



## LIONS DISTRICT 2-A3

# LIONS' ROAR

Nov 2010

Hello Fellow Lions,

Our second cabinet meeting was a success. Thank you Rockport Lions for hosting a great meeting. The Rockport Lions thought of everything. The Governors Reception was held at the Lighthouse Inn. Thank you Lion Dwight Edens for being such a gracious host. Everyone enjoyed the hospitality and catching up with friends. For those of you not at the cabinet meeting it was announced that First Vice District Governor Mark Alvarado, has accepted employment out of our District. As a result Lion Mark has resigned from the First Vice District Governor position. Please wish Lion Mark and Lion Donnie the best of luck and keep them in your prayers as they pursue this next phase in life.

After much review of the International Constitution and By-Laws, the procedure for replacement of the First Vice District Governor was determined. A special called meeting of the District Board was held during the Cabinet meeting. Second Vice District Governor Anse Windham was nominated and accepted the position of First Vice District Governor and Lion Cesario Montelongo was nominated and accepted the position of Second Vice District Governor. Congratulations to these two Lions, and thank you for accepting these roles.

Membership continues to grow. The district lost a club with 34 members. As a result we are at a loss of 31 members through September 30. The good

news is that most clubs have not lost any members. Only 9% of our clubs are negative in membership while 17% of our clubs have grown. The remaining 73% have remained at the same membership levels as June 30. Thanks to all for your Retention efforts and most importantly for gaining new members. Keep up the good work and let's have District 2-A3 at a positive membership number at the end of June 30, 2011. We began the Lions Year with 1492 members and are currently at 1461 members. Membership is the BUZZ word while Retention has allowed us to maintain our current levels. The membership contest that ran through September 30 had good results. The clubs that had the greatest plus in membership within their zone get Bragging rights. The winners are as follows; Region I Zone B Corpus Christi Flour Bluff +2, Region II Zone A Aransas Pass +1, Region II Zone B Portland North Bay +4, Region III Zone B a tie Kingsville and Bishop both had +1, Region V Zone A Delta's Pride +2, Region V Zone B Mercedes +1, Region VI Zone A McAllen Evening +1, Region VI Zone C La Joya +3 and Region VI Zone D Zapata +4. Congratulations and a BIG ROAR from the district for a job well done. HOW FAR CAN WE GO? Each club was challenged to be at +5 at the end of this Lions Year.

We should be wrapping up our Vision Service Projects and moving into the December/January projects of feeding the hungry. Our contributions of food



may be the only celebration some families have for the holidays. It is my hope that all clubs will complete this service project.

Lion Anse could not give a report on the "Beacon Contest" standings as there are very few clubs reporting. A one time grace period will be allowed. Report your involvement to Lion Anse for August, September and October by November 1 and he can still count them. Part of this contest is timely reporting. I know clubs are completing items because they have told me. I have heard of "Gavel Travels" and other items being done but little reporting so far. Let's see how much we can do in a year.

Yours in Lionism  
DG Mark Todd



Hello, I am Anse Windham the newly elected First Vice District Governor and am replacing Mark Alvarado who has moved out of the district. It's a lot of training to get up to speed so that I can learn the information to do a good job for our district. Last month was a trip to Milwaukee to attend the 34<sup>th</sup> USA/ Canada Leadership Forum where 70 different subject sessions were presented. A GREAT learning experience. Later this month is a trip to Albuquerque, NM, for the Senior Leadership

Institute where I will be working as part of a team with four other Lions from different parts of the country on a common project to develop an event. This should be another exceptional learning experience for me.

A closer place for Lions training is at the Eleventh Annual Texas Lions Leadership Forum in Austin March 5-6. It starts on Saturday at 11:30 am and ends on Sunday at 2:15 pm so that most everyone is able to drive there and just spend one night. Everything is held at the Airport Hilton which is a short drive from the giant outlet complex in San Marcos. A link to the event and registration form will be placed on the Lions2A3.com web site for your use.

Halloween is gone so now time to start thinking of Thanksgiving and preparing for the Christmas holidays. Each one of us can make a difference in the life of others.

