



IN THE ZONE

First VDGE Lion Joanne Swanson



LIONS! It is great to be a Lion! By volunteering and serving our community, nation, and world we not only help to make the world a better place but we reap the benefits of living in that better world.

Another benefit of being a Lion is the opportunity to grow as individuals. We learn to organize by running a project. We learn to speak in front of a group by giving a report at a meeting, leading the pledge to the flag, presenting an invocation, or introducing a guest or a speaker. We learn to work with and get along with others and we meet other Lions from all over the world.

We can also learn to lead by accepting an office and serving on the Board of our club. Each office requires a different level of leadership ability and that is why members will often refer to going "up the ladder" to serve their club. Lions don't expect you to have been born a natural leader. There are training sessions on line at <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/member-center/leadership-development/index.php>, which is located at Lionsclubs.org, Member Center, Leadership Development. Also our District 5M-11 MERLO Teams volunteer their time to go to individual clubs to present Leadership seminars aimed at all members. They also present at zone meetings and Mid-Winter Conventions.

Each Spring Leadership and Officer Training Sessions are presented. Although these are especially important for new, in-coming club officers, there is much that any member will learn at these informative classes. These classes are generally presented in April, which is why we encourage all clubs to hold their election for next year's officers before the end of March. We would also encourage clubs to pay the nominal fee to cover food and supplies for attendees. Your officers are giving of their time and they will better be able to serve your clubs if they are properly trained and have their questions answered.

This year's classes will be presented three times to give you options of dates and places. At this time it appears that one will be on Saturday, April 10th in Mahanomen, another on Saturday April 17th in Thief River Falls, and a third May 1st in Winnipeg. Please mark your calendars and watch for more detailed information to come.

**Step up to Serve. Step up to Learn. Step up to Lead. Be all you can be.
You already have a good start. YOU ARE A LION!**

Membership Chevrons

CHAPTER XVIII of the LCI Policy Manual states;

A. CHEVRONS (MEMBERSHIP LONGEVITY)

1. Chevrons shall be purchased through the Official Club Supplies Catalog and presented to qualifying members in recognition of long periods of membership in the association, starting with the tenth year and in multiples of five years thereafter. Chevrons are of two designs – Charter Monarch Chevrons and Monarch Chevrons.

2. Charter Monarch Chevrons or Monarch Chevrons shall be offered, through the club supplies official catalog, to members who have had membership for ten or more years with the exception of **Charter Monarch Chevrons and Monarch Chevrons marking 25 years, 50 years and beyond of membership longevity, which shall be forwarded directly to the qualifying member's club at no cost to the member or the club.**

Chevrons can be ordered by Club Secretaries by going to the LCI website. Click on "shop", Then type "chevron" in the search box.