

NORTHSIDE LION



April/May 2024

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Lion Frank Stowers



I write this as just witnessing the amazing solar eclipse on Monday, 4/8/24, and remembering attending the October 14, 2023 Lions district meeting here in Midland with all of us stepping out to watch the annular eclipse. The science is beyond my capability to fathom and so I must

acknowledge our Creator's hand in all of His majesty. Truly amazing to behold.

Which brings me to other current events. First, the weekend of April 12-13 District 2A-1 will be having its Convention in Sweetwater at the WASP Museum. We will be having elections for our District 2A-1 officers and celebrating the service of those outgoing officers. I am aware of Lions Don and Mark attending along with myself. Thanks for taking the time to attend.

The second "current" event is the following weekend, April 20, with the Share West Texas Resource Fair/Walk being held at the sports complex in Midland. Midland Westside Lions Club will be set up for vision screening. Members of other Midland Lions Club are welcome to come and assist.

Third, for the Midland Northside Lions Club, things are lining up for our 31st annual *WE SERVE* Breakfast to be held at Midland Park Mall on April 27th from 7:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. Lion Aaron Battles has all of the food arranged, and Lion Mark has worked tirelessly on our sponsorships, ticket sales, and our entertainment.

(Continued on page 2)



APRIL & MAY PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- 4/11 Planning for WE SERVE Breakfast
- 4/25 Business meeting
- 5/9 Program to be announced later
- 5/23 Business meeting

NEW MEMBER MORRIS DEFRIEND



New member Lion Morris DeFriend with Membership Chairman Lion Dr. Brian Flowers.

Lion Morris DeFriend joined the Midland Northside Lions Club by transfer on February 22. Morris was a member of the Groesbeck Lions Club before he moved to Liberty, TX where he joined the Dayton Noon Lions Club. He served as club President in Groesbeck and as program chair several times, and he was a director of the Dayton club. He agreed to be our PR Chairman and June Program Chairman

Morris was born and raised in Thornton, Texas and graduated from Texas A&M with a BBA in Finance in 1985. He then moved to Houston, later Groesbeck, and then Liberty, and pursued a career in commercial banking. He and his wife moved to Midland in December last year and he is working part-time remotely with First Liberty Bank.

Lion Morris and his wife Jacqueline (Jackie) have three adult children, including a son who lives in Midland with his wife and their three daughters. In addition to grandfathering activities, Morris has resumed playing racquetball. He enjoys traveling and exploring local restaurants and breweries.

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PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

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I am expecting another great event. And I know we will have great help and assistance from all of our members for this annual event.

Our recent zone meeting was held at TLERC. It was brought to our attention how we, as Midland Lions across all clubs, need to become more active in assisting with the work at the TLERC. Without our involvement, the impact and benefit the TLERC has on others diminishes. Please contact Lion Rob, Mark, or Don if you are uncertain on ways you can assist the TLERC in helping those less fortunate to see.

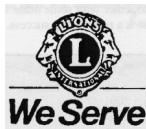
Lastly, I want to express appreciation to the Midland Northside Club for allowing your group of officers to continue in service for an additional year. To Lions Brian, Don, and John, thank you for agreeing to serve your club for an additional year. I look forward to seeing how the Midland Northside Lions Club continues to touch and serve this community and beyond.

EDITOR’S NOTE

We all welcome our new member Lion Morris DeFriend. As a small but active club, we need people like him to take on responsibilities. I am delighted that he immediately agreed to be our PR chair and to be program chair for June.

We are making good progress with our *WE SERVE Breakfast*. Thanks to Lion Aaron Battles for Texas Roadhouse being a new Presenting Sponsor. Thanks also to Gustavo Martinez at NewsWest9 for enthusiastically being a media sponsor.

Caleb Brown, sponsored by Midland West Side Lions Club, has been accepted to go to Germany this summer on the youth exchange program. Jason Minor, sponsored by Northside Lions Club, has also been accepted to go to Italy.



PROGRAM CHAIRS

May	Brian Flowers
June	Morris DeFriend
July	Mark Singh
August	Frank Stowers

GOVERNOR’S MESSAGE

District 2-A1 Governor Lion Chris Maxwell



I hope this finds you in good health and high spirits. As we enter the final quarter of this Lions year, I am writing to you with great enthusiasm and a strong sense of purpose. Our Lions Club has always been committed to making a positive impact in our communities, and I believe that together, we can achieve even greater heights of success and excellence.

One of our primary goals for this year is to focus on increasing our membership and undertaking new service projects that address the needs of our community. As you all know, the more members we have, the greater our capacity to serve others and make a meaningful difference in the lives of those around us. Therefore, I urge each one of you to actively recruit new members to join our ranks. Whether it's through personal invitations, community outreach events, or leveraging our social media channels, let's work together to welcome new faces into our Lions family.

In addition to expanding our membership, let's also strive to initiate new service projects that align with our core values and mission. Whether it's supporting local schools, providing assistance to the elderly, or organizing fundraisers for important causes, there are countless ways we can make a positive impact in our community. I encourage all members to bring forward their ideas and initiatives for new projects, and let's collaborate to turn them into reality.

