



Lions District 2-A3

Newsletter

August 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**

william@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



Happy September!! September is a month filled with various holidays, (Labor Day, Rosh Hashanah, Grandparents Day, Constitution Day, International Day of Peace, and the Autumnal Equinox) cultural events, and significant observances marking the transition from summer to autumn in the northern hemisphere. It is also the month the first District 2A3 newsletter is being sent! Thank you, Lion Joan McKaughan, for putting it together and to all the members who have submitted articles. A newsletter is only good to the people who read it. Lions have so much good going on we need to put it out for others to know.

Our first cabinet meeting was such a success, both in attendance and in quality. Thank you, Premont Lions Club, for the great Governors social and for the wonderful meeting place and making us all feel so welcome. Thank

you, Lions, for making the school supply drive for the Premont ISD such a successful operation and it is estimated there was over \$1,000 worth of school supplies donated! We had 69 Lions in attendance and 21 clubs represented. WOW!

Clubs in attendance at the cabinet meeting were:

1. Aransas County Women
2. Aransas Pass
3. Brownsville
4. Brownsville Nite
5. Corpus Christi Downtown
6. Donna
7. Edinburg
8. Harlingen
9. Ingleside North Bay
10. Kingsville Noon
11. McAllen Evening
12. McAllen Palm City
13. Mercedes
14. Odem Area
15. Portland North Bay
16. Premont
17. PSJA
18. San Benito
19. Sinton Nite
20. Weslaco
21. West Brownsville

I know that the Lions of Mercedes will do everything they can to make the cabinet meeting just as successful. My thanks to all the clubs who have stepped up and volunteered to orchestrate these meetings. At the second cabinet meeting we will be promoting the first of the three weeks of Service (October 4-12) and we will also have a program on the 990. Why is it imperative to file it and how to file it. I would like to try something at the Mercedes cabinet meeting. If you have new members to be inducted, bring them to be installed there. This will allow a bonding of the new members no matter what part of the District they are from.

I want to brag on Constitutional Area 1, which we are a part of. As of August 5, 2025, there

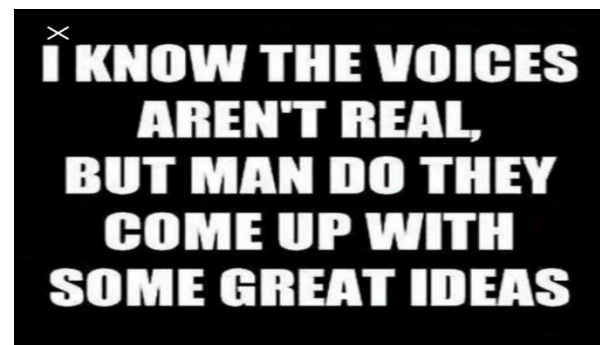
have been 23 new clubs started with 3729 new members added! Now that sounds great, and is great, however there were 3050 dropped members leaving the constitutional area 679 positive. District 2A3 is gaining members and needs to continue to do so.

I am making my club visits and will continue to do so for the rest of the year. Thanks to the clubs who have already welcomed me.

Zone Chairperson training was held on August 23rd in Kingsville. Thank you to all the Zone Chairs that attended, to the Kingsville Lions Club for arranging the meeting place and attending, and a special thanks to Lion Alex Ambriz for sharing her knowledge.

If you have time, check YouTube for two videos that I found impressive. One is "Superman Ain't Coming" and the other is "Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead". And if you can figure out how to do it, share it to your clubs and personal Facebook pages.

Closing, I want to say keep it up 2A3 and thank you for electing me to be your District Governor.





District 2-A3 Cabinet – Premont High School
Hosted by Premont Lions Club



Welcome New Members! *(data as of 8/31/2025)*

July 2025

<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
Becky Black	Ingleside North Bay	Lion Luanne Martin
Mercedes Lerma	Donna	Lion Jesus Rivera
Hermilo Lozano Jr.	McAllen Palm City	Lion Robert Jojola
Matt Meinheit	Corpus Christi Downtown	Lion Michelle Jones
Michael McDaniels	Corpus Christi Downtown	Lion Rusty Jones
Ramiro Perez Jr.	Donna	Lion Ricardo Pena
Jose Rodriguez	International	Lion Juan Balderrama
Ernest Tellez	Corpus Christi Downtown	1VDG William Castillo
Crystal Valdez	PSJA (<i>Pharr San Juan Alamo</i>)	Lion Angelica De La Cerda

August 2025

<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
AB Black	Ingleside North Bay	Lion Becky Black
Sherry Combs	Ingleside North Bay	Lion Luana Martin
Derek Conley	Kingsville Noon	Lion Dwaine Williams
Jason Hancock	Kingsville Noon	Lion Dwaine Williams
Carolyn Rawlins	Aransas County Womens	Lion Barbara Koster
Lorenza Smith	West Brownsville	Lion Ernest De Leon

Congratulations – Club Anniversaries!

