



PZC Dr. Bob Pinson
Founder

2017-2018 Directors

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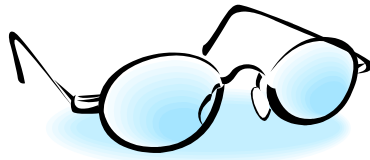
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Focus

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

FALL 2017

EDITOR: JACQUELINE NELSON

A Note from President Kerby

It is nice to see summer gone, and cool and wet weather returning. We have been busy at LERC with glasses coming in from other states. We had glasses come from Wyoming and Montana. I will tell you we had a great year with 259,205 glasses donated. We sent 23,452 glasses on 29 missions to different parts of the world. To all, give yourself a pat on the back. You deserve it.



We had a great volunteer picnic in August; Lions and volunteers were there and awards were presented. Next year we will have a database so we can contact everyone for events.

We received good news a few weeks ago. The county and state could not find any gophers on two occasions on our property. We can now have our property surveyed and the architect will prepare drawings for our new building. We have only one year to break ground or we would have to start the process all over.

This last spring the Order of the Eastern Star approached us about collecting glasses as a project. We presented them with 100 collection boxes and they will be busy filling them. It is good to see other organizations wanting to help us.

We will be at the MD-19 Annual Convention in Surrey, B.C., from the 12th thru the 14th of October, where we will have our annual Board of Directors meeting. We have changes to the Bylaws that we need to vote on, and the Directors will also go over our budget for approval.

Got a question for Pres. Kerby? Email him at kerby912kee@hotmail.com.

Mission Feedback — Mexicali

Excerpts from a report submitted by Paula Mihok, Central Whidbey Lions Club

Working together for 40 years, Rotarians and Lions Clubs have been serving the community of Mexicali. "Joining Forces" is not a new concept to our clubs! Teams providing construction and medical services... at the same time, allowing every volunteer to participate fully with the skill set they have to offer. The original core of volunteers now extends to their families, children, and grandchildren!



This year was OUTSTANDING! Used playground equipment was recycled from Whidbey Island through the Central Whidbey Lions, with the support of the Sunrise Escondido Rotary. 400 pair of eyeglasses and cases were provided by the Northwest Lions Eye-glass Recycling Center. Transportation expenses, medical supplies, construction, paint, sports equipment, and toys were also donated from individuals, corporations, and clubs. If that wasn't enough, Beta testing a diagnostic tool for amblyopia (lazy eye") was also conducted.

This year is our Centennial Celebration for Lions Clubs International. We were fortunate that our project included recycling on an international scale, as well as vision and other health services. Patients of all ages were provided vision, dental, podiatric, energy medicine and acutonics care, as well as veterinary services.

Spring Break for the school started 2 weeks prior to the service project. The school rooms and courtyard provided areas for the medical teams to work. An empty field next to the courtyard was surveyed and prepared for the playground equipment.



Our hosts, the Calafia Rotary of Mexicali, provided countless hours of equipment restoration. Their generous support of additional medical services, transportation, a cement mixer, meals and refreshments throughout the weekend made it possible.



A local Cub Scout Troop and Calafia Rotary families also provided labor and translation services.

The outpouring of service was amazing!

THE GREAT NWLERC APPRECIATION PICNIC

Lots of food, lots of fun, and lots of fellowship was on hand at our picnic on August 5th!

Grill Meister Dennis Reed kept the burgers and hot dogs coming, and the amount and variety of potluck goodies was excellent. Nobody went away hungry, that's for sure.

And it wasn't just the food that was appreciated. Awards were given out to our outstanding LERC volunteers who were present, and will be delivered to those who weren't.

