



“WE SERVE”

# The LIONS TALE

Official monthly publication of the Lions Club of Butler, Pennsylvania  
Serving others since 1923

Liberty · Intelligence · Our Nations Safety



President:	MaryAnn Fleeger	<b>MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Connie Ivill	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays – 6:30 p.m.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Janet Flecken	Butler Blind Association
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President:	Adam Fleeger	322 North Cedar Street
Secretary:	Michael Winkler	<b>BOARD MEETINGS</b>
Treasurer:	Thomas Faller	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday – 6:30 p.m.
		Butler Blind Association

## APRIL 2026

April meetings: April 7 will be our first membership meeting in April. We will meet at the Blind Association starting at 6:30. Dinner reservations are due to Lion Connie by April 3. We will be voting on the 2026-2027 slate of officers.

April 21 will be our second membership meeting in April. We will meet at the Blind Association starting at 6:30. We will be getting our dinner from the Meals on Wheels fundraiser. The cost of the meal is \$13; therefore, for this meeting we will be charging \$16 per person for the dinner and raffle. (no couples special for this one!) Dinner reservations are due to Lion Connie by April 15. Our program will be past Council Chair (PCC) Bill Morgan. He will be talking to us about PA Lions Beacon Lodge Camp.

Club meeting dinner cost with in-club raffles and reservation policy: The cost of dinner for a club member is \$15 for one or \$25 for a couple. The dinner price includes a ticket for our 3 in-club raffles (Lion Sue Garris Memorial raffle, 50/50 and joker poker). If you are not eating or want an additional raffle ticket, the cost is \$3. That is for the 3 drawings. One ticket enters you in all three raffles.

For all regular club meetings, all Lions are asked to make a reservation with Lion Connie by the Friday prior to the meeting. If you make a reservation and do not come to that meeting, you will be responsible for paying for that reservation. Reservation cancellations must be made by the Friday before the meeting. If you come to a meeting without making a reservation; you will have to wait until those who made reservations have gone through the dinner line. If there is extra food, those without reservations will be invited to partake in the dinner. Be sure to pay Lion Tom for your dinner and get your raffle tickets.

Our meals will be buffet style. You are welcome to return for seconds after every one has gone through the line.

April board meeting: will be held on April 28 starting at 6:30 at Trinity Lutheran Church, in the choir room(upstairs). All members are welcome to attend.

Notes from Tail Twister, Lion Janet: asks that all Lions serve with their name badges on.

For our **April 7** meeting, we will celebrate the Kentucky Derby! This is the theme for the Art Gala! Your Tail Twister will introduce horse lovers to “heads” and “tails”. It will cost you **2** quarters! 50% will go to winner of the race and 50% to our administrative account.

Guidelines for meetings: (all Tail Twister fines go into our administrative account)

- All Lions will read The Lions Tale for notification of “special” meeting digs! Fine - \$.50.

- All Lions will be respectful of all speakers by turning their cell phone to vibrate or silent during meeting times. Fine - \$1.00 for each ring tone.
- All Lions will wear your name pin or be fined!
- All Lions will properly address fellow Lions as Lion \_\_\_ at all Lions events or be fined!
- Have FUN at meetings and pack those quarters!

Lion Sue Garris Memorial Raffle: Contact Lion Wink to schedule to bring a raffle item. We have many open dates. Please consider signing up. All monies raised by this raffle goes to our administration account.

April 7 – Jim and Betty	May 5 – open	June 2 - open
April 21 – IPP Rhonda	May 19 – no raffle	June 16 – open

Katie’s Kitchen: (St. Mark’s) our club assists serving at the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays. If you are available to assist with either of these dinners, contact Lion Eric to assist at the April 9 dinner and Lion Janet to assist at the April 16 dinner. Thanks to Lions Randy, IPP Rhonda, Eric, Bryan and John for assisting at the March 12 dinner. 315 meals were distributed. Thanks to Lions John, Bryan, Alex, Barry, Wink and Janet for assisting at the March 19 dinner; 344 meals were distributed.

Official provider of Butler Lions apparel: Titler’s Special Tees, 201 Kohler Avenue, Lyndora, has our official logo and can provide a variety of shirts and sweat shirts with the logo. The club shirt’s color is **ultra marine blue**. However, you can have our logo put on any apparel. Their telephone number is 724-283-0562.

Community meal art gala: will be held April 25 and 26 at St. Michael’s Church Hall. Saturday evening (as a sponsor of this event, the club has 6 free tickets) from 6-9pm and Sunday (free) 12-3pm with the basket drawing at 2pm. Thanks to Lion Janet for putting a basket together and donating it in the club’s name.

LOPF (Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation) grant: The tables and chairs in the large room at the Blind Association were in need of replacing. Lion Connie spearheaded the effort to get them replaced. She worked with Lion Jennifer, Executive Director of the Blind Association, to pick out the tables and chairs and obtained the guidance from PDG Don Gibala, the District’s representative on the board of the LOPF. A grant request was developed and submitted to LOPF. They approved the items. In addition to the \$1060 our club put toward this purchase, we also had financial contributions from the following: District 14-N, Lion Eric Longwell (Elderton Lions Club), Elderton Lions Club, Cranberry Township Area Lions Club, Penn Glade Lions, Ford City Lions, PDG Maria Loudermilk.



