



Kansas LIONS

District Dialogue

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KANSAS LIONS DISTRICT 17 A NEWSLETTER 2021-2022

District Governor Dr. Vania Castro

Editor Vivian DeClements

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A message from our DISTRICT GOVERNOR



International President Douglas Alexander - District Governor Dr. Vania Castro
United in Service from the Heart. 2021-2022

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as your 2021-2022 District Governor, and I am excited about the amazing 17A leadership team that I have been able to assemble to serve you this year.

I would like to share with you some of my background in Lions. As some of you may already know, my father and my uncles were members of the Lions in Brazil, my country of origin, and it is a joy to continue the family legacy as I seek ways to better serve fellow Lions and our community. I joined the Leawood Lions Club in January 2014 and have held many positions within our association at club, district, and state level.

I graduated from and have served on the faculty of the Great Plain Leadership Institute (GPLLI), Emerging Lion Leadership Institute (ELLI), Advanced Lion Leadership Institute (ALLI), the Faculty Development Institute (FDI). I am the first and only Kansas Lion to be approved for certification in the Lions Certified Instructor Program (LCIP) - in June of 2018. LCIP is the highest faculty certification provided by LCI. I have attended several local, national, and international Lions meetings including Lions Day in the United Nations, New York, the Kansas Lions Leadership Round-up, the 40th Annual USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, and two Lions Club International Conventions (Chicago 2017 and Las Vegas 2018). I have received the Club Excellence Award, the Zone Chair Excellence Award, the International President's Certificate of Appreciation, two United States Silver Dollar Mints, and the District Governor's Certificate of Appreciation. In addition to this, I am a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

On a personal note, I am a dual citizen of Brazil and the US and have lived in Leawood for over 20 years with my family including my husband, Sebastian, and my son, Clark (Junior at Pembroke Hill School & Lion-in-training).

Continued on Page 2

A MESSAGE from the DISTRICT GOVERNOR continued ...

In addition to being an active Lion, I am a board member of several local organizations including the United Nations Association (UNA) of Greater Kansas City. I was the outreach chair for the 47th Mayor's UN Dinner in 2018. Also, I serve on the UNA women's committee by promoting constructive United States leadership in the healthcare field.

My professional story started many years ago when I got the opportunity to come to the US to further my education in the healthcare field. Since then, I have completed my General Practice Residency specializing in radiology, my master's degree, and my doctorate (Ph.D.) which included my Scientific Training at Harvard's Forsyth Institute. Throughout my career as an academic, scientific, and clinical research faculty member and Health Science leader, I have served as a collaborator in multidisciplinary projects with the U.S. National Institute of Health. During my career, I have traveled and worked in over 50 countries on five continents as well as developing partnerships with private, government, and educational organizations who are based in and outside of the U.S. In addition, I am a council member on Race, Equity & Inclusion for the Harvard Medical School, and a Health Science leader (aka Doctor C) who manages and develops research projects worldwide.

I am grateful for, and humbled by, your support during my visits to our clubs around our district during the last two years as VDG including our IPDG Rick Dodson for his great leadership during our last Lion year. I am impressed to see Lions who are "ordinary people doing extraordinary things" in their community by serving those in need despite the pandemic. Also, it has been incredible to meet several second-generation Lions around our district who, just like me, were raised with a heart to serve. As I mentioned before, one of my favorite things to do in our district is not only to serve those in need but also visit clubs and get to know you. Please let me know if you have a special event including installation of officers, induction of new members, special club celebration, or presentation of MJFs, as I would love to be present if my schedule allows. Please keep me informed.

We have already completed four hours of two Zone Chair training sessions. Our outstanding leadership team is planning amazing Lions training for this year, and we will continue to use the online virtual training platform that we established last year. We are continuing to build a strong faculty team in our District. Club Officers training is coming in August (date TBD), Guiding Lions in July (date TBD), plus other possible workshops this Lions year. Watch for more information and the announcement of the training dates. Stay tuned!

I'm looking forward to an exciting year and let's remember IP Douglas Alexander's message to us: "Service from the Heart, is a call to all districts, clubs, and Lions to be sure we are always leading with what brought us to Lions International to begin with – our hearts. Service from the Heart will guide our way."

In district 17A, we have goals in four areas this year. They are as follows:

1. **SERVICE DEVELOPMENT GOAL:** By the end of the 2021-2022 fiscal year, 65% of clubs in district 17A will have service projects reported in MyLion, which is about 5% increase over last year.
2. **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GOAL:** By the end of the 2021-2022 fiscal year, district 17A will start 2 new clubs and recruit 100 new members into existing clubs. District 17A will not lose no more than 90 members. And will attain a percentage of 40% female membership.
3. **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GOAL:** By the end of the first quarter of the 2021-2022 fiscal year, district 17-A will hold training for club officers, club Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, and Guiding Lions by September 30, 2021. We will hold training for club Zone Chairpersons and Membership Chairpersons by June 30, 2022.
4. **LCIF DEVELOPMENT GOAL:** By the end of the 2021-2022 fiscal year, 60% of clubs in district 17-A will contribute to LCIF and will form 1 new Model Clubs, which is 1 more than last year.

