

WISCONSIN



LIONESS

THE LIONESSE CLUB PROGRAM: HISTORY IN THE MAKING

From meager beginnings, the Lioness Program has transformed itself into a productive volunteer work force. Yet the true strength of the program lies not in sheer numbers of members but in the members unique capacity to lovingly tend to the needs of humanity.

Officially acknowledged 55 years after Melvin Jones founded Lions Clubs International, the Ladies Auxiliary of Mt. Pleasant, North Carolina, became the first Lioness Club. Certified on December 24, 1975, Violet Hough served as the Club's first President. This group of 40 women, like other auxiliaries around the world, received a special award for their retroactive service to Lionism.

The Lioness Club Program enjoys a separate club constitution with suggested by-laws. In 1975, the name "Lioness Clubs" and the scripted, "L" were officially approved for use by Lions Clubs International.

In June of 1980, the first Lioness District was organized in Turkey. In January of 1981, the first multiple District was recognized in Oregon, USA.

One of the most significant events in the clubs history was the inclusion of men into the Lioness Clubs, and consequently, women into Lions Clubs. In response to this 1987 constitutional change, International Lions clubs President, William Woolard was inducted into his local Lioness club in Mt. Pleasant, North Carolina on June 4, 1989.

The other significant event occurred in 1991, when the International Board of Directors voted to no longer recognize the Lioness Clubs. This action was taken due to some Lions Clubs allowing Lioness Club members to vote on Lions matters and allowing Lioness to hold offices in the Lions Organization. The International Board felt this was the only way to stop those practices. Since that time, the only assistance received from the International office is to provide Lioness club supplies. This action resulted in much disappointment on the part of Lioness members. as Lioness Clubs. In Wisconsin, Lion Ivan Ryan, PDG, was serving as the Sate Lioness Chairman. He took it upon himself to organize the Lioness Clubs, in Wisconsin, and provide the direction previously provided by Lions Clubs Some joined Lions Clubs, others quit and many stayed on International. As a result, Wisconsin has one of the strongest Lioness programs in the world.

Lioness clubs cooperate with their sponsoring Lions club on community service projects, in addition to creating their own fundraisers and civic activities.

A vital link between the Lioness club and their sponsoring Lions club is the Lions Liaison. This officer relays information and creates mutual support and understanding between the two clubs. On the District level, a Lioness Chairman or an Associate Chairman performs this essential function.

Special award programs provide incentives to Lioness while honoring them for their dedication to Lionism. Club membership is available by invitation only. Potential members must be of legal age in their country, be of good moral character and maintain an upstanding reputation. There currently are 1500 known Lioness Clubs throughout the world who have dedicated their efforts to the goals of Lionism.

LIONESSE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

1. Who Is A Lioness?

A person who is concerned for human needs through structured, productive service activities that benefit communities both near and far.

2. Why Be A Lioness?

For friendship, fellowship, enjoyment, creative uses of time and service to others.

3. Who Can Be A Lioness?

- A. Any person 18 years or older and who is service minded.
- B. Does not have to have any affiliation with a Lion.
- C. Must be invited into the club by another Lioness and approved of by the Lioness Club's Board of Directors.

4. What Is The Purpose of A Lioness Club?

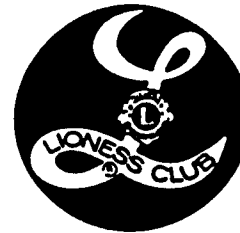
- A. To provide challenging, varied community service opportunities for its members.
- B. To assist it's sponsoring Lions Club in carrying out its service programs and activities in the community.
- C. To provide interesting, diversified programs.

5. What Is The Lioness Motto?

"WE SERVE TOO"

6. What Is The Lioness Emblem?

On the club level, the emblem is the slant "L". In Multiple District 27, it is an "AL" within the outline of the state of Wisconsin.



7. What Are The Lioness Colors?

- A. Purple – Stands for loyalty to country, friends, and to one's self and to the integrity of mind and heart. Purple is also the color of strength, courage and tireless dedication to a cause.
- B. Gold – Symbolizes sincerity of purpose, liberality in judgment, purity in life and generosity in mind, heart and time toward our fellow man.

8. Who Sponsors a Lioness Club?

- A. Must be sponsored by a Lions Club
- B. With the approval of the sponsoring Lions Club, a Lioness Club can Co-sponsor a new Lioness Club.

9. What Is Your Lioness Club All About?

Your local Lioness club will provide the following to you:

- A. Information about your sponsoring club.
- B. Information on your club and its history.
- C. Information about your club meetings.
 - 1. When, Where, What time
 - 2. Board Meetings
- D. Information about your dues.
 - 1. One time entrance fee.
 - 2. Annual Club and District dues
 - 3. Pro-rated Club and District dues for members joining after January 1.
- E. Information about your club pin, if you have one.
- F. Information about Lioness vests,
They can be ordered from Lions Clubs International or can be made by the members.

G. Information about your Club's Organization.

Give pertinent information regarding club officers such as: Historian, Past Presidents, Past Liaisons, Affiliate District Cabinet, Programs, Special Events, Officers, Committees, Membership Lists.

H. Information about your Club Officers.

- 1. Refer to the Club Officer Training Kit
- 2. Refer to the Duties of the Officers and Committees,
- 3. Information regarding your Club by-laws. Each club should have a set of by-laws which should contain information regarding meetings, membership, perfect attendance, awards, elections, dues and fees, standing and other committees and amendments.

