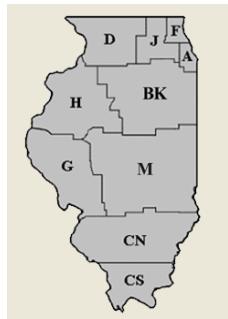




AURORA CARILLON LIONS CLUB NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2026

MEETING-2nd TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

*United in fellowship with friends, family, and neighbors
to serve the community wherever needs exist and support the
national and global endeavors of Lions Club International*



Vol. 6 Issue 1 Editors Phil Pogue and Shirley Zemansky

SERVICE PROJECTS- **WAYSIDE CROSS CLOTHING DRIVE NETS** **3,522 ITEMS OF CLOTHES**

The semiannual Fall Clothing Drive was a big success as 3,522 items were provided to Wayside Cross Ministries. The 2 clothing drives in 2025 collected 5,545 items. Thanks to all involved in the donation and in cleaning closets! **Barbara Javaras/Vanessa Liveris Chairs**



VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION HAS 43 ATTENDEES

The Nov. 9th Veterans Day Celebration was a great success. Those attending were honored by a Scout Flag ceremony, 5 Quilt presentations, and a luncheon. Additionally, there was an opportunity to listen to veterans share their stories and experiences. Those who helped with this event were **Chair Theresa Solon, Tom Solan, Donna Smith, Sandy Virella, Ellen & Dennis O' Neill, Sue Graunke, Linda Morgan, Sandra Lulay Vanessa Liveris & Barbara Javaras.**



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN-LOTS OF PACKING DONE (148 children helped)

In November, 7 Lions & 10 Community Members helped pack 132 boxes providing 28,512 meals. This will feed **78** children for a year. The value of the packing was \$8,268. ACLC heard the stories of Jascent & Emma, from Uganda who survived through the Manna Packs. The December packing resulted in 119 Boxes, 25,704 meals, and **70** children helped. The value of the December packing was \$7,454.



November Event

7 members - Marcia McCallum, Kathi Kraper, Tom & Theresa Solon, 10 community members - Joan Wersmin, Bonnie Benson, Jennifer Aspin, nnie Daugherty, Roberta & Jack Wiesemes, Judy Berg, Mary Anne Kōlb, Leona Oostman. Bruce Wywialowski

December Event Bruce/Anne Metzdorf Chairs

5 Lions- Phil Pogue, Anne & Bruce Metzdorf , Tom Solan, & Linda Stevens 9 community members-Jennifer Aspin, Linda Schultz, Bonnie Benson, Roberta & Jack Wiesemes, Bruce Wywialowski, Mary Ann & John Hickey & Keith Koeings

POINSETTIA DRIVE - \$1,000 Raised for Leader Dog

A successful **2nd year** drive to support **LEADER DOG** took place in November. As a result ACLC provided **LEADER DOG- \$1000** which will be matched. This will support a puppy (**HARPER**) for Leader Dog training. In addition, the ACLC Board approved a **Leader Dog Memorial Brick** honoring **Mary & Bill Tevogt** and another brick in the name of **Aurora Carillon Lions Club**. The poinsettias, Christmas Cactus, and vases were distributed December 3rd. Mary Kay Likovich, Chair



ACLC ATTENDS THE ANNUAL PEARL HABOR NAVAL LEAGUE LUNCHEON



The 56th annual Pearl Harbor & Ted Brattin Youth Service Awards were held Dec. 8 at the Lincoln Inn Banquets (Batavia) with 200 in attendance.. Honored were 8 World War II and Korean War Veterans. Also Youth Service awards sponsored by the Rotary Club were presented to 9 area high school students. ROTC groups

assisted with parts of the program. The Naval League helps support the 3 local ROTC programs at East Aurora, West Aurora, and Mooseheart. The **Guest speaker was Captain Thomas H. Healy, the Navy Reserve Center Great Lakes Commanding Officer.** Captain Healey gave a moving speech about Pearl Harbor and the need to have a navy prepared for future global conflicts. **Dennis O'Neill & Dave McCann represented ACLC (pictured)**



MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 9

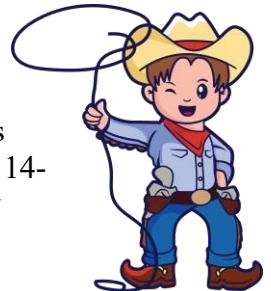
HESED HOUSE GIFT CARD DRIVE-Ends Dec. 31



In December, ACLC sponsored a **Gift Drive for Hesed House**. These gift cards will be distributed to Hesed House clients whether in the Overnight Emergency Shelter, Family Shelter, or Supportive Housing program. By January 1, **gift cards** valued at a total of **\$2000** had been received. This is the **5th annual** Gift Card drive. Last year **\$1,700** worth of gift cards were received. **Elaine Dugan, Chair**

JANUARY-THE GREAT TP ROUNDUP-Bring to ACLC January Meeting

A new project last Spring will now be the focus for ACLC during the week of Jan. 13. ACLC will be collecting **Toilet Paper** for use at Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry. Members are encouraged to bring full rolls of toilet paper to the January ACLC meeting. From Jan. 14-16, toilet paper packages can be dropped off with **Marla Waddington, Chair** (1153 Drury Lane) Let's help Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry!



