Lions Clubs International
Mission Statement
To create and foster a spirit of understanding among all people for humanitarian needs by providing voluntary services through community involvement and international cooperation.

Lions Clubs International Foundation Mission Statement: To support the efforts of Lions clubs and partners in serving communities locally and globally, giving hope and impacting lives through humanitarian service projects and grants.

www.lcif.org/donate
Donor Services 630/203-3836
donorassistance@lionsclubs.org

SERVICE PROJECTS

Medical equipment lending program

Food Bank donations

Recycling used eyeglasses and hearing aids

Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed builds

Blessings in a Backpack packing events and food drives

Assisting North Frederick Elementary School

Sponsoring a Frederick Little League team

Sending birthday/holiday cards to and playing BINGO with residents of Citizens Care & Rehabilitation Center

KEYNOTES

Francis Scott Key Lions Club
P.O. Box 3932
Frederick, MD 21705-3932

Chartered
September 14, 1959

www.fsklions.org
facebook.com/FrancisScottKeyLionsClub
twitter.com/FSKLions
flickr.com/photos/fsklions/

DISTRICT 22W THEME
Paladins
Champions of Service

October 2026
Volume 67, No. 4

New meeting time 1730 hrs!

Upcoming meetings

10/13
General membership and board of directors' meetings

10/27
General membership meeting: DG Leon Cardiff's official visit

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

10/4	Serving at Community Table
10/4-12	Mental Health Week of Service
10/8-18	LCI Vision Week of Service
10/13	General membership and board of directors' meetings
10/24	Canines on the Creek
10/27	General membership meeting: DG Leon Cardiff's official visit
1/3-11	Hunger Week of Service
2/13-21	LCI Youth Week of Service
4/18-26	Environment Week of Service
5/29-6/6	LCI Environment Week of Service

OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

Birthstone: Opal
Flower: Marigold

Happy birthday to:
10/20 Pat Jackman
10/26 Lion John Aulls

Happy anniversary to:
10/7 Lion Gary and Vicki Snyder

Enjoy your day!

OCTOBER – Breast Cancer Awareness Month, LGBTQ+ History Month, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Filipino American History Month, Italian American Heritage and Culture Month, Polish American Heritage Month

1	Yosemite National Park established (1890); Boston National Historical Park established (1974); International Day of Older Persons
2	Sukkot (ends at sundown); Vijayadashami; International Day of Non-Violence
3	Last quarter; Shemini Atzeret

4 Simchat Torah; World Animal Day; Feast of St. Francis of Assisi
5 Child Health Day; World Habitat Day; World Teachers' Day; National Voter Education Day
6 German American Day
7 Enduring Freedom began (2001)
8 John Day Fossil Beds National Monument established (1975); World Sight Day
9 Leif Erikson Day; World Post Day
10 World Mental Health Day; new moon;
11 Big Thicket National Preserve and Big Cypress National Preserve established (1974); National Coming Out Day; Sharad Navratri; International Day of the Girl Child; Ministry Appreciation Day
12 Indigenous Peoples' Day; Columbus Day; Thanksgiving (Canada); Obed Wild and Scenic River (1976)
13 U. S. Navy established (1775); International Day for Disaster Reduction
14 Simchat Torah begins; Cuban Missile Crisis began (1962)
15 Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, Ft. Matanzas National Monument, and Ft. Pulaski established (1924); Hispanic Heritage Month ends; Simchat Torah ends; White Cane Safety Day
16 Bosses' Day; World Food Day
17 International Day for the Eradication of Poverty; Sweetest Day
18 Military Women's Memorial dedicated (1997); Clean Water Act (1972); Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site and Congaree National Park established (1976); first quarter
19 Estate Planning Awareness Week begins
20 Women's Army Corps (WACs) disestablished (1978); Diwali begins; Estate Planning Awareness Week begins; Vijayadashami; Dussehra; International Sloth Day
21 Marine Mammal Protection Act (1972)
21-22 Orionid meteor shower
22 Birth of the Báb
23 World Snow Leopard Day
24 United Nations Day; World Development Information Day; World River Dolphin Day
25 Effigy Mounds National Monument established (1949), U. S. invades Grenada (1983)
26 Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site, Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, Clara Barton National Historic Site, Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, and Springfield Armory National History Site established (1974); Full Hunter's Moon
27 Navy Day; Theodore Roosevelt's birthday; World Day for Audiovisual Heritage; International Panda Day
28 Feast of St. Jude
29 National Cat Day; World Stroke Day
30 National Museum of the American Indian-NY opening (1994); World Lemur Day
31 Halloween; Samhein

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
President Suzanne Everhart

Be curious - be engaged - be present

Our meeting on 10/27 will host the Official Visit of District Governor Leon Cardiff Jr. All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting. Member will have the opportunity to ask questions and participate in a discussion with the Governor. If there are special problems or recommendations for the District, it would be appreciated if you would please let me know in advance of the meeting.

