



LIONS DISTRICT 2-A3

LIONS' ROAR

Dec 2010

Hello Fellow Lions,

In 1897 the "New York Sun" editor Francis P Church received a letter from eight year old Virginia O'Hanlon asking the question "Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus". The editors inspiring response has rang true for one hundred and thirteen years now. What if Lions were in existence and the editor was a Lion? How would he have answered that letter then?

Virginia there has to be a Santa Claus. There are people all over the world that were suffering yesterday but suffer no more. We have people that could not see last week that can now view the sunrise, nature and the entire world's beauty. We have children that last summer rode a horse, climbed a wall, fished, paddled a canoe and camped that never could before. How did these people do this? Santa Claus, of course! However the Santa Claus that you see dressed in red and white is but just one form of Santa Claus. There are many types of Santa Claus. The most visible form of Santa Claus is with us all year long and dresses in a

yellow vest. This form of Santa Claus cleans highways, drives people to doctor's appointments, holds eyeglass screenings, paints walls, and just about any job that helps other people. These people in yellow vest are part of the world's largest non-governmental service organization. They dress in yellow vests so that they will not be confused with the Santa Claus of our dreams. These people are called Lions. Lions give unselfishly to the people that are less fortunate. Lions give their money so that people with disabilities can lead a normal life. They give their time. In short they "Serve". There are facilities sponsored by them that train guide dogs, teach the blind how to live in the everyday world, teach the blind jobs, and in Texas they even go as far to have a summer camp for children with disabilities. The only thing a Lion asks for in return, is a warm smile. They give unselfishly of themselves. They go the extra mile for whatever project they undertake. At their camp they enable children to fulfill their dreams and experience life at its fullest. All of this so that they can simply go



and watch these children laugh and smile and grow. These Lions are Santa Claus in the truest sense. They are not the Santa of our dreams but real people. These Lions are with us every day. Look for a small pin that tells the world who they are. Look for a smile when no one else is smiling, because they know how important they are to our community and our world. They are always looking for more people to join them. They know that when more people join them, they can help even more people that are less fortunate. So Virginia, YES THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS.

Continued next page

The holidays are upon us. It is a time for family and friends. We must not forget the needy that may not have a Christmas. There are people in our communities that will not have a Christmas dinner much less a gift under a tree. We must seek these people out and share our Christmas with them not only on

Christmas day but all year long. Let us serve in our food banks passing out food, and also helping them to raise money for more food. When you see a bell ringing Santa smile and give a little to help them make a holiday for someone else. When you see the Marine salute him and give him a toy for children. But

most importantly, remember they are also Santa Claus. Give them a wink and thank them for doing their job.

To all of the Santa Clauses of 2-A3, Lion Lynde and myself wish you the very best of holidays and look forward to a Happy New Year.

You've got to go out on a limb sometimes because that's where the fruit is.

Will Rogers

FELLOW LIONS

Hope that you had a filling Thanksgiving and survived the dessert and Black Friday. Christmas is rapidly approaching and our days for the rest of this year are in the low numbers. Let's use them wisely and productively.

Il just returned from four days of intense study at the Senior Lions Leadership Institute in Albuquerque. It was quite an educational experience and I am really glad that I was selected to be one of the 100 attendees. We were from almost every state, (8 from Texas), and Canada. We were all assigned to a five person team before the event. My group members were from New York, Ohio, Iowa, and Idaho. two males and three females.

We were required to determine how we would communicate, each presented a proposed project, selected one of the propos-

als and started to work on it two weeks before we left home.

After our arrival we were all given different classroom schedules causing the groups to rotate after lunch so that we could meet each of the attendees. There were 13 classroom subjects and at the end of the day we had a one hour "Small Group", discussion where 15 of us worked on a skit for the Celebration Dinner. The meals were excellent and we sat randomly so that increased the meeting opportunity. We were required to attend each classroom session and every meal to be able to complete the course

Lionism is all about being trained to do the job correctly and efficiently. There are courses available for training new Lions, Club Officers, and District Officers. You can find them at the Lions International website: <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/>



index.php in the Member-Center. The available courses are an asset for Lions. Some of them are very useful for people in business, such as marketing, public relations, leadership, and presentations. Some of these can help us to improve our relationships with our friends, neighbors and fellow workers.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!!!!!

1VDG Anse Windham **We Serve**



Lions Eye Bank of Texas At Baylor College of Medicine

LEBT Unveils New Award



Article Submitted by Mark Roth

At their quarterly meeting in April, The Board of Trustees of the Lions Eye Bank of Texas voted to create the Eddie Munger Fellowship modeled after the Jack Wiech Fellowship of the Texas Lions Camp. This new award program was created to further the Lions' outreach and community education in each of our Lions Districts, according to that District's specific needs. The Fellowship was named in honor of a Lion who has dedicated over fifty-five years, and continues to work, on behalf of the Lions Eye Bank. PDG Eddie served as the eye bank President from 1980 - 1983, and has attended almost every Board meeting since. For the Board meeting and Annual Dinner in July, I was asked to speak about the new Fellowship program and provide a little history about the Lions involvement with Baylor in the development of the Lions Eye Bank of Texas. In researching the history of the eye bank, I discovered a consistent message. Throughout our history, when a challenge pre-

