

*Northeast Lion
District 14H
Monthly Newsletter*

January, 2026



LIONS INTERNATIONAL—JANUARY

Week of Service (Hunger): A big push for local service projects focused on fighting hunger, usually the first full week of January (e.g., Jan 3-11, 2026).

Melvin Jones' Birthday: Celebrated around January 13th, linking to the Week of Service.

Peace Poster Contest: Kits for the next year's contest (e.g., 2026-2027) become available in mid-January.

Convention Prep: Ordering merchandise for pickup at the upcoming International Convention (e.g., Hong Kong 2026).

Send club inputs to bbernoske@gmail.com—our goal is to publish on the first of the month, or a day or two after, so please get materials submitted a few days before the end of the month. Thanks-Bev

Pennsylvania Lions Club

District 14-H

District Governor's Message



Hi Fellow Lions,

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas, with family and friends. Wishing everyone a Happy Healthy New Year. Stay safe out there.

Lionism is a team, made up of individuals united in service. This service is to be Respected by ALL involved. When we show respect for each other, the fun in service shows. Disrespecting the rules of conduct in Lionism, starts the destruction of lionism.

I have seen and heard of many service projects during December. All are helping out in our communities. Club Secretaries need to post these activities on the Lions Portal. We need to show we are serving our communities. I am willing to sit down with those who are having difficulty with the portal. Please let me know who you are.

Our clubs should be reaching out to all members with the minutes. This will keep members involved and up to date.

Hope you are collecting items for the next District service project. This is collecting non-perishable food items. We are also accepting monetary donations. All will be distributed to food pantries in the four counties. The more the better. Our next district meeting will be **March 8, 2026, in Honesdale**. The place and time will be announced soon. The district convention will be **April 19th at the Best Western in Clarks Summit**. Our district project will be collecting pajamas for ages infant to 18 years, to go to Child and youth services. Did you hit the holiday sales?

If there is anyone out there interested in moving up in the district, let me know. There is training starting to help with your move. Any questions or concerns do not hesitate to text me at 570-780-6620.

Together We Can,

DGE Shirley Skinner

sasskiner@comcast.net

570-587-2073



April 19, 2026: Pajama drive—sort for distribution at the District Convention—Best Western in Clarks Summit



March 8, 2026: food collection—District meeting in Honesdale



**Lead to Serve,
Serve to Lead with
International President
A.P. Singh**

Dear Lion,

Lions are known the world over as being agents of positive change. We identify problems and work to find solutions.

Throughout the year, you've made plans. You've focused on growth. You've served. Now it's time to reflect on what worked. And what didn't. By reviewing your areas of strength and adapting to obstacles, you and your club will be able to serve better, serve more and create your path to success.

As you work to serve your community and meet your goals, it's also important to take the time to recognize your achievements. Celebrate each victory with your club, motivate each other — and watch your service impact grow.

Together in service,

**A.P. Singh
International President**

See International President A. P. Singh's full newsletter [HERE](#)



Dear Lions and Leos,

Throughout 2025, Lions and Leos around the world have continued to serve millions, improving lives and communities through your generosity. LCIF grants have empowered your clubs and districts to reduce hunger, restore vision, help communities recover, rebuild after disaster, and so much more.

Thanks to your dedication and support, we are making strong progress toward our fundraising goals this fiscal year. As we move forward in 2026, please keep inspiring others to support LCIF and explore [grant opportunities](#) to expand your impact. Remember to invite new donors to make their gifts to LCIF in recognition of Melvin Jones' 147th birthday. [Every donation](#) makes a difference to someone in need and helps us leave our mark on the world.

At your service,

Fabrício Oliveira, LCIF Chairperson

[CLICK HERE](#) to see Fabrício Oliveira's full letter





Learn how to grow Lions & our impact

Join Lions & Leos across the U.S. & its Affiliates for **Let's Grow**, a 4-part interactive workshop designed to help you start new clubs, rebuild existing ones & ignite unstoppable momentum in your community.

You'll learn proven strategies, share ideas & leave each session ready to grow your pride.

BONUS: All new success stories, inspiration & interaction!

Our Focus:

- January 6: Process & Club Types
- January 20: Recruiting
- February 3: Marketing & PR
- February 17: New Club Application & Keep Growing

Perfect for:

- GAT Coordinators & Team Members
- Lions & Leos hungry for growth & impact



January 6 – February 17

(Every Other Week)

8 pm EST / 7 pm CST

/ 6 pm MST / 5 pm PST

Register Now: <https://bit.ly/GrowthWkshp26>

?s membership@lionsusa.org



14H District Project - Calling all clubs!



