

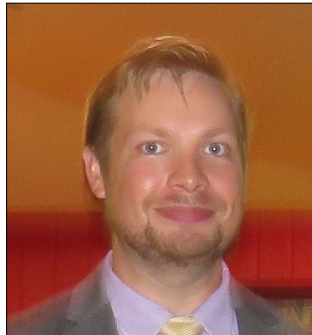
NORTHSIDE LION



February/March 2021

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Lion Dr. Brian Flowers



Hello again, Midland Northside Lions and friends! I want to begin by saying that I hope each of you and your families are remaining safe and healthy during this historic cold snap. I apologize for the delay in this entire newsletter coming out, as I have been a bit busy catching up with re-

sponsibilities outside of the club. This is the first newsletter of the new year and I wanted to use it as an opportunity to express hope for the coming year.

While there are still plenty of challenges facing our community, I am incredibly encouraged by how much our members work to offer assistance in any way we can. The current winter storms and resulting issues with power/heat to many members of our Permian Basin family show the need for quick response services to meet short term physical needs. Special thanks should be given to our guest speakers with Meals on Wheels for our first February meeting.

In addition to our guest speakers, I was also excited to see the two Midland College students that the Midland Northside Lions Club sponsor through scholarships. I have been fortunate to know both Leo and Kelby as engineering students and I am confident in their future successes.

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FEBRUARY & MARCH PROGRAM SCHEDULE

2/11	Joan Huff, Meals on Wheels
2/25	Business meeting
3/11	Adrian Carrasco, Midland College Trustee
3/25	Business meeting

MELVIN JONES AWARD



Lion John Wojtkun presents a Melvin Jones Fellowship Award to Tom Ochs (at left).

Midland Northside Lions Club honored Tom Ochs with a Melvin Jones Fellowship award on December 10 at the club's annual Christmas Dinner. Tom is the owner of Sidekicks & Legends Restaurant in the Claydesta Towers, where the dinner was held. Tom was recognized for his outstanding community support. He has also donated the potatoes for our breakfast fundraiser for more than 15 years and the chocolate and carrot cakes at Roar with Laughter. In addition, his restaurant has hosted many of our Christmas dinners and Installation dinners, and provided the breakfast for our meetings for a few years.

At the Christmas dinner, PDG Carolyn Keskitalo presented Lion John Wojtkun with a Marshall Cooper Fellowship award from the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center for his outstanding support of that organization in collecting eyeglasses for recycling. Most of the club members and spouses and a few guests attended the Christmas dinner.

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PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

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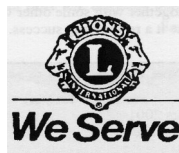
A couple bits of other club news to close: First, our breakfast fundraiser is being pushed back from April to May. The current plan is to have the *WE SERVE Breakfast* on May 8th. Second, we are getting our very own website. Special thanks to Lion Mike Seerey for handling so much of the set-up. I hope you will bear with us as we build it out and continue to open more avenues for our club to reach people. You can check out the new website at www.midlandnorthsidelions.org.

Thank you all for your continued service to our humble organization. You are all truly service superstars that do more good in the world than any of us can imagine. You are a light in this world, and I know that you will continue to shine brightly!

EDITOR’S NOTE

With regret, District 2-A1 decided to cancel this summer’s Lions International youth exchange program because of COVID-19 concerns, especially relating to international travel, and taking into account the fact that the Lions International Convention has been changed to a virtual event. It means that the four students that we meant to sponsor last summer will not be sponsored and we will not host any foreign students in Midland this summer. We hope to invite schools to nominate juniors in November for the 2022 program. We also hope to host three students from overseas for three weeks in Midland in July 2022.

Our 28th annual *WE SERVE Breakfast* is coming up on May 8 at the food court of Midland Park Mall. We hope that the COVID-19 situation improves so that we can have more dine-in and more entertainment than we had in October last year. All of our members need to start recruiting sponsors so that we make our fundraising goals.



