



# Lions District 2-A2 Newsletter



Issue 7 – January 2024

## Changing the World

### District 2-A2 Cabinet

#### District Governor

**Josh Overfelt**

[Josh.overfelt@gmail.com](mailto:Josh.overfelt@gmail.com)

Del Rio San Felipe Lions  
Club

830.734.6219

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-District Governor

**Rose Ann Barajas**

[RABrunner64@gmail.com](mailto:RABrunner64@gmail.com)

SA Edgewood Lions Club

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-District Governor

**Nanette Patton**

[GI.Jade.1ea@gmail.com](mailto:GI.Jade.1ea@gmail.com)

SA Windcrest Lions Club

#### Immediate Past District Governor

**Steve Mays**

[texasmays@gmail.com](mailto:texasmays@gmail.com)

La Vernia Lions Club

210.380.6572

Happy New Year Fellow Lions of  
District 2-A2,

I hope your holidays were great and  
you had a Happy Hanukah, Merry  
Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

As we make the “turn” into the final  
six weeks of the Lion year I want you  
to know that we are doing great in  
the district. As of this writing, we are positive 15 members on  
the year! Great job on recruiting members for the sake of  
service. As we get ready to roll into the busy months of  
January through April, continue to invite prospective  
members to join your clubs. Invite individuals to a service  
project so they can see what we as Lions do for our  
community.

By the time this letter reaches you, we will have held Charter  
Night for San Antonio Yellow Rose Lions Club. It was a great  
night and an exciting time as we welcomed the first new  
club to our district since about 2017. Congrats to all those  
lions who made it a success.



Mid-winter is just a few weeks away! The deadline for early bird has been extended to January 10<sup>th</sup>. Take advantage and register early. Friday night will be meet the candidates at the Texas Lions Camp where there will be a baked potato bar for dinner. Saturday, we switch it up and we will have a full pancake breakfast before the meeting starts. Saturday's cabinet meeting will take place at the Texas Lions Camp as well. We will have tours available Friday afternoon and Saturday if you have not been lately to see the major renovations that have taken place. I have Club Excellence awards that our IPDG Steve Mays will pass out as well as packets of Chevron Awards for years of service.

The last item I wanted to begin addressing already is the District Convention which will be held in Eagle Pass on April 19-20<sup>th</sup>. In the nicest way I can say this is "Turn off the news and social media and do not believe everything you see". What you see on the news with large groups crossing and being under the international bridge is just that. Once the individual hits American soil, they immediately claim asylum and are processed before being bussed out of the area. The international bridge you see in the news is nowhere near the hotel nor convention center. There are not roving bands of migrants wandering the streets of Eagle Pass looking to cause trouble. Yes, you will see an increased DPS and FHP presence in town and within 60 miles of the border. On a personal note, I live less than a mile from the Rio Grande and our international bridge, and I have so for the last 45 years. I do not feel unsafe or in danger. I can promise you that you will be fine in Eagle Pass, just like I promised you that you would be fine in Del Rio last year for Mid-Winter, which went great. Eagle Pass Border Lions Club and Eagle Pass Evening Club are excited to host 2-A2 in April. Remember that at the very core of our organization is the motto of WE SERVE.

I wish you a great 2024!!

**Remember:**

**From The Rio Grande to The Alamo, WE SERVE!!**

*Lion Josh*

District Governor Josh Overfelt (Del Rio San Felipe)

[Josh.overfelt@gmail.com](mailto:Josh.overfelt@gmail.com)

(830) 734-6219

---

## Calendar of Upcoming Events:

### Cabinet and Convention Dates:

Mid-Winter Conference	January 19-20th	Kerrville, Texas
District Convention	April 18-20th	Eagle Pass, Texas

### Club and Other Events:

Valentines Games Night	February 10th	Italian Society Hall San Antonio, Texas
West Side Lions Pancake Breakfast	February 17th	Madonna Center San Antonio, Texas
LSRF Stride for Sight 5K	March 30th	Comanche Park San Antonio, Texas
Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament	August 1st	Lady Bird Johnson GC Fredericksburg, Texas

---

## Tell Us What You Are Doing

We want our District newsletter to feature more of the wonderful work being done by each of the Lions Clubs in District 2-A2. Please send in articles about your service projects, fundraisers, installations, and member recognitions for inclusion in the monthly newsletter to [newsletter@district2a2.org](mailto:newsletter@district2a2.org). Articles must be submitted by the 28th of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

---

**ALAMO HEIGHTS LIONS CLUB & TEXAS LIONS EYEGLASS RECYCLING CTR**  
**Free Postage to Mail Eyeglasses to the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center**  
by Lion Norman Fulkerson

The USPS Publication 347 dated October 2015 spells out how to mail glasses for recycling to the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center in Midland, Texas.

The publication states that individuals and noncommercial organizations which serve eligible persons (i.e., those who require glasses). No advertising is allowed.

The box or envelope must NOT be sealed. The boxes must have the words "FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND OR THE HANDICAPPED" in the upper right corner of the address side of the envelope or parcel where postage is normally placed. The words may be printed, rubber stamped or handwritten. See the form below.

The mail is not considered a specific class of mail. If you wish to insure the item, you may pay the required insurance fee.

The Postmaster at my Post Office says they will accept boxes up to the size of a Banker's box or the size of the box that comes with 10 reams of paper. I have found the 10 ream paper box weighs about 20 pounds when full of eyeglasses.

You may use the form below by cutting off the bottom of this page to use as the required label.

