



District 2-A1 Lions Clubs International District 2-A1 News

October 2017 www.txlionsdistrict2a1.com

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Save the Date
District Meeting
Brady
November 10th & 11th



Newsletter Editor
Lion Donald McConnell
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We Serve with



BEING THANKFUL

We are approaching the season of Thanksgiving. Do we ever stop to think of what there is to be thankful for? We feel thankful for all the Lions who stepped up to buy Deer Hunt tickets to help fund the District. Knowing how short the window of opportunity for selling tickets was, you wonder if perhaps not many tickets will be sold. It is only because of the service heart of the District Lions that the raffle was as successful as it was.

We are thankful that Lions came together before, during, and after Hurricane Harvey came onto the Texas coast as a category 4 hurricane and decided to stay and create rain as has not been seen in many years. Lion from Texas and other parts of the country sending needed supplies to those most affected by this catastrophe. Lions continue to be the first boots on the ground whenever there is a need.

Thankful that our own LCIF has been as generous with their funding to Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico, Mexico, and other parts of the world affected by these major catastrophes. Thankful and proud that our Texas Districts Lions and our own District 2 A1 offered unsolicited money and supplies to our coastal Lions and non-lions in need. Lions continue to respond making a direct impact on lives of millions of people.

We are thankful that lions have met their service challenge in the last Century and continue to serve in our 2nd Century of Service. We are thankful that we can still find those individuals with a service heart to become Lions. With more members Lions will be able to do more service for our communities in need. We have to harness the strength of the past Century in order to excel with the opportunities for need in our next new century of Lionism.

Acuna Eye Clinic
 PDG Al Owen
 6404 Spy Glass
 San Angelo, TX
 Home 325-651-7141
 Cell 325-262-3881
 azowen@verizon.net

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 San Angelo, TX 76904
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 104 River Ranch Road
 Kingsland, TX 78639
 H:325-388-2091
 daverichison@gmail.com

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 Helen Wilde
 3209 Southland Blvd.
 San Angelo, TX 76904
 H: 325-942-6697
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 hmweilde@suddenlink.net

1st VDG Russell Livingston

Russell's Ramblings

By: Russell Livingston VDG



Two events pretty much dominated our Lion's October. One was a club activity by the Midland Downtown Lions Club

The centennial was headquartered in Richardson. Planned as a celebration of service and tradition, we had a blast. The festivities started on Thursday with arrival and visiting with our friends from around the state. Friday, was consumed with meetings and my council's training. We attended the Council of Governor's meeting Friday morning. Personally, I learn something at every Council of Governor's meeting.

We also enjoyed the Saturday night festivities at Eddie Dean's. Good food and fellowship all around. Perhaps, the highlight of the weekend was the presence of International Royalty. Five Past International Past Presidents and the sitting Vice International President were present. Our next International President will be the first female in that office. She is personable and very outgoing and friendly. We will have a good year serving with her. There were plenty of Past International Directors present and our own Sam Lindsey was everywhere at the same time.

If you missed this grand event, I can only recommend that you make plans to attend our Second Century Celebration at a yet to be named location.

The second event was significant. The Downtown Lions Club in Midland hosted their second Readathon at the club's building. Over 188 attended and 133 brand new grade appropriate books were handed out. The Three Little Pigs Readers Theater, Midland Christian High School Drama Club, Book Store and meet an author were highlights. The best part for this Old Lion was reading to children. The goal was not to teach reading, but to teach the children to enjoy reading. It was a success and I would encourage clubs in our district to consider similar community projects.

We will be soon contacting members throughout the district for Cabinet Officer Positions for next year. All volunteers, please contact me to express your willingness to serve our great 2A-1 district.

It is great to be a Lion. See you in Brady.



