



The Lions Den

District 2-S3

"Vision of Dreams"



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DG Gary Cocanougher



Tis the Season, or is it. Christmas is supposed to be a time to celebrate a birth, spend time with family, and give to others. Have peace and good will toward all, but when you read the paper or watch the news you can get very depressed on all the wars, killings, and suffering that is going on throughout our world. I am not an expert on worldly affairs, but I feel there are only a few organizations out there that really care about their fellow man. And while there are great organizations, I feel none do as much, and care as much as the one you belong to called Lions Club International.

Every visit I make to your clubs, I leave with a good and proud feeling of knowing we are doing what we should be doing and that is serving our fellow man. We are also having fun doing it, so keep up the good work.

Tis the Season is in and with Lions it lasts all year long.

Have a **Wonderful Christmas** and **Happy New Year**.

DG Gary

"Vision of Dreams"



Merry Christmas



\$21,800 Given to Local Organizations

The Wimberley Lions Club handed out checks to local organizations to support youth and community needs. \$1,000 of these funds went to help those who lost from the local Forest Fires. This is part of our fall donation budget of \$112,950. Additional checks will be given out next month. Funds also go to programs to

fund scholarships, youth exchange program, Texas Lions Camp, leader dog program, and the prevention of blindness.

Wimberley Lions Club presented donations to an additional twenty-one organizations at their November 15, 2011 meeting.



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From the desk of J. P. Kirksey

We are very blessed and should be thankful all year long but, at this special time of the year, we devote additional time and energy to counting our blessings. And, in spite of the gloom and doom that we hear on the daily news, we truly do have much to be thankful for: Health, Family, Home, Freedom, and the Opportunity to extend hope to others by our community service through Lionism.

From the Kirksey household, we hope that each of you had a great Thanksgiving and are anticipating a very Merry Christmas

What is Christmas?

- Christmas is children waiting in surprise,
- Christmas is starlight sparkling in their eyes.

- Christmas is church bells, a call to prayer,
- Christmas is music, Carols in the air.
- Christmas is the gift of God's holy grace,
- Christmas is the smile on a loved one's face.
- Christmas is God's peace dwelling in the mind,
- Christmas is the love we give all mankind.

Think, Plan, Act = Success



1st VDG J. P. Kirksey
2011-2012

Bluebonnet Lions Fundraisers

Our Thankful Turkey 5K Run/Walk was a great success again this year thanks to our new project chair, Lion Liz, and her hard-working committee. Liz stepped up to the challenge of chairing our biggest annual fundraiser and did a GREAT job! So far the event has raised close to \$3,500 for our selected club charities.

BIG Kudos to Kathy Rogers for wrapping up a very successful NUT SALE! We added walnuts and almonds to our product line this year. What a great job everyone did. Our **Nut Sales project** raised over \$2,300. If anyone still has any money to be turned in, get it to Kathy or Gloria Fortin as soon as possible so this project can be wrapped up.

Debby Lawrence very successfully chaired a new **Butter Braid project** that raised about \$700. Thanks to Debby for a great new idea and for managing this project so efficiently.

Our next fundraiser will be December 10 when we will help with **Pictures with Santa at Centerpoint Station**. Call or email Linda Alexander if you would like to volunteer to help.

We also have a committee who met recently and brainstormed ideas for a Spring fundraiser, "**Spring into Reading**", which is tentatively scheduled for **Saturday, March 24 at Half Price Books**. The committee will be looking for club members to staff a table on that day to sell raffle tickets for prizes worth up to \$400 and mystery bags worth up to \$100. So please reserve this date on your calendar to help with this NEW fun event with an estimated net profit of \$1,400 with \$400 of the profit designated to **Reach Out & Read**.

PEACE POSTER CONTEST



Here is the District Peace Poster contest winner. Her name is Lauren Kieschnick from New Braunfels, a student at New Braunfels Middle School. The New Braunfels Noon Lions Club sponsored her contest.

The second place winner is Brenna Hassin from Lago Vista, a student at Lago Vista Middle School, and sponsored by the Lago Vista Lions Club.

The winners from each club entered will be displayed at the Mid-Winter Conference in McQueeney on January 28, 2012. Clubs will need to pick up their entry at that time. (See related story on page 20)

PDG Angie Nicholson, Chairperson

NB Noon Lions Wurstfest Is History

It's all over but the COUNTING! Wurstfest 2011 is history and by all indications it was the best year yet. Lion Fred O'Neal is busy paying the bills so we won't know the net result until later. A good, though tiring, time was had by all and as usual we were helped greatly by the Leos, JROTC, our friends and our families. In the final analysis we should be able to fund our budgeted charities. John Bell expressed his appreciation to those who put in the extra effort in the parking lot to set it up and take it down.



Above: Wurstfest 2011. Below: Once again, Leos played a big role in the Lions Food Booth. Way to go Leos.



Merry Christmas

"Membership is the Key" New Members—November

Congratulations to the newest members of District 2-53 and their sponsors. If there is no sponsor listed, it was not submitted to LCI. *Lion Gary Cocanougher*

Bulverde Lions Club

Harold H Waner sponsored by George A McNew

Cameron Lions Club

Melissa Boyer sponsored by Kyle W Deal, Sr

Granger Lions Club

Lawrence R Kincaid sponsored by
Katheryn E Montgomery sponsored by

Lago Vista Lions Club

Annette Elliot sponsored by Peggy Sharp

Liberty Hill Lions Club

Larry O Floyd sponsored by Paul Curtis
Billy R Guerin sponsored by Sam W Blair
Gary W Spivey sponsored by Sam Blair

Lockhart Lions Club

Larry W Ramirez sponsored by

New Braunfels (Noon) Lions Club

Rupert G Avriett sponsored by John L Creswell

Pflugerville Lions Club

Jerry D Grona sponsored by Wayne Redd
Terry J Grona sponsored by Wayne Redd

Round Rock Noon Lions Club

Stefanie Jo Martinez sponsored by Shirley Dillman

Taylor Lions Club

Theresa M Pore sponsored by James T Preece



Bulverde Lions Deliver Donations To St Jude's

Members of the Bulverde Lion's Club visited the St Jude's Children's Ranch on November 17, 2011 to deliver needed items to the Ranch. St. Jude's is a non-profit community resource that serves abused, abandoned, and neglected children and families. If you wish to donate any of the needed items listed below, please contact Jerry Steward at 830-228-5660. Additional information about St Jude's Ranch for Children is available on their web site at <http://www.stjudesranch.org>. Your generosity and tax deductible donation will be greatly appreciated. A listing of items needed by St Jude's Children's Ranch is listed below.



