



Lions District 2-A3

Newsletter

November 2025

A Message from DG Lynde



District 2-A3 Cabinet

District Governor

Lynde Todd

Lionlynde2526@aol.com

361-215-2908

Portland North Bay Lions Club

1st Vice District Governor

Cody Colchado

coachcodyusa@hotmail.com

956-960-9157

Edinburg Lions Club

2nd Vice District Governor

William Castillo

wiliam@savewithbigfish.com

361-563-1081

Corpus Christi Downtown Lions Club

Immediate Past District Governor

Dr. Joe Hinojosa

Jhinojosa263@yahoo.com

956-579-4214

West Brownsville Lions Club

What is that saying? "The older you get the faster time goes!" It is certainly true in my world. I am two months away from completing my first six months as Governor of District 2-A3! It has been most rewarding, and I look forward to the rest of my term.

We had our 2nd District Cabinet Meeting on October 18th in Mercedes. The members of the **Mercedes Lions Club** know how to put on a meeting! Not only were the accommodations first class, but the food (*cooked by a member of the club, and it was her birthday!*) was great. The speakers, Connie Vega (*the representative of The Rainbow Room*), Thomas Cronnan (*attorney and non-profit specialist*) speaking on the importance of the IRS 990, the Mayor Pro-Tem, and the stock show manager (*who happens to be the Mayor's*

brother), showed a lot of love to the Lions of Mercedes and District 2-A3. There were one hundred (100) Lions present, and twenty-two (22) clubs represented.

\$117 was donated to Mercedes Basketful, the local food pantry, and \$144 was donated to The Rainbow Room, along with items donated by attendees.

The **Mercedes Lions Club**, which had not hosted a cabinet meeting in seventy-three years, did a wonderful job. Thank you again!

Congratulations to the **Weslaco Lions Club** for achieving the **Club Excellence Award** for 2024-2025! And, extra congratulations to the **Odem Area Lions Club** for achieving the **5-Star Club Excellence Award**!

We are awaiting additional information regarding more club awards being designated, and we'll let you know the outcome.

At the cabinet meeting, Lions voted to apply for an LCI grant to get two more Welch Allyn SPOT vision screening machines. The district will pay for one and will use the grant for the other. Thank you, Lions, for supporting the vision fund and activities.

Peace Poster Contest Information:

For 30 years, Lions Clubs around the world have invited young artists to share their vision of peace through a powerful, creative tradition. The Peace Poster Contest encourages students to express hope, unity, and understanding, using art as a universal language that inspires communities and connects hearts across borders.

November 15 is the postmark deadline for a club to send one winning poster with the original sticker from the peace poster packet (no copied stickers will be accepted) to the District Governor. Please send your club's winning art to me at - District Governor Lynde Todd, 115 Lone Oak, Portland, Texas 78374

December 1 is the postmark deadline for a District Governor to send one winning district poster to the Multiple District Council Chairperson.

December 15 is the postmark deadline for the Multiple District Council Chairperson to send one winning poster to the LCI Brand & Creative Department.

On October 7, 2025, the Portland City Council met and filed a proclamation that October 20, 2025, would be known as White Cane Day. If your club has not met with your city's council to promote this, please do.

November 14, Friday, is World Diabetes Day and that will be soon, so now is the time to Act. Encourage your clubs to explore Diabetes Programs and to plan impactful service projects focused on awareness, education and prevention. Use the Diabetes Service Program Over on the LCI website to get started.

District 2 (Texas) is still positive in membership growth. Since July 1, 1,298 New Members have been added. After some members being dropped, the state is still up by 338 New Members. Let's keep the momentum going.



Immediate Past District Governor
Dr. Joe Hinojosa Receiving the
Leader Dogs for the Blind



West Brownsville Lions and
the Alamo Lions had a great time
at the Second District Cabinet
Meeting held in Mercedes, Texas
October 18, 2025

Thanks Lion Nick!

On September 24th, I read a post in the Global Lions Forum where a Lion from Massachusetts asked if a Lion from around Robstown, Texas could help his stepdad out in getting a thoroughly needed haircut. His dad is blind and didn't have any way to get to the barber. I sent the request out to 2nd Vice District Governor William, asking him if he could find someone to help this gentleman out. Within a couple of hours, Lion Nick Mierkey, of the Corpus Christi Downtown Lions Club, had contacted the man and had made arrangements to get it done. The next day, Lion Nick picked him up and took him to the barber. Shortly thereafter I received this note from the man's stepson.

"My father had an absolutely great experience. I will absolutely make sure that I say something on the Lions forum about this. I do appreciate also your quick and swift actions on this. He doesn't look like a mountain man from Kentucky anymore and Lion Nick paid for his haircut, which was not intended or expected. My father was very touched. Now Lion Nick and my father are going to churches together. But I do appreciate everything you did. Thanks Lions!"

Thanks Lion Nick!
DG Lynde

WANTED – CANDIDATES FOR 2ND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2026-2027

Please **contact District Governor Lynde Todd** if you are interested in moving into the leadership development pipeline, starting as **2nd Vice District Governor 2026-2027**. The successful candidate will start at 2nd Vice District Governor 2026-2027, then, if qualified and elected, move to 1st Vice District Governor 2027-2028, and ultimately, if qualified and elected, move to the District Governor 2028-2029 position.

A candidate for the office of second vice district governor shall:

1. Be an Active Member in good standing of a chartered Lions club in good standing in his/her single or sub-district.
2. Secure the endorsement of his/her club or a majority of the clubs in his/ her single or subdistrict.
3. Have served or will have served at the time he/she takes office as second vice district governor:
 - a. As president of a Lions club for a full term or major portion thereof, and a member of the board of directors of a Lions club for no less than two (2) additional years; and
 - b. As zone chairperson, region chairperson, district global extension team coordinator, district global leadership team coordinator, district global membership team coordinator, district global service team coordinator, district LCIF coordinator, or cabinet secretary 36 and/or treasurer for a full term or major portion thereof.
 - c. With none of the above being accomplished concurrently.

4. Has not completed a full term or major portion thereof as district governor.

In addition to the above, it is recommended to attend/complete all, if not all of the following:

1. Local/District courses/training, including leadership training provided on the Lions Portal in the Lions Learning Center, related to Lionism.
2. MD2 Leadership Institutes.
3. LCI Leadership Institutes.
4. Attend USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum.
5. Complete courses at Lions University.
6. Attend LCI Webinars.
7. Attend/Participate District events/training, etc.
8. Attend District, MD2 & LCI Conventions.

In short, get more credentials to enhance your qualification to be a successful District Governor.

We encourage you to contact the District 2-A3 Global Leadership Team Chairperson, Lion Alex Ambriz, for assistance with training and development opportunities, both in-person and online in the Lions Learning Center.

Remember: As a candidate for 2nd Vice District Governor (1stVDG & DG) you need to submit to the District Nominating Committee a “Letter of Intent” and “your Club to submit a Letter of Nomination”.

IN MEMORIUM

Olga Saenz, Rio Grande City Lions Club, 21 years of Lions Service, *September 17, 2025*

Sheriff LeRoy Moody (*retired*), Sinton Lions Club, 55 years of Lions Service, *November 1, 2025*

Welcome New Members! (data as of 10/31/2025)

September 2025

Name	Club	Sponsor
Tila Atkinson	Harlingen Amigas	Lion Julio Guerra
Pearl Claudio	Harlingen Amigas	Lion Yolanda Brydone
Tracy Dearman	Odem Area	Lion Addie Franklin
Jose Exiga	San Juan Community	Lion Norberto Guerrero
Abel Flores	Donna	Lion Jesus Rivera
Hilda Flores	Alton	Lion Sylvia Vela
Lina Garza	Edinburg Early Risers	Lion Nora Polanis
Mary Leal	Harlingen Amigas	Lion Yolanda Brydone
Nora Polanis	Edinburg Early Risers	Lion Diana Davila
Becky Rackley	Odem Area	Lion Marvin Pivonka
Priscilla Tijerina	Edinburg Early Risers	Lion Diana Davila
Julia Trevino	Alton	Lion Salvador Vela
Consuelo Vega	Mercedes	Lion Mary Bunton
Ethan John Wallace	Mercedes	Lion Marissa Wallace

October 2025

Name	Club	Sponsor
Andres Aaron Carr	Mercedes	Lion Dalia Carr
Ricardo De La Garza	Mission	Lion David Martinez
Jon Hale	McAllen Evening	Lion Felix Escobedo
Elissa Pacheco	Portland	Lion Scott Marion
Linda Soto	PSJA	Lion Irene Ramierz

Congratulations – Club Anniversaries!

