

**Insert Your Club
Graphic**

Or

**A Generic Lion
Graphic**

**LIONS CLUB
NEW MEMBER
ORIENTATION MANUAL**



Welcome to Lions Clubs International and the

Lions Club

Name of New Member: _____

We are excited that you have stepped forward to help in our service to humanity. This book of information is for your personal use, in order that you may learn and ask questions as you begin your journey in Lionism. Your sponsor has selected two other Lions in our club who will be available to help with your orientation and involvement with all facets of our organization. Please feel free to call on them at any time you need assistance in understanding our mission.

Your Sponsor: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Assisting Lions:

_____ Phone: _____

_____ Phone: _____

We are looking forward to your involvement in our activities. If there is anything I can do to make your service in Lions more meaningful, please contact me.

Yours in Lionism,

_____, President

_____ Lions Club



Orientation Checklist

Your Sponsoring Lion and Assisting Lions pledge to help you grow in Lions.

This guide will assist you in completing your orientation and start you on your road to continuing education. This list of accomplishments will help you learn at a pace that fits your time schedule.

___ Induction (Date inducted _____ at our _____)

___ Orientation (Date met with your sponsor and Assisting Lions _____)

___ Name tag (Ordered _____) (Received _____)

First Meeting

___ Club Protocol (How do I participate at functions without feeling out of place?)

___ Club Officers (Who is in charge of what?)

___ Club Service Projects (What are we doing?)

___ Club Fund Raisers (Where do we get our budget funds?)

___ Project (_____) Date(_____)

___ Fund Raiser (_____) Date(_____)

___ Club Visitation (_____) Date(_____)

___ Board Meeting (_____) Date (_____)

Three Month Review Questions and answers Schedule Visitations

___ Review First Meeting Date(_____)

___ Zone Meeting (_____) Date (_____)

___ Sight Meeting (_____) Date (_____)

___ Hearing Meeting (_____) Date (_____)

___ Cabinet Meeting (_____) Date (_____)

___ Spring Conference (_____) Date (_____)

First Year Review Questions and Answers on entire Orientation and Education Guide

___ First Year Meeting Date(_____)

Second Year Review Questions and Answers on entire Orientation and Education Guide

___ Second Year Meeting Date(_____)

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Finding the Most Current Information

(Where to Look & What is Available)

District 19-___ Information: A very informative web page is available for District 19-_____ at _____ (District Webpage address). This page has connections to all clubs that have web pages, it provides a copy of the Governor's bulletins, locations of clubs in the district, resource help available and a calendar of coming events.

MD19 Information: There is a lot of information about the Multiple District on their web page: www.lionsmd19.com. Some of the information that is available includes the history of MD-19, who the officers are, where the conventions and workshops are located, forms available for Lions, items available for purchase and many other interesting things. In addition they have a resource library page available that has all the different forms, leadership manuals and other how to information. In addition you can view the latest issue of the "Border Crossing" as well as the stats sheets. Take some time to look at this page and learn what is available.

Lions Club International Information: The LCI has a fantastic web page that has excellent information available to all Lions. The web page is www.lionsclubs.org. This page has many resources available to Lions. These include press releases that can be customized for local use. Training is also available on-line and they have such classes as: Goal Setting, Lions Coaching, Delegation and Leadership. More courses will become available as time goes on and it is very easy to take the course online. This web site also has the Lions Catalog of products. Anyone can order from this on-line catalog, all they need is a credit card. Only the club secretary can charge things to the club account. If you are traveling to different states or countries they have a club locator function on the web site. It will give you local clubs in that area along with contact information so that you can visit a Lions Club on your travels.

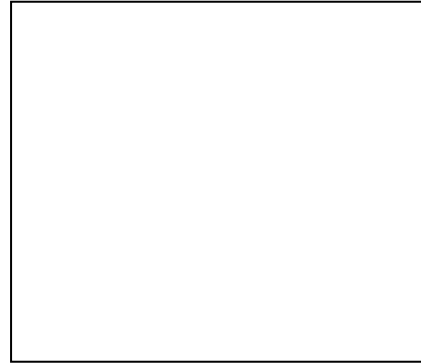
There are many resources available to better inform all members of clubs. If you want to download information the web sites listed above make it very easy to accomplish. For other information contact your club, zone or district leadership and they should know how to find further information for a Lion.

About the _____ Lions Club

Please insert a brief history of your Lions Club on this page.

Our Major Projects

Describe one or two major projects on this page with pictures.



