

Becoming a Lion

SPONSORSHIP

Membership is by invitation only. A candidate must be sponsored by a Lion in good standing. The sponsor is responsible for helping the new member get off to a good start.

ELIGIBILITY

Anyone over the age of 18 years of good character is eligible to become a member of our Lions Club. A membership application must be submitted to the board of directors, along with a \$_____ initiation fee, to be considered for membership.

DUES

Dues are currently \$_____ per year if paid by July 31. There is a \$_____ penalty if paid late.

MEALS

ATTENDANCE

Meetings are held on _____ of the month beginning at _____. Members are expected to regularly attend. However it is recognized that there are exceptions, and absence can be excused for legitimate reasons. There are many opportunities to make up missed meetings.

OBLIGATIONS

All members are expected to serve on committees and work at projects when asked. The hallmark of a Lion is involvement.

OPPORTUNITIES

There are opportunities for members to win awards for their service, and many Lions choose to serve in offices at or beyond the club level. Lions are known for their friendships and many networks of Lions exist all over the world. However, the greatest reward in being a Lion is the opportunity to serve as a community leader, and to make a difference in your home town.

QUESTIONS

If you have questions please ask your sponsor, or contact _____

THANK YOU

We hope that you will find the *LION'S EXPERIENCE* one in which you would like to participate.



We Serve

Lions Club New Member Orientation



District 13-E

The *USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum* is held each fall in various North American locations. This event offers workshops, seminars, and speakers to develop the future leadership of Lionism.

The International Association of Lions Clubs is a humanitarian organization founded in 1917 by Melvin Jones. Mr. Jones believed that local business and professional people needed an organization to funnel community service energy and expertise back into the local community. At that time there were numerous local business and professional organizations which he organized into the network that now has become the International Association of Lions Clubs, also known as Lions Clubs International.

In 1919 with the founding of clubs in Canada we became an international organization. Since that time we have expanded into over 180 countries and geographical areas and have over 1.4 million members worldwide. Recently Lions Clubs have been formed in the former Soviet Bloc Countries, and the most recent additions are thriving in Russia, Ukraine and all over Eastern Europe.

In 1925, at the International Convention in Sandusky, Ohio, Helen Keller forever changed the direction of Lions Clubs when she challenged the association to become the “Knights of the Blind.” That challenge was readily accepted, and today Lions are the world leaders in the war against blindness all over the world.

The Lions Emblem has two Lions heads - one looking back with pride on the accomplishments of the past, and the other looking confidently to the future.

Properly named “The International Association of Lions Clubs”, this is the largest service club in the world with double the membership of the next largest organization. Every year Lions commit millions of dollars to help people around the globe who are sick, blind or in need. Lions Clubs International is the parent organization for the following worldwide programs:

Lions Clubs International Foundation

A foundation with resources held in trust to assist in major disaster relief, humanitarian service grants to treat eye diseases and prevent blindness, and for vocational training. In addition this foundation is the world’s largest provider of funds for eye research, and the leading contributor of aid and support to the blind.

Lions SightFirst

This was a special three year effort recently concluded to raise \$130 million to treat preventable blindness around the world. This limited campaign was a typical Lion’s success, exceeding its goal by over \$10 million!

Lions Quest

This foundation provides classroom support to end substance/drug abuse among the youth of the world. Quest is the most successful and widely used classroom program of its type in the world.

Other major activities include the Diabetes Awareness, International Youth Camps, Sight Conservation, Work with the Deaf, and Youth Exchange Programs.

The headquarters for Lions Clubs International is in Oak Brook, IL. The organization is governed by it’s President and executive officers - who are elected annually - and it’s Board of Directors elected from around the world. Eighteen dollars from each Lion’s dues goes to support the International.

Each year at the *Lions Clubs International Convention* Lions of the world gather to attend seminars and training, elect new officers, decide business issues, and provide international association and entertainment for all Lions. The following upcoming conventions are scheduled around the world:

1999	San Diego, CA
2000	Honolulu, HI
2001	Indianapolis, IN
2002	Osaka, Japan
2003	Denver , CO
2004	Detroit, MI / Windsor, Ontario
2005	Hong Kong, China

Ohio Lions is a division of Lions International, and were founded in 1920 with the chartering of the first Lions Club in Cleveland. We were the 13th state to associate with the International and therefore are known as Multiple District 13-Ohio Lions.

There are over 530 clubs in Ohio with over 18,000 members. All are men and women devoted to serving the needs of their communities. Lions from Ohio have always been active at the international level. James Coffey from the Toronto (Ohio) Lions club was the 1993-94 International President. Floyd Newberry from the Mount Orab (Ohio) Lions Club was elected International Director at the 1995 International Convention. The Lions of Ohio are recognized around the world for their organization and leadership, and stand out at international events with their traditional red coats and vests.