On March 6, Lions Eric, B.T. and John uncrated, unpacked, assembled (as needed) and stacked the new tables and chairs and placed them on their storage dollies. We thank them for taking care of this!

L-R PDG Don, Lions Connie, Carolyn, Wink, PDG Linda, DG Brad and Lion Dr. Jennifer

PA Lions Beacon Lodge wish list: The Beacon Lodge collection bin is on our table in the big room at the Blind Association. We will collect items until April 21.



New freezer at Katie's Kitchen delivered with the help of Lions Barry, Bryan, Eric and John. A delicious cake from Justine Brown, Coordinator of Katie's Kitchen, was sent to thank the Lions for their help with the freezer.

**Adopt-a-highway:** our first AAH is scheduled for April 18. This date coincides with LCI's "week of service" for the environment. As in the past, we will meet at 7:00 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church and fan out from there. We need at least 12 Lions/friends/family members to cover the 4 sections we patrol on our stretch of Route 8, between Clearview Mall and the bottom of Main Street Hill. Contact President MaryAnn with any questions.



**Sharp Shopper hot dog stand:** we will again be running the hot dog stand at Sharp Shopper as part of their customer appreciation event, May 7, 8 and 9. As you know, this is a very successful fund raiser for us. We need Lions and family members to help staff the hot dog stand. Mark your calendar and keep several days open to help sell hot dogs!

**District 14-N spring convention:** is scheduled for April 11 at Shakespeare's Restaurant in Ellwood City, starting at 11:00 a.m. A flyer with all the convention details was emailed to the club. The start time ensures that all travel to and from the convention will be in the daylight (a big deal for those of us that have difficulty driving at night!). You can make your reservations with Lion Wink NLT April 2. The cost is \$30 per person; please pay Lion Tom.

**PA Lions State Convention:** is scheduled for May 14-17 at the Kovalchick Convention Complex in Indiana, PA. To attend the convention, you must register by April 21; cost of registration is \$15 per attendee. Convention information and the registration form are available on the PA Lions website or contact Lion Wink.

2026-2027 slate of officers: below are the nominations for next Lions' year's slate of officers. The election of this slate of officers will take place at our April 7 meeting. If you have any officer nominations, contact Lion Connie I. Before you nominate any Lion; please confirm with that Lion that they will indeed be willing to serve in the position they are nominated for.

President: Lion Connie Ivill	2 year Director: Lions John Hertzog, Carolyn Winkler and PDG Linda Gibala
1VP: Lion Janet Flecken	
2VP: Lion Adam Fleeger	1 year Director: Lions Betty Basalyga, Randy Pilarcik and Ellen Fullerton
3VP: vacant	
Secretary: Lion Mike Winkler	Public Relations: Lion Connie Ivill
Treasurer: Lion Tom Faller	Service: Lion Eric Cranmer
Lion Tamer: Lion Barry Flecken	Membership: Lion Rhonda Pilarcik
Tail Twister: Lion Janet Flecken	IPP: Lion MaryAnn Fleeger
LCIF Coordinator: Lion Mike Winkler	

Our summer meetings: have been out at the park for as long as anyone can remember. Starting this year, Butler County Parks and Recreation will only give us one free shelter rental. All subsequent rentals will be \$45 a night. As such, it has been decided we will hold our summer meetings at the Blind Association; except for our family picnic. It will be held on August 4 at the Lions shelter in Alameda Park.

Our Blind Association's clients social/dinner/bingo: will be held on May 19 at the Blind Association starting at 6:30. Prior to playing bingo, we will have our traditional ham, baked beans and potato salad dinner and dessert. The cost for dinner for our members will be \$10. Reservations are due to Lion Connie by May 13. We will not be holding our in-club raffles this evening. There will be a 50/25/25 drawing with the proceeds going to the Blind Association; cost for the raffle is \$2/ticket or \$5/for 3 tickets. Please plan on attending to meet and greet our friends from the Blind Association.

2026-2027 dues are now do: please pay our treasurer, Lion Tom, by **June 16**. If you want to mail your dues, please mail them to:

Butler Lions Club  
 PO Box 1905  
 Butler, PA 16003.

The chart below provides the annual dues amount and the distribution of where your dues go.

2026-20267 Dues Breakdown					
Annual Dues	International	State	District	Beacon Lodge	Club Admin Account
Regular/Privileged \$85.00	\$50.00	\$16	\$5	\$5	\$ 9
Family \$60.00	\$25.00	\$16	\$5	\$5	\$ 9
Life \$40.00	0	\$16	\$5	\$5	\$14

Ivy Jug: at our meetings in October, November, January, February and March, the Ivy Jug was passed around to the membership to "drop" money into it. Through the generosity of our members, we collected \$325. That money will be sent to the district; it will be added to the amounts collected in other Ivy Jugs from clubs across our district. Ultimately, our check will be sent to the PA Lions Sight Conservation and Eye Research Foundation. Thank you to all who "threw" money in the jug. We will start the jug again in October.

