



District Dialogue
 District 17-A
 District Governor Richard Webster

Spring is in the air! Amazing how time flies when you are having fun and keeping busy. This year has been a joy for me! I enjoy seeing so many of you and participating in your activities! This is a great time of year for Lions and Lions projects! I want to thank so many who have worked extremely hard to make this Lions year special.

First of all I want to recognize the fantastic job my Governor’s team has done in their constant communications and attentiveness to the needs of District 17A clubs. 2nd VDG Margy Sundstrom and 1st VDG Caroline Arter not only have made numerous club visits but have also awarded the special recognitions for service and membership anniversaries. Thank you for helping recognize these important milestones and helping achieve one of my primary goals for our District. Whether it has been new member inductions, Officer installations or attending events in support of your club both Caroline and Margy are making numerous visits which support and help keep the team winning!

My Cabinet has been fantastic! Zone meetings have been exceptional this year! I want to thank my Region and Zone Chairs for their attention to detail and devotion to the process! I have attended several Region and Zone events and each one has been rewarding and inspirational!

GMT Kim Baker has spearheaded our efforts to recognize and retain members who have reached important milestones and sponsored new members. Kim has helped me implement my programs to reward those who sponsor new members and increase our numbers. GMA Bobby Duval has worked with struggling clubs and helped our rebuilding efforts for clubs that have needed support. IPDG Vania Castro and her Women in Lions team have created a program that is getting attention Internationally! We are innovators and leaders for Lions recognition and recruitment for Women. District 17A is maintaining our membership numbers and implementing the Global membership approach.

New Voices have appeared all over our District as we move forward into the future! We are going to need their energy and innovations. Leadership from Beth McKenzie, Lori Kessinger, Lovena Blodgett, Jennifer Thrash, Ann Strunk, Daryl McFarland and many others have contributed to the success of our District. The future is bright because of your Leadership!

Our Public Relations team has reached new heights and we have a foundation to build upon for the ever expanding future of social media and exposure through today’s constant contact resources. District 17A is visible through the additional efforts of local club newsletters like Neal Nichols Overland Park Host club, Sharon Teagarten-King’s Waterville Club and John Thompson’s Topeka Lions. We are shining our Lions Pride for everyone to see and enjoy.

District 17A enjoys the Leadership of PDG Rick Dodson our Treasurer and District Administrator his mentorship has made a huge impact on the success and development of several programs like the updated directories, Convention preparations, LCIF participation, New membership fee reimbursement and many others. PDG Rich has done a wonderful job administrating the many programs he oversees. Our District is stronger because of his efforts!

Leadership development is flourishing. In person and on line training has occurred throughout this Lions year. We have challenged every club and member to grow in this important area by completing Lions University degrees and Learning from the Lions portal resources. We also have placed a strong emphasis on attending in -person Leadership training by making scholarship money available for those who wish to attend.

I have so many to be thankful for in this District. I have not mentioned several important names of deserving people who have made our year so successful. I will continue this next month. We are in the middle of elections and I want to encourage every club to participate and select your delegates to vote in this important process!



And so, it will be Spring:

When we read the newsletter on the internet. Maybe we'll see early flowers, daffodils and crocus, tulips – trees budding. I hear more activity from birds near my parents' home – a scrub jay has been particularly vocal, robins are bobbing along. Everything will be fresh, new.

As Lions, we will reassess our assets – funding, projects, meetings, leadership – most importantly our members. How do we engage our members? Are meetings fun? How do we promote deeper knowledge of Lionism? How do we recruit/train/retain both long term and new members?

A few thoughts on membership: Recently, I have begun following Katie Scott on Facebook. She is a self-described furniture painter. Paint she does. More than that she and her husband rescue furniture from the side of the road that is headed for the landfill, purchase from thrift stores, and search out Facebook Market Place. Some of the pieces appear as if the land fill is the appropriate place. Katie cleans the piece – explaining every step, sands, shellacs the finish before painting or staining. In the end, the piece of furniture has a new life and maybe ever a new purpose.

In the last few days, the following were received from Oak Brook as encouragement and as ideas:

Just Ask! Fostering a Culture of Recruitment

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NqiLzyzEmUc> (Brian Sheehan, International President)

I look forward to seeing you all in Salina for our District 17 A Convention!

Thank you!

Caroline Arter.

1st VDG, District 17 A

EARTH DAY APRIL 22, 2023 – Our environment is more than just our background. It is where we live. Lions are committed to caring for our earth. There are so many ideas for Earth Day. Plant trees, clean up along the roads, challenge all Lions in your club or district to add at least one green habit, recycle toxic items. The list goes on and on. Go to <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/blog/23-environmental-service-project-ideas> to see what would work for you and your club.



