

# WE SERVE THE DIGITAL NEBRASKA LION

Telling the story of Nebraska Lionism. VOLUME 1 No. 4 FEBRUARY 2024

Created/Edited by PDG Edward Dunn

## HELLO LIONS FROM THE DIGITAL WORLD

Spring fever has hit and everyone is wondering if we will get another snow storm, I simply remind them that it is not a matter of **IF**, it is a matter of **WHEN**. All joking aside this has been a tolerable winter compared to last year.

With Spring right around the corner that means it is time for Mid-Winter Conventions and that the State Convention will be here before we know it. Make plans now to attend what is sure to be another memorable State Convention in Bellevue, NE at the gorgeous Bellevue University.

Just a reminder all future digital issues will be available on-line at [www.md38.com](http://www.md38.com) as well as sent as a google drive or adobe link to each lion that has a working email on MyLCI at [www.account.lionsclubs.org](http://www.account.lionsclubs.org).

If you have any suggestions, comments, and/or concerns please send them to PDG Edward Dunn at [dunnedward25@gmail.com](mailto:dunnedward25@gmail.com).



Our Founder Melvin Jones

### The Digital Nebraska Lions Publication Dates

Last Full Week in **AUGUST**  
Last Full Week in **SEPTEMBER**  
Last Full Week in **DECEMBER**  
Last Full Week in **FEBRUARY**  
Last Full Week in **APRIL**  
Last Full Week in **JUNE**

## 2023-2024 COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

**Council Chair -  
Merlin Olson (Ellen)**  
609 Avenue C  
Plattsmouth, NE 68048  
C: 402-213-5822  
[lionmerlinolson@yahoo.com](mailto:lionmerlinolson@yahoo.com)

**District Governor 38-L  
Nicholas Dobesh**  
901 Parry Drive  
Chadron, NE 69337  
H: 402-910-4109  
[ndobesh1@gmail.com](mailto:ndobesh1@gmail.com)

**Vice Council Chair -  
Dave Emry (Gay)**  
3536 South 163rd Street  
Omaha, NE 68130  
H: 402-697-8115  
C: 402-689-9282  
[demry@centurylink.net](mailto:demry@centurylink.net)

**District Governor 38-I  
Mike Geiger (Karen)**  
1107 North 34th Street  
Kearney, NE 68847  
H: 308-234-3670  
C: 308-238-3670  
[mnkgeiger@yahoo.com](mailto:mnkgeiger@yahoo.com)

**Council Secretary -  
Ellen Olson (Merlin)**  
609 Avenue C  
Plattsmouth, NE 68048  
C: 402-213-7076  
[elleneolson@yahoo.com](mailto:elleneolson@yahoo.com)

**District Governor 38-O  
Dave Melick (Sheri)**  
2827 Timber Edge Drive  
Columbus, NE 68601 C:  
402-910-3283  
[davemelick2827@gmail.com](mailto:davemelick2827@gmail.com)

**Council Treasurer -  
Randy Luthy**  
1308 North K Road  
Phillips, NE 68865  
C: 402-694-2148  
[rluthy@live.com](mailto:rluthy@live.com)

**District Governor 38-N  
Evelyn Springer (John)**  
P.O. Box 94611 Lincoln,  
NE 68509  
C: 402-580-2850  
[ems11272000@yahoo.com](mailto:ems11272000@yahoo.com)

### 2023-2024 MD Important Dates

(Tentative-Subject to Change)

**March 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 - Broken Bow  
Districts L & I Mid-Winter**

**March 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - Lincoln, NE  
Districts O & N Mid-Winter**

**April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - Broken Bow, NE  
COG & NLF Meeting**

**April 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - Broken Bow, NE DGE  
School**

**June 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - Bellevue, NE  
State Convention & COG**

**June 21<sup>st</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - Melbourne, Australia  
International Convention**

**September 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - Louisville, KY  
USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum**

### Nebraska Lions Foundation Executive Officers 2023-2024

**Chairperson -  
Jeanne Gentry (Chris)**  
25863 Dumbell Road  
Hyannis, NE 69350  
H: 308-458-2493  
[jeannegentry63@gmail.com](mailto:jeannegentry63@gmail.com)

**Chair-Elect -  
Bob Arp (Wilma)**  
3269 37th Avenue  
Columbus, NE 68601  
H: 402-563-2657  
C: 402-750-6115  
[barp1@neb.rr.com](mailto:barp1@neb.rr.com)

**Secretary -  
Kal Lausterer (Pamela)**  
1673 North Oak Street  
Wahoo, NE 68066  
Omaha, NE 68137  
H: 402-443-3886  
C: 402-607-2564  
[kplausterer@gmail.com](mailto:kplausterer@gmail.com)

**Treasurer -  
Donna Darell (Allen)**  
14517 R Street  
402-895-6613  
402-210-5857  
[liondonnad@centurylink.net](mailto:liondonnad@centurylink.net)

**Immediate Past Chair -  
Phil Dobesh**  
901 Parry Drive  
Chadron, NE 69337  
C: 308-460-0028  
[pdobesh1@gmail.com](mailto:pdobesh1@gmail.com)

## ITS TIME FOR MID-WINTER

We hope your excited to attend the 2024 District L & I Midwinter Convention. It will be packed with service, fun, information, and motivation! This years 2024 District L & I Midwinter Convention is in Broken Bow, March 1st and March 2nd.

On Friday you will have a chance to see programs from the Global Leadership Team (GLT), Global Membership Team (GMT), Global Service Team (GST), and Global Membership Approach (GMA).

Friday evening you will hear remarks from International Director Hans Neidhardt and enjoy fantastic fellowship.

Saturday is all about International President Patti Hills thoughts and goals with open discussion.

After lunch the District Cabinet Meetings will be held with elections for District Governor Elect, 1st Vice District Governor, 2nd Vice District Governor, and 3rd Vice District Governor being the main focus.