Children's Advocacy Center of Butler County: will hold a bowling event on April 26, from 1-4 p.m. at Family Bowlaway. Our club is a lane sponsor, as such, we have two free bowlers. If you would like to be a bowler for this event, contact Lion John Hertzog.

## Join Us!

Lion's Club and Trinity Ladies are  
teaming up together on

May 18 6:00 PM

Downstairs of Church in Knitting Room

Learning to Crochet or Knit Hats, Prayers  
Shawls, and Prayer Pockets

Hats will be taken as a service project to  
clients of Katies Kitchen and the warming  
center.

Prayer shawls and prayer pockets will be  
given

for those in need to be wrapped in comfort  
and prayers in time of need.

Both are very important ministries.

See you there! Lol Hat Ladies



Happy birthday to the following Lions celebrating a birthday in April:

Wendy (15)

Adam (15)

Doug Heltzell (20)

Carolyn B. (27)

Nancy (28)

Mike H. (29)

Joan (29)

## CALENDAR

### APRIL

5: **HAPPY EASTER**

- 7: 6:30 membership meeting, Blind Association  
Election of our 2026-2027 club officers  
9: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)  
11: 11:00 District 14-N spring convention, Shakespeare's Restaurant  
16: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)  
18: 7:00 Adopt-a-highway, Trinity Lutheran Church  
21: 6:30 membership meeting, Blind Association  
Dinner: meals on wheels fundraiser  
Program: PA Lions Beacon Lodge Camp PCC Bill Morgan  
23: 5-7pm rib dinner at Penn Glade Lions clubhouse  
24-26: Beacon Lodge work weekend  
25: 6-9 Community Meals Art Gala, St. Michaels  
26: 12-3 Community Meals Art Gala, St. Michaels  
28: 6:30 board meeting, **choir room Trinity Lutheran**

### MAY

- 5: 6:30 membership meeting, Blind Association  
7-9: hot dog stand, Sharp Shopper  
10: **Happy Mother's Day!**  
14: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)  
14-17: PA Lions State Convention, Kovalchick Convention Complex, Indiana, PA  
19: 6:30 membership meeting, Blind Association  
Dinner, bingo social for blind assoc. clients  
21: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)  
25: **Memorial Day**  
26: 6:30 board meeting, Blind Association  
28: 5-7pm rib dinner at Penn Glade Lions clubhouse  
30: 1:00 District 14-N cabinet meeting #4, Blind Assoc.

### JUNE

- 2: 6:30 membership meeting, Blind Association  
club picture day and pizza. Wear your Club blue shirt  
11: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)  
16: 6:30 membership meeting, Blind Association  
Installation of 2026-2027 officers  
18: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)  
21: **Happy Father's Day!**  
21: **Welcome summer!**  
23: 6:30 board meeting, Blind Association  
25: 5-7pm rib dinner at Penn Glade Lions clubhouse

### JULY

- 3-11 Big Butler Fair  
4: **USA's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday!**  
7: 6:30 membership meeting, Blind Association  
9: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)  
16: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)  
21: 6:30 membership meeting, Blind Association  
23: 5-7pm rib dinner at Penn Glade Lions clubhouse  
28: 6:30 board meeting, Blind Association

### AUGUST

- 4: 6:30 membership meeting, club family picnic, Butler Lions Shelter, Alameda Park  
13: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)  
18: 6:30 membership meeting, Blind Association  
20: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)  
25: 6:30 board meeting, Blind Association  
27: 5-7pm rib dinner at Penn Glade Lions clubhouse

**Other Club Officers:**

**Director, 1 year:** John Hertzog  
Ellen Fullerton  
Tyler Morgan

**Director, 2 years:** Betty Basalyga  
PDG Linda Gibala  
Carolyn Winkler

**IPP:** Rhonda Pilarcik

**Membership Chair:** Adam Fleeger

**Tail Twister:** Janet Flecken

**Lion Tamer:** Barry Flecken

**Public Relations Chair:** Connie Ivill

**Service Chair:** Eric Cranmer

**LCIF Coordinator:** Mike Winkler

**2025-2026 Butler Lions Committees**

**Budget, Finance & Grants:**

Chairperson: Tom Faller

**Club Events and Programs:**

Chair: IPP Rhonda Pilarcik

**Food:**

Chairperson: Ellen Fullerton

**Public Relations-Club Promotion:**

Chairperson: Connie Ivill

**Membership:**

Chairperson: Adam Fleeger

**Fundraising:**

Chairperson: Paul Vensel

**Service:**

Chairperson: Eric Cranmer

**Vision, Hearing and Diabetes:**

Chairperson: Carolyn Winkler  
M. Fleeger (District diabetes chair)  
Mike Winkler  
PDG Don Gibala (hearing)

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