(1, 5, 10, 15 yrs, etc., July – December 2025.)

Years	Club	Charter Date
65	Sinton Lions Club	12/20/1960
55	Brownsville Nite Lions Club	09/17/1970
55	Weslaco Mid-Valley Lions Club	11/19/1970
35	Harlingen Amigas Lions Club	11/27/1990

District Governor's Club Visits

- Delta Area Lions Club, Charter Night, September 24
- Mission Lions Club, October 22
- Odem Area Lions Club, Peace Poster Contest Awards Ceremony, October 28

2025-2026 District 2-A3 Goals

- Engage the District and all clubs to participate in all eight of OUR CAUSES.
 1. Childhood Cancer
 2. Diabetes
 3. Disaster Relief
 4. Environment
 5. Humanitarian Adi
 6. Hunger
 7. Vision
 8. Youth
- Promote and AMPLIFY our three WEEKS OF SERVICE.
 1. Mental health and well-being, October 4-12, 2025
 2. Hunger, January 3-11, 2026
 3. Environment, April 18-26, 2026
- Train 100% of secretaries and treasurers.
- Offer New Member Orientation and invite all Lions in the District.
- Develop new Lions leaders throughout District 2-A3.
- Identify 2nd Vice District Governor for 2026-2027.
- Develop good strong Zone Chairpersons through training.
- Conduct monthly communication with GMT and GLT.
- Charter at least One new Lions Club within the District this year.
- Promote club and District growth through the year with each Club striving to be a plus five (5) in membership at year end.
- Remove District 2-A3 from Transitional status by ending the year at 1,250 Members.
- Reduce dropped members by 2%.
- Foster effective communication between members of the DG Team and keep interactions to no less frequent than once a month.

Global Expansion Team (GET) News

Past District Governor (PDG) Juan Lopez, Dg2a3lions@gmail.com, 956-292-6880

New Clubs Goal	New Clubs Added	Clubs Dropped
1	0	0

Branch Clubs Goal	Branch Clubs Added
3	0

We are looking for Global Expansion Team members; Lions, who are interested in helping new clubs form and develop. Please contact PDG Juan to discuss these opportunities.

“There’s only one thing greater than being a member of a Lions Club, and that’s helping build one.”

Melvin Jones, Founder, Lions Clubs International

8 Easy Steps

To Growth Success

1. Pick 5-6 Friends or Acquaintances
2. Don't Ask Them to Join, Instead Just Ask Them to Help with a Project or Event
3. Some Will Agree to Help – They are Now Your New Member Candidates
4. Show Them What Lions Do to Serve – Introduce them to your Club members
5. No Pressure-Let Them Experience Our Service & See Lions Comradery in Action
6. Repeat if necessary– Continue to Expose Them to Lions (Invite them to a meeting)
7. Just Wait! Until They Start Making Positive Comments About Lionism...
8. Then "Just ASK" – You will be Successful! Let the Club's Action Seal the Deal

PDG Doug Harvey

Global Leadership Team (GLT) News

Lion Alex Ambriz. ambrizalexandria@gmail.com, 956-342-1982

% Leaders (Pres, VP, Sec, Tres) Trained Goal	% Leaders (Pres, VP, Sec, Tres) Trained Actual
60%	

% Lions Completing 3 Courses in Lions Learning Center Goal	% Lions Completing 3 Courses in Lions Learning Center Actual
10%	

% Zone Chairs Trained Goal	% Zone Chairs Trained Actual
100%	

Lions, please be sure that you can access the Lions Portal and begin completing development courses in the Lions Learning Center. As you can see in the goals above, to develop our Lions membership across the district, a goal has been set for each Lion to complete three (3) courses in the Lions Learning Center before June 30, 2026.

Additionally, Lions in leadership (Presidents, Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and Zone Chairpersons), the district has a goal for your leadership development as well. Please start now, if you have not already, to complete the training.

The training available in the Lions Learning Center is not just about developing skills to be a successful Lion; it is great training which can help you develop personally and professionally. And the training is free!

Contact Lion Alex for assistance with any of the above.

Global Membership Team (GMT) News

Past Council Chair (PCC) Rick Talbert, rstalbert2@aol.com, 956-373-5321

Opening Balance	Membership Goal	Members Added	Members Dropped	Net Gain/Loss	Ending Balance
1,064	1,250	44	44	0	1,062

MORE HANDS = MORE SERVICE

OUR MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE:

"I, in the presence of the members of the Lions Club, take this solemn obligation to abide by the constitution and By Laws of the club and that of Lions Clubs International, to attend all meetings regularly, to support and further the interests of the club in all its undertakings, and to contribute my fair share towards the financial support of the club.

**I FURTHER DECLARE THAT I WILL
ASSIST IN MAINTAINING, BUILDING,
AND STRENGTHENING THE
MEMBERSHIP OF THE CLUB.**

Furthermore, I will help the club by actively serving on committees and in other capacities where my efforts are needed, and that, I will practice the principles of the Code of Ethics and the Purposes of Lions Clubs International."

**MEMBERSHIP IS NOT ONE PERSON'S JOB
IT IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY**



As a reminder, District Governor Lynde Todd is asking that each Lions Club in District 2-A3 set a realistic and achievable membership growth goal for June 30, 2026 – and that you email that goal to me at rstalbert2@aol.com, so that we can know where we are going.

PCC Rick Talbert
2025-2026 Global Membership Coordinator

Upcoming Virtual Events on Membership:

Wisdom Wednesday - AI for Membership Growth - November 5th @ 7 PM
Register: <https://bit.ly/LUSAWisdom>

Let's Grow - Growth Workshop Series - Every Other Week Starting January 6th @ 7 PM
Register: <https://bit.ly/GrowthWkshp26>

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT TOOLS HERE: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/45MFOFN](https://bit.ly/45MFOFN)

Global Service Team (GST) News

Past District Governor (PDG) Connie Swartz, lioncswartz@aol.com, 361-362-5656

% Lions Clubs Reporting Service Goal	% Lions Clubs Reporting Service Actual	% Combined Clubs (Lions & Leos) Reporting Service Goal	% Combined Clubs (Lions & Leos) Reporting Service Actual
75%	65%	60%	?

# of Service Activities Reported	People Served	Volunteer Hours
200	15,040	5,266

A Big Thank You goes out to District 2-A3 for reaching 65% of the clubs reporting to Lions Clubs International through the Lions Portal. Of course, our goal for the year is 75% and although I had my doubts, I don't have those any more. I know we as a district can complete that goal and go above and beyond that before the end of the year.

I have seen a few changes that need to be corrected. When you feel you have finished your report you must click the 'report complete' button at the top near the dates, then click 'save', afterwards there is a bar that says 'report to LCI'. If you have a red bar across the top you need to go back through your report and fill in the part that is marked. Once you finish that part repeat the above part till you have clicked 'report to LCI' and there is a green bar, 'success'.

You can always check when you go back into the portal each time, if you look at the 6th column it should say 'REPORTED'

If it says 'DRAFT' or 'REPORT READY' you have not finished the report or not finished sending it to LCI.

Another one is the Volunteer Hours. You need to multiply the number of members involved by the number of volunteers hours you used. If it a club meeting and you have 12 members present with 2 hours at the meeting. You should enter 24 hours of volunteer time.

If your club is a sponsor of a Leo Club, make sure you let them know they need to enter their projects and meetings they attend in The Lions Portal. They are a part of the Lions Portal reporting to LCI, also. On the scheme it shows we have one of five Leo Clubs reporting so far. If they need help they can call Lion Hector Rendon at 956-456-2133 or text him. His club has stepped up and learned how to report and use The Lions Portal already this year.. Thank you for your help this year.

