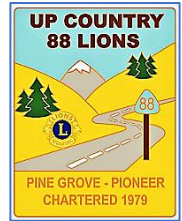




APRIL
2026

Official Voice of Upcountry 88 Lions What's Doing?



CHARTERED 6/5/1979 **ADDRESS** PO BOX 777 PINE GROVE CA 95665

WEBSITE upcountry88lions.org

EMAIL upcountry88lions@gmail.com

CLUB # 37207

FACEBOOK [upcountry88lions](https://www.facebook.com/upcountry88lions)

INSTAGRAM [@upcountry88lions](https://www.instagram.com/upcountry88lions)

CLUB MEETINGS 1st Wednesdays 6pm at Pine Grove Mobile Home Estates' Clubhouse on Irishtown Rd

NEWSLETTERS upcountry88lions.org/newsletters

EDITOR Lion Gail **VOLUME 10 - ISSUE 10**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Please email items to Lion Gail if you'd like them in this monthly newsletter. Deadline is by the 25th of each month.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Check out our Google Calendar [HERE](#)

April 1-midnight = Price increase for Convention

April 1: GENERAL MEETING with District Governor Team's Visitation – 5:30pm Social/Appetizers, and 6:00pm Meeting starts. 2026-2027 Club Officer voting tonight! Quick Board meeting afterwards. 14074 Irishtown Rd, Pine Grove Mobile Home Park Estates' Clubhouse

April 21: FUN BOWLING NIGHT – See article – details to follow

April 25: NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE – send photos and articles to Gail for the next issue. Also, send your service hours or donations' info to Lion Brian.

May 6: GENERAL MEETING with Guest Speaker/TBD – 5:30pm Social/Appetizers, and 6:00pm Meeting starts.

May 19 (date changed): SCHOLARSHIP NIGHT – 6pm at Amador H.S. – Lion Frank will hand out our club's two scholarships. Members can plan to attend, sit together, and wear your Lions' vest. See parking instructions below.

June 3: GENERAL MEETING with Guest Speaker/TBD – 5:30pm Social/Appetizers, and 6:00pm Meeting starts.

June 17: INSTALLATION & POTLUCK – Details to follow...

CLUB MEETINGS: 1st Wednesdays at 6:00pm

To join online, email upcountry88lions@gmail.com beforehand to ask for the link. *For meetings with Guest Speakers, social time/appetizers start at 5:30pm.

You're invited to our **April 1st** Club Meeting.

Along with **voting for next year's Board**, we are having our yearly **District Governor Team's Visitation**. As you know, last year, they attended on Zoom.

This year, **District Governor Matt Stickler** will be bringing his wife, Maggie, who is the District's Cabinet Secretary, and their two children, G.R. and Kinsey, who are [Lions CUBS](#). We're hoping to have as many members attend as possible. I'm sure there will be suggestions on how to make our club stronger and what's happening with "Lions".

Social Time is 5:30pm. **Let me know if you can bring an appetizer, pizza, or drinks.** Brian and Gail will bring waters, plates, and utensils. Meeting starts at 6pm.

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS



Lion Gail received 17 scholarship applications from Amador High Scholarship Coordinator Suzie Reynolds and emailed them to Lions Frank,

Ernie, and Brian to determine the two \$800 winners for the **Ed Shaver Memorial** and **Joe Bonini Memorial Scholarships**.

Lion Frank will be presenting them. If you can attend, maybe wear your Lions vest or t-shirt. Here's what Counselor Suzie Reynolds wrote: *Amador High Scholarship Awards Night will be Tuesday **May 19th**, 6 pm in the Amador High Gymnasium. If possible, park in the upper parking lot near the athletic fields. I recommend arriving no later than 5:45 pm. We will move as quickly as possible, so please limit your presentation at our podium to 60-90 seconds. With over 90 presentations, our event runs over 2.5 hours in length on average.*

WHAT'S HAPPENING on APRIL 1st?

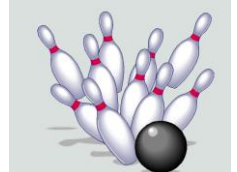


ANOTHER FUN BOWLING NIGHT

Join us on Tuesday, **April 21st** at Gold Country Lanes at 81 Ridge Rd in Sutter Creek.

