



**Lion District 2-A2 Newsletter**

**Issue 4 – October, 2015**

### **From DG Jim Weed:**



The first quarter of Lions year 2015-2016 is in the history books. We're 30 members down so far this year compared to where we were at the close of Lions year 2015, but we're only 167 members away from having 2,000 Lions in District 2-A2. With 65 clubs in the District each club needs to add only 3 members, but 5 or 10 new members would be even better. More members means more service and more we can do for our communities.

I had the privilege of visiting the Devine Lions Club in September. The Devine Lions have a strong, active club and I could feel the energy in the room. I was also present for Charter Night for the district's newest club, the San Antonio Guide Dogs of Texas, Inc Lions Club. They might possibly have the longest Lions Club name in the world.

I always think of October as the eve of the holiday season and with the holidays comes many opportunities for our Lions to serve. Many clubs sponsor Halloween parties, allowing a safe environment for kids to celebrate a hundreds, perhaps thousand year old tradition.

Then there's Thanksgiving when Lions step up their support of food banks, prepare food baskets and work to see as many people as possible have a happy Thanksgiving.

Soon it will be Christmas, my favorite time of year. Christmas gives us the opportunity to serve so many children and families. Lions work special service projects for the homeless and the less fortunate at this time of year. The holidays bring out the best in Lions and gives us a chance to show our neighbors what we do while fulfilling our motto, "We Serve."

Does your club have special service projects during the holidays? If you do, send me an email at [jim@tantruminc.com](mailto:jim@tantruminc.com) and let me what it is. I'll share it with the district in a special way.

Now, get out there and invite someone to join your Lions Club so we can achieve that "One Act of Kindness, Two Thousand Times a Day."



# You Have to Have a Plan!

## October is Membership Growth Month

By Council Chairman Tom Blase

re-MEMBER Texas is our Texas membership plan for 2015-16. The plan is built around three main tenets: **Recruit, Retain, & Rebuild**. The recruiting component of the plan contains two parts. One involves YOU as individual members, which is what we discussed last month. This is the wooden nickel program. The other involves your club, as a group of members, under the direction of your Membership Director and is the part we want to discuss this month. This component is all about making a recruiting plan for the year and then putting it into action. The Seal Beach Lions made a plan and look what happened to them. WOW!

### **If You Build it, Lions Will Come**

(Taken from the September Lion, p51)

Five years ago the Seal Beach Lions Club was an active group with a large membership of 100. Aiming to do even better, they set their sights on becoming one of the top three clubs in California and developed a five-year strategic plan. Longtime Lion Scott Newton shares highlights of the club's growth to 288 members.

- “Our plan was designed to wow the community with service. Increased membership would be a byproduct of the plan. We called it ‘if you build it, they will come’—and they did.”
- “After doing an internal needs assessment and taking a hard look at what outdated traditions needed to change, we dramatically increased our community presence with hands-on service projects. We included Leos in nearly everything we did. We increased publicity and updated the Lions brand.”
- “We saw results much earlier than expected. People heard about us, saw us serving or came to one of our happy hours or bimonthly orientations.”
- “We became the number one club in California in three years. Now, our retention program is really a philosophy of Lionism—creating an environment with great meetings, a strong social element and many meaningful opportunities to serve.”

The re-MEMBER Texas kit contains two important pieces in it to help you with your recruiting plan: The re-MEMBER Texas News, a 14 page newspaper full of ideas for your club to build a recruiting plan and the 5 guides from LCI.

- The re-MEMBER Texas News can also be found on the Texas website ([www.texaslions.org](http://www.texaslions.org)), but if you have not received your kit from your District Governor call them and ask them for it.
- The “Just Ask” guide is the main guide you will find for this component of the plan, but the other 4 guides are also important in the internal assessment and retention phases. Once again, if you do not have your kit yet, look up the re-MEMBER Texas News on the Texas website ([www.texaslions.org](http://www.texaslions.org)) and go to page 8. This page will show you all 5 guides with step by step instructions on getting your own set sent to you by LCI.
- (By the way, if you don't have your wooden nickels yet, call your District Governor to get them.)

Your club can be another Seal Beach Lions Club. Whether you want to grow from 100 to 288 or from 10 to 28, you have to have a plan. Let re-MEMBER Texas help you get in the game. For Lions, autumn is the season to “Just Ask.” October's Membership Growth Month is a special time to share your excitement about serving with prospective new Lions. Get ready to rally with inspiration from Lions and resources from LCI.