One of my friends related a story to me of the effect others can

have on your life. He was building houses in Corpus Christi, one at a time, and buying lumber and materials from another friend who owned a small lumber company. He had no credit so had to sell the finished house to have funds to start another. The lumber company owner introduced the builder to a banker and the result was that he could build several houses at once. He was successful as a builder, invested his income in apartment complexes and was able to retire to a comfortable life. He seemed amazed, even at retirement age, that something as simple as an introduction could have such an effect on someone's life. My lumberman friend told me that the builder was a hard worker, honest, paid his bills, and built good houses. He deserved an opportunity and the introduction to the banker cost him just five minutes of his time. Each of us Lions can have a good effect in the life of others.

Yours in *LIONISM*

Anse

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### NOTE FROM Lions 2-A3 Webmaster

I am building a new page for the website where we can have a link to each club's web site. The links will be in alphabetical order for easy searching. Send your web address to [1vdg@awindham.com](mailto:1vdg@awindham.com)

**Portland North Bay Lions** handed out dictionaries to all 3rd grade students and their teachers in the GPISD. The students were elated with THEIR OWN dictionary and the Lions were thanked over and over by the students and the teacher. The satisfaction that the Lions received seeing the appreciation of the students makes them want to share this worthwhile project with all the Lions in District 2-A3



Principle of East Cliff Elementary Alma Munoz watches as Lion Marcia Tesauro prepares to hand out a dictionary.



Lions Marica Tesauro, Ellen Crenshaw, DG Mark Todd, Betty Moore, Lynde Todd, Laura Cantwell, Jennifer Hay, and Diana Hamilton pose with East Cliff staff after presenting the dictionaries.



3rd grade students of W.C. Andrews Elementary and principle Ms. Ed-dins, listen to Lion Laura Cantwell tell them the dictionaries that they are about to receive are THEIRS TO KEEP in a third grade student assembly.



### ROCKPORT CABINET MEETING

Rockport Mayor Pro-Tem William Fisher welcomes Lions to Rockport by presenting a proclamation and gift to District Governor Mark Todd. 58 Lions attended the meeting.

Below: Lion Jackie Jackson, PDG Buzz Sawyer, Lion Winky Peters, PDG Leroy Cornelius, and Lion Mike Olszewski are all paying attention to the presentation.



**What is the Lions Eye Health Program?**

The Lions Eye Health Program (LEHP) is a community-based public awareness program that allows Lions clubs, community organizations and individuals to promote healthy vision. More people than ever are facing the threat of vision loss. As the population ages, it is estimated that the number of people with vision loss in the United States will double over the next twenty years. Raising awareness of eye health can help millions of people avoid the disability, loss of independence and diminished quality of life that accompanies vision loss.

The mission of the Lions Eye Health Program is to empower communities to save sight through the early detection and timely treatment of eye diseases and conditions such as glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration, cataract and low vision. Through LEHP, Lions can:

- Raise awareness by distributing eye health information to doctor's offices, senior citizens centers, health fairs and other venues;
  - Host eye health seminars in their community. Brochures, posters, videos and Powerpoint presentations are available through LEHP; and
  - Conduct vision screenings with local eye care providers for at-risk populations.
- Eye Diseases/Conditions

**Glaucoma**

Glaucoma is a group of eye diseases that slowly damage the fine nerves that connect the eye to the brain. When these nerves are damaged, vision loss may occur. Since there is generally an absence of symptoms, many people may have the disease for many years and not know it. More than 66 million people worldwide are affected by glaucoma, 2.2 million of which are Americans over the age of 40. Unfortunately, glaucoma cannot be prevented, and vision lost to this disease cannot be restored. However, regular eye exams are recommended by health professionals in order to diagnose and treat the disease to prevent further damage. Some treatments include prescription drops and medicines, and in some cases, laser treatment or surgery may be necessary.

**Facts about Glaucoma:**

- Glaucoma is the second leading cause of vision loss in the United States, and the leading cause of vision loss among African-Americans. It affects more than 66 million people worldwide.
- It is more likely to occur in people over 60, those with a family history of glaucoma, diabetics, and those who have a high degree of myopia, or near-sightedness.
- Symptoms include blurry or absent peripheral vision.
- Treatment includes eye drops and medicines, and in some cases, laser surgery. Early diagnosis, proper treatment and proper medication are the best defenses against vision loss.

**Information/Resources**

A number of printed materials and other resources are available to Lions and community organizations to promote healthy vision. LEHP's objective is to raise eye health awareness, and these tools can help advise clubs on how to distribute information about eye health, as well as serve as an educational tool on the different types of eye diseases. Available through LEHP are:

- Brochures on eye health, glaucoma, and diabetic eye disease;
- Videos in English and Spanish on glaucoma and diabetic eye disease;
- A CD-ROM based toolkit filled with information and materials needed to carry out a variety of eye health education programs and screenings, and
- A LEHP Web site to serve as a focal point for LEHP activities worldwide, [www.lehp.org](http://www.lehp.org).

