

News of the Western Slope

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2003—2004 OFFICERS

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Membership Incentive Program for Women

To aid in President Lee's International Program of recruiting women into Lions clubs, a new tool was approved at the October 2003 board meeting. Women who join a Lions club between the period of November 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004 can have their induction fees (US\$25 entrance fee or US\$30 charter fee) waived. To receive credit for the fee waivers between November 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004, one of the following forms must be submitted:

New Member:
Women joining an established club

during the November 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004 period must fill out the "Membership Incentive Program for Women Joining an Existing Lions Club" form (ME-700) and return it to the Statistical and Membership Department with the club's Monthly Membership Report in order to have the US\$25 entrance fee waived.

Charter Member:
Women joining as charter members in new clubs during the November 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004 period must fill out the "Membership Incentive

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MERRY CHRISTMAS ITS GREAT TO BE A LION

At this special time of year when we are all hustling to get our Christmas lists filled and dreaming of that new big screen TV, or computer, or even a new car we sometimes forget to be thankful for everything we take for granted. Things like great friends, loving families, health (ours and our children's) warm homes, secure jobs, and the simple fact that we were fortunate enough to be born in the greatest nation that ever existed. We are by far in the minority, a while ago I was made aware of a young handicapped girl from Loma who had outgrown her wheelchair. Her parents both work full time, Dad at a dairy, Mom as a motel maid but had just given birth to their third child. Neither has insurance

available or are eligible for any subsistence. A new wheelchair would cost \$3,000.00 but a medical supply store said they could refit the old chair from a 14" to a 16" which would solve the immediate problem for approximately \$650.00. This is where the Lions stepped in, I contacted both the Fruita Lions and Lionesses about helping the family. Because of these two clubs (and a grant from Mesa Developmental Services) that family has personally experienced one of the miracles we as Lions are privileged to help happen. For Nayela and her family **THANK YOU FRUITA LIONS AND LIONESSES-----ISN'T IT GREAT?**
LSP

Pat's Ponderings & Wanderings

It is a new year as far as the calendar tell us and I hope for all of us it will be a great year not only for Lions but for our personal lives.

I have had a hard time trying to write this article because we have lost another great Lion.

Lion Pete Fitsimmons of the Basalt Lion Club passed away just before Christmas. Lion Pete was special to me because of his helpfulness last year when my car broke down in Basalt. This Lion towed my car to his shop and fixed it so I could get home. This act of kindness brought home to me what Lions is all about. Sometimes I listen to Lions discussing the help that they are going to do for their community and then when it comes to helping a fellow Lion they will step back. We as Lions need to remember as Lion Pete did that we Lions need help sometimes also. I know that Lion Pete will be missed just as all of the other Lions that have gone before and so we need to remember them.

We all have busy lives but please stop and reflect about our clubs and our attitudes about what we are doing for

others. If the right attitude doesn't seem to be there maybe one of you Lions need to speak up within your club and not wait for someone else to do it. Sometimes if we wait the right time never comes and no one else speaks up.

This month you will be getting your bills for dues, please pay them right away. We still have two clubs that have not paid their dues and we are wondering why. Presidents please check with your treasurers to see if the dues have been paid. We also have some clubs that are not reporting to any one and so Presidents please check with your secretaries to see if they have sent their reports, if they haven't encourage them to get up to date.

Let us focus this year on what we as Lions need to do to follow our direction be it local, district, state or international. We just need to stay focused on what we are doing and what we want to do.

DG Pat Ditton

What is Your Lion's IQ? (part one)

- Lions began in the United States in:
a) 1912 b) 1917 c) 1922
- The basic ideals of Lions have not been related to a person's politics, religion or race.
a) True b) False
- Symbolically the two lions on our emblem face both _____ and _____.
- The "L" in the Lion emblem is purple in a gold circle.
a) True b) False
- Fill in the missing word from our slogan, "Liberty, _____, Our Nation's Safety."
- Lion's purple and gold colors stand for several qualities. List one for purple and one for gold.
Purple:
Gold:
- Circle the statistic which you believe comes closest to the current figure for lions.
a) 29,000 clubs with 1,100,000 members in over 130

- countries and geographical areas.
b) 39,000 clubs with 1,350,000 members in over 165 countries and geographical areas.
c) 42,000 clubs with 1,500,000 members in over 180 countries and geographical areas.

- The association's headquarters is located in _____.
- The International Board of Directors includes:
a) 14 directors b) 31 directors c) 42 directors

Answers

- b) 1917
- True
- Past and Future
- False. It is gold in a purple circle.
- Intelligence.
- Purple: Loyalty to country and friends and one's self, integrity of mind and heart, strength and courage.
Gold: Sincerity of purpose, morality and judgment, purity in life, generosity in mind, heart and peace toward mankind.
- The actual numbers are 42,535 clubs with 1,427,119 members in 178 countries and geographical areas (as of March 1995).
- Oak Brook, Illinois, USA
- b) 31 directors

MEMBER RETENTION

In November we learned how to listen and learn where problem areas exist. This month we will address how to Respond to the problem areas by making appropriate Changes.

RESPOND by Making Appropriate Changes

Most people would agree that good meetings:

- Accomplish their goals
- Are relevant and interesting for attendees
- Start and end on time

However, there is wide latitude in what elements actually constitute a productive, efficient and interesting meeting. What worked for your predecessor might not work for you. People have varying management styles and will approach things differently. That is how it should be. Trying to adhere to something simply because it worked for someone else or because "it has always been done that way" can create an uncomfortable atmosphere for you. As the club president, you have the opportunity to set the tone for the year in a manner that works well for your management style and your club's unique personality.

