



# Focus

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

SPRING 2018

EDITOR: JACQUELINE NELSON

**PZC Dr. Bob Pinson**  
Founder

### 2017-2018 Directors

District B  
**PCC Jim Knight**  
Arlington Lions Club  
[j-dknight@comcast.net](mailto:j-dknight@comcast.net)

District C  
**Judy Ann Bergvall**  
Lacey Sunrise Lions Club  
[judyannbergvall@comcast.net](mailto:judyannbergvall@comcast.net)

District D  
**Patti Sparks**  
Wenatchee Central Lions Club  
[pjsparkler5652@gmail.com](mailto:pjsparkler5652@gmail.com)

District E  
**Joy Otis**  
Spokane Central Lions Club  
[joy@frpfinancial.com](mailto:joy@frpfinancial.com)

District F  
**PZC Sam Clayton**  
Pasco Lions Club  
[sj.kaclayton@gmail.com](mailto:sj.kaclayton@gmail.com)

District G  
**Dick Woods**  
Willapa Harbor Lions Club  
[woodsie550@comcast.net](mailto:woodsie550@comcast.net)

District H  
**Patti Easterling**  
Bellingham Harborview Lions  
[pattieasterling@gmail.com](mailto:pattieasterling@gmail.com)

District I  
**Diane Neubert -Dooley**  
Sequim Valley Lions Club  
[diane\\_neubert@yahoo.com](mailto:diane_neubert@yahoo.com)

## A Note from President Kerby



We at LERC are very happy to see the warm rays of the sun peak through. After the cold wet weather we will be able to work on our addition to LERC. Bob Wright has provided an article about the building with an architectural drawing (see p.3).

Our 300th mission was to the Nisqually Tribal Elders. This mission will be ongoing, as we will be providing readers to them on a regular basis.

We have updated our Policy and Procedures Manual which will carry through for many years.

Glasses are flowing in, with large shipments from Spokane and from Sequim, so we will be as busy as usual. If you or members of your club would like to volunteer, the more the merrier! For as little as four or six hours, much can be accomplished in a month's time.

A little reminder, when sending glasses from a club or satellite, please label each box. If we don't know where the box comes from, we cannot give you credit. If you need a label, please send an email to [kerby912kee@hotmail.com](mailto:kerby912kee@hotmail.com) and I will send you one.

(cont. on p. 2)



Got a question for Pres. Kerby? Email him at [kerby912kee@hotmail.com](mailto:kerby912kee@hotmail.com).

# VISTA Missions Feedback

**Ukraine, September 2017 — 395 pair of glasses were given out at 5 locations, 1 day each**



We saw many older people who needed bifocals or reading glasses, and not very many children, but these are a few and they were so very happy, as were their parents.

The boy in the yellow shirt was brought by his father from over 2 hours away, near the war zone. He had heard about the 1 day clinic at the Center for Displaced Persons -- people who have been forced out of their cities due to the war, usually having lost everything, and need to be resettled. This center helps these families and it was especially gratifying to serve the people that came for glasses that day, including these two boys.



\* \* \* \* \*

**Mazatlán, October 29 - November 5, 2017 — 529 glasses distributed**



Almost all of the clip-ons we give out come from NWLERC. They are so important as we see much damage from sun. Even if people have or would get regular sunglasses (and most don't) they wouldn't really help those who need prescription glasses, so those clip-ons are a great blessing and we appreciate them.



## **More from Pres. Kerby (cont. from p. 1)**

As I wind down my term as President, I would like to thank all the following people who made my job enjoyable:

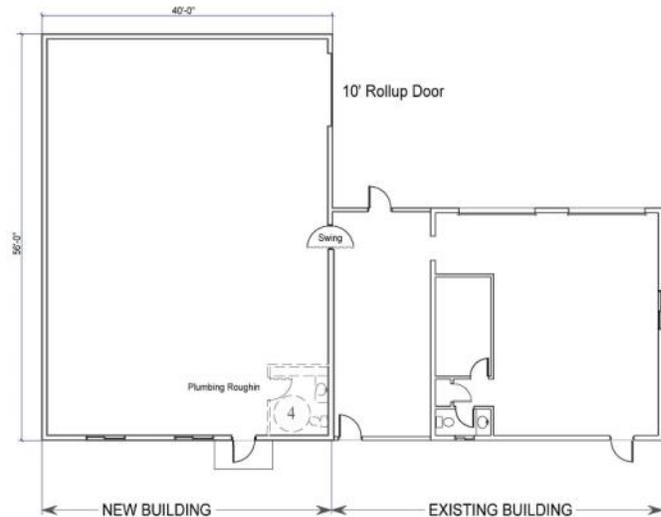
The Executive Committee which meets each month to find ways to make NWLERC the best; our eight Directors that oversee districts throughout the state; the Mission Coordinators that send glasses around the world; our Quality Assurance Team who ensure that what we send is the best quality in the world. To our staff volunteers of Facilities/Maintenance, VOICE, IT Technician, Volunteer Coordinator, Material Recycling, we thank you. Last but not least the young lady, Jacqueline Nelson, who is editor of the *Focus*; without her we would not know who or what we are all about.

# NWLERC Expansion Plans Underway

*Submitted by Bob Wright, VP - Operations*

The new LERC building will be 2200 sq ft in addition to the current 1400 sq ft, and will be targeted as critically needed storage space. In the drawing, the current building is the small area on the right. The finished facility will be under one roof as one building. Loading and unloading will be through a 10-ft rollup garage door in the new building area.

The initial plan was approved by the LERC Exec Committee on March 14, and the architect has submitted the plan to contractors for budget estimates. When the budget information is received, the building process will proceed as soon as possible.



