



# Focus

A Publication of the Northwest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center  
"Changing Lives. One Pair of Eyeglasses at a Time"

SEPTEMBER 2011

## A Worthy Purpose

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*Many persons have a wrong idea of what constitutes happiness. It is not attained through self-gratification but through fidelity to a worthy purpose.*  
—Helen Keller



**PZC Jeannie Phillips,  
President, NWLERC**

Have you found your fidelity to a worthy purpose? Most definitely the many volunteers at our NWLERC have shown their loyalty to our purpose. Our numbers grow in the areas of donated glasses as well as many hours worked. One exciting observation is clubs coming to the facility as a work party in place of a club meeting.

**We can accommodate this with a little heads up notice. Contact our volunteer coordinator Iris Young at [tomatonj@aol.com](mailto:tomatonj@aol.com) to schedule a work party.**

This month we are gearing up for our annual Board of Directors meeting being held during the MD 19 Fall Convention. We have three new directors to welcome as well as thanking our departing directors for the service they have willingly given over the past two years.

This will be an important meeting -not to say each yearly meeting isn't- but this

one stands to make a significant impact on our program. Next month you will hear the results in my message.

As I attend many meetings I hear the need for funding programs. Each community may have different needs, all requiring funds. I truly feel each lion needs to find what program is their passion and place their energies to it. I read the story of Helen Keller and later watched the movie, what an impact of emotions I experienced. Fast forward to these last 7 years. I, as a lion found my passion, "SIGHT." Before becoming involved in NWLERC I did chair the eyeglass programs both while in the Kent and Gig Harbor Lions Clubs. It was a natural transition to volunteering

at LERC. I was and am amazed, gratified and proud of our accomplishments. Thousands of people whom haven't had the means of receiving eye care are now experiencing seeing as we know it. Having gone on a mission this past year only strengthens my commitment to broadening this opportunity to others.

Because of Helen Keller our international organization has Sight and Hearing as its base/ founding program. Many other programs have come to fruition yet our strength throughout the world is in vision.

**As your club considers your yearly budget we at NWLERC would ask you to commit \$50.00 or more if possible to our program.**

Our program is worthy of Helen Keller's plea "I appeal to you Lions, you who have your sight, your hearing, you who are strong and brave and kind. Will you not constitute yourselves Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness?"

Thank you all for the work you do in helping NWLERC continue our worthy purpose of "Changing Lives, One Pair of Eyeglasses at a Time" I hope to see you at the Yakima Convention in October.

**Jeannie**

# NWLERC President Jeannie Receives Commendation!

We are so pleased to report that our own PZC Jeannie Phillips has been recognized for her work at the 94th International Convention by International President Sid Scruggs. Jeannie was awarded the International Presidents Letter of Commendation for her dedicated work with NWLERC and her participation in a Convention seminar on sight. She's our own Beacon of Hope...

Congratulations, Jeannie!



## North Mason Lions Work Party



A recent work party from the North Mason Lions. What a great group!

Seated L to R:  
John Cameron,  
Kris Doubek  
Standing: ZC  
Mike Peterson,  
Lynn Knox and  
NWLERC Volunteer Coordinator Iris Young.

## A Word on Eyeglass Collection Boxes...

Over the years, we've seen eyeglass collection boxes come in a wide range of types, from simple cardboard boxes to elaborate lexan creations. Many are purchased from Lions International and many are made by our dedicated clubs, but they all need on thing: a contact number somewhere on the box.

The contact number is very important for at least one important reason: It allows the hosting organization (optometrist, library, or other retail establishments) to contact the club when the box is full. How simple is that? It's just common courtesy, but we've seen a lot of boxes in various places over the years that are chock full of glasses and nobody knows who to call.



So please, when you put out your collection boxes....have a contact number on them. Thanks!

# NWLERC Key Statistics, 8-31-11

	THIS MONTH	THIS YEAR	PRIOR YEARS	SINCE 2004
Eyeglasses Received	6,461	12,022	1,135,090	1,147,112
Eyeglasses to Missions	584	2,784	114,601	117,385
Gold Recycled	0	616	39,278	39,894
Recycled Junk/VOSH & others	0	532	441,627	442,159
Volunteer Hours	564	1,264	31,122	32,386
Missions Supported	1	6	126	132
Mission-Ready Inventory	10,350			

## This & That

### New Directors

We are very pleased to welcome our newest Directors to the NWLERC board.

**Lion Paul Whelan** has been appointed to represent District H. Paul is a member of the South Whidbey Lions and has been involved with NWLERC for some time. Paul joins **Lions Sam Clayton** who was appointed this spring. Sam is a member of the Pasco Lions. We look forward to working with these two new Directors, and we hope you will come and meet them at our 2012 Board of Directors meeting to be held Saturday, October 15, 2012 at 10:30am as part of the MD-19 Fall Convention in Yakima.

### Wash Wash, Wash

As all you NWLERC volunteers are aware, there is always an ebb and flow in the eye-glass production line from intake to output. The good news is we have a great trained cadre of lensometer readers. Lately, the bad news is that we seem to be in short supply of washed glasses for the lens-tech's to read. So please, please, please....wash, wash, wash for the time being so we can fully employ our lens-techs. Your Site manager will give you details when you arrive for your work party.... Thanks!



**NWLERC Stars**  
September, 2011



**Sue Madsen**

**Kent Lions**

**Don Schmidt**

**Lacey Sunrise Lions**

*Thanks & Congratulations for Your  
Dedication and Hard Work!*

*Your Work Makes THIS possible:*



# Upcoming Events

September 14 NWLERC Monthly Executive Meeting, 10am

October 13-15 Fall Convention, Yakima. NWLERC Board of Directors Meeting

October 26 Pierce County Homeless Connect, Tacoma Dome

## NWLERC Board of Directors

District B	<b>Sue Campbell</b>	<i>Renton Lions</i>
District C	<b>Dr Bob Pinson</b>	<i>Lacey Sunrise Lions</i>
District D	<b>Russ Fineman</b>	<i>Moses Lake Lions</i>
District E	<b>Howard Bergdoll</b>	<i>Spokane Central Lions</i>
District F	<b>Sam Clayton</b>	<i>Pasco Lions</i>
District G	<b>Kerby Kee</b>	<i>Longview Early Birds</i>
District H	<b>Paul Whelan</b>	<i>South Whidbey Lions</i>
District I	<b>Marty Vetere</b>	<i>Pt Townsend Branch Club</i>



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