Looking forward to seeing L & I District Lions very soon.



HANS NEIDHARDT  
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR

Hans Neidhardt from Potwin, Kansas, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as an international director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 105th International Convention in Boston, Massachusetts, USA, July 7 through July 11, 2023. Director Neidhardt is a retired Colonel with 39 years of service in the United States Air Force. After retiring from his career in the military he served another eight years as a special education paraprofessional/substitute teacher. Since 2020, he has been fully retired. Inspired by their community service and camaraderie, Director Neidhardt became a Lion in 1981 after joining the Potwin Lions Club. Since 2015, he has served with the Towanda Lions Club. He has held a number of offices within the association including more than 15 years of service as multiple district council treasurer. He has also served as the Great Plain Lions Leadership Institute (GPLLI) curriculum coordinator and registrar as well as a GPLLI facilitator. In recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards including multiple International President's Awards, International President's Certificates of Appreciation and an International President's Leadership Award. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. In addition to his Lions activities, Director Neidhardt is active in numerous professional and community organizations including more than 40 years of membership with the American Legion. He is the recipient of several military distinctions and honors including KSANG Company Grade Officer of the Year, the USAF Legion of Merit, and the Kansas Medal of Excellence. Director Neidhardt and his wife, Shari, also a Lion and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have two children, five grandchildren and one great grandchild.

It is time to attend the District N & O Midwinter Convention to be held March 15-16, 2024 in Lincoln NE. It's a time to gather and reconnect with fellow Lions.

On Friday evening, 5 PM, a casual dinner will be held at HF Crave, 48th & Holdrege. Check out their website as HF Crave has a variety of food options and features Farm to Table. The meal is self-pay plus a 20% gratuity.

Following dinner at 7 PM, Lions will be attending the Wesleyan University Theatre, 51st & Huntington, to see the play "The Good Doctor". Seating is limited to 50 so get your reservations in early.

On Saturday, March 16th, meetings will be held at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 84th & Pioneer.

Past International Director Cynthia Gregg will be our guest.

Lincoln Food Bank will be doing a presentation on their service to the community through the Food Pantry Program. Lions are asked to bring non-perishable items for collection. There is a great need to help the community. Most needed items are foods such as soup, canned meats and fruits, peanut butter, macaroni and cheese or other boxed dinners, cooking oil, spices, coffee, cereal, personal care items and paper goods.

Let's show our support and fill the food bins.

Looking forward to seeing you in Lincoln.



CYNTHIA "CINDY" B. GREGG  
PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR

Cindy B. Gregg, from Bells Vernon, Pennsylvania, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 96th International Convention held in Hamburg, Germany July 5 through 9, 2013. Past Director Gregg is a retired music teacher. A member of the Rostraver Township Lions Club since 2000, she has held many offices within the association, including president, district governor, council chairperson, district MERL coordinator and district LCIF coordinator. In recognition of her service to the association, she has received numerous awards including the Club Excellence Award, Leadership Award, two President's Medals, four International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the Certified Guiding Lion Medal and the Joseph L. Wroblewski Award. She is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. In addition to her Lions activities, Past Director Gregg is active in numerous professional and community organizations, including the Arts Education Collaborative Leadership Institute, National Association for Music Education, and the American Orff-Schulwerk Association. Past Director Gregg and her husband, Tom, also a Lion and Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have a son and a daughter, both of whom are Lions. They have one grandchild.

**MID-WINTER DISTRICTS 38-L AND 38-I AGENDA**

**COBBLESTONE HOTEL AND SUITES**  
**2750 S 27TH AVE., BROKEN BOW, NE 68822**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024 AND SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024**

**FRIDAY**

- 1:30 - 2:30**      **Opening and Introduction of ID Hans Neidhardt, Q&A**
- 2:30 – 5:00**      **Speakers : GLT, GMT, GST, GMA**
- 5:30 - 6:30**      **Social Time**
- 6:30**              **Meal, Awards, Social time**

**SATURDAY**

- 8:30**              **IP Patti Hill's Thoughts, Goals, Open Discussions**

**(Check out of rooms by 11:00am)**

- 11:45**              **Lunch**

- 1:00**              **District Cabinet Meetings Begin**  
**(District Governor Election and VDG Elections)**

**DISMISSED AFTER CABINET MEETINGS, NO FORMAL CLOSING**

**DISTRICT N & O  
MID-WINTER CONVENTION – LINCOLN, NE  
March 15-16, 2024  
(Tentative Schedule)**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 15TH**

- 5:00 PM**            Dinner at HF Crave, 48th & Holdrege    (Self-Pay)  
HF Crave offers a variety of food options and features Farm to Table.
- 7:00 PM**            NE Wesleyan University Theatre, 51st & Huntington  
“The Good Doctor”

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH**

**St. Mark’s United Methodist Church, 84th & Pioneer**

- 8:00 AM**            Registration Open    (Coffee/Rolls Provided)
- 9:00 AM**            Opening Session / Welcome
- 9:15 AM**            Presentation: TBD
- 10:15 AM**            Break
- 10:30 AM**            District Cabinet Meetings
- 11:45 AM**            Break
- NOON**                Lunch
- 1:30 PM**            Lincoln Food Bank
- 2:15 PM**            Break
- 2:30 PM**            Past International Director Cynthia Gregg / Awards
- 3:30 PM**            Adjournment

**Saturday Evening, Lions are invited to join in a casual dinner with Past International Director Cindy Gregg.**

## AND BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, STATE CONVENTION WILL BE HERE

The Lions Clubs of Nebraska 102nd State Convention is planned for June 7th-9th in Bellevue, Nebraska. The Millard, Papillion, Plattsmouth, and Bellevue Lions Clubs look forward to welcoming you to this year's convention. It will be held at the John B. Mueller Administrative Services Building on the campus of Bellevue University. You will not want to miss this exciting weekend.

