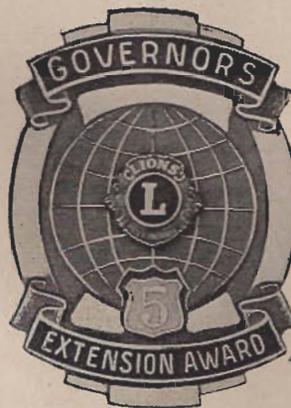


Signs of Growth: **EXTENSION AWARDS**



AN ADDITIONAL 2,000 Lions each year proudly wear the purple and gold Extension Award, signifying their successful efforts in helping organize a new club. The dedicated work of these members makes it possible for Lionism's ideals of service to be introduced to more and more communities and nations, and it is to these Lions whom we owe the growth of our international movement.

Extension Awards, Lionism's way of honoring members who greatly assist the Association's campaign to establish clubs in all areas of the free world, are now presented to the two Lions most instrumental in organizing each new club. An average of over 1,000 clubs annually join the ranks of Lionism; the record is 1,301 in 1963-64.

It is anticipated that these awards will increase and take on added significance as the Association drives toward the one-million membership target. Organization of increasingly more new clubs will be of the utmost necessity if we are to reach this goal.

The Extension Award system was inaugurated by action of the International Board of Directors in 1949 and redesigned in 1953. At first there was only one award issued, but all Lions designated as instrumental in the club's organization were eligible to receive it. In 1956, additional awards were authorized to be presented in a series to Lions credited with helping organize two, three, four and five clubs. Involvement in the organization of six to nine new clubs is duly recorded and the Supreme Extension Award is giv-

en to the Lion who assists in establishing ten clubs. Thus far, 104 of these distinguished awards have been earned.

The number of awards for each new club was limited to one in January, 1958 and revised to the current two in July of that year. Awards are issued from Headquarters upon recommendation of the district governor and/or a field representative.

Many times more than two men have been instrumental in organizing a club. The district governor or field representative must then narrow the list and submit the names of the two primarily responsible. In order to receive the awards, names must be sent to International Headquarters within six months of the club's organization, according to a ruling of the International Board of Directors.

A special Extension Award is presented to district governors for clubs organized in their districts during their year's tenure. Two or more clubs must be established in the district for the governor to receive the award. In order for the governor to receive credit, all new clubs must be reported to Headquarters prior to June 30. District governors are not eligible for regular awards.

While it is a continuing policy of the Association to seek out communities that can enthusiastically support a Lions club and to assign field representatives to aid in the organization, it is, nonetheless, necessary for individual clubs to actively promote Lionism in areas having none. Each club is encouraged to have an extension chairman whose primary duty it is to lead the way in organizing new clubs. Each district usually appoints an extension chairman to follow through on the organization of new clubs.

Next time you see a fellow-Lion wearing an Extension Award, take time to shake his hand; for it is in part through his conscientious efforts that Lions International continues to be the world's largest service organization.



**Immediate Past President
W. R. Bryan**

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