

# *The* **HEAD LION-ER**

## **NAPERVILLE NOON LIONS CLUB**

**AUGUST 2026**



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**We have two ears and one mouth so that  
we can listen twice as much as we speak.**

**- Epictetus**

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### **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

On July 24, I had the privilege to play golf with fellow Naperville Noon Lions and golfers from local Lion Clubs. It was a great way to have fun getting to know our members who are quite talented athletes. Lions Donna Kearney, Meghen Williams, and Chris Williams played very well while the Lions in Naperville's other foursome were totally awesome. Lions Steve Hertzberg, Tom Garvey, Bill Wilson, and Steve's son-in-law, Brian Mathews, shot an amazing nine under par. The golf outing raised a lot of money for Lions District 1-J, which will benefit many people.

At the event, I learned that some Lion Clubs do very little during the summer compared to the Naperville Noon Lions. Our club is very active in the summer. Matt Laboe and Donna Kearney and other members are working on designing the race shirt for the Turkey Trot. Jim Woodring is constantly planning

recycling activities. Naperville Lions are preparing for the Lupus Walk and Beep Baseball in August. The raffle is keeping Bill Cornish busy with Lions at selling raffle tickets at store fronts or to people they know. Glenn Behnke is constantly working on the Turkey Trot logistics. Summer is nonstop serving for the community by the Naperville Noon Lions.

Besides the many thank you letters Naperville Noon Lions receive through its numerous donations, the club earned the prestigious TOP DOG AWARD for its generous donation to Leader Dogs for the Blind.

It is a real honor to be your President.

### **Remember WE SERVE**

**Lion Dave Cleveland, President**

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**The way to know life is to love many  
things.**

**- Vincent Van Gogh**

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**Club News and Guest Speakers**

**STYROFOAM RECYCLING**

Our club hosted another Styrofoam recycling event on July 18. There was fear of intense temperatures and smoke, but Lions luck helped a light breeze keep things tolerable and smoke-free. This event was the largest attended yet, with 156 vehicles. Poonam Trivedi was the first car and received the First in Foam Award.



**First in Foam Award for July 18**

The club filled 31 cubic yard bags which filled the semi-trailer halfway. The bags weighed a total of 429 pounds. In addition, many other Lions items were collected including glasses, cell phones, and running shoes. Thank you to Lion Jim Woodring for organizing and to the 16 volunteers who made it all possible.



**Lions with 31 bags of Styrofoam**

**DISTRICT 1J GOLF OUTING**

The annual District 1J Golf Outing was held on July 23 at Hughes Creek Golf Club in Elburn. Our club had two foursomes golf in absolutely perfect conditions. Lion Hertzberg's team was again on fire – shooting 9 under. Everyone had a great time.



**2026 Noon Lion Golfers**

**RECYCLING**

On August 1, our club volunteered at a local recycling event run by Senator Curran. The morning started out drizzly, but cleared up for the end. While Styrofoam was not collected, the Lions did collect quite a few items from the 240 vehicles that drove through – enough to completely fill Lion Jane's car. Thank you to our Lions volunteers.



**Braving the rain for recycling**

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**Few men have virtue to withstand the  
highest bidder.**

**- George Washington**

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### **Luncheon Speakers**

### **SEE INTERNATIONAL**

On July 7, Gerry Pantoja was our guest speaker from SEE (Surgical Eye Expeditions) International. Our club has donated to this organization since 2005 and those donations equate to restoring sight to 400 people.

Gerry informed us that there are 43 million needlessly blind people in the world. This is especially sad because healthy vision affects so many aspects of life, as well as caregivers' lives.

The organization works to cure the blind through cataract surgeries in underserved locations. These surgeries take about 20 minutes and cost about \$50 on average. Next, they help train local surgeons and staff to continue the work once they leave. They have also worked to create clinics near their California

headquarters, which provide vision care at no cost.

In their 50 years of existence, they have served more than 5.5 million individuals. They have performed over 800,000 surgeries. Each year, they sponsor more than 100 trips to more than 30 countries.