On Friday, we will be providing multiple opportunities for community service. From 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm we can have up to 50 volunteers at the Timberlake Distribution Center. It's a part of The Open Door Mission in Omaha. Between 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., we will need 15 volunteers to serve meals. Additionally, we are working on setting up a children's vision screening in Bellevue. What about taking a tour of the Nebraska Lions Eye Bank or the Weigel Williamson Center for Low Vision. You can also take advantage of your time in the metro area by visiting the best zoo in America, or maybe take in the old market or the Durham Museum. Further west at Exit 426 there is the SAC Museum and the Wildlife Safari Park. So many choices and things to do.

Friday evening you will enjoy a three meat BBQ meal followed by Music Bingo. You will receive a two-sided Bingo card with song titles and the Host will play music in a random order. If the title of the song is on your card, fill in the space. Just like regular Bingo, prizes will be awarded to those who get a Bingo. Everyone is encouraged to sing along with the songs and if you do not know the title, you can look it up on your phone. During this event we will also be providing a Mocktail Bar and light refreshments. If Bingo is not your thing, we'll have cards and board games for those who would prefer that or you can just get caught up with your Lions friends.

During this convention we'll be looking back to 1924, the only Lions Clubs International Convention to be held in Omaha.

Our international association guests are International Director Ron Keller and his spouse Kitty Lea from Millersport, Ohio. ID Ron is a member of the Millersport Lions Club, joining in 1979. It's perfect for the Keller's to come for our convention in Nebraska, The Cornhusker State. Director Keller has been the chairman of the Millersport Lions' Sweet Corn Festival since 1990. We'll have more about ID Ron and Kitty Lea in the next edition of the digital Nebraska Lion News.

Lodging is located at the Holiday Inn Express, 10804 S 15th Street, Bellevue, NE. Room rates for a Standard Room / 2 Queen Beds is \$129.00 + tax, and Standard Room / 1 King Bed is \$135.00 + tax. The direct number is 402-982-0409. Please specifically ask for the Nebraska Lions Club Convention rate. A block of rooms is being held until May 10th.

The registration form is found on the next page of this edition of the Digital Nebraska Lion. You can also find a copy of the registration form on the [www.md38.com](http://www.md38.com) website. As soon as the convention schedule is finalized, we'll post that on the [www.md38.com](http://www.md38.com) website as well and it will appear in the next edition of the digital Nebraska Lion.

Beforehand on the evening of June 6, you'll have the opportunity to enjoy AAA baseball at Papillion's Werner Park, home of the Omaha Storm Chasers. This will be "Nebraska Lions Family Night at the Ballgame." We have the Party Deck reserved for food and refreshments and a section of seats reserved along the third base line. There is elevator service to the Party Deck. Cost for the pre-game meal and the ballgame ticket is only \$30. Please see the ticket request form in this issue or online at [www.md38.com](http://www.md38.com) website. There are 75 tickets reserved, so send your request in soon. Any Lion and their families are welcome at this event. It is not restricted to convention attendees and is an open event for all.

THE 102ND NEBRASKA LIONS MD 38 STATE CONVENTION

June 7, 8 & 9, 2024

John B. Muller Admin. Svc. Building / Bellevue University

Convention Chair: PCC Allen Darell, Ph: (402) 320-0718, Email: adarell@centurylink.net

REGISTRATION FORM

Room reservations are your responsibility and should be made online directly at:

https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/find-hotels/select-roomrate?fromRedirect=true&qSrt=sBR&qIta=99801505&icdv=99801505&qSIH=BVUNE&qCiD=06&qCiM y=052024&qCoD=09&qCoMy=052024&qGrpCd=NEL&setPMCookies=true&qSHBrC=EX&qDest=10804%20S%2015th%20St,%20Bellevue,% 20NE,%20US&srb\_u=1&qRmFiltr=&qChAge=

Or contact Holiday Inn Express in Bellevue at: (402) 502-4500 (Front Desk) or (402) 982-0409 (Shelby)

Room rates are \$129.00 + tax for Standard Room, 2 Queen Beds or \$135.00 + tax for Standard Room King Bed

\*\*\* Be sure to mention the Nebraska Lions Club Convention when registering. Block of rooms will be held until May 10th.

Complimentary hot breakfast is included for registered hotel guest.

Early convention registration ends on Friday, May 17, 2024 (postmark date)

As a courtesy, please register early, MEAL COUNTS MUST BE TURNED IN BY MAY 22.

FILL OUT REGISTRATION FORM COMPLETELY

Lion: \_\_\_\_\_ First-Timer: Yes\* \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
Club: \_\_\_\_\_ District 38 - \_\_\_\_\_ Current Office: \*\* \_\_\_\_\_
Telephone: \_(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_
Lion / Leo / Guest: \_\_\_\_\_ Lion / Leo / Guest First-Timer: Yes\* \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: THE MILLARD LIONS CLUB

Mail registration to: PCC Allen Darell, 14517 R St., Omaha, NE 68137-2652

IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE NOTE THEM ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM.

Table with 4 columns: Item, Before May 17th, After May 17th, Quantity, Cost. Row 1: Registration Fee \* | \$15.00 per person | \$15.00 per persons | \_\_\_\_\_ | \$\_\_\_\_\_

\*= NO REGISTRATION FEES FOR FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES.

\*\*= NO REGISTRATION FEES OR MEAL FEES FOR HIGHEST RANKING VICE PRESIDENT OF EACH CLUB!