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

<u>Years</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Charter Date</u>
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

- Donna Lions Club, Saturday, August 9
- Ingleside North Bay, Thursday, August 14
- Odem Area Lions Club, Monday, August 18
- Edinburg Lions Club, Saturday, August 30

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 Aid
 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

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%	

On Saturday August 23rd, District 2-A3 held Zone Chairperson training. The training had 17 attendees, and we had some great discussions on how to lead our district forward in the coming year. We have also conducted 4 new officer training and portal training to start off the year right for our incoming leaders.



Club officers, please remember to take your new officer training on the Lion's learning Center.

Also, on the Lions learning Center, a new member orientation can be found for those that have not received orientation or any new incoming lions you may have.

Global Membership Team (GMT) News

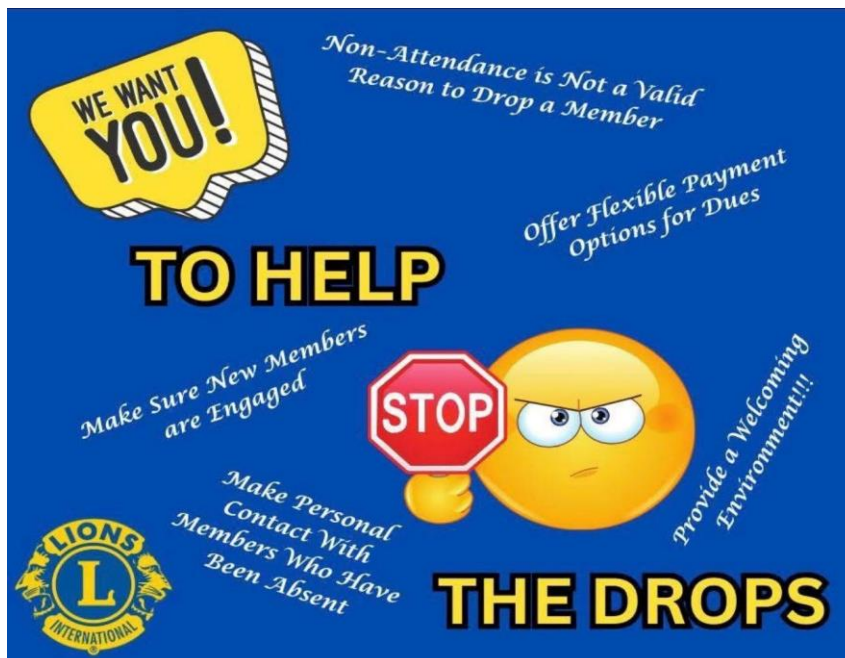
Past Council Chair (PCC) Rick Talbert, rstalbert2@aol.com, 956-373-5321

More Hands More Service!

First, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate IPDG Dr. Joe Hinojosa and all of the Lions of District 2-A3 in achieving POSITIVE MEMBERSHIP GROWTH for the July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, Lion's year! The challenge that we now have for this Lion's year is to keep that POSITIVE MEMBERSHIP GROWTH going for another year – and then another year – and then another year – on and on and on.

As we talk about membership growth, many Lions see it only as a numbers game seeking membership growth for the sake of membership growth. However, we all need to be ever mindful of the concept that the primary reason that we talk about membership growth in our clubs is that MORE HANDS = MORE SERVICE.

In order to achieve POSITIVE MEMBERSHIP GROWTH for our District, it takes a cumulative effort of all our Clubs. So, I ask each Club to ask this question: What do we want our Club membership to be on June 30, 2026 – and how do we get there? Although, the answer to this question is unique to each Club, there are some common factors to consider. For all Clubs it takes a dual effort of INVITING new members and RETAINING those members that you have.



For clubs with less than 20 members (which is the required number to form a new Lions Club), it would be a meaningful goal to get back to at least 20 members. For Clubs with more than 20 members it would be a meaningful goal to grow by at least 10% of your July 1, 2025 membership number. In either case, it will require both INVITING new members and RETAINING your existing members. Both things are important.

Lions Clubs are successful in their service projects and fund-raising projects by planning each project and working the plan. We need to treat membership growth in the same way – plan it as a project and then work the plan. The Lions International website has some great ideas and information on helping us to keep moving forward with recognizing that MORE HANDS = MORE SERVICE as we continue to honor our purpose in Lionism as WE SERVE.

In closing, District Governor Lynde Todd is asking that each Lions Club in District 2A3 set a realistic and achievable membership growth goal for June 30, 2026 – and that you email that goal to me at rstalbert2@aol.com no later than September 30, 2025, so that we can know where we are going.

Remember that when each of us took the Oath as a newly inducted Lion that part of that Oath asked the following: WILL YOU ASSIST IN MAINTAINING, BUILDING AND STRENGTHENING THE MEMBERSHIP OF YOUR CLUB – and that each of us said YES!



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%	48%	60%	?

