

District 2-A1 Lions Clubs International

District 2-A1 News

August 2016

www.txlionsdistrict2a1.com

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We Serve

The heart of Lions is the individual clubs and all they do for their communities and the most important position any Lions can hold is being a member of a club. This is both my belief but also the words International President Bob Corlew expressed in Kerrville last weekend.

As I travel around the district and visit clubs I always come away amazed at all the varied contributions clubs make to their communities. Some are very small things, a simple kindness, words of encouragement to a child in need of encouragement, recognizing someone for a good deed. Some are what we call legacy projects that will be there serving the community for a long time. And some are things the club and the members don't even know they did.

Each year the Lions Camp has a picnic as the officers from one year pass the baton to the next year officers. Following the picnic you can attend the weekly graduation celebration the camp has for the kids finishing up their week at camp. I always attend the graduation to get my "FIX" of happiness to carry me over to the next year and I stand at the railing at the back. As the amphitheater fills up, parents will stand beside me on the railing and I'll strike up a conversation with them about their kid and what the week and camp means to them. One thing they always tell me is that they are amazed the Lions do this for them. As a Lion in a Texas Lions club you amazed 1,472 families this summer.

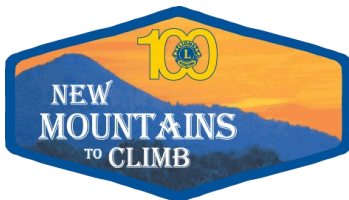
A second item International President Bob shared was he has a relative who is blind in one eye. As a child this relative had Lazy eye. The condition was not diagnosed until he entered school and much damage had been done to the eye causing eventual blindness. Spot vision screening is effective at 6 months and if this had been available back then he would not be blind today. Clubs may screen hundreds and even thousands of children and you may never know when your referral to a doctor means an adult some day is not blind because you got them to a doctor when there was still time to prevent this outcome.

For all you do thank you and keep it up - Dave

Save the Date

District Meeting

**November 4 & 5,
Winters**



Newsletter Editor

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Like us on Facebook: [disric2allions](https://www.facebook.com/disric2allions)

District Governor odds and ends.

<p>Acuna Eye Clinic Al Owen 6404 Spy Glass San Angelo, TX Home 325-651-7141 Cell 325-262-3881 azowen@verizon.net</p>
<p>Alert Chairperson Mark Brown PO Box 623 San Angelo, TX Home 325-942-8850 Cell 325-245-6613 rnatxf@gmail.com</p>
<p>Chaplain Frank Berthold</p>
<p>Conventions Joyce Downie 115 Churchill Blvd San Angelo, TX Home 325-651-8894 Cell 325-234-2803 joyced2@suddenlink.net</p>
<p>Diabetes Awareness</p>
<p>Global Leadership Roy Landry 3010 Briargrove Ln. San Angelo, TX Home 325-949-5151 Cell 806-433-2961 landrys@aol.com</p>
<p>Global Membership Carole Brown P O Box 623 San Angelo, TX 76902 Home 325-942-8850 carolecb9@gmail.com</p>
<p>Historian Helen Wilde 3209 Southland Blvd San Angelo, TX 76904 Home 325-942-6647 Cell 325-277-4758 hmjwilde@suddenlink.com</p>

The Texas Forum registration form is in this edition of the newsletter. The forum allows you to sign up for 6 out of 16 seminars. The first 100 signups will get their lodging paid for. Last year 199 Lions attended the forum. There are two kinds of leaders. There are the leaders who lead by virtue of the position they hold – supervisors and managers, military officers and such. There are leaders who lead because people want to follow them, because they like them, and like where they are going. In Lions we ONLY have the second type. No matter who you are, a club president, district governor, or International President, you will only be a successful leader if people want to follow you. I encourage you to attend.

Texas Lions Hall of fame. About every 5 years a district gets to elect a member of the district into the Texas Hall of fame. It is a big deal to be able to recognize a member of our district with this distinction and in May 2017 it is our Districts time to bestow this honor. The process has 2 steps – first, all clubs have the opportunity to select one member for consideration for this honor – second a 5 person committee appointed by the District Governor will select the person from all those proposed. Minimum qualification include active or deceased member with 15 or more years of service – outstanding dedicated service as a Lion – service to the community beyond just their Lions service – accomplished special achievements and contribution to humanitarian service to those less fortunate – and the person cannot solicit in any manner this recognition. Our selection will be announced January 21 2017 at the mid-winter conference in Brady. Please send me the names and background of any club members you want considered by or at the District Meeting in Winters November 5th

Legacy Projects A legacy project is any kind of project that provides lasting physical benefit to your community. I know we have legacy projects in Ballinger, Eden, Coleman, and Colorado City. If the club presidents in those clubs would send me a picture and a short write up of the project so we can put it in the newsletter and recognize at our District Convention in April. Thanks in advance for doing this for me. I am sure other clubs also have projects I don't know about so please send me your information for inclusion.

Centennial Member At the end of my term as governor and as I pass the leadership to Armando we will reach our 100 year anniversary. Lions International is providing our district \$250 to use in commemorating the event. Talking to other district governors, some are using this resource to recognize a centennial member out of each club at the year-end district convention. I think that is a great idea and would like to do the same. I am asking each club to select 1 member they want to recognize as their “Centennial Member”. At the District Convention in San Angelo on Friday Night April 28 we will recognize both club presidents and our “Centennial Members” The rules and requirement? They represent what is best in their club and are selected by a secret ballot of all members.

