

With not having any vice district governors at this time, I am asking people to contact me that are willing to serve on the district cabinet. The new Lions year will be here before we know it. If you have a passion for diabetes, childhood cancer, veterans services, vision or hearing, let me know. Please remember that leadership is service.

We will have our first in-person district convention in three years on March 24 and 25, 2023. We are calling it, "Since COVID Gave Us Lemons, Let's Make Lemonade." On Friday evening, there will be a cabinet meeting at 6 p.m. followed by fresh pie, homemade ice cream and entertainment from a ladies barbershop quartet at 7 p.m. The social is for those registered for the convention. Wear yellow.

Then Saturday begins with registration from 8-9 a.m. and seminars from 9-11 a.m. Luncheon and an awards ceremony will be at 11:30 a.m. followed by the annual business meeting and elections. Don't forget to bring your money for the annual Chuck-A-Duck, which will go to Ronald McDonald House Charities. Convention Chair Linda Renken is also working on door prizes and silent auction items, many with a lemon or lemonade theme.

This year we are happy to have Lion Jim Goff share his story of how he lost his vision and how Leader Dog Peanut gave him back his life.

We will also have Lion-Leo Paul Fugate talk about how clubs can attract and keep members under the age

of 40. Have you thought what your club might look like with younger members? You don't always have to just come to a meeting every month. Sometimes just get the word out that there is a service project coming up. The younger people are willing to come and help.

We also have Francie Williamson with the Iowa Lions Eye Bank sharing the center's history of the advancements of the last 65+ years of cornea transplantation.

As Murphy's Law goes, we have to make adjustments with times and speakers and activities. Let's have fun. There will be tail twisting, a memorial service, Parade of Checks, and a service project.

Bring nonperishable foods, feminine hygiene and or paper products for the local food pantry/shelter.

Clubs, remember to bring your banners! Let's fill the hall with club recognitions.

Welcome to District 9SE

Club	Member	Sponsor
Keosauqua	Chleo Proffitt	Paula Mohr
Keosauqua	Lois Thompson	Paula Mohr
Keosauqua	Randy Thompson	Paula Mohr
Lockridge	Larry Hill	Jeff Murphy



WHERE'S WALDO? Lions Marti Hendricks (left) and Brian Fitzpatrick pass out candy at the Solon Parks & Recreation's annual Trunk or Treat. Solon Centennial Lions' theme centered around vision with a trunk-size "Where's Waldo" poster print for kids and adults to find Waldo. Lion Brian handed out juice packets to the children while Lion Marti ushered the kids and adults to the poster to find Waldo.



DOWNTOWN TEA PARTY. Oskaloosa Lions (L-R) Scott Bruns, Becky Newman and Debbie Doty serve fresh popped popcorn during the citywide Mr. Pumpkin's Downtown Tea Party, a daytime safe alternative Halloween activity for kids.

9SE Activities for October

BIRMINGHAM served Trash to Treasure Sale of tenderloin lunch during the Villages of Van Buren Scenic Drive, raising \$1,171 for hunger projects; held a blood drive.

COLUMBUS JUNCTION raised \$1,100 with a biscuits and sausage gravy breakfast; assisted with parking cars during high school football home games; donated nonperishable food and hygiene items to the local food pantry; picked up trash at Chautauqua City Park May through October.

CORYDON picked up trash from two mile stretch of Hwy. 2; helped clean the local museum in preparation for their fall festival.

DANVILLE donated \$180 for purchase of 10 pairs of welding gloves for shop class at Danville High School.

GRANDVIEW-LETTS passed out 64 dictionaries to third graders; donated \$500 to families that had their homes destroyed by fire.

IOWA CITY KidSight screened 352 kids.

LONE TREE participated in the Halloween Parade by handing out candy to all of the elementary students; planted 25 trees that the school received through a grant. The Lions worked alongside students to get the trees planted.

OSKALOOSA KidSight screened at SONshine Preschool, Oskaloosa Community School District Preschool and Mahaska Early Learning Center; collected 200 pairs of recycled eyeglasses and four hearing aids; picked up trash in and around the Daily Community Garden.

OLON CENTENNIAL collected 123 eyeglasses for recycling; donated \$175 to the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital Pediatric Rheumatology Project; \$150 to Faith Academy.

LIONS DISTRICT 9SE CONVENTION

*"Since COVID Gave Us Lemons
Let's Make Lemonade"*

March 24-25, 2023

IOWA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
601 N. MAIN ST., MOUNT PLEASANT, IA

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

Lion? Y / N OFFICE HELD: _____

NAME: _____

Lion? Y / N OFFICE HELD: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____

E-MAIL: _____

CLUB: _____

Please note any special dietary needs.

FRIDAY: PIE & ICE CREAM SOCIAL @ 7 PM

Following the 6 PM Cabinet meeting, we'll have fresh pies, homemade ice cream and entertainment from a ladies barber shop quartet.
Wear yellow.

Please mark # attending = _____

SATURDAY PROGRAM / AWARDS LUNCHEON

Early Bird Registration (*postmarked by Feb. 28, 2023*)

No. _____ at \$35 = _____

Regular Registration (*postmarked by March 6, 2023*)

No. _____ at \$40 = _____

Total Enclosed = _____

Make checks payable to: **Lions District 9SE**

Mail to: PDG Debbie Doty
PO Box 251
University Park IA 52595

***CLUBS remember to bring your banners and items
for The Fellowship Cup in Mount Pleasant.***

District 9NW

District Governor

James Gill

1416 Williams Drive
Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501

515-571-7615

jagilllions@gmail.com

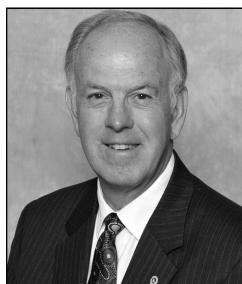


Greetings all 9NW Lions!

