



Lions Club of Lago Vista



45
Years
of Service
Lions Club of
Lago Vista
Founded 1980

District 2-S3
Chartered 1980

FEBRUARY, 2026

A Thought To Ponder

"The only ones among you who
will be really happy are those
who will have sought and found
how to serve."

Albert Schweitzer

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K-Oaks Clubhouse-7000 Bar-K Ranch Road, Lago Vista, TX 78645
Send newsletter contributions to LionAnnaTX@gmail.com





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Jan. 19 Meeting

Program

We got our 2026 meetings off to a great start with a very interesting and informative Program Meeting featuring Shea Brewer, a long time Lago Vista resident who was motivated to work with AirMedCare, an air ambulance provider, after her son was hit by a baseball traveling at 70 MPH during LV High School practice and required immediate, urgent care at a facility far from Lago Vista. Her animated presentation provided useful and reassuring information for many of us. Information on this service is available at airmedcarenetwork.com



Lion President Norma Owen, Lion of the Quarter Jeff Koble and Service and Award Chair Rebecca Stone

Lion of the Quarter

Service and Awards Chair Rebecca Stone announced the winner of the Lion of the Quarter, Jeff Koble.

Lion Jeff demonstrated outstanding continued leadership this quarter through his broad and dependable service across club initiatives. He coordinated grill operations for the Pancake Breakfast and Christmas Tree Lighting, supported National Night Out events, and contributed to Road Warriors efforts that

strengthen community infrastructure and stewardship. His active participation in meetings, involvement in golf planning, and willingness to step in wherever needed reflect a strong commitment to the club's success. Congratulations to Jeff for his exceptional service and dedication.

Continued next page

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COME CHOW DOWN!

February 7, 11 am - 3pm
Lion's Chili Feast

(with or without beans or your choice of Frito Pie, Chili Dogs)

Donation Only!

ALSO; Get a SUPER BOWL of SUPER CHILI!

Consider bringing your own container, pay what you think is fair, and take some
SUPER CHILI home for the **SUPER BOWL** the next day!

Help Spread the Word!

PLUS

Our Famous Silent Auction and Bake Sale!

Lago Vista High School Cafeteria Lohman Ford



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Answer the Call: Give Blood, Save Lives ❤️

One of the most direct and meaningful ways to live out our “We Serve” motto is by rolling up a sleeve and donating blood. The Lago Vista Lions Club proudly partners with We Are Blood to help bolster Central Texas’s lifesaving blood supply—and we invite new Lions to be part of this vital effort.

Every two months, the We Are Blood mobile unit sets up right here in Lago Vista, making it easy and convenient to donate. The bloodmobile visits the CVS parking lot from 8:30 a.m. to noon, and appointments are quick, well-organized, and deeply impactful.



Next Blood Drive: February 21



Location: CVS Parking Lot, Lago Vista



Time: 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



Make an appointment [HERE](#)

(JUST CLICK)



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Supporting a Place Where Service Comes to Life

Nestled in the rolling hills along the Guadalupe River, the Texas Lions Camp is one of the crown jewels of Lionism in Texas. For more than 75 years, this remarkable camp has opened its gates—at no cost to families—to children with physical disabilities, chronic illnesses, and special needs. For many campers, TLC is the one place where limitations fade, confidence grows, and lifelong friendships begin.

Becoming a Century Club member is one of the most meaningful ways Lions ensure this legacy continues. Membership is simple yet powerful: a personal contribution of \$100 per year (or a one-time \$1,000 Lifetime Century Club gift) that goes directly toward maintaining and improving the camp facilities, programs, and medical support that make these life-changing sessions possible. It is a tangible commitment to the Lions' promise: We Serve.

For the Lago Vista Lions Club, our support goes beyond writing a check. Each year, our members proudly donate time and labor to TLC through work weekends and service days. We join forces with Lions from other clubs to paint cabins, do repairs, clear trails, organize supplies, and prepare the grounds so everything is ready when the first buses of excited campers arrive. It is hands-on service at its best—sweat equity that ensures campers experience a safe, welcoming, and joyful environment from the moment they arrive.

Joining the Century Club is more than a donation; it is an affirmation that every child deserves the chance to laugh, explore, and belong. We invite every Lago Vista Lion to consider becoming a Century Club member and to take pride in knowing that your generosity—and your hard work—helps make the magic of Texas Lions Camp possible, year after year.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO BECOME A CENTURY CLUB MEMBER SEE LION DENNIS KEMP OR [CLICK HERE](#).



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Swing Into Action!

This year's theme, "Driving Out Hunger," continues our mission to ensure that no child in Lago Vista faces an empty plate. Through our Children's Hunger Initiative, Lions have provided nutritious meal boxes to local families during school breaks – more than 125 children fed each season, with over \$13,000 in food purchased this past year alone. The results are powerful: well-nourished children learn better, grow stronger, and give our community a brighter future.

