

# THE LIONS TALE

NEWSLETTER OF DISTRICT 17-N || JULY 2018



## *The Bent Fork*

Greetings from Augusta to all my Lions friends! I have been elected District Governor for the 2018-2019 Lions Year for Kansas Lions District N. Many of you may know me from visiting your Clubs as a representative of the District Governor last year, or as Diabetes Awareness Chair, or from my work in District N, Zone 7. Or perhaps I made a visit to your Club to present a recognition or to hear a special program, or just as a hungry Lion at a pancake feed or chili supper. I do love visiting Lions Clubs throughout the District and the State.

I have been in training for this new responsibility for the past three years. By the time you read this, I will already have completed another three intense days of training at the District Governor School at the Lions International Convention in Las Vegas.

Here is my Lions story: I am retired from Wichita State University since 2010. Before working as Printing Department Supervisor at WSU, I taught Printing and Graphic Design for 15 years for USD 259 and Wichita Area Technical College. I am married to my lovely wife, former Augusta Lions Club Secretary, and now a District N Environmental Committee member Lion Merle. We will celebrate 42 years of marriage this October. We have three adult children, and six grandchildren, ages from 27 years to three years.

I have been a Lion since 2009, having served the Augusta Lions Club as Board member, Tail Twister, Program Chair, Membership Chair and Club President. This year I am serving my Club as Eyeglass Collection Chair, and on the Club Vision Screening Team.

I am a 2013 graduate of the Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute, a 2015 graduate of the Advanced Lions Leadership Institute, and a participant in the Kansas Lions Leadership Roundup in 2016, 2017, and 2018. I am also a recipient of the International President's Certificate of Appreciation. I have served Lions District 17N for four years as Diabetes Awareness Chair, and one year as Zone Chair. Lion Merle and I are both Certified Guiding Lions.

I enjoy meeting other Lions, and have attended many Cabinet Meetings, Zone Meetings, Council Meetings, District and State Conventions as well as the Leadership Institutes and Trainings during my service as a Lion. I served two

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### District 17-N

73 Lions Clubs serving communities in southcentral and southeast Kansas

#### District Governor

**Patrick Laham**

Augusta Lions Club  
1308 Bobbie Street  
Augusta, KS 67010  
316-648-2078

[patrick.laham@gmail.com](mailto:patrick.laham@gmail.com)

#### 1st Vice District

**Governor**

**Marla Larison**

Baxter Springs Lions Club  
3306 SE Boston Mills Rd  
Columbus, KS 66725  
620-674-1517

[lionmarlalarison@gmail.com](mailto:lionmarlalarison@gmail.com)

#### 2nd Vice District

**Governor**

**Chris Bauer**

Humboldt Lions Club  
924 North 11th St  
Humboldt KS 66748  
620-473-2406

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**District website**

**[kslions17n.org](http://kslions17n.org)**

# Bent Fork

*Continued from page 1*

years on the State Convention Planning Committee. Lion Merle and I both attended the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Omaha in 2016, and the Lions International Centennial Celebration in Chicago in July 2017. I was a Club Delegate to the International Convention at that time.

In addition to being an active Lion, I am a K-State Extension Butler County Master Gardener, serve on the Board for the Augusta Community Garden, and I am a huge fan of Kansas University athletics, (yes, even football).

We have a great Leadership Team in place. Lions Marla, Chris, and I are dedicated to making our district the best it can possibly be. We have developed a Club Visit Schedule, and we are going to hit the ground running as soon as we get back from convention. If you are not one of the clubs I will be visiting, please invite me to one of your meetings as a program, and I will share our experiences with you. I have made it known to all Lions that my favorite thing to do is to visit and get to know Lions everywhere. That was one of the best things about the International Centennial Convention: seeing old friends from all over the world, and making new ones. I'm sure it will be the same in Las Vegas.

I hope to see you all somewhere down the Lion trail this year, and I will be attending as many district and club events as I possibly can attend. Let me know what your club is doing, and I will try to make it to your event. Thank you all for your service to your communities. We Serve.

