



Lion District 2-A2 Newsletter

Issue 5 – November 2014

From 1st VDG Jim Weed:



Lions International President Joe Preston's theme for this Lions' year is "Strengthen the Pride" and District 2-A2 is certainly doing it. We have a new campus club at UTSA and the presentation of their charter October 20th was "awesome," as one of the charter members put it. Many of the charter members are former Leos and they took that experience with them to college to form their own Lions Club. The average age of the charter membership is a little over 18 years old. This is going to be an exciting club to watch.

Under the leadership of DG Sam, IPDG Rod, PDG "TJ" and others our district membership is up 17 members for the year as I write this article and we have opportunities to do much better. It looks like we are close to chartering a club in Kirby and efforts are underway to start a new club in the Live Oak/Universal City area. These areas have been without a Lions Club to serve their community for far too long.

The District is holding a 5K run again this Lions' year to support "Stride for Sight." The run will be in Helotes, February 28, 2015. Mark your calendar now. Whether you run, walk, stroll or "stride," this will be a fun day. Registration information will be coming out soon.

This year's "Stride for Sight" fund raising campaign is focusing on our Mobile Eye Screening Unit (MESU). Our goal of \$34,000 will allow us to update the eye screening equipment to the 21st century. We will be able to screen more people, more efficiently and expand our eye screening program to more neighborhoods.

While everyone is working their club projects and helping DG Sam keep the district strong, please consider district leadership positions that may interest you. I'm already looking for Lions to fill cabinet positions for my year as governor. My goal is to have as many new faces as I can in these important positions. Everything from zone chairman to cabinet secretary is on the table.

The Lions in these positions now are doing a great job, but I want to give more Lions an opportunity to move up in the District. To run for District Governor a Lion must have served on their club's board of directors for two years, served as Club President for one year and served as a zone/region chair or as district secretary/treasurer. So you can see it is important that we give as many Lions as we can the opportunity to serve in these positions.

If you are interested in serving at the district level call or email me. My home phone is 210-233-1259, cell phone 830-703-0353 and email is jim@tantruminc.com.

As we enter November we enter one of the busiest times we have as Lions. With Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas coming up, many Lions Clubs have service projects to

remember our veterans and help those in our community have a good Thanksgiving and Christmas. Whatever you and your club do as we begin this holiday season you are doing what we Lions do by instinct. "We Serve"

The Second Cabinet Meeting in Natalia:

The Second Cabinet Meeting for District 2-A2 was held on October 11, 2014 hosted by the Natalia Lions Club with a representation of 39 District Clubs. Master of Ceremonies, 1st VDG Jim Weed opened the meeting with the presenting of the Colors by the Color Guard led by Lion President Earnest Hamilton (SA Alamo City Lions Club).



The Leos then adjourned to hold their own District Meeting which ran concurrently with the Cabinet Meeting.



PDG TJ Tijerina and Lion Juanita Tijerina received a Texas Lions Foundation Fellow award presented by PID Mike Butler. This was the first time the award had been presented to a couple.



After opening remarks by DG Sam Pantusa, the Minutes of the First Cabinet Meeting and Treasurers Report by Lion Steve Medina and Lion Wally Jackson respectively were introduced and accepted.



The GMT Report was presented by 1st VDG Jim Weed who gave the First Quarter Summary. IPDG Rod Chisholm, GMT Coordinator, announced the creation of the UTSA Roadrunner Lions Club with 30+ new members to be chartered at a banquet on October 20th. Kirby, TX is also in the process of creating a new club. IPDG Rod then described the 7-Point Plan for membership that has been developed by the current Council of Governors:

1. Have organization
2. Hold exit interviews to find out why members are leaving
3. Train members on recruiting methods
4. Identify the best locations for new clubs
5. Conduct recruiting campaigns
6. Work with the small clubs to grow them
7. Coordinate all efforts

IPDG Rod then talked about the District February Campaign to recruit new Lions and described an “Elevator Speech”, a short recruitment method.

PDG Saul Lopez spoke about extensions and the PDG Assistants who are available to aid in the creation of new clubs,



A new feature was the Zone Chairman Reports. Lion Don Kirchoff (Zone 1), Lion Stacy Lewis (Zone 4) and Lion LaJuana Newnam-Leus (Zone 3) talked about activity in their zones with slide shows of the respective club activities.

