

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	
Prakash's View	2
Radha's Thoughts	4
Global Membership Approach	8
Foundation update	n/a
Pamela's Pulse	7

Insights Unveiled: Exploring the World Within Our Newsletter

How to prevent service fatigue? Here are some strategies to consider:

Diverse Roles and Responsibilities: Avoid overburdening individuals by offering a variety of tasks and responsibilities. Rotating roles can keep volunteers engaged and prevent burnout.

Clear Expectations: Set clear and realistic expectations for volunteers and staff. Make sure they understand their roles, time commitments, and the impact of their contributions.

Flexible Scheduling: Provide flexible scheduling options to accommodate various availability levels. This reduces the risk of fatigue caused by rigid time commitments.

Regular Check-ins: Maintain open lines of communication through regular check-ins. Address concerns and gather feedback to identify potential signs of fatigue early on.

Work-Life Balance: Encourage a healthy work-life balance by stressing the importance of self-care. Provide resources on stress management and well-being.

Time Off: Ensure that volunteers and staff have the option to take time off when needed. Offering breaks helps prevent burnout and supports long-term commitment.

By implementing these strategies, a non-profit can minimize fatigue, allowing volunteers and staff to contribute meaningfully and sustainably to the organization's mission. "We Serve." - **Link Editorial Board**

2023-2024 District 2-X1 Cabinet Officers	
District Governor Prakash Gautam 972-533-4801 pagu@hotmail.com	
1st Vice District Governor Radha K Kaphle 469-265-6559 rkkafle@yahoo.com	
2nd Vice District Governor Dr Pamela Baker ionpamela2020@gmail.com 972.765.8882	
Cabinet Secretary Tami Kraus 214.642.5756 tamijkraus@verizon.com	
PCT Danny Fletcher (PDG Kathy) 214-662-4549 heavybelly2@aol.com	



Prakash's View
DG Prakash Gautam
Plano Collin Nepalese Lions
Club



Greetings, fellow Lions!

First of all, I would like to share our District's progress status for the first two months (July and August) of Lion Year 2023-2024. I am very happy with our progress and would like to congratulate you all for the job well done. Here are some of the key achievements:

Our District has chartered a new club with twenty new members. We have added 64 net new members (added 98 and dropped 34) in July and in August. Currently our team is working diligently on chartering another new Lions club. If everything goes well as planned we will submit the new club application in September.

Currently 50 clubs, out of 62 clubs, are reporting in the Lions Portal; overall 80% reporting within the first two months is an exceptionally good percentage. Special thanks to ZC Maria Lucero, ZC Gary Vineyard, ZC Joseph Kyle, ZC Suresh Basyal and all Club Leaders of Zone 1, Zone 2, Zone 4, and Zone 9 for 100 percent reporting by clubs in your zone. Also, our District is doing well in other areas of service goals.

88 percent of the Zone Chairs and 34 percent of the Club Officers in our District have been trained so far. This is a very good percentage. A few training sessions for Club Officers are scheduled for this week. I am sure our District will achieve all the District Leadership/Training Goals soon.

The District has appealed to all the Clubs and Individual Lions to donate to LCIF by visiting the LCIF donation link: <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/donate> Our District LCIF team is optimistic in achieving the LCIF donation target this year. I, personally and on behalf of the District, request all Clubs and Individual Lions to donate any amount of your choice by visiting the LCIF donation link noted above. Please note that your donation may be counted for the Malvin Jones Fellowship award.



Prakash's View
DG Prakash Gautam
Plano Collin Nepalese Lions Club



Based on the progress report of the first two months, I am positive that our District will achieve all the District Goals of year 2023-2024. And the credit for this success will go to all the District 2-X1 Lions and Lions Clubs.

August was a busy month for the DG team; I attended the First Council of Governors Meeting in Kerrville, Texas; had opportunities of doing Officers Installations of Plano Collin Nepalese LC, Dallas Everest LC, Irving Everest LC; visited Dallas Buddha LC, Irving Everest LC, Dallas North Indo LC, participated in a couple of Clubs' service activities and the District's DAWN project; attended the Texas Lions Camp board meeting, Executive Council meeting and JC Hyer board meeting. As per my request, PCC John Eads visited Duncanville LC, Cradle Combine LC, Waxahachie LC, Ferris LC, Dallas White Rock LC, Dallas South LC, and Blach Spring LC. As well, on my behalf, PDG Esmeralda Rodriguez visited Irving Noon LC, Dallas Founders LC, Installed GP Host Family Club, and GP Host Cyber Club. A great Teamwork! Thank you PCC John Eads and PDG Esmeralda Rodriguez for supporting me on club visits!

We will have several zone meetings in September, and I encourage all clubs to attend the zone meetings. It is the time to expose your club and your projects to the District Team and share your ideas. Time permitting, I plan to attend some of the zone meetings.

Before I wrap up, I would like to request all Lions, Leos, Non-Lions, Family Members, and Friends to come and join us at the "Build Beds for Kids" event on September 9, 2023 at the Waxahachie Park. We plan to build 175 beds, like we did in February 2023. Also, our District Environment Team has a plan of cleaning (pick up litter) the park at that time. Please join us and support both projects.

Overall July and August were successful and joyful months for our District. I wish you all a very pleasant and memorable September 2023.

Best Regards,
Lion Prakash Gautam



Radha's Thoughts

1st VDG Radha Krishna Kaphle

Dallas Everest Lions Club

Greetings to all fellow Lions!

International President Dr. Patti Hill emphasized the significance of Mission 1.5, Lions Clubs' commitment to strength, sustainability, and community service in her speech on August 5th, 2023, at the council of Governor's meeting, especially at the PDG Banquet in Kerrville, TX. Dr. Hill expressed hope to return to Texas to witness the impactful services of local Lions Clubs. She outlined her plan to return more than once, indicating her desire for enduring connections.

Also, she envisaged a conversation with the governor, highlighting the profound impact Lions Clubs had on her own life. She emphasized how Lions Clubs' support during her youth influenced her path toward service and leadership. Dr. Hill concluded by passionately affirming that Lions and Leos are indeed changing the world and expressed gratitude for their remarkable efforts.

