



District 27-E1 Governor's Newsletter

March 2026

Lion Ed Cerney, District Governor
Service Today – Brighter Future Tomorrow



Dear Lions of District 27-E1,

It is hard to believe we are beginning month nine of our Lions year. The year has flown by quickly, and Lion Lisa and I have only a few more clubs to visit. It has been a true privilege connecting with your clubs in a variety of settings. Hearing about the amazing work you are doing in your communities has been the most rewarding part of our visits.

Now we are excited to promote one of the highlights of the year — the 27E1 District Convention!

Lion Lisa and I hope to see you all at the convention and look forward to reconnecting with you!



District Convention – March 27–28, 2026

📍 St. Croix Casino & Convention Hall – Danbury, WI



Friday Night Social

Theme: Festive Holiday Sweaters 🎄

- 🎵 Music
- 🎤 Karaoke
- 👕 Sweater/Outfit Contest
- 🎟 Raffles
- 🍹 Cash bar and snacks

Kick off the weekend reconnecting with Lions from our 43 clubs across the 8-county district!

★ Saturday Convention Highlights

- 🍽️ Luncheon Speaker: International Director **Lion Chris Carlone**
- 🍽️ Dinner Speaker: **Lion Liz Fryseth**, joined by her dog **Sunny** 🐕 from Leader Dogs for the Blind
- 🇺🇸 Powerful hour of short presentations featuring major Lions projects across Wisconsin
- 🕊️ **Memorial Service** honoring Lions lost this past year
- 📣 **Club Role Call** during the Business Meeting — make sure your club is represented and ready to proudly shout, “**We’re here!**”
- 🎁 **Basket Raffle** – Clubs are asked to bring an item (proceeds support District causes)

If you have members who have never attended a District Convention, this is the year to bring them — they will be glad you did!

🎓 Breakout Opportunities

Saturday breakout sessions will provide more personal learning opportunities:

- **First Time Attendees Orientation** (get in on the scavenger hunt and prize drawing)
- 👁️ Vision Screening Certification
- 🚗 Eye Tissue Transporter Certification
- 🐕 Meet Liz Fryseth and Sunny
- 👁️ Hear from a representative of the Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin
- 📈 Learn how to expand your club’s service through membership growth
- ❤️ Discover why supporting our State and International Foundations matters

If members of your club are interested in certification training, please notify me.

🏆 District Awards

We will proudly present the **District New Voices Awards**. We are excited about the number of nominations received this year, recognizing outstanding Lions in four key areas:

- **Leadership** – Inspiring others through guidance and vision
- **Service** – Creating lasting change through hands-on service
- **Membership Growth** – Expanding our reach by inviting others to serve
- **Marketing & Communication** – Strengthening visibility and sharing our story

Additional awards and certificates will also be presented.

Convention Reminders

All convention forms and information are available at:

 <http://district27e1.org/>

Important reminders:

-  Registration & Meal Deadline: **March 6**
-  Parade of Checks Submission Forms
-  Deceased Member Forms (for Memorial Service)
-  Abbreviated weekend schedule

Please register by **March 6** if you plan to participate in the meals.

Convention Service Projects

As always, please bring:

-  Eyeglasses
-  Hearing Aids
-  Cell Phones

Place these items in the **Lions Camp van** at the convention.

Crayon Collection - New This Year!

Bring crayons — good, broken, small, or large.

Vice District Governor Barb will have collection boxes available.

The Cadott Lions Club collects the crayons and sends them to be melted down and remade into large triangular crayons for hospitalized children who struggle to hold regular crayons.

Also New This Year – Deer Antlers

We are now able to collect deer antlers. They do not need to be cut up but may be cut off the skull.

These antlers are used to make chewing bones for puppies being raised in the Leader Dog Puppy Program. The antlers will be sent with Governor Mike from District B2 to pass along to a Leader Dog puppy raiser.



March Madness Membership Challenge

Every Club. One New Lion. One Powerful Month.

We Serve — and in March, we grow!

Lions across Area C are being challenged to participate in a **March Madness Membership Growth Event** by adding just **ONE** new member per club.

+ The Goal: Add ONE New Member in March.

If every club adds just one new Lion, the impact will be tremendous.



The Challenge for Each Club:

- Identify at least **three prospects**
 - Personally invite them to a meeting or service project
 - Induct at least **ONE new Lion before March 31**
 - Ensure the new member is **entered into the Lions Portal by March 31** to count
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Governor's Membership Incentive

As an added incentive, **any Lion who sponsors a new member in March will receive a small gift from the District Governor.**

To qualify:

- The new member should be officially inducted and posted in the Lions Portal by March 31

Let's celebrate and recognize those who are actively growing our district!

Growth reflects our core values of **Service, Dedication to Excellence, Integrity, Collaboration, Diversity, and Innovation.**

When we invite someone to join Lions, we invite them into a global movement of servant leaders who live the motto:

Lead to Serve. Serve to Lead.

Looking Ahead

Wisconsin Lions State Convention – May 14–16, 2026

Looking beyond our district convention, don't miss the **2026 Wisconsin Lions State Convention** — a larger gathering of Lions and Leos from across the state!

 **The Ingleside Hotel – Pewaukee, WI**
 **May 14–16, 2026** ([Wisconsin MD27 Lions State Convention](#))

This year's theme is **“Rooted in Service & Growing Together — Spirit of the Big Easy”**, celebrating our service heritage and fellowship with a festive spirit inspired by Mardi Gras. ([Wisconsin Lions](#))

Highlights include:

-  **“A Taste of Mardi Gras” Friday Night Hospitality** – Fun, fellowship, and festive energy. ([Wisconsin Lions](#))
-  **Golf Outing on Thursday** – Join Lions for a 4-person scramble. ([Wisconsin MD27 Lions State Convention](#))
-  **Training & Leadership Opportunities** – Sessions to help strengthen your club and service impact. ([Wisconsin Lions](#))
-  **New Melvin Jones Fellowship Breakfast** – Honor those who embody humanitarian service. ([Wisconsin Lions](#))
-  **Fellowship and Networking** with Lions from across Wisconsin. ([Wisconsin Lions](#))

Registration is open online — make your plans soon to attend and grow your Lions network while learning new ways to Serve. ([Wisconsin MD27 Lions State Convention](#))

We still have four months left in the Lions year. Big things are still possible!

With increased membership comes increased opportunity for service. Continue inviting others to join. Perhaps even consider helping identify a community where we could start a new club so we can serve even more residents of Northwest Wisconsin.

Yours in Service,

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