

The ROAR



MD-2

LIONS OF TEXAS



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 04



BAYTOWN LIONS CLUB ASSEMBLING EMERGENCY LOW BLOOD SUGAR KITS FOR NEWLY DIAGNOSED TYPE 1 DIABETIC CHILDREN.

(LIONS KEN MARTIN, GLENN REILLY, DWAYNE LITTEER, WALLY VOSLOH. LION SARA BALDWIN PURCHASED THE SUPPLIES FOR THE KITS.



ROARING AROUND MD-2



WEIMAR ENCORE LIONS CLUB PRESENT DONATIONS OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES OF STUDENTS AT WEIMAR ELEMENTARY, WEIMAR JUNIOR HIGH, & ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL. DONATIONS WERE COLLECTED AT THE AUGUST BLOOD DRIVE THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF DONORS & LIONS MEMBERS



EL PASO FIVE POINTS LIONS CLUB
PROVIDED VISION AND HEARING SCREENINGS!





ROARING AROUND MD-2



DISTRICT 2-XI
PARTICIPATED IN
TEXAS STATE FAIR
PARADE





ROARING AROUND MD-2

BRYAN NOON LIONS CLUB
VOLUNTEERED AT THE
BRAZOS VALLEY FOOD BANK
ASSEMBLING 720 BACKPACK
BAGS IN 2 HOURS!



**ROBINSON AREA
LIONS CLUB** HAD
THE OPPORTUNITY
TO SCREEN 864
ROBINSON ISD
STUDENTS OVER
TWO DAYS
THROUGHOUT 4
CAMPUSES!





SMALL TOWN, BIG ROAR: THE IRAAN LIONS CLUB STORY

IRAAN, TX, WHERE IN THE STICKS IS THAT PLACE? IRAAN IS A CITY IN PECOS COUNTY, TEXAS WITH AN APPROXIMATE POPULATION OF 1,055. THE CITY'S NAME IS A TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN'S FOUNDERS WHO WERE OWNERS OF RANCLAND UPON WHICH THE TOWN WAS BUILT, IRA AND ANN YATES (WHICH IS HOW YOU PRONOUNCE OUR ECCENTRIC NAME "IRA ANN", NOT IRAN THE COUNTRY IN WEST ASIA.) LOL. IRAAN WAS AN OIL BOOM TOWN, AND IT DEVELOPED QUICKLY AFTER THE DISCOVERY OF THE GIGANTIC YATES OIL FIELD, WHICH IS ADJACENT TO THE TOWN ON THE SOUTHWEST. AN INTERESTING FACT REGARDING THE YATES FAMILY, ONE OF THEIR DESCENDANTS IS CURRENTLY AN ACTIVE IRAAN LIONS CLUB MEMBER. HIS FAMOUS NAME IS IRA YATES (COOL, HUH?)

THE IRAAN LIONS CLUB WAS HISTORICALLY COMPRISED OF OLDER GENTLEMEN WHO GATHERED AROUND AN OLD WOODEN PIANO SHARING WORN, TATTERED MUSIC SHEETS AND "SINGING" AT THE TOP OF THEIR LUNGS. FOREVER, IT WAS JUST THIS 'SECRET SOCIETY CLUB' THAT NO ONE DARED TO ASK WHAT THEY TALKED ABOUT BEHIND CLOSED DOORS OR WHY WOMEN WERE NOT INCLUDED. OVER THE YEARS, THE MEN WENT TO BE WITH THE LORD, AND "NEW BLOOD" REVIVED THE CLUB. THE FUNDRAISERS GRADUALLY EVOLVED FROM BROOM SALES AND ROSES TO GUN RAFFLES AND DUCK RACES. EVENTUALLY, WOMEN BECAME MEMBERS...AND THE CLUB OPERATED MORE EFFICIENTLY. WELL, NOT REALLY, BUT THEY WERE GREAT ASSETS TO THE TEAM. WOMEN CERTAINLY BROUGHT IN DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES AND OPINIONS.

IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, IRAAN CLUB MEMBERS HAD DWINDLED DOWN TO ABOUT THREE OR FOUR, MAKING FUNDRAISERS DIFFICULT TO ACCOMPLISH AND OFFICER TERMS UNEXPIRED. AT ONE POINT, THE TWO MEMBERS REMAINING DISCUSSED DISMANTLING THE CLUB. AND WE REPEATEDLY DISCUSSED HOW TO ATTRACT MEMBERS AND MAKE THE CLUB MORE TRANSPARENT. FINALLY, A SOLUTION! OUR CLUB WENT FROM 5 TO 12 IN LESS THAN A YEAR (NOW CURRENTLY AT THE TIME OF THIS SUBMISSION, 16)! HOW DID WE DO THIS YOU MIGHT ASK?

WE WERE FORTUNATE THAT ONE OF OUR GUESTS ACCEPTED OUR INVITATION. HE WAS THE NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF IRAAN SCHOOLS. HE WAS MESMERIZED BY OUR INTELLIGENCE AND EVENTUALLY BECAME A MEMBER OF OUR ELITE GROUP! 😊 BUT ON A MORE SERIOUS NOTE, THE SCHOOL WAS GENEROUS ENOUGH TO PAY FOR 3 MEMBERSHIPS, AND HE COULD BRING WHOEVER HE WANTED. HE ROTATED HIS GUESTS FROM JANITORIAL STAFF TO PRINCIPALS AND ATHLETIC DIRECTOR. MANY TIMES, WE WOULD MEET TEACHERS, COACHES, MAINTENANCE STAFF, AND ANYONE NEW TO THE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY. THIS NETWORK TURNED OUT TO BE BENEFICIAL.

THEN, THE IRAAN HOSPITAL HIRED A NEW CEO, AND THE CLUB VULTURES WERE AT IT AGAIN. THE CLUB EXTENDED AN INVITATION, AND WE WERE SO FABULOUS THAT HE ACCEPTED..."HOOK, LINE, AND SINKER." WE ASKED HIM TO INVITE HIS STAFF AND INTEGRATE THEM TO THE CLUB. THE CEO EVENTUALLY BECAME A MEMBER TOO, AND THE HOSPITAL GRACIOUSLY PAYS 5 MEMBERSHIPS! WOW! WE GET TO VISIT WITH MEDICAL PROVIDERS, NURSING STAFF OR ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF AS THEY ROTATE WEEK TO WEEK. FROM THIS, WE GAINED THE HOSPITAL'S HR, DON, AND IT AS MEMBERS.

