



# Focus

A Publication of the Northwest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center  
"Changing Lives. One Pair of Eyeglasses at a Time"

JULY 2014

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**PZC Dr. Bob Pinson**  
Founder

### 2014-2015 Directors

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## A Note from New President Don Schmidt

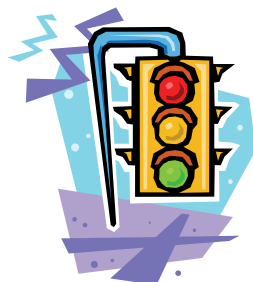
Well, I guess I have failed in my attempt to keep a low profile at the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center! I am flattered to be put in this position of leadership and will try to contribute to the goals of this organization. Two areas I plan to address are dependent on each other: I feel we need more volunteers and more glasses, but we can't increase one without increasing the other. I have some ideas on this I will be presenting to the Executive Committee.

I believe that currently nearly 50% of our volunteers are community volunteers, and I feel that is the area to recruit new ones. I would like to encourage community participation either as individuals or groups. Many media outlets publicize opportunities to volunteer. Let's get the word out to the senior centers. Perhaps we can encourage people to invite their friends or service groups to become part of our team. We also need to recruit Lions who are within a reasonable distance to contribute one day a month.

Creating a steady stream of incoming glasses is a greater challenge. We can work with the satellites to achieve a steady flow of glasses. We can ask our Directors to encourage zones and clubs to put out collection boxes. In support of the Directors, we can ask all US clubs in Multiple District 19 to collect glasses. I spoke with incoming District 19C Governor John Kirry, and we will have support at his level.

I am sure there are many issues that volunteers, staff, and officers are concerned about, and if there is anything I can do to address them, let's work together. We all have ideas on how to make our Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center more productive and efficient, so speak up and let us evaluate them.

A large part of my new position as NWLERC President is to oversee the fine work being accomplished by everyone — volunteers, staff, Executive Committee, and Directors. I will do what I can to assist, and I am sure as a team we can make this work.

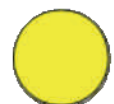


Each month, right here on the front page, we'll display a traffic-light color to signify our current inventory of glasses received for processing.

- Red** = we need more glasses right now
- Yellow** = our supply is dwindling
- Green** = our storage is full

Hopefully it will easily signal our inventory needs so you can help us maintain a steady supply.

Inventory



Low

# Mission Feedback — Philippines

From Joy Abraham, Toboso-Escalante Assn. International

"I just got back from another successful mission in the Philippines. This time we served 3 communities: 860 residents served in Toboso, 650 in Escalante, and 250 in Leyte.

Again, we thank you for your unwavering support."



## VOICE Program at NWLERC: A Win-Win

At the NWLERC we enjoy working with students in the North Thurston Public Schools VOICE (Vocational Opportunities for Independent Community Employment) program. These students are 18 to 21 years of age and have graduated traditional high school. They have a variety of special needs, and we work with the students and their coaches to fit the student to the job. The program teaches them job skills, such as promptness, working with others, taking direction from supervisors, and focusing on performing. After completing the VOICE program, the students move on to Morningside to receive assistance in finding employment.

We get to know these students and they become part of our team. During the past school year, the students and coaches contributed *nearly 1000 hours* of valued service to our mission. This year we had four students — Austin, DJ, Cyлина, and Weslee. Each Tuesday and Thursday they would attend their “job” at the LERC. They perform a variety of tasks, from preparing glasses for shipment to the recycler, to drying and inspecting washed glasses for processing by lensometer technicians. When we have things to do like moving boxes to or from the storage trailer, they are willing workers. We attempt to have the students do a variety of tasks so they learn different skills.

The work they do is very beneficial to the success of our organization, and we also believe this program is beneficial to them as we see the improvement in the students’ skills by the end of the school year.

# Welcome To New District B Director Bert

Past District Governor Bert Caoili is our only new 2-year Director, as all the others have agreed to continue to serve for the 2014-15 Lions year. Not only does he have a lot of Lions experience, Bert has also assisted on sight missions and has seen the end result of all the work done at the NWLERC.

