

NORTHSIDE LION



August/September 2023

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Lion Frank Stowers



Greetings, Northside Lions Club and friends. First, many thanks to our outgoing President, Lion Bill Kelton, for his service to our club. We truly appreciate your time and work on behalf of our club. I hope to be able to keep up where you left off. Thanks for your service, Lion Bill!

We kicked off the summer in a fast and furious way. Starting with our outgoing sponsored students, Ezekiel Bajomo (Belgium) and Landon Dickens (Italy), departing for Europe in June and July. Our August program features these two young men as they tell us about their travels and what it meant to them.

We then had our incoming exchange students, Emma and Louanne, arrive from Italy and France, respectively on July 1. Many of our club members and friends of the club helped make these incoming students experience much of West Texas and more importantly, West Texas hospitality. We heard from Emma and Louanne in July on some of their initial experiences. When asked about their most memorable experience near the end of their time with us, they both stated Summer Mumpers. I will admit that night was a bit crazy. Special thanks to all that helped with their daily activities, but particular thanks to our host families, Mark & Violet Singh, Rod & Kris Curtis, and my wife, Kim.

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AUGUST & SEPTEMBER PROGRAM SCHEDULE

8/10	Ezekiel and Landen, exchange students
8/24	Business meeting
9/14	Erin Casey-Richardson, Midland College
9/28	Business meeting

YOUTH EXCHANGE



Midland Northside Lions Club participated in the Lions International Youth Exchange program. Lion Frank and Kim Stowers hosted Emma Lolli from Russi, Italy from July 1 to 22 while Lion Mark and Violet Singh hosted Louane Guibert from Vergaville, France from July 1 to 12. Rod and Kris Curtis hosted Louane from July 12 to 22.

In addition to the hosts, Lions John Wojtkun, Don Eckerty, Bill Kelton and Dr. Brian Flowers took the students on a wide range of activities and trips that included Carlsbad Caverns, San Angelo, Odessa, Monahans sandhills, Balmorhea pool, Lubbock, Lake Brownwood, and Abilene. Gire Dragan, a previous host, took the students to the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville, and to Austin, Horseshoe Bay and San Antonio. Lion Mike Seerey gave them a tennis lesson. They attended three dinner events, including one at Texas Roadhouse sponsored by Lion Aaron Battles.

Activities included Summer Mumpers, Fourth of July celebration, a summer lawn concert, a play at Midland Community Theatre, a Midland Rockhounds baseball game and a West Texas FC soccer game. They attended club meetings at Midland Northside, West Side and Downtown in addition to East Angelo Lions Club. Both students said that they thoroughly enjoyed their stay. Louane said it was the best experience of her life.

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PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

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To the club, you made the experience very memorable, and at least for my wife and me, and I believe our other host families, a very special time with these ladies.

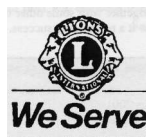
And of course, the Midland Northside Lions Club does not stop there. Next up is our *Roar with Laughter* on October 21. Lion Mark has already got the line-up ready to go and is in full swing on sponsorships and all other aspects. We look forward to another great event.

EDITOR’S NOTE

First, I want to say thanks for the Senior Master Key & Medallion that Lion Frank presented to me on July 27 in recognition of my sponsorship of 25 members into Lions. Let’s all try to recruit more members.

Thanks also to the hosts and other members of the club, together with Gire Dragon, for taking around Emma and Louane on the Lions International Youth Exchange program. The students have expressed great appreciation for all that we did for them. Even though we had only two students, instead of the three that we usually have, it was good to do the program after canceling it for the past three years because of COVID.

We are planning to feature eleven acts, ten minutes each, for our 20th annual *Roar with Laughter* hilarity revue comedy/variety fundraiser on Saturday, October 21. As usual, the event will be at the Hispanic Cultural Center, starting at 7:30 p.m. West Texas Radio Group and Town Square Media have agreed to help us with advertising. Lion Aaron Battles will be our emcee and he will also be providing refreshments. We will have tickets soon. Please make every effort to sell sponsorships and tickets.



PROGRAM CHAIRS

August	Frank Stowers
September	John Wojtkun
November	Dan Corrales
December	Don Eckerty
January	Mark Singh

GOVERNOR’S MESSAGE

District 2-A1 Governor Lion Chris Maxwell



I am very excited to be your district governor for 2023-2024. It seems like yesterday, that I was in Boston for the International Convention and already one month has already flown by. This was my first international convention, and I really didn’t realize how exciting and emotional it would be to be sworn in as your

district governor. I was so thankful that my wife was there with me to remove the “Elect” ribbon from my badge to make it official. We were all inspired by our new International President Dr. Patti Hill. Her new slogan “Changing the World” inspires us through gaining new members and doing more service projects. Lions will be Changing the World.