One of the most special and unforgettable times with Dr. Hill was when she talked with all of us – the DG team, 1st and 2nd VDGs, Zone Chairs, Presidents, Women Lions, Leo officers, and members. She shared her own experiences in a way that touched everyone's hearts. Her story showed how powerful Lions Clubs can be in making a real difference. This moment reminded us that no matter our roles, we're all part of one team working together for our communities. It was a time that made us feel connected and reminded us why we're Lions.

Reporting:

Reporting plays a vital role in every club, providing insight into their services and activities. The reporting trend is showing gradual improvement, with 70% of clubs, including Leo clubs, having reported their activities on MyLion by August 28, 2023. However, there's still a need for 13 clubs and most Leo clubs to submit their activity reports.

In terms of the monthly membership report on MyLCI, 46 clubs have reported, while 16 clubs have yet to submit their reports for August.

It's been observed that certain clubs have not reported both their service activities and membership updates. While some have missed out on reporting their services, others have not submitted their monthly membership reports. This situation is causing a gap in our accurate data for services and other activities. There's room for improvement in this aspect, and efforts can be made to enhance our reporting practices to ensure a



Radha's Thoughts

1st VDG Radha Krishna Kaphle

Dallas Everest Lions Club

a more comprehensive and accurate record of our activities.

Participations:

August turned out to be the busiest month, filled with various club activities, Council of Governors meetings, district gatherings, and community events. Here are the notable events, I was a part of:

1. From August 3rd to 5th, I attended the 1st Council of Governors meeting in Kerrville, TX. Meeting the international president, along with other global leaders and prominent figures from Texas Lions, was an incredible experience. The event included enjoyable activities, valuable training, and abundant learning opportunities.
2. On August 9th, 2023, I actively participated in the Executive Committee (DG team) meeting.
3. On August 12th, I was involved in my home club, Dallas Everest's, officers' installation, and induction ceremony, which also included the Leo club. Similarly, on August 18, 2023, I joined the officers' installation and induction ceremony of the Irving Everest Centennial Lions Club.
4. August 16th, 2023, marked my participation in the Executive Council Meeting, led by 2nd VDG Dr. Pamela. I also took part in the JC Hyer Youth Exchange meeting on August 24th.
5. August 27th, 2023, was dedicated to a splendid fellowship program organized by our home club, focusing particularly on women's empowerment and called the 'Teej' celebration.
6. We deeply felt the absence of our highly active and dedicated lion, CS Peggi Smothermon, on 08/13/2023. I took part in a service to honor her special memories on August 26, 2023.

Also, I am planning to attend the USA Cannada Forum, in September 2023 in Reno.

Upcoming major events:

September 9th, 2023 - The **"Build Bed for Kids"** project from 9 am- 5 pm at 2303 Howard Rd., Waxahachie, TX 75165

September 21-23, 2023 – **USA/Canada- Leadership Forum**, Reno, Nevada

September 29th, Friday, 2023 – **State Fair Parade**- in Fair Park at 9:30 am



Pamela's Pulse



2nd VDG Lion Pamela Baker

Wylie Evening Lions Club

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"OH! THE PLACES YOU'LL GO! You'll be on your way up! You'll be seeing great sights! You'll join the high fliers who soar to high heights." Dr. Seuss

Wow! This Dr. Seuss quote is so fitting for this month. It was filled with amazing meetings and installations. I attended the 1st COG where I met with the other state 2VDGs (and 1VDGs and DGs) also got to meet and take pictures with International Director Dr. Patti Hill. She talked with us about Women in Lions, changing the world, and Mission 1.5 million. And... we took lots of pictures.

We had good Executive Committee meeting which helped us to stay up with all of the International, District, and Club information and data. I also attended our Zone 1 meeting which had almost 40 people and with a variety of clubs attending. I had the opportunity to talk about character and 4 Power Choices. PDG Frank Pickens gave a Lions Orientation which included some new and surprising information.

Lessons Learned- We had our first Executive Council meeting on the 16th. This meeting was hybrid but most people attended on line. We had over 40 people. I thank you for attending virtually or face-to-face. Our following meetings will be online only. I welcome feedback and one thing that we will make sure is that the next meetings stay true to the executive council purpose which is to bring club officers together to act as a coordinating council, and to create opportunities for the exchange of ideas between the Clubs in the promotion of Lionism. These meetings are intended as a platform for club Presidents, Secretaries and club Membership/Service/Leadership Chairs to share club information and learn about and discuss issues important to their club. We want to make sure that every club has time to do this.

PS. Clubs talked about the service activities that they were doing. Please make sure your service activities are recorded in MyLion. If you need assistance, please contact your zone chair or any district cabinet chair.



Pamela's Pulse



2nd VDG Lion Pamela Baker

Wylie Evening Lions Club

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Installations: I was invited to two club installations. The Dallas Everest and Irving Everest Centennial Lions Clubs. It is so beautiful how they not only install their officers and also highlight activities and awards they received the past year. Congratulations to all of our clubs!

Upcoming Activities-Next month, I am going to attend the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Reno, NV. The Forum's mission is to develop leaders, motivate and educate attendees, provide an open exchange of ideas, and support programs and goals of Lions Clubs International.

Remember our theme: We Serve and We Smile

This year's most important goal is membership growth. 2023-2024-The 2VDG will support the district goals with information, training, and support. Major goals for the year 2023-2024:

1. Charter at least two new Clubs.
2. Increase Lion members by at least 50 members.
3. Increase individual participation to LCIF donation by twenty-five percent and Club participation by ten percent.
4. Exceed eighty percent (49 Clubs) of Club reporting in Lions Portal.
5. Serve at least 190,000 people.
6. Ensure ninety percent of the Zone Chairs and 55 percent of the club officers are trained.

GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP APPROACH GMA

District 2-X1, August 30, 2023

We are on a journey to more service!

District 2-X1 is participating in Global Membership Approach to maximize our membership thereby maximizing our service to the community.

District 2-X1 Goals: Following are the district goals:

- Charter 2 new clubs
- Recruit 330 new members
- Drops to be below 280
- Net membership gain 50
- Serve 190,000 needy people in our community



How are we doing ?