## Texas Lions Foundation



Dear Fellow Lions,

Fall is officially here, and I am ready for some changes in our weather. It's been too hot and too dry for too long. Maybe it's just a figment of my imagination, but it seems just the slightest bit cooler early in the mornings. It is still hotter than Hades here in the afternoon, but this should begin to change in the next few weeks.

I normally don't put an article in the newsletter for three straight months, but I need to see the support for the Texas Lions Foundation start NOW and not in the last 3-4 months of the Lions year. This is complicated by the fact that I made a commitment over six months ago to another organization for the same weekend as our October Cabinet meeting.

I told you in earlier articles that 2A2 has the opportunity to set a record which should last for many years. And we do! You see, the Texas Lions Foundation has a special award for a district if it can lead the state in donations for two consecutive years. Only three districts have ever won that special award, and 2A2 is one of those three. We had a chance a few years ago when we led donations for 3 consecutive years to try and win it a second time, but alas, we fell short in the fourth year when a club in west Texas came through with a \$5000 donation from their districts – they took first place.

Now we have another chance to win a second award for the District. We took first place last year, so if we can win first place this year, we should set a record that will last many years. Won't you please help 2A2 make history this year? All I am asking of you at this time is to make pledges. Money can follow later this year as long as it is before June 30, 2016. So, I am asking for your help now and for the rest of this year.

Let's make 2A2 #1 in the state and #1 in our hearts. Together we CAN do this!

In 1998 the Foundation established several award categories that have helped entice individuals and clubs to contribute money to the Foundation.

The designated awards are:

1. Texas Lions Foundation 100% Club Award
2. The Texas Lions Foundation Award
3. The Texas Lions Fellow Award
4. The Ed Flood Award
5. The Cornerstone Club

Each club that contributed \$2 per member each year to the Texas Lions Foundation will be designated a 100% Texas Lions Foundation Club for the Lions year and will be so honored.

The Texas Lions Foundation Award is designated to honor a person in whose name a monetary gift of \$125 is given to the Foundation. The person honored will receive a 6" by 9" silver and gold plate.

The Texas Lions Fellow Award is given to honor a person or business in whose name a monetary gift in the amount of \$500 or more has been made to the Foundation. This Award consisting of a plaque and a pin will be presented on an appropriate occasion. A Plaque in the Texas Lions Foundation Office lists all Texas Lion Fellows and the year they were designated. For each \$500 additionally donated in the name of the same person to the Texas Lions Foundation, a diamond will be added to the pin. For example, a gift of \$1500 would entitle the individual to be a 2 star Texas Lions Progressive Fellow.

The Texas Lions Foundation Cornerstone Club: The Board of Trustees approved this Club as a means

of support for those who wish to make a contribution each year in order to assist with natural disasters and humanitarian grants.

Membership can be obtained by a contribution of \$100. A plaque will be sent with the donor's name and the year of the donation. There will be adequate space provided for ten years. A yearly donation will add to the plaque signifying the donor as having given for that calendar year.

We have all the procedures complete for a bank draft for donors to make a \$10 donation each month or \$120 per year. The additional \$20 per year will pay for the bank charge and handling fee for this method of payment.

Sincerely, John

See you at Mid-winter!

Now, who wants to make a pledge?

## Texas Lions Camp



Who owns the Texas Lions Camp? Every Lion in the state of Texas and there are 26,000 of us. If each one of us participated in TLC's Century Club and had \$10.00/month automatically drawn from our checking accounts Lions of the state of Texas would support TLC to the tune of \$2,600,000 a year. Or if you do like I do you can send a check for \$100 a year to participate. Either way you are supporting the camp and for this you will receive a wooden plaque and a medallion for each year you contribute. The plaque looks nice on the wall – I have two of them.

I also want to thank district treasurer Lion Bethann Rakowitz for printing the District Governor's 100% Voluntary Contributions in last month's newsletter. At year's end all 100% clubs in the district will be recognized for contributions over and above individual club services. If all clubs in the district contribute to the Governor's 100% then the governor receives a 24 carat gold pin from Texas Lions Camp. This is quite an honor for our governor and a very good looking pin. Let's all contribute and be recognized for our contribution and get the governor a gold pin.

