

Very Important OK Lions Boys Ranch Update: WE ARE CHANGING OUR STYLE...NOT CHANGING OUR HEARTS!

By Colleen Fowler

So the announcement has been made. The Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch (OLBR) is closing their two group homes.

But wait! And now for the rest of the story, as Paul Harvey used to say: we are transitioning to a foster community style of care. Most folks only heard the first part and are upset, sad, confused, and wondering what happened. Here is the story from me, a houseparent who is intimately involved with this change. For the past few years, the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (DHS) has been under the gun to make changes according to the plan laid out after the lawsuit they had brought against them. Part of that directive was to get kids out of shelters and group homes and into foster care where they could be part of a family, work on other adoption issues or age out with support.

Amazingly, we at the OLBR had that same idea over 5 years ago! I was at the planning retreat then where the idea of a Foster Care Community for us was born. Our goal was and always will be to provide the best possible life experiences for those children and youth displaced from their biological homes. Our goal was to keep sibling groups together, to be the first line of care when a child is placed in foster care and to provide loving, stable family relationships in which to thrive and succeed.

Don't get me wrong, the group homes of the Cedars and Meadows have done great work and have been successful in helping many young men grow, graduate from high school and become independent citizens; but why limit it to that? It also is becoming increasingly expensive to care for youth in these settings and the reality is that we can do a better job by changing our style of care. Certain limitations and regulations are part of a level C group home in the DHS system. Our belief is that we can and must do a better job of serving our kids and community by making sure we provide the best for everyone.

Change is painful and frightening. We have worked tirelessly to make sure what is best for each individual resident and staff member has been or will be addressed.

We began building our Foster Care Community called "Meadows of Hope." Two houses are completed and will be up and running in a few weeks. More houses are in the process of being built as we speak and we will continue the quest to build more homes and recruit loving trained parents to live there and care for boys and girls of all ages. Not every youth in our care now is eligible for foster care, nor would it be appropriate. Some have special needs that require more support and professional care than a foster home could provide, some are in the process of adoption, others will transition to our foster community while others are preparing to graduate and progress to Independent Living Programs.

NO ONE IS GOING TO BE ABAN-DONED! Everyone, including staff, has been thoughtfully cared for by the Board of Directors and Administration; a plan for each has been presented as they transition. Some are retiring, going back to school, moving on to new endeavors or transitioning to become a part of the Foster Care Community.

The Foster Care Community will build relationships between the foster families and includes plans for a community garden, joint family activities and the support needed in dealing with tough situations. The foster parents will have the support of OLBR family services and TFI, a group that is helping recruit, train and place parents and children together.

It is very important to note that our goal to provide the best care has not changed. Our commitment to our kids has not changed. Our desire to be a part of the Perkins community has expanded and the desire to serve is more alive than ever. Change is never easy; sometimes it is hard to understand and accept. But change in this life is inevitable and we must do what is best for the youth we serve.

Please before you panic...contact us and let us walk you through the days ahead. Our style of care is transitioning for the better and be assured we have changed our style, but not our hearts!



Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation Executive Director Marie Burns



White Cane Month

Lions across the State of Oklahoma have dedicated their lives to serving others through acts of kindness that have eternal value. **White Cane** is one of the events that Oklahoma Lions participate in every year to raise awareness of the blind and also raise funds to support restorative eyesight.

The history and purpose of White Cane began October 6, 1964, in an effort to make Americans more aware of the meaning of the White Cane and the need for motorists to exercise special care towards the person who carries it. The United States Congress approved a resolution authorizing the President of the United States to annually issue a proclamation designating October 15 as National White Cane Safety Day. Each spring, usually in April, The Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation encourages every Lions Club in Oklahoma to be a part of this tradition and host a specific White Cane project to raise awareness and funds for the OLSF White Cane campaign.

Cowboy Cadillac NEWS!

Congratulations to a special Cowboy Cadillac fundraiser. Elmo Castle has been the top salesman in the State of Oklahoma for over 10 years! A special plaque honoring him for his many years of dedication and service was given to him at the Oklahoma Lions State Convention.

