

*Northeast Lion
District 14H
Monthly Newsletter*

August, 2026



HOLD THE DATE:

First 14-H Cabinet Meeting of the 2026-2027 year will be on August 23rd



Vision | October 8–18, 2026

Plan a service activity for World Sight Day on October 8 or [International White Cane Day](#) on October 15! The new [Vision Service Project Ideas resource](#) can help you get started with popular service activities such as vision screening and eyeglass recycling as well as some new ideas. Join Lions and Leos around the world as they improve the lives of the visually impaired and help prevent avoidable blindness.

Learn more about vision programs and service ideas on the [vision global cause webpage](#).

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 want to thank everyone for helping with the last District Meeting. I'm proud to be part of this amazing group.

Your thoughts and prayers were greatly appreciated. Unfortunately, my sister Kathy passed on July 15th, and my sister-in-law passed on July 14th. I'm looking forward to the end of July.

The Past District Governors met and there was a lot of conversation on the district leadership. The PDG's made the motion and appointed me as District Governor pending LCI approval. We have a 2nd VDG, Lion Bev Bernoske. Looking for a First Vice governor.

We need a district secretary and district treasurer. So, if you or someone you know, would be interested in stepping up, please let me know.

In the meantime, please send me your club information for the district directory. We can get that moving forward. Thank you to the clubs who have already responded. Also, consider putting an ad in the directory. I will be sending the form out to the clubs, and it can also be found on the next page of this newsletter.

Time to get the LCI dues paid. Remember you only have ninety days. Go on the portal for your statements. You could also pay your dues on line.

I'm looking forward to setting up governor visits. If you have a date in mind let me know.

The first District Meeting will be on August 23, 2026. Time and place will be coming.

I'm looking forward to another year as District Governor. Helping clubs and growing our district.

DG Shirley Skinner

sasskinner@comcast.net





LIONS DISTRICT 14-H 2026 – 2027
DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S
DIRECTORY



As in past years, we are requesting your financial assistance to offset the cost of our Annual District Governor's Directory. As you are aware, the directory is published annually to provide information regarding our District, Clubs, and Club Officers as well as providing reference information from Lions International along with other sources.

We invite the Lions Clubs of District 14-H; Past State Council and District Officers; Past District Governors; individual Lions; Family and Friends to place an ad in our annual Directory.

Cost for ads in the 2026-2027 District Directory:

Quarter page - \$ 25.00

Half Page - \$ 50.00

Full page - \$100.00

Should you have artwork to be included, please submit it with payment, or it may be emailed.

The deadline for all submissions will be August 18, 2026

Your financial assistance with the publication of the 2026-2027 District Directory will be greatly appreciated and I would like to thank each Lion in District 14-H for your support.

DG Shirley Skinner
District Governor 2026-2027

Name of individual or Lions Club _____

Size of ad: ☐ Full page (\$100) ☐ Half Page (\$50) ☐ Quarter Page (\$25)

Artwork included: ☐ yes ☐ no artwork Emailed: ☐ yes ☐ no

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to District 14-H and on the memo line place Directory ad
Ad Message / Phrasing: _____

Any questions or additional information regarding the directory, please contact
DG Shirley Skinner at SASSKINNER@COMCAST.NET

District 14-H: Council Meeting 4 for 2025-2026

Jefferson Twp Lions Club Banquet Hall, July 12, 2026



IPDG Sandy Thubborn represented the District on Shirley's behalf. Guest speaker PID Bob Miller and his wife, Lion Judy joined us. PID Bob presented Karen Cokely with the International President's Award. Congratulations, Karen! On behalf of DG Shirley, PDG Allan Hetkowski presented Lion John Thubborn with a Melvin Jones award. Congratulations, John! By the way, the food was fabulous thanks to all attendees.





**President's Message:
Rooted in Service with
International President
Mark S. Lyon**

Dear Lion,

Service is the foundation of our organization. It's at the very root of what we do and who we are as Lions. Meaningful service fuels growth, increases our impact and strengthens our communities and our world. It's why people join us — and why they stay.

That's why my presidential theme this year is "Rooted in Service." I encourage all of us to reconnect with our Lion roots and focus on what matters most. Get creative with your service. Have fun. Look for new ways to meet the needs of your communities. And remember, no act of service is too small — every effort makes a difference.

I look forward to serving alongside you as your international president. Thank you for all the ways you already serve, and I can't wait to see what we accomplish together.

