

LA CROSSE



LIONS CLUB

LA CROSSE LIONS CHARITIES

APRIL 2004

CONTENTS

Welcome

Lions Organization at a Glance

Lions Clubs International (3 pages)

Wisconsin Lions - Multiple District 27

District 27-D2

La Crosse Lions

Brief History - La Crosse Lions

Local Club Structure

La Crosse Lions Monthly Activities

Lions Code of Ethics

Lions Club's Objectives

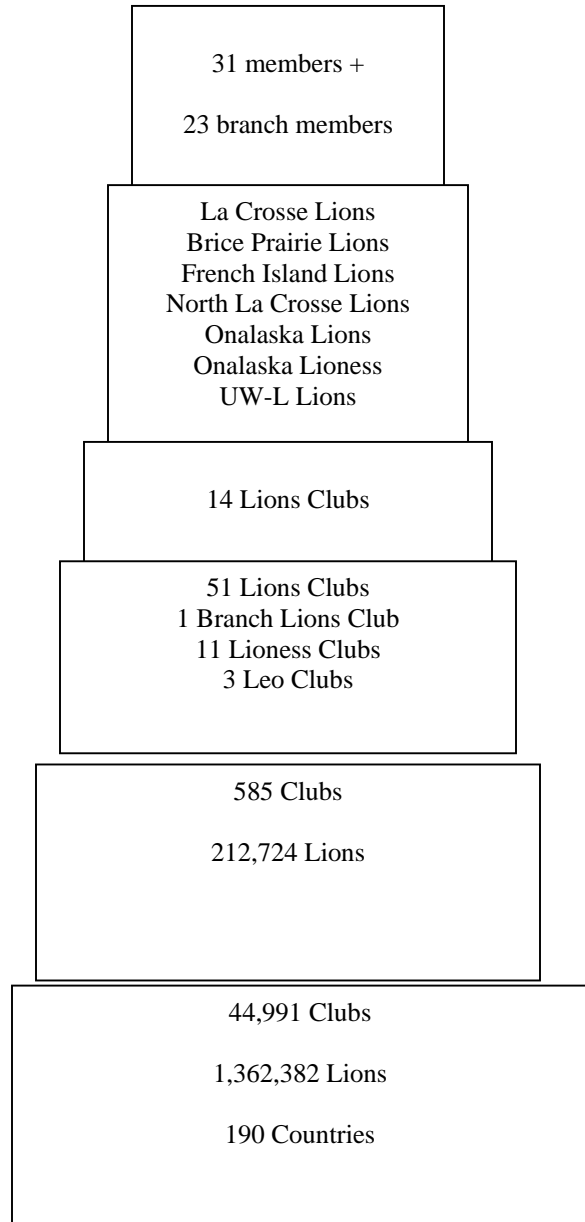
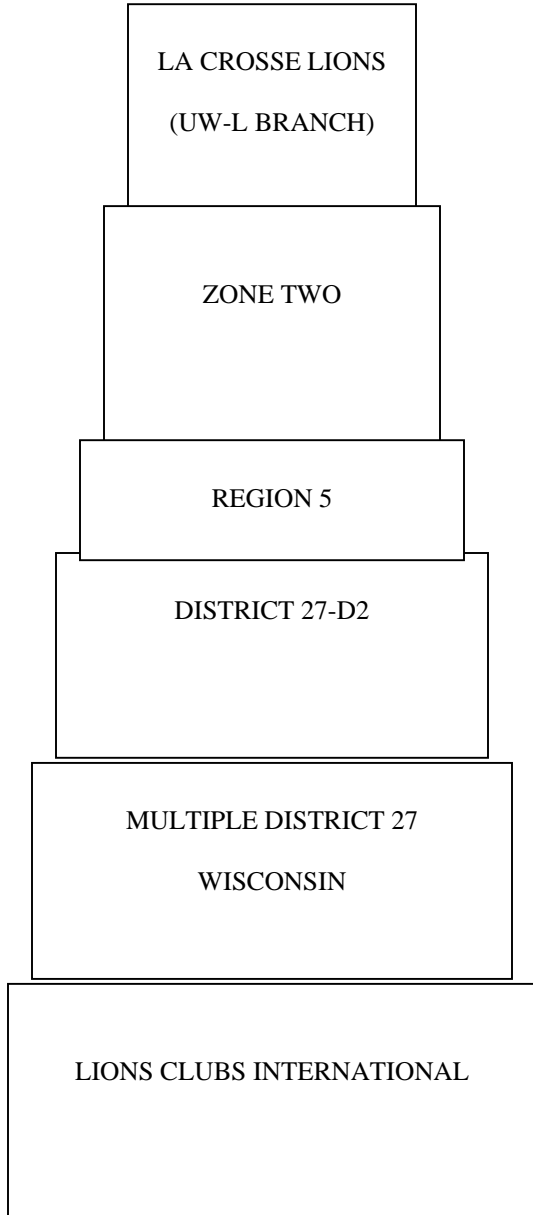
La Crosse Lions Directory



