



Focus

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

SEPTEMBER 2014

EDITOR: JACQUELINE NELSON

PZC Dr. Bob Pinson
Founder

2014-2015 Directors

District B
PDG Bert Caoili
Seattle Bituin Lions Club
kuyabert@comcast.net

District C
PZC Bill Miller
Lacey Sunrise Lions Club
bmiller4133@comcast.net

District D
Russ Fineman
Moses Lake Lions Club
upscope@nwi.net

District E
PZC John Wilson
Spokane Central Lions Club
lion.jwilson@gmail.com

District F
PZC Sam Clayton
Pasco Lions Club
sj.kaclayton@gmail.com

District G
PZC Kerby Kee
Longview-Kelso Earlybirds
kerby912kee@hotmail.com

District H
Paul Whelan
Central Whidbey Lions Club
kapaws@comcast.net

District I
PZC Jeannie Phillips
Sequim Lions Club
ljeanniep39@gmail.com

A Note from President Don

I have said that my goals are to increase our number of volunteers and to maintain a constant supply of eyeglasses. These goals are interdependent because we can't have one without the other.

Things are looking pretty good. We have a few new volunteers who responded to our published requests, so that is a start. Please spread the word to let people know we have an opportunity for all to volunteer. We have received over 100 boxes of glasses from satellites, so we have "raw stock" to process.

We now have to continue in both categories. Our organization and facility are capable of handling more glasses if we have more volunteers. There is lots of time available on our schedule, so let's get more people and process more glasses.

I see the Northwest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center serving two purposes. Obviously our main reason for existence is to supply eyeglasses. I am seeing something else we are doing for our immediate community — providing an opportunity for members of that community to volunteer their time in a meaningful and satisfying way. About half of our current volunteers are not Lions members. They have all been invited to join, but not pressured. These people simply like to volunteer their time doing something they enjoy and feel good about doing.

(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

Save the Date — KCECC Satellite Work Party

The King County Eyeglass Collection Center is having an Eyeglass Sorting Party on **Saturday, September 20th.**

This is a FUN FUN event! We start promptly at 9 am with sorting, cleaning, drying, and packing. Coffee, tea, juice, and doughnuts are available free of charge. **And all volunteers finish and walk out the door by 12:00 noon!**



What a great way to spend a morning and help provide a much needed service! Plus, it's just good fun and we get to know and visit with Lions from other clubs. **Come and find out how many Lions clubs are represented!**

Bring a friend or family member as you don't have to be a Lion to attend (this is an excellent way to show potential members what Lionism is all about).

Who: KCECC
What: Eyeglass Sorting Party
When: Saturday, September 20, 2014, 9:00 a.m. to noon
Where: Seattle-Rainier Lions Club, 37112 S. Ferdinand Street, Seattle, 98118

There is a public parking lot just east of Rainier Ave on S. Ferdinand & 39th Ave S.

If you're coming north on Rainier Ave S., turn right at S. Ferdinand

If you're coming south on Rainier Ave S., turn left at S. Ferdinand

Please RSVP to: *Vicki Harris* *Woody Davis*
vickiharris427@msn.com wdavis921@msn.com

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

I want our Lions Clubs and satellites that are not in close proximity to realize how important your support is. **Thank you.** Obviously you cannot all participate in the final steps that prepare glasses for shipment, but if the clubs and satellites in MD-19 didn't provide us with glasses, we would be shut down. Please tell us if you have any ideas to make things more efficient or easier for our satellites.

On the 23rd of August we enjoyed recognizing our volunteers with a barbeque lunch at the LERC facility. I think a good time was had by all. It is important to recognize and thank our volunteers, but it also provided an opportunity to get together and get to know each other.

We are doing OK, but please offer everyone you know the opportunity to volunteer and keep the glasses coming.

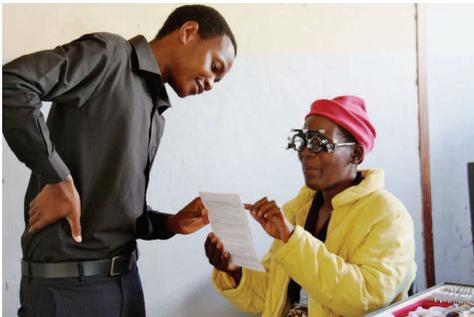
Mission Feedback — Malawi 2014

Information provided by Caroline Diehl and Dr. Serge Wright



The Malawi mission is a joint effort of Verde Valley High School in Sedona, AZ and Sedona Oak Creek Canyon Lions Club. The students have been working in Malawi since 2006. The Lions joined the project in 2012. Their partner in Malawi is Dr. Khumbo Kalua of the Lions Sight First Eye Hospital in Blantyre.

Dr. Kalua was instrumental in setting up the free clinics in Blantyre, Zomba and Chiradzulu. In these areas there is great need; access by children is a priority. The free clinics are open to adults and children in need.



The pictures were taken at Blantyre Lions Eye Hospital, specialty clinic for low vision children, and at the Zomba clinic.



The NWLERC connection to this ongoing mission was made by Jan Weatherly, District 19C's 2nd Vice District Governor, while on vacation in Arizona.

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!

