



# LBLC

CAMP CONNECTIONS

## NEWSLETTER

Connecting our community with the latest stories, updates, and events from Lions Bear Lake Camp. Stay informed and inspired as we continue our journey together year-round.



What's Inside ?

### Camp Updates

In this issue, we celebrate the success of IPDG Jim White's Appreciation Dinner, which brought Lions together to honor his leadership and service. We also highlight the lively Crafting Weekend, where 45 women gathered to create, connect, and even craft decorations for the camp's Christmas tree.

### LBLC Spotlights

This month, we shine a light on Brent Beracy, a dedicated Challenge Course Facilitator who is also shadowing our Leadership Development Program Directors. We honor longtime board members Phyllis and Charlie Blackburn, whose partnership and service have left a lasting impact on the camp. Plus, we hear from attendees of the Bear Lake Crafting Weekend about their meaningful time at Bear Lake Camp.

### Campfire Chats

This month, we hear from one of our camp counselors about their unforgettable experiences at Bear Lake Camp. We also spotlight Camp Champion Lion Deb Gossett, whose dedication shines through her volunteer work during the summer and the annual Workbee.

### Stay Connected & Get Involved

Stay connected by scanning the QR code to donate, browsing our wishlist, or following us on social media! Check inside for upcoming fundraisers and stories of impact from Lions Bear Lake Camp.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NOTE TRACI TRIBLEY



As the holiday season approaches, I find myself filled with gratitude for the people who bring Lions Bear Lake Camp to life. This time of year has a way of highlighting what truly matters, and for us, that's the friendships, laughter, and shared purpose we find here together.

To everyone who's been a part of this journey—volunteers, donors, campers, friends—you are what makes this place feel like home. Each of you has given something unique and meaningful, whether it's time, energy, or simply showing up with an open heart. The dedication and care flowing into this camp from each of you have created a place where connections feel real, memories run deep, and the joy of being together becomes something we carry with us.

The holiday season brings its own kind of magic, but here at camp, every gathering, every heartfelt conversation, and every shared moment feels special. This isn't just a place to visit; it's a space where we all grow a little closer, where friendships turn into family, and where there's a sense of belonging that doesn't end when the season does.

Reflecting on this year, I'm struck by how much we've accomplished, and even more by the spirit with which we've done it. We've shown up for each other, found strength in working together, and created memories that remind us of what's possible when we put our hearts into something. This season is a time to honor those memories, to appreciate what we've built, and to carry that spirit forward.

As we move into the holidays, reaching out, making space for each other, and bringing a little extra kindness wherever we go creates a ripple effect that lives on. Thank you for being part of Lions Bear Lake Camp. Each of you brings something beautiful to our community, and it's a privilege to share this journey with you.

From all of us here, may your holiday season be filled with peace, warmth, and the joy of knowing you're part of something truly special.

Happy Holidays.





## CAMP UPDATES: WHAT'S NEW AT BEAR LAKE CAMP

Stay up to date with everything happening at Lions Bear Lake Camp in Camp Updates! From exciting developments and upcoming events to the latest news from around the camp, this section will keep you informed on all the ways we're growing and evolving to serve our campers and community.

### IPDG Jim White Appreciation Dinner

Lions Bear Lake Camp recently hosted an Appreciation Dinner for Immediate Past District Governor Lion Jim White, celebrating his remarkable dedication to District 11-D2 throughout 2023-2024. The evening was filled with familiar faces, laughter, and heartfelt gratitude—a true reminder of the impact one person's leadership can have on a whole community. Lion Jim's guidance brought people closer together, encouraged new ideas, and inspired others to step up in their own ways. The wonderful turnout spoke volumes about the respect and appreciation this district holds for him. To everyone who came to honor Lion Jim, thank you for making it such a memorable night. And to Lion Jim, your legacy of service continues to inspire all.



### Bear Lake Crafting Weekend

This November, Bear Lake Camp was bustling with creativity as 45 women came together for our Crafting Weekend. The lodge was full of life, with sewing machines humming, projects taking shape, and friendships being built. Many of these talented women are part of the groups that use our facilities throughout the year, and this weekend gave them a chance to connect, share ideas, and enjoy a creative retreat.

From stunning quilts to handmade crafts, the projects on display were incredible. Adding to the festive spirit, the group even worked together to create beautiful decorations for the camp's Christmas tree. Each ornament reflected the thoughtfulness and skill of the women who made it, adding a special touch to the holiday season.

It was a weekend full of laughter, inspiration, and meaningful connections. We're so thankful to everyone who joined us and helped make it such a success. Events like these are a wonderful reminder of how much we can accomplish and share when we come together, and we're already looking forward to the next one!







