

## A Message from District Governor Steve Lowe

Happy Holidays, Lions!

I hope this message finds you well. Now that the holidays are over and everyone has had their chance to spend quality time with their families and loved ones, I hope that we have all had our batteries recharged and are ready to get back to work in serving our communities and growing our organization.

Before I get to the main body of my message, I want to remind everyone that our District Fundraiser monies are due to be turned in to 2VDG Pat Benson by the middle of January. This allows us to tally everything and have it all ready to go on Feb 1 when the drawings start. So if you haven't sold all of your club's tickets, please make sure to get that done and get the money and stubs turned in to 2VDG Pat ASAP.

Now that we have are halfway through our Lionistic year, it is time to not only double down on our goals for this year, but to also start making plans for the upcoming Lionistic year. July 1<sup>st</sup> may seem to be a long way off, but it will most certainly be here before we know it. I know that the first six months of my term as the District Governor have absolutely flown by. I have enjoyed visiting with the clubs and also stopping by at many of the events that have been held. Thank you to the clubs who have asked me to induct your new members while I was visiting. It always means a lot to me to be able to welcome a new Lion into our pride. Now that the mid-year adjustment has been made to our rolls, we can focus on finishing the year off strong and making sure that we are at least a +1 on our membership this year. With each club being at least a +1, that will grow our district by over 50 Lions each year. Mission 1.5 seems like a huge number, but if each of our clubs finish the year at +1, we have greatly increased our service footprint within the district.

I would like to encourage each of our clubs to continue providing our communities with much needed service and challenge each club to come up with one additional service project that you have not done before. Keep in mind that this does not need to be a huge production. Even one or two Lions reaching out to help in a new arena is a worthy and admirable service provided. As we develop new outlets for our service, we make those needed connections with our community and allow us access to others who may not have been touched by Lionism before. This is how we grow our service footprint and our district at the same time. Let's make sure that we are working toward ensuring the long-term survivability of our clubs by bringing in new members with fresh ideas on service.

My calendar of official visits for January:

January 6<sup>th</sup>: Mount Joy Lions

January 13<sup>th</sup>: Paradise Township Lions

January 15<sup>th</sup>: Lititz Lions

January 26<sup>th</sup>: Quarryville Lions

January 27th: Elizabethtown Lions

January 30-31: State Council Meeting #3 (Harrisburg)

February 3<sup>rd</sup>: Denver Lions

February 5<sup>th</sup>: Gap Town Clock Lions (7:00AM)

February 5<sup>th</sup>: Ephrata Lions (6:30PM)



## Message from the 1st Vice District Governor Craig Merkey

Happy New Year Lions,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! It is a great time of the year to spend with your family and friends. As Lions we are halfway through the Lions year serving our communities and I am sure we will have many needs in our communities that we can fulfill in 2026! "Where there is a need there is a Lion." How many times have we heard this over the years? The New Year will allow us to serve more people in our communities. How will you do this?

As we all start the year, look for one new member that you can invite to join your club. This will allow you to continue service in your community. Have you been called by someone in your community because there is a need? Have you been able to help? What else is needed? New members can assist in these areas by expanding your clubs' reach to new people.



Is there anyone in your club that would be great for a leadership position in your club? In the district? WE are looking for leaders that are willing to step up and serve in these roles to help grow our district.

I am also looking forward to our VDG training coming January 9-11 to learn more about being able to serve our clubs and serve as our district's District Governor.

Craig Merkey  
1st Vice-District Governor



## Message from the 2nd Vice District Governor Pat Benson

Happy New Year Lions

**Cheers to a successful 2026!** May this new year bring continued growth, new ideas, and shared success for your club. Instead of making resolutions this year that we never keep, let's try some Lions District 14 D resolutions that we can achieve.

- Invite a friend to a service project or a club meeting
- Donate to LCIF
- Attend a Zone meeting, you will be surprised by what you will learn
- Come to the District Convention April 18, 2026
- Cherish your club friendships, these bonds are what make the journey

Reminder that the District Lottery for Project New Hope ticket stubs and money are due by mid-January. Checks should be made out to District 14D and mailed along with the ticket stubs to Pat Benson 119 Waypoint Dr, Lancaster Pa. 17603. Let's make this fundraiser a success.

