



Lion District 2-A2 Newsletter Issue 5 – November, 2015

From DG Jim Weed:



I received an email from our newsletter editor, Lion Barb Flynn, reminding me to submit my article for the November District Newsletter. Although I was well aware that today is Halloween, it never dawned on me that it is also October 31st. Where did October go? My sometimes confused brain was thinking I had another week.

October was busy. It started out with my home club's big project of the year, "Night in Ole Converse," on October 2nd and 3rd. I even got to ride in the parade as Parade Marshall. That was a great honor.

Then there was National Night Out in Converse, San Antonio Founder Lions Club's 100th anniversary, the 2nd cabinet meeting, visiting the three Lions Clubs in Kerrville, a visit to the San Antonio Edgewood Lions Club, celebrating San Antonio Alamo Heights Lions Club anniversary, and then jury duty.

Then the month closed with severe storms causing damage in Floresville, D'Hanis and other areas in the district. I spent some time on the phone checking to see who needed help and where. As always the Lions in the district were on hand to help where needed. I was able to witness the Lions of District 2-A2 put our motto, "We Serve," into action.

Now it's on to November with the MD-2 Council of Governors meeting November 6th and 7th. We're meeting in San Antonio at the Menger Hotel. The business meeting starts at 8:15 AM on Saturday, November 7th. If you've never attended a Council of Governors meeting and are in the San Antonio area here's a great opportunity to see what's going on first-hand. The meeting is open to all and there are no fees to attend.

November is a good month to ask someone to join your Lions Club. Lions across the district have several service projects for Thanksgiving. This provides an opportunity for you to show your neighbors what Lions are about and tell them how they can join us. With the holidays ahead it is really important that each of us shows that one act of kindness every day.

Thank you for all you do.

Lion Jim Weed



Don't Ask IF You Don't Mean It Retention is NOT an Afterthought

By Council Chairman Tom Blase

For the last 2 months we have been concentrating on the 2 parts of the **re-MEMBER Texas Recruiting** prong: The 1st involves **YOU** as individual members. This is the wooden nickel program. **Have you earned your commemorative coin for giving away 1 wooden nickel?** The other involves your club, as a group of members, under the direction of your Membership Director. This component is all about making a recruiting plan for the year and then putting it into action. **Has your Club put a plan into action yet?**

If you haven't been keeping up, **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, but if you have not received your kit from your District Governor call him/her and ask for it.

This month we want to start talking getting serious about the second part of **re-MEMBER Texas: Retention**. How many times have we all gotten ourselves in trouble by making an offer we didn't mean? You know, something like, "Next time you are in town, call me we'll go eat", or "Drop by anytime", or maybe the worst of all to us as Lions, "Come join my Lions Club."

Now it's OK to ask, in fact your club **NEEDS** you to ask people to join, but when we look at the records and see how many people quit because the club was nothing like you promised or the club did not meet up to their expectations of what a service club is supposed to be. You would likely be shocked to see the number of new Texas Lions who quit their club in the first two years (many in just a few months). Sadly it is usually our own fault. Did we not really mean it when we promised them a great experience in serving others?

Keeping members consists of 2 main things: 1) Making them feel wanted by the members and 2) making them feel needed & useful in the service goals of your club. The second part is more a function of your club itself & its leadership, and a topic for a later time, but the first is your responsibility. If you want your new member to become a permanent part of your club they need a lot of TLC. Call & remind 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.

The "New Member Induction Ceremonies" & Lions New Member Orientation Guide" are the 2 main guides you will find for the Retention component of the **re-MEMBER Texas** plan. Once again, if you do not have your kit yet, look up the **re-MEMBER Texas News** on the Texas website (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 kit or wooden nickels yet, call your District Governor to get them.)

It has often been said that Lions do not have a recruiting problem, we have a RETENTION problem. We recruit thousands of new Texas Lions every year; and either lose more than that or barely make a gain. How great would it be if we concentrated on giving these new members what they wanted when they agreed to join? Texas Lionism would grow once again by the thousands.....more members mean more SERVICE.

