

# LION LETTERS

CLUB NEWS, EVENTS, SERVICES, AND MORE

AUGUST 2019 | SUMMER NEWSLETTER

A photograph of two men standing on a grassy field, likely a golf course, holding shotguns. The man on the left is wearing a dark polo shirt, blue jeans, a baseball cap, and sunglasses. The man on the right is wearing a light-colored polo shirt with a Lions Club logo, blue jeans, a baseball cap, and sunglasses. In the background, there are trees and a building with a sign that says "BRIDE".

**SPORTING  
CLAY RAISES  
\$27,181**

MEET YOUR NEW 2019-2020  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SPORTING CLAY TOURNAMENT  
GOES OFF WITH A BANG

Written by: Lion Ann Ward  
Designed by: Lion Brittany Hendrickson





Cover Photo: Cameron Labunski, left, recruited Sponsors and Teams for the Ninth Annual Sporting Clay Shoot-Out, which was co-chaired by Michael Cowan, right  
Pictured Above: More than 20 Austin Founder Lions worked at the June 7 tournament at Capitol City Clays.

# CONTENTS

## 4 LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

*President Ann Ward*

## 5 THE BOARD BEAT

*Get to know these Lions*

## 6-9 SPORTING CLAY TOURNAMENT

*Another successful sporting clay fundraiser*

## 10 APD SPEAKS TO AFLC

*Chief Manley visits club*

## 11 LET'S CELEBRATE

*June, July & August birthdays*

## 12-13 LIONS ON THE LOOSE

*Where we've been lately*

## 14 UPCOMING CLUB FUNDRAISERS

*Casino night & rose day - COMING SOON*

## 15 TEXAS LIONS CAMP RECAP

*Recapping another great summer*

## 16 VISION SCREENING FUN

*El Mundo events a success!*

## 17 UPCOMING EVENTS

*Mark your calendars now*



# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Lion Ann Ward, Austin Founder Lions President 2019-2020

I became a Lion to carry on my father’s legacy, and I believe in what Lions Clubs International represents. I’ve seen the work of Lions literally around the world in my travels.

LCI President Dr. Jung-Yul Choi from South Korea is focused on embracing diversity in all its manifestations. While Lions around the world look different, speak different languages, embrace multiple faiths and have different cultures, all Lions have one purpose – to serve.

This club has a long, proud history; in January the club will begin its 104th year of service. To endure that long, this club has had to overcome challenges and reinvent itself periodically. During World War I, the club recycled old tires and sold war bonds. The war ended, and the club took up new activities. I think the best way to honor the past and our predecessors is to perpetuate their legacy of service into the future. To me, that means new members and providing services that are relevant to the changing Austin community.

I thank all who participated in the Membership Survey earlier in the year; we had a 25% response rate. Respondents reflected the make-up of the club in gender, age and years of membership. There is commonality of purpose among members, and a solid belief in our vision screening and Texas Lions Camp activities. However, many members are unaware of other service opportunities, like Meals on Wheels, eyeglass recycling and preparing meals at the Ronald McDonald House. Our weekly programs were the highest rated aspect of our organization.

Many members see opportunities for improvement and more meaningful use of the short time we have together each week... helping members get to know each other, and learning more about Lions in general and what our club does

specifically. Members like the idea of more social activities outside meetings.

Membership Chair Scott Arnold has a plan to retain and recruit new members. The Austin of 2019 is very different from the city I moved to in 1985. Today, Austin is one of the fastest growing, most desirable places to be on the planet. With Scott’s leadership, we can market our community services assets, along with the wealth of professional knowledge and expertise you represent and can share with younger people building their careers. Our club has one chance to make a good first impression on a prospective member.

There are eight Lions Clubs in Austin. The Founder name must be associated with everything we do. We also must view each service activity as a potential member recruiting event.

I have three personal goals for the year: Enhance and maximize community service. Create a welcoming culture for new members and project a contemporary, professional image that attracts potential members. And, let’s have fun, both in service and social settings.

This is OUR club. We ALL share in the responsibility for making AFLC successful. The board and I ask for your support, and for your openness to new ideas. Just because “we’ve always done” something or “we tried that and it didn’t work” shouldn’t stop us from trying new ideas and polishing our image. The world is different than it was just five years ago.

