

District 2A3 Newsletter
Lion Lynde Todd, Editor
115 Lone Oak
Portland, TX 78374

We Serve Lions

November is Diabetes Awareness Month. This gives you a chance to fight diabetic retinopathy, a leading cause of adult blindness. Take action now by partnering with local health care providers to organize diabetes and/or vision screenings. Distribute the new Lions Eye Health Program resource, *Making Vision a Health Priority* to promote eye health awareness and blindness prevention. Or plan a Strides Walk to raise awareness of diabetic retinopathy. Learn about more ways to get involved.

TOOLKIT: Making Vision a Health Priority (KITLEHP1) is available for downloading and includes the following resource materials:

- *How to Use the Program: Making vision a Health Priority* (iad421)
- *PowerPoint* (iad 422)
- *Speakers's guide* (iad423)
- Handout: *Everyone's Vision Can Change with Age* (iad424)
- Handout: *Age-Related Eye Diseases At-A-Glance* (iad425)
- Handout: *See Well for a Lifetime Parts of the Eye* (iad426)
- Poster: features photo of woman (iad427a)
- Poster: features photo of man (iad427b)
- *Participant Evaluation Form* (iad428)
- *Materials Order Form* (iad429)



Halloween has passed and Thanksgiving Day will soon arrive. Thanksgiving is not a religious day but a day for giving thanks for a “Good Harvest.”

Lions have a lot to be thankful for. Our efforts provide for a “Good Harvest.” We are fortunate to be able to afford the time, energy, and money to help our community, citizens of our state, country, and the world.

Though Thanksgiving Day is mostly celebrated in the USA and Canada, Lions achievements through their generosity cause people throughout the world to have things to be thankful for. I continue to be surprised at all of the charitable events that the clubs in our district are involved in and the good they do for their communities.

Each Lions effort contributes to our overall success as a charitable group. Seeing 94 year old, 56 year Life Lion Alton Remmers sitting in his wheelchair breeding fish for the fish fry exemplifies our motto “WE SERVE.”

One thing we do not do well enough is to toot our own horn. There’s plenty of ways of doing that but few clubs do so. Got a web site? Had Lions in action photo in the local paper lately? Made the TV or radio news showing your activity? Sent an activity reports to LCI? Done a “What we do” presentation to a group? Participated with another organization in a project? Invited a friend or neighbor to a meeting?

With age, health, and job changes impacting our membership; we cannot continue to support our projects without maintaining or increasing the membership in our clubs.

I am thankful for those Lions that “Lead the Pride,” and I hope you are one of them.

Anse Windham

All Texas high school juniors and seniors, including Leo Club members, are encouraged to enter the annual Texas Lions MD2 scholarship contests. First prize in each contest is a \$3,000 scholarship; runnerup receives a \$1,000 scholarship. Any junior or senior may register by submitting the proper forms (as specified on the Texas Lions MD2 website under the MD-2 YOUTH CONTESTS) tab to Lion Joy Arnold, 26155 Crockett Road, Harlingen, Texas 78552; or Room 800 at Harlingen High School South no later than November 30, 2011. My cell phone number is 956-873-3184.

The site for the application is:

<http://texaslions.org/MD2YOUTHCONTESTS.html>



HOWDY, HOWDY, HOWDY.

FELLOW LIONS OF DISTRICT 2-A3, as you know our Lions International President

Wing-Kun Tam has requested that we plant 1 million trees world wide. As of this date we have planted over 3 million trees. I am proud to announce that some of the Rio Grande Valley Lions Clubs have participated in planting over 14,000 trees. We planted trees on two different dates. One time we were among 650 volunteers and the other time among over 200. The volunteers were high school and college students and we also had about 25 LEOS. It is great to see the young people working to make a difference in our community. Let us all Lions and Leos keep up the good work.

I met Lions International President Wing-Kun Tam at USA/CANADA LION LEADERSHIP FORUM. We had over 16,000 Lions attending, they offered over 60 sessions and you choose which ones you want to attend. It was two days of meetings and you could only do 4 sessions per day. It was a great experience and you learn a lot from the meetings and by meeting other international Lions.

