



9SW Lions Newsletter

We Serve



April 2026



Hi! It's Beverly Again

Caring for Our Environment

9NW/9SW District Convention - was held on March 13-14 at the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) campus in Carroll. **9NW District Governor Steve Rehmann** and I have been working as a team for the past six months to prepare for the first joint 9NW/9SW District Convention. **9SW Lion Kristin Glockhoff** pre-registered 25 Lions from 9NW, 39 Lions from 9SW, and 25 Lions from other districts including the speakers for a total of 89. With blizzard conditions forecasted and last-minute illnesses, we had a total of 77 attending the district convention.

Powerful women speakers were featured at our Districts 9NW/9SW Combo Convention in Carroll, IA. Our top draw attraction was **PID Debra Wasserman** from Minnesota. She gave a short history of Lionism. "While Helen Keller's famous challenge has inspired many Lions over the last 100 years, it's something else she said that inspires me even more. Keller said: "I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something, so I will not refuse to do the something I can do." Powerful words for every Lion member about service!!

Also featured were **PDG Lisa Alexander** from Clayton, MO, who talked about the Melvin Jones Memorial, and **JoAnn Alumbaugh** from the Tori's Angels Foundation here in Iowa. Tyler Klotz and his family shared the story about their daughter, Grace.

Dawn Thompson, featured in the Iowa Lion, shared the effects that July 4 fireworks had on her Leader Dog that caused her early retirement as a service animal. **MD9 LCIF Coordinator Bernadette Lane** gave a dynamic LCIF presentation, including a PowerPoint packed with heart-touching LCIF stories, photos, and facts. **Bernadette shared this [CAPTIVATING VIDEO](#) of very young children getting their first pair of glasses.**

Please read [Kristin Glockhoff's Report](#) of the successful **9NW/9SW Combo Convention**. You will learn how much money YOU raised for the Iowa Lions Foundation through **pure fun**. The **Parade of Checks** to several charitable organizations is itemized here. Special recognition, personal awards, and certificates of appreciation to outstanding Lions are shared as well. Relive the convention by reading Kristin's convention wrap-up!

Be sure to read the April issue of the Iowa Lion to read more about the 9NW/9SW District Convention.

SERVICE - Lions Club International Foundation has designated the month of April as Environmental Month. **International President A.P. Singh has established April 18-26, 2026 as the Environment Week of Service.** Try to do something outside of what you are

routinely doing right now. Create a new service project to help support your communities and the world.

Dawn Goodsell has provided us a link to some great ENVIRONMENTAL Service Ideas to set our clubs into action for spring. [Click HERE.](#)

REMINDER - APRIL is the time to elect your new club officers for 2026-2027! Be sure to record them in the Lions Portal.

ALERT "CYBER" CLUB - Have you ever wondered why you have spent years of your life only belonging to one Lions Club? You have had such fun and met so many wonderful people in your club that you could really double your enjoyment if you only belonged to two Lions Clubs!!! Here is your chance. You all can be members of the **Iowa ALERT Lions Club**. You will be in a club with members from all over Iowa working to make sure that MD9 Lions will be able to respond to any disaster that hits the state.

We are starting to assemble a core of new members to form this club, but we need associate members from all seven districts to participate in the club. You will learn how to assist in the setup of the ALERT trailers in your community if a disaster hits near you. All you have to do is **let me know that you are interested and I'll put you on the list**. You will still be primarily a member of your present club, but you will attend zoom meetings and give your input into the workings of the ALERT Club.

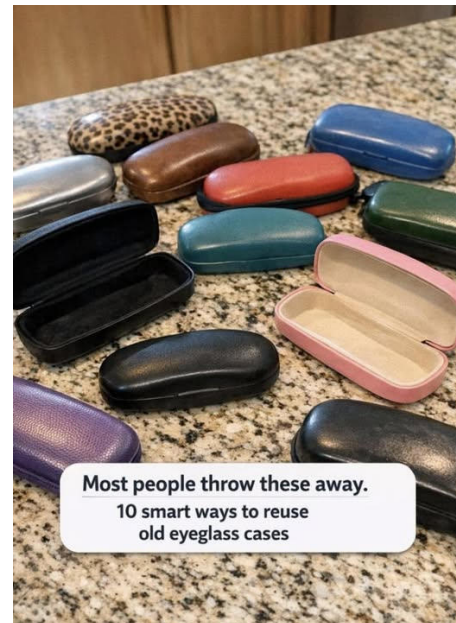
Send me an email at g.glockhoff@gmail.com with your contact information and your club. Thanks, Gary Glockhoff

Eyeglass Cases Service Project - Lions - did you see this Global Lions Forum post on Facebook about [10 smart ways to reuse old eyeglass cases](#) ?