Our Current Service Projects:

List your club's latest service projects about which you are very proud.

Recognition

Melvin Jones Fellowship

Melvin Jones was the founder of Lionism and the highest recognition in Lionism is, appropriately, named for him. It began originally as a means of encouraging contributions to the Lions Clubs International Foundation (a \$1,000 contribution to LCIF must accompany the nomination), but this award has come to be the means of recognizing members who have served long and well. Yelm is pleased to have 4 Melvin Jones Fellows to deserving members of our club over the years.

Lion of the Year or any other type or recognition your club presents.

Provide a brief description of the award or recognition, such as, "Lion of the Year is appointed by the president and is usually the person who has achieved outstanding service during this Lions Year."

A typical Lions Club Meeting

The _____ Lions Club meetings start at _____ on the _____ of each month.

Describe your club's meeting, the cost of the meal if you have a meal, type of dress, length of the meeting, the Tail Twister's antics and the price of a fine etc.

Duties of MD19, District, Zone and Club Officers:

Council Chairperson:

Chairs the three Council Meetings held each year at the Fall Forum, the Winter Council Meeting and at the Annual Convention. Appoints MD19 Committee Chairpersons and members for his/her year in office. The selections must receive final approval of the Council of Governors. Chairs the General Plenary Sessions at the Fall Forum and Annual Convention.

MD 19 Office

The purpose of the MD 19 Office is to serve as the central administrative point for Multiple District 19. It exists to provide service to the multiple district/district/zone/club officers and the Lion, Lioness and Leo members of MD19. It maintains the membership and financial records for each district and MD19. The MD 19 Office is the networking link of the Multiple District. Under the MD19 Constitution & Bylaws, the office plans the two major MD19 conventions each year, prepares and mails bulletins to all clubs, publishes an MD19 Roster which is mailed to each club, and publishes the Contest and Awards Booklet. It is also responsible for overseeing mailings for, and the organization of, Council Meetings.

District Governor

The District Governor is the official Lions Clubs International representative within the District and as such visits each of his/her clubs at least once during his/her term of office. He/she sends a monthly newsletter to each club within the District to share vital information about the District. Each year the Governor hosts a District Spring Conference, working with the Conference Chair to insure that all processes are in place for voting, panels, Contest & Awards and a Memorial Service giving the Lions, Lioness and Leos the opportunity for fun, fellowship and learning.

Vice District Governor

The Vice District Governor assists the District Governor. He/she works with weak clubs, following up on problems within the clubs as well as filling the role as Facilitator of the District's Leadership, Extension, Membership / Public Relations, Team (LEMPR).

Zone Chairperson

The Zone Chair is the liaison between the District Governor and the clubs within the Zone. He/She closely associates with the clubs and holds three Zone Meetings to provide an opportunity for the clubs to share ideas and information. The Zone Chair produces a monthly newsletter to keep his/her clubs informed. He/She visits each club within the Zone prior to the District Governor's visit to inform the clubs of protocol required for the District Governor's visit and accompanies the District Governor on his/her official visit.

Club President

He / She is the Chief Executive Officer of the club and chairs all regular and board meetings. With the assistance of the Board of Directors, appoints committees. The Club President is an active, voting member of the Zone Advisory Committee in which his/her club is located. The Club President should be familiar with standard parliamentary procedures and be able to conduct a meeting according to these procedures. The Leader who inspires and motivates.

Immediate Past President

Assists the President in any way possible without infringing on the position of President. He/she should be available to offer advice and support to the President when asked.

Vice President

A President in Training who is available to step in to conduct a meeting if the President is unable to perform this duty. Vice President oversees selected Committees.

Secretary

He/she keeps all records pertaining to the operation of the club, the status of the members. Submit required membership and activities reports to MD19, Lions Clubs International, the District Governor, Vice District Governor, and Zone Chair. The Secretary is responsible for all club correspondence and should act on instructions from the Board of Directors. The Secretary is responsible (unless a Lion has been appointed to this task) for ordering all club supplies. The Secretary or Treasurer is responsible for issuing statements to members for dues and any other items due the club. The Club Secretary, together with the club president, is an active, voting member of the Zone Advisory Committee.

Treasurer

The Treasurer is the banker for the club and is responsible for the distribution of any funds within the club. He/she is required to set up accounts as directed by the Board of Directors and to insure regular financial reports are available to the Board of Directors and members of the club. At the direction of the Board of Directors, the Treasurer pays all bills. The Treasurer shall insure that any checks issued by the club are properly recorded. He/she may be asked to collect the money for meals at each meeting.

