



Volume 7 Number 12 June 2008



District 2-T1 is blessed with many, many wonderful Lions. In my short, it really seems to have been short, year I have been fortunate to meet lots of them. I wish I could have met and spent time with all the fine Lions around the district. Unfortunately, for me, I was unable to visit every club, but will still be glad to try to make yours if you will give me a call and we can work out a time that fits us both. I truly regret "running out of time" to make all the clubs.

The year has been exciting and gratifying with some successes and a couple of disappointments along the way. We have seen the slow decline of membership come to a near halt. With the chartering of a new club in Silverton the district membership numbers will be very near the same as when we began. Several clubs have increased their numbers and more have been able to hold steady where in the past they were declining. A disappointment has been that we were only able to charter one new club. We made an effort in places like Stinnett, Farwell, Vega and Bushland. I believe Extension Chairman Lion Zoie White will eventually be successful at Bushland, and with an Amarillo evening club.

The district convention in Dalhart was well attended and my club did a great job under the leadership of Boss Lion Bill Cunningham and convention chair PDG Jack King. It was exciting to host the state convention in Amarillo.

Lions from across the state were entertained and informed during the three day event that comes every sixteen years to our district. Co-chairs CC Ray White and PDG Jack King worked with their committee from March, 2006 making plans and developing ideas for the convention. The result was an unqualified success, thanks to all the 2-T1 Lions that had a hand in making it one of the best.

The Charter Night for the Silverton Lions Club is scheduled for Sat. July, 19th. I encourage the Lions Clubs of 2-T1 to be there for the festivities and to give an "assist" to the new club. As a new club they will need a gavel, flags, name tags, banner and all the other things to start a club. A monetary contribution to start their project fund will be appreciated.

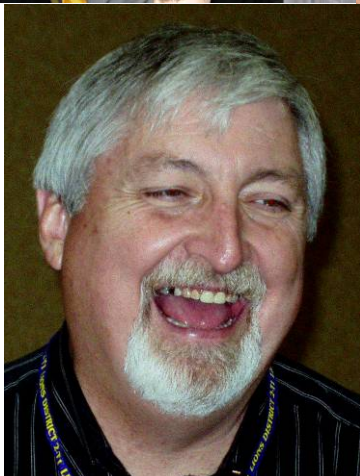
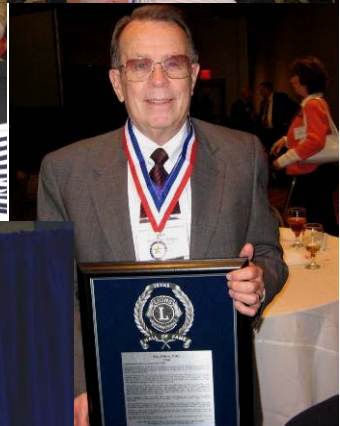
Check with PDG Gayle Cotton to see what items are still needed. Ph. 806-364-4686 or gayle@cawcpa.com. The date is July 19th at 6:30PM in the school cafeteria, watch the website for more information later.

The district campers for the Texas Lions Camp leave on June 15th. Fellow Lions, you are missing an opportunity to quite possibly change the life of some youngster. We have vacant seats on the bus going to Kerrville and you know and I know there are qualified kids in YOUR town that could and would benefit from YOUR camp. It's too late this year but next year....next year have a Camp Director, or Jack King or someone bring a program to your club and then find a camper to send in 2009. I can promise you, and your club will benefit from it, but not as much as the child that you send to YOUR camp. It won't get done unless YOU do it.

A final word about membership-no one becomes a Lion unless they are invited-when's the last time YOU asked someone to join your Lions Club?? Some will not join, but some will, so just keep asking.

Again, it has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve as your District Governor, thank you for the opportunity and thanks to each of you for making a difference. This year has be a great experience for Cheryle and I, and will always be a high-light in our lives. It's Great to be a Lion!!

District Governor Bob Langhorne



FROM THE VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

June 2008



The Texas Lions State Convention held in Amarillo May 15-17 was fantastic. Thanks to everyone throughout the district that helped with the convention. I only heard good things from everyone that I talked to.

The elections results were announced for the International Director Candidate from Texas. Three outstanding Lions ran for International Director position - PDG Beverly Stebbins, PDG Mike Rourke, and PDG Hal Griffith. PDG Beverly Stebbins won the vote and will be the Texas candidate for International Director in Bangkok. Congratulations Beverly, District 2-T1 wishes you the best of luck!