Past District Governor Elmo Castle's exemplary service and support of the Oklahoma Lions State Projects have helped many young men receive a family home environment through the OK Lions Boys Ranch. In addition, the Cowboy Cadillac fundraiser donated funds to sup-

port the OK Lions Eye Bank. The OLEB provides many Oklahomans with renewed eyesight thanks to the efforts of Oklahoma Lions and the support of such generous people as Lion Elmo. His love and dedication for service is proven through service projects within his local club as well as on a state level through the Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation. He has faithfully served as a member of the OLSF Board of Directors in supporting Oklahoma Lions State Projects.

It is with a great honor that we recognize PDG Elmo Castle with the OLSF State Projects Award for over 10 years of extraordinary service. **Thank you, Lion Elmo!**

Cowboy Cadillac Pins and Awards: The Cowboy Cadillac Club Awards for each \$1,000 club were given out at the State Convention along with the checks and certificates for the top 5 selling clubs in Oklahoma. Each Oklahoma Lions Club should have also received their CC Pins at the District Conventions or at the State Convention. If you have not received them yet, please call Marie at the state office.

Champion of OLSF AWARD!

Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation recognized Cloye Thompson as an outstanding contributor and Board Member FY 2014-15 year. She received the Champion of OLSF Award during the Oklahoma Lions State Convention.

OLSF recognizes Cloye's service as Treasurer and contributor towards making a significant impact on the foundation. As a result of her outstanding service OLSF has moved forward as an exceptional non- profit organization. OLSF thanks Cloye Thompson for her invaluable service and dedication to profession-

alism. It has been an honor to work with her this last year.

Oklahoma Lions Mobile Health Screening Unit

The MHSU unit has been **getting busy** and is gearing up for the spring 2015 season. We have had a full April at Stroud LC, El Reno LC, Broken Arrow LC, Laverne LC, and Hinton LC. If you need to reserve the unit and have not done so, please do not wait because we are filling the calendar up!

Remember

Donations to Building the Foundation and the Legacy Campaign support Lions State Projects and secure long lasting funds for the future. They make it possible to continue to fund Lions projects throughout Oklahoma. Thank you all for your tremendous support!

Memorials

Oklaboma Lions Service Foundation

In memory of:

Mary Lou Bennett, from Bill & Yolanda Middleton; Anna Curtis from Ferrill & Phyllis Williamson

Oklahoma Lions Irrevocable Trust

In memory of

Anna Curtis, from Bill & Yolanda Middleton

\$2



Hello again, fellow Lions...I hope our Oklahoma weather is treating you kindly.

Our spring weather hasn't been so kind to some of our neighbors. On March 25, an EF-2 tornado tore through the Sand Springs area, destroying an entire mobile home park and other surrounding homes, injuring 30 people, with another person losing his life. The devastation that you can see in one of the accompanying pictures is something that we in Oklahoma have come to recognize as an unfortunate sign of spring. When the tornadoes finish their work, Lions start theirs! DGE Mike Fritz, IPCC Larry Wibben, and PCC Gary Taylor led our efforts in Sand Springs, taking the funds donated to us by LCIF to assist with the disaster relief and purchase items to help those affected by the tornado. In a note during the early relief efforts, IPCC Larry wrote the following.



"This morning Mike and I again went to Sand Springs Community Services Center (SSCSC). While we were there, we met one of the survivors of the disaster, Debbie, whose family of six lost everything in the tornado. We were able to help her and the family with various items. We once again went to a local grocery store in Sand Springs and purchased needed food items for distribution. The Red Cross Resource Center is closing today. When that happens the SSCSC will become the place where everyone will go. We are sticking to our original plan to provide bed sheets, blankets, and towels, and we will continue to supply food items for distribution."

We were also very thankful for a team of Lions from Tennessee who came to lend a hand! Some of us have gone through having to start over due to some type of disaster, but the vast majority of us have to try to imagine what these folks are going through. For those in this nightmare, our yellow vests serve as a beacon of hope in a desperate situation. THIS IS WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO...to serve our neighbors at a time of need. Thank you to our disaster relief team, to the OK Lions State Disaster Relief Chair Troy Jenkins, and to our friends from Tennessee for their great help during this disaster!

