REPORT ON STATUS OF REBUILDING SMALL CLUBS IN DISTRICT 2-X1

SUBMITTED BY PCC JOHN EADS, NEW MEMBER (SMALL CLUBS) DEVELOPMENT (GMA) CHAIRMAN (DISTRICT CLUB REBUILDING COORDINATOR)

CABINET MEETING, OCTOBER 22, 2022

We currently have, as of September 30, 2022, Club Health Assessment, we have eleven Clubs with 10 or less in membership and one Club with 12 members that we are working on to rebuild to keep it alive. We have assigned specific Lions and or PDGs to approach these Clubs and begin the rebuilding process using the GMA approach. Following are current assignments of the Rebuilding Team Leaders and their assigned Clubs:

Allen High Noon* - 3 members – PCC John Eads and IPDG Esmeralda Rodriguez

Balch Springs – 9 members – Pursuant to a decision made by the Governor and the Executive Committee and the conditions surrounding the leadership of the Club by a husband and wife team embedded for a number of years, it has been determined that we should not be pursuing any activity with this Club as they do not want to change and do nothing with our District. It would be a waste of our resources. No Rebuilding Team Leader will be assigned to this Club.

Crandall Combine* – 7 members – Currently, PCC John Eads has taken over this responsibility from PDG Julia Johnson due to health issues.

Dallas Women's* - 3 members - IPDG Esmeralda Rodriguez

Dallas Founders* – 7 members – PCC John Eads and PCC Joe Montag

Ferris – 9 members* – PCC John Landrum and PCC John Eads

Garland Evening – 6 members - Pursuant to a number of visits and attempts to rebuild this Club by PCC John Eads and other District

leaders, no assignment of Rebuilding Team Leaders will be made. The Club is continuing to be active, but they do not want to grow.

Mesquite Host – 12 members – PCC John Eads

Plano Evening – 3 members – ZC Mark Russo – ZC Mark has tried to make contact. No response. The Chair has decided to not pursue this Club any further as it would be a waste of time. The Club leadership is extremely negative.

Royse City* – 10 members – ZC Nia MacKay

UTD Infinity* – 2 members – ZC Kedar Timalsina

Wylie Evening* – 9 members – GLT Pamela Baker and PDG Billie Ketner

*Denotes current rebuilding activity

Specific Club activity highlights:

Allen High Noon — We have continued to work on this Club since last February. We have attempted to have a meeting with the remaining three members to no avail. They have not paid their dues for last 6 months of 2021-22 and first six months of 2022-23. The District has agreed to pay the dues for LCI while we are in the process of starting a new Club under the same or new Charter. The decision has not been made yet. We have been aggressively pursuing the former Treasurer to make an accounting of some \$800-900 dollars in the Treasury in February 2022, according to a Charter member then that has transferred his membership to where he moved up north in another state. IPDG Esmeralda and I tried to make contact with no success from emails, letters and three attempts to catch her at her home. Governor Fred Conger and IPDG Esmeralda are going to visit her where she works

to see if they can get the funds. We obtained a pro-bono lawyer to write for us a demand letter for the funds and an accounting. We have received the acceptance document for the certified mailing, so the former Treasurer has the demand letter. Our intended President to begin to rebuild the Club, Dr. Deron Boyer, had to resign his acceptance to be an interim President due to his wife having cancer issues. We do not have a leader replacement yet and are trying to identify someone in the community that we can get interested in rebuilding this Lions Club.

<u>Crandall Combine</u> – PDG Julia Johnson began working on this Club last spring. She indicated she was not getting much cooperation. Due to her health, PCC John Eads has taken over the rebuilding attempt. PCC John met with the Club this last Monday evening at their regular meeting and has begin the SWOT phase of GMA to determine what plans should be made going forward. They do have a planned community event, which was briefly discussed, coming up in November. They want to have the LSTF bus at the event and do screenings of children at one of their schools. Plans are still pending.

<u>Dallas Women's</u> – IPDG Esmeralda Rodriguez has made attempts to contact Club leadership. No progress has been made with emails and telephone calls. They will not return any communications. She will continue to work on this Club. She has been delayed due to some health issues.

<u>Dallas Founders</u> – PCC John Eads and PCC Joe Montag have been joined by CT PDG Keith Murray in saving this founder Club. The Club had a late fundraiser in July that raised some funds for the activity account. They are working on plans for upcoming service projects. PCC Joe Montag is using his administrative authority to do monthly reports on MyLion. They have a President and Secretary, husband and wife team, which are

the official officers on the PU-101. They still cannot be at every meeting due to their work schedule. This is a work-in-progress rebuild. Both PCC John Eads and PCC Joe Montag and PDG Keith Murray will not let this Club die. It is possible that if a Downtown Dallas Club is successfully chartered or becomes the new Dallas Founders that their membership problems will be resolved and the Charter saved.