I will be attending our VDG training coming up January 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> to learn more about how I can serve and help our clubs in the District.

Wishing you and yours a healthy, happy, and prosperous New Year. May 2026 be your best one yet.

Pat Benson,

Second Vice District Governor



**Memoriam**

Daniel Garrett

Lititz Lions

**NEW MEMBERS****New Member****Club****Sponsor**

Nathaniel Good  
 Kathleen Dermody  
 James Malone  
 Sheila Hartman  
 Derrick Bellanca  
 Melba Hughes

Akron Lions  
 East Petersburg-Landisville  
 East Petersburg-Landisville  
 Lititz Lions  
 Manheim Lions  
 Millersville

Donald Good  
 Diane Daffin  
 Herman Rannels  
 Crystal Crawford  
 Ronald Henderson  
 William Hughes

**Disclaimer:** Because of the recent launch of the new Lions Portal, there may be names that are missing at this time.

**FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR: PLEASE FORWARD YOUR ARTICLES BY THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH. LET OTHER CLUBS KNOW WHAT YOUR CLUB IS UP TOO! SHARE YOUR PHOTOS! E-MAIL TO ME AT : [anitagordonpalmer@gmail.com](mailto:anitagordonpalmer@gmail.com) Thank you! Lion Anita Gordon-Palmer**

## **HUNGER WEEK OF SERVICE JANUARY 3<sup>rd</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**To:** All Lions

**From:** IPDG, Deb Keeports, District Global Service Chairperson

Lions International's next week of service focuses on Hunger. While many clubs in our district already hold food drives over the course of the Lions year, there are other opportunities for clubs to support their local communities during the Hunger Week of Service. Hunger is no longer a problem just in Third World countries, it is here in our local communities.

According to Lions International's website, "hunger affects **1 in 10** globally and has devastating impacts. **2 billion** people are without access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food. **30% of food** is lost or wasted globally each year. **45% of deaths** among children under 5 years of age are linked to undernutrition. **2 in 3 countries** report women experience food insecurity more than men."

### **Ideas for the Hunger Week of Service:**

- Support your local food bank by donating time, equipment or food.
- Use social media to raise awareness about childhood hunger in your community and to inspire others to become involved.
- Host a healthy eating event at your school, community center or place of worship and invite a nutritionist as a keynote speaker.
- Deliver nutritious, prepared meals to elderly, disabled or ill community members.
- Serve meals at a soup kitchen or homeless shelter.
- Work with your local school to provide weekend take-home bags of nutritious snacks for children in need.
- Conduct an assessment of food access in your community, then advocate to local government leaders for additional or improved options in areas of need.

There is a 10-day grace period for service projects that occur around the same time as the Week of Service project, covering the 10 days before and 10 days after the Week of Service dates. Club service must be **reported no later than ten (10) days after the service project**.

**If you have any questions about reporting your club's service or any difficulties in reporting your club's service for this week of service, please reach out to me at [keeparry110@gmail.com](mailto:keeparry110@gmail.com) or 717-572-5051.**



# Annual Pennsylvania Lions



## *Spring Leadership Symposium*

**\*2 LOCATIONS\***

**Saturday, February 14, 2026 9 AM-2:30 PM**

PA Lions State Office

949 East Park Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17111

*Lunch available for a \$10.00 donation (Pay at the Door)*

**\*OR\***

**Sunday, February 15, 2026 Noon-5 PM**

Butler County Association for the Blind

322 N. Cedar Street

Butler, PA 16001

*Refreshments will be available*

### **SESSION TOPICS**

***CANI: Constant and Never-Ending Improvement***

**Presenter: Lion Dave Husser**

***Marketing – “On a Budget”***

**Presenter: Second Vice District Governor Ray Highlands**

***Service Projects: Connecting with Community***

**Presenter: Immediate Past District Governor Deb Keeperts**

***Team Building/Partnering: We Serve Together***

**Presenter: Past District Governor Dick Sware**

***FREE & OPEN to all MD-14 Lions***

**To register, please contact PDG Bill Grager at**

**[bilbomzk@gmail.com](mailto:bilbomzk@gmail.com) or call (717)615-1974**



**Space is Limited!**



***Empowerment is the key to success!***





### Looking for the perfect getaway?

Discover our charming countryside lodge, your ideal retreat from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.