THEN, WE INVITED THE MAYOR, WHO ALSO ENROLLED AS A NEW MEMBER. WE HAVE DISCOVERED THAT NETWORKING IS IMPORTANT AND VITAL TO A SMALL COMMUNITY. YES, "YOU KNOW EVERYBODY" IN A SMALL TOWN, BUT DO YOU REALLY? EXTEND THOSE INVITES, SHAKE THOSE HANDS, MAKE THAT EXTRA EFFORT TO ACKNOWLEDGE SOMEONE NEW. YOU NEVER KNOW WHO THEY MIGHT BRING WITH THEM. PEOPLE DESERVE TO BE NOTICED AND RECOGNIZED. WE ARE "IRA ANN" AND THIS IS HOW IRAAN LIONS CLUB PERSEVERED AND IS THRIVING!

LION TERESA RODRIGUEZ
IRAAN LIONS CLUB
SECRETARY/TREASURER



Lions of Texas

MD-2



Congratulations

IPDG Aaron Urias (2-T3)

on stepping into the role of
State Contest Coordinator
for the Opportunities for Youth's
Outstanding Youth Award contest.



**OPPORTUNITIES
for YOUTH**

OUTSTANDING YOUTH
AWARD

We are truly honored for IPDG Aaron's
continued support in promoting Lions and
Lionism in MD-2, especially with
the Youth of Texas.

Together

WE EMPOWER
TEXAS YOUTH



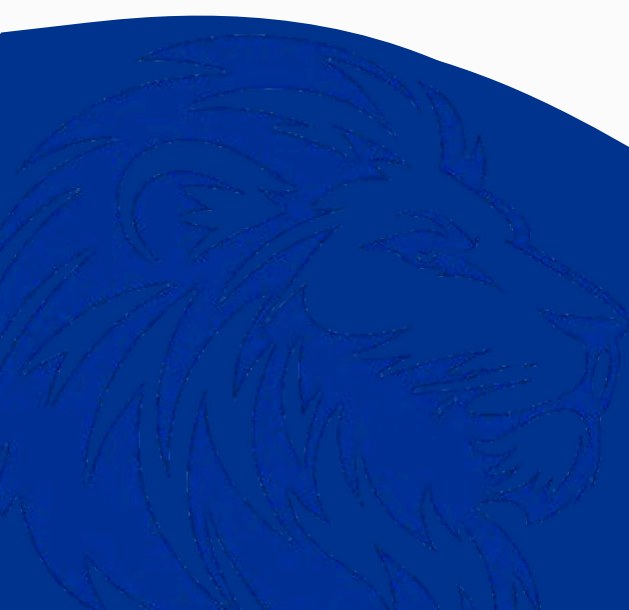


GLOBAL EXTENSION TEAM COORDINATOR PDG RONNIE MARTIN

DON'T JUDGE A BOOK BY IT'S COVER

I WAS RECENTLY ASKED TO HELP PUT A CLUB IN A SMALL TOWN WITH A POPULATION OF 960, MOST OF THE BUSINESSES IN TOWN ARE CLOSED AND THE CITY IS IN A FINANCIAL STRAIN. THE DISTRICT GET PICKED THIS LOCATION AND REALLY BELIEVED IT WAS READY TO GET ITS LIONS CLUB BACK. WELL, HE WAS RIGHT, AFTER 5 DAYS WE HAD 21 NEW LIONS SIGNED UP AND PAID. LAST YEAR I HAD A DG ASK ME TO HELP PUT A CLUB IN A TOWN THAT HAD A CLUB 40 YEARS EARLIER. THERE WERE 3 WHOLE BUSINESSES STILL OPEN IN TOWN AND A POPULATION OF 460 RESIDENTS. AT THIS NEW CLUBS LAST MEETING THEY HAD 30 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE. WHEN YOU TELL OUR STORY OF WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO PEOPLE WANT TO BE A PART OF US. WHAT I AM TRYING TO SAY IS IF YOU BELIEVE A TOWN COULD US A LIONS CLUB GO FOR IT. THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN IS YOU DON'T GET ONE, ON THE OTHER HAND YOU DO.

PDG RONNIE MARTIN
MD-2 GET COORDINATOR





GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

COORDINATOR PDG LISA FREE- MARTIN

ARE YOU READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP IN LEADERSHIP?

LEADERSHIP IN LIONS DOESN'T BEGIN WHEN YOU BECOME CLUB PRESIDENT. IT BEGINS WHEN YOU DECIDE YOU'RE READY TO LEARN, GROW, AND TAKE ON GREATER RESPONSIBILITY.

THE **EMERGING LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (ELLI)** IS DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR LIONS WHO ARE READY TO TAKE THAT NEXT STEP.

FEBRUARY 4-7, 2027 TEXAS LIONS CAMP — KERRVILLE, TEXAS

ELLI IS AN INTENSIVE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE FOR LIONS **WHO HAVE NOT YET SERVED AS PRESIDENT OF THEIR LIONS CLUB**. WHETHER YOU ARE A NEWER LION WHO IS BEGINNING TO RECOGNIZE YOUR LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL OR AN EXPERIENCED MEMBER WHO IS READY TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED, ELLI PROVIDES THE TOOLS, CONFIDENCE, AND CONNECTIONS TO HELP PREPARE YOU FOR FUTURE LEADERSHIP.

AND THIS YEAR'S INSTITUTE OFFERS SOMETHING ESPECIALLY VALUABLE.

PARTICIPANTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE TEXAS LIONS LEADERSHIP IN ACTION BY ATTENDING A MEETING OF THE MD-2 COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS. YOU'LL GET A FIRSTHAND LOOK AT HOW OUR DISTRICT GOVERNORS AND STATE LEADERSHIP WORK TOGETHER, CONDUCT BUSINESS, ADDRESS CHALLENGES, AND MAKE DECISIONS AFFECTING LIONS ACROSS TEXAS.

IT IS ONE THING TO TALK ABOUT LEADERSHIP. IT IS ANOTHER TO SIT IN THE ROOM AND WATCH IT HAPPEN.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

ELLI IS FOR LIONS WHO HAVE **NOT YET SERVED AS CLUB PRESIDENT** AND WHO WANT TO BECOME STRONGER LEADERS WITHIN THEIR CLUB, DISTRICT, COMMUNITY, AND BEYOND. CLUBS SHOULD ESPECIALLY CONSIDER MEMBERS WHO ARE SHOWING INITIATIVE, ACCEPTING NEW RESPONSIBILITIES, ASKING QUESTIONS, BRINGING FRESH IDEAS, OR SIMPLY DEMONSTRATING THAT SPARK THAT SAYS, "THIS LION IS READY FOR MORE."