**PDG Joyce Downie
 and husband
 Lion Ron**

Support

**District 2-A1 Governor Armando
 Subia and his 2017-2018 Cabinet**



**VDG Russell Livingston,
 Toni Livingston,
 Lion Whitney Livingston,
 Lion Ryan Livingston,
 and Kimberly Livingston**

**Wish Governor Armando Subia,
 a great year as our Governor**

LCIF
 PDG Joyce Downie
 115 Churchill Blvd
 San Angelo, TX 76903
 H & F: 325-651-8894
 joyced2@suddenlink.com

Leader dog for the Blind
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 Sonora, TX 76950
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 6200brgmail.com

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 1205 Gordon Blvd.
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 epjmrp@suddenlink.com

Here are the results for the Deer Hunt Raffle that we have been waiting for:

First Place : Three Day Deer Hunt and Motel Drew Springer- Ballinger Noon Lions Club

Second Place: \$ 250 Cash Prize El Dorado Lions Club

Third Place: \$ 100 Cash Prize Gene Neves - Midland

We want to express our deep appreciation to all our District Lions who stepped up to make this Hunt happen in the short window of opportunity that we had. I would like to thank Lion Joel Kuykendall, without your generosity this raffle would not have happened.


Thank you all for being the Lions that you are,
DG Armando and Lion Felis

To all District Lions that ordered The Texas Centennial Lions History Book and have not received their copy please contact Lion Emilio Perez Jimenez. I have 14 copies in my possession. According to the list provided by PDGs David Richison and Bill Smotherton 28 copies were ordered. It is assumed that fourteen copies were issued in Kerrville during the COG meeting.


The books will be available at the District Cabinet Meeting in Brady on November 10-11.

My email is; epjmrp@suddenlink.net, Home telephone; 325-617-7142 and Cellular tel. 325-212-1426.

Lion Emilio Perez Jimenez
 District Centennial Coordinator




SAVE THE DATE
 November 10th & 11th
 Brady, Texas



“The A1 CLUB”

in the Lions 2-A1 District

Sweetwater Lions Club



Club News

Lions Camp Director (West)
 Whitney Livingston
 3603 Princeton
 Midland, TX 79703
 C: 432-528-5763
 Winyuigt2gmail.com

Lions Camp Director (East)
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 W: 325-622-4530
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 southwesterlion2011@gmail.com

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 311 River Ranch Road
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 C: 512-422-4930
 grandadtexas@ymail.com

Youth Exchange
 Vacant

International President
 Dr. Naresh Aggarwal



International Headquarters
 300 22nd Street
 Oak Brook, Il 60521



On October 9th DG Armando Subia made his official visit to the Concho Pearl Lions Club and was treated to a Ham dinner with all the fixings. Pictured is the DG addressing the Club members. Thank you President Brigette for a great Concho Pearls Lions meeting .




Lion CJ receiving his 15 year milestone chevron with the Concho Pearl Lion Club




The Concho Pearl Lions Club's service project for October was to collect supplies for the San Angelo Family Shelter. Pictured are members of the Club, DG Armando and Lion Felis Subia and Family Shelter volunteers.

The Concho Pearl Lions of San Angelo gather to present donated supplies to the Justice Home of San Angelo, a transitional home for women leaving incarceration. Clarice Cox, director of the Justice Home, was the featured speaker at the club's meeting held on September 11, 2017.



**Midland West Side
 Lions Club**
 Proudly Supports
DG Armando Subia
 and the 2017/2018 DG Team



**Midland
 West Side Lions Club**
 Home Club of
PDG Robert (Bob) Edwards
 Proudly Supports
 The District 2-A1 Leadership Team

Club News Continued



Thank you Lion President Pat Henderson and the Coleman Evening Lions for a great visit.



Thank you Lion President Roy Smalling and the Sonora Lions Club for a great meeting and awesome food.



Thank you Sterling City Lions and Lion President Jim Nobles for a great time 10/11/17



Lion Shane Colorado City Lions talking to Sterling City Lions about the machine 10/11/17



**San Angelo
North by North West
Lions Club**

**Proudly Supports
DG Armando Subia**

and the 2017/2018 DG Team

The Midland Tall City Lions are selling shopping spree tickets for their 41st annual fall raising project. Tickets are \$2.00 each that can be purchase from any members of the club.

