



Lion District 2-A2 Newsletter Issue 3 – September, 2015

From DG Jim Weed:



August started out hot and then got hotter. It has been so hot this August that my dogs refused to go outside and wanted stay under the air conditioning vent and sleep. This observation has nothing to do with Lions, but don't you agree? "It's been hot!"

August also started with a visit from Lions International President Dr. Yamada from Japan during the first Council of Governors meeting for 2015-2016 in Kerrville. Dr. Yamada visited the Texas Lions Camp and joined us for both the camp breakfast and camp picnic. The breakfast was exciting with PID Mike Butler and Lion Trish Wilson from the Texas Lions Camp racing to see who could collect the most money the fastest. We caught it on video and you can see it on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/7fLrMf4ilRM>. We also have video of International President Dr. Yamada's remarks at the camp breakfast <https://youtu.be/7a1jnvvOi0Y>.

PDG Marshal Cooper inducted the new members into the Texas Lions Past District Governor Association during the Fellowship Banquet. The most important part of that induction can be watched at <https://youtu.be/34u6vPkAcpM>. PDG Marshal did his usual great job and was inspiring to witness. Well, "inspiring" may not be the right word, but watch the video and let me know what you think.

Dr. Yamada was the keynote speaker for the Fellowship Banquet. We were able to video most of his remarks and that video is posted at <https://youtu.be/IKmG9ZrbMi4>. While you're watching these videos click on that "subscribe" button you see if you're not already a subscriber.

And all that was just August first.

The new Boerne Lions Club held their Charter Banquet on August 6. It was a wonderful evening with Lions from several clubs around the District there to show their support. I'd have some video of that night too except someone forgot to take the camera (rumors are it was me). IPDG Sam Pantusa, 1st VDG John Lee and 2nd VDG Donald Kirchoff worked hard to help form this new club and to ensure it has a strong beginning. The new Lions are roaring to go (insert your own groan factor at this point for

the bad pun).

I was privileged to attend a meeting of our District's Opportunities for Youth Committee chaired by Lion Ken Book and attended by all the contest coordinators: Outstanding Youth Contest Coordinator, Lion Leslie Herrera; Diabetic Essay Contest Coordinator, Lion Janie Garza; Young Women's Scholarship Pageant Coordinator, Lion Mary Ann Mays; Drug Awareness Speech Contest Coordinator, Lion Able Martinez; and Peace Poster Contest Coordinator, Lion Marilyn Weed.

The committee is working to encourage more clubs in our District to participate. This is an opportunity for high school students to win scholarships and gain valuable experience that will be useful as they go to college. The Peace Poster Contest is an opportunity for a middle school aged child to receive international recognition at the United Nations. Information about this year's contests will be on our District website soon at <http://district2a2.org>.

I'll be closing out August with a visit to the Menger Hotel to meet with Council Chair Elect TJ, PCC Mike and others to start planning for the State Convention that will be held in San Antonio in 2017. Two years from now may sound like a long time, but we want District 2-A2 to really shine as we host the Lions of Texas during Lions International century of service celebration. This will be no ordinary State Convention I promise.

This year's State Convention will be in Midland, Texas. I hope you're making plans to attend. Information for the 2016 State Convention is at <http://texaslions.org>.

So now it's on to September. The USA/Canada Forum is September 17 through September 19. I'll be visiting the Devine Lions Club on September 22. I'm looking forward to seeing all the Devine Lions and if you're in the area stop by for lunch. The Devine Lions Club meets at the Triple C Restaurant on IH 35 in Devine starting at about 11:30.

That's all the rambling I have for this article. Please visit our District website often and subscribe to my YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/jim78840>. I sure don't want people to think I have only 21 friends. Get a twitter account and follow me @JimWeedTexas. You can also follow what's going on with MD-2, Texas by following @TXLionsPR.

Lion Jim Weed
2-A2 District Governor

Peace Poster Contest

If your club hasn't done this already please order your Peace Poster kit from Lions Club International before Oct 1, 2015.

I'm working on a location for a showing/ public display for all Peace Poster submissions. More details to follow. Club's Peace poster submission need to be in my hands by Nov 15th, 2015. Any questions please let me know

Marilyn Weed, District 2A2 Peace Poster Chairwoman

District Governor's 100% Voluntary Contributions

Each District Governor establishes a list of Lion's charities deemed to be worthy of club consideration for contributions. A club should consider any and or all of the recommendations after all local needs have been met.