Clubs: We have chartered one new club ‘Dallas Denton Nepalese’ Club with 20 members. Application is pending for a second club ‘Collin Athena Alliance’ Club. Congratulations and welcome to the new club members and club sponsors.

2-X1 Membership Status: (Aug 30, 2023)

	This Month	This Year
Opening Balance	1780	1758
Added members.....	62	102
Dropped Members.....	17	35
NetGain/Loss	45	67
Closing Balance.....	1825	1825

MD-2 Membership Status

Added members.....	634
Dropped Members.....	552
Closing Balance.....	21,719
Net Gain/Loss.....	82

2-X1 goals for this year, is to recruit 330 new members with the drops limited to 280 for a net membership increase of 50. These are achievable goals We have a good start with a net growth of 67 for the first two months. Let us keep the positive momentum going. The key to growth is member retention. All clubs are urged to have a retention strategy. If you are losing members after less than three years of becoming a Lion, focus on proper induction, new member orientation, assign a mentor, keep them engaged and flexible meeting. For senior members increase their responsibilities, both in club and the district.

GMA focus this year will be on clubs, so they will embrace the GMA process. The 4 step process is simple. I have developed a one page form that can be used to do the process, which should not take more than 1-2 hours. I will pass these on to zone chairs, so they can pass these to club presidents. Please use this useful tool, to better understand your club and how to recruit and retain new members. Please submit for your Club Excellence Award. Mission 1.5 is in full swing as the challenge has been accepted by most districts. Let us do our part by chartering new clubs and bring in new members towards achieving that goal.

Service: In the first two months 2-X1 has served over 5,427 people with 454 service activities and 12,883 volunteer hours. Over 60% of the clubs have reported their activities on MyLion. LCI goal is to serve over

a Billion people and every service activity needs to be counted to help achieve that goal.

Leadership Training: Club officers training was already held in June, including Zone Chairs and LCIF. In addition, training is offered for Club President, Secretary and Treasurer. Approximately 30% of club officers have been trained. A trained Lion makes a better Lion.

LCIF Contributions: District 2-X1 has collected \$1,557 towards our foundation during the two months . Please donate generously so the foundation can help more people around the world.

GMA Round Table is held on last Tuesday of the month from 6-7 PM. The purpose of this is to educate and to make aware to the participants about the GMA process, have an open and engaging discussion and to get input from Lions across MD-2. Last Tuesday we had 3IVP Mar Lyon as our guest speaker. PID and CA1 Area leader Jerome Thompson will be our guest speaker. Please mark your calendars for the last Tuesday of the month.

PDG Vinod Mathur, 2-X1 and MD-2 GMA Champion

IT'S FOOTBALL SEASON

GO COWBOYS GO!



Cowboy Football Season 2023/2024

The Lions Sight & Tissue Foundation is having a Football Pool. \$50 a square. First come first serve. You can pick the Square that you want (like Row 1 column 2 or Row 6 Column 6). If you want to request a Square, please send your request in as soon as possible.

The square is good for all 17 games (that's about \$3 a game).

The numbers are assigned to each square will change each week, but you keep the same square all season.

The payout will be \$25 per quarter. That's 68 chances to win.

We hope to fill up 1 square board, that's 100 squares to get sold.

The first game is 9/10 so all squares need to be filled by 9/8. If we don't fill the board for the first game, players can be added at the next game.

This is for Lions, friends, family, co-workers, members from your church, school, etc. to participate.

Send requests to PDG Kathy Fletcher at ktbartdoor@aol.com. Payment can be made with check made out to LS&TF & mailed to P.O. Box 191121, Dallas 75219. We are working on other forms of payment but they are not complete. Will advise later.





Please note the Date Change from Oct. 21st to Oct. 28th.

2nd Cabinet Meeting: October 28, 2023

8:30 am to Noon (Please Save the Date: October 28th)

1st. United Methodist Church, 420 S. Hartz Rd., Coppell, TX 75019

Meeting Host: Central Region Zones and Clubs

Central Region Chairperson Lion George Joseph

Zone 5: Zone Chair Judge Valencia Nash

*Allen Community, President Jennifer Rodriguez
Balch Springs, President Jeanne Burrige
Dallas White Rock, President Gerald Meredith
Garland Evening, President Bernard Wilcox
Mesquite Host, President Gary Danaher
UTD Infinity*

Zone 6: Zone Chair Raju Kattady

*Carrollton Evening, President Jay Finlinson
Carrollton Host, President Jim Moen
Dallas Bangladeshi, President Tony Bhuiya
Irving DFW Indian, President Anju Bijili
Dallas Frisco Indian, President Gurrupu Srikanth
Plano Early, President Tom Seibert
Plano Evening, President PDG Carolyn Dorman*

Zone 7: Zone Chair Dr. Nia MacKay

*Coppell, President Tim Decker
Dallas Founder, President PDG Keith Murray
Dallas Indian, President Rajendra Vankawala
Dallas North Indo C., President Sreenivas Kurri
Dallas Park Cities, President Patrick Winter
Richardson Host, President John Wicker
Richardson Middy, President Jenny Wood*

***Continental Breakfast
will be served.***

SPORTS EXTRAVAGANZA

Please Save the Date:

October 21, 2023

NIMITZ HIGH SCHOOL

IRVING, TEXAS

**All Lions on Deck: 8:00
am Sign in Time.**



**We need Lions to help set
up on October 20th too.**



2023 Sports Extravaganza

For Students with Visual Impairments

WHO

Any school aged student 5-22 with an identifiable visual impairment and youngsters ages 3 & 4 with a visual impairment

WHEN

OCTOBER
20-21

FREE
for
Students &
Family

**Lunch is
provided!**

(Friday Eve: Goalball)
Nimitz High School
100 West Oakdale
Irving, TX 75060

Saturday
Nimitz High School
100 West Oakdale
Irving, TX 75060

EVENTS OFFERED

Track & Field, Beep Baseball Skills, Goalball Skills & Tournament, Archery, Soccer Skills and Demonstration

ATHLETE REGISTRATION

Must preregister for interested events by going to this link: bit.ly/R10SportsExtra23

VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

To register to be a volunteer go to this link: bit.ly/SpExtraVol23

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, go to the Sports Extravaganza Website:
bit.ly/R10SportsExtra



Contact

Vicki Foederer | 214-729-1768
vicki22ape@sbcglobal.net





Fred's Findings
IPDG Fred Conger
Coppell Lions Club



fred.conger@verizon.net

Hello Fellow District Lions!