<p>DG Armando Subia 4018 Monty Drive Midland, TX 79703 Home 432-694-3861 Cell 432-238-2267 A_Subia49@yahoo.com</p>	<p>1st VDG Russell Livingston 3602 Springmont Midland, TX 79707 Home 432-520-3404 Cell 432-559-9010 rlivingston3602@hotmail.com</p>	<p>2nd VDG Keith Perrine 4912 Mariner Terrace San Angelo, TX 76903 Home: xxx-xxx-xxxx Cell 432-656-3252 Keith.perrine@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Cabinet Secretary Donna Dugger 1908 Nolan Big Spring, TX 79720 Home: xxx-xxx-xxxx Cell: 432-466-1497 Donna_d7075@att.net</p>	<p>Cabinet Treasurer Chris Maxwell 408 CR 109 Sweetwater, TX 79556 Home: 325-665-0127 Cell: 325-235-9235 cmaxwell@eljentechnology.com</p>
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Club News Continued

10/14/2017 Big Spring Centennial Lions helped at the 2nd annual Campout Comanche Trail here in Big Spring. We did about 30 kiddos and a few adult vision screening. Lion Sandy Burnett got the Howard County Fire Dept. to bring out some Fire Truck for the kids also. Lot of fishing, first aid fire building and other stuff was all around. here are a few pics of us for your pleasure. ROAR!!!!!!



IPDG Dave, DG Armando and Jim Chapman at the Kingsland Lions Club- thank you Lion President Era



Despite the cold temperatures, the Angelo Campus Lions Club participated in their very first ASU homecoming parade. Leo the Lion and the candy they passed out to the kiddos along the parade route were a ROARING success!



Thank you Bronte Lions Club for all you do for your community.



Thank you Lion President Machele and the Goldthwaite Lions Club the warm welcome and good food.



Display at the Texas Lions 100 Centennial Celebration 10/5-7/ 2017



The San Angelo *Dynamic* Downtown Lions Club

Proudly Supports

District Governor Armando Subia and the District 2-A1 Leadership Team

<p>Zone 1 Chairperson Don Eckerty 5805 S.C. Road 1065 Midland, TX 79706 Home: 432-682-2378 Cell: Eckerty.don@gmail.com</p>	<p>Zone 2 Chairperson Marianne Stevenson 3573 CR 133 Colorado City, TX 79512 Home 325-728-9203 Cell: 509-991-6776 mcs4446@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Zone 3 Chairperson Larry Melton Box 84 Ballinger, TX 76821 Home: 325-365-3296 Cell: linlte@aol.com</p>	<p>Zone 4 Chairperson Mona Soland 304 Kleenayre Ave Kingsland, TX 78657 Home 830-613-4168 Cell: 830-637-0709 Lionmona@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Zone 5 Chairperson Glenn Shepard 1510 F.M 2887 Ballinger, TX 75821 Home: Cell: 432-770-1137 Glenn.Shepard@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Zone 6 Chairpersons Larry Walker Home: 325-227-8093 Cell 325-212-9976 & Scott Patterson Home 325-653-7227 Cell 325-6543-6655</p>
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Western Texas Lions Eye Bank

October 3, 2017

Our Lions Eye Bank had three local Lions clubs that went above and beyond to provide financial support towards our Eye Bank Association of America fiscal dues; San Angelo Lady Lions, San Angelo Downtown Lions, and Irion County Lions. Thank you for your generous and continued loyal support to our local Lions Eye Bank.

Continued support from our fellow Lions through 100%- 300% club contributions from 2T-3 and 2A-1 for the last quarter:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Andrews Downtown | Ballinger |
| El Paso Del Norte | Colorado City |
| El Paso Downtown | Concho County |
| El Paso Executive Women's | Concho Valley Law Enforcement |
| El Paso Five Points | Mason |
| El Paso Mountain | Midland Westside |
| El Paso Sun City | San Angelo Downtown |
| El Paso Upper Valley | |
| El Paso United | |
| Odessa Ante Meridan | |
| Odessa Grandview | |
| Van Horn | |

Yours in Lionism,

Lucy Rivas,CEBT
Eye Bank Director



District 2A1 Retention Contest

Last year our District lost 254 members because they decided to drop their membership in their Lions Club. The loss of these members meant we had less service in our communities, less support for our Disabled Children going to the Lions Camp, and less support for all the other good things we do.