I know that with the help of every District 17A Lion and letting our passion for service shine through, there is absolutely nothing we can't accomplish together. My message is that we will keep building bridges into the future and our Hearts will lead the way. Please don't hesitate to contact me (drvaniacastro@gmail.com): I work for you. Lastly, I am looking forward to continuing to meet, serve, cherish, and celebrate more Lions in our district as your District Governor.

First Vice District Governor Richard Webster



Finding Ways to Persevere

July 1st begins a new year of Lionism. I am very excited about serving as 1st Vice District Governor. We are entering a new era of leadership but before we change officially let us remember the tremendous job PDG Rick Dodson did setting the example we have to follow.

This past year was full of twists and turns mandated by protocols and concerns over a pandemic which threatened to stop our service activities and leave our operations in limbo. Some organizations folded their tents and disappeared into fifty shades of gray.

Fortunately we had a Governor that refused to accept the worst and found ways to persevere through Adversity.

District goals continued and we adapted to accomplish most of them. Our mission continued and resulted in a banner year rivaling years where there were no crisis protocols herding our activities. We were able to address some of the concerns about new technologies and communication tools with a higher success rate than before the in-person restrictions. The Zoom meeting became a reality. Hybrid meetings and conventions opened new doors and pathways for our future success. Fund raising continued with creative approaches which became more cost effective and profitable. Where there is a will there is a way. Where there is a need there is a Lion.

Thank you

**Thank you
PDG Dodson
for your
inspiration and
leadership to
make this**

happen! Your tireless attention to detail and energy has set a standard we will be hard pressed to follow. This year provides evidence of the pathways to success in membership recruitment, service reporting and LCIF contributions.

Training and education tools have evolved into a clear and precise process available instantly to all who choose to follow the call to serve.

We are prepared to meet the challenges ahead because you recognized our needs and turned them into opportunities. There are still improvements needed and many new issues to conquer but we have a template to follow and a road map to find the answers. We are on the right path and we have the year under your direction to thank.

At the Helm

2021-2022

District Governor Castro

Our new leadership under DG Dr. Vania Castro will be a new opportunity to grow and overcome trends that have been identified as concerns for the health of our Clubs and District.

Together we can accomplish so much! Please join me in accepting the challenges of the coming year and pledging to make District Governor Dr. Vania successful in her administration and goals.

Thanks for all you do!

First VDG Richard C. Webster

**Kansas Lions District 17A
President Keats Lions Club**

CHARTER AND ENTRANCE FEE WAIVERS

Dear Club Leader,

The coronavirus pandemic continues to impact the work of Lions and communities around the world, creating financial hardships for Lions and the people we care for. To support the incredible men and women serving with us, the International Board of Directors passed another resolution to help our clubs in the new Lion year.

Charter and entrance fees waiver – We have waived all charter and entrance fees from July 1 through December 31, 2021. Charter and entrance fees are also currently waived through June 30, 2021. These measures will help Lions facing financial hardships and give our clubs the support they need during these challenging times. Together, we will overcome this.

Dr. Jung-Yul Choi



SECOND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR CAROLINE ARTER

Greetings my Fellow Lions!

Thank you for who you are and all that you do so well!

Recently, someone posted a page from an Albert Camus book on Facebook. In those few words, Camus speaks of the world pressing against him and he presses back. He concludes the paragraph by saying, "In the midst of winter I found within me an invincible summer." We have all managed very well in pressing back against COVID, seeking different methods to raise funds, serve our communities and meet with one another.

I find myself excited to visit with you and hear in person your plans to expand on the new that you learned about yourself and to share with the District as a whole so that others may take heart and cheer you on!

When I first began as a new Lion, I served as a Tail Twister with a fellow Lion who is well over six feet tall (high fives were a challenge for me). I enjoyed being on the Board as well as delivering trash bags for the City of Leavenworth (one of our premier blended projects of fund raising while serving the citizens of Leavenworth). Other projects included setting up bell ringing and Candy Days.

My passions in Lions morphed to Lions Club International Foundation and the Peace Poster Contest. These two reach our communities as well as the world – our global community. There will be more shared on these two and other core causes as the year progresses.

My guiding principle come from my observations of my parents' lives. The first is to serve something larger than yourself. My father served in the U.S. Army for nearly 35 years with my mother as his partner in caring for members of his commands at home and abroad in conflict. All of you do this now by serving as Lions.

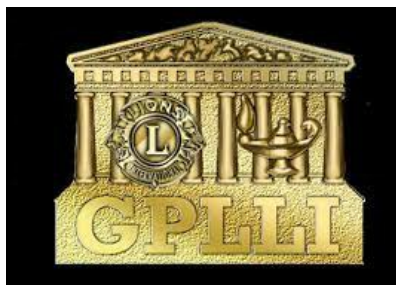
The second principle is seared in my mind as I recall my father exhorting me to do better, particularly in mathematics. This is one that I hope we will do for each other as we go through the year ahead – to encourage one another.

