

MD-2 ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER SELECTED – STARTS WORK

At the beginning of the Council meeting in Alpine, Council Chairman Michael "Mike" Rourke stated that one of the reasons for the dues increase last year, was to employ a Field Representative to work in membership and organizational development, and the current Governors decided to rename the position Organizational Development Manager. After interviewing nine candidates over a three month period culminating in Tucson the Interview Panel of Governors named one person and the Governors voted in favor of hiring Lion Ray Reyes for the position. In his introduction CC Rourke said the Lion Reyes "has the energy and stamina to assist the Lions of Texas turn around our membership losses and end the year, and years in the future, on the plus side in membership."

In accepting the assignment from the Governors Lion Reyes commented that he was sorry to leave the State LEO Chairmanship but that there was a good replacement in the wings. In regard to his new position he told the meeting "we need to do something to stop the hemorrhaging of our membership. We need to try new things, we simply can't go on as before." He continued "those of you who know me know that I don't worry whether the glass is half full or half empty, my only comment is that you must have ordered the wrong glass." He closed by saying that he was going to get out and go to work for Texas Lions.

CC Rourke set out the schedule that he and Lion Reyes have decided on, Lion Ray will begin in District T3 because their latest membership figures have dropped below 1,250 and that sets off certain bells at International about requirements for sub-districts. Next he will go to S1 which has had large membership losses over the past six years. The third target area will be A1 which has the next largest drop in members. Fourth in the itinerary is A3 where it is hoped that they can reverse club and member loss in the Valley, and the fifth sub-district to be worked on will be X1

"It is a difficult task when you take the Sub-Districts with the largest losses and you know that the Governors are committed to show a reversal in the trend of membership loss" CC Rourke continued "but that is really where the needs are. We will finish our year in June with a positive in membership". He concluded.

Lion Reyes served as LEO Chairman last year and has made tremendous strides in that area. His background is management and his enthusiasm seems boundless when you talk Lions and Lionism. He has been Lion of the Year three times, 100% Secretary twice, received the Club President's Excellence Award, also he received an International President's Certificate of Appreciation. He has served on boards of the Boys & Girls Clubs, United Way among others. He has a wife Lion Patricia and daughter LEO Ramona.