

NORTH DAKOTA LION



Monthly focus: Elections & Housekeeping

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Housekeeping Matters: Preparing for a Strong New Lion Year

As we continue our mission “We Serve,” it’s me for every club to take a few important steps to ensure a smooth and successful transition into the new Lion year. Strong organization today creates stronger service tomorrow—because effective leadership and sound operations empower us to better meet the needs of our communities.

2026–2027 Club Officers: Act Now

Every club should be actively working to by the end of May

- Select club officers
- Hold official elections (votes)
- Report those officers in the Lion Portal

Updating your officers in the portal ensures that your club remains connected, informed, and eligible for key communications, resources, and reporting tools from Lions Clubs International.

Understanding LCI Billing (Important Change)

No more printed or emailed statements from LCI
How to View Your Club’s LCI Statement:

1. Log into the Lion Portal
2. Navigate to your club account
3. Access the billing/finance sec on
4. Review and download your statement as needed

It is recommended that club treasurers and presidents check this regularly to stay current.

District Dues Information

Unlike LCI billing, district dues are still distributed directly to clubs.

How District Dues are sent via email to clubs
Issued twice per year: December & June

Every successful Lions year begins with strong preparation. As highlighted in leadership development resources like , organization and clear structure are foundational to effective teamwork and service.

By completing these housekeeping steps, your club demonstrates:

- Service through readiness
- Integrity through accurate reporting
- Dedication to Excellence in operations
- Collaboration with district and international leadership

Call to Action

Elect your 2026–2027 officers and report them in the Lion Portal before May ends
Check your LCI account online & watch for and pay district dues

WHY LEAD?

STEP UP. LEAD FORWARD. SERVE BIGGER.

Your leadership can transform lives & communities.

- Amplify Your Impact**
Turn service into lasting change
- Grow Personally & Professionally**
Build confidence, communication, and leadership skills
- Inspire Others**
Be the Lion who motivates the pride
- Shape the Future**
Help guide your club and District toward stronger service & growth

TOGETHER, WE SERVE STRONGER.

Step into a leadership role in your Club or District today!

Club Officer Roles, Committee Leadership, District Leadership Teams, District Leadership Teams, Mentor Future Leaders

Results from LCIF 5NE raffle 2026

Total donated to LCIF \$9441.00
Prizes: \$1199 to Hugh Raugust sold by Harvey Lions
\$700 to Andy Munion sold by West Fargo Lions
\$700 to Chris Bauik sold by Fargo Gateway Lions
\$700 to Charlotte Suko sold by Rugby Lions
\$700 to Clayton Kimsey sold by New Rockford Lions
\$500 to Matt Olson sold by Enderlin Lions
\$500 to James Moos sold by Streeter Lions
\$500 to Anton Braun sold by Napoleon Lions
\$500 to James Anderson sold by Streeter Lions
\$300 to Cherie Heisler sold by Harvey Lions
\$300 to Steve Mundy sold by Fargo Roamers Lions
\$300 to Dean Mattson sold by West Fargo Lions
\$300 to Jamison Kramer sold by Carrington Lions

\$200 to Matt Schimelfening sold by Rugby Lions
\$200 to Wilbur Schlecht sold by Enderlin Lions
\$200 to Dan Girivox sold by Robinson Lions
\$200 to Zach Gunderson sold by West Fargo Lions
A total of 41 club participated in the 2026 raffle each getting 54% of the total after paying for the prizes. We had a few different clubs added this year but also some clubs that were a part of it last year did not, some told me they lost their tickets. We will have to get a better handle on who we send the tickets to in each club, if you have a name for your club please send me a message so I can put that persons name on my list for next year. I also think I have to get the tickets out a little earlier like in early January, so you have 2 ½ months to sell them. The more tickets we sell the better the percent goes to LCIF and it's many great causes. Thanks For all who were a part this year. PDG Rick Swenson



Results for the District 5NW LCIF Raffle

Lions of District 5NW,
The Lions of District 5NW LCIF Raffle was a great success! I am so proud of the participation in the LCIF Raffle this year. Last year 28 Lions Clubs participated, and this year **40 Lions Clubs participated in the raffle.** Thank you so much for your participation! The results are as follows. *Total Raised was \$24,290.00 - \$7,999.00 for total prizes, so \$16,291.00 will be divided up to those Lions Clubs that participated by percentage of donation.* This amount will be deposited into your Lions Club’s Melvin Jones Fellowship account. Please use these credits towards a Melvin Jones Fellowship for a Lions Member, individual or business in your community.