## LBLC SPOTLIGHTS:CELEBRATING OUR CAMP COMMUNITY

In LBLC Spotlights, we shine a light on the dedicated individuals and partnerships that help make Lions Bear Lake Camp extraordinary. Each month, we'll highlight a staff member, a board of directors member, and one of our valued camp partners. These are the people and collaborations that drive our mission forward, ensuring that every camper experiences the magic of Bear Lake Camp.

### Brent Beracy

#### Facilitator/Leadership Development

If you've been around camp this year, chances are you've met Brent Beracy—a guy who's as passionate about camp as he is about helping people challenge themselves and have a blast in the outdoors! Brent joined our team in 2024, and he's already making a huge impact with his energy, skills, and sense of adventure.

Brent's a certified challenge course and climbing tower/zipline facilitator, so when he's around, you know there's going to be some serious action on the ropes and climbing tower! Whether he's helping campers conquer their fear of heights or just cheering them on as they reach new heights (literally!), Brent is all about building confidence and having fun. And he's not just about today's challenges, he's stepping up to learn the ropes (pun intended) as our future Leadership Development Program Coordinator. That means he's diving into even more ways to help our campers grow as leaders while having an unforgettable time at camp.

Outside of camp, Brent's been a Lion for decades, holding roles from Club President to District Governor and beyond. He's even helped start new Lions clubs and guided existing ones to make an even bigger difference in their communities. But here at Bear Lake, he's all about making memories with our campers and pushing them to discover what they're capable of.

We're beyond excited to have Brent on the team. He's brought a spark to camp that everyone can feel, and we can't wait to see how his journey with us unfolds. So, the next time you see him leading an adventure or just hanging out by the campfire, be sure to say hi, he's got stories to share and encouragement to give.



### Phyllis & Charlie Blackburn

#### Board Members

This month, we celebrate two remarkable people whose lives have been shaped by love and a deep dedication to others. Charlie and Phyllis Blackburn are the true definition of a power couple, sharing decades of service, side by side, and always ready to help wherever there is a need.

With 44 years as a Lion, Charlie has quietly guided and supported projects that have left a lasting impact—from Erickson Softball Park to Bear Lake Camp. He has become a fixture in the community, leading by example and giving his time without hesitation. Phyllis, his partner in every sense, matched his dedication in her own way. She not only founded the Delta Lioness Club but also helped establish the Lioness District of 11-C2, where she held every district office over the years. Now, as a member of the Delta DeWitt Ledges Lioness Lions Club, she continues to serve with the same energy and heart, organizing events that bring people together and uplift the community.

After more than 70 years of marriage, Charlie and Phyllis continue to stand together, serving their community with the same passion they began with. Their lives are a reminder of how powerful shared purpose can be, and they have inspired countless others to give of themselves as fully as they have.

Thank you, Charlie and Phyllis, for showing us all the true meaning of service and for building a legacy that goes beyond words.



### Bear Lake Camp Crafting Weekend

We had an exceptional time at the crafting event at Lions Bear Lake Camp in November! The staff provided us with many choices of food for our meals, and everyone brought snacks to share, so there were plenty of extras. From healthy to decadent, no one should have gone home hungry.

The majority of the crafters were quilters, which was amazing. We had never seen so many sewing machines in one place! From basic stitch machines to fancy programmable ones, they were all fabulous. All the ladies were happy to share their crafts with us and were already wondering when we would be back with them.

For our fee, we received all our meals (and didn't have to wash dishes!), a place to sleep and bathe, a nice area to craft with electricity, and we were able to do some 50/50 fundraising for the camp. On top of all that, we enjoyed the beautiful atmosphere of the camp and the fellowship of all the crafters.

Thank you,

Denise Temple and Aleta Cozart  
(The Messy Sisters)







## CAMPFIRE CHATS: STORIES THAT WARM THE HEART

Welcome to Campfire Chats, where we share the inspiring stories and unforgettable memories from our past campers. Each month, we'll also spotlight our Camp Champion, someone who embodies the spirit of Lions Bear Lake Camp. These are the moments and people that make our camp so special—stories that continue to spark joy long after the campfire's last ember.

### Chasidy- Camp Counselor/Kitchen Prep

How has Lions Bear Lake Camp changed my perspective on life? It all started when I found out about the camp as a summer job. I just knew it would be a good experience for me and my well-being. As the summer passed, these kids and all the friendships I've made made me realize that this camp changed my life forever. I found people that care for me, kids that are so sweet, and a place far away from home where you forget you're even there. Being a counselor has been the greatest chance of being a role model for these kids that are awesome. This camp gives an opportunity for kids with challenges in life that makes them special. No judgment, just a peaceful place with laughter in the air and huge smiles to remember until the end of summer.



