



FOCUS Newsletter

A Publication of the Northwest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center

9013 Mullen Road SE Olympia, WA 98513

(360) 923-2075 • <https://www.lionsnwlerc.org>

Editor: IPDG Lisa Ikeda

lionlisaikeda@aol.com



"CHANGING LIVES, ONE PAIR OF EYEGLASSES AT A TIME"

July/August 2025



PZC Dr. Bob Pinson, Founder

2024-2025 Directors

District L

Vacant

District I

PDG Patti Sparks
Wenatchee Central Lions Club
pjsparkler5652@gmail.com

District O

VDG Carolyn O'Dell
Whidbey Island Lions Club
odie72092@aol.com

District N

Tim Johnson
Olympia West Lions Club
tcjeld@icloud.com

Nina Day
Camas Lions Club
lion.ninaday@gmail.com

District S

PZC Sam Clayton
Pasco Lions Club
sj.kaclayton@gmail.com

Joy Otis
Spokane Central Lions Club
joy@frpfinancial.com

Celebrating the Keen Eye of Ed Taylor: A Final Stamp of Quality

Behind every pair of eyeglasses sent on a mission by NWLERC is a story of meticulous care, but there's one final hero in that story we want to celebrate: PDG Ed Taylor of the Lacey Sunrise Lions Club.

Here at NWLERC, we are incredibly proud of the fact that our mission providers know they're receiving only the highest quality eyewear. We understand that for many visually impaired individuals around the world, the eyeglasses they receive may be the only pair they ever get in their lifetime. This knowledge fuels our commitment to excellence at every step.

While a dedicated team inspects each pair multiple times, the ultimate seal of approval rests with our amazing Quality Control inspector, Ed Taylor. As the final arbiter of quality, Ed's trained eye is the last line of defense, reviewing the work of our technicians and having the ultimate say in whether a pair is ready to change a life. His careful, final inspection ensures that every pair of glasses—whether destined for a faraway mission or a local homeless event—is absolutely the best it can be.

Ed's dedication and remarkable eye for detail are a tremendous gift to this organization and to the thousands of people who will see the world more clearly because of his hard work.

Thank you, Ed, for being such a vital part of our mission!

Kerby Kee
President, NWLERC





MD19 2025–2026 Council Chair Steve Brooks of the Lake Stevens Lions Club paid us a special visit recently. Not only did he drop off a generous collection of eyeglasses for recycling, but he also stayed to join in on our board meeting, giving us the chance to share ideas and updates directly with him. His visit was a wonderful reminder of the strong connections we share across Lions clubs in our district.

During the meeting, Council Chair Steve also shared exciting news about the 2026 Multiple District Spring Convention, which will take place in Wenatchee, WA over Memorial Day weekend. This convention promises to be a highlight for Lions across MD19, offering workshops, networking opportunities, and the chance to celebrate the incredible service of our clubs. Even more exciting, the International Guest for the convention will be Lions International 1st Vice President Mark Lyon, bringing us a unique opportunity to hear directly from one of our future International leaders.

We're grateful to Council Chair Steve Brooks for taking the time to visit our nonprofit organization and for keeping us connected to the broader vision of Lions International. Moments like these remind us that we're part of a larger family of service-minded individuals working together to make a difference locally and globally. His visit strengthens our ties and reinforces our commitment to serving our community.

VOLUNTEER SITE MANAGERS

1st Monday 9am to Noon	Laurel Strong, Lacey Sunrise
3rd Monday 9am to Noon	Judy Ann Bergvall, Lacey Sunrise
2nd/4th Monday 9am to Noon	Vacant
Tuesdays 9am to Noon	Paul Martin, Lacey Sunrise Dave Azeltine, Lacey Sunrise
Wednesdays 9am to Noon	Jeanne Gallo, Community Volunteer
3rd Wednesday Noon to 2pm	Tim Johnson, Olympia West George Spencer, Olympia West
Thursdays 9am to Noon	Vacant
Fridays 1pm to 4pm	Ruby Mitchell, Olympia Host
Saturdays (By Appt.)	Varies by Site Manager's availability
Sundays (By Appt.)	Linda & Gil White, Lacey Sunrise

Please call to confirm days, times and availability before arriving
(360) 923-2075



Thank you
Volunteers

We want to thank all of our volunteers at NWLERC, Lions Clubs Members, and Community Members, we couldn't have achieved our commitment to those with vision impairments without all of you. Thank you for making a difference!



