

*Northeast Lion
District 14H
Monthly Newsletter*

February, 2026



District 14H Meeting: 3/8/26 - 1pm at the Honesdale Golf Club

District 14H Convention: 4/19/26—at the Best Western in Clarks Summit (more details in next month's newsletter)

PA STATE LIONS CONVENTION: 5/15/26—5/17/26:

This year's State Convention will be held at the Kovalchic Center in Indiana, PA. Click [HERE](#) for more information. **RESERVE YOUR HOTEL EARLY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF BLOCKS OF ROOMS SECURED BY THE DISTRICT 14M CONVENTION HOST COMMITTEE—cut off date for contract rates is April 14, 2026.** Conference registration forms are due by April 21st.

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,

Hope you are all keeping warm. I am so ready for spring.

Presidents: have your treasurers gone into the Lions Portal to get the clubs LCI dues? LCI will not be mailing out statements. They would also like you to pay your dues online. Processing the checks is taking 3 weeks or more. Online payments are immediate. If you need help, CALL me.

Are you posting the clubs activities on the portal? This helps LCIF with funding. If they were to go for a grant; the firms like to see that we are actually out there helping people in our communities. So please enter one, some or all activities on the portal.

Our next district service activity will be collecting non-perishable food items or monetary donations for food pantries. The items will go to the four counties in our district. Some items to consider are: rice, pasta, jar sauces, tuna fish, spam, personal hygiene items, paper towels, toilet paper, and canned meats. These will be collected March 8th, at Honesdale Golf Club, 1:00 pm.

My governor's project is collecting donations for Chronic Kidney Disease Research Foundation. They provide service to kidney patients like, transportation to doctors and treatments, medications, treatments and financial help. This research and aid are very important with the recent cuts in funding.

There are still a couple of clubs that have not scheduled a visit yet. Please reach out to me to set up a date and time.

Any Lion interested in moving to the district leadership team, reach out. I know you are out there. You can also send a letter of intent to IPDG Sandy Thubborn.

No time to sit back. There is a lot of help needed out in our communities. Let us know if you are in need of help.

Stay safe. Happy Valentine's Day.

Together We Can,

DG Shirley Skinner sasskinner@comcast.net



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



March 8, 2026: food collection—District meeting at Honesdale Golf Club, 1pm



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

Dear Lion,

As a Lion, you are a leader in your community. Your belief in service and your desire to make a difference — both at home and around the world — are what inspired you to become a Lion.

Every project you begin and every role you take on is an act of leadership that strengthens our entire association. And every person you invite helps us reach our MISSION 1.5 goals and do even more good for the people who need us.

At this midpoint of the Lion year, now is the perfect time to reflect on how you can continue to be a force for positive action in your club and beyond. Show those around you what it means to succeed — and what it means to be a Lion.

Together in service,

**A.P. Singh
International President**

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



**Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION**



Dear Lions and Leos,

A new year is the perfect time to reflect on your service and fundraising priorities and explore how our global foundation can help you reach even higher. LCIF grants and programs enable Lions and Leos to expand our impact, supporting large-scale projects that no single Lion or club could accomplish alone. In this month's newsletter, we feature:

- A Lions blog story about a Matching Grant enhancing care for children fighting cancer in Burkina Faso
- A video celebrating our legacy in vision, inspired by Helen Keller more than 100 years ago
- Opportunities to add to your support and be recognized for your generosity
- Resources to help you expand your service

Thank you to everyone who supported the Melvin Jones 147th birthday global fund-raising campaign. We look forward to sharing the results in an upcoming newsletter. Through your donations and sharing your stories of service, you help LCIF and Lions achieve our collective goals and create lasting, global change. Thank you for your continued support.

At your service,

Fabrício Oliveira, LCIF Chairperson

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



HONG KONG 2026

108th Lions International Convention

Some important updates to our 2026 international convention in Hong Kong:

As many of you know, we moved convention to Hong Kong after our planned destination of Atlanta was cancelled by the city of Atlanta due to the FIFA World Cup. Our host Lions and the city of Hong Kong stepped up to help us transition to our new location. As we worked together to support this significant shift, we recently identified schedule adjustments needed to align with our host city's guidelines and maintain the convention's overall structure.

We will be updating our [Convention Schedule webpage](#) on lionscon.org with more details as they are confirmed, but here are some initial updates we'd like to share with you.