We ended last year's total at 51% of our clubs reporting their services activities. We did not meet our goal, but we did so much better than the year before. We have clubs going to training for "The Lions Portal" and learning the new way to report to LCI. This was an experience in itself. But I was happy to see clubs working to improve our district.

Moving into 2025-2026 Lions year, we have a goal of 75% of Lions Clubs reporting and 60% of Lions Clubs and Leo Clubs reporting your service activities. We have a way to go and I believe in our District Clubs. Knowing that if we work together, we can meet this reporting goal for our District and our District Governor. We just need to know what issues you may be having and, if you have not been to training for this, let me know so I can plan a visit with you. Whether it be in person, on the phone, or online, we are here to help you.

Before the end of each month, I will be sending out a reminder to each club that we need to send our reports for that month to LCI. A goal I am setting for myself is to report each week. This way I will not forget to report nor leave an activity out.

Below you will find the service reporting from July 1 through August 25. Everyone will be able to see how we can help our district in succeeding to meet our goals for this Lions year. I am very pleased with where we are at this moment. I know we can do so much better. Thank you for your hard work so far this year.

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

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

Special LCI Service Week - Mental Health & Well-Being Week, October 4-12. LCI has provided a 10-day grace period before or after the designated week to accommodate clubs' scheduling needs. All clubs are encouraged to serve in this area before, during and/or after this designated week.

Club News – Here's What's Happening!

- **Donna Lions Club**
 - Vision Screening – 7/7/25 Mexican Council, Donna ISD Back to School Fair, IDEA and Health RAIRS Students – 142-44-31%, Adults – 41-17-41@. Total 183-51-33% by the Donna Vision Team.
 - Training – 7/19/25 – Officers and Portal training meeting by Alex Ambriz in Donna. Four members from Donna attended, three members from Delta Lions attended.
 - Lion Jesse Rivera and PDG Cesar Montelongo are serving as the Guiding Lions for the Delta Lions Club.
 - Disaster Relief: Club members, the club and sponsors donated over \$3,000 to LCIF and TLF.
 - On August 9th, the club had the honor of DG Lynde Todd coming to the meeting and conducting the installation of officers. She also conducted the new member ceremony for two new Lions (one is the son of Lion Jesse Rivera).
 - Recognition Award – The club has a monthly award to a citizen or business that has contributed to the community. The award was given to WalMart for the month of August.
 - Humanitarian: On August 14th Lion Jesse Rivera reported that a lady from Mission had contacted him about a lady that needed help. Lion Jesse visited the lady and reported that she is without electricity, needs care with housekeeping and yard

work. The club decided to make efforts to get her assistance and met with the county judge who offered to help with the situation.

- Donation to Easter Seals Telethon – On August 16 the club donated \$100 to the cause which it has done for many years.

- **Harlingen Lions Club**

- On July 10 1VDG Lion Cody conducted the installation of officers.
 - Lion Gary Meade, Lion Tamer
 - Lion Patti Scott, Treasurer
 - Lion Alex Ambriz, GLT
 - Lion Hope Ramsdale, President
 - Lion Maricela Anzures, VP
 - Lion Kelly Miller, Secretary



- Lion Dr. David Luna was recognized with the Lifetime Membership Award.



- The club presented VFW Post 2410 with a donation to help their organization.



- 1VDG Lion Cody conducted the new member induction ceremony for Lion Maria Aguilar. Her sponsor is Lion John Scott.



- The club will have Harlingen Police Department and Cactus Creek Ranch doing presentations for them in the near future.
- The club is working on their annual raffle in February to raise funds for many organizations in the community.
- The club is honored to host the district cabinet meeting in January 2026.

- **Ingleside North Bay Lions Club**

- We are **GROWING** : In the last few months of the past Lions year we more than doubled in size and, in first two months we have added three new MEMBERS
- We have started some new and exciting Projects this year our first and most important is our Scholarship Fund Raiser Raffle. One of our own Lions has Donated her time and Materials and created Sterling Silver Jewelry to Raffle off to raise money for Scholarship funds for one of our High School Students in Ingleside ISD this year. Tickets are \$10.00 each or you can buy 5 tickets for \$40.00 (that's right you get a free ticket when you buy 5) just contact one of us and we will hook you up.
- We are also collecting eyeglasses and used hearing aids as well and we still have a couple of new hearing aids available.
- We Just had our Installation of Officers we are very happy to introduce all of our new Lion Officers for this new Lion year. (Due to a Medical Emergency Lion MariJo was able to step up into the position that she has wanted to take for many years)
 - President - Lion Luana Martin
 - Immediate Past President, Club Administrator & LCIF Chairperson- Lion MariJo Wells
 - Secretary & Lion Tamer - Lion Dale Wells
 - Treasurer : Lion Ron Pierson
 - Tail Twister: Lion Steve Martin
 - Membership Chairperson: Oscar Cantu
 - Membership Chairperson: Connie Swartz
 - LCIF Chairperson : MariJo Wells
- We have a lot of new service projects starting this year.
 - One of our Biggest involves one of our newest Lions. Lion Sherry is Home Bound and Attends our meetings by Phone and soon by Zoom , one of her Service projects is making Beanies (Crocheted hats for Babies) that we will be packaging and sending to the Cancer Hospitals.
 - Another one that is very important that we ask all of our fellow Lions to assist She is Calling other shut ins that need someone to reach out and have someone to talk with . Not medical advice, just a friendly person to check in and talk to them and see how they are doing. We invite our other clubs in the district if you have someone that you know that you think might benefit from a call from Lion Sherry Contact Lion LuLu or Lion MariJo at the Ingleside North Bay Lions Club with the information about that person and we will get it to Lion Sherry to add to her Call List.
- We invite you all to join us any time you are around during our meetings. We are still having just one meeting per month at the Dairy Queen in Ingleside on second Thursday of month 7 PM