You can help make this District-wide project a bigger success by calling on all members to help us with this food drive. Each Cabinet meeting will focus on a service project for our community.

Food Drive

Northeast Lions District 14H

Supporting our District 14H Counties

Collect non-perishable food through **February 28, 2026**. Food can be brought to your local Lions Club for bringing to the District Meeting in March, or brought to 104 5th St, Mayfield, PA 18433.

Please – No Non-perishable foods with past expiration dates.

**For more information, please contact
Lion John Thubborn at sthubborn@msn.com**

14H District Project—Calling all clubs!

All members can help—donate some new pajamas



Pajama Drive

Northeast Lions District 14H

supporting

Children & Youth Services

(Foster Care)

of our District 14H Counties

What: pajamas of all sizes from newborn through age 18.

(Appropriate PJs please, no spaghetti straps or short-shorts.)

When: through April 1st, 2026

Where: give the pajamas to your local **Lions Club**.

The Lions will bring them to our District 14H Convention at the Best Western, Clarks Summit, PA on April 19, 2026.

for more information contact IPG Sandy Thubborn at sthubborn@msn.com

*Lots of time to
look for some
good pajama
sales!*



We Serve

*We will be sorting the
pajamas collected at
the April 19th Cabinet
Meeting*



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 Keeports

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 or call (717)615-1974



Space is Limited!



Empowerment is the key to success!



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.

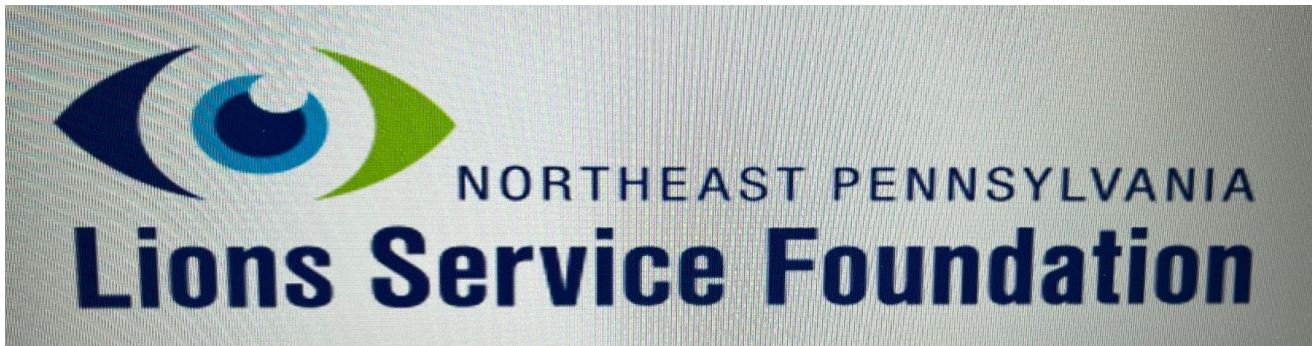
PDG Jason Radmann - PTCP

Name of Pin Trading Club Scholarship Chairman

Contact Information: EMail - lionjasonradmann@gmail.com



NEPA Lions Service Foundation Grants



Our Foundation provides resources, financial assistance, and education to 37 Counties in Pennsylvania through Local Lions Clubs.

We serve the following Lions' Districts in Pennsylvania: C-D-G-H-K-L-T-U-W.

The Vision or Hearing Impaired

Provide grants to those in need of financial assistance to afford the latest medical technology & treatment

Advocate for improved access and services for those with vision or hearing impairment

Connect individuals with organizations and businesses that can help them receive treatment & independence

Communities in Our Service Area

Educate the public on the topics of eyesight preservation, tissue donation, regular screenings, eyesight safety, and the special needs of those with visual or Hearing Impairment

Provide Grants to Achieve Goals for Individuals and Organizations

Provide grants to Occupational, Physical and Rehabilitation Therapists

Provide Grants to Organizations to continue assisting those in need.

For More Information: www.NEPALSF.org NEPA Lions Service Foundation

P.O. Box 415, Macungie, PA 18062 484-763-4458

Visit online for more information by clicking [HERE](#)

January 2026

LEADING THE WAY

Leader Dogs for the Blind – Lions Newsletter



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 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 come across obstacles or route changes. **Each teen brings a support person, usually a parent, who spends the week learning how to best support their teen** and how to help them advocate for themselves as they grow into independent young adults.

Applications for Teen Orientation & Mobility are open now. Visit LeaderDog.org and click 'Client Programs' to learn more and apply.



