



District 17 N Newsletter

69 Lions Clubs serving communities in southcentral and southeast Kansas

October 2022



Governor's message

We're making strides toward district goals

The first quarter of the fiscal year is gone, and we are speeding into the second! The days are finally a little cooler and so are the nights. It seems like the perfect time to take a minute to look at our stats and see how those beginning of the year goals are faring!

Membership: My goal is to finish the year positive 25 members, as of October 15, we are up 12. We suffered some drops in the last few days, but they were from a dedicated club officer cleaning up a roster that was costing the club funds to say the least. I invite all club secretaries and/or presidents to take a few minutes and go through your roster and make sure there are no members that need dropped due to moves, deaths or whatever, better now than all on December 31. We have plenty of time to make those numbers climb back up! I love hearing that an officer is trying to make their information as accurate as possible in addresses, emails, phone numbers, birth dates, etc. this is so important! It's not a process that takes much time, but pays off in the long run for ease of contact within the club and district. Please reach out if you need help with this!



Continued on next page

Call for a Special Convention

In compliance with Article VII, Section 5 of the District 17-N Constitution, this is notice of a Call for a District 17-N Special Convention. **The Special Convention shall be held on November 12, 2022 at Towanda for purpose of selecting a candidate for endorsement for the office of international director.** The motion to call for a special convention was made, seconded and passed at the August 20 17-N Cabinet Meeting in Bel Aire, KS.

Delegates for the special convention are governed by the following Sections 2 and 3 in Article VII of the District 17-N Constitution:

Section 2. CLUB DELEGATE FORMULA. Each chartered club in good standing in Lions Clubs International and Multiple District 17, and District 17-N shall be entitled in each annual convention of its district to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate

Continued on page 8

Save the Date

2nd State Council Meeting and District 17K Convention
October 28-30
Hays

Peace Poster Deadline

Bring Peace Posters to the November 12 Cabinet meeting or mail to:
Shannon Gerwert
510 S. Cayuga Street
Frontenac, KS 66763
She must have your posters by **November 10** if you aren't bringing them to the cabinet meeting

2nd District Cabinet Meeting & Special Convention

November 12
Towanda
Registration on page 9
Delegate certificate on page 8

Mid Winter Rally
January 20-22, 2023
Junction City

District 17N Convention
April 21-22, 2023
Independence

Governor's message

Continued from previous page

CHALLENGE WINNER for September was my home club of Pittsburg!! YAY! With three new members, we lead the pack last month. Congratulations to Augusta, Newton, Osage City, Valley Center, Wellington and Westphalia for all adding new members in September! The Challenge is reset, so let's see who will win a cake for October numbers to enjoy at their November meeting?!!

Service Reporting: My goal is to get 90% of our clubs (62) to report service on MyLion by June 30, 2023. As of today, 21 clubs have reported to total the following: 256 Service Activities Completed, 4,879 Volunteer Hours logged and 42,033 People served. That is amazing, however, I have been enjoying hearing about all your phenomenal projects as I visit clubs and they are not getting recorded. We can do better than 30%, I know it! Several officers have called to ask for a little guidance and I am always happy to help walk anyone through the process. The website can be a little daunting the first time or two of reporting, but it only gets easier and I have faith you can all conquer it!

LCIF: As of October 15, District N has contributed \$5,465.00 coming from 7 clubs. That is 10.14% of our 69 clubs, which is honestly pretty disappointing. If your club doesn't currently contribute to LCIF, I wish you would consider adding any sized donation to your budget, this foundation is one that continually benefits Kansas and District N and it is only right to help fund that. Whether an individual would like to contribute or the club as a whole, it is worthwhile. If you have questions about LCIF or would like to have a program

at a meeting to explain more about the process, call me or IPDG Richard Caldwell to set that up!

Leadership Development: We have had live training for club treasurers and Zone Chairs and are planning something for club secretaries very soon. Participation has been great and I want to thank all the officers that hopped onto those and have made a very good effort to do those jobs to the best of their ability! It is appreciated more than you know!

