

Crystal Lake Lions Club

FEBRUARY
2025

Lions PRIDE



25th STEAK FRY SIZZLES !!



The 25th Edition of the CL Lions Club Winter Steak Fry is in the books and it looks like another great success. Great weather and great preparation by the club members will make this Steak Fry XXV the new standard. New items included a Silent Auction, higher product in Cork Pull, a live band, and innovative raffles.

Crystal Lake Lions Club, take a bow!

**OUR
94th YEAR !!
Since 1931**

MEETING DATES

February 10

Board Meeting

6:30 p.m.

Lou Malnati's

February 24

6:30 p.m.

MOONTIME BBQ

No regular meetings are held in the summer however the Board will meet two times to plan the 2024-25 Lions year. All members are invited to attend Summer Board meetings but no meals will be served.

Lion President



My Fellow CL Lions,

Thank you to all of you, your families, your friends, and businesses that made this year's Steak Fry so successful!

We produced a wonderful evening for our guests and generated an all time high in fundraising efforts. The club was shown in a great light to the community and Region 1-J Officials in attendance. I had multiple "first timers" tell me that they were blown away by the size of the crowd and support that we receive from the community. Many people told me to include them as their own table of new guests for next season. I also had multiple businesses ask to be major sponsors or providers for next year.

To look forward at the calendar for next year, the 2026 Super Bowl is scheduled for Sunday, February 8, 2026 so the Steak Fry, being the week prior, creates the date for the 26th Steak Fry to be Saturday January 31, 2026.

I would like to have a wrap up meeting following our next board meeting to close out thoughts for this year, and "pencil" in the plans or ideas for next year's event.

THEN, we will soon be planning our Golf Outing at Boone Creek the first or second Monday in June.

Lion Tony Lamping has agreed to pick up the chairmanship for the event with help from Dave, Doug, Brennan, Greg and a few others. Please reach out to Lion Tony to get on the committee.

Thanks to all the members and their families that make us the strongest Lions Club in the area, And, the Lionization we share that allows us to share our friendships.

Lion President Parrish







CLUB DEBUTS NEW CANOPY AT STEAK FRY

WOW!



You couldn't miss it walking in the front door at the Steak Fry at the Holiday Inn. The new Crystal Lake Lions canopy to be used at public events made it's maiden voyage. It just looks awesome. Custom appointed by Lion Matt Eby, he hit a home run with this one. We will be very proud to show this off at many of our outdoor events. At the Steak Fry, we allowed the Crystal Lake American Legion to set up shop inside for the evening.

2024– 2025 Club Officers

President	Rob Parrish
1st V. P.	Dave Moore
2nd V.P.	Derek Benton
3rd Vice Pres.	Chris Morgan
Secretary	Kevin Byrnes
Asst. Secretary	John Landon
Treasurer	John Dewey
Asst Treas.	Richard Yelle
Tail Twister	Rob Cruise
Asst. Tail Tw.	Dan Johnson
Asst. Tail Tw.	Jim Zambon
Lion Tamer	Matt Eby
Asst. Lion T.	Randy Helm
Director	Doug Lomen
Director	Rob Wood
Director	Bob Moravec
Director	Brennan Markee
Director	Randy Funk



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DJ Myers Joins Club



The Crystal Lake Lions newest member is a United States Marine. DJ Myers was inducted at the January 27 general meeting at the Breakers. DJ has already been a big club supporter and worker, and we can now call him, “Lion DJ”. Pictured from L to R, Lion Kevin Byrnes, Lion DJ Myers, District 1-J Senior Zone Chairman John Nienhuis, and Club President Rob Parrish.

Welcome to the club Lion DJ!

Pride (prid), *n., v.,*

- 1 a high opinion of one’s own worth or possessions.
- 7 **group of Lions**
- 8 any large or impressive group—v.t. pride
- 8 Oneself, be proud of. [Old English pryde, proud}

Club Donates \$1,500 To GiGi's Playhouse. Down Syndrome Achievement Center



The CL Lions Club presented January 27 speakers \$1,500 for their organization, GiGi's Playhouse. Shown is Rob Parrish, Jamie Lee, Jason Lee and Lion Rob Wood. GiGi's Playhouse is a national non-profit organization that constantly changes lives through a replica playhouse model by delivering for educational, therapeutic-based, and career development programs for individuals with Down syndrome, their families, and the community. GiGi's offers these programs from prenatal to adulthood.

GiGi's Playhouse McHenry County in McHenry.

Gigisplayhouse.org 815-385-7529

DISTRICT GOVERNOR JEFF CHOLEWA VISITS CRYSTAL LAKE



The Crystal Lake Lions Club were fortunate to host honored guests from Lions District 1-J at the January 27 meeting at the Breakers Restaurant.

District 1-J Governor Lion Jeff Cholewa was present along with District 1-J Senior Zone Chairman Lion John Nienhuis.

Pictured L to R, Lion Kevin Byrnes, Zone Chairman Nienhuis, District Governor Cholewa, and Club President Parrish

CLUB DONATIONS, DONATIONS, DONATIONS

The Crystal Lake Lions Club approved the Donations Committee recommended payouts at the January 13 Board of Directors meeting.

Crystal Lake Food Pantry	\$10,500
Local Eyecare	\$7,000
Pacific Palisades/Santa Monica Lions Club	\$2,500
Red Cross	\$2,000
Horizons for the Blind	\$2,000
Good Samaritan Ministries	\$1,500
NAMI	\$1,500
GiGi's Playhouse	
Down Syndrome Achievement Centers	\$1,500
Chatter Girls	\$1,000
Grief Guide. Lisa Orris.	\$750
Herzog's Heros	\$750

How did the Cork Pull do this year?



BEFORE.....



AFTER !!!!! omg

Silent Auction Makes Some Noise



**LORI AND
ROB PARRISH
AUCTIONEERS
(Shhhh....it's a
silent auction)**





**CL
Food Pantry
Check
\$10,000**

**HORIZONS
FOR THE
BLIND
\$2,000**



**FAMILY
HEALTH
PARTNERSHIP
\$1,500**

Live from Crystal Lake...
It's Saturday Night !!