The loss of most of these members who dropped could have been prevented. They drop for different reasons but the underlying reason is, “what they got out of being a member was not rewarding”.

To encourage clubs to focus on retention, the District is implementing a retention contest. For the contest we have broken the clubs into 3 groups, Small membership, Medium membership, and Large membership. The contest will run through June 2020. The current District Governor and the District Governors for the following 2 years are committed to this program to strengthen our clubs.

Quarterly, the club with the best retention in each of the 3 size groups will be recognized at the District meeting and all the members will receive a Retention Pin. Each additional time a club wins the members will receive a chevron with a number on it representing how many time the club has won. Potentially, a club could have a chevron with 10 on it, meaning they won every quarter through June 2020.

If multiple clubs tie on having the fewest drops, we will recognize the club or clubs that tied but also have the most new members.

At the end of each year we will also recognize the club with fewest drops for the full year with an award of \$10.00 for each member. The club can decide how they want to use the money. They could use the money to buy an apparel item, have a club celebration party, take the members to a Lions Camp Friday night graduation event, or whatever fits their need.

Peace Poster Contest



DISTRICT 2-A1 WILL ONCE AGAIN HOLD THE PEACE POSTER CONTEST FOR ANY CLUB THAT WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE. THE SUBJECT FOR THIS YEARS PEACE POSTER CONTEST IS " THE FUTURE OF PEACE" AND IS FOR YOUNGSTERS AGES 11-13. THE PEACE POSTER KIT CAN BE ORDERED FROM LCI AND YOU NEED ONE KIT FOR EACH CONTESTANT. JUDGING FOR THE POSTER ENTERED WILL BE AT THE 2ND CABINET MEETING ON NOVEMBER 11TH IN BRADY. YOU CAN BRING YOUR CLUB'S WINNING POSTER TO THE CABINET MEETING OR SEND IT TO PDG JOYCE DOWNIE BY NOV 8TH. AWARDS WILL BE FOR THREE PLACES, 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD.

POSTERS ARE TO BE EVALUATED ON THREE CRITERIA ON EACH LEVEL OF JUDGING. THE CRITERIA ARE ORIGINALITY, ARTISTIC MERIT AND EXPRESSION OF THE THEME " THE FUTURE OF PEACE".

ONCE THE WINNER HAS BEEN CHOSEN, THE POSTER MUST BE TURNED INTO MD2 BY DECEMBER 1ST. THERE IT WILL BE JUDGED ALONG WITH THE OTHER DISTRICT WINNERS AND THAT WINNING POSTER IS SENT ON TO LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOR JUDGING AND THE WINNER NOTIFIED ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 1, 2018. MD2 AND LCI ALSO GIVES AN AWARD TO THE WINNING POSTER

ALL THE CONTEST RULES ARE GIVEN IN THE PEACE POSTER KIT. POSTERS NOT MEETING THESE SPECIFICATIONS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

I HOPE YOUR CLUB WILL PARTICIPATE IN THIS PEACE POSTER CONTEST. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL ME.

PDG JOYCE DOWNIE
DISTRICT 2-A1 PEACE POSTER CONTEST CHAIR
115 CHURCHILL BLVD.

District 2A1 2017-18 Opportunities for Youth Contests



District 2A1 will host all three Opportunity for Youth Contests this year. The District will fund a \$750 scholarship for 1st place and \$250 for 2nd place in each contest. The \$250 State entry fee for 2A1's District winners will be the responsibility of the sponsoring club.

Clubs are welcome and encouraged to offer scholarships to the winners of your local Club Contests.

The 1st place winners in each contest will be entered in the MD2 State Contest to be held at the State Convention on May 26th, 2018 at the Omni Hotel In Corpus Christi (MD2 State Participants will need to arrive on the afternoon/evening of the 25th).

