

# NORTHSIDE LION



February/March 2024

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Lion Frank Stowers



In the forefront of my mind as I am writing this article is the loss of Lion Dan Corrales earlier this week. Lion Dan did a lot for the Midland Northside Lions Club as well as numerous other organizations, and for Midland in general. Please remember the Corrales family in your prayers as they deal with this sudden loss, as well as the entire City of Midland as we mourn this loss. Our club, as well as the City of Midland, will miss having Dan in our lives.

Lion Mark will be sharing additional information about our Lions International Youth Exchange program. Midland clubs will be sponsoring two outgoing students. The Northside Club is sponsoring Jason Minor from Midland Christian School who will be going to Italy this summer. The West Side Club chose Caleb Brown as their participant and he is expected to travel to Germany. At this point, we have expectations for 3 incoming students. Lion Mark diligently sought and found another host family (St. Jacques) that has had their daughter participate in the outgoing program in 2014.

Plans are well underway for the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual *WE SERVE Breakfast* event to be held April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Midland Park Mall in the food court. Lions Mark, Aaron, John and I met with mall management on Tuesday, 1/30 and we are excited about a few proposed changes to try and increase traffic at the event, i.e. starting later (at 7:30) and going to 10:30.

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## DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S VISIT



Vice President (and meeting chair) Lion Dan Corrales presented a club coffee mug to DG Chris Maxwell while 1st VDG Marianne Stevenson and District Treasurer Nancy High looked on.

District Governor Chris Maxwell made his official visit to the Midland Northside Lions Club on January 25. He spoke about International President Patti Hill's theme of "Changing the World" and "Mission 1.5" to increase membership worldwide to 1.5 million by 2027. He also spoke about the Texas Lions Camp and the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center. He thanked Lions Frank Stowers and Mark Singh for attending the Mid-winter Conference and invited members to attend the District 2-A1 Convention in Sweetwater on April 12 and 13. He gave Lion John Wojtkun an award for sponsoring Lion Marcus Avila as a new member and he exhorted the club to add new members in order to be able to serve more people. He also said that our club should strive to achieve the Club Excellence Award.

District Treasurer Nancy High also sold district pins and gave out raffle tickets for sale (\$5 each, \$20 for 5). The drawing will be at the District Convention and the winner will get a half of the total money generated from tickets sales.



## FEBRUARY & MARCH PROGRAM SCHEDULE

2/8	Tracy Renton, Senior Life Midland
2/22	Business meeting
3/14	Pat Brown, Thriving United
3/28	Business meeting

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**PRESIDENT’S COLUMN**

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Additionally, we will be trying some mall merchant raffles at the end of the event to attempt to encourage our attendees to then shop in the mall.

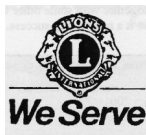
Lion Aaron Battles has arranged for Tracy Renton with Senior Life Midland on Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. I hope you can make our upcoming meeting as I am sure Tracy will be enlightening us on their new facility that appears to be nearing completion.

In closing, keep serving and making Midland and surrounding areas a better place to live.

**EDITOR’S NOTE**

It is with great sorrow that we have to accept the passing of our club Vice President Dan Corrales. Dan joined about five years ago and was a very active member, being program chair many times, handling our Facebook page, sponsoring our fundraisers, and providing door prizes. He was also a member of the Rotary Club, a City Councilor, Assistant District Attorney, co-owner of Pristine Organic Cleaners, and a member of many community organizations and boards. We will miss him greatly. The funeral service will be at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 7 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.

We are planning to host Khulan Bayasgalan from Mongolia, Anudhi Ranadeerage from Sri Lanka, and another girl from Italy from June 29 to July 20 in Midland. We have hosted one Mongolian about 12 years ago. This will be our first year to host a Sri Lankan. We have had a very good relationship with the Italian youth exchange chairpersons, both incoming and outgoing, and we hosted several Italians over more than 20 years. We are expecting to receive the Italian’s application this month.