---

FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND OR HANDICAPPED MAILING

From: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND OR  
THE HANDICAPPED

To: Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center  
2550 Flynt Ave.  
Midland, TX 79701

**District 2-A2 Mid-Winter Conference**



**District 2-A2 Mid-Winter Conference**

**Early Registration Now Extended to January 10th**

District 2-A2 Mid-Winter Conference – January 19 and 20, 2024

Texas Lions Camp Dining Hall Kerrville Texas	Friday, January 19 <sup>th</sup> Welcome Social and Meet the Candidates. 6:00 – Baked Potato Bar	Hosted by the Kerrville Host Lions Club
--	---	---



\*\*\*\*\*

District Governor Josh has made a challenge to District 2-A2. If 38 clubs attend, he will jump into the camp swimming pool.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Early registration ends January ~~5<sup>th</sup>~~ 10th**

For Hotel Reservations: Best Western Sunday House, 2124 Sidney Baker St, Kerrville, TX 78028, (830) 896-1313. Use discount code "Lions Club." Lions room rate \$ 109.00 + tax.

[Click HERE to Register for the Early Bird Special](#)

[Click HERE to Download Mail-in Registration](#)

**PID M.P. Mike Butler Ambassador of Service Award**



**ANNOUNCING: THE PID M.P. MIKE BUTLER  
AMBASSADOR OF SERVICE AWARD**

*The District 2-A2 Past District Governors Association offers a means to both recognize the many years of dedicated service of numerous long-serving Members of Clubs throughout District 2-A2 while also initiating a long overdue and very significant measure to honor our own*

**Past International Director, M. P. "Lion Mike" Butler.**

***The District PDG's invite District Clubs to nominate their very special, eligible, Members to receive the PID M.P. MIKE BUTLER AMBASSADOR OF SERVICE AWARD***

**CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION AND SELECTION:**

1. A member must have been a member in good standing for a minimum of 15 years.
2. The member may not have been inducted into the District 2-A2 Herb Petry Hall of Fame
3. The member may not have served as District Governor.
4. The member must be nominated by his/her club and voted as an awardee by a majority of PDG Association members.
5. A Club may nominate one member per year using Resolution format on Club letterhead. That nomination may remain current for a three year period. The Club may not nominate another member until the prior nominee has been awarded, three year term has run out, or the member has expired. **Nomination is to be submitted following announcement of the opening of nominations each November and shall be submitted no later than the close of the Annual Mid- Winter Conference in January.**

**Other Stated Qualifications:** ( Enumerated, and accompanying Nomination Resolution )

- PROVEN LEADERSHIP AS A CLUB OFFICER AND CLUB PROJECT LEADER
- DEDICATED TO THE GROWTH OF THEIR CLUB THROUGH THEIR SPONSORSHIP AND GUIDING OF OTHER CLUB MEMBERS TOWARD THEIR OWN PERSONAL SUCCESS AS LIONS
- RECOGNITION FOR ETHICS ABOVE REPROACH AND AS AN INDIVIDUAL OF HIGH MORAL CHARACTER
- RECOGNIZED SERVICE BEYOND THE CLUB ENVIRONMENT THAT MAY INCLUDE MILITARY OR OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE OR LIONISTIC SERVICE BEYOND THE CLUB LEVEL

**NOTE:** The elements of these criteria have been endorsed by PID Butler and are based on his personal strong beliefs that District 2-A2 should always make great efforts to uplift and remember the long serving "Grass Roots" members that sacrifice and serve through their Clubs.

**OTHER:**

No more than a total of four awards may be presented each year, the exception would be the inaugural (Charter) year of award when ten awardees may be recognized.

The award will be an appropriately designed medal with pin and ribbon and an accompanying congratulatory letter.

The cost of the awards will be borne by the PDG Association and they will be presented at the District Convention at the same ceremony as the Herb Petry Hall of Fame Induction.

Mail Club Nominations to PDG Sam Pantusa 4502 Centerview, Suite 120 San Antonio Tx 78228  
For Information—PDG Sam Pantusa (210) 326 3915 or Email: spantusa@yahoo.com

## Note From Our Second Vice-District Governor Nanette Patton:

December turned out to be a much busier month than I ever expected!



On December 5th, I was a stand in for DG Josh to perform the ceremonial duties of presenting a very special award to the San Antonio Central Park Lions -- the Model Club Award. Lions Clubs International recognized clubs who set and achieved the goal of raising \$750/club member for the Lions Club International Foundation during Campaign 100 with a Model Club Award. It was great to mix and mingle with such a vibrant club doing great things for their local community and contributing so generously to our international association.

Thanks to clubs like Central Park and individual donations, LCIF has been able to grant more than \$1B billion over the years to Lions service projects and partnerships around the globe to save sight, support youth, provide disaster relief, and address a wide range of humanitarian needs.

On December 14th, Lions Sight Research Foundation (LSRF) Chief Operating Officer (COO), PDG Sam Pantusa, at the Baptist Health Foundation Awards Ceremony. The LSRF received a community impact grant of \$10,000. LSRF was in good company as the Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio awarded 99 grants this year totaling \$9,115,000!



On December 16th, I attended the Wreaths Across America ceremony and participated in the wreath laying at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery! This event is one of my favorite Christmas season rituals. What a wonderful way to honor those who served and those who made the ultimate sacrifice and to remind everyone that freedom isn't always free.



On the morning of December 17th, I joined the China Grove Lions Club in the Christmas spirit of giving which involved assembling and distributing 87 food basket sets. Each set had 2 boxes and then there was a shopping bag with a ham. China Grove has been doing this service project for over 20 years. This was the most sets they have ever done. Last year they did 60, and I think the significant increase reflects our economic times with many more families experiencing food insecurity.

That evening I attended the Children's Services Program's 2nd Annual Holiday Gathering. Lion Ken Book rattled off all kinds of metrics demonstrating the expanded scope and impact the Children's Services Committee and team is making:

- 49 campuses visited
- 21 new campuses mostly Judson ISD
- 17 active certified screeners who have attended at least 1 screening session
- 736 man hours
- 4560 kids 5 and younger screened for vision with 798 failing
- 3150 kids 6 and older screened with an eye chart with 1155 failing
- 7659 kids screened for hearing with 594 failing



On December 23rd, I joined PDG Chris Lloyd and my Lions Sight Research Foundation board members and other Lions volunteers at the San Antonio H-E-B Feast of Sharing at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center with the Mobile Eye Screening Unit (MESU) for free vision screenings. During this event, H-E-B provided 3,500 pounds of brisket, 6,750 sausage links, 500 gallons of pinto beans, and 2,800 pounds of potato salad to more than 14,000 attendees. This initiative is an important part of H-E-B's Hunger Relief Program, which works year-round to prevent hunger. Throughout the event, we had wait lines for screenings.



