

LIONS ORIENTATION



WELCOME TO THE LIONS FAMILY



The Lions are a very large family with 1.35 million members in 45,000 clubs in over 200 countries, all over the world and it is the largest volunteer service organization.

You as a member are a very important part of this worldwide network of people dedicated to seeking out and helping those in need.

Do to the large size of our organization we can reach out for global resources.

Our focus is on our community helping those in need one individual at a time and is Lions Clubs International to help you do that in the most effective way.

OUR BEGINNINGS

Lions have been serving since 1917, which Melvin Jones, a business man who belonged to the Chicago Business Circle, to go beyond promoting good business practices.

He convinced the members that they could provide service to others to make their communities a better place by helping those in need.

They decided if they organized clubs a lot more would be accomplished. So other organizations from the United States were invited to join together to make a difference in their communities.

At that meeting the group became “Lions Clubs International”.

The very first International Convention was held in 1917 in Dallas Texas, which the Constitution, by laws and code of ethics was adopted.



LIONS CODE OF ETHICS

TO SHOW my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.

TO SEEK success and demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

TO REMEMBER that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down others, to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.

WHENEVER a doubt arises as to the right or theirs of my position or action towards fellow man, to resolve such doubt against myself.

TO HOLD friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists/not on account of the service performed by one another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

ALWAYS bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state and my community, and to give them my unanswering loyalty in word, act and deed. To give them freely of my time labor and means.

TO AID my fellow man by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.

TO BE CAREFUL with my criticism and liberal with my praise, to build up and not destroy.

THE LIONS EMBLEM



THE LIONS SLOGAN

LIBERTY

INTELLIGENCE

OUR

NATION'S

SAFETY

Also:

Loving

Individual

Offering

Needed

Service

LIONS MISSION STATEMENT

To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions Clubs.

LIONS VISION STATEMENT

To be the global leader in community and Humanitarian service.

THE LION'S MOTTO

What the Lions do can be summed up in two simple words –

“WE SERVE”

OUR ACTIVITIES

SIGHT - Lions have been associated with blindness preventions and sight restoration since 1925, when a blind and deaf woman by the name of Helen Keller came to the International Lions Conventions and asked the Lions to be “The Knights of the Blind.

Please read her speech, which is attached.

Dear Lions and Ladies;

I suppose you have heard the legend that represents opportunity as a capricious lady, who knocks at every door but once, and if the door isn't opened quickly, she passes on, never to return. And that is as it should be. Lovely, desirable ladies won't wait. You have to go out and grab'em

I am your opportunity. I am knocking at your door. I want to be adopted. The legend doesn't say that you have to do when several beautiful opportunities present themselves at the same door. I guess you have to choose the one you love best. I hope you will adopt me. I am the youngest here, and what I offer you is full of splendid opportunities for service.

The American Foundation for the Blind is only four years old. It grew out of the imperative needs of the blind, and was called into existence by the sightless themselves. It is national and international in scope and in importance. It represents the best and most enlightened thought on our subject that has been readied so far. Its object is to make the lives of the blind more worthwhile everywhere by increasing their economic value and giving them the joy of normal activity.

Try to imagine how you would feel if you were suddenly stricken blind today. Picture yourself stumbling and groping at noonday as in the night; your work, your independence gone.

In that dark world wouldn't you be glad if a friend took you by the hand and said, "Come with me and I will teach you how to do some of the things you used to do when you could see"? That is just the kind of friend the American Foundation is going to be to all the blind in this country if seeing people will give it the support it must have.

You have heard how through a little word dropped from the fingers of another, or a ray of light from another soul touched the darkness of my mind and I found myself, found the work, found God. It is because my teacher learned about me and broke through the dark, silent imprisonment which held me that I am able to work for myself and for others. It is the caring we want more than money. The gift without the sympathy and interest of the giver is empty. If you care, if we can make the people of this great country care, the blind will indeed triumph over blindness.

The opportunity I bring to you, Lions, is this. To foster and sponsor the work of the American Foundation for the Blind. Will you not help me hasten the day when there shall be no preventable blindness, no little deaf, blind child untaught; no blind man or woman unaided?

