

District 11-A2

Roaring News

Serving Oakland and Macomb Counties

www.lionsdistrict11a2.org

March 2021



Spring! A time when we think of new, fresh, and beautiful colors; New Members, Fresh Ideas, and beautiful times together as Lions. These are all things that we can look forward to.

As more and more of us get the vaccine we will be able to put the pandemic behind us. The First Lady and I will be getting our second shot on March the 19th. This has been a long time coming! I want to thank all of the clubs for their hard work during this pandemic. A lot of new ideas and some old, old ideas have been used and with great success.

Membership is another area that has been a big surprise. The District is on the plus-side. The clubs in District 11 A-2 have been working very hard to get new members. That must be the reason they call us the Best in the State! Thank you to all of the Lioness Clubs for looking into becoming a branch club. What an awesome way to continue to provide great service to their communities.



We will hopefully have information about the election and the convention in the next week or two. Please get your delegate forms filled out and sent to Cabinet Secretary Rhonda. I am looking forward to the rest of the Lionistic year; only four more months! We are enjoying lots of warm weather in Mesquite, Nevada. I would like to wish the First Lady a very happy 44th Wedding Anniversary!

Til next month,

Leo, DG 11 A-2



1st Vice District Governor's Notes

I am still in need of Lions to fill the roles of Zone and Region Chairs on next year's cabinet and committee assignments. But that really isn't as important to me today so it can wait until next month.

As I am sure you are all aware by now, the world of Lions Clubs International lost a great Lion with the passing of "Big" Al Kassin. Outside of family members, Al was one of the people I have known for the longest in my life. I met Al



when my dad and I were in downtown Lake Orion working on the Bicentennial celebration that the Lions were working on in 1976. Al was a lot like the other Lions back then; they tolerated having "Leach's kid" around being a pain in the ass. But Al was different, much different, and I was about to find out firsthand just how different he really was.

He called my dad one day and told him to bring me to Camp Franklin where Al worked as Camp Manager. When we got there, Al told my dad to go ahead and go back to work as he'd show me around camp; which he did, for the next month that summer! Al realized that we did not have a lot growing up and so he allowed me to come to camp and be part of the summer camp experience that all the kids from Detroit were having.

I found out at an early age that the nickname "Big Al" had more to do with the size of his heart. When Al began planning to have the very first Lake Orion Lions Visually Impaired Youth Camp, he called my dad again and asked him to bring me and meet him at a local restaurant because he wanted to talk. I was excited and I thought that maybe I was going to get to go back to camp as it had been 5 years since I last attended. It was kinda, but not really! Al told me about his idea to have a one-week camp for visually impaired kids the following summer. He asked me if I would like to work in the kitchen. What I wanted to say was I'd like to come to camp and play again, but the look on my dad's face said that I shouldn't say no, or it would definitely be a long walk home. So, I said yes, and besides asking Kim to marry me, this was the smartest, and easiest thing I ever did! I won't go into the long details of Al's & my history with camp as most of that has already been told. There are other things that I need to share with you about Al.

During the 1992 camp session, Al and my Grandpa Sam were sitting outside talking. As I walked up to

them I could tell that they were in an intense conversation. It was right before lunch, so I thought maybe they were debating camp food (which my grandpa always said tasted like dirt, did not matter what it was, it was dirt.) or something else particularly important to the day. I was a little hesitant to approach them, but they were right by the door to the dining hall, so I had to. Al told me to sit down with them which, of course, I did. I learned real early on if Al told you something, you listened, and you did it.

Al asked me if I had considered being a Lion. I said that I had but that I didn't think I was ready because no one had ever asked me. Al said well, I am asking you right now. I was totally caught off guard. My dad had me come to all of their projects and work them, but had never asked me to join so I figured that I was not ready. I sat down, looked at my grandpa and asked him what he thought. He told me that he thought I was more than ready, but that I should wait for my dad to ask me to join. Al did not like that answer and used language that it was a good thing no campers were around to hear. Al asked my grandpa who had sponsored my dad into the club. Grandpa Sam said that he did to which Al said, "Then it makes even more sense for you to sponsor Jimmy"! He told my grandpa that either he would sponsor me, or Al was going to. My grandpa, knowing that he had better do it, did sponsor me but it was Al who installed me!

