

Below is a series of emails (oldest at bottom) received on the Lions/Walmart/Sam's Club Eyeglass Program.

From: Shirley Lemke [mailto:dslemke@dwave.net]

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 12:36 AM

To: Leon Christiansen; Betty Watkins; Vic Schiszik; Harry & Linda Helwig; Jean Kubley; Edward E Weise Jr; greg tobisch; Dennis Hirtz; Ricky Kelly; Donald; Mike Lorbetske; Tom Hyland; Rhae Ellen Schnoor; gsmith395@aol.com; James Boettcher; DENNIS KNOTT; Ed Linnemann; Bill Kriegel; renee wish; Dale Bornberg; Stan & Liz Carlson; Bonnie Ashby; Larry Ray; Chuck Franz; Dennis Christianson; Robert Moen; bob@humidorfresh.com; dkmkiklemm tds.net; Sandy Larson; Ron Behm; Greg Krug; John Ader; Jim Lee; Joe Brady

Subject: Fw: Lions/Wal-mart: USA Eyeglass Collection

----- Original Message -----

From: [Evet J. Hartvig](#)

To: [Andy Deinhammer](#) ; [Bernie Stuttgart](#) ; [Daniel Eberhardt Jr.](#) ; [David Hempel](#) ; [David Kaiser](#) ; [Dennis Christianson](#) ; [DG William Schmitt](#) ; [Eric Holthaus](#) ; [Glen Moegenburg](#) ; [Greg Tobisch](#) ; [hcartier@excite.com](#) ; [Jim Schiferl](#) ; [Joan Ann McDonald](#) ; [John Hanson](#) ; [John Mastalir](#) ; [Lee Vrieze](#) ; [Linda Benjamin](#) ; [Mike Quigley](#) ; [Rod Rommel](#) ; [Sam Powell](#) ; [Steve Pautz](#) ; [Steve Pautz](#) ; [Steven Schlender](#) ; [Tom Clausen](#) ; [Walt Althaus](#)

Cc: [dschroeder@wlf.info](#) ; [scherek@wlf.info](#) ; [Art Marson](#) ; ['Peter Cerniglia'](#) ; ['Phil Ingwell'](#) ; ['Ron Duffe'](#) ; [PID Harry Merriman](#) ; [PID Helmer Lecy](#) ; [PID Wayne Heiman](#) ; [Andrea Yenter](#) ; [CC PDG Rev. Sam Kochel](#) ; [Liz Shelley](#) ; [Martin Osinski](#) ; [Meghan Warner](#) ; ['Carl Marquardt'](#) ; ['Connie LeCleir-Meyer'](#) ; ['Kathy Friske'](#) ; ['Keith Luebke'](#) ; ['Leonard Quinn'](#) ; ['Patrick Pflieger'](#) ; ['Ray Stanley'](#) ; ['Richard Daluge'](#) ; ['Shirley Lemke'](#)

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2010 4:26 PM

Subject: FW: Lions/Wal-mart: USA Eyeglass Collection

Good Afternoon –

As most of you know, there has been a lot of unhappy Lions and Lioness regarding the partnership of LCI and Wal-Mart as it pertains to the collection of used eyeglasses. Below are many emails that have come across my desk the past couple of weeks and I think it's important that all of you read them to know what's going on.

Also, I want you to know that I attended the D2 Convention in Wisconsin Dells this past weekend and it was a major topic of discussion with visiting International Director Jerry Smith, who happens to be on the Service and Activities Committee – the committee that dealt with this partnership. PID Pete Cerniglia made it pretty clear that the Lions of Wisconsin were not going to stand for this arrangement where all glasses collected in Wal-Mart Stores in Wisconsin were going to be shipped to the Recycling Center in Indiana. He and PID Phil Ingwell were going to contact LCI today and express the concern that we all have with this ridiculous arrangement.

So, if any of you are asked by people in your District about this matter, I advise you to tell them that we have people working on this and are looking to get the situation corrected as quickly as possible.

I will pass all information regarding this situation as I receive it.

Evet J.

Ms. Evett J. Hartvig

**Executive Administrator
Wisconsin Lions Foundation, Inc.
3834 County Road A
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----- Original Message -----

From: [Peter Cerniglia](mailto:Peter.Cerniglia)
To: duffe@frontiernet.net
Cc: [Art Marson](mailto:Art.Marson)
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2010 12:00 PM
Subject: Re: Lions/Wal-mart: USA Eyeglass Collection

I don't think we should wait until the Board meeting. We should be communicating with Service and Activates Dept. that we the Lions of Wisconsin do not want to participate in the partnership with Walmart in Wisconsin unless we get the glasses at our center. If we don't get the glasses we want the containers removed from all Walmarts in Wisconsin. It is time that we the Lions of Wisconsin speak up for what is right for us

PID Peter C

On Thu, Feb 11, 2010 at 11:10 AM, <duffe@frontiernet.net> wrote:
ID Art and PID Pete

ID Art copied me on Pete's email and although I share some sentiment that Pete reports, I don't think it is a good idea to "Wait and see" what will happen. I can tell you what will happen -- There are supposed to be 8 eyeglass recycling centers for Lions in the US. Allowing Walmart to pick the location where glasses are sent will eventually close most of those that are already struggling to meet operational costs.

