

# Chart Your Course



## Call for Convention

DISTRICT 17A

APRIL 10-11, 2026

Manhattan KS, Double Tree by Hilton



Join Lions from around Kansas as we welcome **Past International Director Bruce Beck and his wife Lion Erin Beck** to the District 17A Convention! This convention will be a fun time to connect with your friends, meet new Lions, and even learn how use a Spot Screener and become a Certified Guiding Lion led by **Past International Director Bob Block**.

**Conventions mean elections!** We'll elect our District Leadership Team and Board members for the Kansas Lions Foundation, Kansas Lions Sight Foundation and the Kansas Lions Band Foundation. Club delegates, be ready to cast your vote representing your club.

The fun starts with a Friday night social, after dinner on your own, join us at the Hotel for light snacks, some fun games and a little music. Saturday events feature a presentation on LIONS USA, Peace Poster Winners, educational information, Lion's Portal Help session, vision screener demos, raffles and an awards and recognition banquet on Saturday Night (non-formal).

Friday –	April 10th	DoubleTree by Hilton Convention Center, Manhattan KS
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM	<i>Certified Guiding Lions Training</i>	<i>Regency B (Pre-registered only)</i>
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	Social: light refreshments, fun and musical entertainment	Regency A
Saturday –	April 11th	DoubleTree by Hilton Convention Center, Manhattan KS
8:00 AM – 8:45 AM	Registration and Delegate check- in	Convention lobby area
8:00 AM – 11:15 AM and 1:30 PM – 4 PM	Hospitality Room <u>open</u>	Conference Room V
9:00 AM – 4 pm	Silent Auction Baskets	Regency A
9:00 AM – 4 pm	Table Top Displays	Convention Lobby area
9:00 AM – 9:40 AM	Welcome Session/Introductions and New Voices Nominee recognition/LCIF	Regency B
9:45 AM – 10:15 AM	<b>PID Bruce Beck &amp; Lion Erin Beck Lions USA</b>	Regency B
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	<b>Guest Speaker (To Be Announced)</b>	Regency B
11:05 AM	Elections (by ballot)	Regency B
11:30 AM	Seating for Lunch	Regency A
11:45 AM – 12:45 PM	<b>Lunch Served/Election Results &amp; Acceptance/Peace Poster Recognition</b>	Regency A
12:45 PM – 1:00 PM	<b>Remarks by PID Bob Block-Certified Guiding Lions facilitator</b>	Regency A
1:00 PM – 1:30 PM	Necrology Service	Regency A
1:45 PM – 2:45 PM	<b>Past District Governor Pound Auction</b>	Regency B
2:50 PM – 3:00 PM	Branson Getaway Drawing/Basket Auction Closes – Pay at Registration	Regency B
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM	<i>Day 2 – Certified Guiding Lions Training</i>	<i>Regency B (Pre-registered only)</i>
3:30 PM – 4:30 PM	Eyeglass sorting/Spot Screener Demo Lensometer Demo/Lions Portal Help	Regency A or Conference Room IV
5:45 PM	Seating for Dinner	Regency A
6:00 PM -7:45 PM	<b>Buffet Dinner/Keynote address PID Bruce Beck/Awards and Recognition</b>	Regency A

*Silent Auction Basket proceeds benefit the 17A Diabetes Camp Fund*

# Chart Your Course

## Staying in Manhattan?

We have blocked a certain number of hotel rooms at the special rate of \$109.00

(Double Queen room or a King Bed Room) – Last day to book at the special rate is Friday, March 27, 2026 Buffet Breakfast is included for Registered Hotel Room Guests

Not staying at the hotel? – breakfast is available at the restaurant to pay out of pocket

Hotel Booking Link:

[https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?](https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?ctyhocn=MHKRDDT&arrivalDate=2026-04-10&departureDate=2026-04-12&groupCode=kld&room1NumAdults=1)

[ctyhocn=MHKRDDT&arrivalDate=2026-04-10&departureDate=2026-04-12&groupCode=kld&room1NumAdults=1](https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?ctyhocn=MHKRDDT&arrivalDate=2026-04-10&departureDate=2026-04-12&groupCode=kld&room1NumAdults=1)

Or Call the hotel and ask for the KS Lions 17A Convention Rate: 785-539-5311

There are other nearby Hotels also available in Manhattan, KS

## DISTRICT 17A CONVENTION, APRIL 10-11, 2026 REGISTRATION

### REGISTRATION FORM

**All Convention reservations must be received by Monday, March 23 (No Exceptions)**

Registration (Leos Free) \_\_\_\_\_ tickets @ \$10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Friday evening Social # attending: \_\_\_\_\_ FREE = \$ 0.00  
*Assorted Cookies and water station with select flavorings you can add.*