Furthermore, I want to challenge each club to aim for the prestigious **Club Excellence Award** this year. This award recognizes clubs that demonstrate outstanding achievements in membership growth, service activities, and leadership development. By working together and staying focused on our goals, I am confident that we have what it takes to earn this honor and showcase the collective dedication and hard work of our club members.

As we embark on this journey together, let's remember the true essence of being a Lion – serving with compassion, integrity, and a commitment to making the world a better place for all. Let's harness our collective energy and passion to drive positive change and leave a legacy in our community.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication and commitment to our Lions Club. Together, let's make this year one of our most successful yet!

CLUB NEWS



Tracy Renton, shown with Program Chairman Lion Aaron Battles, was our speaker on February 8, Tracy is the Director of Development and Marketing at Senior Life Mid-

land. She mentioned that their new building will be ready soon and will have a training room. She spoke about their many programs, including Meals on Wheels, One Day at a Time, Warming Tree, and Foster Grandparents. The club recognized the contributions of our Vice President Lion Dan Corrales who had just passed away..

At the business meeting on February 22, we voted to contribute \$500 to Bynum School as a memorial for Dan Corrales, and \$200 each to Senior Life Midland and UTPB. The club accepted Lion Morris DeFriend on transfer from Dayton Noon Lions Club. Lion Dr. Brian Flowers agreed to take up Dan's place as Vice President and Lion Marcus Avila agreed to be our Facebook/Technology Chair.



Pat Brown, shown with Program Chairman Lion Bill Kelton, was our speaker on March. Pat is the founder and President of Thriving

United. He started the organization with his wife Jen in March 2019 to help people recover from addiction. One in three people suffer from addiction or mental health issues and \$1 invested yields about \$6.67 in benefits. Thriving United has bought the former Midland Reporter-Telegram building and will use it as their administrative center. Their 30 employees currently serve about 1,700 clients.

The business meeting on March 28 focused on the upcoming *WE SERVE Breakfast* and voted to contribute \$200 to Thriving United. The existing slate of officers were re-elected to serve July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Lions Frank and Don were named delegates to the District 2-A1 convention. Lion Mark gave an update on the youth exchange program, indicating that Chiara Cargnelutti from Italy will be the third student coming to Midland. Sally St. Jacques will host her while the Stowers will host Khulan Bayasgalan from Mongolia and the Singhs will host Anudi Ranadeerage from Sri Lanka.

NORTHSIDE SCRAPBOOK



Lyda Babb (first), Juliana Kelly (second) and James Bradford (third) were the winners of the 35th annual Lions International Peace Poster contest at St. Ann's School. They are shown in the picture with Art teacher Marcia Crowder. The theme was "Dare to Dream." As usual, Mrs. Crowder put on an impressive award ceremony, attended by parents, other teachers, and students.

Lyda's poster and four other fist place winners from Trinity School, Goddard Junior High, Bowie Fine Arts and Bynum School, went on to the District 2-A1 contest. Lyda's poster placed second and she was awarded a check for \$75. The district winner was Sophie Douget, from Trinity School, who was awarded a check for \$150. Her poster went on to MD2 Texas state contest.

SMILE

Did you hear about the pastor who used to be a dairy farmer? Before he heard the call, he used to call the herd.

A man stood in the witness box in court for the first time, looking confused. The judge asked him, "Have you ever taken an oath?" Noticing the quiz-zical look on the man's face, the judge added, "Do you know how to swear?" The man replied, "Oh, yes, sir, I play golf occasionally."

Q: What is the youngest branch in the army?
A: The infantry.

The minister's sermon was about fact and faith, and it was not going well this Sunday. "That you are sitting before me in this church," he said, "is fact. That I am standing here, speaking from the pulpit, is fact. But it is only faith that makes me believe that anyone is really listening."

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President Frank Stowers
 Vice President Dr. Brian Flowers
 Secretary Don Eckerty
 Treasurer John Wojtkun
 Immediate Past President Bill Kelton

Membership Dr. Brian Flowers
 Attendance Frank Stowers
 WE SERVE Breakfast Mark Singh
 Aaron Battles
 Chaplain Bill Kelton
 Eyeglass Dr. Robert McGuire
 Facebook/Technology Marcus Avila
 Lions Camp Bill Kelton
 Newsletter Mark Singh
 Pancake Breakfast Tom Ochs
 Peace Poster Contest Don Eckerty
 Public Relations Morris DeFriend
 Roar with Laughter Mark Singh
 Scholarship John Wojtkun
 Social Media Liz Lazcano
 Website Mike Seerey
 Youth Exchange Frank Stowers

WORDS OF WIT AND WISDOM

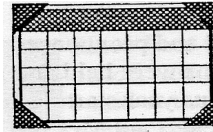
Our political institutions work remarkably well. They are designed to clang against each other. The noise is democracy at work.
 Michael Novak

They who dream by day are cognizant of many things which escape those who dream only by night.
 Edgar Allan Poe

Of all the music, that which most pleases the ear is applause. But it has no score. It ends and is carried off by the wind.
 Enrique Solari

Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.
 Will Rogers

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



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

DG's Reminder

Please note that our **District Convention** will be on **April 12th and 13th** in Sweetwater at the **National WASP Museum**. Friday night April 12th 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 13th 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.

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). **The club's website is: 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.**