What's next for the Second Quarter? The second District Cabinet meeting is November 12 in Towanda, the registration is on page 10 newsletter. The Special Convention will be held to start the proper process of endorsing our own PCC Hans Neidhardt in his bid to run for International Director. All clubs in good standing need to send the number of delegates required according to club size to participate!

We will also be judging all our winning Peace Poster entries from around the district. Hopefully we will have some good entries. If you are attending the meeting, you can bring your club's winner in person, otherwise, that winning poster needs to be in the mail by November 1 to either DG Lori or Peace Poster Chair Shannon Gerwert to ensure they arrive in time to be judged. Remember to use a mailing tube so there is no damage to the poster.

Bring your ideas and excitement for upcoming events to this meeting! What would be a great district-wide service project? Is there something your club is doing that could be scaled to a wider service? I would love to hear about it, so please join the fun and check out a Cabinet meeting soon!

I still have lots of club visits coming up, check out the dates in the "Governors in the Wild" section of the newsletter. I look forward to meeting more of you

and sharing in your successes but also helping to work out your challenges. We all have them, never hesitate to reach out when you face them, and we can conquer them together! Thank you all for your continued support, I am overwhelmed with the love and encouragement I have received, I am also doing my best for you and for MD 17-N!

Lori Horton

District Governor, 17-N



District Governors in the Wild

DG Lori's Club Visit Schedule:

October 24	Galena
October 28-30	State Council District K Convention
November 7	Osage City
November 9	Pleasant Valley
November 14	Westphalia
November 17	Caney
November 21	Lyndon
November 26	Marquette
November 28	Columbus
December 5	Garnett
December 19	Towanda

1st VDG Pam's Club Visit Schedule:

October 25	Pittsburg
October 26	Wellington
October 27	McCune
November 1	Independence
November 2	Kincaid
November 8	Colwich
November 10	Lebo
November 14	Clearwater
November 21	Cedar Vale
November 21	Hesston

2nd VDG Shari's Club Visit Schedule:

October 24	Madison
October 27	Valley Center
November 7	Humbolt
November 9	Newton
November 10	Viola
November 14	Benton
December 8	Oxford

Welcome to the Pride



New members added in September

New Lion	Sponsor
Augusta	
Patti Neeley	Deann Triboulet
Colony	
April Sanders	Kenton King
Bryan Sanders	Kenton King
Newton	
Andrew Gough	Elizabeth Shelton
Osage City	
Jamey Branson	Richard Burkdoll
Cory Smith	Richard Burkdoll
Pittsburg	
Kim Coates	Derek Coates
David Lundquest	Helen Lundquest
Jody Neef	Derek Coates
Valley Center	
Dorothy Colbert	Ronald Colbert
Wellington	
Kati Elmore	Michelle Wellington
Travis Reitz	Michelle Wellington
Westphalia	
Amanda Bohannan	Thomas Young

Kansas Lions District 17N

69 Lions Clubs serving communities in southcentral and southeast Kansas

District Governor 1st Vice District Governor 2nd Vice District Governor

Lori Horton

Pittsburg Lions Club
1015 N Broadway St
Pittsburg KS 66762
620-235-1454
celebrationsbyl@yahoo.com

Pam Bilyeu

Lyndon Lions Club
22690 Melody Lane
Vassar KS 66543
785-817-3833
bilyeuskies@hotmail.com

Shari Neidhardt

Towanda Lions Club
7400 NW Ayr Road
Potwin, KS 67123
620-752-344
19Faith58@gmail.com

Get Social with us!

Follow us on Facebook: [KansasLionsDistrict17N](#) • Twitter: [@kslions17n](#)

District website: [kslions17n.org](#)

Kansas Lions on the web: [kansaslions.org](#) • Lions International on the web: [lionsclubs.org](#)

First Vice District Governor

Lions are sharing our mission of service

And ROARRRR you have! What a busy, yet “FUN” fall it has been for so many clubs! There have been picnics, festivals, parades, pumpkin patches, tree planting, craft fairs, food booths, car shows and so much more. Lions have been out and very present in their



communities! During many of these events Lions have offered insight into the world of being a member of a Lion's Club by invit-

ing people to join in the FUN! Membership for our District 17-N has continued to rise because of YOU!! You have been asking your friends and neighbors to join us in our mission of serving others.