*Patrick Laham*

*17N District Governor*

## ***District Governor's Goals***

I have six goals for District N this year. Two goals each for Leadership, Membership, and Service. They are as follows:

- Convey and communicate the International President's platform, LCI's new Service Initiatives, and the District Governor's goals to all Lions in District 17N throughout the 2018-2019 Lions year.
- Plan and conduct four training opportunities for Club Officers and Zone Chairs in District 17N by October 1, 2018
- By June 30, 2019, District 17N will add 100 members, to include reinstated, transfer, and new members.
- By June 30, 2019, District 17N will attain a percentage of 35% female membership.
- By June 30, 2019, 40% of Lions Clubs in District 17N will have contributed to Lions Clubs International Foundation.
- By June 30, 2019, 50% of Lions Clubs in District 17N will have conducted a program or event., related to Diabetes Awareness.

These goals might seem very lofty and pie-in-the-sky right now, but I know that with the help of each and every Lion in our District that we can move many mountains and go beyond the horizon.

# Save the Date

## **First State Council Meeting**

August 10-12

## **First District N Cabinet meeting**

August 18, 2018,  
Wellington Lions Club to host at Knights of Columbus Building in Wellington.

## **Second State Council Meeting**

October 26-28

## **Second District N Cabinet meeting**

November 10, 2018  
Benton Lions Club to host

## **Kansas Lions Mid Winter Rally**

January 25-27, 2019  
in Manhattan.

## **Third District N Cabinet meeting:**

February 9, 2019  
Emporia Lions to host

## **17N District Convention**

April 12 & 13  
in El Dorado  
Butler County Community College

## **Kansas Lions State Convention**

## **100th Anniversary of Lions Clubs in Kansas**

May 31-June 2, 2019  
in Lawrence.

## **Final District N Cabinet meeting:**

June 8, 2019  
Independence Lions to host

# *Introducing — First Vice-District Governor Marla Larison*

My name is Marla Larison and I was elected to serve as the First Vice District Governor at the District 17-N Convention in Wichita.

I have been a member of the Baxter Springs Lions Club since 2010. Over the years I have served my local Lions Club in various offices including President and currently as Secretary. On the District level I have served in several different chairperson positions and as Zone 1 Chair for two years.



Currently I am serving as State Environmental Chair for MD 17 and as a Director on the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation while enjoying my role as

2VDG this past year.

During my working years I was a convenience store District Manager for two different chains before retiring to assist my spouse with his business. In my spare time I enjoy genealogy, quilting and working in my greenhouse. I am also an organizer of the Ks. Route 66 Historic Byway Committee and member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Cherokee Co. Genealogy Society.

I am married to Past Council Chair Jess Larison and we have three children and nine grandchildren ranging in age from 6 to 26 years of age. We live in the country and enjoy just being at home and observing the local wildlife.

I look forward to meeting more Lions this year and I just want to say I appreciate the opportunity to serve as the 17-N 1st Vice District Governor for 2018-19.

# *Second Vice-District Governor Chris Bauer*

Lion Chris Bauer was elected at the District 17-N Convention to serve as the district's 2018-19 Second Vice-District Governor. Since 1977, Lion Chris has



been a member with perfect attendance of the Humboldt Lions Club. He has held many offices within the association, including club secretary-treasurer, club president, zone chair, region chair, district leadership chair, district LCIF chair, MD-17 long range

planning chair, KLBF director, KLF director, cabinet treasurer, cabinet secretary, and 2003-04 district governor plus numerous other club, district, and multiple district positions. Additionally, he is currently serving as the MD-17 Constitution and By-laws Chairperson.

Lion Chris was a presenter at two GPLLI seminars,

two Kansas Lions Leadership Roundups, and has been a club secretary instructor for several years.

Lion Chris has attended several USA/Canada Forums and was the Manpower Chair of the host committee at the 2013 forum in Overland Park. At the Omaha Forum he received the Lions University Bachelor of Lions. He also has attended several L.C.I. conventions, in Detroit; he completed the Certified Guiding Lions Training. In addition he has attended Lions Leadership Training in Oak Brook, IL.