Pictured are (L to R) Lions George McNew, Red Waner, Jerry Steward (project coordinator), and Joel Selko.

Toothpaste and hygiene items
 Clothing and shoes
 Pots and pans
 Kitchen and cooking utensils
 Batteries
 Twin size bedding pillows, comforters/sheets
 Towels
 Bath mats
 Area rugs
 Hair clips, accessories and styling products
 Bulletin boards
 Decorative artwork and posters
 Board games
 DVD players
 CD/Radio players
 G, PG, and PG-13 DVDs

Art and craft supplies (paper, glitter, glue, markers, etc.)
 Assorted sports balls- volleyballs, basketballs, soccer balls, baseballs and gloves
 Exercise equipment- machines and free weights
 Gift cards (Target, Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Academy, HEB and Hobby Lobby)
 Passes for activities, like: San Antonio Zoo, movie tickets, Crocodile Gap, Fiesta Texas, Sea World, Schlitterbahn, Landa Park Pool Pass, The Children's Museum, and local restaurants like, McDonald's and Chick-Fil'A.
 Bicycles and helmets
 Large Rubbermaid storage tubs

Does Your Club Have a Newsletter?

Does your club have a newsletter? Is it in electronic format? If you answer yes to both these questions why not put me on your e mail distribution list for the newsletter and I'll put it up on the district web site. This is a great way for other district clubs to know what's going on in your club, get ideas for fund raisers or a project to promote Lionism in there community. I have 12 twelve clubs that out of approximately 60 in our district send me their newsletters. Here's the page where you can read those newsletters.

<http://lionsdistrict2s3.org/Newsletters.html> All I ask is that the newsletter be in MS Word, pdf, or MS publisher format. In the past year the district web site has averaged around 4000 visits a month with readers from 25 different countries. Wouldn't you like to have your club newsletter viewed from someone in the UK or maybe Germany?

Thanks, Duane Lueders, Webmaster, www.lionsdistrict2s3.org

Sight: What Better Gift?



Club Gifts to TLERC

Focus Club – Almost from our inception, Lions Clubs have been challenged to fight blindness. A "Focus Club" is one focused on providing the gift of vision to those in need, by supporting TLERC with at least a **\$3 per member** gift.



Individual Gifts to TLERC

Visionary Knights of the Blind – All Lions have been challenged by Helen Keller to be "Knights of the Blind". A "Visionary" recognizes that this fight is never ending. Thus, Visionary Knights of the Blind provide perpetual help by gifting at least **\$100/year**. This can be done by personal check or bank draft (min. \$10/mo).



The PDG O. Ike Fitzgerald Gold Vision Fellowship – A **\$1,000 or greater** gift recognizing PDG Ike's passion and determination in taking TLERC from vision to reality.

The Lion George Miles Silver Vision Fellowship – A **\$500** gift recognizing the hard work of Lion George Miles in setting up and operating the TLERC recycling warehouse.

The Doctor Norman S. Gould Bronze Vision Fellowship – A **\$250** gift recognizing Lion Gould's tireless effort and dedication in developing the optometric programs of TLERC.

*TLERC is a standalone 501(c)3 Foundation under the Lions of Texas. All deductions are tax deductible as allowed by U.S. tax law. TLERC joins the Texas Lions Camp and the Texas Lions Foundation as one of **3** that all Lions Clubs of the State of Texas have taken on the responsibility to maintain and support.*

'tis the season!

It is **THE** season. It is the season to be jolly. It is the season to celebrate and to party. It is the season to give thanks for all of our many blessings. It is the season to share our blessings with our family & friends. Most importantly, it is the season to give to those less fortunate and in need.

And what better gift could you give than the gift of SIGHT?

Through TLERC that's the gift you and all of the Lions of MD2 give all year long. It's the gift we will keep on giving as long as we have the continued support (monetary & physical) of the Lions of Texas. This Christmas, as people continue to struggle in a failing economy, providing glasses for those in need is even more important.

So as you decide how to share your many blessings this year, consider becoming a TLERC "Visionary Knight of the Blind" (min \$100/year or \$10/mo bank draft). Our initial goal is to have 400 Visionary Knights (25/District), although we have a very long way to go.

If a copy of the enrollment form is not in this newsletter, you can obtain one by contacting your TLERC District Director, calling TLERC (432-683-3611), or from the Texas State website. Santa has just delivered a new load of the beautiful Visionary Knights of the Blind medallions with their oak desk stands that you will receive after signing up. So join this special group of Lions, and **keep giving sight all year long!**

From all of the volunteers and staff at the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center may all of you have a joyous Christmas and a prosperous and Happy New Year.

Lion Tom Blase, 2A1 VDG
TLERC Promotions Director



New Braunfels LEOs



(L-R) Emily Solis, Lauren Bolton, Dana Call & Cutter Gonzalez attended the State LEO Conference, Nov 19, in Round Rock. Dana is 1st VP of the State Leo Council.

Below, Leos from ORMS and NBMS prepare for a kickball game. The game was a charitable event to raise money for pediatric cancer research, in honor of Adam Bays, a NBHS student.



ORMS Leo team wear special T-Shirts made by their president Selena Najjar and her mother for the event.



NBMS Leo team is ready to take the field Saturday at Comal Athletic Complex.



Pictured right: LEOs serve Thanksgiving Dinner at McKenna. Great job LEOs!



Lago Lion Wins Photo Contest

HOW DO WE DESCRIBE LION JO ANNE? V-A-L-U-A-B-L-E!!

Lion Jo Anne Smith has been a member of the Lago Vista Lions Club for just a little over one year and she exemplifies the type of Lion all clubs want to have in their own club. Her first year, she co-chaired the first Lions Health Fair, free to the public. Besides the District Mobile Health Unit, the Early Childhood Vision Screening unit was available as well as the mobile Blood Mobile and a dental screening group. Lion Jo Anne has been involved in the Blood Mobile visits scheduled by our club. She volunteered to be the club photographer for this year. Besides all that, Lion Jo Anne has brought three new members into the club.