**PROGRAM CHAIRS**

February	Aaron Battles
March	Bill Kelton
May	Brian Flowers
June	
July	Mark Singh
August	Frank Stowers

**GOVERNOR’S MESSAGE**

District 2-A1 Governor Lion Chris Maxwell



I hope that you and your club are doing well. I am amazed at how fast my term as your governor is flying by. Last month was our Mid-Winter conference that was hosted by the San Angelo Downtown Lions Club. They did an outstanding job. Everything was wonderful including the facilities, food, and fellowship! Thank you to our Tail Twister Lion

Kathy McConnell and her sidekick Lion Donald for selling tickets and distributing the raffle prizes. The silent auction items included a flat screen TV donated by them.

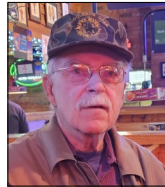
The district needs your help to finish this year off on a positive note. We need all clubs to be at least plus two members at the end of the year. Please work on inviting someone to become a member, look at doing a new service project, make sure to market your club on social media, and report your club projects to Lions Club International (mylci). The only thing left to qualify your club for the Club Excellence Award may be having your club officers trained. This is a very easy step too by using MYLIONS LEARN website. If you need any help at all please let me know.

Please note on your calendars that our **District Convention** will be on **April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>** in Sweetwater at the **National WASP Museum**. Friday night April 12<sup>th</sup> is the Governors Banquet, and it will be casual attire event with some great Texas BBQ. We will also have a wonderful band called Fever Pitch playing for us that night. The band consists of 10 or so members and they play 70’s and 80’s Soft Rock. On Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup> will be our business meeting starting at 9:00am. We will have Past International Director Don Noland from Missouri as our keynote speaker. PID Don has some Texas roots from the Midland area. During the day on Saturday, we will have time to tour the museum and learn about the women that ruled the skies over Sweetwater. We will have a necrology service for Lions that we have lost and vote on some key issues like our future leaders and an updated district Constitution and By-laws for 2-A1. Please watch for the registration form and the flyer coming soon.

In closing, thank you for your service to your community. Continue doing what Lions do best, serving and caring for others with great passion and heart. We can change the world one community at a time.

**CLUB NEWS**

On December 14, Lion Don Eckerty gave a PowerPoint presentation on his African safari, including many spectacular pictures of wild animals and the local culture. Lion Don also reported that the five first place posters had been sent to DG Chris Maxwell. The club voted to donate \$1,000 to Texas Lions Camp, \$500 each to TLERC and West Texas Lions Eye Bank, and \$200 each to 12 local charities that we usually support, plus Senior Life in place of Miracle on Tyler Street.



Melissa Milan, shown with Program Chairman Lion Mark Singh, was our speaker on January 11. She is the General Manager of West Texas FC, the local minor league soccer club which will be having its second season this year. She said that they had a successful first year. Tall City Brewing and Diamondback Energy are major sponsors. They keep a roster of about 30 players and will be having tryouts soon. They will also have a new mascot in February. Lion Mark indicated that a meeting with Midland Park Mall has been scheduled for January 30 to start planning for our 31st annual *WE SERVE Breakfast* on April 27.



At the meeting on January 25, DG Chris Maxwell presented a check for \$150 to Courtney Douget. Her daughter Sophie won first prize at the district Peace Poster contest. DG Chris also gave Lion Don Eckerty a check for \$75 for second place winner Lyda Babb and a check for \$150 for Samantha Pirella, last year's district winner. Lion Mark reported that a panel of Northside Lions selected Jason Minor from Midland Christian School to be sponsored on the Lions Youth Exchange program. He wants to go to Italy. Midland West Side Lions Club has selected Caleb Brown from their scout troop and Midland High School to go to Germany.

