

The Papillion Area Lions Club

Papillion, Nebraska



2026 - 2027

Information Brochure

President Travis Jacott

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

FOUNDED: On June 7, 1917, a Chicago insurance salesman, Melvin C. Jones, & eleven fellow businessmen, founded the Association of Lions Clubs to expand their horizons from purely business concerns to bettering their communities & the world. The Lions first national convention met in Dallas, Texas in October 1917. In 1920 the Association went "International" with the formation of the Windsor, Ontario, Canada Lions Club. Since then the Association has grown truly global with over 1.4 million Lions in 50,000 clubs & in more than 200 countries & geographical areas.

THE NAME: "Lions Clubs International"

THE EMBLEM: The emblem consists of the gold letter "L" on a circular purple field. Bordering this is a circular gold area with two lion profiles at either side facing away from the center. The word "Lions" appears at the top & "International" at the bottom. Symbolically, the lions face both past & future ~~ proud of the past & confident of the future.

THE MOTTO: *We Serve*

THE SLOGAN: Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nation's Safety ~~ **LIONS**

OFFICIAL COLORS: The royal colors of purple & gold. Purple stands for loyalty to friends & to one's self, & for integrity of mind & heart. Gold symbolizes sincerity of purpose, liberality in judgement, purity in life, & generosity in mind, heart & purpose toward humanity.

FISCAL YEAR: July 1 to June 30

GLOBAL CAUSES: Childhood Cancer, Diabetes, Disaster Relief, Environment, Hunger, Vision, Youth

CONTACT: www.lionsclubs.org

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:

International President (one year) & Board of Directors (two years)

|

District Governor (one year)

|

Region Chairperson (one year)

|

Zone Chairperson (one year)

|

Lions Club (President, one year)

Chartered by & under the jurisdiction of

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

Lions Clubs Objects

TO CREATE & foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.

TO PROMOTE the principles of good government & good citizenship.

TO TAKE an active interest in the civic, cultural, social, & moral welfare of the community.

TO UNITE the club in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship, & mutual understanding.

TO PROVIDE a forum for open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that club members shall not debate partisan politics & sectarian religion.

TO ENCOURAGE service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, & to encourage efficiency & promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works, & private endeavors.

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 & 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 & true to myself.

WHENEVER a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.

TO HOLD friendship as an end & not as a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the services performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

ALWAYS bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state, & my community, & to give to them my unswerving loyalty in word, act, and deed. To give them freely of my time, labor, & means.

TO AID others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, & my substance to the needy.

TO BE CAREFUL with my criticisms & liberal with my praise; to build up & not destroy.

The Papillion Area Lions Club

CLUB CHARTER: June 11, 1976

CHARTER NIGHT: September 11, 1976, Midlands Community Hospital

CHARTER MEMBERS:

Eldon A. Archer, Stanley k. Claque, Michael T. Copple, Paul Draper, Thomas A. Egbert, Paul L. Hackney, Calvin Hamilton, James J. Herfkens, Alan J. Hrabak, Paul J. Limus, Robert J. McKee, **Kenneth E. Molzer**, Maurice Moravec, William Oliver, Keith C. Pollard, Clifford Pratt, Harold C. Richter, Fred O. Rist, A. J. Schmid, Forest D. Smith, Henry D. Smith, George E. Spilker, **Fred H. Tafoya**, Eugene S. Tschida, Richard Tuziw, Armin Vogt, Raymond C. Westerfield, Stanley Wilcox

(Highlighted are active members)