Here is his "mini-résumé":

- ◆ Appointed by 2014-2015 District Governor John Clinton
- ◆ Replaces Sue Campbell as 19-B Director
- ◆ Home Club: Seattle Bituin Lions Club
- ◆ Lion since 1998
- ◆ Past District 19-B Governor (2012-13)
- ◆ Married to Ciony Caoili
- ◆ Has 2 children and 5 grandchildren
- ◆ Retired Boeing Engineer
- ◆ Retired Professional Engineer in Washington State
- ◆ MBA graduate of City University
- ◆ President of the Filipino Community of Seattle organization for 10 years
- ◆ Current President of the Pacific Asian Empowerment Program
- ◆ Has volunteered and participated in projects of Habitat for Humanity, "Gawad Kalinga" (Philippines), "iCARE", San Salvador & several homeless outreach events
- ◆ Former co-host of the "Bert & Bebot Radio Program"
- ◆ Speaks Tagalog, Visayan and German



Directors Bert Caoili (R) and Bill Miller do acuity testing at a Homeless Connect event.

## What's new at the NWLERC?

We're starting off the new Lions year with some long-awaited projects getting underway:

Plans and funding for a building expansion have been approved by our Board of Directors, and work has begun to provide secure, weather-proof storage via an addition to one side of the building. Also part of the renovation plans is the disconnection of the gas line and conversion to electricity for a new tankless water heater. Some other minor remodeling will include the removal of old dishwashers and replacement of some overhead light fixtures.

Also, the executive committee has started the process of setting up a new website, one that can be managed from our office computer. We've had a great website these past years, but it has been difficult to keep updated. We need a new Webmaster as well.



One unfortunate set-back: We have suspended our partnership with the Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women in Belfair. If our inventory of "raw stock" eyeglasses rises to a consistent level to support this program, we may be able to resume it again in the future.



# District C's High School Eyeglass Collection Contest Winner

Submitted by Bill Miller, District C Director

This spring, we contacted the North Thurston School District in Lacey about starting a contest to see which of the four high schools could collect the most pairs of glasses through the month of May. We provided customized collection boxes, featuring the school logos, to get them started.

I am very proud to announce the winner of the eyeglass collection contest:  
**South Sound High School.**

The contest plaque will remain at South Sound High School until next June, when we will determine the winner for the 2014-2015 school year. This will be a rotating plaque given each year to the winning school.

If this works out as well as we are hoping, then next September we will also include local elementary and middle schools.

If other Lions Clubs are interested in doing something like this, please contact me for information.

PZC Bill Miller, [bmiller4133@comcast.net](mailto:bmiller4133@comcast.net)



Director Bill Miller presents the winners' plaque to Principal Richard Yelenich, surrounded by SSHS students.

## NWLERC Trailer Coming to Ocean Shores

Start clearing out your garages and basements, and pack up all those donated eyeglasses to bring to the MD-19 Convention at Ocean Shores, October 16-18. Our NWLERC cargo trailer will be on hand to haul your donations back to the Lacey facility for processing.

Let's get those glasses on their way to helping people in need in developing countries!

