



# The Texas Lion



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March 2005

We Serve

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As of February 26 no information had been received from any other State Chairmen or programs, the next issue, June 2005 will have additional information on the 2005 Convention, Hall of Fame inductees and Lions activities.

You may submit information via email (pictures in jpg, tif, format) at any time and I will save them to a June 05 folder, Dead line for June issue is May 20 for those who feel a need to wait until the last minute  
Send to:

[lewvail@samlink.com](mailto:lewvail@samlink.com)

## Chairman's Corner

Richard "Dick" E Robinson

Hello Lions, Some would say that this Lion's year is on the down side because it's half over. I say absolutely not. There are loads of issues we need to attack starting with our numbers. I understand that clubs clean the roster just prior to the second billing, however are we really doing the right thing? Retention and growth are inseparable. If we work the two at the same time and bring quality folk into Lionism, our retention issues will be a thing of the past.

Membership, Membership, Membership.

The lost totals for the month ending in December aren't very pretty. That term has a certain ring doesn't it? BAD I believe that's the same message when we last chatted. There are several great programs ongoing and the MD-2 has several clubs in the making. Well how about you? Have you brought in your Lion yet? How many times have you asked someone? If you haven't asked at least three on more times, you aren't working hard enough. How many times were you asked before you joined? Your governors cannot do it alone, and please do not fall into the trap that it's someone else job to promote growth. Again I ask each of you to CLOSE THE BACK DOOR, and OPEN THE FRONT DOOR. Let's search for QUALITY-QUALITY-QUALITY members. I would ask you to accept that the future of Lionism is those we are bringing in. You and I have the responsibility to maintain standards until they are on board. I have no doubt that we can prevail.

Convention 2004-2005: Have you registered for MD-2 state Convention to be held 26-28 May in Waco? The sooner you commit, the better. Don't forget to register at the convention hotels. Hilton, Marriott, and Holiday Inn. Special rates are available for you, and the forms are on the MD-2 ([www.texaslions.org](http://www.texaslions.org)) web site , also your governors have them. I must do a rooms release back to the hotels this month or risk winding up paying for a group of unused rooms. The convention will be a fun operation as well business. Something for all. Our breakout sessions are all designed to be workshop atmosphere, we'll have a mobile eye-screening vehicle on board, great entertainment and lots of food. Come and join the Lions of Texas for our end of year celebration. Fun starts Thursday evening with a western style dress and meal. Any one caught wearing a suit will be asked to donate a rather large sum of funds for Thursday only. There will be great speakers, silent auctions, and the privilege of honoring some of our own. Get registered and reserve your place. See you in WACO.

ACCENTUATE

THE

POSI-

## Texas Lions Leadership Forum and LCI Institute

Austin, Texas

March 19 & 20 - Have you registered?

Deadline is March 9

Information and forms located on the State web site...

[www.texaslions.org](http://www.texaslions.org)



## Support Your Texas Lions Camp - Get License Plates NOW!!!

During the 78th Legislative Session, the Texas Lions Camp was authorized to participate in the Texas Specialty License Plate Program. What this means, is that any one who would like to show their **Lions Camp pride**, can support the Texas Lions Camp by purchasing a TLC License Plate for one or more of their vehicles.

The fees for TLC Plates are paid directly to TxDot, and are assessed annually, in addition to your annual vehicle registration. Prices for TLC plates are billed as Specialty plates \$30.00 **After selling 3,500 plates, the Texas Lions Camp will receive a one-time, lump sum payment of \$15,000 and will then begin accumulating a royalty payment equivalent to \$22.00 per license plate, per year.**

If even half of the Lions in the State of Texas were to participate, the Camp could realize a significant increase in its operating revenues, which of course serves to ensure continued, quality services provided to children with handicaps, type 1 diabetes and cancer.

