

Louisa County Clubs. Meetings & Chapter News

CJ LIONS CLUB

After a meal of Casey's Pizza and dessert provided by Lion Janice at 6:00 PM, the regular meeting of the Columbus Junction Lions Club was called to order March 16, 2026 by President Bill Hingst. The meeting was held at the Columbus Community Senior Center. 10 members attended. Lion Mike gave the prayer prior to the meal.

President Bill called the meeting to order and Lion Cassie led the pledge of allegiance.

President Bill thanked Lion Janice for providing the dessert.

Guest Speaker

President Bill introduced guest speaker Lion Aggatha Hingst to speak about her recent experience in participating in the Lions International Youth Exchange Camp.

She began by meeting with 23 other youth from ages 16 to 24 for a week in a campsite in Des Moines. Attendees represented a number of European countries. She hosted 8 girls for the week in her cabin. All spent the week eating together and having fun swimming, zip lining, horseback and roller coaster riding. During this week she became close friends with a girl from Denmark and a girl from Finland.

The next phase of the experience was traveling to Denmark and Finland to visit the homes of the two girls in their home countries of Denmark and Finland. Trip by air over was the first for Aggatha but she was helped by another US girl who had previous travel experience.

Aggatha described in detail her experiences if both Denmark and Finland witnessing and learning about the cultures of each. In her week in Denmark she noted how everything seemed small in comparison to US standards. She noted many mopeds were commonly used for

transportation. She learned Denmark is the birthplace of Legos. Her week in Denmark was spent with a farm family.

In Finland she stayed with a wealthy family. It was cold and she enjoyed ice fishing, ice swimming, and skiing for the first time, and spending some time in a sauna. She spent time with the host mother learning and helping with the family baking.

During her return trip she spent some time in London doing some limited site seeing.

She was very thankful she was able to participate in this Youth Exchange Program.

After answering some questions from the Club members, Aggatha was applauded for her excellent presentation.

Secretaries Report Secretary Lamoyne read the minutes of the previous meeting which were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Cassie gave the Treasurer's report providing the current balances in the Administrative and Activity Funds. This report was approved as presented.

Committee Reports

Lion Jim Howell reported that our two college scholarships of \$750 will once again be awarded 1 to the best qualified boy and 1 to the best qualified girl. These criteria will be revisited for the coming year. Lion Mike has taken over head of this committee and helping him this year to choose the award recipients will be Lions Ben and Lamoyne.

Old Business

Lion Jim Howell reminded members that the Washington Pizza Ranch Fundraiser will be Monday March 23rd. Lions Mike, Janice and Lamoyne volunteered to help Jim and Lion Aggatha will attempt to publicize the event on Facebook.

Lion Lamoyne confirmed that the KidSight vision screening of Roundy

Elementary Pre-School students will be Wednesday, March 25th. Lion members participating will be Verl, Jim Crawford, Lamoyne, and Mike. All should arrive at 8:30 AM to prepare for the screenings.

New Business

President Bill read a thank you letter from Camp Hertko Hollow for our Club's recent donation of \$250.

He also read a letter from District LCIF Coordinator, Lion Nancy Love encouraging members to give personally to LCIF to help meet our District 9SE goal for the year.

Our Club's Adopt a Highway Service Project is scheduled for Saturday, March 28th. Workers including the Columbus Community High School track athletes are to report to the Senior Center at 8:30 AM. Lions Janice and Dorothy with help from Lion Linda will provide donuts, cookies, coffee and milk for the workers.

Our Club needs to fill the Club Officer positions for the coming year which begins July 1, 2026. After some brief discussion, Lion Jim Howell moved that those officers currently serving will continue to serve in their present positions during the coming year with the following exceptions. Lions Nancy Love and Linda Johnston will move from 2-year Directors to 1-year Directors and Lions Aggatha and Jim Crawford will serve as new 2 Year Directors. The motion was seconded by Lion Dorothy and was passed unanimously.

Due to the absence of Secretary Lamoyne at the upcoming April 6th meeting, Lion Cassie volunteered to act as Secretary Pro-Tem for this meeting.

Tail Twister In the absence of regular Tail Twister Verl, Lion Mike entertained with a clever one liner and a couple of humorous anecdotes.

There being no further business, President Bill adjourned the meeting. Respectfully submitted, Lamoyne Buser Club Secretary

News from Crawfordsville

by BILLIE JO ROSE

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

The United Church Women met Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at the United Church of Crawfordsville with six ladies present.

Pat Miller shared devotions from the book, "Sweet Tea for the Soul". The readings were "The Pearl and More" and "More Than Enough."

Vice President Marlene Pelster opened the meeting in the absence of President Debbie Lowe, and the Opening Creed was read together.

Minutes of the January 13, 2026 meeting were read by Secretary Billie Jo Rose, and they were approved as read.

Pat Miller, Treasurer, reported the balance on hand and it will be filed for audit. The regular offering was taken.

Correspondence: Thank you notes were passed.

Committee Reports:

Local Activities: A large funeral luncheon had been served recently.

Dorcas: Donna reported on the number of quilts the ladies had made and given out in 2025. They do a tremendous job.

Cards, Flowers and Gifts: The usual mix and Billie Jo thanked the group for the card she had received when ill.

Mission Outreach: No report.

Old Business:

The Spring Rummage Sale dates were discussed and the dates are Thursday, April 23, Friday, April 24 and Friday, April 25. Set-up will be Tuesday, April 21. People can begin bringing items for the sale on Tuesday, April 14 and they may be put in the Northwest Room.

New Business:

Discussion was held concerning options for serving meals for funeral luncheons, with several suggestions being made and this will be decided on later. Also, supplies are needed to be kept track of, so as to determine what is needed.

Upcoming Events:

Next Meeting: May 12, 2026. Hostess and Meditation: Joyce.

Dorcas dates: March 23,

April 13 and 27 and May 11.

Work Committees:

March: Marlene; April Cathy. Spring Rummage Sale: Donna, Billie Jo and Linda. May: Linda.

Following a motion to adjourn, the Closing Creed was read in unison.

CONFERENCE in MINNEAPOLIS

On March 17, 2026, Karen Dennler and three other team members from the 8th Judicial District's Family and Youth Engagement Team spoke at the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Conference in Minneapolis, MN. Their team brought one of the four youth that attended the conference. They spoke on the Youth Report to the Court and Casual Court Review Days, and how using these tools make the court better for the youth and the professionals involved. It also facilitates communication to assist youth in working towards rehabilitation. Karen is

a Juvenile Court Officer Supervisor and covers ten counties in the 8th Judicial District.

COMMUNITY CLUB GRANT

The Crawfordsville Community Club has received a grant from Alliant Energy for their volunteer efforts in the community. The money from this grant will be put towards the Easter Egg Hunt for the grand prizes in each age group.

VISIT TO ARIZONA

Mike and Shirley Massey have returned from a two-week vacation in Arizona. They spent time in Apache Junction with snowbirds, Mike's sister and husband, Linda and Gary Mowry, from Bennett, IA, who winter there. They also visited cousins in Tucson and Sun City. They also toured Goldfield Ghost Town that is known as the Mammoth Gold Mine, Visitors take the mine tour to explore the underground tunnels.

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LET'S FINISH THE BARN BREAKFAST & EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday April 4, 2026

8:00 am | Free will donation breakfast begins
9:30 am | Easter Bunny Arrives
10:30 am | Easter Egg Hunt

Louisa County Fairgrounds, Columbus Junction, IA