She entered and won the District 253 Environmental Photo Contest in the category of "Animal Life". At the last minute before going out of town, she noticed the two little birds sitting on a flower pot in her back yard watching her dogs play. She couldn't resist the picture. Since those birds hadn't been

around before, she found out that they were winter visitors to this area. The photo has been forwarded to MD2 for competition at that level. We're betting on Lion Jo Anne as the winner there too!

Lion Jo Anne said; I'm very surprised to learn of this honor. A bright spot on a dreary rainy day.. No complaints however on the rain! Let it rain let it rain.

My camera was a new camera and lens that I came in and hurriedly put together and shot the little feathered visitors from my deck.

Looked them up in my TX Bird book and they were not listed. I then did a Google search and asked my sister in law, we came to the same answer that they are only visiting for the winter.

They are "White Capped Sparrows".

They were so cute intently keeping a close watch on our dogs.

Lion Jo Anne



District 2-53's winning Environmental Photo, theme - Animal Life, is being forwarded in competition to Texas Lions Multiple District 2, Lion Carol Peters, Chairperson.

Long Time Wimberley Lion Has Passed Away

John became a Lion in Marfa Texas, a Charter Member of the Fort Hancock Lions, and then a Founding Member of the Wimberley Lions Club. He has maintained his membership in the Wimberley Club since its founding in 1969. We are all so thankful for his dedicated service and many contributions over all these years. We will miss his telling the stories about the first Market Days in Wimberley. The Lions Pavilion was used for his Memorial Service since the Li-ons Club was so special to him. It was held this Saturday, November 26th. The service was lead by Britt Burns, the first Tail Twister of the Wimberley Lions. Britt said he held the job until they took away his scissors. Their were many people giving testimonials about John. The above picture is from the last club officer installation where he was presented a Texas Lions Camp Life Membership.

At the memorial, John's wife Sally gave the Lions the ten year Debenture that the Lions committed in 1972 to purchase the first ten acres of Lions Field to move Market Days from the downtown square.



Wimberley Lion John Devenport passed away.

New Braunfels Evening Lions Christmas Party



New Braunfels Lion Roy Crenwelge visits with prospective new member, Lynn Lindsay.



The Edelweiss Kinder Chor von New Braunfels sang in German and in English, much to delight of Lions.



Lion President and December birthday babies - Dwayne Koepf, Lisa Lasater, Georgia Wells.



Avery Wells helped serve the cake.



Above: PCC Lin Rose presents a life membership in Lions International to PDG Bill Phillips.



Above: The decorating "committee," Sue Hasert and Betty Schilling. Left: Each lady received a door prize.



Lago LEO Fundraisers

The Leo club has been fundraising and collecting canned food for their annual Thanksgiving Dinner Basket for needy families in the area. The goal this year is to increase the number of families we helped from two last year to four this year. Good News! The Leos think they might be able to help 5-6 families in lieu of the goal of four families. The Leos have been attending Lions meetings and they have been a success, the Lions have been very generous and have donated a lot of money and goods that will go into the turkey and other food items we might need. Additionally, Super S is working with the Leos to help reach their goal.



Leo Madelyn Ambrose

On a sad note our Leo Club Secretary Jennifer McCaleb fell extremely ill in early November. Her health issues have forced her to resign from her officer position and focus on her health. We wish her a speedy recovery and thank her for her service as a Leo Club Officer.

The Leos have set several new goals for the new year and are trying to implement them. So stay tuned for more information and have a Happy Thanksgiving.

By: Elaziel Roche - Leo Club President

Early Childhood Vision Screening Results Exceed Expectations

On Saturday, December 3rd, the *Longhorn Lions Club* of Cedar Park and Leander hosted an Early Childhood Vision Screening for children aged 6 months through 4 years. Twenty-six (26) children from the area were screened at the event held at the Public Library in Cedar Park. Three children were referred on to doctors who specialize in pediatric conditions of the eye. Two of the children were less than three years old and had potential Amblyopia (lazy eye condition, which is where one of their eyes was not developing at the same rate as the other and could lead to permanent total or partial blindness in the weak eye. Because their condition was identified at a very early age, their potential for normal vision in the future is very high.

Thanks to new infrared technology and the dedication of the volunteers from the Registered Opticians Association of Texas (ROATx) and the Lions Clubs of Texas, these children were tested for conditions that could lead to permanent blindness or other debilitating conditions if not treated. During the past three years, ROATx volunteers have screened nearly 3,000 children aged 6 months through 4 years. Out of these screenings, over 400 children have been referred to pediatric Ophthalmologists or Optometrists for treatment. The District 2s3 ECVS program fills the gap in SERVICE to the families of Central Texas and makes it possible to potentially eliminate childhood blindness in our district. Because 90% of what children learn before they start school is visual, this vision screening program assures children of the ability to learn because they can see better during these early development years.

The sponsoring Lions Club is responsible for organizing, conducting, and following up with the families referred to these specialized physicians within 60 days to ensure they had no problem getting the medical treatment the children need. Without early intervention and treatment, these children, part of the approximately five million in the U.S. who have such early vision challenges that maybe uncorrectable with glasses or contact lenses, will suffer permanent vision damage. By providing infrared vision screening and analysis by the skilled professional Registered Opticians to children at this much earlier age, detection is much earlier and therefore, these children will have a real chance to correct their vision problems before it may become to late.

For more information regarding future screenings, go to the ECVS web site

<http://ecvs.roatx.org>

or please contact Lion Sam Johnson, District 2s3 ECVS screening chairperson. (512-657-2020 cell)



FRIED OREO COOKIES!!!



The New Braunfels Lions Club sold many food items at this year's Wurstfest in New Braunfels, but fried Oreo cookies was the highlight.

If frying Oreo cookies was your job when you worked a shift at Wurstfest, you will agree we sold a lot of cookies this year. Over 7,500 orders of fried Oreo cookies left the Lions booth! This was our best year ever! All the bills are not in, so we don't have a final tally. We had a total of 630 hours of work. We thank the Breakfast Lions for all their help. We got to meet some new Lions and had fun working together.

We have been asked how we make our famous fried Oreo cookies.

Mix ingredients:

- 4 cups Funnel cake batter
- 3 cups Water
- 1 box of 360 Oreo cookies
- 1 bag Powered sugar



This is how they start.



Only Lion Betty Schilling knows how to light the burners.



Lion Bob Hasert mixing up the batter.



The Lions booth at Wurstfest.

