



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
PZC Carl Montgomery
Wenatchee Central Lions Club
cmontgomery48@yahoo.com

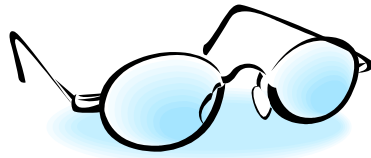
District E
PZC John Wilson
Spokane Central Lions Club
lion.jwilson@gmail.com

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
Patti Easterling
Bellingham Central Lions Club
pattieasterling@gmail.com

District I
Diane Neubert -Dooley
Sequim Valley Lions Club
diane_neubert@yahoo.com



Focus

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

FALL 2015

EDITOR: JACQUELINE NELSON

A Note from President Don

Things are going well this summer. We haven't really had a slowdown in volunteers. Although some of our valued crew have vacations and other things going on, we are carrying on.

We are fortunate to have several high school students this summer. While they are meeting their requirements for community service they seem enjoy it, and I like to think that later in life they will remember the experience and serve others. Who knows, we may be grooming future Lions!

We have new community volunteers and several Lions Clubs are spending time with us. We ask clubs to give us a day a month (3 hours plus travel). I know we have groups who travel an hour or more each way to contribute their time once or twice a month. We value their contribution and I think they enjoy doing it. There are many Lions that are in the 30- to 40-minute travel time. If they each gave us 3 hours a month, we would be booming. Please consider it.

On August 8th we enjoyed our volunteer appreciation gathering. Grillmaster and Senior Advisor Bob Pinson was kept hopping, providing sumptuous burgers, dogs and corn for about 40 of our valued volunteers and supporters. Special thanks to Roberta Pinson, Berta Fender and Jody Taylor for all of their efforts to get us fed. Our guests contributed enough salads, sides and munchies that I am sure no one went hungry.

Bob made special presentations to volunteers and staff to acknowledge their contributions. IPP Pat Baron was traveling, so Berta Fender made some special presentations to staff on her behalf. I am the proud recipient of the *KICK ASS AWARD!* With a note "for a prez who was pretty much on his own!" Thank you Pat, but I haven't been on my own. I admit to being pretty clueless when I accepted my current position, but with the help and support of everyone involved we have managed to keep the doors open.



(cont. on p. 2)

Got a question for Pres. Don? Email him at northwestlerc@gmail.com.

Mission Feedback — Marshall Islands

Submitted by Missions Coordinator Berta Fender

Canvasback Missions is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that has worked since 1981 to bring otherwise unavailable specialty healthcare and health education to the islands of Micronesia. Their recent mission report included the following:



Our latest ophthalmology clinic to Majuro, Marshall Islands, in May was a great success! Thanks to our wonderful team of optometrists, ophthalmologists, and clinic assistants, we were able to see 429 patients and perform 190 cataract surgeries. In addition to cataract surgeries, our team performed 189 A-scans and 619 refractions.

 CANVASBACK MISSIONS, INC.



Hi there,
Thank you so much for all the help you have given us and the Marshall Islands! Most recently, our ophthalmology clinic was able to see 429 patients, do 190 cataract surgeries, and provide over \$447,000 in services in two weeks. We couldn't have done it without your help! Enclosed is a small token of our appreciation.
Thanks again, Jaylene Chung

840 Adams St., Suite R | Benicia, CA 94610
(707) 746-7828 | (800) 769-7245 | www.canvasback.org

Other individuals who came to our clinic were able to receive reading glasses, sunglasses, and prescriptions to maintain the health of their eyes. Of course, we would not have been able to accomplish this level of success on our own; generous donations by Alcon Laboratories, Bausch and Lomb, Matson Lines, Northwest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center, See International, and Triple J made it all possible! Thanks to the contributions of businesses, organizations, and individuals, we were able to make a big impact in the lives of people of the Marshall Islands.



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

Thank you also to all of you throughout Multiple District 19 who collect glasses. You may not be on site, but what you contribute makes you valued volunteers of the Northwest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center.

We are now preparing for the MD-19 Fall Convention — reserving rooms, preparing displays to promote and inform Lions about what the Northwest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center is and what we do. I may not be able to attend this event, but I am sure we will be well represented.

Once again, thank you to Lions near and far for your continued support. I think I understand and appreciate the efforts of Lions throughout our MD that keep us supplied with eyeglasses for processing. And, again, I repeat that if you are in our neighborhood, please contact me for a tour of the facility.