Meeting time is to be determined – check your email.

If YOU want to be part of the fun



(either bowling or cheering them on), contact Lion Frank ahead of time so he can sort out who is on which lane! Hopefully, our friends from PGCIC and ATCAA can join us again! Check out their website for Food/Bar options <https://www.goldcountrylanes.com/> SEE YOU THERE!

SAD NEWS



Lion Larry just let us know that his wife, Georgia, passed away. He wanted to inform us that he had taken Georgia to an assisted living facility because she had not been doing well. Apparently, she died there on March 27th. He said he is okay and doesn't need help at this time. There will be more information in May's Newsletter. And check your email too. Above photo was from Groovin' In the Grove 2025.

IDEAS FOR TRAININGS?



Do you have any **topics you'd like to know more about** for Claudia Miller, Past Council Chair, to give us training on? She heads the monthly Club Rebuild meetings that Marie and I attend. She coordinates

TRAININGS for Lions in our District 4-A1 and asked Lion Gail to gather topics from you on what you'd like to learn about Lions, and what would help you achieve your goals in the next Lion-year. Claudia's willing to **come to our club** if we're interested. Please email ideas to Gail at upcountry88lions@gmail.com.

CHARITY-OF-THE-MONTH PROJECT?

If our club wants to do a **CHARITY-OF-THE-MONTH project**, Lion PCC Claudia Miller gave Lion/Prez Gail lots of suggestions. Livingston Lions does it and they got seven new members! Stockton San Joaquin Lions collected socks and used sneakers.

Lion Claudia suggested this will get our members reengaged and enthused. It will give our club more visibility in our community. She suggested we hand out applications to everyone we meet! A member of our club can be the point person. We can research what is needed in our upcountry area and set up a recurring calendar. We would find out which non-profits might need low-cost items. Our focus can be on getting them through donations of supplies or money so we could buy them ourselves. Maybe people can buy them at a dollar or discount store. We could designate a drop-off-place and encourage people to bring items during our General Meetings and Events. Or at a member's home? We could ask Kevin if 12-count and 18-count egg cartons are still needed for the food bank distributions at our meeting place. We can ask our neighbors, church members, family members, etc. to help. We can also promote asking people to bring their used eyeglasses for <https://www.lionsinsight.net/>, hearing aids, and pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House Charities. When we deliver the items, we can "make a big deal of it" by taking photos (with our Lions' vests on) and posting them to our Facebook, Instagram, website accounts, going on Friday Noon's radio show, and submitting articles to local newspapers.

Livingston Lions had this recent Facebook post about their **Charity-of-the-Month Project** (see photo above): *Lion Danielle provided updates on the club's monthly service projects. The goal is to focus every month on collecting items to donate directly to organizations. This month we are collecting shower hygiene items for Merced County Rescue Mission. If you would like to donate to this month's project, please reach out; and see below for the remaining months.*

February - Merced County Rescue Mission- Shower Hygiene Items

March - CASA of Merced County - Toys/Games

April - Willy's Closet - Hygiene Items

May - New Beginnings - Dog/Cat Toys

June - D St Merced, CA, Homeless Shelter - Tooth Brushes/Toothpastes

July - Backpacks - Notebooks - Packs of Pencils

August - Care Packages - Support Our Troops - Hygiene

September - Walk-a-Thon - bring a case of water or snacks (bars or fruit)

Here's how Claudia's club, Modesto 500 Lions, recently organized it:

Charity-of-the-Month Returns! Our Club is relaunching the Charity of the Month service projects. We recognize that not everyone can attend (or wants to attend meetings), but everyone cares about service. So, to make

things easier for club members and to continue our service to the community, we are relaunching Charity of the Month. The charity for next month will be for the Children's Crisis Center. Items needed:

Food Items: Canned Chicken - Canned Tuna - Assorted Baby Food - Canned Fruit and Veggies

Program Supplies: Multifold paper towels / Vinyl Gloves / Lice Shampoo / Hand Soap / Printer Copy Paper / Laminating Sheets / Paper Plates / Napkins / 8oz paper cups. Please make your donation no later than

_____. We will be arranging delivery the first week of _____.

You can drop items off at PP Claudia's home or at the next Club Meeting. You can also call her at _____. If you don't have time to shop, you can donate money to her and she will make purchases for you. Please make your donation soon!