NWLERC Mission Report

Report by: Malena Hine, Mission Coordinator



Request for Readers:

Site Manager Laurel Strong has been keeping the eyeglass carousel at the Lacey Senior Center, filled with readers. Laurel is stepping in for Paul Martin during his absence.

06/10/25 - Nisqually Tribal Elders - eyeglasses pick up pending.

Mission Requests:

06/27/25 - Mission Dates: 08/25/2025 Mission #394. Malawi Africa - Scott & Janice Neilson with Endeavor Children's Services Olympia. Request: 400 pairs of adults and children's eyeglasses - mix of single vision, multi-vision, and readers. We were able to provide 420 pairs 07/07/25 - In person pick up.

Mission Requests - Pending:

07/03/25 Nigeria Africa - Alaro Lawson of Amaibima Foundation. Paperwork pending. Received no response in two attempts to contact.

Inventory Report:

There are 20,200 pairs of eyeglasses that are mission ready.

*Multi vision (+) 2900 eyeglasses (58 boxes) +2.25 through +4.75 not available

*Multi vision (-) 2200 eyeglasses (44 boxes) -1.75 through -2.75, -3.25 not available

*Single vision (+) 2100 eyeglasses (42 boxes) +1.00, +1.50, +2.00 through +2.50, +3.00 through +4.00 & up not available

Single vision (-) 9600 eyeglasses (192 boxes)

*Readers 3400 eyeglasses (68 boxes) +.25, +.75, +1.00 not available

(*) Low

Thank you all for helping make this possible.



NWLERC Key Statistics			
As of July 31, 2025	This Month	This Year 2025-26	Since 2004
Volunteer Hours	428	428	164,887
Hours Reading Prescriptions for Mission-Ready Eyeglasses	125	125	3,635 (Since Feb. 2021)
Eyeglasses Processed for Missions	556	556	40,513 (Since Feb. 2021)
Raw Eyeglasses Information			
Raw Eyeglasses Received	11,579	11,579	3,859,849
Raw Eyeglasses Recycled	0	0	2,436,670
Mission Information			
Eyeglasses to Missions/Events	420	420	328,725
Missions Supported	1	1	393
Mission-Ready Inventory	20,200		

On-site Site Managers and Lensometer Technicians are currently in high demand at NWLERC.



Site Managers help oversee with the day-to-day operations of NWLERC, ensuring everything runs smoothly for our volunteers and the community we serve. Volunteers can request their schedules, and we currently have shifts available on Thursdays from 9am to noon, as well as afternoon shifts. Site Manager Training is required

Lensometer Technicians play a key role in our eyeglass recycling process by reading prescriptions after the glasses have been sorted, washed, and polished.

If you can spare 4 or more hours a month, we would be incredibly grateful for your time and energy. Training is available for both positions — no experience necessary, just a willingness to learn and a heart to serve.

Other key positions needing dedicated volunteers at NWLERC

VP - Administration: Help keep our office organized by managing operations and handling correspondence. Help ensure everything runs efficiently.

VP - Operations: Help oversee daily activities, manage resources, and help oversee coordinate work with others to keep things running smoothly.

VP - Outreach: Help spread the word about NWLERC! Help develop outreach programs, visit clubs, build community relationships, and help promote our mission.

Building Maintenance Coordinator: Help maintain our facilities, help coordinate routine maintenance, and repairs. Help keep our space in top shape.

We hold monthly executive committee meetings where we come together to support each other as a team. A full description of each position is available.

These volunteer positions are essential to NWLERC's continued success. If you are interested, please contact us to learn more about how to get involved. Your support will help us continue our mission "Changing Lives - One Pair Of Eyeglasses At A Time." Email us at: missionsupport@NWLERC.org

2024-2025 Trifecta Award list

District L:

Sequim Valley

District I:

Tonasket Okanogan Valley

Wenatchee Central

Wenatchee Valley

District O:

Anacortes

Coupeville

Renton

Whidbey Island

District N:

Battleground

Camas

Enumclaw

Federal Way

Fort Vancouver

Gig Harbor

Greater Puyallup

LaCenter

Lacey Lamplighters

Lacey Sunrise

Longview-Kelso Earlybirds

Ocean Shores

Olympia Host

Olympia West

Pierce County Virtual * (first time)

Puyallup South Hill

Salmon Creek

Sumner

Tacoma Centennial

Tacoma Downtown

Tenino

Tumwater

Vancouver

Washougal

District S:

Spokane Shadle North

Spokane Valley

Walla Walla Downtown

Thank you for making a difference!