PROGRAM CHAIRS

February	Lion Mike Seerey
March	Lion Dan Corrales
April	Lion Frank Stowers
May	Lion Bill Kelton
June	Lion John Wojtkun

GOVERNOR’S MESSAGE

District 2-A1 Governor Lion Glenn Shepard



The first cabinet meeting of 2021 was a great success! We had 40 in attendance in Ballinger. We talked about what each one of us can do to keep our clubs active. One the things that was brought up was having a “calling tree”, which is having a few dedicated members divide up the list of members and try to call these people weekly to see if there is anything the club can do for them. Callers will invite the members to come back to the meetings and explain to them that we are practicing safe distancing, wearing our masks, and spreading out.

I would like to give a special shout out to District 2-T3 Governor Dr. Javier Morales who was our speaker for the day. Dr. Morales has been on 27 mission trips around the globe giving eye exams to the people in third world countries. This is the only chance those people will ever get to have their eyes examined in their lives. The first experience he had with Lions was the fact that he was in one of those countries and the first thing he saw were pallets of glasses that had been sent there by Midland Eye Glass Recycling! This was why he became a Lion. One of the recent things he has done for TLC was to run two back-to-back marathons, which amounted to 52.7 miles in a 24-hour period. He raised over \$10,000 for the Texas Lions Camp! Way to go, Lion Javier!

We enjoyed a wonderful meal prepared by one of our own: Elisha Jowers. She treated us to chicken and spaghetti, green beans, rolls, salad, and homemade desserts.

We are already planning our District Convention for either April 10th or 17th and are hoping to have another great turnout.

We are having a district raffle for a Jim Bowie Prime Plus Pellet Grill. The total package includes a cover, tools, pans, apron, pellets, oven mitt, pizza oven, rotisserie, and more...for a value of \$1,350.00! Drawing will be at the District Convention. Tickets will be \$5.00 for 1 ticket, \$20.00 for 5 tickets, and \$50.00 for 15 tickets. You need not be present to win.

The Texas Lions Camp had a special fundraiser going with the Polar Bear Plunge. Everyone that attended the event Saturday had a great time. Our own Tom Blase was one of the participants who raised several thousand dollars and the total amount raised was \$310,000! After the board meeting everyone adjourned to outside the dining hall where we had a ground-breaking ceremony for the dormitories. These will be used for the kids when Summer Camps can resume once again.

CLUB NEWS



District Governor Lion Glenn Shepard made his official visit on December 10. Lion Don Eckerty, as Program Chairman, introduced him. Lion Glenn spoke about his priorities including membership and the Texas Lions Camp. He said that he was hoping to have the mid-winter conference in January and the district convention in April. He formally inducted our newest member Lion Mike Seerey.



Dr. Margaret Wade, shown with Program Chairman Lion Dr. Tom Ready, was our speaker on January 14. Dr. Wade retired as Dean of the Math and Science Department of Midland College. She spoke about a passion for projects, including Texan by Nature, Dark Skies project at MacDonal Observatory, the Oyster Shell Recycling project in Galveston, and tutoring at MISD.

At the business meeting on January 28, Lion Mike Seerey presented a plan for a club website www.midlandnorthsidelions.org, using iPage.com. It would cost about \$300 for the first three years. Lion Mike offered to pay that cost but other members will defray some of it. Mike will be the club's webmaster. We also agreed to increase membership dues to \$15 monthly starting on July 1. The club agreed to donate a new lion drinking fountain, including installation costs, to the Museum of the Southwest. They will put it on the patio of the children's museum. Lion Tom Ready will work with Lori Wesley, their Executive Director, on the project. We discussed when we should hold our 28th *WE SERVE Breakfast*.