The third is one I have observed my father practice time and again. He uses his success as a springboard for others to gain theirs. I encourage all of us to do the same for our fellow Lions as it will make the Clubs and our District more successful in service.

Peace and blessings be with you all this coming Fourth of July weekend. Be safe. I give thanks for all who created this country and all who have served and currently serve. I give thanks for all my fellow Lions.

Remember: YOU ROCK!

2VDG Caroline Arter
Kansas Lions District 17A



Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute

GPLLI is an intensive, professional and valuable leadership skills program for Lions who have not attended a GPLLI within the last five years. You will learn skills for club, job, community and church, as well as personal development. This is a three-day training curriculum that will teach you every aspect of leadership you can imagine.

The Institute will be held **July 23-25** at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, MO. Registration is \$210, which includes your dorm room, food, and all class materials.

For additional information, please visit our website www.gplli.com or contact Registrar PID Gary Fry at frygj35@msn.com or [515-967-4645](tel:515-967-4645).

COUNCIL CHAIR DIANA BAUMANN



Hello Kansas Lions,

I am excited for the year ahead for many reasons. The first of which is the honor of becoming the next Council Chair for the Kansas Lions. What a great opportunity lies ahead, and I thank those who put their trust in me to serve you once again.

The Lions in Kansas are some of the most wonderful people in the world. 1VDG Tom and I have truly enjoyed meeting new Lions with each club visit. We love the Lions here and know that great things are in store for the future of Lions in Kansas. I hope I can meet more Lions throughout the state this year as we work toward our common goal of service and kindness to all.

Another reason for my excitement is the Governor's Team you have all voted in. What a great group of DGs and VDGs we have this coming year. I look forward to working with them and to hold this excitement and enthusiasm throughout the year. If we are excited to be Lions, others will be too!

Ending member numbers were down but not nearly as much as in previous years. If we can obtain these numbers during the year of a Pandemic, just imagine what we can do now! With the advertising campaign we have going and the resources to help clubs grow, exciting things will be happening in our districts this year!

As we start another Lions' year, I would ask you to approach the year with a renewed enthusiasm to serve, to share and to enjoy each other's company. Get excited to try new things and involve new people. Make sure your community sees and hears your excitement. If they do, more will want to help and eventually join Lions. Lions are good people doing great things. You make a difference, but the more Lions involved the more of a difference we can make.

My final reason to be excited is the clubs in our state. We have some amazing clubs doing amazing things. I cannot wait to see what you have in store for the coming year.

Take care dear Lions and thank you for all you do.

CC Diana Baumann

2021-2022 Council of Governors

Council Chair	District Governor 17K	District Governor 17A	District Governor 17N
IPDG Diana Baumann (Tom) Hays Lions Club 2005 Northglen Lane Hays, KS 67601 785.202.1882 LionDianaB@yahoo.com District Website Kansaslions17A.org	Randy St, Aubyn (Donna) Hutchinson Lions Club 212 East 37th Street Hutchinson, KS 67502 620.200.4898 rsaubyn@yahoo.com District Website Kansaslions17K.org	Dr. Vania Castro (Sebastian) Leawood Lions Club 2203 West 119th Leawood KS 66209 913.634.3220 drvaniacastro@gmail.com District Website Kansaslions17A.org	Richard Caldwell (Virginia) Bel Aire Lions Club 4609 E Falcon Ct Wichita KS 67220 316.461.8738 teacher.caldwell@gmail.com District Website Kansaslions17N.org

FOLLOW MD 17

Social networking - Microblogging - Photo sharing -Video sharing



Service to Others brings Membership

A couple of years ago I attended my mother's first state convention in Georgia. She was anxious to go but did

not want to go alone. So, Ron and I flew down to Georgia to join her. It was a very good experience as we got to witness how the Georgia Lions do business and have FUN at their end of the year event. What a great time we had; it was fascinating to see how it is done in another Multiple District. Among the many displays and fundraising booths, there were Lion Brooms, Mops, etc., to be had if you so desired. Selling brooms has become one of my mother's passions since becoming a Lion.



The first experience I would like to share with all of you is the individual District breakfasts that were held at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. I know, a District breakfast? It was a breakfast for each of the 4 districts, and all paid for by each District. The food spread and beverage choices were really

good. The usual breakfast fare of eggs, bacon, hash browns, toast, cinnamon rolls, croissants, Danishes, bagels, and fruit. While at this breakfast, each DG recognized their DG team and committees and presented honors, recognitions, and awards. The incoming DG team were introduced.

