

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

March/April 2021

www.txlionsdistrict2a1.com

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Like us on Facebook: district2A1lions



Moving Forward Together

How is everyone?

Hope everybody had a wonderful Easter weekend. Freda and I had a quiet weekend at home this year. Had a great church service Sunday. It was good to see everyone.

Good news: our Covid numbers have come down. Last Friday our number for Runnels county was down to one active case. I hope this is happening all over our district. If these numbers continue to go down I am hoping we can have a good district convention on May the 8th in San Angelo at the Concho Pearl Motel.

If you have not had the opportunity to purchase a raffle ticket for the more than a \$1300.00 wood pellet grill, you will still have a chance to purchase one at the convention. \$5 each / 5 for \$20 or 15 for \$50.

We will have the drawing at the conclusion of the convention.

Hope to see everyone on the 8th of May in San Angelo.

DG Glenn Shepard

Diabetes Awareness

Sandra Freeman 11425 Mason St. Carlsbad, TX 76934 325-465-8870 sdrrf@aol.com

Alert Chairperson

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Keith.perrine@hotmail.com

Chaplain

Charles Smith

Directory

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District Convention

Theresa Cain PO Box 2663 San Angelo, TX 76902 325-234-2913 tkc13dolphins@yahoo.com

Global Leadership (GLT)

Carol Brown
P.O. Box 623
Walnut Street
San Angelo, TX 76901
C: 325-340-8652
carolecb9@gmail.com

Global Membership (GMT)

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cmaxwell@eljentechnology.com

Global Service Team (GST) Aubrey Linne

Club News

Big Springs Centennial Lions Club

Awards and welcoming new members!









Proudly Supports
District 2-A1 Governor
Glen Sheppard and
his 2020-2021 Cabinet

LCIF

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

Leader Dog for the Blind

Brigitte Rogers P.O. Box 587 Sonora, TX 76950 H: 325-387-2309 6200br@gmail.com

Election Manager

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

Long Range Planning

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Donald McConnell 307 Thomas Street Midland, TX 79703 H: 432-520-5651 C: 432-413-3935 district2alnewsletter@hotmail.com

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tomblasesr@gmail.com

Tail Twister

Kathy McConnell 307 Thomas Street Midland, TX 79703 H: 432-520-5651 C: 432-638-1070 Katmc307@aol.com

Centennial Co-Coordinator Emilio Perez 1205 Gordon Blvd. San Angelo, TX 76905

H: 325-617-4180 C: 325-212-1426 epjmrp@suddenlink.com

Midland West Side Club

48 Families were blessed with Easter Food Boxes









Donation presented to Guardians of the Children by Club President Scott Britton



Midland West Side Lions Club

Home Club of PDG Armando Subia

Proudly Supports

The District 2-A1 Leadership Team



Midland
West Side Lions Club

Home Club of PDG Bob Edwards

Proudly Supports

The District 2-A1 Leadership Team

Lions Camp Director (West) Donald McConnell

307 Thomas Street Midland, TX 79703 432-520-5651 432-413-3935

Donald_McConnell@outlook.com

Lions Camp Director (East)

Jay Ward 240 CR 306 Llano, TX 78643 325-379-1120 512-470-4149 Jayward@gmail.com

TLERC

Texas Lions Foundation

PDG John Hancock 5238 Beverly San Angelo, TX 76904 325-944-8110 325-949-9409

Web Master

Wynn Alston 1354 Tres Rios Drive San Angelo, TX 76903 325-651-4102

kwalston@verizon.net

Vision Screening Director

Jim Chapman 311 River Ranch Road Kingsland, TX 78639 325-388-3231 512-422-4930

grandadtexas@ymail.com

Youth Exchange Mark Signh 5408 Hillcrest Midland, TX 432-694-0147 432-687-5424

mmsingh@suddenlink.net

International President Jung-Yul Choi



International Headquarters 300 22nd Street Oak Brook, Il 60521

Mason Lions Club News



At the regular April 13th meeting of the Mason Lions Club 1st Vice District Governor Joel Kuykendall installed returning Lions members PDG John Gammill and his wife Lion Angela Gammill. PDG John was the first member of the Mason, Texas Lions Club to serve as District Governor (2014 - 2015)