Our district convention in Fort Dodge on March 3-4, 2023 is coming together very nicely. I sure hope you have made a note in your calendars! Friday night, March 3, we will have a great social with our Fort Dodge Lions famous steak fry. The main program will be on Saturday, March 4, in our Lions Den here in Fort Dodge. This is our very own building and we are very proud of it. We have had quite a few conventions here in past years.

The convention program is being worked on as you read this message and will be distributed in this magazine and in our district Newsflashes as soon as possible. The registration form is available on the next page. Fill it out today!

We already know that we have very distinguished visitors coming. Our guest of honor will be Past International Director Michael Molenda and his wife Linda from Hastings, Minnesota. His list of achievements and awards is as long as your arm. Also present in Fort Dodge to greet our international guests will be our very own PID Ardie Klemish and husband Past District Governor Ken from District 9SW.



ID Mike Molenda

Heartwarming reports continue to come from our Iowa KidSight teams all across our sparsely-populated rural district. Right here in the Fort Dodge area we will have screened almost 1,200 children when we are done. This is a new all-time record by Lion Steve Rehmann and his crew members. Way to go! Teams elsewhere in the district are beaver away screening children in many other towns. I thank you! KidSight is all-important!

We recently had a cabinet meeting which was very well attended. Twelve people participated, of which half joined by Zoom. Have you folks tried holding club meetings on Zoom? Cabinet meeting attendance sure has increased dramatically since we started doing that. Modern times, modern technology!

The most important thing to report from the cabinet meeting is that we formally elected Pat Essing from the Manson Lions Club. She is now our first vice district governor and will succeed me in July next year. I am absolutely tickled pink by having an extraordinarily-competent woman to continue our way forward in the district.

Lion Pat is a businesswoman who has owned her own real estate and insurance agency in Manson since the 1980s. She has held every office in the Manson Lions Club and is married to PDG Mark Essing. They have two sons and two grandchildren. Golfing and travel are her main hobbies. Lion Pat's upcoming year as district governor will surely satisfy her traveling needs and more!



Pat Essing

1st VDG Pat has a rich community service background, as well. She has served on the Manson Economic Development Board, the Manson Hometown Grocery Store Board, Trinity Lutheran Church, Calhoun County Review Board, Red Cross, Iowa Workforce Development, Thrivent Calhoun County Board and more. Expect an energetic district governor year!

I have something very important to ask from all 9NW Lions again this month. It is time to follow Pat Essing's example. We need more leaders! Our district must plan ahead and have more vice district governors, more zone chairs, and yes, more leaders on all levels. Step up and make the best of your leadership abilities making our association stronger in these ever-changing times. Please contact me if you have an interest.

I thank you! I look forward to meeting with you and all your fellow club members this year!



STOP THE BLEED. CPR instructor and Paramedic Matt Byrne (in cap) demonstrates first aid during the Manson Lions Club's Stop the Bleed event.



HAMMING IT UP. Carroll Lions (L-R) Gail Goodner, Gae Schroeder and Hank Potthoff assemble ham sandwiches for the club's annual Soup Supper.

9NW Club Activities

AKRON held its annual Omelet Breakfast, profiting almost \$1,600.

BADGER had a Halloween Fun Night for all the kids in town and also a very successful Fall Pancake Day.

BOONE celebrated the annual Turkey Dinner in early November, serving 900 people.

CHURDAN delivered Meals on Wheels 5 days a week every week; donated \$100 to the Greene County Adopt-a-Family Christmas Program.

CARROLL held its annual Soup Fundraiser, serving more than 1,100 bowls of soup and profiting over \$5,000!

FORT DODGE screened a record number of children through KidSight; is bracing itself for the biggest event of the year: the 9NW District Convention!

GRAND JUNCTION had a big Labor Day Pancake Feast.

HARTLEY is planning for the big Burger Bar in December; collected 695 pairs of eyeglasses.

MADRID served 210 persons at the big Pancake Breakfast in the Community Room; is planning to buy snacks for elementary school children.

MANSON held a Pork Loin Dinner to raise funds for the Veterans Memorial Park.

PETERSON (the biggest club in our district) inducted two new members; had a very successful Omelet Supper; held a Hayride for the Peterson kids and created banners for the town.

DISTRICT 9NW CONVENTION

March 3-4, 2023

LIONS' DEN, 731 EXPOSITION DRIVE
FORT DODGE, IOWA

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

Lion? Y / N OFFICE HELD: _____

NAME: _____

Lion? Y / N OFFICE HELD: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____

E-MAIL: _____

CLUB: _____

Please note any special dietary needs.