Our second experience was an outdoor get acquainted mingle/dance evening event. Again, there was an enormous selection of appetizers, fruit, vegetables, chips, cheese trays, all varieties of pickles, desserts, and drinks. The event was superbly attended with Lions and friends of Lions all enjoying themselves. We were very surprised at the variety of dancing going on; from line dancing to ball room dancing and disco dancing. It was a Fantastic evening! It was a "bring your own lawn chairs and blankets" type of event.

My third experience was the best of all and the purpose of the title of my article. A Multiple-District service project. The room was set (mom and I helped) with pajama's, underwear, socks, for boys and girls. There were items for babies to adults.

The stations were set so that each Lion who participated (and there were many) received a large Ziploc bag and then went through each station filling the bag with items. There were stacks and stacks of Ziploc bags at the end. The Lion who conceived and led this service project had experienced her own granddaughter going through a long stay at a local hospital due to illness. When the family could not get clothing for her granddaughter, she made it a goal to help other families who may go through the same experience. The service project was a highlight of the convention, second to their guest speaker, not yet elected 3rd VP Patti Hill from Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

The venue was held at a very adorable cottage setting outside of the Callaway Garden's grounds. No lunch or dinner meals were provided, but as I sat around and among many Georgia Lions in the restaurant, they were not the least bit concerned. It's their opportunity to mingle with Lions from across the MD. For the convention, the only money each Lion had to pay was registration fee, their hotel room, and their no host meals. The rest of the activities (and there were many more than what I have shared with all of you) was up to you, to choose to attend or participate.



The coolest mementos Ron and I received were beach towels (very well made) with the Georgia Lions logo on it. It is one of my favorite colors, "Yellow" (see picture). Every Lion received one and apparently these towels are in the

highest demand. You will see our towels at our local neighborhood pool if you visit during these hot summer days. Never miss an opportunity to advertise or start a conversation on Lions.

This article offers a glimpse into other ways conventions are done. So, it is okay to change things up and move away from how we have always done it. What do you have to risk? What will be said by our Lions when we move from old ways to new ways....I cannot wait until next year!

Thank you Lions of District 17A, spread your Kindness because it really does Matter!

ID Deb Weaverling

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM IPDG RICK DODSON



Final Cabinet Meeting Marks End of Term

As my year as District Governor came to a close and I handed over the gavel to the 2021-2022 District Governor Dr. Vania Castro, I prepared a State of the District blog that is posted on the District 17A website. To access, copy and paste this link:

<https://kslionsdistrict17a.org/2021/06/21/district-governor-blog-state-of-the-district-for-2020-2021/>

For those who can't or don't desire to go to the website to read it, let me simply thank the great Lions of District 17-A for their amazing efforts this past year. Despite the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, most clubs rose to the occasion to keep their Lion spirit turned towards community service. Some activities were conducted the traditional ways and some had to be modified. Regardless of the methods and outcomes, we showed how strong we are and what assets we are to our communities.

Please accept my heartfelt appreciation for doing what you do and join me in helping DG Dr. Vania Castro have the greatest year ever in District 17-A.

Leadership Continuity Marks Beginning of 2021-2022 Term

District Governor Dr. Vania Castro and I have been discussing the importance of leadership for two years and have a common understanding that leadership development is critical to help move our district forward into the future. We are putting together an action plan to conduct virtual leadership training monthly during this Lions year. I will have a more complete list of scheduled and potential topics for publication in the next newsletter. Our first training will be for Certified Guiding Lions in July. More information will follow through your Lions leadership chain. If you have topics you'd like training on, please let me know.

There is a continuous debate about whether a person is born with leadership traits or becomes a leader only through education and experience. I have no definitive answer for you. Most of my formal leadership experience was gained through military service or civil service working as a DOD civilian for the past 50 years. Much of that experience does not translate directly to leading an all-volunteer force such as the Lions. But, that's a topic for another time. There are some truths that I think apply universally to leadership in any type of organization. The following highlights a few of those.

**LEADERSHIP
THEORIES**

The author of this is unknown to me. Some of the complete work is obviously for military only, so I'll leave those parts out, and I've re-worded some slightly. I believe the remainder has universal application. I won't discuss it, just provide it to you for your own reflection on how the ideas might pertain to our Lions organization.

Words of Wisdom

In his search to be a great leader, the young centurion sought out the Republic's veteran warrior. Looking up from his labor, the sage spoke:

I know not what beats beneath your tunic, but what I saw in a leader from foot soldiers to proconsul is thus:

One who seeks the companionship of the long march and not the privilege of position...

One whose office is assigned from above and confirmed from below...

One who knows the self and, therefore, is true to all...

One who seeks to serve and not be served...

That is the one who leads best of all.

Let's have a great Lions year.

IPDG Rick Dodson, GLT Coordinator
Kansas Lions District 17A



GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM - PCC BEVERLY GREENWOOD

WELCOME NEW LIONS

KANSAS LIONS DISTRICT 17A welcomes *YOU* to the Lions family.

WHAT LIONS STAND FOR

Vision Statement: To be the global leader in humanitarian service.

Mission Statement: To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace, promote international understanding through Lions Clubs.