In recognition of his service to the association, Lion Chris has received numerous awards including 100% Club President Award, Membership Key Award, several International Presidents Certificate of Appreciations, International Leadership Award, and International President's Award. He is also a Wunder Youth Fellow, a Claude M. DeVorss Fellow, and a Melvin Jones Fellow and holds a Lifetime Membership to the association.

Lion Chris and his wife Carol have three children and 11 grandchildren.



# Leadership team sets course for the new year

District N Leadership Team met on June 12 at the Fredonia Regional Hospital Rooftop Room for an orientation and planning session. We were welcomed by Fredonia Lions President Peggy Ogle, and President-elect Shannon Thomas. Welcome gifts were given to each Lion member in attendance.

The objective for this year is to strengthen our Lions Clubs in District N and to reverse the trend of lost clubs and lost members, while researching the possibility of starting new clubs in areas where there currently are no Lions Clubs serving the community.

Zone Chair Training will be held via Go To Meeting or in person at the Goddard USD 265 District Conference Center, 231 S. Main, on Saturday, July 14 at 9 am. Training for Club Presidents and Secretaries will start at 1 pm, also via Go to Meeting or at the Conference Center. Please contact PDG Dan Funke at [djfunke@cox.net](mailto:djfunke@cox.net) for instructions.

Cabinet meetings will be held on the following dates at the locations listed in the box on page two. Mark your calendars. The District Convention will be held at Butler Community College in El Dorado, on April 12 & 13. PCC Harry Stockwell and PDG Bill Kincaid are the Convention Co-chairs.

## Order Peace Poster kits now

Lions it's time to order your Peace Poster Kits. The theme for 2018 – 2019 is "Kindness Matters."

Kits are now available to order from LCI. The cost is \$11.95 plus postage. The deadline for ordering is October 1 at midnight.

The contest is open to youth 11 to 13 years of age. Although most local contests are conducted through the middle schools, you can hold a contest with church groups, Scouts, your rec centers, etc.

Please be sure all rules are followed closely. Judging for District 17 N will take place in mid-November. State winners will receive their awards at the Mid-Winter Rally in January. District N recipients will be awarded at the District N Convention.

This is a great simple project that all clubs can participate in. We had about 17 entries last year. Let's see if all clubs can hold a contest this year.

*PDG Don Cunningham, Peace Poster Chair*

The District newsletter will have a theme each month. Articles from the Leadership Team, Global Action Team, Zone Chairs, and Guiding Lions will be published from time to time as space permits. Submissions to newsletter editor Becky Funke ([rfunke3@cox.net](mailto:rfunke3@cox.net)) are always welcome, so please submit timely news and photos.

The Lions Clubs International Convention is being held in Las Vegas. A new International President will be installed, Gudrun Yngvadottir, from Iceland. She will be the Association's first female International President. Her focus will be on Women and Children's Issues, and the 50th Anniversary of Lions Clubs International Foundation.

The District budget was a discussion item, and a budget will be presented for approval by the Cabinet at the first Cabinet meeting in Wellington.

All voting members of the Cabinet are strongly urged to attend this first Cabinet meeting.

Voting members are the District Officers, IPDG, and the Zone Chairs. Mileage reimbursement for the voting members has been approved upon receipt of completed expense report form. The treasurer's bond has been paid for the next Lions year, and the paperwork on the bank account signatories is in process.

Zone realignment and Zone Chair responsibilities were a discussion item. Club visitation schedules were distributed to each Governor. Visitations will begin after July 1. We are indeed ready to hit the ground running.