Proceeds from the 2026 Golf Tournament will also support other vital Lions programs, including:

- **Texas Lions Camp** – a life-changing experience for children with disabilities, free of charge.
- **KidSight and Vision Assistance** – ensuring children and adults receive the screenings, exams, and eyeglasses they need.
- **Student Scholarships** – helping local graduates pursue education and career goals.
- **Eyeglass Recycling and Disaster Aid Support** – extending help both locally and globally, including assistance for our own Lago Vista Fire Department and ESD1.

Contact Bill Bush to do your part in our biggest, single fundraiser of the year!

wbush@williambush.com



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New KidSighters



One of the Pillars of Lionism that our Club strongly supports is KidSight. It's a very simple and valuable avenue of service. Every year, DSHS (the Texas Department of State Health Services) requires public schools and other publicly funded childcare programs to report the results of certain health screenings for kids in Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and first, third, fifth and seventh grades. These screenings fall on the shoulders of the school nurse, and, as you can imagine, it's a daunting task! For years, our Lions Club has offered help; we even acquired a special instrument, the SPOT screening device, to provide fast, highly accurate screenings for our kids.

Our enthusiasm prompted many of our members to take the training necessary to operate the SPOT; the trouble was, the DSHS would only accept "computerized" screening for kids under 6 years old, which left 1st through 7th graders for the nurses to screen with the Sloan charts, the traditional charts that are evaluated manually. Even though the nurses could only report the SPOT screening for a small number of their students, they often had us screen everyone because our results were fast and accurate. Gradually, however, the school districts decided that they would only have SPOT screening done for kids under 6, as dictated by DSHS. In addition, we faced stricter regulations--as DSHS decided that all screeners had to be State Certified! So, we decided to conform and to start offering Chart screening as well as SPOT screening, thus offering nurses our ability to screen kids of all ages. Currently, all of our screeners are certified to do SPOT as well as Chart screening! As a result, last year we screened over 3,500 kids!

It's a real testimony to the members of our club that **29 members** have chosen to SERVE our schools by helping our nurses do a great job of screening kids. Just think how often you have heard of kids who do poorly in school simply because they cannot see well, and who suddenly, radically improve when their vision is corrected. That is a guiding light, but within that challenge, we are specifically dedicated to detecting Amblyopia ("lazy eye"), which is a defect that, if caught, can be corrected. It is vital that it be detected by age 6, and that is the exact target of our SPOT device. We have members whose children or grandchildren had amblyopia detected in a Lions' screening, and they are so grateful.

The reason for this long explanation is that our District has asked us to set up a State Certification class for Lions living in the cities in the northern part of our District. Our Library has kindly responded by scheduling that screening in the conference room for March 28, and it will last from 8:30 AM until Noon. The State Certification lasts for 5 years, and 6 of our members will be renewing their certifications. If you would like to join this effort, you are welcome! Please let Don Johndrow know (djohndrow@gmail.com), as space will be limited. Also, if you have not been certified for SPOT screening, we will need to set up a brief class to do so beforehand.



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CHILDHOOD
CANCER



DIABETES



DISASTER
RELIEF



ENVIRONMENT



HUMANITARIAN
EFFORTS



HUNGER



VISION



YOUTH

The Eight Pillars of Lionism

The Heart of Who We Are

Lionism stands on eight enduring pillars—each one a reflection of our shared promise to serve with compassion, purpose, and pride. For new Lions, these pillars offer a clear path into meaningful service. For established Lions, they celebrate the values you've lived out time and again.

- *Childhood Cancer embodies our commitment to hope, research, and support when it matters most.*
- *Diabetes focuses our efforts on education, prevention, and improving quality of life.*
- *Disaster Relief showcases Lions at their finest—responding swiftly, selflessly, and together in times of crisis.*
- *Environment reflects our stewardship of the places we love and the future we share.*
- *Humanitarian Efforts answers needs wherever compassion is required.*
- *Hunger calls us to ensure that no one among us is forgotten or left behind.*
- *Vision reminds us that clear sight opens doors to opportunity—for children, families, and entire communities.*
- *Youth inspires us to invest in tomorrow's leaders through guidance, encouragement, and example.*

These pillars are more than areas of service; they are a living expression of “We Serve.” Whether you are just beginning your Lion journey or have spent years answering the call, each pillar stands because of you—and together, they form the strong foundation of our club's lasting impact.



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February Birthdays

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>
Frank Robbins	February 1
Dennis Kemp	February 2
Tracie Hlavinka	February 7
Brenda Collins	February 8
Bill Mauck	February 10
Jeff Nokes	February 14
John Spoerlein	February 20
John Burrows	February 27



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Good news—dinner reservations just got easier.

We've moved to a new, streamlined system that lets you reserve and pay for dinner in one simple step, all in one place. No more juggling reservations, PayPal links, checks, or cash at the door.

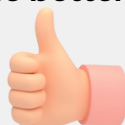
For members, it's fast, secure, and hassle-free. For our volunteers—especially those coordinating meals—it dramatically reduces manual tracking, reconciliation, and night-of logistics. Fewer headaches all around. Win-win.