### **WILL COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**

Dr. Kathleen Burke and Teena Mackey visited our club on July 14 to discuss the Will County Community Mental Health Board. This board was created after a ballot initiative in 2022. It is paid for by Will County property taxes.

The board funds programs and services to support mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disabilities. In 2025, they funded over \$5 million for programs and services all throughout Will County.

They also helped to establish "Connect Will County" which is a fire department crisis line. Callers are connected directly to mental health services and receive follow-ups by the fire department.

We learned of the Naloxone program, which provides free Narcan throughout the county. Narcan is used to help reverse an overdose and prevent death. They distribute Narcan to as many places as possible – at events and pop-ups. Businesses and organizations can

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request a red box to become another distribution site.

### ONE HOPE UNITED

Devin Gazelle and Angela Hutchinson spoke with the club about One Hope United. The organization started over 130 years ago as an orphanage in Downers Grove. Today, they offer foster care services, early learning centers, and residential programs for teens.

They also offer intact family services, which is a step before the children moving to foster care. This is an effort to keep the families together. Their residential facilities are primarily focused on behavioral and mental health.

They run hope houses, which are a mixture of foster care and a group home. The organization purchases houses for four children and one foster parent who is employed by the organization. Aides also come into the home to assist. These homes are for teens who do not fit into the traditional foster care system. The goal is to work with the children to enable them to become productive members of society.

Being a foster parent is a difficult, sometimes thankless job. One needs to be patient and understand things will not always be perfect.

Illinois has about 16,000 children in foster care. One Hope United serves about 600 at a time. Many foster parents are relatives of the children and do receive a monthly stipend.

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'Tis not enough to help the feeble up, but  
to support them after.

- William Shakespeare

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### BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Board of Directors met at Pomegranate on July 28, 2026. The following is a summary of the Board's acts and discussions. All members are welcome to attend the Board meetings. The next Board meeting will be held on August 25, 2026. A copy of the complete minutes can be obtained from the Lions Club Secretary.

Approved the Board meeting minutes of the Club and Foundation for its regular meeting on June 23, 2026.

Approved the Club and Foundation Treasurer's Reports for month ending June 2026.

Approved Social Services Report from July. Approved the purchase of a 5-year warranty for the PlusOptix device. Approved providing all new diabetes equipment for District 204.

Approved the following donations:

- Dare2Tri - \$2,000.00
- District 204 Diabetes Supplies - \$1,649.00
- Brightside Theatre - \$4,620.00
- Lupus Walk - \$1,000
- NCA Bridge & Towers - \$2,000
- VFW Judd-A-Thon - \$1,000
- Senior Home Sharing - \$750

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- Suicide Prevention - \$500
- LIF - Diabetes - \$1,000

Discussed Turkey Trot. Lion Behnke is attending meetings with the city and Lion Laboe is working on an interview with NCTV17.

Discussed Membership. Lion Garvey continues to follow up with prospects. Approved Lary Pfeiffer as a new member.

Discussed club historical information. Lion Kirkland continues to work on digitizing our historical information.

Discussed Recycling events. The club will participate in Senator Curran's event on August 1.

Discussed Comfort Toys. We delivered some art supplies at Edward Hospital's request.

Discussed the Raffle. We are in good shape so far, but slightly behind 2025.

Discussed the Lupus Walk. This will be held on August 22 at the Riverwalk.

Discussed the District 1J Golf Outing. Neither team won a trophy, but it was a fun, beautiful day of golf.

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**One of the most beautiful qualities of true friendship is to understand and to be understood.**

**– Lucius Annaeus Seneca**

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## **GUESTS**

On July 7 and 14, the club welcomed Jackie Rewerts, wife of Lion Paul Rewerts.

Prospective member Lary Pfeiffer was our guest on July 7 and 28. He has submitted an application to join.

Kathy Pitts, mother of Lion Meghen Williams, was our guest on July 28.