Thank you for your donations to Campaign Sight First II. Lions from around the world have exceeded the goal of \$150 million and are now trying to reach \$200 million before the end of June. The current number is slightly over \$177 million. Please do not let your club be a non participating club. Contact PDG Rick Garrett if you need more information.

Thanks for your donations to support ALL the Lions Clubs entities. These programs depend on our support and are part of our motto "We Serve".

District Governor Bob, your leadership this past year has inspired. You've brought in a new Club and new Lions to our District. I've had opportunity to observe, first-hand, your diligence and your determination to help our District grow. I applaud your effort and appreciate your devoted service to District 2-T1.

VDGE Bill, I wish you a successful year and ask the Lions of 2-T1 to continue their support for both Lion Bill and myself so that we can build upon the success in 2008-09.

We have a group of Lions working hard to make the coming year one of positive growth and accomplishment in our District. My personal thanks go out to Lions of District 2-T1 who have honored me with the opportunity to serve as your District Governor, 2008-09.

The First Cabinet Meeting will be held July 26, 2008. I encourage everyone to attend, especially any new Lion members. By attending, you will gain a better understanding of what Lionism is all about.

The new year brings a great challenge on the horizon. MEMBERSHIP. Over the past several years, we have had a gradual decline in membership in our district. Some years have been a slight increase but the overall trend has been a decrease. This is not a one year project but we as a district need to focus on the issue and work together to change this trend.

Please keep Lion Katharyn and myself in your thoughts and prayers as we travel to Bangkok for the International Convention on June 13th.

Yours in Lionism,

VDG Steve Wiegand

LIONS MONTHLY LEADER UPDATE

Dear Club Officers:

This is the last membership-focused newsletter of our leadership year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your hard work and dedication as we have striven to embrace the challenge to change. I could not be more proud of what we have accomplished together.

I have had the privilege of visiting Lions in nearly 40 countries and I can tell you that Lions the world over are committed to evolving and adapting so that our light of service shines as brightly in the 21st century as it did in the 20th.

The totals in the most recent membership reports are much more than encouraging. They are spectacular! Since we began our efforts in Chicago last July worldwide membership in Lions Clubs International has risen by 19,182. We are 8,819 ahead of last year's total at this time, virtually assuring that, for the first time in recent memory, we will most likely end the year with a membership that is larger and stronger than the previous year.

Congratulations! You have made this happen. It is clear that your individual efforts to strengthen your club have contributed to a worldwide change in the way that Lions Clubs are perceived in their communities.

A large part of this change is due to the [growing number of women](#) in our membership. I am very pleased to report that today, nearly one of every five Lions is a woman and I am proud to say that they are contributing out of proportion to their numbers. They are providing new ideas, assuming leadership positions and invigorating clubs with their energy and enthusiasm. I know that this trend will continue to the benefit of clubs everywhere and to the entire association.

Across the globe Lions clubs are becoming younger and more diverse. Our new membership paradigm has yielded more than [110,000 family memberships](#) throughout Lions Clubs International, including more than 1,000 new Lions between the ages of [18 and 29](#). Again, congratulations on your success! As impressive as these statistics are, to have a lasting impact on our association and our communities, we must consolidate and preserve what we have gained. It is imperative to ensure the ongoing interest and commitment of old and new members by fulfilling the promise of a 21st century Lions Club.

Are your members' needs being met? Does everyone have an opportunity for meaningful, hands-on participation? Are meetings brief and engaging? Are new members being mentored and encouraged to grow as Lions? The time to ask these questions is now, so that you can provide a vital "snapshot" of your club to next year's leaders.

Although our leadership year is rapidly coming to a close, our responsibilities have not yet ended. As Lions, our greatest responsibility is to [the blind people of the world](#) and those in danger of becoming blind. This year we have done much to fulfill that responsibility by exceeding the US\$150 million minimum goal (now at \$165 million as of May 3) in [Campaign SightFirst II](#). The worldwide CSFII week in May was a great success and moved us closer to our US\$200 million challenge goal. Adding this historic achievement to our leadership legacy is within reach! In fact, if every club throughout Lions Clubs International were to dedicate one [Melvin Jones Fellowship](#) to Campaign SightFirst II, we would surpass our goal by an impressive margin. I urge you and your club to consider taking this step on behalf of the world's blind and our oldest and most honored service tradition.