Concho Pearl Lions Club



Concession at the Rodeo







PDG Joyce Downie and husband Lion Ron Support

District 2-A1 Governor
Glen Sheppard and his 2020-2021
Cabinet



PDG Armando and Lion Felis Subia proudly supports

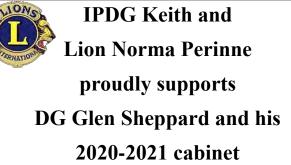
DG Glen Sheppard and his 2020-2021 cabinet

Ballinger Breakfast Lions Club

Members of the Ballinger Breakfast Club cooked hamburgers and provided fixings and dessert for 25 people during it's cookout for youth hunters and sponsors .



Members of the Ballinger Morning Lions Club served as the cooking crew for an antierless/spike deer hunt the Colorado River Municipal Water District conducted for six boys from a Texas children's home. From left: Larry Hayes Larry Melton, Jimmie Caughron, Shannon Caughron and Darlene Kelly. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



DG

Glenn Shepard 1510 F.M 2887 Ballinger, TX 75821 Cell: 432-770-1137

Glenn.Shepard@hotmail. com

1st VDG

Joel Kuykendall
PO Box 102
Pontotoc, TX 76869
Home; 325-218-2512
Cell: 409-392-4328
Southwestelion2011@gmail.com

2nd VDG

Carol Brown
P.O. Box 623
Walnut Street
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C: 325-340-8652
carolecb9@gmail.com

Cabinet Secretary

Donna Dugger 1908 Nolan Big Spring, TX 79720 Cell: 432-466-1497

Donna d7075@att.net

Cabinet Treasurer
Chris Maxwell
408 CR 109

Sweetwater, TX 79556

Home 325-665-0127

Work 325-235-9235

San Angelo Downtown Lions Club

WE'RE BACK IN 2021

Helping Hands 5/1
District Convention 5/8
Golf Tournament 6/12
Claybird Shoot 8/14



In preparation of her 4th Annual Moebius Awareness Fun Run, the San Angelo Downtown Lions Club presented Boss Lion Kara with a \$500 check. As a Silver Sponsor, the Club will proudly serve on run day - Saturday, May 22 at City Park behind Old Central Firehouse Pizzeria. Help us help Boss Lion Kara by registering today:



Amidst the chaos & uncertainty in which we live today, you can ALWAYS count on Lions to serve their communities & fellow man. A great roar of appreciation goes out to Lion Theresa Cain & her group of volunteers for proudly representing the San Angelo Dynamic Downtown Lions Club this past Saturday during the annual EQ Channel cleanup!

PDG Armando Subia
4018 Monty Drive
Midland, TX 79703
Cell: 432-238-2267
A Subia49@yahoo.com

Elisha Jowers Cell: 432-520-5048 mcs4446@yahoo.com

Larry Melton Box 84 Ballinger, TX 76821 Home: 325-365-3296 lmlt5@aol.com Zone 4 Chairperson

Jim Heartwell
200 River Ranch Road

281-455-7346

Kingsland, TX 78639

Zone 5 Chairperson

Glenn Shepard 1510 F.M 2887 Ballinger, TX 75821 Home: Cell: 432-770-1137 Glenn.Shepard@hotmail.com

Zone 6 Chairperson

Theresa Cain PO Box 2663 San Angelo, TX 76902 Home: 325-234-2913 tkc13dolphins@yahoo.com



District 2-A1 Newsletter and Website Sponsors

The District needs your support for 2020-2021.

