

A SHORT HISTORY OF TEXAS LIONISM

"Lions International" did not spring from the brow of some Zeus or Melvin Jones, fully-grown, armed and caparisoned. It had quite a gestation period and many of those events took place in Texas or involved Texas clubs. (Texas Lions 1917-67, Julien C. Hyer, page 6.)

On Melvin Jones's invitation, Dr. W.P. Woods, a surgeon in Evansville, Indiana and others came to Chicago on June 7, 1917 to the Hotel LaSalle and met with Melvin's club called "The Business Circle" and others at a luncheon with Melvin Jones listed as Secretary. Then on July 31, 1917, Dr. Woods called for the "first convention of Lions Clubs, to be held in the city of Dallas, Texas on October 8, 1917".

The first Lions Convention was held in Dallas, Texas on October 8-10, 1917 with 44 men present from 23 different clubs. There were six other clubs, some known as Lions Clubs and by other names, that were not present, but agreed to go along with 44 men in attendance. Twelve of these clubs were from Texas, 10 actually in attendance and 2 not present, claiming thereby for their clubs the later privilege of being called "Founder Clubs".

It is agreed by all that after three days of meetings in the Adolphus Hotel, officers were elected, the name of our Association officially adopted, committees were appointed and generally a complete harmony was shown.

The 23 Clubs that were present in Dallas, Texas in 1917 are as follows:

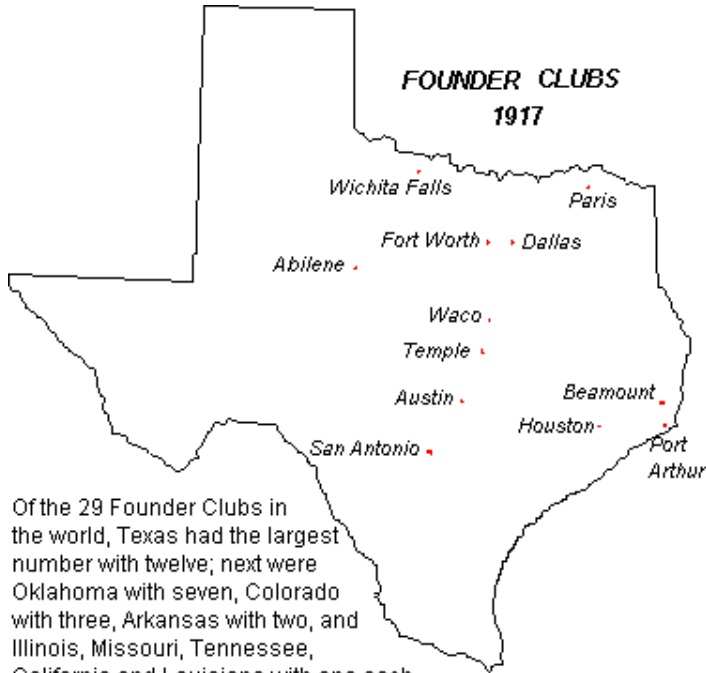
ARKANSAS	Little Rock and Texarkana
COLORADO	Denver and Colorado Springs
MISSOURI	St. Louis
ILLINOIS	Chicago
LOUISIANA	Shreveport
OKLAHOMA	Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Ardmore, Chickasha, Muskogee
TEXAS	Port Arthur (4/23/17), Houston (4/2/17), Austin (1/18/16), Waco (7/9/16), Fort Worth (9/26/16), Dallas (9/9/16), Paris (2/8/17), Wichita Falls (7/16/17), Beaumont (9/16/16) and Abilene (2/15/17)
TENNESSEE	Memphis

Clubs not present, but are counted today as Founder Clubs:

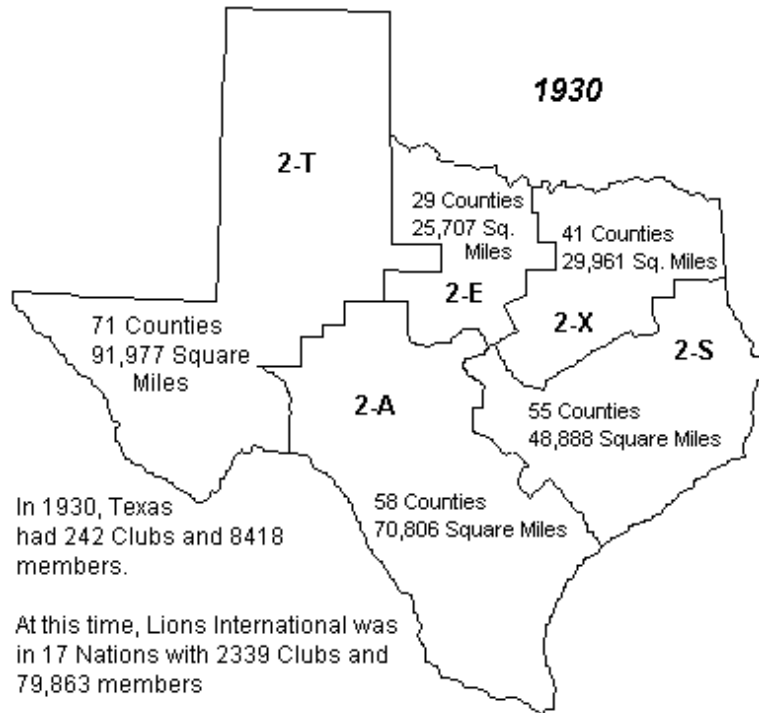
CALIFORNIA	Oakland
COLORADO	Pueblo
OKLAHOMA	El Reno and Okmulgee
TEXAS	San Antonio (1/17/19)* and Temple (6/21/17) *Inactive for a period

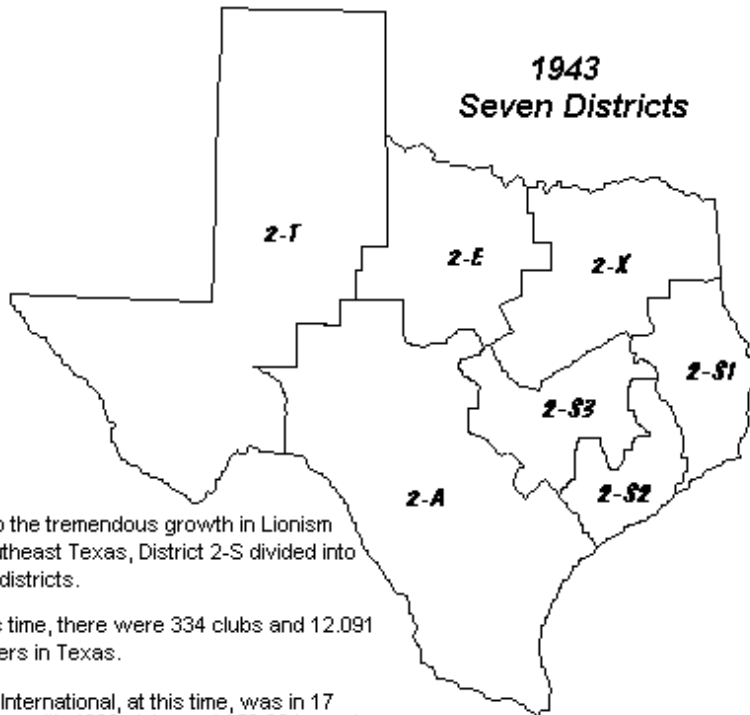
At this first convention, Dr. W.P. Woods was elected our first President. Melvin Jones, who is now recognized as the "FATHER" of our Association, was elected Secretary/Treasurer. Dr. L.H. Lewis, President of the Dallas club, declined the Presidency and was elected First Vice-President. St. Louis was selected as the site for the Second Convention in 1918.

Texas became known as District 2, having only one District Governor for the entire state, and having an official State Convention. Illinois was designated as District 1 due to the work of Melvin Jones as the Founder of Lions Clubs International.



Founder Club	Org
Abilene	2/15/17
Austin	1/18/16
Beaumont	9/16/16
Dallas	9/9/16
Fort Worth	9/26/16
Houston	4/2/17
Paris	2/18/17
reorganized	6/4/21
Port Arthur	4/23/17
Waco	7/19/16
Wichita Falls	7/16/17
reorganized	1/13/22
San Antonio	1915
reorganized	1/17/19
Temple	6/21/17