Al saw something in me long ago and I think that is why he has always been and continues to be one of my mentors in Lions and in life. When I was asked in 2012 to run for Governor, Al was one of the first people I talked to about it. I wanted to see if he thought I was ready; he did and he was excited that I was getting the opportunity. When I was asked to run for a second time, I talked to Al again. He was excited for me because he knew I could do it but was disappointed that the situation came about. He told me that he would be there to support me and stand behind any decision that I made.

I could write for a long time about Al and what he means to me, but I think you understand where this is all coming from. Al has been, and will always be, like a second father to me. I can't really remember a time in my life when he wasn't a part of it. Yes, on Lake Orion's March Membership report, it will show that we lost a member who passed away. But the world of Lions, and the world in general, lost much more than that. It is going to take a lot of big feet to fill the small shoes of "Big Al" Kassin.

I will talk to you next month.

1st VDG Jim, Jr.



Meet Shawn Blaszczyk

Hi Lions and Lioness. As you may have heard the Selfridge Chesterfield Lions have nominated me to run for 2nd Vice District Governor for 2021-22! I am truly honored for this and had hoped to visit as many of you this year to introduce myself to those who may not know me as well as others do. But the pandemic has made it difficult, so I am using this letter as that introduction.

I am committed and involved with the Lions serving in many capacities and have taken on many important roles during the past two decades. I believe I have the gifts of kindness, compassion, and generosity needed to help those in our community and beyond. My past with the Lions includes hosting activities to chairing committees at both the local and state levels. I have also hosted 4 Lions Youth Exchange Students and found it to be a valuable and rewarding experience. I hope to continue this dedication to the Lions and to helping others as I run for the position of 2nd Vice Governor.



My professional life as a Civil Engineer and Head of Residential Development Designs has allowed me to demonstrate my leadership skills and creative abilities as I plan and execute project ideas from the drawing board to reality. My knowledge in the field, natural ability to teach and personal skills have taken me into the mentoring arena with students at Lawrence Tech University. It is a pleasure to meet and provide these students with a professional perspective outside of their book learning in order to prepare them for a successful career.

On a more personal note, I am the father to three successful daughters and to career change Leader Dog, Guinness, who I fostered as a puppy. When not spending time with my family or playing with the dog, you will find I enjoy out helping friends and neighbors in any way that I can.

I hope I can receive your support during elections for the position of 2nd Vice District Governor.

If you would like me to visit or attend virtually your club meeting, please contact me. Thank you in advance.

Lion Shawn Blaszczyk, PRC
Selfridge Chesterfield Lions

Many thanks to
Lion Larry Cole,
Membership
Statistician, for
providing this
information..



I WANT YOU

The Beverly Hills Lions Club welcomes Susan Robbins, sponsored by Patrick Wojas.