Coahoma Lions Club First my apologies for have not gotten to your club in my years as 1st or 2nd Vice District Governor and I look forward to coming later this year. 1st VDG Armando says great things about your club, that members are eager to help in your service activities, you have much going on, and that you are filling the needs in your community. I also see you have grown your membership by 7 members since July 1. My thanks and appreciation for what you are giving back to your community - Dave

<p>Leader Dog Brigitte Rogers 120 Deerwood Dr. Sonora, TX Home 325-387-2309 6200br@gmail.com</p>
<p>Leo Chairperson</p>
<p>LCIF IPDG John Gammill P.O. Box 1822 Mason, TX 76856 C. 325-347-2806 masonlion1972@gmail.com</p>
<p>Long Range Planning Al Owen 6404 Spy Glass San Angelo, TX Home 325-651-7141 Cell 325-262-3881 azowen@verizon.net</p>
<p>Opportunities for Youth</p>
<p>Parliamentarian Jim Wilks One West Broadway Sweetwater, TX Home 325-235-8383 Cell 325-370-6872 jlwilks@sbcglobal.net</p>
<p>Peace Poster Scott Patterson 8313 W. Grape Creek San Angelo, TX 76901</p>
<p>Sight Preservation Lee Sigler 126 Allen Early, TX Home 325-646-4820 Cell 325-647-0481 leesigler@verizon.net</p>



Russell’s Ramblings
 2VDG Russell Livingston

Our first Counsel Meeting in Kerrville was an exciting time for your 2nd Vice District Governor. Meeting team mates from around the state, getting the opportunity to visit with our International President Bob Corlew was great and visiting with our new International Director Sam Lindsey was a celebration after his yearlong campaign.

I guess the most outstanding aspect of the meeting though was attending the Texas Lions Camp awards ceremony. Children and parents from around the state were present and the energy was palpable. Every Lions should take the time to attend one of these ceremonies during the camping season. I have always maintained that attending one will “Make a Lion for Life out of you.”

One of the best kept secrets in Texas Lions is the beginnings of our very own Texas Lions Museum. Located in Kerrville, this museum will tell the story of our first century of Texas Lionism. We will be keeping you up to date as this grand project takes shape.

We will soon be arranging club visits for the northwestern portion of our district. I am looking forward to meeting each of you. We will be sharing Governor Dave’s message and begin the process of getting to know you. Exciting times are ahead.

Don’t forget our next Cabinet Meeting on November 4th and 5th in Winters. Make your reservations early. See you there. It is great to be a Lion.

District Meeting Dates

November 4 & 5, Winters

January 22 & 23 2017, Mid-Winter Conference, Brady

April 28 & 29 2017, District Convention, San Angelo

Club News

<p>Tail-Twister Stephanie Subia 4018 Monty Dr. Midland, TX 79703</p>
<p>Texas Lions Camp North Charles (Chuck) Henicke Kingsland Lions Club 325-247-6828 c.shenicke@verizon.net</p>
<p>Texas Lions Camp South Donald McConnell 307 Thomas Street Midland, TX 79703 Home 432-520-5651 Cell 432-413-3935 Donald_McConnell@outlook.com</p>
<p>TLERC IPDG John Gammill P.O. Box 1822 Mason, TX 76856 C. 325-347-2806 masonlion1972@gmail.com</p>
<p>Texas Lions Foundation Joyce Downie 115 Churchill Blvd San Angelo, TX Home 325-651-8894 Cell 325-234-2803 joyced2@suddenlink.net</p>
<p>World Services for the Blind Jim Brisbin</p>
<p>Youth Exchange Mark Singh 5408 Hillcrest Midland, TX Home 432-694-0147 Cell 432-687-5424 mmsingh@suddenlink.net</p>
<p>Webmaster Wynn Alston Home 325-651-4102 Wynn@wcc.net</p>




Kingsland Lions club participates participation in the annual Back-To-School Baylor Scott & White Health Fair. The fair was held at the Marble Falls Middle School August 6, 2016.

There were about 2,000 underprivileged attendees who received: Health screenings, Back packs containing age-appropriate school supplies, Shoes, Lunches

The three (L-R Lions Jim Chapman, Ken Martin, and John McWilliams) focused on the Spot Vision Testing device. Also exhibited the Texas Lions Camp poster board. We screened over 300 attendees continuously over a 3-hour period with our new Spot device.

A very rare video of Helen Keller with Annie Sullivan. <https://www.facebook.com/rwerthman/videos/10203116147602146/>



PDG Joyce Downie
 and husband
Lion Ron
 Support
 District 2-A1 Governor Dave Richison
 and his 2016-2017 Cabinet

Club News Continued

Kingsland Lions Club takes part in local 4th of July Parade



USS See Lions DG Dave as Captain Hook float won 2nd place



Jim Chapman with the Aqua Boom Court



Midland West Side Lions Club 11th Annual Back to School Bash

1000 bags of school supplies given away. Thanks to everyone who made it all possible.



<p>DG Dave Richison 104 River Ranch Road Kingsland, TX 78639 Home 325-388/-2091 Cell 000-000-0000 daverichison@gmail.com</p>	<p>1st VDG Armando Subia 4018 Monty Drive Midland, TX 79703 Home 432-694-3861 Cell 432-238-2267 A_Subia49@yahoo.com</p>	<p>2nd VDG Russell Livingston 3602 Springmont Midland, TX 79707 Home 432-520-3404 Cell 432-559-9010 rlivingston3602@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Cabinet Secretary Merissa Swink 32 Garden Road San Angelo, TX 76903 Home 325-650-9896 Cell 000-000-0000 merisaswink@outlook.com</p>	<p>Cabinet Treasurer Chris Maxwell 408 CR 109 Sweetwater, TX 79556 Home 325-665-0127 Work 325-235-9235 cmaxwell@eljentechnology.com</p>
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Club News Continued

16 Lions Clubs around our District were recognized for their participation in the Centennial Service Challenge and for Centennial Legacy Projects for the Lions Year 2015 / 2016.

