

Serving Together in Harmony

SEP 2025 / VOL 31 /ISSUE 3

Congratulations to the Franklin Area Club and the Chesterfield Lions Club who won the first patch for greatest percentage of members attending a District Meeting each with 25% of their members attending. Remember that we will keep track of the percentage of members attending each meeting and give out a patch to the club with the highest percentage. In August of next year, we will give out a road sign for the club with the overall highest percentage of members attending District meetings throughout my DG year.

We signed and sent just about 500 cards to the Holiday Cards for our Military Challenge. Thank you to all who brought cards to share and who signed cards!! What a great activity! Thank you all who attended the meeting in our area of the state!!

I am starting my visitations as is First Vice District Governor Nancy. Please let us know as soon as possible when you want us to visit. Remember, that we can come to a service activity too.

As President AP Singh has stated "Growth is essential for us to be able to continue to improve the service that Lions are known for around the world. We are a peopledriven organization where service is at the heart of everything we do — and we need dedicated Lions like you to help us make an even greater impact together.

So, invite friends and neighbors who have the heart to serve. Welcome diverse individuals and groups who will offer us fresh perspectives and energy. This is how we will keep our organization growing and thriving.

Growth benefits us all — our clubs, our communities and the people we serve. I look forward to seeing your club and your service grow."

If every member asked a person to join, we would hit our goals for membership, but we would help to ensure that Lions will be around to serve our communities.

I would like you all to start looking for your favorite Chili or Beef Stew recipe because we will be having a cookoff as our food for the November District meeting. We are trying to keep costs down as much as possible and what a fun way to do that with a potluck where you can vote for your favorite dish. If some of you would prefer bringing your favorite combread recipe, please do! Also, at the November meeting (November 8th) Cancer Lifeline NH will be our guest speaker. I would love for us to do a service project for them and here are some suggestions they have made:

"As to an activity - some clubs have really enjoyed gathering small items for our initial delivery bags to kids in the hospital (card

games, sketch pads, sticker books, markers, colored pencils, small Lego sets); others have preferred to donate to the gas card program. We provide \$50 gas cards to families to assist with getting their child to treatment." See what you and your club would prefer to do and bring your items to the district meeting.

Remember, September is Childhood Cancer Month!

Speaking of SERVICE, to qualify for the Club Excellence Award this year, clubs must participate in the three weeks of SERVICE: October 4-11 is Mental Health Service Week. Clubs need to find a service activity that fits into this category. There are many different activities that would qualify so reach out for suggestions. January 3-10 is Hunger Service Week and April 11-25 is Environmental service week.

Pamela "Pam" Prentiss
District 44N Governor
"Serving Together in Harmony"



Canaan Lions Health Closet



Lions Elda Cordero Goodman and Paul Dargie fill up with eyeglasses collected at the 44N Cabinet Meeting

Hello Lions of 44N!

What a *roaring* way to kick off our year! A huge thank you to everyone who attended the August 3rd Cabinet Meeting — it was such a joy to see so many Lions in one room, buzzing with energy, ideas, and good old-fashioned fellowship. From the warm handshakes to the inspiring updates, it was a reminder of just how strong our district is when we come together.

Oues, Glorious Dues!

Just a friendly (and slightly playful) reminder that all District Dues invoices have been emailed to Club Presidents and Treasurers. If your inbox has been as busy as your service calendar and you missed it — don't worry! Just give me a quick roar (or email), and I'll send it your way. Let's keep those dues rolling in — timely payments help us keep our district programs strong, efficient, and ready to serve!

Still Time to Book a Visit!

Not yet scheduled a club visitation with District Governor Pam or 1st Vice District Governor Nancy? Don't let the calendar sneak up on you! These visits are a highlight of the year — they're packed with inspiration, Lion spirit, and great opportunities for your club to shine. Reach out to me to grab your spot — and let's make it a celebration!

Ut's Keep the Roar Going

September is a great time to lean into the theme of "Serving Together in Harmony." Whether you're planning a project, inducting new members, or just enjoying the company of your fellow Lions, know that you're part of something much bigger. And I'm here cheering you on every step of the way!

• "Lions don't wait for change — we lead it, one roar at a time!"

Keep leading, keep serving, and keep roaring — because together, we're making a lasting impact.

In service and Lion smiles, Gregg Kleiner

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An Interment for PCC Raymond Hill and Lion Sandra Hill will be held on Thursday, October 9, 2025, at 1pm at the NH State Veterans Cemetery, Boscawen, NH

A Celebration of Life will be held following at the American Legion, Post #10, Wilton, NH

Please join us and share a memory.





EMAIL THAT IS CIRCULATING UNDER LIONS EMAIL RECENT PHISHING FAKE IDS:

In the last few days, we are seeing many phishing emails that look like "I need to initiate an outgoing payment via Zelle/Paypal. I tried reaching out to (anyone of us), but I haven't heard back from both parties yet! Would you please kindly assist with this payment? If so, kindly let me know so I can provide you with the details needed to initiate payment, I'll have you reimbursed as soon as I can. Thanks!"