August has been busy. But when is it not? And this last week of August is the busiest.

As IPDG, I made a presentation at the Irving Noon LC on August 2nd just before driving to Kerrville for the August Council of Governors Meeting. I attended three Allen Community LC meetings. They have grown from three to nine since July with two others ready to join. I attended DG Prakash's DG Team meeting (Zoom), 2VDG Pamela's Executive Council meeting (Zoom), Grand Prairie Host's social event, my club's (Coppell LC) meeting, and installed the new officers and new members at Maypearl LC.

I completed an exhaustive 2022-2023 review of our 61 clubs to identify and approve those clubs who have earned LCI's Club Excellence Award. The criteria includes:

- Club gained or was status quo in membership (or sponsored a new club) (30 clubs)
- Made a monetary contribution to LCIF (from a club member or the club) (35 clubs)
- Conducted at least three service projects (all clubs?)
- Had their President, Secretary and Treasurer attend Lion Officer Training (20 clubs)
- Publicized the club's activities (all or most clubs)

Congratulations to the Fifteen clubs which met all the requirements and submitted their LCI Club Excellence Applications to me which I signed and transmitted to LCI. That is the most district clubs receiving this award in all my years involved with district leadership!!

However, that means that 46 clubs failed to meet at least one of the requirements. ***If your club missed out, your officers and board of directors needs to plan for this Lion year. The Club Excellence award criteria is what EVERY Lion club should be doing.***

As District Global Leadership Team Coordinator,



Fred's Findings ***IPDG Fred Conger*** ***Coppell Lions Club***



fred.conger@verizon.net

The results of the June 2023-2024 officer training events was that out of our 61 clubs (another has just been added!), 18 Presidents were trained (29.5%), 23 Secretaries were trained (37.7%), and 16 Treasurers were trained (26.23%). Remember that this is a requirement to earn LCI's Club Excellence Award!

Therefore, I arranged for a second Training event using Zoom for the club officers who missed the Zoom Lions University training back on June 17th and June 24th. Aug. 29th was for Club Secretaries, August 30th for Club Treasurers, and August 31st for Club Presidents. A BIG "Special Thanks" to Lion PDG Billy Ketner for conducting the Secretary Training and Lion PCT Tom Garriss for conducting the Treasurer Training. I do not yet have the results of that training but will report in my October Link Article.

Clubs don't forget to report your meetings, fundraiser events, service projects and donations on MyLION each month. And don't forget to file your Monthly Membership Reports (MMR) due every month! Fifty-four of our clubs (**88.5%**) reported something on MyLION in 2022-2023. We had the best percentage of the 16 districts in Texas. Let's exceed that record this year! EVERY club should report something in all four categories unless they are totally inactive. **If you don't know how, CALL ME!**

As I stated in the last two Links, the major reason we lose members is that we don't keep in touch with them and do not build **RELATIONSHIPS** among our members. Relationships are the number one of the top 10 motivators as to why people join and stay with an organization. Without that personal friendly connection and the feeling of belonging, members drift away. Have a positive membership this year! Have socials and have fun at service projects.

Lions of District 2-X1. Keep serving others, touching people's lives, being a force for good, and making the world a better place.

LCI Mission Statement.

"To empower Lions clubs, volunteers, and partners to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian services and grants that impact lives globally, and encourage peace and international understanding."

"Let's Change the World"

Membership Growth: Recruitment vs Retention

Lion Nia MacKay, PhD

Members are a vital component in every organization, especially in service-oriented organizations such as Lions Clubs. Without members, we cannot do any service; membership growth affects our cause. And while we have been great at recruiting new members, the rate of dropped members is still higher than the rate of recruitment. It's obvious that we need to find a better method to keep members happy and retain them in service.

Retention is critical. It is equally important as if not more important than recruiting. Some retention strategies recommended by top nonprofit advocacy companies are:

1. **Member Orientation:** Members join an organization because they are passionate about the organization, and new member orientation introduces them to their important roles in the organization.
2. **Member Recognition:** Members associate with an organization not only because they want to help and learn, but to be recognized for their contributions to their communities. Longtime members need to be rewarded with recognition, perhaps by featuring them in newsletters or email updates.
3. **Member Engagement:** It's important to give members a sense of belonging and remind them that their presence makes a difference. Maintain good communications via weekly/monthly newsletter or social media. Keep them updated with organization activities and the importance of their involvement and contribution.
4. **Mentor-Mentee:** Help build friendship and fellowship amongst new and existing members by creating mentor-mentee programs. Ask to serve on a program or committee and give valued feedback. Show members how much you appreciate them.
5. **Member Satisfaction:** To recognize what members want and how they appreciate and value the organization, develop a survey to gauge members' satisfaction and identify ways the organization can fulfill their needs and keep them in the organization.

At the end of the day, strengthening our ability to engage and retain members is an important investment for membership growth.

Sources:

<https://www.amcnposolutions.com/how-to-retain-members-of-your-nonprofit-association/>

<https://fiscalnote.com/blog/member-retention>

<https://grahampelton.com/insights/nonprofit-employee-retention/>

<https://blog.givecentral.org/5-top-tips-for-retaining-nonprofit-employees/>



Zone 1 Meeting of August 15th

District 2-X1 Zone 1 Chair Maria Lucero led a great Zone 1 Meeting on Tuesday, August 15, 2023. In Attendance was District 2-X1 Second VDG Pamela Baker, District 2-X1 Cabinet Secretary Tami Kraus, Zone 1 Chair Maria Lucero, Zone 7 Chair Nia MacKay, PDG Frank Pickens, PDG Kathy Fletcher, District 2-X1 Information Technology Chair PDG Billy Ketner, PCT Danny Fletcher, and a total of 42 Lions and Guests. Wonderful food and drinks served by Lion Tami Kraus and her Daughter. PDG Frank Pickens gave an outstanding Program on Orientation.