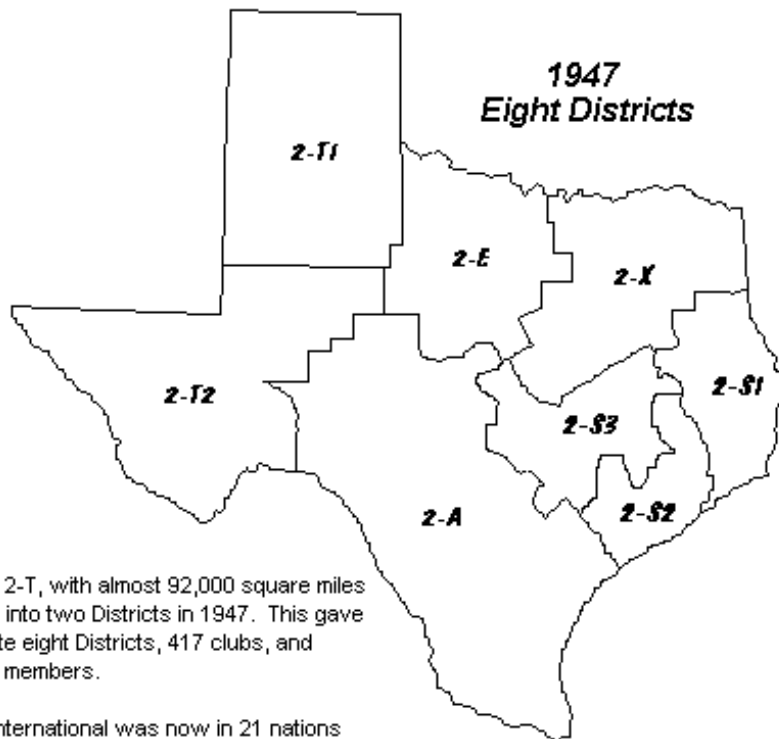




Due to the tremendous growth in Lionism in Southeast Texas, District 2-S divided into three districts.

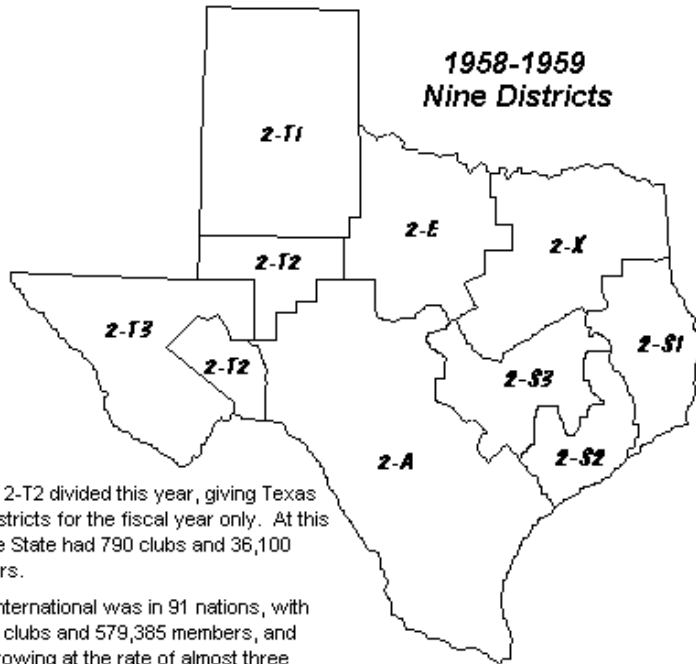
At this time, there were 334 clubs and 12,091 members in Texas.

Lions International, at this time, was in 17 nations, with 4326 clubs and 150,024 members.