WELCOME to the La Crosse Lions Club. We're delighted to have you as a member. Our Lions club has been serving the La Crosse and surrounding community for over eighty years. Our Lions Association motto, "we serve" is more than a motto for the La Crosse Lions, it's our heritage. Since our early days we have worked to make the community a better place to live and work, to raise a family. We continue this heritage today as an active community organization looking to help others in the community, particularly the visually or hearing impaired, attain a better quality of life. We hope to continue our service activities for many years to come. As a new member you are a critical piece in the work that we do. The lifeblood of our club is our membership. We work together and support each other in our many activities, for individually we achieve little but collectively we achieve much. We encourage you to become an active Lion. Please make arrangements to attend an orientation session so that you can learn more about the Lions Association. We would also like you to participate in the recently developed Lions Mentoring program so that you can make the most of your membership in the Lions. We hope that you enjoy being a Lion and that you will invite your colleagues and friends to become a member. Thank you.

Yours in Lion Fellowship,

Jo Marson, President





Melvin Jones, Founder of Lions Clubs International in 1917.



Helen Keller, challenged Lions to be 'nights of the Blind'



Wisconsin Lions Camp

Did you know?

LIONS INTERNATIONAL:

Membership

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization with over 1.3 million members in nearly 45,000 clubs in 190 countries and geographical areas.

Lions are men and women who volunteer their time to humanitarian causes. Founded in 1917, the association's motto is "We Serve."

Service History

Worldwide, Lions clubs are recognized for their service to the visually and hearing impaired. This service began through a challenge issued by Helen Keller to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness" during the Lions' 1925 International Convention.

Today, Lions extend their commitment to sight conservation through countless local efforts, as well as through their international Sight First program.

Sight First

In 1990, Lions established Sight First, a US \$145 million-plus global initiative to rid the world of preventable and reversible blindness. The unprecedented program joins leading blindness prevention experts, blindness organizations, governments and Lion volunteers in an effort to establish long term solutions in eye health care infrastructure, training of eye care professionals, treatment and public education.

Without intervention programs like Sight First, the World Health Organization estimates the number of people who are blind in the world could double from 40 million to 80 million in less than 25 years.

As an outcome of the programs to address visually and hearing impaired individuals the Lions have been invited as the only service organization to organize clubs in Mainland China. The first two Lions Clubs in China were chartered in 2002.

Other Sight-Related Activities

In addition to the Sight First program, Lions clubs continue to support other sight-related activities:

- Lions provide 600,000 free professional glaucoma screenings and make 25,000 corneal transplants possible each year.
- Lions establish and support a majority of the world's eye banks, hundreds of clinics, hospitals and eye research centers worldwide.
- Lions provide thousands of individuals each year with free quality eye care, eyeglasses, Braillewriters, large print texts, white canes and guide dogs.