**First District Governor Marla Larison received a Melvin Jones Fellowship, presented by Past International President Barry Palmer, at the International Convention in Las Vegas.**

# Club news and notes

*What's happening around District 17N*

*Send your club news to the newsletter editor at [rfunke3@cox.net](mailto:rfunke3@cox.net).*

*Deadline is always the 20th of the month*



## ***Emporia honors members***

Norma Stinnett was recognized at Lion of the Year by the Emporia Lions Club. Above: Stinnett is pictured with PDG Bob Symmonds. Lion Gary Post, Emporia President (below left) and Lion Dave Eldridge (bottom)



received Melvin Jones Fellowships. Lion June Hubert, who was traveling and not at the meeting, was also recognized with a Melvin Jones Fellowship.



## ***Ark City Early Birds***



First Vice District Governor Patrick Laham (left) and new Lion Marilyn Bergagnini (right) congratulate Arkansas City Early Birds member Bob Mathews for 50 years of Lions service at a June meeting. The meeting also included installation of officers and recognitions longtime Club Secretary Sara Ward and Club President Sue Lancaster.





**Augusta Lions Club recently hosted Lions Youth Exchange student Elli Kykkänen of Finland (center) pictured with host family father Jeremiah Zweifel and PDG Harry Stockwell, Youth Exchange coordinator for Kansas Lions Foundation.**



**Wichita Northwest Lions Club welcomed new member Marilyn Murphy (right) sponsored by Janet Jamieson (left) at their recent new member induction and officer installation meeting. At right, President Scott Helmke was presented with a Melvin Jones Fellowship.**





# *Newton celebrates successful year with picnic*

The Newton Lions Club held their annual picnic with new member induction and installation of officers at the Harvey County Park West on June 13.

At right, new Lion Scott Kranz was inducted as his sponsor, John Shaw, pinned him. Below left, Lion Brian Donley received his Sponsorship Certificate and Pin for inviting Jake Kirkpatrick from Newton president Dan Heinze, Jr.

Newton Lions won both the District N and state contest for membership growth, inducting 17 new members so far this year.

Below right, Lion Wes McClellan was installed as president of the club.

Some of their Service Projects are Sand Creek cleanup, Christmas Parade of Lights, Diabetes Awareness, Halloween Walk, Hope Fest, \$500.00 Scholarship to local High school student, Kid Fest including Eye Screening, and eye glasses collection.

Members of the Newton Club helped with a Wichita pancake feed for a young person with pediatric cancer, one of Lions Clubs International Service Platforms.





## ***Lions respond when tornado hits Eureka***

Lions from District 17N and around the state were among early responders after a tornado hit the community of Eureka on the evening of June 26. The Kansas Lions Foundation ALERT response trailer arrived in Eureka early Wednesday afternoon.

District Governor Indra Phillips made the request for a disaster grant from Lions Club International Foundation. The \$10,000 grant was approved on Thursday.

The ALERT trailer was stocked with rakes, shovels, trash bags, boxes, tarps, work gloves, brooms, buckets, nails, wood, diapers, and other miscellaneous supplies used to assist with the clean-up effort. Those supplies were quickly distributed and the trailer was restocked

on Friday with tarps, rakes, nails and other needed materials.

PDG Dan Funke, president of the Kansas Lions Foundation expressed appreciation for the immediate response from Lions around the district.

The Kansas Lions Foundation has spent more than \$12,000 for supplies.

### **KANSAS LIONS DISTRICT 17-N CABINET MEETING**

**August 18, 2018**

**Wellington Knights of Columbus Building  
210 East Harvey Street (Harvey & C Street)  
Wellington, Kansas 67152**

**District Governor – Lion Patrick Laham**

9:30 am..... Registration Opens

10:00 – Noon.....Panhandle Railroad Museum

Visit the Lions Room! Free admission.

Noon– 1:00 pm ..... Lunch

Cost \$9 - Reservations by August 10 to

Lion Linda Metzgen at [linda.metzen@gmail.com](mailto:linda.metzen@gmail.com)

12:30 – 1:00 pm.....PDG Club Meeting

1-3:30 pm.....Cabinet Meeting

3:30 pm .....Adjourn

**Watch for a registration form and  
complete details in the August newsletter**



**Newly minted District Governor Patrick Laham  
and Merle Laham at the Lions Club International  
Convention in Las Vegas**