If you receive such an email, please do not click on the link or on any part of the email, but delete it and then delete it from your deleted folder. From: Kamal Masand, MD44 Tech Team

MORE DETAILS ABOUT PHISHING:

DO NOT

DO NOT open any suspicious email based on the Subject or Sender -delete it before you open it.

DO NOT reply to, open attachments from, or click on URLs from unknown or untrusted sources.

DO NOT use your company email address for personal communications.

DO NOT ever send personal/sensitive information via email—e.g., passwords, credit card number, social security number, or account number.

DO

DO check for misspellings, grammatical errors, and abnormal spacing that may be indicative of a phishing email.

DO check links by using your mouse to hover over the hyperlink to determine if the URL makes sense with the sender—e.g., matching the sender's name to the URL; whether there's a foreign name or location in the URL.

DO report any suspicious emails—even if you're not sure, for investigation. (Please do not forward the suspect email)

DO use common sense—if it doesn't look right, trust your judgment.

RED FLAGS

Does the email ask for any sensitive/personal information (password, credit cards, SSN, etc.)? Does the email ask for sensitive information about others?

Does the email ask you to immediately act or open an attachment to avoid account closure? Does the hover-text link match what's in the text?

Does the address in the 'To' field match the sender of the email?



Nancy Charbono-Ricard, First Vice District Governor

Dear Lions, Lioness Lions, and Leos,

This year's USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum will take place Thursday, September 18, through Saturday, September 20, at Harrah's Resort & Casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Approximately 25 Lions from New Hampshire will be attending. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in leadership training, attend workshops, hear from motivational speakers, and network with other Lions from across North America.

While away from home, attendees can continue their service by donating paper goods, bath towels, and socks to two Atlantic City organizations dedicated to addressing hunger, homelessness, and abuse.

A Strides Walk for Diabetes Awareness is scheduled for Thursday afternoon, followed by the opening banquet and a live band that evening. On Friday, Warren Morris—former Louisiana State University and Major League Baseball player—will deliver the keynote address at lunch. Friday evening's dinner will be on our own. On Saturday morning, the New England Lions Council will host a breakfast featuring special guest Lions Clubs International President A.P. Singh. President Singh will also be the keynote speaker at Saturday's lunch, where he'll share his vision as the leader of the world's greatest service organization. Saturday evening's banquet will feature BJ Blahnik, cofounder of Reach Forward, a day services program for adults with disabilities. He will be accompanied by his leader dog, Jackson.

I invite all Lions and Lioness Lions to step forward and serve on my cabinet beginning July 1, 2026. If you are inspired by Lionism's global causes, consider leading one—and contributing a monthly article to the *ROAR* newsletter, where you can share updates, stories, and insights. If your passion lies in service, leadership, or membership, there are opportunities to join the Global Action Team. If you're interested in serving as a Zone Chair or participating on a district committee, please let me know. I don't want to miss anyone who is ready to make a difference!

I look forward to working with you as we promote our wonderful service organization. Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance at your meetings, fundraising events, or service projects.

Thank you for making a difference in your communities.

FVDG Nancy







New England Lions Council (NELC)

Serving the Needs of the Districts of New England

PDG John Babb, President ~ Massachusetts Email: babbjd@comcast.net Phone: 508-455-7294

PDG Melissa A. Smith, Treasurer ~ Connecticut 26 George Street, Seymour, CT 06483 203-430-9356 / lionlissa@yahoo.com

Individual Membership Dues

2025-2026 NELC Individual Membership Dues \$10.00 Membership coverage is from July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Lions Name:		
District/MD:		
District/MD Position(s):		
Mailing Address:		
City/State/Zip Code:		
Phone Number:		
Email:		
Renewal	New NELC Member?:	

Please mail this form and payment to PDG Melissa A. Smith at the above address with a check payable to NELC or you can Venmo with a note that says for NELC Dues.







Cash Prizes!!!

When: September 13, 2025 1pm to 5pm

Where: The American Legion Hall 6 Androscoggin St. Gorham, NH

Price: \$40 cash per team (2 people)

Proceeds will go towards programs that the Berlin Gorham Lions Club sponsors.

Contact Travis (603) 915-0227 To Reserve your team's spot.



NEW ENGLAND LIONS COUNCIL (NELC)

BREAKFAST AT USA/CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUM

Harrah's Atlantic City 777 Harrah's Boulevard, Atlantic City, NJ Ballroom A - September 20th - 7:00-8:30 a.m.

GUEST SPEAKER INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT A.P. SINGH

Meet the 2025-2026 New England Lions Council Officers representing: NH, VT, ME, MA, CT and RI

Breakfast Buffet:

Farm Fresh Scrambled Eggs - Applewood Bacon Yukon Gold Home Fries - Fruit - Muffins Mini-Danish - Juice - Coffee - Tea



Cost is \$45.00 per person Please RSVP by 9/13/25 https://forms.gle/LX79kd7e4qmuvqTy8

Please use Venmo or Check to pay for this event Mail address: PDG Melissa A Smith, 26 George St, Seymour, CT, 06483



For more information, please contact: **venuto**PDG John Babb, President NELC babbjd@comcast.net 508-455-7294
PDG Kathy Dorman, Secretary NELC vtlionkathy@gmail.com 82-373-4180
PDG Melissa A. Smith, Treasurer NELC lionlissa@yahoo.com 203-430-9356