Complete contest rules, instructions for proper completion of the applications and supporting forms, and everything else the student will need to know can be found at www.texaslions.org. Select "Programs", then "Opportunities for Youth" for the general information, and finally the specific contest or contests the student wishes to enter.

Your Club's entrants to the District Contests must be **received** in completed form by **March 31st, 2018**. Mail them to: **PCC Tom Blase, 2914 Moss, Midland, Texas 79705 (cell 325-315-7060) (home 432-218-8021)**.

Below is a brief outline of this year's contests:

Diabetes Awareness Essay

"Accepting a Diabetes Diagnosis: What can Parents, Partners and Caregivers do to help loves adjust to a "new normal?"

Some individuals diagnosed with diabetes have a difficult time accepting a diabetes diagnosis and fail to seek medical attention for this disease. What specific recommendations would you provide for parents, partners and caretakers to help loves adjust to living with diabetes and help them live long and healthy lives? (Maximum 1500 word essay)

Drug Awareness Speech Contest

"Rick Factors and Why Teens Use Drugs and Alcohol"

"Biological and Environmental Factors Associated with Drugs and Alcohol: What you should know."

Explore the types of biological and environmental factors parents can watch for to figure out if their child is at greater risk for substance abuse and steps they can take to address a child's drug and alcohol abuse issues. (Speech: 5 min. minimum – 7 min. maximum)

Outstanding Youth Award Contest

The "Change Maker"

Contestants must articulate ways in which they have been "Change Makers" in their community, school and inspired others to do the same. Why is it important to be a Change Maker? A Change Maker is defined as one who commits to self-responsibility and action toward change in their community. (Essay: 750 word minimum – 1000 word maximum)



District 2-A1 Newsletter and Website Sponsors

The District needs your support for 2017-2018.

Please help support the District Governor Team, District 2-A1, and a chance to give your club some exposure by advertising in the 2017-2018 District publications (Website and Newsletter).

We need your support more than ever!

Please purchase your space as soon as possible by completing this form and sending it with your check to the District Treasurer.

Ad Cost:

- Business Card Size:** **\$50** (approx. size: 2" x 2.75")
Double Business Card Size: **\$100** (approx. size: 2" x 5.5")
Quadruple Business Card Size: **\$150** (approx. size: 4" x 7.25")

Contact Name: _____

Club Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Note: We can help design your ad for you or you can include a copy of your card/ad as you would like it to appear. If you would like us to design, please give us an idea of what you want:

- Please help with Ad
 Ad Enclosed (pdf format)

Please mail or email this information to the following:

District 2-A1 Treasurer

Lion Chris Maxwell

408 CR 109

Sweetwater TX 79556

Email: cmaxwell@eljentechnology.com

Cell Ph: 325-665-0127

Second Cabinet Meeting Agenda
McCulloch County Lions Club (BRADY)
Friday November 10th and Saturday November 11th 2017

07:30-08:30 PDG Meeting

08:30-09:00 Meet and Greet- Officer training

09:00-09:30 Prayer- Lion Christian Rabone
Flags- 2nd VDG Keith Perrine
Introduction of Guests- 1st VDG Russell Livingston

09:30-10:00 Welcome- DG Armando
Host Club Welcome- Lion President Dee Smith
Secretary Minuets-Approval
Treasurer Report- Lion Chris Maxwell
Introduction of 1st Timers-Name
Clubs Present Parade of Checks

10:00-10:15 Break-Raffle,
Pin Sales,-
Tail Twister

10:15-10:30 Zone Chair Club Reports
Joel Kuykendall-Texas Lions Camp Director-East

10:30-10:40 Special Raffle

10:40- 11:10 IPDG Dave Richison-Presentation of District 2-A1 Retention Contest

11:10-11:25 Tail Twister

11:25-12:00 Presentation of Tenure Chevrons

12:00-1:30 Lunch
Guest Speaker-Debbie Sonberg (Keepers of Hope) 1:30 Adjourn

1:30-2:30 Officer Training (President, Secretary)

Zenni Optical, one of this year's sponsors at the USA/Canada Forum

\$6.95 Glasses

Check them out at <http://www.zennioptical.com>



McCulloch County Lions Club



invites you to join us
November 10-11, 2017
in Brady, TX for the
District 2-A1 2nd Cabinet Meeting



Friday Night (Nov. 10, 2017) Agenda:

\$10/person

5:30PM—7:00PM: Hamburger welcome meal

7:00PM—?? (Don't worry, we won't tell): BINGO!!