9SW Zone 4 will do a service activity filling eyeglass cases at their upcoming zone meeting on April 28th at the Adel Library.

More information and pictures of the results will follow in the next newsletter.

(Contributed by Kristin Glockhoff)



NEW EYEGLASS RECYCLING CENTER - Allen Zobel, from the Exira Lions Club, is establishing an Eyeglass Recycling Center at the Exira Lions Club House. Volunteer Lions from both the Exira and Audubon Clubs will be trained to sort, clean, test, and package eyeglasses for recycle.

Allen has requested a grant from the Iowa Lions Foundation to purchase a new "lensometer" for District 9SW and to be located at the Exira Lions Club. We will learn if the grant is approved at the next trustee meeting in June.

If you have collected glasses for recycle, please deliver them to the Exira Lions Club House Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 12:00. Do not throw away the hard cases. Please bring them with you. Those will be re-purposed as survivor kits for the Alert Team trailers. Read



Step 1: Sorting

Lion volunteers will sort through all the glasses that come into the sorting/testing center. They need to separate the good glasses from the ones that are broken or unuseable.



Step 2: Find the Broken Frames

The Lions will sort through all the glasses they receive. They will separate the good frames from the broken frames.

If the broken frame is all plastic, then they will throw those away. If any of the broken frames contain metal, then they will pop the lenses out and save the frames in a separate area. Those

broken frames with metal will be shipped to a company in New York that melts down the plastic to reclaim all the different metals. The value of the metal they collect from these frames will be shared with the Exira Eye Glasses Recycling Center.



Step 3: Save the Good Ones

Identify and clean all the good glasses and place into another area. These will be checked and identified for their optical strengths.



Step 4: Check Lenses

Each of these glasses with healthy frames and lenses will be checked by this lensometer instrument which calculates the prescription of each of the lenses.



Step 5: Package Glasses

Once the machine has determined the strength of each of the lenses, the results will be marked on the outside of these special bags and then the glasses will be placed inside the bag. These glasses will be picked up by missionary groups from Indiana or Wisconsin.



Step 6: Lensometer

A **lensmeter** or **lensometer** is an optical instrument used in ophthalmology. It is mainly used by optometrists and opticians to measure the back or front vertex power of a spectacle lens and verify the correct prescription in a pair of eyeglasses. (From Wikipedia)

SERVICE REPORTS AND CONTEST - PCC Dawn Goodsell is the MD9 Global Service Team Chairman. She is having a contest to see which District in Iowa can have the most clubs reporting service on the Lions Portal.

Dawn would like to give a \$1,000 LCIF donation on behalf of the district with the highest service % reported. There was an article about it in the February Iowa Lion to boost clubs to help input service projects into the Lions Portal system. Dawn has provided you a [service form](#) if you need help entering your service information into the Portal.

Let's Celebrate!!!
Meet Your NEW Lions!!!
(And Service Awards)

Let's Celebrate!!!
Share Your Service
Winterset Lions Club



Terry McNeley, Buddy Pretzer, Ben Grabill, and Jeff Snicker

The Winterset Lions held their 4th annual Beef Burger Drive Up on March 22nd. They sold out with 408 sandwiches, chips, brownies and bottles of water. The club raised \$2600 which is being split between scholarships and a Community Shelter.

