



## Lion District 2-A2 Newsletter

Issue 6 – December, 2015

### From DG Jim Weed:



It's December. Time for Pancha Ganapati, Hanukkah, Bodhi Day (Day of Enlightenment) and for me, Christmas. December has a lot of different holidays and celebrations for Lions all around the world. Lions follow many different faiths, religions and beliefs, but we all share the "We Serve" motto of the International Association of Lions Clubs.

In fulfilling our creed, Lions Clubs in Texas and District 2-A2 step up their efforts to ensure men, women, children and families are able to celebrate the holidays in December regardless of their economic circumstances. In our District alone, Clubs will give tens of thousands of dollars in food, clothing, toys and cash to make December special for our neighbors and those in need. To me, December is the month that Lions of District 2-A2 shine the brightest.

In other news, the District 2-A2 Peace Poster Contest has been completed and we have a great entry for the MD-2 contest. Personally I believe the poster sponsored by the La Vernia Lions Club will be the MD-2 entry to Lions International and will be in contention for the winner of the international contest. We'll be posting pictures of this year's District entries on-line soon.

During this holiday season take time to celebrate with your family and friends. Watch for the opportunity to perform that one act of kindness. Let's join together to show our communities the power of one act of kindness, two thousand times a day.

Thank you for all you do.

Lion Jim Weed

You can follow me around at:

Google Plus <https://google.com/+JimWeed>

Twitter @JimWeedTexas <https://twitter.com/JimWeedTexas>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/jim.weed.969>

You Tube <https://www.youtube.com/user/jim78840>





## re-MEMBER Texas - a simple problem of subtraction

By Council Chairman Tom Blase

Last month we started delving into the “retention” prong of our re-MEMBER Texas plan with a discussion of your personal responsibility in “keeping ‘em”: Making them feel wanted by the members. If you want your new member to become a permanent part of your club they need a lot of TLC. Doing such things as calling & reminding them of meetings & projects. Offer to pick them up. Make sure they are not sitting alone at a table. Make sure your Club has a thorough orientation program, if not do it yourself. Appoint a mentor and enroll your new Lion in the mentoring courses. Make sure they are inducted with a meaningful ceremony.

But there is a second, very important, part to the retention puzzle which is more a function of your club and its leadership team: Making them feel needed & useful in the service goals of your club.

re-MEMBER Texas is our Texas membership plan for 2015-16. The plan is built around three main tenets: **Recruit, Retain, & Rebuild**. 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 & Guides for your club. 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 him/her and ask for it.

The guides in our re-MEMBER Texas kit don't really address this part of the equation. There are guides for orientation, proper induction, and recruiting, as well as rebuilding your club, but nothing that really addresses getting them involved & feeling needed and useful. If your club doesn't really have any true “service” projects (maybe you are just into fund raisers), or the projects your club has are no longer relevant to your community in today's world, you are not going to keep new Lions, especially younger ones, in your club. If that is the case, your club may need some reassessment and **re-building**, the third prong which we will start exploring next month.

However, if your club has meaningful projects, one key to retention is making sure your members are called and invited to be a part of your projects. Knowing their interests and what special skills they have should be considered. Another key is to make sure your Club has appointed project chairpersons, who understand the project, but listen well and are open to suggestions. The old brush offs: “we've never done it that way” or “we tried that before but it doesn't work” has probably cost us more Lions than we could ever count. Lions International website has all sorts of leadership training courses, that can help your leaders and chairman do a better job integrating new people into the project, helping them find a meaningful task, and being able to accept good ideas and make changes to better the project.

It's been said before that Lions don't have a recruiting problem, we know how to add them by the thousands every year. What we haven't figured out very well after almost 99 years is how to quit subtracting them. re-MEMBERING Texas truly then is a simple problem of subtraction. If you can figure out how to make your members feel comfortable and happy in the club and needed and wanted in service, you will turn it into an addition success.



## YEAR END THOUGHTS and ways to help

Lion Sam, Lion Chris and the Board of Directors wish each of you a Joyous and Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

We are excited about the growth of our Screening programs and the addition of the Diabetes Awareness – “wake up call” element that is critically needed. We are committed to adding many to our ranks, especially, “not-yet” Lions who are sympathetic to this cause. And chief among those are businesses that can partner with us and allow us to broadcast their help to our communities.

