



## Volume 7 Number 5 November 2007



THANK YOU MEMPHIS!!

On behalf of all cabinet members who attended the meeting in Memphis a big "Thank You" for a job well done, hosting the October cabinet meeting. The Memphis Lions did themselves proud and I know all in attendance appreciated your efforts. The next cabinet meeting is in Canyon on Jan. 26, see you there.

We are well into the Lion year and I hope all the new club officers are getting a feel for their job and having a successful year. There are all kinds of projects, both fund raising and service, posted on the website if you need suggestions for either. The most successful clubs seem to be the ones that are the busiest, getting together for projects offers good times and great fellowship, and that is what Lions are all about. Remember our own IPIP Jimmie Ross says, "there is no reason for a Lions Club to exist except for the enjoyment and benefit of it's members".

The MERL Team is currently conducting Zone meetings throughout the district, each clubs officers should make a sincere effort to attend. Helpful information on several topics is presented along with some good interaction among the attendees. Don't forget that there are quite a few programs available just by contacting Lions listed in your directory-Sightfirst II, LWSB, Leader Dog, Camp Directors and, of course, the MERL Team, among others, are all there for your club program chairman to invite. I think it's a good idea to have a program on Lions every month or two. If you missed the Zone meeting, give the MERL Team a call and they'll come to your club.

Speaking of Sightfirst II, I hope your club has made a contribution or a pledge to Sightfirst II. Worldwide the campaign is going pretty well and needs every club to take part. Remember, a pledge of less than \$5,000 can take three years to fill, over \$5,000 you have up to five years. Any amount you feel you and your club can contribute or pledge is needed and appreciated. Our goal of 150 million is attainable and will benefit people all over the world.

Don't forget the Coat and Shoe shopping spree for Boys Ranch children on Sunday, Nov. 11 at 1:45PM at the Sears store in Amarillo. There will be approximately 80 boys and girls 12 and under so we will need a large group of you Lions to show up to help with the shopping.

Wishing one and all a very Happy Thanksgiving and remember, it's great to be a Lion, invite someone to join TODAY.

DG Bob Langhorne

# FROM THE VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

## November 2007

Fellow Lions, it is great to be a LION and able to serve people who are less fortunate than ourselves. The second Cabinet meeting was held on October 20th in Memphis. I would like to thank each of you who were in attendance. It was a fantastic meeting packed with information. If you missed out be sure to attend the Mid-Winter Conference in Canyon on January 26th. Also, plan right now to attend the District Convention to be held on April 25th and 26th hosted by the Dalhart Lions with that true Dalhart hospitality.



And finally you will not want to miss out on the State Convention in May. Registrations forms are on the district website. The best value is if you register before the end of the year.

One third of the Lions year is now behind us. As a Lion and a Club are you on target to achieve your individual and club's goals? Has your club focused on Lions goals? For example YOUR Texas Lions Camp and Campaign SightFirst II. Have your dues been paid? Have your 100% voluntary funds been paid?

The MERL team has been traveling around the district presenting Zone meetings. Please attend the Zone meetings when they are presented in your zones. ANY Lion is welcome to come to the zone meetings. It is a great time to have your questions answered about Lionism - from membership growth to forming new clubs to district fundraisers and district projects. You can also share ideas with other fellow Lions.

Be sure to read further in the newsletter about the grant awarded from Campaign SightFirst II "CSFII" that benefits the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center for a way each club can get very reasonably priced prescription glasses. This will basically be a \$2 million dollar grant and the Texas Lions have only pledged about \$1.25 million to date.

Texas Lions "Must Act Now" and support CSFII. District 2-T1 should have 100% club participation or no zero clubs. We need your pledges in soon. You can have up to five years to raise funds depending on your pledge amount. I know each club could honor at least two members with Melvin Jones Fellows. It is even possible to have each of your club members be Melvin Jones Fellows. Contact PDG Rick Garrett or myself for more information.

Yours in Lionism,

VDG Steve Wiegand

# DISTRICT 2-T1 COAT & SHOE SHOPPING Nov. 11, 2007



Fellow Lions:

The Annual Coat and Shoe Shopping Event is scheduled for Sunday, November 11, 2007 at Sears in Amarillo. We need lots of volunteers again this year as we will have approximately 70 kids again like we had last year. Volunteers need to meet at 1:45 pm at Sears in the same room as last year. Go to the hallway by the paint and tool sections where the public restrooms are located and it is down that hallway on your right. We will go over all the details there and then get paired up with the children from Cal Farley's. Please encourage your club members to come out and support this event which means so much to the kids. We will be with kids aged 12 and younger again this year.

Thanks again for your support, and we'll see you at Sears November 11th!  
Lion James Anderson  
District Coat & Shoe Chairman

Kermit McGee of Gruver reminded me that I forgot to let you know where to send the money to support Coat and Shoe. Thanks for the reminder.  
Please send all checks to:

Lions Club Coat & Shoe Fund  
c/o Kyle Pigman, District Treasurer  
P.O. Box 604  
Dalhart, TX 79022



Thanks for your ongoing support, and **please—WE NEED VOLUNTEERS** to shop with the kids on November 11th.



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**We Serve**

## **CAMPAIGN SIGHTFIRST II “CSFII” CALL TO ACTION**

By PDG Rick Garrett, District 2-T1 CSFII Coordinator

Is your club ready to continue its support of Campaign SightFirst and Helen Keller’s challenge?

- The power is in your hands.
- The time to act is now.

This is the year of CSFII. Lions of District 2-T1 have a goal to fulfill to help meet the goal of CSFII: \$200 million worldwide. We can reach this goal and save millions from blindness but only through the active participation and generosity of Lions in every club. Every club and club member must decide what they can do for CSFII. Every club should set a CSFII goal.