NORTHSIDE SCRAPBOOK



Peace Poster Chairman Lion Don Eckerty organized the Lions international contest at Trinity, St. Ann's, Goddard Junior High and Bowie Fine Arts. The theme was *Peace through Service*. The picture above shows the winners at St. Ann's School. From left are first place winner Santana Guerrero, second place winner Makaylee Marquez, and third place winner Abigail Urbina. The contest was run by Art Teacher Marcia Crowder. At each school the winners received Barnes & Noble gift cards in November—\$50 for first, \$30 for second and \$20 for third. The first place winners went on to the District 2-A1 contest.

SMILE

The new receptionist answered the phone and quickly put it down. "Who was that?" asked the boss. "Some fool saying it was a long distance from Boston. I told him everybody knows that."

The child knelt at his bed to say his prayer. His mother, waiting and listening in the hallway, called, "I can't hear you." "Sorry, Mom," said the little boy, "but I wasn't speaking to you."

A theater manager found a wallet with no name and seven hundred dollars in it. He announced at the intermission, "Will the person who lost the seven hundred dollars please form a double line at the box office?"

Two friends were playing golf. The first man stepped up to the tee and his first drive gave him a hole-in-one. The second man said, "Okay, now I'll take my practice swing, and then we'll start the game."

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President	Lion Dr. Brian Flowers
Vice President	Lion Bill Kelton
Secretary	Lion Don Eckerty
Treasurer	Lion John Wojtkun

Membership	Lion Dr. Brian Flowers
Attendance	Lion Dr. Brian Flowers
<i>Bunny Breakfast</i>	Lion Mark Singh
Chaplain	Lion Frank Stowers
Drinking Fountain	Lion Dr. Tom Ready
Eyeglass	Lion John Wojtkun
Lions Camp	Lion Bill Kelton
Newsletter	Lion Mark Singh
Peace Poster Contest	Lion Don Eckerty
Public Relations	Lion Dan Corrales
<i>Roar with Laughter</i>	Lion Mark Singh
Scholarship	Lion John Wojtkun
Social Media	Lion Ben Murrell & Lion Liz Lazcano

Website	Lion Mike Seerey
Youth Exchange	Lion Frank Stowers

WORDS OF WIT AND WISDOM

Duty is a very personal thing. It is what comes from knowing the need to take action and not just a need to urge others to do something.

Mother Teresa

My advice to you is get married. If you find a good wife you'll be happy; if not, you'll become a philosopher.

Socrates

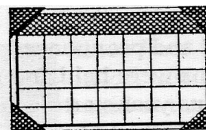
I don't see why I am always asking for private, individual, selfish miracles when every year there are miracles like white dogwood.

Anne Morrow Lindbergh

The illusion that times that were are better than those that are, has probably persuaded all ages.

Horace Greeley

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

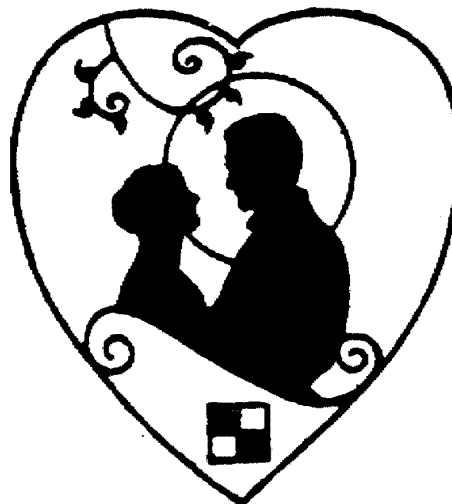


Date on a Saturday in April to be announced
District 2-A1 Convention
San Angelo, TX

Saturday, May 8, 7 to 10 a.m.
28th annual *WE SERVE Breakfast*
Midland Park Mall food court

June 25 to 29
Lions International convention
Scheduled in Montreal, Canada. Will be virtual.

Saturday, October 16, 7:30 p.m.
18th annual *Roar with Laughter*
Hispanic Cultural Center, 1311 E. Wadley



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). **The club's website is: www.midlandnorthsidelions.org.**

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.**