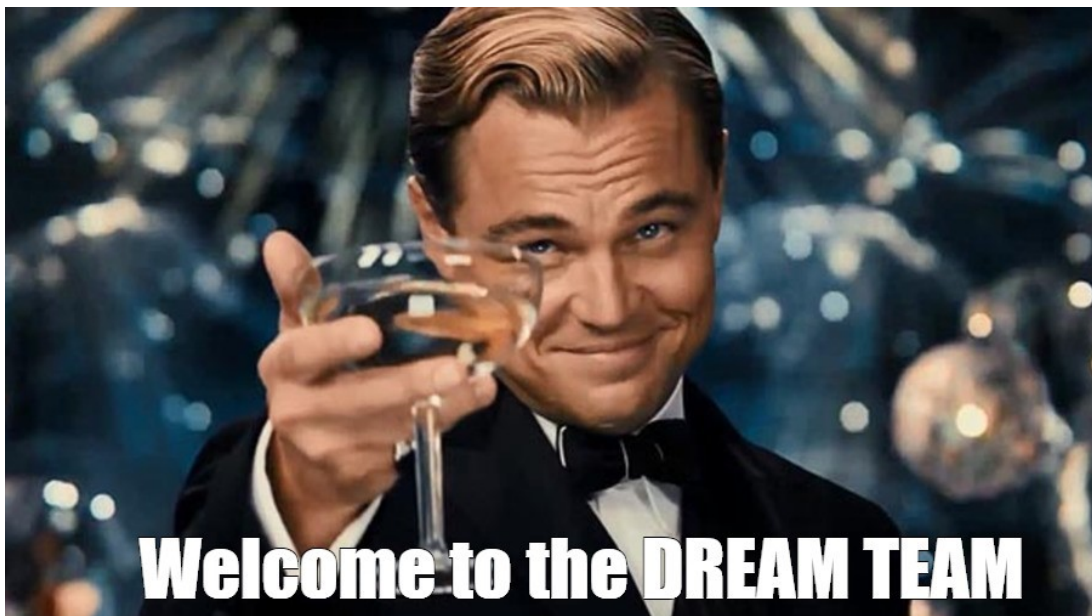
The New Baltimore Lions Club welcomes Andre Baiser, sponsored by Jeffrey Byrum.

The New Baltimore Lions Club welcomes Gary Landless, Jr., sponsored by Laura Szymanski.

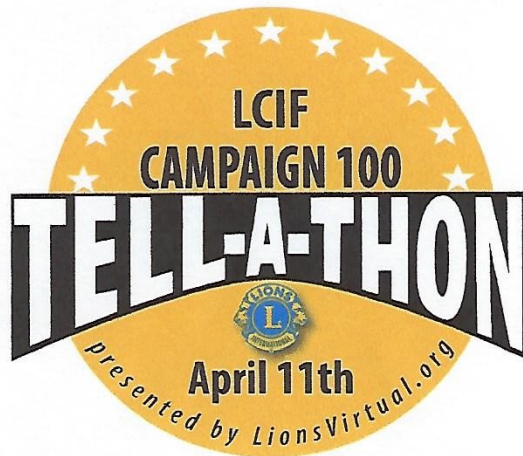
The New Baltimore Lions Club welcomes Tammi Marx, sponsored by Tammi Graber.

The New Baltimore Lions Club welcomes Tangela Bonnay, sponsored by Colleen Wooten.

The Oxford Lions Club welcomes Christopher Carnacchio, sponsored by Charles Garrard.

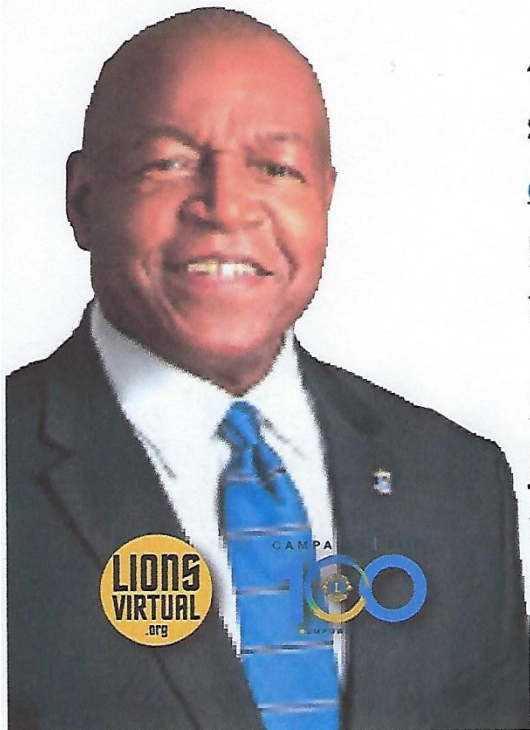


Welcome to the DREAM TEAM



LET'S DO THIS!!!