Saturday (Nov. 11, 2017) Agenda:

\$25/person

7:30AM—9:00AM: Registration, Breakfast, Social Time,
Past Governors' Meeting, Officer Training Sessions

9:00AM—Noon: District 2-A1 Meeting

Noon—?: Brisket, Beans, Potato Salad, Dessert, Tea/Water,
(and all the fixins') meal

Wear your Lions Vest for a ticket to the Special Drawing!



BRADY/McCULLOCH
 COUNTY
 CHAMBER of COMMERCE

District 2-A1 2nd Cabinet Meeting

Nov 10-11, 2017

Brady, TX

Heart of Texas Event Center



Accommodations

RV Parks		
City of Brady (Richards Park or Brady Lake)	201 E Main	Brady, TX 76825 (325) 597-2152
Heart of Texas RV and Trailer Park	300 E 17th	Brady, TX 76825 (325) 456-1262
Rockin R RV Park	2021 Hwy 87 North	Brady, TX 76825 (979) 551-0499
Hotels/Motels		
Best Western/Brady Inn	2200 S. Bridge St.	Brady, TX 76825 (325) 597-3997
Gold Key Inn	2023 S. Bridge St.	Brady, TX 76825 (325) 597-2185
Holiday Inn Express & Suites Brady	2320 S. Bridge St	Brady, TX 76825 (325) 597-1800
Lazy Q Family Retreat	215 CR 379	Pontotoc, TX 76869 (325) 247-6342
Selah Springs Ranch	3700 US 87	Brady, TX 76825 (325) 597-2602
Sunset Inn	2108 S. Bridge St	Brady, TX 76825 (325) 597-0789



BRADY/McCULLOCH
COUNTY
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

District 2-A1 Cabinet Meeting Nov 10-11, 2017



Brady, TX

Heart of Texas Event Center

Heart of Texas Event Center
804 San Angelo Hwy
Brady, Texas, TX 76825



McCulloch County Lions Club



District 2-A1 Lions Club
Cabinet Meeting
November 10-11, 2017
Brady, TX



Registration Form

Name:	<input type="text"/>
Club:	<input type="text"/>
Address:	<input type="text"/>
Total Amount Included	Friday - \$10 Saturday - \$25 Both - \$35
<p>** Please make checks payable to: McCulloch County Lions Club PO Box 412, Brady TX 76825</p>	

Wear your Lions Vest for a ticket to the Special Drawing!

Lions Clubs



**DISTRICT 2-A1 MID WINTER CONFERENCE
 JANUARY 19 & 20, 2017
 LA QUINTA INNS & SUITES
 500 NW GEORGIA AVE
 Sweetwater Texas**

**Friday: 6:00 to???? Meet & Greet with Bingo
 @ Lions Building 1510 Lamar St**

LA QUINTA INNS & SUITES

**Saturday: 7:30 am to 9:00 am Registration and Hot Breakfast
 7:30 am to 8:30 am PDG Meeting
 8:30 am to 9:00 am Meet and Greet
 9:00 am to 12:00 am Business Meeting
 12:00 to 1:00 pm Lunch-Speaker PCC TJ Tijerina
 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Officer Training**

ADVANCE REGISTRATION

**Friday Fun & Games & Saturday Conference: \$25.00 # _____ \$ _____
 Hot Breakfast included in fee
 (\$5.00 will be added without advance registration)**