DISTRICT 44H RALLY



NOVEMBER 1, 2025

Rochester American Region Post #7 188 Eastern Ave, Rochester, NH 03867 All Lions are welcome to attend to learn more about District 44H

8:30 Registration, Come join us for Breakfast

Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Homefries, Pastry, Coffee, Tea

Meeting to follow 9:00am-12:00pm

****Winter Clothing Drive ****

CLUB	
NAME(S) REGISTERING	_
	<u> </u>
Number attendingX \$22 per person = \$amount enclosed	
Please make checks payable to LIONS DISTRICT 44H	
REGISTRATION & PAYMENT DUE BY SEPTEMBER 15 TH	

Mail registration & payment to:

PDG Jerry Vaccaro, 74 Chase Rd, Londonderry, NH 03053 Email: <u>lionjerryvaccaro@gmail.com</u> 603-204-7752



Savings Bank of Walpole – 84 Marlboro St, Keene NH 03431

OPEN TO ALL LIONS

Whether you're a current leader or aspiring to become one, this training is for **motivated Lions** who want to help clubs grow and thrive

What You'll Gain:

	Lead	lership	deve	lopment
_				

Mentorship skills

Greater understanding of Lions operations

✓ The ability to make a meaningful difference

Why Become a Guiding Lion?

Help rebuild and energize clubs	M	Helr	rebuild	and	energize	clubs
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✓ Inspire the next generation of Lions

Expand your leadership portfolio

✓ Connect across districts and grow your network

If you would like to attend
Please RSVP by October 1, 2025, to
Tom Reynolds tcreynoldsjr@comcast.net
or (603)494-2690

Max class size is 25 – If there is great interest, we will gladly hold another training.



We have registered a Team, <u>Lions Club District 44N</u>, for the <u>NAMI Walks NH</u>. NAMI Walks NH is the state's largest mental health awareness and suicide prevention event. Every fall, thousands of Granite Staters lace up their sneakers and walk together through the city of Concord to stomp out the stigma and unite under the rallying call: Mental Health for All!

This coincides with the Lions Club theme of Mental Health, which is scheduled for October 4-11.

Clubs must complete their service for each theme this year, during the time that has been scheduled, to qualify for the <u>Club Excellence Award</u>. The club receives credit if they have at least one representative from their club.

This is the link to our Team Page. You can share this link with your clubs to encourage them to join the team and send representatives from their club to join the walk, and or to make donations to NAMI through our team link.

https://www.namiwalks.org/teams/77912

We already have several members who have registered and have pledged donations. Thank you for joining our team and representing our district!

If you have any questions or concerns, please email me and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

In Service,

Cheryl Patty GSL, District 44N

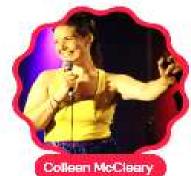
LEBANON UPPER VALLEY



Lions Club's



Annual Comedy Show



STAND UP PEFORMANCES!

Saturday, October 18 3pm





HOSTED BY TOM ZUTTERMEISTER

Under 5 FREE
Ages 6–17 \$10
Ages 18 \$20
Family Cap \$50



SAU 88

20 Seminary Hill Road (Old Seminary Hill School) West Lebanon, NH

If you have questions or would like to purchase tickets for this comedy show, Contact Tom Zuttermeister at **tomzutte@gmail.com** or 603-727-8044



BERLIN-GORHAM LIONS CHARTER CELEBRATION

Town & Country Inn and Resort 20 Route 2, Shelburne, NH 603-466-3315



DATE: Saturday, October 25, 2025 TIME: Noon to 5:00 pm



Join the Berlin-Gorham Lions in a Food Packaging Service Project benefiting their local pantries.

Time: Noon to 2:30 pm

Hot Luncheon Buffet and Celebration

Cost: \$35.00 per person Time: 3:00 to 5:00 pm

Guest Speaker: PID Steve Middlemiss



Garden Salad, Rolls, Mashed Potato, Chef's Vegetable and Apple Crisp. Baked Chicken w/Cranberry Stuffing, Baked Haddock w/Seafood topping, Pasta Primavera w/Alfredo Sauce

Mail Registration to: PDG Henry McKee, 13 Town Rd 79, Orford, NH 03777

hanknh@netzero.net 603-960-1732

Attendees:	Club:	

__ I will help with the food packaging ___ I will attend the Charter Celebration

Registration Deadline: October 17, 2025

**Rooms are available for the night at \$149 plus tax.

Please call hotel to make reservation**



DISTRICT 44N MEETING Saturday, November 8, 2025



Enfield Community Building 308 US Route 4, Enfield NH 03748

Registration: 9:30 AM Meeting Open: 10:00 AM

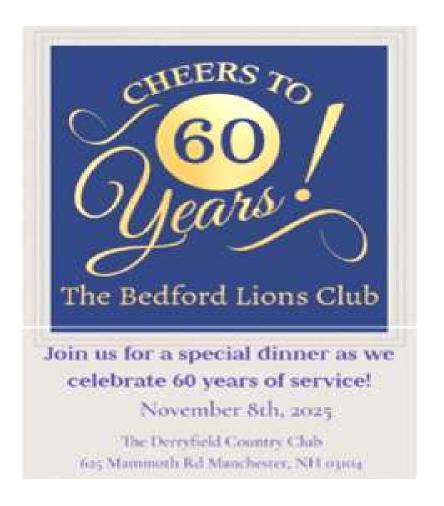
~ Guest Speaker from Childhood Cancer Lifeline of NH ~

District Governor Pam and her Cabinet Members are planning on having a rewarding, fun and active Cabinet Meeting which includes your contribution and participation in....