At year's end all 100% clubs will be recognized for contributions over and above individual club services.

Separate checks should be written for each charity. The checks should be sent to Lion Bethann Rakowitz, District 2-A2 Treasurer.

<u>Charity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
*Texas Lions Camp	\$10.00/per member
*District 2-A2 LSRF	\$ 5.00/per member
*Texas Lions Foundation	\$ 2.00/per member
*LCI Foundation	\$ 1.00/per member
District 2-A2 Hearing Board	\$ 1.50/per member
District 2-A2 Human Needs Board	\$ 1.50/per member
Texas Guide Dog	\$ 1.00/per member
San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind	\$ 1.00/per member
Leader Dog Program	\$ 1.00/per member
PET Project	\$ 1.00/per member
Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center (TLERC)	\$ 1.00/per member
World Service for the Blind	\$ 1.00/per member
San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind	\$ 1.00/per member

A 100% club will donate to the four listed with an *, and select three of your choice from the remaining nine.

If you have any questions concerning the Governor's 100% Award, please e-mail Lion Bethann Rakowitz at bethann.rakowitz@att.net

Thank you for supporting your District.

Lion Bethann Rakowitz
848 Secretariat Dr
Cibolo, TX 78108

Clubs who wish to honor individual members may donate to one or more of these categories in the name of the honoree.

Lions Clubs International Foundation

Melvin Jones Fellow **\$1,000**

Lions Sight Research Foundation

LSRF Fellowship **\$1,000**

Low Vision Fellowship **\$1,000**

Miracle Circle Membership **\$ 500**

Life Membership **\$ 250**

Foundation Associate Membership **\$ 125**

Texas Lions Camp

Jack Wiech Fellow **\$1,000**

Life Member (per member) (with plaque) **\$ 100**

Century Club (per member per month) **\$ 125**

Youth Contest Planning



Texas Lions Foundation



We are Number 1 ---Again !!!!!

The numbers are complete for this past Lions year, and District 2A2 is #1 in donations again. Statewide, approximately \$103,000 was collected, and 2A2 collected a little over \$15,000. This is one of the closest races we have had in recent years. District 2X3 led for most of the year, and it wasn't until the middle of June that we caught up with them. Thanks to the assistance of fellow Lions contacting friends, neighbors and other Lions Clubs (particularly Lions LaJuana and Nancy), we were able to raise almost \$3,000 in the last 2 weeks of the year and surge to the lead! District 2X3 ended in second place with \$13,000; District 2S5 was in 3rd place with almost \$12,000. At the first Cabinet meeting of this year both Lions Nancy and LaJuana received Texas Lions Foundation awards for their efforts. Lion Alice Lopez received the first award of this year when she also received a Texas Lions Foundation award. What a great way to start the year!



District 2A2 has a unique opportunity during this year. If we can stay #1, 2A2 can establish a record which should stand for decades; records are made to be broken. I will provide more details as the year progresses.

This past weekend I had the privilege and pleasure of meeting our new International President from Japan, Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada. He and his wife are both neurosurgeons. His quick smile, his concern for people and their welfare and his ability to not only lead but also serve is readily apparent. His theme is "Bring Dignity to Others through Humanitarian Service" I foresee this being a good year for Lions worldwide. Let's rededicate ourselves and make it happen!

This is my ninth year to be on the Texas Lions Foundation, and I am not going to be here forever, so the district needs to start thinking about someone to take my place. This is a position where one needs to spend some time, money, and travel in order to do the job right. One cannot sit and wait for the clubs to bring in donations; it takes hustle to get the job done. If someone wants this job but sees it only as a political appointment or just adding a line on the old resume, please don't bother applying. If you want to work by caring, sharing, and serving, come on in! The basic truth still remains the same. We are "Texas Lions Helping Fellow Texans."