**So don't delay...download the form and order your plate (s) today! You will be glad you did, and will find yourself making a huge difference for your Organization for only .08 cents per day!**

## Pride In Your Club---- Pride In Your Membership

There is a very CONCRETE way you may demonstrate your pride in membership, and that is to offer others the same opportunities for community involvement. The new Lions you sponsor will, as you have, come to recognize the Lions club as the perfect vehicle through which personal goals within the community can be reached. They too, will soon understand the unlimited potential of more than 46,000 Lions clubs worldwide to be the most effective instruments of community and humanitarian service. Membership in a Lions club provides myriad opportunities such as: Involvement in community and humanitarian causes.

Experience a personal growth to a degree unattainable were it not for your Lions club membership. Involvement in the Texas Lions Camp. Association with some of the most committed individuals in our great state. Supporting local, state and International charities.

The personal satisfaction that results from voluntary service. The examples are endless.

If you have Pride In Your Club and Pride In Your Membership it is your duty and responsibility to share it with those who are not Lions.

I leave you with a quote " That which a man willingly shares, he keeps. That which he selfishly keeps, he loses."

PDG Ron Knott, State Membership  
Chairman

## RETENTION IN TEXAS

Our Texas Lions Camp, teaches the "Can Do" philosophy. As past president PDG Paul Palmer states "Let's all help jump start the lives of these children to a road of success".

HOW CAN WE GET THIS MESSAGE, AS IT RELATES TO THE LIONS OF TEXAS ! CAN WE JUMP START THE "CAN DO" PHILOSOPHY OF LIONISM, INTO OUR MEMBERSHIP ?

Where do we stand today ?

The Lions of Texas, realized a gain in membership at the end of June, 2004. Even though it was only a +39, and it primarily came from the Extension efforts of caring Lions, it was still a PLUS for the year.

The latest membership report from International, shows that through the first half of this Lions year, we find ourselves in a familiar position. We now stand at a loss of -656 members ! AND LESS THAN 31,000 LIONS IN TEXAS.

Where do we go from here ?

This is up to YOU and ME. We cannot do it alone, and we cannot leave it up to others.

VALUES, are the way you determine the right direction. Is your club of value to your community? If not, then what can be done to motivate your membership into remembering what Lions stand for, and why they became a member.

Does your District value your clubs role as a leader for the betterment of Lionism ?

Is the Leadership of your District, one that you and your club can rely on ?

The "Lack of Leadership", has created most of the situations that we face today.

Where do we find help and support ? You must reach out, beyond yourself. Leadership through knowledge, is "Involvement".

Within your Club, seek others who want to see the club achieve more and thrive. Within your District, seek those who continually accomplish great deeds for Lionism.

Check out the State and International Web-Sites, for a wealth of useful information.

In our Association, we have many experiences. Can we accept the painful experiences of declining membership to continue ? I HOPE NOT !

When Conflicts arise, and we have the ability to manage them, we will then be on the road to recovery.

Ron Layland, PDG MD-2 Retention  
Chairperson

## What does Extension of Lions Clubs mean?

To a community where there is not a Club, it represents an opportunity for the citizens to come together, under the umbrella of all the great things that Lions can accomplish.

To the City where there are existing clubs, it means that an opportunity is being made available for expanded coverage of the great things Lions can do.

To the District, Extension efforts has come to be the reason they might have a Plus in their total membership.

Extension has many meanings, and many reasons. We are constantly looking for the right reasons and the best way to accomplish the process. We can be frugal in our approach, we can be realistic in our attempts, and we can be successful with the efforts.

At this time, we are half way through the 8th month of this Lions year. As of February 1st, 2005, Lions Clubs International reported only 3 Lions clubs have been formed in Texas. Many of you are aware that the Council of Governors set a goal of 64 clubs to be formed this year. Don't let such a loft goal deter those of you who are interested in forming a new club. Every new club will become important to the community in which it was formed.

Consider forming a New Club, where it is needed, so it too can serve those in need.