SERVICE – Please bring Card Games, Sketch Pads, Sticker books, Markers, Colored Pencils, small Lego sets so that delivery bags may be filled up for kids in the hospital. Also, cash donations are accepted to go toward the "Gas Card" program to assist families with getting their child to treatment.

COOKOFF – Please bring your favorite Chili or Beef Stew recipe. If you have a favorite Cornbread recipe, you can make that too! Plans are to serve your delicious Chili and Stew for Lunch while your vote on the favorite will be taken.

More Details on the Cookoff and cost of Lunch to Follow!



WHEN...Saturday, November 8, 2025

5:30 PM - 9:00 PM ET

Registration is \$45 per person and includes: Dinner * Swag Bags * Free Entry into lots of fun **GIVEAWAYS**!

HOW TO PAY...Payments may be made using the PayPal link via Evite or by sending a check to Sophie Cutler: 14 Kennedy Dr, Bedford, NH 03110

Checks should be made payable to "**Bedford Lions Club**". Ticket Registration and payment must be received by October 30, 2025.

Register online: https://evite.com/l/GCBhwpQVfU or email sophcutler@yahoo.com

NH Mid-Winter Convention Lions Legacy Carnival



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Celebrate the Legacy & impact of NH Lions Clubs with Fun Games, Entertainment & Community Spirit!

Let's Get ready for a Memorable Weekend filled with Joy & Service!

January 23 through 25, 2026 Fireside Inn & Suites - 25 Airport Rd, W. Lebanon NH 03784







Full Registration and outline to be in the October Roar & Pride!



Focus this year is the Retention Revolution and Members Matter Movement.

The Retention Revolution

- Commit to make every Lion know they belong to your club!
 - Commit to every Lion that they matter!
- Most of all, let's commit to have FUN while making a difference.

The Members Matter Movement

- Provide service to your community with a SMILE.
- Provide volunteer work with energy and HAPPINESS.
 - Service & Laughter attracts MORE members.

Let's continue to Keep the ROAR going in NH

Let's Celebrate every member in our CLUBS. Create moments that make members say....

WHY WOULD I EVER LEAVE MY LIONS CLUB?

Let's continue NH Lions "Stayin' Alive" to thrive! GMT Christine



There are so many ways to find out more about LCIF. Here are a few links to get you started.

Please consider making a personal donation to LCIF this year. Part of club excellence award this year is a 20.00 donation per member.

I still have pins available to anyone who would like one.

LCIF resources

Connect your clubs and districts to LCIF resources that expand your service impact.

- LCIF leadership toolkit: Find valuable insights, fundraising guidance and tools for enhancing your LCIF role.
- LCIF: Stories of Pride: Discover and submit stories of inspiration, impact and kindness behind every LCIF grant.
- LCIF YouTube playlist: Access the latest inspiring videos from Lions, Leos and leaders around the world.
- 2023-2024 LCIF annual report: Be inspired by global stories of service and gain insight into our foundation's financial health.
- Lions Learning Center: Login to access LCIF courses and learn how our global foundation enhances your service impact.
- LCIF history: Explore decades of LCIF humanitarian grants, programs, partnerships and campaigns empowering Lions and Leos since 1968.

PDG Al Goldstein LCIF Coordinator

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance & LCIF A Powerful Partnership for Global Health

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, is a global health partnership committed to increasing access to immunization in poor countries. Since its inception in 2000, Gavi has helped immunize more than 1 billion children, preventing over 17 million deaths. Gavi brings together public and private sectors to fund and support vaccination efforts in underserved communities.

In 2013, Lions Clubs International Foundation joined forces with Gavi to fight measles and rubella—two highly contagious. Their collaboration is centered on fundraising, advocacy, and social mobilization. Through the Gavi Matching Fund, LCIF's contributions are matched by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the UK Government.

Beyond financial contributions, Lions Clubs volunteers have played a crucial role in community engagement. They work alongside ministries of health to promote vaccine awareness, coordinate local outreach efforts, and assist in vaccination drives. Their grassroots presence ensures that immunization programs are effectively implemented, reaching children who might otherwise be left behind.

Thanks to this partnership, millions of children have been immunized against measles and rubella, preventing thousands of deaths and reducing the global burden of these diseases. The initiative has also strengthened healthcare infrastructure in participating countries, paving the way for sustainable immunization programs.

As Gavi and LCIF continue their collaboration, their focus remains on expanding vaccine access, enhancing disease surveillance, and fostering global health equity. By leveraging their combined expertise and resources, they are making strides toward a future where preventable diseases no longer threaten children's lives.

Empower Service. Amplify Impact. Give to LCIF.