- **Convention Dates:** Convention dates **are not changing**, only the convention schedule, so we will still be hosting convention July 3-7.
- **Plenary Sessions:** Our three plenary sessions will be moved up one day, now scheduled for July 4-6.
- **Parade of Nations:** The parade will be **moved to Tuesday, July 7** pending finalization of plans.
- **Elections:** Elections will be held July 4-6.
- **Pre- and Post-Convention Events:** There are currently no planned changes to pre- and post-convention events such as the board meeting, the DGE Seminar, the post-convention board meeting and New Directors Orientation.

Please share your questions with us at 2026Convention@lionsclubs.org, and we will continue to provide updates as they become available.

We know that convention is such an important moment for our Lions, and we truly apologize for any inconvenience these changes may cause you or your Lions.

We want to sincerely thank you for your leadership and your support, and we're looking forward to an incredible convention in Hong Kong.

Lions International

More about our Lions International Award Winning Float seen at the Tournament of Roses Parade

The Lions International Float, showcasing unity and service, recently participated in the Tournament of Roses Parade, captivating millions with its vibrant display. The float, titled **"In Harmony We Serve"** symbolizes teamwork, resilience, and collective compassion.

The float featured four lion characters rowing a canoe together, and was a testament to the dedication and hard work of Lions and Leos worldwide. Despite harsh weather conditions, the float stood strong, earning the Tournament **Volunteer Award for the most outstanding floral presentation among floats 35 feet and under.**

The Lions Float tradition dates back to 1948, with continuous participation since 1992. Lions Float, Inc., a non-profit organization, oversees the planning, preparation, and funding of the annual float, serving as a global symbol of service and membership growth for Lions Clubs International.





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!

Still some openings!

Applications must be received by February 13th

Calling all Pennsylvania Lions! Do you want to make a bigger impact in your community and improve your Leadership skills but aren't sure where to start?

Join us for the MD-14 Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI) March 6-8 in Harrisburg!

What's in it for you? 3 days of interactive, hands-on training Strategies for member engagement & team building A chance to meet fellow leaders from all over PA All meals and lodging included for one low price! Many MD-14 Districts offer sponsorships to cover the expenses for their members.

Seats are limited to the first 40 applicants. Don't miss this chance to grow personally and professionally while strengthening your club.

Sign Up Today - Space Is Limited!



RLLI



REGIONAL LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



March 6-8, 2026



PA Lions State Office

Contact Your District

Governor

Or

PDG Kerry McKnight
md14glt-learn@yahoo.com

Space is Limited!
\$195 Per Lion
Meals & Rooms Included

SUBJECTS

- Effective Teams
- Keeping Members Engaged
- Lions Fundamentals
- Communicating in a Fast World
- Overcoming Resistance
- Time Management
- Public Speaking
- Diversity
- Delegation

INSTRUCTORS

- PDG Bill Grager
- PDG John Mallonee
- PCC Linda Zaneski
- PDG Dick Sware
- PDG Mike Schaeffer
- PDG Jeff Loudermilk
- PDG Kerry McKnight

Abington Lions Club

Abington lions president presenting vice president John Skaluba with his 30 year Chevrons. **Congratulations lion john.**



NOTE: Chevron awards are given to Lions to celebrate their years of service. Chevrons start with 10 years of service and are awarded in multiples of 5 years thereafter.

The Abington Lions Club took up a collection among its members and voted money from the Club's Project Fund to purchase **food for the Clarks Summit and Dalton Food pantries**. Pictured is Lion President and District Governor Lion Shirley Skinner with some food that went to the Food Panties.



Benton Lions Club

This handsome group from The Benton Lions club supported another of District 14h's Club activities. Their comment: "Thank you [Eynon Archbald Lions Club](#). We had a wonderful time and are proud of your accomplishments".



Eynon Archbald Lions Club



Look forward to more photos from the Snowflake Gala in next month's newsletter.



From The Wright Center for Community Health:

Photos from the 2026 Snowflake Gala!

We're grateful to attend and sponsor this incredible evening hosted by the Eynon Archbald Lions Club in support of Leader Dogs for the Blind and local community initiatives. Thank you for bringing everyone together for a night of generosity, connection, and impact.