=>**FIX IT FAST! Think Positively** – When considering any changes to your club, keep a positive attitude. Your club might be steeped in tradition and used to doing things a certain way, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't try something new. Today's "experiment" could be tomorrow's new tradition.

When discovering the best club meeting strategies for you, there are some basic principles that will help you run an efficient, productive meeting:

- Being prepared
- Knowledge of parliamentary procedure (such as *Robert's Rules of Order*)
- Ability to deal with difficult behavior
- Ability to assert yourself when necessary

Agendas that Work: Most club presidents would agree that having a detailed agenda is crucial to running a successful meeting. What you choose to include in the agenda is an important consideration. There are really only a few items that are necessary to include.

After those basic items are covered, you can embellish your agenda with elements that will help make the meeting more lively and interesting. In all cases, be sure to write down the time allotment for each agenda item (see Meeting Planner worksheet at back of this publication).

A Typical Agenda Includes:

- Call to order by president
- Introduction of guests
- Program (guest speaker, entertainment, etc.), may either precede or follow the business portion
- Reading and approval of minutes of previous meeting
- Old or unfinished business
- New business
- Adjournment

Ask yourself:

- What are the items currently on your typical agenda?
- Did the club members surveyed identify agenda items that they feel are extraneous or make the meeting boring or too long?
- Do the items on your agenda reflect your club's personality?

Next month we will continue the discussion On responding to problem areas.

If you want the source of information for these discussions, please call me at Ph. (970) 835-4228 or E-Mail me at cmballensky@highstream.net. I will mail or e-mail them to you. I would be happy to talk on this topic at any Zone or Region Meeting. Please contact me so I can put your meeting on my schedule. Thanks for your attention, Merl Ballensky, District Retention Chairman

Club Events

-Surface Creek Valley Lions Club donated \$150 to the Western Council of Boy Scouts to cover the cost of the Pine Derby Kits for Cub Scouts in the Surface Creek Valley.

-Redlands Lions Club has approved the application for a new member.

-Collbran Lions Club held a Community Christmas Party with 125 guests. They also donated 33 Food Baskets to area needy.

-Basin Valley Lions Club sponsored Santa's visit to local youth. He handed out bags with fruit and candy after finding out what the kids wished for.

You may have noticed that there are only certain clubs I have information about each and every month. The reason for that is that they send me information. I currently receive a newsletter or copy of the C.A.R. from: Redlands, Surface Creek Valley, Collbran, Orchard Mesa, Silt, Clifton, and Fruita (upcoming events). If your club has a newsletter, please send me a copy or send a copy of the C.A.R. so I can include your club in the Club Events. I would especially like to hear from the Leos and Lioness' clubs.

Also if you have a flyer of an upcoming event, please send it so I can also include it in the newsletter. My address is on page 6.

Thanks, Lion Tess Miller, Editor

January is Glaucoma Awareness Month

Millions of Americans are at risk of losing their eyesight to glaucoma, a leading cause of blindness in the United States. At higher risk for developing glaucoma are African-Americans over age 40, everyone over age 60, and people with a family history of the disease.

During Glaucoma Awareness Month in January, community leaders and health professionals are en-

couraged to provide sight-saving information to those who are at higher risk. The National Eye Institute (NEI), one of the federal government's National Institutes of Health, offers a variety of resources and materials that Lions clubs can download from the lci webpage to plan and conduct successful campaign activities. The address is www.lionsclubs.org

George's Titillations

George would like to wish each and everyone of you a very happy new year. Please watch for next month's article.

Membership Incentive Program for Women (cont. from pg 1)

Program for Women Joining as Charter Members of a New Club" form (TK-700). Return the form to the New Clubs and Marketing Department along with the new club's charter application or when reporting additional charter members prior to the end of the new club's charter period in order to have the US

\$30 charter fee waived.

The necessary forms are available by e-mail from the Membership Programs Department at International Headquarters or by calling 630-571-5466 x390.

From the e-newsletter found at www.lionsclubs.org

LIONS OF DISTRICT 6 WEST

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**MAY EACH AND EVERY LION AND
THEIR FAMILIES HAVE A HEALTHY
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Calendar of Coming Events

Jan 17, 2004	Clifton Lion's Club Annual Chili Supper @ Clifton Hall	Clifton
Jan 28, 2004	Region III Zone I & II Meeting @ Clifton Hall 7 PM	Clifton
Feb 7, 2004	State Cabinet Meeting	
Feb 14, 2004	District Cabinet Meeting @ Clifton Hall	Clifton
Feb 21-22, 2004	Montrose Lion's Pancake Breakfast @ Home/Garden Show	Montrose
Mar 8, 2004	Region IV Zone I & II Meeting	TBA
Apr 28, 2004	Region III Zone I & II Meeting @ Clifton Hall 7 PM	Clifton
Apr 29,30/May 1	District Convention	Craig
Jun 3-5, 2004	MD6 State Convention	Longmont
Jun 23, 2004	Region III Zone I & II Meeting @ Clifton Hall 7 PM	Clifton
July 5-9, 2004	Lions Clubs International Convention	Detroit, MI/Windsor, Ontario, Can

**FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE .. JANUARY 31, 2004
(I CANNOT GUARANTEE THEIR INSERTION IF LATER THAN THAT.)**