The responsibility to Just Ask 1 is each of ours, but when you do make a commitment to make Lionism a great experience for your new member and MEAN it!

“Trails That Lead Somewhere,”

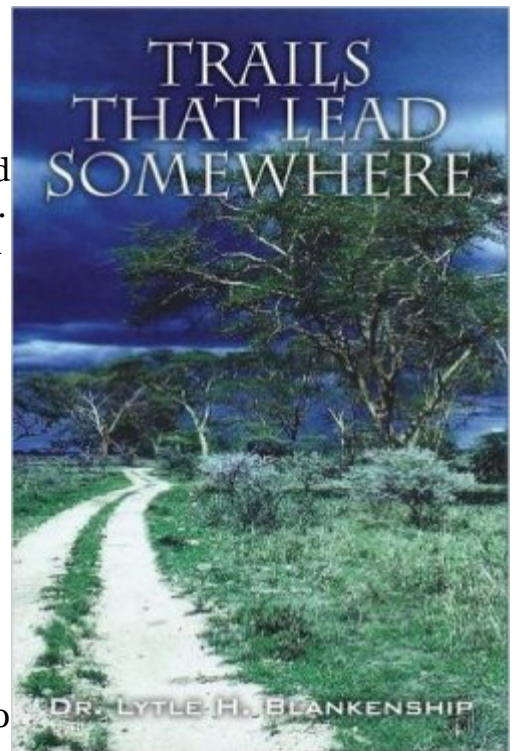
Dr. Lytle Blankenship, Past District Governor, presents “Trails That Lead Somewhere,” his life story. Born in south Texas in a family of 15, all in a one-room ram shackled shack. Later, a degree in Wildlife Management at Texas A&M started the professional career for over 50 years of following Trails around the world; eventually touching all continents except Antarctica. Besides his research career, he served ten years on the Council of The Wildlife Society, including two years as President, several years as director of the Texas Ornithological Society, again serving a two-year term as President, plus other activities

Take note young person, the world is out there for you to conquer. No one could have been as poor as I was. Dream big dreams; the Almighty is there as your guide.

For those who might be interested, “Trails That Lead Somewhere” is available on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, or through me. Since the book was written as a history for my family, and not for commercialization, I ‘m not trying to get rich. Following are my costs for two versions:

Soft back, black & white, 6x9 format 584 pages - \$20.00 plus postage

Hard back, color, 7x10 format, 423 pages - \$35.00 plus postage.



10% OF ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE LIONS SIGHT RESEARCH FOUNDATION.



LION SAM and all the Lions Sight Research Foundation DIRECTORS are available to come and visit to discuss the

LIONS EYE HEALTH PROGRAM

which is all about your opportunities to take part in

**Vision Screening
for Adults & Children
& closely related
Diabetes Awareness**

Contact Lion Sam at 210 326 3915 or email lsrf.sam@gmail.com.

Among the important topics contained in the LEHP is the goal of screening **5,000 adults and 5,000 children** in the next year and the hope to find business partners to help support the cause.

Learn about the new **SUSTAINING MEMBER** Program

To be eligible for the **Brighter Visions Sustaining Member Club** a Lion should raise \$50 or more and as the Lion raises additional amounts, the cumulative total qualifies the Lion to achieve higher levels of recognition. It Goes Like This:

Vest Patches are awarded for the initial \$50 donation and additional pins when the total raised reaches or surpasses the following amounts

\$100 - BRONZE Level

\$250 - SILVER Level

\$500 - GOLD Level

\$1,000 – PLATINUM Level

***AND THEY LOOK
LIKE:***



District 2-A2 Second Cabinet Meeting 2015-2016

The **Castroville Lions Club** hosted the 2nd District Cabinet on October 17th at the Medina Valley High School. DG Jim Weed introduced the Honorable Jeff Gardner, City of Castroville Mayor, who spoke briefly. Lion Beth Ann presented the Treasurer's report.