Margy Sundstrom

2nd Vice District Governor

Margaret1226@gmail.com

BEN APELAND INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR

Ben Apeland from Bozeman, Montana, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of Lions Clubs International at the Association's 104th International Convention, June 24 through June 28, 2022 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Director Apeland has more than 50 years of experience in retail jewelry as the owner of Benjamin Jewelers. His many responsibilities include jewelry design, repair, sales, purchasing, managing and accounting. He maintains a strong reputation as a professional business owner that is well recognized within the industry and throughout his community. In 1974, after seeing the Bozeman Gallatin Empire Lions Club actively serving within his community, he asked one of the members about Lions. He liked what he heard and has been serving with them ever since. He has held a number of offices within the association including Multiple District Council Chairperson and Multiple District Finance Chairperson. He served as a DGE School Facilitator for eight years and is a trustee on the Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation. Additionally, he serves as part of the Montana District 37 friendship committee, District Governor's advisory team, PDG association and one of the convention advisors. In recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards including being an honored recipient of the Tom Lehman Fellowship. He is the recipient of multiple International President's Certificate of Appreciation, two International President's Medals and the International President's Leadership Medal. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. In addition to his Lions activities, Director Apeland is active in numerous professional and community organizations including the American Legion, the Federation of Eagles and the Jewelers of America. He is also a past executive director of the Montana-Wyoming Jewelers Association. Director Apeland and his partner in service, PDG Christine Lank, who is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have two children and three grandchildren.





**DISTRICT 17A CONVENTION T-SHIRT
order form**

WEAR YOUR T-SHIRT IN THE PARADE!

\$15.00 ea

Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL
(unisex sizes)

\$20.00 ea

3XL, 4XL, 5XL, 6XL or 7XL
(unisex sizes)

Color Options:

Y = Yellow
B = Blue



Name _____

Club Name _____

Qty _____ Shirt size _____ Color _____ price _____

Qty _____ Shirt size _____ Color _____ price _____

Amount enclosed _____

Shirts will be available to pick up at the Convention

Make check payable to: **District 17-A Convention**

Mail T-shirts order form and payment to:

Lion Irene Haws
P.O. Box 2804
Topeka KS 66601



Kansas Women in Lions Hybrid Symposium is a platform for women in Lions to lift each other up and get things done- **Lion Magazine**
Celebration of The International Women’s Day this March 8, 2023

“Never bend your head. Always hold it high and look the world straight in the eye.” Hellen Keller

I am honored to serve as the Women in Lions Chairman for District 17A. Our goal and priority in our Lions district this fiscal year has been to attain 40% female membership. Currently, it stands at about 38%. We have been implementing an effective action plan to increase female membership and retain existing members which is extremely important to our district. This has included organizing the Second Women in Lions Hybrid Symposium - “Featuring Women in Leadership”. It was a vibrant and inspiring event that involved women from multiple districts, nations, and constitution areas. It was deemed a success again this year.

We are thrilled that this amazing event which celebrates women in leadership was selected to be published in the **Lion Magazine** to celebrate The International Women’s Day this March 8, 2023. Please [click here](#) to see this article.

Let’s remember that the most important element of our **remarkable and tremendous success is you**. You, along with all district 17A Women in Lions, are responsible for our collective success! It’s inspiring to know that we have many female Lions who practice a true representation of kindness towards others. We are the strongest when we genuinely cheer each other on. “There is absolutely nothing we can’t accomplish together.” Teamwork makes the dream work. Roar Lions!

“As Women in Lions, we are always ready to stand up, think outside of the box, and do whatever it takes to make a difference in humanity and humanitarian needs.” – IPDG & Women in Lions Dr. Vania Castro

“My legacy is that we will keep building bridges into the future and our hearts will lead the way. Together we can make changes!” – IPDG & Women in Lions Chairman Dr. Vania Castro

I am proud to be a Lion and serve humanity. If there is anything I can do to help you or your club, please don’t hesitate to contact me (drvaniacastro@gmail.com).

Global Leadership Team Coordinator – Irene Haws

The Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute at Maryville, MO is July 28-30, 2023.

The deadline for a reduced price is April 30, 2023. This Link has all the details.

<https://kslionsdistrict17a.org/2023/03/15/leadership-institutes-discounted-registrations-due-by-april-30-2023/>

**Theme Baskets at the District Convention support scholarships for Leadership Training:
Theme ideas for the basket auction - Choose a theme or create your own basket!**

Home Cookin' - cook books, spices, utensils, recipe cards, recipe holder, potholders, cutting board, fresh bread, etc.

Movie Night - all you need for a night of movies at home: popcorn, chocolate, soda pop, lap blanket, candy, double wall insulated tumblers, candy and more candy!!!!

Picnic party - cooler, crackers, summer sausage, cheese, condiments, wine and beer, picnic blanket, knife and cutting board, plastic glasses and bottles of water and cloth napkins serves two or you can make it for more.