Saturday Luncheon Plate Served: \_\_\_\_\_ tickets @ \$15.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*Deli Sandwich (specify meat) Mayo & mustard packets, Potato Salad, Brownie, coffee, tea and water*  
\_\_\_ Ham \_\_\_ Turkey \_\_\_ Beef  
Dietary options: \_\_\_ Gluten free \_\_\_ Vegan

Saturday Night Buffet: \_\_\_\_\_ tickets @ \$30.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Non-formal attire**  
*Herb Roasted Chicken, Pot Roast, Green Beans Almondine, Au Gratin Potatoes, Rolls, Butter, Coffee, Tea and water*  
Dietary Options: \_\_\_ Gluten Free \_\_\_ Vegan

**Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Name(s) of Lion/Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment information: Send Registration form

With check payable to: **District 17A Special**

Mail to: PDG Rick Dodson,  
306 Bambi Court, Lansing, KS 66043

Or email the registration form to  
[rickdodson23@gmail.com](mailto:rickdodson23@gmail.com)  
and pay Rick Dodson by Venmo

[ ] I am paying by Venmo

Scan the QR Code  
To pay Total amount  
electronically

For: 17A Convention



**venmo**

# Chart Your Course



**DISTRICT 17A CONVENTION**  
**APRIL 10-11, 2026**  
**Manhattan KS, Double Tree by Hilton**  
*(FORMERLY THE FOUR SEASONS)*



## Information Table Reservation

There are **8 tables available** for information booths at the District Convention.

*Please make your reservation asap if you would like to have a table reserved.*

There is no cost. Please provide your own tablecloth, if needed.

**Table topic:** \_\_\_\_\_

Electrical outlet (limited availability) [  ] **Yes, I need electricity**

Name of person making the reservation: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

For quicker reservation e-mail this reservation form to:  
Rick Dodson, rickdodson23@gmail.com

or Mail a hard copy to:  
Rick Dodson  
306 Bambi Court  
Lansing, KS 66043

**Table reservations are available on a first come basis.**

2026 District 17-A Convention  
Booklet Ads

- The booklet will be 5.5" wide X 8.5" high.
  - Full page ads will cost \$100.
  - ½ page ads will cost \$50.
  - ¼ page ads will cost \$25.
- Graphics should be in JPEG or PNG. Let me know if you want the ad in color. Include text below or in separate Word document.
- Editor will merge and adjust your graphics and text to fit the ad size. Or you can provide a camera-ready text/graphic design that can be scaled to the ad size.
- Ads must be received and paid for by March 10, 2026. Ads not paid for by that date will not be included in the booklet.
- Type your text here and provide graphic separately or email both to the editor.

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Make check out to "District 17-A Special" and mail to Rick Dodson, 306 Bambi Court, Lansing, KS 66043. You can also pay by Venmo. See the attached sheet to scan for Venmo payment.

PDG Rick Dodson  
Booklet Editor  
(913) 240-5302



**SCAN HERE  
TO DONATE**



**VENMO** @Ricky-Dodson-2  
Confirm last four digits: 5302

**Thank you for your donation!**



**Silent Auction Baskets**  
**wanted for the District 17A Convention**  
**Proceeds to benefit the Diabetes Camp Fund for District 17A**

*Some suggested themes for baskets might be:*

Sports Memorabilia (K-State, KU, Chiefs, Royals)

Game Night – Board Games, Card Games, Dice Game, etc.

Jar Candles & Home Décor items ‘celebrate the seasons’

Picnic basket (all you need to go on a picnic except for the food and ants)

Pamper me: Lotions, Bubble Bath and sachets – how about a little wine too!

Wine plus Cheese & Cracker selections - favorite combos

BBQ theme (Rubs, Sauces and Cutting Board, Apron)

Made with Love – quilted items, Embroidered items, hand towels, table runner, etc.

Tea and Me (selections of teas & cookies, tea towels or fabric napkins)

Spice it up (selection of Himalayan salt, Peppercorns, Cinnamon sticks)

Pies (any kind – Cherry, Apple, Blueberry, Blackberry, peach, strawberry rhubarb, etc.)

Cakes (Any kind – Coconut, German Chocolate, Strawberry, Devil’s Food, Spice)

All about Cookies (variety of cookies on a tray)

Baked Cinnamon Rolls or homemade bread.

Hand crafted wood items, shadow boxes, carrying case, cutting boards, etc.

Chocolate lovers basket

Coffee and Bagels basket

Homemade pizza kit (crust mix, pizza sauce, Pizza Pan, Visa Gift Card worth \$25 used to meat and toppings of your choice and Cheese) Add a six pack of cola or lemon-lime soda

Hanging Flower basket (any variety)

Paintings and / or drawings or a certificate for a custom painting or drawing

Gone Fishin’ a basket with handy items for the fisherman

Garden basket (gloves, name tags, flower see, knee pads, sprinkler head, etc.)

