



MD17-N LIONS "TALE"

The newsletter for Kansas Multiple District 17-N • April 2018

Celebrating service at the district convention

Mahendra Amarasuriya, Lions Club International President 2007-2008 and the current Vice Chair of the LCI Global Action Team, travelled halfway round the world to be at our District Convention on March 2 and 3 at the Doubletree Hotel in Wichita.



It is not very often that you will see a Past International President at a District Convention. But he came, making the long trip from Sri Lanka at my invitation, I am deeply grateful to him for this grand gesture.

All the attendees greatly appreciated his presence, the opportunity to ask him questions and obtain clarifications and to enjoy his company. His banquet address on membership around the world was most informative and reminded us of the importance to ramp-up our efforts to grow the membership in our part of the world.

Attendees found the convention both enjoyable and educational, as it was meant to be. It was built around three segments — the entertainment on Friday evening, the educational presentations on Saturday morning and the Celebration Banquet on Saturday noon.

The presentations by Dr Guthrie on diabetes — the new LCI initiative and Lou Heldman from Wichita State on their unique Innovation Campus was an educational experience for many attendees.

A little of the culture of Sri Lanka was inserted into the banquet opening, namely the garlanding of the guest of honor and the lighting of the oil lamp. All important Sri Lankan events start with these — the significance being to draw down blessings on the

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Springfest 'One New Member' Drive

Spring is here and we are into our One New Member Drive. This is the time for all our clubs to spring forward and utilize all your resources to **Recruit One New Member** to your club. It is as easy as that.

This is a special request from our International President, Dr Naresh Aggarwal. Let us show him that our district can **DO IT** and will **DO IT**.

As such I am making a humble request to every club to make this your focus during this beautiful season of Spring. Use Spring festivals in your city, in your town, organized by your own club or organized by other groups, to not only spread happiness, but to spread the word and **INVITE**.

We have 60 days, beginning April 15 until June 15 to **INVITE** and **RECRUIT** one new member to our club. Make this your resolution.

With your commitment we will have 78 new members to close the year.

— *DG Indrajit Phillips*

MD 17-N LEADERSHIP 2017-2018

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For a complete list of Lions leaders at the state and district level, see the Multiple District 17-Kansas Directory online at www.kansaslions.org. Click on the words "membership directory." The username is kslions; the password is dirmd17.

Governor's message

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gathering. We did it too as our Honored Guest was from Sri Lanka.

A major part of the banquet program was honoring Past District Governors. Past District Governors are the mainstay of the district. They put in so much hard work, long hours and persistent effort to ensure that the district moves forward with honor and integrity. Over the years we have had men and women who have been equal to the task. They were honored with a rose pinned on their lapels or presented with a bouquet by the Leos of the district. Past International Directors and sitting Governors were also recognized with a purple orchid boutonniere

and spouses with an elegant bouquet.

Eight Lions who performed exceptionally well producing excellent results were the recipients of the International Presidents Appreciation Award, the fourth highest award of Lions Clubs International. Their names appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

Newton Lions Club won the Fall Membership Drive with 17 new members. An outstanding effort by the club president and his team. Congratulations to the Newton Club and also to the Goddard Club who came in second with ten new members.

Congratulations also to the Peace Poster Winners and the Environment Photo contest winners.

Many Clubs brought their Banners and paraded before the PIP and attendees as a sign of unity. This was so heartening to watch, that PIP Amarasurya intends to have other countries consider having similar parades at their District Conventions.

The convention was the high note in our district activities. I thank all those who took the time and made the effort to be there. My special thanks to our Past International Directors, Bill Phillipi and Lion Vicki, Ed McCormick and State Secretary Linda, and Ernst Young Jr. for their encouragement and presence. My thanks also to our Council Chair Linda Leander for her constant concern and Lion Ken. My fellow Gover-



nors Debbie Weaverling and Lion Ron and Randy St Albyn and Lion Donna for their care and support.

The Convention Co-Chairs PCC Tom McClernon and Lion Janice and the Convention Committee did an excellent job. PDG Terry Weldin deserves special mention for bringing in the revenue on the booklet advertisements and the convention raffle. As always PDG Dan Funke was there to work the electronics.

It was nice to see so many Leos, many of these young people were attending their first Convention, and I am told they had a great time.

I wish to especially thank my wife Lion Rasitha for her inspiring guidance at all times.

Both Lion Rasitha and I send you our good wishes for a strong and vibrant District grounded in caring for each other and service to our communities.

*Indrajit Phillips
District Governor.*

Convention Highlights



Richard Guthrie, MD, provided an overview of current information about diabetes during a Saturday morning seminar.



Lou Heldman of Wichita State University talks about the Innovation Campus.