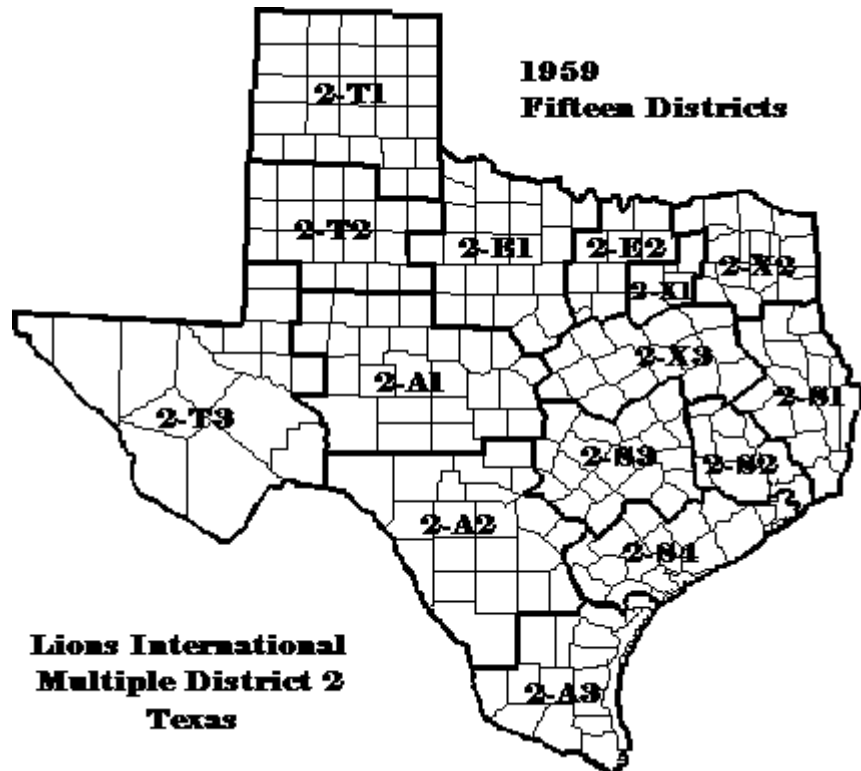
District 2-T, with almost 92,000 square miles divided into two Districts in 1947. This gave the state eight Districts, 417 clubs, and 27,656 members.

Lions International was now in 21 nations with 6117 clubs and 326,448 members.

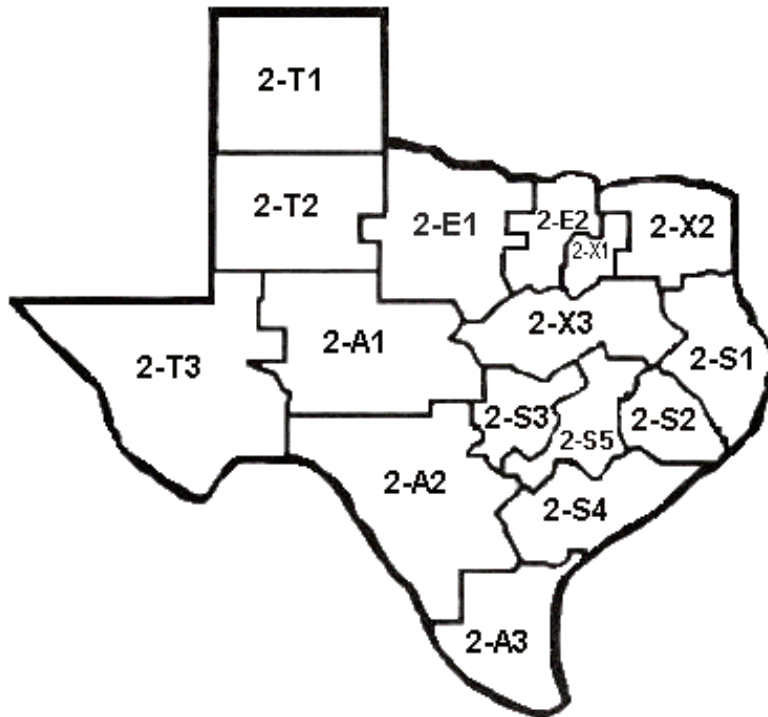


District 2-T2 divided this year, giving Texas nine Districts for the fiscal year only. At this time the State had 790 clubs and 36,100 members.

Lions International was in 91 nations, with 13,834 clubs and 579,385 members, and was growing at the rate of almost three clubs every day!



LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL TEXAS - MULTIPLE DISTRICT 2 16 DISTRICTS



**This is the way our state looks today.
At the Conventions of 1988, the Districts
voted to have 16 Districts by dividing 2-S3
in two, creating 2-S5.**

A SHORT HISTORY OF TEXAS LIONISM, continued

The first State Convention was held in Waco on June 19, 1919 and the last one without District Conventions was in 1931. After this, the Districts held their own District Conventions because the delegates to the 1930 Convention voted to divide the state into five sub-districts, to be known as T - E - X - A and S. In 1984 the last combined State/District Convention was held. After that, the State Convention has been held at least one week after the District 's.

Starting in 1917 with 12 Clubs, Texas had grown to 242 Clubs and 8,414 members by 1930. Due to the tremendous growth in Lionism in Southeast Texas, District 2-S divided into three districts in 1942: 2-S1, 2-S2, 2-S3. At the time there were 334 clubs and 12,091 members in the State.