A Caring & Sharing Lion,

Mary Pitner  
MD-2 Extension Chairperson  
Home: 817-624-1349  
mary-pitner@bizdialup.com



Any Lion prospects hiding under here???

There are all sorts of Lions around, did you get one?



## How 'bout startin' a Lions Club zeb?



## DIABETES - ? Epidemic ?

Diabetes mellitus has reached epidemic proportions in recent years. Consider: The prevalence of diabetes in the United States increased 60%, to more than 18 million, between 1990 and 2000, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Today, more than 18 million Americans are estimated to have diabetes and another 15 to 20 million Americans are estimated to have pre-diabetes (impaired glucose tolerance or impaired fasting glucose), possibly doubling the number of individuals who develop the disease in the next 10 years.

There are also racial and ethnic disparities among diabetic patients, with twice the incidence of diabetics among Hispanic/Latinos and blacks, and 2.6 times the incidence for Native Americans, native Alaskans and native Hawaiians compared to the general population. Of additional concern is the large number of persons in their teens and early 20's who are developing Type 2 Diabetic mellitus as a result of diet and sedentary life styles.

Some 90% of Americans with Diabetes Mellitus have Type 2 diabetes. Behavior and lifestyle are often important contributory risk factors. Diabetes along with hypertension and hyperlipidemia, is part of a constellation of concomitant systemic disorders that make up the metabolic syndrome. Due to the insidious nature of Type 2 diabetes' the disease is present an average of four to seven years before clinical diagnosis.

Type 2 is now being diagnosed in children and adolescents between the ages of 10 and 20, and most especially in those who are obese. Of all adults and children diagnosed with diabetes, 50% have Type 2.

Why is this happening? "Most adults are diagnosed after they have had the disease for three to five years, while children tend to be diagnosed earlier because they're required to have annual physicals in school".

What's causing the rise in Type 2 diagnoses? Well a strong family history is one risk factor. But most studies point the finger at obesity, sedentary lifestyles, physical inactivity and diets overloaded with super sized junk foods.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, as many as 3% of children ages 6 to 11, and 14% of teenagers, are overweight. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention further confirm that the number of overweight children has doubled since 1980.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes about 151,000 people below the age of 20 years have diabetes. It further predicts that one in three U.S. children born in 2000 will become diabetic unless encouraged to eat less and exercise more.

If people can indeed do a lot to prevent or delay type 2, then how do you effectively get the point across of the importance of lifestyle changes to youngsters and their families?

" The first and most important thing to remember is how you felt when you were a kid. The last thing wanted was to be lectured by anyone about what you could or couldn't do. After all, there dealing with peer pressure, classmates and friends who do not understand diabetes, questions about food options at school and restaurants and how to properly exercise. The key is to be understanding and educational. But don't over-whelm everyone with medical terminology. Explain everything in familiar terms.

Diabetes is a major cause of macrovascular and end organ microvascular complications, including kidney disease, retinopathy and peripheral neuropathy. Consider:

" Diabetes mellitus, along with hypertension, is the leading cause of renal failure in the United States.

" Hypertension occurs in up to 68% of people who have Type 2 diabetes. There is evidence; however, that hyperglycemia alone plays a critical role in renal microangiopathy, especially in those patients who have long-standing diabetes.

" Some 20% of diabetic patients develop some level of peripheral neuropathy after five years. Diabetes is the leading cause of non-traumatic amputation in the United States and in the industrialized countries. Diabetes is the leading cause of vision loss among 24 to 70 year olds, and those with diabetes are 25 times more likely to be legally blind than non-diabetic persons.

Until recently, childhood diabetes was usually assumed to be Type 1, or juvenile-onset diabetes. However, in the last two decades, Type 2-- once considered to effect only middle-aged and elderly individuals--has been more frequently reported among children and adolescents in the United States and Europe.