MORE MEMBERS. MORE SERVICE.

Kansas Lions District 17A looks to 2021-2022 with renewed enthusiasm for service and membership growth. Lions Clubs International (LCI) has many resources available to support your club. LCI's new member recruiting guide, *Just Ask* is designed to guide your club through the process of recruiting new members and managing club growth. Lions, create your club's growth plan! Invite new members to share our great organization. I, PCC Bev Greenwood, will be your Global Membership Team (GMT) leader this year. Let me know if I can help. bgreenwood@twinvalley.net

PCC Beverly Greenwood

MAY 2021 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

ASSARIA LIONS	SPONSOR
Michelle L Hopwood	James Hopwood
CHAPMAN LIONS	SPONSOR
Mark Campbell	Lance Tilton
LANSING LIONS	SPONSOR
Roxana Orkwis	John Orkwis
LAWRENCE LIONS	SPONSOR
Nicole Apprill	Beth McKenzie
LEAVENWORTH LIONS	SPONSOR
Kimberly A Taylor	Hollister Pittman
MIAMI COUNTY TRAVELING	SPONSOR
Terri Wojtalewicz	Ernest Young Jr
WAKEFIELD LIONS	SPONSOR
Betty Gran	Jon Gran
WASHINGTON LIONS	SPONSOR
Andrew F Meyer	Tim Matlack

Serving Safely

For every need,
Lions find a way.

Lions Clubs International is actively working with our clubs and monitoring the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Send your questions, ideas, and feedback to service.activities@lionsclubs.org.

The State of Kansas remains committed to supporting local communities in a safe transition. Find the most current recommendations from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment: www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/

GLOBAL SERVICE - PDG CARLEEN RAJALA - Global Service Chair

2021-2022 GLOBAL SERVICE PROJECTS

Diabetes Environment Cancer Hunger Vision



JUNE 2021

	Diabetes	Environment	Children's Cancer	Hunger	Vision	* Other
People Served: +15,735 162,128	479	36,369	1,150	18,796	20,123	85,151
Volunteer Hours: +800 9,530	32	1,088	492	1,445	803	5,670
Service Activities: +48 565	7	66	13	126	122	231
Donations: \$68,047	\$1041	\$1266	\$1,538	\$19,637	\$8,978	35,587

36 CLUBS RECORDED : Assaria, Auburn, Delphos, Eudora, Everest, Gardner, Gypsum, KC Downtown, Keats, Lansing, Lawrence, Leavenworth, Leawood, Louisburg, Manhattan Sunflower, Miami County Traveling Lions, Milford, Olathe, Oskaloosa, Overland Park Host, Paola, Randolph, Sabetha, Salina Downtown, Shawnee, Silver Lake, Tonganoxie, Topeka, Topeka Sunflower, Troy, Valley Falls, Wakefield, Waterville, Woodbine, KU Eye Clinic **Thank you Auburn for being the 36th club to record!**



NEW PROGRAMS - Sponsored by Member Satisfaction and Member Service

Through NAMI, Zone Chair Eric Strimple and the Member Satisfaction Committee led the charge to rejuvenate membership in District 17A in the participation of two new programs, the *Membership Challenge Contest* and the *Thank a Local Hero Project*.

With over 20 club entries in the Membership Challenge, the Lansing Lions were the winner! Entries had to include a membership event, finding a new project or partnering on a project. Lansing Lions received a \$100 check for the charity of their choice.

Three clubs were awarded reimbursement toward the *Thank a Local Hero* project. The KCK Downtown Lions celebrated local school staff. The Topeka Sunflower Lions honored local dispatchers and the Shawnee Lions recognized and thanked local school nurses in 21 schools. Thank you Lion Eric and members of the Committee!

OTHER LIONS SERVING AROUND THE DISTRICT. *That's what LIONS do!*

Waterville prepared "Sick Kid Bags" for the Family Resource bus to distribute this summer.

Salina Downtown provided assistance to flood victims and donated books to the Raising Active Wild Readers program.

Keats awarded scholarships to honor deserving seniors.

Louisburg donated to Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Auburn listed the fall paper shredding event and their spring Centennial Peace Garden workday.

Gardner donated to LCIF, Audio Reader, District ALERT program, KS Service Dogs, KS Lions Band Foundation and a local Cub Scout program.

Eudora and Salina Downtown assisted with local blood drives. Eudora contributed to Food Bags 4 Vets too.

Lansing held their annual spring Over The Counter Meds collection for St. Vincents.

KU Eye Center held their quarterly free surgery clinic.

Woodbine and Randolph posted flags for Vets in local cemeteries

OPHost and Silver Lake continued their display of American flags.

Thank you to all the District 17-A Lions for your perseverance, ingenuity, and service during this past 2020-2021 Lions year. PDG Carleen Rajala

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP



Women In Lions AND IN 1987, IT BEGAN . . .

An interview with a different female Lion member will be highlighted for each newsletter.