- **Kingsville Noon Lions Club**

- The club's 4th of July Parade Float won the "Most Spirited" Award. Lions, in order to celebrate our nation's birthday and to celebrate the efforts of local Veterans, gathered, decorated, and rode their award-winning float. Everyone had a great time decorating and Lion Phil Esquivel provided the truck, trailer, and most importantly the donuts and kolaches.



- Presented donations totaling \$500 to the Klebert County Veterans Honor Guard and Detail and the Kingsville Boxing Gym. The Kleberg County Veterans Honor Guard and Detail perform final burial honors at the request of their surviving families, at no charge. The "Kingsville Boxing Gym" on 12th Street provides a healthy and safe environment for local youth and veterans and often do such at no cost to these individuals.



- **Mercedes Lions Club**

- Donation of plastic bottle caps, Mrs. Diana Sanchez does us the favor of delivering to Nvo Progreso, Tamps. This is an ongoing project which provides free chemo treatment for cancer patients.



- Donation of four boxes of adult pull ups was delivered to The Aurora House Foundation.
- Delivered 38 pairs of eyeglasses to District 2-A3Cabinet Meeting in Premont.
- Had three volunteers at Mercedes Basketsful, Lion Mary, Lion Wally & Lion Tony providing 24 hours of service.



- Donated \$120 worth of school supplies to Premont ISD (District 2-A3 service project).

- **Mission Lions Club**

- The Mission Lions Club recently completed a project to assist a local family in need by building a safe, accessible set of stairs to their home. The gentleman of the household is preparing for knee replacement surgery and will rely on a walker during his recovery. The family's trailer home sits about 40 inches off the ground, with only a steep and narrow staircase for access. This created a serious safety concern, particularly as he works to regain mobility. Recognizing the challenge, Lions Kevin, Mark, Lee, Luciano, Alan, and Jeff volunteered their time and skills to build a new set of wide, sturdy stairs designed to accommodate a walker. The project not only improves safety but also provides the family with peace of mind during a difficult time. This effort reflects the Mission Lions Club's ongoing commitment to serving the community by meeting practical needs and improving the quality of life for local residents.



- **Odem Area Lions Club**

- Provided a lunch of “walking tacos”, ice cream and cookies to residents at Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Coastal Bend, in an effort to support families of children with Cancer and other serious illnesses who have come to Corpus Christi for medical care.
- Donated school supplies for Premont ISD (District 2-A3 service project).
- Annual “Tamales for Teachers” – presented a basket of goodies including a dozen pork tamales to the three new, first-time teachers who started their career at Odem-Edroy ISD.
- Conducted vision screening at Incarnate Word Academy Montessori School & Elementary School in Corpus Christi. 196 students, 12 referrals = 6%.
- Annual Christmas evergreens sale begins September 22. Purchase at <https://sherwoodfundraiser.com/OdemAreaLionsClub> or contact lionjoanm@gmail.com or 361-876-8076 or any Odem Area Lion. Lions will deliver items to those living in and around Odem. For those out of the area, items can be purchased and shipped anywhere in the continental United States via the direct shipment option. These make great Christmas gifts for loved ones across the country and for business associates and clients. Sale closes on November 1. Items will be delivered the week after Thanksgiving.

- **Portland North Bay Lions Club**

- Cleaned two Portland city parks.
- Sent 77 pairs of eyeglasses to TLERC in Midland
- Attended the Gregory Portland ISD's new teacher breakfast to welcome new teachers
- Collected two large boxes of school supplies for Premont ISD (District 2-A3 service project)

- **PSJA Lions Club**

- The PSJA Lions Club has started a new initiative in our community. Our members, as well as the community, are invited to partake in our Wednesday Wellness Walk/Run at our local hike and bike trail. This has been a great success as we have incorporated Strides for Diabetes Awareness into our weekly walk. We are looking into inviting a local doctor to partake in our weekly walks to address health related questions during our walks.



- Our Lion members also assisted with the clean up efforts in Kerrville after the recent flooding. Lions also worked on and donated stuffed animals for the children of Kerrville, which were distributed the weekend of August 16th.