DAWN Project Update

Lion Gloria Mathur- DAWN Project Coordinator
District 2X1 & MD2 Chair of Diabetes Awareness

Nothing liberates our greatness like the desire to help, the desire to serve and importantly to help those in need in our community .

Our last DAWN event , Aug. 12th, was held at Georgia Farrow Rec Center in Irving. Our collaboration with Baylor Scott & White Health and Wellness Center continues to be successful. We provided Community wellness, Diabetes screening which included A1C test, Kidney Function Test, Blood Pressure and BMI Check as well as vision screening, to 62 people in the Irving community and surrounding areas. All 62 people screened received a bag of fresh farm produce (assorted vegetables, and fruits).

Success of this project would not have been achieved without the help of the volunteers from the participating clubs assigned on this day for the DAWN project.. (Dallas Filipino LC, Irving Noon Day LC, Plano Evening LC, Plano Collins Nepalese LC, , Dallas Bangladeshi LC). It is because the volunteers efforts that we are able to continue & be successful in meeting our goal . Their support not only helps Lions Clubs in our district but our entire communities. Volunteers are the reason we are able to fulfill our commitments to the community.

We anticipate one more event . This project will soon culminate and complete by Dec. 2023.





TLC Chairman's Chatter
 TLC a place on a hill
 Where "All Can Do",
 A magical place
 Where my dreams come true!



This is the poem from a young camper. She wrote it as a Lion was driving her home from camp many years ago and sent it back to her counselor. I saw the counselor sitting on a bench reading the letter with tears in her eyes and she shared it with me. There's more to that story, which I'll share with you when I come to your District, which I hope to do this year at some point; but just as it did for this counselor, these 18 little words help us remember why we do what we do at TLC when we get bogged down in meetings, fundraising and all we have to do to make sure these kids' dreams do come true.

I want to thank all of you – the Lions of Texas – for giving me the honor of serving as your Chairman for our camp this year. At our board meeting on August 5th, I challenged your District TLC Team (the 4 Camp Directors from your District – your District Governor, Immediate Past District Governor, and your 2 elected Directors) to accomplish 3 special things for TLC in this our 75th Anniversary year.

With COVID basically over as a pandemic, we finally had kids back on campus as a group, but there weren't nearly enough of them. So, the 1st challenge is to increase the campers you send in 2024 over what you sent in 2023 from your club. As the year goes on, I will try to give you some new ideas on recruiting campers in this era of privacy and, sadly, fear. Because of all the horrible things going on in our world, parents are reluctant to send their kids to a place they have never been, but it can be done.

The 2nd challenge, which I'm sure you'll hear more about from your District TLC Team in your District meetings and Governor's newsletters, is for your District to do some special District-wide project, as a birthday present for TLC. Think outside the box, have some fun and promote the Texas Lions Camp, the hidden gem of Texas Lionism.



TLC Chairman's Chatter
Texas Lions Camp – Summer of
2023
Where Dreams CAME True



The 3rd challenge is to get on board with our “Sign Up, Step Up, Catch Up” Century Club campaign, which your Governor has been working on with his entire MD2 State Council since he became a 2nd Vice-Governor. If you have personally been putting off joining, now’s the time to start. I don’t deny it, I personally procrastinated for 30 years, thinking \$10/mo. would just about kill me; guess what? It didn’t and I also discovered after a couple of years it didn’t kill me to step up another level. (I’ve asked your newsletter editor to include the campaign flyer and Century Club form in this newsletter.)

Your District TLC Team has to have your help if your District is to meet these challenges. I personally hope to help give you the information you need to meet these challenges and others that we face at TLC in future newsletters.

Our new International President’s theme (Patti Hill) is “Changing the World”. Every time you help send a child to TLC you do just that. You change their world by making their dreams come true, which gives them a new confidence to go forward to make even bigger dreams come true as they grow into adults. I challenge you to go make that TLC magic happen for some children this year.

Lion Tom Blase, Chairman of the Board, Texas Lions Camp



Ferris, Texas Lions Club

12h · 🌐

Lion's Vision Recycle Program - Accepting donations of used eyeglasses to recycle so that glasses may be provided to those in need world wide. If you have used glasses to donate there are boxes located at in the nurses office at each school campus, US Drug Mart, Dr. Megna's Office, Ferris Pediatrics, and Commercial State Bank in Ferris. [#ferrislionsclub](#) [#ferristexas](#) [#LionsClu...](#) See more





PCT Tom Garriss

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Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

Cell:

LCIF FOUNDATION UPDATE – SEPTEMBER 2023

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is the fundraising and grant-making arm of our global organization. Every day, LCIF works to fulfill our mission: to support the efforts of Lions clubs and partners in serving communities locally and globally, giving hope and impacting lives through humanitarian service projects and grants. LCIF supports EIGHT CAUSE AREAS. They are:

VISION YOUTH DISASTER RELIEF CHILDHOOD CANCER
DIABETES HUNGER HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS ENVIRONMENT

The LCIF Update this month will focus on **Disaster Relief**.

DISASTER RELIEF QUICK FACTS:

Each year, over 12,000 lives are lost as a result of heavy rains and floods.
28,500 perish annually as a result of windstorms, tornados, cyclones and hurricanes.
In 2019 U.S. weather and climate disasters, including storms, hurricanes and flooding each lead to losses of more than US\$1Billion.
25.3M people displaced each year by disasters

DID YOU KNOW? LCIF awards Disaster Preparedness grants to plan ahead of a natural disaster.

TEXAS (MD2) HAS RECEIVED MORE THAN US\$1,000,000 IN DISASTER RELIEF FUNDS.

DISASTER GRANTS AVAILABLE:

Emergency Grants - \$5,000-\$10,000

Preparedness Grants – Up to \$10,000

Community Recovery Grants – Up to \$20,000

Major Catastrophe Grants – Minimum is \$50,000 (Awarded by International President or LCIF Chair)



CLUB PROGRAMS: To learn more, contact me to schedule a presentation at one of your club meetings. I look forward to meeting my fellow Lions to discuss LCIF.