I appeal to you Lions, you who have your sight, your hearing, you who are strong and brave and kind. Will you not constitute yourselves “KNIGHTS OF THE BLIND” in this crusade against darkness?

**Thank you,
Helen Keller**

Lions have attacked the worldwide problem of blindness through Cataract Surgery, Vision Screening, cornea transplants and eye glass recycling. Used eyeglasses are used in third world countries to help the needy see.

YOUTH PROGRAMS – Lions provide food, where needed, medical care, educational materials and other necessities of life to some of the world's poorest and at risk children.

HEALTH – Lions also focus on Hearing, and working with the Deaf and raising awareness about the dangers of Diabetes.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RELIEF – Whenever disaster strikes, Lions stand ready to help. We mobilize worldwide resources and manpower to help local Lions care for their communities, through the Lions Alert Program, where lions prepare for their role in emergencies.

International Lions Clubs Foundation is able to provide help through Grants.

SIGHT FIRST GRANTS fight preventable and reversible blindness by building hospitals and clinics, training doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers, distributing medicine and raising awareness of eye disease. Lion's districts work with their regional Sight First Technical advisor in developing Sight First Grant Applications and project proposals.

Sight First fights the major causes of blindness: cataract, river blindness, trachoma, and, especially in developed nations like the United States, diabetic eye disease and glaucoma.

Lions initially generously funded Sight First with US \$144 Million Dollars.

STANDARD GRANTS are the grants that Lions are most likely to be involved with. Standard Grants are approved for large-scale Lions' humanitarian projects. The project must serve many people and must be beyond the scope of traditional club and/or district fund-raising activities. Standard grants provide matching funds of up to US \$75,000.00.

Standard Grants generally provide capital funding for equipment and Infrastructure needs. Typical stand grant project include mobile health units, hospices, nursing homes, medical units, street children's homes, blind and disabled centers, eye clinics, research centers and schools in developing countries.

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS, (IAG) enable Lions Clubs in developed Countries to partner with Lions Clubs in lesser-developed regions on humanitarian projects, IAG fund basic health care; education and literacy; clean water and sanitation; rural development and self-sufficiency programs; services for the blind and otherwise disable; and environmental protection. IAG's can also be considered for Lions' International Medical Missions and for larger-scale Lions' eyeglass recycling centers that have a demonstrable impact in serving Lions in developing countries.

The IAG Program awards grants between US \$5,000.00 and US \$30,000.00 on a matching funds basis. A District may have only one IAG in process or approved at any one time.

CATASTROPHES GRANTS

When catastrophes of major proportions strike, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) responds with grants for as much as US \$1 Million (and a minimum of US \$50,000.00) for long term reconstruction projects as well as for immediate needs.

- LCIF awarded major catastrophe grants in response to the September 11 attacks against the United States.**
- The 2001 Earthquake in Gujarat, India; and**
- The 1999 Earthquakes in Turkey.**

CORE 4 GRANTS fund large scale projects relating to the Lions' Four Core service commitments:

**Preserving Sight,
Combating Disability,
Promoting Health and
Serving Youth**

EMERGENCY GRANTS

To assist Lions in helping their communities following a nature-related disaster, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) Emergency Grants are issued for a maximum of US \$10,000.00.

The funds are to be used for meeting immediate needs such as food, clothing and medical supplies, LCIF is not a primary relief agency and does not seek to duplicate the work of such agencies.

Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) supports specific projects under each service commitment:

Preserving Sight; children's eye photo screening programs in developed countries, low vision projects, combating disability; building homes for the blind and disabled with Habitat for Humanity, eye care for Special Olympics Athletes; promoting health; diabetes prevention and treatment; and serving youth; expansion of Lions Quest Program.

Designated grants represent funds donated to Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) restricted for specific activities and projects.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

International Board of Directors

International President

Council of Governors

District Governor

First Vice District Governor

Second Vice District Governor

District Secretary/Treasurer

Region Chairman

Zone Chairman

Club

Club

Club

Club

The Lions Club is the fundamental unit of Lionism, it is the structure which all else is built and the Clubs is where the work gets done and funds are raised.