The Centennial Service Challenge was for clubs to serve 100 million people around the world in 4 service categories

- Hunger
- Sight
- Youth
- Environment

Clubs having service projects in one of the areas are: MASON, JUNCTION, SAN ANGELO NORTH BY NORTHWEST, MIDLAND DOWNTOWN

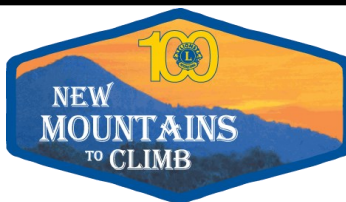
Clubs having service projects in two areas are: MIDLAND MORNING, SWEETWATER, CONCHO COUNTY

Clubs having service in three areas are: BALLINGER, SAN ANGELO DOWNTOWN

Clubs having service projects in all four areas are: KINGSLAND, MIDLAND DOWNTOWN, COLORADO CITY, MIDLAND WEST SIDE, SAN ANGELO CONCHO PEARL

Clubs having legacy projects are: SAN ANGELO DOWNTOWN, CONCHO COUNTY

A great big cheer to these clubs. The clubs will receive a patch for their banner to recognize this achievement in "We Serve"



SAVE THE DATE

ROPE YOURSELF IN TO ATTEND ALL DISTRICT MEETINGS

NEXT MEETING IN WINTERS TEXAS

November 4th and 5th—location to be announced

<p>Zone 1 Chairperson Felis Subia 4018 Monty Midland, TX 79703 Home 432-694-3861 Cell 432-238-3452 felissubia@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Zone 2 Chairperson Marianne Stevenson 3573 CR 133 Colorado City, TX 79512 Home 325-728-9203 Cell 000-000-0000 MCS4446@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Zone 3 Chairperson Larry Melton PO Box 84 Ballinger, TX 76821 Home 325-365-3296 Cell 000-000-0000 xxx</p>	<p>Zone 4 Chairperson Mona Soland 304 Kleen Ave Horseshoe Bay TX 78657 Home 830-613-4168 Cell Lionmona@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Zone 5 Chairperson Stephanie Subia 4018 Monty Midland, Tx 79703 Home 000-000-0000 Cell 432-296-0846 Steph.Subia@gmail.com</p>	<p>Zone 6 Chairperson Larry Walker 5942 Lyndhurst Dr. San Angelo, TX 76901 Cell 325-212-9976 Home 325-227-8093 Larry.e.Walker45@gmail.com Scott Patterson</p>
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Dear Lion:

Lions serve in a variety of ways. With any service to the public, safety is of the utmost importance. In the case of an accident or any unfortunate event, a club may be held legally responsible. Originally adopted by the U.S. Congress in 1997, the Volunteer Protection Act (VPA) provides liability protection from claims that might be filed against a nonprofit organization's individual volunteers. In the Act's current form, however, protection from liability **does not** extend to the organization itself, including Lions clubs.

Currently before Congress is another bill called the Volunteer Organization Protection Act or VOPA. This Act would amend the VPA to extend liability protection that's already given to individual volunteers to organizations as well.

We need your help in moving VOPA forward; contact your representative in support of VOPA!

Use one (or more) of these ways to contact your representative:

- **Call** – You can read directly from a [phone script](#);
- **Write** – Send a letter by email, fax or mail; feel free to use this [sample letter](#). We also give [step-by-step instructions](#) on how to contact your representative;
- **Visit** – [Request and plan](#) a meeting; here's a [general calendar](#) of when representatives might be in their local offices;
- **Resources** – Visit us [online](#) for more information.

You can learn more about VOPA and how important this bill is on our [blog](#).

We would love to see photos of Lions making calls, visiting representatives and sending letters. Email photos (selfies count) to governmentrelations@lionsclubs.org. Don't forget to include your club's name.

Protect your club today; thank you for getting the word out about the importance of VOPA!

Government Relations
Lions Clubs International

**DISTRICT 2-A1
CHARITIES**

If your club needs a program, here are a few suggestions.

TEXAS LIONS CAMP

Directors:

Chuck Henicke

325-388-3569

Email: c.sheinicke@verizon.net

Donald McConnell

432-520-5651 or 413-935

Email: Donald_mcconnell@outlook.com

WESTERN TEXAS LIONS EYE BANK

Lion Lucy Ybarra, Director

325-653-8666 or 650-0072

Email: wtleba@wcc.net

LCIF

PDG Joyce Downie

325-651-8894 or 234-2803

Email: joyced2@suddenlink.net

TEXAS LIONS FOUNDATION

Lion Brigitte Rogers

325-387-2309

LEADER DOG FOR THE BLIND

Lion Keith Perrine

325-651-6474 or 656-3252

Email: keith.perrine@hotmail.com

ACUNA EYE CLINIC

PDG Al Owen

325-651-6208 or 650-2013

Email: azowen@verizon.net

TEXAS LIONS EYEGLOSS RECYCLING CENTER

PDG Al Owen

325-651-6208 or 650-2013

Email: azowen@verizon.net

VISION SCREENING PROGRAM

Lion Jim Chapman

325-388-3231

Email: grandadtexas@yamil.com

District 2-A1 Newsletter and Website Sponsors

The District needs your support for 2016-2017

Be A Team Player by showing your support for the District Governor Team and District 2-A1 by advertising in the 2016-2017 District publications.

We need your support more than ever as these monies pay for the District Directory.

Please purchase your space as soon as possible by completing this form and sending it with your check to the District Treasurer, Lion Chris Maxwell, 408 CR 109, Sweetwater, TX 79556.

Business Card size: \$50.00

Double Business Card size: \$100.00

Quadruple Business Card size: \$150.00

Name: (if a Club also give the contact name)

Address: Email address

Phone #'s

Text/logo. etc. on ad) or, if you would like, include a copy of your card/ad as you would like it to appear.

Thank you, The District Governor Team

Quinn Spear Midland Downtown and Midland West Side youth exchange student

It's not every day that a seventeen-year-old is presented with the opportunity to travel overseas alone for a month, so when the Midland Downtown Lions Club offered to send me to represent them and our nation on a Lions Club Youth Exchange program, I was more than grateful to take them up on their proposal. I chose to go to Italy because frankly, I love Italian food so it was an easy choice. After months of preparation and packing, the day came for me to start my adventure, and as I said goodbye to my family and friends, I dreamt about the wonderful things that awaited me in the next four weeks.