What a vivid reminder for all of us of how our donations to the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) make a difference! Several Clubs give a Melvin Jones Fellowship (\$1,000 donation) annually in honor of one of their members...maybe this is something in which YOUR Club should be involved. Not every Club can give that much annually at this time...so maybe your donation is \$50. Every donation is making a real difference in Oklahoma and around the world. As our District's LCIF representative PDG Kent Ryals says, a donation to LCIF of any size is great!

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have finished our State Convention. We will have had a grand time, celebrating Lions and learning/relearning things...and we will have had our vote on the Redistricting issue. I have spoken with many of our Clubs, and have shared in public meetings my feelings on the issue...obviously, I can't tell what the outcome was (since this is written over a week before the vote)...but I can tell you what the outcome SHOULD be. The proper outcome is that we should all stand together as LIONS and get to work making a difference in our communities, our state, and worldwide, and we should bring as many members as possible to work side by side with us. Regardless of how you voted, you're still a LION...and we will need YOUR active support going forward to continue our great work.

Speaking of GREAT work...

Barnsdall Community: Lions held a successful chili cook-off, and plans to hold their "Shooters Training Education Program" (STEP) on June 20! They also helped children in their area by screening their vision using the Oklahoma Lions new Pediatric Vision Screening Program (Lions KidSight USA). Several of these

active Lions attended the Oklahoma Lions State Convention in Tulsa April 24-25.

Broken Arrow: Lions have collected 265 pairs of used eyeglasses for recycling.

Broken Arrow Noon: Lions donated funds to support the High School Graduation Party!

<u>Miami</u>: Lions sponsored a student to attend the American Legion's Boys State!

Muskogee County: Lions raised over \$4,100 during their Chili Luncheon in February which will support the Oklahoma School for the Blind, Muskogee County 4-H clubs and Muskogee Junior Achievement.

Muskogee Noon: Lions hosted the "Made in Oklahoma" Pancake Day, feeding around 1,087 people for all you can eat Blue & Gold Sausage and pancakes. DG Randy and DGE Mike served as "celebrity" pancake flippers. Zone Chairperson Mary Warden also volunteered time and took notes for those who attended, including the Mayor of Muskogee, Fire Chief, Police Chief, and many other city leaders. The club raised approximately \$12,198.



<u>Pawhuska</u>: Lions are holding a fundraising raffle in conjunction with Wild Country Meats...contact Secretary Jared Thrasher for your tickets! Email:

jared.curtis.thrasher@gmail.com

<u>Porter</u>: Lions donated over \$100 to the sixth and seventh grade academic team, and supported the Wagoner County and Muskogee County Junior Livestock Shows with nearly \$2,000 in premiums!

<u>Sapulpa</u>: Lions donated \$500 to the OK Lions Service Foundation!

South Grand Lake of Langley: Lions hosted their "Grand Dam Run" and netted over \$8,000 to support the Veteran's Honor Plaza and the Scholarship Program!

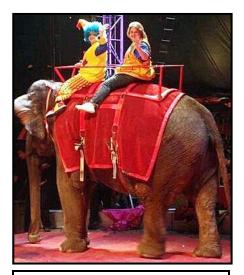


Plan to send at least 1 member from each club to USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in September 2015 in Grand Rapids, MI. Some employers have assisted Lions to attend USA/Canada forum because of the quality training. There are 2 training sessions in the morning, then a luncheon with dynamic speaker, then 2 more pm sessions before the evening dinner-speaker, then social activities. It will be 2 days of great fun and learning. *Lions Serve*-1.4 million strong in 210 countries!

3-K Club Activities

<u>Ada</u>: This is the Number 3 Club in the District. They are getting ready for golf tournament and selecting scholarship winners.

<u>Atoka</u>: Home club of DGE Stephanie Pettett. They completed circus fundraiser and then sold BBQ sandwiches for another fundraiser; both were successful for scholarships for area seniors.



