



GUIDE FOR NEW MEMBERS



A black and white photograph of a lion lying on a rock. A blue gradient bar is positioned above the lion's head.

WELCOME

Welcome to Rogue Valley Lions Club, one of the fastest-growing local Lions Clubs in the nation.

Our mission is to empower volunteers and partners to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian services and grants that impact lives locally, regionally and globally.

**Our motto is simply:
“We serve.”**

WHO WE ARE

Lions International is a non-political service organization established originally in 1916 in Chicago, Illinois. As the world's largest service organization, 1.4 million members serve in over 48,000 clubs across 200 countries.

The **Rogue Valley Lions Club (RVLC)** is a local group headquartered in Central Point OR. We are a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that raises funds and provides volunteers for local causes. Formerly the Jacksonville Lions Club, founded April 13th, 1948, we have expanded to serve more of Southern Oregon.



WHAT WE DO

In addition to service projects, we raise funds for worthy causes. With the money we raise, we support charitable sight and hearing organizations, such as the Southern Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Center in Medford. We sponsor local educational endeavors, including scholarships, art contests, American Flag education, and we assemble and deliver over 150 Christmas food bags to shut-ins through "Food & Friends."

Causes we support

Listed below are some of local charities we have supported financially through our Philanthropy Committee:

- Community Volunteer Network, Medford, OR
- David's Chair, White City, OR
- DIRT (Direct Involvement Recreation Therapy), Central Point, OR
- Dogs for Better Lives, Central Point, OR
- Mercy's Gate Rogue Valley, Medford OR
- Pathways Enterprises, Inc., Medford, OR
- Reclaiming Lives, Medford OR
- Rogue Retreat, Medford, OR
- Southern Oregon Kidsprey, Medford, OR
- Southern Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Center, Medford, OR
- The Salvation Army Hope House, Medford, OR
- Tmac Teresa McCormic Center, Medford OR
- Wilderness Trails, Medford, OR
- Youth 71five Ministries, Medford, OR

Our Scholarship Fund, targets graduating high school seniors who are pursuing higher education with special consideration to sight or hearing-impaired students.



Recurring events

We participate in the following community events:

- We march in local parades with our classic yellow 1941 tractor and trailer float:
 - 4th of July Parade, Central Point
 - Christmas Parades in Jacksonville and Central Point
- Bling Fling, a used jewelry fundraiser sponsored by the Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Center.
- crafts fair featuring local artisans, where we host a booth.
- American flag presentations to local elementary schools. These half-hour presentations to local first-graders tell the story of how our flag was created and what it represents.
- Adopt-a-Road cleanup twice a year, helping keep Old Stage Road trash-free.
- Jacksonville Elementary Children's Theater traffic control at the Britt Pavillion.

Major annual fund-raising events

Our major fundraising events are highly successful Wine Walks in historic downtown Central Point where we pair local businesses with approximately 15 Rogue Valley wineries.

- **Spring Wine Walk** fund raiser, Central Point, end of May.
- **Harvest Wine Walk** fund raiser, Central Point, end of September.



BENEFITS OF BEING A LION

What we accomplish for our community and beyond by working together gives us a deep sense of “pride.” You will develop friendships, sharpen your people, leadership and teamwork skills, and have fun and fulfilment in a group of civic-minded men and women who have banded together to do the things they cannot do alone.

Becoming a member of **Rogue Valley Lions Club** benefits you and your community in the following ways:

- Make a difference.
- Be a spark, be a mentor.
- Show your leadership.
- Serve with pride.
- Build your network.
- Gain Lion credibility.
- Develop new friendships.
- Receive global support, including Insurance that covers all our volunteer programs and efforts.
- Discounted Mercy Flights household membership (see Jim Davidian).



Magazine subscriptions

Each member will receive two magazines regularly:

- *The Oregon Lion*, published by Oregon Lions Clubs, 10 times a year and online at: [Oregon Lion Magazine](#).
- *Lion*, published by Lions International

Global membership approach

- Creating a culture of growth: we are always looking for optimal ways to incorporate new members locally.

- Spreading Lionism: we cultivate our culture to be naturally infectious.

HOW WE'RE ORGANIZED



When we meet

- **Regular business meetings:** first and third Wednesdays of the month:
 - Black Bear Diner, 1150 E. Barnett Rd., Medford, OR 97504.
 - 6:00 PM arrival to order dinner; business meeting starts at 6:30 PM.
 - Meetings are conducted using Roberts Rules of Order.
- **Social meetings:** once a quarter at a local restaurant at 6:30 PM. The restaurant location changes each quarter. These dinners give us an opportunity to get to know fellow Lions in a social setting. Spouses and significant others are welcome, but please make sure the meeting coordinator knows they will be joining us.

