



# MD2 CONVENTION TIMES

VOLUME I ISSUE I

MAY 2015



## Active Involvement to Be Theme of Convention A Convention for ALL Lions

For the last several years the Councils of Governors have tried to make the MD2 convention more and more appealing, interesting, and useful to the "club" level Lions. This year's Council has taken this concept one giant step further. During the Convention there will be several "live" service projects being performed (see related stories on page 4-6).

they return home they should be well-equipped to bring new dimensions of service into their clubs.

The training sessions and work projects will be properly timed to allow attendees to attend the meals. They will be able to attend all the special functions and hear our guest speakers.

### Babysitting

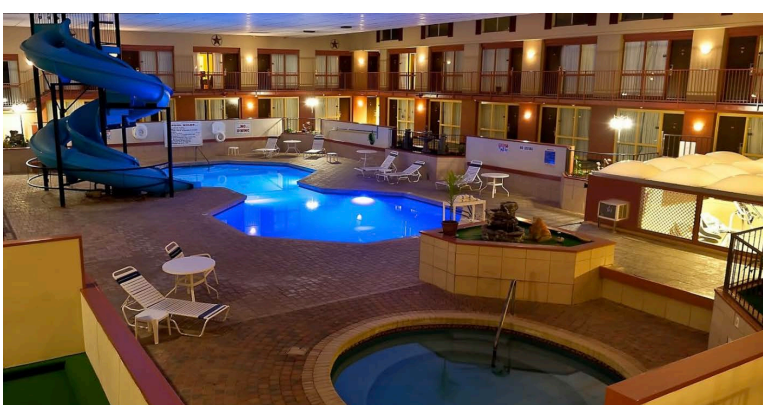
Part of involving ALL Lions means including our family Lions, many of whom have young children. The Convention Committee is currently working on having babysitting available (on location) for the Friday luncheon and the Friday & Saturday night dinners; and if possible, one afternoon during the seminars and sightseeing. More information will be provided closer to the actual convention.



Clubs will want to be sure to have members from their Sight Conservation Committee and their Service Project Committees to attend classroom & training sessions, followed by actual hands on projects. When

## WHERE YOU'LL STAY

The new home of the 2016 Texas Lions Convention will be the Grand Texan Hotel and Conference Center located off I-20 on Wall Street.



The newly renovated Grand Texan Hotel and Convention Center is the largest hotel in Midland, with over 250 rooms and the largest indoor pool and hot tub in the city. Other amenities include free breakfast, free airport shuttle, free WiFi, business center, 24-hour fitness center, in-lobby ATM, arcade room, free parking and complimentary coffee in the lobby. There is also an on-site restaurant and bar. Everything is bigger at the Grand Texan Hotel.

The in-house restaurant offers the best American and Indian cuisine prepared by world renown chefs. Ask to meet Chef Victor or Chef Raju and be amazed by their hospitality and experience. Like their page on Facebook, then mention you are a Facebook Friend and receive a special treat prepared exclusively for followers.

Unique to the hotel is an indoor miniature golf course.

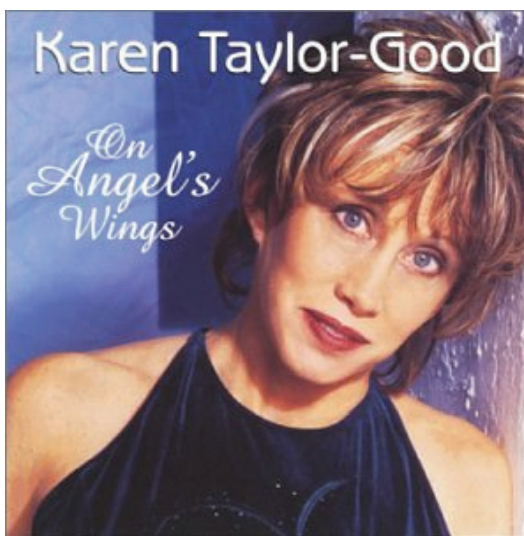
### Property Location

Centrally located in Midland, Grand Texan Hotel & Convention Center is convenient to First American Bank Ballpark and The Horseshoe Midland County Multipurpose Facility. This hotel is within close proximity of Scharbauer Sports Complex and The Petroleum Museum.

You can check out more on the web site by reading the Convention Update!

## SAVE THESE DATES

**\*\*May 19-21, 2016\*\***  
**MD2 State Convention**  
**\*MIDLAND, TEXAS\***



**"A song can travel to places in the heart that the spoken word alone cannot go," says Lion Karen Taylor Good, Grammy nominee and two time SESAC Songwriter of the year. Lion Karen Taylor Good will be the Convention's special entertainment on Friday night (see related story on page 10).**

## It's Not Just the Desert! Plenty to See & Do in Midland

From millions of miles in space to thousands of feet into the ground; from the dry desert sands to hundreds of feet below the surface of the ancient Permian Sea, Midland's facilities, activities and museums cover a broad spectrum..... and there is still room for the arts and sports all brought together by a lot of friendly folks.

If you are interested in the skies, the CAF World War II Air Museum is world recognized, or you can go higher & view the stars on the Blakemore Planetarium's Spitz SciDome HD Star Projector (one of only a few in the world). There's the home of 2 Presidents & a Governor. You can check out a Desert Nature Preserve or a Wildlife preserve, built around a playa lake, or check out the Petroleum Museum to see what it looked like when it was an ocean. There's one of the



best Community Theaters anywhere or a brand new performing arts theatre. If history is your thing, the Haley library houses one of the most complete collections of Texas history anywhere in the state, not to mention a first class Fire Museum built by the Midland Downtown Lions. (See related articles on page 3.) If the RockHounds are in town, you might just catch a Double A ballgame at beautiful Security Bank Ball Park.

Nope it's not just a desert. Midland's an active, vibrant community. So come early & stay late, there's plenty to see & do beyond the Lions activities!



Lion Joe Preston, the keynote speaker for the May convention, is more than just an International President (2014-15). Lion Joe is an artist, musician, and hardworking grassroots Lion. (See related story page 10.)

## Midland Mayhem All American OLIO



A late Thursday afternoon mixer with snacks & beverages, followed by an evening with dinner, dancing & a little bit of mayhem, provided by the Midland Community Theatre's Summer Mummies Troupe will kick off the MD2 Convention festivities in Midland. While no one gets to see the world renowned Summer Mummies Melodrama until opening night (usually after Memorial Day), the Lions of Texas will be treated to a dress rehearsal of the equally famous, All-American OLIO, in recognition of the countless hours Lions volunteer in service every year.

Melodrama is a unique theatrical experience, invented in the USA. But nobody does it quite as uniquely as Summer Mummies. A Permian Basin summer tradition for more than fifty-nine years, it is the longest continuing melodrama in the United States and is internationally renowned. They have performed in Ireland and China, proving that laughter is indeed a universal language. The oldest auxiliary organization at Midland Community Theatre, Summer Mummies entertains thousands of patrons each summer with a brand new melodrama each year.

In a recent year, visitors to Summer Mummies represented 8 foreign countries, 34 different states and 136 Texas cities and towns - a remarkable attendance for a remarkable event. Hundreds of out-of-town visitors travel to Midland each year to enjoy shopping, dining out, spending the night and attending Summer Mummies.