Four districts have held contests and have there winners in place. I know of two other districts who will have contests at their District Convention. Hopefully there will be seven contestants at the State Convention in Waco.

PDG Morris H. Treadwell  
Diabetic Chairperson



## LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND

**HISTORY:** Leader Dogs for the Blind (LD) was Founded in 1939 by three Lions who were frustrated that they could not secure a dog guide for a blind friend in Michigan.

Each year LD graduates about 300 students Who with their dogs, truly become partners In independence. LD has graduated almost 13,000 teams.

**MONEY:** Lions and Lioness provide about 20% of the LD annual operating monies. The remaining 80% come from non-Lions donations and resources. The annual budget of approximately \$9 million a year supports all facilities, dog care, housing and transportation to just name a few. Hundreds of volunteers provide LD with great savings by mailing out LD publications, walking the dogs housed in the LD kennels and of course all Puppy Raisers volunteer to teach and financially support these pups for an entire year.

**SCHEDULED:** Pauline Ulrey, a full time field representative of LD since March 1998, will be attending both the Texas Lions Leadership Forum and LCI Leadership Institute in Austin. scheduled for March 19 and 20, 2005. She will also be a guest at our MD-2 State Convention in Waco, scheduled for 26 - 29 May 2005.

Pauline is a very unique person. At the age of two (2) she was struck by lightning which left her legally blind. She has had nine (9) surgeries on her left eye which restored partial vision which lasted for several years before the eye slowly went blind. With Retinitis Detachment taking place in her right eye, she has been totally blind since 1963.

Pauline is now on her 6th dog. The beautiful German shepherd that guides for her is named "Storm". This very active field representative travels extensively for LD giving presentations.

Be sure to look up Pauline and Storm at the Texas Lions functions mentioned above.

Sandy Griffin  
State Leader Dog Chair

Leader Dogs and their owners attended the COG meeting in Kerrville in February where Lions and guests enjoyed watching a dog trained to respond to hand commands while working with a deaf / blind person.



## PLAN NOW TO GO TO PEORIA IN SEPTEMBER AND ATTEND THE USA/CANADA FORUM

Now is the time to plan your vacation to attend the 2005 Forum which will be held on September 22-24 in Peoria, Illinois. "Passion to Excel" will be the theme for the Forum. Fifty-four Seminars under the headings of "Passion to Lead," "Passion to Serve," "Passion to Perform," "Passion to Promote," and "Passion to Grow," will be held on Friday and Saturday and each attendee will have the opportunity to attend as many as eight seminars on various subjects.

There will be inspirational and humorous speakers at the meal functions including Doug Stevenson at the Thursday Night Opening; Karyn Buxman at the Friday Luncheon; and Willie Jolly at the Saturday Night Banquet. Dr. Patt Schwag will be the Speaker at the Thursday Afternoon Opening. These speakers will also have special sessions during the Seminar times on Friday and Saturday which you can attend.

Brochures and Registration Forms are now available from your District Forum Promotion Chair. Thus far, over 1100 Lions have registered to attend the Peoria Forum including 48 from Texas. Last year, we had more Lions attend than any other Multiple District and we want this recognition again.

Vice President Jimmy Ross is the Honorary Chairman for this Forum and it is my pleasure to serve on the "Peoria Team" Planning Committee which consists of 21 Lions from the United States and Canada. Under the direction of General Chairman PID Gene Polgar, this committee plans all of the program and activities and is assisted by the Host Committee to carry out the various activities.

Please consider and encourage other Lions in your District, Zone and Club to attend this worthwhile, educational and enjoyable Lions Club activity.

Anytime I can be of help to you in any way, please call on me.

Yours in Lionism,  
Jack A. Harris, PCC  
State Promotion Chair  
e-mail: lionpccjah@prodigy.net

## LIONS AFFORDABLE HEARING AID PROJECT

By PDG Ray Whiye, State Chairman  
(The LionsEar hearing aid)  
Dubbed: LionsEar Project

The development of the distribution process is underway. The hearing aid is for people with mild, moderate and moderately severe hearing loss. The upcoming digital hearing aid will assist those with more severe and profound hearing loss. If any club is interested in the LionsEar hearing aid project, this is what you need to take into consideration.