\$1,199.00	1251	Dixie Walker - Minot
\$700.00	2383	Micheal Werkmeister- Williston
\$700.00	1829	Jayden Ewoniuk- Dickinson
\$700.00	676	Elgin Lions Club
\$700.00	896	Melinda Heinert- Bismarck
\$500.00	1793	Marlene Kuntz -New England
\$500.00	2071	Dave Pfliger- Hazen
\$500.00	1328	Magic City Lions Club
\$500.00	779	Flasher Lions Club
\$300.00	1981	Glenn Gullickson- Taylor
\$300.00	1528	Allan Tellman- New Salem
\$300.00	2331	Dwight Mortenson- Williston
\$300.00	1499	New Salem Lions Club
\$200.00	249	Myckenzie Scherr- Lincoln
\$200.00	2391	Alyssa Nelson- Williston
\$200.00	98	Beulah Lions Club
\$200.00	1675	Lori Hill- Reeder

Your raffle ticket purchase went towards the Lions International Foundation, in which 100% of the donations go towards eight global causes. *Vision, Hunger, Environment, Childhood Cancer, Diabetes, Youth, Humanity and Disaster Relief & Preparedness.*

I am proud of Lions District 5NW as we are Lions that serve. Please contribute towards any Lions LCIF Fund Raiser in the future to help make a difference in your community and our world. Any amount is always welcomed.

If any questions, Please contact:
PDG Sherry Fetch, 5NW LCIF Chair, joyfullion2@gmail.com or 701-426-3432

5NE DISTRICT GOVERNOR’S REPORT

PAULA SWANSON
952.201.5531
swansonp816@gmail.com



Happy April, 5-NE Lions!
As I write this, Mark and I are sitting at the airport waiting to board the plane for somewhere warmer. Even though there have been spurts of spring, Old Man Winter has not yet loosened his grip on North Dakota. As we wait to board, I can reflect on the last month and the next month of Lions and be very proud.
I am proud to say that the Devils Lake Lions Carnival of Service was a fantastic success. In just a short time together, members completed 5 tie blankets, assembled 30 hygiene kits, and prepared 25 cake kits. These hands-on projects are a perfect example of how coming together as Lions can create meaningful, immediate impact for

those in need. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the day so productive and fun.
Looking ahead, we’re excited for our upcoming service project on April 25th, where we will be planting trees in our community. This is a great opportunity to continue our commitment to service while also investing in the future of our environment. We hope to see a strong turnout for this meaningful and visible project.
In mid-March, Mark and I took our 12 and 15 year old daughters to New York City to participate in Lions Day at the United Nations. It was truly inspirational. We heard from International President A.P. Singh, United States Ambassador to

the United Nations Michael Walz, Nobel Peace Prize Winner Leymah Gbowee, and Academy Award winning actress Mira Sorvino, among others. Seeing the sights and taking in a Broadway show was enjoyable, but hearing from so many remarkable people was both moving and reaffirming. I want to close this letter with some words of wisdom from I.P. Singh: “The best way to find yourself is in the service of others.”
Serve on, Lions!

5NW DISTRICT GOVERNOR’S REPORT

I can feel the energy building across our district! After a long winter, the ground is finally thawing, the temperatures are rising, and Lions everywhere are stretching, waking up, and getting ready to roar into spring. This is one of my favorite times of year—it reminds us that just like the seasons, our service continues to grow, renew, and expand.
As we head toward the close of this Lion year, we want to finish strong. On the afternoon of April 24th, we’ll be holding our final District Cabinet Meeting, where we’ll take a look back

at how we did in achieving our 2025–2026 goals. It’s a great opportunity to celebrate our successes, reflect on what we’ve learned, and recognize the incredible impact Lions have made in our communities.
Looking ahead, I’m excited to share that District Governor Elect Jacob Thraillkill will be leading us in a fun and engaging brainstorming session as we begin selling our goals for the upcoming year. This is where your ideas, your voice, and your passion can help shape the future of our district.