Ferris – Their Club President James Hartman resigned as member of the Club and as the Superintendent of Ferris Independent School System. Last Tuesday afternoon, Lion Treasurer Jim Swafford was elected the new President to finish the term of Lion Hartman. Ferris Lions Club had an extremely successful "Back to School Fair" on July 30, 2022. They had interest from about 20 prospective Lions and are contacting them to get them to join. They are still collaborating closely with school children, collecting glasses, providing eye exams and screenings. They also have eye glass collection boxes around the community. They are active in the community. They just finished having a membership/raffle booth at the City of Ferris Fall Festival. They also sold cotton candy and sold tickets for a bicycle as a fundraiser. They now have another list of 5 prospective members to work on from this event. They are being visible in their community. They are sponsoring a "Socks for Senior" service event in conjunction with the Ferris High School National Honor Society and Ferris High School Student Council. There is a contest between Senior, Junior, Sophomore and Freshmen students as to which group can collect the most socks. These socks will be delivered to Senior Living Facilities in both Red Oak and Waxahachie. The Ferris Lions will accompany them. The Club will make a presentation to the Ferris Chamber of Commerce on what the Lions and their Club do in the community and service provided on November 9, 2022. PCC John Eads will be there to help them. They have three potential new members that will sign up for their next meeting in November. They will be off

the ten and under list by December, if not November. This has been another successful rebuild. This Club has good leadership, is healthy and growing.

Mesquite Host – On an emergency basis, PCC John Eads met with this Club on September 28. They were about ready to close their Club and turn in their Charter. The President, who has served in that position for 12 years, is in bad health. PCC John talked him into hanging on until we could begin the rebuilding process. Plans are now underway for them to participate on October 29, 2022, 4-7 pm in the Mesquite City Celebration of "El Dia De Los Muertos." We have secured the LSTF bus for eye screenings and exams. We will have a membership booth and the TLC will have their display. The City of Mesquite is advertising the LSTF eye screening and exams and are overly excited they will be present. The Club and the event are also on a local radio station. This Club has plenty financial resources, they just do not have enough members (new younger ones) and older leadership that is worn out. If we can get enough volunteers at this event to make it successful for them, we should be able to increase their membership and get them more involved in their community. They are trying to work with the Mesquite Independent School District to purchase three eye exam machines for them for about \$15,000. They are frustrated with communication and red-tape issues. We are just beginning to apply the GMA process to rebuild this Club. No assignment of a Rebuilding Team Leader has been made at this time. This will be considered after October 29. We still stand a chance to lose this Club.

Royse City - PCC John Eads and newly appointed Rebuilding Team Leader ZC Nia MacKay attended their regular Lions Club meeting on September 8, 2022. We began the rebuilding process. This Club has good leadership and some active Lions. They just finished Royse City Fun Fest this last Saturday. I am waiting on a report from ZC Nia about

the success. They need more members to do service. We have told them we would provide Lion volunteers to assist them and to not worry about taking on a bigger project. This Club is on their way to a successful rebuild.

<u>UTD Infinity</u> – ZC Kedar Timalsina, Rebuilding Team Leader, has been collaborating with Governor Fred Conger to make this Club a go. It was discussed that it would be changed to a Leo Club. This was not acceptable by the Club and it's UTD sponsor Lion Setti. This is a work in progress, and we should know more since school has now started and they will begin to have members again. It is a dues issue for the students. I am waiting on a report from ZC Kedar.

Wylie – GLT Pamela Baker became the Rebuilding Team Leader and is assisted by the original Rebuilding Team Leader PDG Billy Ketner. GLT Pamela was President last year. She has had a meeting with the current President Karen Johnson, and they have laid out a plan and goals for this Club for this Lions year. They had a membership booth at the recent Wylie Rodeo event on September 9, 2022. They had 1 new member as a result thus far and 4 other prospects. Volunteer members of our District came to the event to help them. This is a work in progress rebuild. Leadership of the Club is enthusiastic about growth and doing more service in Wylie. I feel we will be successful before this Lion year ends.

<u>Dallas Trinity Industrial</u> — (they have 14 members). Because ZC Manuel Palavicini, President of Dallas Trinity Industrial volunteer involvement in the rebuilding of Italy and Ferris Lions Clubs event, he asked our rebuilding team to help him, and his Club get new members and have the LSTF bus to do eye exams of 20+ kids from two schools their Club supports in Cockrell Hill that had been pre-screened. We had the LSTF bus, a team of volunteers, and TLC Director and display at the City of

Cockrell Hill National Night Out celebration on October 7. The event was successful for the Club, and they had a list of 12 or so new member prospects they are working on. Again, the process works because we all work together to help a Club. Our rebuilding team can help any Club in the District.

I continue to keep in touch with Italy Lions Club. The rebuild there has continued to be successful, as it now is with Ferris Lions Club.

[Rebuilding a Club requires patience, time and the "stars in alignment." Our rebuilding team will continue to rebuild one Club at a time. The GMA process works. Good leadership in the Club is necessary and commitment from Club members is essential. Having events connected to their community with the LSTF bus for eye screenings and exams as a draw from the community youth and parents is a help. These rebuilding events help focus the community on what Lions Clubs do, visibility in the community and a venue for new member prospects, as they are a captive audience around the LSTF bus. We always have a membership table present to tell the Clubs and Lion story. Last, but not least, we could not be successful at these types of events without having volunteers from other Clubs and leadership of our District present. Good communications from District leaders and advance notice of Club events are essential to the success (although we have had short notice on two occasions and still Lions took the leadership role and made the event a success].