Celebrating Our 2024–2025 NW Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center Trifecta Award Recipients!

We are proud to recognize 35 outstanding Lions Clubs who have earned the 2024–2025 Trifecta Award—a true mark of dedication to sight preservation and service.



The Trifecta Award honors clubs that went the extra mile by completing all three parts of service that keep the NWLERC thriving:

- Glasses** – Donating used eyeglasses to the NWLERC or a satellite collection site.
- Hours** – Volunteering time by collecting/delivering eyeglasses and/or working at NWLERC or at one of our Satellite sites.
- Money** – Providing financial support to sustain NWLERC operations and future growth.

It's that simple: Glasses, Hours, and Money! Each element plays a vital role in restoring sight and improving lives. By collecting eyeglasses, contributing their time, and supporting with funds, these clubs help deliver the gift of vision to individuals both locally and across the world.

The Trifecta Award is more than recognition—it is a reflection of heart, teamwork, and service in action. We extend our gratitude to the 35 recipient clubs (listed on page 4) for embracing the full mission of NWLERC and living the Lions motto, “We Serve.”

Thank you to all who stepped up to serve in this meaningful way. Your efforts help light the path for countless individuals on their journey to better sight!

2025 NWLERC Volunteer Appreciation

POTLUCK

RSVP to Senior Advisor Pat Baron
Email: pcardmaker@comcast.net

 **9013 MULLEN ROAD SE
OLYMPIA, WA 98513**

 **SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 20TH
11AM TO 3PM**



**Burgers, hotdogs and soda will be provided, please
bring a potluck item to share and a lawn chair.**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: **PZC Kerby Kee**,
Longview Kelso Early Bird
kerby912kee@hotmail.com

VP - Administration: **Vacant**

VP - Outreach: **Vacant**

VP - Marketing: **PDG Lisa Ikeda**,
Pierce County Virtual
nwlercmedia@gmail.com

VP: Operations: **Vacant**

Secretary: **Jacqueline Nelson**,
Des Moines
jacq-lion@comcast.net

Treasurer: **PDG Stephen Staudinger**,
Battleground

Senior Advisors:

PZC Dr. Bob Pinson, Lacey Sunrise

PZC Roberta Pinson, Lacey Sunrise

PCC John Kirry, Gig Harbor

Pat Baron, Lacey Lamplighters

Lyell Clark, Lacey Sunrise

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Lensometer Trainer, Quality Assurance:
PDG Ed Taylor, Lacey Sunrise

Materials Recycling:
Pat Baron, Lacey Lamplighters

Mission Coordinators:
Malena Hine, Lacey Sunrise
Frankie Sokso, Lacey Sunrise
missionsupport@nwlerc.com

Supplies Manager:
Lyell Clark, Lacey Sunrise

Volunteer Coordinator:
Ruby Mitchell, Olympia Host
rockynoly@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster
PDG Lisa Ikeda, Pierce County Virtual
nwlercmedia@gmail.com

Join our Team, Volunteer Today!

Northwest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center



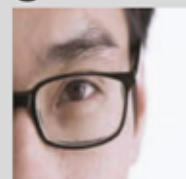
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Olympia, WA 98513

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admin@NorthwestLERC.comcastbiz.net



"Changing Lives, One Pair of Eyeglasses at a Time"

NWLERC Hours of Operation

As NWLERC is a volunteer-run operation,
our daily hours may vary.

We kindly ask that you call ahead at
(360) 923-2075 to confirm availability or to
arrange an alternate time to visit, if needed.



Please Note: All work parties require a Site Manager
to be present.

Thank you for your understanding and continued
support!

NWLERC Website / FOCUS Newsletter Submissions

Please submit your website/newsletter
articles, photos and/or updates to our

VP - Marketing Chair PDG Lisa Ikeda
nwlercmedia@gmail.com



2025 NWLERC UPCOMING CALENDAR

Holiday Closures: Independence Day, Labor Day,
Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve/Day, New Year's
Eve/Day and Memorial Day.

Executive Board/Staff Meetings:

Held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 12:30 PM