DG KAREN daSILVA
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kdasilva@bis.midco.net



This meeting will be fun, productive, and important—and I truly mean it when I say all Lions are welcome. If you’ve ever wanted to be part of the conversation, this is your moment. If you’re interested in attending, please reach out to me. I’ll make sure you get all the details.
Let’s finish this year strong, carry that momentum forward, and continue

to live out what it means to serve. The world needs Lions—and right now, it’s our time to shine.

The Importance of Women in Lions Club

Women have played a pivotal role in shaping the Lions Club since 1987, into a vibrant, inclusive, and impactful organization. Their leadership, dedication, and unique perspectives have enriched club activities, broadened outreach, and inspired new generations of volunteers. Empowering women within the Lions Club not only strengthens the organization but also reflects its core values of diversity and service. There are over 425,000 women serving around the world.
Recently women were celebrated in Carrington by supporting woman businesses, enjoying women speakers, and gathering to celebrate



Amanda Allmaras

each other, while enjoying food prepared by women. Almost 30 women attended that morning with a follow up tour at Cows & Co and a chance to shop. Keynote speaker was Amanda Allmaras NP, owner of Dragonfly Health & Wellness, focusing on woman’s health. Food was also collected for the local food pantry.

Noonan Lions Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, March 29, 2026
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Noonan Community Center
Serving pancakes, sausage, and eggs.
~Free will offering~
Proceeds go to Linda Zimmerman -Kline

Noonan Lions Club
@NoonanLionsClub

venmo

JUST A REMINDER

ND Lion deadline is the 5th of the month

Any questions contact the newsletter editor at kdasilva@bis.midco.net

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The North Dakota LION

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Dakota Diabetes Champions



Thank you Beulah Lions Club for hosting a A1C screening event. It was a great success. Facebook Message us if you are interested in your club hosting a screening event. Dakota Diabetes Champions

Bismarck



We had a wonderful evening volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House! For those who may not know, the Ronald McDonald House provides a “home away from home” for families with children receiving medical care, giving them a place to stay, meals to share, and support during some of life’s hardest moments. Our club collected and donated items from their wish list and spent the evening preparing meals for the families staying there. It was a small way to give back, but such a rewarding experience. We’re so grateful for organizations like this that make a real difference in people’s lives!

Dickinson



The Dickinson Noon Lions would like to thank all our wonderful donors and our absolutely amazing community for making last nights benefit a success! The generosity of Southwest North Dakota is second to none

Club News

Dacotah Mandan



Celebrate Our Firemen!!

The Dacotah Mandan Lions Club treated the entire Mandan Fire Department with meat, cheese and crackers to express our gratitude for all they do for our community. Mandan Fire Chief Mitch Bitz and two other firemen accepted the gift. We Serve!!

Gateway



Fourteen club members and guests are together on the benches in the arena and smiling at the camera.

Fargo Gateway Lions Club participates in FMSC FargoPack

The Fargo Gateway Lions Club helped pack meals to deliver to children in need of food worldwide during Feed My Starving Children's FargoPack event in February at the Butler Machinery Arena in West Fargo. During this

seven-day event, over 10,000 volunteers packed a total of 1.5 million meals. These meals will feed 4,111 children one meal a day for the entire year!

Club News

Gateway

Our motto-Where there is a need, there is a Lion- was on display in March. Thank you to Fargo Gateway Lions, Leonard Lions and Fargo-Moorhead business owners for donating over 200 gas cards to the TSA employees at the Fargo airport. Special thanks to Ellendale Lions for their gas cards to the Jamestown airport and Wishek Lions to the Bismarck airport for TSA employees. Your donations gave them some appreciation for keeping their customers flying our friendly skies.