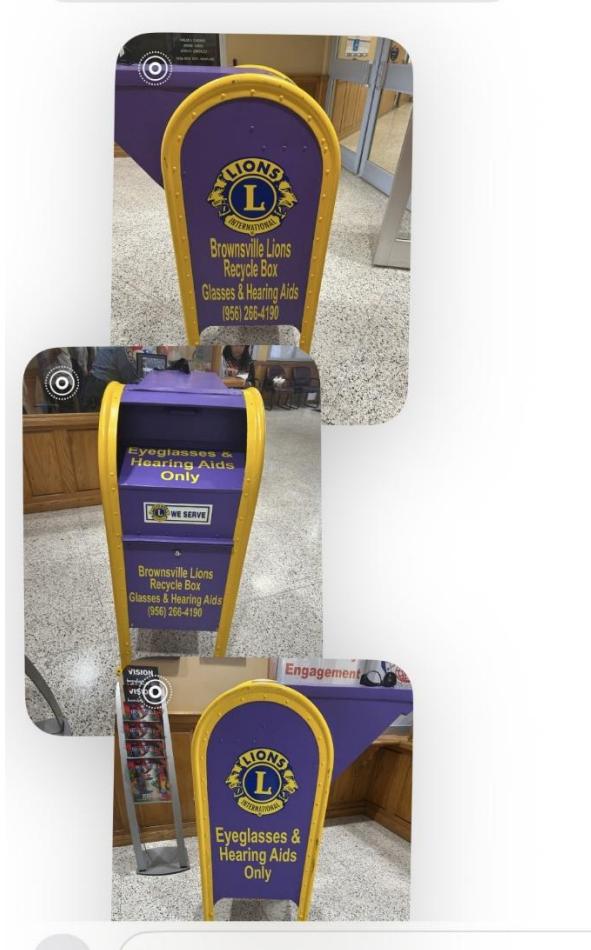
If you need help with your reporting call or text me, PDG Connie E. Swartz, GST at 361-362-5656 or Lion Alex Ambriz, GLT at 956-342-1982. We are ready to help you and can walk you through the process over the phone or in person if needed.

Remember the Lions Clubs International (LCI) "Focus Areas":

1. Childhood Cancer
2. Diabetes
3. Disaster Relief
4. Environment
5. Humanitarian Aid
6. Hunger
7. Vision
8. Youth

Club News – Here's What's Happening!

- **Brownsville Nite Lions Club**
 - Placed an eyeglass recycling collection box at the Brownsville ISD main building.



- **Corpus Christi Downtown Lions Club**
 - Cooked for the Hero Challenge, an event for individuals with disabilities on September 12th.
 - Lions William, Nick, Rusty and Michelle attended the Leadership Forum in Atlantic City and achieved a bachelor's degree from Lions University, September 18-21.



- Team Charlie is heading to the Big Apple! This inspiring father/son duo team, made up of Lion Rusty Jones (Corpus Christi Downtown Lions Club) and his son Charlie, will represent our community at the 2025 TCS New York City Marathon on Sunday, November 2. As they take on the city's iconic five-borough course, Team Charlie will join more than 50,000 runners from around the world as one of only 11 duo teams. Their journey to the marathon has been fueled by 15 weeks of training, teamwork, and encouragement from their community. Support has been so spectacular, in fact, that the team was able to make a \$5000 donation to Wings of Texas based on the success of their fundraising efforts. We wish Team Charlie the best of luck as they take on this incredible challenge. Go Team Charlie—your community is cheering you on every step of the way!







We Serve

Serving our community since 1938

DONNA LIONS CLUB EVENTS



DONNA TOTAL DISASTER DONATION
To LCIF and TLF WAS \$3050



PDG CESAR MONTELONGO AND LION
Delia Montelongo doing V S at Donna
Back to school fair



PDG CESAR AND LON JESS
Rivera donating \$500 to Easter
Seal



PDG CESAR AND LION FRANK
V S AT DONNA ISD 9 schools
Did 957 screening



PDG CESAR AND LION FRANK
Akvarez doing VS at MEXICAN
Council in McAllen, Texas



HAD A GREAT OFFICERS INSTALLATION
for our club and DG Lynde Todd doing
the honors.



Donna Lions Club Recognition
Awad presentation to a
Business in town.



Donna North High School Leos
workin with the Lions on a Fund
Rauser event



PDG CesarMontelogo performed the duties
Officers Installation for Leo Club.

DONNA LIONS CLUB

WE SERVE

- **Harlingen Amigas Lions Club**
 - Just installed four new members
 - Continuing to serve the community through projects such as:
 - partnering with Salvation Army of Cameron and Willacy Counties;
 - serving meals at Loaves and Fishes;
 - donation of items (such as backpacks containing fun pastimes to hospital pediatric patients; hygiene kits to veterans; school supplies, food, and children's clothing to families).
 - And of course, we were happy to participate in the recent 2-A3 meeting in Mercedes!





- **Kingsville Noon Lions Club**

- “Kingsville Family Fun Fest & Chili Cook-Off” On Saturday, September 7, 2025, the Kingsville Noon Lions partnered with the Premont Lions, local community functions, and the Chamber of Commerce to participate in this year’s Family Fun Fest. The event hosted by the local “Foundation for our children’s ultimate Success” FOCUS and Coastlife Credit Union at the Kleberg County JK Northway Exposition Center featured booths and displays from local organizations and businesses, free Pony Rides, a Petting Zoo, games, Food Trucks, and a Chili Cooking Competition.
 - Club members under direction of Lion President Cecilia Luna set up a table, displayed our new events banner, and served attendees by providing Lions Eye Screening functions, flyers and information on the Texas Lions Camp and our search for campers, and in accordance with our “Lions Recruitment Goal” talked to people about their opportunity to serve their community and their fellow citizens. Lion members had a great time talking to people, managing the “Corn Hole” competition, and handed out candy to all children that came by the Lions Area. Lion Robert Schmidt from the Premont Lions Club came out and performed 33 eye screenings on attending children and parents. Lion President Cecilia also had the great opportunity to serve as one of the Judges during the Chili Cook-Off.
- “Kingsville Noon Lions Distribute Dictionaries to local Adult Literacy Program” Expanding on our annual “Dictionary Distribution to local 3rd Graders” the Club under the guidance of Lion President Cecilia attended a session of the local Adult Literacy Program and gave each student a copy of “A Student’s Dictionary” as distributed by the national Dictionary Project. This book contains a comprehensive dictionary, biographies of the U.S. Presidents, the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, Maps of the seven continents, information about the 50 states, weights and measures, and many more topics.
 - Lions enjoy this project as they not only provide a personal source of information on the World we live but also get to enjoy the bright light and smiles that appear on the faces of those people when they open this book. Nothing better in the world to brighten up you day.



- Kingsville Noon Lions participated in Lions International Week of Service pursuant to “Mental Health and Well Being” by going out in our community and by bringing in local experts to provide information and bring the issues to light.
 - We had a great time meeting with and presenting donations to local Boys and Girls Scout Troops. These children strive for a better society much like we Lions do in our functions to provide service.
 - We also had a chance to visit with children in one of our local elementary schools where Lions provided animated readings with our mascot “Roary” (Stuff animal Lion). Truth be told our Lions had as much fun as the children did. We have a standing return engagement any time we want.
 - Lion President Cecilia and several Lions attended a local celebration of “National Night Out” where we mingled, talked, handed out candy, and displayed “Roary”.
 - At our regular meeting on October 8th, we had an eye-opening and emotional presentation by Ms. Mary Zavala and Ms. Imelda Garcia, Coastal Plains Kingsville, on how we can identify, evaluate, and take action on those people that might be contemplating harming themselves or committing suicide.
- Lion’s 2nd Annual “Roaring Lions” Golf Tournament - Lion Phil and Lion Christine Esquivel again lead a group of Lions in a successful and profitable Golf Tournament on Saturday, October 11, 2025, in which 10 teams participated, several sponsors were recognized, and the Club made over \$7,000. Lion Henry, Chief Cook and Bottle Washer, again lived up to his reputation in preparing and serving-very-large

“Baked Potatoes” topped with pull pork and other condiments. Players, guests, and Lions all had a great time and look forward to next year’s tournament.

- Adopt a Road Project – Lion RJ Loera and Lion Jaime Carrillo lead a group of Lions and volunteers from the Texas A&M University Tennis Team in gathering and disposing of refuse and discarded materials on Kingsville’s Golf Course Road. On Saturday, October 18, 2025, Lions and volunteers met in the parking lot of our L.E. Ramey Golf Course and walked on both sides of the highway gathering waste in order to make our roadways clean and environmentally sound. The weather was beautiful, and everyone had a great time.