Nearly 100 volunteers each night give collectively an amazing 13,400 volunteer hours each summer. Before the first ticket is sold and lights shine on the stage, the Summer Mummies volunteers are hard at work. They not only select the original script; they cast the show, sell advertising, order supplies, organize production committees, clean the theatre, and make costumes; and every volunteer actor and dancer in the Melodrama and Olio has given between 60 and 120 hours of rehearsal time.

All performances conclude with the **All-American OLIO!** The Olio is a series of short sketches, dances, and audience participation skits. Each sketch is about 60 seconds of mayhem, making the Olio a fast-paced, laugh-a-minute extravaganza. Many of the sketches come from the minds of our volunteers who diligently watch television and scour the internet looking for what is most likely to keep the audience laughing. So from one group of volunteers to another - come join the mayhem that is OLIO!



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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

April 6, 2015

To: Lions of Texas

Dear Lions,

On behalf of the City of Midland I would like to welcome the Lions of Texas Annual State Convention! We are honored that you have selected our city to host this event. Midland considers it a true blessing to have such a great gathering of people from all across the wonderful state of Texas. Our community has enjoyed a long and successful relationship with the Midland Lions Clubs.

Midland is a great place with a solid reputation of warm hospitality and quality of life. The citizens uphold the tradition of a town with many projects being achieved by volunteers. This will become apparent to you when you observe your hosts. The 6 Midland Lions Clubs have had the opportunity to participate in many outstanding programs. They have put Midland on the map by having a Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center that processes and sends used eyeglasses with mission groups all over the world. In addition all 6 clubs work together to fund a program, where they give free eye exams to needy children and fill their eyeglass prescription at no cost to them. We are proud to have such an amazing group of Lions to represent our city.

We hope you enjoy your time here in Midland and take advantage of the great opportunities this city has to offer.

Sincerely,

Jerry F. Morales  
Mayor



## Midland Convention & Visitors Bureau Welcomes Lions

By Gaylia Olivas, Vice-President, Midland CVB

Thank you for choosing Midland as the location for your 2016 MD2 Texas Lions State Convention. The Midland CVB is honored you have chosen our community and we are excited to host you! Midland is a warm and inviting West Texas community that over 111,000 people call home. Midland is home to a wide variety of restaurants that will offer you selections including juicy steaks, tangy barbecue, spicy Tex-Mex, mouthwatering burgers and gourmet and Italian cuisine. While you are here you'll find plenty of things to do. If you enjoy entertainment, several venues offer live music in the evening. For Broadway quality music and entertainment you will want to see what is happening at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. If history piques your interest,

you may enjoy the George W. Bush Childhood Home which showcases the early years of our former President. You may also enjoy a visit to the Haley Library & History Center, home of the first bell that hung in the Alamo as well as a vast written and recorded history of the old west. Do you prefer to see the stars?

You will want to make time to visit the Marion Blakemore Planetarium, home of one of only a few Spitz SciDome HD Star Projectors in the World. For outdoor enthusiasts we have the I-20 Wildlife Preserve as well as the Midland RockHounds, our Double A affiliate of the Oakland Athletics. For your sweet tooth you will want to make time to visit Susie's South Forty Confections Factory & Store.



You will be able to see a variety of candies being made and then visit the store for your very own to enjoy immediately or take home. So make plans to attend the 2016 MD2 Texas Lions State Convention in Midland, Texas. We look forward to seeing you here for an unforgettable experience that will be remembered for years to come.

## WELCOME TO ALL THE GREAT LIONS OF TEXAS

You will soon enter into the "A-1" District in Texas. That did not come about by chance but came about because of Lion Leaders and Projects in District 2A-1. At one time it was a District that went from 16 miles north of Ballinger, Texas and was the source of many of my mentors but mostly that of my Dad, Past District Governor E. C. Grindstaff and that of Past International President Herb Petry; great Lions and Leaders who set the pace and foundation for our District.

Because of that, we are able to offer to you some ideal Projects that even might fit your District and/or our International Association. We are proud of many things and anxious to tell you about them or to show them to you on your visit to the State Convention in Midland, Texas in 2016, the 99<sup>th</sup> year of our Association.

We are proud of the West Texas Lions Eye Bank Alliance (a merger of A1's & T3's eye banks) that has long been a part of this District; we are proud

of the fact that the Midland Downtown club through the leadership of PDG "Ike" Fitzgerald and many other Lions with the blessing of Lions Clubs International established, along with other Midland Clubs, the first recycling of eyeglass center in America and you know the story of what that has meant to many people throughout our Association.

This Recycling Center is also responsible for the recycling & screening training of Lions, not only in America, but also the training of Lions in Central & South America - even as far off as Africa.

Our District went International with the establishment of an Eye Clinic in Acuna, Mexico with the help of an LCIF grant. Countless eye surgeries have been performed at the clinic since it was built.

Truly we hope that you will find our District the most friendly of all Districts as we greet and welcome you to the Convention and hope that you have a TERRIFIC and AWESOME time



upon your visit to Texas.

You can rest assured that any of us will be glad to help you prior to your arrival and hopefully to give you the opportunity not only to see the above, but hear about the many accomplishments of other District Service Projects.

Sign up early and be one of the Early Birds as we begin to finalize preparations for 2017 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lions Clubs International.

Everett J. "Ebb" Grindstaff  
President LCI 1982-83  
Ballinger Noon Lions, District 2-A1

## Council Welcomes Texas Lions

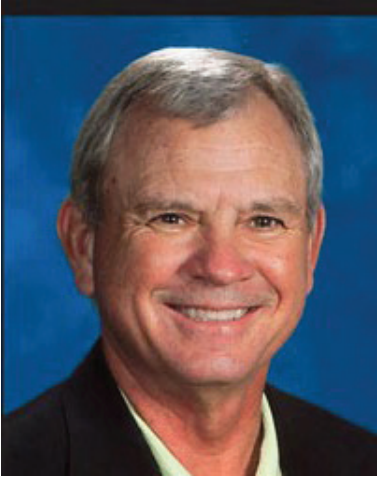
From the 2015-2016 Council of Governors..... WELCOME to the State Lions Convention in Midland! Located in the rugged beauty of the Permian Basin, beautiful sunsets and cool nights are some of the first things you will notice about this capital of the West Texas oil patch.

We are a land of vast wealth and opportunity.....this convention will hopefully give you many opportunities of which you can take advantage, as we seek to provide ACTIVE, grassroots involvement. ACTION projects that you can participate in, instead of just listening to presentations,

will be offered. Learn to build a handicap ramp..... learn how to use a handheld device to screen children's eyes.....or learn how to set up & run your own adult screening lane to help those in need find useable recycled glasses. Each of these skills will prepare you for action

projects in your club and community. For Lions with young children, we are trying to make arrangements with some local daycares to allow them to attend the training.

We hope you enjoy this edition of the MD2 Convention Times, as it is full of all of the great plans



DG Dick Van Hoose, T2

have in store. We are planning hard for reasonably priced accommodations & meals. Register early and plan to come to West Texas for an outstanding convention experience.