When I first stepped off the plane into Italy, it was like stepping foot into another world. I didn't know Italian very well so I couldn't understand most of the signs, but I was able to get my bags and started to look for my first host family. I finally found them after hearing a cheerful "Ciao Quinn!" from someone in the crowds. The cheerfulness of their greeting set the course for the rest of my stay with them, as they brought me into their home and looked after me for my first week's stay in the village of Figino Serenza, in Northern Italy, close to Milan. The family was close knit: a mother and father who I would see around the house, and a brother and sister who were roughly my age that I spent the majority of my time there with. Some days we would go into Milan for sightseeing, and some days we would stay in the village and meet with some of their friends. Surprisingly, hanging out with the youth in Italy is a lot like hanging out back home. We would talk about culture and music and play basketball and volleyball, the only difference being that I was learning so much more over in Italy about different culture and interests. For example, the entire village halted their annual parade, left the floats in the street and ran inside houses and restaurants so everyone could watch the futbol game!

After a week with my first family, they drove me three hours to the Lions Club Camp located in Bormio, deep in the heart of the Italian Alps. At the camp I had the privilege of spending two weeks exploring the magnificent mountains with other people my age from Taiwan, Turkey, Estonia and many other countries who I would normally have no way of coming to know on a personal level if I hadn't come on this trip. When we weren't hiking, we were taken on tours, ate pizza and played board games. I was able to form strong friendships with some of the students on this trip and have been keeping in touch with them, even after I returned home from Italy. This camp most importantly served to open my mind to a different way of thinking and a different way of life. Instead of just seeing how things are done the Texas way, I was able to see how people from different cultures would act in certain situations, as well as share my way of thinking with everyone else. For example, I learned that people from other countries are not used to seeing pocket knives; so when I offered to cut open the lunch meat on one of our hikes, they all backed away! I was also able to see our many similarities, like our similar tastes in music, TV shows and movies.

At the end of the camp, I said goodbye to all of my new friends and was picked up by my second host family. This family was also exceedingly generous and consisted of a mother, a father, and twin daughters who were my age. They lived in a village named Fagano Olona which was also just outside of Milan, very similar to the first village that I had stayed in. This family took me around to different cities to see many art exhibitions and different points of interest. This town was also very musically talented, so I had to privilege of seeing three different concerts while I was there (curiously, the bands introduced their songs in Italian but sang in English). That week I learned how to make authentic tiramisu, explained that we no longer fought the Native Americans, and tried to teach them how to say "Howdy". At the end of the week, they dropped me off at the airport and we said our goodbyes. As excited as I was to come home, I was also saddened to know that I was leaving behind so many good friends who impacted my life over the course of the last month.

If someone told me a year ago that I would be having the best summer of my life by spending a month in Italy, I would not have believed them, but after this experience I can honestly say that this trip has been one of the most impactful experiences in my life. I want to thank the Midland Downtown and Midland Westside Lions Club for giving me this opportunity and I hope I represented our country, state and city well.

Quinn Spear Midland Downtown and Midland West Side youth exchange student (Cont.)



Quinn Spear with host family

Picture taken at Lions Camp Italy with Quinton Spear, Local Camp Director and Head of Italy Lions Clubs



Quinn Spear with host family sisters and local friend

Madison Levitt Midland West Side Foreign Exchange Student



This is the last day with my host family as we said our goodbyes!

Over my time in Italy for the Lions Youth Exchange Program I was able to stay with a host family and experience the Italian culture then I went to Camp Emilia in Modena sponsored by the Lions Club. My host family was the Martinis; Italo, Maura, Alessia, and Giada. Throughout my time with them I was able to see the Italian lifestyle. I got to go around with them everywhere they went including the beach, their house near Bologna, Venice, and Rome. They take huge pride in their food not only thinking it is the best in the world, they know it! The main thing they eat is pasta and pizza, but the pizza is not like ours. Pizza consists of a thin crust with very little sauce and toppings. Having lunch and

dinner together as a family is a very important part of their culture as well. Kids are out around 2 pm from school for the day to go have lunch with their family and the parents that work usually have a long lunch depending on their work, but most people look forward to a long lunch to eat with their family.

After my stay with the family I went to a camp with 20 other exchange students from 18 countries with 3 leaders and a director. We were constantly together making memories and bonding. Throughout the time in the camp we were able to go meet different Lions Clubs in Italy. Each time they talked to us they reminded us of the attacks on the world and how we need to be the ones to help unite the world and this program is doing just that! Throughout the camp and with all the attendees representing the countries coming together, we were reminded of how we are the good in the world. It was a testament to me that people with different backgrounds and cultures can find similarities. We were able to visit a sculptor, Davide Scarabelli, who made a white flag sewn together. He talked about the symbolism of this and his idea of the world coming together as one, sewn by individual threads to represent our similarities.



Each person has their countries flags, and we got a picture with a lions club who hosted us for dinner.



This is a church in Siena that was extremely beautiful.

At the camp we were able to visit many different cities throughout Italy, whether they were big or small, they all were so beautifully created. Each city was similar in its architecture, but also had their own uniqueness to it. In Vignola there was an amazing castle where we got to explore all the detail of the castle built in the medieval times. Really close to the castle we were able to see a special staircase with no center support, and this was the first one ever built like that. Another city we were able to visit was Verona, where the story of Romeo and Juliet was based. Many people go there to put their name and their partner on the wall for good luck. Another thing that Verona is known for is a Colosseum which is the most preserved in Europe. Siena has multiple statues depicting the tale of Romulus and Remus and the wolf that took them in. After Rome was founded the tale says they came and founded Siena. Finally is San Galgano, there is the tale of the sword in the stone that Arthur removed, signifying that he was the true king. Each of these cities were very similar, yet so unique and beautiful in their own way.

I will be forever grateful for the Midland West Side Lions Club for allowing me to represent the United States of America and the great state of Texas on this adventure. It was an unforgettable experience that I will treasure forever.

Exchange Student Logan Elsey (Midland Northside)

Taking in the Majesty of Germany

Visiting the far off land of Germany in all its splendid, historic, grandeur has never been much of anything beyond a vague idea to me; since the days of my deep youth, that vague sense of desired adventure has always seemed far-fetched, but this past July, that mere desire was replaced by the very tangible reality of actually visiting Germany through sponsorship from the Midland Northside Lions Club. With their blessing, and a will to see what I could see, I set out on June 26 for Germany and was immediately met with adversity. Delays, subsequent missed flights, and reschedules tried to stand in the way between Germany and me! I no longer consider myself a novice flyer of the skies. Never go through London Heathrow Terminal 5 unless you have at least two hours to do so. Through it all, touching down in Germany to stay for the next three weeks was both relieving and exciting.