There are other giving programs for Texas Lions Camp. Visit [www.lionscamp.com](http://www.lionscamp.com) and take a look. Support your Texas Lions Camp.

Lion Doug Thomas  
TLC Camp Director 2A2



## MD2 Convention Times

VOLUME 1 **\*\*SPECIAL EDITION\*\*** Oct. 2015



### Progress Causing Upheaval in Downtown Midland Original Convention Venue No Longer Tenable

Major demolition projects by the City of Midland over the next few months will make room for a new Convention Center, more hotels and additional parking in the middle of downtown. The projects are directly across the street and surrounding the original Texas Lions host hotel.

The demolition includes tearing down the current Midland Center, which would have been the site for several of the meals, seminars & workshops of the 2016 MD2 State Convention. In addition to the construction disturbance, the loss of the center would require using other venues some distance away. The original hotel is also using the opportunity to eliminate the majority of its attached parking spaces to make room for a 3 story parking garage. They will make use of the Convention Center parking 2 blocks away, since this will be unused during construction of the new center.

The Convention Committee felt that having to frequently drive to other venues when the parking would be blocks away from the hotel would not make the convention very pleasant. The committee decided to select an alternate site.

**Save the Dates  
May 19-21, 2016**

## The Grand Texan Hotel

Midland, Texas  
New Site for 2016 MD2  
State Convention



With over 15,000 Square feet of Convention Space, plus 4 large ballrooms, 2 enclosed atriums, indoor pool, miniature golf and workout room, the **Grand Texan Hotel**, located at 4300 W. Wall in Midland, will have ample room to host all the 2016 MD2 Convention events in one location. The Grand



Texan replaces the Doubletree Hotel in Downtown Midland as the host hotel, because the City of Midland voted to tear down the City Convention Center. The Grand Texan features a Pizza Parlor and Indian Cuisine, as well as a bar. Lions will be given a Convention rate of \$109.99/night.

**Directions:** Exit I-20 at Midkiff Rd. -go north. Turn left on Wall/ Buss. I-20. After the Thomason light get onto the north access road. Hotel approx. 1/2 miles on right past Ford dealership.



Centrally located in Midland, Grand Texan Hotel & Convention Center is convenient to I-20 Wildlife Preserve and Jenna Welch Nature Study Center, First American Bank Ballpark & Grande Com. Stadium.

Make yourself at home in one of the 253 individually decorated guestrooms, featuring refrigerators and microwaves. Complimentary wireless Internet access keeps you connected, and cable programming is available for your entertainment. Bathrooms have complimentary toiletries.

Enjoy a range of recreational amenities, including an indoor pool, a waterslide, an arcade/game room and a spa tub. This hotel also features a 24-hour business center, a computer station, and complimentary newspapers in the lobby. A roundtrip airport shuttle is complimentary (available on request).

#### For Grand Texan Reservations:

Call: **432-697-3181**

or

E-Mail:

[sales@grandtexan.com](mailto:sales@grandtexan.com)

(Provide your contact #'s for a return call)

Use block name: **Lions Club -**

**District 2A1** (Block closes 5/4/16)

Convention Rate: **\$109.99 King**

**or 2 Queens**

## Del Rio Lions Club

The Del Rio Host Lions club has been working to get PET's (Personnel Energy Transportation units into Acuna for those in need of them.

The PET is a hand peddled unit made with large tires to operate on unimproved roads and has a compartment in the rear to carry items.

Thursday August 27 members of the PET program in San Antonio were in Del Rio to deliver the latest shipment to the Lions and make several presentations to the key people that have been working on this project. The PET manufacturing program is the major project of the Northside Lions club of San Antonio.

Brenda Martinez secretary for DIF (Desarrollo Integral de La Familia) in Acuna had traveled to San Antonio and toured the PET assembly facility. While there saw help assemble a PET, that unit was brought to Del Rio as part of this shipment. Picture with Brenda is IPP Rodney Martinez and PET VP Joe Srubar.

PET president Tom Martin presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Lion Past President Rodney Martinez for his assistance in getting the PETs crossed into Acuna. President Martin also presented a Certification of Appreciation to club president Larry Martwig and all the past Lion presidents in attendance for their support of this project.

After lunch the PETs were loaded on to Rodney's truck (52) for delivery to Acuna.