1st VDG Stephanie Pettett at the Christy Circus

<u>Ardmore</u>: Honored Lions Warren Blackmon, Jane Huffman and J. R. Polzien for 10 years of service. The Club just completed 110 mile *Ride For Sight*—great prizes and

fun. They are now selling flowers and flower bulbs. They sponsored the OK Lions Mobile Health Screening Unit (MHSU) on April 25 and assisted at a water/aid station for A2A Arbuckles to Ardmore marathon race benefiting Mercy Cancer Center. They are now selecting scholarship winners. Congratulations to Lion Mark Brugel who received the Silver Beaver award from the Arbuckle Area Council Boy Scouts of America. The award is a council-level distinguished service award; recipients of the award are registered Scouters who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given to the council.

Broken Bow: Planting trees for environmental project and getting ready for golf tournament. Ready to select scholarship winner.

<u>Gore-Webbers Falls</u>: Donated \$1,000 to LCIF for Melvin Jones Fellowship for Lucky McCray, a long time member; purchased a pair of eyeglasses for resident in need.

<u>Hugo</u>: Leo club is doing great—1 meeting and 1 service project per month; great job of front page newspaper story for Leos. Club is selecting scholarship winners.

Idabel: Honored 2 students of the month with \$25 prize each; donates\$100 per month to food bank; during Dogwood Days club sold funnel cakes and earned \$590 plus provided moonwalk for another \$300 earned-great success. Club is selecting 2 scholarship winners.

<u>McAlester</u>: This is the Number 2 Lions Club in 3-K with 52 members and growing; will soon have Armed Forces Day Parade float. Club is selecting scholarship winners.

Poteau: Selecting scholarship winners.

<u>Sallisaw</u>: Holds weekly meetings and are out trying to recruit new members. They are 41 members strong and keeping active in the community. Club is currently selecting scholarship winners.

<u>Seminole</u>: This is the home club of First Vice District Governor Elect Greg Walker. The club is very busy with spring activities including selecting scholarship winners.

<u>Shawnee</u>: This is the Number 1 Lions Club in

3-K, 70 members and growing; also home club to Second Vice District Governor Nancy Cook-Senn. The club earned \$10,500 in their recent Chili Feast fundraiser! Welcome new members Jeanine Shaw, sponsored by Lion Diane Hinton, and Teresa Houck, sponsored by Lion Shawn Hatch. Club donated \$100 to Saving Pets at Risk (SPAR) for animal welfare, and continues monthly presentations to 5 "Masters of Manners" students from Bethel Elementary school.



Vian Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt

<u>Wanette</u>: Lions are ready for spring cleaning 2 miles along Highway 39 into town.

Wewoka: Lion Ferril Williamson reports that the club served dinner to 150 people at the Seminole County Junior Livestock Show. Club presented LCIF Melvin Jones Fellowship to Mildred Moore. All members are working hard to prepare for the upcoming youth baseball season and are selecting scholarship winners.

Wilburton: Purchased eye glasses; donated \$250 to Wilburton Middle School team for travel to state contest. They welcome 3 new members—Jeannie Hamilton, sponsored by Sue Hardcastle; Terry D. Wilson and Trisha Wilson, both sponsored by Walter Hammers. Club is now selecting scholarship winners.



.Hello, fellow Lions!

I hope you have all enjoyed the much needed spring time rains. To be honest, I wouldn't mind if it rained for a month straight. We definitely need it. I can't believe that it is already May. How time flies! Many of you are in the process of electing your officers for the next year. For those clubs who have already done so, please have your club secretary submit the PU 101 report in May via MyLCI (LCI club reporting). This helps out tremendously when it comes time to put the state directory together. Please confirm the contact information with each Lion before submitting to LCI. If you have already submitted your reports, thank you very much. If you need assistance, please let me know. I will be happy to help.

With just two months to go in my term as district governor, there are some clubs I have not yet visited. I would like to visit those clubs in May if at all possible. For this reason, I will be contacting the Presidents of those clubs to find a time that best fits the schedule. If you have a specific day on which you would like me to visit, and you don't want to wait for my call, please feel free to contact me via email at kristi.fields@sbcglobal.net or on my cell at 580-704-2223. Otherwise, please expect a phone call or email from me in the near future.

