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Greetings fellow Lions! They say time flies when you are having fun. I can't believe it is time for the September newsletter.

I need your help. International President Al Brandel charged all District Governors to postpone Club visits until November 2008 and concentrate on extension efforts. The increase in membership will allow Lions to perform greater miracles through service.

Most of you know PID Mike Butler from Kerrville. President Al appointed PID Mike to lead the new **Global Membership Team**.

PIP Jimmy Ross and PID Mike are looking for five new clubs in each district in Texas. Initially this will consist of two parts. First, **Guiding Lions**: each new club will be assigned two Certified Guiding Lions to assist the new club to become successful. Second, **canvassing efforts**: this will be a group of Lions to go into a certain area and talk to prospective members about Lionism. Lions Clubs International will conduct a seminar for new Guiding Lions and then training to assist in canvassing efforts for formation of new Lions Clubs. You could be a Certified Guiding Lion and/or help with the canvassing effort. A good number is to have 8 – 12 Lions in groups of two to canvass an area. The training seminar will be held September 27th. The canvassing for new clubs will be September 29th - October 2nd.

District 2-T1, District 2-T2 and part of District 2-E1 will be holding a joint seminar. The seminar will be in Lubbock on September 27, 2008 starting at 9 a.m. The seminar will be held at Parker, Smith & Cooper, 4222 85th Street, Lubbock TX 79423. I am looking into transportation options. Please RSVP to Cabinet Secretary Karen Stowers, [karen.stowers@sbcglobal.net](mailto:karen.stowers@sbcglobal.net).

Lion Katharyn and I had the privilege of visiting the Leader Dogs for the Blind facility in Rochester, Michigan in August. District 2-T1 Leader Dog Chair Lion Jackie Wiswell is scheduled to make her visit on September 12-13. The neat story is that Lion Jackie's sister is scheduled to be at Leader Dog receiving her second Leader Dog and they are scheduled to fly home together. What a fantastic event and opportunity to show our "We Serve" motto. If you look at the numbers, the cost of the program per dog placed in service is around \$36,000. The cost to the recipient is "no charge". Leader Dog is listed in my 100% donations in the amount of \$1 per member. You can purchase bricks and donate in many other ways. Please remember Leader Dog and our other charities throughout the year.

The **district Chevy Malibu raffle is continuing**. Send in your completed ticket stubs along with your money to PDG Sid Shaw so we can get this project wrapped up.

The annual District 2-T1 **Boys Ranch/Girls Town Coat and Shoe shopping spree** is scheduled for November 9th at Sears in Amarillo. Please plan on attending this event. It is always a great time to practice our "We Serve" motto. In addition, please send your donations to PDG Rick Garrett, PO Box 2083, Amarillo, TX 79105-2083.

Our **2nd cabinet meeting** is scheduled for October 25, 2008 in Borger, Texas. Full details will be in next month's newsletter. Please make plans now to attend.

Finally, the **newsletter contest**. The 10th and the 100th person to either email me at [lionstevew@hotmail.com](mailto:lionstevew@hotmail.com) or leave a phone message at 806.337.1289 will win a gift certificate. The rules are 1) you must include the "key phrase" in your message, 2) you must be a Lion in District 2-T1 and 3) only one entry per Lion. This month's key phrase is "Extension". For the August contest, the 10th to respond was Lion Viola Moore from Panhandle - she won a \$40 gift certificate to Texas Roadhouse. The response was better, but no 100th response.

Remember, no one becomes a Lion unless they're invited. When's the last time you asked someone to join???

Yours in Lionism, DG Steve Wiegand



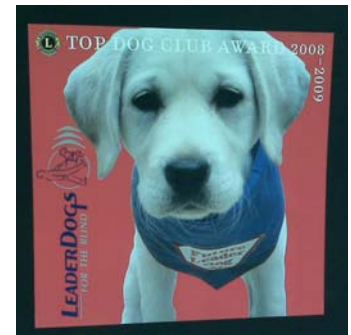
## Leader Dog for the Blind ~ 2008

DG Steve and Lion Katharyn traveled to Rochester, Michigan in August to learn about the Leader Dogs program first-hand.