DG Jim presented the Stockdale Lions with an excellence award from IPP Joe Preston. He also presented IPDG Sam Pantusa with an award from



IPP Joe Preston. PID Mike Butler presented the International Presidents Award to PDG RodChisholm.



PDG Ernesto "TJ" Tijerina spoke about the 100th year anniversary of the Lions Clubs which will occur in 2017. District 2-A2 is the host of the State Convention in 2017 will be held at the Minger Hotel

In San Antonio. PCC Michael "Mike" Roarke is the co-host.



LSRF: Lion Wes Dorman, LSRF Chairman showed a video of Helen Keller's speech about the Lions, ht "Knights of the Bind". In a second video, Optometrist Dr. Casillas talked about the MESU and young children's visual problems. Visual screening can indicate medical problems such as diabetes. Astigmatism and reading difficulties can also be discovered. He also



talked about the SPOT machine. Lion Roseanne Barajas from the Edgewood Lions Club talked about diabetes, the 2 types - insulin dependent and adult onset. 29.9% of American have type 2. 86% have pre-diabetic obesity, the most common cause. IPDG Sam presented Lion Cecilia Nobles with a patch and pin as a Sustaining Member Platinum Level.



DG Jim presented Guest Speakers Pilar Colon and John Echevarria from the Alamo Council, Boy Scouts of America. They talked about the involvement of Leos as partners in Boy Scout Venturing programs. The Leos club members fit into the programs and are a great help.

Lion Ken Book, Human Needs Board Chair, reported they had funds of over \$11,000. The Board had helped a Vet who had had flood damage. Lion Ken requested that Lions spread the word about the fund and that the submission form can be found on the 2-A2 District website. He also introduce the chairs for the Youth contests: Diabetic Essay-



Lion Janie Garza, Young Women's Pageant Scholarship – Lion Mary Ann Mays, and Drug Awareness speech – Lion Abel Martinez. Applications for the contests can also be found on the website.

1st VDG Lion John Lee reported on the Texas Lions Foundation since PDG John Seale was unable to attend. District 2-S4 is currently leading with donations over \$8,000. Send pledges in so that we can be first again.



Lion Floyd Daigle, IT Chair, asked that articles and pictures be sent in so that the information can be added to the monthly newsletter. There are forms that can be used to send them in that are found under “Newsletters” on the District 2-A2 web site (district2a2.org).



Lion Marilyn Weed reported that the Peace Posters are due on November 15 for the contest.



Lion Doug Thomas, District 2-A2 Camp Director, reported that the Texas Lions Camp had a very successful summer with 1520 campers served. He encouraged each of us to join the Century Club - \$100/year or \$10 month auto withdrawal. On October 30th, the Castroville Lions women had a silent auction with the funds going to the TLC.

1st VDG John Lee presented the Stride for Sight "Juan Olivares" award was given to Del Rio San Felipe Lions Club for making the largest gift of 2014 - 2015 to the Stride for Sight and Roberto Castillo accepted it for the San Felipe Lions Club. Heart of the Hills Lions Club was awarded the Stride for Sight's "Carroll Albright" award for the largest per capita contribution to the Stride for Sight. Heart of Hills Lions Club president PDG Chris Lloyd accepted the award. Last year 14 clubs contributed to Stride for Sight. The annual 5K Run will be held on March 19, 2016 in Helotes.



PDG Howie Marbach reported on the LCIF. He said the donations average in the United States ranks 6th in the world. He would like to see us give more.

PDG Chris Lloyd, Hearing Board Chairman, gave the Hearing Board report. We're part of a Foundation which gives out free hearing aids to the needy. Lots of people need them. The Stanley Co, takes old hearing aids and recycles them.