Margy Sundstrom, Women Membership Chairperson



Women in Lions

An interview with Tonganoxie Lions Club member Diane Smith –

When did you join Lions? I joined in June of 2017. I was inducted into Lions by now PIP Bob Corlew at the Kansas State Convention. Christy Courtney is my sponsor.

Have you held any offices? I just went in as the President for the Tonganoxie Lions Club. Also, last year and this year, I am the District Youth and Children Chair.

What prompted you to join Lions? My sponsor, Christy, talked very highly of Lions and explained what it can do for the community of Tonganoxie and it is a great way to meet new people.

What Service Project do you most enjoy? The free vegetable stand in Tonganoxie in the summer time. We collect the vegetables from the Federal Prison in Leavenworth and hand them out to any resident. I meet so many people in the community and feel like I am making a difference.

In your opinion, do you think there is a lack of female representation in Lions? Not really from my perspective. In our Tonganoxie Lions Club, there are more females than males and now our associate member, Lion Deb Weaverling is an International Director.

What advice do you have for women interested in joining Lions? They absolutely should! Just find a niche that fits your personality and amount of time you can give. By niche, I mean whatever service project, fundraiser or role within your club.

Do you have a female role model (in or out of Lions, and why they are your role model)? Probably a combination of Lions Margy Sundstrom and Deb Weaverling. Lion Margy is such a go getter and has really good ideas in what we can and can't do. She also knows the organization and is a wealth of knowledge for us. Lion Deb has the charisma to be a good leader and understands the value of every member and comes across very inclusive, which is wonderful for a leader in a large group. Both have so much enthusiasm.

What is the most rewarding part of being a Lion? Giving back and knowing everything you are doing with your club makes a difference.

Stay tuned next month for more Women in Lions!

LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL HISTORY TIMELINE

- ❑ **1917:** Association founded in Chicago Illinois, USA on June 7 by businessman Melvin Jones
- ❑ **1920:** Association became international with the formation of the first club in Canada.
- ❑ **1925:** Helen Keller challenges the lions to become her "knights of the blind in the crusade against blindness."
- ❑ **1987:** Lions Club International becomes the first service club to admit women as members.

LIONS CLUB EVENTS

OLATHE LIONS CLUB

CHARTER: OCTOBER 13, 1947

The **Olathe Lions Club** had their first face-to-face meeting in over a year on Monday, June 21, 2021 in the fully equipped executive boardroom, complete with high back leather seating at the new Olathe Indian Creek Public Library! WE are thrilled to finally have a new permanent meeting place.

Throughout the past year, COVID-19 became a basis for a

complete strategy overhaul, much like Lions everywhere. The leaders of our club understood we needed to have an understanding of the capabilities of each individual in our club . . . some strong, some vulnerable. For months, our voices were softer but not quiet, more like in a holding pattern. Our beacon of light never dimmed and behind the scenes there was a constant stir of Lions being Lions, serving or reaching out to others. On Monday, June 21st, our voices finally erupted into a ROAR. We are OLATHE LIONS! Fellowship first though! We got caught up on many things that we had not been able to discuss including sharing photos of new grandchildren, home improvements and other life stories. There were smiles all around, some giggles too, until our Club President Arvin Barrett rang the all impressive bell that brought the meeting to order. The Olathe Lions believe that like *Ralph Waldo Emerson*, *"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm."*

SPECIAL EVENING. SPECIAL GUESTS. PASSING OF THE GAVEL 2021-2022



District Governor Rick Dodson and Zone Chairperson Eric Strimple joined in the celebration and spoke about the District's year of accomplishments in spite of adversity and the ways to continue serving our communities. Their presence, their support and their smiles too, contributed to the Olathe Lions surge in Lionism.



District Governor Dodson presided over the installation of our new slate of officers for 2021-2022. Lion Eddie Townley is our new Club President. Lion Patrick Porter will serve as Vice President. The Lions President plaque was presented to our outgoing

President Arvin Barrett for his impressive 3-year term. A campaign 100 diamond pin was awarded to Lion Becky Burns. Our club was awarded the Club Excellence Award and an LCIF Contribution Chevron. Lion Vivian DeClements was presented with a Certificate of Recognition for marketing and communications. She has served as district and club newsletter editor and publisher for several years. Lion Gary Jennings was awarded the district pin for being the Lion with the longest membership in our club with over 40 years. Although not every member received recognition at this meeting, it is the teamwork, courage, dedication and resilience of every Lion in our club that is the heart of the OLATHE LIONS.

THERE IS A LOT OF POWER IN PLASTIC

OLATHE LIONS collected enough plastic to turn into a bench from TREX with help from Lawrence, Topeka Sunflower and the Overland Park Host Clubs. Our club has also contributed toward the eye care of 15 patients at Family Eye Care and collected and delivered 800 to 900 pair of glasses to our District.



For every need, Olathe Lions will find a way.

PDG John Burns and Olathe Lions Secretary Vivian DeClements contributed to this article.