I then finished off the month with sharing duty roster time with my mom and our district's Global Service Team Coordinator, Lion Marlene Patton, handing out maps for the Windcrest Christmas Light-Up 2023 and collecting Fill the Boot donations for the Windcrest Volunteer Fire Department Firefighters Alliance. This is an event my home club, the Windcrest Lions, enjoys supporting!

2024 is here and we are about to start the year with a Lion's bang. The Yellow Rose Lions Club charter night was January 5th. We have our District Mid-Winter Conference in Kerrville on January 19th and 20th. Friday night before the conference business meeting, you can meet the candidates who will be on the ballot in April. No hibernation season for Lions!

*Lion Nanette*

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-District Governor

Nanette Patton

[GI.Jade.1ea@gmail.com](mailto:GI.Jade.1ea@gmail.com)

***A GREAT WAY TO SUPPORT the***  
**2024 Save Our Sight / Stride for Sight Campaign**  
***to Benefit the Projects of your***  
**Lions Sight Research Foundation**



**7 Chances to WIN**  
**Only 200 Tickets to be Sold**

**1st Prize \$ 5,000** - 2nd Prize **\$ 1,000**  
3rd & 4th Prizes **\$ 500**/each - 5th & 6th Prizes **\$ 250**/each  
7th Prize **\$ 200**

**\$100.00 donation**

For online tickets & payment go to [www.lionssightresearch.org](http://www.lionssightresearch.org)

See **“Donations”** tab: **“Raffle”**

Checks made payable to: Lions Sight Research Foundation

For information: [lsrf.sam@gmail.com](mailto:lsrf.sam@gmail.com) or (210) 326 3915

Proceeds benefit the Lions Sight Research Foundation

**Drawing Feb 10, 2024 at “Valentine Games Night”**  
need not be present to win

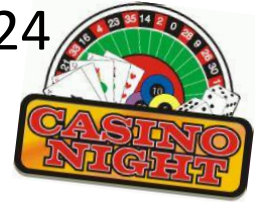




# VALENTINE Games Night

Saturday, February 10, 2024

Christopher Columbus Italian Society Hall  
201 Piazza Italia San Antonio, Texas 78207  
FUN STARTS at 5:00pm



## A Fundraising Event of the District 2-A2 Lions Sight Research Foundation

Your Reservation entitles you to be a **PLAYER** in our **VALENTINE CASINO** where you can **WIN** at **BLACKJACK TEXAS HOLD 'EM CRAPS ROULETTE** or the **MONEY WHEEL** and there's our **ADULT BEVERAGE RING TOSS HEADS & TAILS 50/50 RAFFLE**



A Fun Evening with Great Food and Lots of Door Prizes



**RESERVED Tables for Eight - \$500.00 Donation General Seating - \$50.00 per attendee**

Cash Bar—Beer and Wine, Set Ups for BYOB

Checks payable to the Lions Sight Research Foundation

For Online Reservations: [www.lionssightresearch.org](http://www.lionssightresearch.org) - "DONATIONS" Tab

For Other Reservations or information: PDG Sam Pantusa call: 210 326 3915 or email: [lsrf.sam@gmail.com](mailto:lsrf.sam@gmail.com)

We'll also be Drawing the Names of ALL the WINNERS of our

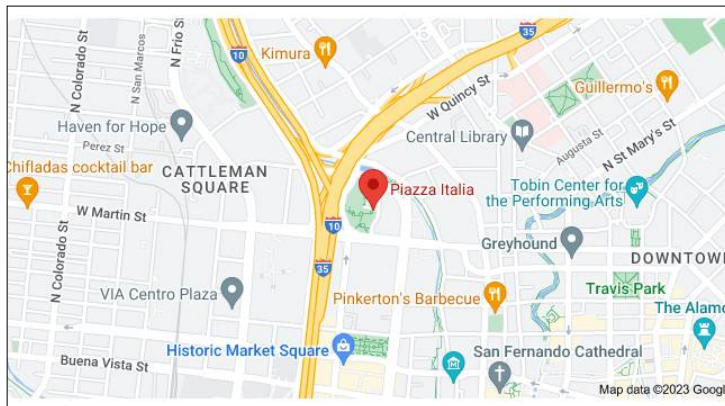


# Sweetheart Raffle

gift card giveaway

**7 Chances to WIN ONLY 200 to be SOLD—\$100 Donation**

**1st Prize \$ 5,000 - 2nd Prize \$ 1,000 - 3rd & 4th Prizes \$ 500/each  
5th & 6th Prizes \$ 250/each - 7th Prize \$ 200**



Valentine Games Night and the Sweetheart Raffle are fundraising elements of the 2024 Save Our Sight / Stride for Sight Campaign with net proceeds directed toward LSRF Special Projects and other needs of the Lions Eye Health Program.