Our annual Holiday Greens fundraiser is now underway. If you do not have a catalog, I will be contacting you to get it to you. It is important to take part in this easy fundraiser for the club. Take the catalog with you, show your coworkers, friends, business associates and family. All orders and payments are due to me no later than 11/1. The beautiful fresh greens will be delivered between 11/16 and 11/24.

Don't forget this is also the month For Canines on the Creek. All hands are needed to support this, our signature fundraiser. Watch for ways to help here and at our meeting on 10/13.

Lion President Sue

IN MEMORIAM

Lion Brooks Edward Widder

Glade Valley Lion Brooks Edward Widder, 80, died on 9/1. He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Lion Cathy Widder.

Lion Brooks served in the U. S. Air Force during the Vietnam era. His professional career was spent with NOAA (National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration) until his 2002 retirement in 2002 as a Civil Engineer.

Lion Brooks was a very involved member of the Glade Valley Lions club for 40+ years, serving many leadership roles including President and Secretary, was in charge of the calendar project for many years, editor of the monthly "Growl" newsletter, and received the prestigious Melvin Jones Fellow award in 2005.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three daughters; six grandchildren; a great grandson; a sister; two brothers-in-law; and many nieces & nephews. He was preceded in death by daughter Kelsi Widder and sister Linda Ladrach.

Services were held on 9/5 at Glade United Church of Christ, with interment at Glade Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to Glade United Church of Christ or Glade Valley Lions Club.

SERVICE

CANINES ON THE CREEK
Lion Gary Bennett

Things are going well for this fun community event that also serves as a fundraiser for Leader Dogs for the Blind and the FSK Lions. To date, we have brought in about $5,000 in registrations. Our budgeted revenue goal is $8,000. We are tracking right where we should be. To date we have attracted 13 sponsors and 38 exhibitors. We also have 20 dogs signed up. At this time last year we had zero.

Soon, Lion Gary Bemmett will appear on the Good Morning Frederick videocast with Dani Gurrie and the Ron Ross Show on WFMD radio to promote Canines; times are to be determined. Canines will be featured in *Frederick Magazine* in early October and in *72 Hours* on 10/22. A free ad will run in the newspaper on 10/16. Over 30 lawn signs have been paced all over town. A robust Facebook campaign will kick off shortly.

New this year, the Maryland Insurance Administration will hold a pet insurance info session at the library from 1230-1330 hrs. All speakers and judges are booked for a short program from 1400-1430 hrs. The parade and costume contest should begin about 1430 hrs. We must clear out by 1800 hrs so the city can show a Halloween movie at the amphitheater. City Rec Department will help us break down.

With only one more Lions meeting (on 10/13) before the event, Lion Gary will go over all logistics at that meeting. Please check out the Canines website at https://www.fsklions.org/canines/

COMMUNITY TABLE
Lion Gary Bennett

FSK will serve dinner at Frederick's Community Table on Sunday 10/4 from 1630 to 1800 hrs. This has become an annual service project for the Lions. Our menu includes lasagna, salad, rolls, fruit cocktail and dessert. Lions Gary and Ellen Bennett, Sue and Guy Everhart, John Aulls, Mike Jackman, Nancy Foy, and Gary Snyder are scheduled to participate along with Fusion Club members Barbara Myers and Liz Long. Photos will be in the next Keynotes.

FAIR BOOTH

Eight FSK Lions provided 69 hrs of service at the Libertytown-Unionville Lions pizza and funnel cake booth at the Great Frederick Fair. Kudos to Lions John Aulls, Ellen and Gary Bennett, Suzanne

Everhart, Mike Jackman, Mark Jones, Gary Snyder, and Lynn Stimmel. (SA-10296701)

CITIZENS CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

Cards were provided for the 15 residents who have October birthdays and 15 with November birthdays. (SA-10296657)

BINGO
Lions provided a cash Bingo at Citizens Nursing Home on Monday 9/28. Thirty residents played and won a total of $82. We sang Happy Birthday to a few residents with September and October birthdays. A great time was had by all. Lion participants were Lynn Stimmel, Mike Jackman, Ellen and Gary Bennett, and John Aulls.