Service activities of collecting glasses and vision screenings in schools and at fairs have been occurring, as well as purchasing glasses for those in need and helping to fund Leader Dog training. Lions are supporting local Cancer Walks and taking part in raising funds to help with support Childhood Cancer and cancer research. THANK YOU to all the clubs who are reporting your volunteer service hours and projects on “My Lion.” By reporting on “My Lion” you are telling the story of how you are serving your community

through your clubs service and volunteer hours.

November is Diabetes Awareness month. Getting information into the hands of individuals is very easy with the Pre-Diabetes assessment forms available. You can direct individuals to complete the form online at the American Diabetes Association.org, or copy off the Pre-Diabetes assessment and hand out to individuals at these fall events. Early detection of the signs and symptoms of Diabetes Type 2 can alert individuals to make lifestyle changes that can possibly prevent the advancement of this disease. That is why this is such an important outreach to those in our communities!

I enjoyed my visits with the Ottawa and Bel Aire Lions the end of September, and have had the pleasure to visit with the Chanute, Parsons, Olpe and the Wichita Northwest Lions so far this month. Great projects and service is happening in each of these communities because of the dedicated Lions in these clubs who are serving. Thank you all for the kindness you have shown me during my visits to your clubs. This last week of October I will be visiting the Pittsburg, Wellington and McCune Lions before heading to Hays for the second State Cabinet meeting and District K's Convention.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming District 17-N “Special Convention” on November 12 in Towanda. Look for more information in this newsletter!

*Yours in Lionism, Pam Bilyeu
1st Vice District Governor*

Committee ready to help with new members

The New Voices committee now has four members! This is a younger crew and with work and family, we've been battling busy calendars but here are the four:

Jennifer Aguirre-Lowe (Newton)

Alison Smith (Burlington)

Drew Mariani (Arkansas City)

Greg Nickel (Nickel)

In lieu of a big report, here is a quick minute:

While commuting last week, I heard an interview with Julia Boorstin, who wrote the book, “When Women Lead.” She studied Fortune 500 companies and found that companies with diversity outperform those without. Increasingly, the leadership literature



is recommending all organizations stretch themselves to grow and be vibrant.

Your Lions

Club can outperform other organizations in town. The question is how to apply the lessons from Fortune 500 companies. Are we working to recruit valuable community members that aren't just the same-old, same-old? That stretches ourselves and it can be hard to know how.

As the New Voices gains momentum, we hope to be a resource to help.

Second Vice District Governor

USA/Canada Forum offers great opportunities

Fellow Lions, if you have never attended a USA/Canada Leadership Forum, I would really encourage you to consider attending a Forum. With more than 40 years each as Kansas Lions, Lion Hans and I attended our first Forum last year in Des Moines, Iowa. As a school bus driver, it was almost impossible to take off in mid-September, with school only being in session for about a month. However needless to say, we were sold and it was a fairly easy decision (at least on my part), to attend this year's 46th annual Forum "Stampede to Lead" in Calgary, Canada last month.

USA/Canada Leadership Forums are a great opportunity to meet Lions Clubs International leaders (both current and past), attend multiple training/informational seminars, visit with Lions from other Multiple Districts, and of course go through/shop in the "Lions Store." During the four General Sessions and formal meals, guests heard presentations from Lions International President Brian Sheehan, Lion Lori Sheehan, Catriona Le May Doan (Canadian Olympic medal speed skater), and Steve Farber (Leadership/Management speaker).

Multiple District 17 was well represented, with eight Lions from District 17-A and eight Lions from District 17-N. Four of our Kansas Lions were selected

as Facilitators/Moderators for two of the seminars. 17-A Lions Eric Tweedy and 2VDG Margy Sundstrom's seminar "Leadership Lessons from Star Trek" and 17-N Lions PDG Chris Bauer and PDG Dan Funke's seminar "Preparing for Disasters" were both big hits. With over 80 available seminars that Lions could attend, there was never a lull in anyone's schedule.

Over the next four years, we will have the opportunity to attend USA/Canada Leadership Forums a little closer to home. The Forums will be held in Reno, Nevada (2023), Louisville, Kentucky (2024), Atlantic City, New Jersey (2025), and Memphis, Tennessee (2026).