When this arrangement was set up, parameters on where the glasses should be sent, should have been given to Walmart instead of allowing them to make a pick.

I DO NOT believe it is LCI's intent to close any of the eyeglass centers. I just think that we need to regionalize the shipping instructions for Walmart to allow each of the eyeglass centers to obtain glasses to cover operational costs and to provide mission groups with the glasses that are needed for humanitarian work. This can best be accomplished with a strong recommendation from LCI and not from the regional facilities.

When we address this issue, relative to Wisconsin, please remember that it is not only the WLF oversight of the used eyeglass center that we are dealing with -- we are also dealing with the existence of the Mission to Mexico program.

Ron Duffe, PID

----- Original Message -----

From: "Art Marson" <MarsonA@westernnc.edu>

To: duffe@frontiernet.net

Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2010 5:55:29 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central

Subject: RE: Lions/Wal-mart: USA Eyeglass Collection

Hi Ron, thanks for sharing your concern. I'm aware of the problem and had several people talk to me about it. I've also been in contact with LCI and will continue to follow up on this. See the attached response that I sent to Peter Cerniglia. BTW they are sending the glasses to Indiana.

Hope you are enjoying California. I was in Nebraska last weekend and several of the Lions there said to say hi to you. They were also concerned with the Wal-Mart situation as the new bins are in the stores there.

Lion Art

To PID Cerniglia:

There has been a lot of interest in this from several people. I talked to LCI and they have been working with Wal-Mart on several issues, including how Wal-Mart can provide more support for the Lions, perhaps financially. So it's not a single issue item. I know LCI knows our concern. I think we need to move forward a little slowly on this. We need to know what the effect of the change is – are we getting fewer glasses or less precious metal to recycle. Can the Indiana Recycling Center help with the difference. What else is Wal-Mart proposing that might have a positive effect on what we do as Lions. As we have more information I can logically argue a point. Right now everything is speculation. Wal-Mart and not LCI has made this change and it was because they weren't happy with how we were handling our recycling bins. There might be a lesson learned here.

Please let me know if you have additional information and I'll continue to monitor LCI and talk to folks at the upcoming Board Meeting. Thanks.

Lion Art

From: Peter Cerniglia [mailto:pcernigl@gmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2010 5:06 PM

To: Evett Hartvig; Marson, Art

Subject: Fwd: Wallmart Eye Glass Recycle

----- Forwarded message -----

From: David Hempel <dhempel1@wi.rr.com>

Date: Thu, Feb 4, 2010 at 2:53 PM

Subject: Re: Wallmart Eye Glass Recycle

To: Peter Cerniglia <pcernigl@gmail.com>

PID Pete,

I discussed this with Evett. She had already talked to International. They told her there

was nothing they could do, Walmart had told International that since they were paying the transportation costs, they would decide where the glasses were delivered. They have a point but:

Walmart has distribution centers in Wisconsin, I find it hard to believe there is not some negotiation room here!

In addition I think it would in Walmart's best interest to try and make it's Wisconsin Lion's customers happy.

Both Lion Evett & I feel this issue, if it is to be revisited, needs more influence than we have. In other words we need the influence of a PID such as you.

WLF Director Dave

----- Original Message -----

From: Peter Cerniglia
To: David Hempel
Cc: Evett Hartvig
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2010 6:10 PM
Subject: Re: Walmart Eye Glass Recycle

Dave I think we must go through the Foundation have Evett call LCI department that our recycle center communicates and ask why we are not getting the Wisconsin Walmart used Eye glasses.

I've cc Evett.

On Tue, Feb 2, 2010 at 3:27 PM, David Hempel <dhempel1@wi.rr.com> wrote:
PID Pete,

A thought has been nagging at me since our talk at the PDG meeting;

Since we have "absolutely no control" over the handling of used glasses until we get them at whatever recycling center Walmart decides to send them to, and considering the price of valuable metals, is anyone tracking how much valuable metal we get from Walmart as opposed to what we get from our Lions recycling efforts?????????????

As much as I respect Walmart, I do not trust their handling process as much as I do ours!!!!

I think this should be discussed with International also!