Please note there will be no October Bingo so Citizens staffers can focus on Halloween-themed activities. The next Bingo is scheduled for **Monday 11/23**. All Lions are invited to participate. It's a lot of fun. Just let Lion Gary Bennett know you're coming.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LENDING
Lion Ellen Bennett

The Medical Equipment Lending Program accepted donations of 12 pieces of equipment in September as space continues to be limited. We have loaned 48 pieces of equipment to 30 people and have referred several people to other clubs or organizations to assist with acquiring equipment, mostly hospital beds.

Our text message group of 10 Lions clubs who offer medical equipment is working well. (SA-10330927)

LCIF
Lion Gary Bennett

Lions collected $117 for LCIF at our September meetings. For the fiscal year we have now collected $288 for LCIF. Our '26-'27 budget for LCIF is $700. One generous Lion also donated $1,000, which counts towards our club total.

Lion Gary Bennett read the following article about LCIF at our second September meeting:

Lions Bring Renewed Vision to Malawi

The Zomba Lions Sight First Eye Hospital in Malawi is doing more than diagnosing and treating eye conditions—it's transforming lives.

Established in 2009 through Lion efforts, the eye hospital serves a population of more than four million people. In recent years, the facility has begun to show signs of deterioration. Damage from termites and severe weather, including the catastrophic Cyclone Freddy in 2023, put the roof at risk of collapse, threatening the hospital's ability to provide critical services like cataract surgeries and glaucoma treatments. Lions in District 412-B took action to stop that from happening.

Through a $219,325 SightFirst Grant from LCIF, the Lions are leading a major renovation of the eye hospital. Updates include replacing the roof, improving plumbing and electrical systems, and installing new equipment to expand diagnostic and surgical capabilities.

The improvements are already making a difference. Since the project began in 2023, the hospital has delivered more than 20,000 outpatient consultations and performed over 2,300 cataract surgeries. Patients are also receiving increased care for glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy, conditions that can lead to irreversible blindness if left untreated.

The local Lions' impact on vision care extends beyond the walls of the eye hospital. Lions are conducting vision screenings and leading awareness campaigns to make eye care more accessible to those who can't afford to travel across the country to receive it elsewhere.

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK
Lion Gary Bennett

The club has agreed to hold another "friends and family" food drive for Blessings in a Backpack in mid-November. More information to come. The last time we held such a food drive, we brought in more than 700 items for this wonderful charity.

EYEGLASS RECYCLING

Lion John Aulls recently turned in 300 pairs of eyeglasses with cases and 100 additional cases. (SA-10252459)

Lions John Aulls, Guy and Sue Everhart, and Lynn Stimmel participated in sorting and packaging approximately 20 boxes of eyeglasses, recycled by District 22W clubs, at The Arc on Tuesday 9/29. (SA-10308023)

FOOD BANK

Lion Gary Bennett

Lions donated 298 items to the Frederick Food Bank in September. For the fiscal year, we have donated 398 items. Please bring any food items you wish to donate to any meeting and Service Chair Gary Bennett will deliver to the food bank. (SA-10188125)

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Frederick County Chapter Newsletter August 2026

Beds delivered this month= 56
Families served this month= 26
Beds delivered since 2019 = 3300
Families served since 2019 = 1852

What do we need most right now?

We need new twin sheets for our littlest kiddos. We are looking for fun twin size sheets for those kids ages 3-8 (Preschool - 3rd grade) such as princesses, dogs, cats, unicorns, rainbows, animals, dinos, sports, Disney, cartoon characters, construction, cars, trucks, space or any other fun pattern. Please Note: We have a sufficient supply of solid and floral twin sheets at this time for our older kids, so we are only looking for sheets for the littlest kiddos.

Three ways to donate bedding

1. Shopping through Amazon Gift Registry

2. Shopping through Walmart Gift Registry

3. Shop local and drop off new twin size comforters/bed-in-a-bag/quilts, twin size blankets, standard size pillows, small throw blankets, twin size waterproof mattress covers, and twin size sheet sets to any of these locations:

NEW LOCATION!!! Frederick Card Collective, 16 North Market Street, Frederick

Petersen's Carpet & Flooring, 1060 West Patrick Street, Frederick, 301/698-4789

The Home of Everything Frederick, 401 North Market Street, Frederick, 240/938-1963

The Find Consignment Shop, 11791 Fingerboard Road #16, Monrovia, 301/363-3722

State Farm Insurance, 23 East Frederick Street, Walkersville, 301/898-7088

Faith Baptist Church, 2212 Jefferson Pike, Knoxville, 301/834-7775

Email on 10/3/26

Recently, Sleep in Heavenly Peace delivered our **400,000th bed** to two children in Cincinnati. Then the power went out.