## Thurston Talk Promotes NWLERC

*Submitted by Jody Taylor, Mission Coordinator (& Interviewee)*

ThurstonTalk.com is an on-line news source for Thurston County. A reporter, Carrie Bell, got in touch with Jody Taylor a few weeks ago and was invited for a tour of our facilities. Her article is a little too long to include in our newsletter, but there's a link below. A few errors appear in her story (our lensometers are not \$60,000 each), but it does a great job of informing the community that we are around and looking for volunteers.

The article starts with asking about where the used glasses end up from those eyeglass collection boxes placed around the community. Then there's a description of our set-up and how the glasses are processed, plus Ed Taylor provided the reporter with some of those numbers he crunches each month.

There is information on our various types of volunteers, including students from the VOICE program. The reporter also noted that "it's not all work and no play" as she watched volunteers chatting and joking while doing their jobs.

She noted how our glasses find their way to countries in need all around the world, as well as our partnerships with other local organizations. The article ends with our plans to expand the building, and a request for volunteers to join us. All in all, a very nice bit of promotion for the NWLERC!

Here's the link: [northwest-http://www.thurstontalk.com/2018/04/10/lions-eyeglass-recycling-center/](http://www.thurstontalk.com/2018/04/10/lions-eyeglass-recycling-center/)

## Send me your news for the FOCUS

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

Please send submissions to [Jacq-Lion@comcast.net](mailto:Jacq-Lion@comcast.net) or call me at 360.791.8789.



# District D Scores some PR Points!

Submitted by Director Patti Sparks

This article was printed in "The Wenatchee World", and describes the recycling drive that is sponsored by the Wenatchee Valley Lions Club. Placement on page A4 gave the project excellent exposure and will contribute to the Lions' success.

A4 Sunday, March 4, 2018 The Wenatchee World

## Spring eyeglass drive set for March 12-26

BY SHERYL TWOMBLY  
Wenatchee Valley Lions

While doing your spring cleaning this spring, consider donating your used eyeglasses and hearing aids to the Wenatchee Valley Lions annual recycling drive, March 12-26.

The club is co-sponsoring this event with Evergreen Optical, Vision Source, and Hometown Hearing. Acceptable donations include frames, sunglasses, soft-sided cases and hearing aids.

Collection sites include the sponsoring businesses as well as Cashmere Valley Bank, Aging and Adult Care, River West Retirement Home, North Central Regional Library, First United Methodist Church and Celebration Lutheran Church.

Donated eyeglasses will be sent to Lions' facilities to be sorted, cleaned and then to developing countries for people who may not have access to eye care.

Donated hearing aids are refurbished locally and provided to low-income residents. Help people throughout the world with better opportunities for education, employment and quality of life!

For more information, call 662-8367.

*Sheryl Twombly is a member of Wenatchee Valley Lions.*



World photo/Mike Bonnicksen

In 2014, Lions Club members Pat Bossen, left, Peggy Wolfe and Karen Lunt count and box glasses to be shipped to Lacey where Lions determined their prescriptions and packaged them up for distribution in Third World countries.

**Community Connections**



## Bright Ideas Department



Submitted by Bill Scholl

I hope that all around our districts, and the world as far as that goes, LERC has an eyeglass donation box in every optometrist's office in their area.

Here is the idea. Each and every one of these offices calls its patients to remind them of their appointments, right? My suggestion is to have that person calling that patient to mention at the end of the call *"And if you have any old glasses around the house, bring them in with you and the Lions will recycle them"*.

I have checked with the office manager of Joe Dolezal (Centralia Lions Club member) and she said they could do that for us. I have a box in all the offices here in Centralia and shall ask if they would be willing to add this small blurb at the end of their calls for this project.

# NWLERC Schedule

Exec./Staff Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the Month, 10:00 am

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

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



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**PZC Kerby Kee**  
*President*

**Bob Wright**  
*VP-Operations*

**vacant**  
*VP-Outreach*  
*VP-Satellite Operations*

**Hope Ramsdale**  
*VP-Admin.*  
*Recording Secretary / Stats*

**Lyell Clark**  
*Treasurer / Supplies*

**Patti Makinen**  
*Chair, Public & Media Affairs*

**Don Schmidt**  
*Immediate Past President*

**PZC Bob Pinson**  
**PDG John Kirry**  
**Pat Baron**  
*Senior Advisors*

## STAFF

**Cliff Brandsma**  
**PDG Ed Taylor**  
*Volunteer Coordinators*

**Don Schmidt**  
*Facilities / Maintenance*  
*VOICE Program*

**Berta Fender**  
**Jody Taylor**  
**Malena Hine**  
*Mission Coordinators*

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

**Pat Baron**  
*Materials Recycling*

**Marty Ikari**  
*IT Technician*

**vacant**  
*Homeless Outreach Programs*

## Mission Shipments, January – March

**El Salvador** 1299 pair + 400 sunglasses for Peace Health  
**Mexico** 444 pair for Men's Ministries  
**USA** 18 pair for Kitsap Homeless  
**Moldova** 437 readers for Crossover Communications  
**Mexico** 410 pair + 50 sunglasses for Kitsap Lions

<b>Key Statistics as of 3/31/18</b>	<b>Dec - Mar</b>	<b>THIS YEAR</b>	<b>SINCE 2004</b>
Raw Eyeglasses Received	45,925	125,258	2,331,047
Eyeglasses to Missions	4,858	8,336	244,850
Volunteer Hours	2,412	5,176	78,166
Missions Supported	8	26	297
Mission-Ready Inventory	12,150		

**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.”**