I enjoy visiting with fellow Lions and giving out the LCI Milestone chevrons that so many Lions have earned. I have said before that being able to do that is the best part of my job. I look forward to visiting with many of you in May.

Welcome New Lions!

<u>Clinton</u>: Christopher Fields, sponsored by Eldon Ventris

<u>Cordell</u>: Kaytlin Froneberger, sponsored by Sheryl McComas

<u>Lawton Noon</u>: Roger Miller, sponsored by

James Neely

Lions Doing Great Work!

Altus: Lions donated \$1,200 to the Altus High School "That Altus Band" to aid in their trip to Hawaii for the Pearl Harbor parade. They also collected and delivered 38 used printer cartridges and 73 pairs of used eyeglasses to the state office. PDG Sue Thompson presented Kate Pickett (with her parents) her certificate as the winner of the District 3-L Peace Poster Contest.



Altus Club President Gayle Culberson presented a check for \$1,200 to Mary Runyon director of Altus High School Band.

<u>Cache</u>: Club members are recycling paper, cans and plastic for the protecting our environment campaign.

<u>Duncan Noon:</u> April Students of the Month from Red River Tech Center are Jayden Newberry, a senior at Marlow High School, and Hanna Shaffer from Duncan High School (pictured). Lions mourn the passing of their beloved piano player, Harold Hackler (pictured). "We will always remember his lively tickling of the ivories and his quick wit. He always made us smile."

Hobart: Lions donated \$100 to the Hobart Little League to help with this year's season and \$100 to the Chamber of Commerce to buy Easter Eggs for the community wide Easter Egg Hunt held on April 5. The Lions also gave \$500 to support the Hobart Celebration of Freedom. This is a community wide event held over Memorial Day weekend. These funds will support the children's play area during the weekend event.

<u>Lawton Noon</u>: Lions worked very hard at the annual Lions Club carnival. This event raises enough money to support their many projects throughout the year.

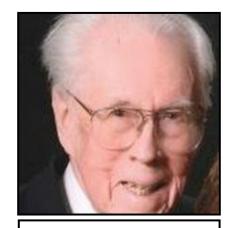
Lion in Need

On March 12, Oklahoma Highway Patrol Trooper (and Frederick Lion) Gary Sanders was involved in a terrible accident while on duty. Trooper Gary was critically injured in this accident and was flown to a hospital in Ft Worth, Texas. Lion Gary will spend many months recovering from his injuries. There have been several fundraising events to help cover expenses he and his family have incurred. If you would like to help Lion Gary, you can go to www.gofundme.com/ovl5eg. If you would like to send get well cards, you may send them to the Frederick Lions Club, P.O. Box 951, Frederick, OK 73542. Please keep Lion Gary and his family in your thoughts.

Social Media

The District 3-L Lions are now on *Face-book*. Please like our page. Thank you, Lion Al Granger of the Lawton NE On-line Branch Lions Club for taking on this task. Lion Al also does a great job with the District web site. Thank you for all your hard work.





Harold Hackler



Hello, 3-A Lions

I hope you have your club elections done and your Officers Report into MyLCI (PU101). If not please get it in so we will have the correct officers for your club for 2015-2016.

State Convention was GREAT! Lion of the Year for District 3-A is PDG Eldon Hugaboom of the Garber Lions Club. Humanitarian of the Year (non Lion individual) is Warren Dell of Garber. He is an 8-year volunteer EMT. Humanitarian of the Year (non Lion organization) is Elite Repeat, Inc. of Stillwater; they send donations to the Boys Ranch every month and have helped them for years. I am one of their best shoppers; please stop by their place in Stillwater, spend some money and tell them the Lions appreciate them. Dr. Bob McCullough Meritorious Service Award went to PDG Karl Youngers of the Pioneer Pleasant-Vale Lions Club; he has been a Lion for 40 plus years and is past Secretary for OLSF.