In service,
PDG John Seale



“From Four to Full Bore” **What “re-MEMBER Texas” is all about**

By CC Tom Blase

What a fantastic story in the July/August Lion magazine (“From Four to Full Bore”, pg.44). “Down to just 4 members, a club in a small North Dakota Town rebounds thanks to Facebook and an old-fashioned, father – and – son chat.” This is not just a story of a **recruiting** drive, taking a Lions Club from near extinction (like many of our own Clubs) to 30 members with an average age of 33 in less than a year. No, this is the story of a club that figured out what it took to attract new members into their old, dying club and reinvented themselves into a vibrant club that is relevant to its community again - **rebuilt** itself into a club that will **retain** these new members because the club has a purpose which is meaningful to a younger generation.

So what is “**re-MEMBER Texas**” and how does it fit into this success story? re-MEMBER Texas is a membership plan put together by your Council of Governors for 2015-16 to help the Clubs of Texas rebuild. re-MEMBER Texas is a battle cry for all Texas clubs, just as remember the Alamo was our Texas battle cry 180 years ago. It is built around three main tenets: **Recruit, Retain, & Rebuild**. re-MEMBER Texas is a tool box full of ideas to help Club leaders make a plan, involve your members, examine your purpose for existing in your community, and rebuilding your club into something that attracts members.

For years, since Texas membership started sliding from 45,000 members to its 26,000 today, each new group of District Governors, Club Presidents, and other leaders come in and exhort you to get more members and keep the ones you have. How for the most part has been left up to you. This year’s Council has the same cry, but wanted to give Club leaders a TOOL BOX (the re-MEMBER Texas Kit) to work with.

Are you a Club president or Membership Chairperson and don’t know what I’m talking about? Each District Governor may approach the delivery of this material in a different way, but if you don’t have yours yet, there is no need to wait. Get on the NEW rebuilt Texas website (www.texaslions.org) and click on the re-MEMBER Texas button. Open up the re-MEMBER Texas News, a newspaper that will tell you all about re-MEMBER Texas. All items in the kit are explained on page 8, including how you can order them for yourself from LCI. Then call your District Governor and ask him/her when you can get going on the re-MEMBER Texas coin/wooden nickel program. If you need help, set up a date with the DG Team to sit down and help you build a plan.

As with the small club in the story, getting new members will NOT solve your problem by itself. It is the 3 pronged attack of re-MEMBER Texas: recruit the right people and rebuild/reinvent your club with retention of these new members in mind. If you will attack the problem with energy & enthusiasm like they did, making use of the tools in the re-MEMBER Texas Kit and the help of your District Leadership, “Four to Full Bore” will be the success story for hundreds of Texas Lions Clubs this year. Will you be one?



SAVE THE DATE



**The San Antonio
Founder Lions Club**

**will celebrate its 100th Anniversary on
Friday, October 9, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. at the
Gunter Hotel, the location of the first Lions
Meeting held on October 8, 1915.**

**Guest Speaker will be PDG and Past President
of the Texas Lions Camp Sam Lindsey**





Dr. Frederick Terrell • 1915



William G. Higgins • 1925



Barney Sadovsky • 1935



David Splitek • 2015

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October 9, 2015, at 6:30 pm
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location of the first
Lions Meeting held on
October 8, 1915**



Alton C. Rieden • 1945



Dick Porter • 2005



W. Grant Bechtel • 1955



Barbara Stover • 1995



George Harvey • 1985



Roland Arnold • 1975



Henry Simms • 1965



ANNOUNCING
the
CHARTER NIGHT CELEBRATION
San Antonio Guide Dogs of Texas
Lions Club

Sponsor Club: San Antonio Central Park Lions Club

Friday, September 25, 2015

to be held at

Little Italy Restaurant

824 Afterglow (West Ave. at Blanco Rd.) San Antonio, Tx 78216

Social - 6:15pm

Dinner – 7:00pm

Keynote Speaker

Lion M. P. "MIKE" BUTLER

PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR

Cost -- \$ 25.00 per person please **RSVP** by **September 21**
call Annie at 210 366 4081 or email Ed Harloe at edharloe@live.com
Checks to be made payable to **GDTx Lions Club**



for other information: IPDG Lion Sam Pantusa 210 326 3915 email – spantusa@yahoo.com

Boerne Lions Club Charter Banquet

The new Boerne Lions Club held their Charter Banquet on August 6. It was a wonderful evening with Lions from several clubs around the District there to show their support. IPDG Sam Pantusa, 1st VDG John Lee and 2nd VDG Donald Kirchoff worked hard to help form this new club and to ensure it has a strong beginning. The new Lions are roaring to go.