- **McAllen Palm City Lions Club**

- Saturday September 20th, Lion President and Immediate Past President (IPP) Bob Jojola and Jerry Inmon delivered three (3) benches to the Texas Lions Camp. They had been to a camp workday and saw benches which were not in the best condition. They decided to replace the benches and did. . We are very proud and appreciate Lions Bob's and Jerry's commitment for making the trip to Kerrville to deliver benches. (pictured left to right) Lion Bob and Lion Jerry)



Mercedes Lions' News



September 2025 - Month in Review

September 03, 2025 - Regular & Board Meeting was held @ The American Legion. Fellow Lion's in attendance Lion President Laura, Mary, Wally, Dalia, Guest Andy, Leo, Flo, Peggy, Tony & Lindley



Congratulations Mercedes Lion's for making a tremendous achievement with 100% participation to Texas Lions Camp ☺



Mercedes Lions' News

September 05, 2025 - We received an aluminum tab donation from Diana G. V. Sanchez, she is the one that picks up and delivers our plastic bottle caps to Progreso, Tamps. MX



September 17, 2025 - Regular Meeting was held at The American Legion. Fellow Lion's in attendance Lion President Laura, Mary, Wally, Flo, Peggy, Tony, Leo, Lindley, Marissa, Dalia, Chuck



Mercedes Lions' News

Sept. 20, 2025 - Adopt A Highway Trash Pick Up: 2-mile stretch - 13 bags of trash, 10 tires, 1 mattress, 1 box spring. We appreciate your community service, fellow Lions. Special "THANKS" to Lion President Laura, Chuck, Wally, Mary, Tony, Flo, Connie and Peggy for their environmental efforts. #enviroment



Sept. 27, 2025 - TNB Foundation Stride for Scholars, our club donated \$250.00 for this event and Lion Peggy & Adrian participated in the 5k



Mercedes Lions' News

For the month of September, we had two volunteers at Mercedes Basketsful, Lion Mary, and Lion Tony providing 22 hours of service. Thank you for all you do!
#hunger



*******Mentioned Weeks of Service*******

- Mental Health & Well Being 10/04/2025 -10/12/2025
- Hunger 01/03/2026 - 01/11/2026
- Environment 04/18/2025 - 04/26/2026

Upcoming dates to remember:

Oct 1, 2025 - Regular & Board Meeting @ The American Legion 6:30 pm
Oct 11, 2025 - Queen City Festival (Community Event)
Oct. 15, 2025 - Regular Meeting
Oct 18, 2025 - We will host the 2nd District Cabinet Meeting to be held at the Frances Cooper Event Center located at The Rio Grande Valley Showgrounds
Oct. 30, 2025 - Nightmare on Ohio St 6-9pm

Mercedes Lions' News



October 2025 - Month in Review

October 1, 2025 - Regular & Board Meeting was held @ The American Legion. Fellow Lion's in attendance Lion President Laura, Oswaldo, Tony, Lindley, Marissa, Ethan, Dalia, Andy, Mary, Flo, Connie, Wally and Peggy.



October 11, 2025 - Queen City Marching Festival, no pic available however we would like to extend a great big "Thank You" for all Lions that participated and especially to our future Lions Lalo and his wife Ida. Mr. McKinney is very grateful to have our club's assistance.



Mercedes Lions' News

October 15, 2025 - Regular Meeting was held @ The American Legion. Fellow Lion's in attendance Lion President Laura, Tony, Peggy, Andy, Dalia, Flo, Marissa, Ethan, Belinda, Leo, Lindley, Jesse, Chuck, Connie, Wally, Mary and future Lions Lalo and his wife Ida. We have prepared 100 goodie bags for our upcoming District Cabinet Meeting to be held on Saturday Oct. 18, 2025



October 18, 2025 - #lions for mental health

We held a Quilt Raffle at our 2nd District Cabinet Meeting, all proceeds from the ticket sales 1/A/O \$144.00 were donated to The Rainbow Room so that they can purchase items from their wish list as needed.



Mercedes Lions' News

October 18, 2025 - #lions for mental health

We asked our attending clubs at the 2nd District Cabinet Meeting to participate in bringing in items for The Rainbow Room / Service Project. We had a positive turnout, and we are eternally grateful. This organization is near and dear to our hearts as we have recently acquired our newest member, Lion Connie. We are so proud of you, and we thank you for being a Guest Speaker that afternoon.



October 18, 2025 – 2nd District Cabinet Meeting held @ The Frances Cooper Center / RGVLS Grounds – 22 Clubs in attendance for a whopping total of 100 Lions
Oh, my goodness we were all so nervous about this day coming but at the end of the day it was truly a "SUCCESS"

Huge THANK YOU for all fellow lions and future Lions Lalo and his wife Ida, everyone was on point, efficient and made everyone feel WELCOME, our guests complimented the delicious food from El Fenix / Lion Dalia and The Frances Cooper Event Center / Luis Saldana



Mercedes Lions' News



October 18, 2025 - #hunger We held a Quilt Raffle at our 2nd District Cabinet Meeting, all proceeds from the ticket sales I/A/O \$117.00 were donated to Mercedes Basketsful so that they can purchase items for the pantry



Mercedes Lions' News

October 27, 2025 - Lion President Laura, Mary and Peggy attended District 2A-3, Zone 2C Meeting @ Tony's Grill / Tierra Santa 1901 Club de Amistad in Weslaco, TX
Our Zone Chair is Lion Jesse Rivera; meeting was very well attended and very informative.



October 30, 2025 - A huge salute and Thanks to all the Legion Family members and Lions Club members for helping and taking charge of our Halloween candy distribution. It was great to see everyone working together and having fun! The kids truly appreciated it



- **Odem Area Lions Club**

- Lions started their 8th Annual Holiday Evergreens Sale of beautiful Pacific, Northwest evergreens. Proceeds will fund the club's community service projects. Order online at www.sherwoodfundraiser.com/odemarealionsclub. Out of the area can order from the Direct Delivery items while those around Odem can get local delivery by the Odem Area Lions. Your support will be greatly appreciated.
- Lions have conducted vision and hearing screening for Incarnate Word Academy Montessori & Elementary School in Corpus Christi, Agua Dulce ISD, Odem Junior High School (hearing only), St. Patrick Catholic School and West Oso JFK Elementary and West Oso Elementary School in Corpus Christi, Orange Grove Primary School in Orange Grove and Odem Elementary School.. (We enjoyed "Tacky Tourist" day at West Oso JFK Elementary School! Pictured below. The teachers and staff were all having fun with it!)



- Lions created "Mindful Moments Bags" for 49 high school teachers and delivered them on October 8. Items in the bag included a journal and pen, chocolate, tea, stress ball, air freshener, positive statement cards, among other things, and a supportive note from our club.



- Lions utilized Facebook to promote daily mental health and well-being strategies. The plan followed is provided for your information.

LCI Mental Health & Well-being Week

Facebook Posting Plan for Odem Lions Club

October 4–12, 2025

Daily Mental Health Tips

Sat, Oct 4 (Kickoff):

"This week is Lions Mental Health & Well-being Week! Every day, we'll share a simple way to care for your mind. #LionsCares #OdemStrong"

Sun, Oct 5 (Gratitude):

"Write down 3 things you're grateful for today. Gratitude helps train your brain to notice the good. #LionsCares #MentalHealthMatters"

Mon, Oct 6 (Breathing):

"Try the 4-7-8 breathing exercise: Inhale 4, Hold 7, Exhale 8. Repeat 3 times to calm stress. #LionsServe #MindfulMoments"

Tue, Oct 7 (Connection):

"Check in on a friend today. A simple text or call can make a big difference. #YouAreNotAlone #OdemStrong"

Wed, Oct 8 (Movement):

“Take a 10-minute walk outside. Moving your body lifts your mood and clears your mind. #LionsCares #WellbeingWeek”

Thu, Oct 9 (Digital Pause):

“Unplug for 30 minutes. Put away the phone, breathe, reflect, or just be still. #MentalHealthAwareness #LionsServe”

Fri, Oct 10 (World Mental Health Day):

“Today is **World Mental Health Day** Remember: Taking care of your mind is just as important as taking care of your body. #WorldMentalHealthDay #LionsCares”

Sat, Oct 11 (Kindness):

“Spread kindness today. A smile, a thank-you, or a kind note can brighten someone’s whole week. #KindnessMatters #OdemStrong”

Sun, Oct 12 (Wrap-Up):

“As we close out Mental Health & Well-being Week, remember: caring for yourself is not selfish — it’s necessary. Odem Lions are proud to stand with our community. #LionsServe #MentalHealthWeek”

Special Posts

Mindful Moments Bags (Teacher Delivery – Target Oct 6 or 7):

“Teachers give so much of themselves every day. This week, Odem Lions delivered 49 Mindful Moments Bags to the Odem High School Teacher’s Lounge — filled with stress-relief goodies and encouragement. Thank you, teachers, for all you do! #LionsCares #OdemStrong #ThankATeacher”

Community Event Promo (share twice – early & end of week):

“Mark your calendars! The Odem Church of Christ is hosting a free **Mental Health Seminar** on Oct 25–26. Join in learning tools to navigate thought distortions, stress, and anxiety. See flyer for details. #CommunityStrong #MentalHealthAwareness”

- To support a mental health seminar being held at the Church of Christ in Odem on Saturday, October 25 & 26, Lion Frank conducted a Facebook Live interview with the Pastor of the church, Lion Michael Jimenez. This was another service project in consideration of the LCI Mental Health and Well-being service initiative.
- Lions utilized Facebook to promote White Cane Safety Day on Friday, October 17th.