LION _____ LION/SPOUSE _____

CLUB _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SWEETWATER LIONS CLUB

MAIL TO: Sweetwater Lions Club	For more information call or e-mail
P.O. Box 325	Lion Robert Moore
Sweetwater, TX 79556	325-721-4885 (cell)
	rmoores@nolan-cad.org

**HOTEL INFORMATION
 LA QUINTA INNS & SUITES
 500 NW GEORGIA AVE
 SWEETWATER TX 79556
 325-236-6887 (ASK FOR LIONS RATE)**

Hurricane Harvey – 10-18-17

HURRICANE HARVEY

While the normal challenges facing the Lions of Texas continued for most of Texas after the first Council of Governors meeting in Kerrville, the challenges for a large area of Texas were dramatically changed by Hurricane Harvey which struck our Gulf coast late on Friday August 25 as a Category 4 storm and then refused to leave for the next week until it had become one of the greatest rainmakers in the history of Texas.

As we all know the effects of Harvey have been devastating to many of our fellow Texans, however, I am also pleased to report that the response to Harvey by our Texas Lions including our own Texas Lions Foundation, many Lions from around the country and our own Lions Club International Foundation have made many of us even prouder to be a Lion than before the storm.

Even before Harvey came ashore, on Friday morning of August 25th, LCIF reached out to me to make sure the Governors of the to be affected areas were aware of the normal LCIF Emergency Grants of \$10,000.00. As much as that was appreciated, I am even more pleased to report that by Sunday August 27 we were notified that LCI President Aggarwal and LCIF Chairman IPIP Corlew had got the ball rolling on approval of \$100,000.00 as a Major Catastrophe Grant to assist MD-2 in the response to Harvey.

In response to this notification, on Sunday, August 27th, the Council of Governors held a special Council meeting via conference call that evening to take action in regard to the offer of assistance by LCIF. As a result of that meeting, the following action was taken by the Council:

DG Dr. Johanna Elliot (S5) moved that the MD-2 Council of Governors accept the \$100,000 emergency LCIF grant, with Governors from A3, S1, S2, and S4 to serve on a committee to manage the LCIF funds as part of the proposed MD-2 Texas Hurricane Harvey Fund. DG Paul Boggs (X2) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously [14-0 with 2 absent].

Late on August 28, the Major Catastrophe Grant Agreement was received from LCIF. After review and discussions with LCIF, the Grant Agreement was signed and returned to LCIF on August 30.

The Task Force immediately went to work to coordinate accepting the Grant funds as well as other funds contributed directly to the Task Force or through the Texas Lions Foundation and moving forward on the recovery efforts – including numerous conference calls with LCIF personnel and an untold number of e-mails. As with any large-scale effort, the coordination efforts took a little time – and in response to such delay, the Council of Governors held a second special Council meeting via conference call on Monday September 4, 2017 (Labor Day).

Hurricane Harvey – 10-18-17 Continued

HURRICANE HARVEY

As a result of that meeting, the following action was taken by the Council:

DG Joe Holman move to authorize the immediate wire transfer of \$50,000.00 from the MD-2 Administrative Account at the Texas Hill Country Bank to the MD-2 Lions Grant account established for the administration of the LCIF Major Catastrophe Grant of \$100,000.00 (the LCIF Funds) at Citizen's National Bank, Huntsville, Texas, provided further that upon receipt of such LCIF Funds that said \$50,000.00 will be repaid to MD-2 prior to any further LCIF funds being wire transferred to the MD-2 Lions Grant account and to further authorize, after such repayment to the MD-2 Administrative Account, the wire transfer of the remainder of any LCIF Grant funds from the MD-2 Administrative Account to the MD-2 Lions Grant account. DG Paul Boggs (X2) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously [13-0 with 3 absent].

Fortunately, the Grant Funds were received from LCIF a few days later so there was no action taken on the advance of funds.