In the middle of a severe storm, our volunteers and the kids kept building — using the lights on their drills to finish assembling the two bunks. But our volunteers didn't stop.

With only the lights from their drills to guide them, volunteers and the children worked side by side to assemble both bunks.

No power. No perfect conditions. Just people who had promised these kids a safe place to sleep—and weren't going to leave until the job was done. It's 400,000 nights of safer sleep, better dreams, and children who know their community showed up for them.

Thank you for helping us reach this incredible milestone — and for being part of what comes next. And now, we're setting our sights on **500,000 beds.** That's 100,000 more children who need a safe place to sleep.

FSK LIONS FUNDRAISING

CEDAR RIDGE SOAPS

These soaps make great Christmas gifts. It's easy! Just visit https://www.cedarridgesoaps.com/ and enter coupon code *FSKLions* at checkout. You'll receive your order in a few days (Cedar Ridge Soaps are local!) and the Lions will receive 40% of the retail price of your order. (If you have difficulty with the website, call 240/356-0222 and Joan will take your order by phone.) We need to do well on the fundraiser so we can serve the community better.

Our arrangement with Cedar Ridge Soaps, a local family-owned business, has been providing funds for our club's donation to the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) for over six years.

OTHER CLUBS' EVENTS & FUNDRAISERS

EMMITSBURG LIONS

Emmitsburg Lins Club's chicken BBQ at the VHC Activities Building, 17701 Creamery Road, Emmitsburg; now accepting credit cards! Dates: 5/1, 6/26, and 9/18/27; and 5/4/28.

LIONSCON27

109th Lions Clubs International Convention, Washington, DC, July 2-6, 2027; volunteer, donate, or be a sponsor; lionscon27.com. LionsCon27 is hosted by the MD-22 Host Committee; all donations are tax-deductible under their 501(c)(3) status.

SOUTH CARROLL LIONESS LIONS

Collect pull tabs from soda cans for South Carroll Lioness Lions Club; they are donating them to the Westminster Lions Club as part of their childhood cancer project with Ronald McDonald House.

THURMONT LIONS
Thurmont Lions 97th Anniversary Charter Night, 23dnesday 10/28,Carriage House Inn Restaurant, 200 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, $35 pp, RSVP to Lion Joyce Anthony, 31 Sylvia Circle, Thurmont 21788, by 10/21

Thurmont Lions are selling handmade chocolate 2.8 oz. bars for $4 each, available in the following flavors: dark or milk chocolate (plain or w/almonds, crispy rice, or peanuts); Cookies and Crème; Peppermint Crunch. NEW: chocolate cups filled with peanut butter, caramel, or mint.

2026-2027 SERVICE STATISTICS
From LCI Portal (as of 8/2/26)

People served 4003
Volunteers 201
Volunteer hours 546.5
Funds raised $1465.75
Funds donated $432

REPORTING REMINDER
When reporting service for LCI, please provide as much of the following information as possible: ***Date of service; number of Lions involved; number of persons served; number of hours spent (include travel time); brief description of service.*** *This information will make our reporting much more accurate.*

MEMBERSHIP

SUNSHINE

Lion Ellen Bennett is handling Sunshine duties, sending anniversary, birthday, get well, and sympathy cards to our members as required.

ADMINISTRATION & LEADERSHIP

ROSTER BOOK CORRECTIONS

Three roster books have not yet been distributed. If you have not received your 2026-2027 roster book, please contact Secretary Stimmel ASAP to make arrangements to receive it.

REGION III MEETING 9/2

Secretary Lynn Stimmel represented the club in attending the first Region III meeting of this club year, at Thurmont Public Library on 9/2. (SA-10155820)

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Treasurer Michael Jackman has created the following QR codes for your payment convenience:

FOR CANINES ON THE CREEK:
Exhibitors
https://square.link/u/uag7GtdX

Sponsor
https://square.link/u/6VKepBfG

Participant
https://square.link/u/oCPpIlFN

FOR 2027 LIONS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION:

Donate to Convention
https://square.link/u/1CNvp8w2

2026-2027 KEYNOTES DEADLINES
Lion Lynn Stimmel

All dates are Fridays unless otherwise noted:

10/30 for November
11/27 for December
1/1 for January

MOST FUN STATES
WalletHub survey

Maryland ranked 18th overall in the most fun states survey; other Maryland rankings were:

30th – nightlife; 25th – restaurants per capita; 21st – fitness centers per capita; 19th – performing arts and theaters per capita; 15th – amusement parks per capita; 15th – access to national parks; 13th – entertainment and recreation

Neighboring states: West Virginia, 50th; Delaware, 46th; Virginia, 26th; and Pennsylvania, 13th.