THREE SMALL SERVICE PROJECTS WERE COMPLETED IN NOVEMBER

One dealt with the **Mental Health Service Activity**, an **ACT OF KINDNESS**, as ACLC members reached out to neighbors, relatives, friends, and new residents who could benefit from such contacts. The 2nd was the **one day box packing** event held at **Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry**. ACLC, the Rotary, and Marie Wilkinson volunteers helped pack **246 boxes**. The 3rd raised **\$200** for **LCIF-Disaster Relief (Hurricane Melissa)** through 2020 an envelope collection & from PP.

THE SUCCESSFUL SUPERBOWL POOL WILL BEGIN IN JANUARY



The Feb. 8 Super Bowl will be at Levi Stadium, Santa Clara (home of the SF 49ers) Winners match the ending digit for each team after each quarter. The winners of the first 3 periods receive \$50 and the final score winner receives \$100. Last year 4 boards were filled The Pool begins at the January ACLC meeting. **Randy Liveris Chair (picture Levi Stadium, Santa Clara by Jeff Bahn)**

7 ONGOING RECYCLING AND COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

-Bookmobile Tuesday 2PM-2:45PM **Barbara Javaras Chair (NEW JAN.DATE Will be Friday)**

-Eyeglass, ink cartridges, hearing aids/batteries, keys, & cell phones- **Barbara Javaras, Cindy Ferianc, & Vanessa Liveris, Chairs**

-Reusable & plastic grocery bags for Interfaith Food Pantry-Elaine Dugan Chair****

-Prescription Medication Take Back (Walgreens Lake St.)-Donna Smith Chair** (can bring to regular meeting)**

Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House, Winfield- ACLC members have Ronald McDonald miniature boxes & one is found in the Clubhouse)-ACLC Board chairs****

-Sneakers for Lions of Illinois Foundation-Barbara Javaras & Vanessa Liveris Chairs****

-Egg Cartons for Interfaith Food Pantry-Donna Smith Chair** (can bring plastic bags & egg cartons to regular meetings)**

CLUB NEWS

KANE COUNTY RECYCLING LOCATIONS & TIPS.-Shirley Zemansky contact

Electronics 994 N. Lake St., Aurora, 9-noon (1st Saturdays)

Recycling M-F 310 N. Evergreen, North Aurora

Electronics 517 E. Fabian Parkway, Batavia (8-4, M-F)

Hazardous Household Material 156 Fort Hill Drive, Naperville (9am-2pm Sat./Sun).

Battery collection locations are at Lowes, Home Depot, and Staples

TREASURER REPORT-NOVEMBER

\$1,252 Activity (service) \$2,951 Administration. The Activity Fund does not reflect \$1,000 going to Leader Dog. Semiannual dues statements will cover Ja. 1-June 30, 2026 (\$50/\$30). ACLC has 41 members. **Potential new members could be invited to the Ja. ACLC meeting. Mary Kay Likovich, Treas.**

DISTRICT 1 J PHOTO CONTEST-(December 1-January 31)

The annual District 1J Environmental photo contest consists of entries of wildlife/birds, plant life, natural landscapes, and weather. Rules include 1 picture per member, J PEG format or 5MB or smaller taken in Illinois. Photos can be e-mailed to Lions1JPhoto@yahoo.com. The e-mail would include the title of the photo, its location, your name and the Lions Club name. **This will be a new project for our members.** Linda Stevens has sent one entry from our Club which was viewed at the Dec. ACLC meeting. (Wildlife).

ACLC SERVICE ACTIVITIES- JULY-DECEMBER (BIG SUCCESS)

Our 41 ACLC members have been very active with many service projects helping non-profits, the community, and the Aurora area. **Non-Profits** helped include Marie Wilkinson Pantry, Interfaith (Aurora) Pantry, Loaves & Fishes, Hesed House, Wayside Cross, Leader Dog, Lions of International Foundation (2 Disaster Relief), Lions of Illinois Foundation, Ronald McDonald House, Feed My Starving Children, and the Naval League.