In 1947 the T district was divided, making sub-districts 2-T1 and 2-T2, thus creating 8 sub-districts for the State. In 1958, the T District was divided again, and 2-T3 was added.

In 1959, the state had over 800 clubs and over 37,000 members. It was decided to redistrict the whole state and form 15 sub-districts. The State was rearranged to form 2-T1, 2-T2, 2-T3, 2-E1, 2-E2, 2-X1, 2-X2, 2-X3, 2-A1, 2-A2, 2-A3, 2-S1, 2-S2, 2-S3 and 2-S4. In 1989 District 2-S3 was sub-divided into 2-S3 and 2-S5, thus forming the present 16 Sub-Districts. (See maps) The 16 District Governors constitute the Council of Governors, the official governing body of Texas Lionism.

In 1956 the Past District Governors agreed to organize with George Jones of Corpus Christi as their first President.

TEXAS LIONS CAMP

In 1949, at the International Convention in New York, the Board of Directors approved the charter of the Texas Lions League for Crippled Children. By working together, more than 40,000 Texas Lions have established:

- * Summer Camp for Handicapped Children: it has provided two weeks of summer fun for the blind, deaf, mute and crippled youngsters of Texas at the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville.
- * Texas Lions Camp for Diabetic Children: it has, with the South Texas Diabetes Association, provided sessions for diabetic children at the camp at Kerrville.

From 1953 through 1998, The Texas Lions Camp has served over 34,350 handicapped campers, 1700 adult blind, and over 8,800 diabetic children in addition to an Outdoor Education Program which existed for a few years at the camp.

The charter President of the Texas Lions League for Crippled Children was Jack Wiech of Brownsville, while the first Executive Director was Frank Robertson of San Antonio. In 1975 J.L. McPherson succeeded Robertson and since 1978 the Executive Directors of the camp have been Glenn Crawford, followed by Dwight Evans and since August of 1995, Stephen Mabry.

Each of the 16 Districts are entitled to two (2) elected Directors on the Board of the Texas Lions Camp, with one director elected each year. In addition, the Governor and Immediate Past District Governor are directors of the camp.

TEXAS LIONS HALL OF FAME

In 1971 the Texas Lions Hall of Fame was established. The purpose of the Hall of Fame is to "bestow honor upon outstanding Lions in the State of Texas who have given usefully of their time, talents and means to further the cause of humanitarian services".

The memorials to the Texas Lions Hall of Fame shall be located in an appropriate space at the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville.

The State Secretary will, early in the year, distribute to the appropriate District Governors, information on the criteria for nomination.

Selection shall be by the Districts and the candidate shall be certified to the Council of Governors not later than the February Council meeting.

Presentation by the District Governor shall take place at the State Convention. Each selection will receive a duplicate of the plaque placed in the Hall of Fame.

Minimum standards to qualify for the Texas Lions Hall of Fame are:

An active (or deceased) member with at least 15 years service.

Outstanding and dedicated service to Lionism beyond the call of duty.

Other than Lionism service to his community, State and Nation.

Special achievements in, or contributions to, humanitarian service to those less fortunate.

TEXAS LIONS HALL OF FAME MEMBERS FROM DISTRICT 2-(Your District)

TEXAS LIONS FOUNDATION

In 1984, the Texas Lions Foundation was established by the Council of Governors and ratified by the delegates to the State Convention. The Texas Lions Foundation concentrates its efforts in two areas: Humanitarian Service Grants which are issued to support a broad range of projects designed to fill diverse needs; and Disaster Relief Grants which are made in response to natural disasters that cause significant mortality, injury and property damage and loss within the State of Texas.

PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS FROM TEXAS

L.H. Lewis (Dallas) --- 1918-1919 (d)
Julien C. Hyer (Dallas) --- 1931-1932 (d)
George Jordan (Dallas) --- 1941-1942 (d)
H.C. Petry, Jr. (Carrizo Springs) --- 1950-1951 (d)
David A. Evans (Houston) --- 1968-1969 (d)
E.J. (Ebb) Grindstaff (Ballinger) --- 1982-1983

PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORS FROM TEXAS

Sam M. Braswell (Clifton) --- 1932-1934 (d)
Fred O. Grimes (Hillsboro) --- 1934-1936 (d)
Bob J. Lyles (Austin) --- 1936-1938 (d)
C.P. Dodson (Decatur) --- 1943-1945 (d)
Joe J. Fisher (Beaumont) --- 1952-1954
Dr. Richard A. Self (Dallas) --- 1954-1956 (d)
Joe E. Childers (Abilene) --- 1956-1958 (d)
R.A. Lipscomb (Lubbock) --- 1958-1960 (d)
Andrew J. Smith (San Antonio) --- 1961-1962 (d)
E.B. "Tex" Mayer (LaGrange) --- 1970-1972 (d)
Don A. Buckalew (Conroe) --- 1974-1976
Edwin H. Flood (Amarillo) --- 1976-1978
M.P. "Mike" Butler (Kerrville) --- 1984-1986
C. Howard Leverett (Cypress) --- 1986-1988
Ray Hughston (Brownsville) --- 1990-1992
Marshall Cooper (Beaumont) --- 1993-1995
Jimmy Ross (Quitaque) --- 1996-1998

(d) = deceased

STATE RESOURCES

100% PARTICIPATION OR ABOVE

TEXAS LIONS CAMP

Clubs that have contributed \$10 per member from their fund raising or other sources during the Lions fiscal year are considered 100% Participating. The figure "100%" will be listed on the Camp printout to the right of the Club name under the fiscal year column when 100% participation has been achieved. The Club will be mailed a 100% participation banner patch with the fiscal year on it. Some Clubs give in a lump sum while others continue to donate throughout the year. Club contributions are added together to give the Club full credit for its contributions.

Clubs who give amounts above 100% participation will have the percent of participation listed in the fiscal year column. The participation level will be listed in multiples of 50 percent (150%, 200%, etc.) Plaques are forwards to the Club President for 200%, 300%, etc. A Chevron showing the additional participation percentage is forwarded for the Club Banner. It is designed to match the 100% participation patch and is to be placed immediately above it.

TEXAS LIONS FOUNDATION

Lions Clubs which contribute \$2-per member are considered 100% participating Lions Clubs. They will receive patch for the-first year of contributing and a tab for each year.

Other awards given by the Texas Lions Foundation include a Sustaining Member Award for a contribution of \$125 and a Texas Lions Fellow Award for a donation of \$500. These are good ways for a Lions Club to honor someone for outstanding service to their Club or Community.

OTHER LIONS CLUB RESOURCES SUPPORTED BY LIONS OF DISTRICT 2- (Your District)

General Information Relating to Lions' Resources

All Lions Club resource entities must submit their Articles of Incorporation and Constitution and By-Laws to the legal department of the International Association of Lions Clubs. Upon approval, the General Council will then grant a nonexclusive license to use the name "Lions" and the Association emblem for its lawful corporate purposes, excepting therefrom use on any sale item or any item (other than printed material) which is available through the Club Supplies Division and on the express condition that the word "International" shall not be used in its title for any purpose and that its correct corporate title shall always appear in all letterheads, stationery, literature, brochures, and like materials. The Association retains and reserves the right to control the nature of any such use and that this license shall continue until revoked in writing by the Association or its designee.

The entities also file the proper requests with the Internal Revenue Service and are then given 501(c)(3) status so that all contributions made to the entity are tax deductible.

IMPORTANT

SURETY BOND

The Surety Bond is a blanket bond that covers every club member, district or club officer, any persons in the State Office, and every function of the Lions except those affiliated with the Texas Lions Camp. It is a three year policy payable yearly. Each district pays \$503.37 yearly for the use of this policy. The limits are \$25,000 per occurrence with a \$2,000 deductible. Should you go over that amount, you will need additional coverage. Billing for the bond is every November. For additional insurance, you should contact the Lions State Office in Kerrville.

In accordance with International, State, and District policies, clubs should establish the requirement that two signatures are necessary on all checking accounts maintained by the club. NO club account should operate with only one signature. The surety bond does NOT protect any account that does not require two signatures.

It is very important that all clubs come into compliance with this practice. REPEATING --- the surety bond is NULL and VOID for any account that uses only one signature.