As with the Lions emblem, let’s be proud of our past while looking to the future, searching for new, relevant opportunities to serve today’s Austin community.

# MEET THE BOARD



**ANN WARD**  
*President*



**JOHN NYFELER**  
*1st Vice President*



**CRAIG ESTES**  
*2nd Vice President*



**GAYLORD ARMSTRONG**  
*3rd Vice President*



**LEONOR MARQUIS**  
*Secretary*



**JIM ROBERSON**  
*Treasurer*



**PATTI ROBINSON**  
*Lion Tamer*



**NORMAN TYRING**  
*Tail Twister*



**SCOTT ARNOLD**  
*Membership Chair*



**BRITTANY HENDRICKSON**  
*Marketing Chair*



**BILL ANDERSON**  
*Director*



**LINDA LOCKE**  
*Director*



**SAM RUIZ**  
*Director*



**JUDY SAAL**  
*Director*



**TOM UHL**  
*Director*



**SCOTT HENDRIX**  
*Immediate Past President*





# SPORTING CLAY TOURNAMENT

## GOES OFF WITH A BANG!

Austin Founder Lions hosted the club's ninth annual Sporting Clay Shoot-Out on June 7 at Capital City Clays. A total of 26 teams competed in two fields. Prizes were awarded for First and Second in both the Blue and Red Fields, as well as overall Dead Last. Winning teams were sponsored by Austin Sonic Drive-In and Tokyo Electron America. Second place winners were Lion Greg Harkrider's Edward Jones team and Wiss, Janney, Elsner Associates. Dead Last went to Kimley-Horn. Cameron Labunski and his partner Dante Angelini won the flurry drawing.

The primary beneficiary for the event was the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation – Austin Chapter. With LCI's new focus on diabetes, partnering with JDRF enabled the club to help support local activities and resources for children diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes. JDRF – Austin Chapter also helps recruit children with Type 1 diabetes to attend Texas Lions

Camp.

"This year's tournament was the best yet, and we are able to provide JDRF – Austin Chapter with a contribution of \$10,873.00," said Ann Ward event co-chair. JDRF is allowing the club to use these funds to sponsor a Team for the One Walk on Nov. 10 at Toney Burger Center. In addition, the club will be doing vision screening and promoting Texas Lions Camp at the event.

"We held this event in conjunction with our long-time partner, the NFL Alumni – Austin Chapter, and we are pleased to contribute \$4,078.00 to the local organization to use in its work to care for Austin children," she added.

Event, Team and Station Sponsors helped make the tournament a success. In addition, "we also thank the more than 30 volunteers from the JDRF – Austin Chapter, and more than 20 Austin Founder Lions who worked in various capacities from early morning

until mid-afternoon to stage the event. We could not have done it without everyone's support," she added. Some 20 or more NFL Alumni and several members of the University of Texas Trap and Skeet Club volunteered, hosting stations and serving as fill-in shooters.

"We are pleased with the number of community teams and sponsors who are returning year after year. Great Smokey Mo's BBQ, friendly competition and the opportunity to meet former National Football League players make this a fun event, and everyone has a great time," said Michael Cowan, event co-chair.

Other Sporting Clay Committee members included Gaylord Armstrong, Tommy Cowan, Mark Hastings, Cameron Labunski, Jim Overton, Jonathan Ratcliff and Robert Watson; NFLA members Raul Allegre and Chris McNelley; and Mike Brin and Liza Dubinsky, JDRF – Austin Chapter.







# WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR....

**SAVE THE DATE** for the 2020 Austin Founder Lions Club Sporting Clay Tournament on **Friday, June 12th!**

Want to help plan next year's event? Reach out to Lion Ann Ward at 512-338-1623 to get plugged in. We'd love for you to help!





# APD Chief Speaks to Austin Founder Lions Club

Austin Police Chief Brian Manley spoke to about 50 members and guests of the Austin Founder Lions Club on July 25. The Austin native and 30-year veteran of the force discussed the state of American policing. He reported that the U.S. has about 18,000 police departments that employ some 900,000 men and women. While many of these units employ only 10-15 people, APD has 1,929 officers plus 731 civilians. Each year, APD responds to more than 1 million 9-1-1 calls, as well as initiates some 260,000 contacts, ranging from community meetings to traffic stops.