- Our Lions also participated in two school supplies and backpack distributions during the month of August. PSJA Lions also distributed water bottles to the students for their use during the school year.



- PSJA Lions will be participating in an environmental clean-up in partnership with our Keep San Juan Beautiful committee during the month of September.

August 2025 Newsletter Rockport Lions Club

A thank you was sent to Judge Ray Garza, our guest speaker for July.

Semi-annual club dues are arriving in the P.O. box. \$50 covers one member for 6 months.

Positive changes include the following: the way we fundraise for Toys For Kids; including all club members in decisions and voting during board meetings; tracking our attendance; documenting our service to our community and neighbors.

Visitors are always welcomed to meetings so they can decide if they can join us and contribute their service to others. New ideas can be texted to Lion President Ed.

Scholarship donation time is here. Other recent donations includes financially supporting a family who has a child with cancer as well as supporting the church where we meet.

If you miss a meeting, you can redeem yourself by bringing canned food donations for Good Samaritans. The food bank is struggling to keep up with demand.

Total service numbers for July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 included 11,286 people served, 679 total volunteers, 3140 total hours of community service. Total number of people served is just an estimate. If you know how many people you helped while donating your time, please add that number to your monthly service record.

Toys For Kids shopping event is in December, but fundraising is already beginning. If you know of some private donors or of a business you frequent that may support our cause, we can get the donation request letters to you to hand deliver them. Please keep track of who you request donations from so we can create an accurate mailing list.

The flood victims in the Hill Country are being monitored by our friend, Carol Thompson, who moved there after Hurricane Harvey. She recommends waiting to send monetary donations, and she will let us know when the time is appropriate.

At our last meeting, Lion Ed led a discussion about tamale sales as a fundraiser in the near future.

Signup sheets for Community Table and multiple dates of Vision Screening children will be shared at our first August meeting.

Important Dates:

August 5—Community Table

August 7—Noon Meeting and Guest Speaker Shelley Steckler (Tree Committee)

August 14—Vision Screening Class is Full

August 19—Lions providing Community Table Dinner

August 21—Noon Meeting

September 4—Noon Meeting and Guest Speaker Shelly Stuart (Chamber)

September 18—Noon Meeting

September 22—Live Oak Learning Center Vision Screening

September 23—Live Oak Learning Center Vision Screening

September 24—Live Oak Learning Center Vision Screening

September 29—Fulton Learning Center Vision Screening

September 30—Fulton Learning Center Vision Screening

October 2—Noon Meeting; Guest Speaker Dr. Lesley Austin, RFISD Superintendent's Office

October 6—Live Oak Learning Center Vision Screening rechecks

October 7—Live Oak Learning Center Vision Screening rechecks

October 15—Fulton Learning Center Vision Screening rechecks

October 16—Noon Meeting

There will be more vision screening dates soon. Aransas Pass schools will request the help of their Lions Club, and we support each other.



FUNDS DONATED:

\$1,000 - Texas Lions Foundation
Designated for Central Texas Flood Relief for July 4, 2025

\$1,500 - Valley Nature Center
Sponsorship for Special Needs Summer Camp
(Down Syndrome & Autism)

\$300.00 - Valley Nature Center
Sponsorship for Summer Camp
(STEM Camp & Youth Camp)

\$150.00 - District 2-A3 Service Project
School supplies donated to Premont ISD during 1st Cabinet Meeting

\$2,345.00 - District 2-A3
Governors Goals
100% Giving to All Charities

\$209.00 - Vision Care
Sponsorship of Vision Exam and Eyeglasses for those in need in partnership with Thurmond Eye Associates

NEW OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT
Lion Rick Talbert
1ST VICE PRESIDENT
Lion Paola Escalante-Castillo
2ND VICE PRESIDENT
Lion Marisol Nunez
SECRETARY
Lion Carl Meiners
Lion Lupita Talbert
TREASURER
Lion RJ Clark
DIRECTORS
Lion Karen Macking
Lion Randy Hall
Lion Jeff Walker
Lion Rosemarie Crimbring
LION TAMER
Lion Jennifer Rektorik
TAIL TWISTER
Lion Ryan Vaughan
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
Lion Rick Talbert
MARKETING CHAIR
Lion Lupita Talbert
SERVICE CHAIR
Lion Laura Jane Clark
LCIF COORDINATOR
Lion Lupita Talbert

WESLACO LIONS CLUB

The Weslaco Lions Club has had a productive start to the year that includes celebrating the past year's accomplishments by recognizing the following members at our a celebration dinner as presented by Immediate Past President Lion Lupita Talbert (who was also honored with a Past President Plaque):

- Melvin Jones Fellow (LCIF) - Lion Betty Gross
- Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow (LCIF) - Lion Laura Jane Clark and Lion Rick Talbert (both 4th time Progressive)
- Texas Lions Foundation Fellow - Lion Jeff Walker and Lion Carl Meiners
- Texas Lions Camp Bricks (Endowment Fund) - Lion Marisol Nunez and Lion Karen Macking
- Ebb J. Grindstaff Fellow (Texas Lions Museum) - Lion Laura Jane Clark
- Leader Dogs for the Blind Brick - Lion Randy Hall
- Lions Eye Bank of Texas Angels - Lion RJ Clark and Lion Rosemarie Crimbring