PDG Toní Olden LCIF Chair

The DogSight Project



A Program of New Hampshire Lions Multiple District 44 – Health Services of NH



Guide Dogs

Most people understand that it is poor etiquette to pat a Guide dog. Fewer people understand that speaking to a Guide dog is equally distracting to it. And almost no one remembers that staring into a Guide dog's eyes is equally distracting and can even be interpreted as aggression by the dog. Because these dogs are so well behaved, well groomed, and alert people are drawn to them. For the sake of the safety of the individual depending upon the Guide dog, please resist the urge to interact with any Guide dog.

You can donate to the DogSight project any time. Please make checks payable to: LSHF and write DSP on the memo line to ensure the proper account is credited.

Please mail checks to the project Treasurer: Gregg Kleiner

PO Box 94

Keene, NH 03431

Linda Piekarski
Chair, the DogSight Project
lpi314@outlook.com



Raised for Fidelco in 2025-2026: \$4800



Lions Youth Services

August 14, 2025, Meeting

President Eric Olsen called the regular in person meeting to order at 6:30 pm at the Airport Diner in Manchester, NH. In attendance: Harry Armstrong, John Bayliss, Lenny Hall, Marie Hall, Mary Ellen Pate, Kris Pavlik, Lara Raymond, Tracy Pierce.

Seafood Festival Sep 5-7, 2025

As of the meeting date, Volunteers were still **needed for Sunday, Sep 7th**—please notify either Eric Olsen, Marie Hall or Marilyn Vaccaro if you can volunteer.

Peace Poster Contest 2025-2026 "Together As One"

Schools have opened and the new year has begun. If you haven't contacted the school yet, please do so. Clubs participating are Canaan, Chesterfield, Jaffrey-Rindge, Meredith, Milford, Nashua, Pinardville.

Grant Program

There was one application received and approved for the Loudon Lions for the purchase of a Yoti book player kit for the public library.

Lions Night at the Fisher Cats

106 tickets were sold – discussion for next year, possibly increasing the ticket price and to start advertising earlier.

"Speak Out" Contest

Lion Tracy Pierce has set up a statewide committee and will meet on Zoom. Seven clubs have signed up to sponsor a contestant, they are: Antrim/Bennington, Bedford, Canaan, Concord, Hudson, Pemi Baker and Wilton. Tracy waiting on the Mid-Winter Convention agenda to determine the set up for the contestant speeches.

Donations

A donation to the Berlin Gorham Lions Club Charter food packaging event on October 25 will be made; amount to be determined once all outside donations have been collected. A donation of \$200 was approved for the Granite State Leo Club on their Charter.

Casinos

Dates set for this year are Salem Casino on October 24-26 and The Nash Nov 11 to 17.

Mid-Winter Project

A project involving Childhood Literacy was discussed with details of the project to be determined.

Next Scheduled Meeting

Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 6:30 pm at the Airport Diner in Manchester!

WE WELCOME ALL TO JOIN US!



LIONS YOUTH SERVICES

PO Box 156 Atkinson, NH 03811

Email: lah03811@gmail.com

	~ GRANT APPLICATION ~	Amount requested
Requesting Club:		Date requested
	Club Phon	
	Club E	mail:
Briefly describe the project and k	now it will benefit the Youth in New Hampshire.	(continue on back if need
# of Youth Benefitting:		
# of Youth Benefitting: Project Budget:		
Project Budget:	Requested Amount:	

Grant Request Guidelines:

All Grant Applications meeting the following guidelines will be reviewed at the next Lions Youth Services Meeting. Our meetings are held at 6:30 pm on the Ind Thursday of every month at the Airport Diner in Manchester. If possible, we encourage all clubs to join us to present their request.

- 1) All requests submitted by the President of a Lions Club in the State of New Hampshire Districts 44N and/or 44H
- The Maximum Grant is \$500. LYS will consider up to 2 requests per NH Lions Club per Lions year (July-June)
 Each application must be for a unique project. Applications for the same project within the same Lions. Year will not be considered.
- Each application should benefit more than one individual. Applications benefitting one person will not be considered.
- 5) Grant Applications MUST be received by the last day of the month prior to the start of the project, otherwise the request may not be considered.

It is the intent of Lions Youth Services Grant Program to partner with the Lions Clubs of New Hampshire to serve the Youth of our state; not to replace your club's support.

Grant Application ver 10 2024



September 2025

Dear Fellow Lions of District 44N,

Granite State Preparedness, Response, and International Disaster Empowerment (GS-PRIDE) is gaining momentum, and we're thrilled to have your support!

On August 3, 2025, I presented the GS-PRIDE Disaster Relief Team concept at the 44N District meeting, sparking enthusiasm among Lions ready to serve. We welcomed new team members: Lion Cathy Dow (Henniker Lions Club); Lion Deanne Mobley (Henniker Lions Club); Lion GLT Tom Reynolds (Goffstown Lions Club); Lion Craig Cashman (Monadnock Lions Club); Lion Mallory Horn (Chesterfield Lions Club); Lion Fisher Bourbeau (Bristol Lions Club). Interested in joining? Contact us at granitepride.team@outlook.com or reach out to your Zone Chairs to get involved!

