



Lions Club of Lago Vista

NOVEMBER, 2025



45
Years
of Service
Lions Club of
Lago Vista
Founded 1980

District 2-S3
Chartered 1980

Newsletter

With An Attitude of Gratitude

As we prepare for the next episode of our traditional Thanksgiving, let us take a moment to be inspired by the many things we Lions have been doing, just in the past month and in so doing acknowledge how grateful we are to be able to serve others.



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Send newsletter contributions to LionAnnaTX@gmail.com





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National Night Out



District Convention/LEOS



Meeting



This time of year our community starts getting VERY busy...the crunch of the heat is over, the weather is inviting, our collective spirits soar with the excitement of the coming holiday season and our Lions Club is right there, in the middle of all the activity, helping others, serving the community in myriad ways. The Road Warriors, Blood Drives, KidSight Screenings, National Night Out, Mental Health, Hunger Initiative, District Conventions, Leos, The Big Event; pitchin' in to help other organizations like Friends of the Library, Lifelong Friends, and of course...the excitement of 50/50. At our most recent meeting Lion Dale Mitchell finally found one of the two jokers in the deck of cards and walked away with a tidy sum \$2,612! Congratulations to Mitch!



Hunger Initiative



Road Warriors



Mental Health
FIRST AID



50/50 Winner!

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NOTE: November 4 Business Meeting will be at the Grande Pavilion!!!!



And where is *that*, you may ask? You've probably been there many times, or at least driven past it but maybe you didn't know it is named "Grande Pavilion".

It's the building next to the swimming pool, just before you turn into Bar-K Park. Plenty of parking and with such nice weather it is a great place for a fall meeting!



Dinner is being hosted by Bill and Sara Bush and provided by Bajo La Luna Restaurant. Beef or chicken enchiladas, Mexican Rice, refried beans and dessert.



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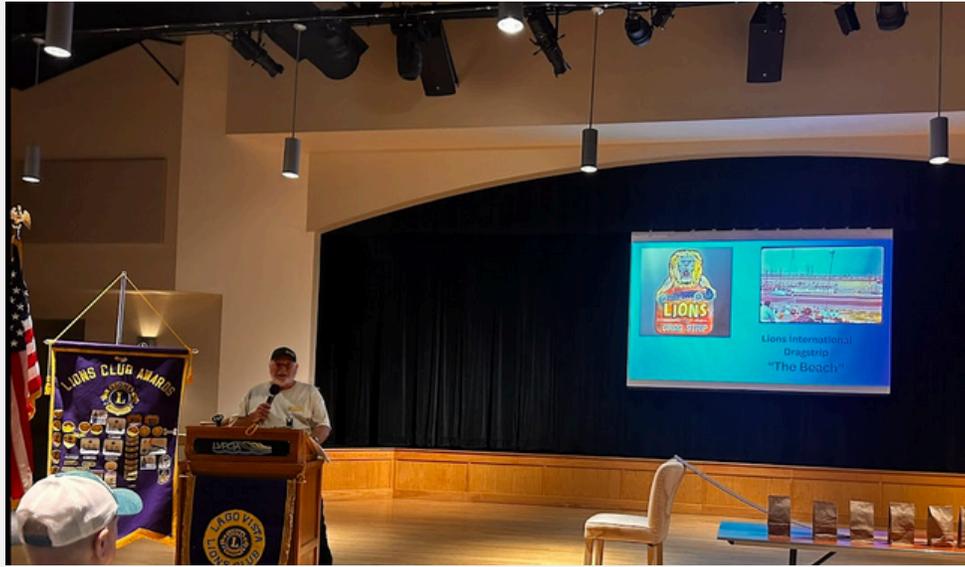
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Oct. 21 Meeting



When dragging isn't a drag!

Our October 21 program was ANYTHING but a drag! Mike Elliott, our Tail Twister, brought us a most fascinating presentation on the Lions Drag Strip which operated in Wilmington County, adjacent to Long Beach in Los Angeles (hence the strip's nickname of "The Beach") from in 1955-1972. It was fascinating to learn how the founding of the drag strip helped to resolve the loss of

life from illegal street drag racing and how it grew in popularity and contributed to a robust subculture, being featured in many movies and popular television programs.