Time is drawing near and this year will be over. It has gone so fast and I have enjoyed visiting the clubs. They do so much for their community and I know the communities are grateful for the Lions Clubs. I still have 5 more clubs to visit before the year is over and will be doing this very soon.

May 9 will be my last cabinet meeting and we are going to have Officer Training in Garber at the Ambulance Building on Main St. Registration and snacks will start at 9:30am; training will be from 10am-12noon. Then we will go to the Garber Methodist Church for lunch, dutch treat and at 1pm will have the Cabinet Meeting in the sanctuary. It will be a great day. Hope to see all of you there.

District 3-A Club Activities

<u>Fairview:</u> Honored Student of the Week. Paid the funds raised for the handicap ramp to the American Legion to assist them. Nomination and Scholarship Committees are at work.

<u>Garber:</u> Four members helped train at the Lions of Oklahoma Governor Elect School. Recycled 10 ink jets. Members attended Crescent Lions Club Anniversary, Ponca City After 5 meeting, Pioneer Pleasant – Vale pancake supper and Nash Lions Club meeting.

<u>Guymon:</u> Had the OK Lions Mobile Health Screening Unit (MHSU) and a booth selling sheets at the Better Living Show.

Laverne: Collected 74 pairs of eyeglasses. Distributed 61 boxes of food that helped 43-families (92 adults and 83 children). Donated to World Services for the Blind, OK Lions Service Foundation, Leader Dogs for the Blind, OK Lions Boys Ranch, OK Lions Eye Bank and the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).

Lomega: Held their Easter Egg Hunt.

Pioneer Pleasant-Vale: Honored Pleasant Vale sixth grader Jacob Smith as a cubbie. Donated \$200 to YMCA Back-a-Youth program. Approved application for eyeglasses for a 17-year-old student. Collected 247 pairs of used eyeglasses for recycling. Held successful pancake supper and auction.

Ponca City Noon: They have paid for 80 pairs of eyeglasses, 35 more approved for purchase, and 14 are awaiting further information on their applications; total \$8,857.80 year to date for this program. Working on getting a logo for the Child Site trailer and had their first event at the YMCA Healthy Kids Day. They are having a membership drive with incentive for new members being brought into the club and their sponsors. Collected 167 pairs of eyeglasses last month and 11,682 year to date. Collected 23 used cell phones this month and 210 cell phones for Operation Pioneer Spirit. The Cubbies will start meeting 2 times each month (2nd and 4th Tuesdays); they had sold ribs in April as a fundraiser to earn money to donate to

NOEL to help with diabetic supplies or for eyeglasses.

Ponca City Branch (NOEL): Had a fundraiser at Spring Fling, cooking burgers and hot dogs. NOEL is going to help the Blackwell Lions Club and pay for 3 pairs of eyeglasses.

<u>Wakita:</u> Cleaned the grounds at Community Health Center.

Welcome New Lions

<u>Balko:</u> Sean Eylard sponsored by Jason Smith

<u>Fairview:</u> Jason Levings sponsored by Elden Edingfield and David Wymer sponsored by Fairview Republican

<u>Guymon:</u> Winter D. Peterson sponsored by Charlene Slane

<u>Laverne:</u> Debbie J Howard sponsored by Barbara Swineford

<u>North Enid:</u> James H Froese sponsored by Dwight Unruh

<u>Tonkawa:</u> David Ryan Rector sponsored by Rex Ackerson

In Remembrance of these Lions to Thank them for their Years of Service

<u>Goodwell:</u> Ray F. Hall 67 years of service <u>Guymon:</u> John G. Sloan 2 years of service <u>Newkirk</u>: Harley Keller 54 years of service

Dates to Remember

May 9: Officer Training, 10am-12noon, Ambulance Bldg., Garber; Cabinet Meeting 1pm, Methodist Church

<u>May 18</u>: Fairview Lions will assist at school track meet

<u>May 24</u>: Nash Lions Club annual Memorial Day meal 11:30am-1:30pm

<u>May 25</u>: Garfield County Lions Clubs' Memorial Day Services at Woodring Airport, Enid

<u>May 30</u>: Fairview Lions Club second annual Auction



Thank you very much to the following Lions Clubs and their secretaries for filing the required 2015-2016 Club Officer Report early on MyLCI: Davenport, Edmond, Harrah, Midwest City, and OKC Northwest. I confidently await the rest of the PU101s filed by the May 15 deadline. DISTRICT 3-H ROCKS!