### Our Lodge offers:

- ✓ Breathtaking Scenery
- ✓ Cozy Comfort
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[www.BeaconLodge.org](http://www.BeaconLodge.org)  
[office@beaconlodge.org](mailto:office@beaconlodge.org)

+ 1 814 542 2511  
114 SR 103 S, Mount Union PA 17066

CONTACT TO RESERVE



## ANNOUNCEMENT LETTER FOR DISTRICTS AND LEO CLUB NEWSLETTERS



The Lions International Pin Trading Club is proud to announce a Youth Scholarship of US\$4,000 for a graduating senior who is the child or grandchild of a Lions or a member of a Leo Club. The most important aspect of the Youth Scholarship Program is to help a young person pursue his/her education and follow their dreams.

The LITPC takes great pride in fulfilling the motto of Lions Clubs International, "WE SERVE". During the SightFirst II Campaign, the pin traders contributed US\$144,000 to LCIF. Our Scholarship Program is another example of the pin traders' slogan, "Lions First".

Selection of the scholarship recipient will be based on academic achievement, an essay stating the student's goals, a statement of reason(s) for applying and an overview of work, community and school service, and letters of recommendation. Applications and supporting documentation are to be completed and submitted to the pin trading club scholarship chairman named below by ***March 1, 2026***.

We encourage all graduating seniors who are children or grandchildren of a Lions member as well as those who are active participants in a Leo Clubs, to apply for this exciting opportunity in the Lions International Trading Pin Club (LITPC) Scholarship Program.

PDG Jason Radmann - PTCP

Name of Pin Trading Club Scholarship Chairman

Contact Information: EMail - [lionjasonradmann@gmail.com](mailto:lionjasonradmann@gmail.com)







**LITPC YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**  
**GUIDELINES FOR PIN TRADING CLUBS**



1. Application forms and information will be posted on the LITPC website. Identical information will be published in the first LITPC bulletin of the year. Successive bulletins will contain directions to download the Scholarship Application from the LITPC website.
2. It is recommended that each pin trading club establish a Scholarship Committee of at least three members in addition to a chairperson.
3. In areas or multiple districts without a pin trading club, members are encouraged to establish a Scholarship Committee of at least three members and a chairperson. When the Committee is established, please inform PDG Steven Staudinger LITPC scholarship Chair at 24915 NE Stegert Drive, Battle Ground, WA 98604 5337.
4. Guidelines will be released or can be downloaded from the LITPC website.
5. All pin trading clubs will be encouraged to post applications and scholarship information in their bulletins and on their websites. Also, please post scholarship information in your various sub-district bulletins and websites.
6. It will be the responsibility of pin trading clubs to share scholarship information with Leo Clubs in their states/multiple districts.
7. Completed applications will be processed through state and/or multiple district pin trading clubs. In states/areas that do not establish a Scholarship Committee, applications should be sent to the nearest pin trading club as listed on the LITPC website. <http://www.litpc.org/PinTradingClubsPins.html>
8. Each pin trading club may submit four applications to LITPC from their area and four applications from a state/area that does not have a pin trading club.
9. Each pin trading club may designate its own deadline date for the acceptance of applications. A deadline of March 1, 2026 is recommended.
10. Scholarship Chairpersons are encouraged NOT to wait until the last minute to submit scholarship applications to their committee for judging. When 20 or more applications are received, send an equal number of applications to committee members to start prioritizing those they feel are the best applications. Immediately after your deadline EACH committee member can submit their top application to the chairperson. The committee then can select the top two applications to be sent to PDG Stephen Staudinger LITPC Chair at 24615 NE Stegert Drive, Battle Ground, WA 98604 5337 April 15, 2026.
11. Scholarship applications may be duplicated; however, applications which have been altered in any way will not be accepted by the LITPC.
12. The Secretary of the LITPC Scholarship Committee will accept applications postmarked on or before April 15, 2026. The Secretary will select an LITPC Board Member to review all applications for compliance.
13. The LITPC Scholarship Committee will evaluate all applications. Each Scholarship Committee member will evaluate all applications using a point system to determine the scholarship winner.
14. The scholarship winner will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the LITPC.



**EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
APPLICATION 2025-2026 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR**



**APPLICANT:**

Attach a recommendation letter from a Lions Club member indicating the name of the Club and state/province and country in which the Club is located.



**LIONS INTERNATIONAL TRADING PIN CLUB  
YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
APPLICATION 2025-2026 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR**



**Name of Applicant** \_\_\_\_\_

List name and address of the college or institution of higher learning you will be attending. Attach a copy of the letter of acceptance if available.

**Name of Institution** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Number/Street

City

State

Zip

**Phone No.** \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge that the information I have provided is truthful, honest, and is to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any misrepresentation of the information provided in this form constitutes complete and unconditional rejection of this scholarship application.

I am willing to write a brief report of my academic progress at the end of the school year upon request. I understand this scholarship will be used for tuition, fees, and books only and I agree to this use.

**Applicant's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

The completed application should be sent to the local pin trading club or scholarship committee by March 1 for regional evaluation.

The winning regional applications for the 2025-2026 school year must be postmarked on or before April 15, 2026 and mailed to PDG Stephen Staudinger LITPC Chair at 24615 NE Stegert Drive, Battle Ground, WA 98604 5337

A scholarship in the amount of \$4,000 (US funds) will be awarded . A check in this amount will be issued in the name of the student at completion of the their first semester

***This form may be copied or reproduced as needed, but alteration of application form will result in disqualification of applicant.***



**LIONS INTERNATIONAL TRADING PIN CLUB  
YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
APPLICATION 2025-2026 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR**



⇒ In 350 words or less write a personal essay of introduction stating your present and future goals.

⇒ In 350 words or less tell how your participation in a community service activity affected you.





**LIONS INTERNATIONAL TRADING PIN CLUB  
YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
APPLICATION 2025-2026 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR**



- ⇒ In 350 words or less briefly describe reasons for applying for this scholarship including, but not limited to financial need and extraordinary circumstance in family finances.

- ⇒ In 350 words or less list any awards, achievements, sports activities or positions held during high schools years.



**LIONS INTERNATIONAL TRADING PIN CLUB  
YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
APPLICATION 2025-2026 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR**



⇒ What scholarships have you been offered ? (Name, Amount and Duration).

**CHECK LIST FOR RETURNING YOUR  
COMPLETED LITPC YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

1. PAGE 2-All questions answered.
2. PAGE 3-Answer all questions AND sign and date it.
3. Page 4, 5, and 6-Type your answers (350 words or less) on page 4 5 and 6 in the blue highlighted areas. On Page 6, be sure to go over the checklist to make sure you have not forgotten anything.
4. Include your high school transcriptions, including activities.
5. Include letters of recommendations from 2 persons (i.e. teacher, coach, clergy, employer, etc)
6. Include letter of recommendation from a Lions Club member indicating the name of the Club and state/province and country in which the Club is located.

**IF YOU DO NOT COMPLETE ALL THE REQUIRED ITEMS  
YOUR APPLICATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

## **From the District's Information Technology Chairperson**

### **The end of Windows 10 is here!**

Windows 10 reached its end of support on October 14, 2025, meaning Microsoft will no longer provide security updates, bug fixes, or technical assistance for the operating system.

### **What Does End of Life Mean?**

- **No More Updates:** After October 14, 2025, Windows 10 will not receive any further security updates or patches. This increases the risk of security vulnerabilities, making it less safe to use for online activities such as banking or shopping.
- **Continued Functionality:** While your Windows 10 device will continue to operate normally, it will gradually become outdated as software developers and hardware manufacturers shift their focus to Windows 11 and future versions.