A key point, Kansas will be hosting the Mid-West Breakfast during the Reno Forum. As it is never too early to start planning; we hope to see many of you there.

I will close for now by leaving you with two final quotes, first by Benjamin Franklin, "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn." The second by **Albert Einstein**, "Wisdom is not a product of schooling but of the lifelong attempt to acquire it."

Shari Neidhardt
2nd Vice District Governor





Around the District

Submit your club activities to newsletter17n@cox.net
 Deadline is always the 10th of the month

60 years of service recognized



Fredonia Lions recognized 60-year member Kenny Streets with a rose sculpture — a rose for every decade of his service.

The accompanying sign reads:

Eternal Roses sculpture is commemorated in appreciation of Kenny Streets' 60 years of of volunteerism to the Lions organization and the City of Fredonia. Maintaining Lions Park, watering the roses and other plants on the mound has been one of his great passions.

Kenny is always the first to get involved and has special ability to draw in others to join in with him. His countless hours of service has been appreciated by the entire community of Fredonia.

Thanks for all that you have done Kenny



Columbus Leos and FFA joined forces for a highway cleanup project in advance of Columbus Days in September.

Clubs present Melvin Jones Fellowships



Derby Noon Lions announced that three of their members would be receiving a Melin Jones Fellowships. Congratulations Lion Jean Epperson, Lion Stephanie Johnson and Lion Susan Thompson, pictured with Second Vice District Governor Shari Neidhardt.



Burlington Lions Club member Jim Garner, center, was presented with a Melvin Jones Fellowship at a recent meeting. Lion Jim first became a Lion in Meade, Kansas in 1966. Lion Jim was a Lion in different clubs over the years. His desire to serve kept him joining Lions Clubs as a member as his vocation called him from town to town. Also pictured is PDG Terry Weldin and District Governor Lori Horton.



Goddard Lions Club recognized club secretary Nancy D. Borst (left) with a Melvin Jones Fellowship at a recent club event. Second Vice District Governor Shari Niehardt presented the recognition.



The Bel Air Lions were busy helping with a book fair at Isley Elementary in October. Pictured from left is Lion Phil Shull, librarian Catherine Busick, Lion Connie Schmidt and Lion President James Schmidt

Call for special district convention

Continued from page 1

for each ten (10) members, who have been enrolled for at least one year and a day in the club or major fraction thereof, of said club as shown by the records of the international office on the first day of the month last preceding that month during which the convention is held. The major fraction referred to in this section shall be five (5) or more members. Each certified delegate present in person shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote only for each office to be filled by, and one (1) vote only on each question submitted to, the respective convention. Unless otherwise specified herein, the affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates voting on any question shall be the act of the convention. All eli-

gible delegates must be members in good standing of a club in good standing in this district. It is not required for a member to be enrolled in a club for a year and a day in order to qualify as an eligible delegate. Delinquent dues may be paid and good standing acquired at any time prior to the close of credential certification, as such closing time shall be established by the rules of the respective convention.

Section 3. PDG DELEGATES. Full delegate status shall be granted to each Past District Governor who is a member of a Lions Club in this District independent of the club's delegate quota.

*Sincerely,
Lion Melanie Snider
District 17-N Cabinet Secretary*

DELEGATE CERTIFICATION FORM – 2022 DISTRICT 17-N SPECIAL CONVENTION

Club Name _____ Lion _____

This certifies that the above named person is a duly elected

Delegate Alternate

To the 2022 District 17-N Lions Special Convention at Towanda, KS on November 12, 2022

And said Lion is in good standing with their club. The Club President or Secretary attests to this appointment.

President or Secretary Signature

Delegate/Alternate Signature

This form must be presented upon registration at the District 17-N Cabinet Meeting. Per Lions Clubs International, MD-17 and District 17-N Constitutions and By-laws, all Clubs, in good standing with the Association, MD-17 and District 17-N shall be entitled to one (1) voting delegate and one (1) alternate for each ten (10) members, or major fraction thereof, of their membership on October 1, 2022. All Past District Governors, Past International Officers and International Officers shall be entitled to full delegate privileges, independent of club delegates.

*****PLEASE HAVE THIS FORM COMPLETED AND BRING IT WITH YOU TO THE CONVENTION*****



MD 17-N 2nd District Cabinet Meeting

Hebrews Café

304 Main St • Towanda, Ks

Registration: 11 am

Lunch: 12 pm

***Ham or Turkey Sandwich, Chips, Dessert,
Tea, Coffee, Water \$12***

Pop available for \$1 extra

Registration deadline is Monday, November 7

Meeting: 1-3 pm

Special Convention (Bring Delegate slip)

Peace Poster Judging

Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____

Club name _____

Meals @ \$12 _____ ***Total \$*** _____

MAIL Checks payable to or pay at door to:

PCC Hans Neidhardt

7400 NW Ayr Rd

Potwin, Ks 67123

Email your RSVP to: hnwizardofoz@gmail.com

It's time to file club tax returns

Lions: Please remember that all Lions clubs, districts and multiple districts that have annual gross receipts of less than US\$50,000 and do not have to file Forms 990 or 990-EZ must file the e-Postcard (also known as 990-N). If your Lions club, district or multiple district has a foundation, which is a separate legal entity, the appropriate form will need to be filed as well. All filers must register at IRS.gov prior to filing their next Form 990-N. This is a one-time registration if the designated Lion files annually. If the designee changes from a prior year, the new designee must register with the IRS.

Please refer to the following regarding annual filing requirements: 2022-2023 Tax Year* Form to File Gross receipts normally \$50,000 or less 990-N Gross receipts greater than \$50,000 and less than \$200,000, and total assets less than

\$500,000 990-EZ or 990 Gross receipts \$200,000 or greater or total assets \$500,000 or greater 990 The e-Postcard is due by the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of your tax year.

Lions clubs operate on a fiscal year, July 1-June 30, and the e-Postcard is due by November 15 each year.

Please note that an organization cannot request an extension for filing the Form 990-N. If you do not file, you risk losing your tax-exempt status. Any Lions Club that fails to meet its annual reporting requirement for three consecutive years will automatically lose its tax exempt status. A club may apply for reinstatement of its tax exemption even if it originally fell under a group exemption. Every club and/or district (single, sub- and multiple) must have an employer identification number (EIN), even if it

will not have employees. The EIN is a unique number that identifies the organization to the Internal Revenue Service.

To apply for an EIN, you should obtain a Form SS4 and its instructions from the IRS. You may also apply for an EIN online, by telephone (1-800- 829-4933) or by fax (fax number at the location accepting applications from your state).

It is important that clubs and districts use the correct EIN for their annual filing. For frequently asked questions about tax issues and regulations affecting Lions clubs and leadership, visit the Lions Tax FAQ. Visit www.irs.gov/eo for complete details and to sign up for Exempt Organization's free email newsletter, EO Update, to receive up-to-date information posted on the charity pages of irs.gov.

-Legal Division Lions Clubs International

Diabetes awareness is Lions Health focus for November

Please remember November is Diabetes Awareness month and November 14 is World Diabetes Day. What is your Lions Club doing to support this program?

There is no emphasis in December from LCI so I want to take this time to say something about the VSP Certificates Lions Health Program has been distributing.

We hope they have been a help



to your clubs and have saved you some funds.

The way I understand the program these certificates need to be redeemed (**used by your client**) by December 14. That means that I will not distribute any certificates after Dec. 1.

VSP Eyes of Hope certificates for eye exams, glasses, and frames are available for **ALL** Lions Clubs in Multiple District 17.

There are two different certificates.

1) Eyes of Hope for Students covers exams, frames and lens for youth 19 years and younger.

2) Eyes of Hope materials only covers frames and lens for anyone.

If you want a certificate please **email** Lion Vern Failor (vfailor@gmail.com) with the following information:

1. Name and age of recipient,
2. Postal Code of the recipient,
3. Name of the Lion making the request and address of that Lion.
4. The type of certificate you want.

Please get your request to me ASAP. **Lions Clubs you need contact me directly DO NOT go through a third party such as your District Governor or the Lions State Office.**

*Lion Vern Failor
MD 17 Lions Health Program*