**Christopher Columbus Italian Society Hall  
201 Piazza Italia San Antonio, Texas 78207  
Just off the IH 10 and IH 35 Interchange and W. Martin St, north west of Downtown**



## SA West Side Lions Pancake Breakfast

When: Saturday, February 17, 2024

Time: 9:00am-12:00pm

Location: Madonna Neighborhood Center,  
1906 Castroville Rd, San Antonio, Texas 78237

**Cost: \$9**

All you can eat pancakes, 2 sausage patties, orange slices, coffee, orange juice



# STRIDE FOR SIGHT 5K

## SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2024

Comanche County Park  
Pavilion 2  
2600 Rigsby Avenue  
San Antonio, TX

8 a.m. - Race Day Registration Opens  
9 a.m. - Opening Ceremony

**REGISTER  
ONLINE**

[bit.ly/SFS2024](https://bit.ly/SFS2024)  
or  
[SolersSports.com](https://solerssports.com)

**FREE** Breakfast Tacos  
**FREE** Kid's Fun Run  
**AND MORE!**

*New for 2024 - All categories can create or join a team!*

\$50 Virtual Runner/Walker  
\$35 5K Runner/Walker  
\$25 Sleep Walker  
Team\*: \$25 Team Walker  
(\*Teams should have 5 or more members)



Donor Family team discount  
available to team walkers.  
Contact the eye bank  
or [Lisa@SolersSports.com](mailto:Lisa@SolersSports.com)  
for discount code

For additional information  
or questions, contact  
Sam Pantusa, (210) 326-3915  
or [lsrf.sam@gmail.com](mailto:lsrf.sam@gmail.com)





PARTNERS IN VISION



## Join as a Sponsor!

Lions Sight Research Foundation and San Antonio Eye Bank are excited to host the 2024 Stride for Sight 5K Run/Walk. Together the organizations are focused on **Saving Sight, Changing Lives.**

Our mission in hosting the event is to encourage regular healthy vision screenings and eye health practices, as well as, to educate and inspire about Donate Life - Gift of Sight that can be given through cornea donation and transplantation.

On Saturday, March 30th, we'll celebrate the 11th year of the family and pet friendly run/walk event at Comanche County Park in San Antonio, Texas. Last year our event concluded with over 500 participants from throughout South Texas.

Your sponsorship will make a difference for hundreds of individuals and families impacted by the partnering organizations and will also align your brand as a company committed to supporting our mission.

**SPONSOR**

Company/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**YES!**

*I'd like to become a sponsor*

All checks should be made payable to:  
**Lions Sight Research Foundation**  
 with notation **2024 Stride for Sight**  
 Mail to: Lions Sight Research Foundation  
 4502 Centerview, Suite 120, San Antonio, TX 78228

Online sponsorship payments steps:  
 Go to [www.LionsSightResearch.org](http://www.LionsSightResearch.org), select tab labeled **donation**, select option Stride for Sight 5k  
 Note: Please enter in the [What is this payment for] box on the pay page specifically what your payment is for

For more information, please contact a representative listed below

Sam Pantusa  
 Chief Operating Officer, Lions Sight Research Foundation  
[lsrf.sam@gmail.com](mailto:lsrf.sam@gmail.com), (210) 326-3915

Simera Nichols  
 Director of Partner Relations, San Antonio Eye Bank  
[simera.nichols@saeyebank.org](mailto:simera.nichols@saeyebank.org), (210) 424-0176

## UIW Lions Club – Officer Graduation

Our UIW Lions Club Secretary, Ricardo Lopez, recently graduated from the University of the Incarnate Word, obtaining a Master of Science in Accounting! He thanks the Lions Club for all of the support and will continue to support the Lions Club through the years to come. We are incredibly proud of him and wish him well in his future endeavors!



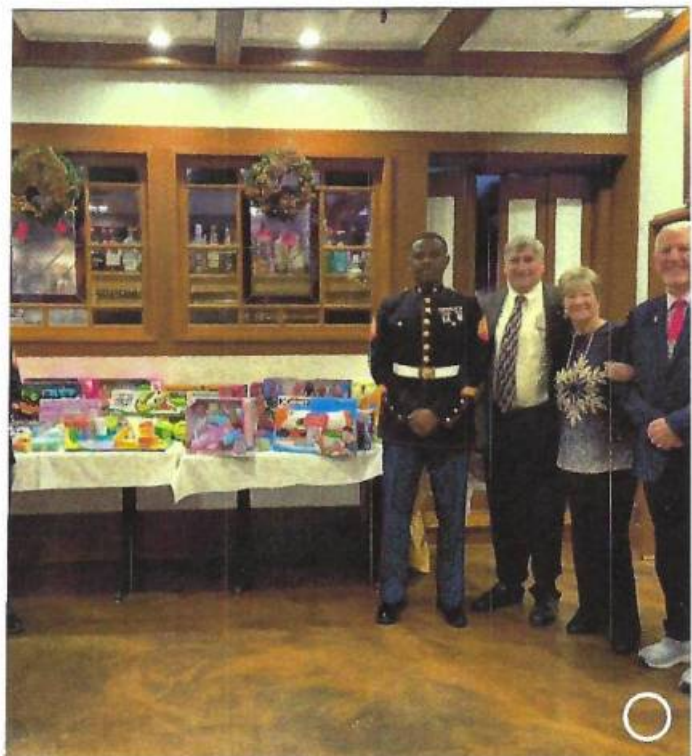
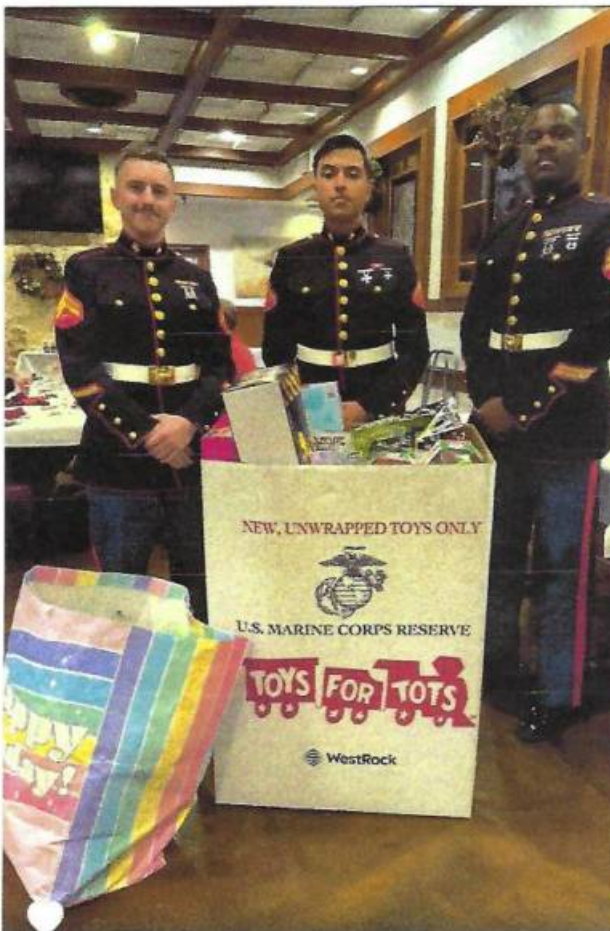
## Alamo Heights Lions Club – We Serve!