HERE IS THE IMPORTANT PART: **ATTENDANCE IS LIMITED TO ONLY 25 LIONS.**



GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

COORDINATOR PDG LISA FREE- MARTIN

(CONTINUED)

THAT MEANS WE NEED CLUB PRESIDENTS, DISTRICT LEADERS, AND FELLOW LIONS TO START IDENTIFYING THOSE EMERGING LEADERS NOW. SOMETIMES THE PERSON WITH THE GREATEST LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL HASN'T RECOGNIZED IT IN THEMSELVES YET. A PERSONAL INVITATION AND A FEW WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT MAY BE EXACTLY WHAT THEY NEED.

THE FUTURE OF LIONS LEADERSHIP DOESN'T HAPPEN BY ACCIDENT. **WE DEVELOP IT. WE ENCOURAGE IT. AND SOMETIMES, WE SIMPLY HAVE TO INVITE SOMEONE TO TAKE THAT FIRST STEP.**

IF THERE IS A LION IN YOUR CLUB WHO IS READY FOR MORE, DON'T WAIT.

FEBRUARY 4-7, 2027 | TEXAS LIONS CAMP | KERRVILLE, TEXAS ONLY 25 PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

WHO WILL YOUR CLUB SEND?

PDG LISA FREE-MARTIN
MD-2 GLT COORDINATOR





GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM

COORDINATOR PDG VINOD MATHUR

POSITIVE MEMBERSHIP GROWTH IN FIRST QUARTER

THE FIRST QUARTER OF OUR LIONS YEAR HAS GIVEN US A PROMISING START FOR AREA 1A AND MD-2. . ALTHOUGH THE FIRST MONTH SAW A MAJOR MEMBERSHIP DROP IN MD-2, OUR RESILIENCE OVERCAME AND OUR CLUBS WORKED WITH RENEWED ENERGY TO REBOUND TO A POSITIVE NET GROWTH OF +21 AND EIGHT NEW CLUBS. WE HAVE WELCOMED OVER 900 NEW MEMBERS WHO ARE EAGER TO SERVE AND STRENGTHEN THE SPIRIT OF LIONISM ACROSS THE DISTRICT. THIS EARLY MOMENTUM REFLECTS THE DEDICATION OF OUR LEADERS, THE CREATIVITY OF OUR MEMBERSHIP TEAMS, AND THE COMMITMENT OF LIONS WHO CONTINUE TO INVITE OTHERS INTO MEANINGFUL SERVICE.

AS WE MOVE INTO THE NEXT QUARTER, OUR FOCUS REMAINS CLEAR: SUPPORT OUR CLUBS, MEMBER SATISFACTION, BELONGING, ENGAGEMENT AND PURPOSE, AND ENSURE EVERY LION FEELS VALUED AND CONNECTED. GROWTH IS NOT JUST ABOUT NUMBERS, IT IS ABOUT BUILDING HEALTHIER CLUBS AND EXPANDING OUR IMPACT. THE SECOND QUARTER OFFERS US A VALUABLE WINDOW OF POSITIVE MEMBERSHIP GROWTH. IT IS THE IDEAL TIME FOR DISTRICTS TO STRENGTHEN THEIR NUMBERS AND BUILD MOMENTUM THAT CARRIES INTO THE REST OF THE YEAR.

AS WE ALL KNOW, DECEMBER REMAINS ONE OF THE HIGHEST DROP MONTHS, OFTEN DRIVEN BY DISENGAGEMENT, FINANCIAL PRESSURES, AND LACK OF EARLY INTERVENTION. NOW IS THE TIME TO BEGIN PREPARING FOR DECEMBER BY CLOSELY MONITORING AT-RISK MEMBERS—THOSE WHO HAVE NOT ATTENDED MEETINGS, HAVE UNPAID DUES, OR HAVE STEPPED BACK FROM SERVICE. EARLY OUTREACH, PERSONAL CONNECTION, AND MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT CAN PREVENT AVOIDABLE LOSSES LATER IN THE YEAR.

WITH PROACTIVE RETENTION PLANNING, OUR DISTRICTS CAN ENTER DECEMBER FROM A POSITION OF STRENGTH RATHER THAN VULNERABILITY. THE WORK WE DO NOW—CHECKING IN, RECONNECTING, AND SUPPORTING OUR LIONS—WILL MINIMIZE DROPS AND ENSURE THAT OUR POSITIVE MOMENTUM CONTINUES INTO THE NEW YEAR.

TOGETHER, LET'S MAKE THIS YEAR A YEAR OF GROWTH.

PDG VINOD MATHUR

AREA 1A AND MD-2 GMA AND GMT COORDINATOR





GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM

PDG SHELIA DONNELLY

MEMBER ORIENTATIONS AND FAMILY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

I FIRMLY BELIEVE HOSTING MEMBER ORIENTATION SESSIONS IS AN OUTSTANDING WAY TO ENGAGE NEW MEMBERS, HELP THEM FEEL CONNECTED, AND SET THEM UP FOR A SUCCESSFUL LIONS EXPERIENCE. HOSTING MEMBER ORIENTATION SESSIONS FOR MY HOME CLUB IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE THINGS TO DO.

I SPECIFICALLY SELECT A TIME AND DATE THAT WORKS BEST FOR OUR NEWEST MEMBERS AND, AS A COURTESY, INVITE ALL CLUB MEMBERS TO ATTEND. ON AVERAGE, WE USUALLY HAVE BETWEEN 8-12 LIONS PARTICIPATE, WHICH IS PERFECT FOR INTERACTION, DISCUSSION, AND FEEDBACK. I TYPICALLY HOST SESSIONS TWO TO THREE TIMES A YEAR AND ALWAYS PROVIDE BREAKFAST OR LUNCH.

THERE ARE GREAT TOOLS AVAILABLE ON THE LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE: [MEMBER ORIENTATION](#) | [LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL](#) THAT CAN ASSIST YOU IN DEVELOPING A PROGRAM FOR YOUR CLUB. CREATE AN ORIENTATION THAT SUITS YOUR CLUB AND YOUR MEMBERS. THERE IS NO NEED FOR EVERY CLUB TO HAVE THE EXACT SAME PRESENTATION. USE THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE, MAKE THEM YOUR OWN, AND FOCUS ON HELPING NEW MEMBERS UNDERSTAND LIONS, CONNECT WITH FELLOW MEMBERS, AND BECOME EXCITED ABOUT SERVING THEIR COMMUNITY.

I WOULD BE HAPPY TO SHARE THE SLIDES FROM MY MOST RECENT SESSION AS A SAMPLE UPON REQUEST. THE PRESENTATION I USE HAS BEEN MODIFIED MANY TIMES AND IS A MIX-AND-MATCH OF DIFFERENT FORMATS AND RESOURCES, BUT IT WORKS FOR MY CLUB—AND THAT IS THE KEY!