As authorized by the Council, the Task Force has held regular conference calls which among other actions included the establishment of 2 special accounts at Citizens National Bank in Huntsville, Texas – one account known as the Grant Account to handle the LCIF Funds and a second account known as the Relief Account to handle the non-LCIF Funds with the following persons as authorized signatories thereon: CC Richard S. Talbert, DG Betty Ezell – 2-S2, DG Russell Wheeler 2-S1, DG Jerry Gilbert – 2-S4, DG Jesse Rodriguez – 2-A3 and PDG Noah Speer – 2-S2 (as administrative coordinator due to his location and prior LCIF grant experience). At a later date, the Task Force also added 1VDG Karl Johnson – 2-S2 to signature authority on the account. All of this action has been ratified by the Council of Governors.

One of the very first actions that the Task Force took was the establishment of the e-mail address of HurricaneHarvey@texaslions.org so that it could be posted for all interested persons to use to communicate with the Task Force. With the help of MD-2 Information Technology Chair Lion Floyd Daigle – this one address routes all e-mails to all members of the Task Force so that the entire Task Force can be aware of all contacts and respond appropriately. The MD-2 Website was then used to announce the establishment of the Task Force and offer three ways for interested parties to contribute – LCIF, TLF or directly to the Task Force.

As noted, in addition to the response from LCIF, the response from others has been truly amazing: Our own Texas Lions Foundation has been fantastic in its support of the relief efforts. The TLF has awarded 36 of its standard Emergency Grants of \$2,000 each totaling \$72,000.00 – even though its original budget for the year allocated \$30,000.00 in such Emergency Grants – so the officers and trustees of the TLF deserve a big Lions “THANK YOU!” In addition, as of October 2nd, TLF received \$54,641.49 in contributions designated for the Task Force Relief Fund and an additional \$23,195.05 in general contributions designated for Hurricane Harvey Relief. On October 6, PCC Bernie Gradel as COO of TLF delivered a check for the \$54,641.49 to the Task Force. It has been most gratifying to review the TLF contribution records which reveal that 40 individuals in Texas and 15 individuals outside of Texas (mostly Lions) and 25 Lions Clubs in Texas and 9 Lions Clubs outside of Texas – all stepping up to serve in this time of need.

Hurricane Harvey – 10-18-17 Continued

HURRICANE HARVEY

As to the Task Force, it has received direct contributions in the amount of \$93,227.00 from 80 different individuals and Lions Clubs – all stepping up to serve in this time of need. One of the more amazing contributions came from the Chester Lions Club of New Jersey in the amount of \$40,000.00. In addition to the cash contributions, the Task Force has also received numerous truckloads of relief supplies from Lions Clubs all over the country. In fact, at our Centennial Celebration in Dallas earlier this month, the Task Force displayed a map of the United States with more than 75 stars indicating contributions of money or supplies from all around this great country – and remember - these are contributions that were not solicited but simply offered by Lions on their own initiative.

As to LCIF – it has been a real learning experience and an exciting one. In addition to the initial \$100,000.00 Major Catastrophe Grant. As of Wednesday, October 11, LCIF has received an additional \$550,000+/- in designated contributions for Hurricane Harvey – and more contributions are expected since Hurricane Harvey is expected to be a major article in the November issue of our Lions Magazine. The challenge is managing the funds when the Task Force is spread out over 255 miles of Texas coastline covering more than 60 counties – literally millions of people and very different needs throughout.

Nevertheless, the Task Force is committed to seeing that the funds are used to serve those in need – as Lions have done for the last 100 years – and will continue to do in our 2nd century of service.

The challenge of Lionism in our 2nd century of service is being able to communicate our commitment to service and actual acts of service to potential new members. Our society has changed and will continue to do so as life gets faster and faster for all of us – one of the not always good effects of technology. Potential Lions are much more interested in SERVING than meeting these days – and we all need to adapt as we move forward. We often talk about membership – but the numbers are important only internally – externally we need to remember that you spell membership SERVICE – as it without question that Lions can do more SERVICE with more members. Lionism is a GREAT OPPORTUNITY – we all as leaders in Lionism need to make sure that we take advantage of the OPPORTUNITY – and offer the OPPORTUNITY to SERVE to others just as was offered to us before.

So lets move FORWARD TO THE FUTURE OF SERVICE as Lions enter our 2nd century of SERVICE.