Only a board certified hearing instrument specialist or audiologist can legally dispense hearing aids. Also, the LionsEar aids need to be programmed to an individual's hearing loss, which required a professional. The Club or Clubs would order the hearing aids, but send them to the professional. The cost of the hearing aid is \$90.00 to \$120.00 depending on how many ordered at a time and must be shipped to the Specialist.

When choosing an audiologist or specialist, you may want to consider the following questions:

1. Will they discount the charge for their service to assist the needy? If so, what services are covered? The test/evaluation? The Fitting? The follow-up?
2. Will they test and evaluate the persons hearing loss?
3. Will they receive the hearing aids when shipped to them?
4. They will receive software and cables to fit the hearing aids from International, so they will have to agree to have their name, address, and e-mail at LCIF so software upgrades can be sent to them.
5. Are they willing to make ear mold impressions for the ear mold? What would be the charge for the ear molds?
6. Would they agree to a one month follow-up appointment after fitting the hearing aids?
7. Would they continue to assist the person with adjustments to the hearing aids for up to one year?

It would be up to each Club or Clubs to establish income criteria and possibly forms similar to what you are currently used for New Eyeglass distribution.

Before long there will be a new website "The LionsEar.org" to hopefully answer any questions you may have concerning the Lions Affordable Hearing Aid Project. If you have any questions before then, you might want to contact Deborah Stamm at dstamm@lionsclubs.org, 630-571-5466 ext. 615. Deb is the LionsEar Project.

## MD-2 Outstanding Youth Contest

PDG Ted Whitley Chairman

We are getting ever closer to the State convention and the Outstanding Youth contest. District Chairs should be holding their contests (some already have). Please remember in your district you may call your contest by a different title and that is fine, but remember the winner of the contest must be eligible to participate in the State contest under State contest rules. We realize that there is a conflict in many districts with the State convention being the same dates that the schools are graduating seniors. I have made a proposal to the next council of governors that, if adopted, will solve most of our problems in this regard. We have had this conflict for the last several years. We had ten participants last year and nine the two previous years. So the conflict has not been critical but it is a hindrance to getting more contestants.

The State Youth contestants will be housed in the Clarendon Hotel in Waco about two blocks away from the convention center. All the youth contests will be held at the Clarendon. As soon as possible you will be receiving information concerning the time of the contest and other contest information.

Please remember the MD-2 web site has all the rules and applications. Just "tune" into MD-2 and link onto "contests". If you have a question not answered on the web contact me at twia@sbcglobal.net

Thank you for your interest in the Outstanding Youth Contest and in promoting Lionism.

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2004 Winner, DG Gregrich, Winners Mom, LEO Sponsor & VDG Middleton Scholarships help students in many ways get your young people involved...



## LCIF TSUNAMI RELIEF UPDATE

### Making A Donation

LCIF established the South Asia Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund (#5105) for Lions, clubs, districts and others to assist relief efforts by Lions. The funds are supporting immediate needs such as food and water and will support long-term reconstruction needs.

U.S. donors can: Mail a check to LCIF. Make the check payable to LCIF and write "tsunami relief" in the memo field. Send the check to LCIF, 300 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, IL 60523, USA, Attn.: Donor Services. Make a credit card donation with a MasterCard, Visa or American Express by calling LCIF at 630-571-5466, ext. 517 or 554. Call between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. CST.

Donations for tsunami relief from Dec. 26, 2004, to March 31, 2005, are eligible for MJF recognition. These must be donations that fully provide for an MJF through a US\$1,000 donation. The Melvin Jones Fellow does not have to be named at the time the donation is made Using tsunami relief donations to provide for MJF recognition is an option for clubs and districts. Be sure to indicate whether you want MJF recognition when sending in the donation. LCIF prefers that districts and clubs not request MJF recognition when donated funds are secured as the result of large-scale solicitation of the public.