GUEST SPEAKER Pat Minyard



March 4th's Guest Speaker was our very own Lion Pat Minyard! He gave a great presentation on [Amador Fire Safe Council](#), where he's currently their President. Lion Brian will be writing up a summary of it in his Meeting Minutes that will be emailed out to members.



Very interesting talk - thank you – Lion Pat!

NOTE: If you have ideas for speakers for May and June's meetings, contact Lion Gail. THX.

TASTEFUL MEET & GREET – RECIPES

If you would the recipe for the actual VIETNAMESE SPRING ROLLS that Marie helped us make – FROM CHARVY KENDIG, WOK N ROLL, or the other two recipes we handed out, please email your request to Upcountry88Lions@gmail.com.

MEMBER'S BIRTHDAY

Gail C - April 26



CONVENTION – April 24-26



REMINDER:

- **Price Increase:** April 1st at Midnight
- **Current Price:** \$85.00
- **New Price:** \$115.00 (includes registration and all

meals)

Don't miss out on this opportunity to secure your spot at the lower price. If you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to reach out to our Cabinet Secretary Maggie Stickler maggiellan@gmail.com

If you haven't registered yet, here is the [registration link](#).

Location: **Black Oak Casino Resort, Tuolumne CA**

Website: Lions4-a1.org/convention-district-meetings

Register: [77th District 4-A1 Convention Registration](#)

Find out more about what happens in our [District 4-A1](#) and what they do for us! It's great fun and a chance to get to know other Lions in our area!

If you can attend OR have questions, contact Lion Gail.

MD4's SERVICE WEEKS INITIATIVE Environment Apr 18-26, 2026



<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center/service/global-causes-initiatives/weeks-of-service>

Interested in chairing a Global Cause from Lions International? Let Lion Gail know...

UPCOUNTRY 88 LIONS BOARD/CHAIRPERSONS 2025-26



Brian Frank Gail



Larry Marie Terry Pat

EVENTS IN OUR DISTRICT & BEYOND!

- April 10: [Burson Bingo Night](#) – 2nd Fri - Tri Dams Lions
- April 17: Harvey "Dusty" Rhodes' Annual Cioppino Dinner Fundraiser – Sonora Lions - [LINK](#)
- April 18: MD4 [Student Speakers Contest](#) – District-level
- April 18: 4-A1 Lions Allstar Football Banquet in Tracy [LINK](#)
- April 18-26: MD4 [Environment](#) Service Week – [FLIER](#)
- April 18: 75th Anniversary Gala – West Point Lions –see

FLIERS

April 23-26: District 4-A1 Convention – [Black Oak Casino Resort](#) – [NEW SAVE-THE-DATE FLIER](#) – [LINK](#)

May 2: Gardening & Plant Fair – West Point Lions – See Vendor FLIER and [Event FLIER](#)

May 16: Antique & Classic Wooden Boat Show – Bass Lake Lions – [FLIER](#)

July 3-7: [Lions Int'l Convention](#) - Hong Kong - [FLIER](#)

ONGOING

District 4-A1 Membership Orientations – **ALL LIONS ARE WELCOMED!** 6:30pm - every 4th Tuesday on [Zoom](#) except November, December, June & July

District 4-A1 Club Officers' Town Hall Meetings – 6pm - 3rd Monday of the month

(Zoom links can be found on the [District Calendar](#))

2025-26 BOARD/CHAIRPERSONS

President/GAT	Gail
1st Vice President/GLT	Vacant
Secretary	Brian
Treasurer	Frank
Director	Larry
Director	Terry
Service Chair/GST	Vacant
Membership Chair/GMT	Marie
Immediate Past Prez, Club Admin, LCIF Coordinator, Newsletter Editor, Website & Social Media Administrator	Gail
Vision Chair (Eyecare – Eyeglasses Recycling)	Pat
Programs/Special Events Coordinator	Vacant
Scholarships Chair	Vacant
Student Speakers Contest Chair	Marie/Gail
Holiday Dinner/Party	Frank
Bowling Fundraiser 2025	Marie/Frank

2026-2027 OFFICERS/BOARD NOMINEES

President	Gail
1st Vice President	Larry
Treasurer	Frank
Secretary	Brian
Service Chair	Vacant
Membership Chair	Marie
Marketing Chair	Gail
Director (2-year term)	Doug
Director (2-year term)	Terry (2nd Year)

EYE CARE & HEARING ASSISTANCE

EYE CARE: If you need eye surgery, instructions are available on the **Lions Eye Foundation – CA/NV's website:** <http://www.lionseyeca-nv.org/-patient-referral.html> or call 1-415-600-3950.