Founded by three Detroit-area Lions Clubs members in 1939, Leader Dogs for the Blind provides dog guides to people who are blind and visually impaired to enhance their mobility, independence and quality of life. Each year, over 270 students attend 26-day residential training programs to be paired with dog guides. This is a life-changing event that opens the doors to independence, safety and self-worth for many of the students.

In addition to the dog guide program, they offer programs that enhance a person's independence and quality of life in other ways, including Accelerated Mobility, Trekker GPS training, computer courses and seminars for Orientation and Mobility professionals. Currently, Leader Dog is the only facility in the Western Hemisphere to teach deaf-blind students to work with a dog guide.

Thanks to generous donations from supporters (including significant support from Lions Clubs members), all services are provided free of charge to students, including room and board and travel to and from the campus in Rochester Hills, Michigan, for students living in North America.



DG Steve takes a walk blindfolded assisted by a Leader Dog in training

### Leader Dogs for the Blind

#### **Mission**

To enhance the lives of people who are blind and visually impaired.

#### **Program**

Leader Dogs for the Blind conducts 12 sessions per year of the 26-day live-in dog guide program, with a maximum of 24 students in each session. The school strives to meet the special needs of its diverse pupils with accommodations such as a Spanish-speaking instructor, late evening diabetic snacks, and one of only two existing programs for individuals who are both deaf and blind.

#### **Funding**

Leader Dog operates entirely on donated funds. No government or United Way funding is received. The continued success of the Leader Dog program depends on the generosity of contributors and community funding sources around the world. Donations are raised through a variety of means. Several signature events, an annual giving program, planned gifts and Lions Club support are the primary means of raising money for Leader Dogs for the Blind.

#### **Additional Programs**

Since 1939, the school has raised, trained and graduated more than 14,000 Leader Dogs. Leader Dogs have been placed in every state except Hawaii and in 39 other countries.

Since 2001, more than 100 people have graduated the Accelerated Mobility Program (learning and improving orientation and mobility). Since 2005, nearly 100 people have graduated from training on the Trekker GPS, a talking navigational tool that assists the blind in getting around both familiar and unfamiliar places.

**DID YOU KNOW?** 80% of the dogs bred at Leader Dogs are labrador retrievers, 15% are golden retrievers and 5% are German shepherds.

Leader Dogs for the Blind utilize volunteer puppy raisers like Texas Lion **Sandy Griffin**. Lion Steve and Katharyn saw the kennel where Sandy's latest dog, Ivy Greene, was being trained as a Leader Dog.

## 2-T1 Membership Update

Hello fellow Lions! I want to introduce myself and tell you a little about my passion as a Lion. Like many, I joined Lions not really knowing anything about the organization. I had the impression I would meet other local business people and do a little good in my community. I began to learn more about Lionism and began inviting friends and other business people I knew to join our Canyon Lions Club. In the short two and a half years I have been a Lion, I have the joy of sharing my club and Lionism with 6 new Lions I have personally sponsored. The more I learn about what Lions do in their communities, the more excited I get. What a blessing it is to serve our communities and see the impact of Lionism on our own communities, state and the entire world.



*Lion Paula Davis*

I also want to invite your club to join us in Canyon, Texas for the Homecoming Parade (we'd love as many Lions Club entries as possible) on Saturday, October 4, 2008. Our Club hosts an annual pancake breakfast for the community and we will also have a booth on the square for the days' festivities where we'll pass out information on membership in Lions, the Lions Camp, Leader Dog, Eye Bank and any other information we can get our hands on. If you would like to put on your shirts or vests and be present that day to help or just enjoy the day, we would love to have you!