Manley highlighted some of the differences in policing today and 30 years ago. He attributes the loss of respect for police officers to the creation and explosive growth of social media which allows videos and photographs to be shared instantly. Social media has provided a venue for people to post information that is not verified or is incomplete or out-of-context.

Chief Manley told the Lions that Austin is the fifth safest major city with a population of 500,000 or more; these statistics measure murders, rapes, robberies and aggravated assault. He explained that crime “pockets” itself and is most prevalent in these geographic areas, which tend to have more low-income and people of color. For example, while African Americans represent 8 percent of the city's population, arrests and use of force are much higher in this segment of the population.

Manley explained how individuals are recruited and screened for APD, as well as the eight-month training academy. He proudly stated that women represent 11 percent of the newest class of cadets. During discussion he responded to questions about the city's new ordinance dealing with the homeless population. He also talked about how many of those arrested have mental health issues, and the need for alternatives for individuals with mental health or addiction issues.

**Thanks APD for all that you do!**



Austin Founder Lions Past Presidents Tommy Cowan, center, and Alan Ford, right, chatted with Austin Police Chief Brian Manley after the meeting.



Lion Robert Seidel, right, introduced Austin Police Chief Brian Manley, who spoke to Austin Founder Lions Club on July 25.



Members of the Austin Founder Lions Club enjoyed a presentation by Austin Police Chief Brian Manley.

Photos taken by Robert Seidel

# LET'S CELEBRATE

**Happy Birthday to all of our Lions with June, July and August birthdays!**

Sam Ruiz  
Susan Salling  
Brittany Hendrickson  
Drew Scheberle  
Even Wienck  
Paul Cruz  
Jackie Hammett  
Bob Rizzo  
Frank "Moon" Tantillo  
Leah Baxter

June 2nd  
June 6th  
June 8th  
June 10th  
June 12th  
June 16th  
June 19th  
June 20th  
June 22nd  
June 29th

Dewayne Naumann  
Ann Teich  
Mollie Tower  
Jon Wisser  
Robert Seidel  
Leonor Marques

July 4th  
July 5th  
July 17th  
July 21st  
July 26th  
July 27th

Tom Uhl  
Gaylord Armstrong  
Chuck Mandelbaum  
Anne Rodgers  
J.P. Kirksey  
Herb Canada  
Nancy Phillips  
Thomas Benevelli  
Tommy Cowan  
Fred Jenga  
Ron Hruby

August 1st  
August 3rd  
August 8th  
August 9th  
August 16th  
August 17th  
August 18th  
August 25th  
August 27th  
August 28th  
August 31st



# LIONS ON THE LOOSE

*A look back at Lions in the community over the last few months.*



## JACK WIECH FELLOWSHIP

Immediate Past President Scott Hendrix received the prestigious Jack Wiech Fellowship in appreciation for his service as 2018-19 Club President at the June 20 meeting. President Ann Ward, right, presented the award named in honor of Jack Wiech, who is considered the founder of Texas Lions Camp, which Hendrix's daughter has attended for several summers.



## JDRF AUSTIN HONORS AUSTIN FOUNDER LIONS

Austin Founder Lions Club President Ann Ward, center, received the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's Community Builder Award during the chapter's Annual Meeting and Volunteer Celebration Dinner on June 25. JDRF Executive Director Mike Brin, left, and Laura Stoner, right, JDRF Austin board president, presented the award to Ward in honor of the Austin Founder Lions Club inviting JDRF to become its partner and primary beneficiary of its 2019 Sporting Clay Shoot-out, which was June 7. Club members also volunteered at the JDRF Austin Chapter's TypeOneNation Summit in late March.



## LONGHORN ALUMNI BAND TRIP

Three members of the University Texas Longhorn Alumni Band and Dr. Scott Hanna, associate director of Bands at UT, spoke at the club's Aug. 8 meeting. They recounted the group's journey to Normandy, France, where the Alumni Band performed during the commemoration activities of the 75th anniversary of the Allies' June 6, 1944, invasion of the German-held area during World War II. Lions J.P. Kirksey, left, Ken Crone and Alan Ford shared their memories and photos. Dr. Hanna, right, discussed how the trip originated, and the logistics involved in its execution.



