

Crystal Lake Lions Club

MARCH  
2026

# Lions PRIDE



## CLUB GIVES BACK. DONATIONS ANNOUNCED

The Crystal Lake Lions Club coming off a very successful Winter Steak Fry, have committed to a series of donations to many local organizations. The Donations Committee have recently met and selected the recipients through careful considerations.

The top recipient continues to be the Local Eyecare line item. This will be projected to be \$30,000.00 for 2026. The most recent expenditures are \$10,677.64 for local needy eyecare services. Other top donations were , Crystal Lake Food Pantry, Shop with a Cop, Horizons for the Blind, and Veteran's Path for Hope.

**A complete schedule of all donations so far are listed in this issue. Page 5.**

OUR  
95th YEAR !!  
Since 1931

## MEETING DATES

Monday  
March 9, 2026  
Board Meeting  
Lou Malnati's  
6:30 p.m.

Monday, March 23  
Program Meeting  
6:30 pm  
Moontine

No regular meetings are held in the summer however the Board will meet two times to plan the 2025-26 Lions year. All members are invited to attend Summer Board meetings but no meals will be served.

# Lion President



The Steak Fry Committee deserves tremendous recognition for delivering another incredible event this year. After months of planning, organizing sponsors, coordinating volunteers, and putting together a fantastic evening, the committee helped bring in over \$110,000 to support the work we do throughout our community. Because of their dedication, and the generosity of everyone who attended, we can continue providing eyeglasses, eye exams, hearing aids, and financial support to individuals and local organizations in need. A huge thank you to the entire Steak Fry Committee and all of the Lions who stepped up to make this event such a tremendous success.

Looking ahead, our Annual Charity Golf Outing on June 1st is shaping up to be another great event and is already half sold out, so now is the time to secure your foursomes and sponsorships. If you're planning to participate, please sign up as soon as possible so you don't miss out. In addition, our Donations Committee has just approved another significant round of community donations, and we are always looking for help from our members in identifying local causes, families, or organizations that may need assistance. If you know of someone in the community who could benefit from Lions support, please reach out to Lion Cruise and let us know so we can continue making a meaningful impact together.

We Serve,

Lion President Kevin

# **GOLF OUTING JUNE 1. OUT OF THE GATE STRONG**

The Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser will feature a new venue, Red Tail Golf Club in Lakewood. Lion Chairman Tony Lamping is taking reservations and looking to fill thirty-two foursomes. He is looking to secure hole sponsors, flag sponsors, putting green and driving range sponsors. Contact Lion Tony to sign up.

Registration will be offered online. This will be the same software that powered the Steak Fry successful registrations.



## 2025– 2026 Club Officers

President	Kevin Byrnes
1st V. P.	Tony Colatorti
2nd V.P.	Chris Morgan
3rd Vice Pres.	Darren Boyk
Secretary	Dan Johnson
Treasurer	John Dewey
Tail Twister	Jim Zambon
Asst. T T	Griff MacDonald
Lion Tamer	Matt Eby
Asst T. J T	Matlachowski
Director	Rob Parrish
Director	Brennan Markee
Director	Doug Lomen
Director	Rob Wood
Director	Bob Moravec



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### Crystal Lake Lions Club

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## KIDS in Need of McHenry County



Crystal Lake Lions deliver ten bicycles to the Kids in Need Headquarters on Crystal Lake Avenue on a chilly morning.

The bikes were part of a teambuilding project from a local company called Convergent. Lion Greg Pourchot's wife Shelly worked to coordinate this special donation.

Kids in Need of McHenry County is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing resources and support to children and families in crisis or transition within McHenry County.

[KINMC.ORG](http://KINMC.ORG)

### 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]

## REPORT

### Donations

Benefactors	2023	Proposed 2026 Budget	Paid YTD 2/23/26	Balance to be paid for 2026
Am. Blind Skiers Fund		\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Big Brothers Big Sisters of McHenry County		\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00
CASA		\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Chatter Girls		\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Creative Arts Scholarships at the Dole Studio	\$2,600.00	\$1,040.00	\$1,040.00	\$0.00
EVO Outdoors		\$500.00		\$500.00
CL American Legion	\$1,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Crystal Lake Food Pantry	\$2,500.00	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Family Health Partnership Clinic	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Friends of the Farmer - Honor Flight		\$500.00		\$500.00
GIGis Playhouse		\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Good Samaritan Ministries	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Grief Guide		\$750.00	\$750.00	\$0.00
Hadley Helps		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Horizons for the Blind		\$5,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00
Independence Health and Therapy (IHT)		\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00
Junior Diabetes	\$500.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Kids in Need (KIN)		\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00
National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI)	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00
Northern Illinois Special Recreation (NISRA)		\$2,000.00		\$2,000.00
Options and Advocacy	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Pioneer Center	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Salvation Army	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Senior Services	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Senior Care Volunteer Network (SCVN)	\$3,000.00	\$2,500.00		\$2,500.00
Shop with a Cop	\$1,000.00	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	Out of Foundation Funds
Thresholds		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Toys for Tots		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Turning Point		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Veterans Path for Hope	\$500.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
WARP Corp		\$750.00		\$750.00
Womens Refuge	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00		\$2,000.00
Student Scholarships	\$2,000.00	\$12,000.00		\$12,000.00
Local Eyecare	\$29,066.03	\$30,000.00	\$10,677.64	\$19,322.36
Local Hearing	\$980.00	\$4,000.00		\$4,000.00
People in need( Matt Tubbs)		\$500.00		\$500.00
Take a Vet Fishing		\$500.00		\$500.00
<b>TOTAL Donations</b>	<b>\$53,646.03</b>	<b>\$109,540.00</b>	<b>\$37,967.64</b>	<b>\$71,572.36</b>

## **CLUB HEARS SPEAKER FROM HADLEY DONATES \$1,000**



At the February 23 Lions program meeting the club heard from Kirby Lindgren from Hadley in Winnetka. He is Director of Professional Outreach. Hadley assists sight issues with thousands of people including older adults. He is shown above with Lion Cruise (M) and Lion President Kevin Byrnes (R).

The club presented Hadley with a \$1,000 donation . Kirby also brought five boxes of used eyeglasses to donate to the club.

**[HADLEYHELPS.ORG](http://HADLEYHELPS.ORG)**

## LION TRACKS

Lion Greg Imhoff is the new **Hearing Aids chairman** for the club. Lion Greg takes over from Lion Bill Limbach who had previously served.

The club no longer accepts credit cards for dues payment.

Next Winter Steak Fry will be held on February 6, 2027. Super Bowl is February 14.

**I have scheduled to present checks to the Crystal Lake Food Pantry and the Horizons for the Blind. The times and dates are listed below. Let me know if you can make any of them.**

**Thank you .**

**Lion Rob Cruise**

**Crystal Lake Food Pantry March 12 @ 3:30 pm**

**Horizons for the Blind March 11 @2:30 pm**

**Wear your Lions gear. We'll bring the presentation check.**