Table with 4 columns: Item, Before May 17th, After May 17th, Quantity, Cost. Row 1: Friday Evening Meal | \$25.00 per person | \$30.00 per person | \_\_\_\_\_ | \$\_\_\_\_\_
Row 2: Saturday Noon Meal | \$20.00 per person | \$25.00 per person | \_\_\_\_\_ | \$\_\_\_\_\_
Row 3: Saturday Evening Meal (Non-Formal) | \$35.00 per person | \$40.00 per person | \_\_\_\_\_ | \$\_\_\_\_\_

## Lions Clubs of Nebraska Family Night with the Omaha Storm Chasers.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, June 6, 2024

6:00pm Picnic Dinner

7:05pm Ballgame



**Memphis Redbirds vs. *STORM CHASERS***

**Join with your Lions friends and families.**

**Where: Werner Park, Party Deck and Box Seats**

**Price: \$30.00 - Game Ticket and Picnic Meal**

*Our seating limit is 75 guests for the party deck and box seats*

**Buffet meal: Hamburger or Hot Dog, Baked Beans, chips and water.**

**Buffet on the south end of party deck,  
other drinks available at north end of party deck.**

***The Party Deck has elevator access.***

**Contact: Allen Darell, 402-320-0718 or [adarell@centurylink.net](mailto:adarell@centurylink.net) Mail**

**reservation and payment to:**

**PCC Allen Darell, 14517 R St, Omaha, NE 68137-2652**

**I will have your tickets at the ballpark concourse before the game.**



**RISE FROM THE ASHES**



DISTRICT 38-L  
DG - NICHOLAS DOBESH



901 Parry Drive  
Chadron, NE 69337  
ndobesh@gmail.com C: (308) 430-8110

Alliance Beaver City Benkelman Brady Bridgeport Brule Bushnell  
Cambridge Chadron Chappell Elwood Eustis Farnam Gordon Gothenburg Grant  
Gurley Hershey Hitchcock County Holbrook Hyannis Imperial Kimball Lexington  
Lodgepole Maywood Mullen Ogallala Oshkosh Paxton Potter Scottsbluff-Gering  
Sutherland Venango Wallace Wauneta-Palisade/Frenchman Valley

**2023-2024 MD Important Dates**  
(Tentative-Subject to Change)

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Districts L & I Mid-Winter

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DGE School

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State Convention & COG

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International Convention

September 5th - 7th, 2024 - Louisville, KY  
USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum

Greeting fellow Lions,

I hope you are all staying safe and warm this winter.

As we are past halfway through the Lion's year, it is time to start thinking about the future leadership with our club officers for next year already. I would like to encourage my fellow Lions to consider stepping up into officer positions that they may not have been in before. I would also like to encourage clubs to not reuse members in the same position for multiple years in a row, with the potential exception of club secretary and treasurer.

If you are wanting to step up to a club officer position but aren't sure what a position entails and are afraid you can't do it, I would like to encourage and tell you, that you can. There are many sources to turn to and learn what any officer's duties are.

The first and easiest source is your own fellow club members who have filled the position previously. By talking with a previous club president, secretary, treasurer, or whichever position, you will be able to learn local traditions especially with the Lion Tamer and Tail Twister. If you are new to Lions, I would strongly encourage you to consider these last two positions as they are great positions to start as a club officer. Tail Twisters can be a lot of fun especially if you have a creative personality.

The next source for information about officer duties is Lions University. It can be found at <https://lionsuniversity.org/>. The bachelor's program covers many of the local club officer duties, with a webinar, including club president (good for the VP and 2nd VP), secretary, treasurer, and tail twister positions. The training courses are roughly 1 hour each and in addition to officer training it also offers trainings for effective meetings, growing membership, conflict resolution, and more. Also, with Lions University if you complete the required training and then attend a USA/Canada Forum, you can ascertain you Bachelor's at the first forum you attend. As I said back after this year's forum, they are also great learning opportunities.

The next source of training is at the district and multiple district levels, although this requires a little more planning. At the district level, we have the Global Leadership Team, for District L, PDG Ed Dunn is our GLT. If you would like training from PDG Ed, consider working with surrounding clubs, potentially your zone and region, and contact him to schedule a time for training. This would also be a great position to contact at the start of next Lion year. At the multiple district level, any of the conventions (Fall Rally, Mid-winter, or State) are excellent sources of leadership. A large percentage of the attendees of these events have been in many of the local club positions, and the added benefit of talking with officers from other clubs is the opportunity to learn other possible ideas to bring back to your local club.

As we are thinking of our club level officers, I would also like to ask you to consider District level positions. This Lions year I have been operating with only about half of my district cabinet filled. As with the club officers, there are trainings for district officer to help someone prepare for the positions. The first is again Lions University. Like their bachelor's degree, there is a Master's program that specifically covers district level positions and topics. I myself have done both the Bachelor's and master's program and both were very helpful for me.

Secondly a very helpful training course for Lions looking to step up into leadership is the Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute. This year the institute will be held July 26th-July 28th at the Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, MO. The registration form is at <https://www.iowalions.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/2024-GPLLI-Application.pdf>. As the name implies, there are Lions from all over the Great Plains enabling an individual to learn not only what other clubs in our state do, but other state clubs do. There is a registration cost, but the district has some funds available to reimburse individuals. Again, this is an outstanding training, I attended back in 2016 and still talk to several of the other attendees and even some of the teachers from the institute.

Finally, I would like to encourage you one last time, to consider stepping up into a club or district officer position to help our clubs and district grow and enable us to grow our leadership. With greater depth in our leadership, Lions will be able to grow our GRRRRReat organization and expand our outstanding service to our communities.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing everyone at Mid-Winter in Broken Bow.

Lion DG Nicholas Dobesh



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**No One Can Help Everyone, But  
Everyone Can Help Someone**  
DISTRICT 38-I  
DG - Michael Geiger



**1107 East 34th St.  
Kearney, NE 68847  
mnkgeiger@yahoo.com C: (308) 238-3670**

Ainsworth Amherst Atkinson Bartlett Bertrand Broken Bow Burwell Area Callaway Clay Center Edgar Elm Creek Grand Island Harvard Hastings Noon Hastings Evening Heartwell Hildreth Holdrege Kearney Macon Minden North Loup O'Neill Ong Orleans Pleasanton Ravenna Red Cloud Shelton Area Sutton Taylor Valentine Wilcox Wilcox Lioness

**Lions of 38-I**

We have passed the halfway point through our LION'S year. It's almost February and I'm looking forward to the annual Ground Hog Supper and some great Pancake Feeds. Call me soon so we can get you on my schedule or better yet have a representative at the Saturday afternoon District Cabinet meeting at the Mid-Winter Convention in Broken Bow March 1st and 2nd.