1. **Donate \$20 or more to Campaign 100 Tell-A-Thon**
2. **Create/Implement a plan** to get 100% of your Lions to donate to the **Campaign 100 Tell-A-Thon**
3. **Spread the word** far & wide for Lions, family/friends & prospective Lions to watch the live **Campaign 100 Tell-A-Thon** on [YouTube](#), Sunday, April 11th from 5-9 pm EDT (*New York*)



4. **Share your success stories** to pdg10jen@hotmail.com & you might see them in pre-event promotion or during the live event

5. **Download Team App & join the Lions Virtual Team** for all the latest news & links (*instructions attached*)

TELL-A-THON OVERVIEW

Sunday, April 11, 2021
5-9 pm EDT

View on YouTube Live

<https://youtu.be/hC-s5yXPgeo>

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Emcee: LCI VP Doug Alexander
- Music & Entertainment
- Special Guests
- Inspiring stories

GOAL

- Raise awareness among Lions & prospective Lions about the impact LCIF has across the US & Canada
- Raise funds for Campaign 100 to further our service
- Challenge every Lion to donate \$20 in support of LCIF Campaign 100

DONATE NOW

- 100% of donations go to LCIF Campaign 100



United States:

givetoday.lionsvirtual.org



Canada:

[lionsofcanadafundforlcif.ca/
GiveToday](http://lionsofcanadafundforlcif.ca/GiveToday)

QUESTIONS

PID Jenny Ware, Campaign 100 Vice Chair - CA1

pdg10jen@hotmail.com

906-399-8214

MD 11 LIONS CONVENTION, MAY 20-21

The MD 11 Lions Convention planning committee is hard at work planning the details of the 2021 convention, to be held in Holland at the DoubleTree Hotel May 20-21. For those of you who have never attended the MD 11 Lions Convention in the past, you are encouraged to attend!

LCI President Choi is our invited guest speaker, and we are optimistic about his travel to Michigan. We are in constant contact with the hotel staff in the planning of this year's convention. At this time, the committee is planning for an in-person event with the option to move to a virtual event if warranted.

Paws for a Cause will be our host for the pre-convention picnic on Thursday, May 19. We are excited to partner with Paws for a Cause and tour their facility. The picnic is a great opportunity to meet with Lion friends from around the state and affords everyone in attendance the chance to meet with President Choi in a relaxed environment.

Reservations at the hotel can be made by calling 616-394-0111. Mention Lions of Michigan when making your arrangements.

Watch for future updates and announcements!



LIONS CLUBS OF MICHIGAN DEFENSE AGAINST DIABETES PROGRAM D.A.D.

The Defense Against Diabetes (D.A.D.) program is an eight-week lifestyle change program developed from the CDC's year-long National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP) curriculum. The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFM) has selected key elements of the NDPP and made them deliverable in eight, one-hour distance learning sessions. Sessions will be facilitated via the Zoom platform by a trained and certified DPP Lifestyle Coach with experience providing the CDC's program.

NKFM's Lifestyle Coaches will work with Lions Club members to develop healthier eating habits and introduce physical activity into their weekly routines. Each participant will be provided the tools and support necessary to succeed at the program. Lifestyle Coaches will be available to participants anytime throughout the program via phone, text, and email.

DAD 8-Week Workshop for District 11-A2

To register for the program: <http://bit.ly/3psGMnd>

Information Session: March 16 at 6:00 PM

To join: <https://bit.ly/3iSfQe8>

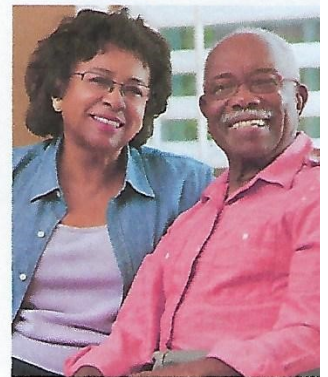
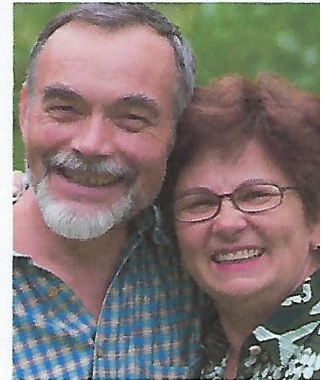
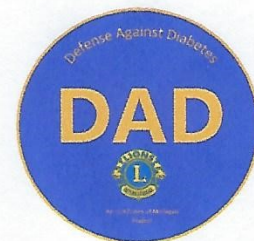
Lions Club Contact: Lion Roger Blackwell 810-923-2954