Whether or not MJF recognition is obtained, donations for tsunami relief count toward an individual's and a club's cumulative giving totals to LCIF, which help qualify an individual and club for various award programs.

LCIF's normal policy is that MJF recognition is not allowed for designated donations. The LCIF board of trustees made an exception to this policy in January to encourage donations for tsunami victims.

The unparalleled tsunami disaster in South Asia has led to an unprecedented LCIF initiative supporting rebuilding of communities. LCIF has approved an initial US\$5 million commitment to assist in the recovery. The funds will enable Lions in South Asia to rebuild homes, schools and child welfare centers for orphans and to provide for psychological treatment and physical rehabilitation for children and emotional counseling for adults.

The US\$5 million is a matching donation from LCIF. Half will come from LCIF reserves, and the other half from donations to LCIF from Lions for tsunami relief.

LCIF is mobilizing tremendous financial support for recovery for South Asia. So far, LCIF has received more than US\$630,000 in donations from Lions. This includes US\$200,000 from the Lions of Korea and US\$120,000 from the Lions of Sweden. The Lions of Japan will make a major donation and the Lions of Ireland expect to contribute US\$460,000.

Lions in South Asia already have spent an estimated \$820,000 on relief, including \$220,000 in emergency grants sent to them by LCIF. Lions have provided hundreds of thousands people with food, water and medicine.

Immediately after the tsunami, Lions quickly sprang into action to provide immediate aid to survivors and worked with government officials on planning for long-term reconstruction. Thousands of Lions in many towns and villages fanned out to provide vital supplies and began to lay the groundwork for long-term rebuilding.

"The tsunami disaster in South Asia prompted a tremendous outpouring of support from Lions around the world, and Lions in the affected countries worked day and night to bring essential supplies to victims," said LCIF Chairperson Dr. Tae-Sup Lee. "Thanks to Lions, victims are receiving necessary food and water and communities will be rebuilt."

Respectfully submitted by  
PDG Ray White  
MD-2 LCIF Chair.



## SO YOU ARE TO RECEIVE AN AWARD

By Lion C. Curtis Trent\*

Awards for outstanding accomplishments and service are a part of Lionism. Lions around the world are recognized daily by their clubs, communities, and other entities for their acts of service.

If you have been singled out to receive an award or other recognition, how do you respond? It is just simple courtesy to respond in a well planned, organized way. The acceptance speech should be just as well planned as a platform speech, and it should be practiced.

How do you show your appreciation properly? The following practical suggestions are offered:

The Keynote of an Acceptance Speech is Appreciation.

Be sure to thank the giver--call him/her by name. Face the giver as you thank him/her.

Speak loudly and slowly enough so all in the room can hear you.

Thank the donor (group)--use the correct and full name.

Point out how the donor made it possible for you to accomplish what you did to receive this award.

Express gratitude to those who put you in the position to achieve what this award represents.

Turn the spotlight on others by minimizing your own worthiness as an individual. Be unassuming and give the impression that you view others favorably in comparison with yourself.

Attribute whatever you have done to the cooperation of others.

Make A Good Impression

Compare what you have done with what you might have accomplished, and what is yet to be done.

Describe specifically and clearly the work others did to help you.

Describe a humorous or interesting bit of experience involved in this achievement. (Be sure this "bit of experience" isn't so personal that the audience can't enjoy it.)

Indicate the significance of the award.

Indicate the responsibility it puts on you now.

Indicate the determination you have to live up to its significance.

End with a brief, short statement of very sincere appreciation.

Refer little to the gift as such; make the group feel that you are pleased with what they gave you, without referring to its worth or value.

Be sure to end with a brief, sincere statement of appreciation.