Council of Governors

On July 31st and August 1st the Council of Governors held their meeting at the YO Ranch Hotel & Conference Center in Kerrville. International President Dr. Yamada was in Texas as guest of the MD2 Council of Governors for their first council meeting in Kerrville.



Texas Lions Camp Presidents's Picnic – July 31st



Texas Lions Camp Breakfast – August 1st



Founder Lions at the Texas Lions Camp serving dinner and awarding scholarships to two worthy counselors.



LIONS OF TEXAS

WHAT
Social Media Launch

WHERE
Instagram: @txlionspr

Facebook: MD2TexasLions
([www.facebook.com/
md2texaslions](http://www.facebook.com/md2texaslions))

Twitter: @txlionspr

WWW.TEXASLIONS.ORG

MOTTO
We Serve

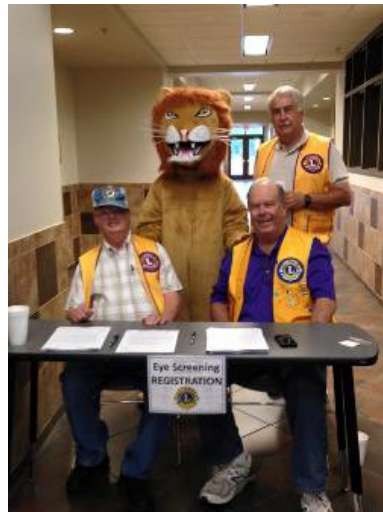
**MISSION
STATEMENT**
To empower volunteers to
serve their communities,
meet humanitarian needs,
encourage peace and
promote international
understanding through Lions
clubs.

**VISION
STATEMENT**
To be the global leader in
community and
humanitarian service.

CONTACT US
Submit your photos and
event/project details via
e-mail to:
[texaslionssocialmediateam
@outlook.com](mailto:texaslionssocialmediateam@outlook.com)

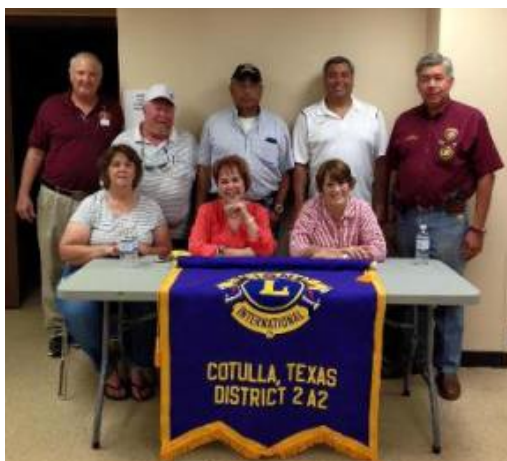
Eye Screenings

On August 1, 2015, the Kerrville Host, Center Point, Kerrville Heart of the Hills and Stockdale Lions Clubs held a vision screening at the Salvation Army Kroc Center's Back To School fair in Kerrville. 55 children were checked with the PediaVision Spot VS100. Of those tested, 12 were referred to a doctor.



Cotulla Lions Club

The Cotulla Lions Club conducted an eye screening at the "Back to School Health Fair" in Cotulla.



Boerne Lions Club

Boerne Lions Club at the Texas Lions Camp helping arriving campers with their luggage.



Floresville Lions Club



Lion Paul Sack (left) is presented with the Lion of the Year award by Floresville Lions Club President Ben Reed during the installation event May 17. Lion Paul has served in the past as president for two years, and is responsible for our wonderful Kiddie Park in the city park -- he's worked for two or three years to see it was completed and maintained. His participation in our club is invaluable, as Lion Paul is always ready and willing to take on new tasks if asked. Congrats, Lion Paul!