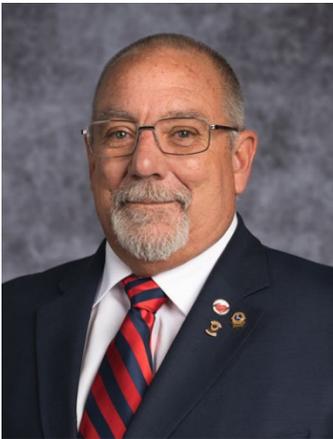
### **Keynote Speaker for the Convention:**



**BRUCE BECK PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR** Bruce Beck from Palisade, Minnesota, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 99th International Convention held in Fukuoka, Japan, June 24 through 28, 2016. Past International Director Beck is a retired law enforcement administrator. A member of the Palisade Area Lions Club since 1989, he has held many offices within the association, including club membership chairperson, district extension chairperson, zone chairperson, district governor, council chairperson, district GLT coordinator, multiple district GLT coordinator and board appointee. He was also a presenter at the 2014 USA/Canada Forum. In recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards, including the Membership Key Award, Leadership Award, Extension Award and many

other awards. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. In addition to his Lions activities, Past International Director Beck has been active in numerous professional and community organizations, including Chief of Palisade Fire Department, President of the Minnesota Fraud Investigators Association and Councilman for Palisade City. Past International Director Beck and his wife, Erin, also a Lion and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have two daughters.

### **Certified Guiding Lion Training Facilitator:**



**ROBERT "BOB" BLOCK PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR** Robert "Bob" Block, from MD 1, Illinois, USA was elected to serve as international director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 102nd International Convention, held in Milan, Italy, July 5 through July 9, 2019. Past Director Block has more than 48 years of experience as an architectural and design engineer and project manager. He was encouraged to join by his father and became a Lion in 1974 with the Calumet City Lions Club where he followed in his father's footsteps and became club president in 1980. He has held a number of other offices within the association including multiple district convention chairperson and member of the Centennial Action Committee. He served as Host Committee chairperson for the 2017 Centennial

International Convention in Chicago. Past Director Block also served as volunteer coordinator for the 50th anniversary Special Olympics Unified Cup in 2018 and was a moderator at the 2017 and 2018 USA/Canada Forums. In recognition of his service, Past Director Block has received several International President's Awards. Past Director Block is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. In addition to his Lions activities, Past Director Block has been chairman of the Dyer Summerfest for more than 14 years as well as an active member of the Knights of Columbus. He was elected to the town council twice where he served as council president for two years. Past Director Block and his wife, Brenda, also a Lion and Melvin Jones Fellow, have been married for 45 years and have three children and six grandchildren. R – 6/22



# GUIDING LIONS TRAINING

## IN-PERSON PROGRAM

April 10 & April 11 During the District 17A Convention  
in Manhattan



Register Here

District 17A Convention  
Manhattan

LIONS CLUB MEMBERS WHO COMPLETE THE TRAINING  
WILL BE CERTIFIED AS **GUIDING LIONS!**



## Seeking Candidates for 2nd Vice District Governor and Foundation Directors

Submit your letter of intent for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor to the nominations committee

**Rich Webster**

325-669-0406

[spechter16@gmail.com](mailto:spechter16@gmail.com)

**Leroy Johnson**

913-837-4179

[bigbearx4@gmail.com](mailto:bigbearx4@gmail.com)

**Al Kimmi**

785-548-7554

[aikimmi@rainbowtel.net](mailto:aikimmi@rainbowtel.net)

**For qualifications and duties review the district bylaws:**

<https://kslionsdistrict17a.org/district-17a-constitu-tion-and-bylaws/>

Submit your name to the nominations committee if you would like to serve on one of the three foundation boards representing District 17A

### **MULTIPLE DISTRICT 17 FOUNDATIONS:**

KANSAS LIONS FOUNDATION  
KANSAS LIONS BAND FOUNDATION  
KANSAS LIONS SIGHT FOUNDATION

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### **DELEGATE CERTIFICATION FORM- 2026 17A DISTRICT CONVENTION**

CLUB NAME \_\_\_\_\_ LION NAME \_\_\_\_\_

This certifies that the above named person is a duly elected ( ) Delegate ( ) Alternate To the 2026 17A Convention at Manhattan, Ks. On April 11th, 2026 and that this Lion is in good standing with their club. The Club President or Secretary attest,

\_\_\_\_\_  
President or Secretary Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Delegate / Alternate Signature

A club must have five members in good standing to qualify for a voting delegate. Clubs are awarded additional delegates for each ten good-standing members. 2 delegates for 20 members, 3 delegates for 30 members, 4 delegates for 40 members, 5 delegates for fifty members and so forth so that one delegate represents ten members in good standing.

17A PDG's have one vote, with identification at the registration desk. This form must be presented upon registration at the April 11th, 2026 Convention.