FRIDAY PROGRAM / MEAL – 6:30 PM

Ribeye Steak Dinner
\$25 per person x _____ = \$ _____

SATURDAY PROGRAM / MEALS

8:00 AM Donuts/Coffee
12:15 PM Burgers/Brats
\$7 per person x _____ = \$ _____

Total enclosed = \$ _____

(Registration due by Feb. 17, 2023)

Make checks payable to: **District 9NW Lions**

Mail to: Lion Ray Ohlinger
201 NW 7th St
Pocahontas, IA 50574

**CLUBS DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR BANNERS
AND CHECKS FOR THE PARADE OF CHECKS**

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club	Member	Sponsor
Peterson	Marc Mears	Lonnie Hansen
Peterson	Bill Safeley	Lonnie Hansen
Sioux City	Christine Taylor	Marilyn Chamberlain

District 9SW

**District Governor
Dawn M. Goodsell**

**109 Rosa Drive
Neola, Iowa 51559**

402-290-1155

dawngoodsell5@gmail.com



What a wonderful time of the year. There is nothing like fall in Iowa. As we wind down November and move into the hustle and bustle of December, let us remember those that may be in need. Let's keep in touch with our food banks and make sure that no family goes hungry. With the price of inflation and the cost of gas, toilet paper and such, let's remember that above all else, this too shall pass. Let's remember that there is so much to be thankful for and so much service and giving that needs to be done. Where there is a need, there is a Lion.

Most of us have been around long enough to see the 360-degree turn that the world takes and sometimes we feel that we have all been through this before. I, for one, can now say that I have lived through two cycles of clogs, bell bottom pants and midriff shirts.

We have to ask ourselves as Lions, can we maintain as a club to be able to cycle in new members for sustainability or will we falter and not return like the bell bottom pants did? We get so caught up in the day-to-day issues and worries but do not take the time to nurture what we have. Sometimes it feels like we are at rock-bottom with nothing more that we can give.

That is when we need to start over, as they say, with baby steps. Do one service project at a time to get up on your feet. What's the saying? Pick yourself up by the bootstraps, dust yourself off and try again?

Every club in our district is important as each club serves a population in our state. Without each club, an area of our district will flounder. As Dory says, "Just keep swimming, just keep swimming!" I really need you all to keep swimming and keep serving your communities. People depend on us so let's not let them down. Please keep working on sustaining your members and adding new ones.

As you know, this month coming up will be the drop month for any members who have not paid dues. Don't forget to review your membership before the end of the year. Don't wait until the last minute. Pre-plan and try and replace those who dropped.

In the next month, we will be finalizing our Multi-District Convention with 9MC. I am so excited to work with 9MC District Governor David Coates in the organization and planning of this event.

Flyers should be out in January so you can all register. The date will be March 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The location is still to be determined. I hope you all can make it. This event will include motivation, inspiration, a little education and of course food and fellowship.

As I wrap up this month's article, I want to let you know that the future of our Lions district family always weighs heavy on my mind. Sustaining our clubs is a concern, as well as our future leadership. Who is going to replace me? As Uncle Sam said, "We need YOU!"

I am halfway through my term already. Believe me, time does fly when you are having fun. I have met so many Lions and can't wait to meet more. Call me or email me to set up a visit.

One last thing. As we move into the holiday season, let's practice compassion for those in need, empathy for those who are hurting, and love for all mankind. God bless our Lions Nation and all we serve.

"Together We Can and Together We Will!"

District Governor Calendar of Scheduled Club Meetings

Waukee – Dec. 1

Harlan – Dec. 8

Winterset – Jan. 16

Adair – Jan. 17

Panora – Jan. 19

Audubon – Jan. 24

Guthrie Center – Pending

New Members

Member	Sponsor	Club
Philip Beisswenger	Kandi Tague	Audubon
Rana S. Bailey	Robert Bailey	Clearfield
Dawson D. Stream	Jack Beggs	Clearfield
David Tanner	Greg Avitt	Indianola
Matt Sutton Vermeulen	Reba Reed	New Virginia
Suzi Sutton Vermeulen	Reba Reed	New Virginia

Club Activities Reported

ADAIR sent cards to shut-ins.

ATLANTIC conducted vision screenings at CAM School and Atlantic Head Start Preschool; held its annual Pancake Supper and Bake Sale; donated hearing aids.

AUDUBON volunteered at Rose Theater running the concession, admission and cleanup; hosted the annual Fun Run for 3rd-6th at Wheeler Stadium; collected blankets, coats, socks and food for youth shelters.

COUNCIL BLUFFS collected hearing aids; worked on Bags to Benches Project through Trex Recycling.

EXIRA hosted the Leo's Haunted House.

GLENWOOD volunteered at the food bank; conducted a KidSight screening in Hamburg and at Fremont Mills School in Tabor.

GREENFIELD hosted Bingo Night.

GUTHRIE CENTER worked a blood drive; distributed Meals on Wheels.

INDIANOLA NOON ran a concession stand at Oktoberfest; donated to WeLift Job, the Warren County Food Bank and the Hope Foundation; prepared food for a public safety event; donated food to Food to Hope Ministries Shelter.

LORIMOR hosted a Halloween Trunk or Treat.

MARTENSDALE donated to Hurricane Ian Florida Relief; cleaned up in the Lions building.

MILO held a Lions Pancake Breakfast.



PARK IMPROVEMENTS. Neola Lions recently repaired 10 picnic tables at Arrowhead County Park as part of a yearly project.



LOTS OF ENTRIES. Perry Lions judge the annual Peace Poster Contest with 75 entries received this year.

MISSOURI VALLEY gave donations to LCIF and Iowa Lions Foundation; hosted tables to support the Junior Prom Project.

NEOLA worked Can Kennel for Neola and Minden; planted 12 trees in City Park; attended Iowa Lions Fall Learning Conference in Newton.

NORWALK sponsored a Pancake Breakfast.

PERRY collected eyeglasses; sponsored a Peace Poster Contest with 75 students entered (pictured above); did roadside clean-up along a 2-mile stretch of Highway 141; donated to Carnegie Library Museum.