Being a family oriented person, I can say without a doubt, that staying with my host family, the Kleins, along with a fellow exchange student, in their little village marked among the top of my list of favorite experiences. In living with them, I immediately came to the realization that beer, bread, and sausage truly are the triple kings of German cuisine. Their excellent manners and sense of humor made me feel at great ease while I stayed with them. Even though I wouldn't say it was like being at home, for it was a vast difference, staying with the Kleins was on a footing equivalent in comfort. Some days were spent at a lake near their home, on others we got a chance to mill about and catch our senses. We also took the chance to see a bit of Thuringia upon visiting Coburg Castle one day and the Automobile Museum in Suhl.

My first week in Germany was very hard to beat, but there was still another two weeks of exploration left for me to enjoy, so on July 3, Mrs. Klein drove me and my fellow exchange student to the town of Jena two hours away to meet up with the rest of the youth camp exchange students. From that point onward, the trip took a turn towards being busy but in a good way. Nearly every day was something or somewhere new. Meeting the mayor of and exploring Jena, learning the history of the trading town of Erfurt, visiting the castle in Eisenach, and exploring the city of Weimar were exploits that numbered amongst the collective experiences of us 22 exchange students hugs with a lot of friends, who had affectionately given me the nickname "Old man" for the past week, as we parted.

Now as I sit here at home, it is with impressive affection that I look back upon my escapades in der Deutschland, and the opportunity the Midland Northside Lions Club gave me. I feel that one could experience few things as wonderful as that.

Exchange Student Logan Elsey (Midland Northside) Cont.

As the week passed, we all grew closer to each other as friends in Jena, and thanks to the more open society, generally found in Europe, we were in turn quite open to conversation of all sorts with one another. Soon our week in Jena came to an end, and it was time to “move headquarters” to the city of Halle; we packed up our things that Sunday, July 10th and headed for Halle by way of canoe on the River Salle. That week was as busy as the one before with the exploration of Halle and its history, making a visit to Leipzig and, my favorite, doing volunteer work at the recreation house just outside the city.

The morning our whole group departed from Germany was terribly solemn, and I shared in a lot of hugs with a lot of friends, who had affectionately given me the nickname “Old man” for the past week, as we parted. Now as I sit here at home, it is with impressive affection that I look back upon my escapades in der Deutschland, and the opportunity the Midland Northside Lions Club gave me. I feel that one could experience few things as wonderful as that.



Logan with friend David



Logan with Host family

DISTRICT 2-A1

2015-2016 100% CLUBS

Contributions to the Eight Charities that District 2-A1 supports

100%

- San Angelo Downtown Lions Club
- Midland Downtown Lions Club
- Llano Lions Club
- Lake Brownwood Lions Club
- North By Northwest Lions Club
- Sweetwater Lions Club
- Kingsland Lions Club
- Colorado City Lions Club
- Ballinger Noon Lions Club
- Concho Pearl Lions Club
- San Angelo East Angelo

- 100%
- Big Spring Downtown Lions Club
- Junction Lions Club
- Midland Tall City Lions Club
- 200%
- Midland Northside Lions
- 400%
- Mason Lions Club
- 1000%
- Midland West Side Lions Club

LIONS RECEIVING MELVIN JONES FELLOW AWARDS IN 2016

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| LION GENE DAVIS | BALLINGER NOON LIONS CLUB |
| LION AUBREY FALBION, JR | BALLINGER NOON LIONS CLUB |
| LION HUBERT WADE, JR | BALLINGER NOON LIONS CLUB |
| LION PAT CAWTHORN | COLORADO CITY LIONS CLUB |
| LION DON BAUGH | JUNCTION LIONS CLUB |
| LION DENNIS DANE PHILLIPS | MASON LIONS CLUB |
| LION ARTHUR R. LAENGRICH | MIDLAND DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB |
| LION GEORGE T. BOURLAND | MIDLAND WEST SIDE LIONS CLUB |
| PDG RUSSELL DEVORE | SAN ANGELO DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB |
| LION ROBERT KEITH PERRINE | SAN ANGELO DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB |
| LION GEORGE SWEET | SAN ANGELO EAST ANGELO LION CLUB |
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Please consider making your Club's 100% Voluntary donations to the 8 Charities this year
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 PDG Joyce Downie, District 2-A1 LCIF Coordinator

Austin American Statesman, 2016-08-04

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AUSTIN HISTORY

A century of Lions Club life

A look back through the historic club's enduring legacy.

By Michael Barnes

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On Jan. 18, 1916, at least 29 men were called to order in a “dingy, poorly lighted” hall at 704 Congress Ave., above Burt’s Shoe Company. During the meeting, the Austinites signed a charter for what became the oldest continually active chapter of Lions Clubs International.

Mysteriously, the name of a 30th man, Thurlow B. Weed, of Weed Funeral Home, was found much later on a duplicate charter.

Among the original signatories were Joe Koen of the fine jewelry dynasty; Harry Reasonover, “barber to the governors”; John Gracy, son of the Gracy Title founder; Chester T. Cromwell, managing editor of the Austin Statesman and Tribune; as well as Wallace and John Tobin, members of the always-prominent Tobin family.

Other charter members made



The Austin Downtown Founder Lions Club is perhaps best known for creating Lions Municipal Golf Course in the 1920s. DEBORAH CANNON/AMERICAN-STATESMAN

their livings at banks, grocery stores, photography studios, lumber yards, insurance companies, optical shops, bookstores, plumbing and electrical suppliers, general contractors and cigar shops. Present too were a medical doctor, a dentist and an ophthalmologist.

