

Lions of Iowa
Ralph A. Whitten Service Award

The Lions of Iowa Council of Governors created the Ralph A. Whitten Service Award in 1994-95. The first award was made in 1995 and an annual award has been made every year since. The award is presented at the International Banquet associated with the MD 9 State Convention each year. **The Whitten Service Award is only on the State level. District Service Awards may not use Whitten in their title.**

The Ralph A. Whitten Award is presented in honor of the memory of PID Ralph Whitten from Urbandale. PID Ralph served as an International Director during 1961-63 and was very instrumental in Iowa Lionism until his death in 1998. PID Ralph was a very service oriented Lion and the award was set up to honor other Lions for their exemplary service at the club, district and/or multiple district level.

To date the following have received the Ralph A. Whitten Service Award: 1995 Lion Wilbur Schield (9X3); 1996 Lion Orlin Buck (9X9); 1997 Lion Gerald “Red” Knight (9X2); 1998 PDG Ike Jutting (9X7); 1999 Lion Robert Frick (9X9); 2000 PDG Homer Eastman (9X7); 2001 PDG Gene Nelson (9X3); 2002 PCC Emmett Huges (9X8); 2003 Lion Robert Brown (9X4); 2004 Lion Charles Beck (9X4); 2005 Lion Jackie Hess (9X9), 2006 Lion Frances “Buzz” Burnham (9X2), 2007 Lion Hugo Rammelsberg (9X8), 2008 Lion/Lioness Jim and Velma Caldbeck (9MC), 2009 PCC Keith Whitlatch (9EC), 2010 PDG Dennis Crabtree (9MC), 2011 PDG Bill Watters(9NE), 2012 PDG Rachel Nicola (9SE), 2013 PDG Dale Shenfelt (9SW), 2014 Lions Alice and Bob Whitlatch (9EC), 2015 Lion Roger Allen (MC) and PDG Kathy Rhinehart (EC), 2016 PDG Elwin Hodges (9NC), 2017 Lion Dennis Dykstra (9EC), 2018 Lion Ralph Binnie (9EC), 2019 PDG Don Kothentbeutel (9NC), 2020 Lion LaVerne “Butch” Arp. 2021 Lenard Ringgenberg (9MC) Lion Phillip Horn (9MC), 2022 Phil Horn, 2023 PID Ardie Klemish, 2024 PDG Bill Shutters. Awards are presented on June 7, 2025 at State Convention.

As is stated on the application blank, “This award is in recognition of DEMONSTRATED SERVICE at any level, club, district, and multiple district.” Any club or individual may submit nominations. All nominations will be considered by the selection committee and finalists will be selected. From the list of finalists the committee will select the recipient. All nominations must be postmarked no later than **February 28, 2025**. Any nominations postmarked after that date will not be considered. Finalists will be notified and asked to attend the luncheon at the State Convention.

A committee of the Council Chairperson and the PIDs with PID Gary Fry serving as Chair, will select the winner. Every club and interested individual Lion is encouraged to select their most service oriented Lion(s) and submit a nomination to PID Gary Fry. There are many well deserving Lions who qualify for this award, so this year let us all select good people for this recognition in 2024-2025. **All nominations must be postmarked by no later than February 28.**

**Ralph A. Whitten Service Award
Nomination Form (MUST BE TYPED)**

Nominee's Name _____
Address: _____

Phone () _____
Club Name _____ District: _____

Nominated By: _____
Address: _____

Phone () _____

SERVICE RECORD

Years of Membership: _____

This award is in recognition of DEMONSTRATED SERVICE at any level, club, district, and multiple district. **There is only one Whitten Award and it is presented at the State Convention. All nominations submitted will be considered** Please use additional sheets if necessary to tell why you feel the nominee has earned this recognition. **All nominations are to be sent to Whitten Award Selection Committee, PID Gary Fry, PO Box 606, Mitchellville, IA 50169. Last date to nominate is February 28, 2025.**

Please cite examples of service as a Lion member:

Please cite examples of other community services provided: