

THE FACE IN THE MIRROR
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Each morning as I look into the mirror I don't see the little changes that are taking place. However, subtle changes are surely happening; a little receding in the hairline, a few crinkles around the eyes, a little fullness under the chin, and I need to stand closer to the mirror to shave.

You know what? There are subtle little changes happening in our Lions Clubs. No big changes, just little subtle ones. Too many small groups interested in the news of their friends rather than making sure the new members or guests are made to feel part of the group. Not quite as many Lions showing up for the service projects. There is not much talk of new service projects now that we've gotten comfortable in the projects we've been doing for years.

I believe that for many of us, and for our clubs, it is time for an inventory. We need to look at our proud past and remember why we first became a Lion. We need to rekindle our passion to be of service. When I look in the mirror I want to see a Lion looking back at me. I want to have eyes that see that things can be made better. I want to have ears that hear when someone is hurting. I want a heart full of love that is willing to give a helping hand, and I want hands that are willing to reach out. I also want a mind that is willing to accept change and welcome new ways and new challenges.

We must embrace change and accept new social realities in our communities. We must continue to reach out to meet the needs of mankind, and to be role models through our service to others. We are Lions. We are **Loving Individuals Offering Needed Services**.

The future belongs to those who lead, to those who are standard bearers. Our Lions clubs will attract new members and will grow by being visionary. Vigorous, visionary clubs will inspire their members to attempt new and exciting programs and to embark on new avenues of service. In doing so, we will recapture the vision of Melvin Jones when he worked to create a club that would give something back to the community.

As we weave the Lions Objectives and the Lion Code of Ethics into the fabric of our daily lives we will, as North Carolina's Past International President Jack Stickley stated, "add luster and prestige to the privilege of being a Lion." When I look in my mirror I want to see a proud Lion. What do you see in your mirror?