## Floresville Lions Club

The Floresville Lions Club will hold its annual Peanut Brittle Contest on Oct. 10, 2015.

**Take the Challenge!**



*The Floresville Lions Club  
challenges YOU  
to make the best peanut brittle ever!*



Floresville Lions Club

# Peanut Brittle Contest

*Saturday, Oct. 10  
Judging at 9:30 a.m. at  
the Jailhouse Museum*

Peanut brittle must be homemade and in a clear,  
one-gallon container.

Trophies will be awarded for first, second, and third places, and  
honorable mention. NOTE: There will be no "specialty" categories this year.

For more info, call Lion Sylvia Madero at 210-415-9767  
or Lion LaJuana Newnam-Leus  
at 830-393-2166

## Kerrville Host Lions Club

### **Kerrville Host Lions Club**

P.O. Box 290972, Kerrville, TX 78029

### **Rifle Raffle**

*Please join the Kerrville Host Lions Club in sponsoring the Rifle Raffle to help contribute to our community needs such as:*

- Scholarships for Hill Country Students
- Any Baby Can
- Texas Lions Camp
- Recycling used eye glasses
- Kerrville school eye glasses program
- Lions Eye Foundation Program
- Habitat for Humanity
- Peterson Hospice
- Many others

Prizes to be raffled off:

1. Ruger American .270 cal. Rifle
2. H & R .17 cal. HMR
3. Handcrafted Leather Scoped Rifle Case.

*Each ticket holder will have their choice of the prize in order of drawing.*

**DRAWING HELD OCTOBER 20, 2015**

**Tickets Available from Host Lions Club Members Only,  
Gibsons Sports & Broadway Bank**

**Price: \$7.00 per ticket, 2 for \$10.00, 6 for \$25.00**

**For Information Call 844-253-4539**

**-Need Not Be Present To Win-**

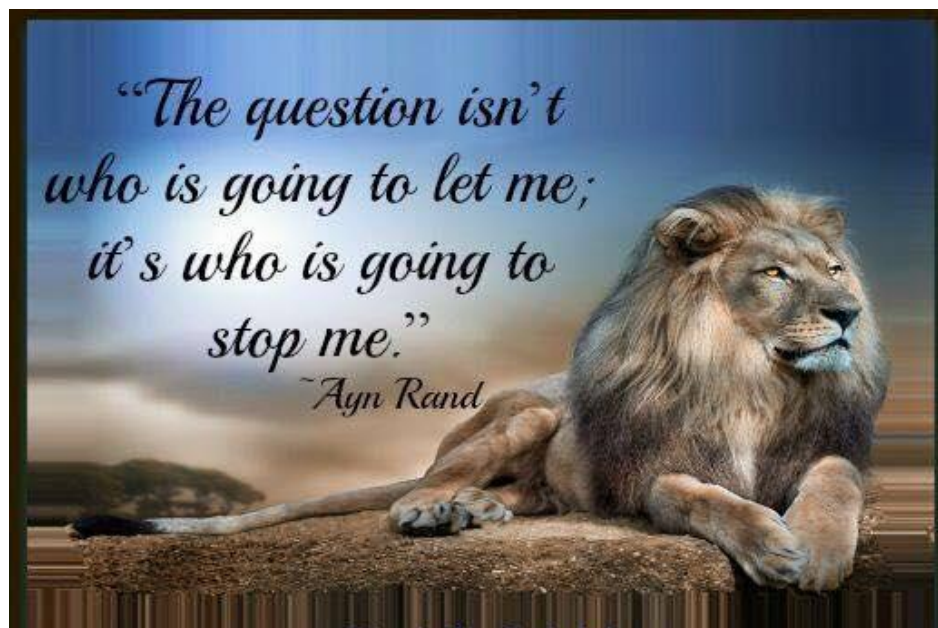


**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING  
Kendall N Davidson

**SECURITY STATE  
BANK & TRUST**  
The Hill Country Bank Since 1841  
Member FDIC

## La Vernia Lions Club

Adopt a Highway trash pickup project on a Saturday morning.