## Send me your news for the FOCUS



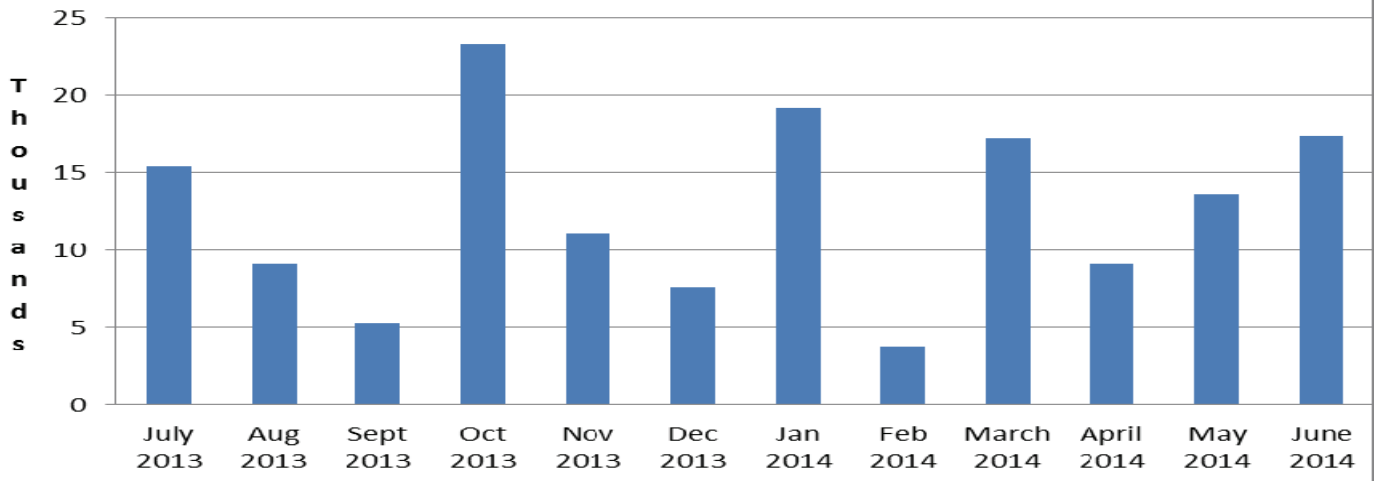
Thanks to everyone who makes my job easier by sending me information, articles, and photos for the monthly *Focus*.

Please send submissions to my **new email address**: [Jacq.Lion@comcast.net](mailto:Jacq.Lion@comcast.net) or call me with your ideas at 360.791.8789.