Falls Lions Club

On January 2nd 2026 the Valley Falls Lions Club lost long time member Paul Heinen. As family and friends gather today to say goodbye we are reminded of the legacy that Lion Paul leaves behind.

Paul joined the Valley Falls Lions October 1st 1979 and in those 46 years he embodied service in the quiet, steady way that shapes a community more than most ever realize. Whether helping organize projects, lending a hand, or showing up simply because someone needed him, Paul gave his time with a generous heart. His dedication to service above self was more than a motto. It was how he lived.



Jefferson Township Lions Club



Minisink Lions Club

The North Pocono Minisink Lions Club held their 1st meeting of 2026 on Jan. 8th at the VFW Post 5207 in Daleville.

During the meeting Lion Scott Lenzer (Club Membership Chairman) was presented with a LCI Membership Key pin for sponsoring 3 new Club Members within 1 year. Pictured is Club President Joe Sabie, Scotts Sponsor, presenting Lion Scott with his LCI Membership Award.



Scott Township Lions Club

Scott Township Lions Club Annual Porketta Sandwich Sale

Saturday, February 7, 2026 – 12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m.

At Boyarsky's Tavern

Corner of Route 347 & Hill Rd. in Scott Township

Tickets Available from any Member or at

Boyarsky's Tavern – 570-510-1623

No. 012

2 SANDWICHES

\$6.00

Tunkhannock Lions Club

Good press for the Chicken and Biscuit dinner!

Tunkhannock Lions host annual dinner



The Tunkhannock Lions Club hosted its annual Christmas chicken and biscuit dinner and toy collection for Interfaith Friends at the Lake Winola Fire Hall on Saturday, Dec. 15. The Tunkhannock Lions Club thanked all 41 Lion members, friends and family who attended and made the event a success, and acknowledged the Lake Winola Fire Company for the use of their facility for the holiday

dinner and toy collection. From left, are Joe Skinner, 14H Past District Governor; Corissa Taylor, Interfaith Friends; Bill Metschulat, 14H District Governor; Gene Scaglotti, 14H Past District Governor; Karen Cokley, 14H Past District Governor; Cathy Metschulat, 14H Past District Governor with her granddaughter, Malya, and Fran Stepkovitch, 14H Vice District Governor.

District 14H Cabinet Meeting Notes—Page 1 of 3**

** Vote to approve these minutes will be taken at the 3rd District Cabinet Meeting on March 8th

2nd District Cabinet Meeting 2025-2026

Jefferson Twp Lions Social Hall 11:00am - November 9, 2025

- Meeting opening & Welcome by District Governor (DG) Shirley Skinner (Abington) @ 12:30,
 - Pledge of Allegiance led by Lion John Thubborn (Taylor).
 - 1 Verse of "God Bless America" by all present
 - Prayer PDG Joe Skinner (Abington)
- Lion's Toast by all present.
 - Break for lunch at 12:35-1:15
- Lion Hannah Witherite, (Jefferson Twp) President, Head table introduction
- District Roll Call by Secretary Lion Joy Lewis (Minooka) and review and approval of September meeting minutes. Motion to accept by PDG Karen Cokely (Falls), 2nd by PDG Cathy Metschulat (Jefferson Twp). Motion passed.
- District Treasurer's Report, Lion Beverly Bernoskie, Dist. Treas. (Scott Twp). Motion to accept by PDG Pam Savitski, 2nd by Lion Barb Taylor. Motion passed.
- District Governor's Comments, D.G. Shirley Skinner (Abington)
 - Beacon Cabin repairs needed;
 - Separate funds for cabin maintenance v. general camp maintenance
 - Donations must specify 14H cabin specifically
 - Direct contributions need to be clear as to where the donation should be directed within Beacon Lodge
 - Beacon Cabin – specify cabin
 - Beacon Camp – general fund
 - Governor Comments
 - Goals
 - New members – continue to recruit
 - New clubs – District goal is 2 new clubs. In the past, Gouldsboro club members moved to Minisink club. Carbondale may be a possibility. It may be possible to recruit special interest groups to begin a club. We need to increase our visibility to help grow the district.
 - Forming Leo Clubs
 - Look for church, home school groups, other youth groups for potential LEO groups. School districts have not always been open to supporting LEO Clubs
 - Need a sponsor club, and a member of that club to be an advisor. The club pays \$100 to LCI
 - Leo Dues – Young LEOs do not pay dues. Funds are provided by the sponsoring club (\$100 plus other optional support)
 - Leos can be on the Lions portal and can record their activities (some do and some do not – Blue Ridge is very active but does not currently record their activities)
 - We need to increase reporting of our activities on the portal. Both community service projects and fundraising projects should be reported. Grants and donations are easier for LCI to obtain when they have information about activities across the International Lions Club

