

WHEN ARE WE LIONS?

When we took the oath to become a Lion, was there anything said about “When” we would be a Lion? Did our oath say anything about how often we would be called upon to provide “Service” to our Club, our District, our Community, our Nation? No, in accordance with the Oath that we use at the Abbeville Lions Club and that I have heard used across the District, it simply states **“I take this solemn obligation to abide by the Constitution and by-laws of the club and international association, to attend all meetings regularly, to support and further the interests of the Club, to contribute my fair share. I further declare that I will assist in maintaining, building, and strengthening the membership of the Club that I will help the Club where my efforts are needed”.**

It obviously says nothing about “When” we will be Lions! So how often are we Lions? Are we Lions on meeting days or when we are helping with a fund raiser? Are we Lions just in the evening or during the day? When are we doing “Lions Service” work? What constitutes “Lions Service Work”?

These are questions, I can truthfully tell you, I never contemplated until I came to the realization that WE ARE LIONS (once we take the oath), twenty four hours a day, and seven days a week. Now, you might be asking yourself, when did he come to that realization? To be honest with you, not until I took on the role of 2nd Vice District Governor and not fully until this year as your District Governor. The office of District Governor has a way of increasing your perspective of what it really means to be a Lion and when you are one! I and others before me have spent countless hours at the computer or typewriter or on the phone at various hours thru out the day and night. 24/7!

So, what is my point? My purpose in writing this article is to encourage all Lions to come to the understanding that **we are Lions all day every day!** As such, it is important to understand that ANY service we provide the members of our Club or our Community counts as Lions Service Hours. It is also important, when developing such an ATTITUDE, that we meet people in all walks of life that know NOTHING about what Lions do or who we are! These are prime opportunities to educate our fellow beings and to inquire if they might be interested in becoming a Lion like us! When we develop such an ATTITUDE, we open ourselves up to wonderful and interesting conversations and the opportunity to TOOT our Lions Horn! For me, it has brought more joy and friendships to my life than I could imagine and for “Retired People” it takes the place of all of those amazing relationships we had when we were working.

There are countless reasons for being a LION and if we fail to realize that we are Lions 24/7, then we miss countless opportunities to ROOOOOAR LIKE LIONS and “tell the world what we are made of”!

“Come on and Strengthen the Pride” and develop that 24/7 ATTITUDE! **“You’ll never know till you’ve tried”!**

**Your Lion District Governor 24/7!
Lion Rick**



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