LIONS ORGANIZATION AT A GLANCE

Lions Club International

Which is the World

The International Board of directors is the governing body of the Association. It has 34 members, from all parts of the world and meet four times each year to set the Association Policy's. The Board also monitors ongoing programs, supervises the international officers and committees of the Association, manages all association business, property and funds, prepares and approved a budget for each fiscal year which is July 1 to June 30.

Multiple District 27

Which is the State of Wisconsin and our State has 10 Districts

Multiple Districts are formed by two or more Districts within a territory, usually organized along national State or Provincial Lines.

Each District has a District Governor which is elected and serves for 1 year the District Governor is responsible for the overall success of our mission of service in their District.

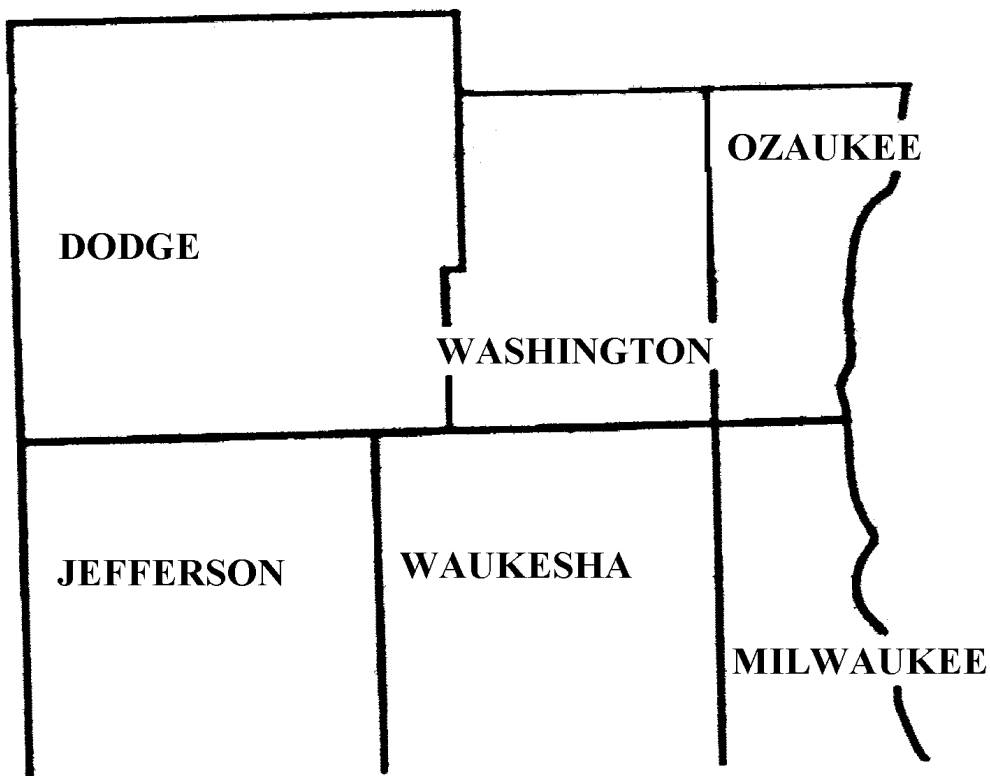
District 27-A2

Which is our District

A2 is comprised of 48 Lions Clubs, 1 Branch Club, 11 Lioness Clubs and 4 Leo Clubs with a combed membership of approximately 1,800 service minded men and women.

Our Clubs are located in Southeast Wisconsin covering 6 counties, being Dodge, Washington, Ozaukee and portions of Jefferson, Waukesha and Milwaukee located North of I-94.

Within our District we have 4 regions and 8 zones make up District 27-A2.



The district is the club's connection to the world of Lions Clubs International (LCI). Each district has a District Governor (DG) who is elected and serves for 1 year and is responsible for the overall success of our mission of service in the District.

Each Club and District sets its own annual dues to cover administrative costs. In addition, the Club collects international dues to cover member benefits, including the Subscription to the Lion Magazine.

Any money raised from the public must never be used to defray administrative expenses. Which means any funds raised from a project and/or fund raising function must go to the Public and/or Community.