Lago Vista Lions Presented Perfect Attendance

One of the highlights of the year is the presentation of Perfect Attendance awards. One of the pins awarded was a first for our club and a personal goal met by the recipient. Lion Rusty Allen finally was eligible to receive his 20 year Perfect Attendance pin and it was presented to him with a standing "O"! Another recipient was to Lion John Spoerlein, who is a 10 year member and was given a pin to match. When he moved here, he was impressed with the local service club of good people doing good things. He also had a yen to be part of some cooking team. He got involved in the Chili Feast and later became the Pitmaster of our BBQ Team. Receiving 5 year Perfect Attendance pins were Lions Joe Burke and Connie and Don Zschoche.



CLUB NEWS

BASTROP LOST PINES LIONS CLUB

Veterans' Day Celebration and Parade: Lion President Milli Underwood served six hours in the hospitality room greeting guests and assisting in any capacity where needed.

BUDA LIONS CLUB

Our Club donated \$750.00 to the Texas Lions Camp in memory of one of our deceased members (Pat Beck); we donated \$250.00 to both Buda Blue Santa and Hays County Sheriff's Brown Santa; we donated \$500.00 to Hays High School Student Council for their program for Shoes For Kids; and we donated and popped 2 1/2 cases of popcorn for Buda's Downtown Trick or Treat. Our Club will have a display and will assist at this year's Buda's Trail of Lights.

BULVERDE LIONS CLUB

Appreciation from Friends of Matthew Wright: The Bulverde Lions Club (BLC) accepts mementos of appreciation from the "Friends of Matthew Wright" for assistance rendered during a fundraiser held October 7-8, 2011 at Anhalt Dance Hall in Spring Branch Texas. In 2009 Matthew Wright was attacked and beaten sustaining a serious brain stem injury in 2009 while breaking up a fight between a guy and girl he did not know. Matthew is now paralyzed, and cannot speak, eat, or drink. Despite two brain surgeries, comas, multiple infections, and paralysis - the Friends of Matthew Wright continue their great efforts to seek medical treatments and they are optimistic about improving his quality of life. Matt's emotional and physical ability to take on major surgery takes strength and courage from some unknown reservoir he seems to possess. Fundraisers provide the means to continue in this struggle. Funds raised on October 7-8 will be used to defray expenses for Matthew's medical treatment. Pictured here are (L-R) BLC President Joe Hamilton, Patti Prescott (FMW), Susan Bradley (Matthew Wright's Mother), BLC Lion George McNew, and Bulverde Lion Tom Hotaling.



Meeting Minutes 10 November 2011: Guests: Susan Bradley (Matthew Wright's Mother) Patti Prescott (Friends of Matthew Wright) Harold "Red" Waner Key Dates: 8 December 2011, BLC Christmas Party 3 March 2012: Lions Camp Work Day 31 March 2012: Lions Camp Workday 13 April 2012: Wild Game Dinner 5 May 2012: Lions Camp Workday Minutes: Cooks: Garrison Maurer and Lewis Kreutler Meal: Pork Chops, Corn, Salad, Deserts Old Business: None New Business: 1. President Joe Hamilton opened meeting with introduction of guests who represent the "Friends of Matthew Wright (FMW)" - Susan Bradley (Matthew Wright's Mother) and Ms. Patti Prescott. BLC was instrumental in success of the FMW fundraiser on October 8 at Anhalt Dance Hall, in Spring Branch. Parking lot team assisted with parking. BLC is providing fundraising assistance for the FMW. Susan Bradley and Patti Prescott presented the club with mementos of appreciation to the club from Matthew. Susan Bradley noted that Matthew recently returned from Moscow where he received a stem cell transplant. She noted that he is making positive progress and now has the ability to write his name. Photos of the presentation are provided at the Enclosure of these minutes. 2. BLC Golf Tournament on 20 October at Hawk Golf Course in Spring Branch was a huge success. Special thanks to those who participated in making this event successful. Funds raised netted approx \$1800 for the club. 3. Discussed upcoming Christmas party for the club on December 8, 2011. This is a potluck dinner and a signup roster for headcount and food items was passed among club members. There will be no additional meetings for the BLC in November and the Christmas Party will be the only gathering for December. 4. Jerry Stewart discussed need for assistance to deliver donated items for St Jude's Children's Ranch on Thursday November 17, 2011. Jerry is the coordinator for donations. Jerry discussed need to obtain Internal Revenue Service documents confirming the BLC's tax exempt status to assist with collection of donations from businesses, etc to support club activities. 5. Joe McNew provided update on planning for the Wild Game Dinner in April 2012. Goal is to improve the quality of the silent auction and reduce items for the live auction to 20 major items. From 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm, attendees will bid on silent auction and eat meals. Auction will begin at 7:00 pm and finish the event by 9:00 pm. Goal is to develop a video presentation to show the audience about what the BLC does for the community and seek donations. The program will be revitalized to highlight BLC service to the community and solicit help from attendees to fund continuation of these activities. Tickets are now available for the hunting buggy (POC is Bob Tennis) and for the Wild Game Dinner (POC is Dale Wilken). 6. Mr. Harold Warner applied for membership in the BLC. Since October a total of four new members have joined the BLC.

CLUB NEWS *(Continued)*

CANYON LAKE NOON LIONS CLUB

Christmas Party: The Christmas Party will be on Thursday night, December 15th at the Canyon Lake Golf Club. Club members have until December 9th to select their menu items. The cost this year is \$27 per person with full open bar service. We need to guarantee 50 participants, which has never been a problem.

Lions Christmas Parade: The Lions Christmas Parade will be on Saturday, December 10, 2011, beginning at 11 a.m. Lion members need to be at the parade by 10 a.m. There was mention of our parade in the Canyon Lake View and Texas Highway Magazine. There will be advertising on Channel 14. Lion Chuck Varney will tow the Lion Cage behind his golf cart, since it is too heavy for the Leo club members to pull. Leo club members will ride in the Leo Car, carry the Lion Christmas Parade Banner at the front of the parade, carry their own banner, and hand out not throw candy canes (1,560 to give out) to children along the parade route. Lion Bob Brooks will be a judge for the floats, and Lion Dr. Jeff Quinn will be the Grand Marshall. Apparently his wife Elaine was involved in the first Canyon Lake Christmas Parade. The fly over will include the normal vintage plane plus a B25 (\$600 to club).