The MESU is working hard and PDG Chris, MESU Manager, has built new teams made up of 1<sup>st</sup> Year Med Students and Physician Asst.; Nursing; and Occupational & Physical Therapy Students to help on weekends. Several of you have stepped up to serve on Lions Teams to work weekday opportunities that are opening up and we still need more. And we have added a new Kids' Camera on the MESU so, now, we screen the whole family. The Region 20 Lions will be hosting MESU and KidSight at the HEB “Feast of Sharing” at the SA Convention Center on Dec. 19 and hundreds more will be screened there.

Congratulations to Lion Janie, Lion Ken and Lion Debbie, Lion Rosemary and Lion Cecilia and the other great Lions who have performed above and beyond this Fall to screen over 3,000 children, so far. And congratulations for the great KENS TV 5 segment that highlighted the KidSight Program and gave the public a wonderful look at “typical” Lions at work.

Since our calendar year is coming to its end, we would be remiss if we didn't offer a reminder to each of you as individual Lions. We are always inviting Clubs to make donations or to recognize good members with our variety of recognition Fellowships and other items such as our LSRF Sustaining Member designation. In that vein, you are also encouraged to look at another article in this Newsletter to “Save the Date” for this year's Stride for Sight.

*But this message goes out to each of you who may be thinking about year-end tax deductible contributions to charities whose mission is aligned with your personal preferences.*

We shared a re-enactment of Helen Keller's invitation to us to serve as “Knights of the Blind” at the Castroville Cabinet Meeting. We also shared that the LSRF's primary goal is to provide the best level of resources to help our Clubs fulfill that role as Helen's Knights.

Important in that, is the need to have a stream of funding. We would ask you to consider year end tax-deductible contributions to the LSRF, an IRS 501(c), 3 designated organization. Know that your donation can be used as you wish and can be either “Unrestricted” or designated as “Restricted” for our Eye Health Program or for our LSRF Endowment Fund.

For information about this topic or anything else associated with District 2-A2 Lions Sight Research Foundation, Inc., do not hesitate to contact Lion Sam at 210 326 3915; email at [lsrf.sam@gmail.com](mailto:lsrf.sam@gmail.com). We are always available to visit and talk about the current work and future plans.

We appreciate your continued support.  
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!



# SAVE THIS DATE

## SATURDAY — MARCH 19, 2016



**Soler's - TRI-SPORTS**  
14405 Old Bandera Rd. Helotes, Tx 78023  
(Old Helotes) benefit event for Lions Eye Health Program



**CHECK OUT ALL THESE EVENTS** and Think about all your **FRIENDS** that **COULD JOIN US!!**

**5K Run/Walk : Pooch & Partner 5K Run/Walk : Standard Wheel Chair 1/2 Mile**

*ALL KINDS OF POOCHES ARE WELCOME*

\$25 until March 15, 2016 - After March 15 - \$30; Race Day - \$35 (cash/check)

Other FREE Events: Kids Run (10 & under) - Service Pooch & Partner 1/2 Mile - White Cane Obstacle Race

HERE'S WHERE YOUR CLUB CAN REALLY HELP AND HAVE  
*A LOT OF FUN AT THE SAME TIME - WE ARE ASKING ALL CLUBS THAT CAN,*  
*TO COMPETE FOR THE TEAM AWARDS (MEMBERS; FRIENDS; & FAMILY) & HAVE*  
**10 or 12 WALKERS / RUNNERS AND COME OUT AS A TEAM**

**FOR ALL OTHERS WE ARE ASKING THEM TO:**

**BUILD A TEAM / GIVE it a NAME** — Minimum 4 Members for minimum donation of \$100.00  
**WIN TEAM SPONSORSHIP AWARDS** for Largest TEAM & Largest DONATION RAISED

**ONLINE REGISTRATION** at <https://SolarsSports.formstack.com/forms/lionsstrideforsight5k>  
Registering by mail, (FORM WILL BE IN NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER)

**AGE GROUP Increments** ---

Ages: 11-19 ; 20-29 ; 30-39 ; 40-64 (Masters) ; 65 and up (Super Seniors) **ALL POOCHES WELCOME**