# “Trash & Treasure” and Bake Sale

**December 5, 2015**

**8:00am - 3:00pm**

Located at the

**La Vernia**

**Church of Christ**

131 Industrial Drive, La Vernia



## **Rummage Sale!**

*Got clutter...  
Donations are now  
being accepted.*

## **Bargains!**

*Something  
For Everyone!*

## **Bake Sale!**

*Lots of goodies  
will be available  
for sale.*

For details or more information on how to donate items  
for the Rummage Sale



**Please Contact**  
**Mary Ann Mays, (830) 779-3825**



*Proceeds benefit the La Vernia Lions charitable giving funds*  
[www.lavernialions.org](http://www.lavernialions.org)

# San Antonio Northwest Lions Club

Lion Stefanie Escobar reports:

1. 17 active members;1 dropped in good standing
2. Service Activities: We assisted the San Antonio ISD in distributing food to needy families on August 12 and again on August 26th. We served approximately 1000 families. We also donated and delivered school supplies to Fenwick and Myers Elementary schools to help students with school supplies.



# State Convention Planning

The planning committee for the MD2 state convention in 2017 held their first session at the Menger Hotel Saturday August 29. It is a little early but a few things had to be decided on for planning purposes. Later meetings will be held after the 2016 convention that will be held in Midland TX. May 19 - 22, 2016



## Windcrest Lions Club

### PLAN TO BUY FRESH CHRISTMAS GREENERY LIONS CLUB ANNUAL SALE

Yes, in October with HOT weather, it is still the time to plan ahead and order your fresh Christmas greenery. The Windcrest Lions Club will be taking orders for greenery again during the month of October. Most prices for the home delivery of fresh greenery from the Sherwood Forest Farms in Seattle, WA remained similar to last year. Greenery is expected to arrive the first few days in December and will be immediately delivered to your home by Lion members.

Greenery items are: **HOME DELIVERY:** 22" Noble Fir Wreath - \$23.00; Western 10' Cedar Garland (1) - \$22.00; Centerpiece - \$19.00; Noble Fir Door Sway - \$20.00; 28" Mixed Evergreen Wreath - \$34.00; 22" Mixed Evergreen Wreath - \$23.00; Holiday Cones - \$8.00; Optional Red & Gold Plaid Pre-Tied Bow - \$3.00; Decorator Kit (battery 10" candle, bow, LED lights, cones, berry picks) - \$15.00. **DIRECT MAIL DELIVERY:** 22" Mixed Evergreen Gift Wreath - \$41.00; Western 10' Cedar Gift Garlands (2) - \$44.00; Gift Centerpiece - \$36.00; Noble Fir Gift Door Swag - \$41.00; 28" Mixed Evergreen Gift Wreath - \$44.00; Cone Gift Basket - \$35.00; and Evergreen Gift Set (two garlands + one 22" wreath) - \$72.00.

If a Lions Club member does not contact you for orders, please call Francesca Harris, 210-257-6844 to place your order. Thank you in advance for your support to this annual fund-raising event, which provides revenues for Lions projects such as sight research, eye glass screening, dictionaries for third graders, Lions Children Camp in Kerrville and Lions Low Vision Center.

## KidSight and School Screening Program

The KidSight and School Screening Program had its 1st School Screening at Basis San Antonio. There were 204 children screened for Vision & Hearing.





# CHILI & CORNBREAD DINNER

A WINDCREST LIONS CLUB FUNDRAISER



The Windcrest Lions Club will be serving delicious homemade Chili. You can spice it up just the way you like it by adding corn chips, cheese, hot sauce, chopped onions, cilantro, and chili powder. Then grab a fresh hot slice of yummy cornbread. Top it off with a tasty dessert. Life is good!

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7th**

**5:00 – 7:30 PM**

**\$8 PER PERSON**

**(CHILDREN UNDER 10 EATING-IN ARE FREE)**

**WINDCREST CIVIC CENTER, TAKAS PARK**

9310 Jim Seal Drive, Windcrest, Texas

**EAT-IN OR CARRY-OUT**

*Thank you for supporting our Lions Club Charities!*



**DISCOUNT IF YOU BUY YOUR  
TICKET IN ADVANCE FROM ANY  
WINDCREST LIONS CLUB MEMBER!**

Save \$1 per ticket  
Call Lion Marilyn: 210-233-1259  
Or Lion Don: 210-383-5782

## Stockdale Lions Club

The Stockdale Lions had a great day at the Mobile Health Fair. This was our first year to host this type of event. It was the first of many more to come!!