I also want to spread my enthusiasm to each of you and learn more about what your clubs are doing in our great District! I hope to be contacting each of your clubs in the coming months about when I might visit to meet you, learn a bit more about your specific club and what makes each of you so successful as Lions. I am also available to speak to your club on membership – and I don't mind a good drive! Any time you have a question about membership, feel free to call me at 806-679-4342 or e-mail me at [paula@canyoncreeksoapcompany.com](mailto:paula@canyoncreeksoapcompany.com). I also want to encourage each of you to look over the Membership Contest information below and encourage your clubs to participate! I look forward to a wonderful term as Membership Chair and serving each of you through the coming year.

Lion Paula Davis ~ District 2T-1 Membership Chair

### DISTRICT CLUB AWARDS ~ MEMBERSHIP CONTEST

Membership is the lifeblood of the local Lions Club. This year's membership contest has been developed to recognize those clubs who excel in gaining membership during the 2008-2009 Lions year.

Clubs are grouped in four categories based on the number of members in your club as of July 1, 2008:

- 1) 16 or fewer members;      2) 17 to 28 members;      3) 29 to 44 members; and      4) 45 or more members.

Awards will be given at the district convention for each category. The **goal** of each club is to have a minimum net gain of two members. However, an award will be given to the club in each category which had the largest **percentage** of increased membership (i.e., if your club has 10 members and you add one new member, you had a 10% increase in membership).

Your membership will be recorded with how it stood on July 18th of 2008. It will be compared to the membership on April 20th, 2009.

If you have questions, or would like help with ideas on membership contests within your club, or would simply like some training or encouragement on membership for your Club, feel free to contact Paula Davis, District 2T-1 Membership Chair, at 806.679.4342 or [paula@canyoncreeksoapcompany.com](mailto:paula@canyoncreeksoapcompany.com).

**Good Luck! And may the best clubs win!**

## Lions Eye Bank of District 2-T1

First, I'd like to introduce myself. I'm **Lion Brandon Dabney**, president of your Lions Eye Bank. I also happen to be an eye doctor practicing in Amarillo, Dumas and Dalhart. I would be happy to answer any eye related questions that you may have. Please feel free to email me at [brandondabney@gmail.com](mailto:brandondabney@gmail.com).

I'd like to use my first article to discuss corneal donation. I believe that the donation of one's eyes is a noble act, and a unique way to do a great service to many people in need at a time in one's life when one lives no longer. This article may be for those who've really already made up their mind to donate, as I believe that donation of one's organs is a personal choice; I may not presume to change your view. However, I might try with a few sobering statistics: 7,000 Texans await donor tissue, and every day, 17 people die waiting for a life saving donor organ. As a donor, you could help save up to 8 persons' lives with your organs, and enhance another 50 with your tissues, which include your corneas.

If you do wish to be a donor, the unfortunate truth is that even with the best intentions, more times than not, your generous donation will go unharvested, and it will be needlessly wasted.

There are several things that must be done in order to make your gift available for donation at the time of your demise. First of all, which is most important, if not the most difficult, is to discuss your wishes with your family. Even if you've done all of the other things that follow, if only one of your family members refuses to let your organs help another, then your wishes will go unfulfilled. So, make sure that your loved ones know your wishes. Instill in them a sense of how important you feel it is to give this posthumous gift.

The next thing is a donor card. While you can find donor pamphlets with cards to fill out and keep, the best way is to become part of the Texas donor registry database. A form can be filled out in less than 5 minutes at [www.donatelifetexas.org](http://www.donatelifetexas.org). The best place to keep your donor card is on your person, in your wallet or purse. Also, you can get a red sticker affixed to your driver's license that reads "donor". These can be gotten from the DMV as well as our own PDG Virgil James, who travels the panhandle working health fairs for the eye bank.