The first female member, Mrs. J.L. Landrum, was inducted in the following year. The international body, however, nixed that idea in 1919. Women did not return to the downtown club until 1987, when Travis County Tax Assessor-Col-

Lions continued on D6

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U.S. Congressman Jake Pickle was a prominent member of the Austin Downtown Founder Lions Club. TOM LANGRISH/AUSTIN AMERICAN STATESMAN



Former Mayor Gus Garcia is among the Austin leaders who joined the oldest Lions Club International in the world. SAL PINO/AMERICAN STATESMAN

Lions

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lector Cecilia Barker joined. Over the years, among the leading lights in this chapter were U.S. Congressman Jake Pickle, Austin Mayor Gus Garcia and all-around civic savior Willie Kocarek, who joined in 1938 and died 2009.

"Willie was an icon, our mascot," says member Alan Wayne Ford. "Jake Pickle, too, was a larger-than-life member. He just about paralleled Willie. They earned their 65-year service award around the same time."

The oldest living current member, Milton H. Crockett Jr., is 93.

And of course, the main Austin chapter is best remembered for sponsoring, in 1920s, what would become Lions Municipal Golf Course, recently placed on the National Register of Historic Places for its role in desegregation in 1951.

"We planted the pecan trees along Barton Springs Road," says two-time club president J.P. Kirksey. "And we built the scoreboard at Hoxse Park honoring Austin High School students after World War II."

Clearing up its identity

Much is known about the Austin Downtown Founder Lions Club because of two publications, "Thirty Years of Lionism in Austin, 1916-1946," by Standard Lambert and Walter Pearson, and "Austin Downtown Founder Lions Club: A Century of Service," edited by T.L.H. to toast its 100th anniversary.

The second book proclaims in its first sentence: "The Austin Downtown Founder Lions Club is the oldest club in the largest service organization in the world. That fact alone is astounding, that we in Austin — of 1.4 million Lions, serving in over 46,000 clubs in over 200 countries around the world — are the oldest of all in continuous service to our community here in the Texas Hill Country."

Earlier this year, the club staged a stately Centennial Gala at the Bullock Texas State History Museum. Delegates from other clubs, including those spawned around Central Texas by this "founder" group, attended. Honorary titles floated like golden trees from the date. Yet the evening also served to educate outsiders.

Early on, the Lions mirrored the national Progres-



The clubhouse at the Lions Municipal Golf Course is like an amateur golf museum. JIM WARD/AMERICAN STATESMAN



Twenty-nine men founded the Austin Downtown Founder Lions Club on Jan. 16, 1916. A 30thman, Thurlow S.W. Wood, of Wood Funeral Home, signed on late.



Among the best-known contributions of the Lions Club in Austin as the Lions Municipal Golf Course, known as MUNY, recently added to National Register of Historic Places. The Clubhouse Building Committee, shown here, was Horace Barnhart, Lee Thrift, John Cofer and E.R. Crawans (standing) as well as A.W. Griffith, John Tobin and F.W. Stamenberg (sitting).

sive movement's goals of civic improvement, and continued to plug into patriotic causes during World War I and World War II.

Like the Rotarians, the Lions Clubs are a service group, not a "secret society" with arcane, elaborate rituals. The Rotarians focus on fundraising and court among their chief causes promoting peace, fighting disease and supporting education.

For their part, the Lions Clubs tend to be more hands-on. Among their activities are running camps for kids with disabilities, and as Helen Keller urged them to do, they became "Knights of the Blind," working to restore sight and prevent blindness on a global scale.

So where did the idea for

the Lions arise?

Two early leaders, Dr. William P. Woods of Evansville, Ind., and Melvin Jones of Chicago, are credited with launching the Lions movement. Because Dr. Woods had started an earlier but waned group, the Royal Order of Lions — a secret society along the lines of the Moose, Elks, Bears and Eagles — San Antonio's Lions Club claims seniority over Austin's, because its Royal "den" was started in 1915.

Yet it appears that its activities were suspended because of military recruitment during World War I, and it re-emerged as a sister to the Lions Clubs International outfit in Austin in 1918.

"San Antonio likes to claim it is the oldest club," Kirksey says. "It's been a mat-

ter of contention for many, many years. But there's no animosity."

One thing both clubs share is the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville. It was started in 1949 in response to a polio epidemic. On June 8, 1953, the camp was dedicated "to the perpetual use and enjoyment of the handicapped children of Texas." It now serves more than 1,500 children a year.

Why a Lion?

Native Austinite Alan Wayne Ford grew up in South Austin and attended Travis High School and the University of Texas. He worked for 25 years for the U.S. Department of the Treasury. He joined the Lions in 1984.

"At the time, my interest might have been more ori-

ented to networking," admits Ford, who served as club president in 1990-91. "Most lions shifted more to the service aspects. I'm the unofficial historian, only by virtue of having [my] own sense of things when others throw them out."

He witnessed the downtown club planting dozens of chapters around Central Texas. "The group puts out feelers in other locales that show promise," he says. "And we talk to community leaders to determine if there's a need. We fill those needs where we perceive, like we did back when we brought whole trainloads from the VA hospital in Temple to go to a show or a UT game."

Not long ago, the downtown group started meeting at the former Elks Club

on Dawson Road. While women were once limited to all-female auxiliary clubs known as "Lionesses," now almost half the members are women.

"Women have kept the club afloat," Ford says. "I can't imagine where we would be without them. We were among the first to induct women."

Ann Ward grew up in Breckenridge, attended Texas Tech University and then worked for several publications and hospital jobs. She joined the Lions three years ago.

"I grew up around Lions," Ward says. "My dad was a Lion for 70 years and served as past district governor. When I had time, I joined him for the good works that they do all over the world. I was in Katmandu, Nepal, where there was a Lions Eye Bank. You see Lions all over the world. It's pretty cool."

She has watched the Lions adjust to the generational changes in social clubs.

"One of the things Lions are doing to attract younger members is a cyber-club," she says. "They meet online but come together for in-person service projects. Lions are sponsoring campus clubs, too. UT and Texas State are among them."

Kirksey grew up in San Angelo and arrived into UT in 1952. He joined the Lions in 1972.

"My father had been a Lion," Kirksey says. "I was familiar with the activities. And I received student awards from Lions Clubs. A very good friend with me to the Longhorn Band cornered me to come find out more about the Austin Downtown Founder Lions Club."