DUES

Lions International

\$.50 -- International Convention Fund

\$ 4.75 -- The Lions Magazine

**\$ 8.82 -- District Governor's Office & Travel &
District Governor Elect Expenses**

**\$ 7.40 -- Special Club Programs including:
Membership, Extension, Leadership Activities &
Publicity**

\$ 4.02 -- Liability Insurance

**\$13.51 -General Operations Including, District
Governors Elect Seminar International President,
Other Officers and Directors, Past Presidents and
Directors District and Club Administration
Supplies, (Clubs & Districts (Including postage for
mailing these items) Field Operations, Auditing,
International Exchange, Telephone, Telegrams and
Legal International Headquarters**

\$39.00 PER YEAR, PER MEMBER

To Multiple District 27

\$.50 - Wisconsin Promotion
\$ 6.25 - State Administration
\$.25 - State Convention
\$ 3.00 - Wisconsin Lions Newspaper
\$.50 - Wisconsin Lions Foundation
\$10.50 PER YEAR - PER MEMBER

To Sub-Districts: 27-A2 - \$6.00

Maximum dues that can be collected per year, per member, for Sub-Districts is \$10.00, set by the Council of Governors at the July Council Meeting.

Each District Cabinet determines the District Dues to be charged up to the maximum of \$10.00

Both International and Multiple District dues are collected on a semi-annual basis using membership figures as of June 30 and December 31.

Your club Dues are also due semi-annually and are set by the Club Board of Directors, and must be approved by all Members of the Club.

MEETINGS

- 4 International Board Meetings yearly
- 5 Multiple District (MD) Council of Governor's Meetings
- 5 District Cabinet Meetings
- 4 Zone Meetings
- 2 Club Meetings per month
- 1 Club Board of Directors per month

CONVENTIONS

International Convention – which is held sometime in June or July.

Multiple District Convention (State Convention)- which is held in May

District Convention – is held the third weekend in February.

The District Convention is also important to attend, as Programs are presented to learn what our District has done to provide much needed help for the less fortunate than ourselves.

It is also the time that the Honor Banquet is held, it gives recognition to each President, Secretary and Treasurer for their work throughout the Lion year.

It also when we get to meet an International Guest, who will bring a message from Lions International and the International President.

The District Convention, as with all of the Conventions, there is also a lot of fun and renewing of old friendships, and meeting new friends, as Lions work hard throughout the year, and we also have lots of fun.

Lionism is not all work. Be prepared to have fun along the way.

TRAINING

USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum
Lion's Leadership Institutes
District Leadership Training
Club Officer Training

Zone and Region Meetings:

The Zone and Region Meetings are very important meeting to attend, it is where you will meet other Lions in our District, and what the other clubs are doing as far as Community Service, Projects and up coming events.

Service Projects: Lions was founded on the idea of helping those within our own community and still it is still true today. Encourage your club to be mindful of the needs within your community and how the Lions can provide the need service.

Fund Raisers - Successful fund-raising is a critical part of Lions to provide money needed to help others takes lots of planning and help from Club Members.

Web Sites and Social Media

WI Lions: Multi-District 27: www.wisconsinlions.org/

Lions Clubs International: www.lionsclubs.org

Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin: www.eyebankwis.com

Wisconsin Lions Camp: www.wisconsinlionscamp.com

Wisconsin Lions Foundation: www.wlf.info

District Facebook Page: Search for District 27-A2
Lions (Wisconsin)

District Resources: The following resources are available to present programs at your Club Meetings, Zone Meetings and any function you may need a speaker and/or information about programs that our District supports.

Bold, which is Blind Outdoor Leisure and Development. Bold is for the Blind to have outdoor activities they normally wouldn't have been exposed to such as snow and water skiing, horseback riding, tandem bicycle rides, and even a ride on a Motorcycle.

Children Vision Screening – is an excellent way to give back to your community and provide a service that is not available in most areas. Our Children Vision Screening Chairperson can assist you with training to become a screener, lend advice on how and where to contact area schools.

Diabetes Awareness – Need information on Diabetes? The Diabetes Chairperson can provide information on Diabetes, Diabetes Camp; setting up a free Diabetes screening in your community and has lots of information for your protections against Diabetes.