**Awards & Recognition:** Top M/F 5K RUN / Walk Overall Winners

Top M/F 5K In Age Groups - Top M/F Pooch & Partner In Age Groups

Top M/F Wheel Chair & Svc Pooch / Ptnr-1/2 Mile Winners Top M/F Kids Run



**TEAM SPONSOR AWARDS— Largest Team; Largest Donation**

Questions? Call (210) 326-3915 or email [spantusa@yahoo.com](mailto:spantusa@yahoo.com)

*OUR GUIDE DOGS and LIGHTHOUSE LIONS will be helping with  
Service Pooch and White Cane Events*

**LOTS OF FOOD** **LOTS OF FUN**  
**LOTS OF PRIZES** **GREAT GOODY BAGS**

**DJ MUSIC**

## Peace Poster Contest

District Peace Posters submission were judged on November 18th at the Universal City Library. There were eight entries from six clubs; La Vernia, Northwest, China Grove, Del Rio Host, Del Rio San Felipe, and Windcrest. The winning entry was drawn by Levi Grace Martinez, who was sponsored by the La Vernia Lions Club.



Levi Grace Martinez  
LaVernia



Carley Cannon  
LaVernia



Lana Jesseph  
LaVernia



Angelina Garza  
Northwesr



Maureen Menaz  
China Grove



Vincent Range  
Windcrest



Irene Lenos  
Del Rio Host



Tyler Carter  
Del Rio San Felipe

## Floresville Lions Club

The Floresville Lions Club combines both fun and service to the community every Halloween by attending "The Dark Side of F Street" -- hosted by Lions Sylvia and Roy Madero. During the event Oct. 31, Leo Club members sponsored a canned-food drive to benefit the Floresville Food Pantry and Resource Center.

The winners and high bidders in the Floresville Lions Club's annual peanut brittle contest line up to show off their trophies and prize-winning peanut brittle. The first-place winner was (l-r) Fay Rogers, won by EZ Stop, represented by Linda Pipes; the second-place winner was Gloria Serna, won by Talley Benefits, represented by Michelle Talley and Mikaela Talley; third place went to Catherine Meyers and was won by Trent Rowell, represented by Molly Rowel. Viola Henke received honorable mention, and the high bidder was FELPS, represented by William Bissette. All the winners joined Lions Club members for lunch Nov. 5 at Jack's Cafe.



Floresville Lions Club members Roy Madero, Sylvia Madero, and Lee Gonen listen Nov. 5 as Karen Hannum of the Floresville Food Bank and Resource Center thanks the Lions Club for its latest donation, \$206 collected during the Maderos' Halloween event, "The Dark Side of F Street." Hannum joins the Lions Club for lunch every first Thursday of the month to pick up food donations from Lions Club members.



Lion La Juana Newnam-Leus (left), President of the Floresville Lions Club, hands club treasurer Lion Rhonda Williamson donations of more than \$4,000 to assist in Floresville's tornado relief during the Lions meeting Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>. The donations were sent to the local club from other clubs in District 2A2, including the Three Rivers Lions Club, the Northwest Lions Club, the Texas Lions Foundation, the Del Rio Host Lions Club, and the Alamo Heights Lions Club. Past District Governor Manny Carrillo and his wife, Lion Diana Carrillo, also made a personal donation. All these donations prove that the Lions Club motto, "We Serve", is in fact true.



## Lions KidSight and School Screening Program

KENS 5 Reporter, Sharon Ko, interviewed Lion Ken Book regarding the Lions KidSight and School Screening Program. The segment aired on November 18<sup>th</sup>.



## Del Rio Lions Club

The Del Rio Host Lions Club had a Veterans Appreciation Luncheon on Saturday, November 7, 2015 at the local VFW and about 250 Veteran attended. Lunch was served and had a lot of door prizes were given out. The Del Rio Host Leos also helped out.



## Kerrville Host Lions Club

The Kerrville Host Lions Club participated in the annual Kerrville Christmas Parade on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>. Participating with us were Oran Lewis, Heart of the Hills Lions Club who supplied the truck and trailer, and Cheryl Butler from the Sunrise Lions Club.





*Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year*

*Feliz Navidad y Prospero  
Año Nuevo*