On August 16, 2025, I shared the GS-PRIDE vision with PDG Walter Hastings at the Lion District 45 Forum in Vermont. The Green Mountain Lions embraced our cross-district disaster relief network idea, and a follow-up Zoom meeting buzzed with strategies for emergency supply chains and community partnerships.

GS-PRIDE is developing key documents: a Disaster Relief Plan, an Informational Handout, and a Hazard Mitigation Plan. We need your input for the latter! Surveys will soon be available in the future to all 44N Clubs to identify local risks. Please share your insights to help us build resilient communities.

To avoid confusion with an existing PRIDE usage, we're considering a new name for GS-PRIDE. Send your creative suggestions to me for team review or tell me which one you prefer: Granite State Action Response Team (GS-ART TEAM): "ART" reflects the creativity and agility we bring to disaster response or Granite State Lions Emergency Action Team (GS-LEA Team): "LEA" emphasizes swift, lion-hearted action, tying directly into our Lions Club identity.

Thank you for supporting GS-PRIDE and our Disaster Relief Team. Together, we'll strengthen communities with Lion spirit. Let's keep roaring!

Yours in Service,

Lion Heather Hunter Disaster Relief Chairperson

Email: granitepride.team@outlook.com



9

The Gift of Gratitude: Living the Spirit of Service

Using less and giving more

This summer, I read *The Service Berry* by Robin Wall Kimmerer, a book about the "gift economy"—living with gratitude, giving back, taking only what we need, and strengthening community. It struck me how closely these values align with what it means to be a Lion.

As Lions, service is gratitude in action. It's recognizing the blessings we've received—neighbors, nature, opportunities—and finding ways to return the gift. And this summer, Mother Nature gave us plenty to be grateful for: bright days, warm breezes, fresh produce, green trees, and clean ponds.

How do we give back to nature and to each other? One way is by rethinking what we consume. Recycling is good but reusing and borrowing are even better. Buying less is best of all. Repairing, swapping, or sharing reduces waste while also building community.

Here's a story that shows this spirit: a friend called me and told me our new neighbors, who live near an abandoned peach orchard, invited us come peach picking. I gathered about twenty pounds and began canning, only to find my pot too small. While handling Trex recycling that day at the dump, I mentioned it to the crew. One worker, Mike, grinned, sprinted to the metals dumpster, and triumphantly emerged with a perfect canning pot—lid and all. His joy in helping was matched by mine in receiving. I later shared jars of peach and blackberry jam with him and my neighbors.

That small circle of giving—friends, neighbors, nature, recycling workers, and homemade jam—was a reminder that gratitude, community and joy all multiply when shared.

Resources for reusing, repairing, and sharing:

- Swap Shacks at many local transfer stations
- ThredUp, Mercari, Poshmark secondhand clothing marketplaces
- DIY Craft Store (Concord, NH)
- Swanson Fabric Stash House (Turners Falls, MA)
- Goodwill and other thrift shops goodwill.org/locator
- Facebook Marketplace & "Everything is Free" groups
- Craigslist Free and regular sections nh.craigslist.org/search/zip
- Freecycle freecycle.org
- NH Recycles nhrecycles.org

Let's carry forward the spirit of gratitude—through service projects, reusing instead of buying new, or sharing abundance with neighbors in need. Every act of giving back honors both our community and the natural world.

To connect, share resources, or get help with an environmental service project, reach out to the NH Lions Green Team at NHLionsGreenTeam@gmail.com







World Literacy Day

September 8th is World Literacy Day. Why is this Vision article about literacy? The definition of literacy is "the ability to read and write."

Without eyesight, the printed word is inaccessible and writing legibly impossible. Even poor eyesight makes reading challenging.

Lions have the SPOT screening program to help identify younger children who would benefit from professional eye care. The earlier vision problems are identified and corrected, the less of a negative impact these problems have. Children with good vision enjoy learning to read and write as they become fully literate.

Eyesight is precious. Isn't it worth a few simple actions to protect it?

Linda Piekarski NH44 Vision Chair lpi314@outlook.com



Childhood Cancer Awareness Month is observed annually in September. It is a time to raise awareness about childhood cancer, *support families affected by the disease, and advocate for research* and funding.

During this month, organizations and individuals participate in various events and activities to:

- Educate the public about childhood cancer symptoms, risk factors, and treatment options.
- Highlight the need for more research and funding to develop effective treatments and cures.
- Support families facing the challenges of childhood cancer.
- Honor the courage and resilience of children and young adults battling cancer.

Some ways to get involved in Childhood Cancer Awareness Month include:

- Wearing a gold ribbon, the international symbol for childhood cancer.
- Donating to childhood cancer research organizations.
- Attending events and fundraisers.
- Sharing information and stories about childhood cancer on social media.
- Advocating for policies that support childhood cancer research and care.

By raising awareness and acting during Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, we can help make a difference in the fight against childhood cancer.

What is your club going to do for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month? Share on your club's Facebook page.

Sue Lindberg Childhood Cancer Chair



Feed My Starving Children – Volunteer and Financial Contribution Opportunity

Is your club interested in donating hours towards resolving hunger in our world? There is a great opportunity to do just that on October 24th and 25th in Barrington NH. You can either volunteer your time or make monetary contributions to Feed My Starving Children.

