



# LIONS DISTRICT 2-A3 LIONS' ROAR

Apr 2010

**We Serve,**

**We Move,**

**We Grow**

•  
Hello Fellow Lions hope you enjoyed our District Convention this past weekend April 10-11, 2010. I want to thank the Hidalgo and La Joya Lions Clubs for a job well done. I want to thank those of you who were able to attend and those of you who couldn't wish you had been there.

My congratulation to our newly elected **District Cabinet; DG Elect Lion Mark Todd, 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Elect Lion Mark Alvarado and 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Elect Lion Anse Windham.** I know they will do well in taking our District to a higher level, if we give them our support as a team it will help them out to reach their goals.

I will be calling on those Clubs that I have not visited to schedule a visit with you all.

Lions we still need to add more members to your clubs. Lets go out and **ASK**. The more members you add to your Club the stronger your Club will be and will help out with all the work you all do. Like I said all it takes is **ASK**.

**DG Elect Mark Todd** still has a few positions that he needs to fill, give him a call if you want to help. District Governors need all the help they can get to make everything go smooth and well. Remember Team Work.

Please make sure all your dues have been paid. Let's make sure you get your PU101 reported, make sure you send a copy to DG Elect Mark.



One last thing, I will be calling all District Chairpersons to advise you that I want for each one of you to send a small report to the Newsletter as to what you have been doing to promote your Program, for our May 1<sup>st</sup> Issue

Lets go Team "We Serve ,We Move ,We Grow"

DG Joe Trevino

## Hello Lions of 2-A3.

Spring has sprung and with that comes the arduous work of preparing our yards and gardens. We must get things back in shape from the winter so that the beauty of it all shows though. Preparing our yards and gardens is a lot like our clubs. Officer elections are held this time of year, so that we may choose our leadership for the coming year. But like our yards and gardens our club needs a little weeding, tilling, and planning so that they may prosper in the coming year.

Weeding; the process of pulling the offending growth from our gardens is similar to the club rejuvenation process. In this process we must first look back. We look back to previous years so that we can determine what worked and what didn't work. Is there a process or fundraiser that we do just because we have always done it that way? Did it function as we expected? Do we need to change how we do it or maybe abandon it? This is a hard look at our club. This should be done by all members in a CONSTRUCTIVE way. Talk out everything. Maybe members can formulate ideas to improve or even replace an idea. An hour or so in a meeting will be plenty for this process.

Tilling; turning over the soil so that the nutrients can thrive for better growth. This is likened to our elections. We choose new leaders for our clubs. We allow them to bring in their ideas for consideration. We also point them in the direction the club wants to go. We support them, but let them grow as leaders.

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Planning; is the process whereas a garden's arrangement of plants produces the optimal effect. We don't plant short plants behind tall plants. We don't just sow seeds and let them grow where they may. We think through the placement of plants and the effect they will have with each other. Another meeting to plan our club's destiny in the year to come will produce results beyond expectation. How can we act if we don't know where we want to be. Plan our Service Projects for the year. Plan our Fundraisers for the year. Plan your fun for the year. Let everyone in on the process, and see how quickly the ideas come. Plan what your club will do and look like for the year. Then have a budget planning meeting. Determine how to fund your club and your charities. Determine what to expect your expenses to run the club will be. How much will you need for postage, newsletters, and general expenses. Plan ahead so that you will have the funds available.

The main character in Field of Dreams dreamed that if he built it they would come. At the end of the movie they did come. They came by the droves. We cannot operate our clubs on that premise. We must plan ahead. Careful planning avoids this pitfall. Careful planning won't guarantee success, but poor planning almost always guarantees failure.

Remember PU101's are due soon. International needs these, your district needs these. Your directory is dependent on accurate



PU-101's. Some clubs have not filed them for more than a year. Where does their mail from International go? Please include e-mail addresses with the member information, especially club officers.

WMMR's are needed monthly and Activity reports as well. Please file these regularly so that we may keep track of how the District is prospering.

As we go forth this Spring, don't forget to rejuvenate our clubs. Your Club and our District will be better for it.

DG Elect  
Mark Todd



# What's the Bottom Line?

If you are talking about the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center, some might say it is collecting and recycling glasses.....but where is the "service" in that? No, if we are talking about anything "Lions", we can't get to the bottom line unless "we serve" someone. Thus, when you talk about TLERC, the bottom line has to be getting the glasses on people. Whether it is done by a church group, a medical mission team, or Lions; and whether it is done abroad or in our local communities, the bottom line is Adult Eye Screenings!

Without holding Adult Eye Clinics, there is no reason to collect, sort, sanitize, read, bag, and categorize the millions of pairs received at our centers every year. Last month we talked about the training courses TLERC offers to anybody, who wishes to learn how to set up and run an Adult Eye Screening. This month we want to give you a quick overview of what is involved in holding such a screening. We are going to talk about a complete screening lane, however an Adult Screening can be successfully held without all of the equipment mentioned, which will be pointed out as we go along. In addition each position would normally represent one person performing that function, unless otherwise noted and many times one person can perform 2 functions without much trouble.

The screening lane starts with the client's record or paperwork. The paperwork follows them throughout the process with each station adding appropriate remarks or readings. Next a Snellson Chart or visual acuity chart is used to determine if the client really need glasses at all. Then a lensometer is used to read the prescription on any current set of glasses the client may have. This will be used later as a sanity check at the next station. One Lion can easily handle any 2 of these first 3 stations, if need be.