At the Cabinet meeting, we will discuss the District business and review the Club Challenge of donating \$5 per club member or \$50 per club to LCIF and you have also made an NLF donation. We also have an NLF and COG meeting coming up on April 6th, also in Broken Bow. Isn't it nice having meetings in the center of the state. Our State Conventions rotate almost every year between West, East, and Middle and this year will be in Bellevue.

I hope all new members and activities/service hours, are being reported to LCI. Our Mission 1.5 needs those numbers to show how many people are getting helped in this country as well as around the world. The more members we have, the more service we can do. 1.5 million members is achievable. As a 40-year member, I can remember some of our milestones like 1.3, 1.35, 1.4 million, and still growing.

Speaking of milestones, I hope you have heard that our MSU school screening numbers went over 40,000 students screened. Thank you to all the clubs that used the MSU.

We are still looking for Vice District Governors. DGE School is coming up on April 26th to 28th in Nebraska but online classes can start at any time. GPLLI in July is open to all Lions and our district provides scholarships for the tuition.

Thank you for picking up my Challenge to donate to LCIF. Through January, the clubs that have already donated are averaging over \$12 per member with a median amount of \$100 per club. Thank you, but let's continue my challenge because there are several more clubs out there. My Challenge was for \$5 per member or \$50 per club. Any donation to LCIF will show them we appreciate the money they have put into our district over the years to help us with tornadoes, fires, floods and our Mobile Screening Unit's vehicles and equipment. My next newsletter will give the 'totals to date' and maybe more details. I don't want to jinx it at this point. Ask your club at your next meeting if you have joined in.

As most of you know, we did lose a great club at Callaway. Their members are going to continue helping with the Red Cross Blood Drive in their community and Broken Bow Lions will sponsor the MSU at the schools they sponsored. I would like to thank them for their many years of service to Lions as their Lion's heart will continue within their community. We have an opportunity for the clubs in the area surrounding Kearney.

(The quantity of) My club visits could be better. I have enjoyed seeing some long-time friends in the outer edges of our district. Northwest hasn't been forgotten, it just hasn't been scheduled, YET. Now that snowstorms will be fewer, I want to get more visits in. Call or email me with an invitation.

Bless you all and hope to see you in Broken Bow.  
Lion Mike Geiger, DG



AIM: ACTIVELY INCREASING MEMBERSHIP



DISTRICT 38-O  
DG - David Melick



2827 Timber Edge Drive  
Columbus, NE 68601  
davemelick2827@gmail.com C: (402) 910-3283

Arlington Battle Creek Bennington Blair Columbus Noon Elkhorn John C. Fremont Genoa  
Laurel Laurel Leos Meadow Grove-Tilden Neligh Newman Grove Norfolk Oakland Omaha  
Sunrise Omaha Westside Pierce Snyder Tekamah Wahoo Wakefield Wayne Wisner Woodcliff

**2023-2024 MD Important Dates**  
(Tentative-Subject to Change)

March 1st & 2nd, 2024 - Broken Bow  
Districts L & I Mid-Winter

March 15th & 16th, 2024 - Lincoln, NE  
Districts O & N Mid-Winter

April 6th, 2024 - Broken Bow, NE  
COG & NLF Meeting

April 26th-28th, 2024 - Broken Bow, NE  
DGE School

June 7th - 9th, 2024 - Bellevue, NE  
State Convention & COG

June 21st - 25th, 2024 - Melbourne, Australia  
International Convention

September 5th - 7th, 2024 - Louisville, KY  
USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum

Greetings to all MD38 Lions!

I find it hard to believe that the 2023-2024 Lions year is 2/3 completed, but that is what my calendar tells me. Visiting District 38-O Clubs has been a very nice portion of my responsibilities as District Governor, and each club I visit is unique, receptive, and does good things in their community and area. I have completed most of those visits and look forward to getting to the remaining clubs.

Here are the recent club activities I have been a part of:

- January 16&17: I helped with the Mobile Screening Unit visits to Bellwood Elementary School and at David City Schools. A highlight at David City was seeing 3 of my grandchildren!
- January 22: I visited the Tekamah club to present membership awards to 10 Lions. Lions Donald Bromm and David Wragge were recognized for 50 years of membership, and Lion Robert Aronson was recognized for 70 years of membership!
- January 24: I made my official DG visit to the Norfolk Club, managed to get fined by their excellent Tail Twister, shared my DG comments, and presented membership awards to 13 Lions. Lions Charles Balsiger and Marvin Rover led the way with 40 years of membership each!
- February 1: I made my official DG visit to the John C. Fremont Club, shared my DG comments, and presented membership awards to 5 Lions, including Lion Don Wegman being recognized for 50 years of membership!
- February 5: I made my official DG visit to the Arlington Club, shared my DG comments, and presented membership awards to 4 Lions, including Lion Verna Parde being recognized for 40 years of membership AND as a charter member of the club! Another highlight of this meeting was meeting Teagan Reed, the young man who won the District 38-O Peace Poster contest!
- February 6: I made my official DG visit to the Wayne Club, shared my DG comments, and presented membership awards to 4 Lions, including Lion Hilbert Johs being recognized for 50 years of membership!
- February 7: I made my official DG visit to the Omaha Sunrise Club, shared my DG comments, and presented membership awards to Lions Lindsey Behrendt and Richard Weston. That evening, I made my official DG visit to the Wisner Club, shared my DG comments, and presented membership awards to 7 Lions, including Lion Delbert Heftie, a 55-year member of the club!
- February 8: I made my official DG visit to the Snyder Club, shared my DG comments, and presented a 20-year membership award to Lion Teresa Wilcox. 2VDG Karen Jackson and Tekamah President Keith Burge also attended this meeting and Karen made a really nice presentation about working with others. A highlight of this meeting was the presence of 3 potential new Lions, and I was honored to share with them some Lions history as well as information about our global initiatives. Also, the Snyder club has some big membership recruitment plans in the works. Stay tuned!
- February 14: I made my official DG visit to the Newman Grove Club, shared my DG comments, and presented a 30-year membership award to Ray Herbert!
- February 19: I visited the Blair Club and presented membership awards to 9 Lions, including Lion Michael Comstock being recognized for 45 years of membership! The Tekamah Club had 6 members in attendance for this meeting, and along with the Blair Club had 3 prospective Lions candidates present. It was nice to share with them as I did during the Snyder visit.
- February 26: I made my official DG visit to the Genoa Club, shared my DG comments, and presented membership awards to 3 Lions: Treasurer Janice Drozd for 15 years and PDG Phil Beyer for 40 years, and an 80-year award to Lion Don Pearson! Also, my thanks to Lion Ike Anderson for his recruitment of NEW Lion Kevin Weldon! It was my pleasure to conduct the induction ceremony for Lion Kevin!