Veteran's Day Luncheon: The 2nd Annual Veteran's Day luncheon was hosted by the Mountain Valley Middle School Leo's Club members on November 11th at the school. Fifteen (15) Lion club members participated in this wonderful event. The PTA ladies provided desserts.

LEO Activity: Twenty-six (26) members attend yesterday's meeting. Three dozen donuts lasted 1 minute. New membership packages have been ordered for 30 Leo Club members. Also, some more t-shirts were ordered.

Halloween Funfest: Four (4) Alan reported that 4 Lions participated on October 30th from 7-10 pm at Mr. Pierre Crestin's Halloween Funfest event at the Canyon Lake Cabins and Cottages at 2140 FM306. It was a fun event.

White Cane Collection: George O'Donnell reported that the white cane collection on Saturday, October 29, during Market Days made \$361.



Aluminum Can Collection: Chuck Varney reported that 14 Lions spent about 2 hours collecting 1,260 lbs. of aluminum can from Super S Foods in Sattler and Startzville on Friday, October 28. The cans sold for 56 cents/lb. which netted us \$716.80. Chuck stated that the Boy Scouts now have an aluminum can collection cage at FM306 and 2673.

Texas Lions Camp Endowment Fund: The pledge to the Texas Lions Camp Endowment Fund was discussed at length. The Board decided to give \$2,100 per year for five years, which is a Sustaining Club Pledge equal to \$150 per member. Also, club members may send in individual donations.

Raffle and Auction for Fish Fry: The Board further discussed raffle items for the Fish Fry and Shrimpfest. The Board agreed to increase efforts to raise more money in the raffle by adopting a suggestion by Bob Wickman to run a bucket option raffle. This is where you have maybe 20 items with a bucket by each one. You buy raffle tickets and place them in whatever bucket with the item you would like to win. Also the committee is working on other possible raffles and auction options.

Vision Screening Training: Bill Kannawin reported that 12 members helped in our last vision screening session at Startzville Elementary on Tuesday, November 15. He thanked everyone who has participated in the program, and received a well-deserved hand.

Guest Speakers: Our guest speaker on November 3rd was Cathy C. Talcott, Comal County Tax Assessor-Collector/ Voter Registrar. She described her background and is currently one year in her elected position as the Comal County Tax Assessor. There are 254 counties. She has been nominated as Tax Assessor of the year. She described her job in detail and gave us various contacts if we had problems with our tax bill or other problems.



CLUB NEWS *(Continued)*

Donations:

1. \$500 will be donated to the CRRS Food Pantry as our Thanksgiving donation.

Community Recognition:

1. We received a thank you letter from Communities in Schools at Startzville Elementary for our donation of \$500.
2. Kristy from CRRS thanked the Lions club for the three members who helped during Market Days.

New members/Reinstatements/Resignations -

We had one resignation from Lion Terry Coffee, and two deaths, Joel Collins and Carol Wilder.

Wellness: Lion Joel Collins died Wednesday, November 9, 2011, after a long illness. Thirty (30) Lions plus their wives attended the November 12th viewing and memorial service. Lion Carol Wilder died Monday, November 28, 2011, due to heart problems. Memorial service will be on December 3rd. Lion Jack Sharp is doing better. Lion Kevin McHugh had a stent placed in his carotid artery (neck) on October 25th, which was 90% closed.

Tail Twister and Raffle: Netted \$103 - no raffle and tailtwister on 11-15-11 because of funeral.

ELGIN EVENING LIONS CLUB

Recycling: The Elgin Evening Lions Club has spent 250 hours working in the Thrift Store and sent \$975 of clothing to recycling. Also, we gave the Soup Kitchen \$150; we have had a very good month.

GARDEN RIDGE LIONS CLUB

Lion Laurie Kirkland, age 64, passed away on Thursday, November 10, 2011. She had a long career in banking and was currently employed at American Bank of Texas in Garden Ridge. She was an avid volunteer with the Lions Club of Garden Ridge and devoted many hours to the center. Laurie's greatest love was spending time with family and friends. She will be remembered for her sweet personality and good-hearted nature. She is preceded in death by her husband, Gordon Kirkland. Laurie is survived by her son, Rex Lee II and wife, Courtney; step-son, Hank Lee and wife, Janie; grandchildren: Katherine Aparicio, Rex Lee III, Hank Lee Jr. and Liana Lee; great-grandson, Hank Lee III; her beloved pet,

Peaches.

Hearing Testing: Elementary school hearing testing continues throughout New Braunfels and Comal County ISD's. Twenty Lions and spouses from the Garden Ridge Lions Club have conducted hearing testing at five elementary schools during the month of November.

Salvation Army: 12 Lions manned the Salvation Army kettles at our local Wal-Mart on November 27 and December 4 from 1 pm to 7 pm.

Texas Lions Fellow: The Garden Ridge Lions Club has donated \$500 in the name of Triple-R-Electric to the Texas Lions Foundation in recognition of the outstanding support they have provided to our club over past years. This donation supports the Texas Lions Foundation Humanitarian and Disaster Relief efforts. We thank Triple-R-Electric for their continued outstanding support for our charitable activities and hope that they will continue to assist us in the future.

Operation Thanksgiving: Fourteen Thanksgiving food baskets were delivered to needy families in our local community. We spent \$1,107 for groceries, some of which went towards Operation Santa Claus.

Tree Planting: Our planning committee is hard at work developing a viable plan.

Eyeglasses and Exams: \$188 was spent on purchasing eyeglasses for two local children.

GEORGETOWN EVENING LIONS CLUB

Public Elections: Club members work at Elections return center processing ballots and donate their pay for the evening to the club charitable funds.

Local Nursing Home: Club members shared a meal with local residents and then decorated all the trees at the Estrella Nursing Home. This is the fifth year the Club has done this.



CLUB NEWS *(Continued)*

Eyeglass Exams: Georgetown Evening Lions in partnership with the Georgetown Noon Lions fund local school district nurses to participate in an eyeglass exam/eyeglass voucher program. Received update that 27 students assisted to date.

Tree Planting: Lions Supported planting trees with local City Forestry Office. Lions planted 50 5 gallon trees.