### Deb Gossett-Camp Champion

This month, we're thrilled to celebrate Deb Gossett from the Paw Paw Lions Club as our Camp Champion! Deb's dedication and generous spirit made a tremendous impact during our Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) week, where she jumped in to help with registration, worked tirelessly in the kitchen each day, and even took on the role of photographer, capturing special moments around the campfire that our campers and staff will treasure.

Deb's commitment doesn't end there. She also joined us for our May Workbee, where she not only helped in the kitchen but rolled up her sleeves for various projects around camp, ensuring that everything was ready for our campers. Her support, warm personality, and willingness to help wherever she's needed are what make Deb so exceptional. We feel incredibly blessed to have her as part of our camp family, and we're deeply grateful for her kindness and the joy she brings to everyone around her. Thank you, Deb, for all you do—you truly make a difference!





# STAY CONNECTED AND GET INVOLVED



## FUNDRAISING & EVENTS

- **Feb. 1st, 2025** - 3rd Annual Ice Plunge
- **Apr 12th, 2025** - Buffalo/Boar Wild Game Dinner
- **May 10th, 2025**- Annual WorkBee
- **Jun 9th, 2025** - Golf Classic Fundraiser
- **July 12th, 2025**- Open House



Your generous support helps us continue providing exceptional experiences for our campers. Every donation makes a difference, ensuring we can offer top-notch programs and maintain our beautiful camp facilities. Thank you for helping us make a positive impact!



CHECK OUT OUR CAMP  
WISHLISTS!

## FOLLOW US!



@LBLC\_LAPEER  
WWW.BEARLAKECAMP.ORG





Lions Bear Lake Camp

# 3RD ANNUAL ICE PLUNGE & DINNER *Fundraiser*

**DRESS UP AS YOUR FAVORITE SUPERHERO AND ENJOY A  
FUN FILLED AFTERNOON. JOIN OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
FOR AN ICE PLUNGE, FOLLOWED BY A DELICIOUS DINNER.**

*FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT*

**ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS**

*Dinner Includes Costume Contest*

**Soup Bar  
Bread Bowls  
Salad Bar  
Hot Chocolate Bar  
Dessert  
Cash Bar**

**Prizes for  
Best Costume  
Best Jump (no diving)  
and Crowd Pleaser**

## **FEBRUARY 1ST 2025**

**2:00 PM Check-In 3:00 PM Ice Plunge  
followed by Dinner**

**\$50 - Jump/Dinner**

**\$25 Dinner for Spectators Only  
(Ages 0-5 Free, 6-12 \$10)**



**Seating limited to 200  
so get your tickets early.**



**For More Information Contact**

**Chrissy Andre 989-627-3808 [chrissy@bearlakecamp.org](mailto:chrissy@bearlakecamp.org)**

**Traci Tribley 989-277-7437 [traci@bearlakecamp.org](mailto:traci@bearlakecamp.org)**

Sign up online at  
[bearlakecamp.org](http://bearlakecamp.org)  
under the "Events" Tab

**\*\*Costumes are encouraged, birthday suits highly discouraged.\*\***



# LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP ICE PLUNGE & DINNER FUNDRAISER

**FEBRUARY 1ST, 2025 2:00PM**

**3409 N. FIVE LAKES RD  
LAPEER, MI 48446**

## **ICE PLUNGE REGISTRATION FEE & PLEDGES**

There is a \$50 registration fee to jump. Jumpers may collect pledges to support Lions Bear Lake Camp. Jumpers Receive:

**\$50 Registration Fee:** Plunge, Dinner, T-shirt, Medal

**\$100 or More:** Plunge, Dinner, T-shirt, Tote Bag, Medal

**\$250 or More:** Jump, Dinner x2, T-shirt, Tote Bag, Medal

**\$500 or More:** Jump, Dinner x4, T-shirt, Tote Bag, Medal, Event Hoodie

## **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY**

### **Event Sponsorship Opportunities**

#### **Sub Zero Hero Sponsor \$1,000**

Sponsor's Logo will be featured on back of T-shirt and sponsor banner, Table of 8 Dinner Tickets, Exhibitor Table, 5 Minute speaking opportunity to promote services during dinner.