The Lions Automobilia Foundation and Museum was founded in December 2019 by Southern California businessman and car enthusiast, Rick Lorenzen. It's nearly 100,000 sq. ft. facility includes galleries featuring Southern California's infamous car culture and motorsports history.

After viewing a short video Mike challenged a handful of Lions to a mock drag race with Matchbook cars! Some of us have a VERY competitive outlook!



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Lago Vista Lions Focus on Mental Health at National Night Out Event

At Lago Vista's National Night Out event on Oct. 7, 2025, the Lago Vista Lions and LEOs Clubs provided the community with helpful information about existing North Shore mental health resources and services. The service event was in support of Lions Clubs International's active focus on mental health through initiatives that promote awareness, education, and advocacy. It was part of the first Lions Week of Service for Mental Health and Well-being, which took place from October 4-12, 2025, coinciding with World Mental Health Day.



LV Lions Jo Anne Smith, Kathy O'Connor, and LEOs Abigail & Cash (not shown) provide mental health resource and service information to the Lago Vista community as part of Lago Vista's "National Night Out"

In addition to planning and preparing material for the National Night Out event, LV Lion President Norma Owen worked cooperatively with Tracie Thor, President of the Point Venture Lions Club, in planning and hosting an online Mental Health 1st Aid Training for the benefit of both club and community members. And in preparation for the National Night Out event, Lion Bill Bush met with Hope Center Director of Counseling Becky Bostic to learn more about the

many significant counseling services offered by the Hope Center of Lago Vista to youth, adults, and couples in our community. Becky is a Licensed Professional Counselor, MA, LPC. She provided printed copies of important material describing Hope Center Services for the Lions to distribute during the event. She also helped the Lions construct a North Shore Mental Health Resources Directory for the Lions to pass out as an aid to those seeking support. (Next Page)

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Lions Mental Health Service Week

North Shore Mental Health Resources

Lions in Lago Vista are raising awareness for mental health and well-being in our community—connecting neighbors to help, education, and advocacy.

Facts & Importance

- Depression is the leading cause of disability worldwide.
- Many people lack access to adequate mental health services.
- Early support and connection make a lasting impact.

Local Services & Hotlines

- **Hope Center, Lago Vista**
Professional Counseling; Crisis Care, Youth, Adults, Veterans
20513 Dawn Dr.; Lago Vista Tx., 512-432-5925
- **Family First Healthcare – Lago Vista**
Counseling, behavioral health
(512) 267-1877
- **Bluebonnet Trails Community Services**
Williamson County (incl. Round Rock & Georgetown)
Crisis, counseling, youth/adults/veterans
24-Hour Line: 1-800-841-1255 | bbtrails.org
- **Integral Care – Travis County**
Crisis, counseling, medication
24-Hour Help: 512-472-HELP | integralcare.org
- **Rock Springs Changes – Cedar Park**
Outpatient, intensive programs
(737) 808-1700 | rockspringshealth.com
- **Lone Star Circle of Care**
Counseling, medication, support
Georgetown: 877-800-5722
- **Texas Youth Hotline**
For youth & families, text/phone
800-989-6884 | Text: 512-872-5777
- **Psychology Today**
Source to search for individual therapists
<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapists>
- **The Timothy Center.** <https://timothycenter.com>

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Kudos to PP Lion Bill Bush

At the recent District Convention meeting our Past President Bill Bush was presented with the pictured Certificate of Appreciation acknowledging our Club's contribution to furthering the mission of Lionism. He also accepted a patch for our club banner. Congratulations Bill!



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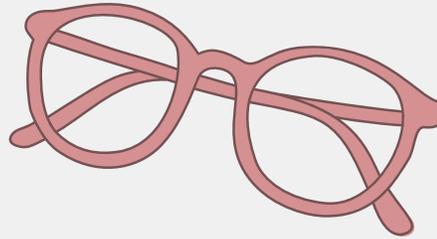
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Don Johndrow

Mike de Sosa has taken over the collection of eyeglasses for recycling. Mike is a great guy and always willing to go the extra mile for the club. I have to tell an anecdote regarding Mike. You may know that when you sign up for dinner reservations, someone gets that information so that the correct quantity of food can be ordered and bills can be paid (Pam Mills, Pat Evans, Mike Zaydel and I). One week, when I was logging the reservations, the name Mike de Sosa popped up, and caused me to wonder who the dickens that was! Just as if he were a member, he logged on, paid for the meal and appeared at the next meeting. Dick Weatherly, who was then in charge of Membership, asked him if he had a sponsor. He said that he knew Dale Mitchell because he played pickleball with him. So, Dale became his sponsor!