- Lions utilized Facebook to promote the opening of the TLC 2026 Camp Staff application period.
- Odem Dairy Queen provided a “Profit Share Night” opportunity for the Odem Area Lions Club on September 25th, raising \$400 for the club’s community service projects fund.
- Lions utilized Facebook to promote Lions Clubs International Foundation by sharing LCIF Facebook posts and videos.
- Lions donated food to support the Odem Fellowship Food Pantry during the months of August, September and October, and made donations of personal hygiene products to the Communities in Schools program at Odem High School.
- Peace Poster Contest was held at Odem Junior High School in September and October with the awards ceremony held on Tuesday, October 28th. Awards were given for 1st Place (\$100), 2nd Place (\$60), 3rd Place (\$40) and Honorable Mention (\$20). District Governor Lynde Todd attended the ceremony and addressed the students and families, as part of the ceremony.



- **Portland Area Lions Club**

- Participates in the Portland Market Days each month and the visibility is growing interest within the community. Added a new member from this activity!

Rio Grande City Lions Club

Active in the Community



(Top Row- Fall Festival, Lions Club volunteering, Vision screening;
Bottom Row- Market Days, Screenings at elementary, Alzheimer's Awareness Event)

The Rio Grande City Lions Club has been staying active this year, by sending a donation to Kerr County flood victims, by having a bake sale during Market Days, and continuing with events into October. Members provided vision screenings at local elementary schools, joined the 4th Annual Alzheimer's Awareness Walk, and had a game booth with prizes at the Starr County Nursing and Transitional Care Fall Festival for residents and guests. The club continues its eyeglass recycling campaign with the help of local businesses, so far since the summer we have collected over 350 pairs of glasses. Rio Grande City Lions Club is keeping up with the spirit of Lionism.

“We Serve”



FUNDS DONATED:

\$150.00

Rotary Club of Weslaco
Tee Box Sponsor for Annual
Charity Golf Tournament held
in partnership with Knapp
Medical Center

\$150.00

Rainbow Room
Monetary Donation delivered
at the 2nd District Cabinet
Meeting during Lions
International Week of Service:
Mental Health & Well-Being

\$300.00

Valley Nature Center
Sponsorship for
2026 Summer Camp

\$100.00

Delta Area Lions Club
New Club Support



WESLACO LIONS CLUB

The Weslaco Lions Club has continued their Lions year with regular meetings and participation in Lions events throughout the District, as well as supporting organizations in the community through donations. Highlights include:

- Donating eyeglasses to the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center:
 - A total of 196 pairs of glasses were sorted by members at a club meeting and mailed to TLERC.
- Completed a park cleanup at Harlon Block Park.
- Attended the Delta Area Lions Club Charter Celebration in Elsa, TX.
- Partnered with the International Lions Club to complete a cleanup at the Weslaco City Cemetery.
- Attended the 2nd District Cabinet Meeting in Mercedes hosted by the Mercedes Lions Club.

The Club's ongoing service projects include collecting can tabs (Ronald McDonald House Charities) and recycling plastic caps (to benefit children in need of medical treatments in Nuevo Progreso). We are happy to accept donations from other clubs at 612 S. Texas Blvd., Weslaco, TX 78596. We also continue to recycle cardboard, paper and plastic.

Our club would also like to extend a congratulations to Lion Marty Masso who was honored as Man of the Year by the Weslaco Area Chamber of Commerce.

We look forward to our upcoming holiday season projects and we will continue to work towards a productive year of service in our community locally, statewide and around the globe.



Congratulations

WESLACO LIONS CLUB

We want to thank our membership for doing the hard work and demonstrating their commitment to service, leadership and expanding the reach of Lionism during the 2024-2025 Lions year. We are honored to have been one of two clubs in District 2-A3 to receive the Club Excellence Award.

We Serve!

A Message from the 1st Vice District Governor -

1VDG Cody Colchado

From October 24–26, **Blind Fest** was held at South Padre Island, sponsored by **The Visionaires, The National Federation of the Blind, and The Blind Anglers**. The event welcomed **81 visually impaired and blind participants** for a weekend filled with fun, learning, and community.

A wide variety of activities took place throughout the weekend, including **casino night, fishing, sandcastle building, water yoga, dolphin watching, horseback riding, bingo, a white cane walk**, and several **arts and crafts** sessions such as painting on wood and rocks, making stress balls, creating greeting cards, and designing jewelry. Participants also enjoyed an **art exhibit** and a **talent night**, and many were entered into a drawing to win **Meta glasses**.

It was inspiring to see so many individuals connecting and sharing experiences with others who understood their journeys.

During the festival, the **mayor of South Padre Island** read a **proclamation for White Cane Awareness Day**, held at **Gravity Park**. **Lion Cody** and his family attended, helped and participated with some of the activities. **Lion Jolee**, Cody's wife, assisted participants in making greeting cards, while **Lion Tabatha** helped with crafts and guided blind participants throughout the event.



A Message from the 2nd Vice District Governor

2VDG William Castillo

Zone Chairpersons Reports

Zone Chairperson Scott Marion met with the Odem Area Lions Club on Monday, September 15th and shared district information which was very meaningful and well received.

Alert Team News

Past District Governor (PDG) Joe Trevino, joebtrevino1@gmail.com, 956-607-6653

Diabetes News

IPDG Dr. Joe Hinojosa, jhinojosa263@yahoo.com, 956-579-4214 & Lion Joy Arnold, joybarnold1@msn.com, 956-425-2782

Hello, District 2-A3 Lions,

I am sending a link to the International Diabetes Federation website, which contains a wealth of information. IDF is celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2025, and November 14 is World Diabetes Day. I hope that the information on this site about diabetic neuropathy and other vital topics is helpful for you on your wellness journey and as you serve as a Lion.

<https://idf.org/>

I am happy to report that some members of my club have lost significant weight and improved their A1c measures, some even achieving remission of their diabetes.

Please contact me if I can help you.

We serve,
Lion Joy Arnold
District 2-A 3 Diabetes Awareness Chairperson
Charter member, Harlingen Amigas Lions Club

Leader Dogs for the Blind News

Lion Tabitha Colchado, tabithaco111@gmail.com, 956-289-0875

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) News

Past District Governor (PDG) Jesus "Jessie" Rodriguez, rodrije2@aol.com, 956-624-8042

100% District Goal	100% District Actual	Increase Club Participation Goal	Increase Club Participation Actual
\$36,060.00	\$5,140.00	47 Clubs (100%)	15 Clubs (31.91%)

Lions Eye Bank of Texas (LEBT) News

North – Vacant

South – Lion Abel Medina, amedina@parker-logistics.com, 956-459-4223

Opportunities for Youth Contests News

PDG Juan Lopez, dg2a3lions@gmail.com, 956-463-2959

2026 MD-2 Opportunities for Youth (OFY) Contests

- **Diabetes Awareness Essay Contest:** "Managing Diabetes and the Emotional Impact on Adolescents"
- **Drug Awareness Speech Contest –** "The Impact of Weight Loss Drugs on Adolescents"
- **Outstanding Youth Award Contest –** "Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Its Impact on Education"

The 2026 Opportunities for Youth (OFY) Contests information and forms are now available at the Texas Lions website. It is time to share this information with your local schools and to be a club sponsor.

Peace Poster Contest News

Lion Marisol Nunez, marisoljnunez@gmail.com, 956-463-2959

This year's theme is "Together As One".

Clubs must submit their winning entry to the District Governor by November 15th. Following the district competition, the District Governor will submit the winning entry to the next level by December 1st.