**NORTHSIDE SCRAPBOOK**



Northside Lions Club held its annual Christmas dinner at Fuoco Italian Cuisine on December 14. Lion Aaron Battles arranged for us to have a delicious meal of "Tour of Italy." Most of the members and spouses or guests attended and had a great time. Special guests included Steve and Michelle Rodriguez, Phil Newell, David Hurta and John Wojtkun, Jr. Lion Dr. Rob McGuire led a sing-along of Christmas music and John Wojtkun, Jr. joined him for a few songs. Lion John Wojtkun presented Melvin Jones Fellowship awards to David Hurta (top left photo) for performing at *Roar with Laughter* all 20 years, and John Wojtkun, Jr. (top right photo) for helping us with both of our fundraisers over many years.

**SMILE**

Two ragged bums were sitting on a park bench and one said, "If you suddenly won a million dollars, would you lend me ten thousand." The other one thought carefully and replied, "Well, what collateral would you offer?"

Irish joke: Did you hear about the Irishman who sued the baker for forging his signature on a hot cross bun?

Two boys were walking down the road together. One was eating an apple. The other one who had no apple said, "If I had an apple I would give it to you." The one with the apple replied, "Thanks, that's very nice, but I already have one."

A man in a bad costume was making intricate balloon animals at the county fair. He was twisting one when a little girl came up and asked him, "Sir, what are you making?" With a despondent look, he answered, "Minimum wage."

**OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

President	Frank Stowers
Vice President	
Secretary	Don Eckerty
Treasurer	John Wojtkun
Immediate Past President	Bill Kelton
Membership	Dr. Brian Flowers
Attendance	Frank Stowers
<i>WE SERVE Breakfast</i>	Mark Singh Aaron Battles
Chaplain	Bill Kelton
Eyeglass	Dr. Robert McGuire
Lions Camp	Bill Kelton
Newsletter	Mark Singh
Pancake Breakfast	Tom Ochs
Peace Poster Contest	Don Eckerty
Public Relations	
<i>Roar with Laughter</i>	Mark Singh
Scholarship	John Wojtkun
Social Media	Liz Lazcano
Website	Mike Seerey
Youth Exchange	Frank Stowers

**WORDS OF WIT AND WISDOM**

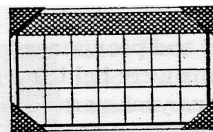
*The greatest mistake you can make in life is continually fearing you will make one.*  
 Elbert Hubbard

*The mind of a bigot is like the pupil of the eye: the more light you pour upon it, the more it will contract.*  
 Oliver W. Holmes, Jr.

*The price of freedom of religion or of speech or of the press is that we must put up with, and even pay for, a good deal of rubbish.*  
 Justice Robert Jackson

*Humor is a spontaneous, wonderful bit of an outburst that just comes. It's unbridled, it's unplanned, it's full of surprises.*  
 Erma Bombeck

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**



Friday & Saturday, April 12-13  
 District 2-A1 Convention  
 Sweetwater, TX

Saturday, April 27, **7:30 to 10:30 a.m.**  
 31st annual *WE SERVE Breakfast*  
 Midland Park Mall food court

May 16-18  
 Texas MD2 State Convention  
 Amarillo, TX

June 21-25  
 106th Lions International Convention  
 Melbourne, Australia

Saturday, October 19, 7:30 p.m.  
 21st Annual *Roar with Laughter* hilarity revue  
 Hispanic Cultural Center



Happy Valentine's Day!

NORTHSIDE LION is published bi-monthly by the Midland Northside Lions Club, P. O. Box 4122, Midland, TX 79704. The editor and producer is Lion Mark Singh (phone 432-694-0147, email [mmsingh@suddenlink.net](mailto:mmsingh@suddenlink.net)). **The club's website is: [www.midlandnorthsidelions.org](http://www.midlandnorthsidelions.org). We are also on Facebook.**

Midland Northside Lions Club meets on the second and fourth (except in June, November and December) Thursdays of the month at 7:00 a.m. **in the Rotary Community Room in the Cowden Dining Hall at Midland College, 3600 N. Garfield, Midland, TX 79705.**