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Jim Herfkens.....	1976-1977	Jim May.....	1995-1996	Robin Clark.....	2014-2015
Al Hrabak	1977-1978	Babs Johnson.....	1996-1997	Dick Seid.....	2015-2016
Paul Hackney.....	1978-1979	Ron Flock.....	1997-1998	Curtis Rainge.....	2016-2017
Paul Limas	1979-1980	Judy Anderson.....	1998-1999	John Erickson.....	2017-2018
Red Timmerman	1980-1981	Rudy Krueger.....	1999-2000	Paul Johnston.....	2018-2019
Ken Molzer.....	1981-1982	Den Kennedy.....	2000-2001	Steve Andraschko.....	2019-2020
Alan Castleberry	1982-1983	Kathy Flock.....	2001-2002	Lowell Ferguson.....	2020-2021
Bob Frederick	1983-1984	Jim Lee.....	2002-2003	Jane Nielsen.....	2021-2022
Dave Hansen.....	1984-1985	Terry Konruff.....	2003-2004	John Perkins.....	2022-2023
Gerald Johnson.....	1985-1986	Kevin Johnson.....	2004-2005	Llin Hughes.....	2023-2024
George Spilker.....	1986-1987	Jim Langley.....	2005-2006	Joyce Wells.....	2024-2025
Jack O'Malley.....	1987-1988	Mimi Dreiling.....	2006-2007	Tom Wyman.....	2025-2026
Ron Brohammer.....	1988-1989	Carl Kretsinger.....	2007-2008		
John Lowry.....	1989-1990	Mike Weaver.....	2008-2009		
Butch Elze.....	1990-1991	Mary Dwyer.....	2009-2010		
Eldon Lauber.....	1991-1992	Jim Glover.....	2010-2011		
Jerry Wendling.....	1992-1993	Tex Teixeira.....	2011-2012		
Tom Vitamvas.....	1993-1994	John Seyfarth.....	2012-2013		
Dave Lang.....	1994-1995	Dennis Hughes.....	2013-2014		

CURRENT PRESIDENT: Travis Jacott

MEETINGS: General Membership: Third Thursday of each month ~~ The Fireside Banquet Room, 841 Tara Plaza, Papillion, NE.
Social hour > 6:00pm; dinner & program > 6:30pm; adjournment > 8:00pm or thereabouts!

Board of Directors: Last Thursday monthly at Midlands Community Hospital, Papillion. Meeting starts at 6:45pm & lasts about an hour. Club members are welcomed & encouraged to attend!

MOTTO: *We Serve*

SLOGAN: Serving Never Overwhelms Interested Lions - SNOIL

MASCOT: "SNOIL AKSARBEN"

SNOIL, a ferocious but well-behaved stuffed Lion, is a renown ambassador of the Papillion Area Lions Club's spirit of service. He is friend & confidant to many of International Lions highest leaders as well as countless other Lions from across Nebraska & the world. Historically, **SNOIL** was passed monthly from member to member, hoping to foster close personal relationships with the member & with the member's fellow workers. At each meeting, members commented on **SNOIL's** travels/experiences & provided mementos to commemorate his visits. Failure to bring **SNOIL** to the next regular membership meeting incurred the Tail Twister's wrath, usually a suitable fine for the negligent member. Currently, **SNOIL** is semi-retired & only appears at special events which he enjoys immensely. He proudly stands ready to dig in & help meet the Club's future challenges. He firmly believes: "**When Lions ROAR!! ~~ GRRRRRRreat Things Happen!!**"

DUES & FEES: Initiation fee: \$35.00 payable upon induction into the Club.

Annual dues: \$80.00 payable on July 1st of each year. For new members, annual dues are prorated & payable upon induction into the Club.

The Papillion Area Lions Club

2026 - 2027 Club Officers

President

Travis Jacott

1st Vice President

Marty Scherzberg

2nd Vice President

Wes Bain

3rd Vice President

Don Hand

Secretary

Steve Andraschko

Membership Director

Tom Vitamvas

Treasurer

George Madson

Director (1st)

Todd Darnold

Director (2nd)

Karen Rustermier

Director (2nd)

Nancy Blazek

Director (+)

Jean Butler

Director (+)

John Erickson

Director (1st)

Omar Nurse

Director (2nd)

Amy Mc Kay

Director (+)

Fred Tafoya

Director (+)

Rob Lamp

Director (2nd)

George Beck

Director (+)

Paul Johnston

Director (+)

Pat Pfeifer

Director (2nd)

Scott Vassar

Director (+)

Dennis Hughes

Director (+)

