**Thank you Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Members of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lions Club and guests.

We are about to begin our New Member **Induction Ceremony**, in which we will induct \_\_\_\_ new members into your club. I ask that you respect the solemn nature of this occasion and you take this time to reflect on your own experience as a Lion and of the ways that each of you can come to assist the new members to grow and flourish in their journey in Lionism.

**(pause)**

At this time, I would like to call on Lion Cubs

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

and your sponsors,

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

to please rise and join me here.

I ask that all Lion Cubs please close your eyes and keep them closed while you contemplate the message and reading you are about to hear.

Thank you.

On behalf of the officers and members of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lions Club, District A-15 and Lions Clubs International, I want to express our sincere pleasure at your presence this evening.

Lion Cubs

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,**

you have been invited to become a member and we are all extremely proud that you have accepted membership in this club and Lions Clubs International.

Lion Cubs

The Association of Lions Clubs was founded in 1917 by Melvin Jones to allow businessmen in the Chicago area a means of better serving their local communities and the needs of the less fortunate.

At the Lions convention in 1925, only 8 years after being founded, Helen Keller, both Deaf and Blind, the members in attendance :

**“Gentlemen, will you not constitute yourselves to be my “Knights of the Blind”? We have many problems to overcome and we cannot do them alone, we need help.”**

Twenty-five years later, after Helen Keller went on to become one of the

most famous women in American history – she came back to a Lions

Convention with tears in her eyes and said;

**“I thank you, my “Knights of the Blind”. Little did I realize 25 years ago when I asked you to take my cause that I would find Lions not only in America, but in China, Africa, and all other free countries of the world, all working for one goal – “to eradicate the dreaded disease of blindness”.**

Since then, Lions Clubs have established themselves throughout the world and are recognized as leaders in service and support of the needs of the blind.

Yes .... from this humble request, Lions International has made service to the blind and sight related concerns a primary undertaking.

I ask, Lion Cubs that you reflect on the words of the following reading and consider that although your sight is only temporarily denied, so many others are not so fortunate.

I call on Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to read the passage entitled DARKNESS ?

(READING)

Thank you , Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Having heard the previous passage, and reflected on its message, I ask that you always keep this experience in your heart.

You may now open your eyes. (pause)

Welcome back to the world of the sighted. I hope that in your lifetime, you will

never have to spend moments in darkness beyond those you just did.

**Candles**

The Association of Lions Clubs was established to serve our communities and the less privileged. In recognition of its founder, Lion Melvin Jones and of the great service we provide, I now ask, Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to light the Purple Candle to represent the International Association of Lions Clubs.

Thank you , Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lions Club was founded in **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**and for **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** years has provided service to people in this community and to the world. With a proud heritage in service, I now call on Lion Chief \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to light the Gold Candle which acknowledges the member’s welcome into the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lions Club.

Thank you , Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lion Cubs

Having indicated your desire to join our organization and our mission, I ask that you each light a white candle confirming your intention.

Thank you

Membership in a Lions club is a privilege. You have agreed to join the world’s largest and most active service club organization; a group of more than 1.4 million men and women in almost 45,000 clubs over 210 countries and geographical areas around the globe … Members who are dedicated to making a difference. Through your membership, you will help this club reach out to people in need in your community, and throughout the world.

Members …. Our organization in founded on a code of ethics which we will now read to reconfirm our dedication to our mission.

Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ? **Lions Code of Ethics**

Thank you Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Every organization has a purpose and a mission.

To read the **Lions International Objects**,

I call on Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lion Cubs

Our motto, “We Serve” perfectly exemplifies the dedication to helping those in need felt by Lions worldwide. Your membership in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lions Club will help us carry on this tradition of service for many years to come.

Your membership will allow us to reach more people in need, in both our local and world communities. The officers and members of this club are thrilled that you have chosen to help us continue the legacy of Lions Clubs International by improving the lives of the less fortunate and making our community an even better place to live.

We now come to the part of the ceremony where I ask you to pledge your commitment to the club and to the purposes of Lions International.

“Since you have expressed a desire to affiliate with this club, and with Lions Clubs International, I now ask that you respond to my words with a simple ‘I do’ or ‘I will.’

**Do you, Lion Cubs**

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,***

**hereby accept membership in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lions Club knowing that you are encouraged to participate in the functions of the club?**

- I do –

**To the best of your ability, will you abide by the Lions Code of Ethics, advance the Purpose of Lionism, attend meetings whenever possible and contribute your share to the programs of your club, district and Lions Clubs International?**

- I will –

**With your acceptance if these commitments, I am pleased to state that you are now officially a members of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Lions Club. Your sponsor will now present to you the Lions emblem pin, which signifies membership.”**

***Congratulations!”***

Our emblem serves to identify you as a member of Lions International. Wear it proudly and often to express to the world you commitment to our charge.

Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

*(Once the pins are on)*

In order that you may appreciate the emblem that you now wear, I have

asked Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to briefly describe the origins and elements

of our proud insignia.

**LIONS EMBLEM**

Thank you Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lions **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,**

… As the new member sponsor, I would like you to respond to my words with a simple “I WILL” ….

Sponsoring Lions,

Will you fulfill the following obligations?

• Be a sponsoring ‘mentor’ for your new lion;

• Make your new member feel welcome;

• Introduce your new member to all club members;

• Provide your new member with information about the club, its officers and constitution;

• Arrange for orientation sessions for the new member;

• Be ready and willing to answer any questions that might arise;

• Encourage the new member to discuss with you any problems and offer possible solutions;

• Assist the new member in developing into an outstanding Lion?”

***- I will***

“Fellow Lions”, we ask that you wear your emblem with pride, for it represents your membership in the world’s largest service club organization; an association that has a distinguished history of meeting needs worldwide.

Let me congratulate you and welcome you to the greatest of all service club organizations … The “International Association of Lions Clubs”.

On behalf of the club, Lion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will now present you with your official Certificate of Membership and a New Member Kit, which will help you get off to a good start in your life as a Lion.

**(MEMBERSHIP KIT)**

Club Specific Recognitions

.

***Lions! Please welcome our new Lion !!!***

**Lions Code of Ethics**

**TO SHOW** my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.

**TO SEEK** success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

**TO REMEMBER** that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another’s; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.

**WHENEVER** a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.

**TO HOLD** friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

**ALWAYS** bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state and my community, and to give them my unswerving loyalty in work, act and deed. To give them freely of my time, labour and means.

**TO AID** others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.

**TO BE CAREFUL** with my criticism and liberal with my praise;

to build up and not destroy.

These are the Lions Code of Ethics.

**Lions International Objects**

**TO CREATE** and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.

**TO PROMOTE** the principles of good government and good citizenship.

**TO TAKE** an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.

**TO UNITE** the clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.

**TO PROVIDE** a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members.

**TO ENCOURAGE** service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavours.

These are the Lions International Objects

**The Lions Emblem**

In its infancy, the Association of Lions Clubs was an organization whose presence was initially limited to the continental United States. It is in this context that Lions Clubs announced at the 1919 convention, the name Lions stands not only for fraternity, good fellowship, strength of character and purpose, but that its combination of L – I – O – N - S heralds to the world the true meaning of citizenship: LIBERTY, INTELLIGENCE, OUR NATION'S SAFETY."

Since then, the Lions emblem has become to mean many things to many people. In most part, our emblem serves as a means for us to be recognized as leaders in service to our communities and to the world. In allows us to recognize our fellow members from around the globe and is a symbol equated to the selfless contribution we Lions make each and every day.

In its design, our emblem, consists of a gold letter "L" on a circular area. Bordering this is a circular area with two Lion profiles facing away from the center representing **our glorious past** and our **constant outlook to a greater future**. The word "Lions" appears at the top and "International" at the bottom.

Our emblem, which we so proudly wear, is identified worldwide as a symbol of our unwavering commitment to service and of our fellowship in the greatest service organization in the world.

**Darkness**

In the beginning there was darkness. We are born in darkness, and we die in darkness. Sadly, there are millions of us on this less-than-perfect planet who spend their days and years in this darkness.

In these moments we have together, let us try to understand their loss, that we might dedicate ourselves to their care, and their cure.

Let us take a walk in the long, dark corridor they travel every day.

Try to erase from your mind’s eye the vision they cannot share.

Try to erase from your mind’s eye, the faces of your children, the view from your window, the words printed on a page.

One by one, erase from your mind’s eye, each flower, each bird, each sunset, you have ever seen.

Erase every work of art ever created every panorama from nature’s infinite palette.

Erase even the concept of colour, of clouds and stars and morning mists. No blue sky, no golden field of wheat dancing in the breeze.

Remove them, every beautiful sight you have ever beheld.

Erase them one by one, until there is nothing left but darkness.

And when you feel alone, and perhaps frightened, you will have experienced just a small part of the terror that is blindness.

**Presenters :**

Gold Candle : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Club)

Purple Candle : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Lions Itl.)

Darkness : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lions Code of Ethics : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lions Purpose (Mission) : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lions Emblem : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_