I HOPE THESE RESOURCES ARE HELPFUL, AND IF YOU DO NOT CURRENTLY HAVE A NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION PROGRAM IN PLACE, I ENCOURAGE YOU TO CONSIDER INCORPORATING ONE INTO YOUR CLUB'S MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS.

THE LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FAMILY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM IS ANOTHER EXCELLENT RESOURCE. IT CAN PROVIDE A REDUCTION IN INTERNATIONAL DUES FOR QUALIFYING ADULT FAMILY MEMBERS LIVING IN THE SAME HOUSEHOLD, WHILE ALSO SERVING AS A GREAT MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITY.

JUST CONSIDER HOW MANY LIONS SERVICE PROJECTS OR FUNDRAISERS YOU HAVE ATTENDED WHERE NON-MEMBER FAMILY MEMBERS ARE WORKING RIGHT ALONGSIDE OUR LIONS. SOMETIMES THESE FAMILY MEMBERS VOLUNTEER AS MANY—OR EVEN MORE—SERVICE HOURS AS OUR MEMBERS. LET'S ASK THEM TO JOIN OUR ASSOCIATION!

JUST CONSIDER HOW MANY LIONS SERVICE PROJECTS OR FUNDRAISERS YOU HAVE ATTENDED WHERE NON-MEMBER FAMILY MEMBERS ARE WORKING RIGHT ALONGSIDE OUR LIONS. SOMETIMES THESE FAMILY MEMBERS VOLUNTEER AS MANY—OR EVEN MORE—SERVICE HOURS AS OUR MEMBERS. LET'S ASK THEM TO JOIN OUR ASSOCIATION!



GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM

PDG SHELIA DONNELLY

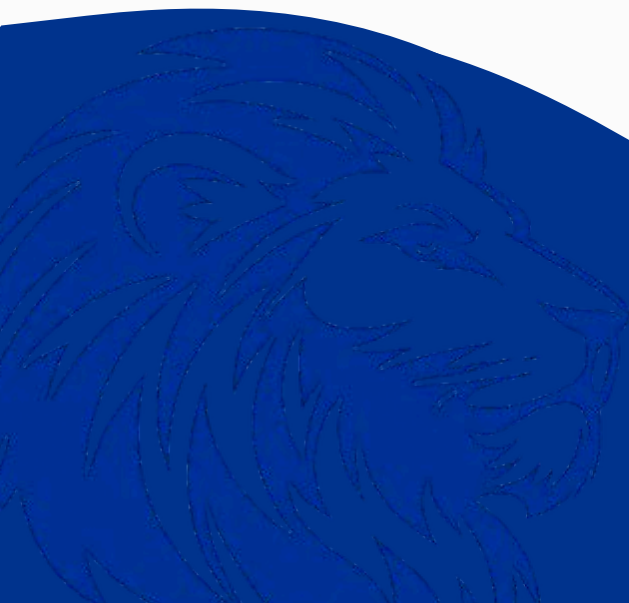
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IF YOU ARE UNFAMILIAR WITH THE FAMILY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THE LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE: [FAMILY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM FAQ | LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL](#)

IT IS ALSO A GOOD IDEA TO REVIEW YOUR CLUB'S MEMBERSHIP ROSTER PERIODICALLY TO ENSURE THAT ALL MEMBERS WHO QUALIFY FOR THE FAMILY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM ARE ENTERED CORRECTLY IN THE LION PORTAL, SO YOUR CLUB RECEIVES THE APPLICABLE DUES REDUCTION.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR LIONS AND FOR YOUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO GROWING AND STRENGTHENING OUR CLUBS!

PDG SHELIA DONNELLY
MD-2 GMT





GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM

PDG MARK ROTH

RETAINING LIONS - EEARLY ENGAGEMENT IS THE KEY

EVERY LONG-STANDING MEMBER OF A LIONS CLUB KNOWS HOW GREAT IT IS TO SERVE PEOPLE IN THEIR COMMUNITY. WHETHER IT IS DISTRIBUTING MEALS TO THE HOMELESS AT THANKSGIVING, SCREENING LOCAL SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN FOR VISION DEFICIENCIES, OR BUILDING A WHEELCHAIR RAMP FOR A DISABLED VETERAN, EACH AND EVERY LION HAS A LONG LIST OF THE HUMANITARIAN SERVICE PROJECTS THAT THEY HAVE BEEN A PART OF OVER THE YEARS SINCE THEY FIRST JOINED THEIR HOMETOWN LIONS CLUB. SOMETIMES, WE LONGER-SERVING LIONS SCRATCH OUR HEADS WHEN WE SEE NEWER LIONS DEPART THEIR CLUBS EARLY IN THEIR TENURE, AND ASK OURSELVES, "WHY DID THEY LEAVE?"

MOST OF THE LIONS THAT I HAVE KNOWN CAN POINT TO A SINGLE EVENT THAT WE ALL REFER TO AS THE MOMENT "WHEN I BECAME A LION". MY MOMENT IS NO DIFFERENT THAN ANY OTHER LION'S SPECIAL MOMENT. BACK IN SEPTEMBER 2005, OVER 450,000 REFUGEES FLED NEW ORLEANS AFTER HURRICANE KATRINA RAVAGED THEIR COMMUNITY. NEARLY 200,000 OF THOSE ARRIVED IN HOUSTON WITH LIMITED POSSESSIONS AND SOME WITH ONLY THE CLOTHES ON THEIR BACK. WHEN THEY ARRIVED, THEY WERE GREETED WITH WELCOMING ARMS BY CARING AND COMPASSIONATE TEXANS WHO GATHERED AT THE ASTRODOME AND RELIANT PARK TO PROVIDE ESSENTIAL BASIC MEDICAL SERVICES. THOSE WITH VISION-RELATED NEEDS WERE SERVED BY MEMBERS OF TEXAS LIONS CLUBS WHO HAD BROUGHT-IN RECYCLED EYEGLASSES BY THE TRUCKLOAD, LENS EDGERS FOR CUTTING LENSES AND A PASSION TO MEET THAT SUDDEN NEED THAT PRESENTED AT OUR DOORSTEP. I WILL NEVER FORGET THE GENTLE OLDER MAN STANDING WITH HIS NEW GLASSES SIMPLY STARING AT THE VISION CHART. AS A BIG TEAR RAN SLOWLY DOWN HIS CHEEK, THERE WAS A BRIEF MOMENT WHEN TIME STOPPED. HAD WE FAILED TO MEET HIS NEED? WERE THE GLASSES NOT HELPING HIM TO SEE BETTER? WE SOON LEARNED THAT HE COULD SEE – AND SEE VERY WELL. WITH A HUGE SMILE BEGINNING TO FORM ON HIS FACE, HE TURNED AND SHARED THAT HE HAD EVACUATED HIS NEW ORLEANS HOME SO QUICKLY, THAT HE LEFT BEHIND ALL OF HIS POSSESSIONS INCLUDING HIS GLASSES AND MEDICATIONS. HE TOLD US THAT HE HAD NO IDEA WHERE HIS FAMILY WAS, OR IF THEY HAD EVEN SURVIVED. STANDING BEFORE US WAS A MAN TRYING TO HOLD ON TO HIS DIGNITY DESPITE HAVING NO SHOES AND WEARING MOSTLY SOILED CLOTHING. WHEN HE THANKED EACH ONE OF US, I KNEW THAT I WAS EXACTLY WHERE I WAS MEANT TO BE. I WAS DOING SOMETHING THAT I COULD NEVER HAVE IMAGINED THAT I WOULD BE ABLE TO DO. I WAS HELPING SOMEONE WHO SUFFERED THE UNIMAGINABLE AND THROUGH COMPASSIONATE SERVICE, MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN HIS LIFE. THAT IS WHEN I TRULY BECAME A LION.