What is very frustrating is that even if you've done all the above, your wish to donate may not be fulfilled at the time of your demise. This is due to inaction among the health service providers. According to a liaison for LifeGift (the non-profit that procures the organs and tissues), one panhandle area hospital has had only 2 donors in the 4 years he's worked with them. He believes this stems from inaction among the hospital employees, not a lack of donors. So, not only do you need to impress upon your loved ones the importance of your wish to give this gift, they then in turn need to be proactive in letting the healthcare staff know your wish.

If you have any questions, or have a topic that you'd like covered, please email me at [brandondabney@gmail.com](mailto:brandondabney@gmail.com). You can contact the state's donor registry database at [www.donatelifetexas.org](http://www.donatelifetexas.org).



*Lion Brandon Dabney*

## October is Membership Month ~

### Win a Life Membership to Texas Lions Camp for your Club!

As you can see from the calendar of events on page six, there are lots of great Lions events going on this fall. What a great time to recruit new members to your clubs!

To celebrate **Lions Membership Month** in **October**, Governor Steve is announcing a membership challenge. The club with the highest percentage increase in membership during the month of October will win Life Membership to the Texas Lions Camp for their club. The winning club will decide who in their membership will receive the TLC Life Membership.

Start planning now for an excellent membership month in October!

*Who wouldn't want to become a part of  
the incredible fellowship of Lions???*



## Helpful Websites and E-mail Addresses

*Here are some great **websites** to help you plug into Lions Clubs information and events:*

<a href="http://www.lionsclubs.org">www.lionsclubs.org</a>	Lions Clubs International website
<a href="http://www.lionscamp.com">www.lionscamp.com</a>	Texas Lions Camp website
<a href="http://www.texaslions.org">www.texaslions.org</a>	Texas MD2 website
<a href="http://www.lionsdistrict2-T1.com">www.lionsdistrict2-T1.com</a>	District 2-T1 website

*Here are **e-mail addresses** for some District 2-T1 contacts:*

<a href="mailto:lionstevew@hotmail.com">lionstevew@hotmail.com</a>	District Governor Steve Wiegand
<a href="mailto:bcraddock@mail.wtamu.edu">bcraddock@mail.wtamu.edu</a>	Vice District Governor Bill Craddock
<a href="mailto:wilson@wdarchitects.com">wilson@wdarchitects.com</a>	District newsletter chair PDG Jim Wilson
<a href="mailto:lionrickcarol@yahoo.com">lionrickcarol@yahoo.com</a>	Cabinet Treasurer PDG Rick Garrett

**District 2-T1 Calendar of Events: 2008-09****2008**

September 18-20	USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum—Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada
September 27	Quitaque Lions Club 60th Anniversary Celebration
September 27	Guiding Lion Training and Extension Seminar—Lubbock
October 4	Canyon Lions Club Pancake Breakfast / WTAMU Homecoming Parade
October 11	Amarillo Downtown Lions Club Car Show
October 18	White Deer Lions Club Carnival
October 25	District 2-T1 Cabinet Meeting—Borger, TX
November 7-8	Second Council of Governors Meeting—Del Rio, TX
November 9	Boys Ranch/Girlstown Coat and Shoe Shopping—Sears—Amarillo, TX

**2009**

January 31	District 2-T1 Mid-Winter Conference—Hereford, TX
February 5-7	Third Council of Governors Meeting—Kerrville, TX
March 7-8	Texas Lions Leadership Forum—Austin, TX
April 24-25	2-T1 District Convention—Amarillo, TX
June 4-6	MD2 Texas Lions State Convention—Lubbock, TX
July 6-10	Lions International Convention—Minneapolis, MN

**Make sure your events are listed in the next newsletter—send your info to DG Steve: [lionstevew@hotmail.com](mailto:lionstevew@hotmail.com)**

***Resolution for 2008-09 2-T1 Vice District Governor***

*Whereas* The Amarillo Downtown Lions Club is in good standing with the Association of Lions Club International and;

*Whereas* Lion Donald Weeks is a member in good standing of the Amarillo Downtown Lions Club and;