Avoid--

Talking too long.

Saying too much in general terms.

Trying to say something sincerely if

(CONTINUED PAGE 6 COL 3)

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

By Lion Bob Nelson, State Chair

<http://texaslions.org>

Educating/Training Lions is one of the primary concerns facing the Lions of Texas. The MD-2 Integrated Information Technology program consisting of the MD-2 State Website and the 16 District websites is fully operational; however, many Texas Lions are not aware of its full capability and potential.

The following Seminars and work sessions are scheduled to provide training in the use of the Internet:

" Texas Lions Leadership Forum in Austin, Texas, March 19-20, 2005. The forum topics for the sessions are: "Technology - Information available through technology of LCI and other sources." and "Advanced Technology - The uses of technology to support Lionism activities." The sessions are tentatively scheduled to begin at approximately 1:15 p.m. on Saturday, 8:30 a.m. on Sunday and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday for the Advanced Technology.

" MD-2 Texas Lions State Convention, Waco, Texas; May 26-28, 2005. Two Seminars -Workshop sessions are scheduled. Each two hour seminar/workshop will cover the use of and information available on the LCI, MD-2, and District websites. On-line LCI reporting will also be discussed. The Seminar presentation will be projected on a screen from a computer connected to the Internet to provide maximum exposure to the use and content of available Lions information. Five additional Presenters with computers will be available to provide assistance during the workshop sessions. One session is scheduled for Friday afternoon and the second session is scheduled for Saturday morning. The actual times will be confirmed in the convention schedule.

Maximum participation at the above seminars will promote the use of the MD-2 Integrated Information Technology Program by Texas Lions.

This year has reached its midpoint, and it is time to begin the process of nominating new officers for the 2005-2006 Lions Year. Nomination of Club Officers is scheduled for March of each year with elections being held in April. Submit club PU-101 Forms in a timely manner to Lions International and respective Districts after the elections. The PU-101 Form is the basic document used to publish the Club's Information in the District Governor's Directory and the District's website. The Vice District Governor should provide the information from the PU-101's and the Cabinet/Committee Officers information to both the Directory Editor and the Information Technology (Webmaster) Officer to ensure that all District Lions Information is consistent in the directory and on the website.

The MD-2 Texas Lions Integrated Website Program continues to expand. This integrated website program is the central location and focal point for all Texas Lions related information. This MD-2 State website and the 16 District websites are the foundation of this program and enhance the capacity for providing Lions information to all the Lions of Texas.

Promote the Texas Lions Integrated Website Program. Tell your friends, neighbors, other Lions and perspective Lions that the MD-2 Texas Lions website system is the central location for Texas Lions information. When you talk to anyone about Lionism ask him or her to visit the Texas Lions website at <http://texaslions.org> and your own District's website for additional information.



What yer figure that things fer?  
Donno, lets go learn in Waco...



## RECEIVING AN WARD (CONT FROM PG 5)

you are afraid you can't.

Leaving the impression that this gift is something "I have always wanted."

Telling the audience what others ought to do now.

Giving too much background and history of the project.

Reporting too many of the obstacles so the job you did seems to have been a burden.

Favorably evaluating the work you did.

Indicating that you are now abdicating your responsibilities and others must carry on.

Personal chit-chat with the giver or with members who worked with you.

*\*Dr. C. Curtis Trent is a member of the Cleburne Lions Club, Cleburne, Texas and is currently Chairman of District 2E-2 Drug Awareness Speech Contest. He is also Vice President of the Cleburne Toastmasters Club. Parts of this article were excerpted from Dr. Trent's and Dr. Charlotte Gorman's book Speak for Yourself. Cleburne, Texas. Nottingham Books, 2002.*

## TLERC -LEVELS OF GIVING

Like the other charities around the state, there are several methods of funding your Texas Lions Recycling Center. Unlike other projects, we at TLERC rely on the generosity of the Lions of Texas. The bulk of our funding comes from the 100% donations from Lions Clubs from around the state. This amount is established by the various district governors through their governor contests. TLERC offers a life membership for \$125.00. It consists of a very attractive pin and a plaque. This award allows a club to recognize its Lions in a special way. For a donation of \$550.00 you can give one of the highest awards offered by TLERC, the George Miles Fellow award. This award was named for the Lion who developed the sorting and shipping procedures of TLERC.