REDFIELD worked can redemption; hosted Bingo Night; gave donations to Leader Dogs for the Blind, WCV Middle School Library and Tori's Angels.

VILLISCA conducted several KidSight screenings, worked the Food Bank sponsored by Hy-Vee; furnished transportation to an individual for health care needs; worked at Community Garden.

WAUKEE conducted KidSight screenings; cleaned up Nizzi Park.

SAVE THE DATE
March 10 & 11, 2023
for a unique experience of a
COMBINED
District 9SW & 9MC Convention

Watch the District 9SW Facebook Page and the February issue of *The Iowa Lion* for more details

District 9MC

District Governor
David T. Coates

5909 Colt Drive
West Des Moines, Iowa 50266

612-275-3596

dtcoates2@gmail.com



I hope my note finds you warm and healthy. I want to wish all non-Lions and Lions a Happy Holidays. I have been busy with work and Lions.

I want to share my goals for my Lions Year as your district governor. We have 40 clubs in our district.

GOALS:

- 75% of the clubs in 9MC will donate at least \$100 to LCIF by June 1, 2023.
- 25% of the clubs will complete the Club Quality Initiative (CQI) by the end of the Lions Year 2023.
- 33% of the district clubs will earn the Club Excellence Award (CEA) in July 2023.
- 50% of club officers will be trained by Dec. 15, 2022.
- 100% of zone chairs will be trained by Dec. 1, 2022.
- Each club under 20 members will increase membership by one; over 20 members by two by June 15, 2023.

PERSONAL GOAL: Add at least one new club to the district and end the 40-year streak of losing Lions in our district. As of today, we are minus 11 Lions.

Please help me reach these goals.

Deceased Members

Altoona – Kenneth Anderson

Beaman – Marlin Moeller

Montezuma – Bill Bolen

Nevada – PDG Jerry K. Radke

Urbandale Breakfast – David P. Zaabel

SAVE THE DATE

March 10 & 11, 2023

for a unique experience of a

COMBINED

District 9SW & 9MC Convention

Watch the District 9MC Facebook Page and the February issue of *The Iowa Lion* for more details

New Club Development Awards

1. Extension Awards – Presented to two Lions who assisted with the development of the club.
2. District Governor Extension Awards – Awarded to district governors who charter one or more club in their district.
3. Family Membership Banner Patch – Given to clubs who added 10 or more family members at the time of charter.
4. New Club Sponsor Banner Patch – The sponsoring club receives for chartering a club.
5. Campus Banner Patch – The sponsoring club receives for chartering a new campus club.
6. Club Branch Award – Club branch liaison receives pin for supporting the club.

Recruiting Materials

The list below provides resources that from Lions Clubs International that can be used when recruiting new members. These are available online or can be ordered from LCI at membership@lionsclubs.org.

- Better Communities. Changed Lives (EX-511)
- Charter Member Application (TK-188)
- Recruiting Flyer (EX-109A)
- Lions Make a Difference (ME-40)
- Family Membership Brochure (MPFM-8)
- I Am a Lion (ME-37)
- Be Part of Something that Matters Brochure (EX-801)
- Lions Pocket Card (ME-33)

CLUB ACTIVITIES

AMES donated to Hurricane Ian Relief.

AMES CAMPUS did Reverse Trick or Treating, collecting food for the campus food bank; helped with the Ames Community Turkey Dinner; participated in the Campus Sustainability Month Celebration; had a Pizza Night at Blaze Pizza; made gift tags for the YSS Gift Program; helped with Campus Clean-Up Day.

DES MOINES SOUTH DES MOINES picked up and cleaned used glasses to deliver to Iowa Lions State Office; provided rides to members; did KidSight; cleaned up Laurel Hill Cemetery; packed Meals from the Heartland.

DYSART helped with Light in the Park; conducted Iowa KidSight screenings.

GLADBROOK sorted and packed eyeglasses and loaded the trailer to take them to Wisconsin.

GRINNELL gave a donation to MICA; packed Tiger Packs with weekend food for kids.

KELLOGG held a Pancake Breakfast.

MARSHALLTOWN EVENING collected eyeglasses for recycling; popped and sold popcorn as a fundraiser.

STORY CITY held its Fall Pancake Supper.

TRAER took tickets at high school football games; ran the Theater Concession Stand.

WEST DES MOINES ran the sideline chain gang at school football games; hosted Community Shred Day.



COLLEGE TRICK OR TREAT. Members and volunteers of the Ames Campus Lions Club collected food for the campus food bank by Reverse Trick or Treating. Pictured (L-R) are Izzy Danicich, Luran Korfhage, Jake Welke, Michael Tinguely, Shiv Patel and Colin O'Donnell.

Where There's a Need, There's a Lion

*By Lion Mary Jane Paez
Johnston Lions Club*

Frequently, at our Johnston Lions Club meetings, we hear the refrain, "Where there's a need, there's a Lion."

We have been fulfilling those needs for many years. We have a medical equipment closet. We loan out wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, canes, and shower seats, along with other similar types of medical equipment. We also take donations of the same.

We had a woman call to say she needed a shower seat. When I went to deliver the seat, I found that her shower wasn't functioning and her sink was backed up. With the help of a fellow Lion, we resolved both problems and included a shower curtain. *Where there's a need, there's a Lion.*

For a number of years, there was a man who was delighted to be able to outfit his home with equipment that made it more comfortable for his disabled sister to come visit for a month each summer. He was so grateful. *Where there's a need, there's a Lion.*

The Johnston Lions Club has provided a wheelchair for every school nurse's office in the district. *Where there's a need, there's a Lion.*

Our loan closet was a place that locals knew about and took advantage of the opportunity for help. Over the years, the news has spread that we can help. We are receiving more and more calls for help from outside of our community.