Beverage bundle - who doesn't like a little fizz (Pepsi, Root Beer, Sprite, Diet coke, Orange Crush, Grape Crush – you get the idea) plus bottled teas, Kool-Aid packets (regular and sugar free) a plastic cooler and plastic red solo cups - and why not a jar of roasted peanuts!

Pamper me please! - a selection of bubble bath, lotions, body spray, back scrubber, nail file, hand lotion and facial make-up remover, tea light candles of various scents with lighter, and sparkling white grape juice (non-alcohol) thick white bath towel and white wash cloth. Or a gift card to JC Penny to buy your own bath towel set. If you feel like throwing in a bottle of wine, why not!

**You are welcome to come up with a theme basket of your own liking,
I hear chocolate or sports memorabilia is very popular!**



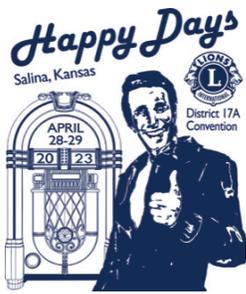
Thank you in advance for your support to help grow Lion Leaders in District 17A

Reserve a spot for your basket today!

Make your RSVP for theme basket by notifying: Irene Haws: irene@idesigns.com (preferred) or call/text 785-249-1913

Please include a list of items in basket and approximate value when you drop it off.

**Drop basket off by 9 am Saturday the 29th in the foyer of the Convention Center,
Auction ends at 11:30 am. Winners of the Theme baskets must pick up the basket by 2:30 pm**



CHECKS MADE OUT TO: District 17A Convention
 Exhibit table or display (no cost). Yes _____
 Contact information:
 Phone: _____ email: _____
 Meal reservations due by April 14th, 2023
 *List any dietary needs: _____

Mail to: PDG Rick Dodson 306 Bambi CT Lansing, Ks. 66043
 Email: dodson23@gmail.com For additional information.
 Registration and meals must be paid in Advance. Venmo available by calling Rick Dodson 913-240-5302
 Registration for convention at:
 Friday 5:30pm at the Garage Museum,
 Saturday 8:00 am at the Convention Center entry Hilton Garden Inn

Friday Entertainment.....Free
 Ritchie Ghostking Show.....Free
 Friday Parade.....Free
 (Food Truck).....Out of pocket
 Friday Garage Museum (ASH & 5th St.) tour and social event.....included in Registration
 Friday evening meal provided by the Assaria Lions Club at the Garage Museum.
 Fonzie look alike contestFree
 Best Cheerleader outfit.....Free

Friday City Lights Parking Lot and Stage - ASH & SANTE FE
 Friday Parade registration City Lights parking lot
 Friday Parade assembly ELM St. at SANTE FE

Saturday Convention Hilton Garden Inn 3320 S. 9th Street
 Convention facility opens at 7 am we should dismiss about 2:30 p

Saturday meal: *BBQ Brisket with Baked Potato and Buttered corn, Dinner rolls, salad and Cheese cake for dessert. Ice tea, coffee or water. Special dietary needs or vegan available**

Hotel accommodations available with Lions Club discount through: March 19th at Hilton Garden Inn 3320 S. 9th S. Reservations: 785-309-0440...Discounted Rate \$119.00
 Registration includes: Admission to the "Garage Museum " Friday evening April 28th.
 Door prizes during the convention.

Candidates for Office & Foundation Directors – Kansas Lions District 17-A, 2023-2024

Lions of District 17-A have expressed their intentions to run for the following office positions within the District and have provided nomination and endorsements from their fellow District Lions. The order of listing for 2nd Vice District Governor candidates is based on when their letter of intention was received by District Nominations Chair Michele Reese. Voting will be electronic from 4 p.m. Monday, April 17 to 6 p.m. Sunday, April 22.

Reminder – Only delegates in good standing with their clubs will be allowed to vote; each club is allowed one selected delegate for each 10 Lions members (one vote per every 10 members with at least one year of membership and one additional delegate for Club members numbering a fraction of 10 years). *Example: a Club with 23 members (each with over one year of registered membership) is*

allowed two delegates for the first 20 members and another delegate for the additional three members for a total of three voting delegates.

Additionally, each Past District Governor in good standing is entitled to a vote. The deadline for submitting delegate(s) name and email address is Saturday, April 15, 2023, to either Michele Reese (michelereese.mr@gmail.com) or John Burns (pdgjohn2019@gmail.com). Submitted/registered delegates will receive instructions for electronic voting before April 17.