For additional Information on the contest - <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-approach/youth/peace-poster>.

Texas Lions Camp (TLC) News

North – Past District Governor (PDG) David Christopher, dc1819dg@gmail.com, 361-522-7550
& South – Lion Chris Hughston, chris@hiains.net, 956-454-4449

The application period for 2026 Camp Staff is open. Apply at www.lionscamp.com.

Registration for TLC Workdays Open & 2026 Camp Details Coming Soon

Registration for the 2026 Texas Lions Camp Workdays is now open. Lions Clubs are encouraged to attend and bring families and potential members to experience the fun and comradery of preparing TLC for summer camp. Works days are scheduled for:

- Saturday, March 7
- Saturday, March 28 (to avoid Easter)
- Saturday, May 2

As usual, TLC will provide breakfast and lunch each Saturday, and free, on-site accommodations in the bunkhouses will be available (although you need to bring your own linens/pillows, etc.).

TLC will provide essential materials and equipment for the work projects. Participants are encouraged to bring personal protection gear, such as gloves and eye/hearing protection, plus any tools requested by the group coordinator.

Group coordinators should register their entire group online and indicate an estimated number of participants (including youth) so that meals and shirts can be ordered. Groups with youth must submit parental approvals, plus signed forms for minors' liability release and permission to treat.

For more information about Workdays, contact Ken Folsom, Director of Maintenance, at 830/896-8500. Register online at www.lionscamp.com – under Get Involved!

The TLC Executive Committee will be reviewing updated plans for the 2026 summer camp schedule during its Nov. 7 meeting. New housing strategies are being considered, with safety, comfort and fun-filled camper experiences being top priorities. Session dates and registration details will be announced soon.

Camp dates, application deadlines and housing arrangements will be shared soon at <https://www.lionscamp.com> and on TLC's official social media channels. Lions, let's gear up to recruit campers. Make your list of target audiences – including special education teachers, school nurses, pediatricians, children's hospitals, etc. Be sure you have the camp literature you need – brochures, maps, flyers, etc. Let's be ready to spotlight the camper opportunities available at Texas Lions Camp in summer 2026 as soon as details are released!

By Lion Ann Ward
2025-26 Chair, Texas Lions Camp Board

The McAllen Palm City Lions Club in Action for Texas Lions Camp

Lion Bob Jojola and Lion Jerry Enman were up Before the sun having coffee on the porch of Bunkhouse 1 preparing for a spring workday, when they noticed something simple but important: the benches in front of Bunkhouse 1 could use a little more beauty and comfort. The McAllen Palm City Lions Club sprang into action.

When they returned home, they didn't just talk about it—they acted. With the help of Home Depot, who donated the treated lumber, Lion Bob Jojola built each bench with care, while the club came together to stain and finish them.

On Saturday, Lion Bob and Lion Jerry woke in the dark, drove five hours from the Rio Grande Valley, and delivered those benches to the porch of Bunkhouse 1.

That's Lions in action. That's service with heart. And that's the kind of love that transforms Texas Lions Camp for the children and families we serve.

Thank you, McAllen Palm City Lions Club, for showing what it means to serve!

Lions everywhere: the story of Texas Lions Camp is still being written—and you hold the pen. Dream boldly. Serve sacrificially. Step into the story that will echo in the lives of children and families for generations to come.



Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center News



TEXAS LIONS EYEGLASS RECYCLING CENTER

REPORT

Aug 1st to 31st, 2025
September 1 to 30, 2025
Prepared October 11, 2025

Greetings Council Chair Kathy Summers, Governors and VDGs,

We need Directors from Districts 2A2, 2S1, 2S2, and 2S3 to complete our Board.

09.13.2025 Our in-person at TLERC in Midland was very successful! We held a Board meeting, provided Director training, and painted the walls of the large lobby. One Director mowed our large yard. It was a huge accomplishment! Todd, our warehouse manager is painting the door frames when time allows.

09.13.2025 Lion Kelly Evans Construction donated labor and building supplies to refurbish the deck from the warehouse to the trailer, and paved our loading dock ramp. THANK YOU!!!

10.1.2025 I am ecstatic to launch a pilot program at Southwest University at El Paso. The faculty and Dean approved the medical ophthalmic assistant students to read/neutralize glasses for TLERC. I took a box of sorted single vision, washed glasses, and taught them how to read, determine if within tolerances, write the prescription, and bag the glasses. 6 students practiced for 1.5 hours. The students will receive extra credit and community service hours and be able to practice with our glasses to increase their skills. This is a win-win-win collaboration for the school, students a TLERC. Once the glasses are read, they are ready to be sent on medical Missions throughout the world. The gift of sight is a beautiful thing. We are Knights of the Blind!

10.10. 2025 Button down shirts with logos have been ordered for TLERC Directors to wear while providing TLERC presentations to Clubs and Districts.

We have obtained one quote to spray polyurethane foam over our existing metal roof, remove skylights and install metal, repair trailer leak, remove fluorescent bulbs and install LED lights in the ceiling of the warehouse. We have requested 2 more bids for the work. A leak was found around a trailer door when we were there on September 13 which will be repaired by the roofer at the same time as the warehouse roof.

An electrician came on 10.09.2025 to give a bid on installing the new camera system and check ceiling fan.

New part time employee Jana Jobe was hired and trained Oct 4, 2025! Welcome Jana!

See attached Awards order form to order a "Helen Keller" Award to present to someone in your District. I would like to thank the Governors and Clubs who support TLERC through Governors Charities and our Awards Program.

Please plan on visiting TLERC before, during or after the Texas State Convention to be held in Odessa, Tx in May 2026. Please request tours at a time that is convenient for you. Plan time to help sort!

I am excited to be the Chairman of the Board. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, requests, or concerns. Lion Susan Driscoll 915-539-6834 cell, sue_billdriscoll@earthlink.net.

August 2025:

- 106 Volunteers
- 309.5 Volunteer hours
- 1 AARP trainee/employee (paid by AARP) 20 hours of sorting glasses at TLERC
- 2 AARP trainee/employee (paid by AARP) 40 hours of sorting glasses at Midland Senior Center

Shipped and Prepared to Ship:

- 08-08-25 216 lbs. Designer frames. 8 more boxes are ready to ship, weighing 208 lbs.
- 08-07-25 13,200 lbs. Respecs (24 pallets)
- 8-25-25 to 9-3-25 950 lbs. Delivered to Midland Senior Center by Midland Lions
- 08-25-25 PDG Halsey of Oklahoma delivered 1,437 lbs. of glasses

August Mission Requests Received:

- 08-06-25 To: San Pablo, Laguna, Philippines
- Org. Glendale Korean Adventist Medical Mission Team
- 08-08-25 To: Arequipa, Peru
- Org: D. Roddy
- 08-12-25 To: Homeless missions Alvarado, Cleburne, Fort Worth
- Org:
- 08-18-25 To: San Antonio, Bexar

Org: San Antonio Bexar Necessities Lions Foundation

August Missions Shipped Out:

- 08-11-25 To: Texas Prisons, Laredo Rana Clinic
Org. Sylvian Ung
Shipping Cost \$60.43 Pairs -700, 41.1 lbs
- 08-12-25 To: Namayingo, Uganda
Org. Mercy of God Mission
Shipping cost \$46.27 Pairs-391, 27.65lbs
- 08-13-25 To: Arequipa, Peru
Org. Denise Reddy, O.D.
Shipping Cost \$36.10 Pairs 334, 24.6 lbs
- 08-21-25 To: San Antonio, Bexar
Org: San Antonio Bexar Necessities Lions Foundation
Shipping Cost \$17.22 Pairs 60, 4.35lbs
- 08-25-25 To: PID Mike Butler
Org: PID Mike Butler
Shipping Cost free USPS Pairs 6
- 8-28-25 To: San Pablo, Laguna, Philippines
Org. Glendale Korean Adventist Medical Mission Team
Shipping Cost \$264.65 Pairs 1971, 138.2 lbs

September 2025:

- 92 Volunteers
- 315.75 Volunteer hours
- 1 AARP trainee/employee (paid by AARP) 20 hours of sorting glasses at TLERC
- 2 AARP trainee/employee (paid by AARP) 40 hours of sorting glasses at Midland Senior Center
- 09.22.2025 Received from Walmart: 9 Pallets: 5,220 lbs.
- 09.22.2025 PDG Halsey of Oklahoma delivered 1,123 lbs. of sorted glasses
- Prepared 6 pallets for RESPECS 3,300 Lbs.
- TLERC Sorted 2,377 lbs. total, by all employees and volunteers.