Next an Autorefractor is used to determine the refractive error of the patient's eye. This is what gives us the "near prescription" we will search for. A Focometer is a manual instrument that does essentially the same thing that the Autorefractor does automatically, however, it is a slower process and it is more difficult to become proficient with a Focometer. On the other hand it is smaller and cheaper, thus much easier to take & use on foreign missions. A Non-Contact Tonometer, which measures eye pressure for glaucoma, can also be inserted in the screening lane at this point. A good one is very expensive and not necessary to start with, but certainly is a valuable service to provide when possible. It is recommended that 2 people work together on the Tonometer, but the Lion working the Autorefractor can easily be the 2<sup>nd</sup> person for this instrument.

The next stage is to find a pair of glasses that most nearly fits the client. This is the slowest part of the process, so the more hands the better. If you have 3 or 4 working this station, you can be pulling for multiple clients at a time. The final stage is taking the "near prescription" and fitting the glasses to the client's face. A "salt box", which is heated salt used to soften the frames for adjustment, and a set of hand tools are needed for this station. An acuity chart or Focometer may be used by the adjuster to see if improvement in vision has occurred. If we were able to help the client, he/she might now be able to read further down the eye chart, possibly to the 20/20 line.....**maybe all the way to the "bottom line"!**

To get going the cheapest way possible would require only a Focometer and the Salt Box and tools. You could probably get these for \$750. A decent Autorefractor would add about \$3500, a Lensometer about \$2600, and a Non-Contact Tonometer around \$4000, but these can added over time.

As the year winds down, many Clubs are making their 100% contributions to all the Lion's charities. We hope that you will include TLERC (\$2/member) in your contributions. Possibly you could even become a "**Focus Club**", which requires only \$1/member more. We have just received our new colorful patches for your banners. Please become one of our inaugural Focus Clubs. If you have already sent in a 100% contribution, you can still send the extra \$1/member. Just make sure you note that on the check. With your support, we can keep our programs growing and we can continue to train, so you can continue to set up and run Adult Eye Screenings.....**and that is the real bottom line.**



Pictured left to right: First row: Lions, **President Jesse Rodriguez, Secretary Amy Vasquez, Gus Martinez, Fernando Garza, Frank Rodriguez,** Second row: **Lions Jerry Inmon, PDG Dick Vasquez, Sal Claflin and Tony Padron.**

### **The McAllen Palm City Lions Club presents its 22nd annual Golf for Sight Classic**

Tournament on Saturday, April 10, 2010 at the Sherry Golf Courses in Mission, Texas. We would appreciate your help in this event. The proceeds from this event go towards different projects, one of them being the Texas Lions Camp. This is a camp where children with various handicaps can enjoy outdoor activities that they ordinarily would not be able to participate in. We also provide the funding for eye examinations and eyeglasses for children whose parents are unable to purchase them. Last year we were able to donate \$5,000.00 for this cause. We are hoping to meet or exceed that amount this year.

Therefore, we are asking for your help. Other services that we provide are bringing joy during the Thanksgiving holidays to needy families by providing them with a turkey dinner with all the trimmings. We also give scholarships to the deserving young people of our community. We are a non-profit, all volunteer, service organization and although our main focus is on eyesight conservation, we are still very active with these and other projects in the community. This is why your participation is very important to us. We are in need of sponsors or donations to help make this tournament a success. I can't emphasize enough that any help that you can give us would be greatly appreciated. The format will be a 3-person Florida Scramble with a shotgun start at 11:30 A.M. As usual, food and drinks will be supplied on the course throughout the tournament.

We are offering organizations the opportunity to be our official tournament sponsors by purchasing the Diamond Plus sponsorship. You will be listed on all promotional literature, as well as having your logos banner displayed on tournament day. Also spots for four teams of players and three hole sponsorships, will be provided.



### The Fruits of our labor are finally producing.

After 10 years of planting wildflower seeds on the bypass of Hwy 181 and Buddy Ganem in Portland, the Portland North Bay Lions were able to see beautiful blue bonnets and Indian Paintbrushes. It takes several years for the seeds to germinate, then there was no rain, but this year they are bountiful and beautiful. If there is an area in your town that needs to be beautified and you like the wildflowers in the Spring time, contact the local TXDOT representative and ask for information. They supply the seeds, your club supplies the labor.



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### SAN JUAN LIONS CLUB ANSWERS THE CALL

**Lion Sue Sexton** gave a wonderful presentation about what Lion Club International Foundation had done to help the Haitian people in the aftermath of the devastation of the earthquake. Lions Club International Foundation is known for the first response to a disaster. A percentage of the Lions Club Members dues go to the International just for those purposes. Lion Sue challenged the other Club Members to give a little extra to the L.C.I.F. for Haitian Relief and the San Juan Lions Club answered the challenge with \$1,014 raised at the next meeting. All of the money the Lion Club makes in your community stays here. Only extra projects like this come from individual members and members out of town. Next time you see a group of Lions members gathered for a fund raising project, please support us. Our motto is "We Serve" and we take it very serious. Make time to become a Lion and join in the fun and fellowship.

**Past District Governor Jim Miller**





The **Rockport Lions Club** celebrated their **60th anniversary** with a noon luncheon on March 18th at the China A Restaurant. Many of the members were there and two members with over 50 years in the club. **District Governor Joe Trevino** and his wife Mari joined in the celebration as well as **Vice District Governor Mark Todd** and his wife Lynde. The actual original charter that was signed on their charter night was framed and put out for viewing. Do you know where your clubs charter is? **Hats off to the Rockport Lions Club for 60 years of Serving.**