Kirksey is proud that the group asks a wide range of speakers to inform members about their backgrounds.

"We don't discuss partisan politics or debate sectarian religion," he says. "Today, Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Jews all view the group with the same purpose. We recently had a Muslim imam here for an informational presentation."

Decades ago, they also put in "88-fountains" on Lady Bird Lake, including five at Lou Neff Point. They have since disappeared.

"It was our club's 50th anniversary gift to the city," Kirksey says. "Not sure where they are now. Your guess is as good as mine."

Contact: Michael Barnes at 512-445-3670 or mbarnes@statesman.com. Twitter: @outcatabout

Kingsland Lions Charities, Inc.

Semi Annual Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, Sept. 3, 2016

7AM - 11AM

Kingsland Convention & Community Center

3451 Rose Hill Drive, Kingsland, TX 78639



Adults \$5.00

Children 12 and under \$3.00

Free Entertainment

Free Vision Screening for the Kiddos



Kingsland Lions 23rd Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Date: Saturday, October 22, 2016

Place: Lighthouse Country Club

Time: 11:00 A. M. shotgun start

Format: 4 person Scramble (W/HDCP)

Entry Fee: \$75.00 per player- \$40.00 for Lighthouse Club Members - Green fees, Cart, Range balls, Door prizes, Meal following play with refreshments – Additional meal tickets \$10 (Purchase in Advance), Tournament limited to the first 144 entries.

CASH Prizes: CASH PRIZES for Closest to Pin all par 3's – Longest drive for men & women. CASH PRIZES for TOP TEAMS based on low gross & net, Team putting contest.

Mulligan's available at sign in.

HOLE IN ONE PRIZES and SPONSORS

18 - \$20,000 Cash –Friends of the Lions Club

16 - Callaway Diablo Irons – Ray Lynch-EDWARD JONES -Kingsland

12 - Sharp LCD Flat Screen TV- Highland Lakes Watercraft

7 – Round trip Domestic Airline Ticket for 2 – Kingsland Health & Fitness Center

(Winners will be responsible for any State / Federal taxes)

Kingsland Lion 23rd Annual Charities Golf Tournament

Entry Form and Fee Requested by October 15th

Make checks payable to: Lighthouse Country Club

P. O. Box 1807, Kingsland TX 78639

For additional tournament info please contact the Lighthouse Country Club, ask for Travis or John. 325-388-6660

<u>Name</u>	<u>Handicap</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
<u>Name</u>	<u>Handicap</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
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HOLE SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE (Tax deductible)

Hole Sponsor - \$200.00 -18x24 sign 1/2 Hole Sponsor - \$100.00 - 9X24 sign

For information call Lions Stan Menn @ 210-722-0759 or Jim Heartwell @ 281-455-7346. You can also e-mail us at ksldlionsevent@verizon.net- All proceeds go to local charities.

**SIXTEENTH ANNUAL TEXAS LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUM
and
LCI REGIONAL LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
Crowne Plaza North Central
6121 North I-35 – Austin, Texas
February 25 (start 11:30 a.m) and February 26 (end 2:15 p.m.), 2017**

**Registration –
All who attend must register**

**Registration must be for the total event package.
It is not possible to register for individual meals.**

Separate registration form is required, even if lodging together.

_____ Please check if you are a first-timer – Never attended this Forum / Institute before.

Name: _____ Lion Yes No Member # _____
 Phone: _____ E-mail _____
 Address: _____
 City/State _____ Zip code: _____
 Club: _____ District _____
 Highest Lion office held _____
 Are you staying at the Crowne Plazer? Yes No If yes, name on reservation? _____

Make checks to: **Texas Lions Leadership Forum**
 Mail to: **Frances Cherry Cell: 915-494-4425**
6216 Caprock El Paso, TX 79912
pdascherrys@yahoo.com

If have not been Vice Governor or above
 Forum registration by 1/28/17 # _____ @ \$50.00 = _____
 If have been Vice District Governor or above
 Forum registration by 1/28/17 # _____ @ \$75.00 = _____
 All registrants after 1/28/17 # _____ @ 100.00 - _____

Reserve lodging at the Crowne Plaza Austin North Central, 6121 North I-35, Austin, TX. The Lions Clubs International rate must be requested. To reserve telephone 877-227-6963 or telephone the hotel direct at 512-323-5466. Rate: \$109 per night, single or double. The reservation deadline at this rate is February 210. Reserve and guarantee your room now.

The first 100 Lions registering, who have never been elected to a position of Vice Governor or higher, will have their February 25 lodging paid by the Institute. Even those who qualify for this paid lodging must make, and guarantee, their own reservations with the Crowne Plaza Austin North Central and complete all parts of the Institute evaluation. A charge will be made to the credit card of those not attending who do not cancel lodging through Frances Cherry (915)494-4425. Free lodging eligibility is considered only if Registration is received within ten days of making the hotel reservation.

Please select 6 choices. +
 Indication of choices are used for scheduling purposes – Participant may change to other choices.

- Club Success Resources
 - Local Issues & Opportunities
 - Effective Meeting Management
 - Member Diversity & Inclusion
 - Future Vice Governors
 - Texas Lion history
 - Leadership fundamentals
 - Lion fundamentals
 - Club Membership Growth
 - Motivating club members
 - Public speaking
 - Set & reach club goals
 - Social media & Lionism
 - Structure & organization
 - Time management
 - Working in teams
- Service entities invited to provide a display.
- Leaders for the Blind
 - Lions Clubs Int'l Centennial
 - Lions Clubs Int'l Foundation
 - Texas Lions Camp
 - Lions Eyeglass Recycling
 - Texas Lions Foundation

Our Mission As Lions

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

IT ALL BEGAN IN 1917

In 1917, Melvin Jones, a 38-year-old Chicago business leader, told members of his local business club they should reach beyond business issues and address the betterment of their communities and the world. Jones' group, the Business Circle of Chicago, agreed.

After contacting similar groups around the United States, an organizational meeting was held on June 7, 1917, in Chicago, Illinois, USA. The new group took the name of one of the invited groups, the "Association of Lions Clubs," and a national convention was held in Dallas, Texas, USA in October of that year. A constitution, by-laws, objects and a code of ethics were approved.