Lion Alice Lopez (SA first ladies) and the Tailtwister Team then passed the buckets and recognized new members – the newest had been in for less than 4 months!

Lion President Juanita Tijerina (SA Northwest) indicated it is not too early to start thinking about nominations for the Board positions and various Committees. Nominations are due to her by March 11, 2015,

PDG Howie Marbach had a slide presentation on the LCIF showing the four categories addressed by LCIF – Sight (Over 100 million eyes examined), disaster relief, supporting youth and humanitarian needs. Over 1 Billion! immunizations have been given world-wide. He also talked of the need for gifts/donations. The average donations in the US and Canada are less than the world-wide average. We really need to focus on this.

Lion Ken Book (SA Region 20) is the Youth Contest Chair. Four (4) contests are held: Drug Awareness speech, Diabetic essay, Young Woman (Queens), and Outstanding Youth. Lion Maxine Garza (Stockdale) talked about the Peace Poster contest. Entries are from youth ages 11-13 with cash prizes for winners. The deadline for the contest has already passed for this year and she urged clubs to consider participating next year.

Lion Floyd Daigle (LaVernia) gave a report on the IT committee. He urged clubs to get pictures and information for the newsletter to Lion Barb Flynn, Editor. He also talked of the technology advances which are happening so rapidly these days.

DG Sam addressed volunteering at the Texas Lions Camp by activities such as helping to serve a meal. He urged clubs that will have dates set to serve at Camp Sunday welcoming



or Friday meals or watermelon parties to post their dates on the website Events Schedule where others may volunteer to help.

Lion Becky Boss talked of the Mid-Winter Conference which will be held at the Hill Country Retreat, an over 55 adult community which will provide entertainment on Friday evening before the Saturday conference. Lion Jay Hall is chairman but was unable to attend for medical reasons.

Lion Liz Rourke (SA Edgewood) talked about the USA/Canada Forum & International Convention which is being held in Honolulu, Hawaii on June 26-30, 2015. She also talked of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum being held in Grand Rapids, Michigan on Sept 17-19, 2015.



IPDG Rod Chisholm, Chair of the LSRF, the MESU (over 68,000 vision screenings done), the Low Vision Center and coordination with the Lighthouse for the Blind and the UT Science Center. The LSRF funds the Professorship for Ophthalmic Research who heads the Pathology Lab at UTHSC. 1st VDG Jim Weed talked of the Stride for Sight 5K run in Helotes which is coming up. The MESU equipment needs updating to incorporate advances in detection and the plan is to raise \$34,000 to accomplish this.

Leo Neil, Leo District President from Floresville, talked of the Leos plans for International Leo day – providing coats and blankets, a Leo picnic, having a District 2-A2 Leo Convention after the District 2-A2 convention in Kerrville and a T-shirt project to raise money for diabetes. Ambitious projects!!



GLT Presentation, 2nd VDG Lion John Lee and Lion Chris Condren (SA Edgewood), GLT coordinator addressed fund-raising activities. Lion Chris had several clubs describe their projects. All HEBs have a Community Coordinator who will provide a nice gift for raffle when contacted by mail by a club (describing their activities). Lion Chris also mentioned that the LCI website has a Public Relations Guide and also an Orientation Guide available for the clubs.

The meeting finished with door prizes, Benediction and Retiring of the Colors. IPDG Rod Chisholm led us in song as he had a various times during the meeting.

The Natalia Lions Club did a great job of organizing and running the Cabinet Meeting.

Everything flowed very smoothly. Well done, Natalia!!





Texas Lions Environmental Photo Contest

Several Texas entries have done well in the international competition and we have had an international winner. We need to continue to share the beauty found in Texas. Please contact us if you have questions or need additional information.

Thank you, PDG Fredda Buckner-Contest Coordinator
<http://www.texaslions.org/enviromtmental-photo-contest-2/>

Information, rules and entry form can be found at the following link:

<http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/member-center/planning-projects/community-environment/lions-green-team/environmental-photo-contest/index.php>

Pictures for the Newsletter:

We want to see your club at work! Please take photos of your members working your events. Preferably with vests or Lions shirts.