International Youth Programs

Lions make a strong service commitment to youth through several international programs:

- **Lions Youth Outreach Program:** This comprehensive program challenges young people to learn, to achieve and to serve. By focusing on youth volunteerism, it steers young people away from harmful behaviors such as gang involvement, violence and substance abuse. At the heart of this initiative is a video program designed to motivate youth to volunteer.
- **Lions-Quest:** Lions clubs around the world sponsor drug abuse and violence prevention curricula in their community schools. The Lions-Quest "Skills for Growing," "Skills for Adolescence" and "Skills for Action" programs teach young people the skills needed to resolve conflicts peacefully, say no to alcohol, tobacco and other drugs and grow into personally and socially responsible adults.

- Lions International Peace Poster Contest: Each year more than 200,000 students, ages 11-13, from over 45 countries, creatively share personal ideas about world peace through artwork judged at local, regional, national and international levels.
- Leo Club Program: Lions clubs in 133 countries sponsor 4,890 Leo clubs worldwide. The more than 122,000 members ages 12-28 perform various community service activities and support a special worldwide Literacy and Culture project.
- International Youth Exchange: In 1993-94, more than 4,200 young people, ages 15-21, stayed with Lion host families in 68 countries.

Grants

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), the charitable branch of Lions Clubs International, disburses donated funds in the form of grants for humanitarian services, disaster relief and vocational assistance projects initiated by local Lions. One of the principle projects is a partnership with Habitat for Humanity to provide housing for handicapped individuals.

WISCONSIN LIONS:

Facts:

- Ten Districts
- Approximately 22,000 Lions Members
- 580 Lions Clubs

Wisconsin Lions Service Projects:

- **Wisconsin Lions Camp** at Rosholt, WI
 - Free camping experience to 1,700 adults and youth with disabilities (visually impaired, hearing impaired, mildly cognitively disabled, diabetic)
 - 440 acre camp surrounding a 40 acre private lake
 - Year-round Conference Center
- **Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin**
 - Provide eye tissue for corneal transplant surgery
 - Provide eye tissue for research
 - Approximately 1,000 transplant surgeries yearly
- **Hearing Program** – provide free hearing aids to financially needy individuals
- **Hearing Dog Program & Leader Dogs for the Blind** – free guide dogs to qualified individuals
- **Children's Vision Screening** in schools and the community
- **Eye Glass Recycling Center** at Rosholt
 - Over 1,00,000 glasses processed last year
 - One of nine Centers worldwide
- **Youth Exchange Program** – International six week cultural exchange
 - Host family for a foreign youth
 - Sponsor Wisconsin youth travel abroad

WISCONSIN LIONS

DISTRICT 27-D2

MAP OF LION CLUBS



La Crosse Lions:

- Are “Friends of Myrick Park Zoo” and have purchased or helped purchase most of the cages and animals and provided the fencing around the zoo
- Support community groups and organizations (Boy and Girl Scouts, Hixon Forrest, Chileda, Children’s Museum, Salvation Army, Family & Children’s Center and many more)
- Purchased a book reader and other materials for the Public Library
- Support the Wisconsin Lions Camp at Rosholt and Camp Winnebago near Caledonia, MN. Each year many handicapped individuals from the La Crosse area attend these camps
- Help sponsor the Community Thanksgiving Dinner
- Provide for eye exams and purchase eye glasses and hearing aids for needy individuals
- Purchased an audio system for the community theatre and other community organizations to assist visually impaired individuals to attend and enjoy productions.
- Collect used eye glasses and hearing aids
- Sponsor the District’s Peace Poster Banquet and recognize area youth for their participation in the Peace Poster Contest.
- Transport eyes for the local Eye Bank
- Provide scholarships to the three local high schools
- Sponsor a Branch Lions Club at UW-L to encourage young adults to become involved in Lions
- Volunteer our time to help the City Parks Department with Winter Rec Fest
- Support the La Crosse Loggers in bringing baseball to La Crosse.
- Provide support for individual requests from community members and organizations to help those in need or to improve our community

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE LA CROSSE LIONS CLUB

The La Crosse Lions Club, Inc. was organized on March 22 and Chartered on May 13, 1922. For many years the club met at noon at the old Stoddard Hotel on 4th and State Streets. It was one of the eleven original clubs established in Wisconsin.