A woman from Waukee was so grateful to get a walker that her husband needed after a long stay in the hospital. She had received a bill for \$70,000 and the thought of having to pay for a walker was one straw too many for her to bear. *Where there's a need, there's a Lion.*

This project has been very gratifying for me. The borrowers are usually stressed and need some reassurance that this equipment will help, not only their loved one, but also themselves.

I would propose that all Lions Clubs make this a club project to support. I know, some will say that there is no place to store these things. Figure it out, you can do it. *Where there's a need, there's a Lion!*

The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

By PDG Ed Ottesen

MD9 Global Service Team Coordinator

The holiday season is here again. For many, it means hustling about to buy that last-minute gift for that special someone. For others, it is planning and preparing for the holiday gathering of family or friends. Still, some are looking forward to days off from work on those big three holidays – Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year. For kids, it will seem like forever until that hour when gifts finally can be opened and to discover what Santa Claus brought them this year.

In the middle of this busy time of the year, there are many that are not as fortunate. There are many ways Lions can make an impact through service. Volunteer at a soup kitchen. Participate in singing carols. Donate gifts. These are just a few suggestions.

Putting oneself out there for others in this busy time of year may just reawaken what the true meaning of the season really is.

The Service Journey

There is a lot of information to be found on the approach known as [The Service Journey](#) by going to the Lions Clubs International website. Begin with clicking on the Start tab. Under Our Approach, select **The Service Journey**. There you can scroll down to **Learn**, where you can cultivate an awareness of local needs and how they connect to a larger global narrative.

Discover, by sharing knowledge to equip us to leverage our strengths and encourage innovation. **Act**, because our mission is service and through action, we fulfill that mission. **Celebrate** by sharing our stories. We unify our organization, inspire our communities, and capture the attention of a global audience.

Service comes in all forms and sizes, so use the Lions Clubs International website as a source to inspire your clubs to new levels of service.

Service Stories

The Lions Clubs International website also has a page with links to several service stories that have made an impact. There are stories from all the global causes championed by the organization. On top of that, there are Leo and LCIF stories to view. You can

find these under the Explore tab, [Our Clubs](#), [Service Stories](#). I urge all to look at these. They might just give your club a service idea or two.

Reporting

With the Lions year nearly half over, let's look at where we stand.

As a state, we have 44% of the clubs reporting service on MyLions. Three of our districts are above 50%. This figure and the following ones are from early, so at the time of this printing, I trust they have all improved.

The number of service activities reported is at 30% of last year's total. That figure last year was 4,216 activities. The goal for this year should be to surpass 5,000.

People served to date are 34% of last year's total. With 618,937 people served last year, it should not be inconceivable to reach the one-million-person threshold.

Last year the clubs in Iowa amassed 81,834 hours of service. So far, we are at 36% of that total. A goal of 100,000 hours is a worthwhile one to attain.

All these goals are within reach. All that is needed is to develop the habit of reporting regularly and consistently. Every member who goes to the Member Login on the Lions Clubs website, can view these figures and more through Insights. Not only can you see how your club is doing, but you can also see how the clubs in your district, your state, your Constitutional Area, and yes, how the whole world is doing. Use this information as a measuring stick for your club and to set goals.

Goals without action are only wishes. So, follow through and report all your activities.

**In the first quarter of the
2022-2023 Lions year
the Iowa Lions Hearing Aid Bank**



Received **710** used aids

Sent out **25** hearing aid sets

Sent out **2** single hearing aids

Helped **27** Iowa residents
obtain hearing aids

HELP WANTED

The Lions Clubs of Iowa has an opening for the following position to assist in running the state office. If interested in filling any of these positions, please submit letters of interest, resumes and references to Council Chair Nancy Oehler Love at ncoehler@gmail.com **no later than Jan. 15, 2023.**

MD9 Council Secretary

Volunteer Lion (work as needed)

In this role, the successful candidate will be responsible for recording minutes of Council and committee meetings, overseeing the State Office, working with the Multiple District Council Treasurer and Council Chair, and interacting with the public. Must be a Lion in good standing.

Successful candidates should possess excellent communication skills and demonstrable experience in an office administrative role. Outstanding MD Council Secretaries are highly organized in performing a wide array of administrative duties. A full description of duties are outlined in the MD9 Bylaws or on Page 32 in the digital section of this issue of *The Iowa Lion*.

Mother Grateful for Volunteer Iowa KidSight Screeners

*By PDG Debbie Doty
Editor*

A mother in eastern Iowa is eternally grateful to volunteers of the Davenport Breakfast Lions Club who screened her son, Augustine, at his preschool during an Iowa KidSight vision screening last spring.

“We were told he should get a full eye exam,” Kerri Nykoluk of Davenport said on her Facebook page in November. “That exam showed severe astigmatism and we were told he was basically legally blind (with no signs or indications to us),” she said.

She shared the photo at right, stating, “Here he is at his 6-month check and doing fantastic! With his prescription, he is seeing almost 20/20 and he loves his glasses!”

Lion Lori Short, director of Iowa KidSight, said this is a classic story of how Lions change lives through their volunteer service to KidSight.

“The screening was literally life changing for him,” his mother exclaimed.