Submit photos and descriptions of events to 2nd Vice District Governor John Lee (lee.papajohn@gmail.com) and to Lion Barb Flynn (barb@r-b-international.com).

A Request from PDG Lytle Blankenship:

As the Assistant Chaplain for the District, I need to make myself useful. In so doing I'm making a request which you may have heard before. But from many years of serving as District Chaplain and from over 60 years of research in my profession, I have learned that repetition seems to be a necessary evil. In order to pay our last respects to deserving Lions who were our partners in Lionism, I don't hesitate at all in being repetitious.

To wander astray for an emphasis, I revisited the old Brister Cemetery recently which I do on occasion. Why? Because my Father and Mother are interned there as are both of my grandfathers as well as some other relatives. What does this have to do with remembering Lions? A lot.

Grandpa Judd was a messenger boy in the Civil War (much to be told here but not enough space). After the War he returned to TN but was soon on his way to Texas where he eventually became a Texas Ranger and was involved in such incidents as Geronimo's capture. His downfall occurred when he was critically wounded when battling a group of marauding Mexicans out of Mexico. He was left for dead but found by a shepherd and nursed back to health. He lived the rest of his life with a bullet embedded in his head. He died at 86 in 1936. I was only 9 but I still remember that only a few family members and some ranching neighbors were there. As years have gone by, I have always had the desire that those who have served mankind should be remembered somehow. That's why it is so important to me that those Lions who have served their fellowman, especially the less fortunate, be remembered at least by their compadres (fellow Lions). Is it asking too much for you to provide a minimal amount of information and a photograph so that a final memorial can be properly prepared to honor one that gave time and effort to see that someone else might have a better life?

And may I make a suggestion. You will find it much easier to get needed information if you collect it soon after the death of your fellow Lion. Don't worry, relatives will be pleased that you are showing such an interest in their loved one.

In Memory of Founder Lion Henry Simms:



Henry Simms
(1/12/1918---9/14/2014)

The history of the Founder Club, and of Lionism in general, was a life-long passion of Henry's. He documented and was proud to point out our local history, which includes: Founding of Lions Field on Broadway, and the first public playground, Brackenridge, West of the Mississippi. The marble Lion that stands guard over the field just off Broadway was sculptured by Founder Lion Louis Rodriguez. We also started the Lighthouse for the Blind that is today one of the largest manufacturing businesses in San Antonio and employs hundreds of vision impaired individuals. The San Antonio club also sponsored the first Lions Club outside of the United States when we hosted a club in Mexico City. Henry was a gentleman, but could become rather passionate in defending our right to be known as the first Lions Club in the world. He updated our history every year since 1970 in a booklet entitled You Wrote the Script.

He was honored many times and in many ways during his lifetime for his service to our organization. He was our Club's oldest living past president, having served in 1965; was a recipient of the Roll of Merit, and in 2012 was elected the Clubs' first, and only, President Emeritus. More recently, he was named to our districts' Hall Of Fame.

We had a special day of recognition when he celebrated his 90th birthday in 2008. We summarized his achievements and contributions, and talked about him being an extraordinary gentleman. He had a rather soft and low-volume voice, but once he had your attention, his opinions were worth listening to. He was kidded when we pointed out that Henry and brevity did not go together, especially when discussing our history. He established a birthday tradition of giving to a Lions charity one dollar for every year on this earth. For Henry, and some others (me included), this has gotten to be a rather substantial sum. Every year he would come up with some unique way to make his birthday presentation. One year, he scotch-taped together well over 80 one dollar bills, and had them stretched out several feet across the membership.

Henry was an irreplaceable asset to our Club and considered a national treasure in Lionism. His active service of over 55 years will remain a milestone that is not likely to ever to be duplicated.

He seldom missed any Lions Club function, especially our noon luncheons and was never seen without his coat and tie. He had an unwavering respect for the Lions.

We concluded his 90th birthday celebration with this proclamation: "We recognize Lion Henry Simms for his remarkable service, his dedication to the principles of helping others throughout his long life, his unmatched stature as a gentleman, and his genuine love of his fellowman and the Founder Lions Club."