**In friendship and service,
Mark S. Lyon
International President**

**See International President Mark S.
Lyon's full newsletter [HERE](#)**



Message from LCIF Chairperson A.P. Singh

Welcome to a new Lion year and a renewed opportunity to strengthen our impact. I am honored to serve as chairperson of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), our global foundation, inspired by the service and leadership of Lions and Leos around the world. Celebrating LCIF's incredible reach during the 108th Lions International Convention was a proud moment. With your support, we raised US\$85 million for future service. We have already started this Lion year strong, raising US\$6.5 million since July 1, including a generous US\$6 million gift from the Lions of India, presented at the conclusion of the convention.

Our foundation is a resource for membership growth. Lions service, with support from LCIF, provides an opportunity to attract new members. I hope this newsletter inspires you to [donate](#), apply for [grants](#) and share LCIF's impact. I look forward to a successful year.

CLICK [HERE](#) to see A. P. Singh's full letter



THE 2026-2027 CONTEST

Harmony in Humanity

When we treat each other with respect and kindness, peace can flourish. This year, we invite young people to imagine a world where people of every culture and background live together peacefully — celebrating differences, finding common ground and creating true harmony in humanity.



LIONS INTERNATIONAL

PEACE POSTER CONTEST

Harmony in Humanity

2026-2027

 **Calling all young artists ages 11-13!**
Share your vision of peace and inspire the world.

 GRAND PRIZE: \$5,000 & trip to the Awards Ceremony!	 23 MERIT WINNERS: \$500 each!	 KITS AVAILABLE Jan 15 – Oct 1, 2026 CLUB SUBMISSION DEADLINE Nov 15, 2026 WINNERS ANNOUNCED By Feb 1, 2027
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 **CREATE. EXPRESS. INSPIRE.**
Peace begins with you! 

 lionsclubs.org/peaceposter | [#peaceposter](https://twitter.com/peaceposter)  

Lions members of District 14-H and District 14-W participated in the 15th Annual Buzzie Memorial Golf Outing. Proceeds to benefit Beacon Lodge.



Did you know that ... Jimmy Carter was a member of the Lions Club for 71 years?

He joined the Plains Lions Club in Georgia in 1953 right after leaving the U.S. Navy and remained a dedicated member until his passing in December 2024. According to The Carter Center, his deep engagement with the community-focused organization severely impacted his early political trajectory, helping him build the local recognition required to run for Governor of Georgia and later President of the United States.

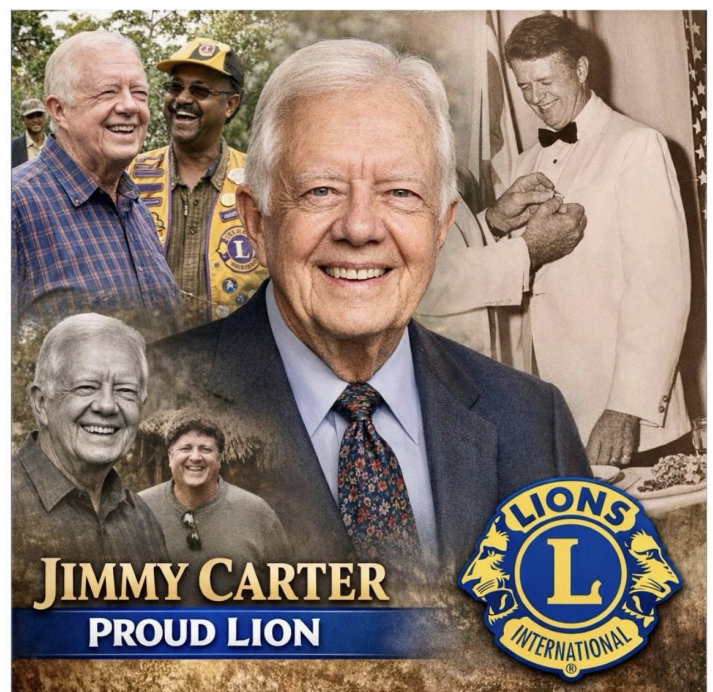
Key Milestones in His Lions Journey

1953: Joined the local club chapter in Plains, Georgia.

1957–1958: Served as the Plains club president, leading initiatives like building a community swimming pool.

1967–1968: Served as District Governor for District 18-C in Georgia.

Global Humanitarian Partnership: In 1994, he established a massive global health partnership between Lions Clubs International and the Carter Center. This joint effort successfully delivered hundreds of millions of treatments to eradicate preventable diseases like river blindness and trachoma across Africa and Latin America.



From Days Gone By

Scranton Times article from 1952 about the Charter of the Scott Township Lions Club.

Thanks, Lion Chris, for bringing this history back to the club.