New 2015-2016 officers for the Floresville Lions Club are ready for an exciting new year after being inducted July 17. Those attending the installation evening were (front, l-r) Lion Tamer Gene Perkins, Secretary Nancy Hosek, Second Vice President Sylvia Madero, President LaJuana Newnam-Leus, Two Year Directors Sejal Patel and Lorena Bourland, First Vice President Sara Canady, (back) Membership Director Paul Sack, Tail Twister Glen Mabe, Immediate Past President Ben Reed, and Leo Club Advisor Lee Gonen. Lion Paul Sack was also awarded the Lion of the Year award and Lion Sylvia Madero received the Bob Workman Excellence in Lionism award.



The new 2015-2016 president of the Floresville Lions Club, Lion LaJuana Newnam-Leus, closes out the installation evening by thanking Past President Ben Reed for his service as president for the last two years, and discussing her vision for the future. We are so fortunate to have this Lions Club Hall of Fame recipient in our club! She is the epitome of the Lions Club motto, "We Serve!"

LaVernia Lions Club

The LaVernia Lions conducted their annual “Stuff the Bus” project to provide supplies for children going back to school.



This year's La Vernia Wild West Hammerfest Bicycle Ride is shaping up to be one of the biggest ever! We're ready to get volunteers signed up to help on event day. Hammerfest will be on Saturday, September 12 at the La Vernia City Park - we're looking for hospitality & registration volunteers, volunteer photographers, help with our H-E-B KidZone & Bike Rodeo with face painting and other fun activities. If you and/or your family or group are interested in volunteering at Hammerfest, please send an email to info@laverniawildwesthammerfest.org with your name, phone number, t-shirt size and what you're interested in helping with, as soon as possible. Learn more about Hammerfest at www.laverniawildwesthammerfest.org. Thank you and please share with your friends.



West Side Lions Club



West Side Lion Johnny Villalobos, Jr. presents a \$500.00 check to the San Antonio Area Food Bank. The presentation took place during KRNS 5's "Friday Food Fight" promotion featuring the Lions vs. Tigers. The program aired on KENS 5 news, 4 PM edition on June 19th. Shown are Good Bank CEO Eric Cooper, KENS 5 News Anchor Sarah Lucero, and Lion Johnny Villalobos, Jr. The Lions won!

San Antonio Northside Lions Club

The Northwest Lions were very busy in August we did 4 service Projects.
1 Helped distribute Food to the SAISD needy families in partnership with SAISD Lion John Guardia and the Food Bank of San Antonio. We delivered \$400 dollars of school supplies to two elementary schools Fenwick Elementary in the SAiD, and Meyers Elementary In the NSISD We had great participation with over 50% of our club showing up.



Northside Lions Luncheon

Had lunch today with Lion Mac MacCain from the Brackettville Lions club and the Northside Lions club where a plaque was presented to Dr. Fobert S. Thompson OD for the used Optometry equipment he donated to the Lions. IPDG Sam Pantusa made the presentation on behalf of the Texas Lions Eye Glass Recycling center In Midland. Lion Mac is a member of the Recycling Center State board of directors and assisted IPDG Sam with the presentation.



What is low vision?

It is when—even with regular glasses, contact lenses, medicine, or surgery—people find everyday tasks difficult to do.

What causes low vision?

Low vision is usually caused by—



Eye diseases or health disorders

Eye injuries



Birth defects

What are the numbers?

2.9

2.9 million Americans have low vision.

72%

Expected to increase 72 percent by 2030.

Most people with low vision are 65 or older.

What can I do?



See an eye care professional.

Learn about vision rehabilitation.

Get a good support team—You, your primary eye care professional, a specialist in low vision, and your rehabilitation specialists.



What is vision rehabilitation?

Vision rehabilitation services

Services that help people make the most of their vision and keep their independence by teaching them how to—

- Move safely around the home.
- Carry out daily living skills safely.
- Find resources and support.
- Use magnifiers and other adaptive devices.

Source: National Eye Institute, 2013

Where can I learn more?
Visit www.nei.nih.gov/lowvision

Dear contact lens wearer,

YOU ONLY HAVE ONE PAIR OF EYES



SO TAKE CARE OF THEM!

When it comes to wearing contacts, healthy habits mean healthy eyes. Follow these tips to help prevent eye infections.

YOUR HABITS



Wash and dry your hands before touching your contacts.

Don't sleep in your contacts (unless your eye doctor tells you it's OK).

Avoid wearing contacts while showering, swimming, or using a hot tub.