LeaderDog.org | LionsSupport@leaderdog.org



Lions International

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



After twelve years as an employee in Leader Dog's philanthropy department, Lion Mike retired. Soon after, he 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 prospective and current clients. He helps with frequently asked questions, applications and other logistics questions or 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 | LionsSupport@leaderdog.org



Lions International

Save the Date
ANNUAL
Snowflake Gala
Benefits
LEADER DOGS
for the BLIND
& Eynon Archbald
Lions Club 
Community Events



 Saturday • January 24, 2026 
Fiorelli Family Catering
HOSTED BY EYNON-ARCHBALD LIONS CLUB

Call 570-470-7838 Fran Stepkovitch for tickets – \$90/pp
Open bar, Dancing with Wanabees Trio & TopShelf Entertainment, Chef inspired stations



Eynon-Archbald Lions Club invites you to our annual Snowflake Gala, Saturday January 24, 2026 at Fiorelli Catering, Peckville. Favorably priced at \$90/pp with all the trimmings and open bar and Wanabees and Top Shelf Entertainment to dance throughout the evening. Get your group together and call for tickets!

Abington Lions Club

The Abington Lions Club, with funding from **Lions of Pa Foundation** and **NEPA Lions Service Foundation**, was able to replace a playground that was well past its useful life. Attached are photos of the playground. The 2 men that installed the playground, Jim and Chris, from Bear Playground, worked in less-than-ideal conditions, to say the least. Through cold temps, windy conditions, snow squalls and breaking through ice to get lake water for concrete, they endured and were very professional. This playground will last for many years and is another gem in a Community Park that is already a gem in our community.



Benton Lions Club

Honored to have the opportunity to help others, and grateful to Fleetville Vol Fire Co. of Benton Township for allowing us to use their space!

We prepared 24 holiday staples for families in the East Benton area.



Dunmore Lions Club

The Dunmore Lions Club held its **annual benefit show featuring "THE MAGIC OF DAMIAN."** This year's event was held at the Dunmore Elementary Center on Thursday, December 11th. This marks the **32nd year** the Lions have featured Damian's magic to elementary students in Dunmore at both Dunmore Elementary Center and St. Mary's alternating each year. All proceeds from our program book will be utilized for scholarships to help defray college expenses for Dunmore and Holy Cross High Schools. Damian provided another excellent magic show!



Dunmore Lions Club

The Dunmore Lions Club held our annual Christmas Party at La Cucina in Dunmore.



Dunmore Lions Club

Dunmore's Christmas in the Corners: Dunmore Lions Club members serving chicken noodle soup at Cara Mia's for Christmas in the Corners.



Secure Your Spot at LDUN (Lions Day with the United Nations) 2026:

Friday, March 20, 2026

New York, New York, USA

This event and supporting materials will be offered in English only.

Don't miss your chance to participate in the 2026 Lions Day with the United Nations in New York City, USA. We will explore how Lions and Leos are working together with the United Nations with a special extended program.

[REGISTER NOW!](#)

Eynon Archbald Lions Club

Giving gloves, hats and socks at Santa Train:



Pictured above, L-R: Shirley Barrett, Madison Potter, Fran Stepkovitch, Maureen Kresge, Cathy Gillette, Paula Turpack, Angie Apostolaros, Erin Owen

Delivering Thanksgiving meals on Thanksgiving day:



Eynon Archbald Lions Club

White cane collectors:



Pictured above, L-R: Karen Rapoch, PDG Fran Stepkovitch, Angie Apostolaros, PDG Pam Savitski, Louis Rapoch, Cathy Gillette, Erin Owen

Fran & Erin Owen vision screening Little Visionaries:



Falls Lions Club

Spirit of Community! Tree Decorating, Caroling, Camaraderie, Festivities—
December 7th



Honesdale Lions Club

The Honesdale Lions held our **Christmas Party for individuals with special needs** (and their families) on Sunday 11/30/2025 at the Central House Resort in Beach Lake PA.

We supported 17 individuals and their families this year with gifts and a visit from Santa (played by Lion Meagher, and the Grinch (played by Lion Bellinger's son)

Lion Dzwieleski helped organize and run the event.

The Honesdale Lions have held an annual Christmas Party for young people with special needs since December 1951.



Jefferson Township Lions Club

Next bingo is **January 17th!**



Pictures with Santa on December 7th:



Minisink Lions Club

The Lions annual **Holiday Gift Raffle** for North Pocono Middle School and Moscow Elementary students took place in early December. Clothing gifts for approximately 400 lucky students were delivered by Lion Donnie Brown and distributed by School Staff. Pictured L to R: Lions Donnie Brown (Event Chairman), Joe Sabie (Club President) and Jim Strempek (Club Secretary).