DISTRICT 2-A2  **VITAL SIGNS** at **October 28, 2014**

REMEMBER (All stats as per MyLCI records as submitted on MMR's & Activity

Reports) **SERVICE**

NUMBER of CLUBS REPORTING SERVICE ACTIVITIES since July 1, 2014 ----- **28**
SERVICE HOURS that HAVE BEEN REPORTED since JULY 1, 2014: ----- **4,210**
NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED since July 1, 2014 ----- **17,769**

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP at JULY 1, 2014: ----- **1777** **at OCTOBER 28, 2014** ----- **1802**


CLUBS NET POSITIVE MEMBERSHIP since July 1, 2014: Converse, Crystal City, Del Rio San Felipe, Fredericksburg, Helotes, Kerrville Host, Kerrville Sunrise, LaVernia, Pleasanton, Sabinal, SA Area Family, SA Central Park, SA Edgewood, SA Hill Country Retreat, SA Region 20, SA Westside, Three Rivers, Utopia, Uvalde ----- **31%** of 62 Clubs (does not factor New UTSA Roadrunners Club with 37 new members

reported at 10/28)

TOTAL NUMBER ADDED since July 1, 2014: -----	135	<i>prior year comparisons</i>	2013	84	2012	39
NUMBER of MEMBERS LOST since July 1, 2014: ---	110		2013	118	2012	67
NEW CLUBS CHARTERED since July 1, 2014: ---	1		2013	1	2012	0
CLUBS DROPPED since July 1, 2014: -----	0		2013	1	2012	1
CURRENT NET at October 28, 2014: -----	+25		2013	-34	2012	-28

TARGET MEMBERSHIP GOALS for 2014 / 2015 (at year end June 30, 2015)

Total Members Lost	200 or less	<i>prior year comparisons</i>	2014	296	2013	221
NET TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	+ 75		2014	21	2013	64
NEW CLUBS CHARTERED	3		2014	2	2013	2
CLUBS DROPPED	0		2014	1	2013	2

 **CURRENT HEALTH RATING:** Rating from 1 to 10, with 10 being super outstanding **8.8**



Save the Date!



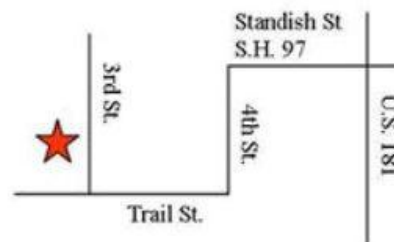
Join the

Floresville Lions Club
as we celebrate our

70th Anniversary

Friday, Nov. 21, 2014
6:30 p.m.

Sacred Heart Parish Hall
1009 Trail St.
Floresville



For more information, call
Lion LaJuana Newnam-Leus
830-393-2166



2014- 2015 LIONS DISTRICT 2A2



MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

Hosted by

San Antonio Hill Country Retreat Lions Club

4550 Dell Webb Blvd
San Antonio, TX 78253

Friday, January 16 and Saturday, January 17

Friday Afternoon Board Meetings
Friday Evening Social, Hospitality and Candidate Announcements
Saturday morning breakfast
Saturday noon luncheon
LIVE entertainment

Detailed itinerary soon!

Inclusive Cost: \$22.50 pp
Checks payable to: HCR Lions Club

Additional info: Lion Jay Hall 210-889-8062 email: <mailto:jay.hall123@gmail.com>
Lion Pres. Becky Boss 210-679-7610 email: <mailto:62theboss@att.net>

Featured Hotel
Fairfield Inn & Suites Sea World Westover Hills – A Marriott Property
4026 Wiseman Blvd.
San Antonio, TX 78251

GROUP RATE: \$85.00 plus tax

Hotel Reservations Line: (800) 228-9290
(Just mention "Lions Club Meeting")

Kerrville Host Lions Club:

The Kerrville Host Lions Club participated in the First United Methodist Church's Trunk or Treat celebration. We decorated the back of Lion John Lee's pickup and handed out candy to the children in costumes. Lion President Rick Flynn as our Lion was a great hit with the children – although some weren't exactly sure of him, others gave him hugs.



The annual Rifle Raffle fund-raiser winners looked forward to using their prizes:



Richard Smith won the rifle.



Kendall Davison won the Hog Hunt prize.

