

Lions Are Encouraged to Work Together

My fellow Lions! I hope everyone had a good and productive Labor Day! It is hard to believe that September is already here and that 1/6th of our Lions year is gone! It has been a busy time meeting with clubs and our leadership team. And I know the next few months will be even busier if that's possible. Many clubs are gearing up for Candy Days. I would encourage you not to spread yourselves thin, but to really work the locations where you will get the most for your time spent working.

I also know many clubs are working the broom sales in addition to getting ready for other fundraisers like BBQs and golf tournaments and working local festivals. I would also like to encourage you to help support the efforts of your fellow clubs in our district, whether it is volunteering to assist them or buying a BBQ plate. In addition to the financial support of your fellow clubs, it is always just plain fun to fellowship with other Lions.

I think we are all off to a rough start this football season with Carolina, Clemson and Wake Forest dropping their opening games. But I am encouraged with what I have seen and heard about what is happening with membership in our district. Mauldin and Easley have divided their clubs to see who can bring in the most members with rewards for the winning side, but the reality is no matter which side wins the membership bet, the entire club as well as that community are the real winners. And with leadership like this, membership will be sure to follow. Again, with every new member, the club receives two new hands for service and fundraising, and another head with new ideas for service and increases the sphere of influence for the club. That's a lot of benefits for just asking someone to come and share a meal and fellowship with you and your club one evening.

I would also encourage you that once you bring a new member into the club, get them involved as soon as possible. If you get several new members in, let them start a new service project, even if it is something that may have not worked well in the past. Try it again. Encourage them and help them grow as a Lion.

And speaking of encouragement and growth as a Lion, Monica and I are off to the USA/Canada Forum in a few days. We are excited about the time to fellowship with other Lions and learn



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more. I am sure we will be back with some new ideas to help our district. If you have not attended a Forum, maybe think about going next year. Well worth the time and investment.

A couple of housekeeping notes before I go:

- I want to encourage clubs that have not participated in the Club Excellence Process/Award to please consider doing so.
- District Information is being updated weekly on our website. Check frequently.
- If you have a club activity you would like me to include, please let me know. Also, please pass along any pictures of events your club does this year. I would like to share them at our convention in January.
- Mark your calendar for the next Cabinet Meeting on Oct 30th and also for our District Convention Jan 9-10.
- Ask someone to join your club this month.

Again, I appreciate all you do for Lions in the service of your community.

Yours in Service and Lionism,

Gary