

## **YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP CONTESTS PLANNED FOR STATE CONVENTION LINE-UP YOUR ENTRIES EARLY**

There will be a host of events during the state convention in May in San Antonio that will provide scholarship opportunities for young Texans.

Each year the 16 districts send their winners in each category to the state meeting to compete for not only the title of "state winner" but for the scholarships offered to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishers. All contests are open to both young men and women except the Queens contest which is reserved for young ladies.

The contests include:

- **Diabetic Essay Contest** – the topic this year is "**Getting the Jump on Diabetics**", it is a known fact that early detection and a more active life style are keys to fighting this silent killer. Districts should plan to hold their contests earlier – perhaps during the mid-winter conferences – in order to attract students before the other school activities take precedence in their schedules. All Lions need to take an active part in encouraging high school Juniors and Seniors to participate. Contact your district diabetic chairman or PDG Paul Ellis – 806-797-8013
- Drug Awareness speech contest, called **Young Texans Speak Out on Drugs**, is an event where the contestants present in oral format their speech to a panel of judges. The topic this year is "**A Plan to Combat the Increased Usage of Designer Drugs**". The five to seven minute speech provides an opportunity for students to research the topic by interviewing law enforcement officials, judges, medical personnel and teachers to determine how each of us can contribute to an overall plan to reduce the use of "designer" drugs by young people.
- **Young Woman's Scholarship Pageant** once called the Queen's Contest will be held this year as a State event scheduled for the state convention in San Antonio on Saturday May 26th, 2001. The contest is open to young ladies who are either Juniors or Seniors and have been chosen by their respec-

tive districts to represent them in the event. Information and specific details are available by contacting Lion Ray Conner – 210-545-5808

- The academic competition titled **Outstanding Youth Award**, which was initiated last year (1999-2000) will also continue this spring and districts are encouraged to have a contest early in the spring to determine who their representative to the State Convention will be. Contact your District Governor for more information, qualifications and the time line for making entries for the competition.

These are all opportunities in which we as Lions can provide a format for young people to learn about Lions and service and helping their fellow students, as well as perhaps earn scholarship funds to further their education.

Each district has chairpersons to help you and your club with complete rules, regulations and a time table of when and where the contests will be held.

## **LAST CALL FOR RED RIBBON'S**

The **Red Ribbon** campaign is the first district wide Youth Outreach project and there is still time for individual clubs to order ribbons for distribution in their community. The ribbon has the Lions logo on it and will help make people in your community aware that your club is working with youth to combat drug use. Red Ribbon week is October 21<sup>st</sup> through 29<sup>th</sup>. Ribbons can be ordered in quantities of 100 and –cost \$9.00 per 100. Please furnish your club tax number when ordering or include 8.25 cents per dollar for sales tax. You may order from your district chairman or before October 1<sup>st</sup> from: Lion Carol Spillman, 7322 Oak Manor Drive #15, San Antonio, TX 78229-4532.