Lion Tamer

The Lion Tamer is the caretaker of the club's paraphernalia and is responsible for having all equipment in place before the meeting starts. In some clubs the Lion Tamer is responsible to greet guests and supply a list of these visitors to the President before the meeting starts so they can be introduced properly.

Tail Twister

The Tail Twister creates fun at the regular club by playing pranks, imposing fines (in good taste) for various reasons and running contests. The funds raised can be used for any administration purpose the club decides. Currently Yelm Lions rotate this responsibility monthly to make it more fun and interesting.

Directors

Assist the President in the formation of the policies and procedures of the club and insure that these are followed. Directors shall also oversee the various committees of the club and insure reports are submitted to the club on the status and progress of such committees.

A History of the Multiple District 19 Lions

(As gleaned from the Archives of Lions Clubs International and Multiple District 19 by Past International Director Orly J. Sorrel and Past Executive Secretary/Treasurer Gordon F. Smith - October, 1998)

The first Lions Club Convention was held on October 8-10, 1917, in Dallas, Texas, with 36 delegates representing 22 clubs all located in the United States. At the time of this convention, there were six other clubs in existence or being formed. An article in the Dallas Morning News dated October 8, 1917, concluded with,

“Although this will be the first international (Lions) convention, delegates said the gathering will be more in the nature of a meeting than a convention. The meeting today, tomorrow and Wednesday will be to perfect the organization and to make plans for its expansion.”

At the first Convention, the delegates elected a President, First and Second Vice Presidents, Secretary/Treasurer, two Three-year Directors, two Two-year Directors and two One-year Directors. The delegates chose purple and gold as the Lions' colors and Melvin Jones was authorized to open an office in Chicago. The Lions Objects and Code of Ethics were drafted at this convention as well.

At the second convention, held August 19-21, 1918, in St. Louis, Missouri, the first district officers were appointed. The country was divided into single districts for organization and administrative purposes, appointing a District Governor for each district. These first districts were numbered from west to east with California, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington comprising District One. Our first District Governor was Jesse Robinson of Oakland, CA. The first Extension Chair of the Lions organization was G.M. Cunningham whose official title was National Organizer. In November, 1918, it was announced in the first issue of “The Lion” magazine that the number of District Governors had been increased from three to nine.

Lions became an international organization March 12, 1920, with the establishment of the Border Cities Lions Club in Ontario, Canada. The club was later named Windsor and was joined by clubs formed in Toronto and Hamilton Ontario.

At the 1921 convention in Oakland, the Board of Directors redistricted the whole country and District One became District Four. When the District

Governor of District Four reported that he could not efficiently administer the Lions activities in the Pacific Northwest, the Board, at an emergency meeting, formed Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia into District 19, a provisional district, with California and Nevada remaining as District Four. It is not clear when British Columbia was added to District Four prior to the division into Four and Nineteen.

The official records regarding the first club in what is now known as MD19 are not clear or complete. It appears that in March of 1920 the Seattle Lions Club was organized, but canceled in February 1921, because apparently they were waiting to have 100 members signed up before being chartered. The club reorganized in August, 1921. Meanwhile in May of 1920, the Everett-Central Lions Club was organized, sponsored by the Seattle Club. The Everett-Central Lions Club was officially chartered in 1920 before the Seattle-Central Lions Club was reorganized so they, the Everett-Central Lions, lay claim to being the first chartered Lions Club in this area even though Seattle-Central is listed as the first organized club in MD19! The oldest Lions Club in British Columbia is the Vancouver-Central Lions Club (1921); however, the Spences Bridge and District Lions Club (cancelled in 1961) was the first club chartered in B.C. Tacoma, WA was the third club organized in November, 1921.

On March 2, 1922, the Spokane-Central and on March 22, 1922, the Wenatchee-Central Lions Clubs were organized. In April, 1922, with all of our clubs (Seattle, Everett, Tacoma, Spokane, Wenatchee, and Vancouver) represented at a conference in Everett, WA, Ray Bigelow of Seattle was elected District Governor and scheduled the first district convention in Seattle for the following year. By that time, May 21, 1923, we had the required 8 clubs (465 members) to be recognized as a full fledged district with the Bellingham-Central Lions Club having been organized in October, 1922, and the Yakima Lions Club having been organized in December, 1922. However, at the Association Convention that year, Bigelow was elected Third Vice President of the Association. It should be noted that the International Association did not automatically promote Vice Presidents to President at that time. The reason Vice President Ray Bigelow did not continue on is not known. At another meeting/conference held in Seattle, (August, 1922,) a replacement District Governor was elected by the six clubs. This time the delegates elected a Governor from Portland, Oregon. (The Portland Lions club was organized in 1921.) The Longview-Pioneer Lions Club was organized in November, 1923.