### **Options for Users**

- **Upgrade to Windows 11:** If your device meets the minimum system requirements for Windows 11, upgrading is recommended for a more secure and modern experience. You can check your device's eligibility through the Windows Update settings.
- **Extended Security Updates (ESU):** For users who need more time before upgrading, Microsoft offers an Extended Security Updates program that provides security updates for an additional year after the end of support date.
- **Continue Using Windows 10:** You can still use Windows 10 after the end of support, but be aware of the increasing risks associated with not receiving security updates. Microsoft Defender Antivirus will continue to receive virus definition updates until 2028, providing some level of protection.

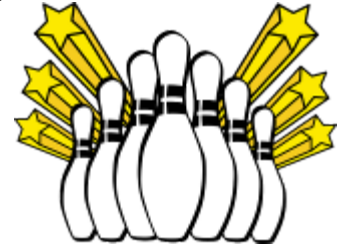
### **Conclusion**

As Windows 10 reaches its end of life, users should consider their options carefully. Upgrading to Windows 11 is the best way to ensure continued support and security, while those who choose to remain on Windows 10 should be aware of the potential risks involved. For more information, you can refer to the official Microsoft support page.

Microsoft

## 50th Annual District 14-D Bowling Tournament Entry Form

March 1, 2026 @ 222 Dutch Lanes, Akron, PA



Cost: \$14.00 per person \$70.00 per team - Scratch & Handicap

Squad Time: **Sunday, March 1, 2026 at 1 p.m.**

Eligibility: Any combination of 5 person teams. You don't have to be a member of a Lions, Lioness or Leo Club to participate. Invite a friend or a prospect!

Average: All league bowlers will use their highest current average. If no average is available for this season, use highest league average for 2022-2023 season.  
If no established average, use 150 for Men and 120 for Women.

Handicap: Handicap will be based on 80% of the difference of your entry average and a base of 200.

Attention: **All teams should arrive at least 15 minutes before starting time.**

Questions? Lion Chester Stoltzfoos (717) 278-7372 OR lionchetstoltzfoos@aol.com

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First Received = First Reserved

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_

Men's Team \_\_\_\_\_ Ladies' Team \_\_\_\_\_ Mixed Team \_\_\_\_\_

Name

Avg.

Phone

Team Captain: 1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_

\$70.00 check to DISTRICT 14-D LIONS must accompany entry form!

Send entry form and check to: Lion Chester Stoltzfoos, 38 N Eastland Dr., Lancaster, Pa. 17602





# MILLERSVILLE LIONS CLUB

## BLOOD DRIVE & FOOD DRIVE

Wednesday January 7th

1pm to 6pm

St. Philip Apostle Catholic Church  
Parish Activity Center

Unable to donate blood? That's ok please  
still come to our drive through drop off  
to donate food items for the  
Loft Community Partnership Food Bank.

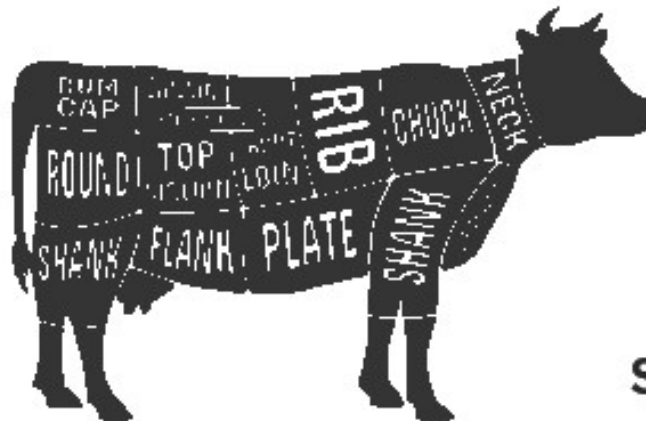
[https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-  
results?zipSponsor=Millersville%20Lionsaph\\_text](https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=Millersville%20Lionsaph_text)



# Sunday, January 11

1:00 p.m. - Doors open 12:00

Holy Trinity Parish Center, 404 Cherry St.  
Columbia



Meat from:



