***The missing Lions Ceremony***

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

I am Lion **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, and I am the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** for District A-3. Family and Friends, Lions and Lioness, thank you for coming to remember our dearly departed Lion **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

On behalf of Lions International and the Lions Clubs of District A3, especially the Lion’s Club of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, I extend to you, and your loved ones, our deepest sympathy. We pray that your God may be with you, and comfort you, during these trying times.

We have gathered here in this time of remembrance of our late

colleague in Lionism. He has gone to that higher plane in the circle of life. I would bring you no gloom or sadness as we meditate together on his passing. His place was ready first, and he has gone on before us. We could not all start conveniently together, so why should you and I be grieved at this, since we are to one day follow, and we know where to find him.

It is fitting and proper that we, who have enjoyed the fellowship and co-operation in Lionism of our late Lion **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,** should mark his passing to the great beyond.

Lion **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** was a member of the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Lions Club. He was very active in the cub, working on many fund- raisers and events. Although I never had the personal pleasure of being a member alongside of Lion **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, I can tell from talking with the other members of this club and I am sure they would agree that Lion **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** was always a valued and well respected, proud member of this Club.

We seek once more to express the affection that we felt for Lion **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. One who lived our Lion’s code of ethics of bringing aid to the weak, sympathy to those in distress, and help to the blind.

To our fellow Lion who has upheld this torch we say: “Well done to our good and faithful servant”.

At this time, I would like to invite all those Lions and Lioness present to please come to the front if they are able and help us as we remember the good times, we each shared with Lion **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** during his time with us.

And now if I may I would like to continue with the Lions service.

***The Missing Lions Ceremony***

As you entered this room you may have noticed a small table in a

place of honor, it is set for one. This table is our way of symbolizing

the fact that members of our organization of Lions are missing from our

midst, and so we have chosen to remember them at this time.

The table is **ROUND** - To represent the circle of life.

The table cover is **WHITE** - Symbolizing the purity of their service to their communities and their loved ones, and those in need.

The candle is **LIT**- Symbolizing the light they have given us by their unconquerable spirit

The pinch of **SALT**- Symbolizes the sweat of their labours, and the tears endured by those left behind

The **BREAD** - Symbolizes the fruit of their efforts. The seed they have planted so we may enjoy the Harvest, they have given to us all.

The **GLASS** inverted - Symbolizes that they cannot celebrate with us today.

The **CHAIR** - The chair is empty; they are no longer here.

REMEMBER! - All of you who served with them, and called them Lions, who depended upon their aid, and relied upon their wisdom, for surely, they have not forsaken you.

They chose to be Lions until the day of their passing. It falls upon us to continue the work they started, to protect the legacy they have entrusted to us, and to guide the world to a New Vision of Peace and Service.

Lions, Lioness and friends of our dearly departed Lion **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, …. ***let us stand for a moment in silence and let each of us offer a silent prayer from the heart. (30 seconds)***

As family, friends, and Lions, we mourn the passing of our friend, and

gather now in solemn mood. We know all things of time must end:

even what to us seems wholly good; fellowship we have had in service,

common problems, and belief. Now our hearts are drawn together by

the bond of common grief. Each one of us must run the course till He

who does all things well, will call us to join our friend who now beyond

our seeing dwells. And so, for now, we say farewell and carry on the

work below, believing that the time will come when we once more will

say – “Hello!”

Again, to the family and loved ones we extend our sincere heart-felt

sympathy. We pray that you may realize every comfort and hope in

this time of sorrow. We pray that your God may be with you, and

comfort you, during these trying times.

Thank- you and bless each of you.