TEXAS LIONS CAMP

I PARTICIPATING CLUB

- A. Club name as it appears in district directory
- B. District in which club is located
- C. Fiscal year club is 100% Participating (i.e. 1996-97, etc)
 - 1. Indicate if donation is for 100%, 200%, 300%, etc.
- D. Number of members in club
 - 1. \$10.00 per member listed on membership rolls
 - 2. Life Members are NOT exempt from paying the \$10.00
- E. Name and address of officer of club to receive letter of acknowledgment

II LIFE MEMBERSHIP

- A. Cost of Life Membership
 - 1. \$100 includes certificate and Life Membership Pin
 - 2. \$125 includes certificate mounted on plaque plus Life Membership Pin
- B. Who May Receive Life Memberships
 - 1. Individuals may receive a Life Membership
 - 2. Organizations other than Lions, Lioness, & Leo Clubs may receive also
- C. Information Camp Needs for Issuance of Life Membership
 - 1. Name of person or organization to receive the Life Membership
 - 2. Name of club to receive credit
 - 3. District in which club is located
 - 4. Name and Address of individual to whom certificate and pin should be mailed
- D. Life Membership Pin
 - 1. Only Life Members are eligible to receive and wear pin
 - 2. Cost of pin included in price of Life Membership

III JACK WIECH FELLOWSHIP

- A. Cost of Jack Wiech Fellowship is \$1,000
- B. Who may purchase Jack Wiech
 - 1. An individual may make donation of \$1000 for the Fellowship
 - 2. A club or district may purchase one to be presented to an individual
- C. What is Included
 - 1. A Jack Wiech Fellowship Plaque
 - 2. A Jack Wiech Fellowship Pin
- D. Information Camp Needs
 - 1. Name of recipient
 - 2. Name of Club involved
 - 3. District in which club is located
 - 4. Name and Address of individual to whom plaque & pin should be mailed

IV CENTURY CLUB MEMBERSHIP

- A. Cost -- Three levels
 - 1. Bronze --- \$100 yearly (can be paid monthly with bank draft -- little more \$)
 - 2. Silver --- \$250 yearly (can be paid monthly with bank draft -- little more \$)
 - 3. Gold ----- \$500 yearly (can be paid monthly with bank draft -- little more \$)
- B. Who May Join Century Club
 - 1. An individual
 - 2. A club or organization

- C. What is Included
 - 1. Wooden Century Club Key Plaque
 - 2. Yearly medallion to go on key (bronze, silver, or gold)
 - 3. Century Club Pin (key)
 - D. Information Camp Needs
 - 1. Name and address of member
 - 2. Name of Club Involved
 - 3. Name of District Involved
 - 4. If using monthly drafts, bank authorization forms
- V. MEMORIALS
- A. Name and address of donor
 - B. Name and address of family member or friend of deceased to receive acknowledgement of donor's gift
 - C. Name of deceased
 - D. Name of club to receive credit
 - E. District in which club is located
- VI. DONATIONS
- A. Club Donations
 - 1. Club Name as it appears in district directory
 - 2. District in which club is located
 - 3. Name and address of officer of club to receive letter of acknowledgement
 - B. Donations from Individuals
 - 1. Name and address of person to receive letter of acknowledgement for donation
 - 2. Name of club to receive credit
 - 3. District in which club is located
 - C. Building Fund Donations
 - 1. Indicate the donation is for Building Fund
 - 2. Furnish same information as is listed for other donations
- VII. HONORARIUM
- A. Name and Address of person being honored
 - B. Name and Address of club or individual giving the honorarium
 - C. The occasion for which the person is being honored
 - D. Name of club to receive credit
 - E. District in which club is located
- VIII MEMBERSHIP DUES FROM DISTRICT OFFICE
- A. \$6.00 per member paid semi-annually (\$12.00 annually)
 - 1. First half dues are delinquent after November 15th
 - 2. Second half dues are delinquent after April 15th
 - B. Club Listing MUST ACCOMPANY Membership Dues
 - 1. Name of Club
 - 2. Number of Members in each club
 - 3. Amount to credit the individual clubs
 - C. Membership dues with an attached club listing should be mailed directly to the Texas Lions Camp from the District Cabinet Secretary. PLEASE DO NOT MAIL TO LIONS INTERNATIONAL OR STATE SECRETARY

TEXAS LIONS OFFICIAL PARADE UNIFORM

REGULAR TEXAS MARCHING UNIT - LIONS

- VEST Texas vest (red, white, and blue) with Bolo tie Vest purchased through Texas Lions State Office. Approximately \$30.
- SHIRT White, western cut preferred, long sleeves.
- JEANS Levi style -- **new** navy blue.
- BOOTS Black or dark colored boots (black or dark shoes are acceptable).
- HAT Western, Cattleman's style -- color: neutral.
- BELT Black

ELITE MARCHING UNIT - LIONS ONLY, MALE AND FEMALE MAY MARCH IN THE ELITE UNIT

- VEST Same as Regular Unit
- SHIRT Same as Regular Unit
- JEANS Same as Regular Unit
- BOOTS MUST be black boots
- HAT Same as Regular Unit
- BELT Same as Regular Unit
- ELITE CHAPS Special Order -- Contact State Office to get specifics on ordering
- ELITE SPURS, Order from State Secretary Pat Nations. Cost is approximately \$18.00.