The first thirty years of the club were very productive. The club's primary goals were community service and, after a challenge to the Lions of the world by Helen Keller, aid to the visually impaired. The club purchased glasses, provided eye exams for the needy, bought white canes, and arranged for leader dogs for the blind. They were involved in establishing the Wisconsin Lions Foundation in 1952. The Foundation originally operated the Wisconsin Lions Camp in Rosholt and today administers several statewide programs – Lions Quest, Eyeglass Recycling Center, Hearing Program, Children's Vision Screening, Community Diabetes Education, and the Lions Eye Bank. It supports related service programs for Leader Dog, Juvenile Diabetes, and Paws With A Cause.

The primary fund raising projects in the early years included selling brooms, light bulbs, and candy. The club also was well known for their pancake breakfasts.

On October 30, 1952 the club disbanded and it was re-chartered twenty-one days later on November 20. In April 1986 the Club was incorporated and a parallel organization, La Crosse Lions Charities (a 501.c3 organization), was established. This allows donations to the Lions to be tax exempt.

In the past twenty-five years the club has expanded its mission to serve all handicapped individuals. The club purchased Braille typewriters and equipment, and a complete set of encyclopedias and dictionaries in Braille for UW-L and WWTC. We also purchased wireless radio hearing aids for the students and teachers of the hearing impaired at Washburn School, and TTYs for the La Crosse Library and for the hearing impaired students at Central High School.

In 1965 and 1966, we purchased and supplied the hospitals in La Crosse with surgical instruments, supplies, and containers for surgeons to use in removal of the eyes from a deceased person who donated their eyes to the Lions Eye Bank in Madison. This was the start of the local Eye Bank. Today, Lions continue to transport donated eyes to and from the Lions Eye Bank in Madison.

In 1967 and 1968, the club sponsored an orphanage in a small village in South Vietnam. The club organized the churches and schools in La Crosse to collect and donate hygiene materials, clothes, bedding, toys, etc. for the orphanage. At 1:30 a.m. on April 12, 1969, the orphanage was attacked by the Viet Cong and all ninety plus children and nuns were killed.

In the 1970s we started the Lions Club "Friends of the Zoo" project for Myrick Park. The Lions purchased the fencing for the zoo and paid for several of the animals. We paid for several of the cages and for the feeding machines, and helped organize the pet the animal's area in the zoo. A Lion head fountain was purchased for the zoo and the Lions were a major contributor to the new bear display.

Over the years the club has donated to many community organizations such as Chileda, the Salvation Army, the Boys and Girl's Club, the Family and Children's Center, Boy and Girl Scouts, and Hixon Forrest. We have purchases hundreds of pair of glasses and paid for eye exams, arranged for seeing-eye dogs, and paid for the operation at Lutheran Hospital for an 18-year-old girl to restore her sight. We also purchased a book reader for the La Crosse public library.

The La Crosse Lions ran the bratwurst and food concession stand at the northside Oktoberfest grounds for over 25 years. Other fund raising projects included a Myrick Park Chicken-Q, auctions, Riverfest, tug of war, sponsoring the New Christy Minstrels and the King and His Court softball team, community dances, talent shows, sporting events, a Children's Circus, and the Great Taste of La Crosse Art Show. We hosted three State Lion Conventions (1959, 1984, and 1991) and a District Lions Convention.

The Lions continue to support two summer camps for handicapped individuals, The Wisconsin Lions Camp and Camp Winnebago in Caledonia, Minnesota. Three members of the club have been Directors of Camp Winnebago.

In 1997 the La Crosse Lions completed seventy- five years of service to the community. The club is proud of its legacy of making a difference in the lives of area residents. We continue to fulfill our motto, "We Serve".