September Mission Requests Received:

09-30-25 To: San Antonio, Texas

Org. Corazon Clinic / Travis Park Church

September Missions Shipped out:

09-11-25 To: Rural areas in Mzuzu, Malawi SE Africa

Org. Agape Evangelical Ministries, Richardson, Texas

Shipping Cost \$20.94 Pairs -96, 7.35 lbs.

09-11-25 To: Alvarado, Cleburne, and Ft Worth, Texas

Org. Homeless Missions

Shipping cost \$23.98 Pairs-250, 13.2 lbs

09-18-25 To: Potrerillos, Honduras

Org. FUMC Lake Arthur, Louisiana

Shipping Cost \$54.53 Pairs 300, 29.55 lbs

09-25-25 To: Oko Town, Anambra State Nigeria

Org: ADA OKO USA INC

Shipping Cost \$32.54 Pairs 300, 17.7 lbs.

Ongoing Projects at TLERC:

- DG Dr. Aaron Urias is working on setting up a camera system for the building.
- June 16, 2025 Dr. Geraldo Escobedo, Ophthalmologist in Midland, 2A1, will begin to neutralize/read glasses for TLERC. Midland Lions transport washed, sorted, glasses to and from his office.
- Midland Senior Citizens Center continue to be active and participating in the eyeglass processing procedure. The Senior Citizens Center has 2 AARP paid trainees that sort glasses for TLERC. **Midland Lions transport glasses to and from the Senior Citizens Center almost DAILY.**

- AARP sponsors a +55 senior citizen to work at the TLERC facility focusing on eyeglass processing. There is one AARP employee reporting for work five days a week, 20 hours per week, paid by AARP.
- Andrews County Prison sorts glasses for TLERC. Andrews Lions transport the glasses to the prison and back to TLERC on a monthly basis. 43 miles one way.
- Lion DG Dr. Aaron Urias, OD, 2-T3, is reading (neutralizing) glasses in his office when not seeing patients.
- TLERC Directors donate many hours of volunteer time regarding administrative duties, provided presentations about TLERC, and conducting eyeglass sorting classes at Club and District meetings.
- Imagine Eyewear in Midland is reading/neutralizing glasses for TLERC
- Chick-fil-e donates empty boxes to TLERC that we use for shipping. Midland Lions pick up the boxes at Chick-fil-e locations about once per month (every night for one week).
- PDG Frank Heslin, 2T3 Monahans, volunteers at TLERC most Thursdays
- Midland Lions sort at TLERC on Tuesday morning, Friday morning, 1st Saturday mornings, and 3rd Monday evenings
- Community Service Workers come on a routine basis to help sort glasses
- We have collection boxes for sale for \$5.
- Mail glasses via USPS to TLERC for **FREE!!!** Instructions are on our website, www.tlxerc.org, forms page
- We have a trailer with 4 bedrooms with bunkbeds, 4 bathrooms with a shower, full kitchen, dining table for **volunteers**. Sheets, towels and pillows are provided. Call TLERC office for reservations. **No charge.** Bring your own food or eat out. Coffee provided. We ask that you Wash sheets and towels in washer and dryer in the trailer and clean any mess you make to prepare for the next person. We do not have a maid.

Governors & VDG:

- Appoint TLERC Directors as need arises
- Increase Governor Charities funds for TLERC
- Encourage Clubs to sort glasses prior to mailing or delivering glasses. Sorting instructions are on our website
- Please provide a table for a TLERC display at your District Meetings
- Ask your TLERC Director for a 5-minute verbal report at your District Meetings
- Request Student and Church groups to volunteer to sort at TLERC in Midland
- Ask Directors for brochures and/or download from our website

I am grateful to all the Lions, Staff, and Volunteers who make

TLERC a Leading Eyeglass Recycling Center in the World. Our Lions are our most valuable asset!!!

Respectfully submitted,

Lion Susan Driscoll
 Chairman of the Board
 TLERC
 (915) 539-6834 cell
Sue_billdriscoll@earthlink.net

www.tlxerc.org

<https://www.facebook.com/TXTLERC>

Free Postage to Mail Eyeglasses to the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center

The USPS Publication 347 dated October 2015 spells out how to mail glasses for recycling to the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center in Midland, Texas. The publication states that individuals and non-commercial organizations which serve eligible people (i.e., those who require glasses) qualify. No advertising is allowed.

The box or envelope must not be sealed. The boxes must have the words "FREE MATER FOR THE BLIND OR THE HANDICAPPED" in the upper right corner of the address side of the envelope or parcel where postage is normally placed. The words may be printed, rubber stamped or handwritten. (See the form at the end of this newsletter.)

The mail is not considered a specific class of mail. If you wish to insure the item, you may pay the required insurance fee. Boxes up to the size of a "Banker's" box or the size of the box that comes with 10 reams of paper are accepted.

Texas Lions Foundation (TLF) News

Past District Governor (PDG) Laura Clark, laura.talbert2@gmail.com, 956-453-5156

District 2-A3 Lions, on behalf of the Texas Lions Foundation, thank you to all clubs who have donated funds this Lions year through their Governor's Goals and direct donations.

I hope that every Club and Lions Member would consider supporting TLF as we progress through this Lions year. This can still be done through your Governor's Goals donations, as well as through the purchase of a TLF Award (\$125.00) or a TLF Fellow (\$500.00). If you are interested in supporting TLF as an individual you can also join the Cornerstone Club with an annual donation of \$100.00 that will be drawn monthly from your bank account.

Every dollar given is a dollar that goes to ensuring that TLF can respond to our fellow Texans in times of need and when expanding the impact that Lions have in their communities through their humanitarian efforts.

Have questions? Please feel free to contact me.

PDG Laura Jane Clark
laura.talbert2@gmail.com - 956-453-5156



The Lions of Texas have the great honor of hosting the Lions of the WORLD at the 2030 Lions International Convention in San Antonio, Texas.

This will be a great event and preparations have already begun. Our first step is to raise the funds necessary to execute a Lions International Convention that is as big as Texas! Attached to the newsletter you will find order forms for our Sponsor Club Banner Patch Set and our Sponsorship Pin Sets.

As we get closer to 2030, you will hear more updates from our Host Committee and we hope that you will plan to join us during the event as a volunteer to welcome the Lions from around the world to our great state.

Have questions? Don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,
PDG Laura Jane Clark
laura.talbert2@gmail.com - 956-453-5156
2030 Host Committee Co-Chair



We cannot wait to welcome Lions from around the globe to the history, culture and energy that is San Antonio and to share the great Texas Lions spirit. We Serve!



Texas Lions Museum News

Past District Governor (PDG) Joe Ponce, lionponce1956@yahoo.com, 956-266-4190

Vision & Hearing Screening News

Past District Governor (PDG) Cesar Montelongo, montelongocesar@sbcglobal.net, 956-460-7801

World Services for the Blind News

Lion Marion "Mari Jo" Wells, marijwells@yahoo.com, 281-785-9314

The Tap that Echoed – A Nice Short Story to Promote White Cane Day

Nick was twelve when he first held a white cane. At first, it felt heavy, not because of its weight, but because of what it symbolized. A world that often saw his blindness before it saw his dreams. The first steps were slow, hesitant. Each tap of the cane was filled with questions (i.e. Will they accept me?) but with time, the cane became his strength. It whispered back; you are free, you are capable, you are not alone. One day, a group of Lions visited his school. They listened to his story, walked beside him, and made sure the paths around the community were safer. They organized awareness campaigns, provided assistive tools, and above all, they gave him what no object could ever give; dignity. "Before people noticed only my cane", Nick said softly. "Now they notice me". His words stayed with the Lions. Because the white cane is not just a stick. It is a symbol of independence, courage, and the right to live fully. And, Lions are there to make sure that the symbol is honored everywhere.

A Message for Lions:

On this year's White Cane Day, celebrated on October 14 of each year since 1964, let us be reminded that every tap of the cane is a call to action. A call for inclusion, safety, and respect. As Lions, we are not just witnesses to that call. We are the ones who answer it.

Upcoming District Events

- November Zone Meetings
- January 24 3rd Cabinet Meeting (Mid-Winter Conference), Harlingen

District Financial News & Social Media Information

Cabinet Treasurer – PDG Laura Clark, Laura.talbert2@gmail.com, 956-453-5156

If your Club has not yet paid their invoices for Dues to the District/State/Camp and/or Lions International, please do so as soon as possible. Reminder invoices will be sent to all Club President/Secretary/Treasurer Officers via e-mail. If you are unsure about your Club's status, please contact the District Treasurer immediately.