UPCOMING CONVENTIONS & CABINET MEETINGS

22W Cabinet Meetings & Social

10/17 District 22W Social, Beaver Creek Country Club, Hagerstown
11/14 Boonsboro Lions
1/9 Region III – TBD
4/3 Terra Rubra Lions

LCI Conventions

2027 7/2-6 *WASHINGTON, DC*
2028 6/23-27, Singapore
2029 6/29-7/3 Minneapolis, MN
2030 6/28-7/2 San Antonio, TX
2031 7/4-8 Helsinki, Finland

MD22 Conventions

2027 5/13-16 Wisp Resort, McHenry, Md
2028 5/4-7 Princess Royale, Ocean City, Md
2029 5/3-6 Maritime Conference Center, Linthicum, Md

USA/Canada Forums

2027 Huntsville, AL
2028 Grand Rapids, MI
2029 Shreveport, LA

2026-2027 LEADERSHIP

*Area code is 301 unless noted; emails marked * go to PC only*

President: Lion Suzanne Everhart, 514-8730, everhartsuzanne@gmail.com
IPP, Vice-president, LCIF, Service, Citizens BINGO, Finance, Food Bank, Lion Tamer: Lion Gary Bennett, 606-3012, gabennett01@comcast.net
Secretary, KEYNOTES Editor, Citizens cards, NFES Liaison: Lion J. Lynn Stimmel, home 663-4392, jerlynstimmel@comcast.net (PC only)
Treasurer: Lion Michael Jackman, 980-3539, wk 898-2966, mike@pctaxman.com
Directors: (one year) Lions Nancy Foy, 225/229-6264, nssfoy@gmail.com; and Gary Snyder, 240/315-9139, Snyder5793@comcast.net; (two years) Lions Ellen Bennett 606-5665, ebennett02@comcast.net; and Guy Everhart 471-4962, gfeverhart@gmail.com
Membership, Finance: Lion Nancy Foy, 225/229-6264, nssfoy@gmail.com
Marketing & Communications: Lion Judy Duears, 694-8957, judy.duears@gmail.com
Programs, Tailtwister: Lion John Aulls, 662-2360, aulls2@comcast.net
Donations: Lion Colleen Krehely, 240/575-4566, cek090920@gmail.com
Eyeglass Recycling, Eye exams/glasses: Lion Guy Everhart, 572-5963, gfeverhart@gmail.com
Medical Equipment Lending, Sunshine: Lion Ellen Bennett, 606-5665, ebennett02@comcast.net
Webmasters: Mike & Lion Judy Duears, 694-8957, webmaster@fsklions.org

District 22W Leadership

DG Leon Cardiff, Oakland-Mt. Lake Park Lions
1VDG Wendy Drum, Middletown Lions
2VDG Jeanne Ward, Hancock Lioness Lions
CS Rebecca Reckert, Kitzmiller Lions
CT Mike O'Brien, Deep Creek Lions
IP DG Martin Bonura, South Carroll Lioness Lions
Administrative Assistant ??
Region III (Frederick County) Chair Dianne Walbrecker, Emmitsburg Lions
Zone III (FSK, Frederick, Glade Valley, Libertytown-Unionville, New Market) *VACANT*

KEYNOTES is the monthly publication of the Frederick Francis Scott Key Lions Club. Deadline for submission of information for the next issue generally is the Friday of the week of the fourth Tuesday of each month (i.e., the Friday after the second meeting of the month).

CLUB POLICIES

General membership meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at **1730** hrs at the Ledo Pizza, 489 Prospect Boulevard, Frederick, Maryland. Members and guests are urged to arrive by **1715** hrs to place their meal orders.

Reservations are due to President Suzanne Everhart, 301/514-8730, or everhartsuzanne@gmail.com no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. The only meal that will be covered by the club is the program speaker.

Inclement weather: If Frederick County Public Schools close early due to inclement weather, the meeting that night is cancelled. (Board of Directors 3/11/25)

Memorials: established at 8/8/00 (amended 12/14/09) Board of Directors' meeting: $50 on member's death; $30 on death of member's spouse, widowed spouses on the active newsletter mailing list, parent, or child. Donations are made to the charity specified by the family or to LVRF. (Policies & Procedures, Section 2, subsections a-c.)

Lions Clubs International (LCI) is a 501(c)(4) tax-exempt, not-for-profit social welfare organization and is not eligible to accept or solicit charitable donations. All donations accepted on lionsclubs.org support Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit public charitable organization.