Volunteer Spotlight: Johnson Family



Shown here are Dad Eric Johnson, his daughter, 11-year-old Maaike, and nephew Ryan Damitio, also 11 years old. Eric explains he was looking for opportunities to introduce the children to community service. He is familiar with NWLERC, as a North Thurston School District VOICE job coach.

Performing several activities at LERC, Eric, Maaike, and Ryan make up a fun, enthusiastic, and very productive work group! We are lucky to have them come in on a regular basis.

Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

FOOD!! FUN!! AWARDS!! A good time was had by all!



President Don getting ready



Founder Bob Pinson presents award to long-time volunteer Jean Cook



Pres. Don still at work; Founder Bob making sure everyone has enough to eat

Update from District I

Submitted by Director Diane Neubert-Dooley

As the new Director for District 19-I, I am still learning the ropes. Thank you to Lions Bill Miller, Pat Phillips, and Ron Reiersen for all of your input and knowledge.

My first goal has been getting eyeglass collection site information from all of our clubs to be included on the NWLERC website. I have all but 2 clubs' lists so far. Lion Mike Dukes, our zone chairperson, has reported that his club, Clallam Bay, is putting together a plan to establish more collection sites in that area. I will help my clubs with establishing and expanding collection sites, contact information for transporting, and any other issues that they may have for their areas.

I am working on getting new boxes with labels to each club. Lion Pat Phillips has been very helpful in this effort in our Sequim Valley Club site locations.

I am planning to meet with each club to give the PowerPoint presentation that Lion Bill Miller designed and gave to our Sequim Valley Club. This is a wonderful tool, and really got our members excited about what LERC is doing. I hope to get each club just as excited to be a part of this wonderful group.

Student's Donation in District C

Submitted by Director Bill Miller

Gabrielle Wilkinson, a sophomore at Rainier High School, presents a check for **\$1,035** to Director Bill Miller for the NWLERC.



She raised funds by gathering a team of adults and students to run the concessions at a local flat track race.

She is blessed to be able to do a small part in helping bring the gift of sight to others.

A Visit to District H's Summer Social

Submitted by VP Ron Reiersen



On Sunday, August 16th, Ron Reiersen (VP Outreach/Satellite Ops) visited the Summer Social at the home of District H Governor Don Wight, near Bellingham.

New District H Director Patti Easterling attended, as well as the DG's cabinet officers.

VP Ron also brought back over 1600 eyeglasses from the satellite there.

"Don is a gracious host and, along with our new Director Patti, is solidly behind our work to increase eyeglass donations in District H. I was able to meet many of his cabinet officers as well. It was a nice day," Ron says.

Dir. Patti, VP Ron, DG Don

District G's Central Park Satellite

Ron Reiersen (VP- Outreach/Satellite Ops) picked up several boxes of eyeglasses from Satellite Manager Joanne Patton, of the Central Park Lions Club. Joanne was volunteering at the DOT Rest Area near Elma when VP Ron stopped to visit her "coffee and cookies" fundraiser.

"Joanne has been a driving force in eyeglass collection in Zone G-3, and a Lion since '99. In addition, she has brought in TEN members over the years", Ron says.

Joanne was able to donate 941 pairs between Central Park and Cosmopolis clubs. THANK YOU!

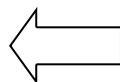


Action Plans in District E

On Tuesday, July 14th, Ron Reiersen (VP - Outreach/Satellite Ops) visited the Spokane Central Lions Club during one of their luncheon meetings. Speaking briefly to them, Ron emphasized the need for renewed thinking about donations to NWLERC and challenged them to find ways to increase donations.

Later that day, VP Ron met with District Governor Bob Yeoman and Director John Wilson at a dinner meeting, during which they discussed specific action plans to DOUBLE the collection of eyeglasses this fiscal year. Bob and John make a great team and are agreed on what can be done to make this happen. "DG Bob and Director John are working well as a team, and will be able to reach these goals" Ron said.

VP Ron was able to visit the District E Satellite later, meeting Lion Joy Otis and her husband Mike, who chair the eyeglass efforts in District E. Ron picked up 11 boxes of well-marked and sorted eyeglasses...nearly 3,000 pairs, for transport back to NWLERC.