Sadly, not all parents give permission for Lions to perform the screenings. “I was so surprised when my son’s teacher said that many parents opt to not get the screening done,” said Nykoluk. “So anytime the word can get out to consent to the screening is a win.”

Nykoluk thanks the Lions for providing the free KidSight screenings. “I do really appreciate the time that the volunteers give to this cause and I know that this happens all over the state. We had no idea that Augie’s sight was so bad and I don’t think we would have taken him to the eye doctor until he was much older,” she explained.

Lions who wish to become Iowa KidSight screeners can take the training online at the [Iowa KidSight website](#). After passing the online training, new screeners are paired with experienced ones for hands-on camera training.



THE IOWA LION



LOVING THE NEW SPECS. Augustine Nykoluk beams in his new glasses after Iowa KidSight screeners found a problem during a screening.

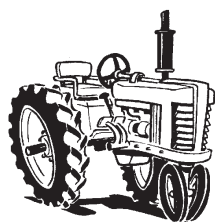


**30th Annual
Montezuma Lions**



TOY AND CRAFT SHOW

**January 28, 2023
Montezuma, Iowa**



**SHOW HOURS:
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Saturday**



FREE ADMISSION!

Admission Paid by Home Plate Sports Cards in Oskaloosa



Raffle & Many Door Prizes



**LOCATION
THIS YEAR....**

**Montezuma High School
504 North 4th St.
Montezuma, Iowa**

**VARIETY OF
CRAFTS
PLUS TOYS
- COME SEE!**

Table Rent: \$20 each

Make checks payable to Montezuma Lions Club

Mail checks to:

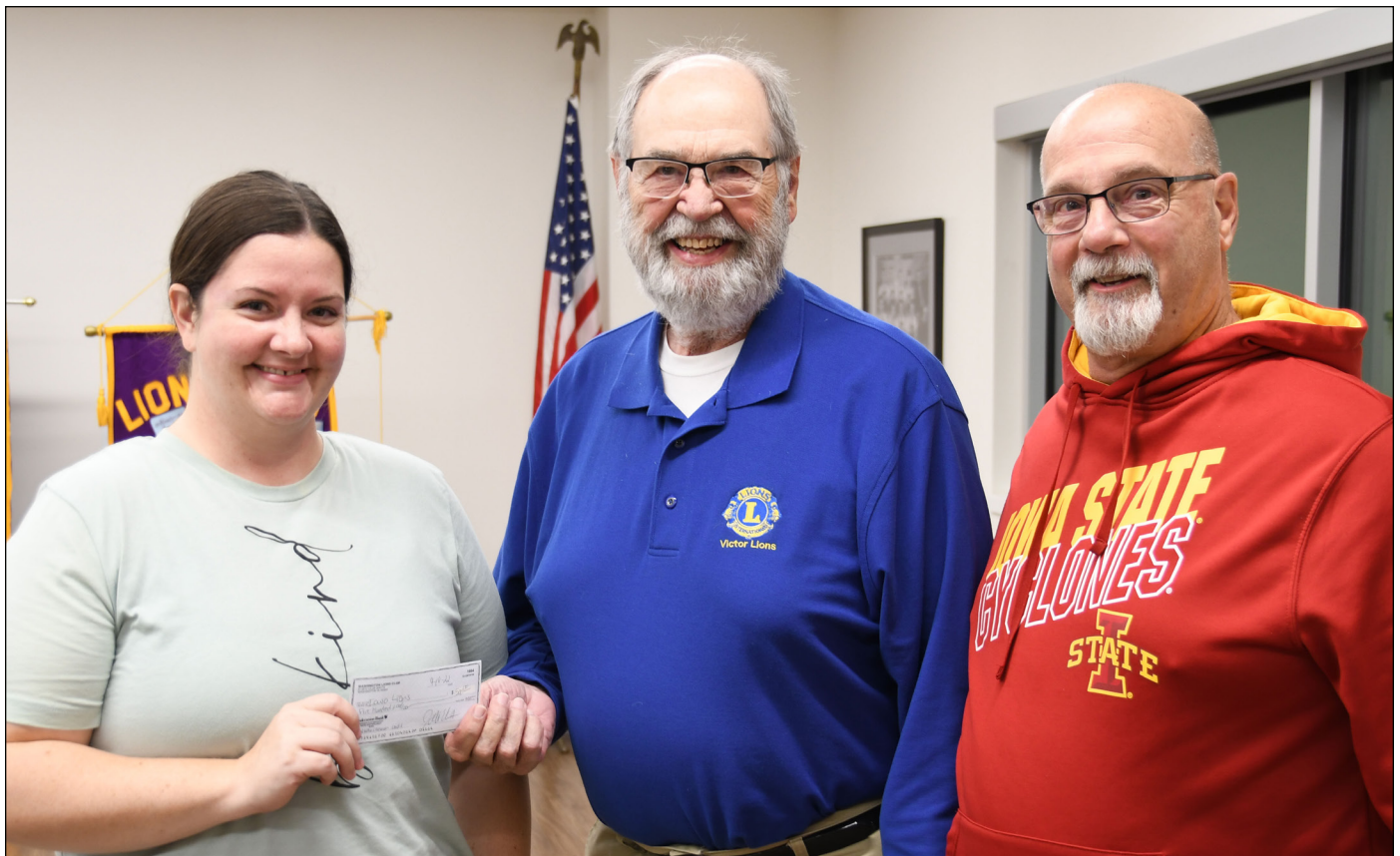
Montezuma Lions Club, PO Box 789, Montezuma, IA 50171

Questions? Call Ron Hensel (515) 979-2705

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE



RAISING FUNDS FOR THE IOWA LIONS FOUNDATION. (RIGHT PHOTO) District 9SE Iowa Lions Foundation Trustee David Heitmann explains the significance of the Iowa Lions Foundation's "I Gave" pins at a meeting of the Washington Lions Club. (BELOW PHOTO) Washington Lions present a \$500 check to the Iowa Lions Foundation. Pictured (L-R) are Washington Lions Club Treasurer Jodi Ebert, Trustee Heitmann and Washington Lions Club President Bill Ebert.



ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE



ALL IN THE FAMILY. Wayland Lion Theresa Ferdig (left) sponsored new member Amina Ferdig, being presented with her new member packet by Club President Jay Meyer.



WOULD YOU LIKE A COOKIE? Carroll Lions Alison Ostrander and Taylor Boyle man the dessert table at the Carroll Lions Club's annual Soup Supper Fundraiser.



WARREN COLEMAN HONOREE. Victor Lions Club President Randall Betz (right) presents a Warren Coleman Honorary Award to Lion Susan Wilgenbusch.



EGG-CELENT! Akron Lions Club President Gloria Thorson, prospective member Dana Coyle, and breakfast organizer Tom Schroeder cook omelets for the Akron Lions Club's annual Omelet Breakfast.

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE



SOCIALIZING. Immediate Past District Governor Steph Becker visits with Cedar Falls Lion Kathy Duke during a Friday night Wine & Cheese Social at the 9NE District Convention. The social was held inside the Hearst Center for the Arts in downtown Cedar Falls.



TRADITIONAL GIFT. District Governor Dale Schrad, left, presents the traditional "Iowa" gift of an embroidered jacket to visiting International Director Lee Vrieze.



COME ON IN. District 9NE Convention Chair Chris Waring welcomes Past District Governor Paul Scherner to the 9NE Convention held in Cedar Falls.



RECOGNITION. District Governor Dale Schrad presents Vice District Governor Bruce Piehl with a Presidential Certificate of Appreciation.

Honoring the Veterans of the Lions Club (Part 2)

*By Lion Jan Madsen
Hudson Lions Club*

Specialist 5th Class Sven Pedersen was teaching math in Solon in 1968 when Uncle Sam invited him to see the stunning vistas in South Vietnam as a combat engineer. In this construction force role, Sven helped with building a fire and command base, daily mine sweeping and demolitions of discovered enemy munitions. Sven carried an AR-15 rifle as a constant companion as one never knew who friend or foe was.

Sven's last duty was as a riot control military policeman in Washington, D.C., far from the rice paddies and farms tilled by water buffalos in 'Nam. The U.S. was enveloped in an air of opposition over the war in Vietnam, so times were tense. His job was to protect the U.S. Capitol.

"No one fully realized how close we were to carrying out our orders to shoot to kill," he said regarding the protests.

Seaman Marv Vore enlisted in the Navy in 1968. During the first of four years of service, he was stationed on a ship out of San Diego while being embroiled in the hot, smelly engine room as a boiler-maker.

When the vintage ship was taken out of commission, he was accepted into Dental Technician School in San Diego and then stationed at Great Lakes Naval Training Center in Waukegan, Illinois.

During his final year of service, Marv was sent to a Moroccan Air Force base, where he worked in the dental clinic. His group was told they were in North Africa to train fighter jet pilots. Instead, they were in Morocco, "to monitor all of the ships going in and out of the Mediterranean through the Straits of Gibraltar, especially the Russians."

Because Marv was on isolated duty, he was

able to travel around Morocco and southern Spain. He enjoyed being immersed in the Moroccan and Spanish cultures amid old-world architecture and picturesque scenery.

First Lt. Tim Smith's lottery number of 81 helped him see the writing on the wall. The invite from Uncle Sam arrived, so he enlisted in the Navy ROTC program at Purdue University. After being commissioned as an Ensign in 1974, he served three years on board the USS Blakely, a destroyer escort. Initially, he was the weapon department's gunnery and missile officer.

Later, he oversaw all underway deck evolutions, which could be a logistic nightmare. It involved anchoring the ship, getting refueling underway, replenishing helicopters, and getting crew transported to and from the shore. There was always painting to be done on the exterior of the ship, too. Tim thinks of his experience as "great" considering his two half-year "cruises" in the Mediterranean and ample time basking in the Caribbean.

Major Matt Ulven, MD, was commissioned in 1986 as a 2nd lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. His first three years were spent as a "nose to the grindstone" medical student.

Between 1989 and 1997, he was an active-duty physician, both as a Family Physician and Family Physician Educator at three locations: Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland, Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany, and Scott Airforce Base in Illinois.

During his time in the service of our country, he cared for servicemen and women and their families. Additionally, he cared for service retirees. Dr. Ulven reports that the health care issues of his patients were closely aligned with the general population.

"Currently, in the services, mental health issues have been a much greater concern, he said."

We thank all veterans for their service.

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE



FFA ASSISTANCE. Akron Lions present a check to the Akron Future Farmers of America. Lions pictured in vests (L-R) are Gloria Thorson, Julie Ford and Dee Watson.



SOUP'S ON. Carroll Lions serve up soup and sandwiches at their annual Soup Supper fundraiser. Pictured behind the serving line (L-R) are Leon Muhlbauer, Karen Carter-Allen, David Carter-Allen, Jane Morlok and Diane Muhlbauer.