DISTRICT 14-H Sight & Hearing Committee
Minutes July 9th, 2026 ~ ~ Hosted by Dunmore Lions
at St Anthony's Field Pavillion, Dunmore



PRESENT: PDG Butch Sands, Lion Josie Sands, Lion Barbara Taylor, PDG Karen Cokely, Lion Judy Potratz, Lion Gordie Potratz, Lion Pat Bartleson, PDG Fran Stepkovitch, Lion Ed Stepkovitch, Lion Sam Sebastianelli, Lion Jim Colangelo, Lion Mike Colangelo, Lion Melissa Dworak, Guest Christina Stolze

PDG Butch Sands opened the meeting at 6:55pm, (break for food was earlier), by welcoming everyone, thanks to Dunmore Lions for hosting and lead the Pledge of Allegiance, thank you for coming and appreciate all you do. President Jim Colangelo welcomed everyone, appreciate all the Hearing Sight Committee does, always a great job, next year if we could host an earlier month, thank you for coming and enjoy the meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were passed around, and emailed & asked if reviewed. A motion was made by PDG Karen Cokely, and seconded by Lion Barbara Taylor, all in favor, no-one opposed, so carried.

- - Hearing Treasurer's report: PDG Karen Cokely

Opening Balance is - \$2,795.25

- \$600.00 Abington Audiology
- + \$250.00 copay Ruth (Hawley Lake Wallenpaupack)
- + \$912.00 Fair Share \$

\$3,357.25 Closing Balance

No other correspondence, applications or bills.

- - Sight Treasurer's report: Lion Barbara Taylor

Opening Balance is \$9,354.19

+ \$ 912.00

Closing Balance is \$10,266.19

Lion Barbara stated a lady called today and needs another application, she lived in Throop. Should have new application, soon.

President Jim mentioned there was someone needing eyeglasses, and they told them to get their appt, eyeglasses and we will submit application late. Our club has been busy, Lion Barbara will help. Most doctors will work to help clients in need. America's Best has a great deal for appt and eyeglasses.

No other applications, bills or correspondence.

A motion to accept Sight Treasurers report was made by Lion Judy, seconded by Lion all in favor, no-one opposed, so carried.

- OLD BUSINESS -

Finalized by-laws from PCC Mark Kusma, tabled to August meeting to have hard copy to approve.

PDG Fran mentioned if anyone knows of any Day Cares in your community, let them know about the free vision screening we do and contact her for more information to set up date for screening.

Lion Sam asked questions about range of income and how we assist those in need and there were several discussions and explanations by committee.



- NEW BUSINESS -

Sorting eyeglasses will be 9/16 at Lion Gordie's warehouse in Hawley and transported next day to NJ.

UPCOMING MEETINGS (Tentative)

2026 MEETINGS - **August** hosted by Jefferson Twp, **September** hosted by Minisink, **October** hosted by Eynon Archbald (confirmed), **November** none. (All held on the second Thursday of the month). 6:30pm start, Watch emails for changes or updates.

EYEGLASSES / HEARING AIDS

DUNMORE - 400 eyeglasses

TUNKHANNOCK - ours are in the garage, haha (next month)

PDG Comments -

- **DG Shirley** - absent
- **PDG Butch** - Thank you Dunmore for hosting, and everyone for coming. Have new member joining or club. Butch and Josie will be celebrating their 55th anniversary 7/31, congratulations!
- **PDG Karen** - Thank you Dunmore for the great cook out, French fries were awesome. Got 2 new members, 4 more coming.
- **PDG Fran** - Thank you Dunmore for all you do and hosting. Enjoy Summer, it's going by too fast.

- GOOD OF THE DISTRICT -

- **DUNMORE** - have 2 new members, currently have 26 members, joined with the Rotary club for coin drop. Total of 23 benches throughout our community, former member and guest Christina stated she loves the lions, and knows of all the good things they do helping others and serving their communities. New year is our 75th anniversary as a club, watch for details in celebrating with us. So far Lions Sam, Melissa, Jim, Mike in charge.
- **HAWLEY LAKE WALLENPAUPACK** - Shoe drive, collecting new or slightly used shoes again if anyone wants to donate through 12/31/26. Collecting plastic bags for bench. Gave \$6,200 to local food pantry and they are doing very well and gave us some money back for us to help others in need.
- **TUNKHANNOCK** - we have a new member, we have a food truck to use at events and have done several fundraisers with it.
- **SCOTT TWP** - Congratulations to Dunmore for benches and scholarships, our club is having its 75th next year as well, 8/6 is our Cow Flop \$5 for each chance and stop up for great food too. \$1000 for first place winner.
- **FALLS** - Summer Festival 8/8 from 11am-3pm
- **EYNON ARCHBALD** - 8/5 helping at Police Night out and having a table spreading the word how we serve our community, 9/26 Car Show/Harvest Fest at AC Field