Weslaco Lions have since participated in several Lions events including:

- Lion Rick Talbert, Lion Lupita Talbert and Lion Laura Jane Clark attended the MD-2 Texas Lions State Convention in Lubbock, TX (last Lion's year).
 - Lion Laura Jane Clark was presented with a Presidential Medal from IPDG Fabricio Oliveira by PIP Dr. Patti Hill - the 2nd highest award given by Lions International.
- Lion Rick Talbert, as the District GMT Coordinator, attended the Mission 1.5 Seminar in Las Vegas with District Governor Lynde Todd.
- Lion Rick Talbert, Lion Lupita Talbert and Lion Marisol Nunez attended the District 2-A3 First Cabinet Meeting in Premont, TX.
- Lion Rick Talbert, Lion Lupita Talbert and Lion Laura Jane Clark attended the Council of Governors Meeting in Kerrville, TX, as well as the Texas Lions Camp Board Meeting.
 - Lion Laura Jane Clark, Texas Lions Foundation District Trustee, was recognized when IPDG Dr. Joe Hinojosa received the Ed Flood Award.
 - Lion Rick Talbert, Lion Bobby Talbert and Lion Kenny Hartley played in the 32nd Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament benefiting TLC.
- Lion Rick Talbert, Lion Lupita Talbert, Lion Laura Jane Clark and Lion RJ Clark attended the Donna Lions Club Celebration Banquet.

The Club's ongoing service projects include collecting can tabs (Ronald McDonald House Charities), recycling plastic caps (to benefit children in need of medical treatments in Nuevo Progreso), park cleanups at Harlon Block Park, and collecting/sorting/recycling eyeglasses for TLERC.

We look forward to continuing a productive year of service in our community locally, statewide and around the globe.



A Message from the 1st Vice District Governor -

1VDG Cody Colchado

What a wonderful experience!! Now we know who let the dogs out! It was the Leader Dog Training Campus in Rochester Hills, Michigan. I had the pleasure of visiting this facility, finally seeing for myself what this program is all about and what services they provide. I was not alone. There were quite a few, over 100, 1st Vice District Governors, like myself. Some came from as far away as Alaska, Colorado, Alabama, and Georgia, to name a few. We were introduced to the CEO, the board members, and the staff that provide training and support to help individuals navigate their world using guide dogs and a white cane.

At lunch, we were given an annual lunch treat that is given during these tours. A local Lions Club provided a chili bowl which included a glazed doughnut under beef and beans chili. A wild tasting adventure. (bon appétit)

While there, we were treated to Dinner in the Dark. This experience highlighted the difficulties people with vision impairments and deaf/blindness deal with in their everyday lives. The 1st Vice District Governors showed their talents of spilling drinks, dropping lettuce leaves and broccoli on the table and on their laps, along with dripping gravy that accompanied the mashed potatoes. Frustration ensued when they brought an empty fork to their mouths after all the effort they put into making sure they stabbed something. A good time was had by all! (until they got home and had to pay the dry cleaners).

All joking aside, it is an amazing facility that includes a residence hall, veterinary clinic, and exercise and training area. This area has a simulated city to help people with dogs, learn and practice maneuvering around obstacles before going outside the campus. The individuals learn how to deal with hazards and obstructions around them. I can hardly wait to go there and team up with my own guide dog in the near future



A Message from the 2nd Vice District Governor

2VDG William Castillo

Zone Chairpersons Reports

Zone Chairperson Andy Garza is scheduled to visit the Kingsville Noon Lions Club on September 10th and Premont Lions Club on September 18th.

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

Hi, Lions! I'm Lion Joy Arnold, a charter member of Harlingen Amigas Lions Club. It is my privilege this year to serve as your district committee chair for diabetes awareness. Today I'd like to share with you Lion Brian Ballard's YouTube link, Diabetes 101, that offers basic information about diabetes.

How my club benefited from this show: Our club members viewed this presentation independently, and our president, Lion Julio Guerra, quizzed us verbally about its content at our next meeting. We learned important information, had fun, and won neat prizes! And we got to address the Lions Diabetes Pillar of Service!

https://youtu.be/DL2tlUZY_zl?si=uf-d9QtiQ3HfamGa

Since Lion Ballard produced this presentation in 2021, much more information has become available for treating diabetes, and even sending it into remission.

I'd love to share your success stories, and to know what you'd like to learn about diabetes.

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

LCIF Coordinator training was held in Edinburg on Saturday, August 16. A training session will be scheduled for the north zone of the district soon.

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, dq2a3lions@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".

If your Club has never participated in the Peace Poster Contest, please consider doing so this year. For those Clubs that have, keep up the good work. Kits are available for sale of \$11.95. Only One Kit is needed per sponsored event. Deadline to order kit(s) is October 1st.