That goes to show you... without being a member, Mike found our website, decided Lions was right for him and became one (and a very active one). There's a lesson for us. Encourage people to log in to the website and learn about us. Our membership includes a healthy percentage of the population of Lago Vista, and we're getting bigger and better--We Serve!

I took over eyeglass recycling in January, 2019, from Jim Orr, and turned it over in September to Mike. From when we started keeping record up to when I turned it over, we had recycled around 69,000 pair. Those of you who wear glasses know that you rarely get away with spending \$100 per pair, but applying that number to our collections equates to \$6,900,000, and that's a lot!

Check the website to see where we collect them. Mike should far exceed my 6 years and collect many, many more with your help.



Mike de Sosa



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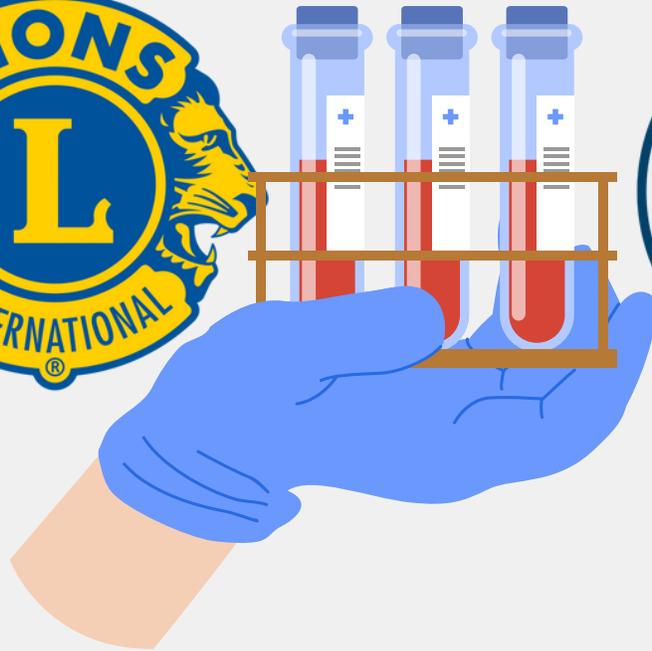
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The October 18 blood drive was somewhat different from the usual ones. There were actually twenty-eight potential donors, including two walk-ins, but the total successful donations were only twenty-one. Five donors were rejected because of low iron and other reasons while two were no shows.

Among our Lions, there are sixteen that have donated in the past but only six Lions showed up this time. I know we can do better folks! Thanks to Patty Bosco, Kevin Sullivan, Ken Johnson, Frank Robbins and Connie Loeschner for their successful donations; all of you are rock stars!

For the first time this year, my (Don Loeschner) blood iron was just a shade low and so they rejected me 😞. We're going to strive for a record turnout next time **on December 13th**. Stay tuned for more fervent pleading and cajoling as that date nears! 🙏

Don and Connie



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Enjoy an evening filled with laughter, music, and holiday spirit!



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Email LionAnnaTX@gmail.com to request a digital copy of the Pancake Breakfast flyer. Share via email, Facebook, Instagram or print it and post it anywhere you have access. Thanks for helping to spread the word!



PANCAKE BREAKFAST And Silent Auction

NOVEMBER 15

BRONCO LANE FIRE STATION

7:30 am-10:30 am



Come and enjoy a plateful of fluffy pancakes, with gobs of butter and syrup plus bacon galore-coffee, juice and great friendship, all for any donation you choose to offer! Plus, a great SILENT AUCTION! DON'T MISS IT!



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Brad Love

Nov. 18 Program

*I'm very excited the Lago Vista Lions Club's commitment to environmental stewardship has welcomed my project, **Swim For The Reef**, to be the November 18 Program Feature.*



Here is a brief summary:

I produced the **Swim For The Reef** documentary-honored to be accredited and screened at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival as well as winning many additional Film Festival awards including Global Film Festival-Most Inspirational Short Film Award. I was humbled and blessed to be the Director, underwater cameraman (love the Divine gift of coral reefs), editor and composer for the documentary.