In 1925, due to rapid growth, the Association separated Oregon from District 19 making it District 36 leaving our district with 13 clubs and 830

members. By 1936 District 19 had grown to 30 clubs with 1287 members. Recognizing the need for some sort of District organization, the local leaders such as Ray Bigelow, of Seattle-Central Lions (3rd International Vice President 1922-24), Harlan Payton of Spokane-Central Lions, Harry Cahalen of Yakima Lions; and Abe Lund of Seattle-Central Lions set up the "Board of Control". The Board consisted of the District Governor, two Deputies (one east of the mountains and one west), a District Secretary, and 3 Board of Control Members. All but the Deputies were elected at the district convention. The Deputies were appointed after consultation with the leaders on either side of the mountains.

International developed a new plan of organization in 1927 dividing districts into zones. The first information was not too clear regarding zone boundaries and the functions of the Zone Chairpersons. Each district elected a District Governor who appointed his Cabinet, Secretary, Deputy District Governors, and Zone Chairpersons. The first real effort to form a standard organizational plan involving cabinets and various districts in this District (only slightly resembling the present organization) came about under District Governor John Lampert of Yakima, 1930-31.

According to Association records, Northern Idaho somehow became attached to District 19 in 1936, although none of the existing MD19 Idaho clubs were organized until June of 1941 (Bonners Ferry and Coeur d'Alene). Sometime around 1943, Alaska became attached to District 19 for a very brief period until the area was reorganized aligning Alaska with the Northwest Territories before it ultimately becoming District 49 by itself.

In 1939 District 19 had grown to 55 clubs from the original nine clubs in 1923. These clubs were governed by one District Governor and five Deputy District Governors. In those days, the Deputy District Governors and Zone Chairpersons were observed during the year and their abilities weighed. The outstanding Deputy of the five was usually elected District Governor and the outstanding Zone Chairpersons were appointed Deputies. Each summer or early fall, the Zone Chairpersons and Deputy District Governors met for a rather intensive indoctrination course. Each was given a folder outlining his responsibilities.

By July of 1944, the Association had 4,447 clubs and 177,579 members in 13 countries, having expanded into China and Ibero-America; District 19 had 87 clubs and 3,678 members. There were still five regions each with a Deputy District Governor and Zone Chairpersons.

Through the year 1946-47, District 19 had always been organized and administered as a “single” district with a district cabinet comprised of the District Governor, Deputy District Governors, Zone Chairpersons, and Cabinet Secretary. With 111 clubs and 6,254 members in June of 1946, effective administration by a single District Governor had become impractical. While traveling on the ferry from Victoria to Vancouver, District Governor Jack Peddycord, Bellingham-Central Lions; Immediate Past District Governor Don Wike, Walla Walla-Downtown Lions; and District Secretary Virgil Warren, Spokane-Central Lions worked out the original organizational plan, which we basically follow today. Their goal was to take the best parts of all plans and come up with the best Multiple District organizational plan in the International Organization. These men chose not to adopt the standard form multiple district organization, i.e. a multiple district council comprised of the district governors, one of whom the council members themselves elected chairman of the council (traditionally the governor hosting the annual multiple district convention).

In 1947-48, their plan was initiated with the district being completely reorganized into a multiple district composed of Washington, Northern Idaho, and British Columbia with 138 clubs and 5 districts. The District Governor’s Office was changed to that of Chairman of the Cabinet with this officer being elected at the annual multiple district convention. The regions were renamed districts (sub-districts) with the 5 Deputy District Governors becoming 5 District Governors. These District Governors were elected at their district meetings held in conjunction with and at the annual multiple district convention instead of at their own respective sub-district conventions, the usual or standard association practice. The District Secretary’s Office was retained as Cabinet Secretary since there was only going to be one Cabinet. The organizers did not see the need of additional officers so the office of Deputy District Governors was eliminated. There were 15 Zone Chairpersons and this office assumed more importance. The Zone Chairpersons were elected by a “zone council” comprised of the club presidents and secretaries in the zone instead of being appointed by the District Governor, the standard association practice.