Simple Ideas for Childhood Cancer Projects

*By PDG Debbie Doty
Editor*

February is Lions Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Now is the time to start planning some sort of childhood cancer project for your club or district.



Planning a childhood cancer project doesn't have to be difficult. Lion Aaron Horn, District 9EC Childhood Cancer chairperson and co-founder of the childhood cancer charity Beat Cancer Today, suggests that Lions Clubs can reach out to a number of organizations to get the ball rolling on a meaningful project. Much of the time, the charity will have an idea of how to partner with a Lions club. It just takes reaching out.

Lion Horn does warn to make sure the organization supports CHILDHOOD cancer.

Here's the list that Horn provided, though there may be other charities in your area.

- Beat Cancer Today
- Ronald McDonald House
- American Childhood Cancer Organization
- Candlelighters NYC (New York)
- Pascale's Pals (Missouri)
- Alex's Lemonade Stand
- St. Baldrick's Foundation
- Cookies for Kids' Cancer
- Band of Parents (New York)
- The Truth 365
- St. Jude's Children's Hospital
- Unravel Pediatric Cancer (California)
- Make-a-Wish Foundation
- National Childhood Cancer Society
- CureSearch
- Isabella Santos Foundation (North Carolina)
- Love Your Melon
- Pinky Swear Foundation (Minnesota)
- Tori's Angels

Horn suggests using Guidestar.org to vet programs

to ensure the majority of their funds actually go to childhood cancer research and support.

Lions Clubs International has dedicated an entire section of its website to [Childhood Cancer resources](#). Here are some of the project ideas shared on that page.

Help your club and your community learn about Childhood Cancer. Raise club awareness about childhood cancer by holding an educational talk with a healthcare professional or public health official at your club or district meeting or related events.

Collaborate with a local childhood cancer hospital or support home staff to learn about the needs of their patients and families. Brainstorm ways your club can address key challenges and gaps.

- Research and develop a list of local childhood cancer organizations in your community to support future projects.
- Identify local advocacy events related to childhood cancer and explore ways to get involved.
- Request a wish or needs list from a local childhood cancer center. Conduct a drive to donate the requested items.
- Prepare healthy meals for families with children undergoing treatment. This can be done in collaboration with other community members to ensure the family receives food on a regular basis.
- Collect recyclable materials and donate the profits to a childhood cancer organization.
- Write cards full of well-wishes and share them with a local cancer center.
- Donate financial support or gift cards to identified families in need or a nearby childhood cancer center. This could cover expenses like gasoline, parking, food, medical expenses, etc.
- Make or buy new hats, caps, head scarves or blankets to donate to childhood cancer centers.
- Volunteer at a local childhood cancer organization fundraising event.
- Organize a community drive to assemble a toy library for the enjoyment of patients.
- Participate in a blood donation or bone marrow registry event to benefit cancer treatment.

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE

MD9 Council Secretary Job Description

Volunteer Lion (work as needed) – No Benefits

The Lions Clubs of Iowa, a charitable humanitarian and service club organization with nearly 6,800 members, is seeking an energetic and capable Multiple District Council Secretary to assist MD9 Council of Governors. In this role, the successful candidate will be responsible for recording minutes of Council and committee meetings, overseeing the State Office, working with the Multiple District Council Treasurer and Council Chair, and interacting with the public as further noted below.

To ensure success as the MD Council Secretary, successful candidates should possess excellent communication skills and demonstrable experience in an office administration role. Outstanding MD Council Secretaries are highly organized in performing a wide array of administrative duties.

MD Council Secretary Responsibilities:

1. Be responsible for the operation of the State Office under the direction of the Council and supervise correspondence and other detailed matters that require personal attention
2. Operate under a budget approved by the Council.
3. Be Secretary of the Council, attend all meetings of the Council, keep an accurate record of the proceedings, and forward copies of the minutes of same to each Council member.
4. Serve as an ex-officio member of the Council as well as an ex-officio member of all standing committees and shall generally assist the Council in conducting the business of the state, however, shall have no vote. Attendance at committee meetings is optional or as requested.
5. Perform such other duties as are specified or implied in the Constitution and By-Laws, Lions Clubs of Iowa Policy Manual, or assigned from time to time by the Council.
6. Assist in seeing that all provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws are adhered to and carried out.
7. Preserve the record of the corporation (association) and be responsible for a summary of statistics acquired in the multiple district from year to year, keep record of all new clubs, status quo clubs, and Charter revocations and information on all phases of Lions activities for review in the State Office.
8. Have the minutes of all business sessions of the Multiple District 9 Convention recorded, transcribed, printed and mailed, electronically or otherwise, to the district governors, past district governors, international director, past international directors, and any Lions Club president upon request.

MD Council Secretary Requirements:

- A member in good standing of a Lions Club in Iowa.
- High School Diploma or GED. A two-year associates degree is preferred. Formal qualification in office administration, secretarial work, bookkeeping or related training.
- Previous experience as an Administrative Secretary or Office Manager would be advantageous.
- Advanced proficiency in taking minutes, managing documents, and developing spreadsheets.
- Ability to coordinate internally and externally on administrative matters.
- Exceptional filing, recordkeeping, and organizational skills.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills. Exceptional interpersonal skills.

To fill a Two Year term ending June 30, 2024. May be retained for a second two-year term.

Submit letters of interest, resumes and references to Council Chair Nancy Oehler Love at ncoehler@gmail.com **no later than Jan. 15, 2023.**