PDG Rod Chisholm, Global Membership Committee coordinator, reported on membership. The past 3 years membership is on the rise. We need to sign up more members to keep this trend going.



Lion Chris Condren, Global Leadership Committee Coordinator, spoke on building leaders in the clubs. Identify future leaders and train them.
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Leo Council President, Leo Nicole, reported on the activities of the Leos.

The Tail Twisters gave out door prizes and raffle winners were drawn.





Alamo Heights Lions Club

Alamo Heights celebrated their 75th Anniversary in October. Past International President Bill Biggs was the Guest Speaker.



Donate Your Old Eyeglasses
lionsclubs.org/recyclesight

An advertisement for donating old eyeglasses. The background features a close-up of a lion's face wearing glasses. In the foreground, a pair of black-rimmed glasses is shown. A small box of glasses is also visible, with the text "Lions Clubs International RECYCLE FOR SIGHT Donate Usable Eyeglasses Here". The Lions Clubs International logo is in the bottom right corner.

San Antonio Founders Lions Club

SAN ANTONIO
FOUNDER LIONS CLUB



100TH ANNIVERSARY

FRIDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 9, 2015

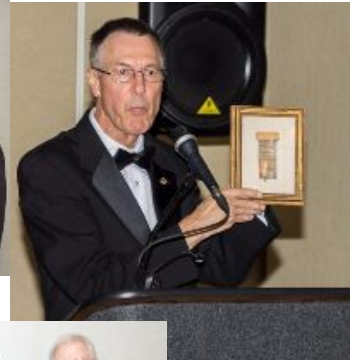
THE GUNTER HOTEL
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

THE SITE OF THE FIRST LIONS CLUB
MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 8, 1915



Gunter Hotel Lobby 12/4/1913
San Antonio Museum Assn.





San Antonio Guidedogs of Texas Lions Club

The San Antonio Guidedogs of Texas Lions Club held their Charter Night Banquet on September, 25th. They are sponsored by the San Antonio Central Park Lions Club. PID Mike Butler was the Keynote Speaker.



La Vernia Lions Club

The La Vernia Lions Club participated in National Night Out.



Our Lady of the Lake Lions Club

The OLLC club participated in an eye screening.



Kerrville Host Lions Club

In October, the Kerrville Host Lions Club hosted a joint meeting with the Sunrise Lions Club and the Heart of the Hills Club in. DG Jim Weed was the Guest Speaker.



At the meeting the winners of the Kerrville Host Rifle Raffle were drawn. The winners are 1st place win went to Kendall Davidson (Rutgers American 270), 2nd place went to Steven Roberts (H and R 17 cal. HMR), and 3rd place went to Marlin Schuman (hand made scope rifle case).

Kerrville Host participated in “Trunk or Treat” at the First United Methodist Church.



San Antonio Central Park Lions Club

LIONS GONE WILD!!

Yes, the San Antonio Central Park Lions have gone wild, participating with Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio in building a house located off of 410 Loop and Old Pearsall Road. Several of our Lions with their spouses have “gone wild” with excitement about this new endeavor. They joined a crew of about 15 people on October 9 and 16 with our club providing lunch for all the workers on the 16th. Later in November, the Reagan High School Leo Club will be assisting with landscaping. Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio is an ecumenical, Christian organization working with families in need to build simple, decent and affordable homes without interest or profit.



THIS HOUSE SPONSORED
Ecumenical Genesis
Church of the Good Shepherd (Schertz)
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
St. Brigid Catholic Church
Queen of Heaven Catholic Church
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church
St. Anthony de Padua Catholic Church
St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
LIONS CLUBS DIST2A2
Colonial Hills UMC
Trinity UMC
Universal City UMC
Windcrest UMC
Sunset Ridge Church of Christ

802 Lola Ridge





Service in Action that's ...