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is a highly rated charity that provides highly nutritious meals to malnourished children worldwide. Reviews consistently praise FMSC for its efficiency, impact, and transparency. Many reviewers highlight the organization's 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, which indicates strong financial health and accountability.

Positive aspects highlighted in reviews:

• High percentage of donations reaching the intended recipients:

FMSC reports that 91% of all donations go directly to food production, and 99.8% of meals shipped reach their intended destinations.

Positive volunteer experiences:

Many reviewers mention the well-organized and welcoming environment at FMSC's packing events, with staff being described as caring and compassionate, according to reviews on Yelp.

• Impact on children:

Volunteers often express feeling a sense of satisfaction knowing they are directly contributing to feeding hungry children.

If interested – follow this link:

https://give.fmsc.org/campaign/2510-085mi-barrington-nh-new-hampshire-turbo-pack/c640841

Elaine Farrington 44N Hunger Chair

ANTRIM-BENNINGTON LIONS

The Lions mission of aiding those with sight and hearing difficulties is one focus of our service projects. Due to the generosity of our Antrim-Bennington community, our club donated 240 pairs of eyeglasses, 33 sunglasses, and 2 hearing aids at the August District 44N meeting.

Lion Sue Conklin is the new chair of our Kidsight eye screening program which served over 400 students in six schools last year. Thanks go to Lion Rick Wood who chaired this effort over the past few years. Many club members step up as volunteers in this worthwhile program.

The Lions on Monadnock social event was held at the Shattuck Golf Club in Jaffrey, NH. Spearheaded by Lions Chris and Wayne Brown, our members donated raffle baskets and solicited gift certificates from local businesses. We enjoyed the opportunity to socialize in a lovely venue with a gorgeous view of Mount Monadnock and raise money for our charities.

Our efforts to promote community friendships continued last month with an ice cream social at the housing complex, Antrim Village. Led by Lion Mary O'Connell members Rich O'Connell, Mike Connolly, Tad Fish, Sonnie Fish, Tamasine Wood-Creighton, and the residents enjoyed conversation and delicious ice cream at this event.

Unfortunately, the Blues and Barbecue social event which was planned in conjunction with the Antrim in the Evening band concert was rescheduled due to inclement weather. Thank you to Lion Rich O'Connell for chairing this event.

Volunteer opportunities at the Grapevine Family Resource Center in Antrim benefit our community. In particular, The Resource Center serves families from ten towns in our area. They held an Open House for their new teen center, and the Lions Club was there to provide free popcorn. In attendance were Lions Tamasine and Jim Creighton, Anne Gilbert, and Sonnie and Tad Fish.

Our next big event the Cornhole Tournament, Home and Harvest Parade and Barbecue in Antrim on Sept.12 & 13. So many members step forward to make this event a success! We look forward to participating in these events and promoting the good works of our club in our community.







HINSDALE LIONS

The Hinsdale Lions Club donated 300 backpacks to the Hinsdale Goes Back to School event, providing backpacks for any student who needs or wants one. The school filled the backpacks with ageappropriate supplies for K-12 students. Club Secretary Tom Woodbury (left), Club President Jeana Woodbury (right), Club Treasurer Linda Page (holding the camera), and a potential new member handed them out at the event. Here, Tom and Jeana are holding a 5-gallon bucket full of little stuffed lions to hand out with the backpacks. It was a terrific event and great fun!



Bedford Lions Elda Cordero-Goodman and Matui Adossi, along with Matui's daughter, served up the final hot dog at the last cookout for this season of campers at Camp Allen on Sunday August 17. All the volunteers enjoyed giving back this summer!

CHESTERFIELD LIONS

Chesterfield Lions Club was proud to be the host club for the first District meeting this year. We loved sharing our little portion of the state with you all. We are gearing up for a great year starting off with a service activity of hosting a food tent for the River Valley Artisans Art, Wine & Cruise-In Festival on September 6th & 7th at Summit Winery in Westmoreland, NH. Stop by if





you are in the area for some great food and wine. Members have been busy attending various district events. Our club meetings will start up again in September and we are looking forward to our fist guest speaker Keith Marks, the executive director of the Colonial Performing Arts Center.

HENNIKER LIONS

The Henniker club kicked off the beginning of our new year with a fun old fashioned backyard party, and a warm "thank you" to the outgoing officers and club president, Sarah Keniston, for their years of service to the club and community.

For our August monthly meeting, we are thrilled to introduce our two newest members, Jana Laudadio and Suzanne Lamb. Both were inducted into the club with proud sponsors, Gwen Airgood and Sarah Keniston.

Our club was honored to be invited as the first "Organization/Club Spotlight" for the Community Potluck Dinner hosted by the "White Birch Community Center" at their new Cornerstone Building.

It was a beautiful evening filled with many smiles, laughter and great food! Speaking of food, our community garden is producing lots of great veggies for our local food pantry. The corn is getting tall which means fall is peeking around the corner.