The Alamo Heights Lions Club asked Circus Bingo to help in our toy drive by letting us put a Toys for Tots collection box in each of the four bingo locations, which gave us four boxes of toys. Club Members donated toys at our annual Christmas Party and presented these to the Marines, who were our guests.

1st Vice district Governor Lion Rose Ann Barajas was our Guest of Honor. She inducted our new Lion into the Club.

Happy New Year to All!





Alamo Heights Lions Club helped a Girl Scout achieve her Girl Scout Gold Award. She wrote that one item the houseless needed and that was often overlooked as a necessity is a pair of socks. After she received the award, she came to the club, thanked us for our help, and asked us to continue our socks donation to CAM. Alamo City Lions Club heard the socks story and asked to join us every year.



## Alamo Heights Lions Club and UIW Campus Lions Club



The Alamo Heights Lions Club worked together with The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve in San Antonio to bring Christmas to Children who would not have one without help from others.

The UIW Campus Lions Club joined us. Because of the holidays and graduation for some, the Campus Lions had only one week to collect toys. They successfully collected four boxes of toys!



## **Texas Lions Camp Is Celebrating its Diamond 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Party Time!**

Texas Lions Camp (TLC) has been serving children and improving their quality of life since 1949. As lions, you all play an important role in supporting the camp.

On April 4, 2024, TLC will be celebrating the diamond anniversary of its founding. That will be 75 years of service! To commemorate this special event, there will be events taking place between February and April in 2024. This message is being sent out early so you can mark your calendars!

**TLC's Birthday Party** will be celebrated at the Lions State Level, in conjunction with the Past District Governor's Association banquet. It will be on Saturday, **February 3, 2024**, at 6:30 p.m. at Texas Lions Camp. Past International President, Doug Alexander, will be on hand to provide a keynote address.

The **TLC Camper & Counselor Homecoming** will be on **March 22-24, 2024**, at Texas Lions Camp. Times: TBA. The campers and counselors are remarkable people!

There will be a **Chamber of Commerce Wine & Cheese Mixer** on Thursday, **March 21, 2024**, at TLC. Time: TBA

An **Open House** will be on Friday-Sunday, **April 4-7, 2024**, at TLC. Times TBA.

A **TLC Star Party** will take place on Saturday, **April 6, 2024**, from 4-9 p.m., at the Kerr County Youth Exhibit Center in Kerrville. This will feature country music singer and songwriter Eric Paslay.

Make your plans to be on-hand to enjoy a front-row seat to see the **Total Solar Eclipse** at TLC on Monday, **April 8, 2024**. It should be a spectacular event!

**Happy Birthday, Texas Lions Camp!**

If you have questions about TLC or the above information, please contact District 2-A2 Camp Director Mary Ann Mays at [mamays@gmail.com](mailto:mamays@gmail.com) or Camp Director Chris Ryan at [chrisr1475@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chrisr1475@sbcglobal.net).



## TEXAS LIONS CAMP

LOCATED ON LAND ONCE OWNED BY KERRVILLE FOUNDER JOSHUA BROWN, THIS HAS BEEN THE SITE OF REHABILITATIVE FACILITIES SINCE THE 1920s, WHEN THE AMERICAN LEGION ESTABLISHED A SANITORIUM HERE, FOLLOWED BY A UNITED STATES VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL IN 1925. IN 1948, AS A NATIONWIDE POLIO EPIDEMIC RAGED, LOCAL LION JACK ROE, WORKING WITH THE KERRVILLE LIONS CLUB, PROMOTED THE CONCEPT OF A SPECIAL CAMP FOR CHILDREN AFFLICTED WITH THE DISEASE. A SOCIAL WORKER WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE, ROE HAD SEEN HANDICAPPED CHILDREN TURNED AWAY FROM OTHER SUMMER CAMPS, AND IN RESPONSE HE MADE IT HIS MISSION TO CREATE A PLACE WHERE THEY COULD EXPERIENCE THE JOYS OF NATURE AT A CAMP DESIGNED FOR THEIR UNIQUE NEEDS.

ROE AND THE LOCAL LIONS CLUB MEMBERS WORKED WITH OTHER CLUBS AROUND TEXAS TO PROMOTE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CAMP, AND IN 1949 THEY RECEIVED ENDORSEMENT FROM THE LIONS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION. A STATEWIDE FUNDRAISING EFFORT AND THE ASSISTANCE OF THEN-U.S. SEN. LYNDON B. JOHNSON LED TO THE PURCHASE OF 504 ACRES OF LAND AT THIS SITE FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN 1950. THE CAMP OFFICIALLY OPENED ON JUNE 8, 1953, WITH 40 CAMPERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE FORMAL DEDICATION CELEBRATION ON JULY 3, 1953. THE CAMP ALSO PROVIDED TRAINING FACILITIES FOR CLIENTS OF THE TEXAS COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND FROM 1958 TO 1984, AND SINCE 1971 HAS INCLUDED SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN WITH DIABETES. IT CELEBRATED A MILESTONE IN 2003, MARKING SERVICE TO A TOTAL OF 50,000 CHILDREN SINCE ITS OPENING.

THE TEXAS LIONS CAMP HAS SERVED AS A PLACE OF EDUCATION AND RESPITE FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS FOR MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY. ITS PROGRAMS, STILL SUPPORTED BY LIONS CLUBS THROUGHOUT THE STATE, REFLECT THE LIONS MOTTO "WE SERVE" BY PROVIDING CAMPERS WITH EDUCATION, ENTERTAINMENT AND MEMORIES TO LAST THEIR LIFETIMES.