Texas Brand of Lionism



MD2 Lions State Convention Registration Form
May 19-21, 2016
The Grand Texan, Midland Texas

1) Name _____ Position _____ District _____

Club Name _____ First Time Attendee Yes [] No []

E-Mail Address _____ Cell Phone _____

2) Name _____ Position _____ District _____

Club Name _____ First Time Attendee Yes [] No []

E-Mail Address _____ Cell Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Event & Date	Cost/Person	Number	Total
Registration Fee (see exceptions in notes*)	\$25		
Thursday Evening May 19, 2016 Food, Entertainment, Dancing	N/C		
Friday May 20, 2016 Texas Lions Foundation Breakfast Susan Reeves former TLC Camper	\$18		
Friday May 20, 2016 PDG Memorial Luncheon	\$24		
Friday May 20, 2016 Dinner w/Lion Karen Taylor Good Singer/Song writer/Inspirational Speaker	\$28		
Saturday May 21, 2016 Hall of Fame Breakfast w/ Mollie Milligan as Helen Keller	\$18		
Saturday May 21, 2016 Opportunities for Youth Luncheon	\$24		
Saturday May 21, 2016 MD2 Banquet Past Int'l President Joe Preston	\$35		
Late Fee if applicable (see note*)	(\$20)		
Total (w/o a late fee)	\$172		

*NOTE: Payment postmarked by 4/15/16 will be as shown in the table for each item. An additional \$20/person charge will be added for all registrations postmarked after that date. Registration Fees are required for everyone attending, **except** non-Lion family members of Hall of Fame Honorees or Opportunities for Youth Contestants attending **just** that specific event.

Check here if you are a **non-Lion family member of an honoree or an Opportunity for Youth contestant.**
(Late fees do not apply to these family members)

See Additional Registration pages for the Golf Tournament, Babysitting, Tours, and the 3 Action Projects.

Attendees are invited & welcomed to attend all meals & banquets. The dress code for the Friday Memorial luncheon is business attire. The MD2 banquet attire is white coat OR business attire.

Check here & then provide details on the back for special dietary needs.

Checks should be made payable:
Lions District 2A1 State Convention.
Mail to: Lion Kathy McConnell
307 Thomas, Midland, Texas 79703

The Grand Texan Hotel 4300 W. Wall, Midland, Texas 79703.
Reservations: call 432-697-3181 or E-Mail sales@grandtexan.com (leave contact phone #'s)
Block Name: Lions Club – District 2A1 (Block closes 5-4-16) Convention Rate \$109.99

MD1 Host Committee Fund Raiser

Commemorative Pins



#1



#2

These pins are available from
the MD1 Host Committee for \$5.00 each

Actual size not shown

For a Club or District donation earn a patch that can be
displayed on your Club or District Banner



\$100.00
Donation



\$250.00
Donation



\$500.00
Donation

All donations are payable to
Lions 2017 Host Committee

Actual size not shown

Lion Steve Anton, CC

Volunteer Recruitment Chairman
17324 Higwood Drive, Grand Park, IL 60142-6051

Phone: Res (708) 479-4779 or Cell (708) 514-4215
e-mail: santoniions@comcast.net

2017 Host Sub-Committees

I would like to volunteer to work on the following
2017 MD1 Host Sub-Committee

- Sergeant-At-Arms Committee
- Airport / Transportation Greeter
- VIP Driver
- Hotel Greeter
- Information Booth
- Merchandise Booth
- District Governor-Elect Schooling
- LCI Headquarter Tour
- International Parade Marshal

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Residence Phone Number _____

Business or Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

Lions Club / District _____

For Pin Order or to make a Donation contact



Lion Robert Block, PDG
MD1 Host Committee, Chairman
gov8990@aol.com

**WORK FOR A CAUSE,
NOT FOR APPLAUSE.
LIVE LIFE TO EXPRESS,
NOT TO IMPRESS.
DON'T STRIVE TO
MAKE YOUR
PRESENCE NOTICED,
JUST MAKE YOUR
ABSENCE FELT.**