Session 1: March 30, Session 2: April 13, Session 3: April 20, Session 4: April 27

Session 5: May 4, Session 6: May 11, Session 7: May 18, Session 8: May 25

There is no cost for participants. The Lions of Michigan & Lions Club International Foundation is funding this program. The only thing we ask of you is a commitment to attend all 8 weekly sessions, and have the willingness to learn how to use the Zoom platform.

The collaboration between the Lions of Michigan and the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan is especially important as Diabetes is the leading cause of Blindness and Chronic Kidney Disease.



For program information and to find out about upcoming workshops, please contact Ed Bohach at 248-863-7136 or email ebohach@nkfm.org

This program has been funded by your local Michigan Lions Club as a grant from Lions International Club Foundation

Due to the continuing concerns about the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the board of directors voted to transition the 2021 Montreal Lions Clubs International Convention to a virtual event that will be delivered totally online. This decision was made with the health and safety of our Lions, staff and vendors in mind as limiting international travel and large gatherings is key to global containment strategies.

Although we are disappointed that we won't be able to host this event in person, we are excited about hosting our first virtual international convention that can safely connect Lions from around the world. We are still finalizing the details of your new convention experience, and will share those with you as soon as they are ready.

Here are some important details about the 2021 virtual convention we'd like to share with you:

- **Everyone's invited** – Our 2021 convention will be a virtual event that's open to all Lions and Leos around the world.
- **Registration fees** – The registration fee will be US\$50 until March 31, then US\$75 beginning April 1. The registration fee for Leos will be US\$30 regardless of date. Convention is currently scheduled for June 25-29. Additional event and registration details will be provided soon.
- **Current registrants** – Lions who are currently registered for convention will receive an email soon with more information about their registration options.
- **Elections** – Executive officer and international director elections will be conducted electronically, and voting procedures will be forthcoming.
- **Convention updates** – Check our convention website [LClCon](#) for convention updates and details as they become available.

This global health pandemic has forced us all to make decisions and changes that place health and safety first. However, we are optimistic that with each new day there is hope, and as Lions, we continue to find new ways to stay connected, safely serve our communities and continue our global mission of service.

We appreciate your understanding during this challenging time for our organization and the world, and thank you for your incredible service as a Lion.



Invite Leader Dog to Your Meeting!

Introduce your club, region, zone or district to the legacy Lions started. Give us 15-20 minutes at your virtual meeting and we can present:

- Leader Dog's Programs
- Meet a Client
- A Puppy Raiser
- How We Train Guide Dogs
- How Does the White Cane Work?
- And more!

Contact Lion Kathleen Breen at KBreen@leaderdog.org or 248.218.6407 for more information and to schedule.

Not sure about running a virtual meeting? We can help!
We can also connect in to your face-to-face meeting!



LEADER DOGS
FOR THE BLIND

Rochester Hills, Michigan | 888.777.5332





Celebrate 40 Years of Service with the
Sterling Heights Lioness Club

Friday: June 4, 2021

\$40.00 = per person Beer & Wine included

Villa Penna

43985 Hayes Rd.

Sterling Heights

Social: 6:00 PM Welcome: 6:30 PM Dinner: 7:00 PM

If required by law - Please wear your mask.