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## DG Janice & Lion Gary Tooke

(District Governor X3, 2015-16)

Remind Texas Lions to  
're-MEMBER Texas'

And hope to see everyone in  
Midland next spring



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District Governor 2X2



## MUSEUM OF THE SOUTHWEST



The Museum of the Southwest is comprised of the Juliette and Fred Turner, Jr. Memorial Gallery; a sculpture garden, the Fredda Turner Durham Children's Museum; and the Marian Blakemore Planetarium. The Museum of the Southwest inspires discovery, interaction and exploration of art, science, culture and history, enriching the lives of people of all ages. The museum uses the power of these disciplines to ignite the imagination, stimulate thought and provide enjoyment through its collections, exhibitions, programs and events.

## COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE



Collecting aircraft for over a half a century, the CAF now ranks as one of the largest air forces in the world. Today the CAF has approximately 9,000 members and a fleet of almost 160 airplanes representing more than 60 different types—including planes from several foreign countries and other military conflicts since World War II. By the end of World War II America had produced over 300,000 aircraft. Just 15 years later almost all were gone.

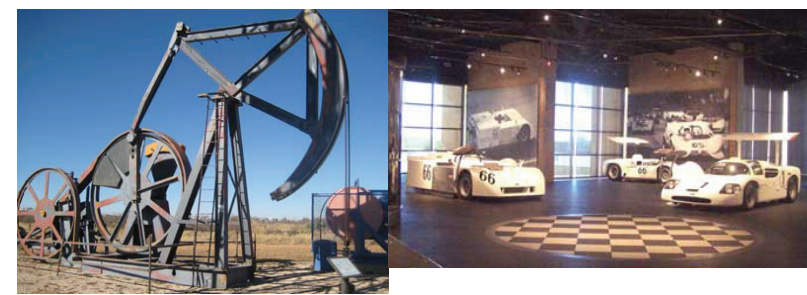
The museum and one of the main hangers is located in Midland. They have members in every state and 28 foreign countries. Our members have joined together and formed units to foster camaraderie and, in many cases, actively support one or more of the classic military aircraft operated by the CAF.

## GEORGE W. BUSH CHILDHOOD HOME



It may be called the George W. Bush Childhood Home, but it was the home of two U.S. Presidents, a governor, and a first lady. After 5 years of research, documentation and restoration, the home was officially dedicated on April 11, 2006 and a tour through the home provides a nostalgic look into the 1950's. The home is now on The National Register of Historic Places and is a Recorded Texas Historical Landmark.

## THE PERMIAN BASIN PETROLEUM MUSEUM



For over 35 years, the Petroleum Museum has shared the petroleum and energy story and its impact on our daily lives. The Museum tells the story of petroleum and the rugged lives of men and women who sought a better life. A visit to the Petroleum Museum is an amazing journey through over 230 million years of history. Located in the heart of the Permian Basin, the Petroleum Museum offers over 40,000 square feet of interactive education and entertainment for adventurers of all ages.

The museum also houses the Chaparral Team Indy car collection & museum. Throughout the 1960s—and into the 1970s and the 1980s—Jim Hall and his team at Chaparral Cars designed, built and raced legendary race cars that thrilled fans, amazed the competition and were considered the most innovative cars of their time. Working quietly from their Midland shop, the Chaparral team took race car engineering to new levels of performance.

## SUSIE'S SOUTH FORTY CONFECTIONS

Susie Hitchcock-Hall's love of cooking and entertaining led her to start Susie's South Forty Confections, Inc. in 1991. Originally located down a country road behind forty acres of pecan trees south of Midland, Texas, the "new" factory in downtown Midland is five times the size of the original. Visitors can watch confectioners making toffee and other confections. "When we moved there, in 2002, the new space seemed as big as Texas – so we celebrated by making a Texas-sized piece of



candy!" The Texas Pecan Toffee, Susie's original and still best-selling confection, weighed in at 2,940 pounds (with 2,056,000 calories!) with a retail value of \$57,000. It earned us a Guinness™ World Record! The toffee was donated to local soup kitchens and other non-profit organizations.

## The Haley Memorial Library & History Center



The Library was founded by renowned Texas author & historian, J. Evetts Haley, in 1961 to preserve the history, traditions and ideals of early Texas and the Southwest. It provides and promotes continuous research on this unique period in American history. The Library is a "no charge" facility. Research and use of the Library is always free.

J. Evetts Haley left his huge collection of books, records, interviews, photos and notes accumulated over fifty years to the Library. The Haley Library contains one of the most comprehensive Southwestern U.S. historical collections in the world. Reflecting the drama of the Western frontier and the dynamic spirit of its founder, the Haley Library is a vibrant institution offering diverse programs for everyone...from cowboys and connoisseurs to kids.

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Want to welcome all Texas Lions  
To the Tall City  
For the 2016 State Lions Convention



"Active Involvement" is the Theme  
Participate in one of the 3 Action Projects  
And join the 2A1 Lions Clubs as "We Serve"



Lion George Hancock & Keith Binam

## WELCOME TEXAS LIONS

Midland - 2016

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THE  
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## WELCOME MD-2 LIONS To Our Lions Den



Midland Downtown Lions Club

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## Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center Screening Training By PDG Carolyn Keskitalo, Executive Director

Thousands of Lions are diligent in their quest to find and collect used eyeglasses to send to Sight First recycling centers, like TLERC in Midland. There's a great sense of satisfaction in getting several boxes packaged and sent - satisfaction for a job well done; but that's just it, the job is not done. How many of these Lions have people right in their own home town that could benefit from the used glasses? How many people could be benefited if these Lions knew how to place used eyeglasses on people in foreign countries on a church or Lions mission trip?

Recycling glasses is useless unless there are people capable of helping people find a pair that will allow them to function properly in their daily lives. Years ago TLERC developed a monthly training program to help Lions learn how to do just that. So to try to give more clubs the opportunity to get a team trained, TLERC will offer a training class at the 2016 State Convention to be held in Midland on May 19-21, 2016. (See related Action Project article this page for details.)

The program has 4 main objectives to accomplish with each training session:

1. The absolute necessity to understand the ophthalmic prescription for eyeglasses.
2. To provide the necessary knowledge and confidence in the use, care, and maintenance of the instruments used to obtain screening information.
3. Selection of glasses that have the allowable variation to improve patients' eyesight.
4. Proper fitting of the selected glasses on those we serve.

### Overview of the Training

1. Record Keeping - The importance of records. Reports and why they are needed.
2. Anatomy & Physiology of the Eye - Structure of the eye & how it works.
3. Snellen Charts - An important part of the screening.
4. Autolensometer - This equipment reads the prescription on a pair of glasses.
5. Autorefractor - This machine will determine the refractive status of the eye.
6. Focometer - A hand held (non-automated) instrument to determine the refractive status of the eye. Very helpful in remote locations
7. Selecting Glasses - Selecting a pair of glasses using the Quarter Diopter System, which will improve the person's vision. Learn allowable variances, bifocals for reading, proper fitting of the lenses & frames.