(2005)

# 31st Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament

TITLE SPONSOR



JAMES AVERY  
Forging Hope

## ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT TEXAS LIONS CAMP

TLC is tax exempt under 501(c)(3) of the I.R.S.—Donations are tax deductible—see your tax professional for details.



**August 1, 2024**

8:00 am Shotgun Start

**Lady Bird Johnson Golf Course**  
Fredericksburg, TX

All GIFTS will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000  
in 2023-2024 by **James Avery Artisan Jewelry®**  
For more information: [www.lionscamp.com](http://www.lionscamp.com).

### Sponsor One or More Holes

For a one time donation of \$100 per hole, individuals, clubs  
associations & corporations may sponsor a hole(s). All  
sponsors of the tournament will be recognized on signage  
and publications on location and on the Texas Lions Camp  
website: [www.lionscamp.com](http://www.lionscamp.com). **Deadline to ensure recogni-  
tion/publication is July 12, 2024.**

**Please make checks payable to Texas Lions Camp.**

**Children Can...  
With TLC™**

**Come Play and  
make a Kid's Day  
in 2024!**

For more information or to download  
player registration forms go to  
[www.lionscamp.com](http://www.lionscamp.com)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City / State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card: MC \_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

CC#: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ CVC \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO: TEXAS LIONS CAMP**  
**PO Box 290247 Kerrville, TX 78029**

**James Avery Artisan Jewelry  
provides \$50,000 Challenge**  
to celebrate 75th Anniversary of Texas Lions Camp  
Named Title Sponsor for 31st Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament

**Kerrville, Texas** - James Avery Artisan Jewelry has issued a \$50,000 challenge-matching grant to help commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Texas Lions Camp and support children with special medical conditions attending Summer Camp 2024. Every gift designated for the 31st Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000. With this challenge, the company has also been named the Title Sponsor for the 2024 Golf tournament.

"Texas Lions Camp (TLC) is excited that James Avery Artisan Jewelry has agreed to help TLC celebrate our Diamond anniversary and participate with our organization again in 2023-2024 and invest in our mission by offering this exciting challenge opportunity," said President & CEO of TLC, Stephen S. Mabry.

James Avery's Chief Executive Officer John McCullough stated, "For 75 years, the Lions of Texas and TLC have introduced over 84,000 children to the 'CAN DO' philosophy and encouraged them to reach for new horizons and celebrate exciting, first-time experiences. Just as we forge silver and gold to craft jewelry, we are forging hope through our support of nonprofit organizations in the communities where we live and work. We are proud to encourage donors across Texas to partner with us in supporting the beauty that Texas Lions Camp offers to children and their families through this unique and educational summer camp experience."

**About James Avery Artisan Jewelry®**

**About James Avery Artisan Jewelry®** – James Avery is a vertically integrated, family-owned company located in the heart of the Texas Hill Country. We offer finely crafted jewelry designs for men and women in sterling silver, 14K and 18K gold, bronze and gemstones. James Avery jewelry is designed in the Texas Hill Country, with more than 90 percent of our pieces crafted in Kerrville, Comfort, Hondo and Corpus Christi, Texas using the finest materials sourced worldwide. We are a multi-channel retailer with over 120 James Avery stores in four states. Our jewelry is also available at JamesAvery.com, over 250 Dillard's locations and at Dillards.com and at 37 Von Maur locations and VonMaur.com. You can also find our designs at airport stores in Austin, Houston and Nashville, as well as select Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) locations.

**Harry Wickersham 31st Annual Golf Tournament**

For 31 years, Texas Lions Camp (TLC) has sponsored an annual Golf tournament to help support camp operations. More about the history of this Golf Tournament and the Lions that helped make it become a reality may be found on our website (<https://lionscamp.com/Wickersham.html>). The event now raises \$150,000 annually and has cumulatively produced more than \$2 million over the past 30 years. Special thanks to all who have helped make this fund-raiser such a success. The 31st Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament will be held on Thursday, August 1, 2024 and will be hosted once again by the Fredericksburg Lions Club at Lady Bird Johnson Golf Course in Fredericksburg, Texas.

**Learn about Texas Lions Camp, Inc.**

Those who are interested in learning more about and/or contributing to the work of Texas Lions Camp are invited to visit [www.lionscamp.com](http://www.lionscamp.com) or by emailing Milton L. Dare at [milton.dare@texaslions.camp](mailto:milton.dare@texaslions.camp). If preferred, you may call 830-896-8500 for more information.





**Date: November 2, 2023**

**Contact: Milton L. Dare, FACHE  
Director of Development & Major Gifts  
830-896-8500**

**James Avery Artisan Jewelry provides \$50,000 Challenge  
to celebrate 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Texas Lions Camp**  
*Named Title Sponsor for 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament*

*Kerrville, Texas - James Avery Artisan Jewelry has issued a \$50,000 challenge-matching grant to help commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Texas Lions Camp and support children with special medical conditions attending Summer Camp 2024. Every gift designated for the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000. With this challenge, the company has also been named the **Title Sponsor** for the 2024 Golf tournament.*

"Texas Lions Camp (TLC) is excited that James Avery Artisan Jewelry has agreed to help TLC celebrate our Diamond anniversary and participate with our organization again in 2023-2024 and invest in our mission by offering this exciting challenge opportunity," said President & CEO of TLC, Stephen S. Mabry.

James Avery's Chief Executive Officer John McCullough stated, "For 75 years, the Lions of Texas and TLC have introduced over 84,000 children to the 'CAN DO' philosophy and encouraged them to reach for new horizons and celebrate exciting, first-time experiences. Just as we forge silver and gold to craft jewelry, we are forging hope through our support of nonprofit organizations in the communities where we live and work. We are proud to encourage donors across Texas to partner with us in supporting the beauty that Texas Lions Camp offers to children and their families through this unique and educational summer camp experience."

