

District Governor Ted Van Kirk
Fallbrook Lions
(Frances)

Lion Ted was born in Brighton, Michigan, though his parents moved to Brisbane, California when he was six months old. Raised in Brisbane, Governor Ted joined the U.S. Marine Corps at the young age of 17, and became one of the first Marines to earn the classification of "Engineer". In the Korean War, he was commissioned as a 2nd. Lieutenant and awarded the Silver Star and two Purple Hearts. During the Vietnam War he commanded the 1st. Engineer Battalion, and was awarded the Bronze Star and his third Purple Heart.

After serving in various posts throughout the world, Ted retired from the Marines in 1970. Upon earning his degree in Civil Engineering, he worked as Facility Manager on San Clemente Island until his retirement. Not being one to sit around, Ted and his wife Frances moved to the Fallbrook area where together they manage the Brandon Street Mini-Storage.

Ted joined the Oceanside Lions Club in 1968 while still in the Service and has enjoyed visiting clubs throughout the world. He says that this has allowed him to see problems from all sides, and showed him different ways to solve them. He transferred to the Fallbrook Lions Club in 1989.

Lion Ted is still very active in community affairs in addition to his Lions Activities. He and Frances were married in 1950 in Yuma, Arizona. They have 6 children, 8 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson.

Governor Ted has served as President, Vice President, Tailtwister and Director for both the Oceanside and Fallbrook Lions Clubs, and as a Zone Chairman, Convention Committee Member and Vice District Governor for District 4L-6.

He is a Key Member, Life Member of S.C.L.E.I., a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, and has received his Club Lion of the Year Award, a Governor's Appreciation Award, and an International Extension Award.