LIONS CANDIDATES FOR 2023-2024 DISTRICT POSITIONS

DISTRICT GOVERNOR: 1st Vice District Governor Lion Caroline Arter

Nomination Letter: Lion Laurie Mefford, President Leavenworth Lions Club

I, Laurie Mefford, as President of The Leavenworth Lions Club and Board am writing today to officially nominate Caroline Arter for District 17-A Governor. The Leavenworth Lions Club Board unanimously voted yesterday to enthusiastically support Lion Caroline Arter in her candidacy for the position.

Lion Caroline has served with distinction as the 1st Vice District Governor while maintaining an active and invaluable role in her club leadership position. We are excited to see all that she can accomplish as District Governor.

Endorsement Letter: Lion Jack Weaver, Leavenworth Lions Club

Please accept this Letter of Endorsement for the election of 1st District Governor Caroline Arter for her election as District Governor of District 17A for 2023-2024.

1st District Governor Arter is a staunch member of the Leavenworth Lions Club and has a sterling record as a member of her club. During her years of service to our Lions Club she has amassed years of service that includes having been a Vice President and ultimately the President of our club, where she has displayed her outstanding leadership in managing the many activities of our club.

Managing the Leavenworth Lions Club is no mean task as it is the largest Lions Club in our state and among the largest in the nation with a membership of over 168 members, meets weekly with a speaker at every meeting, and multiple service projects each and every year. Through her leadership and management abilities the club ran smoothly and made us proud of our ability to provide service Internationally, Nationally, across the State and in our local Community. Having completed her club leadership roles she has been the club Peace Poster and LCIF Chair having the club become a Model Club in the latter role. She has also served our club as co-Membership Chair and is a leader in bringing new members into our club. Caroline is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

She has continued her leadership and service role at the District as a Zone Chair, the Peace Poster Chair and as LCIF Chair. Not content to serve just locally she has also served the Multiple District as its Peace Poster Chair and on the Audit Committee.

Her training for the role of District Governor has been continuous throughout her tenure as a Lion. Caroline has been in training locally for the roles of club Vice President and President, followed by the Great Plains Leadership Institute and most recently by training for the roles of First Vice District Governor and District Governor Course at Saint Charles, Illinois.

Caroline is not a stranger to management assignments in her non-Lion life having served as manager of American Red Cross Chapters and at the National American Red Cross level as wellness manager of a Homeless Shelter in California. She was also the Class Leader for the Leadership Leavenworth-Lansing Course in the local community.

Caroline is a natural leader and believes in service to others. I have personally witnessed many of her roles in our Lions Clubs and the enthusiasm that she brings to getting jobs she undertakes completed.

I would like to provide her my highest endorsement for election to the role of District Governor for Lions District 17A for 2023-2024.

1ST VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR: 2nd Vice District Governor Lion Margy Sundstrom

Nomination Letter: Lion Diane Smith, President Tonganoxie Lions Club

The officers and members of the Tonganoxie Lions Club voted unanimously to endorse the candidacy of Second VDG Margy Sundstrom for the position of First Vice District Governor to serve District 17A during Lion year 2023-2024.

Second VDG Margy is a member in good standing and has served with distinction. She has been a Lion since 2005 serving most every Club office and has served as District Secretary for ID Deb Weaverly and PDG John Burns.

Our Club knows that Second VDG Margy has the experience and dedication to effectively represent District 17A. We, therefore, support Second VDG Margy as a candidate for the position of First Vice District Governor as she continues to serve our district.

Nomination Letter: PCC Beverly Nichols, Overland Park Host Lions Club

It is my pleasure to nominate Margy Sundstrom for the position of First Vice District Governor, District 17-A, in the upcoming district election.

Lion Margy has been a Lion for 18 years, joining the Denton (Texas) High Noon Lions Club in 2005. During her years as a Texas Lion she served in a variety of roles, including secretary of both her club and her district. She was very active in starting the Argyle Lions Club. She was recognized for her efforts by being named Club Rookie of the Year, Club Lion of the Year, and District Lion of the Year. She was awarded a Melvin Jones Fellowship while in Texas.

Lions Mike and Margy moved to Tonganoxie, Kansas in the spring of 2014. Because there was no Lions Club in Tonganoxie at that time, they attended the Lions Clubs International Convention in Toronto as part of the Texas delegation. PDG Neal and I met Margy in June of 2014 while standing in line waiting for the parade to start. She approached us, in complete Texas parade regalia, to ask us if we knew a club close to Tonganoxie they might join. We definitely had a suggestion to make! Two weeks later the Sundstroms transferred to Overland Park Host Lions Club.

Lion Margy has been an active Kansas Lion from the beginning of her transfer to our state. Her first activity was helping to man the Mobile Screening Unit at a membership event held by our club in July 2014. She served as a vice president in our club and immediately became active in District 17-A and MD-17. In our district she has served as Cabinet Secretary, Youth & Children Chair, Women's Membership Chair, Global Membership Team Chair, and a board member of the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation. At the state level she has served on the Long Range Planning and Audit Committees. In

the current year she is serving as Second Vice District Governor of District 17A. In that capacity she has worked diligently and enthusiastically to support district clubs, both in official visits and in attendance at service and fundraising projects.

