

NOTES

WISCONSIN LIONESSES



Wisconsin Lioness Program

Multiple Districts 27

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Why a Lioness?

*I'm a Lioness as you can see,
But why is this important, especially to me?
I can help alleviate suffering, waste and abuse.
I get involved with people in need.
I give of myself and forget about greed.
For I know that I'm helping in a special way.
The deaf and the blind each and every day.
I share and I give in my own fashion,
The love of Lioness, their time and compassion.
It's a special opportunity, as you can see
To share my one gift...and that is ME*

Multiple District Directory

- A. Is printed by the State Office each year and is on-line at Wislions.org
- B. Includes the names and addresses of all District and club Officers for each Lions, and Leo clubs in the state in addition to the Wisconsin Lions Foundation officers.
- C. Is distributed to all District Governors, Lions Cabinet Members and the Lions Club Presidents and Secretaries



The Lioness Club Program: History in the Making

From meager beginnings, the Lioness Program has transformed itself into a productive volunteer work force. Yet the true strength of the program lies not in sheer numbers of members, but in the members' unique capacity to lovingly tend to the needs of humanity.

Officially acknowledged 55 years after Melvin Jones founded Lions Clubs International, the Ladies Auxiliary of Mt. Pleasant, North Carolina, became the first Lioness Club. Certified on December 25, 1975, Violet Hough served as the club's first President. This group of 40 women, like other auxiliaries around the world, received a special ward for their retroactive service to Lionism.

The Lioness Club Program enjoys a separate club constitution with suggested by-laws. In 1975, the name "Lioness Clubs" and the scripted "L" were officially approved for use by Lions Clubs International.

In June of 1980, the first Lioness District was organized in the country of Turkey. In January of 1981, the first multiple District was recognized in the state of Oregon, USA.

One of the most significant events in the clubs history was the inclusion of men into the Lioness Clubs, and consequently, women into Lions Clubs. In response to this 1987 constitutional change, International Lions Clubs President, William Woolard was inducted into his local Lioness Club in Mt. Pleasant, North Carolina on June 4, 1989.

Another significant event occurred in 1991, when the International Board of Directors voted to no longer recognize the Lioness Clubs above the club level. This action was taken due to some Lions Clubs allowing Lioness club members to vote on Lions matters and allowing Lioness to hold offices in the Lions Organization. The International Board felt this was the only way to stop those practices.

Since that time, the only assistance received from the International office is to provide Lioness club supplies. This action resulted in much disappointment on the part of Lioness members as Lioness Clubs. In Wisconsin, PDG Lion Ivan Ryan was serving as the State Lioness Chairman. He took it upon himself to organize the Lioness Clubs in Wisconsin and provide the direction previously provided by Lions Clubs. Some members joined Lions Clubs, others quit and many stayed on. As a result, Wisconsin has one of the strongest Lioness programs in the world.

In January 2019, the Wisconsin Council of Governors voted to officially dissolve the Lioness Leadership above the club level effective June 30, 2019

Lioness clubs cooperate with their sponsoring Lions club on community service projects, in addition to creating their own fundraisers and civic activities. A vital link between the Lioness club and their sponsoring Lions clubs is the Lions Liaison. This officer relays information and creates mutual support and understanding between the two clubs. On the District level, a Lioness Chairman or an Associate Chairman performs this essential function.

Special award programs provide incentives to Lioness while honoring them for their dedication to Lionism.

Club membership is available by invitation only.

Potential members must be of legal age in their country, be of good moral character and maintain an upstanding reputation.

There are currently 95 Lioness Clubs in Wisconsin with over 2200 members, who have dedicated their efforts to the goals of Lionism.

For up to date information on the Wisconsin Lioness program and Lioness Clubs in our State, please visit our website: www.wisconsinlioness.org

- F. Visits all of the Lioness and LEO Clubs upon invitation.
- G. Sends out a monthly Newsletter.

State Lions Convention

- A. Is held each year in a different location in the Multiple District
- B. includes seminars for Lions, Lioness and Leos, banquets, pin trading and meetings
- C. Voting takes place on constitutional issues and the location of various Multiple District activities.

- E. District Convention
 1. Is held in conjunction with the Lions District Convention
 2. The host club is determined by a vote of those delegates attending the Convention Clubs in the District.



International Lions Organization

- A. Headquarters is located in Oak Brook, Illinois
- B. Operates under the direction of a President, Officers and a Board of Directors
- C. Meet on a regular basis to formulate and set policy.

International Lions Convention

- A. Held each year in a different city in the USA or a Foreign country
- B. Newly-elected District Governors are installed
- C. The election of the International President, Vice-President and Directors is held.
- D. Delegates vote on changes to the International Constitution.
- E. Entertainment and educational programs are provided
- F. Pin trading goes on

Wisconsin Lions Multiple District 27 Organization

- A. The State is composed of 10 districts, which comprise the Multiple District 27. The individual Districts are: A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2, D1, D2, E1, and E2.
- B. The Governor from each of the 10 districts comprise The Council of Governors
- C. The Council of Governors elects a Council Chairman and other officers
- D. Council meetings are held as determined by the Chairman and the Council.
- E. The Council of Governors appoints the State Executive Secretary.

Lions District and District Governor's Duties

- A. Consists of the designated geographic area under the direction of the District Governor.
- B. District Governor's Cabinet
- C. Appoints a Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer, Region and Zone Chairs and necessary committees and Committee Chairs.
- D. Set the dates of, and chairs, the Cabinet meetings.
- E. Visits all of the Lions Clubs in the District.

What are the Lioness Colors?

Purple and Gold

- Purple – Stands for loyalty to country, friends, and to one's self and to the integrity of mind and heart. Purple is also the color of strength, courage and tireless dedication to a cause.
- Gold – Symbolizes sincerity of purpose, liberality in judgments, purity in life and generosity in mind, heart and time toward our fellow man.

Who Sponsors a Lioness Club?

A Lioness Club must be sponsored by a Lions Club. With the approval of the sponsoring Lions Club, a Lioness Club can Co-sponsor a new Lioness Club

What is my Lioness Club all about?

The local Lioness club will provide the following information to you:

- A. Who your sponsoring Lions Club is.
- B. Club's history
- C. Club meeting information
 1. When, Where, What time
 2. Board meetings
- D. Club Dues
 1. One time entrance fee
 2. Annual Club and District dues
 3. Pro-rated Club and District dues for members joining after January 1.
- E. your club pin, if you have one
- F. Lioness vests, which can be made by the members
- G. Your Club's Organization
Pertinent information regarding club officers such as: Historian, Past President, Past Liaisons, Affiliate District Cabinet, programs, Special Events, Officers, Committee, and Membership Lists

- H. Your Club Officers
1. Refer to the Club officer Training Kit
 2. Refer to the Duties of the Officers and Committees
 3. Information regarding your Club By-Laws. Each Club should have a set of By-Laws which should contain information regarding meetings, Membership, perfect attendance, awards, Elections, dues and fees, standing and other committees and amendments.
- I. Your Club's fund raising efforts
- J. Your Club's donations
- K. Your Club's Service Projects
- L. Your Club's Award and Recognition
1. Anniversary
 2. Membership Extension
 3. Past President's Pin
 4. 100% President, Secretary and Treasurer awards.
 5. Perfect Attendance Pins
 6. Honors Night – an event shared with the Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers of the Lioness
- M. Newsletter
- A club may send out a monthly letter to inform Members of the next meeting, program, events which have already occurred and upcoming events
- N. Induction Ceremony
- May be either a candlelight or regular ceremony.
- A new member kit and a Lioness member pin shall be presented by the sponsoring Lioness

LIONESSE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Who is a Lioness?

A person who is concerned for human needs through structured, productive service activities that benefit communities both near and far.

Why Be a Lioness?

For friendship, fellowship, enjoyment, creative uses of time and service to others.

Who can be a Lioness?

- Any person 18 years or older and who is service minded.
- Must be invited into the club by another Lioness and approved of by the Lioness Club's Board of Directors.
- You do not have to have any affiliation with a Lion.

What is the Purpose of a Lioness Club?

- To provide challenging, varied, community service opportunities for its members.
- To assist it's sponsoring Lions Club in carrying out its service programs and activities in the community.
- To provide interesting, diversified programs

What is the Lioness Motto?

“WE SERVE, TOGETHER”

What is the Lioness Emblem?

On the club level, the emblem is the slant “L”.