LADIES' MARCHING UNIT

- VEST Medium Navy color with Texas shape, on red applique, on back of vest.
- SKIRT Medium Navy color, skirt slightly gathered with elastic waistband. Skirt hem scalloped with red Texas shapes surrounding bottom.
- SHIRT White tailored shirt or blouse with collar and long sleeves.
- BOOTS Red Roper style boot with round toe and flat heel.
- HAT Red, Ladies Western style felt hat.

NOTE: Regarding ladies' uniform: Contact State Secretary for information about ordering the vest and skirt, and the hat.

OPTIONAL UNIFORM FOR LADIES: Ladies have the option to wear the Regular Unit uniform with dark navy jeans or navy skirt. Skirt style is Cabin Creek button front style number 2831238D Navy (37). Buy or order through J. C. Penney.

NOTE

NO PINS OR JEWELRY WILL BE WORN WITH THE PARADE UNIFORMS!! DRESS CODE ON UNIFORMS WILL BE VERY STRICT -- NO ONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO MARCH IN PARADE IF UNIFORM DOES NOT COMPLY WITH GUIDELINES IN THE STATE POLICY MANUAL. Revised 2/96

ACTIVITIES LIONS OF TEXAS MULTIPLE DISTRICT 2

**COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS
HALL OF FAME
STATE OFFICE
DRUG AWARENESS SPEECH
CONTEST**

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS
Coordinates Multiple District Program. Supervises State Office. Organizes State Convention. Coordinates International Convention Texas Activities. Chairman is a Past District Governor elected by district to host MD Convention. Rotates among sixteen districts.

HALL OF FAME Members are recommended by District each three years.

STATE OFFICE Administrative details of Multiple District.

DRUG AWARENESS SPEECH CONTEST Coordinates District activities and cooperates with State Program. District Speech winners advance to State Contest held at State Convention.

TEXAS LIONS CAMP Sessions each year: Handicapped - 4

**TEXAS LIONS CAMP
TEXAS LIONS FOUNDATION
PROMOTE TEXAS FUND
COUNCIL OF PDGs
LONG RANGE PLANNING**

Diabetic - 2. President elected at Directors' Meeting. Directors: Two elected from each district plus District Governor and Immediate PDG of each district, and past president of camp.

TEXAS LIONS FOUNDATION
Gives humanitarian and disaster grants to provide help to those in need.

PROMOTE TEXAS FUND
Provides for candidacy support of members running for International office. Administered by present and Immediate Past Council of Governors Executive Committees.

COUNCIL OF PAST DISTRICT GOVERNORS All Past District Governors are invited to join. Advisory to Council of Governors. Elects own officers.

**MULTIPLE DISTRICT
CONVENTION
DIABETIC ESSAY CONTEST**

Promote Multiple District Projects.

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE Members are appointed by District Governors for two years. Study problems given by Council and PDGs.

MULTIPLE DISTRICT (STATE) CONVENTION Business Sessions. Resolutions. Election Summaries of Sub-Districts. Held one month before International Convention. Rotated among sixteen districts.

DIABETIC ESSAY CONTEST
District and State contest to increase diabetic awareness and information. District winners advance to state contest.

**TEXAS LIONS MD-2 DISTRICT GOVERNORS
(Year)**

****LIST DISTRICT GOVERNORS AND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNORS HERE***

**MD-2 STATE CHAIRMEN
(YEAR)
*LIST STATE CHAIRS HERE**

INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS MD-2 TEXAS

PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Everett J. Grindstaff (Jay)
P. O. Box 269
Ballinger, TX 76821
B: (915) 365-3515
H: (915) 365-2400
FAX (915) 365-5263

PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORS

PDG Connie de la Garza (Lisa)
503 E. Harrison
Harlingen, TX 78550
Home: 956-423-8063
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Fax: 956-425-3484

Don Buckalew (Elaine)
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Conroe, TX 77305
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Jimmy M. Ross (Velda)
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1068 Meadowvale
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