GEORGETOWN NOON LIONS CLUB

Raffle ticket sales continued this month with some visits made by members to other clubs. Our market days event needed to be cancelled due to high winds that have taken a toll on our pavilion, tumbler, and some staff. Our prizes this year are a week vacation to be chosen from several condos available, an Xbox with Kinect, and a DeWalt drill. First and second winners can chose. The condos are diverse in distance and level of luxury so there is one to suit almost every taste. The winner has one year from time of the drawing to take the vacation. The drawing will be done at our Christmas party.

We are looking forward to joining with the Georgetown Evening Lions on Dec. 14th for our annual joint Christmas Party. Social will begin at 6:30 PM at the library with dinner at 7:00 PM. The Red Poppy will be serving a wonderful traditional meal topped off by their famous Caramel Apple Pie. There will be entertainment during and after dinner. Attendees are asked to bring a food donation for the Caring Place. Members who did not sign up at the board meeting or who have not responded to an e/m invitation should do so before Dec. 6. The club will be paying for members and a guest.

Members were asked to complete the survey on aging being conducted by the Georgetown Aging Initiative group. It is available at the library and on line.

Our program in November was a talk by Georgetown Library Director, Eric Lashley, who gave us an update on the soon to be launched mobile library. This bookmobile will offer most library services to folks as it travels around Georgetown and is handicap accessible.

Looking ahead, the State Convention in Houston, May 2012 is receiving early registration for a significant discount package. Members who are considering attending should look for this on the MD2 website listed below.

The board approved July 1 as our Sunday to do snacks for incoming campers at TLC. Work days were all taken as of a minute after midnight on Oct. 1, we were told.

Members will receive e/m confirmation about the board meeting on Dec. 21, and the regular meeting on Dec. 28.

Future events: Dec. 2-3: Christmas Stroll on the Square; Dec 14: Christmas Party; Dec. 21: possible board meeting; and Dec. 28: possible regular meeting.

LAGO VISTA LIONS CLUB

The Lago Vista Lions Club responded in a very important way this summer to our state's devastating summer heat. We know how hard it is for some senior citizens and families, who are facing high utility bills, to keep adequate air conditioning in their homes, and sadly, some cannot even afford to have any air conditioning for themselves.

In response to the need, our club purchased 25 box fans and delivered them to the Northwest Rural Community Services office in Jonestown, TX. This community service organization interviews persons in need and evaluates those needs, so we knew we could count on getting our fans to truly needy citizens.

We purchased our fans from our local Ace Hardware, whose manager gave us a price break on the fans and also helped us to deliver them. It was a very happy day when we arrived at the community center with a load of 25 box fans, and as we unloaded them, we were blessed to know that these fans would be given away free to people on a waiting list, and that each fan would bring some significant measure of help to a senior adult or a family in our community needing help with the stifling heat we experienced all summer.

It was truly a project that lived up to our proud Lions motto: "We serve."

A second significant project of the Lago Vista Lions Club was hosting the District 2-S3 Cabinet Meeting at the Travis Oaks Baptist Church in Lago Vista. Gathered in the fellowship hall of the church were almost 60 Lions, including more than a dozen Leo's members. The meeting was conducted by District Governor Gary Cocanougher, and featured info about the district's Lions Club business.

The attendees were treated to a breakfast of burritos and sausage biscuits, sweet rolls, coffee and juice, at the early morning hour of 7:30 a.m. as they came in from the registration process. At the lunch break of the meeting, there was a hot lasagna lunch provided, with tossed salad, rolls, ice cream sandwiches and cookies for dessert. Both of these meals were prepared by, served by, and cleaned-up after by several Lago Vista Lions Club volunteers.

CLUB NEWS *(Continued)*

The registration, the facility set-up & takedown, meals, and clean-up were all conducted by those same Club volunteers. It was truly a joint effort of the Lago Vista Lions Club, and many compliments were forthcoming from all of the meeting participants. All agreed that the meeting had been productive and enjoyable. The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the Mid-Winter Conference in January.

Old & New: The October 4th program was given by Lion Matt Underwood who is also the Lago Vista ISD Superintendent. He did a great job of explaining the plans for the new High School to be built with the approval of the citizens of Lago Vista. He was proud to announce that out of 200 same sized schools in the state, only two are rated Exemplary and only Lago Vista ISD has the highest percentage of students passing. After the presentation, the "Old Days" were remembered by Lion Rusty Allen. He said when he moved to Lago Vista 43 years ago, the high school had only six kids. Later when they had enough kids for a basketball team, the entire student body of boys was on the team while all the girls were cheerleaders.

Christmas Party: Christmas Party Chair, Lion Linda Winston has just dropped a few tidbits about the upcoming annual celebration. Guess what Lions? We're going to a BAH HUMBUG PARTY! Mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 6th. The list of "pluses" includes the fact that the party will be a service project and the entrance fee is one food staple and one Childs toy. These items will be distributed to the NW Rural Community Center and Blue Santa. There will be no meeting so don't wear Lions attire. At this time, the "unknowns" to you are what kind of meal we will have and what kind of entertainment we will have. You will just have to come and find out for yourselves!

Road Clean-up: The Orange Vest Brigade (aka Road Clean Up Crew) were at it again on October 7th and 8th. They definitely pass the white glove test. That group worked 13 Lions over both days for a total of 26 hours and collected 19 bags of trash. We can't give enough thanks to all these Lions!

New Lions: At our first meeting in November three new Lions were inducted into our club. A BIG welcome goes out to new Lions Richard Kelly, and John and Priscilla Merner.



LIBERTY HILL LIONS CLUB

Christmas Parade: December 4th is the Liberty Hill Community Christmas Parade. Our club will be entering a float in the parade, and we need all the help we can get. On Saturday, December 3rd, at 10:00 a.m., we will meet at the Lions building at the back of the park to decorate the wagon. Lion Darwin will then leave it in the building overnight. Any old decorations you might want to donate will be appreciated.

Then we need riders for the float on Sunday. Lineup is at 1:20 behind the LH Primary Elementary building. Wear your vest and we have Santa hats for you to wear. Darwin will have hay bales for us to sit on, but you might want a blanket between you and the hay.

After the parade, we will tear the float down at the same building in the park. Sign up at our next meeting or let me know by email. angienick1@austin.rr.com See you then!

