

2nd VDG, PDG Jo Nelson

VDG Jo joined Lionism in 1999 in Lynchburg Virginia. She was a member of the Lynchburg Host Lions Club. Her first year, Lion Jo served as membership chair for the club, beginning her work at the club cabinet level. While at Lynchburg Host, Jo served in many positions including President 2 times, Zone Chair and Region Chair. She went on to serve District 24B as both Vice-District Governor and Governor. Jo also served 24B as mid-winter social chair and culture and community activities chair.

In 2008, Lion Jo moved her membership to 24E, joining the Vinton Luncheon Lions Club. In 24E, Lion Jo has served as culture and community activities chair, women's membership chair, peace poster chair, LOVF District Rep, and state convention chair. She has served as multiple district chair for both Culture and Community and Women's Membership.

Lion Jo is a Melvin Jones Fellow and an LOVF Distinguished Humanitarian. She has been honored with an International President's Certificate of Appreciation and with several Council of Governor's Awards. Currently she serves as Multiple District Chair for Women's Membership and as Vice-Chair of the Lions of Virginia Foundation.

Outside of Lionism, Jo is the Assistant Director of This Valley Work's- the education and employment training component at Total Action Against Poverty. She directly manages the Homeless Veterans Reentry Program, the Ex-offender Reentry Program and Youthbuild of Roanoke. She has received honors for her work in the fields of leadership and human services.