LIONS CLUB EVENTS - NOTICES

HOPE LIONS Upcoming Event UNITED in HOPE

20th Annual HOPE HERITAGE FESTIVAL

When: Saturday, September, 11, 2021 - 5:00 PM

Where: Hope, KS - Find us on the Parade Route

SPECIAL Events:

Car Show - Turtle Races - Hog & Turkey Race - Pin-Up Contest
Carriage Rides - Rock-Paper-Scissors Tournament

NEW Events: Petting Zoo - Axe Throwing

SERVING: Smoked Pork/Turkey Meal after the parade

PLEASE
JOIN
US!

WE
SERVE.

OLATHE LIONS Upcoming Event

Tickets information
soon.

Annual CHILI & SOUP SUPPER

When: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Where: First Baptist Church

2024 E. 151st Street, Olathe,

ALL YOU CAN EAT CHILI & SOUP SUPPER

SERVING: a variety of soups, our crowd-pleasing Chili,
fresh-baked cornbread, grilled hot dogs and a wide array of
desserts that include many home cooked family recipes.

“ You know
your going to
want some
crackers with
that,” said a
certain little 7
year old at our
last gathering as
he helped at the
serving line.

OLATHE LIONS Upcoming Event

Stay tuned for
ticket info.

OLATHE LIONS HOLIDAY EVENT

When: Saturday, December, 2021 - 11:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Where: New Theatre Restaurant – 9229 Foster, Overland Park,

Saturday Matinee - Seating 11:30 Show time: 12:15 PM

THE NEW THEATRE PRESENTS

Always... Patsy Cline

Featuring Cathy Barnett

We have the opportunity of buying a large block of tickets all
premium seats. For now, we need an approximate head count.
Email vdeclements@gmail.com or PDG John Burns

Approximate cost
per person -

**\$45.00 + Freewill
LCIF Offering
Price includes
Dinner & Show.**

Beverages and
desserts are
Priced separately.

LIONS CLUB STATE DIRECTORY

Let's Stay Connected!

The 2021 - 2022 MULTIPLE DISTRICT LIONS STATE DIRECTORY
is available on the District website. Copy and paste this link for the
digital version: <https://kansaslions.org/state-directory>

Please note recent changes not reflected in the Directory will be updated
in a recurring section in this newsletter.



KANSAS LIONS HUMANITARIAN SERVICE



ALERT TEAM

KANSAS LIONS ALERT TEAM

PDG Dan Funke, MD-17 Lions Alert chairperson, has received an LCIF grant to purchase a new Alert trailer and truck. We now have two road-capable trucks and trailers. One set will be kept at the Lions Headquarters in Wichita, and one will be maintained in the Junction City area. We have one volunteer driver. We could still use other volunteer drivers. The trucks and trailers will be ready to respond to disasters anywhere in the state.

For information about volunteering to drive or to donate supplies for the trailer, please contact PDG Dave Hentges, (913) 433-4761 or email dhentges42@gmail.com.

**HELP
WANTED**

**Driver and
ALERT Trailer
Operator**



LIONS DISTRICT ALERT PROGRAM

For decades, Lions have provided humanitarian assistance to people affected by disasters. Lions serve their communities with a standardized structure especially in times of crisis.

Personal care items needed for MEN and WOMEN

- | | | |
|---------------|---|------------|
| Toothpaste | - | Toothbrush |
| Deodorant | - | Comb |
| Shaving cream | - | Razor |
| Bandages | - | Wash Cloth |
| Shampoo | - | Soap |

Items can be brought to Lions functions.

Contact: PDG David Hentges, Kansas City Downtown Lions Club, District 17A Alert Chairperson at dhentges42@gmail.com

KANSAS LIONS FOUNDATION STATE ALERT

ATTENTION KANSAS LIONS: Please submit your willingness to participate in the ALERT Program in times of emergencies to Lions Alert Chair PDG Dan Funke. Please include your name and complete Address and your primary and secondary cell phone number if applicable and the club you are affiliated with. Please also include any special tools or equipment you have access to such as chainsaw, grill, trailer, etc.

Clubs and individuals are encouraged to send donations to the Kansas Lions Foundation, PO Box 73, Humboldt, KS 66748. In memo, write ALERT.

Contact: PDG Dan Funke, ALERT Kansas State Chairperson at djfunke@cox.net



Audio Reader is available on your Alexa smart speaker! Just enable the Audio Reader skill, then you can ask Alexa to play Audio Reader anytime 24/7. Listen to the Lions newsletters, Veteran's publications, and other local news and entertainment at soundcloud.com/audio-reader.

For more information go to reader.ku.edu.



Giving the Basics

District 17-A will participate in collecting personal care items to be distributed to middle and high school teens. Please collect: bars of soap, laundry detergent, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, lotion, feminine care products and shampoos. Items can be brought to Lions functions. www.givingthebasics.org.