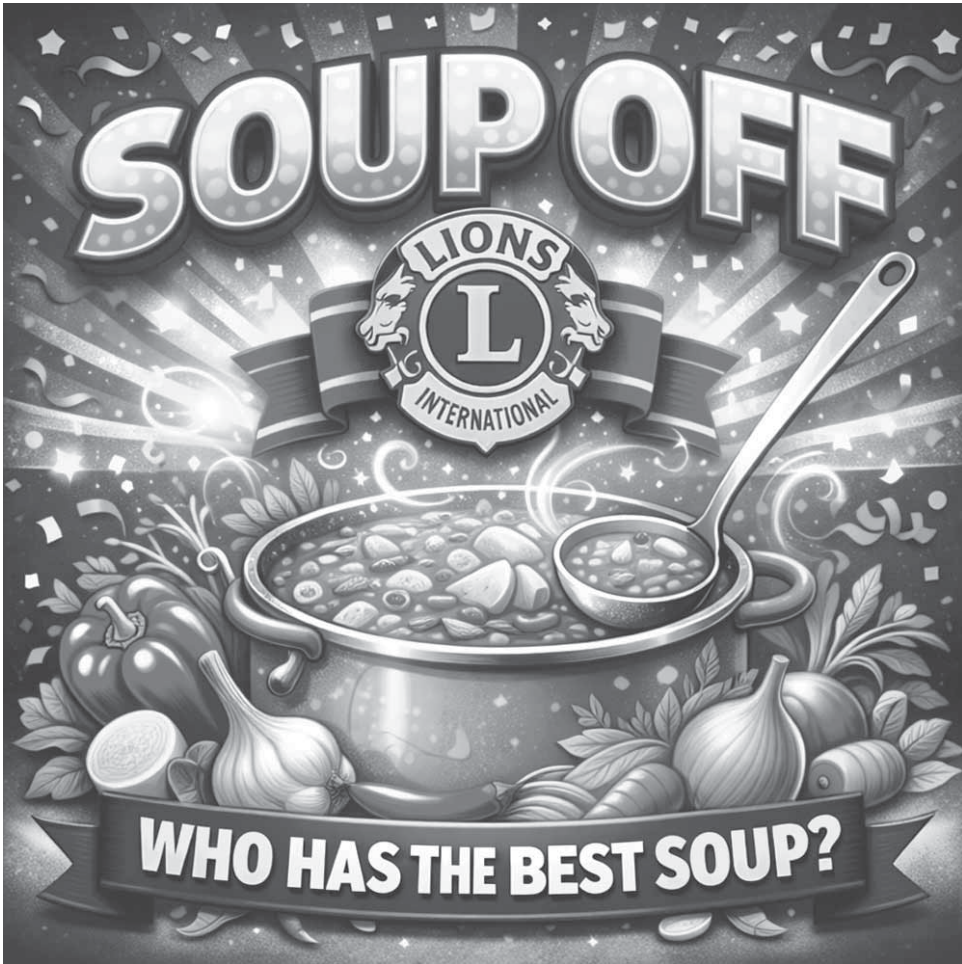
Jud

The Jud Lions held their first-ever Easter Ham and Turkey Bingo on March 25th at the Jud Bar and Grill during Burger Night. There were 9 hams and 3 turkeys, donated by Kulm Lions as well as Kulm and Jud business owners. THANK YOU!! Cards sales to over 30 people were abundant; raising funds for Service Dogs for America. REMEMBER- Volunteer Day at Service Dogs for America in Jud is May 2. Coffee, rolls, and fruit at 9:30 am. Lunch at noon to feed all the volunteer workers helping to spruce up after winter.

Sterling

Thanks for your service as the leader of 5NW, you have accomplished much so far during your DG term in addition to last year. YOU GO GIRL!! Thank you Karen, also for your support. Below is a heartwarming story of humanitarian service to others. This year, the Sterling Lions held their annual winter bingo games with the special needs of a local family in their hearts. Twice each month, their games brought the community together to help the new parents from October to March with a premature baby boy. Mom was able to stay for over 4 months at the Ronald McDonald House in Fargo, which offset the cost of motel and food during her stay to be with their son. The Lion-sized funds raised by the bingo games helped Dad with transportation costs to visit his wife and son each week, then returning back to his ranch in Sterling. GOOD NEWS- In March, the parents brought their son home and the community celebrated the new addition. Thanks to the Sterling Lions for their a generous gift to the Sterling family. Their humanitarian service to others is at the heart of why Lions has existed for over 100 years!

