

**Brainerd Lakes Area Lions Breakfast Club**  
**March 18, 2025**

**Call to order:** 7:05 am

**New introductions:** Heather M. signed up online; Lisa L. talked with Sheila too

**Event recap:**

**Recap of January convention**

- \*Joe will check to see if Denise ordered our banner.
- \*We got a pin at convention for the banner. Our club earned a pin from Team Sheehan Foundation (Brian Sheehan is a past international president) for our Let's Make a Deal on the Friday night of convention; it may be the first pin ever given out.
- \*Brian also gave us 3 penguins. Pam won a silent auction basket with some lion paraphernalia.
- \*Those who attended got lots of ideas and energy. Saw lots of pride. Encourage others to attend next year.
- \*International Lions convention will be in Mpls in summer 2029. Lots of volunteers will be needed.

**Upcoming serving opportunities:**

- \*Pints for a Purpose tomorrow at Jacki Pine for TZD Safety Rides from 5:00 – 8:00 pm. \$1 per pint goes to TZD.
- \*Saturday 5-8 pm Jacob's Voice Lions Club is having glow in the dark at Brainerd Legion
- \*Applebees Flapjacks this Saturday 8-10 am for Relationship Safety Alliance
- \*Taco John's next Tuesday 4-8 for Relationship Safety Alliance
- \*Battle of the Books - dates for serving help TBD

**Spring planning:**

- \*Raffle? Initially wanted to do get a raffle license. Sheila will look into this. Tickets would be \$20 or \$25. Winner gets choice of final prize: Madden's weekend with spa (Abby is contact), golf weekend, or cash buyout. Don't want to interfere with others existing raffles in the area.
- \*And/Or do a smorgasboard of gift certificates.

**Fall potential planning:**

- \*Less We Forget - Pam Finch and Laurie Wig
- \*September 2, 2025 is the 80th anniversary of WWII.
- \*Pam's Dad did a flag field in 2009. They sold 1400 flags to community. Each flag honored someone, typically military, but could add second cause - they did child abuse. Raised money for 2 different organizations so 3 total organizations received donations. Healing field - it's patriotic, military, a chance to heal from what has happened. They partnered with "Let's Not Forget". Had food. Invited community. Left field up for about a week. Colonial Flag Organization helped them. Put rebar in ground and put flag over it (on a tube that slides over). Used boy scouts and sports teams to help set up. Flags are 7.5' tall. May be able to purchase flags from other groups that have extra - could possibly sell extras to another group. In 2009, probably charged \$25. Now \$35. We can charge whatever we want.

\*We'd sell flags. Could have a program. Get the whole community involved. 1400 flags at 7' apart. Visible to community. Veterans organizations involved. Talking with Pam's dad tomorrow at 9:00 am via Zoom. Partner with a few organizations - maybe veterans Lions group. Tap into a secondary cause - maybe child abuse. Could have different colored tags for different causes. People keep flags. We'd purchase those up front. Maybe apply for Sheehan grant to pay for flags up front.

\*Laurie's presentation - Laurie's done an hour long presentation called One Soldier's Story which is her Dad's story from WWII. It takes them through slides of his journey, made real with stories. Lots of artifacts: photos, uniform, medals: silver star and purple heart. Letters from dad to mom so tell story through his own words. Could do it multiple times in a day like every 1.5 hours or something. All she needs are a few tables and a big screen.

\*Walt Straka's family is also in the area.

\*Looking at possibly during it in September in conjunction with WWII anniversary. Maybe in at a school or a field or Arb as you go into the haunted trail/by big Christmas tree for Winter Wonderland/where Firefly Festival was. Would make a lot of holes. Maybe Arb would be the secondary organization to receive funds. Could also be Rotary Riverside Park, Fairgrounds, the field between Target and Mils, or Lyman P. White Park. Possibly start 9/6 with presentations that day and leave up through 9/11. Arb would be more secure since flags would be left up overnight. Could try to get sponsors. Charlie Johnson or John Raboin/Dave Borash play Taps. Will need license from Colonial Foundation (the company that does the flags - there are other companies).

\*Armory does the death memorial march and is 1 of only 2 places in US that does it. Could we coincide with this event?

\*Is this something we want to do? This will be an all-hands-on-deck event. No decisions have been made. Are we interested enough to continue fact finding? Yes, but share info before our next meeting so we have time to think about it before making decision.

\*Concern that decisions have been made since there are meetings set up tomorrow. Meetings have been set up to find out about location availability. The team is trying to get as much info as possible before deciding whether to go forward or not. Please send out gathered information before the next meeting.

**\*Other -**

\*Birthday Kits for food shelves - discuss next month

**\*Treasurer's report**

\*\$4800 in general account to give out

\*Lions Campers at Confidence Learning Center want to build a zip line at a cost of \$20,000. Do we want to donate? Discuss next month.

**Open position:** treasurer

**Other business:** none

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:15 am

**Next meeting:** April 15 at Baia Della at 7:00 am