San Antonio Founder Lions Club:

On September 26, 2014, Founder Lions Arthur and Patty Browne, Robbie Parman, Jan Wolf, George Harvey, Marty Ross, and Rick Newburg packaged meals for Feed My Starving Children. Over the course of four days, volunteers in San Antonio packed 4,043,325 meals to be shipped to Jamaica, Haiti, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Honduras, Mexico, Rwanda, North Korea, and Liberia. The packets, when added with water, make a nutritious meal. Thank you, Lions!



From Lion Ken Book, Human Needs Board

Your District 2-A2 Human Needs Board would like to express their appreciation for the support shown by the Lion members who came out to Logan's Roadhouse on Thursday, October 23rd. In addition to an evening of fun and fellowship, a great tasty meal was enjoyed. Twenty percent (20%) of the total bill of those participating will be sent to District 2-A2 to be credited to your Human Needs Board!!

Nine clubs were represented and include Alamo Heights, Alamo City, Area Family Central Park, Kerrville Hear of the Hills, North San Antonio Hills, Northside, Northwest and Region 20 clubs.

Thanks to all who took the time from their busy schedules to join us!!





NEWS FOR TEXAS LIONS

MD-2 Lions 2015 State Convention Update

Registration for 2015 Lions State Convention Open

COLLEGE STATION — Registration is now open for the 2015 MD-2 State Lions Convention.

“Get Connected to Lions” is the theme of the state convention scheduled for College Station May 21-23, 2015.

The registration form is at <http://convention.texaslions.org/2015-college-station/registration/>

The form is a fillable pdf format. Type in your information, print, attach check and mail.

Need help or have questions regarding registration? Contact

PDG Charles Villeneuve, Registrar
PO Box 21
Seguin, TX 78156
Phone: 830-379-8632
Email: villeneuveins@satx.rr.com

More 2015 Texas Lions State Convention news and information is at
convention.texaslions.org

Get Connected to Lions



NEWS FOR TEXAS LIONS

MD-2 Lions 2015 State Convention Update

Past International President Coming to Texas

COLLEGE STATION — Past International President Barry J. Palmer of Berowra, NSW, Australia, will speak at the MD-2 Lions State Convention in College Station May 21-23.

PID Joe Al Picone says PIP Palmer will speak at the Saturday night banquet.

Past President Palmer was elected president of Lions Clubs International at the association's 96th International Convention in Hamburg, Germany, in 2013.

He was a real estate company director.

A member of the Hornsby Lions Club since 1976, he has held many offices within the association, including club president, zone chairperson, cabinet secretary, cabinet treasurer and district governor. He has served on numerous committees and as the Host Committee Chairperson for the 2010 Lions Clubs International Convention in Sydney, Australia.

In recognition of his service to the association, Past President Palmer has received many awards, including the 100% Club President Award, the 100% District Governor Award, nine International President's Medals and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the association bestows upon its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to his Lion activities, Past President Palmer is a recipient of the Australian Medal issued by the Australian government, the Australian Childhood Cancer Research Award and the Spastic Centre of NSW Award. He was a Pioneer Volunteer at the Sydney Olympics and a member of the New South Wales Paralympic Committee.

Past President Palmer and his wife Anne, also a Lion and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have three children and eight grandchildren.

Get Connected to Lions

CHRISTMAS FOR HILL COUNTRY TOTS

The Kerrville Sunrise Lions Club is conducting a children's winter clothing drive with the assistance of the Kerrville Professional Firefighters and Cascades Car Wash. You may drop off any "NEW" children's winter clothing item at any of the Kerrville Fire Stations or at Cascades Car Wash at 506 Junction Highway.

In addition, the Kerrville Sunrise Lions club is raising funds to support their "Christmas for Hill Country Tots" which benefits children in our community. This year the Kerrville Sunrise Lions are selling chances to win one of the following: one \$1,000 gift card; two \$500 gift cards; and four \$250 gift cards. Tickets are \$7.00 each or two for \$10.00. You may purchase these tickets from any Kerrville Sunrise Lions Club member or you can contact the Lions at (830) 895-8955 and leave a message. There will be a live remote on December 6th from 9:00 to 12:00 at Cascades Car Wash at 506 Junction Highway where the winning raffle tickets will be drawn at Noon. Please come join us.