The new system through Zeffy launches for the Tuesday, February 3 meeting, and even better, there are no processing fees charged to the Club. You will see an optional “convenience tip” suggested during checkout, but we encourage selecting 0%, so there's no added cost to you or the Lions Club. If you haven't created your personal Zeffy account yet, please use the link below to set up your account. If you already have an account, we've included the link for the February 3 dinner reservation below. You must have a Zeffy account to use this new and streamlined system.

We're even exploring adding pre-payment for 50-50 tickets next—pay online, pick them up at the door, and skip the cash entirely.

Sometimes things really do change for the better. This is one of those times.

[CLICK HERE](#) to open a Zeffy account



[CLICK HERE](#) To go directly to dinner reservation page.



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Hidden Treasures

At the end of every meeting, we affirm that what we have in common is that "We Serve!". All through the year we prove that is not simply a rote saying, because we actually fulfill that promise day in and day out, and how often we find the depth and treasure hidden in the fellow Lion we are working with.

This section is based on the information circulated by Lion Don Johndrow. We will highlight a couple of new members in each edition of the newsletter...and we predict that new members will keep being added so this is a feature that will have no end in sight!

No Picture Yet

Ted Diemer – Ted is experienced in sales; in addition he is a handyman who enjoys fishing and golf. He is interested in the Blood Mobile, the Golf Tournament, Healthcare Programs, LEO Mentoring and Youth Contests.



• **Mark Douglas** – Mark gets around! He is on the Golf Course & Parks & Rec Advisory Committees, has been a music member of Rolling Hills for 8 years, and has been an officer in Indian Guides. He checked practically all our avenues of service, and I'll bet when he finds out more about TLC, he'll want to be working with Dennis!



• **Pamela Douglas** – Mark's better half 😊, Pamela, was the Director of Sales for 13 years for Senior Assisted Living communities both in Texas and Ohio. She is a former Outreach Coordinator for senior centers, providing them with resources along with the coordination of home delivered meals. She expressed interest in our Car Wash promotion, Food related fundraisers, Healthcare programs, Meals, parties and events, Programs, Visual Services, and maybe the Scholarship committee.



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Why Club Excellence Matters: More Than an Award— It's Our Legacy in Action

Every Lions Club shares a common mission: to serve our communities with purpose, compassion, and integrity. The **Club Excellence Award** is more than a line item on a checklist—it's a meaningful recognition of a club that is doing exactly that, consistently and thoughtfully. At its core, the Club Excellence Award acknowledges the dedication, effectiveness, and legacy of service within individual clubs. It is also the foundation for higher-level excellence awards presented to Zone Chairpersons, Region Chairpersons, and District Governors—making our club's efforts ripple far beyond our own meetings and projects.

So, what does pursuing Club Excellence really represent?

- **Strong Membership = A Healthy Future**—Growing our club by inducting at least two new members (or +20%, whichever is greater), or sponsoring a new Lions club, ensures fresh ideas, shared workloads, and long-term sustainability. Membership growth isn't about numbers—it's about continuity and energy.
- **Visible, Reported Service**—Service is who we are. By reporting a minimum of four service activities—especially those tied to the three International Weeks of Service—we make our impact visible not just locally, but globally. Reporting tells our story and ensures our work counts where it matters most.
- **Prepared and Engaged Leadership**—Excellence requires leadership development. Timely reporting of officers, participation in the Lions Learning Center, and completion of Club Officer Training ensure that our leaders are informed, prepared, and supported. These requirements help prevent burnout, encourage shared leadership, and keep our club vibrant.
- **Giving Back Through LCIF**—Contributing to LCIF at a level tied to our membership reflects our commitment to Lions' global mission. These donations extend our service worldwide—supporting disaster relief, vision programs, youth initiatives, and more.

Why It's Worth the Effort—Pursuing the Club Excellence Award aligns us with best practices, strengthens our operations, and affirms that we are living up to the Lions motto: We Serve. It celebrates not just what we do, but how well we do it—together. In short, Club Excellence isn't about chasing a plaque. It's about honoring our past, strengthening our present, and securing our future as Lions.



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Date

Event

February 3	BOD Meeting – K-Oaks / Sunflower Room – 4 pm
February 3	Business Meeting – K-Oaks-6 pm
February 7	Chili Feast- Bake Sale & Silent Auction -LV High School Cafeteria 11 am-3 pm
February 14	Road Warriors -Corner of Dawn and Lohman Ford, 8:30 am
February 17	Lions Program Meeting – 6 pm-K-Oaks
February 21	Blood Drive -CVS Parking Lot, 8:30am-12:30 pm
March 3	BOD Meeting – K-Oaks-Sunflower Room – 4 am
March 3	Lions Business Meeting – K-Oaks-6 pm
March 14	Road Warriors -Corner of Dawn and Lohman Ford, 8:30 am
March 17	Program Meeting K-Oaks-6 pm
March 28	Texas Lion Camp Work Day -Kerrville

Always confirm information by going to our website. Changes can be updated online, but once this is published...not so much!

This edition of our newsletter has been proofread by Lions Norma Owen, Don Johndrow, and Dale Mitchell

If you have a planned event please forward it to LionAnnaTX@gmail.com with Calendar Item in the subject line. We are working to avoid conflicts.



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