Vance Allred

*** (1st) ~~ First Year Director (2nd) ~~ Second Year Director (+) ~~ Multiple Year Director ***

Lion Tamer

Rich Kuper

Lion Tamer

Bruce Kostal

Tail Twister

Tex Teixeira

Tail Twister

Ken Molzer

Web Master/Social Media

Teresa Krajewski

Newsletter Editor

Ann Vassar

Photo Directory Editor

Ray Anderson

Marketing

Jane Nielsen

LCIF & NLF Coordinator

John Perkins

Immediate Past President & Foundation Chairperson

Tom Wyman

PAPILLION AREA LIONS CLUB

Committee Information

Lions Mints (1st VP) Chair/PC: Dick Seid (Inactive)

Type: Public Relations
Location: Papillion & LaVista Businesses
Date: On going
Time: On going

Purpose: Raise awareness of International Lions Clubs

Activities: Lion Mints are ordered through Lions Club International, mint supplies are replenished at selected locations in Papillion & LaVista

Scholarships (1st VP) Chair/PC: Jim Glover

Type: Youth Outreach
Location: Papillion-LaVista Schools System
Date: March
Time: As Required

Purpose: Award scholarships to worthy students who will pursue a career in health-related fields &/or students who will pursue a trade.

Activities: Lions review academic records & select scholarship recipients. Scholarships awarded at the High Schools' end-of-year awards ceremonies. Invite recipients & parents to the Club's general membership meeting.

Speakers/Club Programs (1st VP) Chair/PC: Travis Jacott

Type: Club Support
Location: Where Necessary
Date: On Going
Time: On Going

Purpose: Solicit guest speakers for Club meetings.

Activities: Lions identify & invite interesting/informative persons from surrounding communities to speak at General Membership Meetings.

Adopt-A-Park & Veteran's Park (1st VP) Chair/PC: Joyce Wells

Type: Community Service
Location: Halleck Park/Veteran's Park
Date: Fall & Spring
Time: As Required

Purpose: Assist the city in Halleck & Veteran's Parks maintenance & upkeep.

Activities: Lions organize & execute activities such as mulching, planting shrubs & flowers, pruning trees, & picking up trash on a scheduled basis.

LEO Clubs (1st VP) Chair/PC: Don Hand (PLVS) (p) Dennis Hughes (PLVHS) (a) Lin Hughes (PLVS/Mid Schools) (a)

Type: Youth Outreach
Location: Papillion-LaVista Schools
Date: School Year
Time: On Going

Purpose: Assist the schools in starting & maintaining a youth service organization aligned with Lions Clubs International.

Activities: Lions organize & guide school youth with their service projects at two high schools & two middle schools.

Young Leaders in Service (1st VP) Chair/PC: Lin Hughes (p) Dennis Hughes (a)

Type: Youth Outreach
Location: Papillion-LaVista Schools
Date: April-May
Time: 6:00pm

Purpose: To help young people learn & appreciate service to others through volunteerism.

Activities: During formal ceremonies, Lions present youth, ages 12-18, the International Lions Young Leaders in Service Award recognizing their volunteer service of 50 or 100 hours or more within 12 months.

PAPILLION AREA LIONS CLUB

Committee Information

Budget Committee (1st VP) (2nd VP/Alt) (3rd VP/Alt)

Type: Club Support
Location: As Required
Date: February-March
Time: As Required

Purpose: Provide a viable Club budget for the new Lions year.

Activities: Committee, including current & incoming Presidents, the Vice Presidents, Secretary & Treasurer, review current budget, make changes based on projected operating expenses & income, & offer proposed new budget to Board for discussion & approval, then present budget to Club members for final approval.

Lions Club Picnic (1st VP) (2nd VP/Alt) (3rd VP/Alt)

Type: Member Fellowship
Location: To Be Determined
Date: Third Thursday in July
Time: To Be Determined

Purpose: First meeting of the new Lions' Year ~~ provide Club members an opportunity to meet & enjoy each other's company.

Activities: Event held to provide fellowship, food & fun for Club members

Member Care (1st VP) Chair/PC: Polly Williams

Type: Club Support
Location: As Required
Date: On Going
Time: On Going

Purpose: Keep Club Officers informed on the health & well-being of current Club members.