Please help support the District Governor Team, District 2-A1, and a chance to give your club some exposure by advertising in the 2020-2021 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: Double Business Card Size: Quadruple Business Card Size:	\$50 (approx. size: 2" x 2.75") \$100 (approx. size: 2" x 5.5") \$150 (approx. size: 4" x 7.25")
Contact Name:	
Club Name:	
Email Address:	
- And the state of	
	you can include a copy of your card/ad as you 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

LIONS DISTRICT 2-A1 SUPPORTED CHARITIES

~	Texas Lions Camp	(\$10 per member)
1	Leader Dog for the Blind	(\$2 per member)
1	Western Texas Eye Bank Alliance	(\$5 per member)
1	Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center	(\$2 per member)
1	Lions Club International Foundation	(\$2 per member)
1	Texas Lions Foundation	(\$2 per member)
1	District 2-A1 Vision Screening	(\$1 per member)

Below is the current list of clubs in District 2-A1:

YEAR 2020-2021

500%

Midland West Side Lions Club (02/03/21)

200%

Concho Pearl Lions Club (02/03/21)

Mason Lions Club (04/05/21)

Midland Northside Lions Club (11/30/20)

100%

Colorado City Lions Club (02/03/21
Junction Lions Club (09/08/20)
Kingsland Lions Club (11/23/20)
Midland Tall City Lions Club (08/26/20)
San Angelo Downtown (11/30/20)
San Angelo East Angelo Lions Club (02/03/21)
San Angelo North by Northwest (08/13/20)
Sweetwater Lions Club (04/05/21)

Rev. 04/07/21

For only \$24.00 per member your Club can be a 100% Club





MAY 8, 2021 SAN ANGELO TEXAS

PEARL ON THE CONCHO 333 RIO CONCHO DR.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER SATURDAY 8TH

PID – KEMBRA SMITH

7:30AM - 8:30AM District Governor Meeting (small conference rm)

7:30AM – 9:00AM Meet and Greet (large ballroom)

9:00AM - 2:00PM Business Meeting (large ballroom)

HOTEL REGISTRATION

1-325-653-4500

Lion Rate:\$89.00+tax

ITEM 3

Attending____ x\$45.00 =

Club Name____

Register Early Space Limited Deadline: April 10, 2020

REGISTRATION FEE

\$45.00

Includes meeting and meals

MAKE PAYMENT TO:

2A1 Lions Send to: Keith Perrine 4912 Mariner Terrace San Angelo, Texas 76903 325-656-3252



TLERC

2nd Annual Texas Lions **Eyeglass Recycling Center** 2020 Vision Golf Tournament

All Proceeds Benefit Texas Lions **Eyeglass recycling Center**

> May 20, 2021 8:00 am Shotgun Start Cottonwood Creek Golf Course Waco, Texas

SIGHT:

There's No

Better Gift!

Sponsor One or More Holes

For a one time donation of \$100 per hole, individuals, clubs, associations and businesses may

sponsor one or more holes. All sponsors of the tournament will be recoginized on location

Mail Hole **Sponsor**

and on TLERC website: https://txlerc.org/ Please make checks payable to TLERC

Form and Check to:

Name Address

City/State_ Zip

Texas Lions _____District___

Eyeglass Recycling Center

Check

2550 Flynt Ave Midland, Texas 79701

Credit Card: MC_____Visa____Discover____Amount:___

432-683-3611

CC# ______Exploration ___/ CVC Signature:______ Date

txlerc@gmail.com

Lions Clubs of Texas MD-2

Texas Lions State Convention 2021 – Cottonwood Creek Golf Course Waco, Texas Thursday May 20, 2021

2nd Annual Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center

2020 Vision Golf Tournament

Player information: - Register as a team or individually. List team name if applicable Player 1: Name Handicap _____ Team State Zip Address City____ Phone Club or Sponsor____ Email Player 2: Name Handicap Team Address____ City____ State Zip Phone_____ Club or Sponsor_____ Email Player 3: Name Handicap _____ Team Address City____ State Zip Email _____ Phone____ Club or Sponsor Player 4: Name____ Handicap _____ Team Address____ City____ State____Zip____ Email Phone Club or Sponsor Player fee (includes Green fees, Cart fees, Range Balls and Hamburgers): \$75 x Number of Players ____ = \$____ Remit Player/Team Form and Fee to: Lion Lenn Williams, 1900 Abbot Ave Hillsboro, TX 76445

MIDLAND NORTHSIDE LIONS CLUB



28th annual

WE SERVE Breakfast



(formerly called BUNNY BREAKFAST) fundraising event for the whole family

Midland Park Mall food court 7 to 10 a.m. Saturday, May 8, 2021



Dine-in, take-out and curbside pickup options.