HEARING ASSISTANCE: Instructions are on **Ear of the Lion's website:** <http://earofthelion.org/> or call 1-800-327-8077.

CONTACT: If you know of someone in the **upcountry** area who needs vision or hearing assistance & cannot afford it, contact a Board Member or email upcountry88lions@gmail.com.

RECYCLE AND HELP OTHERS**UP COUNTRY 88 LIONS**

**Collect, Refurbish & Redistribute
EYEGASSES, HEARING
AIDS & CELLPHONES**



Thank you for your kindness!

**DROP OFF at Pine Grove Mobile Home Estates'
Clubhouse during hours of operation**



UpCountry88Lions.org

UpCountry88Lions@gmail.com

Drop them off at these locations during hours of operation or give to an Upcountry 88 Lion (*or bring to one of our meetings/events*).

- [Pine Grove Mobile Home Estates](#) – 14074 Irishtown Rd, Pine Grove – clubhouse is on the right
- [Rancheria Casino Resort](#) – 12222 New York Ranch Rd, Jackson – give to a security guard
- [Trassare Jewelers](#) – 38 Main St, Jackson, California
- [Amador Senior Center](#) – 229 New York Ranch Rd, Jackson, CA

If you think of any other locations that might work,

contact Lion Pat, Vision Chair. You can also refer people check out the list on our [RECYCLING WEBPAGE](#).

PULL/POP/SODA TABS

**Ronald McDonald
House Charities®**
Northern California



We collect pull tabs (not the whole aluminum can) from sodas, soup, etc. Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northern California collects these tabs to recycle and put the proceeds toward their Adopt-A-Family Program. This program helps subsidize the cost of families staying at the Sacramento Ronald McDonald House. The House provides temporary, affordable housing to families while their child is undergoing treatment at a Sacramento-area hospital. <https://rmhcnc.org/get-involved/pop-tab-program/>

Check out our District 4-A1's [WEBSITE](#).

Turn them in to a member of our Upcountry 88 Lions Club or bring to one of our meetings/events.

DISTRICT 4-A1's MOUNTAIN ZONE CLUBS

Our Mountain Zone Chair = PCC Claudia Miller

[COPPEROPOLIS LAKE TULLOCH](#) [JACKSON](#)
[MURPHYS-ANGELS](#) [MOKELUMNE HILL](#)
[SONORA](#) [SUTTER CREEK](#) [TRI DAMS LC](#)
[UPCOUNTRY 88](#) [WEST POINT](#)

**CHECK OUT OUR
DISTRICT 4-A1 NEWSLETTER**

<https://lions4-a1.org/whats-happening/newsletters/>

DISTRICT 4-A1 CALENDAR [LINK](#)

CALIFORNIA MD4 CALENDAR [LINK](#)

THE SONORA LIONS CLUB PRESENTS THE
HARVEY "DUSTY" RHODES'
ANNUAL CIOPPINO DINNER
FUNDRAISER



All proceeds benefit the Sonora Lions Club Programs

Friday, April 17, 2026

5:30-7:30 PM

ELKS LODGE, 100 ELK DRIVE, SONORA

Doors open at 5:00—No Host Bar

Tickets: \$60 PP

MEAL INCLUDES: DUSTY'S SPECIAL CIOPPINO RECIPE
 W/CRAB, SALAD, FRENCH BREAD, and - - - -
Apple Crisp Dessert from Cover's Apple Ranch

For tickets contact: Joe Skaff - (209) 288-2411, Tim Atchley - (209) 985-3837,
 Bill Dunlavy Jr. - (209) 347-7102, Ray Bailey - (209) 532-0444
 Jill Schwab - (650) 787-7022
 Or any member of the Sonora Lions Club

Please bring your used, unwanted eyeglasses, hearing aids, and empty ink cartridges for recycling.