Mabry added, "TLC will celebrate our Anniversary Summer Camp Season in 2024 with residential youth camps for children who have physical disabilities, cancer, Down syndrome, burn survivors, and type-1 diabetes as well as continue our highly successful family camp program. At Texas Lions Camp, we view camp as a time for campers to explore, exercise curiosity, and discover new interests and abilities. We want campers to attempt things that would normally be out of their reach, such as riding a horse, or rock climbing on our ropes course, or just being part of a team. The support of family, friends, and neighbors allows us to help some of the most amazing children share in the best summers of their lives."

**About James Avery Artisan Jewelry®**– James Avery is a vertically integrated, family-owned company located in the heart of the Texas Hill Country. We offer finely crafted jewelry designs for men and women in sterling silver, 14K and 18K gold, bronze and gemstones. James Avery jewelry is designed in the Texas Hill Country, with more than 90 percent of our pieces crafted in Kerrville, Comfort, Hondo and Corpus Christi, Texas using the finest materials sourced worldwide. We are a multi-channel retailer with over 120 James Avery stores in four states. Our jewelry is also available at JamesAvery.com, over 250 Dillard's locations and at Dillards.com and at 37 Von Maur locations and VonMaur.com. You can also find our designs at airport stores in Austin, Houston and Nashville, as well as select Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) locations.

Follow us @jamesavery on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn, as well as @jamesaveryjewelry on TikTok for new releases, trends and behind the scenes.

**About the Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament** – For 31 years, Texas Lions Camp has sponsored an annual Golf tournament to help support camp operations. The history of this Golf Tournament began with four Texas Lions (Lions Mike Butler, Marshall Cooper, Bruce Rickert and Harry Wickersham) coming to the Annual Board meeting of Texas Lions Camp (TLC) in Kerrville to enjoy fellowship with each other. They all loved to play golf and so what began on a \$10 per person gentlemen’s donation at the Flying L Ranch Golf Course in Bandera, Texas, has grown into a major Fundraising event which generates more than \$150,000 annually for children with special medical conditions. Other Lions heard about the golf outing and dozens joined in to play in subsequent years including Lion Ed Stebbins who was recruited to help organize the event into an annual fund-raising opportunity. He made the original presentation to the TLC Board of Directors to make the Golf Tournament an annual fund-raising event as well as recommended that the event be named in honor of Lion Harry Wickersham (who was the real golfer in the original foursome). In addition, he recruited Lion Lester Frantzen as the Tournament Director and the Fredericksburg Lions Club to help organize and operate the tournament each year.

**About Texas Lions Camp, Inc.**- Texas Lions Camp, Inc., provides, without charge, a camp for children with special medical conditions from the State of Texas, regardless of race, religion, or national origin. The organization was chartered as a Texas, nonprofit corporation on April 4, 1949, by the Lions Clubs of Texas and is recognized under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. The Camp is accredited by the American Camp Association and is licensed by the Texas Department of State Health Services. In addition, the organization is recognized with a Four-Star rating from Charity Navigator and is an active participant on GuideStar so donors may give with confidence when furthering the mission of TLC.

Those who are interested in learning more about and/or contributing to the work of Texas Lions Camp are invited to visit [www.lionscamp.com](http://www.lionscamp.com) or by emailing Milton L. Dare at [milton.dare@texaslions.camp](mailto:milton.dare@texaslions.camp). If preferred, you may also call 830-896-8500 for more information.

# Texas Lions Camp

## Summer Camp Schedule – 2024

1. June 2-8, 2024 - HC 1 (Friday ✓ out) – 1<sup>st</sup>
2. June 9-15, 2024 - HC 2 (Friday ✓ out) – 2<sup>nd</sup>
3. June 16-18, 2024 - Residential Day Camp – 1<sup>st</sup>
4. June 20-22, 2024 - Residential Day Camp – 2<sup>nd</sup>
5. June 23-29, 2024 – Camp David and Down (Friday ✓ out)
6. June 30-July 6, 2024 – Diabetes Camp (Friday ✓ out) – 1<sup>st</sup>
7. July 7-13, 2024 - Diabetes Camp (Friday ✓ out) – 2<sup>nd</sup>
8. July 14-20, 2024 - Camp Discovery
9. July 21-23, 2024 - Family Camp – 1<sup>st</sup>
10. July 25-27, 2024 - Family Camp – 2<sup>nd</sup>
11. July 28-30, 2024 - Family Camp – 3<sup>rd</sup>
12. Aug 1-2, 2024 - Family Camp – 4<sup>th</sup>

## How to Send a Child to Texas Lions Camp – by Camp Director Chris Ryan

The 2024 schedule for Texas Lions Camp (TLC) has been announced! Please see the schedule at [www.lionscamp.com](http://www.lionscamp.com).

The schedule has some exciting and innovative features to meet the expanding needs of the TLC family. President & CEO, Stephen Mabry, stated that for the first time in TLC's history, they will pilot an exciting new concept in camping, by combining family camp with the residential youth camp. This new program will be called "Residential Family Camp."

Camp Discovery will be returning to TLC after a five-year hiatus. It is a one-of-a-kind experience for children who have cancer.

How to send a child to camp-

1. Lions can be a huge help by **finding campers** to attend TLC. This can be done by contacting local rehabilitation centers, doctors, associations, and school principals and nurses.
2. You will want to **visit with parents of prospective campers**. Give them a TLC brochure or promotional flyer. If you do not have one, share the website with them. Tell them about the wonderful opportunities that await their child!
3. **Application help** - Direct parents to [lionscamp.com](http://lionscamp.com) to apply. **\*\*\*Online registration for camp opens on Wednesday, January 3, 2024.** That will be here before we know it.

The application process involves the submittal of an in-depth application that includes:

- 1) Contact Information
- 2) Physical and Doctor's Permission
- 3) Lion Sponsor
- 4) Dietary requirements
- 5) Insurance information, and
- 6) Legal Waiver & Permission to Treat.