More than 25 door prizes. Drawing will be held after the event and winners contacted by phone.

Please wear a mask.

Sausage biscuit
Scrambled eggs
Potatoes
Fruit
Cookies
Coffee, milk or juice

FOOD & DRINKS SPONSORS

Texas Roadhouse Charley's Philly Steaks Sidekicks & Legends Chick-Fil-A (in the Mall) Fuddruckers Sierra Springs Water

ENTERTAINMENT

DJ John Wojtkun, Jr.
Juggler, mascots
Curby—the talking recycling robot
Hispanic Cultural Center mariachis

ADVERTISING SPONSORS

Midland Reporter-Telegram West Texas Radio Group Permian Basin Office Products

Midland Park Mall Claydesta LP Boler Equipment Service Action Discount Carpet CO-SPONSORS Midland Health Frost Bank Rogers Ford Dove Water

The Bosworth Company Carter Financial Group Midland West Side Lions Club

Buy tickets (\$6 each, cash or check) at:

Abacus Computers, ClayDesta Center Pristine Organic Cleaners, 1307 N. Loop 250 W. Dillard's (Customer Service), Midland Park Mall Liberty Tax Service, 1000 N. Midkiff, Suite 6

Proceeds to be used for:

Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center
Midland College scholarships and lion drinking fountain
Texas Lions Camp for handicapped and diabetic children
Lions International Peace Poster contest
Lions International Youth Exchange Program
Contributions to local organizations



The International Association of Lions Clubs

(Lions Clubs International ®)

ERNESTO "T.J." TIJERINA
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN MD – 2 TEXAS, U.S.A.
2016 – 2017
10407 TIMBER COUNTRY
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78254

MD-2 Texas Endorsed Candidate for International Director Lion PCC Ernesto "T.J." Tijerina www.tjforid.com

Fellow Lions, ...

The Opportunity of a lifetime for all Texas Lions is upon us.

Lions Clubs International has changed the traditional in-person International Convention that was scheduled for June 25-29, 2021 in Montreal, Canada to a Virtual International Convention. For the first time ever, this gives all Texas Lions the opportunity to participate and experience the FELLOWSHIP THAT ALL LIONS FEEL WHEN WE GATHER ANNUALLY DURING THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, WITHOUT THE EXPENSE OF THE TRAVEL.

As your MD-2 Texas Endorsed Candidate for International Director, I am asking ALL OF THE LIONS OF MD-2 TEXAS to show the Lions of the world the strength of our voice and our service commitment. We urgently need every club in every district to register their full allotment of Texas Lion Delegates for the virtual Lions International Convention. By doing this, Texas Lions have the opportunity to showcase our Strength, our Club Leadership and continued commitment to service that makes us proud Texas Lions living our motto "We Serve." We are the largest Multiple District in North America. Now is the time to show the world the strength and leadership that we have always provided to our Association.

"Team Tijerina" serves our needs and needs our commitment to be elected.

To show your support for our Candidate, here are steps we ask each club to take:

 Encourage as many Texas Lions as possible to register to participate in the Virtual International Convention. Lions can register online by going to:

lcicon.lionsclubs.org

and register right now for the Virtual International Convention. The cost for registration is \$50 from now to March 31, 2021. The registration will increase to \$75 on April 1, 2021.

- Determine the number of delegates for your club*
- 3. Once your delegates are registered to attend the virtual International Convention, the Secretary, Administrative Assistant, or President of the club must log on to MyLCI and designate each Delegate for the club. LCI will then ensure that they are allowed to vote during the voting time at the virtual convention.