The first Chairperson of the Cabinet was elected in the same manner as the District Governor had been under the prior organizational structure. Henry Backstrom of Arlington, who had previously served as Deputy District Governor, became the first Cabinet Chairperson under the new plan. The new organizational structure was submitted to the clubs for approval as provided in the Constitution and By-Laws, but there were no qualifications included in the plan for a candidate desiring to run for Cabinet

Chairperson. Later the By-Laws was changed to provide that only Past District Governors could run for this position.

Many officers from other districts have written for our organizational plans. The advantages are many. We have preserved a single district operation, yet have individual sub-districts that are united by mutual interests and needs. We have one Executive Secretary-Treasurer who serves from year to year, which provides continuity rather than having a new Cabinet Secretary appointed each year. Our single Council is organized in a manner that provides for equal representation from each district, and encourages strength and unity.

In 1950-51, District 19-F was created from Districts 19-E and 19-D resulting in 6 District Governors and 23 Zone Chairperson. The Multiple District had 176 Lions Clubs at this time. Lions Clubs International's growth mirrored our own. By July, 1954, the Association had nearly doubled to 11,024 clubs, 501,488 members in 50 countries. The International Board of Directors was comprised of the five Executive Officers: President, Immediate Past President, and three Vice Presidents and a varying number of International Directors.

In 1958, C.A.R.E. was adopted as a Multiple District project and has been given strong support since that time.

In 1961, the Lions International Special Representative (Extension Representative) to Multiple District 19, Jack Cooper died of a heart attack. Gordon Smith, Multiple District 19 Cabinet Secretary was hired by Lions International to assume Jack's duties. It was the Special Representative's job to extend Lions Clubs throughout Multiple District 19. This position was held by Gordon Smith until his retirement in 1985. When Lions Clubs International decided they were not going to support this program financially, the Council of Governors voted to budget the funds to increase Gordon Smith's salary in order for him to continue as the extension representative in the MD19 area, as well as serving as the Multiple District Secretary/Treasurer.

Much of the International Association's growth was outside the United States and the clubs, districts and countries around the world continued to clamor for more representation on the Association Board. A fair and representative plan was not developed until 1962, at which time the association had 16,502 clubs, 655,237 members in 99 countries. At this time MD19 had 275 clubs and 10,875 members. In 1962, the International Board of Directors divided the world into eight geographical areas with 26

directors: 15 from the U.S.A. and affiliates; one from Canada; one from Mexico; three from Ibero-America; three from Europe; one from the Orient and Southeast Asia; one from Africa and Southwest Asia; and one from Australia and the South Pacific.

After Gordon Smith's retirement, Lions Clubs International hired a Lion named Harvey Calame to be the Extension Representative for all of MD19 and Oregon (MD36). When Harvey died of a heart attack in the summer of 1986, this position was not filled by a paid staff member. Extension work was done by individual Lions on a volunteer basis and there was no real continuity in the program. Since that time, several different extension programs have been tried with varying results. At the present time, Lions Clubs International has initiated a new program, which provides for the appointment of Leadership, Membership and Extension Chairpersons. These positions are volunteer positions and the Chairs serve for three-year terms.

With continued growth in membership and the number of Lions Clubs, the following divisions took place within Multiple District:

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 1963-64 | District 19-C was divided to create Districts 19-C & 19-G. MD19 now had 299 clubs and 7 District Governors. |
| 1966-67 | District 19-A was divided and created District 19-H. MD19 had 321 Lions Clubs, 8 Districts, 31 Zone Chairpersons, and 12,595 members. |
| 1970-71 | Districts 19-A and 19-H were reorganized to create District 19-I.
This resulted in the current 9 Districts but with only 46 Zone Chairpersons and 375 Clubs. |
| 1992-93 | MD19 had increased to 73 Zones with 543 Lions Clubs |
| 1997-98 | MD19 has 71 Zones and 540 active Lions Clubs |
| 2008 | MD19 has 70 Zones and 489 active Lions Clubs |

In 1968, the Multiple District adopted a second Multiple District 19 project and the Washington/Northern Idaho Lions Sight Conservation Foundation and Eye Bank were created. This has become an outstanding project.

On December 24, 1975, the Lioness Program was initiated with the chartering of the first Lioness Club in Mount Pleasant, North Carolina. This program captured the imagination and loyal support of both Lions and ladies in MD19. The Lioness who chose to serve those less fortunate in their community through this branch of the Lions family have done so with an enthusiasm that is surpassed by no one.