The March 25 tornados did damage in a few areas of the district, including Moore-Southgate Elementary School and surrounding homes. First Vice District Governor Jacque Mooney is leading the district disaster relief team in getting aid to those affected; we received an emergency grant (\$10,000) from Lions Clubs International Foundation. With all the support LCIF gives to us when we are in need, it is my personal hope that all 3-H Lions Club donate to LCIF annually. Thank you.

The Oklahoma Special Olympics will be in Stillwater May 13-15, as well our Lions Opening Eyes program to get eye exams and eyeglasses for these youth. Volunteers may be needed. Contact First VDGE Troy Jenkins by email (troyfecta@yahoo.com) for more information.

District 3-H Club Activities

<u>Cushing</u>: Will be holding their 88th or 89th annual Junior Olympics for the school this spring and will be selecting recipient(s) for their high school scholarship program as well.

Edmond: Held successful Chili fundraiser on Mar. 24 with about 190 people attending; several sponsors supported the club with donations, and the first ever silent auction was a success also. Donated to the OK Lions Boys Ranch and Coffee Creek Riding Center (therapy horses). Club continues providing eyeglasses for people in need and collecting used eyeglasses for recycling

<u>Guthrie</u>: Held their annual events to coordinate with the community's 89er (land run) celebrations. This Lions Club works very effectively within the community for this celebration each spring. (DG note-Hopefully the Lions will send pictures to me to include in next month's newsletter article.)

Harrah: Donated to the school swim team for travel to state championships. Had concession stand at recent community disc golf

tournament. Donated \$100 to be hole sponsor for the OK Lions Boys Ranch Golf Tournament

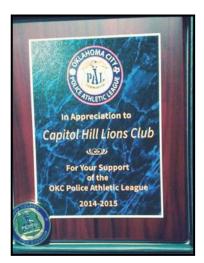
<u>Midwest City</u>: Held annual 89er BBQ dinner on April 4.

<u>Mulhall-Orlando</u>: Welcomed new Lion Adrian Pollard, sponsored by Dennis Golay. Club sponsored a hole (\$100 donation) at the OK Lions Boys Ranch Golf Tournament.

Newcastle Community: Will do Newcastle Trash Off on Sat., May 2.

Norman: Their April International Student of the Month is Delphine Piguet from Nice, France, and she is working on her doctorate in music; she was also honored in 2011 while working on her master's degree in music. Norman Lions sponsored the carnival April 23-26 in conjunction with the Norman Music Festival, and raised funds by operating a concession stand on site. Before dismissing for the summer, the Lions will have a picnic May 19 at Lions Park.

Norman Sooner: They have processed 43 requests for eyeglasses this year to date and helped 19 students get their eyeglasses. The club has reached \$10,000 in Kiva loans; the project provides loans to starting business owners, which are mostly women, in depressed countries.



The OKC Capitol Hill Lions support the OKC Police Athletic League who use part of their Lions den building for after school tutoring and other programs.

OKC Downtown: Will be selecting the scholarship recipient from the monthly Hi-Lion students who visit and speak to the club members.

OKC Northwest: Held Bowling for Fundraiser and donated \$500 to Camp Corral for youth.

Collected and turned into the state office 319 pairs of used eyeglasses for recycling.

OKC West Side: Helped sponsor a Lions Quest workshop for elementary curriculum on Mar. 25. Set up for WesTen Community Fair but event cancelled due to rain; did feed the volunteers! Donated \$100 to OK Lions Eye Bank in memory of Geneva Hendrick and \$50 to the OK Lions Boys Ranch in memory of the sister of Lion Mary Ainsworth.