*Each chartered club in good standing shall be entitled, in any convention of this association, to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for every twenty-five (25), or major fraction thereof, of its members as shown by the records of the International office on the first day of the month last preceding that month during which the convention is held, PROVIDED, however, that each such club shall be entitled to at least one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate, The major fraction referred to in this Section shall be thirteen (13) or more members. The selection of each such delegate and alternate shall be evidenced by a certificate signed by the President or Secretary or any other duly authorized club officer.

Club Voting Strength *

1-25 members = 1 delegate
25 +13 members = 2 delegates
50 + 13 members = 3 delegates
75 + 13 members = 4 delegates
100 + 13 members = 5 delegates
125 + 13 members = 6 delegates
150 + 13 members = 7 delegates
175 + 13 members = 8 delegates
275 + 13 members = 12 delegates

Registration – is now open

Multiple District 2 Texas will reimburse Texas delegates for their convention registration expense once they have voted at the Virtual Lions Clubs International Convention if the individual Lion Delegate needs financial assistance with the registration fee.

If you have questions about any part of the process, please email me at tijerina@gmail.com or call me at 210-414-3319. For additional information or assistance, you may also contact your District Governor, First Vice District Governor or Second Vice District Governor, and District Campaign Coordinator.

Let us show the world that the Leadership of our Association still runs through Texas just as we did in 1917 when our Association was formed.

PCC Ernesto TJ Tijerina

Lion 1



Date: March 5, 2021

Contact: Milton L. Dare, FACHE Director of Development & Major Gifts 830-896-8500/mdare@lianscamp.com

LET'S PLAY GOLF this Summer and support TEXAS LIONS CAMP!

Texas Lions Camp invites you to participate in 2021 and join us for the 28th Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament, which is scheduled for <u>Thursday</u>, <u>August 5</u>, 2021 at the Lady Bird Johnson Golf Course in Fredericksburg.

The Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament is one of the primary fundraisers which supports annual operations for Texas Lions Camp. Each year, hundreds of children with special medical conditions attend TLC thanks to the financial gifts from the Lions of Texas and community friends.

For Golfers, the 2021 Golf Tournament is open to men and women and the event will consist of fourperson teams (limited to 31 teams) and formatted as a Florida Scramble/Best Ball with a shotgun start at 8 AM. The Entry Fee is \$110 per golfer and a team of four golfers is \$440 (before July 1, 2021) or \$125 per person or a team of four golfers is \$500 (after July 1, 2021). Following the round of golf, a CATERED MEAL will be provided by our host club, Fredericksburg Lions Club, followed by an AWARDS PROGRAM both of which will be appropriately socially distanced.

If you do not play golf, then consider becoming a HOLE SPONSOR by sending in a check for \$100 or more. Your Club name/individual name will be listed and recognized at Lady Bird Johnson Golf Course on the Day of the Tournament on a District Hole Sponsor poster. A copy of the HOLE SPONSOR form is ATTACHED or you can go to our website to REGISTER ONLINE and/or and download the Hole Sponsor and/or Player-Team forms at http://lionscamp.com/Wickersham.html

A FACEBOOK page has been continued for the event in 2021 and may be found at Harry Wickersham Memorial Golf Tournament (facebook.com/wickershamgolf/). Check it out and watch for updates, information on the tournament, and exciting event photos.

Those who are interested in learning more about and/or contributing to the work of Texas Lions Campare invited to visit www.lionscamp.com or by emailing Milton L. Dare at mdare@lionscamp.com. If preferred, you may also call 830-896-8500 for more information.

March/April 2021 We Serve Page 18



Texas Lions Camp 28th Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament



August 5, 2021 ~ 8:00 a.m. Shotgun Start
Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Golf Course ~ Fredericksburg, Texas

FLORIDA SCRAMBLE

Entry Fee: \$110.00 per person until July 1, 2021 ~ \$125.00 per person after July 1, 2021

4 Players per Team: Limited to 31 Teams

Team Prize: Based on number of team entries

Individual Hole Prizes: You must play the shot to win the Prize.