Parents can call TLC at (830) 896-8500 if they have any questions about the application process. The Lion sponsor should follow up with the family to ensure that all required forms are submitted.

4. **Arrange Transportation.** Transportation to and from the camp is the responsibility of the sponsoring Lions Club.

TLC is an amazing place where campers gain confidence and are accepted for who they are. They are not defined by their disabilities. Children are invited to make friends, have fun, and get involved in a safe and supportive environment.

As a Lion in the state of Texas, you make a positive difference in the life of a child at TLC. Thank you for your support of the camp. I hope you can help find a camper to attend this life-changing experience!

If you have questions about TLC or the above information, please contact District 2-A2 Camp Director Mary Ann Mays at [mamays@gmail.com](mailto:mamays@gmail.com) or me at [chrisr1475@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chrisr1475@sbcglobal.net).



## Sign Up, Step Up, Catch Up

### For Century Club - It's "Service from the Heart"

If you aren't a member of the TLC Century Club, please "Sign Up"; if you are a member, consider "Stepping Up" to the next level; and if you were a member but dropped out, consider "Catching Up" (i.e., come back in).

**What is Texas Lions Camp Century Club?** It's an individual annual giving program, and as such, it is giving from your own heart, independent of Club budgets or fund raisers. It is one of the lifebloods of our operating budget, that in normal times sends up to 1500 children with special needs to Texas Lions Camp each summer, and yet less than 5% of Texas Lions are members.

**Who can be a Century Club Member?** Anyone can be a member. You don't have to be a Lion. It can be family or friends. You can even be a non-Texan, but it is our Texas Lions who are the backbone of the Century Club.

**What does it cost to be a member?** You can give your gift annually, or you can give monthly. A Bronze member is \$100 (\$10 if monthly); Silver is \$250; Gold \$500; Diamond is \$1,000; & Ambassador is \$5,000. Membership automatically renews each year, so members should join with the intention of making their same gift each year or even increasing their level.

**How do I enroll or Step Up?** Go to [www.lionscamp.com](http://www.lionscamp.com), click on "Get Involved" and go to "Donate Now". There you will find "Ways to Give". Click that open and select "Century Club". If you scroll down, you will see the option to enroll online or to download and print out the form to send to the Camp directly.

**Sign Up, Step Up, Catch Up** is a drive to beef up our Century Club membership for the Texas Lions Camp, as a birthday present to Texas Lions Camp on its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2024. Today we have half the number of Texas Lions, supporting twice the number of campers at over twice the cost, as we did some 30 years ago. If we reach our goal of an increase of \$60/mo. among the members of EACH club in Texas, we will generate an additional of \$575,000 ANNUALLY, which would generate 15% of our operating budget, and help us keep serving our special children into the future.

A \$60 increase from the members of each Texas Club is doable. "Signing Up" as a new Bronze member is a \$10/mo. increase (\$100 if pd. ann.); a new Silver is \$21/mo. (\$250/yr.); a Gold is \$42/mo. (\$500); etc. Likewise, "Stepping Up" from Bronze to Silver is an \$11/mo. increase; Bronze to Gold is a \$32/mo. increase; going from Silver to Gold is a \$21/mo. increase, etc.

**\$575,000/year – now that's some 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday present!**

There's a saying at TLC that "ALL CAN DO". Yes, Texas Lions, \$60/mo./club. **WE CAN DO IT.**



## Texas Lions Camp 75th Anniversary Sheath

On the next page is an order blank for special lasered & hand-tooled knife sheaths. These fit the special Case knives with handles made from rock from Texas Lions Camp, which we have been selling the last 3 years. This knife is the one shown above the sheaths on the form. If you haven't seen them, the 2 bladed knife is beautifully lasered with the Lion's & TLC's logos, along with the words "Texas Lions Camp - children can with TLC". If you are interested in the knife, you can contact Lion Ken Jobe, whose info is on the form for the knife sheaths.

The timing is critical, because (like everything else) the price of leather is going up dramatically, according to the leather tooler, and our costs will double after the 1st weekend in February. This will obviously do the same thing to our selling prices. So, if you want one or more, get your order in now. Orders dated by February 5th will be honored at the rates on the form. (The form says January 31st, but they have agreed to let the current price stand through our Feb. Council meeting in Kerrville.)

These knife sheaths have the Camp's special 75th Anniversary Logo. I know many Lions don't have the current knife and it may not be available much longer to buy. However, a new TLC 75th Anniversary edition Case knife will be coming out soon with a handle made out of wood from the camp. They will also be laser engraved on one of the blades. They will fit in these knife sheaths. So this will be a chance to get a knife sheath for either or both knives before the prices soar.

PCC Tom Blase  
1st Vice-Chairman, Executive Committee  
Texas Lions Camp



*Serving Children Since 1949*

For the benefit of

**Texas Lions Camp**  
**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
**Case "Trapper" Style Knife Sheath**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Shipping Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Handmade and tooled by JDS Leather, Kerrville, Texas**

**\*ATTENTION: Prices will be going up drastically for all orders after Jan., 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Leather prices have doubled, but JDS Leather will hold these prices until then.**

<u>Style</u>	<u>Price</u> (each)	<u># ordered</u>	<u>Extended</u> <u>Total</u>	<u>Side of Belt</u>	
				# Right	# Left
<b>Laser Sheath</b>	<b>\$40*</b>	_____	\$_____	_____	_____
<b>Laser &amp; Tooled Sheath</b>	<b>\$50*</b>	_____	\$_____	_____	_____
<b>Laser &amp; Tooled Sheath w/colored logo</b>	<b>\$60*</b>	_____	\$_____	_____	_____
<b>Subtotal of All Items</b>			\$_____		
<b>Add \$4 per Sheath for shipping</b>			\$_____		
<b>Total with shipping</b>			\$_____		

**Make Checks Payable to: District 2S1**

**Mail Checks to: PDG Ken Jobe, 4749 County Road 2590, Chester, TX 75936**

(Hand tooling takes time, please allow at least 10-12 weeks for shipping.)