*** * *No further business, PDG Butch again thanked Dunmore Lions for hosting the meeting, see you in August on the 13th, 2026 hosted by Jefferson Twp Lions at their club, 811 Lions Rd, Jefferson Twp 18436 at 6:30pm, always nice getting together and being social with all lions, we are like a family, PDG Karen made a motion to adjourn, Lion Barbara seconded, all in favor, no-one opposed, so carried.**

Minutes submitted by Secretary Fran Stepkovitch

Dunmore Lions Club

The Dunmore Lions Club dedicated a new bench in the borough at the corner of East Drinker Street and Hill Street by Buona Dunmore. The bench was donated by the Elaine Aita in memory of her husband, James Aita.

Jim was a 50 year member of the Dunmore Lions Club, Past President, and community advocate.

This bench is one of several being dedicated in the borough as the club prepares for its 75th Anniversary. We are grateful to the Aita Family.



Dunmore Lions Club members with Mrs. Aita: Jim Colangelo, Renee Iezzi, Elaine Aita, Sean Colangelo, and Leo Wentline.

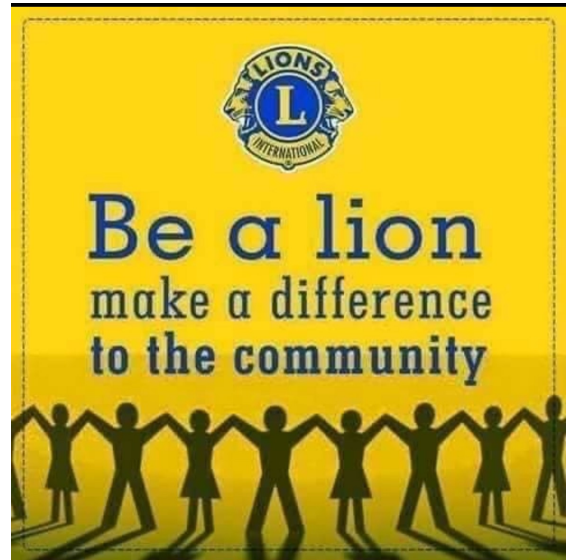


Mrs. Aita with her family. L-R: Charlene Krzan, Patricia Koeber, Elaine Aita, Sue Aita, Debbie Montini, James Aita, and Donald Montini

Falls Lions Club



Newest Falls
Lions Club
members
Kailey and
Jon!



Tina Seidel on Facebook: Shoutout to Lion Mike Pastelok for the suggestion in supporting the kids for the GoJoe event Joe Snedeker WNEP

Lions Marie Pritchky and Elaine Jackson for representing the Falls Lions Club/presenting the check, and to Falls Lion Joe Peters for mentioning us during the 7:00 AM interview!

Way to go—all Falls Lions in attendance made the news photo!



North Pocono Minisink Lions Club

The North Pocono Minisink Lions Club participated in Moscow's annual Country Street Fair which ran from Thurs. July 23rd to Sat. July 25th. The event took place on Main St. and Church St. There were many craft vendors, good food vendors, great music from local bands. A firemen's parade took place on Fri and included Volunteer Fire Companies, Scouting America BSA Troops 132, 1132 and 7, VFW Post 5207 marchers and many local youth organizations. Sat. night had a tractor parade from antiques to new farm tractors. The Minisink Lions advertised their upcoming Golf Tournament at Blue Ridge Country Club on August 16, sold 50-50 Raffle tickets and may have befriended a new member.

NP Lions Club members included Chairman Joe Pierangeli, Tony Seidita, Joe Sabie, Brian Strauch, Dave Ogonosky, Ron Reid, John Croom, Frank Bonacci, Donny Brown, Scott Lenzer, Janelle Decker and Jim Strempek. *The weather was beautiful all 3 days with no rain. A very good time was had by all.*



Scott Township Lions Club

Cow Flop tickets are still available for the Scott Township Lions annual COW FLOP fundraiser.

Tickets can be purchased from any club member, or at Boyarsky's Tavern.

You can also purchase from bber-noske@gmail.com, via Zelle, Venmo or PayPal - just message me - I can fill out your tickets and send you a photo, or mail the originals to you.

The Cow Flop is on August 8th, at the Scott Municipal Park - you do not need to be present to win - but we welcome you to stop by for some food and drink that will be for sale (and, of course, to see the cow!)