We had a good CABINET MEETING in Corpus Christi and we had good reports from both the GLT and GMT Chairmen, they both reported that they have started working on their programs and express having success in their sessions. I reported on the USA/CANADA FORUM on the sessions that I attended. The main teaching was Team Work, working together and recognition of your fellow Lions

We have started visiting Lions Clubs and doing Texas Lions Camp presentations. We are asking for your help in getting more CAMPERS to camp. We have a great camp at Kerrville, Texas to serve all our children with physical disabilities from the state of Texas, I will be asking for a date with your Lions Club for TLC presentation.

Please call me anytime if I can be of help.

YOURS IN LIONISM

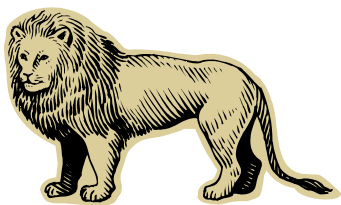
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TLERC “By the Numbers”

If you read the “In the Spotlight” Lions News Briefs this month in the “Lion” magazine, you would see some numbers like these in the “By the Numbers” section: **775** (volunteer hours worked on a project by one club), **10,000** (pounds of vegetables sent to Joplin, Mo after the tornado), **13** (pigs cooked to raise money for the needy), and **7,536** (hats, mittens, scarves & mittens collected for the poor).

Well, TLERC also has some pretty important numbers this month: **14** (the age in months of a Down Syndrome child, who needed glasses), **48** (the pupular distance that the tiny frames will have to accommodate), **+4** (the prescription in diopters needed in both eyes), **43** (the child’s head measurement in centimeters), **5,761** (the distance in miles that one small pair of glasses traveled from TLERC in Midland, Texas to Bratislava, Slovakia).

Everyone has heard how something was accomplished, because somebody “knew a guy, who knew someone, who had a friend”, etc. Well luckily that “someone” at the end this time was Lion Marie Bryan, TLERC’s San Angelo Satellite Manager. It didn’t take long for Lion Marie to get the wheels in motion. Soon a tiny pair of glasses was made at TLERC’s lab and then sent on its way to 14 month old Maximilian Franz Zwirn in Slovakia.

Slovakia has an optometry industry, but as a struggling nation trying to rebuild after years of conflict, its inventory is limited. The young boy’s mother could not find frames with a strap that were small enough for an active toddler.

It is amazing that TLERC’s Children’s Eyeglass Program with its state of the art lab is becoming known around the world, yet we have Club’s in MD2 that do not know we can put new glasses on needy children. This leads me to some more numbers: **14** (the number in dollars it takes to make a new pair of glasses for a child - actually \$14-\$18/pair), **1,000** (the number of new glasses TLERC cut last year for children).

However, if we are going to do everything “By the Numbers”, **there is only one number that means anything: 1** (the number of **each individual** adult or child that you **serve**, when you recycle glasses, hold adult eye screenings, put new glasses on needy children, or contribute to TLERC’s Focus Club, Visionary Knights of the Blind, or Fellowship giving programs).

Tom Blase, 2A1VDG
TLERC Promotions

Now is the time to start thinking about the Ray Hughston Humanitarian Award nominee. There will be more information in subsequent newsletters, so start recognizing what your fellow Lions do. The qualifications for this award are:

- 1. An active member with no less than five (5) years in Lionism and currently a member of District 2-A3.**
- 2. Outstanding and dedicated service to Lionism beyond the call of duty.**
- 3. Other than Lionism, service to Community, State or Nation.**
- 4. Special achievements in or contribution to humanitarian service of the less fortunate.**
- 5. Solicitation in any manner for this recognition will automatically eliminate the candidate for that year.**



**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS
DISTRICT 2-A3 MID-WINTER CONFERENCE**

DATE: JANUARY 21, 2012

LOCATION: TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE
SERVICE SUPPORT CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM
1902 NORTH LOOP 499 HARLINGEN, TEXAS 78550
(A map is attached. Look for the wind turbines near the parking lot)

REGISTRATION: Please register early. Early Registration Ends January 9, 2012
Please make checks payable to: **Harlingen Amigas Lions Club**
Please mail registration form and checks to:

**PDG Lion Helen Muse
P. O. Box 877
La Feria, TX 78559**

Late Registration: 9:00 AM- Coffee and Pan Dulce will be provided

LUNCH: Bar-B-Que brisket and sausage, pickles, onions, jalapeños, rice, beans, bread, peach cobbler and tea. Catered by Ram's Bar-B-Que

HOTELS: **Hampton Inn & Suites** 1201 N. Ed Carey Dr. Hgn. TX
Phone: 956- 428-9800 or 1-866-539-0036 (3.8 mi. from TSTC & airport)
Courtyard by Marriott 1725 W. Filmore St. Hgn. TX
Phone: 956-412-7200 or 1-800-992-2694 (4.1 mi. from TSTC & airport)
Best Western Casa Villa Suites 4317 S. Expressway 83 Hgn. TX
Phone: 1-800-780-7234 (4.5 mi. from TSTC & airport)

Registration Fee	Lunch	Lion's Name, Title & Lions Club	TOTAL DUE
Early = \$3 Late = \$4	Early = \$11 Late = \$14		

Please use additional forms if needed.



Harlingen High School South Leo Club participants at the Rio Reforestation Event, 10-01-11 at the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge which is on the Cottam Tract, south of the town of Granjeno.

Participants included: Advisor Lion Joy Arnold; Leo Justin De Leon; Leo Tracy Tran; Leo Sherry De La Rosa; Leo Edlyn De La Rosa; Leo Amanda Medina; Leo Faith Castillo; Leo Elizabeth Hernandez; Leo Mario Hernandez; Leo Soirabe Argueta; Leo Victoria Munez; and Leo Viridiana Pacheco



There were a total of 16 Leos at the District Cabinet meeting in Corpus Christi on October 15th.

They shared games with us and sold sweets after lunch.

Thanks Leos and Leo advisors for joining us and for all you do.

SCENES FROM THE DISTRICT CABINET MEETING 10-15



We were very pleased to have Chaplain Roy with us for the Cabinet meeting. He gave a humorous insite into the unsighted world of a pastor with a dog guide. He is also available for club visits. Contact him at 361-876-2658 or chaplainroy@yahoo.com

The Global Membership Leader, PDG Helen Muse gave the Lions in attendance a challenge to come up with a single word describing different challenges in and with membership. Shown here is VDG Cesar Montelongo's team. Lion Delia Montelongo, and Lion Diana Rosas are on his left and Lions Zelma Champion and Ruth Einkauf are on his right.

CC INDUSTRIAL NOON CASINO NIGHT



2nd VDG Mike Olszewski trying his luck at the craps table. Giving him tips is PDG Carolyn Keskitalo.

PDG Clayton Roth dealing Black Jack to the Lions that were brave enough to try and beat the dealer.



The CC Industrial Lions club had Bea Hanson had as a guest speaker, Ms Hanson, who is with the Corpus Christi Food Bank. She gave a very interesting report on what all the Food Bank is doing, not just "giving out food", but also on some of the other programs. The Food Bank also holds classes on food preparation for diabetics, after school programs, etc. She is a very interesting speaker. I would advise your club to contact her and have her give a program on the Food Bank. We also presented her with a \$500.00 check for the Food Bank. Pictured Ms. Bea Hanson & 1st VP Winkie Peters.



Portland North Bay Lions President Betty Moore presented a check to Paul Witt with Connections. The main focus of Connections is reunification of the family. The area serviced by the Portland office is George West, Three Rivers, Goliad, Regugio, Taft, and Beeville. They have six counselors, and are currently helping 150 to 200 children. The services provided are free and confidential. They do intervention and prevention work and provide education on life skills, alcohol, tobacco, and drug prevention, along with anger management. There is a shelter in

Portland that will foster kids placed there by CPS, but parents and foster parents can place them there. The shelter in Portland is the only shelter in this area.



Portland North Bay Lions celebrated Halloween with residents at the Pavilion Assisted Living Center. The club also has a Valentine party with them. As you can tell by the picture, the residents had lots of fun and so did the Lions