Participants will get hands on experience at the Center's monthly screening

All Lions (Knights of Sight) would benefit from the course. Teams/chairpersons, who collect recycled glasses; mission teams; screeners, plus many others will find this course of interest and helpful in the sight programs in their districts or clubs. Contact TLERC for information and to register for the course. (432-683-3611) (txlerc@gmail.com)

## Convention Action Project TLERC Adult Training/Screening

Usually club vision funds are spent on putting new glasses on children, making it extremely hard to help needy adults. This is one reason why LCI's Sight First Recycling program came into being. While at the convention, clubs interested in starting their own adult vision screening program with recycled glasses, will have the opportunity to go through TLERC's training program with hands on experience at TLERC's monthly adult screening on Saturday morning. The training is designed to show Lions how to use the equipment, set up the stations needed, and to find useable glasses to give to those in need. It is not designed to teach the actual collection, sorting and preparation of useable glasses. However, for those interested, there will be opportunities to learn about the collection & sorting processes, as well, during the Convention.

**Clubs are encouraged to send your Vision or Sight Committee Chairman to the 2016 Midland Convention and start making a difference in your community. Make note on your convention registration, so we can register you in the training class. The training is scheduled for Thursday afternoon, Friday morning & afternoon, and Saturday morning.**

With this training clubs should be able to set up their own screening programs locally or put together Lion or church mission trips abroad to those areas in need of eyeglasses.



**CC Tom & Lion Sherrilyn Blase**  
Are proud of your 2015 -16 Council of Governors

Come Celebrate Their Service in Midland  
At the 2016 State Convention



## Texas Incinerator, Inc.

Past President George Hancock  
Midland Downtown Lions Clubs

WELCOME TO MIDLAND  
TEXAS LIONS



## Midland West Side Lions Club



Home Club of  
PDG Robert (Bob) Edwards



Proud Sponsor of BSA Troop 19, Pack 67 and Crew 19

Wishing you a successful year  
See you in Midland May 2016  
Together We Serve



For 92 illustrious years

**The San Angelo  
Dynamic Downtown  
Lions Club**

Has proudly said "We Serve!"  
at all levels of Lionism

Welcome to the "A1" District -  
Texas Lions!!!



## Texas Ramp Project

**A Modern Day Barn Raising Effort**  
By John Laine  
Executive Director



safe ramps in all of these

The Texas Ramp Project is a 501.c.3 non-profit organization with a vision that no resident of Texas should lack safe access to their home for financial reasons. Incorporated in 2006, the TRP grew out of an earlier project called the Dallas Ramp Project which served only Dallas and Collin counties. Since the first 40 ramps were built in 2006, the productivity of the TRP has grown each year to 1535 ramps installed in 2014! The ramps are ADA compliant and the client is never charged for the ramp. All referrals come from third party health care providers. Initially the TRP covered areas around Austin, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Amarillo, El Paso and the counties surrounding Dallas and Tarrant counties. Now the TRP stretches from Texarkana to El Paso and Amarillo to Houston with new regions in San Angelo, Waco and soon in Beaumont. The project trains and equips volunteer groups, such as Lions Clubs and Church groups, to build

places and we always need more volunteers. The director of the TRP, John Laine, will be joining the Lions of Texas in 2016 to talk about the project and to solicit more Lions Clubs to come out and build a ramp in their hometown to see if it might fit in with the work of their club. At the convention there will be a seminar to introduce you to TRP and how we assist the volunteer groups with ramp templates, verified referrals, etc. In addition we will actually build a ramp in Midland, as one of the Texas Lions State Convention ACTION Projects, through the Midland Downtown Lions, which has been one of our volunteer groups for several years. **You can help to change a life in half a day!** Contact us at [info@texasramps.org](mailto:info@texasramps.org) or visit our website at [www.texasramps.org](http://www.texasramps.org)

## Convention Action Project Ramp Construction

At the 2016 State Convention Lions will have the opportunity to actually build a wheelchair ramp for some Midland resident in need. There will be a seminar to introduce participants to the Texas Ramp Project and to show them how to build a ramp using the Texas Ramp templates. A sight will already have been selected and a sight evaluation done, thus the group will pre-build the ramp at the Midland Downtown Lions Center on Friday, and assemble it at a residence on Saturday morning.

**Clubs are encouraged to send your Community Service Project Chairman (or other members interested in building type service projects) to the 2016 Midland Convention and start making a difference in your community. Make note on your convention registration, so we can register you in the training seminar. The program is scheduled for Thursday afternoon, Friday and Saturday morning.**

With this training and the help of The Texas Ramp Project, clubs should easily be able to set up their own ramp projects in their home town.



## Lion Russell & Toni Livingston

2016 Convention Chairman

## Lion Whitney Livingston & Lion Ryan Livingston



Support & Congratulate  
Council Chairman Tom Blase  
and the

2015-16 MD2 Council of Governors

# VISIT MIDLAND

The Midland Convention & Visitors Bureau welcomes the MD2 State Convention to Midland in 2016!

Come *Feel the Energy* in The Tall City!

## THREE MUST-SEE ATTRACTIONS

- 1 Broadway, musical & entertainment productions, Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center
- 2 World's largest collection of antique oil drilling equipment, Permian Basin Petroleum Museum
- 3 Susie's South Forty Confections Candy Factory, a Guinness™ World Record-Holder for the largest piece of toffee

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Come to Midland in 2016

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## Lions KidSight USA 25 Million Kids Need You, So Get Involved Today!

Last year Lions of the USA kicked off **Lions KidSight USA**, a nationwide program to safeguard the vision of children aged 6 months through 6 years.

According to educational experts, 80% of learning is visual. So if a child can't see well, he/she can't learn well. Yet most young children don't get their vision screened until they have problems learning or paying attention in school. By then, it may already be too late. Unless vision problems are detected early and corrected, they risk becoming permanent by age 7. Lions in the USA already screen more than 500,000 kids per year through state-wide and local programs often known as "KidSight." About 7-15% of kids screened will be referred for a follow-up exam by an eye-care professional.

The **Lions KidSight USA** mission is to ensure eye screening and follow-up care is given to all kids because every child deserves to learn and see the world clearly.

### Change a Life by Becoming a Vision Screener

With just minutes of training, any Lion or volunteer can screen the vision of a child. Just push a few buttons and the screening devices used in KidSight do all the work for you. Screening devices even generate the results immediately for easy management of screening results. It's simple, it's fun, and there's nothing more rewarding than helping a child!

The Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is supporting the development of the program by considering matching grants for districts where at least two more clubs are financially involved, per the regular grant criteria. Districts or MDs can apply for matching Standard Grants in amounts between US\$10,000 and US\$100,000 to purchase or replace/upgrade devices and put in place other program infrastructures. LCIF has already awarded US\$2,199,990 in grants since fiscal year 2000-2001 to help districts and MDs in the USA start children's eye screening programs.

Two equipment manufacturers of the screening devices – **Plusoptix** and **Welch Allyn** – are proud Project Partners, and both are providing generous financial support for the development of this national program.