Clubs interested in submitting entries to the Peace Poster contest must send their one winning entry to The District Governor by November 15th.

Students aged 11, 12 or 13 as of November 15th are eligible to participate in the Contest. Entries not meeting the deadlines will be disqualified.

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

Additional information on Kit - <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/2Js6fpTCyS0>

Take a look at the outstanding work of the 2024-25 winner (s) - <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-approach/youth/peace-poster/current-winners>

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

We had 1,169 campers served over 12 camp sessions with 140+ counselors from the US and abroad this summer 2025.

The camp was saved from the catastrophe of July 4th flooding due to its hilltop location.

Three new bunkhouses have been constructed, and demolition of six more structures has commenced, all part of the master plan of updating infrastructure that was begun several years back.

Make plans to sponsor a camper and get the applications in, starting Jan. 2026!

Find out more at lionscamp.com and schedule your club's 2-A3 camp director visit by calling Lion David Christopher (North Zone. Elected Director) 361-522-7550 or Lion Chris Hughston (South Zone Elected Director) chris@hiains.net.

- Read the "Spotlight on Texas Lions Camp" by Lion Ann Ward, 2025-2026 TLC Chair, Texas Lions Camp Board, found at the end of this newsletter.

Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center News

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



Thank you to the following clubs who donated funds to the Texas Lions Foundation through our District in response to the July 4, 2025, flooding disaster in Central Texas:

- Donna Lions Club
- Edinburg Lions Club
- Ingleside North Bay Lions Club
- Kingsville Lions Club
- Odem Area Lions Club
- Weslaco Lions Club

If you would like to donate towards the ongoing relief efforts, you can make a check payable to District 2-A3 or direct to Texas Lions Foundation and forward to PDG Laura J. Clark (District Treasurer). We will ensure that your donation is received and credited accordingly.

Thank you for support your fellow Texas Lions in their service to those communities impacted by this disaster.

District 2-A3 Lions, I am currently serving as your District Trustee for the Texas Lions Foundation, your state foundation. TLF is continually responding to natural disasters throughout our state and assisting with humanitarian grants, as well.

Last year, our District received \$30,000.00 in emergency grants in response to disasters. Should a disaster occur in your club's area, please reach out to me as soon as possible so we can facilitate your application for assistance.

I would encourage all Clubs in our District to support TLF through your Governor's Goals donations, as well as through the purchase of a Texas Lions Foundation Award (\$125.00) or a Texas Lions Foundation 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

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

Upcoming District Events

- September Zone Meetings
- September 24 Delta Area Lions Club **CHARTER NIGHT**
- October 4-12 Mental Health and Well-Being Week
- October 18 2nd Cabinet Meeting, Mercedes
- 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

All Clubs have been provided statements for their District/State dues and Texas Lions Camp dues, as well as a courtesy copy of their Lions International July Statements. Please ensure that your clubs process those payments in a timely manner as the due date is quickly approaching.

Checks for MD-2 and 2-A3 dues 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 your club is donating to some but is not donating to all of the charities listed, please provide a list of the funds to be credited on a separate piece of paper. Clubs that donate to all designated charities will be recognized as a 100% Club.

If you have any questions, please contact the Cabinet Treasurer.

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 McKaughan, 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:

- **August 25** - September 1st issue (July & August 2025)
- **October 25** – November 1st issue (September & October 2025)
- **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 25^h of the month prior to distribution will be held for the next issue.

SHARED BY THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR FOR YOUR INFORMATION: A LETTER BY KINGSVILLE NOON LIONS CLUB TO THE KINGSVILLE RECORD

KINGSVILLE NOON LIONS CLUB
P.O. Box 447
Kingsville, Texas 78363

July 31, 2025

Kingsville Record
231 E. Kleberg
Kingsville, Texas 78363

Mr. J. T. Strasner
Editor

On behalf of our President Cecilia Luna and the Lions of the Kingsville Noon Lions Club, please accept our warm wishes and appreciation on your publishing the following submission and look forward to including more items as we progress through the year. This is our fourth article and will be entitled "Lions Empowering Literacy Through Community Education Interactions"

Submitted Text for this article:

Hello, Kingsville and Howdy, we are the Kingsville Noon Lions Club, and we meet once a week at 12 noon at the El Dorado Restaurant at the corner of 14th and Santa Gertrudis. For over 100 years, Lions have served our community, the state, the nation, and our neighbors around the world. Our Association consists of 1.4 million people, in over 49,000 clubs, in over 200 countries. The Kingsville Noon Lions is composed of 40 members who each work in various professions and come together as a group to provide some assistance to citizens who might need a helping hand.

One of our common goals among Lions Clubs is to promote literacy and education among our young people. To do this we facilitate health screenings (Health, Vision, Hearing, etc.), donate funds to enhance youth groups (Boys & Girls Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, FFA, 4H, etc.), and by providing scholarships to graduating seniors or when fiscally possible for those young people attending course work in higher education.