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**Vanity working on a weak head produces every sort of mischief.**

**- Jane Austen**

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## **COMING EVENTS**

**August 4** – Sophie Kenny and Patty Welch will speak with the club about Habitat for Humanity.

**August 11** – Our guest speaker will be Mattie Colan from CASA DuPage.

**August 18** – Melanie Marcordes will speak with the club about the Naperville Community Services Department.

**August 22** – Lupus Walk at the Riverwalk. Many volunteers are still needed.

**August 25** – Business Meeting.

**September 8** – Raffle Drawing.

**September 15** – Club meeting will be held at Monarch Landing where a tour and lunch will be provided. See Lion Paul Rewerts to sign up.



## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

The following members have a service anniversary in **August** and they are:

**Lion James Gilliard (12)**  
**Lion Paul Rewerts (23)**

The following members have a birthday in **August** and they are:

**Lion Matt Laboe – August 8**  
**Lion Nick Stanitz – August 13**  
**Lion Donna Kearney – August 18**  
**Lion Robert Bremner – August 21**

Best wishes and congratulations to these members. If your information is missing or incorrect please contact **Lion Jane Bowers** to make additions or corrections.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

|        |      |                                 |
|--------|------|---------------------------------|
| August | 4 -  | Luncheon meeting at Pomegranate |
| August | 11 - | Luncheon meeting at Pomegranate |
| August | 18 - | Luncheon meeting at Pomegranate |
| August | 25 - | Board of Directors meeting      |
| August | 25 - | Luncheon meeting at Pomegranate |

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## OFFICERS

|                    |   |                      |
|--------------------|---|----------------------|
| President          | – | Lion Dave Cleveland  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> VP | – | Lion Darryl Kirkland |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP | – | Vacant               |
| Secretary          | – | Lion Jane Bowers     |
| Treasurer          | – | Lion Bill Bleecker   |
| Director           | – | Lion Jeff Naumann    |
| Director           | – | Lion Ellen Wolff     |
| Director           | – | Lion Bill Hamik      |
| Director           | – | Lion Tom Garvey      |
| Director           | – | Lion Kathy Lukavsky  |

Director – Lion Maria Wilson  
Imm. Past President – Lion Glenn Behnke

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## Appointed Positions and Committee Chairs:

Dues/Membership – Lion Tom Garvey  
Tail Twister – Rotating  
Lion Tamer – Rotating  
Chaplain – At Large  
Social Services – Lions Donna Kearney &  
Jim Woodring  
Peace Poster Contest – Vacant  
Program Director – Lion Paul Rewerts  
Donations – Lion Linda Strugalla  
Budget – Lion Darryl Kirkland  
Diabetes Awareness – Vacant  
Publicity – Lion Matt Laboe  
Hospitality – Vacant  
Pizza Wars – Lion Steve Hertzberg  
Candy Day – Lion Dave Cleveland  
Summer Raffle – Lion Bill Cornish  
Turkey Trot – Lions Glenn Behnke and  
Donna Kearney  
Sight & Sound – Lion Jim Ebers  
Counter Mints – Lion Steve Hertzberg  
Investment Committee – Lions Bill Bleecker,  
Steve Hertzberg and Al Knotek  
Newsletter – Lion Chris Williams  
Social Media – Lion Chris Williams  
Adopt-a-Highway – Lion Glenn Behnke  
Comfort Toys – Lion Ellen Wolff  
Flower Sales – Lion Karen Maxwell  
Lions Little Library Project – Lions Meghan  
Williams and Paul Rewerts

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If you have newsworthy information, please pass it on to editor/publisher *Lion Chris Williams* at **708-297-1987** or email **chris@pnlawoffice.com** This newsletter will be published monthly after the Board Meeting (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month). Cut off date for news information will be the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.

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**Liberty – Integrity  
Our Nation's Service**

**78 YEARS OF SERVICE  
TO OUR COMMUNITY  
NAPERVILLE**

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