In 1970, the British Columbia Lions Society for Crippled Children (now known as the B.C. Lions Society for Children With Disabilities) was established at the Annual Convention in Penticton, B.C.. This project has gained world-wide acclaim because of its magnitude.

In 1980 the MD19 Lions Hearing Conservation Foundation was established and has gained the loyal support of the Lions in MD19 who realize the importance of helping those with this hidden challenge in life. In 1998, the Washington/Northern Idaho Lions Sight Conservation Foundation and the MD19 Lions Hearing Conservation Foundation merged. The Lions in British Columbia are presently organizing a Hearing Foundation to serve the hearing impaired population in B.C.

In 1980 the Lions International Association had grown to 33,864 clubs and 1,288,398 members in 145 countries and Multiple District 19 had 512 clubs with 18,451 members. Our MD19 Office records, memorabilia and equipment were literally evicting Executive Secretary Gordon Smith and his wife from their residence. All MD19 clubs were assessed and, with one or two exceptions, each paid a fixed amount per member allowing the Multiple District to incorporate and purchase its present office building in 1983 located in Bellingham, WA.

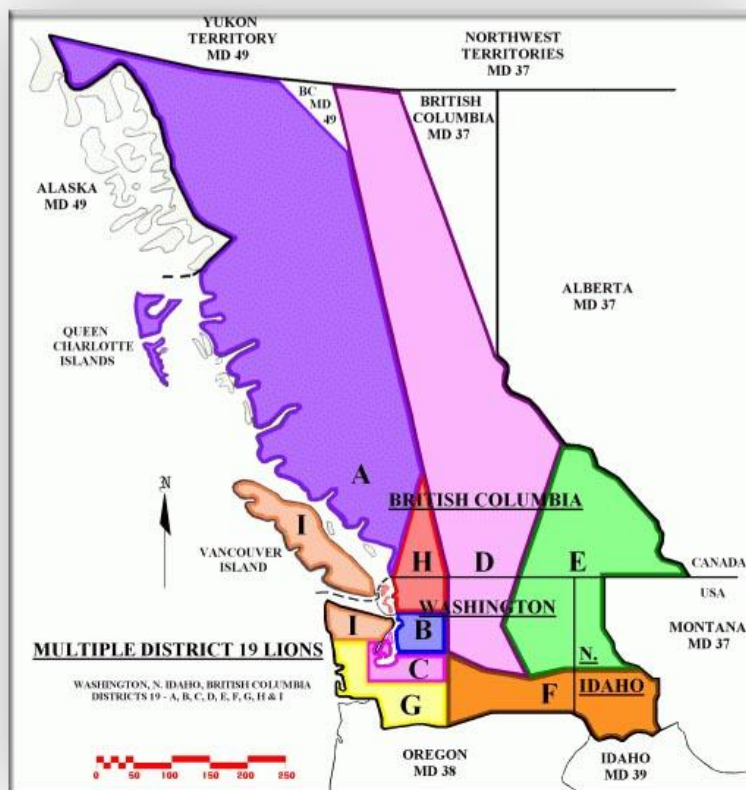
June, 1990, found Lions Clubs International at 39,734 clubs with 1,369,955 members in 165 countries with 545 of those clubs and 17,759 members located in Multiple District 19. During the early nineties, the practice of electing District Governors at the Multiple District 19 Annual Convention was changed. The District Governors and Zone Chairpersons (i.e. sub-district officers) were now elected at their own sub-district conventions. Prior to 1990 some districts started electing Assistant District Governors or District Governors-Elect and now in conformance with the Association's Constitution, each district in MD19 elects Vice District Governors at their annual sub-district convention.

Since the 1923 Lions International Convention when this area had only 9 clubs and 465 members, Multiple District 19 has grown to 473 active Lions Clubs with over 13,247 Lions. The original Cabinet is now called the Council of Governors and consists of 22 members: Council Chairperson, Vice Council Chairperson, Immediate Past Council Chairperson, 9 current District Governors, 9 Immediate Past District Governors, and the Executive Secretary/Treasurer, who is a non-voting member.

As of January 31, 2011, Lions Clubs International had 1,337,746 million members in 45,774 clubs in 743 districts and 206 countries and

geographical areas. Effective with the 1997-98 year, the number of International Directors was increased to 33 of which 15 (down from 16) are from the U.S.A. and affiliates, one from Canada, five from Europe, three from Ibero-America (including Mexico), five from the Orient and Southeast Asia, three from South Asia, African and Middle East, and one from Australia, New Zealand, and South Pacific. In addition the number of Executive Officers was reduced from five to four, with the elimination of the office of Third Vice President.