Our club has some upcoming service projects which include donation and prep of polar fleece for the Henniker residence of Rush Square who will be gathering to make "no sew" fleece blankets for local animal shelters. We will also be assisting our neighbors, the Hopkinton Lions, with eye screening during the upcoming Hopkinton Fair, not to mention joining in the "NAMI" walk for mental health awareness.

As we begin to say goodbye to summer, what better way than with an end of season, summer BBQ for the residents of Rush Square. They enjoyed the holiday BBQ so much, we were requested back for more! Hat's off to our great chef, Richard Dreher" for his great burgers!

Lastly, we would like to thank our recent guest speakers Laura and Nicki, from Granite State Generosity, gsgnh.org. We enjoyed hearing how they are giving back to the residents throughout NH who are in need.





HILLSBORO LIONS

Preparations are in progress for the annual Hillsboro Lions Club Cookout, which will take place on Sunday, September 14th, at the Manahan Park Pavilion from 12:00 to 4:00 PM, rain or shine. District Governor Pam Prentiss will join the Hillsboro Lions for an afternoon of fun, food, and friendship. Plans are also underway for our first vision screening event which will take place at Hillsboro-Deering High School, Middle School, and Elementary School during the week of September 29th to October 3rd. Hillsboro Lions contributed \$200 to sponsor a hole at the upcoming American Legion Golf Tournament.

Lion Alan Ager spent four hours transporting food from Southern Hampshire Services (SNHS) in Manchester, NH to the Hillsborough District Food Pantry. PCC Don Ager and PMCST Meg Ager attended the Lions Northeast Pin Swap which took place August 12-15 in Rutland, VT.

Hillsboro Lions collected 71 pairs of eyeglasses and 7 pairs of sunglasses. Additionally, we collected 27.5 pounds of aluminum pull tabs for donation to the Shriner's Hospital for Children.

MANCHESTER LIONS

August found Manchester Lions busy serving. Jean Lemire, Mark Reisman, Dick, and Bonnie St Jean cooked /served the new Camp Allen campers and family's lunch on what seemed the hottest day in the summer. An Open House was held, and two new members joined the Lions family. Welcome Dan and Josephine Fraser who were inducted by our Zone Chair, Sophie Cutler. The end of the month will find us doing eye screenings at St Joseph Junior High/Trinity High School as well as community clean up in conjunction with SEE.



Dan Fraser, Josephine Fraser, Annemay Kelso, Dick St. Jean, Bonnie St. Jean, and Gene Martin

ORFORD LIONS

We just had our first annual Golf Tournament at the Black Mount Country Club I Haverhill, NH. We had twenty-four players, and we raised about \$900.00 President Clyde Blake headed up the tournament, getting most of the hole sponsors, prizes, and running the event, and it went very well. So good, that we will be back at Black Mount again in 2026.

Last fall, KL Clyde started our annual Christmas Raffle which he acquired 90% of the prizes, and the raffle brought in \$1,400.00 for our club. Last month we have been doing BBQs on the Orford town common during their band concerts, which have brought in from \$300 to \$400 per event.

PETERBOROUGH LIONS

The Peterborough Lions Club doesn't meet during the summer, but we are still busy! Lions Linda Guyette and Christine Lavery assisted the Monadnock Lions by selling tickets at the Cheshire Fair.

Lion Arlene MacArthur attended the Cabinet meeting in Chesterfield.

Lion Michael Reimer counted and verified we retrieved all 2000 ducks that went into the river during our Annual Lucky Duck Race and sorted them for storage.

Lion Deidre McGrath-Fischer researched new vendors for Christmas trees after our long-time source went out of business.

After confusion with Shaw's over rules for

collecting plastic to recycle through Trex, Lion Deidre McGrath-Fischer consulted with Trex for guidance going forward. We are on our way to meeting our annual goal and receiving another bench to donate to the town.

We collected 13 pairs of gently used shoes and boots and sent them to Soles4Souls. Thanks to Valley Automotive for allowing us to park our trailer at their facility. Lions Michael Reimer and Phil Gammons spent some time clearing the area of brush. We are looking forward to Second Vice District Governor Nancy Charbono-Ricard visiting our club at our BBQ in September.

MERRIMACK LIONS

Merrimack Lions are already up and running this Lions year. 3 Lions attended the August Cabinet meeting in Chesterfield.



Our annual Golf Tournament fundraiser was held in July. Great time by all – the volunteers and the golfers! The 2nd picture below shows golf ball signs with all the ways Merrimack Lions make a difference – golfers walk by them on their way to their golf carts.





Merrimack participated in the National Night Out. A good crowd of over 400 people attended. Good exposure to who we are!





Three attended the Lions Fisher Cats Game. The score was awful – lost 16-1, but we had a great time and the fireworks were awesome!



Ten of us went out to eat and try our luck at the NASH casino



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Monthly Meetings

Lions Youth Services

2nd Thursday of the month -6:30 pm

Sight & Hearing Foundation

 3^{rd} Thursday of the month – 6:30 pm (above meet at the Airport Diner, Manchester

MD44 Health Services of NH

4th Tuesday of the month – 6:30 pm Virtual ZOOM

LTSSA Twin State Soccer – last Wednesday of the month 6:30 pm Virtual ZOOM

NH Green Team – 3rd Monday of the month 7pm Virtual Zoom

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