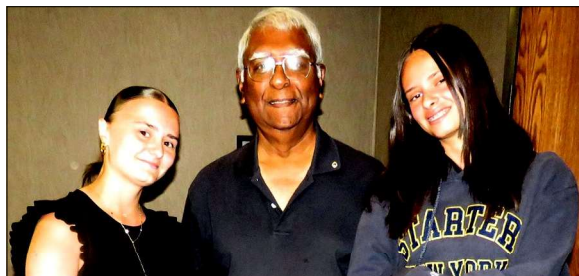
Recently at our 1st District meeting in Kingsland, we had the honor of having Past International Director T.J. Tijerina and his beautiful wife Lion Juanita in attendance. PID T.J. inducted our new cabinet leaders and our committee chairs for 2023-2024. I feel that we have assembled a great team for you and they all have a passion for Lionism and they truly want to help build and serve the clubs in our district. Please remember that they are here for you, so please don’t hesitate to call on any of them for help or questions. If we don’t know the answer to your questions, we will work on getting answers for you. The team can help you bring in new members, develop new service projects, help with the marketing of your club, and very importantly they can help with reporting your service and club activities in MyLCI. You can find most of their contact information in our district newsletter and on our website. We should have a new district directory distributed out soon. Just waiting for a few pictures and there are still some clubs that have yet to report their new 2023-2024 club officers in MyLCI.

I feel that this will be an exciting year for 2-A1 Lions, and we sure have a lot of work to do. Our mission needs to include having “Fun” and doing what Lions do best - “Serving Others”. Fun and Service go hand in hand and these must be two main ingredients to build back membership in our district and in our clubs. We now have only 39 clubs in the district and less than 1000 members. There is so much that we could do in serving others if we just had more members. You know that warm feeling that you get in your heart shortly after a service project of helping others, why keep that to ourselves when we could let others have that same experience. Please invite someone to your club or service project. Then ask them to join your club. Then keep them active, so they don’t slip out the back door.

CLUB NEWS



Karl Boroski, shown with Program Chairman Lion Dr. Brian Flowers, was our speaker on June 8. He is the Executive Director of Rope Youth. Having grown up as a troubled youth in the foster care system, Karl noticed that fatherlessness and food insecurity were problems in Midland/Odessa, so he founded Rope Youth. The organization teaches fatherless children a variety of skills including public speaking and financial literacy. It also provides food both during school and the summer months. They served 9000 meals last summer and they now have two food trucks. The club voted to donate \$200.



Visiting youth exchange students Louane Guibert and Emma Lolli, shown with Program Chairman Lion Mark Singh, were our speakers on July 13. They told us about themselves, their families, their cities, and their sponsor Lions clubs. Lion Don Eckerty presented each one with a souvenir paperweight made of drilling core and inscribed with their names. Lion John Wojtkun gave each a club pin.

At the business meeting on July 27, members reviewed the successful youth exchange program, selected program chairs for next few months, and started planning for our 20th *Roar with Laughter*. Lion Don mentioned that we sponsored his grandson Payton Eckerty to the Texas Lions Camp in addition to Kyle Scott Hurt. He is working on the Peace Poster contest with five schools. The club agreed to be an Individual Sponsor for \$285 for the West Side Lions Clay Shoot and to make our usual contributions to Midland College scholarships.

NORTHSIDE SCRAPBOOK



PDG Armando Subia (at left) installed the officers for July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 for the Midland Northside Lions Club - Lions Don Eckerty, Secretary; John Wojtkun, Treasurer; Dan Corrales, Vice President; and Frank Stowers, President. The Installation Dinner was held at Gerardo's Casita on June 22. Most of the club members and their spouses attended and enjoyed a delicious chicken and beef fajita buffet. Lion Armando was accompanied by his wife Lion Felis. Special guests were outgoing youth exchange students Ezekiel Bajomo, accompanied by his parents, and Landen Dickens, accompanied by his mother. They were presented with spending money and club pins for their trips to Belgium and Italy in July.

SMILE

A farmer claimed that he increased egg production by hanging this sign in his hen house: "An egg a day keeps Colonel Sanders away."

How many narcissists does it take to change a light bulb? One. He holds the bulb while the world revolves around him.

A six-year-old ran up and down the supermarket aisles shouting frantically, "Cindy, Cindy." When he was finally reunited with his embarrassed mother, she chided him, "You shouldn't call me Cindy. I am your mother, you know." He replied, "I know, but the store is full of mothers."

A doctor was called in to see a very busy patient. "Well, sir, what's the matter?" he asked cheerfully. "That's for you to find out," snapped the patient. "I see," said the doctor. "Let me call a colleague. He is the only man I know who can make a diagnosis without asking his patients any questions. He is a veterinarian."

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President	Frank Stowers
Vice President	Dan Corrales
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	Dan Corrales
<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

Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us or we find it not.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

I have noticed that even people who claim that everything is predetermined and that we can do nothing to change it, look before they cross the road.

Stephen Hawking

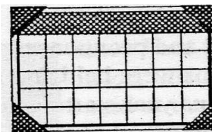
Love is like a violin. The music may stop now and again, but the strings remain forever.

June Masters Bacher

There is no medicine like hope, no incentive so great, and no tonic so powerful as expectation of something tomorrow.

O.S. Marden

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Saturday, October 14
2nd District Cabinet meeting
Midland

Saturday, October 21, 7:30 p.m.
20th annual *Roar with Laughter*
Hispanic Cultural Center, 1311 E. Wadley

December 14, 7:00 p.m.
Northside Lions Club Christmas dinner
Gerardo's Casita

Saturday, April 27, 2024, 7 to 10 a.m.
31st annual *WE SERVE Breakfast*
Midland Park Mall food court



Lion Aaron Battles sponsored a youth exchange dinner.

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.**