DONATIONS: Donations to support our global causes can be made through the LCIF website by utilizing the QR Code on this page..

Oslo YCE program —by Lion Anissa MacKay

If a picture is worth a thousand words, I would need at least 30,000 words to describe the life-changing adventure that was my time in the Youth Camps and Exchange program.

Yes— I took almost 3,000 photos and videos over the three weeks I spent with the Lions of Norway in their Oslo YCE program, Imagine Peace Norway 2023. And 3,000 photos are still far from enough to convey the depth, impact, and magnitude of memories and emotions I experienced. I lived through scenarios I thought existed only in storybooks or film scripts, felt emotions stronger than any I'd ever felt, and learned more about the world and myself than any textbook or lecture could ever hope to convey. Starting with the week I spent with a host family in Snarøya, I got to experience living with people my age for the first time. Okay, that's a bit of a lie— I did live in dorms dur



Above: All 35 campers and 4 Camp Leaders

ing my first two years of college. But this time, we were truly living together, not just sharing a room while we went about our separate lives. The three girls I was housed with, Arianna (from Italy), Kriszrina (from Hungary), and Fatou (from France) became the sisters I'd always wanted to have as a lonely only child. Our host parents— Johan and Audhild Hauge— were so kind as to give us the entire second floor of their house to share while we stayed there. Many nights were spent in the sitting room between our respective bedrooms chatting, dancing, braiding each others' hair, and comparing our lives. We spent every day exploring Oslo with our host father and every night helping

Oslo YCE program —by Lion Anissa MacKay

our host mother set the table or prepare meals. The love I felt for my host family was unlike any other I had felt before. They weren't my blood relatives, I didn't know them at all before meeting them, and we had little in common, but I trusted those girls and my host parents with my life, and I cherished every moment we shared. I surprised myself the day we said goodbye by crying like I hadn't ever before—their home had genuinely come to feel like my own. Leaving hurt more than leaving my own home for college since I knew it was a home I'd likely never return to.



The tears didn't last terribly long, however, as we went straight from our home in Snarøya to a new home in Jeløy—the camp. The following two weeks of the trip
Above: The “Reindeer Cult” camp friend group (Left to Right: Arianna (Italy), Ana (Romania), Viviana (Romania), Reinier (Netherlands), Elisa (Italy) Ani (America))

were spent with 34 other exchange students living together in a dormitory. I had never been to an overnight camp before. My expectations were wild, but whatever premonitions I had about what it might be like paled pathetically in the face of how

Oslo YCE program —by Lion Anissa MacKay

truly incredible the experience was. Aside from our chaperoned and pre-planned outings with the Lions of Norway, we also had days where we made our own plans. We spent time together playing volleyball, soccer (ahem, football, forgive me), singing karaoke, dancing, and walking to town or the beach. The days we were left to our own devices at camp were among the most memorable. It was true, wholesome, hedonistic youthfulness in which I simultaneously felt like a child having the silliest fun in the world and a grown woman making her own choices and plans simultaneously. The YCE program enabled me to safely explore my young adulthood under the protective gaze of the Lions of Norway— I will never forget the joy and warmth I felt throughout the trip.



Above: “Hauge House” Host Sisters (Left to Right: Kriszrina (Hungary), Ani (America), Arianna (Italy), Fatou (France))
If I thought leaving my host family was difficult, leaving the camp was infinitely harder. I have never cried so much in 24 hours as I did on our last day. The other campers, the camp leaders, and the Lions of Norway had become my entire world— the knowledge that we would never again be all together as we had been for the past weeks was quite a burden to bear. But thanks to modern technology, even as we all departed for our home countries and lives, we kept in touch. We made Spotify playlists of all the songs we sang and danced to together, emailed each other photo albums and YouTube vlogs, and text each other photos daily to share our lives. We may not be breathing the same air or sharing the same roof anymore, but we share this Earth together. We’ll hold peace between each other for as long as we can to bring the unity and fraternity we experienced together in YCE into the rest of our lives.

Lions District 2-X1 Build Beds for Kids Day!

Date: Saturday, September 9, 2023

Time: flexible - 9 am to 5 pm. You chose your time.

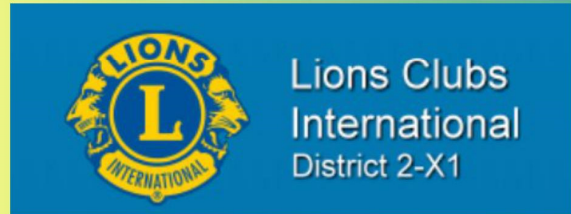
Location : Lions Park, 2303 Howard Rd. (FM877), Waxahachie, TX 75165.



A joint project of:



&



District 2-X1 Lions, Lions from other Districts and non-Lion volunteers will build 175 beds benefiting SHP.

We need volunteers for Build Beds for Kids Day!

- All materials/tools will be provided.
- No special skills are needed, there is a job for everyone.
- You do not have to volunteer for the entire day; if you can give an hour or two that would be great and appreciated.
- We will have an orientation before work begins and you will have experienced leadership on the project from SHP representatives.
- Food and drinks will be provided for you.
- Parking is easy, lots of space.
- Please wear your Lions vest so we can see all the Club volunteers represented. This service event will be filmed, and pictures will be taken.
- This is a Lions Service Project, so keep up with your hours of service and report it to your Club Secretary.



**THANKS, LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON
THE BUILD DAY!**

**For more information and
if you would like to DONATE, please contact:**

PCC John Eads, Tel 214-384-9933
PCC John Landrum, Tel 214-403-8894

Benefitting:

Sleep in Heavenly Peace
for Children without a bed in the
DFW Metroplex

"MY LIONS CLUB OBITUARY"

(Obituary for a fictional club, but these are actual reasons given why clubs have failed)

"After 76 years of service to our community, our club was forced to close.