Administration of the Ohio Lions is performed by the Council of Governors. This council consists of the District Governors from each of the ten Sub-Districts in Ohio, plus a Chairman of Council elected by the new governors each year from the previous year's governors. (The 1998-99 Chairman is Lion Don Kepler, from District 13-E.) The activities of the Ohio Lions is governed by their Constitution and By-Laws.

Ohio Lions has two paid employees - a State Executive Administrator and an Administrative Assistant - who work for the Council of Governors. Virtually every other function of Lion's work is carried out by volunteers, which assures that all money earmarked for charity is used for its intended purpose. A new state office building was purchased in 1995 in the Columbus area to reduce operating expenses and provide a more effective environment to carry out Lions business. Eleven dollars (\$11) from each Ohio Lion's dues goes to support the activities of the state and district organizations.

The Ohio Lions hold two major business sessions each year. The Fall Conference and the State Convention include business sessions, seminars, a spouses program, and a large banquet with a prominent speaker, and is open to all Lions and guests. The State Convention also includes caucuses and voting on constitutional issues, and reports from all of the service, project, and administration committees. Each lions club may send one voting delegate for every ten active members. Training classes for new state and district level officials are held at these events, and also at other times through the year.

Ohio Lions supports a number of state service projects:

Ohio Lions Eye Research Foundation

This foundation is the second largest provider of money for eye research in the world - it is surpassed only by the Lions Clubs International Foundation (L.C.I.F.).

Ohio Lions Foundation

This foundation provides assistance for natural disaster relief, and grants for worthy projects within Ohio, and supports the *Diabetes Outreach Program* and the *Diabetes Mobile Unit*. It also offers scholarships to blind college students through the *Helen Keller Scholarship Program*, and funds the *Tactic*, a braille magazine for the blind.

Ohio Lions Sight & Hearing - Pilot Dogs

This program provides support for training of dogs and their handlers at no cost to individuals, including *Pilot Dogs* for the blind, *Hearing Dogs* for the deaf, and *Happy Canine Helpers* for the disabled. Funding is also provided for the *Society for Prevention of Blindness*, the *Ohio Radio Reading Service*, *Newsreel, Inc.*, and special needs at *Camp Echoing Hills*.

Ohio Youth Outreach Committee

This organization provides funding for several Ohio youth programs:

- *Camp Echoing Hills* is a summer camp for developmentally disabled youths.
- *International Youth Exchange* program permits cultural growth and education all around the world.
- *Leo Clubs* throughout the state permit young adults to serve their communities and learn leadership skills.
- *Lions-Quest* is a comprehensive educational approach to drug prevention in elementary, middle, & high schools.

International Relations

This program provides funds for Ohio volunteer projects in the third world, including *Volunteers of Optometry Serving Humanity (VOSH)* which provides eye examinations and eyeglasses to the poor, and *Amigos de los Americas* through which student volunteers provide basic health services in Latin America.

QUICK HISTORY...

Our club was chartered on _____. We were sponsored by _____

Club projects and service activities: _____

Our Lions Club fulfills the motto of The International Association of Lions Clubs:

WE SERVE.

District 13-E

District 13-E is one of ten sub-districts in Ohio. It covers West Central Ohio, including the Lions Clubs in the following counties: Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Hardin, Logan, Mercer, Miami, Shelby, and Union.

District 13-E is led by an elected governor who serves on a volunteer basis under the direction of the International Board of Directors. The 1998-99 13-E District Governor is Lion Robert "Gene Cox of the Waynesfield Lions Club. Other elected officials of the district are the Vice District Governor and the Deputy District Governor, who are also designated as the district's Region Chairmen, with each having specific responsibilities for half of the district's zones.

The District Cabinet consists of the above officers along with the Immediate Past District Governor, the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer, Zone Chairpersons, and committee chairpersons as appointed by the District Governor. This group meets four times a year as a cabinet to support the business of the district. The district receives its funding from the dues sent the state organization.

Administrative committees include constitution & by-laws, conventions, extension, finance & long-range planning, leadership development, membership, public relations, and district taitwister. Service committees on the cabinet include:

- Diabetes Awareness
- International Relations
- Lions Clubs International Foundation
- Leo Clubs
- Ohio Lions All-State Band
- Ohio Lions Eye Banks
- Ohio Lions Eye Research Foundation
- Ohio Lions Foundation
- Sight & Hearing/Pilot Dogs
- Youth Outreach

The district supports all of the Ohio Lions and International Lions projects, and also has a variety of activities for members. These include a District Golf Outing, hosted by a chosen club once a year at various golf courses throughout West Central Ohio; a District Bowling Tournament; and District Leadership Training seminars each year for incoming presidents, secretaries, treasurers, and taitwisters.

The District Convention is held every spring when the Lions of District 13-E are called to meet to elect district officers and conduct the business of Lionism in West Central Ohio. The convention is a family affair, and seminars and programs are included for the entire family.

Multiple District 13—Ohio Lions Map