LOCAL CLUB STRUCTURE

CLUB MEMBERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executes business of the club, under policies established by the club membership

PRESIDENT

- Chair of the Board
- Presides at all meetings
- Ex-officio member of all committees

SECRETARY

- Has custody of and keeps records of the club affairs
- Handles correspondence to the public and Lion's District and International

TREASURER

- Maintains Record of all disbursements
- Prepares annual budget
- Chair of Finance Committee

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

- Acts for the President
- Program Chair

PAST PRESIDENT

- Chair nominations & elections
- Advisor to new officers

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

- Membership Committee
- Greeter at meetings

TAIL TWISTER

- Collects fines & meeting collections
- Promotes good fellowship

3RD VICE PRESIDENT

- Membership Committee
- Greeter at meetings

LION TAMER

- Charge of club property
- Charge of setup at meetings

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

Airfest
Candy Days/White Cane Days
Chileada Classic
Rotary Lights
Membership
Loggers

Peace Poster
Lion Pins
New Projects
Hearing
Conventions
Bowling

Eyeglasses
Lion Mints
Scholarships
Newsletter
Wis Lions Foundation
Sunshine

LA CROSSE LIONS MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

All Months

- **Second Wednesday** – Dinner Meeting and Business Session
- **Fourth Wednesday** – Dinner Meeting and Program
- Lions mints on sale all year long.

January	Dues are due Peace Poster Banquet (first regular meeting)
February	Zone meeting Winter Rec Fest Card Tournament Valentine Party
March	Officer Nominations Due Membership Drive
April	Election of officers Worldwide Induction Day
May	Officer training workshop Candy Days Wisconsin Lions Week State Lions Convention
June	Installation of Officers Parking at Airfest La Crosse Loggers Ushering

July	Dues are due International Convention Chileda Classic volunteer La Crosse Logger's Club's Annual Family Picnic Finance Committee prepares a budget
August	Food Stand Board Approval of Budget Peace Poster Planning
September	Zone Meeting Scholarship Awards Night
October	White Cane Days Membership Drive Card Tournament? District Convention Lion's World Service Day Work on Rotary Lights Project
November	District Governor Night No Second Meeting – Happy Thanksgiving Decorate Tree at Rotary Lights Zone Meeting
December	Christmas Party Bell Ringing for Salvation Army Donation to Family and Children's Center

LIONS CODE OF ETHICS

- To show my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.
- To seek success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.
- To remember that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.
- Whenever a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards my fellow men, to resolve such doubt against myself.
- To hold friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.
- Always to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state and my community, and to give to them my unswerving loyalty in word, act and deed. To give them freely of my time, labor and means.
- To aid my fellow men by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.
- To be careful with my criticisms and liberal with my praise; to build up and not destroy.

LIONS CLUB'S OBJECTIVES

- To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.
- To promote the principles of good government and good citizenship.
- To take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.
- To unite the clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.
- To provide a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion should not be debated by club members.
- To encourage service-minded men to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavors.



LA CROSSE LIONS CLUB
(Serving the community since 1922)

2003-2004 DIRECTORY

OFFICERS:

President Lion Jo Marson
 1st V.P. Lion Dick Foss
 2nd V.P. Lion Paul Kleppe
 3rd V.P. Lion Art Marson
 Secretary Lion Eric Fretz
 Treasurer Lion Art Marson
 Lion Tamer Lion Jim Ritter
 Tailtwisters Lion Boyd Engbloom
 Lion Wayne Jacobson

Membership Lion Mary Fisher (Chair)
 Lion Heidi Von Ruden
 Lion Rachel Zellmer
 Lion Erik Coaty
 Lion Frank Fisher
 Lion Art Marson (ex-officio)

PR Chief Lion Paul Kleppe

Board of Directors:

Lion Rachel Zellmer (1 yr.)
 Lion Heidi Von Ruden (1 yr.) - Rotary Lights
 Lion Alert Betz (2 year)
 Lion Mary Fisher (2 year)

Immediate Past
 President Lion Joe Fisher

District Governor
 Vice- Dist. Gov.