sented itself, the Lions responded in force. In the beginning before there was even an entity called the "eye bank", the Lions assisted Baylor and the VA Hospital staff in procuring corneas. As the Lions and Baylor worked closer to fulfill their shared objectives, the Lions were instrumental in their efforts at creating community awareness for the need for eye donation. In the late 1950's when the Department of ophthalmology needed support for research and professional education related to the prevention of blindness, the Lions chartered the Eyes of Texas Sight Foundation. Lions proved to be great fundraisers, too. In 1958 and 1959, Lions raised over \$400,000 in seed money to help establish the Eye Institute at the Texas Medical Center. The eye bank itself wasn't chartered until 1965. The Lions vision of service in the causes of fighting and preventing blindness and raising community awareness was the spark that gave use to this new eye bank. As the eye bank grew and needed resources to expand services and purchase new equipment, Lions led the way with fun new events like the Bike-A-Thon called "Cycle for Sight". This event raised needed money as well as created needed community awareness. Cornea donations and transplants doubled through the 1980's, in large part to Lions-sponsored Legislative involvement. As the 20th Century was drawing to a close, once again, the Lions raised funds to build out the new facility that currently holds the offices and laboratory of the Lions Eye Bank of Texas at Baylor College of Medicine. For the last 57 years, Lions in Houston and along the Texas Gulf Coast have responded to the call to service -- whatever that call

demand. Right now, that call is education- and that call is loud. Our hospitals need to know that the Lions in their communities support the mission of the Lions Eye Bank of Texas. The past year has brought several changes within LEBT-BCM. We would like to welcome our newest members aboard. Full-time Recovery Technician Amy Lambre has an extensive background in tissue donation. In addition, she is a seasoned funeral director and licensed mortician, bringing experience to her role here at LEBT. Daniel Saenz comes to us from Austin as a full-time Recovery Technician as well. Although he's only been on the job a few months and only fulltime for a few weeks, he has shown skill and dedication. Randy Mellon joined us in May as our Releaser and is responsible for chart review and determining tissue suitability. He is from New Mexico where he worked as an ER tech and in tissue recovery. Randy will be training to cut tissue for the DSAEK process. Our Lab Manager, Lisa Granados, who joined us just a year ago, passed the EBAA Certified Eye Bank Technician exam and is our newest CEPT. This brings our total to four! Congratulations to Lisa! We are pleased to have gotten a contract with UTMB in Galveston for ocular tissue recovery. In addition, Methodist West Hospital has also joined our list of hospitals. We are in the process of renewing all current contracts in an effort to better serve our hospitals. In addition, LEBT-BCM has renewed its commitment to public outreach and education. LEBT participated in the BCM Health Fair in October, reaching hundreds of people and signing more than 10 new donors to the Glenda Dawson Registry.



The Portland North Bay Lions Club recently held a raffle fundraiser for a Toshiba laptop. **District Governor Mark Todd** draws the winning ticket while **Club President Teri Owen** presides over the proceedings. And the winner was ... **Lion Richard Fiedler** from the Portland Lions Club. Congratulations, Lion Richard.

White Cane Day 2011: March 26

In preparation for White Cane Day 2011, which will be held on Saturday, .March 26, 2011, supply order forms will be sent to all Lions club presidents and secretaries the second week of December. White Cane Day supplies are provided to Lions clubs free of charge and include plastic mate canes with adhesive tags, large and small posters, informational bookmarks and donor cards in English and Spanish.

Supply orders should be returned to the Lions Eye Bank of Texas by Friday, March 4 to ensure that all orders can be filled before the event. For more information about White Cane Day 2011, please contact Darleane Warren, Community Relations Coordinator at 713-798-5545 or by e-mail at darleanw@bcm.edu



Membership Reports

If you have to drop members due to inactivity, moving, being in jail, or whatever, it should be done in May or November. If you do it a month later, LCI may be a little slow getting the information applied to your account and may bill your club for those members. Doing it in the months recommended gives you some time to spare. **KEEP ON SERVING!!**

**DISTRICT 2-A3 MID WINTER CONFERENCE
JANUARY 28 - 29, 2011
WESLACO, TEXAS**

Friday, January 28, 2011, GOVERNOR'S RECEPTION will be held at the Holiday Express Hotel & Suites @ the Piper Room from 7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. at 421 South International Blvd., Weslaco, Texas. Please make plans to attend in support of District Governor Mark Todd for some refreshments and hor d'oeuvres.

Holiday Express – Standard Room \$79.00 & Suite rooms for \$99.00
Reservations available on line @ hiexpress.com/weslacotx
Phone No. 956-973-2222, Fax No. 956-968-9222

Saturday, January 29, 2011, Mid Winter Conference will be held at the Knapp Medical Center Conference Center located at 1401 E. 8th Street, Weslaco, Texas 78596

Registration will begin @ 9:00 a.m. Session begins @ 10:00 a.m.