SO, WHY DO I SHARE THIS? IT IS SIMPLE. ONCE A MEMBER TRULY "BECOMES A LION", THEY ARE COMMITTED FOR LIFE. THIS IS A COMMON FACTOR AMONG MOST OF THE LIONS I HAVE KNOWN OVER MY 22-PLUS YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP. THEIR LIFE-CHANGING TRANSFORMATION IS WHAT WE SHOULD ALL STRIVE TO GIVE EVERY LION THAT WE WELCOME INTO OUR CLUBS. IF YOUR CLUB IS NOT PROVIDING MEANINGFUL SERVICE, YOUR MEMBERS WILL BE DENIED AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE THEIR SPECIAL MOMENT AND THEY WILL NOT STAY LONG. IF THEY KNOW VERY LITTLE ABOUT OUR ASSOCIATION, THEY ARE BEING DENIED AN OPPORTUNITY TO KNOW HOW LIONS HAVE POSITIVELY IMPACTED THE LIVES OF HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ACROSS THE WORLD. THEY WILL NEVER EXPERIENCE THE JOY THAT SERVICE GIVES TO THOSE WHO SERVE OTHERS.



GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM

PDG MARK ROTH

(CONTINUED)

SETTING UP OUR NEW MEMBERS WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE THEIR “MOMENT” IS NOT DIFFICULT. FIRST, MAKE SURE THAT THEIR INDUCTION IS SPECIAL. THAT SETS THE STAGE FOR THEM TO LEARN A LITTLE ABOUT LIONS INTERNATIONAL AND A LITTLE ABOUT THE SERVICE HISTORY AND IMPACT OF YOUR CLUB. THROUGH THEIR NEW SPONSOR, OR ANOTHER LION MENTOR, PROVIDE THEM WITH A SOLID ORIENTATION THAT STIMULATES THE NEW LION TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT LIONS DO, AND WHAT THEY CAN ACHIEVE WORKING TOGETHER. SIMPLY PUT, THE MOST IMPORTANT THING THAT WE CAN DO FOR OUR NEW LIONS IS TO GIVE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE AND TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH A SERVICE ACTIVITY IS VITAL TO THE NEW LION. DON’T WAIT SIX MONTHS TO INCLUDE THEM IN A SERVICE PROJECT. THERE IS NOTHING MORE SATISFYING TO A LION THAN KNOWING THAT THEY ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE’S LIFE. MY MOMENT CAME JUST ONE YEAR AFTER JOINING MY CLUB. I DON’T SUGGEST WAITING A YEAR TO ENGAGE WITH YOUR NEW MEMBERS AND GET THEM SERVING. FOR ME PERSONALLY, MY SPONSOR AND MENTOR, PDG EDDIE MUNGER INVITED ME TO HELP HIM SELECT SUPPLIES FOR THE PANCAKE BREAKFAST THAT OUR CLUB WAS PLANNING TWO WEEKS AFTER MY INDUCTION. HE HAD ME “HELPING” HIM SELECT ITEMS NEEDED TO MAKE PANCAKES, FRY BACON AND CARRY ORANGE JUICE TO HIS CAR. LOOKING BACK AT THAT EARLY ENGAGEMENT, I KNOW THAT I REALLY DIDN’T CONTRIBUTE THAT MUCH TOWARD OUR ACTIVITY, BUT I GOT ENGAGED. I FELT NEEDED, VALUED AND APPRECIATED. LET’S ALL REMEMBER WHAT SERVICE CAN DO NOT ONLY FOR THE INDIVIDUALS SUFFERING IN OUR COMMUNITY, BUT ALSO WHAT BEING OF-SERVICE TO OTHERS CAN DO TO UPLIFT, IMPOWER AND MOTIVATE OUR NEW LIONS. LET’S ALL PRIORITIZE FINDING OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE OUR MEMBERS THEIR “MOMENT OF BECOMING A LION”.

PDG MARK ROTH
MD-2 GMT





GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM

COORDINATOR PDG RENEE LAMSON

OCTOBER SERVICE SPOTLIGHT

VISION. MENTAL HEALTH. MEANINGFUL SERVICE.

OCTOBER GIVES LIONS ACROSS TEXAS ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE WITH PURPOSE AND RESPOND TO REAL NEEDS IN OUR COMMUNITIES.

THIS MONTH, OUR HUMANITARIAN SPOTLIGHT FOCUSES ON **VISION AND MENTAL HEALTH**.

AS ALWAYS, THESE MONTHLY SERVICE THEMES ARE MEANT TO PROVIDE IDEAS AND INSPIRATION. THEY ARE NOT REQUIREMENTS. EVERY COMMUNITY IS DIFFERENT, AND EVERY CLUB SHOULD LOOK FOR THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT MAKE THE MOST SENSE WHERE THEY SERVE.

VISION HAS LONG BEEN CLOSELY CONNECTED TO THE WORK OF LIONS, AND OCTOBER IS A GREAT TIME TO CONTINUE THAT TRADITION.

CLUBS MIGHT CONSIDER PROVIDING VISION SCREENINGS FOR YOUTH, ADULTS, OR ELDERLY MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY, SUPPORTING STUDENTS WHO NEED EYE EXAMS OR GLASSES, COLLECTING EYEGLASSES, OR HELPING INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED ACCESS USEFUL RESOURCES.

ONE SIMPLE IDEA RECENTLY SHARED BY LIONS ACROSS TEXAS IS COLLECTING INEXPENSIVE OVER-THE-COUNTER READING GLASSES — THE TYPE MANY OF US CASUALLY CALL “CHEATER GLASSES” — AND DONATING THEM TO A LOCAL LIBRARY FOR DISTRIBUTION TO PEOPLE WHO MAY NEED THEM.