Planned club visits in the near future include

- Pierce, March 7
- Wahoo, March 12
- Oakland, March 13

Have you been asked to take on greater leadership opportunities?

1st Vice District Governor Leon Sweigard is actively working to assemble his Cabinet for the 2024-2025 Lions year. Please seriously consider taking on greater leadership in Lions by serving on his Cabinet when you are asked to do so.

Please mark your calendar: here are some important Lions activities coming up. Please get these on your calendar and make every effort to participate!

- Mid-Winter Convention, March 15-16, 2024, Lincoln: Lions Donna Darrell, Jean Karnik, DG Evelyn Springer, and DG Dave Melick continue to work on the program for this event. Based on recent registration numbers, there is a need for more Lions to participate in this convention. Please, if you can donate one more day to Lions, get registered for at least the Saturday program. There will be plenty of opportunities to meet other Lions and learn about how Lions are helping to carry forward International President Patti Hill's goal of Changing the World!
- State Convention, June 7-9, Bellevue: celebrate the Lions year by attending this convention! Complete information will be provided soon!

Please contact me at davemelick2827@gmail.com or 402-910-3283 if there is anything I can do for your Club.



**The Digital Nebraska Lions Publication Dates**

Last Full Week in AUGUST

Last Full Week in SEPTEMBER

Last Full Week in DECEMBER

Last Full Week in FEBRUARY

Last Full Week in APRIL




Last Full Week in JUNE

**For Future Stories and Updates check**

**www.md38.com Frequently**



**“LEADING CHANGE”**  
**DISTRICT 38-N**  
 DG - Evelyn Springer

**P.O. Box 94611**  
**Lincoln, NE 68509-4611**  
**ems12272000@yahoo.com C: (402) 580-2850**

Aurora Beatrice Bellevue Byron Clarks Cook Crete Davenport Deshler Falls City Geneva  
 Giltner Gretna Hebron Hordville Hubbell Humboldt Lincoln 21st Century Lincoln Bethany  
 Lincoln Star City Millard Evening Millard Noon Murdock Papillion Plattsmouth Utica Wilber York

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International Convention
  - September 5th - 7th, 2024 - Louisville, KY  
USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum

District N Midwinter Convention will be held on March 15-16 in Lincoln at St. Marks United Methodist Church. Planning has been going on and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible for this great event.

Only a few club visits remain to be made, I have enjoyed those that have been complete during my term of office. The line I have heard from many PDG’s is true, the rural clubs are very busy serving their local communities.

The year is going by very quickly. The weather today is in the high 60’s and it is still February. More in my next newsletter.

Your District Governor,  
 Lion Evelyn Springer



- The Digital Nebraska Lions Publication Dates**
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  - Last Full Week in SEPTEMBER
  - Last Full Week in DECEMBER
  - Last Full Week in FEBRUARY
  - Last Full Week in APRIL
  - Last Full Week in JUNE

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 www.md38.com Frequently**

## Winter Report of the Mobile Screening Unit Nebraska Lions Foundation, Inc.

The Lions year 2023-2024 for the NLF's Mobile Screening Unit has been busier than ever and has now supported by a team of Driver-Operator-Managers.

PCC Allen Darell leads team of six Lions who bring Vision, Hearing, Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar screenings to your communities. Currently, as of February 15, the MSU's are in the final 6 weeks of school screenings and are open to public and corporate (OSHA) screenings from mid-April to the end of July.

### The Team

The NLF's Driver-Operators-Managers are Lion Leon Sweigard, 1st VDG, Norfolk; Lion Steve Steward, PDG, Unadilla; Lion Roxanne Chandler, Lincoln; Lion Dick Sheets, Norfolk; Lion Keith Burge, Tekamah and supported by Lion Allen Darell, Omaha as program support & training, and backup driver. George Witte remains the NLF MSU Committee Chairperson.

### School Screening Update

As of February 15, 2024 the MSU's have screened 35,779 students and 294 adults in 210 schools in 124 cities, towns and villages around Nebraska. These screenings have found 4,019 abnormal vision and 2,852 abnormal hearing results. These results channel back to the school nurses and administrators who reach out to the student's parents.

32 school screening work dates remain which will screen in 45 to 50 schools, and approximately 5,750 students. So the NLF MSU school screenings will likely surpass 40,000-41,000 students screened again this year.

Lions clubs who would like to schedule a Mobile Screening Unit visit in their community should initiate a request online as follows:

**School Screenings:** Request period is open through March 15, 2024. Please go to [www.md38.com](http://www.md38.com) website, locate the NLF or Nebraska Lions Foundation page and click the School Screen Request button.