Lion Tony Seidita initiated a new **"Give back to the Community" Event** last year for the Thanksgiving Holiday for all the support that the Club received for Fund Raisers from local residents, and gave out ShopRite Gift Cards. This year the Club purchased 100 Gift Cards, again from the local ShopRite grocery store, for give-aways during the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays. Pictured, below left, during the Thanksgiving give-away are Lions Joe Sabie and Joe Pierangeli giving a ShopRite Gift Card to a local shopper. Pictured, below right, during the Christmas give-away are L to R: Lions Joe Pierangeli, Ron Reid and new Club Member Ryan Mateyka presenting a ShopRite Gift Card to a local resident.



Minisink Lions Club

On December 18, 2025 the NP Minisink Lions held their **annual Christmas dinner get-together** at Mendicino's Restaurant. The event included a review of the Club's activities for the past year, and also recognized the Chairmen of the various events that occurred. For the remainder of the evening, members and attending wives enjoyed their fellowship and camaraderie with each other. Pictured L to R: Lions Joe Pierangeli, Ron Reid, Janelle Decker, Scott Lenzer, Frank Bonacci, Dave Ogonosky, Ron Donati, Glenn Czulada, Nunzio Lamberti, Tony Seidita, Donnie Brown, Brian Strauch, Ryan Mateyka, Jim Strempek and John Croom.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



LIONS

Rose Parade

Float:

see next month's newsletter for more photos and information about this prize winning float.

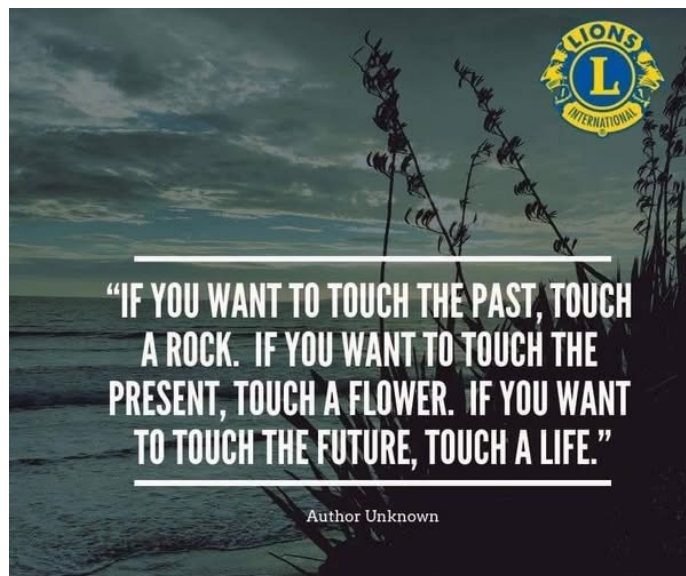


Tunkhannock Lions Club

The Tunkhannock Lions held their annual Christmas chicken and biscuit dinner on December 13th. Everyone brought unwrapped toys to help the toy drive for Wyoming County children. Local law enforcement picked up the gifts and also distributed them to the children. With the Tunkhannock Lions Club toy collection, and other area businesses and organizations, 154 children were provided with toys for Christmas.



Pictured above, with two local police officers, are Shirley Skinner, District Governor, and all PDGs (Previous District Governors) who attended the dinner—everyone holding one of the donated toys.



District 14-H Lions Clubs by the numbers

Abington – 27	Mayfield – 15
Benton Township – 16	Minisink – 24
Blakely/Peckville - 12	Minooka - 35
Dalton—11	Montrose - 35
Dunmore – 27	Old Forge - 19
Eynon/Archbald - 64	Olyphant - 27
Falls – 23	Scott Township - 32
Forest City – 16	Scranton - 15
Hawley/Lake Wallenpaupack – 10	South Abington - 6
Honesdale – 62	Stone Bridge/Susquehanna - 20
Jefferson Township – 24	Taylor - 15
Jessup – 16	Tunkhannock - 22
Lake Ariel – 16	Waymart – 18

Note: Club membership numbers are current as of December 8th, 2025 .

Total = 607 (down 2, from last month)



Lions are ordinary people doing extraordinary things on a daily basis. From small acts of kindness to providing support in areas of disaster. No act of kindness is too small and no challenge is too great. We always warmly welcome new members so ask me how YOU can become a Lion. Because #LionsNeverSleep