### Texas Screening Requirements

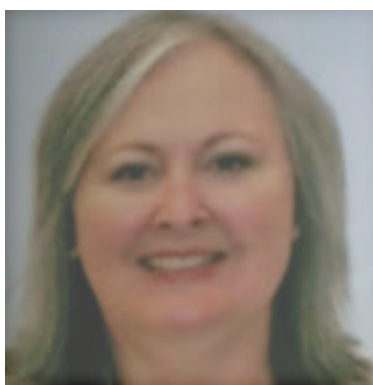
In the fall of 2014, Texas school children eye screening requirements changed to include the use of device based screening. Prior to the change, only 2 devices were approved. If a refer result was obtained, there needed to be a second screening done using an approved chart. The new requirements state that devices "may be used for individuals through five years of age and those with disabilities who do not respond well to other allowable screening methods. If automated screening device is used, pass/fail documentation of results should be recorded."

The second screening need not be done and the "pass" or "refer" result should be noted on the screening

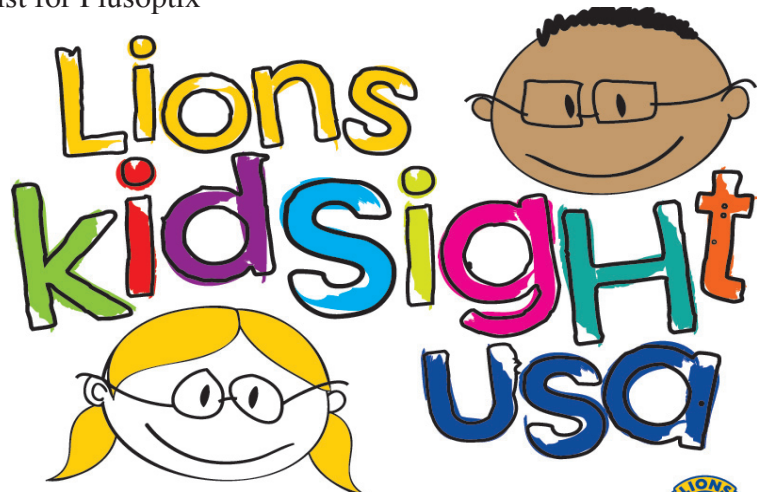
form.

The person screening "must have successfully completed instrument specific training (including passing all associated tests) in accordance with manufacturer guidelines and must have a full understanding of the pass/fail referral criteria in accordance with AAPOS standards".

The device manufacturers approved by the Lions KidSight USA board provide certified training courses as required by the state.



Lindy Toner Vision Specialist for Plusoptix



Community Eye Screening For Children



## Convention Action Project Children's Vision Screening

While at the convention Lions desiring to start their own children's vision screening program will have the opportunity to train on the equipment, become certified in the use of the equipment, and then do an actual screening of children at a daycare to gain the experience needed to go home and start your own program.

Clubs are encouraged to bring your Sight Committee Chairman (or other Lions interested in children's sight programs) to the 2016 Midland Convention and start making a difference in your community. Make note on your convention registration, so we can register you in the training class. The training is scheduled for Thursday afternoon and the field work on Friday.

Due to recently relaxed portions of Texas law (see Texas Screening Requirements this page), vision screening equipment such as the SPOT and PLUSOPTIX can now be used to screen some school children, if the screener is certified. If you already have a screening program and don't need training, but do need certification, certification only seminars will be provided by both companies on Saturday afternoon.



## ADVERTISING COMPANY

### VISION SCREENING WITH A SMILE

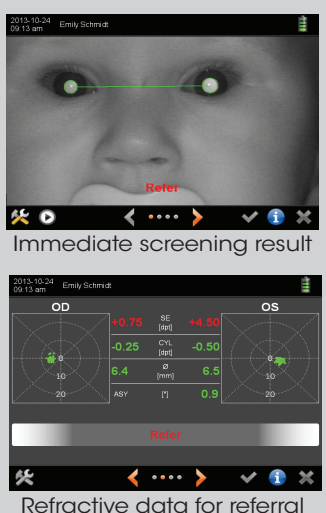


In less than one second, Plusoptix vision screeners detect common vision disorders including:

- Hyperopia
- Myopia
- Astigmatism
- Anisometropia
- Anisocoria
- Strabismus

### Our proven technology

is non-invasive and easy-to-use. From 3.3 feet away it can accurately screen children starting at six months old. It provides immediate "pass" or "refer" screening results.



### Now there's even more to smile about with the Plusoptix vision screener.

Reaching your screening goals just got easier! Call us at (800) 488-6436 to speak with one of our vision specialists to learn how our new pricing plan will put a smile on your face.

Plusoptix will provide your Lions Club everything you need to build a successful program!





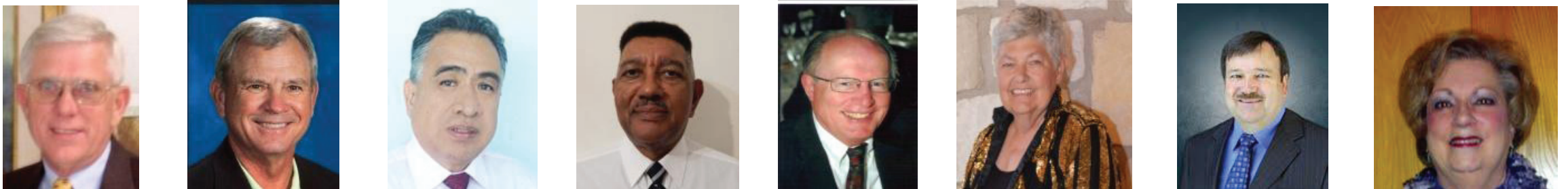
## The 2015-2016 Texas Council of Governors

Welcomes

### All Texas Lions to the State Convention in Midland

May 19-21, 2016

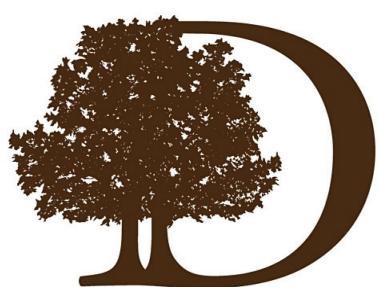
The Midland Convention will contain something for everyone from the mayhem of the Summer Mummies Olio and inspirational songs of Nashville singer, Lion Karen Taylor Good, to the Action Projects designed specifically for regular grass root Lions to discover new ways to serve.



### Your District Governors encourage every Club....

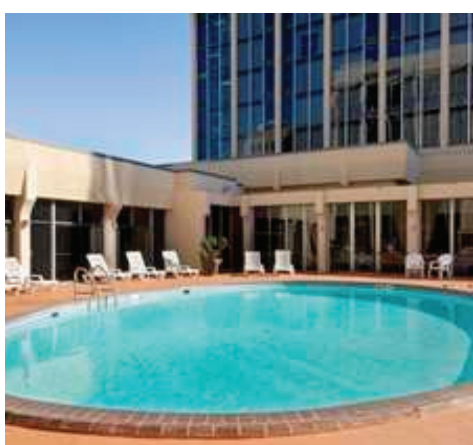
.... to bring several Lions to Midland to participate in 3 great projects that can make a tremendous impact on the service you provide in your community.