Recently we invited Mrs. Rebecca Perkins who serves as the Instructional Literacy Coordinator for Kingsville Independent School District as our guest speaker on "Empowering Literacy Through Community and Tools". As you can imagine the topic is vast and with many factions, however, today she concentrated her presentation on a simple, but powerful tool, that can change the trajectory of a child's educational journey...a dictionary.

The Dictionary Project's website beautifully captures its value with this statement "A Dictionary teaches a child how to approach a problem and use critical thinking skills by sounding out the word and finding it in the dictionary. This simple task gives them a feeling of self-confidence and satisfaction that they cannot get online."

Mrs. Perkins states that this is more than a quote, it is a reflection of what we, as educators, strive to foster every single day in our classrooms: critical thinking, independence, and confidence. An interesting observation was raised by one of our members as to whether an encyclopedia might

also provide the same benefits, Mrs. Perkins did not disagree, however she related that such in her case if you are growing up on a ranch, if you don't have a complete set of encyclopedias, it might be impossible to find your answer.

As is generally known our educational system has faced significant challenges in the area of literacy and far too many of our students are not reading on grade level which limits their ability to succeed across content areas such as, math, science, social studies, and beyond. These challenges, while complex in nature, are not insurmountable. One of our most powerful ways to reverse this trend is through building strong, sustainable partnerships within our communities. One such initiative is "The Dictionary Project". The Kingsville Lions throughout the last few years have distributed a Dictionary to each 3rd Grader in the local area. Through this initiative, and others like it, we are giving these children the means to explore language on their own. Building those skills to decode unfamiliar words, expand their vocabulary, and strengthen their reading comprehension. As we discussed this issue it was noted that children throughout their first two years of classroom instruction learn how to read, and it is within that third year of classroom instruction that they read to learn.

Everyone was fascinated by Mrs. Perkins' presentation, and it reinforced our understanding and drive to continue with "The Dictionary Project" now and in the years to come.

The stories of Lionism are many and If you want to give something back to your local community and would like to join a group of people who are like-minded, then we hope you will contact us and come to our next Lions Club Meeting, next Wednesday, at 12 noon at El Dorado Restaurant.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information on this matter. I can be reached at (830) 765-7906.

Respectfully,

Ricardo D. Luna
Kingsville Noon Lions Club



President Cecilia Luna with Mrs. Perkins

SHARED BY THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Spotlight on Texas Lions Camp

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

For more than a decade, I have heard that Texas Lions Camp is one of the “best kept secrets,” and as the 2025-26 Chair of the TLC Board, I want to change that!

The July 4th floods in the Kerrville area – and the tragic loss of lives, especially at some of the summer camps for children located on the Guadalupe River – certainly raised the profile of Kerrville and the camps in its proximity. Unfortunately, this likely has made our task of recruiting campers even more difficult because we will have to overcome some parents’ fear of summer camping in Kerrville. Thankfully, TLC was spared, and as Lions, we need to let parents know that our camp is located on high ground, safe from flood-prone areas.

When I think about how to spread the word about TLC, the children’s gospel song, “This Little Light of Mine,” comes to mind. Together, we can spotlight TLC, and “let TLC’s Light Shine” in 2025-26.

The TLC Executive Committee will focus on three areas this year:

- Improve communication with the Lions of Texas and with the general public. Our purposes are to recruit campers, build brand awareness, strengthen the value of TLC to the Lions of Texas, and to increase philanthropic support. As your TLC chair, I will be providing a monthly article to each District for inclusion in a newsletter, or other distribution.
- Enhance support of our Elected Directors and help amplify their important roles. We are inviting the IPDGs and active past TLC chairmen to join us in building excitement and interest in camp.
- TLC will continue to improve its philanthropic giving programs, to increase foundation grants/bequests/donations, and to prepare for a capital campaign in 2026. With the demolition of several structures in August, we will move forward with completing the bunkhouse quad behind the dining hall with the addition of the remaining two bunkhouses. This continues implementation of the Master Plan to create four camps on one campus.

Our goals are to have next season fully occupied with campers and to have more Texas Lions visit camp throughout the year. Come check out *your* camp! I welcome your input and suggestions, and I am available to visit your district. Please contact me at lionannward@gmail.com.

**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



T E X A S 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 Icicon2030sanantonio@gmail.com



LCICON 2030 San Antonio MD2 Lions Club Sponsorship Form

Cowboy Patch Set	\$1,000.00	_____
Patch 1 of 5	\$250.00	_____
Patch 2 of 5	\$250.00	_____
Patch 3 of 5	\$250.00	_____
Patch 4 of 5	\$250.00	_____
Patch 5 of 5	\$250.00	_____
SHIPPING (YES OR NO)	\$5.00	_____
TOTAL		_____

CLUB NAME _____

CLUB # _____

DISTRICT _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY / ST / ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE # _____

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

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