WLF Director Dave Hempel

-----Original Message-----

From: duffe@frontiernet.net [mailto:duffe@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 7:19 PM

To: Marson, Art
Subject: Fwd: Lions/Wal-mart: USA Eyeglass Collection

ID Art

We have a MAJOR problem here that I need for you to make known to LCI officers, directors and the staff at LCI. It is great that Walmart is collecting glasses for us, but they have to know that they cannot send them from Wisconsin to Texas. This is bull crap. I think that the entire situation can be resolved if something comes from LCI to Walmart to their stores so they know that we are in the midwest region (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North and South Dakota and perhaps Missouri and that Walmart stores in that area send ALL of the glasses collected to the Wisconsin Regional Eyeglass Center.

Anything short of this is going to be a lousy situation for the used eyeglass centers that need the glasses to continue operations. Why Texas gets first priority in Wisconsin is beyond me.

Let me know what happens, because I am not happy about the situation. Right now I am in California and can't really address the situation but trust that you can.

Ron Duffe, PID

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "pschiferl Schiferl" <pschiferl@msn.com>

To: duffe@frontiernet.net

Sent: Monday, February 8, 2010 9:13:08 AM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central

Subject: Re: Lions/Wal-mart: USA Eyeglass Collection

Ron,

The Rothschild Weston Lions already tried that. They went to their store where they have been collecting and they told them they couldn't do that as they are all being shipped to Texas. The boxes that were put in WalMart have a large emblem of WalMart and a tiny Lions international emblem on them

We think we need to contact Lions International and let them know the dilemma that Wisconsin is in and what to do.

Pauline and Jim

----- Original Message -----

From: duffe@frontiernet.net

To: pschiferl Schiferl

Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2010 6:52 PM

Subject: Re: Lions/Wal-mart: USA Eyeglass Collection

PDG Jim and Lion Pauline

Thank you for this information. I had not seen it prior to this.

I think we, those who collect glasses from Walmart, should go to the stores in our area and offer to pick them up as we always have, reducing cost to Walmart. From an eyeglass collection standpoint of the Wisconsin Lions Foundation, perhaps we need to have a alert sent to all Lions clubs in Wisconsin about the partnership entered into by LCI. We need to be sure that these glasses come to our eyeglass center and are not sent somewhere else.

Thanks again.

Ron Duffe

----- Original Message -----

From: "pschiferl Schiferl" <pschiferl@msn.com>

To: "ron duffe" <duffe@frontiernet.net>

Sent: Monday, February 1, 2010 8:49:54 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central

Subject: Fw: Lions/Wal-mart: USA Eyeglass Collection

Ron, FYI

This is what we received. I don't know if you get all this info or not.

Pauline and Jim

----- Original Message -----

From: Lions Clubs International<mailto:memberupdate@lionsclubs.info>

To: pschiferl@msn.com<mailto:pschiferl@msn.com>

Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2010 6:12 AM

Subject: Lions/Wal-mart: USA Eyeglass Collection

Dear Lion:

Lions Clubs International is pleased to announce that it has entered into an agreement with Walmart to collect used eyeglasses from the public at specified Walmart and Sam's Club stores throughout the United States. This new program will enhance the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Program, enabling our association to collect increased quantities of usable glasses for humanitarian missions to developing nations.

Commencing January-February 2010, co-branded collection boxes, bearing the LCI, Walmart and Sam's Club logos, will be available in the 2,500 US Walmart stores and approximately 500 Sam's Clubs, with vision centers. These new boxes will replace Lions collection boxes currently in place at the specified stores. For Walmart stores and Sam's Clubs without in-store vision centers, existing Lions collections will continue at the discretion of the store managers.

- Walmart will ship the collected eyeglasses to their distribution centers, where they will then be delivered to the nearest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers for sorting, cleaning and processing.

- Usable glasses will be available for Lions and other optical missions to developing nations, where the glasses will be dispensed to children and adults free of charge.

- The Lions/Walmart co-branded program is aimed at members of the public. Walmart and Sam's Club stores will not be able to accept or ship Lions club collections of eyeglasses from other locations in the community.

If you are involved in eyeglass collection, thank you for your continued support of this project. We encourage clubs to maintain their collection sites throughout the community and send the glasses to the nearest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center. These collections have had a direct impact on the strength and success of the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Program.

LCI can help to promote your community collections by posting drop-off locations on the association's Web site at the Club Locator. Clubs can simply provide us with their information via the Lions Recycle For Sight Club Participation Form and we'll post up to six collection sites. Or, send an e-mail to: eyeglasses@lionsclubs.org<mailto:eyeglasses@lionsclubs.org>.

For further information about the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Program, or to start a collection campaign in your club or district, please contact the Health and Children's Services Department<mailto:eyeglasses@lionsclubs.org>.

In service,

Marilee Kadar, Manager

Health and Children's Services Department

Lions Clubs International

e-mail: eyeglasses@lionsclubs.org<mailto:eyeglasses@lionsclubs.org>