Sponsored by:



WE SERVE

Tickets are \$15 at Littles Beverage, 1224 Lancaster Ave., Columbia

or by contacting [info@columbialions.org](mailto:info@columbialions.org)





# MILLERSVILLE LIONS CLUB

## SUPER CHILI BOWL CARNIVAL



CHILI COOK OFF  
GAMES  
FUN



SATURDAY, JAN 17TH  
11AM - 2PM

BLUE ROCK FIRE RESCUE STATION 903  
3079 RIVER ROAD, CONESTOGA



MORE INFO:  
[WWW.MILLERSVILLELIONS.ORG](http://WWW.MILLERSVILLELIONS.ORG)





## **Conoy Lions Club Saturday Winter Breakfasts**

**January 17, 2026  
February 14, 2026  
March 14, 2026**

Bainbridge Fire Hall  
34 S. Second St, Bainbridge  
7am to 10am

Adult \$12.00      Children 6 -12 \$6.00  
5 & under free

\$11.00 if you bring a food contribution  
for the Conoy-Donegal Food Bank

Pancakes      Sausage  
Scrambled Eggs      Home Fries  
Sausage gravy and Biscuits  
Orange Juice      Coffee      Tea

Come out and support your community.



# Rich Gerfin Memorial Pancake Breakfast



*"It's for the kids"*



## Saturday, Feb. 14

7:00 - 10:00 am

Columbia Church

510 Walnut St.

Columbia

Tickets are \$7 at Littles Beverage, 1224 Lancaster Ave.

Or email [info@columbialions.org](mailto:info@columbialions.org).

## Leading The Way January 2026

### Leader Dogs for the Blind – Lions Newsletter

(Photo 1 description: A teenaged boy ziplines from a rock-climbing wall with his hands in the air.)

Happy new year, Lions! Whether your resolution is to travel more, explore new shops and stops in your community, or recruit more members for your Lions Club, we support you and wish you an amazing year.

### Share Teen Programs With Your Community

At Leader Dog, we're already preparing for our summer programs for teens aged 16-17. High school-aged teens and their parents are beginning to plan for the summer, and we are ready to fill our halls. Each summer, we offer two programs for teenagers who are blind, both free of charge including travel, room and board:

Teen Summer Camp is a 1-week program in June. Up to 24 teenagers from across North America will come together for a week of fun, leadership development, and community. For many teens, our summer camp is their first opportunity to build friendships with other teenagers who are blind. While at Leader Dog, they will rock-climb at our local Lions Bear Lake Camp, practice safe night travel, enjoy bonfires, and even practice archery.

Applications for Teen Summer Camp are open now and will be accepted until April 3, 2026. Visit [LeaderDog.org](http://LeaderDog.org) and click 'Client Programs' to learn more and apply.

Teen Orientation & Mobility is a 1-week program offered in three sessions over the summer. Teens will work one-on-one with a certified orientation and mobility specialist (COMS) to learn the skills they need to map out walking routes in their community, independently cross the street, and thoughtfully problem-solve when they

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Applications for Teen Orientation & Mobility are open now. Visit [LeaderDog.org](https://LeaderDog.org) and click 'Client Programs' to learn more and apply.



[LeaderDog.org](https://LeaderDog.org) | [LionsSupport@leaderdog.org](mailto:LionsSupport@leaderdog.org)



Lions International



## Lion Mike: From Leader Dog Employee to President's Award



Employee in Leader Dog's philanthropy department, Lion Mike realized just how much he missed being on the Leader Dog campus. So, what did he do? Signed up to volunteer, of course!

In December, **Lion Melissa Weiss, President & CEO**, recognized **Lion Mike** with the **Leader Dog President's Award**. This award is given to one Lion each year in recognition of acts of service supporting the cause of Vision with Leader Dog.

Mike, an active Lions Club member, now serves in our client services department, fielding phone calls from clients. He helps with frequently asked questions, applications and concerns. He also supports Lions events on campus, including Lions Tour Experiences and Summer Visits.