SOMETHING AS SIMPLE AS A PAIR OF READING GLASSES CAN HELP SOMEONE COMPLETE A JOB APPLICATION, READ A NEWSPAPER, REVIEW IMPORTANT INFORMATION, OR ACCESS OTHER MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY RESOURCES.

OCTOBER IS ALSO AN OPPORTUNITY TO FOCUS ON **MENTAL HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING**.

CLUBS MAY CONSIDER SUPPORTING LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, ASSISTING YOUTH OR FAMILY PROGRAMS, HELPING PROMOTE AVAILABLE COMMUNITY RESOURCES, ASSEMBLING CARE OR COMFORT ITEMS FOR ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE INDIVIDUALS IN CRISIS, OR CREATING OPPORTUNITIES THAT ENCOURAGE CONNECTION AND SUPPORT.

ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO FIND MEANINGFUL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES IS THROUGH COLLABORATION.

WORKING WITH SCHOOLS, HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, LIBRARIES, SENIOR CENTERS, FOOD PANTRIES, SHELTERS, AND OTHER COMMUNITY PARTNERS CAN HELP CLUBS IDENTIFY REAL NEEDS AND CREATE PROJECTS THAT MAKE A MEANINGFUL IMPACT.

SOMETIMES THE BEST FIRST STEP IS SIMPLY ASKING, **“WHAT DO YOU NEED, AND HOW CAN LIONS HELP?”**

THAT CONVERSATION MAY LEAD TO A PROJECT YOUR CLUB HAD NEVER CONSIDERED.



GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM

COORDINATOR PDG RENEE LAMSON

(CONTINUED)

REMEMBER TO REPORT YOUR SERVICE

ONCE THE SERVICE IS COMPLETE, PLEASE REMEMBER TO REPORT IT IN THE LION PORTAL.

EVERY PROJECT MATTERS, AND EVERY REPORT HELPS US TELL THE STORY OF THE INCREDIBLE SERVICE BEING PROVIDED BY LIONS THROUGHOUT MULTIPLE DISTRICT 2.

IF YOU WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND OUR RECENT **GST SERVICE PORTAL TRAINING**, A RECORDING OF THE TRAINING IS AVAILABLE ON THE **MD2 GST FACEBOOK PAGE**.

PLEASE USE IT AS A RESOURCE AND SHARE IT WITH ANYONE IN YOUR CLUB WHO HELPS ENTER OR REPORT SERVICE.

IF YOUR CLUB, ZONE, OR DISTRICT HAS ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OR COULD BENEFIT FROM MORE TRAINING AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, PLEASE REACH OUT. WE CAN WORK TOGETHER TO DEVELOP A TRAINING SCHEDULE THAT MEETS YOUR NEEDS.

IN SOME CASES, TRAINING MAY BE PROVIDED IN PERSON. IN OTHER CASES, A VIRTUAL OPPORTUNITY MAY WORK BEST.

THE GOAL IS SIMPLE: MAKE SERVICE REPORTING EASIER AND MAKE SURE THE SERVICE OUR LIONS ARE ALREADY DOING GETS COUNTED.

OCTOBER CHALLENGE

THIS MONTH, I CHALLENGE EVERY CLUB TO FIND ONE MEANINGFUL WAY TO SUPPORT VISION, MENTAL HEALTH, OR ANOTHER IMPORTANT NEED WITHIN YOUR COMMUNITY.

YOUR PROJECT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE LARGE OR COMPLICATED.

FIND A NEED. WORK WITH A COMMUNITY PARTNER. SERVE WITH PURPOSE. REPORT THE SERVICE. THEN SHARE YOUR STORY SO OTHER LIONS CAN BE INSPIRED BY IT.

TOGETHER, LET'S CONTINUE BUILDING A YEAR OF MEANINGFUL SERVICE — ONE PROJECT, ONE FAMILY, AND ONE COMMUNITY AT A TIME.

SERVING TEXAS. CHANGING LIVES.

YOURS IN SERVICE,
PDG RENEE LAMSON
MD-2 GST COORDINATOR





TEXAS LIONS CAMP CHAIR PDG KEN JOBE & IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR LION ANN WARD

CENTURY CLUB: YOUR VERY PERSONAL CONNECTION TO TLC

FROM GROCERIES AND GASOLINE TO INSURANCE AND UTILITIES, EVERYTHING SEEMS TO COST MORE THESE DAYS! THOSE RISING COSTS IMPACT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES, AS WELL AS ORGANIZATIONS LIKE TEXAS LIONS CAMP. WHILE INTEREST EARNED OFF THE CAMP'S ENDOWMENT AND TRUST FUNDS HELP PAY FOR OPERATIONS, THOSE MONIES ALSO ARE USED TO FINANCE NEW CONSTRUCTION AND REPAY THE LOANS.

INDIVIDUAL LIONS SUPPORT TLC THROUGH THE VOLUNTARY DUES CLUBS CHOOSE TO PAY, AND MANY CLUBS ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO TLC THROUGH THEIR DISTRICTS' 100 PERCENT CHARITIES. THIS SUPPORT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED, AND VITAL TO THE CAMP'S FINANCES.

INDIVIDUAL LIONS CAN GO "ALL IN" FOR TLC BY PARTICIPATING IN THE CENTURY CLUB, WHICH EXCLUSIVELY SUPPORTS CAMP OPERATIONS, HELPING TO OFFSET THE EVER-INCREASING COST OF OPERATIONS.

TO COINCIDE WITH THE CAMP'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2024, THEN CHAIRMAN TOM BLASE CREATED A CAMPAIGN TO ENCOURAGE LIONS TO BECOME CENTURY CLUB MEMBERS. HE ASKED LIONS TO CONSIDER SIGNING UP – THE BRONZE ENTRY LEVEL COSTS \$100 PER YEAR. FOR THOSE CENTURY CLUB MEMBERS WHO HAD EXPERIENCED A LAPSE IN SUPPORT, HE ASKED THEM TO "CATCH UP" BY MAKING ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO COVER THE TIME PERIOD(S) THEY HAD MISSED. AND, HE ENCOURAGED ALL CENTURY CLUB MEMBERS TO CONSIDERING STEPPING UP TO THE NEXT LEVEL OF CONTRIBUTIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, BRONZE MEMBERS COULD INCREASE THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO \$250 PER YEAR AND BECOME SILVER MEMBERS. GOLD IS A \$500 ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION; DIAMOND, \$1,000; AND AMBASSADOR, \$5,000.