Contact Person: Lion Mary Arce (956)-973-9654 or (956) 463-5623
Email: mary.arce@edwards-titleco.com or arce_bravo@yahoo.com

Preregistration fees will be accepted from now thru January 25, 2011
Club Treasurers please submit one payment for all preregistered members before the deadline. Checks are payable to:
 Weslaco Lions Club
 c/o Mid Winter Conference
 P.O. Box 214
 Weslaco, Texas 78599-0214

Preregistration fee: \$15.00 w/lunch w/o lunch \$5.00
Registration fee: \$17.00 w/lunch w/o lunch \$7.00

Please provide the following information of all attending club members:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Club Name: _____



The Portland North Bay Lions Club held a Care & Share Food Drive for the local Salvation Army-Portland Food Bank; members collected \$155 cash donations and over 255 pounds of food

Camp Dates - 2011

- Session 1 June 5 – 11
- Session 2 June 12- 18
- Session 3 June 19 – 25
- Session 4 June 26 – July 2
- Session 5 July 3 – 9
- Discovery July 10 – 16
- Lease Week July 17 – 23
- Diabetic 1 July 24 – 30
- Diabetic 2 July 31 – Aug 6



Past President Lion David Christopher mans the basketball shoot during the Kingsville ARTWALK. Not as a fundraiser but to contribute to the festival. An early Childhood Vision Screening was conducted at the same time, finding 4 children with vision deficiencies including one that was blind in one eye which the parents were not aware of.

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You can save the District about \$1.50 per issue of this newsletter if you can get it off the Internet.

■ Send me your email address and I will notify you whenever the latest issue is posted to the web site. ■

■ Send the email address to: anse@awindham.com ■ with a subject of Lions. ■

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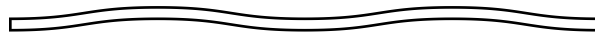
Report on the 2nd Cabinet Meeting
held October 23, 2010, in Rockport, Texas:
By District Secretary Laura Cantwell

Approximately 78 Lions, representing approximately 15 Clubs, including an Austin club, attended the 2nd Cabinet Meeting held on October 23, 2010, in Rockport, Texas, and hosted by the Rockport Lions Club. Rockport Mayor Pro-Tem Bill Fisher welcomed all Lions to Rockport and presented a Proclamation honoring District Governor Mark Todd as an Honorary Citizen of Rockport.

District Governor Mark Todd announced that 1st VDG Mark Alvarado has moved because of a job transfer, and he will not be able to complete the term and fulfill the obligations of the 1st VDG position. Following protocol and procedures, the Cabinet members nominated and voted for 2nd VDG Anse Windham for the office of 1st VDG. The Cabinet members nominated and voted for Lion Cesario Montelongo to fill the vacancy of the position of 2nd VDG.

DG Mark reported on Club dues and membership status, and noted that membership is increasing, retention is holding steady, and only 6 Clubs have a negative membership. Clubs who held Bragging Rights for greatest positive membership, per zone, through September 30, were announced. DG Mark reminded us that IRS 990-N forms are now late, and the Council of Governors will meet on 11/6 at the Radisson on North Beach.

Lion Laura Cantwell discussed the importance of PU 101s, MMRs, and activity reports, and Lion James McRae discussed the role of Zone Chairs, the District Governor's first responders. PDG Helen Muse engaged Lions in a team exercise using letters from "revitalize" and had a power point presentation on revitalization. An Alert Report - Rio Grande Flood, was presented by Lion Enedina Vela. Lion Stan Marley demonstrated a PET -- a personal energy transportation 'machine' designed, built, and delivered to people in 3rd world countries who have lost their legs and do not have access to wheelchairs. A presentation on "how do we get new members" was made by Lion Jessie Rodriguez, and stressed the focus of new members should be on quality, not quantity. The proposed Texas Lions Museum was discussed by PDG Buz Sawyer. PDG Rick provided additional information and clarified that this is not a TLC building and would not be owned, operated, or maintained by the TLC; the TLC is merely providing the property with a long-term lease and will be enforcing TLC's policy that it be debt-free -- they need to raise the money first. PDG Rick also added that a TLC \$10 million (over 5-year period) Endowment Campaign for perpetual operation was discussed and approved and that all TLC Board members personally committed and \$1.5 million has already been committed; additional donations will be sought. Charity Reports were given on Care and Share, LCIF, Leader Dog, Texas Lions Camp, Lions Eye Bank, Texas Lions Foundation, and White Cane Day, and an update was given on the Leos Clubs.



A person who does not read is no better off than one who can not read.

This newsletter is for your use, to publicize your club's activities, to keep Lions in your district informed of your activities, to learn what is happening around the district in other clubs, and to pat ourselves on the back. This newsletter is distributed to all Lions who have an email address in the District Directory, have provided me with an email address, all the District Governors, current and future, and to numerous other Lions. If you do not have a photo, article, or event poster herein, it ain't my fault. Makes me conclude that our Lions are not effectively promoting their activities. **YOU** can change that. Lion Anse