

Art Downs Jr. Immediate PDG 21A

DG Art is a native of Arizona born in Phoenix, married to Lion Joetta Downs for 45 years. They have two married daughters, Michelle and Andrea, and five grandchildren.

After graduating from Arizona State University in 1970 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance, he started his banking career with Valley National Bank of Arizona in 1970. In 1977 he and his family moved to Assistant Vice President & Assistant Controller for five and a half years. He returned to Arizona in 1982 to work for The Arizona Bank (aka Security Pacific Bank, aka Bank of America, Arizona) as an Assistant Vice President in National Accounts. He retired from Bank of America, Arizona in 1997 as a Vice President.

DG Art has been a Lion and member of the Laveen Lions Club since March, 2005. In addition to serving in positions from Director to club President, where he received the Club President Excellence Award, he has served as chairman or co-chairman of club committees and participated on many more. DG Art is a Melvin Jones Fellow, past M.E.R.L. Team Coordinator for District 21-A, Immediate Past President of the Lions Foundation of Arizona, Inc. and has received several Lions International President's Commendations.

Outside of Lions, DG Art is an active member of his church where he serves as Vice-Chairman of the Board of the non-profit social services arm of First Institutional Baptist Church; a member of two car clubs; a Life member of two fraternities and member of their local chapters where he held offices from Treasurer, Director to President in both. He has also been Chairman of the Board and a Director of both the Central Arizona Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Sierra Nevada Chapter of the American Red Cross.

After graduating from Phoenix Union High School in 1961, DG Art enlisted in the U.S. Army as a Private in 1961; he graduated from Officers Candidate School in 1967. He served in the Medical Service Corp, Signal Corp and Quartermaster Corp. DG Art retired as a Colonel in 1991. He is a member of the Army Reserve Officers Association, the Nevada Army National Guard Officers Association and the Arizona Army National Guard Officers Association.