Activities: Contact Club members who miss multiple meetings & events to determine their well-being & status with the Club. Report findings to the Club Executive Officers.

Club Officer Nominating & Installation Committee (1st VP) (2nd VP/Alt) (3rd VP/Alt)

Type: Club Support
Location: The Fireside Banquet Room
Date: February – June
Time: 6:00pm

Purpose: Provide Club members with a slate of Club Officers for the new Lions Year & legally constitute new Club leadership.

Activities: Committee members develop a list of potential Club Officers by visiting with Club members & seeking their services. The slate includes ~~ President, Vice Presidents (3), Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Director, 1st Year Director (8), 2nd Year Director (8), Tail Twister (2), Lion Tamer (2), Newsletter Editor, Web Master/Social Media, Photo Directory Editor, Marketing, LCIF/NLF Coordinator, Immediate Past President/Club Foundation Chairperson. Slate is provided to the Club Membership for final approval. Recruit authorized Lion to officially install Club Officers for the new Lion Year.

Stepping Up For Vets (1st VP) Chair/PC: Dick Seid (Inactive)

Type: Fundraiser
Location: Veterans Park ~~ Halleck Park
Date: October
Time: Morning

Purpose: Raise funds dedicated to Sarpy County Veterans.

Activities: Contributions are received from participants who walk to support Sarpy County Veterans.

PAPILLION AREA LIONS CLUB

Committee Information

Annual \$10,000 Lottery (2nd VP) Chair/PC: Jim “Doc” Langley (p) Rob Lamp (a)

Type: Fund Raiser
Location: All Inclusive
Date: April-June
Time: As Required

Purpose: Raise funds for Club service projects.

Activities: Lions sell 250 raffle tickets at \$100 per ticket. Conduct the main drawing during the Papillion Days Celebration. Winners receive Grand Prize - \$10,000; Second prize – \$500; Third prize - \$400; fourth prize - \$300; fifth prize – \$200; sixth prize - \$200; seventh prize - \$200. Conduct an early-bird drawing during a General Membership Meeting one month prior to the main drawing ~~ winner's choice of \$100 or a free ticket.

Spaghetti Dinner (2nd VP) Chair/PC: Lowell Ferguson (p) Harlan Metschke (a)

Type: Fund Raiser
Location: Papillion-LaVista High School Cafeteria
Date: Sunday in late January or early February
Time: 11:00am – 3:00pm

Purpose: Sell spaghetti dinners to raise funds for Club projects.

Activities: Lions sell tickets, make & serve all-you-can-eat spaghetti.

Eye Glass/Hearing Aid Collection (2nd VP) Chair/PC: Vance Allred (Co) Marty Scherzberg (Co)

Type: Humanitarian
Location: Papillion/LaVista Businesses
Date: On Going
Time: On Going

Purpose: Collect used eyeglasses & hearing aids for distribution to the needy throughout the world

Activities: Lions setup collection boxes in selected business sites & collect, sort & box used eyeglasses & hearing aids, & deliver boxes to the NE Lions storage unit.

Publicity & Public Relations (2nd VP) Chair/PC: Jane Nielsen (Co) Joyce Wells (Co)

Type: Club Support – Public Relations
Location: Papillion & LaVista
Date: On Going
Time: On Going

Purpose: Foster camaraderie among Lions, assist local communities, & promote Club recognition.

Activities: Lions identify needs & organize & operate Club projects. to serve the local community, the State & the World.

HOPS For Harmony (2nd VP) Chair/PC: Bob Frederick (p) Mike Knier (a)

Type: Fund Raiser
Location: Werner Park
Date: June (Most years)
Time: 5:30 – 8:30pm

Purpose: Raise funds for Project Harmony & Club

Activities: Lions work with regional beer & food vendors to operate a “beer fest” where beer varieties are sampled & heavy. hors d'oeuvres consumed.

KidSight (2nd VP) Chair/PC: Travis Jacott (p)

Type: Youth Outreach/Community Service
Location: Papillion & Surrounding Communities
Date: School Year ~~ August thru June
Time: As Required

Purpose: Provide state-of-the-art vision screenings for children six months & older.