For three years Lions Margy and Mike participated enthusiastically in all Overland Park Lions activities, driving almost 70 miles round trip for each meeting or activity. While active as Overland Park Lions they had a long-term goal of starting a Lions Club in Tonganoxie. They worked diligently at this—assisted by Lions Neal and Beverly Nichols and Lions Ron and Deb Weaverling—during the 2016-2017 Lions' year. The Tonganoxie Lions Club was chartered in July 2017, with Lion Margy as the first president. Margy's efforts at the district level have not diminished the energy she expends in activities of her home club as the club seeks to serve citizens of Tonganoxie.

Lion Margy has invested in continuing education as a Lion by attending the Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute, the Emerging Lions Leadership Institute, the Advanced Lions Leadership Institute, and multiple USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums and Lions Club International Conventions. For her service efforts she has been awarded four Presidential Certificates of Appreciation and two Presidential Leadership Medals.

Lion Margy is well qualified to lead our district, and I am pleased to place her name in nomination for the office of First Vice District Governor.

Endorsement Letter: PID Bill Phillipi, Marysville Lions Club

It is indeed my pleasure to second the nomination of MARGY SUNDSTROM as 1st Vice Governor of District 17 A. I have known Lion Margy since she transferred her membership from Texas to Kansas several years ago, and I have found her to be an outstanding Lion. She leads by example and is not afraid to accept new ideas. Lion Margy will make a GREAT 1st Vice District Governor for our district!

2ND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR: Lion Irene Haws

Nomination Letter: PCC Diane Hentges, Kansas City Downtown Lions Club

Irene Haws became a Lion in 2001. I have known her since 2006. She has been an active, caring, and creative member of the Topeka Lions Club. As a member of the Topeka Lions, Irene has served the club as Membership Director, Board Member, Foundation President, Foundation Board, Vice Presidents, President for a total of four years, Program Coordinator, Peace Poster Contest Coordinator, Race Director for Journey for sight 5K/10K race, Facebook administrator and website designer/administrator. You can also find Lion Irene at the many club service activities. In addition to sponsoring many new Lions, Irene was instrumental in starting and mentoring the Topeka Twilight Lions, a branch club of the Topeka Lions. Her club has honored her as Lion of the Year and in 2008 presented her with A Melvin Jones Fellow.

At the district she has served twice as Zone Chair. She currently serves the district as GLT, a team member of women in Lions, co-webmaster and serves on the district PR committee. In the past she also served on the Constitution & Bylaws Committee and helped produce the District Convention Program for PDG Neal Nichols convention.

Irene is a graduate of GPLLI and currently working on her bachelors and master from Lions University. She has attended the USA/Canada Leadership Forum and co-facilitated with PIP Jimmy Ross,

Global Advocacy for Change. She is a graduate of Pittsburg State University with a degree in commercial graphics in print technology.

When not busy with Lions she serves as Marketing & Events Coordinator for Fidelity State Bank & Trust in Topeka. She has a grown son who teaches German at Olathe South High School in Olathe, Kansas. Hobbies Include dancing (country line, ballroom, and swing), outdoor adventures, painting (watercolors) and learning German.

It is my pleasure and honor to nominate Lion Irene Haws for 2nd.Vice President District 17A.

First Endorsement Letter: Lion Stephen Page, President Topeka Lions Club

I am writing to you on behalf of the Topeka Lions Club to give an enthusiastic endorsement for the nomination of Irene Haws for the position of District 17A 2nd Vice District Governor.

Her lengthy biography reflects over 20 years of impressive service to her Club, her District and to Lions International. But beyond her vast experience and knowledge, I would emphasize her leadership, initiative, and ability to work with others.

Lion Irene spearheaded the formation of the Twilight Club, a branch club of the Topeka Lions Club. Since establishing the Twilight Club, she has recruited a number of new members and she continues to act as the Membership Chair of the parent club. Her devotion to Lions International, District 17A and her Club has been remarkable.

The Topeka Lions Club gives its wholehearted endorsement to the candidacy of Irene Haws.

Second Endorsement Letter: PDG, Cabinet Treasurer and District Administrator Rick Dodson, Lansing Lions Club

I second the nomination of Lion Irene Haws for the position of 2023-2024 Second Vice District Governor.

I have known and respected Lion Irene for many years. She has been an integral part of the Topeka Lions Club. She has taken on increasing leadership responsibility in the District - most recently serving as a Zone Chairperson and GLT Coordinator. I have been very impressed with her work ethic and creativity.