District Alert Team - The District Alert Team was designated to be available in the time of need for such things as a natural disaster. Learn how your club can be a vital part of helping your community in their most dire time of need.

District Bowling & Golf - Each year District Golf and Bowling event are held. This Chairperson can help your club be a host or participate.

District Web Master - Our District web page located at www.md27a2.org has lots of information about the happenings without district along with links to other Lions web sites.

Hearing – The district provides new hearing aids to individuals that meet a financial protocol. We also collect used hearing aids which are turned in for salvage, which provides funds so we can provide the New Hearing Aids.

Leader Dog - The Leader Dog program provides dogs to individuals that are Blind. The Leader Dog School is located in Rochester Michigan.

Leo Club – A youth Lions Club that is a project of a Lions Club. Our District is proud to have 3 Leo Clubs.

Lions Newspaper PR – Is your club hosting an event, had a successful fund raiser or did community service, have the dates of the Event, pictures of your fund raiser or community service printed in the Lions Newspaper, and you can also put it in the Community newspaper.

Lions are known as the Best Kept Secret, due to the lack of PR. We need to let the community what good deeds the club is doing.

Lions Quest – Quest is a comprehensive, positive and prevention youth development program that unites home, school and community to cultivate capable and healthy young people of strong character. The program teaches K – 12 essential life skills that support character development, social and emotional learning, civic values, substance and violence prevention and service learning.

Mission to Mexico – The Mission to Mexico Chairperson can tell you all about the adventures of getting thousands of pairs of glasses, medical equipment, Fire trucks and ambulances to under developed communities in Mexico.

Peace Poster – The peace poster contest is sponsored by Lions Clubs International (LCI) and is an annual contest to design a poster that represents peace. The District Peace Poster Chairperson is available to answer questions and will be charged with the task of soliciting posters from children within our district through each of the clubs.

Wisconsin Lions Camp – Our District has 2 elected Directors to the Wisconsin Lions Camp. They have access to information about the camp, its functions and upcoming event along with all the activities related to the Wisconsin Lions Foundation (WLF).

Wisconsin Lions Eye Bank - We are lucky to have one of the finest and largest eye bank facilities in the country and more importantly all of the tissue donations are transported by Lion Members from around the State.

Youth Exchange – is an international opportunity for the youth to visit other Lions Communities around the world.

EACH OF THE ABOVE PROGRAMS MENTIONED ABOVE HAVE A CHAIRPERSON, WHO IS JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY IF YOU AND/OR YOUR CLUB IS IN NEED OF ANY HELP; AND THEY ARE ALSO AVAILABLE TO PRESENT PROGRAMS AT ANY OF YOUR CLUB MEETINGS.

LIONS CLUB ABBREVIATIONS

- **DG - District Governor**
- **1st VDG - First Vice District Governor**
- **2nd VDG - Second Vice District Governor**
- **DGE - District Governor Elect**
- **IPDG - Immediate Past District Governor**
- **PDG - Past District Governor**
- **CC - Council Chairman**
- **PCC - Past Council Chairman**
- **ID - International Director**
- **PID - Past International Director**
- **IP - International President**
- **PIP - Past International President**
- **WLF - Wisconsin Lions Foundation**
- **LCI - Lions Club International**
- **LCIF - Lions Club International Foundation**

**QUALITY MEMBERS
RETENTION
EFFECT - MINUSES**

**LESS HANDS TO SERVICE
LESSER IMAGE IN THE COMMUNITY
LESS FUNDS TO SERVE OTHERS**

EFFECT – PLUSES

**Continuing Manpower for fundraisers and
service projects.**

Continuance of sharing and more ideas.

More Hands to Serve.

More visible in the Community.

MEMBER'S COMMITMENT

**Give freely of your time and energy
whenever possible**

Attend Club Meetings when possible.

Be available for Committee Assignments.

**Be knowledgeable about the aims and
objectives of Lions.**

Support Your Club Officers.

THANK YOU – QUESTIONS ?????

**Note: The District Governor and District
Cabinet Members along with the Global
Membership Team and Global Leadership
Team are always available to help. We are just
a phone call, text, or E-Mail away.**