PROJECTS:

- Airfest Lion Jo Marson
 - Candy Days & White Cane Days Lion Paul Kleppe
 - Chileda Classic Lion Wayne Jacobson
 - Food Sales Lion Jo Marson (Chair)
 Lion Eric Fretz
 Lion Rich Coaty
 - La Crosse Loggers Lion Joe Fisher (Chair)
 Lion Rich Coaty
 Lion Dick Foss
 Lion Jo Marson
 - Peace Poster Lion Marla K. (Chair)
 Lion Mary Fisher
 Lion Marg Frigo
 - Rotary Lights Lion Jim Ritter (Chair)
 Lion Joe Fisher
 Lion Art Marson
 Lions Marg & Jerry F.
 Lion Wayne Jacobson
 - Bell Ringing

Lion John Stastny
 Lion John Hanson

COMMITTEES:

Bowling:	Lion Joe Fisher (Chair) Lion Roy Buehrle
Convention:	Lion Boyd Engbloom (Chair) Lion Don Webb
Eyeglasses:	Lion Rich Coaty (Chair) Lion Dick Foss
Hearing:	Lion Jim Holberg
Lions Mints:	Lion Lee Edman (Chair) Lion Al Betz
Lions Pins:	Lion Boyd Engbloom (Chair) Lion Lee Edman Lion Art Marson
Membership	Lion Mary Fisher (Chair) Lion Heidi Von Ruden Lion Rachel Zellmer Lion Erik Coaty Lion Frank Fisher Lion Art Marson (ex-officio)
New Projects :	Lion Rachel Zellmer (co-chair) Lion Heidi VonRuden (co-chair) Lion Dick Foss Lion Jo Marson
Newsletter:	Lion Jo Marson Lion Art Marson
Nominations:	Lion Art Marson (Chair) Lion Jo Marson Lion Dick Foss
Scholarships:	Lion Wayne Jacobson
Sunshine:	Lion Mary Fisher
UWL Lions:	Lion Wayne Jacobson (Chair) Lion Art Marson
WLF:	Lion Dick Foss

Meetings: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays @ 7:00 P.M. – Doc Powells

Zone Meetings: Aug. 21 – Schmidty's, Nov. 20 – TBA, Others – TBA

2003 – 2004 CALENDAR:

July 23 Picnic - Marsons, 6:00 p.m.

Aug. 13 Business Meeting
Aug. 27 Program – Report on Denver Intern'l Convention by Lions Art & Jo Marson

Sept. 10 Business Meeting – Food Pantry Collection (WAFER)
Sept. 24 Scholarship Night – Lion Wayne Jacobson

Oct. 8 Business Meeting
Oct. 22 Program - Lions Marg & Jerry Frigo

Nov. 12 District Governor Night - Lion John Stastny
Nov. 26 No meeting – Happy Thanksgiving

Dec. 10 Holiday Program Event – Lions Heidi VonRuden & Rachel Zellmer
Dec. 24 No meeting – Merry Christmas

Jan. 14 Business Meeting
Jan. 28 Peace Poster Contest Banquet - Lions Marla Kaufmann & Mary Fisher

Feb. 11 Business Meeting – Food Pantry Collection (Place of Grace)
Feb. 25 Program – Lions Erik Coaty & Frank Fisher

March 10 Business Meeting
March 24 Program – Lions Eric Fretz & Lee Edman

April 14 Business Meeting and Nomination of Officers:
April 28 Election of Officers: Program – Lions Roy Buehrle & Rich Coaty

May 12 Business Meeting
May 26 Program – Lions Boyd Engbloom & Jim Holberg

June 9 Installation of Officers - Lion Jo Marson & Lion Dick Foss
June 23 Program – Lions Al Betz & Don Webb

2003 – 2004 SCHEDULED EVENTS:

October 3 & 4 White Cane Days
October 25 District Convention – All Star Lanes, La Crosse
February District Honors Night
Various Officer Training Session
May Candy for Lions Camp Days
June 19 & 20 Airfest