Reservations Due by May 21, 2021

Lioness Nina Rath: 586-977-1589

Lioness Sandra Varto: s_10961@yahoo.com

586-992-9423

.....
Registration Form: Sterling Heights Lioness Club Anniversary Celebration

CONTACT PERSON & PHONE #: _____

LIST THE NAMES OF THOSE ATTENDING: (Please Print)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

No.: _____ @ \$40.00 each = \$ _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO STERLING HEIGHTS LIONESS CLUB

Mail to Lioness Sandra Varto 8491 Stanford S. , #A, Washington Mi. 48094



Sterling Heights Lioness Club is Celebrating their
40th Anniversary
June 4, 2021

This is an opportunity for you to join us as we celebrate this special occasion with a congratulatory Business or Personal ad in our 40th Anniversary program book

Listed below is the price list for a BLACK & WHITE
Congratulatory ad for this special event.

Business Card	\$25.00
Quarter Page	\$35.00
Half Page	\$70.00
Full Page	\$125.00

Please email a Print Ready Ad to Lioness Sandra Varto
s_10961@yahoo.com. Make your check payable to the Sterling Heights
Lioness Club and mail your Business Card or personal ad with a check to
Sandra Varto

8491 Stanford S., #A,
Washington MI. 48094

Questions please contact Lioness Sandra Varto S_10961@yahoo.com
Deadline to place your Ad is May 14, 2021

To obtain further information
Please contact
Lioness Sandra Varto
586-992-9423

Lions Bear Lake Camp Golf Classic

NEW DATE: Sunday, August 22, 2021

At

Metamora Golf & Country Club



**** REGISTER YOUR TEAM BEFORE MAY 1st AND BE ENTERED TO WIN A FREE ROUND OF GOLF FOR A FOURSOME AT METAMORA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB! ****

Please join us for the 16th Annual Lions Bear Lake Camp Golf Classic

Metamora CC offers 18 holes of championship golf. The course's scenic layout features rolling terrain, tree lined fairways, and strategically placed bunkers that will make for a fun and challenging event.

Proceeds from this event will support Bear Lake Camp. Together, we can make this a great event for such a wonderful cause.

Our Mission: to provide outdoor recreational and educational experiences year-round to all persons regardless of ability. Our summer camps include sessions for children who are blind/visually impaired, deaf/hard of hearing, or have juvenile arthritis.

ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Use of Driving Range
18 Holes of Golf with Cart
Course Contests
Buffet-Style Awards Dinner
Door Prizes & Raffles

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Registration 12:00 pm
Shotgun Start 1:30 pm
Awards Dinner 6:30 pm

EVENT FEES

Registration- \$100 per golfer/
\$400 per foursome
Dinner-Only Guest- \$30

If you'd like to learn more about Bear Lake Camp, visit www.bearlakecamp.org
To learn more about Metamora Golf & Country Club, visit www.metamoragolf.com

For additional information, please contact:

Rick Fleming, G.M./Director of Golf 248.342.1702

Heather Osip, Bear Lake Camp Board Member/Outing Chair 248.875.9705 hospip@outlook.com

Event Sponsorship Opportunities

A great way for your group or business to do a bit more!

Event Sponsorship \$2,000

Sponsor's name will be part of the official title of the golf event and all aspects of the event's activities, such as course signage and recognition on event materials.

Includes golf for eight players and awards dinner.

Dinner Sponsorship \$1,500

Sponsor's name will be featured at the awards dinner, on course signage, and on event materials. Includes golf for four players and awards dinner.

Platinum Sponsorship \$1,000

Sponsor's name will be featured on event materials and hole signage. Includes golf for four players and awards dinner.

Beverage Cart or Special Event Sponsorship \$500

Sponsor's name will be featured on multiple beverage carts or special event hole signage throughout the day.

Hole Sponsorship \$100

Sponsor's name will be featured on signage at one hole.

Donations Welcome!!!

Donated raffle and prize items are appreciated.

Registration Information

Captain _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Player 2 _____

Player 3 _____

Player 4 _____

Sponsorship Level _____

Total \$ _____

Method of Payment:

Cash Check Credit Card

Number _____ Exp. _____

Please make checks payable to: Bear Lake Camp

Mail registrations and payments to:

Metamora Golf & Country Club

C/O Rick Fleming

1600 Club Drive Metamora, MI 48455

Lions Bear Lake Camp is a licensed 501(c)(3)