The documentary relates how a Texas grandfather's love for the oceans and his desire to save them for his grandchildren turned into an epic public awareness campaign and documentary film. The movie tells the story of Paul Ellis, who at age 61 attempted to swim the 40 miles across the Yucatan Channel and by doing so, acquire international attention to the issue of dying coral reefs. Not only does the documentary show that amazing accomplishments can be achieved at any age, it also highlights the many threats to the world's coral reefs and urges everyone to take action to protect them for the sake of the world we are handing to our next generations.

"I see into their eyes and I see not just them, I see their children too and I want them to have a really nice life and I want them to see the coral reefs as vibrant and alive as they are today. Hopefully our mission will in some way, some small measure make it more possible for these wonderful people to have a better shot of seeing the wonders of the world that I've seen. This is what my expedition is all about." Grandpa Paul Ellis



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Here's an Idea!



We have 1 coupons today, up to \$1.00 in savings



SAVE \$1.00

Kellogg's® Cereals

on any TWO Kellogg's® Cereals
(Including Kellogg's® JUMBO SNAX)

CLIP

<https://www.wkkellogg.com/our-foods/coupons>

Our Hunger Initiative is collecting non-perishable food items for the Thanksgiving holiday season and we found this on-line discount coupon from Kelloggs which we thought y'all might like to use to acquire your donation of cereal! Don't clip the artwork in the newsletter, but go to the website using the above link. Click on "Clip" and you will be asked to submit your mobile phone # where they will send a verification code. After you are verified you will be sent a coupon you can print.

Then, bring the cereal to our meeting and make Susan happy!



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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.

We have added a lot of new members in the last several months, and the finest thing we can do is dig in and uncover the treasure they hold within. Every one of us is dedicated to one or more of the different aspects of our service commitment, and these new members need help in finding theirs! Please make sure to go around and begin to know these folks and invite them to get involved.

The newest membership list is hot off the press and published in Members Only on the website- Discover all of the husband & wife teams!--there you will find all the contact information.

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!



- **Adam Benefield** – Adam owns a Landscaping firm and has a history of working closely with young people in sports and with the PTA in school. Over the past few years he has also served our community in the Planning and Zoning and Building and Standards Commission and is currently a member of the Lago Vista City Council, Place 2. He has already shown his dedication to our club by becoming this year’s First Vice President. Among other things, his choice of serving includes the Golf Tournament, the Scholarship Committee and Youth Contests.



- **Allison Burrows** – Allison is the wife of Lion Jon Burrows. She volunteered for years and co-chaired Fort Bend Cares in Sugarland, raising funds for Child Advocates of Fort Bend. Now, she is the New Membership Chair of the Lago Vista Women’s Club! Her service interests include the Hunger Initiative, our Food Related Fundraisers, Meals, Parties & Events along with Membership & Training within the club.



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November

Please Note: Our calendar now includes some community events so we can plan more effectively.

Date	Event
November 1	<i>Point Venture Holiday Bazaar-PV Clubhouse-9am-3pm</i>
November 3	<i>Lions Board of Directors Meeting-4pm-K-Oaks Johnson Room</i>
November 4	<i>Business Meeting-Grande Pavilion-6pm (NOTE: Different location)</i>
November 8	<i>Road Warriors-Corner of Lohman Ford and Dawn Drive-8:30am</i>
November 8	<i>Brew and Balloons- Bar-K Park- 2-9pm</i>
November 8	<i>Tortoise and Hare 5K Race Jonestown-Jones Brothers Park 8am</i>
November 15	<i>Oak Ridge Archery Grand Slam- Oak Ridge Archery</i>
November 15	<i>Pancake Breakfast- Bronco Lane Fire Station-7:30-10:30am</i>
November 18	<i>Program Meeting 6pm-K-Oaks Clubhouse-6pm-Swim for the Reef</i>
November 19	<i>Chamber of Commerce Luncheon-K-Oaks-11:30am</i>
November 20	<i>Jonestown Thanksgiving Luncheon-</i>
November 25	<i>Spirit Day-Bajo la Luna-10% donated to Lions</i>
November 27	Thanksgiving!

This edition of our newsletter has been proofread by Lions Norma Owen 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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