



District 27-E1 Governor's Newsletter – November

Dear Lions of District 27-E1,

We're already a quarter of the way through this Lionistic year! Lion Lisa and I have been traveling throughout the district, visiting clubs at meetings, celebrations, and service activities. I've also been meeting with the other Wisconsin district governors, to make sure our state projects also remain strong and provide examples for districts around the world, of what Lions can do when they focus on serving their communities and beyond.



⚠️ Deadlines Approaching Quickly



Tax Reminder: Club officers are reminded that the annual federal tax filing deadline for Lions Clubs is **November 15th**. Every club in the United States must file the appropriate IRS Form 990—whether it's Form 990-N, 990-EZ, or the full 990—depending on annual revenue. Filing on time helps maintain your club's **tax-exempt status** and ensures continued good standing with both Lions International and the IRS. Clubs that miss the deadline for three consecutive years risk automatic revocation of their exemption. Please confirm your filing status early and submit your return before November 15th to avoid penalties or loss of nonprofit recognition.



Peace Poster Reminder: Clubs should have their Peace Posters judged locally **based on this year's theme, "Together As One."** Each club needs to select one winning poster and ensure it's properly labeled with the student's and club's information. The winning poster must be submitted to the District Governor and postmarked by **November 15th** for district-level judging. This deadline is firm so that the district winner can advance to the multiple-district and international competition rounds. Let's celebrate our youth artists and showcase how we all can *come together as one* through their creative visions of peace!



Mental Health Awareness Week

This past October, Lions around the world kicked off **Mental Health Awareness Week**, and I'm proud that many of our district clubs took part in activities to raise awareness about mental health in our communities. These local efforts—combined with events across the globe—did not go unnoticed. If your club participated, please remember to **report your activity on the Lions Portal** so your service can be counted!



Medical Equipment Available:

PDG Bill Anderson has a variety of **medical equipment available for anyone in need within the district**. Items include walkers, wheelchairs, canes, and other assistive devices that can make daily life easier for those recovering from illness or injury. Lions and community members are encouraged to reach out if they, or someone they know, could benefit from this valuable resource. This equipment is provided **free of charge** as part of our ongoing commitment to service and community support. For more information or to arrange a pickup, contact **PDG Bill Anderson at billranderson@icloud.com**.

New Voices Award

As mentioned in the September newsletter, the **New Voices Award** highlights and encourages the inclusion of new perspectives in our clubs—especially women and young people. There are four award categories, and nomination forms were included in that newsletter. If you need another copy, please reach out. Let's continue to lift up new voices and recognize the future leaders of our organization.

District Goals & Progress

Each year, our district sets goals to strengthen our service potential and leadership. Here's where we stand:


- **Service Reporting:** Currently **58% of clubs** have reported activities on the Lions Portal so far since July 1. Our district goal is **80%**, but my personal hope is to see **100% participation!**
- **Membership:** Our goal is to show a **net growth of +20 in the district**. Currently, we are at an **unofficial +6**, thanks to several recent inductions—great work, Lions! Please work to retain members, but if you have to drop members for any reason, please do so right away so we don't have a massive reduction in June.
- **LCIF Donations:** Last year, **27 of our 43 clubs** made donations to LCIF. Our goal this year is **32 clubs**, and we're currently at **10 clubs**. **On the individual level**, we hope to grow from **24 to 30 personal donors**; at present, **13 Lions** have already contributed. Thank you to everyone who has given so far—your generosity makes an incredible difference worldwide.
- **New Club Development:** We are aiming to **charter a new club** in our district. We're actively working in communities that could benefit from a Lions presence. If you know people interested in starting a club, please let me know—the district team will reach out to help them get started.

Club Visits

Another goal as District Governor is to visit every club in our district. Lion Lisa and I have enjoyed the energy, ideas, and enthusiasm we've seen so far. We're close to having all the clubs on our schedule, but a few clubs still need to provide or confirm dates.

Billing Reminder

Lions Clubs International (LCI) has transitioned to a **paperless billing system**, and paper invoices are **no longer being mailed** to clubs. All treasurers must now **log in to their LCI Member Portal (Lion Portal)** to view and download their club's invoices. Staying current with these digital statements is essential to ensure timely payments and maintain your club's good standing. Treasurers are encouraged to check the portal regularly for new invoices or updates, especially around quarterly billing dates. If you need assistance accessing your account or downloading invoices, contact LCI Accounts Receivable or our district leadership team for support.

 **Deer Hide Collection Reminder:** Attention deer hunters! The **Wisconsin Lions Foundation (WLF)** is once again collecting **deer hides to support Lions Camp**, which provides free, life-changing experiences for children and adults with special needs. Donating your hide is an easy way to make a meaningful difference while honoring the tradition of giving back. Simply drop off your deer hides at one of the many designated collection sites throughout the state — locations can be found at **www.wlf.info/deer-hide-collection**. Every hide helps send campers to Lions Camp, so thank you for turning your successful hunt into a gift of joy and opportunity!



Save the Date: District Convention

I'm excited to announce that our **District 27-E1 Convention** will be held the weekend of **March 28, 2026**, at the **St. Croix Casino in Danbury**. We're planning a great lineup of speakers and trainers for both general sessions and small-group workshops. More details and registration information will be shared around the holidays.

Thank you for the warm hospitality we've experienced wherever we've gone. It's inspiring to see the commitment and creativity our Lions bring to serving their communities. Your Service Today, truly provides a Better Future Tomorrow!



Wisconsin Lion Newsletter Reminder:

Every club is encouraged to submit an **article highlighting recent service projects, fundraisers, or member achievements** for the *Wisconsin Lion* newsletter. Sharing your club's story helps inspire other Lions across the state and showcases the impact of our collective service. Articles can be brief—just a few paragraphs with photos if available—and should include your club's name, location, and contact information. Submissions should be sent to **FVDG Lion Barb Dulmes**, (barb.dulmes@gmail.com) our **District editor** by November 30th. Let's keep our fellow Lions informed and motivated by celebrating the great work happening in every corner of Wisconsin!

Yours in Service,
Lion Ed Cerney
District Governor, 27-E1