



# Focus

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

APRIL 2010

**John Kirry**  
*President*  
*Focus Editor*

**PDG Emerson Bishop**  
*VP Outreach*

**PZC Mel Williamson**  
*VP Fundraising*

**PZC Jeannie Phillips**  
*Secretary/Satellite Coordinator*

**Lyell Clark**  
*Treasurer/Procurement*

**Ed Kane**  
*Public Relations*  
*Website*

**Lynda Ford**  
*Volunteer Coordinator*

**Don Schmidt**  
*Facilities Manager*

**PZC Bob Pinson**  
*Founder/Mission*  
*Coordinator*

**Terry Wright**  
*Co-Founder/*  
*Prison Partnership Coordinator*

**Pat Baron**  
*Recycling Manager/*  
*Quality Assurance*

**Cliff Brandsma**  
*Lead Site Manager*

**Jean Cook**  
*Mission Coordinator*

**Michael Petty**  
*Quality Assurance/*  
*Training*

## 247,764 Pairs *NOT* in the Landfill

Since taking over as our Recycling Coordinator less than two years ago, Olympia Mid-Day Lion Pat Baron has been on a crusade to keep the landfills free of discarded eyeglasses.

And she has succeeded.—big time.

Responding to the most common complaint from volunteers "Why do we throw so many pairs of eyeglasses in the landfill,?" Pat went to work finding a recycler who would use virtually every reusable component of the eyeglasses. She found ReSpecs, a California company that advertises in the Lion magazine.

Within months, she had changed the course of



**Lion Pat Baron Leads our very successful Recycling Program**

NWLERC into an organization that throws away only the "coffee cups and candy wrappers" of the volunteers.

She was so successful that her work caught the attention of the Washington State

Recycling Association and in 2009 NWLERC was named the Recycler of the Year-Non Profit! Pat traveled with Jeannie Phillips to Yakima to receive the award on behalf of NWLERC.

Top date, we have recycled over 225,000 pairs of eyeglasses that were previously going into the landfill. This is a huge accomplishment in the evolution of our foundation, and we are very proud of Pat and her dedicated work.

So when you send us all your broken and seemingly unusable glasses, we truly have a use for them—Pat Baron has seen to that.

**John**

## District C Conference Recognition for NWLERC Pair

A pair of officers from NWLERC, **President John Kirry** and **Secretary/Satellite coordinator Jeannie Phillips** received recognition at the District C Spring Conference held in Tacoma in early March. John

was recognized with a Certificate of Appreciation From the International President in part for his work making NWLERC the premier foundation it has become.

Jeannie was given a District governor's Medal for her

work as District Sight Chair and as Satellite coordinator of NWLERC.

Both were humbled to receive such high honors.





This is who we serve...

Since 2004, we have produced over 90,000 pairs of Mission Ready Eyeglasses on 91 Missions to 26 countries on four continents!

# NWLERC Travels to District H

On the weekend of March 26-28, **John Kirry, Jeannie and Pat Phillips and Pat Baron** traveled to Bellingham to represent NWLERC at the District H Spring Conference. John spoke to the open session on behalf of the foundation

on Saturday morning, and presented **DG Virginia Edgelow** a special award for the enthusiasm she displayed this year for NWLERC. The group manned a display table for the weekend and con-

nected with Board Member **Dr. Ken Henderson** as well as other district folks involved with eyeglass collection and processing. A satellite is in the initial stages of development and we are very excited to have them on board.



**John Kirry, Pat Baron, Jeannie Phillips, and Pat Phillips** at the NWLERC display table in Bellingham.

# Extreme Makeover Coming to Lacey!

On April 7, volunteer coordinator Lynda Ford will chair a committee of interested parties who want to help with the upcoming NWLERC Extreme Makeover.

We have extended our lease for three more years at our current location, and it's time to spruce things up and do a little spring cleaning. The committee has a long list of

"Things to Do" including painting, rearranging the office, new door locks, new information boards, revised awards area, grounds upkeep, outdoor lighting and LOTS OF OTHER THINGS. Everyone is invited to attend on Wednesday, April 7, at 1:30pm at the NWLERC building in Lacey.

The date for the actual work party will be forthcoming.



# Nominations for 2010-12 Officers

The nominations for New Officers are open.

Every two years, our officers are up for election or re-election to carry on the important work of our foundation.

This year so far we have received the following nominations:

**President: Jeannie Phillips**

**VP-Operations: Pat Baron**

**Secretary: Roberta Pinson**

**Treasurer: Lyell Clark**

**Public Relations: Ed Kane**

**VP-Outreach: Open**

**Immediate Past President:**

**John Kirry (John will be the 19C-1 Zone chair for 2010-11)**

If you would like to nominate an individual or individuals for positions, please contact Secretary Jeannie Phillips by email at [snipn@aol.com](mailto:snipn@aol.com).



## NWLERC District Directors at Work!



**NWLERC Director from District I, Marty Vetere, presents a patch and letter to Harold Prather**

At a recent Port Townsend Lions meeting Harold Prather attended to sell tickets for the Quilcene Lions Pancake Breakfast. Marty Vetere, NW Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center Director, had a little surprise for him when Harold was finished with his ticket sale promotion. Harold and the Quilcene Lions were presented with a large banner patch and a letter of appreciation for their contribution to NWLERC in the 2008-2009 Lions year.

This is the first award presentation that Marty has made in MD 19-I since becoming one of the Directors.

**At right, NWLERC District D Director Russ Fineman (blue shirt) works with VDG Mike Conley to process glasses.**

**Russ has been associated with NWLERC from the beginning and we're proud to have him!**



# Sumner Club Storms NWLERC!

On March 3, The Sumner Lions showed up in force and invaded NWLERC as an all-club event. What a fun group to work with. They drove a long way to Lacey, and got right to work sorting, cleaning and processing eyeglasses. Thanks, Sumner Lions!



9013 Mullen Road SE  
Olympia WA 98543  
360-923-2075

Sumner lions put on their “Wacky Glasses” for the camera.

Front Row: Jackie Wilcox, Mary Eisenberger and Sandy Nolen

Back row: Norm Wilcox, Kathy Mendiola, Bob Rutledge and David Johnson

## Upcoming Events

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| April 7    | Extreme makeover meeting<br>LERC Building, 1:30pm  |
| April 9-10 | District B Spring Conference<br>Bring Your Glasses as NWLERC will<br>Have their cargo trailer there! |
| April 13   | NWLERC Monthly Executive Meeting<br>LERC building, 6:30pm  |