The Great Sutter Creek Duck Race



April 25, 2026

Mark Your Calendars & Adopt Your Ducks
 for the Second Annual RETURN of one of
 Sutter Creek's Traditional Family-Friendly Events

**Minnie Provis Park
 Sutter Creek, CA**

Rain or Shine
 MORE DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED

ADOPT DUCKS & MORE INFO:



Save the Date

**April 18th
 2026**

**West Point Lions Club
 75th Anniversary Gala**

\$60/00 per person or \$100/00 for a couple
 Doors open at 6:00 PM - Dinner 7:00 PM
 For more information contact Brenda 209-271-9154
 or Vicki 209-770-4238 samsenach@gmail.com
 or brendalagermahlon@gmail.com

Thank You

for your support by
 purchasing a duck adoption!

The Great Sutter Creek Duck Race

April 25, 2026

Minnie Provis Park
 Sutter Creek, CA

Thank You

for your support by
 purchasing a duck adoption!

The Great Sutter Creek Duck Race

April 25, 2026

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The Great Sutter Creek Duck Race

April 25, 2026

Minnie Provis Park
 Sutter Creek, CA

WEST POINT LION'S CLUB

75th GALA SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Celebrate 75 Years of Service to Our Community
 Become a Valued Gala Sponsor!

SILVER SPONSORSHIP - \$250,000

- One (1) Thank You post on our Facebook page
- Your name added to our Sponsor Banner (Displayed at West Point Lion's Club events)

GOLD SPONSORSHIP - \$500,000

- Everything included in Silver PLUS:
- One (1) Free Use of our Community Hall
- Two (2) Thank You posts on our Facebook page
- Your group seated together at the Gala

PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP - \$1,000,000

- Everything included in Gold Sponsorship PLUS:
- Four (4) Thank You posts on our Facebook page
- Two (2) Free Community Hall Rentals
- One table for eight (8) guests
- A Bottle of West Point Lion's Club
- Your name added to Gala Handouts

SUPPORT LOCAL • SERVE COMMUNITY • CELEBRATE 75 YEARS

For Sponsorship Information Contact:
West Point Lion's Club
 Brenda 209-271-9154 or Vicki 209-770-4238

Save the Date

Vendor Event - May 2nd

*Calling all Master Gardeners, Plant Lovers,
 and Creative Vendors!*

We're looking for vendors who love:

- Plants & Flowers
- Artwork
- Beautiful Home Decor
- Anything that helps Jazz up Your Space

All Vendors Welcome!

Contact to Participate:
Brenda Stigeman
 209-271-9154



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS
 Invitation-Application for Membership

Lions club name: _____

Member sponsor: _____

First name: _____ MI: _____ Last name: _____ Suffix: _____

Gender: Male Female Non-Binary Prefer not to answer Occupation: _____

Date of birth: _____ Spouse's name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please review qualification criteria and fees for the following:

I am at: New member

Former member Transfer member Member number: _____
 (if unknown, email stats@lionsclubs.org)

Previous Club Name: _____ Previous Club Number: _____

Family member Student member Current or former Leo Young adult

Enclosed is \$ _____ as an entrance fee, in addition to \$ _____ for international, multiple district, district and club dues.

I accept membership into Lions Clubs International and that the standards are limited to persons of good moral character and reputation. I recognize the importance of rendering personal service to my community in cooperation with other civic-minded persons. I understand that membership is not valid until approved by the club's board of directors.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR CLUB SECRETARY USE

I confirm that the board of directors has approved this member for membership in this Lions club.

Signature of club secretary: _____

OUR MISSION

To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions clubs.



Checklist:

- Keep a copy of the completed application form for the club's files. Do not send it to Lions Clubs International.
- Add the member using MM CI or include the member's name and address on the monthly membership report.
- When the entrance fees and dues have been collected and the new member has been provided with a membership card, turn money over to the club treasurer.
- Add the new member's name and address to the club roster and mailing list.
- See that the new member receives a New Member Kit. The materials within are to be presented at the new member's induction ceremony. Take the time to complete the certificate for the new member prior to the induction ceremony.
- Included in the New Member Kit is a coupon for our Club Supplies store at www2.lionsclubs.org. Show the new member the website so they may browse items to spend their coupon on, such as shirts or personalized badges.