In November, we had two very interesting programs at our regular meetings. On November 3rd, Lion Gary Jackson and

CLUB NEWS *(Continued)*

Gary Spivey gave a wonderful program on the development of Lions Foundation Park with lots of pictures. On November 17th, Lion Larry Nicholson gave a program on his mission trip to Peru, with pictures of Lima and of Machu Pichu and Cuzco. Our next program will be an update on the toll road, and we will have our white elephant exchange on Dec 15th, along with induction of our new Lion members.

In November, we gave \$200 to the Thanksgiving meals served by Bob's Bar to the needy in Liberty Hill. We are working on getting a family or two to help with Christmas. Don't forget our White Elephant gift exchange at our Dec. 15th meeting. We are also looking ahead to our third annual Appreciation Dinner on January 15th. We will also be combining that with a Reunion of our club's charter members. Put it on your calendar. Details will be forthcoming. Mid-Winter Conference will be January 28th in McQueeney.

Welcome our newest members - Jason Stanley, Larry Floyd, Gary Spivey, and Billy Ray Guerin.

LOCKHART LIONS CLUB

Market Days: Under the leadership of Lion Kelli Verhalen and Lion Paige Fredrich, Lockhart Lions held a Market Days fund-raiser at our Community Center on Saturday November 10th. Vendors rented tables and sold their wares for a half-day. Another Market Days is scheduled for December. If results are sufficiently encouraging, our club plans to make this event a regular fund-raiser for the club. The initial event drew 8 vendors.

LULING LIONS CLUB

Collected eyeglasses and put out 100 flags for Veterans Day.

NEW BRAUNFELS (NOON) LIONS CLUB

Christmas Party: Lions, let's celebrate Christmas together December 15 at Seekatz Opera House. Lion John Bell is planning a great evening for us beginning with the social hour at 6:15 p.m. followed by dinner and dancing. He has confirmed that the Seven Dutchmen will provide the music. The caterer will be Clear Springs Catering and the menu is still in the planning stages. Ya'all plan to come. John is still working with the caterer on cost.



Welcome new member: Welcome to our Club, Glenn Avriet, shown here during initiation ceremony with President Gregg Van de Loo and sponsor John Creswell. Glenn is retired from the County Extension Service.

Walk through the toy box: Rich Carse tells us his presentation on December 22 may be interesting to the youngsters as well as us oldsters. You in betweens will enjoy it too!

Vision Screening Season is history: November 29 marked the final day of vision screening for this school year. Timberwood Park Elementary got the honor of being our last. All told we screened in 28 schools and tested approximately 5,310 youngsters in the elementary grades in accordance with state law. Of the 5,310 children, 284 were referred for further testing by an optician or ophthalmologist. That's 284 kids who will be able to do better in school and possibly avoid further eye damage. We think this is something to be proud of.



CLUB NEWS *(Continued)*

Now, for the sad truth. We are increasingly shorthanded in the screenings, many times forgoing near vision, stereo vision and other tests that we could do, to pick up other problems of the eye that may be equally important to the child's overall development. We need your help. Even if you can only attend a few screenings please sign up for the screening course when it is offered next summer.

NEW BRAUNFELS EVENING LIONS CLUB

Wurstfest is a Success: If frying Oreo cookies was your job when you worked a shift at Wurstfest, you will agree we sold a lot of cookies this year. Over 7,500 orders of fried Oreo cookies left the Lions booth! This was our best year ever! All the bills are not in, so we don't have a final tally. We had a total of 630 hours of work. We thank the Breakfast Lions for all their help. We got to meet some new Lions and had fun working together. Thanks for all that worked some long hours on this.



We spent: Eye glasses, \$ 1000.00; Hydro Angels of Texas, 100.00; and American Cancer Society 100.00 **Hours Lions have helped others in our community:** Screening in school, 15 hours; Helping in School, 50 hours; Meeting, 30 hours; Cancer, 15 hours; and Eye glasses, 5 hours. **Lions work and meeting:** Texas Eye Bank, 5 hours; State Convention, 35 hours; and Administrative duties, 30 hours.

Calling all Lions: We are needing people to serve at the Westside Community Center food line. We are seeking those that can work on a Tuesday or Thursday once a month. If you are interested in serving, please call Lisa Lasseter.

Bingo: A good time was had at our Wednesday, November 16th meeting as Lions roared "BINGO" in a friendly game of luck.

Congratulations to Clif Schrader, Wib Amacher, Esther Boarnet and Bernie Boarnet for having the winning cards.

December Birthdays: Dwayne Koepp, Dec 6; Georgia Wells, Dec 10; Clinton Brandt, Dec 18; and Lisa Lasseter, Dec 28.

PFLUGERVILLE LIONS CLUB

Donated to the Texas Lions Camp, Blue Santa-Christmas toys for underprivileged, and paid dues for School nurses.

ROUND ROCK NOON LIONS CLUB

Everyone counted our Blessings for Thanksgiving as we over ate. Five Lions helped serve the Free Ecumenical dinner to approximately 250 home bound, 600 homeless and another 400 gathered to share the meal Thanksgiving Day. Lion Tino Hernandez family and volunteers again out performed previous years with abundance of food and caring volunteers living our Lions motto, "To Serve" to those less fortunate.

An assortment of services were provided by various Lions for Habitat For Humanity, Veteran's Day celebration, Mentoring elementary, MS & HS students, assisting 'free' Medical Clinic for Williamson Co. persons, Lions Track Meet, driving senior citizens to medical appointments and church services, plus collecting, sorting and preparing 541 used eye-glasses for Midland and shipping a box of broken eyeglasses or missing parts to CA for sale.

One Lion assisted Lion Liz Bumguardner with 'Leadership Opportunities' for the Leo leadership training. These youth were amazing with creation of center pieces, games, and displays. They all proved to be self-motivated and enjoyed 'team' participation to accomplish tasks.

Recruitment of new members is a top priority and is proving successful with one new member and another one, perhaps, three potentials. Orientation is scheduled for the January.

All are invited to our January 28, 2012 Dinner Theater to be held at Provident Crossings Resort Lifestyle Communities at 1950 South A.W. Grimes Blvd, RR. Dinner to be served at 5:30 and Stony Point HS's Theater Class will provide entertainment at 7:00 PM. For tickets - contact Lion Kimberly at: 512.663.8997 or kaverymk@austin.rr.com. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

SAN MARCOS BLUEBONNET LIONS CLUB

Hi, Gals: It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Bells ringing for the Salvation Army, food drive for the Hays Caldwell Women's Center, Santa pictures at Centerpoint Station, and food for Habitat workers. We really do make a difference in our community! Thank you for all your hard work and I hope to see all of you at our Christmas Party on the 20th. Merry

CLUB NEWS *(Continued)*

Christmas to you and your families, Lion President Bonnie Flammrang.