### We look forward to seeing everyone in Midland next May



**DOUBLETREE**  
BY HILTON™

The Management & Staff  
Of the Midland Plaza DoubleTree  
Welcome the Lions of Texas  
To the MD2 State Convention  
May 19-21, 2016



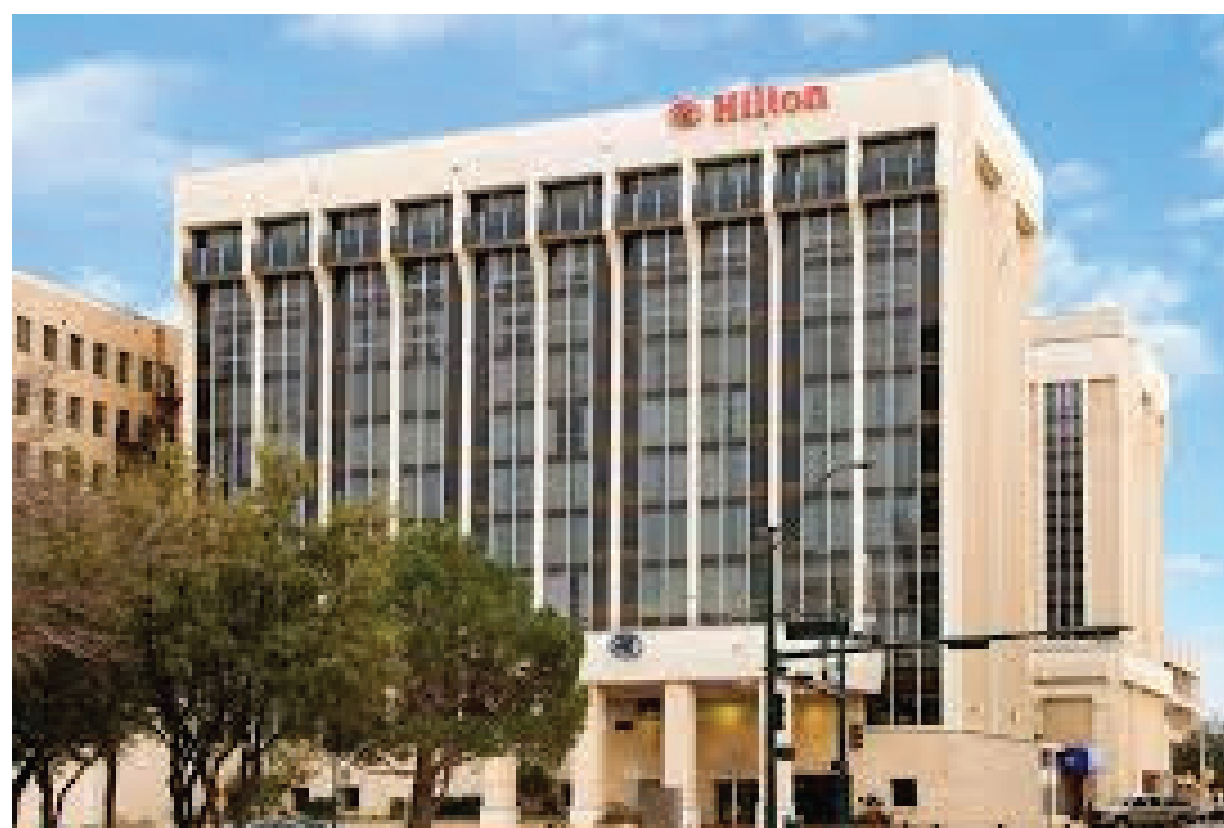
### The Kingsland Lions Club

Home Club of  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor (2015-16)**  
**Lion Dave Richison**

\*\*\*\*\*

Proudly Welcomes All Texas Lions  
to

the "A1" Texas District in 2016





# EXCLUSIVE Lions Club Pricing on the SpotVision Screener

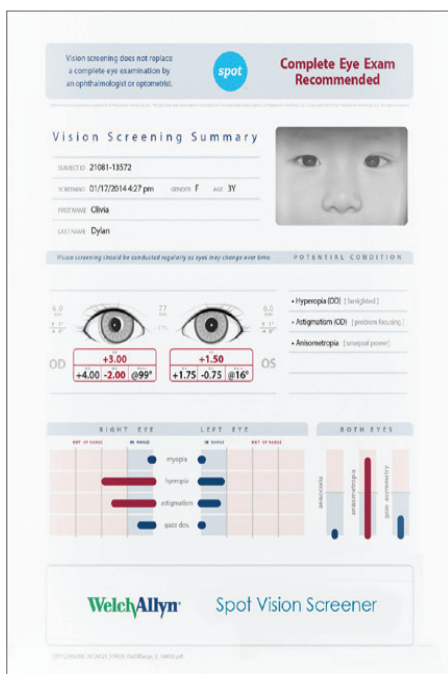


## Welch Allyn Spot Vision Screener VSI00S-B

A handheld, wireless device that enables efficient vision screening. One device screens children of all ages, from early education through high school using binocular technology.

With a capture time of one second or less, Spot provides a reliable, objective assessment and instantly detects the indication of six major issues:

- Hyperopia: farsightedness
- Myopia: nearsightedness
- Astigmatism: blurred vision
- Gaze: eye alignment measurement
- Anisometropia: unequal refractive power
- Anisocoria: unequal pupil size



### The Future of Vision Screening is Spot!

Easy to use, no data interpretation is required. On screen and printed results indicate “in range” or “out of range.” Data management is also simple with Spot: Pre-entry of names saves time. Plus, individual results and complete results are easily exported to a .csv file format.



**Exclusive  
Lions Club  
Price!**

### Spot Vision Screener

Includes: Carry Case, Power Supply & Cord, Wrist Strap, User Manual, and 2-year Manufacturer Warranty.

..... 55610

### Accessories

Wireless Printer..... 52903  
 Replacement Power Supply..... 52904  
 Carry Case ..... 52859  
 On-Site Training (starting at) ..... 52835

### Why Spot is Perfect for Lions Clubs!

- Handheld, portable, wireless
- Weighs less than 3 lbs
- Efficient and accurate
- Noninvasive screening distance of about 3 feet
- Data management is a cinch
- Performs screens in 1 second or less
- Holds 2,000 to 3,000 results
- Can screen with or without corrective eyewear



### VSI00 Spot VS Comprehensive Partner PGM

One Year..... 1002998  
 Two Year..... 1002999  
 Five Year..... 1003000



866-323-5465 | www.schoolhealth.com



## Preliminary List of Seminars

- Action Project: Lions Kid Sight
- Action Project: TLERC Training \*
- Action Project: Texas Ramp Project \*
- Strengthen the Pride – Club Membership (PIP Joe Preston)
- How to Rebuild Your Club
- Allen Welch (The Spot) Certification \*
- Plusoptix Certification \*
- Prevent Child Abuse-Texas \*
- Alert
- Rock & Roll Therapy Cycles \*
- Learn What District Leadership is Really About
- Public Seminar: Texas Lions Camp \*
- Public Seminar: Type I Diabetes Seminar for grandparents & caregivers

\*These Presenters will also have informational and display tables during the convention.