Certificates of Appreciation: Iris Young, Eydie Vargas, Bernice Beck, Jan Goebel, Berta Fender, Malena Hine, Bob Pinson, Roberta Pinson, Bob Wright, Kerby Kee, Ed Taylor, Jody Taylor, Peter Ingersoll, and Cheri Ingersoll (plus about 100 more who weren't there)

"Dedicated Site Manager" trophies: Judy Ann Bergvall, Linda Bennett, John Calhoun, Marion Christianson, George Spencer, Tim Johnson, and Darrell Weaver

Judy Ann
Malena
Jody
Berta



Roberta, Iris, Eydie, Bernice



Don
Peter
Lynn
Cheri

"Outstanding Community Volunteer": Lynn Christensen

"Outstanding Service": VP Outreach Ron Reiersen, Homeless Connect Coordinator Bill Miller, and Focus Editor Jacqueline Nelson

Ed
Ron
Bob
Don
Pat



Pat, Jacqueline, Kerby

Founders Fellowship Award:
Cliff Brandsma



Lyell
Cliff

THANK YOU!!

Ex-VP Ron Visits Key Peninsula Lions Club

Submitted by Ron Reiersen, Former VP - Outreach/Satellite Operations

On July 5th, Ron Reiersen spoke to the Key Peninsula Lions about NWLERC. A nice "pot-luck" dinner was provided at the fire station in Key Center where the club meets.

Although out of office, it was deemed appropriate to speak to them about our needs, plans and operations. Many of their members are no strangers to NWLERC, volunteering regularly. For the others, however, it seemed to be enlightening to them, and they were appreciative of Ron's short talk.

Here's a picture of (former) VP Ron with President Bill Jones at the meeting.



Ron also reports that he spent a lot of his summer preparing for, and moving to, a condo in University Place. We wish him the best of luck in his new place!

Bill Miller "Retires" from LERC

After 8 years, and countless volunteer hours, Bill Miller has decided to leave our LERC workforce.

He was a well-known representative of NWLERC, our District C Director for 2012-2016, and traveled throughout District 19C (and beyond) to give PowerPoint presentations to many Lions Clubs. In addition to the usual eyeglass processing tasks, he helped set up the VOICE student volunteer program seven years ago, coordinated 23 homeless outreach events, and designed the labels for our cardboard eyeglass collection boxes. He estimates he sorted almost 1.5 million pairs of eyeglasses!

The NWLERC officers and staff are so grateful for Bill's many years of dedicated service. He will definitely be missed.

Something Fishy...



Submitted by Senior Advisor John Kirry

At the September staff meeting, President Kerby Kee shows off his new friend.

Bob Wright presented the 21-cent goldfish to Kerby at the meeting after repeated requests to "bring me some fish."

Bob spends a lot of time fishing during the summer. This is all he had for Kerby.

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 (No mtg in Oct)

Holiday Closures: Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, Memorial Day,
Independence Day, Labor Day

Weekly Closures: Friday - Sunday, Weekdays on 5th week of the month

Board of Directors Mtg: Saturday, Oct. 14, 10:45 am, at MD-19 Convention in Surrey



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PZC Kerby Kee
President

Bob Wright
VP-Operations

Patti Makinen
VP-Communications / PR

vacant
VP-Outreach
VP-Satellite Operations

Hope Ramsdale
VP-Admin.
Recording Secretary / Stats

Lyell Clark
Treasurer / Procurement

Don Schmidt
Immediate Past President

PZC Bob Pinson
PDG John Kirry
Pat Baron
Senior Advisors

Pat Baron
Website

STAFF

Cliff Brandsma
PDG Ed Taylor
Volunteer Coord. / QA

Don Schmidt
Facilities Manager
VOICE Program

Berta Fender
Jody Taylor
Malena Hine
Mission Coordinators

Jack Ford
Bob Wright
PDG Ed Taylor
Quality Assurance / Training
Site Manager Training

vacant
Homeless Outreach Programs

Mission Shipments, June – August:

Mexico - 834 pairs for Venture Missions

Kenya - 470 pairs + 300 suns + 400 hard cases
for IPLEAA International

Bolivia - 500 readers + 280 soft cases for Etta Project

Key Statistics as of 8/30/17	July-August	THIS YEAR	SINCE 2004
Raw Eyeglasses Received	21,320	21,320	2,227,107
Eyeglasses to Missions	500	500	237,014
Volunteer Hours	1,008	1,008	73,988
Missions Supported	1	1	285
Mission-Ready Inventory	12,800		

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Olympia WA 98513
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admin@NorthwestLERC.comcastbiz.net



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One Pair of Eyeglasses at a Time.”