Activities: Lions have partnered with the Papillion-LaVista Community Schools & St. Columbille, Ralston Public Schools & Brooke Valley to provide vision & hearing screenings for students Pre-K thru 4th, 7th & 10th grades using a spot vision camera.

Peach/Pear Sales (2nd VP) Chair/PC: Polly Williams

Type: Fund Raiser
Location: Papillion Area
Date: June thru September
Time: As Required

Purpose: Raise funds for the Nebraska Lions Foundation & Club

Activities: Lions sell boxes of Colorado “free stone” peaches & pears & use profits to fund NLF & Club activities.

PAPILLION AREA LIONS CLUB

Committee Information

Lions Eye Health Care (2nd VP) Chair/PC: Unfilled

Type: Community Service
Location: All Inclusive
Date: On Going
Time: On Going

Purpose: To prevent blindness through diabetes education & eye materials by increasing awareness, eye screenings, monetary aid for cataract surgery, to correct vision issues, & aid in preventing blindness.

Activities: Perform eye health screenings at schools & local community events. Provide viable eye health info to area residents. Work with District Lions & the Nebraska Lions Foundation to provide resources to meet community needs.

Helping Hands (2nd VP) Chair/PC: Curtis Rainge

Type: Community Service
Location: All Inclusive
Date: On Going
Time: On Going

Purpose: To answer the Lions mission "To Serve" & show commitment to our community.

Activities: Lions plan & execute identified projects, approved & submitted by the Board of Directors.

Sarpy County Holiday Assistance (2nd VP) Chair/PC: Tom Vitamvas (p) Curtis Rainge (a)

Type: Community Service
Location: Bellevue Christian Center
Date: December
Time: As Required

Purpose: Provide needy area families with toys, clothing, stocking stuffers & food for the Holiday Season through Heartland Family Services.

Activities: Lions help unpack, sort/arrange toys & clothing on selection tables ~~ they also help qualified parents shop for their children.

Lions Club Christmas Party (2nd VP) (3rd VP/Alt)

Type: Member Fellowship
Location: Varies
Date: Third Thursday of December
Time: 6:00pm ~~ Socializer
6:30pm ~~ Dinner & Special Holiday Program

Purpose: Provide Club members an opportunity to meet & enjoy each other's company during the Holiday Season.

Activities: Special dinner followed by entertainment ~~ usually high school show choir, singing Christmas carols & a hands-on "Twelve Days of Christmas" event.

Celebration of Trees (2nd VP) Chair/PC: Lin Hughes (p) Dennis Hughes (a)

Type: Public Relations/Fund Raiser
Location: St. Columbkille Church
Date: Mid-November
Time: Friday/4-8pm; Saturday/9am-2pm

Purpose: Community presence of a Lion decorated Christmas tree; proceeds go to needy in local community

Activities: Lions decorate the tree for the event ~~ decorations made and/or donated by Papio Lions ~~ Lions info provided

Angelman's Syndrome Walk (2nd VP) Chair/PC: Karen Van Briesen (Inactive)

Type: Fund Raiser
Location: TBD
Date: TBD
Time: TBD

Purpose: Participate in the annual Angelman's Syndrome Walk to raise funds for the organization.

Activities: Lions solicit donations from local community, Then walk on designated day

PAPILLION AREA LIONS CLUB

Committee Information

Salvation Army Bell Ringing (3rd VP) Chair/PC: Valerie Newman

Type: Fund Raiser
Location: Papillion-LaVista Businesses
Date: November – December
Time: As Scheduled

Purpose: Raise funds for the Salvation Army

Activities: Lions work shifts & ring bells to generate donations.

Diabetes Awareness (3rd VP) Chair/PC: Karen Rustermier

Type: Fund Raiser/Information Dissemination
Location: Papillion - LaVista
Date: As Scheduled
Time: As Scheduled

Purpose: Raise funds for the American Diabetes Foundation, ie., sending children to diabetes camp.

Activities: Lions identify & participate in a variety of activities, such as walks for diabetes, to raise funds for local, State & International use.