Daniels L. Heinze Jr., president of the Newton Lions Club accepts the membership growth award. The Newton Club has added 17 members since July 1.

Traditional ceremonies from Sri Lanka — home of our honored guest and home country of DG Indra and Rasitha — were part of the opening of the banquet. In the photo at right, DG Indra presents a floral garland to PIP Mahendra Amarasuriya. In the photo below, PIP Mahendra Amarasuriya, and PIDS Ed McCormick, Ernest Young and Bill Phillipi participate in a traditional Sri Lankan lantern lighting to open the District Convention Banquet.



Friday night fun at the District Convention



PDG Andy Horner was one of several talented Lions to provide entertainment on Friday night.



A little Kansas-themed trivia and music by Lions Sandra Childs and Scott Helmke



Melvin Jones Fellowships presented



Lion Larry Funk of Hillsboro Lions Club



Lion Gordon Grimm of Goddard Lions Club



State Secretary Linda McCormick, second from left, received a thank you from DG Indra and Lion Rasitha for her support.



The Parade of Club Banners was part of the opening of the Convention Banquet



Peace Poster winners, from left: Third Place — Taylor Bruckner from Valley Center Middle School; Second Place—Joanne Vo from Coleman Middle School, Wichita, and First Place — Emily Webster from Augusta Middle School.

Past District Governors were recognized for their service with a boutonniere or bouquet, presented by Leos from Goddard and Mulvane during the banquet. Pictured are PDG Harry Stockwell and PDG Jerald Peterson.



Leos from Goddard and Mulvane attended the banquet and had a special session with PIP Amarasuryia during the convention



Convention photos by Reland Cole, Merle Laham and Becky Funke

International President's Certificates of Appreciation

Eight Lions in District N received International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the third highest award presented to individual Lions.



PDG Chris Bauer



Lion Scott Helmke



PCC Tom McClernon and Lion Janice McClernon



Lion Richard Caldwell



PDG Marvin Funk and PCC Elfrieda Funk



PDG Bernard Lee



Lion Becky Funke



Lion Debra Funke



Club News & Notes

Share what's happening in your club with Lions across the district by sending articles and pictures to rfunke3@cox.net. Deadline for the next newsletter is April 20.

Coming Up...

Valley Center Lions Club Pancake Feed is on **Saturday, April 14, 6 am to noon** at Valley Center United Methodist Church, 5th and Meridian. \$6 adults/\$3 children (8 and under). Come enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes and sausage before you hit the garage sales in Valley Center.

And at the other end of the district, **Baxter Springs Lions** are hosting a Pancake Feed from **7 to 11 am Saturday, April 14**, at 15th and Park in Baxter Springs.

Pancakes, sausage and choice of drink (coffee, milk, juice) for \$5. Proceeds benefit the Spring Food Drive for Kids and Senior Health Fair in May.

Marquette Lions Club Presents the **Inaugural Income Tax Open Disc Golf Tournament** at Marquette Disc Golf Course at **10 am Saturday April 14**.

Entry Fee is \$10 and there are Championship, First, Second Flights. Cash prizes will be awarded

for top two finishers in each flight. There will also be a raffle for disc golf basket and concessions will be available.

Registration is the day of the event. For more information call 620-747-0270.

Wichita Downtown Lions 60th Annual Pancake Day is 8 am to 8 pm **Thursday, April 19**, in the Century II Convention Center, 225 W. Douglas, Wichita. Tickets are \$6.

Benton Lions Club is one of the sponsors of Benton Day on **Saturday, April 28**. Start the day with a pancake breakfast in the community center from 7 am to 11 am.

The Kansas Lions Sight Foundation Mobile Screening Unit will be in front of the Benton City Building offering vision and hearing screenings from 7:30 am to noon.

Lion Ed Heim is grand marshal of the parade that occurs at 2 pm. Stick around after the parade for an ice cream social.

Other Benton Day activities include city-wide garage sales, a 5k fun run/walk, Benton Days Marketplace (vendor fair) and much more.

We Serve

The **Bel Aire Lions Club** recently donated a flag pole to the Bel Aire Recreation Center. It was officially unveiled during the Bel Aire City Easter Egg Hunt-Spring Festival on March 24, 2018.

The Bel Aire Lions provided assistance during the City of Bel Aire Easter Egg Hunt and Spring Festival that was held on March 24 at the Bel Aire



Recreation Center. They helped spread the thousands of plastic Easter eggs for the Great Hunt as well as supervising the rush for the eggs.

The **Fredonia Lions Club** posted on Facebook that the Fredonia star will again shine bright beginning with the 2018 Christmas season. Fundraising efforts have been successful and work will to build the platform for a new star and cross will begin in May.

