

Focus

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

JUNE 2010

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One Last Thing....

Just three words sum up my feelings as I close my term as president of NWLERC:

Thank You Volunteers!

Here's what I have learned during the past two years:

Our volunteers are the BEST anywhere. Yeah, yeah, I know that's a big statement to make. But it's absolutely true.

When we started in 2004, we produced 1148 pairs of glasses that went to one mission in Honduras. To this date, we have sent over 94,000 pairs of processed glasses on 96 missions to 27 countries on four continents.

Wow. What an amazing accomplishment., and it's all due to the hard work of volunteers throughout MD-19, volunteers who have a passion to see NWLERC and its mis-



In this now "famous" photo by NWLERC PR Chief, Ed Kane, John and his Big Shoes take it easy while the volunteers keep everything going.

sion succeed.

Volunteers collect, sort and read the glasses on the lensometer. They box recyclables, fill the mission requests and load the dishwashers. They sweep

the parking lot, paint the floors and clean the bathroom. They pay the bills and keep the budget, buy supplies and raise funds. They update the website, train new lens-techs and work with the prison program. They coordinate our 10 satellites, coordinate our volunteers, and coordinate Quality Assurance. They make sure our Site Managers and new volunteers are trained, they run the outreach program for developmentally disabled kids, and they help at numerous homeless events in our region.

All these things are done by our volunteers, and I can't say THANK YOU enough to those of you who have built this great organization that lives up to our calling: "Changing Lives. One Pair of Eyeglasses at a time."

It's been an honor to serve with you.

John

One Million Eyeglasses Collected by NWLERC!

As we've been trumpeting over the last several months, we are closing in on some significant milestones for NWLERC.

At the end of May, we received our **one millionth** pair of eyeglasses at our

Lacey center.

It is very fitting that we officially received our millionth pair in a batch sent to us by the Lacey Sunrise Lions Club. Lacey Sunrise, our "founding club" so to speak, is full of talented volunteers who have helped make

NWLERC a premier facility, known worldwide for our attention to detail and adherence to the highest standards of quality.

Thanks to every volunteer who made this happen!

**This is
who we
serve...**



Two New Vice Presidents for NWLERC

In April, our Board of Directors approved several changes to our bylaws. One of those changes was a significant alteration of our Vice Presidential structure.

Effective July 1, we will replace our Vice President of Fundraising with the new position of Vice President, Operations.

That job will be assumed by our long-time recycling queen, **Pat Baron**. Pat will oversee all areas of operations from recycling and QA to Mission Fulfillment and Eyeglass collecting and processing.

It's a big new job, but Pat has shown her resolve and ability to handle problems with great distinction.

Our other VP job, Vice President of Outreach, will be in the capable hands of Bill Miller. Bill is the outgoing President of Lacey Lamplighters and will be this year's C6 Zone Associate.

Both of these individuals bring energy and enthusiasm to NWLERC and we are very pleased that they have volunteered to fill these important roles!



Pat Baron



Bill Miller

Thanks, Emerson and Mel!

We owe a debt of gratitude to our outgoing VP's, PDG Emerson Bishop and PZC Mel Williamson.

PDG Emerson, who has served as our Vice President of Outreach has been a valuable asset in reaching clubs and serving as the face of NWLERC wherever he goes. He has been a constant advisor to the President and an excellent contributor at Executive and Board Meetings.

PCZ Mel, our outgoing VP of Fundraising, has lent his insightful, professional leadership to NWLERC

despite being limited recently in his ability to participate due to the illness of his wife Bonnie. He brought great common sense and Lions pride to our midst.

We are very pleased to have had both these fine gentlemen on our leadership team and we look forward to working with them in the years ahead as they continue their work as outstanding Lions.



Emerson Bishop



Mel Williamson

Rainier Lions Work Party at NWLERC

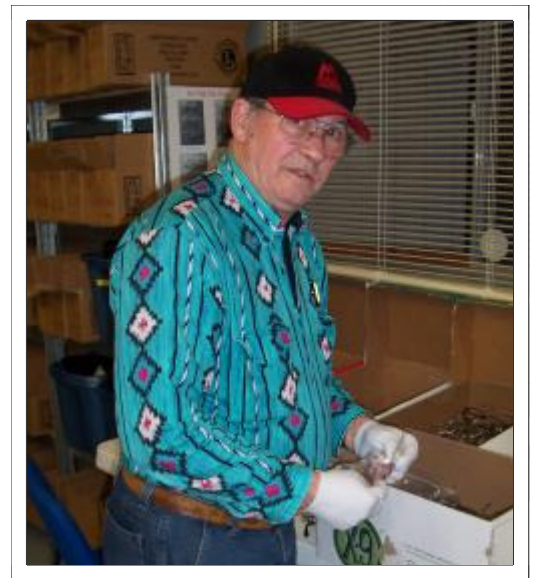


A typical “third” Wednesday night in May. This is the night that the **Rainier Lions Club** has its monthly work party.

Site Manager **Jim LaBelle** (left) works on the lensometer while **Chris Beck** (Right) sorts glasses.

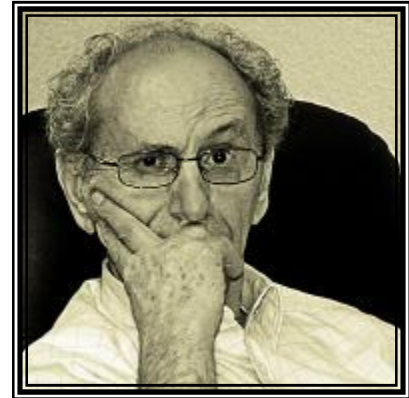
Above (left) **Bernice Beck** gets instruction on the Lensometer from **Bob Pinson** while the canine shift supervisor, **Sadie Pinson**, looks on.

Top right, **Roberta Pinson** sorts sunglasses and just below, **Rod Mitchell** does the same.



Key Statistics May 2010

Eyeglasses Collected	1,003,750
Eyeglasses Supplied to Missions	94,358
Eyeglasses Recycled	248,364
Missions	96
Volunteer Hours	23,761
Mission Ready Inventory	7,400



If you have seen this man, please contact authorities immediately.

This and That...

The second annual **Snohomish County Operation Homeless Connect** will take place on June 29th and NWLERC will be there. This year's event will again be at Cascade High School in Everett. NWLERC will be bringing reading glasses and non-prescription sun-

glasses . **Michael and Sandra Petty** just returned from a VOSH mission to Mexico. They were part of a team that dispensed over 2500 pairs of eyeglasses to needy individuals. Kudos to them both. Michael will present a slide show of the mission at our Executive meeting on

June 8th. Michael is a member of our Quality Assurance team, and the guy who trains new volunteers in "LERC 101 and 102. Next September, **Jeannie Phillips and Pat Baron** will be going to Jamaica on a VOSH mission.



Upcoming Events

NWLERC Executive Meeting	June 8 6:30 pm
Snohomish Homeless Connect	June 29 Cascade HS, Everett

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NWLERC Board of Directors

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