WHAT DOES THE TREASURER DO?

THE ROLE:
The Treasurer manages our club's money with integrity, accuracy, and transparency.

WHAT THEY DO:

- Keep track of all club income and expenses
- Record deposits and pay bills
- Maintain accurate financial records
- Prepare financial reports for meetings
- Present the budget and monitor spending
- Work with officers on fundraising and planning
- Ensure proper financial procedures and reporting

THE GOAL:
Protect our club's funds and provide clear, responsible financial stewardship so we can serve more and grow stronger.

WHY IT MATTERS:

- Builds trust and accountability
- Helps us plan, give, and make a bigger impact
- Keeps our club strong and sustainable

REMEMBER:
It's not just about numbers - it's about responsibility, trust, and helping our club change lives!

ACCURACY. TRUST. IMPACT.
That's the Treasurer Effect!

Strong Clubs Don't Just Happen... They're Planned, Tracked, and Trusted!

CLUB TREASURER

THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Leads. Empowers. Inspires.

“It's not about taking credit. It's about creating opportunity. It's about **inspiring** others to lead.”

STRONG LEADERS BUILD STRONG CLUBS.
Strong Clubs Build a Brighter District.

BE THE SPARK. Be the Change.

WHAT THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR DOES

- SERVES AS A LEADER**
Guides clubs, supports members, and fosters a culture of service and excellence.
- DEVELOPS LEADERS**
Mentors current members and encourages new leaders to step forward with confidence.
- BUILDS CONNECTIONS**
Brings clubs together, strengthens relationships, and creates a united, impactful District.
- DRIVES GROWTH & IMPACT**
Supports club success, expands our reach, and helps more people in need.
- REPRESENTS OUR MISSION**
Champions Lions International's vision and ensures our District thrives today and tomorrow.

STEP UP. LEAD FORWARD. BUILD A BRIGHTER DISTRICT!
The future is in our hands—let's lead it together.



SCRANTON LIONS CLUB 2026 DREAM GAME

*America's Longest Running
All Star High School Football Game
Celebrating Its 92nd Year*



2026 County Team



2026 City Team

The Scranton Lions Club 2026 Dream Game was held on Wednesday, July 22nd which marked the 92nd year of the Annual Dream Game. The Dream Game is the oldest continuous high school all-star football game in the country, first played in 1935. The Dream Game showcases the finest talent among Northeastern Pennsylvania's post graduate senior high school football players.

Since its beginning, the Dream Game has featured more than 6,900 young men who have played in the Dream Game. The Dream Game features players representing 20 high schools in Lackawanna, Wayne, Pike, Wyoming and Susquehanna Counties.

For 92 years, The Scranton Lions Club has sponsored the Dream Game to fulfill a financial need for the prevention of blindness. All proceeds from the Dream Game go to the Lackawanna Blind Association. Since 1996 the Dream Game has raised nearly \$400,000 for the programs and services of the Lackawanna Blind Association.

Each year the game is attended by thousands of fans along with being broadcast regionally on television.

The Scranton Lions Club was formed in 1923 and is celebrating its 103rd Year of Service to the community.

We proudly emulate the Lions Clubs International Motto We Serve! The continuous success of the Dream Game is due to the hard work and dedication of the members of Scranton Lions Club, athletes, coaches, patrons, media and fans.

The game ended with two City scores in the final five seconds to cap one of the most drama finishes in the 92 years of the Scranton Lions Club Dream Game and complete the City's comeback for a 36-35 victory over County ending the County 6 year winning streak.

Stone Bridge Lions Club

On July 13th, we inducted a new club President, Ray Hadden Jr, as well as two new members to the club, Ryan Thomas and Eric Parsons. Ray has been an active member of the club for 7 years. We look forward to their presence, insights and contributions to the community.

Congratulations!



District 14-H Lions Clubs by the numbers

Abington – 27	Mayfield – 14
Benton Township – 17	Minisink – 24
Blakely/Peckville - 12	Minooka - 34
Dalton—12	Montrose - 34
Dunmore – 26	Old Forge - 18
Eynon/Archbald - 62	Olyphant - 27
Falls – 23	Scott Township - 31
Forest City – 19	Scranton - 17
Hawley/Lake Wallenpaupack – 10	South Abington - 6
Honesdale – 65	Stone Bridge/Susquehanna - 20
Jefferson Township – 24	Taylor - 13
Jessup – 16	Tunkhannock - 22
Lake Ariel – 14	Waymart – 14

Note: Club membership numbers are current as of the end of June, 2026 .

Total = 601 (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