Wichita Northwest Lions Club keeps busy: recent service projects include packing sack lunches for Interfaith Ministries Homeless Outreach, answering phones for the KPTS pledge drive, providing vision screening for a local pre-school, and cooking hamburgers for volunteers planning an event for the Alzheimer's Association. (From the club newsletter - do you send your club newsletter to the district newsletter editor?)

Arkansas City Lions honored for service



Longevity and dedication to service was the theme at a recent event when members of the **Arkansas City Early Birds** and **Arkansas City Lions Club** came together.

Pictured at left is **Arkansas City Lions Club member Richard Erickson**, honored for 50 years of service by **Past International Director Bill Phillip**.

Other Lions recognized at the event were **Lions Don Cheslie and Lion Leland Sweetwood**, recognized for 45 years and **Lion Bob Mathews**, also recognized for 50 years of Lions service.

Melvin Jones Fellowships were presented to **Arkansas City Lions Club Secretary Paula Plush**, **Arkansas City Early Bird Secretary Sara Ward** and **Arkansas City Lions Club Second Vice President Buddy Kendrick**



Plan a service project to protect our planet

A healthy planet starts with healthy communities. This April, join Lions and Leos around the world for a special Worldwide Week of Service dedicated to protecting our planet and the environment in your community. This international event is a great opportunity to support our new global service framework, and our goal of serving 200 million people per year by 2021, by promoting a healthy environment in your community.

Host a project to protect the environment in your community during April 16-22. Clean up a park or beach, start a recycling program, plant trees or provide clean drinking water to your community. No matter how you choose to serve, be sure to join us for this Centennial service event!

Join Us for the Worldwide Week of Service to Protect Our Planet

Here's how your club can take part in this special event:

Plan your project —Host a service project that impacts the environment in your community during the week of April 16-22.

Promote your project —Publicize your project to showcase your club and the power of service. Remember to wear your Lions branded gear when you're serving to increase your visibility.

Report your project —Report your service on the MyLCI Service Activity Report to help us reach new levels of service in our Centennial Service Challenge. Be sure to include the project date.

Celebrate Your Service —Share photos of your project on social media so everyone can see what a difference you're making in your community. Use the hashtag #Lions100, and we'll share your images on the LCI Facebook page!

Debra Funke, District Global Service Team



Lions honored, leaders elected at District Convention

The District 17-N Convention Banquet was a celebration of service.

Past District Governors present received a boutonniere or bouquet to recognize their service, presented by Leos from the Goddard and Mulvane Leo Clubs.

International Presidents Award recipients were Richard Caldwell of Bel Aire, Scot Helmke of Wichita Northwest, Bernard Lee of Osage City, Marvin and Elfrieda Funk of Hillsboro, Chris Bauer of Humboldt, Tom and Janice McClernon of Pleasant Valley and Wichita Northwest respectively, Debra Funke, and Becky Funke, both of Goddard.

Two Melvin Jones Fellowships were presented during the convention. Larry Funke of Hillsboro Lions Club and Gordon Grimm of Goddard Lions Club were recognized by their respective clubs.

The Newton Lions Club won the district membership growth award; Goddard Lions Club came in second.

New leaders for 2018-2019 were elected during the District Convention. Patrick Laham of Augusta is the district governor elect. Marla Larison of Baxter Springs is the first vice-district governor elect. Chris Bauer of Humboldt is the second vice-district governor elect.

Representing the district on the Kansas Sight Foundation are PDG Don Cunningham of Parsons and PDG Bernard Lee of Osage City.

Gary Boesker of Canton was elected to the Kansas Lions Foundation.

PDG Harry Stockwell and Jami Messner will represent the district on the Kansas Band Foundation.

www.gplli.com

GREAT PLAINS LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Collaborate and learn with Lions from Iowa, Kansas, Missouri & Nebraska



When **July 27-29, 2018**

Where Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, Missouri

Who Any Lion, Lioness or LEO 18 or older who has not yet served as District Governor as of the institute date

Fee \$190 per participant through April 30
\$210 per participant after April 30



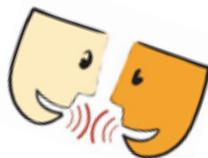
Check out the application for registration, dorm and special needs information.

No refunds after July 1, 2018

Leading Effective Meetings isn't as easy as it sounds! That's why we practice at GPLLI.....

SEMINARS FEATURED:

- Building Effective Teams
- Communication Skills
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- Motivation
- Goal Setting & Action Planning
- Delegation
- Managing Our Projects
- Conflict Management



NEED MORE INFO? CONTACT

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Say YES!!! Plan NOW!!!
Mark your CALENDAR!!!
Send your APPLICATION!!!