**Public / Corporate (OSHS) screenings** follow the same process but click the Public Request button. Public screenings available between April 15 and July 31.

Remember, school screening requests you do not pick the dates. They are assigned by April 10. Public screenings can include a request date.

I do wish to thank all the Lions Clubs, their Lion and community volunteers for providing awesome support for us this year and for me this past seven years. Without your committed assistance and financial support the NLF MSU program would not be in existence today.

Contributions to the Nebraska Lions Foundation are always acceptable. The NLF's treasurer, Lion Donna Darell's address is: Nebraska Lions Foundation, 14517 R Street, Omaha, NE 68137. Lastly to the Lions clubs with unpaid school screening fees, send those to the NLF Treasurer's address as soon as possible.

If you have any question please drop me a note at [msusupport@centurylink.net](mailto:msusupport@centurylink.net) or call me at 402-320-0718.

Respectfully, Allen C. Darell, PCC

NLF MSU Program Administrator

### NLF Mobile Screening Unit Year to Date Statistics Report

Lion Year: July 1, 2023 thru June 30, 2024

*As of February 15, 2024*

Schools:	210
Public:	0
Corporate:	0

Total Towns:	124
Screening Days:	156
Total Volunteers:	842

**Children Tested:** 35,779

**Adults Tested:** 294

	Normal	Abnormal	% Abn.
Vision	31,731	4,019	11.2%
Hearing	22,676	2,852	11.2%
Glaucoma	-	-	-
Blood Pressure	-	-	-
Blood Sugar	-	-	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>54,407</b>	<b>6,871</b>	<b>11.2%</b>

	Normal	Abnormal	% Abn.
Vision	261	18	6.5%
Hearing	42	19	31.1%
Glaucoma	-	-	-
Blood Pressure	-	-	-
Blood Sugar	-	-	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>12.2%</b>

George Witte, Chairperson Nebraska Lions Foundation Mobile Screening Unit



NLF MSU Driver-Operator-Managers

Allen C. Darell

Leon Swegard, Norfolk Roxanne Chandler, Lincoln

MSU Program Administrator

Steve Steward, Unadilla Keith Burge, Tekamah

Dick Sheets, Norfolk

### OPENING EYES

Skutt Student Center  
Creighton University, Omaha  
May 17, 2024

#### 8:30 am - 10:30 am Shift

Volunteer #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Lion Y or N  
Volunteer #2 \_\_\_\_\_ Lion Y or N

#### 10:30 am - 12:30 pm Shift (includes clean-up)

Volunteer #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Lion Y or N  
Volunteer #2 \_\_\_\_\_ Lion Y or N

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work/cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you require lodging? YES/NO ----- Thursday / Friday / Both

Able to stand or walk around? . . . *Volunteer #1* Y/N *Volunteer #2* Y/N

Need to sit? . . . . . *Volunteer #1* Y/N *Volunteer #2* Y/N

Are you color-blind? . . . . . *Volunteer #1* Y/N *Volunteer #2* Y/N

Please enter work station preference (or "none"):

*Volunteer #1* \_\_\_\_\_ *Volunteer #2* \_\_\_\_\_

Special Requirements? \_\_\_\_\_

Breakfast items, snacks and beverages provided

Wear any Opening Eyes shirt from previous years or any Lions shirt.

WHAT IS YOUR T-SHIRT SIZE? (Healthy Athletes may provide)

*Volunteer #1* \_\_\_\_\_ *Volunteer #2* \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL COMPLETED FORM BY NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 2024 TO:**

Kal Lausterer  
1673 N Oak St  
Wahoo, Ne 68066

phone: 402-607-2564 (cell)  
e-mail: kpplausterer@gmail.com



**LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION**

### Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) History

The story of LCIF is epic—filled with unlimited compassion and tireless support of Lions service. Founded in 1968, the mission of LCIF is to "empower Lions clubs, volunteers, and partners to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian services and grants that impact lives globally, and encourage peace and international understanding."

For more than 50 years, we've dedicated our energies to increasing the ability of Lions everywhere, helping them empower the communities they serve. With every grant we give, our history grows, along with the impact of Lions. Today, we couldn't be more proud of where we stand, or more excited about the future of our work.

#### 1970s

1972

LCIF awards first grant of US\$5,000 for flooding in South Dakota, USA. [Learn more about Disaster Relief.](#)

1973

The Melvin Jones Fellowship program is created as a way for donors of US\$1,000 to be recognized. [Learn more about the Melvin Jones Fellowship.](#)

#### 1980s

1984

LCIF begins partnering with Quest International to implement the youth development program, Lions Quest.

1985

LCIF awards first Major Catastrophe Grant of US\$50,000 for earthquake relief in Mexico. [Learn more about Major Catastrophe grants.](#)

1986

The Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship program is established to give Lions a way to extend their commitment and support to LCIF.

#### 1990s

1990

SightFirst program begins and goes on to prevent serious vision loss of more than 30 million people. Campaign SightFirst is later launched, raising more than US \$145 million for SightFirst projects. [Learn more about SightFirst.](#)

1997

LCIF partners with the China Disabled Persons Federation for SightFirst China Action.

1999

LCIF embarks on a partnership with The Carter Center to combat river blindness and trachoma in Latin America and Africa. [Learn more about the LCIF-Carter Center partnership.](#)

#### 2000s

2001

The September 11 Disaster Relief Fund raises US\$3 million to help victims. LCIF begins partnership with Special Olympics International to provide vision screenings to athletes through the Opening Eyes program. LCIF and the World Health Organization launch the world's first-ever initiative to combat global childhood blindness.

2002

LCIF acquires rights to Lions Quest program. LCIF and Johnson and Johnson Vision establish the Sight for Kids program to provide vision screenings and eye health education for children in Asia.