### DG Jim & Lion Jackie Fox

(District Governor S5, 2015-16)

Encourage the Lions of Texas to

“re-MEMBER Texas”



## MD2 State Convention – Tentative Schedule May 19-21, 2016 Midland Texas

### Thursday May 19

#### Morning

Golf Tournament

#### Afternoon

Action Projects 1st Sessions  
(Children Vision Screening, TLERC Training, & Ramp Project Seminar)  
Council Workshops & Committee Meetings as requested.  
Pre-Council Meeting

#### Late Afternoon & Evening

Social with drinks, snacks and music followed by...  
Country Western Buffet  
Entertainment by the world famous “Summer Mummies” Olio Troupe  
Live Music and Dancing

### Friday, May 20

#### Morning

Texas Lions Foundation Kickoff breakfast  
(guest speaker Susan Reeves, former TLC camper)  
Opening of Exhibits Area & Tables  
Council Meeting  
Continuation of 3 Action Projects

#### Afternoon

PDG Memorial Luncheon  
Continuation of 3 Action Projects  
Council Workshops & Committee Meetings as requested  
Seminars  
Midland Excursions

#### Evening\*

Dinner & Entertainment - Recording Artist Karen Taylor-Good

### Saturday, May 21

#### Morning\*

Hall of Fame breakfast  
(Special Helen Keller Speech presentation by Mollie Milligan)  
Completion of 3 Action Projects  
Council Workshops & Committee Meetings as requested  
Seminars  
Opportunity for Youth Contests

#### Afternoon\*

Opportunities for Youth Luncheon  
Council Workshops & Committee Meetings as requested  
Seminars  
Midland Excursions

#### Evening\*

District Governors’ Banquet  
Keynote Speech by International President Joe Preston (2014-15)

\*The Convention Committee is working to provide babysitting services Friday Evening & Saturday

## Charles Mann to display Linocut Prints

Charles F. Mann is a printmaking artist who carves woodblocks and linoleum to make limited-edition, fine art, hand-pulled prints. It is the traditional Western-style of relief printmaking using oil-based inks on archival 100% cotton rag paper. His award-winning work has been shown in several exhibitions in the Dallas metroplex and North Texas area. And, it is found in private collections around the United States. “I make art from a home-made press,” he states. “I built it from lumber and steel angle iron around a 6-ton hydraulic hand jack like the kind you use to change a tire on your car. It forms a flatbed press like that used by Gutenberg. (Of course he had to use more muscle because he didn’t have the car jack.) I use this press to create traditional woodblock and linocut limited-edition relief prints in a realistic style. My black-and-white prints



resemble fine pen-and-ink drawings.” Mr. Mann is currently working on a special “Lion” linocut, which will be premiered at the MD2 State Convention in Midland, where some of his other award winning prints will also be displayed. He is calling this special print, “The Guardian”. You can view the work of Charles Mann at [www.CharlesFMannArt.com](http://www.CharlesFMannArt.com).



### Six String Hotshots

Two-thirds of the Six String Hotshots have been performing together since 1979. Mike Williams, Craig & Dorilynn Anderson comprise the current group that will play for the State Convention in Midland on Thursday evening. The Six String Hotshots, who can be regularly seen at “Cigar Frogs” in downtown Midland, play old rock, country, jazz, and standards from the 40’s & 50’s.

## Take A Step Back In Time . . . West Texas’ Favorite Candy & Gift Store

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## Life Journey of Former Camper –An Inspirational Story

In her 64 plus years on this earth, Susan Reeves’ life has been filled with many journeys and as she puts it, “some fabulous and some not so fabulous. All have been learning experiences orchestrated and guided by God.” Born in 1951 in the height of the polio epidemic, Susan fell victim to this dreadful disease at 15 months old. “Mom was determined that my life would be like any other person’s” Susan states. She allowed Susan to attend the Texas Lions Camp, which played a big part in making her the person she is today. Lions Clubs hold a

special place in her heart, not only because of the camp, but also because the local club helped her family with the braces and other medical equipment she needed back in those early years. Susan overcame the “disabilities” and became a special education teacher. During these years her life journey seemed “normal”. She married Wes Reeves, had 3 beautiful children and now has 4 wonderful grandchildren. In 2010, the journey took another bad turn, as she was diagnosed with breast cancer and just 11 months later leukemia. She is now a 2



time cancer survivor.  
**Editor’s Note: Susan will be our special guest speaker at the Friday Texas Lions Foundation kickoff breakfast, where she will tell the attendees what Lions’ service has meant to her.**



## LIONS PRESIDENT 2014-15

### TO BE Keynote Speaker

The Lions of District 2A1 are proud to host 2014-15 International President Joe Preston as the featured guest and keynote speaker for the 2016 MD2 Texas State Convention in Midland. As President Preston tells us, a "pride" is a close-knit family of lions, found in the savannas of central Africa. Each member of the pride has responsibilities. Whether they are the hunters, protectors, caregivers, teachers, or learners, they work as a team for survival and prosperity. If even one member of the pride does not fulfill its role, it can affect the entire group.



host chairperson of the 1994 International Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, chairperson of the 2003 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, and a national/multinational coordinator for Campaign SightFirst II.

In recognition of his service to the association, President Preston has received numerous awards, including the 100% Club President Award, the 100% District Governor Award, the Senior Builder Key Award, Life Membership in the Association, nine International President's Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the Association bestows upon its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. President Preston was recognized by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency for his work as a Lion to prevent drug use and abuse among youth.

President Preston and his wife, Joni, also a Lion and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have two sons, one daughter and seven grandsons.

President Joe Preston is a Lion's Lion. Some call him just a "regular old Joe". He still actively works, like all grassroots Lions, on the service projects of his home club. He is an artist, singer & songwriter and makes being a Lion fun again. The Lions in Texas are pleased to have Lion Joe Preston as our special guest in May 2016.



His signature theme in 2014-15, "Strengthen the Pride", tells us there is another family of Lions that interacts in much the same way and gives the basis for his "Ask 1, Keep 1" membership campaign. Share the Pride, then, provides the backdrop for the 2015-2016 Council of Governors "re-MEMBER Texas" membership campaign, making Joe Preston the perfect speaker for Texas in May 2016.

Joseph "Joe" Preston, of Dewey, Arizona was elected president of Lions Clubs International at the association's 97th International Convention held in Toronto, Canada, July 4 through 8, 2014.

A member of the Bradshaw Mountain of Dewey-Humboldt Lions Club, President Preston has been a Lion since 1974. In addition to serving in numerous positions on the Club, District, State, and International levels, he was



Located in the heart of downtown Midland across the street from the Texas Lions State Convention host hotel, the Doubletree by Hilton, the Midland Center provides the flexibility to accommodate the meetings, seminars, banquets, and other events needed for a Lions State Convention.

The main exhibit hall offers 12,500 square feet of column free space, capable of accommodating up to 800 for a banquet or 1,000 seats for a seminar. The Hall can be subdivided into three smaller areas, affording comfort and privacy for several simultaneous events. The hall will be host to the Convention's Thursday night Midland Mayhem bash, the Friday night dinner & concert featuring Lion Karen Taylor-Good, and our Opportunities for Youth Luncheon, as well as, MD2's Council Meeting and some special open forums being planned.

### MD2 STATE CONVENTION 2016



The main floor foyer will play host to the Lions International traveling Peace Poster display, as well as featuring exhibits about our special Texas Lions Foundations.