Health Fair of the Midlands (3rd VP) Chair/PC: Lin Hughes

Type: Community Service
Location: Midlands Community Hospital
Date: TBD
Time: 7:00 - Noon

Purpose: Hospital provides inexpensive health exams as well as education & services by other community providers.

Activities: Lions organize, register, & assist in the health exams for local community members.

Radio Talking Book Services (3rd VP) Chair/PC: Tom Vitamvas (p) Jane Nielsen (a)

Type: Community Service
Location: RTBS Offices
Date: On Going
Time: As Required

Purpose: Assist the Radio Talking Book Service (RTBS) with their work with vision impaired & physically disabled..

Activities: Lions record textbooks to tape & read information on live radio programs, including a Veterans' Hour.

Liberty Day (3rd VP) Chair/PC: Karla Rupiper

Type: Youth Outreach
Location: Papillion-LaVista Schools
Date: As Designated By Schools
Time: As Required

Purpose: Provide 5th Graders in the Papillion-LaVista Schools & St. Columbille with a copy of the US Constitution, Bill of Rights, Declaration of Independence, Articles of Federation

Activities: Coordinate schedule with PLV Schools Director of Curriculum ~~ during American History syllabus time. Lions pass out individual copies to each 5th grader & speak to the classes about how the Constitution was written & what it means for today's students.

Special Olympics/Opening Eyes (3rd VP) Chair/PC: Tom Vitamvas

Type: Community Service
Location: Creighton University
Date: Friday in May
Time: As Scheduled

Purpose: Provide eye exams, glasses & eye health care to Special Olympic athletes

Activities: Lions work along-side eye care professionals in greeting, registering, escorting & manning exam stations for Special Olympic athletes.

PAPILLION AREA LIONS CLUB

Committee Information

NeighborGood Pantry (3rd VP) Chair/PC: Tex Teixeira (p)
Vance Allred (a)
Travis Jacott (a)

Type: Community Service
Location: Club Meeting ~~ The Fireside Banquet Room
Date: April, August & December
Time: 6:00pm

Purpose: Provide food & toiletries for needy residents in Papillion, LaVista, Ralston & adjoining areas.

Activities: Lions donate toiletry items (not available via food stamps) three times a year at the Club meeting. The Pantry, staffed by volunteers, serves over 120 families monthly.

Head Start Winter Coats (3rd VP) Chair/PC: Tom Vitamvas (p)
Joe Seda (a)

Type: Community Service/Youth Outreach
Location: Sarpy County
Date: August – September
Time: As Required

Purpose: Provide winter coats, hats & mittens/gloves for Sarpy County Cooperative Head Start (SCCHS) kids.

Activities: Lions are given gender & coat sizes of SCCHS kids. Lions purchase said items & give them to the Head Start staff to distribute

Mittens & Gloves (3rd VP) Chair/PC: Joyce Wells

Type: Community Service/Youth Outreach
Location: Papillion & Surrounding Communities
Date: November
Time: As Required

Purpose: Provide mittens & gloves to the Sarpy County Holiday Assistance Program.

Activities: Lions purchase said items & bring to the November Club meeting for distribution.

Int'l Lions Peace Poster Contest (3rd VP) Chair/PC: Nancy Blazek

Type: Youth Outreach
Location: Papillion-LaVista Schools/St. Columbkille
Date: Fall
Time: As Required

Purpose: An International Lions art contest encouraging youth, worldwide, to express their visions of peace.

Activities: Lions provide local schools with Peace Poster kits, judge entries from students ages 11 – 13, sponsor an entry to the District level & if selected, to the Multiple District & International levels.

Story Book Boxes (3rd VP) Chair/PC: Tom Vitamvas (Inactive)

Type: Youth Outreach
Location: Papillion-LaVista Schools
Date: During school year
Time: As Required

Purpose: Provide a tactile experience for visually impaired students during story book time.

Activities: Lions collect materials relative to a children's story book to be used by visually impaired students to better understand the story. Example: "Three Little Pigs" ~~ bricks, sticks, straw, etc.