Checks for MD-2 and 2-A3 should be made payable to "District 2-A3" and should be drawn from Club's administrative account.

Checks for TLC (Texas Lions Camp) should be made payable to "District 2-A3" or "Texas Lions Camp" and, based upon the Club's policies, be drawn from either the Club's charity or administrative account.

Each Club was also provided with a memo covering the 2025-2026 Governor's Goals and the total due for 100% participation. Please note that this is not an invoice and all Governor's Goals donations are voluntary and at the discretion of your individual club. These charities have been selected by District Governor Lynde Todd, and your participation would be greatly appreciated. This is a one-time donation from your club, and ONE check should be made payable to DISTRICT 2-A3 for the donation total. If not paying 100% charities list, please provide a list of the funds to credit on a separate piece of paper. Clubs that donate to all designated funds will be recognized as a 100% Club.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Also, remember to send your service activities photos to me for publication on the district Facebook page and website.

Newsletter

Cabinet Secretary & Newsletter Editor – Lion Joan McLaughan, lionjoanm@gmail.com, 361-876-8076

The district 2-A3 newsletter will be distributed via email in September, November, February, April, and June. Information for the newsletter must be submitted to the attention of Lion Joan at lionjoanm@gmail.com.

Submittal deadlines are as follows:

- **January 25** – February 1st issue (November & December 2025 & January 2026)
- **March 25** – April 1st issue (February & March 2026)
- **May 25** – June 1st issue (April & May 2026)
- **To be determined** – July issue (June 2026 & Year End Results)

Items may be submitted at any time during the period however items received after the 25th of the month prior to distribution will be held for the next issue.

**LABEL FOR MAILING EYEGLASSES TO THE TEXAS LIONS
EYEGLASS RECYCLING CENTER IN MIDLAND, TEXAS**

**FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND
OR HANDICAPPED**

FROM: _____

TO: **Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling
Center**

2550 Flynt Avenue

Midland, Texas 79701



LCICON 2030 San Antonio Commemorative Pin Set

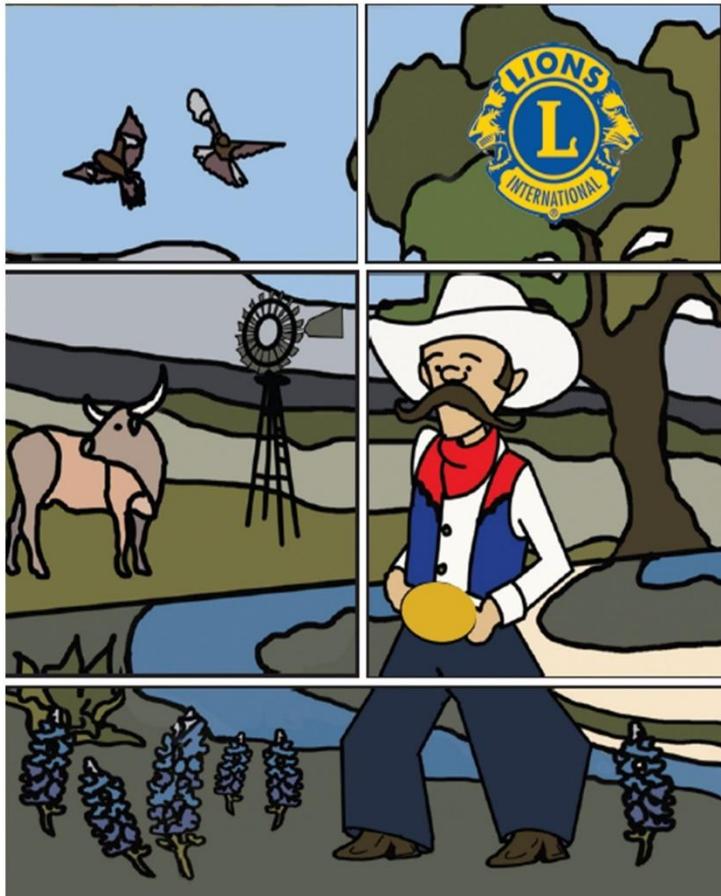
Pre-Order Form



TEXAS Pin Set	QTY _____	X	\$100.00	= _____
"T" Pin (1 of 5)	QTY _____	X	\$25.00	= _____
"E" Pin (2 of 5)	QTY _____	X	\$25.00	= _____
"X" Pin (3 of 5)	QTY _____	X	\$25.00	= _____
"A" Pin (4 of 5)	QTY _____	X	\$25.00	= _____
"S" Pin (5 of 5)	QTY _____	X	\$25.00	= _____
SHIPPING (YES OR NO)			\$5.00	_____
TOTAL _____				

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY / ST / ZIP _____
EMAIL _____
PHONE # _____

Return a digital image of the completed form to lcicon2030sanantonio@gmail.com



Proud Club Sponsor of
LCICON 2030



LCICON 2030 San Antonio MD2 Lions Club Sponsorship Form

Cowboy Patch Set	\$1,000.00	<input type="text"/>	
Patch 1 of 5	\$250.00	<input type="text"/>	
Patch 2 of 5	\$250.00	<input type="text"/>	
Patch 3 of 5	\$250.00	<input type="text"/>	
Patch 4 of 5	\$250.00	<input type="text"/>	
Patch 5 of 5	\$250.00	<input type="text"/>	
SHIPPING (YES OR NO)		\$5.00	
		<input type="text"/>	
		TOTAL	<input type="text"/>

CLUB NAME

CLUB #

DISTRICT

ADDRESS

CITY / ST / ZIP

EMAIL

PHONE #

Return a digital image of the completed form to lcicon2030sanantonio@gmail.com

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SHARED BY THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Spotlight on Texas LEOs Clubs

This is an email I sent to our MD2 Leo advisors, district advisors, and Leo officers. Thank you for continuing to support the Leos of Texas. Good news is that MD2-S5 has a brand new club at Columbus High School. They just received their charter and have 45 members!

Next Leo Council meeting: Will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn Temple Medical Center on November 8, 9 a.m. We would love to have you and your Leos join us.. Registration and more information can be found here.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc-h1CX9AYZWkXFutJLSup4cfbV0I2OUaPFrnNQQwLRUj_CFg/viewform?usp=sharing&ouid=112390583740022193251

Leo News - our newest Leo Club! We welcome the Leo Club of Columbus High School, has just received their charter approval with 45 new members. Their Lions Club really has made a huge effort to get this going, so be sure and thank them! They are in MD2-S5.

Leo Portal Training: We again offer Lion Portal training focused on Leo entries. Our last session was really good with lots of questions from Leo Advisors. More to come about the training and with a date in mid November. I love my team of 3 - MD2-S2 Leo Advisors Nancy Chesbro and Sheryl Birch, and me from S3.

Leo October Membership Growth Award

Leo club advisors may present the Leo Membership Growth Award to any Leo who recruits three or more new members during the month of October. To obtain this award, advisors must submit the nomination form by November 15. [LEARN MORE](#) ▶

Report Your Leos and Leo Officers

Encourage the Leo advisors in your area to report their Leos and Leo officers today. Reporting is the first step for strong communication and strong clubs. [GET STARTED](#) ▶ It is also important to delegate this to your other advisors and Leo Club president or secretary to help out.

I am excited to be attending the [Faculty Development Institute](#) in a couple of weeks. I am hoping for a refresher course from all the education classes I attended many years ago. I'll get back to you when I return from a very nice and cool Colorado. Maybe you want to apply for next year's FDI; applications are made before June each year.

Make it a great day!

Nancy

--

Lion Nancy Smith, M.Ed.
MD2 (Texas) State LEO Council Chair 2023-2026
San Marcos Academy LEO Club Sponsor
319 White Willow Dr.
San Marcos, TX 78666
md2.leos@gmail.com
nancysmith8490@gmail.com



512-557-7740

SHARED BY THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Thank you Note to Marisol Nunez, Peace Poster Chairperson

From: Aurelio Villarreal <b4fq@sbcglobal.net>
To: Lynde Todd <lionlynde2526@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2025 at 06:47:08 AM CDT
Subject: Re: Peace Poster Contest

This lady has been a lot of help. I cannot thank her enough.

PDG Aurelio Villarreal