TLC CURRENTLY HAS 703 CENTURY CLUB MEMBERS, WHILE TEXAS HAS 21,000 LIONS. LESS THAN 3.5 PERCENT OF TEXAS LIONS ARE CENTURY CLUB MEMBERS, AND MORE THAN HALF OF THEM CONTRIBUTE AT THE BRONZE LEVEL. TEXAS LIONS, CAN'T WE DO BETTER?

INDIVIDUALS CAN MAKE ONE-TIME CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTURY CLUB BY CHECK OR ONLINE USING A CREDIT CARD. ALTHOUGH TLC NO LONGER IS ABLE TO INITIATE MONTHLY BANK DRAFTS, YOU CAN WORK WITH YOUR BANK TO SET UP A MONTHLY OR QUARTERLY PAYMENT TO TLC FROM YOUR BANK ACCOUNT. ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN SET UP A RECURRING PAYMENT TO TLC ON YOUR PERSONAL CREDIT CARD. THIS APPROACH PROTECTS YOUR CONFIDENTIAL BANK AND CREDIT CARD INFORMATION WHILE MAKING IT EASY TO GIVE TO TLC.



TEXAS LIONS CAMP CHAIR PDG KEN JOBE & IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR LION ANN WARD (CONTINUED)

FOR THOSE LIONS WHO MUST TAKE A REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION FROM RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS ONCE THEY REACH A CERTAIN AGE, A QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION IS A WAY TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM AN INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT TO AN ELIGIBLE CHARITY WITHOUT THE DISTRIBUTION COUNTING AS TAXABLE INCOME. YOU CAN DESIGNATE THAT TLC USE YOUR QCD FOR A CENTURY CLUB MEMBERSHIP AT ANY LEVEL. A QCD COUNTS DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR TOWARD SATISFYING YOUR RMD, LOWERING YOUR TAXABLE INCOME.

WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO SIGN UP FOR CENTURY CLUB IF YOU AREN'T ALREADY A MEMBER. IF YOUR MEMBERSHIP LAPSED AT SOME POINT, PLEASE "CATCH UP." AND, PLEASE CONSIDER "STEPPING UP" TO THE NEXT LEVEL, PERHAPS USING A QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION AS THE FINANCING MECHANISM.

AS TLC RAMPS UP FOR A ROBUST 2027 CAMPING SEASON, WE KNOW COSTS WILL HAVE INCREASED. CENTURY CLUB IS A GREAT WAY FOR LIONS TO HELP TLC ENSURE THAT OUR SPECIAL CHILDREN HAVE AN AWESOME CAMPING EXPERIENCE. LET'S GET MORE LIONS GOING "ALL THE WAY" FOR TEXAS LIONS CAMP AND THE CHILDREN WE SERVE!



TEXAS LIONS CAMP CHAIRMAN PDG KEN JOBE
TEXAS LIONS CAMP IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRMAN LION ANN WARD



Century Club

Texas Lions Camp • 4000 Highway 27 • Kerrville, TX • 78028-7091
www.lionscamp.com • (830) 896-8500

The Century Club is an annual opportunity to personally participate in giving to Texas Lions Camp and the programs it has established to provide at no cost a quality summer camp experience for Texas children with physical disabilities, type-1 diabetes and cancer. An individual, couple, family or business can be a Century Club member by giving annually or monthly at whatever level you desire. Choose the level and how you'd like to make your payments whether lump sum or monthly through automatic draft. All Century Club members will receive an inscribed plaque, patch and a lapel pin. Each year a new medallion for your plaque will arrive once your annual membership renewal is paid. At the end of 10 years membership, a new plaque will arrive along with your eleventh year medallion. Fill out the form below with the level you'd like to start with and send it with your payment to Texas Lions Camp at the address given above. For any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

For: _____
(print name exactly as it should appear on plaque)

All monies from Century Club go to the TLC General Fund.

Donor: _____

Ship Plaque to: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

Club Name: _____

Method of payment: ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card

District: _____ **Phone:** _____

Support Levels

(please check appropriate choice)

- | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-------------------------------|----|-------|-------------------------------|
| ☐ Bronze Level | _____ | Single annual gift of \$100 | or | _____ | \$10 monthly automatic draft |
| ☐ Silver Level | _____ | Single annual gift of \$250 | or | _____ | \$21 monthly automatic draft |
| ☐ Gold Level | _____ | Single annual gift of \$500 | or | _____ | \$42 monthly automatic draft |
| ☐ Diamond Level | _____ | Single annual gift of \$1,000 | or | _____ | \$84 monthly automatic draft |
| ☐ Ambassador Level | _____ | Single annual gift of \$5,000 | or | _____ | \$420 monthly automatic draft |

Bank Draft information has been discontinued at this time.

Instructions for monthly Automatic Draft: 1. Enter amount of money automatic draft below. 2. Sign and date all lines marked with an X. 3. Attach a voided check with this form.

The Texas Lions Camp:

I have given order to (Financial Institution) _____ to honor for you as they become due, on my monthly drafts and charge same to my _____ with this financial institution. This authorization will remain in effect until revoked by me in writing.

Amount of monthly automatic draft: \$ _____ Reason: _____ and date below—use signature(s) required on your account: _____

X _____ Date / /

X _____ X Date / /

Credit Card Payment information

☐ MC ☐ Visa ☐ Discover Amount: \$ _____

CC#: / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / Exp.Date: / / Yr / / / CVC

Name on Card: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____



NEWSLETTER EDITOR & SOCIAL MEDIA CHAIR PDG RANDI WILDE

THE ROAR STARTS WITH YOU!

EVERY GREAT STORY DESERVES TO BE SHARED! AS WE BRING YOU THE FOURTH EDITION OF THE ROAR, WE WANT TO SHINE AN EVEN BRIGHTER SPOTLIGHT ON THE INCREDIBLE SERVICE, MEMBERSHIP SUCCESSES, AND COMMUNITY IMPACT HAPPENING ACROSS THE LIONS OF TEXAS.