Not only is she serving with distinction in her club, but she has added the responsibility of organizing the Topeka Lions Club Twilight Branch. I also observed her recently when she was a co-presenter with PIP Jimmy Ross at the USA/Canada Leadership Forum. She was poised, prepared, and comfortable on the International stage.

Lion Irene will provide amazing leadership for our district, and again, I highly recommend and endorse her for the position of 2023-2024 2nd Vice District Governor.

2ND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR: Lion Eric Tweedy

Nomination Letter: Lion Ron Weaverling, Leavenworth Lions Club

It is an honor and a privilege to place into nomination as a candidate for the position of 17A Second Vice District Governor, the name of Eric Tweedy of the Eudora Lions Club.

Eric possesses superb critical thinking skills; outstanding communication skills and he is blessed with an abundance of creativity. In addition, I have found him to be a gifted active listener; a requisite skill in leading our district forward in the Lion years 2023 and beyond. Lion Eric has a thorough

understanding and mastery of the leadership skills necessary to spearhead the changes we must embrace to lead our service organization of volunteers into the middle of this decade.

At the Club level, Lion Eric has held positions as President, Vice President, Membership Chair, LCIF Coordinator, and Marketing Chair. During his tenure as president, his club had some of the most innovative service and fundraising programs that I have witnessed to date. Always the service minded leader, Eric serves or served our District 17A as a Parliamentarian, Zone Chair, Public Relations Chair, and as the Chief Kindness officer for diversity and inclusion.

In recognition of his outstanding leadership, Lion Eric has been awarded the LCI Presidential Leadership Medal and twice his leadership directly lead to the Club Excellence Awards in 2020-21 and 2021-2022. His cutting edge Leadership class at the 2022 USA Canada Forum was acknowledged as one of the best new classes at the forum. He was recognized with the Facilitator Certificate of Appreciation.

On his own initiative, Eric has completed both the Lions University Bachelor and Master Certificates as well as the Certified Guiding Lions certificate. This is a direct reflection on his commitment to Lions and lifelong learning. He is also a graduate of the Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute at Maryville, Missouri.

Always leading by example, Lion Eric is a Progressive Melvin Jones. He embodies the essential leadership qualities of competence, commitment, candor, and courage so necessary to move our district to an even greater level of performance and membership growth. Again, it is indeed an honor and a privilege to nominate Eric Tweedy as candidate for the Second Vice District Governor of District 17A. I wholeheartedly recommend that you place your vote for Eric on this crucial election. A vote on his behalf, is a vote for progress in our district.

First Endorsement: Lion Carol Shaffer, President Eudora Lions Club

The officers and members of the Eudora Lions Club voted unanimously to endorse the candidacy of Lion Eric Tweedy for the position of Second Vice District Governor to serve District 17A during Lion year 2023-24.

Lion Eric is a member in good standing and has served with distinction in his club, District, and the State of Kansas.

The Eudora Lions Club knows that Lion Eric has the experience and dedication to effectively represent District 17A. We, therefore, proudly support Lion Eric as a candidate for the position of Second Vice District Governor as he continues to serve our District.

Second Endorsement: Lion Eric Strimple, Secretary Eudora Lions Club

It is my honor and privilege to second the nomination for my husband, Lion Eric Tweedy, of the Eudora Lions Club for the second Vice District Governor candidate for the 2023-2024 Lion year.

Lion Eric is a true example of servant leadership, with his focus on inclusion, diversity, and change for the future. Aside from these strong traits, Lion Eric is compassionate about the wellbeing of his fellow man; levelheaded when it comes to the path, he takes to achieve the greatest good; Is not afraid to think outside the box or pivot his plans or visions when needed, for the better good of all.

Finally, Lion Eric is a person that will make you feel important in any interaction you have with him; he will take the time to truly open his mind to your needs, ideas, and desires to help move District 17-A forward collaboratively, while respecting the history put in place by so many Lions before him.

I know Lion Eric will represent all Lions of 17-A and share his heart and understanding while moving District 17-A forward in service at every chance possible, while providing a different prospective.

In addition to the District Officer positions above, there are open positions for District representation on the following Kansas Lions foundations (state level). The candidates listed have expressed their intentions to serve as a director of the identified foundation, if so elected. They are listed in order of when their letters of intent were sent to the Nominations Chair.