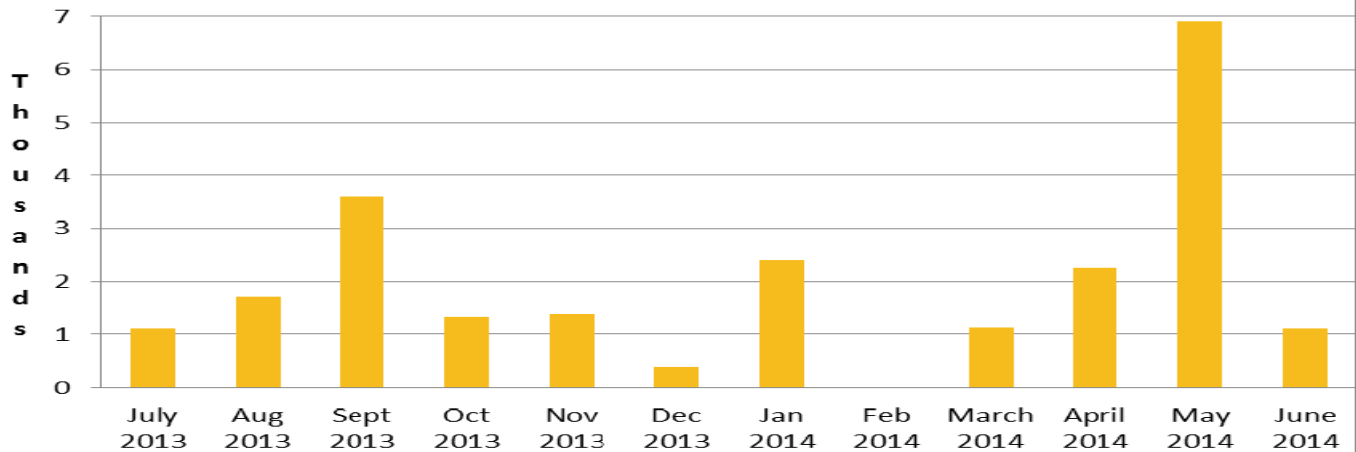
*Editor Jacqueline*

# 2013-2014 Statistics

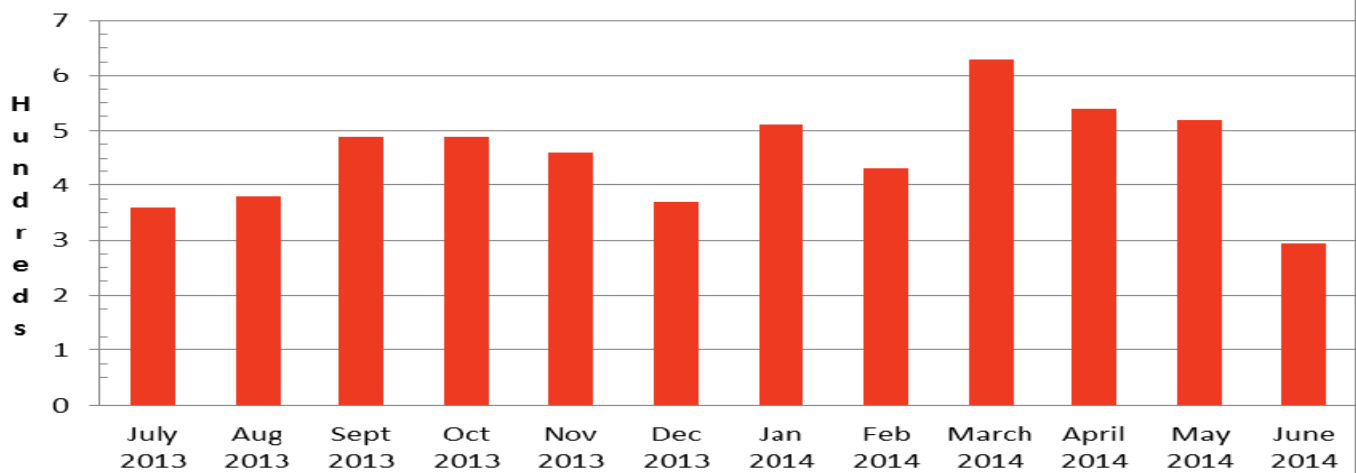
## Eyeglasses Received



## Eyeglasses to Missions



## Volunteer Hours at LERC



# Did Your Club Qualify for a Trifecta Award?

## Donations received last Lions year (July 1, 2013 — June 30, 2014)

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	* * * * *	Glasses	* * * * *
Bremerton Central Lions	Aberdeen	Lacey Sunrise	Rochester
Burlington Lions	Anacortes	Lake Chelan	Roy
Central Whidbey Lions	Arlington	Lake City	Salmon Creek
Coupeville Lions	Auburn	Lake Stevens	Seattle Bituin
Enumclaw Lions	Ballard	Lakewood First	Seattle Capitol Hill
Fife Lions	Battleground	Lakewood Knights	Seattle First Hill
Fort Vancouver Lions	Bellingham Central	Leavenworth	Seattle Hospitality
Greater Wenatchee SR Lions	Boistfort	Lewiston	Seattle Rainier
Kent Lions	Bonney Lake	Long Beach	Seattle University
Lacey Lamplighters Lions	Bremerton Central	Longview-Kelso Earlybirds	Sequim Valley
Lacey Midday Lions	Burien	Longview Monticello	Seven Lakes
Lacey Sunrise Lions	Camas	Longview Pioneer	Shelton
Lakewood First Lions	Castle Rock	Lopez Island	Shelton Morning Star
Lakewood First Lions	Central Park	Lyle	Silverdale Dandy
Leavenworth Lions	Central Whidbey	Mattawa Desert Aire	Skamania
Longview-Kelso Earlybirds	Chehalis	Mill Creek	Snohomish
Mattawa Desert Aire	Cody, WY Lions	Mineral Lake	Soap Lake
Medical Lake Lions	Columbia Crest	Monroe	Spanapark Early Risers
Mineral Lake Lions	Cosmopolis	Morton	Spanaway
North Mason Lions	Coupeville	Moscow	Spokane Central Satellite
Olympia Capitol City Lions	Des Moines	Moses Lake	Stanwood
Olympia Host Lions	Eatonville	Mount Rainier	South Whidbey
Olympia West Lions	Enumclaw	Mt. Si	Sultan Sky Valley
Othello Lions	Everett Central	North Clark	Sunnyside
Port Angeles Lions	Fairwood	North Mason	Tacoma Downtown
Port Orchard Lions	Federal Way Noon	North Whidbey	Tacoma Southeast
Poulsbo Evening Pride Lions	Fife	Oak Harbor	Terrace-Brier
Poulsbo Noon Lions	Fort Vancouver	Ocean Shores	Tonasket/Okanogan Valley
Puyallup Lions	Gig Harbor	Olympia Capitol City	Tulalip
Puyallup Valley Lions	Grand Coulee Dam	Olympia Host	Tumwater
Rainier Lions	Granite Falls	Olympia West	University Place
Renton Lions	Greater Bellevue	Orchards Evergreen	Vader
Salmon Creek Lions	Hazel Dell	Orting	Vancouver
Sequim Valley Lions	Hood Canal	Othello	Vancouver Dawn
Shelton Lions	Hoodsport	Pasco	Wahkiakum
Spanaway Lions	Ishikawa Lions, Japan	Port Angeles	Walla Walla Downtown
Spokane Suburban N. Lions	Kagoshima Lions, Japan	Port Orchard	Washougal
Sumner Lions	Kahlotus	Port Townsend	Wenatchee Central
Tacoma Southeast Lions	Kalama	Poulsbo	Wenatchee Sunrise
Tenino Lions	Kelso	Puyallup	Wenatchee Valley
Tumwater Lions	Kennewick	Puyallup South Hill	West Seattle
University Place Lions	Kent	Puyallup Valley	Winlock
Vancouver Lions	Key Peninsula	Quilcene	Woodinville
Waterville Lions	La Center	Quincy Valley	Woodland
Wenatchee Central Lions	Lacey Lamplighters	Rainier	Yakima
Wenatchee Valley Lions	Lacey Mid-day	Renton	Yelm
Berta Fender, Pat Zarp, Jeannie & Pat Phillips		Ridgefield	
Moses Lake Medical Team, iCARE, United Methodist Women of First United Methodist Church			