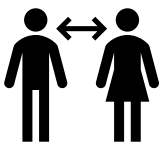
Who can join?

Anyone who has a desire to give back to our community and is at least 18 years of age.



Dues

Dues are paid annually to help fund local and international operations. Annual dues are currently set at \$80 and are paid at the end of each year.



Your Buddy

When you join, you will be assigned a “Buddy,” in most cases the sponsor who invited you to your first meeting. Your Buddy will help you get oriented to our activities and procedures and help you integrate into our Club’s culture. Lean on your Buddy to help you become a staunch member of our Club.



Prospective member guests

Any prospective member can be our guest to have them experience how we work together and to meet other members. You can invite them to attend any regular meeting with no need to coordinate with anyone. Introduce your guest to the Club at the beginning of the meeting. The Club will pay for any guest’s dinner.



Guest speakers

We often have guest speakers at our regular club meetings, especially representatives from charities that seek our support. Please coordinate any guest speaker presentations with the Membership Chair before finalizing their

appearance. Communicate to your guest(s) that they have a maximum of 10 minutes for their presentation.



Officers/Executive Committee

- **President:** Charlie Brotherton (phone numbers and email?)
- **Vice-president:** Drake Poston
- **Secretary:** Harry Gerhard
- **Membership** (including presentations to the Club): Cindy Lowe
- **Treasurer:** Missy Meilicke

Committees and current chairs

Committee reports are offered at every business meeting and are limited to short-to-the-point presentations.

- **Philanthropy/Scholarship:** Lisa Spurlock, recommends to the Club how we should donate funds to local charities twice per year, in Spring and Fall. Ask the Chair for a recommendation form or download it from our website if you wish to recommend an organization for donation.
- **Wine Walk:** Drake Poston
- **Sight and Hearing Center:** Harry Gerhard
- **Flag Education Program:** Charlie Brotherton and Harry Gerhard, provides presentations to grade school students that tell the story of the creation of our flag.
- **Adopt-a-Road Clean-up:** Jim Davidian
- **Community Involvement/Activities:** Charlie Brotherton
- **Club Communications** (Including Google Calendar): John Stebbins
- **Website:** Hew McElroy, Webmaster



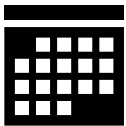
Membership roster

An updated roster with current contact information for Club members is distributed regularly via email.



Rogue Valley Lions Digital World Guide

This Guide covers how we take advantage of the digital world to make Club communications easier and more efficient, including digital guidelines for emails and text, how to access the Club calendar, leverage internet resources, etc.



Club calendar

Our local club meetings and events are posted on the Rogue Valley Lions Google calendar.

- Business and social meetings
- Local events

- Committee meetings

Subscribe to the Calendar directly or access the calendar via the [Club website](http://www.roguevalleylions.org) (www.roguevalleylions.org). Please provide your email address to the Club Communications Chair to receive an email invite to link to the calendar.

To add an event to the calendar, download the event form from our website, request an event form from the Secretary at a regular meeting, or text your event information to the Communications Chair.



Leo Club program

Leo Clubs are sponsored by local Lions clubs through Lions International consisting of devoted young people who realize the power of action. Leos and Lions form a powerful local partnership. The Leo Club Program has been growing strong for over 60 years with more than 7,000 Leo clubs around the world.

We are developing a local Leo Club by facilitating relationships with local high school organizations that foster leadership. Leos, as they become young adults, are groomed to become our next-generation local Lions.



RVLC website

- Visit and bookmark our website: Rogue Valley Lions Club
- Everyone is encouraged to take pictures during events and submit them to our Web Master for posting and for marketing efforts, including submission to the Oregon Lions magazine.



Social media

Follow us on Facebook: Rogue Valley Lions Club



Lions gear

- Yellow local club vests are a part of your membership fees.
- To order additional gear, [Shop Club Supplies](#).
- For local branded gear, connect with Karl Eddings.
- We encourage you to wear your Lion apparel at all Lions events.



About Lions International

- For a better understanding of what our organization is about, visit: Lions Clubs International (www.lionsclubs.org)
- [Resource Center](#) | [Lions Clubs International](#)
- Lions Clubs International Foundation [LCIF Mission](#) | [Lions Clubs International](#)



Further questions

If you have any further questions, please reach out to your Buddy or to a member of the Executive Committee.