SCHERTZ CIBOLO LIONS CLUB

Our Club selected two needy families in the local community and provided gift cards of \$100 each to them for use at the local grocery store to enable them to have a good Thanksgiving dinner.

SPICEWOOD LIONS CLUB

Community Garage Sale: Many Lions volunteered to prepare for and day of - a Community Wide Garage sale - of items donated for Spicewood Fire Relief - \$5000 was raised at this event which will be used for Spicewood Fire Relief.

SPRING BRANCH BULVERDE LIONS CLUB

We conducted our annual fundraiser, Mow Down Show Down, Lawn mower races and participated in a community carnival.

TAYLOR LIONS CLUB

Eyeglasses: Approved a referral and paid for eyeglasses for an 8-year old student, and donated over \$250 from members for wildfire victims in our district.



WIMBERLEY LIONS CLUB

Thank you volunteers: Wimberley Market Days don't just happen by serendipity. There is a lot of planning, maintenance, provisioning, scheduling, and innovation involved in creating ten market days each year that vendors want to offer their wares and customers travel here for a good time, good food, and unique purchases.

The staffing requirements well exceed what can be marshaled by the active Lions members. Lions who are unable to be active in the meetings work Market Days. Non-profit organizations that receive donations from the Lions Club have their members volunteer to work Market Days. Some citizens not affiliated with a specific organization volunteer as a way to give to the community. Lion Linnea Bailey manages the staffing along with Lion Doctor Bob Pierce.



The Lions Club held a picnic at Lions Field Pavilion to recognize and thank these volunteers. Everyone was treated to Bar-B-Qued Brisket, beans, potato salad, and the trimmings.



The Pledge of Allegiance is an integral part of a Lion meeting. Lions Crow Wilson, Frank Williams, and Pete Anderson lead in this day's pledge.

CLUB NEWS *(Continued)*



Volunteer Jan Harrison obtained gift certificates from both Wimberley and San Marcos Restaurants. Shown are Lions Frank Williams, Joe Harrison, and Lee Gib-son giving out door prizes. A good time was had by all.

Christmas Party: Our December 6th Lions meeting will be our annual Christmas Party. Spouses and/or a guest are invited to attend. PLEASE BRING AN UNWRAPPED TOY FOR WIMBERLEY GOLD SANTA

The meal will be served at approximately 5:45 pm. If you are a Member at Large (MAL) and plan to bring your spouse/guest, you must pay \$8 for yourself and \$8 for your spouse/guest at the door. There is no charge for active members or their guest or spouse. You must make a reservation for you and your guest by one of the following:

- Responding to the meal reservation e-mail (including your spouse /guest as a guest in the space provided) or
- Calling Meta Wilson at 847-6461 by Friday, December 2, 2011.

If you cannot respond to this e-mail by December 2nd, you must call Meta. Meals will be prepared in advance for each person by our caterer, so if you do not make a reservation, no meal will be available for you or your guest! Applicable meal fees will be payable at the door for MAL's and their guests.

PLEASE BRING AN UNWRAPPED TOY FOR WIMBERLEY GOLD SANTA



LAGO VISTA LEOS Attend Conference

It's been a Very Busy November for the Leo Club. The Leos helped out at the Elementary School Fall Fest, completed the monthly park clean up at Bar-K Park and served drinks and bused plates for the elderly at the annual spaghetti dinner the library hosted with 350 people.

Three Leos, (Madelyn Ambrose, Amy Woodhull and Elaziel Roche) recently attended the Leo State Conference in Round Rock. Special thanks to the Lions club for sponsoring them. The three Leos that attended had a lot of fun and networked with a lot of Leos from round rock and other schools around central Texas. They also had speakers who talked about the next steps after the Leo club and parliamentary procedure in their chapters. The Lago Vista Leo club helped with games in which the other Leos would work on their team building skills. Hopefully future Lago Vista Leo generation can go to next year's meeting because it is a fun learning experience.



Lago Leos with Llano Leos at the Leo State Conference in Round Rock Madelyn Ambrose (2nd from left), Amy Woodhull (4th from left) and Elaziel Roche (2nd from right)



Peace Poster Contest

Club Level Results

SM Bluebonnet Lions Club: The winners for our Miller Middle School contest visited us at the November 15th meeting. The winners are: 1st place Tori Carlile, 2nd place Alarah Law, 3rd place Kayleyynn Robinson.

New Braunfels (Noon) Lions Club: Lion John Creswell, Youth Programs Chair recently concluded the Peace Poster contest at the two middle schools. Prize winners from each school were; **ORMS:** 1st Place - Haddie Brandenburger, 6th grade, \$100; 2nd Place - Roxanne Ullrich, 7th grade, \$50; and 3rd Place - Hannah Jacobs, 6th grade, \$25. **NBMS:** 1st Place - Lauren Kieschnick; 2nd Place - Samantha Lewis; and 3rd Place - Katlyn Holton.

The first place winners posters from each school have been sent to District for entry in the District level contest. Winners at that level will go on to State.

Lago Vista Lions Club: BRENNNA HASSIN, a student at Lago Vista Middle School, has won a local art competition sponsored by the Lago Vista Lions Club. She was awarded 1st Place by President Mike Beal and Vice President Robert McCarty at an awards ceremony held at the school on November 9, 2011. Almost a half million entries are submitted worldwide in this annual poster contest which emphasizes the importance of world peace to young people everywhere.



Mrs. Tracy Burke's art classes at Lago Vista Middle School compete each year, and this year's second place went to STEPHANIE KNAB. Daniel Carter, Calli Press, and Maryl Day were given Honorable Mention recognition. Vernon Reher, JoAnne Smith, and Faye Tessnow, members of the local club, judged the posters for their originality, artistic merit, and portrayal of the theme, "Children Know Peace".



Contest organizer, Sheryl Speckmann, said that Brenna's poster will be forwarded to the Texas competition. The winner of the Texas competition is then sent to international rounds of competition. ** Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization with 1.35 million members and 45,000 clubs in 206 countries and geographic areas. In addition to its efforts toward conquering blindness, the organization has made a strong commitment to community service and helping youth throughout the world.