I. Information regarding your Club FundRaisers.

J. Information regarding your Club's donations.

K. Information regarding your Club's Service Projects.

L. Information regarding your Club's Awards and Recognition

- 1. Anniversary
- 2. Membership Extension
- 3. Past President's Pin
- 4. 100% President, Secretary and Treasurer Awards
- 5. Perfect Attendance Pins

6. Honors Night – An event shared with the Presidents and Secretaries of the Lions, Lioness and Leo clubs in the District.

M. Newsletter

A club may send out a monthly letter to inform members of the next meeting, program, events which have already occurred and upcoming events.

N. Induction Ceremony

1. May be either a candlelight or regular ceremony.
2. A new member kit and a Lioness member pin shall be presented by the sponsoring Lioness.

10. Lioness District

A. Districts

Encompasses the same counties as the Lions Districts.

B. Officers

President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer are elected at the District Convention meeting. The Past President is also a member of the District Cabinet. The District President may appoint the Treasurer to the position.

C. District President's Cabinet and Duties

1. Elected Officers
2. Appointed Area Directors
3. Appointed Committees
4. The District President visits all Lioness Clubs in the District
5. The District President sends out a newsletter to all Lioness Clubs
6. The District President is a member of the Multiple District Affiliate Advisory Committee and attends their meetings.

D. District Convention

1. Is held in conjunction with the Lions District Convention
2. The host club is determined by a vote of those delegates attending the Convention.
3. Is presided over by the District President.
4. The District President helps to coordinate, with the host club, the program for the and new officer training, if applicable.

E. District Dues

5. Each club is assessed District and State dues according to the number of members in the club

11. International Lions Organization

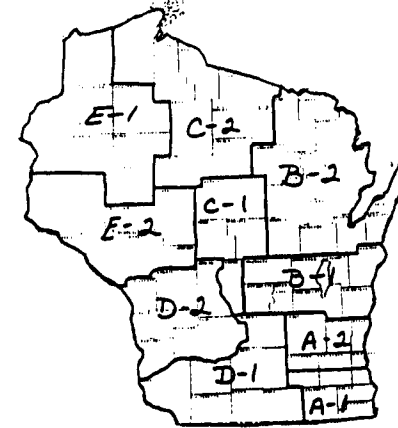
- A. Headquarters is located in Oak Brook, Illinois
- B. Operates under the direction of a President, his officers and Board of Directors
- C. Meet on a regular basis to formulate and set policy.

12. International Lions Convention

- A. Held each year in a different city in the USA or a foreign country.
- B. Newly elected District Governors are installed
- C. The election of the International President, Vice President and Directors is held.
- D. Delegates also vote on changes to the International constitution.
- E. Entertainment and educational programs are provided.
- F. Pin trading goes on.

13. Wisconsin Lions Multiple District 27 Organization

- A. The State is composed of ten districts, which comprise the Multiple District 27. The individual Districts are: A-1, A-2, B-1, B-2, C-1, C-2, D-1, D-2, E-1 & E-2.



- B. The Governors from each District comprise the Council of Governors.
- C. The Council of Governors elects a Council Chairman and other officers.
- D. Council meetings are held as determined by the Chairman and the Council
- E. The Council of Governors appoints the State Executive Secretary.
- F. The Council of Governors conducts all business of the Multiple District.
- G. The Council appoints the Multiple District Affiliate chairman, as well as other Multiple District Committee Chairs and has supervisory

authority over the Affiliate Advisory committee.

- H. The Affiliate Advisory Committee is comprised of the Ten Lioness District Presidents / Associates and the District Lioness Chairs

14. Lions District and District Governor's duties

- A. Consists of the designated geographic area under the direction of the District Governor.
- B. District Governor's Cabinet
 - 1. Appoints a Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer, Region and Zone Chairs and necessary Committees and Committee Chairs
 - 2. Set the dates of and chairs the Cabinet meetings.
 - 3. Visits all of the Lions Clubs in the District.
 - 4. Visits all of the Lioness and LEO clubs upon invitation.
 - 5. Sends out a monthly newsletter.
 - 6. Appoints the District Affiliate Chairman, who is a member of the District Cabinet, or District Associate, if no Lioness District exists.

15. State Lions Convention

- A. Is held each year in a different location in the Multiple District.
- B. Includes seminars for Lions, Lioness and LEO's, banquets, pin trading and a parade.
- C. Voting takes place on constitutional issues and the location of various Multiple District activities.
- D. A Lioness from each District serves on the Lioness Convention Committee.

16. Multiple District Directory

- A. Is printed by the State Office each year.
- B. Includes the names and addresses of all District and club officers for each Lions, Lioness and LEO club in the state in addition to the Wisconsin Lions Foundation officers.
- C. Is distributed to all District Governors, Cabinet members and Lions Club Presidents and Secretaries'
- D. Is also distributed to all Affiliate District Presidents and Cabinet members and Lioness Club Presidents and Secretaries.

We Serve Too!

Why A Lioness?

I'm a Lioness as you can see,

But why is this important, especially to me?

I can help alleviate suffering, waste and abuse.

I get involved with people in need,

I give of myself and forget about greed.

For I know that I'm helping in a special way,

The deaf and the blind each and every day.

I share and I give in my own fashion,

The love of Lioness, their time and compassion.

It's a special opportunity, as you can see

To share my one gift --- and that is ME.

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