One last remarkable aspect of our Multiple District 19 record starting with Ray Bigelow's election as Third Vice President at the 1922 Convention, Multiple District 19 has provided a steady and continuous stream of distinguished Lions to serve on the International Board of Directors. These Lions have helped to "perfect the organization and to make plans for its expansion". Multiple District 19 has long been, and remains, an integral and leading district in this greatest of service organizations, Lions Clubs International.



Lions Clubs International History

Lions Clubs International began as the dream of Chicago insurance man Melvin Jones. He believed that local business clubs should expand their horizons from purely professional concerns to the betterment of their communities and the world at large.

Jones' own group, the Business Circle of Chicago, agreed. After contacting similar groups around the country, an organizational meeting was held on June 7, 1917, at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago. The new group took the name of one of the groups invited, the "Association of Lions Clubs," and a national convention was held in Dallas, Texas, USA in October of that year. Thirty-six delegates representing 22 clubs from nine states were in attendance. The convention began to define what the association was to become. A constitution, by-laws, objects and code of ethics were approved. Among the official objects adopted in these early years was one that read, "No club shall hold out the financial betterment of its members as its object." The object has remained one of the association's main tenets ever since.

Just three years after its formation, the organization became international when the first club in Windsor, Ontario, Canada was established in 1920. Clubs were later organized in Mexico, China and Cuba. By 1927, membership stood at 60,000 in 1,183 clubs.

In 1935, Panama became home to the first Central American club; the first club in South America was organized in Colombia the following year. Sweden, then France, brought Europe into the association in 1948. Japan had clubs by 1952, and the so-called "Eastern Bloc" was unblocked in 1989 with the formation of clubs in Hungary, Poland and Estonia. In 1990, a club was chartered in Moscow and today over 100 Lions clubs are demonstrating the value of service in countries once closed to voluntary action.

Perhaps the single event having the greatest impact on the association's service commitment occurred in 1925 when Helen Keller addressed the Lions at the international convention in Cedar Point, Ohio, USA. It was there that she challenged Lions to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness."

In 1990 Lions launched their most aggressive sight preservation effort to date, SightFirst. The more than US\$140 million-plus program strives to rid the world of preventable and reversible blindness by closing the gap between existing health care services and those that remain desperately needed.

Broadening its role in international understanding, the association helped the United Nations form the Non-Governmental Organizations section in 1945, and continues to hold consultative status today. Each year, during the Lions Day with the United Nations ceremonies, an award is presented to the grand prize winner of the Lions International Peace Poster Contest, itself a significant program that draws over 350,000 entries annually.

Another significant event in the association's history occurred in 1987, when Lions Clubs International became the first major service club organization to admit women as members.

Since those first years, the association has grown to include nearly 1.4 million men and women in more than 44,000 clubs located in 189 countries and geographical areas.

Useful Web Sites

Lions Clubs International

www.lionsclubs.org

Multiple District 19 Lions

www.lionsmd19.com

LionNet International

www.lionnet.com

_____ Chamber of Commerce

www.

LCIF

Facts

LCIF...SERVING THE WORLD COMMUNITY!

■ What is Lions Clubs International Foundation?

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is the charitable arm of Lions Clubs International (LCI). Incorporated in 1968, LCIF is a public, nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation as described in Section 501 (c) (3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

■ What is LCIF's mission?

To support the efforts of Lions clubs around the world in serving their local communities and the world community through humanitarian service, major disaster relief and vocational assistance programs.

■ How is the foundation governed?

A board of trustees comprised of the LCI board of directors, plus two appointed members governs LCIF. The immediate past international president of LCI always serves as chairman of the board of trustees.

■ How are the foundation's objectives achieved?

Through its grant programs, LCIF provides the necessary funds to mobilize Lions to meet vital worldwide needs. LCIF's grant programs include:

■ **SightFirst** grants — support projects that fill the gaps between what is being done and what needs to be done to curb the rapid growth of preventable and reversible blindness. SightFirst projects respond to one or more of the leading causes of blindness: cataract, trachoma, onchocerciasis (river blindness), glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy. The Lions Eye Health Program (LEHP), which is part of the SightFirst program, enables Lions to fight the two leading causes of blindness in developed countries: glaucoma and diabetic eye disease.