## LCI PRESIDENTIAL AWARD PRESENTED TO WARD

At the Aug. 3 Fellowship Banquet hosted by the Past District Governors of Texas Lions, LCI President Jung-Yul Choi presented special Presidential Awards to two Texas Lions. One went to Ann Ward, AFLC president. Past International Director Sam Lindsey of Kosse helped present the award, which recognizes exemplary service, contribution and active involvement.



## DIABETIC RETINOPATHY DISCUSSED

Marie Bui, M.D., an ophthalmologist practicing at Austin Eye, spoke to AFLC on Aug. 15 about diabetic retinopathy, the most common cause of vision loss among people with diabetes and a leading cause of blindness among working-age adults. Rachel Reed, CAE, executive director of the Texas Ophthalmological Association, shared briefly what her organization does. Pictured left to right are Reed; 1st VP John Nyfeler; Dr. Bui; Dr. Jack Pierce, a TOA Board member and guest; club member Dr. Jane Edmond; and Sam Ruiz, who introduced the program.



## CHECK PRESENTED TO JDRF

At the Aug. 22 meeting, Sporting Clay Committee members Ann Ward, left; Gaylord Armstrong; and Tommy Cowan presented a check for \$10,873.00 to JDRF – Austin Chapter Executive Director Mike Brin. The check represents the club's donation to JDRF from the proceeds of the June 7 Sporting Clay Shoot-Out. (See related story, pages 6-9.)





# CASINO NIGHT COMING SOON...

**Lions Club Casino Night | Friday, February 7, 2020**  
 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM | Red Oak Ballroom - 2525 W Anderson Lane

Come celebrate 2020 with a throwback to the Roaring 20's with "casino" games, hors d'oeuvres and libations - and help support our vision screening efforts.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Planning a large fundraiser like this one takes lots of help - if you are interested in helping out, please contact Brittany Hendrickson at [bhendrickson@dbrinc.com](mailto:bhendrickson@dbrinc.com) or at 713-857-0435.



# ROSE DAY COMING SOON...

**Annual Rose Day Fundraiser**  
 Date: TBD

It's that time of year again! We need your help to make our annual Rose Day Fundraiser a success. We need volunteers to help us sell, pack and deliver roses. If you are able to help in any capacity, please contact Robert Watson at 512-431-6324 or [robertwatson41@gmail.com](mailto:robertwatson41@gmail.com)

# —TEXAS LIONS CAMP



## SERVING UP COLD REFRESHMENTS!

On June 16, four Austin Founder Lions and their guests traveled to Kerrville to welcome campers to the third session of Texas Lions Camp and serve them refreshments. Participants included, left to right, Lions Rudy Munguia and Judy Saal; Gloria Munguia; Lion Ann Ward, Kodie Nagy-Montgomery, a teacher at the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired; and Lion Patti Robinson.

## GOLF TOURNAMENT SUCCESS

The 26th Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament raised a record \$260,000 this year for Texas Lions Camp! The live and silent auctions at the camp breakfast raised another \$20,000, approximately. This year's tremendous success is due in large part to the \$100,000 matching grant provided by James Avery Artisan Jewelry. Austin Founder Lion Bill Martin was a Silver Sponsor. Hole Sponsors included AFLC, Bill Anderson, J.P. Kirksey and Ann Ward.



TLC President John Eads stands by his banner; Bill Martin's banner is behind him.



## TLC SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTED

AFLC presented a \$1,000 scholarship to Texas Lions Camp counselor Grace Whalen on Aug. 3. Austin Founder Lion Bill Martin, right, presented the award with club President Ann Ward.



# AFLC PROVIDES VISION SCREENINGS AT EL MUNDO EVENT, AUGUST 17TH

Austin Founder Lions and their friends provided vision screening at the Aug. 17 Back-to-School Festival sponsored by El Mundo newspaper at the Delco Center. Some 262 individuals were screened, with 48 referrals! Sam Ruiz issued 23 vouchers for follow-up examinations and eyeglasses if needed. Everyone did an awesome job under loud, hectic conditions! Several thousand people attended.