2004

Lions mobilize more than US\$15 million for South Asian tsunami relief, making this the single largest disaster reconstruction project in LCIF history. [Learn more about LCIF's Disaster Relief efforts.](#)

2005

Campaign SightFirst II kicks off at the Lions International Convention in Hong Kong, raising more than US\$200 million. Lions raise US\$5 million for Hurricane Katrina relief.

2007

LCIF is named the number one non-governmental organization in the world with which to partner by an independent Financial Times study. [Learn more about our partners.](#)

2008

The largest single personal donation of US\$3 million is pledged to LCIF. LCIF and Habitat for Humanity partnership builds its 1,000th home. Lions donate US \$3 million for China Sichuan earthquake relief.

2009

Lions Quest celebrates its 25th anniversary. Lions raise more than US\$6 million for Haiti earthquake relief.



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#### 2010s

2010

Lions provide vision screening to the 211,000th Special Olympics athlete. In partnership with Bausch + Lomb, LCIF launches the Pediatric Cataract Initiative.

2011

LCIF mobilizes more than US\$21 million for Japan relief efforts following the earthquake and tsunami. LCIF awards its 10,000th grant, bringing the total amount awarded to US\$708 million.

2012

LCIF celebrates ten years of partnership with Johnson and Johnson Vision through the Sight for Kids program, screening almost 17 million children for vision problems. US\$10 million is raised for vaccinations through the One Shot, One Life: Lions Measles Initiative as part of a challenge from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

2013

LCIF partners with the GAVI Alliance and DFID to continue to fight measles, committing to raise US\$30 million by 2017. LCIF expands its partnership with Special Olympics International to include more than just vision screenings. Lions and LCIF help The Carter Center and OPEA celebrate the elimination of river blindness in Colombia.

2014

LCIF expands Sight for Kids partnership with Johnson and Johnson Vision Care to Kenya and Turkey. Lions and LCIF help The Carter Center and OPEA celebrate the elimination of river blindness in Ecuador.

2015

LCIF, Lions, and partners celebrate the donation of the 500 millionth dose of azithromycin, an antibiotic used to fight trachoma. Lions Quest launches its updated and streamlined curricula.

2017

Since its founding in 1968, LCIF has supported more than 13,000 grants, totaling more than US\$1 billion. Learn more about LCIF's responsibility and privacy.

2018

LCIF celebrated 50 years of empowering Lions to make a profound difference. Funded entirely by charitable donations from Lions and partners, the foundation has awarded more than US\$1 billion through nearly 14,000 grants focused on vision, youth, disaster relief, and humanitarian programs.

Past International Presidents Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada and J. Frank Moore III, Campaign Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, proudly announced Campaign 100: LCIF Empowering Service at the 101st Lions Clubs International Convention.

2019

LCIF launches Hunger grant pilot program to help Lions support school based feeding programs, food banks, feeding centers, and similar facilities that provide food to people when they need it most.

LCIF launches Childhood Cancer grant pilot program to improve the quality of life for children receiving treatment and their families



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#### 2020s

2020

SightFirst – one of LCIF's most notable programs – celebrates 30 years of funding efforts to fight the major causes of preventable and reversible blindness and provide services to persons who are blind or have a visual impairment. Discover more about SightFirst's vision for all.

LCIF Board of Trustees approve a 2-year strategic partnership between LCIF and Global HOPE. This partnership will cooperate in building long-term capacity in Africa to treat and dramatically improve the prognosis for children with cancer and blood disorders in Sub-Saharan Africa.

As our world unites to address the COVID-19 pandemic, LCIF is responding to the immense challenges facing humankind by mobilizing more than US\$7.5 million in frontline relief.

2021

The LCIF-Special Olympics partnership is celebrating 20 years of free vision screenings for athletes through the Opening Eyes program. Since partnering, more than 445,000 athletes have been screened and prescription eyewear provided to more than 189,000 athletes globally.

2022

Past International President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada, Campaign 100 chairperson, and Past International President J. Frank Moore III, Campaign 100 vice chairperson, proudly announced during the 104th Lions Clubs International Convention that LCIF exceeded the Campaign 100: LCIF Empowering Service goal. Total funds raised during the campaign were US\$325 million.

Sight For Kids, a program co-founded by LCIF and Johnson & Johnson Vision, is celebrating 20 years of providing equitable access to vision care through comprehensive eye health solutions. Since the program began, more than 42 million children have been screened and more than 600,000 provided eyeglasses or other treatment.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine resulted in a humanitarian crisis which LCIF supports through grants to purchase and distribute immediate relief items, such as food, clothing, hygiene supplies, sleeping bags and medicine. LCIF mobilizes more than US \$4.8 million for Ukraine relief. LCIF additionally mobilized its Refugees and Displaced Persons fund, which helps ensure that Lions are there to help refugees find the safety and security they desperately need now, and in the future.

2023

LCIF and Lions Quest are proud to be a founding member of The Choose Kindness Project, a coalition of the leading nonprofit organizations in the United States championing bullying prevention, intentional inclusion and youth mental wellness.

The World Health Organization validated Benin and Mali as having eliminated trachoma, a bacterial eye infection that causes blindness, as a public health problem. The milestone follows many years of hard work led by national governments in each country, with support from international partners, including LCIF's SightFirst partnership with The Carter Center.

LCIF mobilizes more than US\$652,500 to Lions in Türkiye for earthquake relief. Grant funds will enable Lions to provide immediate, short- and long-term relief to victims of one of the largest earthquakes to hit the region in more than 100 years. See how we are supporting Türkiye and Syria.



# YOUR NEBRASKA LIONS IN ACTION



Bellevue Eye Screenings Jan 2024 (Betty Thomas, Bob Povich, Melissa Scobey)



New members of the Bellevue Lions Club Jan 2024 (L to R Tami Prentis, Melissa Scobey, New Member, Linda Wood – Sponsor, Joyce Sobczyk)



NLF award to Tami Prentis given by David Wentworth



Norfolk Lions Club 64th Annual Pancake Feed

Norfolk Lions Club 64th Annual Pancake Feed