Zeeland



Zeeland Lions sponsored a Soup-Off on March 14th at the local bar. In spite of a snowstorm, 30 people donated money to eat bowls from 7 different types of soups. \$5 tickets were available for prizes donated by The Flash Bar in Sterling and Am-Vets bar in Steele and 3-Mile Inn Bar in Zeeland. \$400 was raised and matched by the Zeeland Lions to donate to Service Dogs for America. BIG THANKS to Zeeland residents!!

Service Dogs for America in Jud needs your support to keep their doors open

Did you know that Service Dogs for America in Jud needs your support to keep their doors open?

The Ellendale Lions discussed this issue at their March meeting. It was moved and approved to donate \$3000 to the Jud facility to continue the training of service dogs for veterans with PTSD and people with mobility problems. President Wanda was motivated to keep this important facility training these special dogs and made the challenge.

If your club accepts, please write ELLENDALE CHALLENGE on your check. Please mail to Service Dogs for America Box 513, Jud 58454 Director Jen will tabulate the results. Thank You Lions!!



Club News

Mandan



Mandan Lion Jeannette Friesz presenting 10 blankets each with a stuffed animal to the Sanford pediatrics unit.

Leonard



In March, the Leonard Lions held their yearly White Elephant Sale/Meat Raffle at the Leonard Golf Course. Complete with an auctioneer, the event attracted over 100 people who bid on household items and tools in addition to winning meat bundles. The result was successful in raising enough funds to take the local children for swimming lessons as well as providing baseball and softball games with T-shirts and caps. The club also helps local residents who need an extra hand at their time of need. The Leonard Lions also take care of various repairs at their town's Senior Center which provides a place for community dinners, birthday parties, and various events all year long as well as the Lions monthly meetings. Thank You Leonard Lions for caring for the people in your small town!



2026 ND State Lions Convention

Soaring In Service

October 23-24th, 2026



CanadInn Grand Forks, ND
INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Club _____

Club Title _____

Lion _____

Leo _____

Non-Member _____

Name: _____

Club _____

Club Title _____

Lion _____

Leo _____

Non-Member _____

District or Other Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Guest Children: _____ Age: _____

Guest Children: _____ Age: _____

+++++

Convention Package (includes all meals)
Make checks payable to: District 5NE Lions Convention Fund

+++++
Convention Rate ONLY (Valid through Midnight Oct 25th) _____ @ \$125.00 – Regular Attendees
Post Convention Rate will be \$150.00 through July 2026
August 1st to Convention rate will be \$175.00
+++++

PLEASE CHOOSE YOUR BANQUET MEAL: Beef _____ Chicken _____ Vegetarian _____

Any Special Dietary Needs?

.....

Cancellations will be charged a \$20 fee. Cancellations after September 15, 2024 no refund will be made.

The Rooms at the CanadInn are \$189.00 per night + taxes
The Sleep Inn nearby has a block rate for Oct 22nd- \$94.00, Oct 23rd - \$104, Oct 24th - \$144 +tax