Among those AFLC members/friends participating were: Tommy Cowan, Adriana De la Torre, Alan Ford, Judy Jones, J.P. Kirksey, Chuck Mandelbaum, Syd Popinsky, Rudy Munguia, Sam Ruiz, Judy Saal and Ann Ward.

Munguia brought along his wife Gloria, and Marina Garcia, widow of our beloved Gus Garcia. Those ladies worked their charm and persuaded many mothers and children to participate in the screening.

Although unable to attend, Mariela Gutierrez sent her son Josh and his grandfather to help, and they rustled up participants during the beginning of the event.

Allan Frank, the pediatrician who has visited club meetings several times with Mac Ragsdale, helped out, and subsequently submitted his membership application!

Vickie Flaughter, a former member of the Bluebonnet Lions Club in San Marcos, attended also. Sam Ruiz brought a church friend, Daniel Young, who may be a potential new member!



Those working the first shift included Alan Ford, left; Vickie Flaughter, J.P. Kirksey, Sam Ruiz, Ann Ward and Tommy Cowan.



Working at the registration table were Chuck Mandelbaum, left; Gloria Munguia; Sam Ruiz, standing; Marina Garcia; and Syd Popinsky.



A large number of people attended the Back-to-School Festival at the Delco Center on Aug. 17.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### PRE-K 3 VISION SCREENINGS

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2019**

Vision screening in Austin Independent School District facilities with pre-kindergarten classes for three- and four-year olds located in the North part of the city begin. Contact Rudy Munguia at [rmunguia24@gmail.com](mailto:rmunguia24@gmail.com) or 512-258-6553 to volunteer. Two schools per month are scheduled through May.

### PRE-K 3 VISION SCREENINGS

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019**

Vision screening in Austin Independent School District facilities with pre-kindergarten classes for three- and four-year olds located in the South part of the city begin. Contact Robert Watson at [robertwatson41@gmail.com](mailto:robertwatson41@gmail.com) or 512-431-6324 to volunteer. Two schools per month are scheduled through May.

### DISTRICT 2-S3 CABINET MEETING

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2019**

Austin Founder Lions Club is hosting the 2nd District 2-S3 Cabinet Meeting on Oct. 12 at Anderson High School, 8403 Mesa Drive. Registration and breakfast will be in the Cafeteria beginning at 7:30 a.m. District Governor Larkin Smith will call the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. Featured speaker at the luncheon will be Past International Director Sam Lindsey. Volunteers are needed to help with the event; please contact Leonor Marques at [leonorfaria@gmail.com](mailto:leonorfaria@gmail.com) or 512-739-6670. Registration is available online at [www.austindowntownlions.org](http://www.austindowntownlions.org).

### WHITE CANE DAY

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2019**

Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired will host the annual White Cane Day on the campus. Volunteers are needed to assist participants. Contact Patti Robinson at [robinsonp@tsbvi.edu](mailto:robinsonp@tsbvi.edu) or 512-228-4356 to volunteer.

### TSBVI PARENT WEEKEND

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2019**

Parent Weekend at the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired is scheduled for Nov. 9. Austin Founder Lions will be conducting vision screenings for parents and siblings of TSBVI students. Volunteers are needed. Contact Patti Robinson at [robinsonp@tsbvi.edu](mailto:robinsonp@tsbvi.edu) or 512-228-4356 to volunteer.

### JDRF ONE WALK

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2019**

Austin Founder Lions Club is sponsoring a team in the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation – Austin Chapter's One Walk, scheduled at Toney Burger Center, 3200 Jones Road. Check-in begins at 8 a.m., and the two-mile walk starts at 10 a.m. AFLC will have a tent with displays to promote the club and recruit for Texas Lions Camp. AFLC also will be doing vision screening for participants. Volunteers are needed to walk, staff the information booth and help with vision screening. Contact Ann Ward at [awardcomm@gmail.com](mailto:awardcomm@gmail.com) or 512-338-1623 for more information.



### WANT TO CHECK OUT ONE OF OUR VISION SCREENING EVENTS?

Contact one of our committee members for more information - we'd love to have you!

- Tommy Cowan | 512-762-5317
- Sam Ruiz | 512-914-1287
- Rudy Munguia | 512-258-6553



# WE SERVE.



**Austin  
Founder  
Lions Club**