*Whereas* Lion Donald Weeks has served as a Director of the Amarillo Downtown Lions Club and;

*Whereas* Lion Donald Weeks has served as President of the Amarillo Downtown Lions Club and;

*Whereas* Lion Donald Weeks has successfully served as Chairman of Zone 7 of Lions District 2T1 and;

*Whereas* Lion Donald Weeks meets all of the requirements to fill the position of Vice District Governor and;

*Whereas* Lion Donald Weeks served 3 consecutive terms as Multi District 2's Youth Exchange Chairman and;

*Whereas* Lion Donald Weeks is a Life Member of the Texas Lions Camp and;

*Whereas* Lion Donald Weeks is a Texas Lions Fellow and;

*Whereas* Lion Donald Weeks is a Melvin Jones Fellow; therefore be it

*Resolved* that the Lions of Amarillo Downtown Lions Club fully and unanimously support Lion Donald Weeks for the Office Vice District Governor.



# "Peace Begins With Me"

is the theme of 2008-09 Peace Poster Contest  
of Lions Clubs International



Lions Clubs can sponsor one or more Contests for children (**age: 11, 12 or 13 on Nov 15, 2008**) in local schools, or for any other organized youth-group such as Boy's/Girl's Scout, Church, After- school-care-centers etc. Contact local school (Jr. High or Middle) Principal or Art Teacher about soliciting students to enter the Contest.

Children are to create posters visually depicting their interpretation of the contest theme - **"Peace Begins With Me"**.

Order Peace Poster Contest Kits (which has complete details and guidelines) as soon as possible to guarantee sufficient time (2-3 weeks for delivery) for a well planned Contest. The cost of the Kit is \$7.95 plus shipping and taxes. Clubs must purchase a Kit from LCI Club Supplies for **each contest sponsored**.

Each poster is judged on originality, artistic merit and expression of theme. Posters advance through several judging levels: local, district, multiple district and international. At the international level, one Grand Prize Winner and 23 Merit Award Winners are selected.

## Deadlines

- Oct 01 Purchase Peace Poster Kit from LCI HQ.
- Nov 15 Clubs to send one winning poster to DG
- Dec 01 DG selects one poster received from all the clubs and sends to MD2 Chair.
- Dec 15 MD2 sends one poster received from all the Districts to LCI HQs.
- Feb 01 International winners will be notified.

## Awards

- District level winner receive recognition with a Plaque and \$100 Savings Bond.
- MD2 (Texas) State level winner receives a \$500 Savings Bond.
- International level winner receives a Plaque and cash prize of \$2500; and a trip (along with 2 family members and the sponsoring Club President) to a special award ceremony at the United Nations, NY.
- Each of the 23 Merit Award Winners receives a cash award of \$500 and Certificate of Achievement.

For additional information, please visit the Peace Poster website:  
[http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/youth\\_peace\\_poster.php3](http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/youth_peace_poster.php3)  
or contact

Katharyn Wiegand, District 2-T1 Opportunities for Youth Chair  
29 Tiffany Lane, Canyon TX 79015  
Phone: 806.655.5226 E-mail: [kwiegand@hotmail.com](mailto:kwiegand@hotmail.com)

Lions District 2-T1 Newsletter  
Katharyn Wiegand, Editor  
29 Tiffany Lane  
Canyon TX 79015

**Return Service Requested**

## **Club Extension Workshop and Guiding Lion Training**

Club Extension Workshop and Guiding Lion Training will be conducted jointly by LCI Districts **2-T1**, 2-T2 & 2-E1 at –

Parker, Smith & Cooper  
4222 85th Street  
Lubbock TX 79423

**Saturday, September 27, 2008**

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



All Lion leaders and “up and coming” lions of our **District 2-T1** are encouraged to attend the above session. Please register, by September 23rd, with our Cabinet Secretary Karen Stowers, [karen.stowers@sbcglobal.net](mailto:karen.stowers@sbcglobal.net)