NWLERC's New Addition — Step by Step

Submitted by Pat Bucknell, Facilities Coordinator (in photo, bottom left)

In November 2013 it was suggested we should add an addition to the LERC building for storage and additional work space. After much research and discussion over five months, the executive committee decided to go ahead with the project, with approval by the board of directors.

We started the permit process in March, with Frank Kirkbride helping us with plans and drawings. We went to Thurston County and had problems with the septic tank. A+ Septic came in and fixed the problems. At that point the county said we needed an as-built drawing of the site showing where the septic and drain fields were located. Jim Hunter, of Hunter and Associates, drew up additional plans showing an as-built of the system and the county finally gave us the needed permit. It took four months to get through this process and finally, on June 19th, construction started. Digging for forms was started and on June 26th the forms were installed. After the inspector OK, on July 10th we poured concrete. On July 15th, with the concrete in place, the forms were removed and the building process was started. Randy Harris and Pat Bucknell built the outside wall and members of the Lacey Sunrise Lions Club helped stand the wall up on July 24th.



At this point I could see a bunch of old Lions (average age was 70+) were not going to be able to take this project any further. I started looking for some help and went to Tanglewilde Lumber to see if they knew someone. They directed me to Mike Salby, MSC Construction, and Mike Orbitz. Mike Orbitz sent over his lead carpenter and he worked one day at NO COST. Mr. Orbitz paid the \$450 bill for the carpenter.

MSC Construction started work on August 1st, and by August 5th they had all the building done.

Working on a special deal that Don Schmidt found, we got a new roof put on the entire building.



After spending a couple days trying to find someone to install insulation in the building, Turner Insulation called and asked if we were ready. I was real lucky; I had received an estimate from them a week earlier and one of their jobs was cancelled. This was on August 15th and was done in 4 hours. The next day Unique Dry-wall moved in, installing 5/8" drywall, tape and mud.



On August 21st the most recent activity for Boy Scouts was at the LERC, where 7 Scouts helped paint the new addition. The Scouts worked a total of 35 hours, with 5 hours of service given to each Scout. This was under the leadership of John Tulloch, who paints houses as a side job. John and the Scouts will be back to paint the inside.



This has been a lot of work, but the first bid we got to come in and build the addition was \$32,000 and at this time we are under \$11,000!

LERC's 15 Satellites

District B

KING COUNTY EYEGLOSS COLLECTION CENTER (KCECC)

Chair: Donald Harris

DonHarris396@hotmail.com; 425-656-0707 (w)

Record Keeper Vicki Harris: vickiharris427@msn.com

7-LERC SATELLITE

Chair: John Flesher

joanflesher@outlook.com; 360-654-1332

District C

KENT LIONS CLUB SATELLITE

Chair: Mike Lanxon

michaellanxon@msn.com; 253-852-7233

GIG HARBOR SATELLITE

Chair: Joe Morales

joemm@centurytel.net; 253-858-8109

POULSBO NOON LIONS SATELLITE

Chair: Mike Regis (no email) 360-779-8330

District D

MOSES LAKE SATELLITE

Chair: Dist. D Director Russ Fineman

upscope@nwi.net; 509-707-0043

WENATCHEE CENTRAL SATELLITE

Chair: Patti Sparks

pjsparkler@aol.com; 509-888-1539

District E

SPOKANE CENTRAL SATELLITE

Chair: Dist. E Director John Wilson

lionjwilson@gmail.com; 509-466-8850

District F

ELLENSBURG LIONS SATELLITE

Chair: April Forgey

emailaprilk@gmail.com; 509-607-6187

PASCO SATELLITE

Chair: Dist. F Director Sam Clayton

sj.kaclayton@gmail.com; 509-531-6835

District G

CENTRAL PARK LIONS SATELLITE

Chair: JoAnn Patton joApatt@aol.com; 360-533-2819

LONGVIEW SATELLITE

Chair: Dist. G Director Kerby Kee

kerby912kee@hotmail.com; 360-4253680

FORT VANCOUVER LIONS SATELLITE

Chair: Stephen Staudinger:

ssstaudinger@comcast.net; 360-882-3802

District H

OAK HARBOR LIONS SATELLITE

Chair: Charlene VanCleave

voptical@aol.com; 360-632-6848 /360-679-2551

BELLINGHAM CENTRAL SATELLITE

Chair: Ken Henderson: 360-739-6751

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 or call me with your ideas at 360.791.8789.

Editor Jacqueline

Upcoming Events



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



Executive Committee & Staff

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
VDC 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



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 shipments, August 2014:

Mexico - 1,575 pairs for VOSH Arizona

El Salvador - 1,700 pairs for Peace Health

Key Statistics, August 30, 2014	THIS MONTH	THIS YEAR	PRIOR YEARS	SINCE 2004
Raw Eyeglasses Received	21,878	30,888	1,618,930	1,649,818
Eyeglasses to Missions	3,275	4,025	183,585	187,610
Volunteer Hours	550	1,059	48,546	49,605
Missions Supported	2	4	217	221
Mission-Ready Inventory	8,150			

Northwest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center
 9013 Mullen Rd SE
 Olympia WA 98513
 360-923-2075
www.lionsnwlerc.org
admin@NorthwestLERC.comcastbiz.net



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