

MEMBERSHIP MEMO

(IF YOU DON'T ASK - THE ANSWER IS ALWAYS NO!)

To: Lions and Lion Leaders

From: CCE Jim McCown

Date: June 1, 2009

Re: Is it time you evaluated your club?

HOW STRONG IS YOUR CLUB

How many members you have in your club is directly related to the strength and the club's ability to serve the community. It is the responsibility of current Lion club members to invite other qualified individuals to join Lions. With new members we bring into Lion clubs important benefits, including an increased capacity to serve the community, future leadership, diversity, and fresh ideas, interests and energy.

What is a qualified individual? It is someone who is morally responsible, will be able to be an active Lion in your club, and believes that as individuals we need to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

How many Lion members are not active? It is not necessary if their work keeps them from attending meetings but they should be working on club service projects and fund-raising projects. They don't have to work on all of them but they should make an effort to work on some of them.

What we say and do within our clubs can effect whether a new member will stay or leave. Close mentoring needs to be done throughout the early years the new Lion is a member. If you have an older Lion or a Lion that is too rash with new members, please sit down with them immediately and tell them that they are causing members to leave. If that doesn't work you might ask them either to become a member at large for awhile, which will include no club meetings or working on any club projects. Either they submit to this or they will have to submit their resignation. When they ask to come off the member at large status. the Membership Committee should sit down with them and work out how they will conduct themselves for the betterment of the club. There should be at least a 6 month probationary period. If this doesn't wake them up to what they are doing to the club, nothing will, and it is time to let them go as a member of your club.

Sometimes an individual doesn't realize what they are doing to new members. This will either wake them up or they will resign on their own. It has to be done. If it continues, the club will be the next one that will be gone.

Another important thing to consider when you are evaluating your club is who decides what will take place in your club? If it is being done by one individual or more then one, it is time for a change. Your club has board members that were elected by the members of your club. They and they alone must be the ones to determine what, when and where certain activities of the club will be made. The only exception to this is when authority has been given to a committee or chairperson to make certain decisions. If you feel something is being done that wasn't authorized by the board, ask to see the board minutes. That should take care of it.

Have you asked someone today to become a Lion?
If not – why not

Published frequently for those interested in membership, retention and extension.

Please send questions or ideas to CCE Jim McCown. Phone 360459 5469 or E-mail: pdgimmccown@comcast.net.

I will share your ideas and questions in this memo!

Questions To Ask Your Club

These questions can help your new Lions and in some cases existing Lions get started on becoming more active in your club and better informed about Lions:

- What club committee could use my skills?
- What community service projects is my club sponsoring?
- Does my club participate in any programs, such as CARE, Lions Youth Exchange, Leos, Quest, or?
- How can I assist my club officers?
- Who in my club can serve as my mentor?
- What opportunities are there for getting involved in international service?
- Can I serve as a greeter at club meetings?
- How do I find out how to make up missed meetings?
- When is the district conference?
- Can I go on visitations and who do I see about this?

Give this to your next new or existing new Lion member!