#### **Arctic Champion Sponsor \$500**

Sponsor's name or Logo will be featured on back of T-shirt, 4 Dinner Tickets

#### **Frosty Friends Sponsor \$250**

Sponsor's name will be featured on back of T-shirt, 2 Dinner Tickets

#### **Ice Breaker Sponsor \$100**

Sponsor's name will be featured on back of T-shirt

*Donations Welcome!!!*

*Donated raffle and prize items are appreciated.*

*Donors will be acknowledged throughout the event via announcements*

Please visit the "Events" page on [bearlakecamp.org](http://bearlakecamp.org) or send check to:

**Lions Bear Lake Camp  
3409 N. Five Lakes Rd  
Lapeer, MI 48446**







# LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP VISUALLY IMPAIRED & BLIND YOUTH CAMP

Join us for a week long overnight camp for blind and visually impaired youth ages 6-16. Kids enjoy a jam packed week of fun while making friendships, developing independence, and learning life skills.

**July  
13-19, 2025**

**Ages  
6-16**

## Activities Include:

- Archery
- Swimming, Boating
- Fishing
- Camping and bonfires
- Challenge Course
- Climbing Tower/Zipline
- Team Building
- Nature Exploration
- Evening Programs
- Arts & Crafts
- Much More!

Register Online beginning  
January 1st, 2025



3409 N Five Lakes Rd. Lapeer, MI 48446  
bearlakecamp.org

Info : 810-245-0726  
hmmorris@bearlakecamp.org





**JULY  
20-26th,  
2025**



Register Online  
Starting January 1st, 2025



# LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP

## DEAF & HARD OF HEARING YOUTH CAMP

Ages 6-16

\*This program is for children who use listening and spoken language as their primary mode of communication. Our camp focus is building speech, language, and audition skills while participating in traditional camp activities and making positive social connections!

### ACTIVITIES:

- Archery
- Swimming, Boating
- Fishing
- Camping and bonfires
- Challenge Course
- Climbing Tower/Zipline
- Team Building
- Nature Exploration
- Evening Programs
- Arts & Crafts
- Much More!





# Lions Bear Lake Camp YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM 2025



Our Leadership Development Program is specifically designed for teens aged 15 to 17, providing them with the opportunity to take on entry-level leadership roles within our camp community. Through hands-on experience and mentorship, participants will:

Learn valuable leadership skills, gain practical experience in leading camp activities, serve as role models for younger campers, develop a sense of responsibility and teamwork

**Session 1 (VIB)**  
**July 13-19th, 2025**

**Session 2(DHH)**  
**July 20-26th, 2025**





# LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP OPEN HOUSE



**JULY 12TH 2025  
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

**Tour Camp  
Meet the Staff  
Family Friendly Event  
Snacks Provided**

RSVP Online or contact:



**810-245-0726**

**traci@bearlakecamp.org**



**BEARLAKECAMP.ORG**



# LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP

## *Spring Workbee*

**May 10th, 2025**

**Registration 8:00 AM**

**Cleanup 9:00 AM**

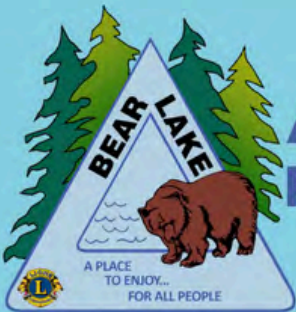


## **LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED**

### **Easy, Medium, and**

### **Advanced Tasks available**

**Please bring your own gloves and tools**



**PLEASE RSVP TO:**

**Lions Bear Lake Camp  
3409 N Five Lakes Rd  
Lapeer, MI 48446**

**[traci@bearlakecamp.org](mailto:traci@bearlakecamp.org)  
[jwalling@bearlakecamp.org](mailto:jwalling@bearlakecamp.org)**



# LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP

## Sponsor a Camper for \$850 per session, per week

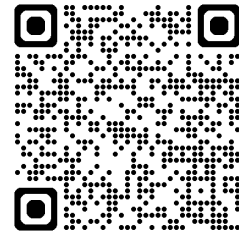


The Mission of Bear Lake Camp is to develop leadership skills, build confidence, and to provide premier outdoor educational and recreational experiences year-round to all persons, regardless of ability.

**Sponsor a special child for one of our weeklong camps this summer:**

Visually Impaired Youth Camp  
July 13th-19th, 2025

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth Camp  
July 20th-26th, 2025



Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship Session(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Campers: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_



Lions Bear Lake Camp, 3409 N. Five Lakes Road, Lapeer, MI. 48446  
(810) 245-0726 \*\*\* [info@bearlakecamp.org](mailto:info@bearlakecamp.org) \*\*\* [www.bearlakecamp.org](http://www.bearlakecamp.org)