Kansas Lions Band Foundation (2 positions)/Term 2023-2025

PCC Bobby Duvall, Topeka Sunflower Lions Club

Write In Candidate _____

Kansas Lions Foundation (1 position)/Term 2023-2026

IPDG Dr. Vania Castro, Leawood Lions Club

Lion Ron Weaverling

Lion Cheryl Kerns

Kansas Lions Sight Foundation (3 positions)/Term 2023-2026

Bill Witt, Manhattan Lions Club

Michael Sundstrom, Tonganoxie Lions Club

DG Richard Webster, Keats Lions Club

ID Deb Weaverling, Leavenworth Lions Club

Election 2023

Election for 2023 - 2024 Lions year

District 17A

Voting for Officers and Directors will be online this year to accommodate more voters who will not attend the District convention. The election will launch at 4:00 P.M. on Monday, April 17th, and will end at 6:00 P.M. on Sunday, April 23rd. Each club will choose the delegates to vote (1 delegate for every 10 members and 1 for a major portion thereof; delegates are figured by the number of Lions who have been in the club a year and a day. All clubs in good standing with even fewer than 10 members get a vote. “Good Standing” means all dues have been paid.) and email their name and email address to Lion Michelle Reese (michelereese.mr@mail.com) and/or PDG John Burns (pdgjohn2019@gmail.com). When the Election Runner is launched, those delegates will receive an invitation to vote. After the picks are chosen, a note will appear that says “Do you want to submit your votes.?” This is in case you want to change anything. If not, submit your votes. You will receive a receipt of your votes and a thanks for voting. The names and email addresses of all delegates must be emailed to Lion Michele or PDG John Burns no later than Saturday, April 15th.

Monthly GMT Report

Please welcome the following New Lions who joined in February 2023!

Name	Club	Sponsor
Pamela Larkin	Atchison	Kelly Thompson
Loran Dean Mercer	Everest	Al Kimmi
Charlene Whitebird	Everest	Al Kimmi
Debbie Lair	Kansas City Downtown	Diane Hentges
Anthony McNeill	Lansing	Robert Tolle
Robert Tolle	Lawrence	
Nancy Lillegard	Leavenworth	Meagan Drew
Sarah Maass	Manhattan Sunflower	Tom Maxwell
Anglela Thompson	Minneapolis Evening	Robert Thompson
Jeff Shafer	Minneapolis Evening	Robert Thompson
Tara Newman	Oskaloosa	Paula Farmer-Warriner
Robert Jones	Overland Park Host	Grant Rogers
Emily Steimel-Handy	Topeka	Irene Haws

Congratulations to Holly Pittman, from Zone 2, for 4 of the new Lions!

Anniversaries for March 2023:

20 years: William Thompson, Concordia.

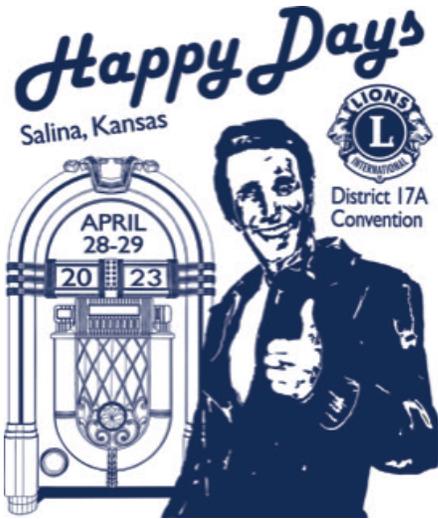
10 years: Lora Royer, Effingham; Aaron Overlease, Solomon; Jason Sokol, University of Kansas Eye Center.

And special recognition to: Charles Weickert, Marysville and Marvin Peterson, Concordia for 54 years; Lynn VanMeter, Gypsum for 55 years of membership.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kim Baker GMT

 **Membership Sponsor Winners!**
Congratulations to Holly Pittman and Hythem Houdah who tied as winners of our sponsorship contest! Holly is a member of the Leavenworth Club and Hythem is a member of the University of Kansas Eye Center Club. Both sponsored four new members. Both will receive a free convention registration including the Saturday banquet. Thanks! For all you do!





District 17A Convention Service Project

At the convention close on April 29th we will be looking for volunteers to help pack some boxes for the “ Packages for Warriors”

We anticipate our convention will wrap up about 2:30 pm to allow those traveling to reach their homes before nightfall. After the convention approx. 2:45 pm

Those willing and able will be welcomed to help load packages for service men and women deployed around the world. We will use the unused individually packaged items donated for the Hospitality room and items donated for this convention.

Lions are encouraged to bring individual wrapped snacks for men and women deployed in our country's service.

We will use the convention space to pack these boxes and the boxes will be provided by “Packages for Warriors”

Those who have loved ones deployed may bring their contact information and be considered in receiving one of these care packages. Cash contributions will be accepted to pay for postage.

*Thank you for your donations and consideration for our service men and women.
“Where there's a need there is a Lion”*

Theme's for theme basket Auction

Choose a theme or create your own basket!

Home Cookin' - cook books, spices, utensils, recipe cards, recipe holder, pot holders, cutting board, fresh bread, etc.