BEHIND EVERY SERVICE PROJECT IS A STORY WORTH TELLING—AND A PICTURE THAT MAY INSPIRE ANOTHER CLUB TO TAKE ACTION. WHETHER YOUR CLUB IS SERVING MEALS, SUPPORTING LOCAL FAMILIES, WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS, HOSTING A SUCCESSFUL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE, OR FINDING CREATIVE WAYS TO MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

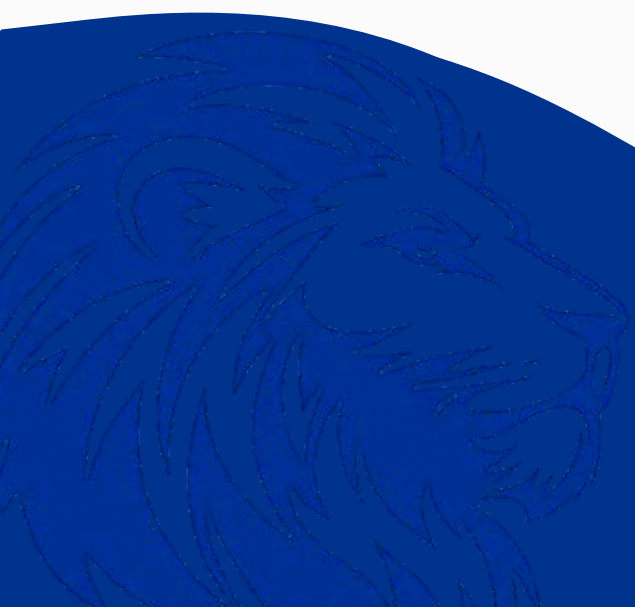
HELP US CELEBRATE THE AMAZING WORK HAPPENING THROUGHOUT MD-2 BY SUBMITTING SHORT ARTICLES, PHOTOS, AND SUCCESS STORIES FROM YOUR CLUB OR DISTRICT. YOUR EXPERIENCE COULD SPARK A NEW IDEA, ENCOURAGE MEMBERSHIP GROWTH, OR INSPIRE FELLOW LIONS TO MAKE AN EVEN GREATER IMPACT IN THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES

PLEASE SEND YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO RANDIWILDE000@GMAIL.COM BY THE **1ST OF EACH MONTH FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE FOLLOWING ISSUE.**

TOGETHER, LET'S SHARE OUR SUCCESSES, CELEBRATE OUR LIONS, AND REMIND TEXAS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN PEOPLE UNITE IN SERVICE. AFTER ALL, THE BEST WAY TO GROW OUR IMPACT IS TO SHARE WHAT WE DO AND INSPIRE OTHERS TO JOIN US!

YOUR SERVICE IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE. YOUR STORY DESERVES TO BE HEARD. LET'S KEEP THE LIONS OF TEXAS ROARING!

KEEP THE LIONS OF TEXAS ROARING!
PDG RANDI WILDE
MD-2 NEWSLETTER EDITOR, THE ROAR





GLOBAL ACTION TEAM

LEADER CC CHRIS GUNSTREAM

GROWING OUR LIONS CLUBS, GROWING OUR SERVICE

A LIONS CLUB GROWS WHEN MORE PEOPLE SEE A WAY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER. MEMBERSHIP IS NOT SIMPLY A NUMBER ON A ROSTER. EACH NEW MEMBER BRINGS SKILLS, IDEAS, RELATIONSHIPS AND ENERGY THAT CAN HELP A CLUB SERVE ITS COMMUNITY MORE EFFECTIVELY.

THAT GROWTH BEGINS WITH LISTENING. WHAT DOES THE COMMUNITY NEED? WHAT KINDS OF SERVICE WOULD MOTIVATE PEOPLE TO TAKE PART? AND WHAT WOULD MAKE THE CLUB WELCOMING AND REWARDING FOR THE PEOPLE ALREADY SERVING? WHEN MEMBERS ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS TOGETHER, THEY CAN SET A CLEAR DIRECTION AND INVITE OTHERS INTO WORK THAT MATTERS.

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL'S GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP APPROACH OFFERS A PRACTICAL FRAMEWORK: BUILD A TEAM, BUILD A VISION, BUILD A PLAN AND BUILD SUCCESS. THE PROCESS ENCOURAGES CLUBS TO MAKE GROWTH A SHARED EFFORT, CONNECT RECRUITMENT TO MEANINGFUL SERVICE, AND KEEP MEMBERS ENGAGED THROUGH FELLOWSHIP AND A POSITIVE CLUB EXPERIENCE. [LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL: GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP APPROACH](#)

THE INVITATION ITSELF CAN BE SIMPLE. TELL A NEIGHBOR ABOUT A PROJECT. BRING A COLLEAGUE TO A SERVICE EVENT. SHARE PHOTOS AND STORIES THAT SHOW WHAT THE CLUB ACCOMPLISHES. MANY PEOPLE WANT TO HELP BUT MAY NOT REALIZE THERE IS A PLACE FOR THEM IN LIONS. A PERSONAL INVITATION CAN TURN INTEREST INTO PARTICIPATION—AND PARTICIPATION INTO LASTING COMMITMENT. [LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL: MEMBER RECRUITMENT](#)

GROWTH ALSO DEPENDS ON THE EXPERIENCE MEMBERS FIND AFTER THEY JOIN. NEW LIONS SHOULD BE WELCOMED, INTRODUCED TO THE CLUB'S WORK AND GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES TO CONTRIBUTE THEIR IDEAS. EXISTING MEMBERS NEED CHANCES TO BUILD FRIENDSHIPS, LEARN NEW SKILLS AND SEE THE RESULTS OF THEIR SERVICE. WHEN MEMBERS FEEL CONNECTED AND USEFUL, THEY ARE MORE LIKELY TO STAY AND INVITE OTHERS.

CLUBS CAN MAKE THAT EXPERIENCE MORE ACCESSIBLE BY OFFERING SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES THAT FIT DIFFERENT SCHEDULES AND INTERESTS. A HANDS-ON PROJECT, A SHORT-TERM VOLUNTEER ROLE OR A FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT MAY HELP SOMEONE TAKE A FIRST STEP. PARTNERSHIPS WITH SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY GROUPS AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS CAN BRING NEW VOLUNTEERS INTO A PROJECT AND INTRODUCE THEM TO LIONS' MISSION.

THE WORK IS PART OF A LARGER EFFORT. LIONS INTERNATIONAL'S MISSION 1.5 AIMS TO REACH 1.5 MILLION MEMBERS WORLDWIDE BY JULY 1, 2027, SO LIONS CAN RESPOND TO MORE COMMUNITY NEEDS. FOR LOCAL CLUBS, THE PURPOSE OF GROWTH IS CLEAR: WELCOME MORE PEOPLE INTO SERVICE AND STRENGTHEN THE ABILITY TO HELP. [LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL: MISSION 1.5](#)

EVERY CLUB CAN BEGIN WITH ONE CONVERSATION, ONE WELCOMING EVENT OR ONE SERVICE PROJECT THAT REFLECTS A REAL COMMUNITY NEED. WITH A SHARED VISION AND A THOUGHTFUL PLAN, LIONS CAN GROW CLUBS WHERE MEMBERS THRIVE—AND EXTEND THE REACH OF SERVICE TO MORE PEOPLE.



YOURS IN SERVICE,
LION CHRIS GUNSTREAM
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MD-2 COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON
2026-2027