Governor's Comments, Continued:

District 14H Cabinet Meeting Notes—Page 2 of 3**

** Vote to approve these minutes will be taken at the 3rd District Cabinet Meeting on March 8th

- LCIF is not issuing paper statements for dues. They can be obtained from the portal.
- We do not yet have a first or second VDG. Deadline to submit submissions for VDG for ballot 2/6
- Upcoming Meetings:
 - Honesdale District Meeting on 3/8, at the Honesdale Golf Club. Nonperishable food items that have been collected can be brought to this meeting.
 - District Convention – April 19, at the Best Western in Clarks Summit. Pajamas collected should be brought to this meeting.
- Zone Chairs in our District:
 - Lion Nate Mills, Jefferson
 - Lion Stephanie Camoni, Olyphant
- RLLI Program – one of the best training sessions offered. There is a \$175 fee to attend. The District may be able to pay: Motion for District to pay for 1 or 2 to attend – motion by PDG Butch, 2nd PDG Cathy – passed
- Service of Remembrance for members – call Shirley to coordinate if family would like this service
- Governors Project:
 - Chronic Kidney Disease Foundation: they educate, research, and provide medical assistance and transportation
- Disaster relief boxes we put together will stay in our District.
- Joe Skinner update: Abington Club obtained \$40,300 in grants to upgrade local playground at Hillside Park, NEPA Foundation Grant and Lions of PA Foundation grant received
- Minisink – grant received to refurbish bikes

Call for Committee Reports - D.G. Shirley Skinner (Abington)

- Sight – Lion Barb Taylor
 - 6yo needed glasses, no health ins. – New Milford
 - No Lions Club, no ins.
 - Wyoming County CHIP pays 1/2 ; \$99 covered his issues
- NEPA Lion Svc Foundation – Lion Barb Taylor
 - Money available
 - Club provides 10% (suggestion)
 - \$10K grant club \$1K
- Leader Dog – PDG Karen Cokley
 - Camp 6/21-26; Free 16-17
- White Cane – Lion Josie Sands
 - 3 clubs participated \$3,122
 - 30 Eynon
 - 16 North Pocono
 - 20 Tunkhannock

Old Business

- Food Drive – March
- Pajama Drive – April
 - Infant to 18years
 - Child and Youth Services in 4 counties
 - Bring to District Convention
- Shoe Collection – Hawley/Lake Wallenpaupack – Lion Judy Potratz
 - Any type infant to adult

District 14H Cabinet Meeting Notes—Page 3 of 3**

** Vote to approve these minutes will be taken at the 3rd District Cabinet Meeting on March 8th

- State Convention Report – a full report was given at the State Meeting. Further questions on convention budget were deferred. Mark Kuzma to offer details for interested parties as requested.

New Business

For the Good of the District

- Tunkhannock
 - Christmas party 12/13 @ Moose \$15
 - Unwrapped gift
 - Chicken Biscuit dinner
- Hearing & Sight meeting
 - 11/13 Todd & Rachels
 - Chili & Hot dogs
- Jefferson Twp Cash Bingo 11/15
 - 11/22 holiday dinner
 - 12/12 line dancing
 - 12/6 breakfast w/ Santa
 - 12/7 Pets w/ Santa

50/50 Drawing – birdhouse won by PDG Sandy Thubborn

Benediction - PDG Joe Skinner (Abington)

Adjournment - DG Shirley Skinner

PDG Bill Metschulat (Jefferson Twp.) - New District Project re:
Emergency Disaster Relief Boxes

Submitted but not approved 1/15/26

Joy Lewis

Joy Lewis

District Secretary

District 14-H

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 – 26	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 - 14
Jessup – 16	Tunkhannock - 22
Lake Ariel – 14	Waymart – 18

Note: Club membership numbers are current as of the end of December 2025 .

Total = 603 (down 4, 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