As our community changed, we were slow to adapt and we saw fewer people requesting to join our club. Because we wanted only quality members, we did not actively recruit new Lions. We focused upon retention, so we continued doing what our existing members wanted to do. When we declined in membership, we felt that if we just kept serving, all would be well. We felt that our Service spoke for itself and we did not want to appear prideful, so we did not aggressively promote our club in our community. We continued with the same projects and found that fewer people were interested in participating in them. As we aged, we were not able to continue with some of our traditional projects so we focused more on writing checks and less on hands-on service. Covid came and we could not meet in person so we lost contact with some of our members. After Covid, we continued to meet for lunch and enjoyed each other's fellowship, but outsiders were not attracted to our small group of close friends. Starting a branch did not appeal to us as we wanted to stay in our comfort zone. As our numbers dwindled, we repeated our officers, and when my wife and I tired of being the President and Secretary/Treasurer, and no one else stepped up, we decided to stop meeting and close the club."

Every club is just two steps away from greatness, join us at the GMA 4 Clubs Facebook group to learn how to achieve success with your club.



Diabetes Awareness and Wellness project

August 12, 2023: Diabetes Awareness and Wellness project of District 2X1, which is supported by several Lions Clubs and Baylor Hospital!

Thank you MD2 and District 2X1 Diabetes Chair Lion Leader Gloria Mathur for leading the project! Thank you DG Prakash Gautam, PDG Vinod Mathur, RC George Joseph and volunteers for your support!



Lions club Installation

On July 16th 2023, Outgoing Leo President Sripoorna Modugula and her team presented the accomplishments for the year 2022 -23.

DG Lion Prakash Gautam helped administer the oath of office for the new board :

President: Nagavenkat Modugula

VP1: Ekansh Ahuja

VP2: Joshika Tammali

VP3: Saumya Nath

Secretary: Vanshika Panchal

Treasurer: Kunal Patel

Board: Sripoorna Modugula, Amrita Ajmera, Shruti Sunkara.

Incoming Leo President Nagavenkat Modugula talked about his vision for the year 2023- 24.



Build Beds for Kids” UPDATE

Lions of District 2-X1 and other participated on building 175 beds on February 18, 2023 for Texas Lions Camp. You can now see the results of your donations and labor. These are our beds in one wing on the new Bunkhouse #1. Our Campers started using them on June 1, 2023. PCC John Eads and PCC John Landrum, Co-Chairs of “Build Beds for Kids”



GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP APPROACH...

The Tenants of the Process

By PCC John Eads, New Member (Small Clubs) Development (GMA) Chair
Article Two

In Link GMA Article 1, I discussed the need to have a Club leader that was passionate about service and wanted to keep the Lions Club in their community doing service. A very key element in the GMA process at the Club level.

I want to tell you a story. It includes all the tenants of the GMA process. It is about the rebuilding of the Italy Lions Club.

The first tenant of the GMA process is to “Build a Team” of Lion leaders who know the GMA to implement the process at the Club level. We assembled a team in 2021-22 that included our then Governor Esmeralda, 1st Vice District Governor Fred, 2nd Vice District Governor Prakash, GMT Wayne, PCS Tommie, who had already been working with the Club, and ZC Manuel. I headed up the team as Small Club Rebuilding Chairman. We had a Zoom meeting to discuss strategy on rebuilding Italy Lions Club. The session was very helpful.

Once we got the Club leader identified and a “GMA strike team of Lion leadership”, then the best approach was to have a meeting between the Lions Club leader (or other Lion members recruited by the Lions Club leader) and the District leaders to outline the GMA procedure to bring the Club back to life in their community and begin strengthening their membership. In the case of rebuilding Italy Lions Club, then Governor Esmeralda, ZC Manuel Palavicini, PCC John Landrum, my wife Joanna and I had a meeting with the leader of the Club, President Flossie Gowin and a couple of faithful members.

The purpose of this meeting was to get the “lay-of-the land” of what was going on with the Italy Lions Club and what help was needed. We were implementing the second tenant of the GMA process to “Build a Vision.” We had a great meeting and discussions on their Club’s current situation of then only 3 members and what was going on in the community that might be helpful to gaining the Club’s visibility back in the community. We laid out a tentative plan of action after we completed the SWAT analysis of the Club’s issues. We determined that what we needed to kick-start revitalization was an immediate service project that would alert the Italy community that a Lions Club was alive in Italy. PSC Tommy suggested we arrange with the school system to distribute free dictionaries to the 3rd grade school students, and we would find funds to support it through our District. This would be a project that hopefully would bring awareness of the Club in the community.

In addition, we discussed doing a community needs assessment with the Superintendent of Schools, Police and Fire Departments and the City of Italy. This was the third tenant of the GMA to “Build a Plan.” It was additionally suggested that we could get additional Lion volunteers from other nearby Clubs and from many in our District to help provide manpower to do projects identified. We had discussed many different

types of projects. President Flossie told us of the Italy Christmas Festival that would be held in December and that Italy and surrounding communities would in attendance. (Ah! A perfect time to showcase Italy Lions Club and a great opportunity to display Lions and do the “Ask” for new members. PCS Tommie would champion the dictionary project and I would champion the Christmas Festival.

And the rest is history! “Build Success,” the fourth tenant, abounds and Italy Lions Club is back doing service and increasing its membership to 11 members now. We built a vision, a plan of execution and celebrated our success. GMA...It works! And, our Lions District 2-X1 family participated at every stage of the success.

Your Club can do the GMA process. You customize the process to meet the needs of your Club. Let us help you! Just contact your District leadership. We will work together to make it happen for you, just like Italy Lions Club.

(Now that I have given you an example of implementing the GMA process, in my next article in the Link, we will discuss in more detail the second tenant, “Build a Vision.”)

Esmeralda's Express News

PDG Esmeralda Rodriguez

Grand Prairie Host Lions Cub

Ph: 972-891-4678 email: Lionesme01@gmail.com



It has been a great month filled with lots of roaring good news!

Our 2x1 district is +76 members. Let's keep up the great work with club extension, retention and recruitment. It has also been a difficult month dealing with the loss of some of our lion members. Let's check on each other during these trying times via the phone and in person. Each of you is vital to our clubs and to our 2x1 district. Please take care of yourselves during these hot weather days-remember to hydrate and pace yourselves! Self-Care and Safety First when you are doing your community service in your communities. It has been a busy month with doing club visits for the district governor, food distributions, participating in community outreach events, Mansfield Back to School Bash, Grand Prairie ISD Back to School, helping with rebuilding clubs, installation of officers, induction of new members and going on a vacation.