On the Center's lower level, four meeting rooms are available for gatherings from 20 to 200. Two larger meeting rooms are individually equipped with sound systems for your amplification needs and all rooms are equipped with top of the line video projectors and projection screens. Many of the convention seminars & meetings will be held in these rooms.

## Lion Crooner has a Message for All Lion Karen Taylor-Goode

As a professional speaker, this gifted, Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter enhances her keynote presentations with a unique speaking style and powerful songs which never fail to inspire, motivate and uplift her audiences.



As a songwriter, Karen is Grammy-nominated for "Best Country Song". She has also been nominated by both the CMA & ACM for "Son of the Year". She's had numerous international radio hits, with songs recorded by such artists as Laura Branigan, Melissa Manchester, Al Jarreau, Nana Mouskouri & Patty Loveless. She's garnered several "Songwriter of the Year" awards. Karen writes powerful songs about issues that most writers would not even attempt to address.

As a vocal artist, Karen has been heard on national radio and television jingles for United Airlines, Taco Bell, Peter Pan Peanut Butter, McDonalds and others. She has recorded with such notable performers as Dolly Parton, Al Green, Willie Nelson, Kenny Rogers & George Jones. As a solo artist, she has had 9 nationally-charted singles.

As an author, Karen has recently penned her first book entitled "On Angel's Wings," which includes a companion CD. A collection of vignettes and songs about real-life situations, it resonates deeply with mature audiences. The book (in its third printing) contains poignant, moving and uplifting stories dealing with aging parents, teenagers, child abuse, spirituality, and even a tongue-in-cheek look at a trip to the gynecologist!

As a keynote speaker, Karen has inspired, motivated, encouraged, and entertained thousands. She is in demand with women's organizations (including American Business Women's Association) because of her entrepreneurial spirit; with health care organizations (including The National Hospice Foundation) because of her nurturing heart; and with business organizations (including U.S. Bank) because of her unique presentations, which blend music, humor, pathos and chutzpah!

As a Lion she has created a CD for her Lions family. Karen has also written and recorded two original songs for Lions: "Because You Serve" & "We Serve". About "Because You Serve" Karen states, "This is my love song for the Lions. I actually wrote this song before I became a Lion --- but it means more to me each day. You all do so much --- thank you," and about "We Serve", she says, "An anthem to let people know Lions rock --- and they should join us!"

**Editors Note: Karen Taylor Goode will be Friday night's special entertainment & motivational speaker at the 2016 Midland State Convention.**

### Picture at right is Helen Keller circa 1925



### Helen Keller to Address Convention!

Helen Keller may no longer be alive, but it would be hard to tell when Molly Milligan gives her rendition of Helen Keller's 1925 speech to the Lions International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio. This now famous speech, where Lions were challenged to be the "Knights of the Blind", defined the direction of Lionism more than any one event. Mollie will reprise her special role of Helen Keller at the Midland Convention. Molly took on the role of Helen Keller quite by accident. As she explains it, "my father

## SONGS for the Lions

1. Because You Serve
2. Little Green Bottle
3. If Not for Love
4. Be Strong (a song for our daughters)
5. Kinder
6. If Not Now, When?
7. Use Me Up
8. Small Victories
9. Wild Blue Yonder
10. Get a Bigger Pan
11. We Serve

Dear Lions,

This is a truly extraordinary organization.

I've never met such loving, giving, open-hearted people. Every Lion that I've come in contact with so far is a walking, talking, living, breathing example of the motto "We Serve."

You do really good work on this earth. I hope you know how wonderful you are. I put together this CD of 11 of my songs just for you, and I hope you enjoy it.

I've lived my entire life up until now purposely avoiding joining any group, organization or club ... and I am now amazed to say ... I am a proud member of this esteemed fellowship, and am very honored to be a part of your Lions family.

XXX

*Karen Taylor-Goode*

### My Lions Story How Karen Became A Lion

In 2009, I was doing a concert in Olympia, WA, and was approached by two Lions Club members afterwards. They both said, "you are just what we need for our District Lions Conferences next year ... will you come?"

I said, "uh ... mmm ... sure ... let's talk further" or something to that effect, the whole time, my inner voice is going ... "LIONS CLUBS? Aren't they all those old white men riding around on little tricycles? What could I possibly have in common with them???" Oh, clueless me.

So, I accepted the two dates ... one in Tacoma, one in Tucson, but I had no idea what I was going to talk about. I figured I'd better start doing some research! I asked both of those dear people and a few others who were helping set up the conferences, "why did you become a Lion?" The responses I got were mind-blowing. I spent time on their International website ... incredible.

I began to learn who Lions are, and what Lions are all about. And they are quite wonderful. And they are WOMEN, and men ... old and young and in between ... and they are everywhere in this world ... I mean ... everywhere!

I became so enamored of the Lions, I knew I had to write a song for them. First, I wanted to write a song to just love on them ... to let them know how truly amazing they are ... and that song became "Because You Serve," a really beautiful ballad, which I love to sing and love to share. But that didn't seem like enough. It seemed that the Lions needed yet another song ... one to proudly tell the world who they are and what they do. Now, mind you, most of the Lions I've met are very, very humble people, and they do not talk about themselves, or brag about the great work that they do...so I decided to do it for them! That song became "We Serve" ... an up-tempo, rousing celebration of Lionism.

I'm so proud to be a member of such an extraordinary organization. Much love to you all ... Karen

had asked me to do a re-enactment of Helen Keller for the Lion's Club. I didn't want to do it because I had just come from Los Angeles...I'm a film actress, but I did it. To date it is the most rewarding acting experience I've ever had." Mollie's father is currently the District Governor of District 2T1. This is the second time Lion Mike Milligan has served in this capacity. Since then Molly and her partner/husband Brian produced the original documentary 'Different Abilities' about special needs children, as well as, 'Shut Up & Skate'. As Molly tells it, "the Helen Keller speech caught on, so while we were trying to work through this skate documentary and get it produced, I'm going to all of these different Lion's Club meetings in small towns all over Texas. I'm listening to what they are doing and they were talking about this camp for special needs kids. I finally go down to the camp and tell my boyfriend at the time, and my husband now, these people are the real heroes. Let's do a documentary on these kids. So that's what we did. We shifted all of our attention away from the more marketable film and spent two years going to the homes and really getting to know the children. The whole experience is the right kind of storytelling." Mollie Milligan is a Dallas, Texas based actress and business woman. She has a Double Major in Acting and Environmental Science from Baylor

University, as well as an MFA in Acting from SMU. She has done Regional Theatre including Kentucky and Taos Shakespeare. After living in Los Angeles for a few years, she now resides in Dallas with her husband & daughter. She is co-owner of Boxcar Creative. An avid runner, Mollie ran daily up until the day before she gave birth. She can be seen in the film "The Gray Man", the upcoming "Super" playing the Sister of Liv Tyler, "Heaven's Rain" and the current re-make of the 1970's exploitation revenge shocker "I Spit on Your Grave." Editors Note: Mollie will perform the Helen Keller Speech at the Hall of Fame breakfast on Saturday morning at the 2016 State Convention prior to presenting this year's honorees.



**Mollie Milligan above) to portray Hellen Keller**