Contact: Lion Diane Smith, 1VP Tonganoxie Lions Dianemariecriswell@gmail.com or 913-449-8286

Registered 501(c)(3)
Charitable Organization

District 17A TECH Zone

District 17A Webmaster

Co-Chairs: Chris Dodson - Irene Haws

District 17A Public Relations

Co-Chairs : Eric Strimple - Eric Tweedy

Connecting With Our Community



The District 17A serves the Lions community not only as an information repository, but provides a central location for Lion events, celebrating your projects and getting up to date thoughts and news from your District Leaders.

There is an events calendar where you can have information about your club activities posted. Send in your flyers, paragraphs and other details to have them entered into the calendar and start spreading the word! There are also spaces for sharing photos from your clubs. Get some great action shots of the events in-progress as well as that awesome final club selfie!

Want to get the latest news from your District Leaders? The site hosts blog posts from them of their musings as well as announcements and after event posts and videos. Don't always feel like frequently checking the site for news in your busy life, no worries! You know you can subscribe to the site blog and be notified automatically when a new post is made by simply entering your email towards the bottom of the page on the left and clicking Subscribe!

Here's more news from your District Leaders! **NEW in Public Relations!** Watch for more interactions from our DISTRICT LIONS PR TEAM as they create, share and exchange information and ideas on these SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS:

Instagram – Twitter – Video Programs - Photographs - Interview and Public Speaking

Lions can use social media to raise awareness about their club in their community. Many people often turn to channels like Facebook and Instagram to learn more about brands and organizations. Creating a social channel for your club gives you visibility on platforms that billions of people use every day.

District 17A Public Relations Team



Lions Club District 17A

<https://www.facebook.com/KansasLionsDistrict17A/>

Lions New Voices – Official Lions Clubs International Facebook group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lionsnewvoices/>

MyLion Forum – created for Lions and Leos to encourage collaboration, help train Members and to post questions about MyLion.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MyLionSupport/about/>

Global Lions Forum – An independent body of Lions that covers a wide range of topics including using modern technology creating enrichment and more fun!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lciCyberClubs/about/>



KANSAS LIONS WEBSITES

Kansas State Lions

www.kansaslions.org

Facebook Group: Kansas Lions

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1638162259829705/> Email: KansasLions@aol.com

District 17K

<https://kansaslions17k.org/>

District 17A

www.kslionsdistrict17a.org

District 17N

www.kslions17n.org

KANSAS LIONS DISTRICT 17A

CURRENT EVENTS and UPCOMING DATES



103rd Lions Clubs International Convention News!

Watch LCICon Highlights and meet Douglas X. Alexander, your new International President. Find his background and history with Lions at: <https://lcon.lionsclubs.org/>

Congratulations, Debra Weaverling! Follow her journey as your Lions Clubs International 2021 - 2023 International Director. Kansas Lions serve with heart!

DISTRICT CABINET MEETINGS

August 14, 2021 First Cabinet Meeting - Manhattan, KS
November 6, 2021 Second Cabinet Meeting - Wamego, KS
February 12, 2022 Third Cabinet Meeting - Lawrence, KS
June 11, 2022 Fourth Cabinet Meeting - Leawood, KS

STATE COUNCIL MEETINGS

August 5-6, 2021 First State Council Meeting – Wichita
October 23 or 30, 2021 Second State Council Meeting - Location - TBD
February 4-6, 2022 Third State Council Meeting and Mid-Winter Rally – Salina, KS
June 3-4, 2022 Fourth State Council Meeting and State Convention – Pittsburg, KS

MID-WINTER RALLY 2022

February 4-6, 2022 Hilton Garden Inn, Salina, KS

STATE CONVENTION 2022

June 3-4, 2022 Pittsburg, KS

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

17K March 25-26, 2022 ... Hays, KS - ID Justin Faber
17A April 1-2, 2022 TBD, KS - ID Diane Pitts
17N April 8-9, 2022 Emporia, KS - ID Ken Ibarer



Montreal - City in Québec, Canada

2022 Lions International Convention Relocated

Due to the ongoing challenges presented by the coronavirus (COVID-19), the board of directors has voted to relocate the 2022 Lions International Convention from New Delhi, India to Montréal, Canada. The 2022 international convention will take place from June 24-28, 2022. As plans come together, we will be sure to communicate them to the Lions of the world. - Dr. Jung-Yul Choi



UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

June 24-28, 2022 ... Montreal, Canada
July 7-11, 2023 ... Boston, Massachusetts, USA
June 21-25, 2024 .. Melbourne, Australia
July 4-8, 2025: Mexico City, Mexico
July 3-7, 2026: Atlanta, Georgia, USA
July 2-6, 2027: Washington, DC, USA
June 23-27, 2028: . Singapore



USA/CANADA FORUM

September 9-11, 2021 . Des Moines, IA
September 15-17, 2022 Calgary, Alberta Canada
September 14-15, 2023 . Reno, Nevada
September - 2024 - Louisville, Kentucky