



LEADER NETWORK



August 2004

Lions Learning Center

Visitors to the Leadership Division exhibit on the convention floor in Detroit previewed the new Lions Learning Center course, **Introduction to Lions Leadership**. This exciting new addition to the Lions Learning Center will be launched in English in August, with LCI language versions to follow in November. The new course features increased interactivity, including a leadership style assessment, quizzes, and personal development tools. Resources included are job descriptions, district/club organization charts, leadership development plan, and the course bibliography.

The Lions Learning Center can be accessed via the LCI website at www.lionsclubs.org.

The Art of Recognition

Recognition can be defined as, “acknowledgement with a show of appreciation.”

International President Clement F. Kusiak encourages us to practice the Art of Recognition in our dealings with those who join us in service to our communities.

The *LEADER NETWORK* will emphasize one aspect of recognition in each issue to help you in acknowledging the efforts of others.

Recognition can be categorized in one of two ways: formal or informal. Both types are important to Lions if we hope to have a truly well-balanced approach to acknowledging the efforts of our members.

Lions Clubs International has an extensive formal recognition program to reward Lions for special achievement. The program encompasses individuals from Leos to government officials, and from new members to international presidents. If you would like to learn more about the 140+ awards that LCI sponsors, you can purchase the new publication, **The Guide to Awards & Recognition** from LCI Club Supplies, or you can download it from the LCI website, www.lionsclubs.org.

Recognition can also be a more personal reinforcement that we call informal recognition. From a simple “thank you,” to buying lunch, to sending a note, to naming a club event in their honor, we can all employ creativity to let others know we notice and appreciate their hard work.

The Art of Recognition is another publication that can be purchased from LCI Club Supplies. It provides a variety of interesting and innovative ways to let other Lions know their service is noticed and valued.

In our next issue, we will talk about the top ten reasons (or excuses) for not giving recognition.

Tools: Image Linked Quotes

A quote that creates an immediate image in the minds of the listener is a powerful attention getting device. You, the presenter or facilitator, will have the attention of your audience and you will get the extra retention benefit of a vocal presentation with a related visual, without having to project an actual visual image. They will remember your point. Here are a couple of examples:

“One of the secrets of life is to make stepping stones out of stumbling blocks.” Jack Penn, Author

“If you think you’re too small to make a difference, you haven’t been in bed with a mosquito!” Anita Roddick, The Body Shop.

“Everyone has an invisible sign hanging from their neck saying, “Make me feel important.” Mary Kay Ash, Mary Kay Inc.



FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION...

regarding LCI’s 2004-2005 leadership development programs and events, please check the LCI website at www.lionsclubs.org

MORE





LEADER NETWORK



August 2004

The Leadership Challenge: Challenging the Process

Jim Kouzes and Barry Posner are experts in the field of leadership. In their book, "The Leadership Challenge," they studied the practices of leaders and found that the most successful leaders are able to:

- Challenge the process
- Inspire a shared vision
- Enable others to act
- Model the way
- Encourage the heart

We will examine one of these practices in each issue of *The LEADER NETWORK*.

As weather shapes mountains, problems shape leaders. Almost every great leader has had to meet a challenge head-on. Lions leaders confront challenges like membership growth, keeping projects effective and meaningful, motivating and inspiring club members, etc. True leaders know that innovation, experimentation, and change all involve risk and possible failure, but they proceed anyway.

Here are a few ideas to try if you want to take your clubs to places they've never been before.

- **Question the status quo.** Make a list of all the things in your club that fit this description: "That's the way we've always done it here." For each one, ask yourself if this action is making your club the best it can be.
- **Put idea gathering on your agenda.** Talk to other members, share with other clubs, talk to people in the community, ask other leaders what they think.
- **Go out and find something to fix.** Nothing can stifle innovation more than the attitude that says, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." Something always needs fixing in every club. Go find what it is and fix it.
- **Add adventure and fun to everyone's work.** Leaders aren't the only ones who do their best when challenged. Ask members to join you in solving problems, creating new service projects, or in planning the role of Lions in your community.

How are you "challenging the process?" Let us know at leadership@lionsclubs.org.



Bright Idea

Multiple District 38 (Nebraska, USA) shared a *Bright Idea* with us. The MD-38 MERL team developed a "Black Shirt" Award Program to recognize successful zone and region chairpersons. Specific goals and objectives must be achieved to earn the esteemed award. It is a well-established fact that people in Nebraska take their football very seriously. This creative program has been very well-received as it is modeled after the University of Nebraska's football tradition of recognizing the team's top defensive players with a "black shirt."

Is there a popular tribute or award of particular significance in your area? You can build on that idea to create your own version of the "Black Shirt" Award. This program is a proven success in Nebraska!

Bill Dunn, Extension Chairperson, MD-38 will be happy to share the details of this terrific program. For more information, please contact us via email: leadership@lionsclubs.org.

We want to hear from you!

Our objective with *The LEADER NETWORK* is to provide you, our multiple and single district leadership chairpersons, with information and ideas you can use in your leadership development efforts. If you have a *Bright Idea*, suggestions for future issues, or a specific topic you would like to see addressed in the next issue (November 2004), please let us know. Your comments will be welcomed at leadership@lionsclubs.org.

"The world is moved not only by the mighty shoves of the heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker."

Helen Keller

The *LEADER NETWORK* is a publication of:
Leadership Division
Lions Clubs International
300 West 22nd Street
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523 USA
TEL: 630/571-5466 FAX: 630/571-1682
EMAIL: leadership@lionsclubs.org