

Lions Volunteer Transit for the Blind



Prescott is home to more than 100 blind individuals, and while there is no mass transportation in our city of 39,800, there are organizations that offer transportation for grocery shopping and medical appointments such as **People Who Care** and **New Horizons**. And, because there is no mass transportation, there are no other options for (free) or low cost rides for the enriching qualities of life such as going to the movies, bowling, shopping at the mall or even going out to lunch or dinner.

While many blind people have spouses, relatives or close friends, who will drive them to social functions, such as a meal at a restaurant, a concert or a movie, many of the blind do not have that luxury. They remain housebound except for the occasional basic (and necessary) transportation provided by **People Who Care** or a cab ride, when they are able to afford one. A number of the blind live on government aid at or just above the poverty level, so a cab ride is an extravagance.

To address this need, **Phil Weliky** of the Prescott Noon Lions, with the help of the local Lions clubs, started **Lions Volunteer Transit for the Blind** to provide free transportation for these other activities. If you know of some local, legally blind person who would be interested in this program, have them **call Larry Krejci at 831-332-3421** to sign up and get registered.

To qualify as a rider, you must:

1. Be legally blind.
2. Be registered with either the Library of the Blind, the V.A. or with the Vocational Rehabilitation Department as proof of that you are legally blind.
3. Carry a white cane for legal purposes when they travel with us.
4. Be physically mobile.
5. Have a cell phone.