Community projects have been **National Night Out, the Aurora Library Bookmobile, & Veterans Day Celebration.** The Fall Fox River Clean Up helped Aurora with debris removal. Also, many of these **projects exceeded past years in support.** Thanks to all the Chairs, committee members, and participants with these service projects. **These service projects can attract new ACLC MEMBERS.**

PIZZA PARTY ENDS THE YEAR

A full house attended our final 2025 ACLC meeting which included an end of year Pizza Party.



Robin Smith & Linda Stevens



Phil Pogue & Marla Waddinton

Keith Marsh



MORE PIZZA PARTY PICS PAGE 8

UPCOMING DATES

December 1-January 31- Environmental Photo Contest submissions

January 6-ACLC Board Meeting 1:30

January 3-11- International Lions Hunger Service Projects

January 13-ACLC Regular Meeting 1:30- Super Bowl Pool begins & bring Toilet Paper Packages

January 13-16-THE GREAT TP ROUND UP

January 21-Feed My Starving Children 2pm

February 3-ACLC Board Meeting 1:30

February 8-Super Bowl

February 10-ACLC Lions Meeting 1:30

February 18-Feed My Starving Children 2pm

April 10-11-District 1J Convention, Carol Stream

April 18-26-International Lions Environment Service Projects

May-TBD-Hearing-Vision Mobile Unit

May 14-17-State Convention, Bloomington

INTERNATIONAL NEWS - Lead to Serve. Serve to Lead

LCIF provides 3 types of Disaster Relief Grants-1) Disaster Preparedness, 2) Emergency, & 3) Major Catastrophe. ACLC has supported this year 2 such efforts. International Lions has reported over the past 5 months 115,308 new members & 1,376 new clubs formed on our way to Mission 1.5.

DISTRICT 1J ZONE MEETING HELD AT POMEGRANATE (Lions on Fire)

Three ACLC members attended the December Southeast Zone meeting held at Pomegranate. Aurora Evening was the host of the event. The program was presented by Central Zone Chair Joanne Watson. She discussed the role of the Winfield Ronald McDonald House which in 2024 served 4,814 children over 288 days. Additionally, 700 vaccinations were administered. In addition to describing the House, ZC Watson told how Lions clubs can help with these projects-COOKIES FROM THE HEART, MEALS FROM THE HEART, CARE KITS, CREATING SNACK PACKS, CREATING GRAB & GO MEALS, CREATING FRESH KITS, & BEING FAMILY FESTIVITY SPONSORS. During the meeting all Lions helped pack boxes for the Winfield Ronald McDonald House.



Two of the District 1J Goals for this fiscal year included adding one LEO Club which was created by the Union Lions Club. Another was boosting 1J membership. So far 92 new members have been added to 1J. Also, of the 10 Illinois Lions Districts, 1J is the largest in membership. Pictured is **ZC Joanne Watson**.



FIND THE YEAR (answer found in the newsletter)

Academy Awards Best Picture (Parasite) Best Actor (Joaquin Phoenix) Best Actress (Renee Zellweger) Top Songs (/Breathe/Smooth/Maria Maria/I Wanna Know/The Way That You Love Me) Top TV Shows (Survivor/ER/Who Wants to Be a Millionaire/Monday Night Football) Major Events (Y2K/Pope John Paul II visits Israel/Final Peanuts comic strip) Sport winners (Lakers/Yankees/NJ Devils/St. Louis Rams) Pictured Renee Zellweger/Marshall Faulk/ Peanuts



FINDING LIONS SIGNS-LAKEFIELD, ONTARIO (Keep forwarding Lions signs)



Our Lions sign is from **Lakefield, Ontario which was organized in 1978**. Some of their service projects include Christmas Toy Drive, Senior Christmas Light Tour, funds for the local curling club, support of the local pediatric cancer clinic, & a winter clothing drive for the local food pantry.

POTPOURRI- (auroracarillonlionsclub.org-website & [MYLION](http://mylion.org) (website)

PP in November generated **\$13** and the December PP netted **\$23**. **ACLC members** knew their Musicals and did well with **FROSTY THE SNOWMAN**. PP funds will go to a future **LCIF Disaster Relief Project**.

QUOTES

“This is a new year. A new beginning. And things will change.” Taylor Swift

“Every morning is a fresh beginning.” T.S. Eliot

“Cheers to a new year & another chance to get it right.” Oprah Winfrey

“Believe you can & you’re halfway there.” Theodore Roosevelt

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS-

Cindy F, Rich H & Vanessa L



PIZZA PARTY PICTURES



Lou Scanlon & Lou Ann Hoffman



Sandra Lulay, Marcia McCallum, Rich Huizinga & Mary Kay Likovich



Diane Duft & Carol Pogue

ANNUAL PEARL HARBOR NAVAL LEAGUE LUNCHEON PICTURES