PCC Al Blumenberg presented the following ideas for retaining members at the USA/Canada Leadership Forum in October 2010. Perhaps your club can find some useful.

- †Put them on committees
- †Ask them for input for opinions, suggestions
- †Ask them to "chair" projects
- †Efficient meetings - timewise
- †Encourage LEO clubs
- †Put younger member on committee with sponsor
- †Get them involved with youth activities
- †Get them involved with annual pancake days
- †Get them involved in a service activity
- †Make them feel important in the decision making for our club
- †Let older members do what they have always done
- †Let younger members do what they want for a project
- †We gave them their own project - a bike ride for sight
- †Sponsor must be mentor also
- †Our club tries to keep the meetings fun and our dues low
- †We also have an extra meeting at someones home in the months that have a fifth Tues. nite and those meeting are fun, we play games and have informal meeting after dinner
- †Seek input from them to determine their "hot buttons"
- †We have sought their input through interviews and involved them on sight investigations early on
- Involve (seek input also)
- †Education through training and mentoring
- †Be sure to have timely newsletter
- †Lion statuette travels with a Lion and has picture taken at various places which are posted on Facebook or website
- †Use Internet
- †Refresh and renew club projects, meetings, open to new ideas
- †Have experienced members to sit with them
- †Orientation for new members and their mentors (sponsors)
- †Assign projects that are more of a hand-ons (not like white cane type) get their fingernails dirty typeNot having a meeting requirement if they just want to do service projects
- †Having more than one set of officers for younger people to use the time they can giveInput from new members for service projects
- †Mentoring
- †Character and training
- †Encourage them to attend their childrens functions
- †Praise them when they do make it to meetings and are there for club projects
- †Family first
- †Make sure to incorporate THEIR ideas
- †Try to get them involved with activities - eyeglass recycling, peace poster, student speaker, "fundraising" activities
- †Get involved in serve projects
- †Education

PCC Al Blumenberg presented the below ideas for attracting and keeping younger members at the USA/Canada Leadership Forum in October 2010

- Ask them; membership chairman visits businesses and just asks
- Get involved at schools, any money raised go to the schools
- Publicize what Lions do
- One business meeting, one optimal meeting - social
- Get the Lions name out with fitness apparel for younger people to wear during events
- Strong youth program and getting our younger members involved
- Have the largest Leo's club in the world with 500-600 members (Salsa Leo's club)
- Have a Leo's club with McCrossin boys ranch for troubled boys
- Strong youth exchange program by sending up to 6 students overseas annually
- Annually will provide housing for students from overseas
- Club budget is 25% to youth activities and 75% to other activities
- Our Leo's club is a student group organized by a city volunteer group an individual pair by this group organized the city high school students in service activities.
- The Lions club formed a Leo's club from the organized youth club (H.S. Club)
- If you have a youth club in your city align with them and make it a Leo's club.
- Also get your young Lions in club to help with the Leo's club
- Word of mouth in the community - ask your friends
- Practically nothing. That is why I am interested on this subject
- Started Leo club - have programs interesting to all ages
- Make projects interesting for all ages
- Started family members of Lions
- Invite members to bring guests to picnic so they can socialize
- Have ice cream socials and invite the public
- We are a fairly new club about 4 years we started us a branch club and now we are a full blown club
- We also have a Lion Awareness day to give the public a chance to see what we do as Lions
- We thought that a young person might be reluctant to join if he or she were the only one, so we invited a group of young people and about 15 attended and we were able to induct 6 from this group
- Established a very relevant, current club web site that is very informative, it contains links to all of the LCI information available - We have actually obtained two new members within the last six months as a result of the website
- Had one member establish a LEO club and that member went on to become a club president at age 19, then a zone chair at 22
- Electronic mach members to all members
- We are having a "bring a friend" night for one of our meetings.
- Lion members are encouraged to invite a younger friend or family member.
- We will be providing a presentation of what Lions is about and our different projects
- Instead of funneling younger people through Leo's perhaps Lions could establish a Lions Cub member of a club, especially for family members younger than 12 who come to club activities
- Be lenient on dues coverage installment?
- Not include meals
- Location more appealing