



Focus

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

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Founder

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A Note from President Don

Well we've made it through another month, and it has been interesting.

Immediate Past President Pat Baron has chosen to step down from her positions with LERC. Her contributions over the years are many and she will be missed. Currently our staff is doubling up to make up for her absence. Please consider becoming more involved in operating our facility and recruiting others to help us fill this and other vacant positions on our staff and Executive Committee.

Our new Annex is complete, and Mission Coordinators Jean and Berta are putting it to good use. I think they are enjoying their own space and seem to be utilizing it very well. It will work out well for all concerned because they are not having to compete for time and space with other operations. The rest of us just need to keep them supplied with glasses. Operations Manager Pat Bucknell is now exploring heating options. I think he has a workable system, but long-range options are still being considered.

We are once again working with the students from the North Thurston Public Schools V.O.I.C.E. program. This is a program that helps students with special needs learn job skills after graduation. Students are in the program from the time they graduate until age 21. These students go to several businesses and learn how to work with others, take direction from supervisors, punctuality, and focusing on their tasks. From this program they move on to Morningside where many have found employment. We have had some students for multiple years and really get to know them.

(Cont. on Page 2)



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



Replenishing

Mission Feedback — Peru

The Hope Alliance, based in Utah, performs several vision clinics in remote areas of the world each year. These pictures are from their trip to Peru in July, with information from a mission report posted on their website.

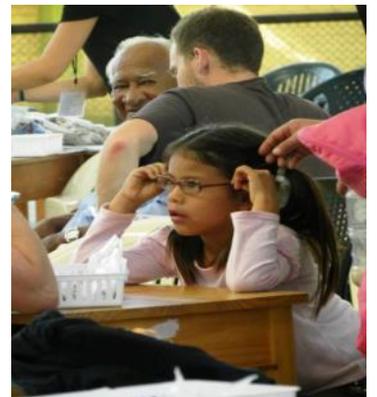
A group of 19 volunteers traveled to the northern region of Piura, Peru to conduct five days of vision clinics throughout under-served and rural communities. We collaborated with the Regional Government of Piura, the Northern Ophthalmologic Foundation and an organization by the name of HELP International. Accompanying us was a local optometrist from Brigham City, Dr. Bill Harrison, and his wife and daughter. Additional trip participants were from the Park City and Salt Lake City area.



In the small town of La Matanza, local volunteers and policemen greeted us with a warm welcome, as they were eager to help us. Many people were already lined up outside the large, municipal stadium when we arrived around 8:30 a.m. The elders of the community held much respect from the locals as they were pushed to the front of line to be seen first.



In Frias, we dispersed sunglasses to the young adults in hopes of preventing pterygium. Also, if individuals came in and they did not need glasses we would give them a pair of sunglasses and explain the benefits of protecting their eyes. Many older ladies had walked distances of over two hours to make it to the clinic. It was amazing to see their delight in a new pair of glasses. Schoolchildren from the local elementary school were also seen. The first day in Frias we saw 355 people and the next day, during the half-day of clinic, we were still able to see 275 people that morning.



In Huarmaca, everyone worked extremely hard and we saw a whopping 481 people, to bring our trip total to 1,537 patients served. All of our sunglasses had been given out as were many reading glasses.

More from Prez Don (cont. from p. 1)

The Lions MD-19 Annual Fall Convention is this month and I am looking forward, with some trepidation, to our Board of Directors meeting. Not having attended one before, it should be interesting. I foresee some serious challenges for the Northwest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center.

Currently our supply of glasses is pretty good, thanks to our satellites and Lions Clubs throughout MD-19. This is how Lions outside of the local area contribute to keeping us going — **Thank You**. Lions in the South Sound, please consider contributing time to our LERC. It only takes half a dozen club members to work one day a month and we can fill the calendar.

Thanks to all, be it glasses or time, we need and appreciate both.

LERC's Perfect Lensometer Technicians

In recent weeks, our Lens Techs have become more expert than ever. Just look at these statistics:

Week ending	Total glasses submitted for quality assurance	Errors
9/21	146	1
9/28	272	0
10/4	300	1



This level of accuracy is amazing. Every pair of eyeglasses is important to the people around the world who are receiving them. **Keep up the good work!**

District B Director Bert on Jamaica Mission

From his Facebook post:

I arrived yesterday (10/3) in Jamaica for the annual "iCARE" (i="eye") mission. We hope to serve the young and elderly Jamaicans by checking their vision and health. As in past years (3rd time) I do the Acuity Test. We then give them prescription glasses and sunglasses.

I am staying with two other participants here in the beautiful Sandals Whitehouse Resort. Today (Saturday) is briefing day. Tomorrow, Sunday, we set-up the clinic (about 1 hour drive away), and on Monday, volunteer work begins in earnest.

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 Jacq.Lion@comcast.net or call me with your ideas at 360.791.8789.

Editor Jacqueline

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, Oct. 8 NWLERC Exec./Staff Meeting, 10:00 am
 Friday, Oct. 17, 2:30 Annual Board of Directors Mtg, Ramada Board Room,
 Ocean Shores (in conjunction with the MD-19 Lions Convention)
 "Fifth Week" Closures: Wed-Fri, Oct. 29-31



Executive Committee & Staff

Don Schmidt
President

vacant
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
DG John Kirry
Senior Advisors

Pat Baron
Immediate Past President

Cliff Brandsma
Volunteer Coordinator

ZC 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



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!

Mission shipment, September 2014:

MaLawi - 792 pairs for Action International Ministry

Key Statistics, Sept. 30, 2014	THIS MONTH	THIS YEAR	PRIOR YEARS	SINCE 2004
Raw Eyeglasses Received	9,636	40,524	1,618,930	1,659,454
Eyeglasses to Missions	792	4,817	183,585	188,402
Volunteer Hours	547	1,606	48,546	50,152
Missions Supported	1	5	217	222
Mission-Ready Inventory	8,450			

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