

# **TEXAS WINS AGAIN ! LARGEST ATTENDANCE AT USA/CANADA FORUM IN TUCSON, ARIZONA**

BY Mary Pitner, MD-2 State Chairman  
USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum

Tucson is now history and Texas played a big part in creating that history. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row Texas had the largest delegation in attendance. The total attendance was 2,903 with 223 from Texas. Once again District, 2-E2 led the state with 49 attendees. Attendance by District as follows:

T1	9	A1	11
T2	4	A2	14
T3	26	A3	10
E1	9	S1	4
E2	49	S2	10
X1	15	S3	8
X2	12	S4	17
X3	11	S5	14

From what I have heard, La Donna Gatlin was the favorite seminar speaker of the Texas Lions. La Donna is the baby sister of country music's Gatlin Brothers. The Gatlin's lived in Odessa and La Donna was a Lion Queen. She presented her recipe for life through musical notes from the song Do Re Mi Fa So La Ti Do. "Do" for do the right thing. "Re" for realize the potential of other people. "Mi" for mind your mind. "Fa" for failures can be turned into fertilizer. "So" for solutions begin with me. "La" for laugh and have fun. "Ti" for time is valuable so use it wisely. That brings us back to "Do" as the song goes. All these principles can be applied in Lionism.

The keynote speakers were: Dr Jeff Salz on Thursday evening, General Barry McCaffrey on Friday afternoon, Lions President Jean Behar on Saturday afternoon, and the final speaker at the Saturday night banquet was Joan Brock. Each speaker touched the heart of the Lions.

Now, it is time to look to the future. The forum will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia September 20-22, 2001. Eighty-nine Texas Lions pre-registered in Tucson. Considering the travel distance I think this an excellent start and a realization of the dedication of the Texas Lions. Applications and brochures will not be available until mid to late February.

Each year at the Forum the Texas Lions gather for a group photo. This year we were honored to have President Jean Behar join us. If you would like one of these pictures please contact me.

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