Within three years, Lions became an international organization. Since then, we've earned high marks for both integrity and transparency. We're a well-run organization with a steady vision, a clear mission, and a long – and proud – history.

Melvin Jones asked a simple and world-changing question – what if people put their talents to work improving their communities? Almost 100 years later, Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization, with 1.35 million members in more than 46,000 clubs and countless stories of Lions acting on the same simple idea: let's improve our communities.

A BRIEF TIMELINE

As we approach our 100th anniversary in 2017, it's moment to look back on our long and proud tradition of service and the numerous achievements of our association and Lions around the world.

1917: Melvin Jones and fellow Chicago businessmen found Lions Clubs to improve the community. The first convention takes place at the Adolphus Hotel in Dallas, TX.

1920: Lions Clubs become international by chartering a club in Windsor, Canada.

1925: During the international convention in Cedar Point, Ohio, Helen Keller charges Lions with becoming "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness."

1926: Polar explorer and member of the Washington D.C. Lions Club, Admiral Richard E. Byrd, Jr. flies over the North Pole and carries the Lions flag with him. He flies over the South Pole later that same year.

1930: Lion George Bonham paints a cane white with a wide red band to aid the visually impaired after he witnesses a blind man having trouble crossing the street.

1931: Lions head south and establish a club in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. The first international convention outside of the U.S. is held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

1933: Visitors to the Chicago World's Fair learn about Lions clubs at the fair's Social Science Division.

1935: Amelia Earhart, honorary member of the New York City Lions Club, completes a record-breaking nonstop flight from Los Angeles to Mexico during the Lions Clubs International Convention in Mexico City. Local Lions donate a Talking Book machine to the Milwaukee Public Library, allowing the blind to hear books.

1939: Members of the Detroit Uptown Lions Club turn an old Michigan farmhouse into a school to train dog guides for the visually impaired, helping to popularize dog guides worldwide. To provide an organized baseball program for children, Lion Carl Edwin Stotz of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, appeals for support from Lions clubs, YMCAs and other community partners. On June 6, 1939, the very first Little League baseball game is played at Park Point in Williamsport.

1944: The world's first eye bank is created in New York City. Today, most eye banks are Lions-sponsored.

1945: Lions assist in drafting the United Nations Charter, starting a lasting bond with the U.N.

1946: The Lions Blind Camp on Casper Mountain in Wyoming hosts its first group of blind children.

1947: In October, Lions celebrate the 30th anniversary of the association at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City. It had become the world's largest service club organization at the time with 324,690 members in 19 nations. Lions are given consultant status with the U.N. Economic and Social Council.

1948: Only three years after World War II, Europe sees its first Lions club in Stockholm, Sweden. Geneva, Switzerland, follows suit just days later. A Lions club is formed in Kalaupapa on the island of Molokai, Hawaii. Kalaupapa is a leper colony and the charter members all have Hansen's disease (leprosy).

1952: Filipino Lions reach out to Japan and encourage the chartering of the first Japanese Lions club.

1954: After an international contest among Lions, an official motto is chosen: "We Serve." The motto was submitted by Lion D. A. Stevenson of Font Hill, Ontario, Canada.

1956: The Detroit Lions Club gives 6-year-old Stevie Wonder a Christmas gift – a drum set. The Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station is built. Soon after, 16 scientists and military personnel charter the 59ers Lions Club there.

1957: Lions launch youth programs, including the very successful Leo Clubs.

1965: Lions build the Melvin Jones Lions International Memorial in Fort Thomas, Arizona.

1968: The Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is established. Since its founding, LCIF has given more than US\$826 million in grants to support the humanitarian work of Lions.

1971: LCI moves to its fourth and final location in Oak Brook, IL, after decades in downtown Chicago.

1972: LCIF sends out its first grant – US\$5,000 to assist victims of flooding in South Dakota.

1973: In February, the association welcomes its one millionth member.

1977: Lion Jimmy Carter, a peanut farmer from Georgia, becomes president of the United States of America.

1985: LCIF awards its first Major Catastrophe Grant of US\$50,000 for earthquake relief in Mexico.

1986: Mother Teresa accepts the Lions Humanitarian Award.

1987: The association amends its bylaws and invites women to become members. Women are now the fastest growing segment of new members.

1990: Sight First is launched, eventually raising more than \$415 million dollars to help eradicate major causes of blindness. French Lion Michael Baur helps build an electric traction car and races it at a Grand Prix event.

1995: LCIF partners with The Carter Center, led by former US president and Lion Jimmy Carter, to combat river blindness in Africa and Latin America.

1999: Nilofer Bakhtiar of Pakistan is elected as the first female international director of the association.

2001: LCIF and Special Olympics partner on Opening Eyes, an initiative to screen the vision of Special Olympics athletes.

2002: Lions charter two clubs in China, the nation's first voluntary membership group since the 1950s.

2003: Through SightFirst, Lions and The Carter Center record their 50 millionth river blindness treatment.

2004: Lions mobilize more than US\$15 million for South Asia tsunami relief following the disaster.

2007: The Financial Times ranks LCIF as best worldwide, non-governmental organization with which to partner.

2010: The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation contributes US\$5 million to the One-Shot: One Life campaign, and Lions raise more than US\$10 million to support measles efforts over the next two years.

2011: LCIF awards its 10,000th grant – bringing the total amount awarded to US\$708 million. Lions help administer 148 millionth dose of Mectizan to treat river blindness. Following the Japan earthquake and tsunami, Lions mobilize over US\$21 million for relief efforts.

2013: LCIF partners with the GAVI Alliance to protect millions of children from measles and rubella. LCIF commits US\$30 million for immunizations, matched by US\$30 million from UK Government and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, bringing the total to US\$60 million. Colombia eliminates river blindness with the support of Lions and The Carter Center partnership.

2014: Lions launch the Centennial Service Challenge a global initiative to serve 100 million people around the world.

2017: Lions celebrate their 100th Anniversary and first century of service!