All contributions to CSFII, whether from your club or individual, can be paid over three to five years from the time the commitment is made.

Pledges of \$1,000 to \$4,999 can be fulfilled over three years.

Pledges of \$5,000 or more can be fulfilled over five years.

CSFII pledges allow individuals and clubs to consider giving more than is possible through “one-time” gifts. Every additional \$6 raised provides the gift of sight to another person.

Raising money for CSFII should be easy. Lions are experienced fundraisers, and contributing to this worldwide effort should not be any different than supporting your club’s favorite causes. Your fundraisers can include:

asking for personal gifts and pledges from members through Melvin Jones Fellows, designating one or more Melvin Jones Fellows per year from your club’s treasury, hosting fundraising events that work best in your local area or asking for personal gifts from nonmembers.

To date, Lions worldwide have raised more than \$115 million to continue our fight against preventable blindness. Lions have been asked to raise an average of \$100/member in our District. Remember that can be raised over a period of up to five years, which is 60 months or less than \$2 a month.

District 2-T1 can reach this goal, but we need two things to happen. We need our uncommitted clubs to set goals for giving to CSFII, and clubs that have set goals or given one time amounts to review and see if they can meet or exceed the \$100 per member goal.

***Campaign SightFirst II and LCIF have provided a grant that will make it possible for Lions Clubs in Texas to obtain new, prescription eyeglasses for needy children at a cost of only \$18.***

***This is fantastic news for the needy children and for Texas Lions. It now appears, that most if not all of the money raised for CSFII by Texas Lions will be coming back to Texas.***

***Contact VDG Steve Wiegand for more information.***

## **UPDATE: CSFII Grant to Benefit Texas**

***By VDG Steve Wiegand***

It is my understanding that Campaign SightFirstII has committed to a \$2 million grant to TLERC in Midland for new equipment and a pilot project to make children's' eyeglasses. Texas Lions has not yet covered that commitment to *CSFII*. So we have work to do. District 2-T1 "Must Act Now".

Work with your District Group Coordinator about goal setting, raising money and sending in the money raised. Remember, pledges and goals from clubs and individuals must be sent in with a Record of Contribution Form (RC-1 Form) to be processed properly by *CSFII* and LCIF. All checks should be made to CSFII – LCIF.

Remember, your club is not only raising money, it is giving the gift of sight. Contact PDG Rick Garrett or myself for more information. Thank you for your support of this campaign.

Your support is vital to what we can accomplish together for *CSFII*.

## **REMEMBER EACH LION IS AN IMPORTANT LION – WE SERVE**

### **GLASSES FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN**

*By PDG Bob Edwards, TLERC Information*

Lions International Campaign SightFirst II "*CSFII*" through the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center "TLERC" has made possible the manufacture of new eyeglasses for needy School Children at reduced cost.

This project is based on the successful four-year ongoing program conducted by zone 1, District 2-A1. TLERC — along with Chihuahua City, Mexico have been given a grant through LCIF *CSFII* for a state-of-art finishing lab. This finishing lab is able to produce single-vision glasses of a standard prescription for a cost of \$18. This price includes a fashionable frame and standard lenses. TLERC will serve as a laboratory and will produce ordering criteria. Local Lions Clubs or the doctors designated by the clubs will fit the frames and order the finished product from TLERC.

Zone 1, District 2-A1, stands ready to assist any MD-2 locality with ideas and procedures in establishing an effective eyeglass program for needy school children. In the final aspect, it is the local doctor that has to be the ultimate authority. Education is the answer to upward mobility within any society. Without vision, education becomes problematic.

### **November is Diabetes Awareness Month**

The Lions Diabetes Awareness Program mission statement: To conduct and support local and large-scale effort leading to the control and treatment of diabetes and its complications through education, prevention and research.

Goals for our Lions year 2007- 2008: EDUCATE, EXERCISE, and NUTRITION.

Nearly one half of people with known diabetes have a degree of diabetic retinopathy. Juvenile Diabetes is growing among our children. Nutrition and exercise are very important for children.

## Program Development

November 2007 E-News

• **Lions Day with the United Nations (UN)** will be held on Friday, March 14, 2008. The daylong program features UN speakers and a luncheon with UN ambassadors. This will be the last opportunity to tour the historic building prior to its renovation. [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) Click into: "Other Programs," then "International Relations."

• The **2008 Lions Environmental Photo Contest Calendar** is available for purchase (US\$10 each) and is a great idea for club gifts and/or prizes. This multi-lingual, 11" x 17" (27 x 43 cm) wall calendar features 13 multiple district environment photos. To order, contact [programs@lionsclubs.org](mailto:programs@lionsclubs.org). [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) Click into "Other Programs," then "Cultural & Environmental."

• In July 2007, The International Association of Lions Clubs agreed to help the US Department of Health and Human Services disseminate information about **pandemic influenza (flu) preparedness**. The Association can work with health agencies in other countries to provide similar life-saving information. [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) Click into: "Other Programs," then "International Relations."

• **Lions Emergency/Non-Emergency Assistance** (previously known as Lions Serving Humanity) is a Web-based location for the exchange of volunteer services and material for emergency and non-emergency Lions projects. [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) Click into: "Other Programs," then "International Relations."

• For the first time, Lions clubs that enter into an official 2007-08 Lions club twinning relationship will be invited to participate in a **Lions International Club Twinning Celebration** to be held during the [91st Lions International Convention](http://www.lionsclubs.org), June 23-27, 2008 in Bangkok, Thailand. [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) Click into: "Other Programs," then "International Relations."

• Encourage your club secretary to include your club accomplishments in the **Online Activity Report**. Beginning in June 2008, club secretaries can receive an online certificate of accomplishment. [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) Click into "Submit Membership and Activity Reports."