Movie Night - all you need for a night of movies at home: popcorn, chocolate, soda pop, lap blanket, candy, double wall insulated tumblers, more candy and more candy!!!!

Picnic party - cooler, crackers, summer sausage, cheese, condiments, wine and beer, picnic blanket, knife and cutting board, plastic glasses and bottles of water and cloth napkins serves four.

Beverage bundle - who doesn't like a little fizz (Pepsi, root beer, sprite, diet coke,) plus bottled teas, kool-aid packets (regular and sugar free) a plastic cooler and plastic red solo cups - and why not a jar of roasted peanuts!

Pamper me please! - a selection of bubble bath, lotions, body spray, back scrubber, nail file, hand lotion and facial make-up remover, tea light candles on various scents and sparkling white grape juice (non- alcohol) thick white bath towel and white wash cloth. Or a gift card to JC Penny to buy your own bath towel set.

**Make your RSVP for theme basket by notifying:*

Irene Haws : irene@idesigns.com or call: 785-249-1913

Please include a list of items in basket and approximate value.

**Drop basket off by 9 am Saturday the 29th in the foyer of the Convention Center,*

Auction ends at 11:30 Am must pick up basket by 2:30 pm

GLT challenge between now and April 30, 2023

(Let's see how many 17A Lions can complete a short video on LEARN)

1. Login in to MyLion:

Each Lion should have a username and password to access www.lionsclubs.org If you need help setting this up please reach out to me for assistance: Irene Haws, irene@idesigns.com or 785-249-1913. Or ask your club secretary for your membership number to register your account on Lionsclubs.org.

2. Visit the LEARN Module on the Member Portal:

Lions members and officers can login and access LEARN on the Member Portal to explore the training available.

Log in as a member on www.lionsclubs.org



MyLion



MyLCI



Insights

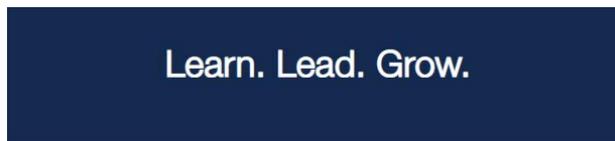


Learn



Shop
Take it

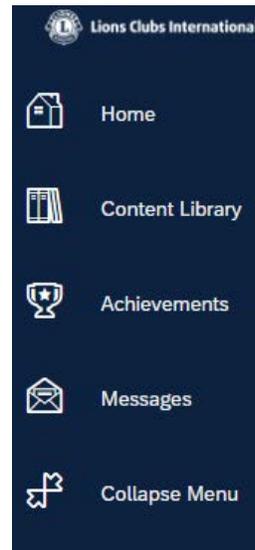
3. Access Lions Learning Center (click on the yellow box)



Online Training

- Take free online courses
- Encourage your personal growth
- Access leadership tools and insights

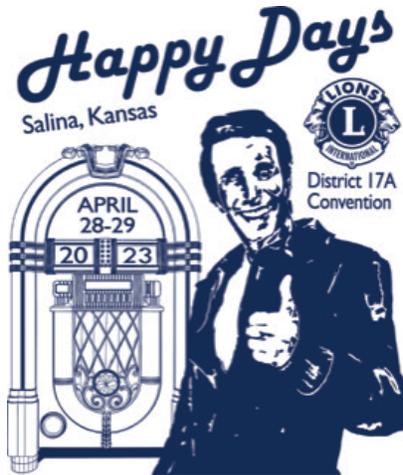
Lions Learning Center



4. Review the Content Library.

Reminder, The Great Plains Lions Leadership application early discount ends April 30. Information was available in the February District Dialog Newsletter. **This is especially good for newly elected club officers.**

<https://kslionsdistrict17a.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Dist-Dialogue-February-2023.pdf>



We are taking orders for T-Shirts for the Happy Days Convention in Salina. S - 2XL - \$15

From the Editor

Here is the April 2023 District Dialogue. If you missed the deadline, the 15th of the month before the newsletter is scheduled to come out, you can re-write your article to make it more timely and send it for the next issue. Or if that is not possible perhaps your item could be put on the Facebook page. Please send every item in an email, not a PDF. I need to be able to resize and re-shape most items to fit the space and a PDF cannot be edited without special software. A few photos are welcome but only in jpeg format.(jpg for Windows users) Word documents are fine. Just attach them to an email.

To prevent articles from being lost in the internet ether world, If you do not receive a note saying I received it, please resend. I promise to respond. We do not want to miss anything you want to send for the good of District 17A.

Thanks, Janeice Crosson, Editor. jancrosson@gmail.com

“Remember, be so happy that when others look at you, they will be happy too.”

Important ! Delegates!

Remember if you received a paper ballot for the upcoming elections ballot, it must be received back to PDG John Burns, 14726 S Murray Lane, Olathe, KS 66062, by April 15.