

MEMBERSHIP MEMO

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

To: Lions and Lion Leaders

From: CC Jim McCown

Date: April 1, 2010

Re: **Are you mentoring your new members???**

THE SILENT MENTOR

A new Lion member who previously had been attending Lion club meetings and participated in the fundraising and service activities of his club stopped showing up. After a few weeks his mentor decided to visit him.

It was a chilly evening. The mentor found the man at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire.

Guessing the reason for the mentors visit, the man welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited.

The mentor made himself at home but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After several minutes, the mentor took the fire tongs carefully picked up a brightly burning ember, and place it to one side of the hearth all alone. He then sat back in his chair still silent.

The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As the one lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and dead.

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The mentor glanced at his watch and realized it was time to leave to see another absent Lion. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow, once more with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

As the mentor reached the door to leave his host said, with a tear running down his cheek, "Thank you so much for your visit and especially showing me why I joined Lions in the first place. I will be at the next meeting."

Sometimes we forget why we joined Lions. We must continually find ways to bring them back, those fallen Lions.. You as a mentor or sponsor owe it to that new Lion to show him how to become a great Lion and to enjoy his time as a Lion. This is a task in Lionism, that is of paramount importance in keeping your members. Read the next column in receiving an award in mentoring.

Have you asked someone today to become a Lion?

If not – why not

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

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

I will share your ideas and questions in this memo!

MD19

"LION FOR LIFE"

GROWTH AWARD

An individual club can make a commitment to adopt this growth award orientation guide to their membership plan and encourage sponsors and assisting Lions to mentor new Lions. This will help promote New Lions to again sponsor and mentor for a healthier club. (This club commitment form is available through MD19 web site www.lionsmd19.com or your Zone Chairperson)

All new Lions inducted in the Lions Year 2008-2009 forward who partner with their sponsor and two assisting Lions are eligible by completing the mentoring guide and sponsoring a new member within the allotted time of two years from their membership date.

All Lions prior to Lions year 2008-09 who meet the qualifications listed in the "**LION FOR LIFE-Sponsor and Mentor a New Lion for a Lifetime of Service**" orientation guide and sponsor a new member by the end of Lions year 2009-2010 will qualify for recognition and the Lion for Life pin. Club commitment to award program, all verification and signatures in guide are required. The successful participants are eligible for recognition for their commitment to growth and leadership. A prestigious MD19 Lion for Life pin can be purchased from the MD19 office to be presented by a DG, PDG, ZC or PZC or any other officer.