Longest Drive / Closest to Pin - Front Nine Straightest Drive / Closest to Pin - Back Nine

Monster Drive - Front Nine Drawing for Door Prizes

Breakfast Tacos 6:45 AM – 9 AM. Hamburger Lunch Noon – 2:00 PM Hole-In-One New Vehicle

Sponsored By:

Crenwelge Automotive Group Fredericksburg & Kerrville, Texas

Send Entries to: Fredericksburg Lions Club

Lester Frantzen, Tournament Director

P. O. Box 3402

Fredericksburg, Texas 78624 Phone: 830-889-0120 Email: lcfrantzen@gmail.com

Entry Form

ENTRY FORM WITHOUT CORRECT ACCOMPANYING FEES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

1)	Team Contact:	Phone: ()	
	Email:	Lions Club:	_
	Address, City, Zip		
2)	Name:	Phone: ()	
	Email:	Lions Club:	_
	Address, City, Zip:		
3)	Name:	Phone: ()	
	Email:	Lions Club:	_
	Address, City, Zip:		
4)	Name:	Phone: ()	
	Email:	Lions Club:	-3
	Address, City, Zip:		

Entry Confirmation:

Entry Form confirmation will be sent by email only. If you do not list an email address for your team, you will not receive a confirmation.

GOLF RULES 28th ANNUAL HARRY WICKERSHAM GOLF TOURNAMENT

- Scramble Format.
- All men must play from the blue tees on the Par 3's.
 Men 65 & over may play from white tees on other holes.
 Men 80 & over and ladies may play from the red tees
- 3. There is a "two putt maximum" per hole from anywhere on the green. Pick Up The Ball If You Do Not Make The First Putt.
- 4. Hole in One Prize: A new car sponsored by Crenwelge Automotive Group, Fredericksburg & Kerrville.
- 5. Hole Prizes: (These are in addition to the Hole in One Prizes.)

YOU MUST PLAY THE SHOT TO WIN THE PRIZE!!!

The longest drive must be in the fairway to win.

The straightest drive is the closest to the line, not the longest. If the distance from the line is the same for more than one drive, then the longest drive is the winner.

6. A Scorecard Playoff will determine the winner for all ties.

ENTRY FEE INCLUDES:

- 1. MULLIGANS: One Mulligan per team member per front nine and one per back nine.
- HOOLIGAN: One Hooligan per team. You may move your ball up to 20' from off the green onto the green, but no closer to the hole than one club length from the edge of the green.
- ON THE GREEN: Place your ball at the designated spot on the green. This is your tee shot. One stroke. Two putt maximum. Guaranteed Birdie! This will speed up play.
- MONSTER DRIVE: Place your drive at the designated spot on the par five fairway. Do not hit your drive. This is your tee shot. One stroke.
 This will speed up play.

CANCELLATIONS: Green Fees for cancellations after Friday, July 23, 2021 and "no shows" without a substitute will be donated to the Texas Lions Camp.

4		 ke the play faster?	

THANK YOU FOR COMING!

The Fredericksburg Lions Club P. O. Box 587 Fredericksburg, Texas 78624-0587

Lester Frantzen, Tournament Director PO Box 3402 Fredericksburg, TX 78624



28th Annual Texas Lions Camp

Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT TEXAS LIONS CAMP

TLC is tax exempt under 501(c)(3) of the I.R.S.—Donations are tax deductible—see your tax professional for details.



Sofia Elder, Camper 2020 Children Can...With TLCTM

Come Play and Make a Kid's Day!

For more information or to download player registration forms go to www.lionscamp.com

August 5, 2021

8:00 am Shotgun Start

Lady Bird Johnson Golf Course

Fredericksburg, TX

Sponsor One or More Holes

For a one time donation of \$100 per hole, individuals, clubs associations and corporations may sponsor a hole(s).

All sponsors of the tournament will be recognized in publications on location and on the Texas Lions Camp website: www.lionscamp.com

Please make checks payable to Texas Lions Camp.