**"There is a common thread that runs through everyone who volunteers or donates to Leader Dog. It is an undeniable passion to empower people who are blind or visually impaired to travel safely and independently. If you share this passion, I encourage you to volunteer, donate or, better yet, do both."**

**– Lion Mike Dengate**



### A Fact & A Quote

**Fact |** In 2025, Leader Dog launched the Alumni Board. This powerful initiative builds a dynamic and inclusive client community by fostering meaningful connections among Leader Dog graduates. The Alumni Board ensures that the client's voice and perspective are actively represented.

**Quote |** "We are doing our work for the clients. If it wasn't for the clients, Leader Dog wouldn't be here. So being able to listen, collaborate and learn from each other, that's the best part of being involved." (Alumni Board Chair Juanita Lillie, pictured with Leader Dog Resi)



**[LeaderDog.org](https://LeaderDog.org) | [LionsSupport@leaderdog.org](mailto:LionsSupport@leaderdog.org)**



**Lions International**



Quilts of Valor Foundation is a national organization founded in 2003 by a Blue Star mother whose son served in Iraq. While he was deployed, she got the idea of comforting veterans and service members with quilts. The "Stars & Stripes of Lancaster, Quilts of Valor" team mission is to honor the service members and veterans who have been touched by war with a "Quilt of Valor". These quilts, completely made by volunteers that care, are not handed out; they are AWARDED. They consist of three layers; the top represents communities; the middle batting brings warmth, comfort, peace, and healing; and the backing represents strength. Recently at a club meeting, veterans of the East Cocalico Lions Club were awarded a "Quilt of Valor". Pictured here wrapped in their Quilts are: Standing in back from left to right: Lions Carl Slegel, Paul Keller, Ray Sweigart, Donald "Bud" Lewis, Raymond Wolf and Kevin Rathman. Sitting: Lions John Danielson and Ray Kunkel. The members of the East Cocalico Lions Club want to thank our Veterans and let them know that their service is greatly remembered, and the valor they have shown by doing their duty in spite of possible consequences.



The day started Sunny but a bit chilly. Then the clouds began to hide the sun, and the wind picked up dropping the temperature a few degrees, but no matter what the weather was, the East Cocalico Lions Club held their annual Toll Road Collection which benefits four local organizations on “Black Friday”, the day after Thanksgiving. The Lions Club members, along with the help of First Vice District Governor Craig Merkey and Region II Zone Chairperson Ellen Pruden, asked for a small toll or donation from all cars, trucks, motorcycles, and buggies that passed through the square in Reamstown. What they got, thanks to the generosity of the community and all drivers, were coins, bills, and even checks totaling over \$5,000. One hundred percent of what was collected, along with a donation from the Lions Club, will be divided and distributed evenly between the Reamstown Memorial Park, Ephrata Area Social Services, Hospice and Community Care and the Breast Cancer Coalition at a future Club Meeting. The East Cocalico Lions would like to thank 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Craig and ZC Ellen for their support in this and all their other projects. Pictured here are 1st VDG Craig and ZC Ellen collecting tolls from thoughtful drivers.





Club members working on preparing the soup and sandwich fund raiser for Paradise Township Lions Club. The event was conducted on Saturday, 12-20-25. From 11:00 am until we sell out. All of the prep work was completed on Friday 12-19-25 @ 6:00 pm until we finished. We had 15 members in service for this event. The sale started at 10:00 am until approx 1:30 pm.





It was a great day on Saturday for Christmas In Christiana. The weather was cold but the people came out from all around. You all provided 660 cookies, others provided 828 cookies for a total of 1488 cookies. We also went through: 503 cupcakes, 660 hot chocolates, 336 waters, 400 hotdogs, 400 rolls, 400 bags of chips and we had 644 people that went on the hayrides. We sold 146 sets of luminaries (\$1460.00) and \$2625.00 from our sponsors. We had 31 students come to help put the luminary kits together. On Tuesday I delivered the 823 lbs of food to the Octorara Food Cupboard that was collected by Santa. By the way Santa and Mrs. Clause did a wonderful job. Thank you all for all of your help. Lion Steve