<u>Perry</u>: Hosted High School senior Micah Biggs and Riley Belchan who report weekly on school events. Sponsored one girl and one boy to the American Legion's Girls' and Boys' State events to be held this summer. Thank you, Lion Wally Schieffer, who recently delivered used eyeglasses to the OK Lions state office in OKC. Like many Lions Clubs, Perry has a large "drop box" to collect used eyeglasses in the community.

Stillwater Noon and eBranch Club: After 11 applications for help with eyeglasses, purchased 3 pairs (\$85 each) for people in need. The eBranch club is working with the LCI hearing aid program and also continues to collect used hearing aids for recycling. Eight students from Lincoln Academy alternative high school have been honored weekly at club meetings, along with a faculty member. Students discussed their plans after graduation. Two elementary students were given free eye exams and eyeglasses. Four Noon Lions helped serve, wash dishes and clean up at the Community meal to feed the hungry at First United Methodist Church (monthly activity). Club held their inaugural Made in Oklahoma Showcase event on April 18, in conjunction with the Stillwater Arts Festival. Proceeds will go to community service projects. Welcomed new Lions Debbie Nance and Alton Carter.

Stroud: Lions will miss Charles Witty who died recently. Club held their health fair on April 11 with the OK Lions MHSU and Lions KidSight USA vision screening for children. Club feed the college students who were in town recently working on a Habitat for Humanity home. Lions also provided an eye exam and eyeglasses for a local lady in need. Little League season is here, and Lions work and donate to that program regularly; they also donated \$50 to the Stroud High School After Prom Party.

<u>The Village</u>: Welcomed new Lion Darron Lamkin, Jr., sponsored by Robert McMasters.

OK Lions SRVC FNDR 4123 NW 10th ST Oklahoma City, OK 73107-5801

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May 2015

Strengthen Membership Month and Recycle for Sight Month

May 2	District 3-H Audit Meeting 1pm, OK Lions State Office
May 2	Prague LC helps with the Prague Kolache Festival

May 2 Newcastle Community LC Clean-Up Day, 8am, Leesa

Cornett Park; trash pick-up, Trash scavenger hunt; fun & prizes

May 9 OKC West Side LC Pancake Day, 8am-1pm, West Side Lions Town Hall, 4135 NW 10th St., OKC 73107

May 9 OK Lions Boys Ranch Board of Trustees Meeting, Perkins

May 9 District 3-A Cabinet Meeting and Club Officer Training, Garber

May 11-17 White Cane Week (LCI)

May 15 Annual Leo Club Officers and Membership Report Form (Leo-72) due

May 15 DEADLINE FOR CLUBS TO FILE THEIR OFFICER REPORT FORM (PU101)

May 16 Henryetta LC Golf Tournament, 9am, Henryetta Golf & Country Club, Lion Tara 918-650-2779 or tmatthews74@att.net

May 24 Nash LC Memorial Day meal, 11:30am-1:30pm

May 25 Memorial Day Holiday-OK Lions State Office Closed

May 25: Garfield County LC Memorial Day Services at Woodring
Airport. Enid

May 30: Fairview LC second annual Auction

June 2015

June 1 Helen Keller Day
June 5 World Environment Day
June 5 DGE/VDGE Leadership T

June 6

June 5 DGE/VDGE Leadership Training, 4pm, OK Lions State

Office, 4123 NW 10th St., OKC 73107

MD-3 OK Lions Council Agenda meeting, 7pm, OK Lions State Office, 4123 NW 10th St., OKC

OK Lions State Office, 4123 NW 10th St., OKC MD-3 Okla. Lions State Board and Council Meetings,

West Side Lions Town Hall, 4135 NW 10th St., OKC

7:45am OK Lions St. Conv. Planning Comm. Meeting

8:15am OLEB Executive Board Meeting (tentative), OK Lions State Office

8:55am OK Lions Council Meeting Opening

9:00am OK Lions Eye Bank Board Meeting

9:45am Briggs Scholarship Board Meeting

10:30am OK Lions Boys Ranch Board Meeting

11:15am OK Lions Service Foundation Board

Meeting

12noon Lunch by 3-A Lions; Boneyard Meeting

1:00pm OK Lions Council Meeting, followed by

clean-up