Name		
Address		
City / State		
Zip	_ Phone	And the last of th
Club		District
Email:		
Credit Card: MC _	Visa	_ Discover
Amount:	_ Date: _	
CC#:		
Expiration:	/ CV	C
Signature:		

MAIL TO: TEXAS LIONS CAMP PO Box 290247 Kerrville, TX 78029

2021 Texas Lions Camp Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament Hole Sponsorship Camper - Sofia Elder



The 2021 Texas Lions Camp Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament Ambassador is camper Sofia Elder. Sofia has attended TLC for the past 3 summers including Texas Lions Camp's online camping program TLC2U for 2020. For Sofia, TLC is the best thing that has happened to her as a Type 1 diabetic. Sofia is 13 years old and loves to play tennis, the violin, watercolor painting, and being involved in church activities. She has an older sister, Victoria and parents, Walt and Selina Elder.

Sofia's diagnosis came as a big shock to the family, since no one in the family has Type 1 diabetes. They found themselves suddenly thrust into uncharted waters. Life underwent many

changes. Selina, Sofia's mother said, "Often, we would awake Sofia in the middle of the night to correct low sugar levels which caused her to wake up exhausted the following morning. In addition, Sofia underwent a very difficult transition as she was forced daily to adjust to multiple insulin injections and carbohydrate counting. At times, she would

refuse to eat, just to avoid receiving extra injections."

Sofia also worried about being unable to continue playing tennis. Little did her family know that her tennis coach, Erin Bynum, a former Texas Lions Camper, was also a Type 1. diabetic. Erin immediately jumped into action to help Sofia transition to living with diabetes. She shared her experiences at Texas Lions Camp and encouraged Sofia to attend. Through Erin's input, encouragement from an area lions club member, and through prayer, Sofia's parents knew the experience of attending camp would provide her with much needed

reassurance in facing Type1 diabetes with confidence and the

challenges it would bring.

Selina noted, "Initially, Sofia was hesitant of the unknown, yet more curious and excited about the possibility of making new friends with the same diagnosis. One of the things Sofia particularly loved at TLC was personalizing her sleeping area, horseback riding, fishing, camping out under the stars, farm life animals, swimming, and carnival day." TLC has had a positive impact on Sofia by empowering her to accept her Type 1 diabetes diagnosis and the challenges and changes it has

> brought in her life. Interacting with other children with similar challenges helped her see that she is not alone and God had a special plan for her. Sofia also flourished with the diabetes training to improve control

of managing diabetes. She desires to return and serve as a cabin leader someday to pass on to others what she learned and experienced at TLC.

Selina went on to say, "We remember the first day of camp and how welcome we felt by all the camp leaders. It was difficult driving away from TLC, and we felt guilty for leaving her there. Surprisingly, upon our return to camp to pick her up, seeing her smiling face and watching her joyful singing during the closing ceremony, we were reassured that we had made the right decision. It was amazing

the positive impact one week at TLC made on Sofia. As we drove home, Sofia talked non stop about the fun she had, new experiences, and things she learned to improve her Type 1 diabetic care. She came home empowered. As months went by, she progressed to requesting an insulin pump and a Dexcom like her friends at camp."

When asked what you would say to parents considering sending their child to TLC. Sofia's mom answered quickly," We would share why sending Sofia to TLC was one of the best decisions we made and specify the positive impact it had on her. I would reassure them that the life-changing experiences would provide their child with a sense of confidence in facing the challenges of life. We truly believe God brought TLC into Sofia's life and has been a blessing to us."

Sofia and her family are excited to be a part of the 28th Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament and sharing her story. She wants others to know how important TLC is for kids like her and to promote its growth so that it is accessible for years to come. For more infor-

mation on how you and your team can play in the Tournament, visit; www.lionscamp.com and look for the Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament under the "GET INVOLVED" Tab. Texas Lions Camp is proud to have great campers, like Sofia Elder, who attend our summer camping program and celebrate those like her who embody the TLC spirit of "Children Can...With TLC!"™