■ **Standard** grants — meet a wide range of community needs, including construction of schools and hospitals, homes for the elderly and the development of training programs for the disabled.

■ **Core 4** grants — provide grants of up to US\$200,000 for high-impact Lions' service projects. Grants are awarded for select priority projects, as identified by the board of trustees, in the areas of: sight, health, disability and youth.

■ **International Assistance Grants (IAG)** — fund projects that improve the quality of life through primary health care, food self-sufficiency, environmental protection, literacy and similar projects. Grants in this category require that Lions in at least two countries be involved in the project.

■ **Major Catastrophe** grants — relieve suffering caused by catastrophes of national or international impact.

■ **Emergency** grants — award up to US\$10,000 to meet immediate needs for food, clothing, medical supplies or blankets following a natural disaster. (LCIF is not a primary relief agency.)

■ **Major International Service Program (MISP)** grants — serve as an important part of LCIF's outreach and have been awarded for diabetic retinopathy research, drug awareness and SightFirst.

■ Who are LCIF's donors?

Lions clubs and individual members worldwide are LCIF's primary contributors. In addition, corporations, foundations and individuals not associated with the organization contribute. LCIF does not receive any part of Lions' club dues.

■ How are donors' gifts to LCIF used?

Donations are disbursed as grants for humanitarian projects approved by the board of trustees. No portion of donated funds is used to cover operational or administrative expenses. By ruling of the board of trustees, these expenses must be paid from interest on investments.

■ How can I contact the foundation for more information?

Write: LCIF
Attention: LCIF Public Relations
300 22nd Street, Oak Brook, IL
60523-8842

Phone: 630/571-5466, ext. 386

Fax: 630/571-5735

E-mail: lcif@lionsclubs.org

Website: <http://www.lionsclubs.org>

**Fax-On-Demand
(English only):** 732/544-2861



LCIF...SERVING THE WORLD COMMUNITY!

Frequently Asked Questions

(from the Lions Clubs International website)

When was Lions Clubs International founded?

June 7, 1917 in Chicago, Illinois, USA

Who was the founder of Lions Clubs International?

Melvin Jones (1879-1961)

What is the emblem of Lions Clubs International?

The emblem consists of a gold letter "L" on a circular purple field. Bordering this is a circular gold area with two lion profiles facing away from the center. The word "Lion" and "International" appear at the top and bottom. The Lions are meant to face both a proud past and confident future.

What is the motto of Lions Clubs International?

The association's motto, "We Serve," precisely explains its mission.

What is the slogan of Lions Clubs International?

"Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nation's Safety" (LIONS).

What are the colors of Lions Clubs International?

The official colors are purple and gold -- purple for loyalty and integrity; gold for sincerity, liberality, purity, and generosity.

What is the address of Lions Clubs International Headquarters?

Lions Clubs International
300 W. 22nd Street
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523-8842, USA

(630) 571-5466

What is the address for the official Lions Clubs International Website?

www.lionsclubs.org

What are the official membership figures?

As of January 1, 2003, there were nearly 1.4 million Lions in 44,600 clubs in 190 countries.

What are the official requirements for membership?

Membership is open to men and women of legal majority and good reputation in the community, and is by invitation only. Those interested

should contact their local Lions club. If they cannot easily locate a Lions club, they can request the ME-26 brochure from the Membership Operations Department at Lions International Headquarters at (630) 571-5466, ext. 322. The ME-26 brochure, once filled out and returned to International Headquarters, will help put them in touch with a local Lions club.

What magazine does Lions Clubs International publish?

31 official editions of THE LION Magazine are published in 20 languages.

What are the official languages of Lions Clubs International?

Lions Clubs International conducts its official business in the following 11 languages: English, Chinese, Finnish, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish and Swedish.

Acronyms and Terms to Remember

PP – past president (sometimes shown as PKL for past King Lion)

ZC – zone chairman

PZC – past zone chairman

VDG – vice district governor

DG – district governor

PDG – past district governor

PCC – past council chairman

PID – past international director

MJF – Melvin Jones Fellow (special recognition)

LCI – Lions Clubs International

LCIF – Lions Clubs International Foundation

C-1– refers to the zone in which we are located. There are 6 zones in our District.

19C – refers to the district in which we are located

MD19 – Multiple District 19 (an association of the 9 districts in WA, BC and ID)

Lion-of-the-Year – given by the President for exemplary service during the previous year.