# Upcoming Events



Wednesday, July 9 NWLERC Exec./Staff Meeting, 10:00 am  
 Thursday, July 10 Snohomish Homeless Connect



“Fifth Week” Closures: July 29-31

## Executive Committee & Staff



As you can see on the list at left, we still need to fill some officer slots. More hands means we can spread the work around; more minds means new ideas; more Lions means more fun!

**Don Schmidt**  
President

**Pat Baron**  
VP-Operations

**vacant**  
VP-Outreach

**Sue Madsen**  
VP-Admin. (Stats)

**vacant**  
VP-Satellite Operations

**Hope Ramsdale**  
Recording Secretary

**Lyell Clark**  
Treasurer  
Procurement

**vacant**  
Communications / Website

**PZC Bob Pinson**  
**VGD John Kirry**  
Senior Advisors

**Pat Baron**  
Immediate Past President

**Cliff Brandsma**  
Volunteer Coordinator

**Pat Bucknell**  
Facilities Manager

**Jean Cook**  
**Berta Fender**  
Mission Coordinators

**Jack Ford**  
Site Manager Training  
Quality Assurance / Training

**PZC Bill Miller**  
Homeless Outreach Programs  
VOICE Program  
Youth Volunteer Coordinator

## Mission shipments, June 2014:

Romania - 120 pairs for Project Romania  
 Mexico - 1,000 pairs for VOSH Arizona

Key Statistics, June 30, 2014	THIS MONTH	THIS YEAR	PRIOR YEARS	SINCE 2004
Raw Eyeglasses Received	17,039	152,564	1,466,366	1,618,930
Eyeglasses to Missions	1,120	23,525	160,060	183,585
Volunteer Hours	294	5,405	43,141	48,546
Missions Supported	2	27	190	217
Mission-Ready Inventory	9,800			

**Northwest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center**  
 9013 Mullen Rd SE  
 Olympia WA 98513  
 360-923-2075  
[www.lionsnwlerc.org](http://www.lionsnwlerc.org)  
[admin@NorthwestLERC.comcastbiz.net](mailto:admin@NorthwestLERC.comcastbiz.net)



“Changing Lives.  
 One Pair of Eyeglasses at a Time.”