I would like to first highlight some membership ideas that are simple and effective for boosting your club membership efforts highlighted in the LCI membership quick guide:

1. Publicize your club's activities. Positive media coverage and social media build community support and interest in your club.
2. Always have club brochures, handouts, business cards available at public events. Have your contact information if people are interested in learning more about your club. Make sure you have a facebook page and website available.
3. Have an "invite a friend night or day" during one of your club meetings. Encourage everyone to bring a friend to the event to learn more about Lions Club membership.
4. Invite members to bring a prospect to a service activity or fundraiser to get a first hand look at your club in action,
5. Hold a membership open house. Ask each member to invite at least five people and open the event to the public. Set up displays highlighting your club's contributions to the community and have members on hand to answer questions for attendees.
6. Challenge your members to meet a specific recruitment and retention goal for the year. Plan a fun festive kickoff for the membership recruitment challenge during your meeting. Keep momentum going by reporting your success during meetings and in your club's newsletter, website, facebook, etc.
7. Ask community welcome organizations to include information about your club in their "welcome to the community packets". Join your chamber of commerce if your club budget permits. Check with real estate organizations, they may also be able to partner with your club.

Esmeralda's Express News

PDG Esmeralda Rodriguez

Grand Prairie Host Lions Cub

Ph: 972-891-4678 email: Lionesme01@gmail.com



Keeping lions as active members of our clubs is very important. As a result I would like to secondly summarize the following retention tips from membership quick guide:

1. Have new members be greeters
2. Keep fun in Fundraisers, activities, community service, and meetings-you may need to rotate members to avoid cliques.
3. Give praise freely. Show members you care. Check on members if they miss a meeting or start becoming less involved. Take time to write a personal note or make a call to check on a member.
4. Encourage input from all lion members about club activities either informally or formally.
5. Involve new members in club activities immediately. Ask them to co-chair a committee or coordinate an activity or a program they have an interest in.
6. Look for unusual club programs that will benefit club members.
7. Pair new members with long term members as co-chairpersons on committees/ events.
8. To keep meetings interesting, make sure to have an agenda and honor time of members and keep content brief.
9. Periodically ask long term members what their interests are as these will develop and change over time. Assign responsibilities based on interests and increase responsibilities. All members have gifts and talents they may want to share, however we need to check in with them from time to time and make changes as necessary.
10. Inspire and motivate members at the beginning of each Lion year by holding a meet the officers session, giving members a forum to ask new officers questions about goals and direction for the club during the upcoming year. It is important to seek input from members for the club goals on membership, service, leadership, LCIF and any other focus area for the club.

Finally, I would like to highlight from Sun Prairie Lions Club Membership Handbook 2023-24 by Jennifer Creative "Sponsoring a new member is more than just a one step process. It requires a sponsoring Lion to play several roles that includes Recruiter, Host, Mentor".

Recruiter:

1. Search out enthusiastic, energetic people who want to volunteer.
2. Share your enthusiasm and knowledge about Lions. Share what Lions do at local and national level.
3. Share The LION magazine articles.
4. Share Newspaper coverage or social media of club activities.

Esmeralda's Express News

PDG Esmeralda Rodriguez

Grand Prairie Host Lions Cub

Ph: 972-891-4678 email: Lionesme01@gmail.com



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5. Share service activities build/created by your club to help the community.
 6. Offer to answer any questions about the club, policies, dues, activities or seek/request a resource to help with answers.
 7. Invite member to an event the club is sponsoring. Make sure to meet them at the entrance or provide transportation. Make them welcome.
 8. Introduce them to the many benefits of membership-meeting new people, networking, building new skills, sense of satisfaction that comes from helping others.
 9. Receive credit toward a Membership Key Award each time you recruit a new member,
- Host:
1. Make the prospective member feel welcome.
 2. Invite them to a club meeting.
 3. Make them feel welcome at the meeting.
 4. Ask club officers ahead of time to make a special effort to welcome the prospective members.
 5. Try to get the new member involved in meeting discussion and one of the club activities.
- Mentor:
1. Introduce them to lions; helping them to feel part of the group.
 2. Offer to take them to meetings; Check on them.
 3. Encourage the new member to participate and share ideas.
 4. Inspire and provide advice.
 5. Encourage the new member to be active.
 6. Follow up if the new member is not active.

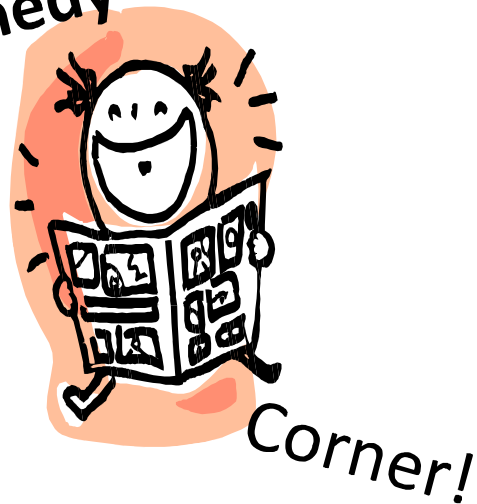
WE SERVE & WE SMILE!

Serve and Smile!

Let's Go, Let's Grow!

Together We Can, Together We Will!

Comedy



How does NASA organize a company party? They planet .

If you have an item for the *Lions Link*, please email it to:

biu101@yahoo.com

**no later than 20th of the month
inclusion in the next edition!**

Don't Miss the

DEADLINE!

**Visit Lions Clubs
International online @
lionsclubs.org**



texaslions.org

www.lions2-x1.org

Lions Code of Ethics

TO SHOW my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.

TO SEEK success and demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

TO REMEMBER that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.

WHENEVER a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.

TO HOLD friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

ALWAYS to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state and my community, and to give them my unswerving loyalty in word, act and deed. To give them freely of my time, labor and means.

TO AID others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, my substance to the needy.

TO BE CAREFUL with my criticism and liberal with my praise, to build up and not destroy.