Finally it is our responsibility to end the year on a positive note and ensure that the momentum of our hard work carries forward into the coming year. Please be sure that the [incoming leadership](#) is well prepared to build upon our successes.

I thank you again for being part of this very important year in Lions' history. I hope to see many of you in [Bangkok](#) where we will celebrate our great success in Campaign SightFirst II.

Sincerely,
Mahendra Amarasuriya
International President

There is a new
newsletter on the
Texas Lions Website.
Please check it out at:
www.texaslions.org

PDG Angie Nicholson





DISTRICT 2-T1 LIONS EYE BANK

The Lions Eye Bank of District 2-T1, Inc. Application for Payment Toward Sight Saving Surgery can now be found on the District 2-T1 Website. The applications have to go thru the local Lions Club before they can be approved by the board. The application has to be completely filled out and the applicant must meet the financial qualifications as stated in the application.

An application for assistance toward surgery must be submitted for each eye. Most of the requests for assistance District 2-T1 Lions Eye Bank receives are from people needing cataract surgery. If approved, the Eye Bank will pay up to \$2000.00 per eye. The Sight Saving Surgery program helps needy people without insurance to have operations to restore or preserve vision. Some only need help with the 20% Medicare does not pay.

This year July, 2007 thru May, 2008 there have been 28 donors representing 56 corneas. Thirty seven of these corneas were placed for full fee for a total of \$12,950.00. Eleven at reduced fee and eight corneas were discarded. Nine cataract surgeries have been performed for a total of \$10,576.20 paid, as of April. Five additional applications have been approved.

The Eye Bank receives a \$350.00 fee from TBI for each cornea that is placed for full fee. The corneas that go for reduced fee are sent overseas. Some corneas are discarded because of the questionable background history of the donor. Some unsuitable corneas may be used for medical research and teaching. These funds allow the Eye Bank to provide other services to the community.

The District 2-T1 Lions Eye Bank has made donations of \$10,000.00 over the last three years making a total of \$30,000.00 given to LCIF SightFirstII.

The Lions Eye Bank of District 2-T1 was founded to meet the need for transplantable eye tissue in this area. Today, its sight-restoring mission remains an active one. With a service area covering the twenty-six counties of the Texas Panhandle, it reaches out to over 500,000 residents with the message that eye donation changes lives.

The Eye Bank not only recovers eye tissue, it conducts strong public awareness and professional education programs. The Eye Bank of District 2-T1 is an affiliate of TBI/Tissue Banks International network of vision and is accredited by the Eye Bank Association of America.

An Eye Bank is an organization formed to collect human eyes and to distribute them to an ocular surgeon, when a cornea is needed for grafting or transplantation. It also stores the vitreous fluid for use in retinal detachment operation or transplantation.

The surgical procedure that can restore sight to one who is blind is called a corneal transplant, the operation for replacing a cloudy cornea. This means that the window of the eye, the cornea, can be transplanted from one person to another. It is the result of a century and a half of research by scientists. It translates into reality a dream as old as man the result is a miracle. Eyes are removed within 6 hours after death from persons who have generously authorized this use while living. If you want to be a donor, it is very important to talk it over with your family and let them know your wishes. It does no good to put it in your will because it will be too late by the time the will is read. Also, no one may think to look at your drivers license at that time. Therefore, your family must understand your wishes in order to carry them out.

Many families in the Panhandle have opened their hearts in their darkest hour, when they have lost a loved one. The most important thing for anyone to do is to let someone else in their family know they want to become a donor.

Doris Nash

President 2007-2008

District 2-T1 Lions Eye Bank



15th 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.C.—Donations are tax deductible—see your tax professional for details.



July 31, 2008

8:00 am & 1:00 pm Shotgun Starts

Lady Bird Johnson Golf Course
Fredericksburg, Texas



Marcelli Fuller, Camper 2007

Children Can...With TLC™

Interested in Playing a Round?

Player registration form available at
www.lionscamp.com

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.

**Please make checks payable to
Texas Lions Camp.**

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City/State _____

Zip _____ District _____

Club _____

**Mail to: PDG Rick Talbert
612 S. Texas
Weslaco, Texas 78596**

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HARRY WICKERSHAM GOLF TOURNAMENT!**