There is no other program in all of Lionism that touches more lives for the money spent than eyeglass recycling. The need for refractive correction in the world is overwhelming. Of the sight related problems, refractive correction is 90% of needed assistance. An individual that cannot see well enough to read is functionally blind. He needs as much assistance as a blind person. The good thing is this problem is correctable. Eyeglass recycling is the beginning of the answer for refractive correction in the developing nations. Eyeglass recycling needs adequate funding in order to help alleviate this problem.

To give to TLERC you can send your donations to:

TLERC - 200 Plaza, Midland, TX 79701

Please help to solve the problem of refractive correction.



**Grand Prairie Host Lions Club:**

The entire membership joined in to supply gift items for our "adopted" soldier & the club packed and mailed it all to Iraq.

FROM: President Mark Dean; Subject: Christmas gifts to Iraq.

I received the following e-mail today from Jimmy. Because of your efforts, we were able to do something special for our service men. I look at this picture, and think that Jimmy should a 3rd year college kid whose concerns should be a girl friend, or keeping a used car running. Instead, he sees war. This Christmas, even in Iraq, he has a little of Grand Prairie for Christmas.

I had a party with my wife's Rotary Club last night, and everyone kept talking about the positive things they are hearing about LIONS! I'm proud to be associated with a group of people like you!

Mark

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**Reply from Iraq**

TO: Mark Dean and the Lions,

COL Hagood our Commander, CSM Espitia, LTC Miller our Deputy ommander, Chaplain (LTC) Bishop my Chaplain, 353rd Engineer Group Soldiers, and I myself personally want to thank each and every single one of you who are members of the Lions Club in Grand Prairie, Texas for the effort, time, and money it took to make life a little better for us this Christmas.

By the way, attached to this email is a picture of Chaplain Bishop and I holding a few of the many boxes your club has sent to us that will be shared with soldiers who have not yet or will not receive packages from home this Christmas.

Once again to all you thank you and may God bless you ten times more for the support you have shown us. From all of us here, Happy Holidays.

Yours Truly,

Jim L. Henry II

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*Editor's Note: The referenced pictures did not arrive in a format that we could get into the newsletter but I am sure they are on the website for |Grand Prairie Lions Club - Thanks to them for sending this article. Ed*

**Letter to the Editor**

**I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WANT TO SEE THIS. I'M IN MD2-E1. I DON'T BELIEVE WE HAVE THIS PROBLEM.**  
**Subject: Dec. issue Texas Lions, Retention**

Fellow Lions,

Well, I've only been a Lion since February 1988 so I guess I've been easy to "snow". PDGs please help me. As I was reading the December issue of The Texas Lion I was doing fine until I got to page 3. (I generally read this news letter cover-to-cover). The article about retention means a lot to me and PDG Ron Leyland is a motivator so I began to sink my teeth in. All was well until I came to the last 2 sentences of paragraph 5 which reads "So they insist on mentoring the new leaders (Governors) through their year. Most times, it is to make sure they don't perform better than they did.

I've never been Governor but I appreciate what the PDGs in our District do for us. Maybe it's because I have had a close relationship with PDG John B. Kendrick. Fellow Lions there were 15 PDGs at Mid-Winter Conference. Hang on to one of their coat tails. Maybe we need to have a "shadow" program like the public schools do.

PDGs, I appreciate and admire the way you handle yourselves. You have a better turnout at our meetings than we other Lions. You had better than 70% at the meeting. We had less than 10%.

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