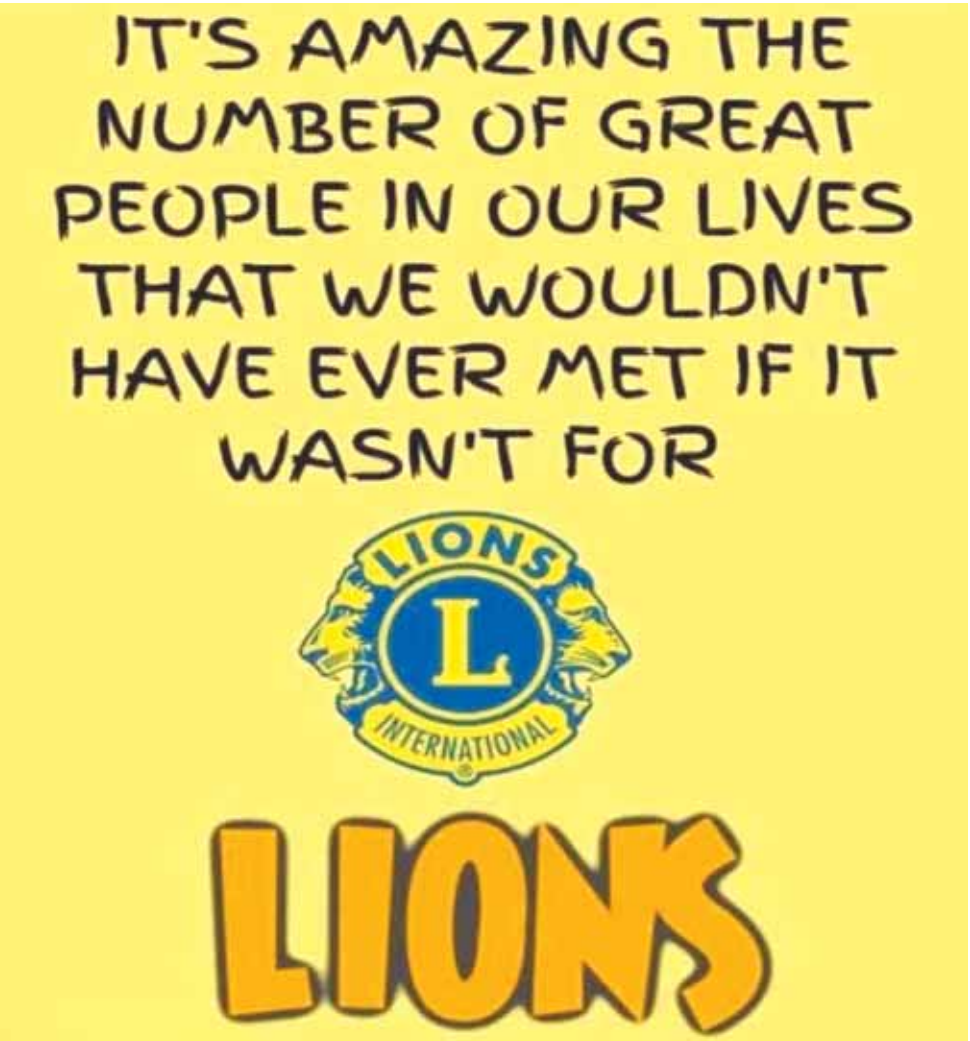
Make Checks payable to: District 5NE Lions Convention Fund
Send to: South Forks Lions
P.O. Box 58206-6164
Grand Forks, ND 58201
Contacts:
Del Hager
del714@hotmail.com
218-779-4971

Club News

Lake Metigoshe
Statue of Service Presentation

Submitted by Mary Grosgebauer
Lake Metigoshe Lions Club

On March 9, 2026, at Metigoshe Christian Center, NE VDG Elect Tracy Wicken gave an informative and inspiring presentation about the Statue of Service Project to the Lake Metigoshe Lion Club. This will be such a moving tribute to Lions everywhere. All the components of the bronze statue represent the Lion pillar of Vision, showcasing children, adults, leader dogs, and of course a lion. Taking part in this project is a honor every lion club can be proud of. Be sure to have your club schedule Lion Tracy to tell you more about this project



LCIE Raffle Drawing



District 5NW LCIF Raffle Drawing
A big thank you to 2nd VDG Brian Beckers for helping to draw the winning tickets for the LCIF Raffle. Shown: 2nd VDG for District 5NW Brian Beckers, the winning ticket for Dixie Walker and PDG Sherry Fetch, District 5NW LCIF Chair.

ND Lion deadline is the
5th of the month

Any questions contact the
newsletter editor at kdasilva@bis.midco.net



MAKE A DIFFERENCE...
Service Dogs for America
Spring Volunteer Day



Saturday, May 2nd, 2026
920 Short Street, Jud, ND 58454
10 am - 4 pm

Join us for a day of fun,
food, and good work! We will spend
the day getting SDA ready for the
summer ahead. Fargo Roamers 4x4
Lions will be making their famous
steak fondue for lunch!
Come for a few hours or the
day...many paws make for light work!

- Tasks Include:
- Cleaning
 - Dog walking
 - Kennel repairs
 - General repairs
 - Lawn and tree care
 - And more!

Contact us at (701) 685-2242 or
info@servicedogsforamerica.org
to RSVP or with any questions.

Thank you to our sponsors!