L-R: DG Bob Yeoman, VP Ron Reiersen, Director John Wilson

Satellite Chair Joy Otis handing off a box of eyeglasses to VP Ron Reiersen



"It was great to be with such dedicated Lions, who are at the outermost parts of our Multiple District and sometimes don't feel much connected with us in Olympia", Ron said. "I hope to change that perception with more frequent visits and help with transport of boxes as well".

Lions Eyeglass Donations to Satellites

A reminder to every Lions Club that donates eyeglasses to one of our satellites: Contributing to your local satellite is a great way to get your collected glasses to us, but we want to be sure each club is recognized for its contribution. We can't do that unless you provide information on your club, sent along with the glasses. The satellite needs each club name and number of glasses donated so that information can be supplied to LERC with satellite shipments. There's an eyeglass donation form on our website at www.lionsnwlerc.org, or you can design your own. Our clubs do a great job collecting and you deserve credit for that good work, so remember to provide that information to your satellite. Thank you.

District B Activities

Submitted by Dir. Bert Caoili

1. **Transition Fair**, Friday, Sept. 18 from 9 am - 1 pm, at the Holly Park Community Center. The event is designed to help former inmates get back into society. Seattle Bituin Lions Club members are planning to do acuity tests, and hand out sunglasses and perhaps readers, too.
2. **KCECC Eyeglass Sorting Party** - All volunteers are invited to this event on Saturday, October 3, 9 am - noon at the Seattle-Rainier Lions Club, 37112 S. Ferdinand St, Seattle 98118.
3. **2015 iCARE Mission** - Dir. Bert will be participating in Great Shape's 2015 iCARE Mission in Jamaica, October 8-20.
4. **Seattle-King County Homeless Outreach** - Volunteers are still needed for this event that will be held at Key Arena, October 22-25. VOSH continues to "desperately" look for volunteer eye doctors!

NWLERC Trailer Coming to MD-19 Convention!



Lions Clubs International has proclaimed their *Worldwide Week of Service in Sight* for October 4-10.

If your club doesn't have a specific project planned, this would be a great time to ask friends and neighbors to donate their old glasses, to empty all those eyeglass collection boxes, and to pack up the bags and boxes of glasses sitting in your basement or garage.

Then bring them all to Pasco to the MD-19 Annual Convention and get them on their way to helping people in need all around the world.

Send me your news for the FOCUS

Thanks to everyone who gives me articles, photos, and ideas for the newsletter!

Please send submissions to Jacq-Lion@comcast.net or call me at 360.791.8789.

Editor Jacqueline



NWLERC Schedule



Exec./Staff Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the Month, 10:00 am
 Board of Directors Mtg: Fri, 10/16, 10:45 am, MD-19 Fall Convention in Pasco
 Holiday Closures: Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, Memorial Day, Independence Day
 Weekly Closures: Friday - Sunday, Weekdays on 5th week of the month



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Don Schmidt
President

PZC Pat Bucknell
VP-Operations

Ron Reiersen
VP-Outreach
VP-Satellite Operations

vacant
VP-Admin. / Stats

Hope Ramsdale
Recording Secretary

Lyell Clark
Treasurer / Procurement

vacant
Communications

PZC Bob Pinson
PDG John Kirry
Senior Advisors

Pat Baron
Immediate Past President

STAFF

Cliff Brandsma
Volunteer Coord. / QA

PZC Pat Bucknell
Facilities Manager

Jean Cook
Website

Berta Fender, Jody Taylor
Mission Coordinators

Jack Ford
Site Manager Training
Quality Assurance / Training

PZC Bill Miller
Homeless Outreach Programs
VOICE Program
Youth Volunteer Coordinator

Mission shipments, July-Sept 2015:

Bolivia 1029 pair for Etta Project

El Salvador 1035 pair for Lions of El Salvador

Key Statistics, May 30, 2015	THIS MONTH	THIS YEAR	PRIOR YEAR	SINCE 2004
Raw Eyeglasses Received				792,992
Eyeglasses Recycled			1,085	193,659
Volunteer Hours	574	5,303	48,546	53,867
Missed Appointments	0	16	217	233
Mission-Ready Inventory	16,050			

HELP WANTED

We need a new Keeper of the Stats
 Input the numbers into a spreadsheet, and the computer does the math. Please contact Pres. Don to volunteer, northwestlerc@gmail.com.

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



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