This fundraiser is held every year at the American Legion. The club uses a trailer to prepare bags and then hand them out to the runners. The food is all prepped inside the Legion Hall. (Contributed by Ben Grabill)

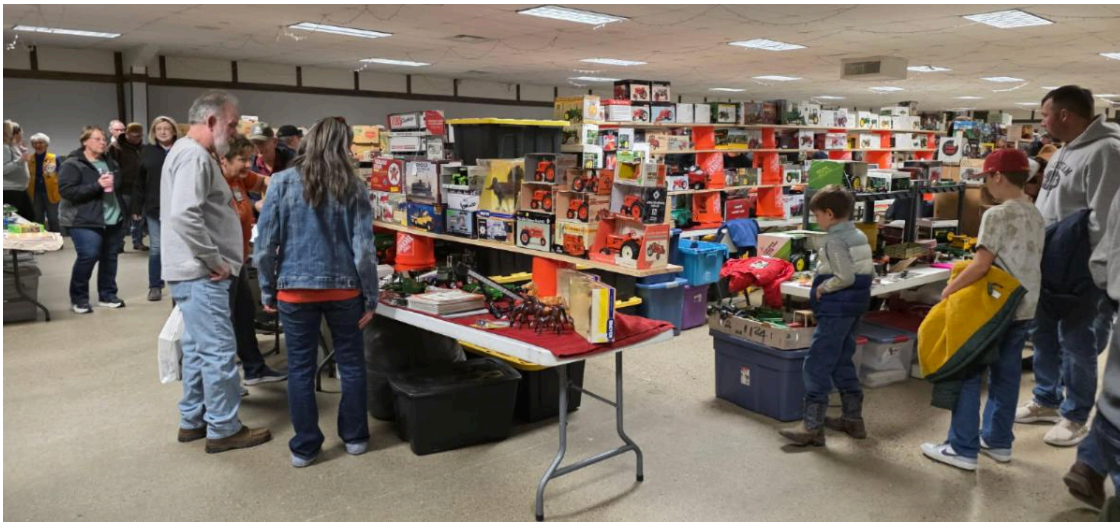


Janet Haynes and Greta Pretzer cooking the beef burgers.



Mary Walkup is holding up the sign to show the hours of the fundraiser.

Audubon Lions Club



The 35th Audubon Lions Club Farm Toy Show at the AgriHall was an absolute success on February 28th, Every one of the 70 vendor tables was filled, the food line stayed busy all day, and the energy in that building was exactly what community is all about. Almost \$2500 was raised at the event and will be used to support numerous groups, including ILF and LCIF. Nearly 400 adult tickets were sold, and of course they came with lots of kids!
(Contributed by Mike Pozesny)



The Audubon Lions Club has designed their own yard signs to advertise their club in town, shown here with President Mike Pozesny holding them up. One side says "Audubon Lions Strong & Proud" and the other side says "Audubon Lions Serving Our Community". They ordered 30 signs from a local business.



March 24th, 38 residents gathered for the Lions Annual Pancake Supper, made extra special by the generous volunteers from the Audubon Lions Club, who cooked up stacks of delicious pancakes and then helped serve a full spread - hot pancakes, savory sausage, refreshing drinks, and tasty desserts. All were served with smiles by the dedicated Friendship Home staff and Audubon Lions Club members. The room was filled with laughter, conversation, and the kind of warmth that makes Friendship Home truly feel like home.

Stay Strong to Serve

Dr. Jon Swanson, a physician in Family Health, has volunteered to write articles for our 9SW Newsletter to help us all maintain a better daily lifestyle so that we can better serve our communities longer.

Since April is Cancer Control Month, Dr. Swanson's first article will explore four ways we can better treat our bodies and control our health.



Jon has been a member of the Audubon Lions Club for several years.

[Controlling Cancer](#)

IN MEMORIAM:

No listing for this month.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **April 11, 2026** [Indianola Noon Lions 6th Annual Meat Raffle](#) doors open at 5 pm, dinner at 5:30 pm, and raffle starts at 6:00 pm in Indianola, Iowa
- **April 16, 2026** [Tori's Angels Spring Gala](#) in Des Moines
- **June 14, 2026** [Tori's Angels Summer Gala Breakfast](#) in Panora
- **August 8, 2026** 2nd Annual YIP-YO Growth Convention will be held in Audubon, Iowa.
- **September 26, 2026** [Tori's Angels Fall Gala](#) at the Guthrie County Fairgrounds

NOTE: If you would like to reach out to me directly, just click the REPLY link on your email screen. I would love to hear your ideas on how to make Lions more vibrant and meaningful and inclusive of everyone. Looking forward to hearing from you. Beverly

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