



Calendar alert: Rally is top winter getaway



Hotel room reservations due by Jan. 12: 785-539-5311.

Meal reservations due by Jan. 19: See form on page 7.

Vendor table reservations due by Jan. 15: See form on page 8.

Lions from across Kansas soon will gather in Manhattan for the 2018 Mid-Winter Rally, which will be held Jan. 26-28 at the Four Points by Sheraton.

Here's why you should clear your calendar, line up the carpool and reserve rooms and meals: No other winter event compares to the Rally's level of camaraderie, good works, learning opportunities, great entertainment and just plain fun.

The weekend starts Friday night, when Lions welcome back Manhattan area singer and one-man band Michael Boltz. Lions got a small taste of his abilities at last year's Rally. There was even dancing, and that might make a return, too!

So plan to be at MWR Friday night. The evening begins with dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the Regency A room. Then enjoy a talented musician with a varied repertoire of songs from some of the most beloved musical eras. MWR Co-

Chair Lela Gillispie said, "We promise you will enjoy it."

Saturday kicks off with meetings of the three Kansas Lions foundations, all of which are a vital part of what we do as Lions. The Kansas Lions Foundation will meet at 7:30 a.m., followed by the Kansas Lions Band Foundation at 8:30 a.m. and the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation at 9:30 a.m. (room details available when you arrive). Be sure to also take advantage Saturday morning of a free breakfast offered for all hotel guests.

Two special seminars will be offered starting at 10 a.m. Saturday. Final details are still being worked out but one of the seminars will feature staff from the Flint Hills Discovery Center in Manhattan. The center champions the tallgrass prairie that has all but disappeared from the North American landscape.

Come hear more about this endan-
See MID-WINTER RALLY on Page 6

Kansas Lions mourn native son PIP Bill Wunder

Lions Clubs International has lost one of its past presidents and Kansas Lions has lost one of its most distinguished leaders. Dr. William "Bill" Harrison Wunder, beloved and admired by his family, friends and colleagues, passed away on Aug. 10, 2017 at age 87.

He was president of Lions Clubs International in 1995-96.

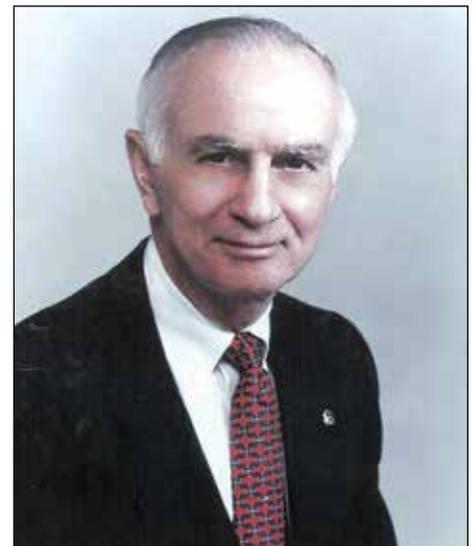
Dr. Wunder was born on Dec. 2, 1929 on the family farm near Rush Center, Kan. After graduating from LaCrosse High School, he attended Kansas Wesleyan briefly before moving to Kansas State Teachers College, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in business in 1952. Upon graduation, he worked for sever-

al companies in Kansas before receiving his commission in the U.S. Army in 1959, following seven years in the U.S. Army Reserves.

A Vietnam War veteran, Dr. Wunder retired as a Colonel after serving nearly 23 years in the Army. His duty assignments included three years in Germany, three years in Italy, one year in Vietnam, and assignments at Headquarters, Department of Army and later, the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He also served on the faculty of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

While in the military, he also attained his Master of Science degree in management from the University of Arizona, and following his military service he

See PIP BILL WUNDER on Page 3



Dr. William "Bill" Wunder as LCI President in 1995-96. LCI photo

From the Council Chair –

Busy year continues, with Mid-Winter Rally up next

Can this be the holidays already? The last time that I submitted an article to Nancy Borst was June and since then our Kansas Lions have been very busy with beneficial projects.

The First and Second Council meetings were very busy, and part of the meetings included defining our newly created council positions. Lions Clubs International has named PID Ed McCormick as the Area Global Leadership Team (GLT) leader and PID Bill Phillippi as the Area Global Membership Team (GMT) leader for several states besides Kansas. As Council Chair, I chair the Global Action Team (GAT), which includes Kansas leaders PDG Craig Donecker (GLT); PDG Terry Weldin (GMT); and PID Bill Phillippi (GST). We work together to create unity for Kansas leaders and clubs.

At the Second Council meeting, PDG Chris Bauer worked with me to update the wording for these positions in the Kansas SOPs and Constitution

and Bylaws.

Besides Council meetings held so far, several Lions attended the USA/Canada Forum in Portland, Ore. in September. This was a great time for learning and camaraderie with fellow Lions from other states and countries. There were many helpful seminars and outstanding guest speakers. If you have not attended a USA/Canada Forum, please consider adding this to your Lion "To Do List" for the near future. The next forum is

in Columbus, Ohio in September 2018 and the location is conveniently housed under one roof.

The Mid-Winter Rally is just around the corner. Please mark your calendars for Jan. 26-28, 2018. This year we will gather at the Manhattan Four Points by Sheraton. Our guests will be International Director Bruce Beck and wife, Erin, of Minnesota. Lions Lela and Bud Gillispie and PDG Tom and Elaine Badger will co-host this year's MWR

and they have many exciting events planned for us.

My church ladies group asked me to give a "Thanksgiving" devotion for church this month, so I did some research and decided on an article that besides being thankful for our job, house and material items, we should be thankful for the people in our lives. This made me think about the many Lions members that touch lives, young and old, in their communities. I want to say, "Thank you" Lions, for your support in Kansas.

"Thank you" Nancy Borst and Becky Funke for the professional job creating the KLN for us. Also, please remember to submit any photos and articles to Nancy at ndbdesk@cox.net.

My husband, Lion Ken, and I want to wish you many blessings for the holidays. We look forward to serving with you in the new Lions year 2018!

We Serve!

MD-17 Council Chair Linda Leander
PO Box 55
Assaria KS 67416
785-667-3415 (H)
785-819-4834 (C)
leanderl@hometelco.net



CC Linda Leander

New Oskaloosa Lions

Zone Chairman Rick Dodson recently inducted five new or returning members into the **Oskaloosa Lions Club**.

Shown (left to right) are Lion Rick Dodson, new Lion Adam Bower, returning Lion Tom Moeller, new Lion and Big Lion Paula Farmer, new Lion Jim Wonnell (sponsor Lion Linda Wonnell), new Lion Katie Chaney and sponsor Lion Megan May.

Contributed photo



PIP Bill Wunder

Continued from Page 1

attained his Doctor of Philosophy degree in education from Kansas State University.

As a young boy, Dr. Wunder loved to read the Bible and enjoyed Sunday school, and what he learned early in life was reflected at all times in how he lived his life and how he approached the next chapter in his life. Committed to developing others and serving those in need, Dr. Wunder spent the next 30 years or so in higher education and in multiple leadership roles with Lions Clubs International.

Dr. Wunder was a Professor of Business and Chair of the Division of Business, Technology and Leadership within the Graduate School at Friends University, and was a Director of both the Executive MBA and MBA Programs for Friends during his tenure there. He was also a former president of Marymount College in Kansas.

Simultaneous to his work in higher education, Dr. Wunder worked tirelessly for Lions Clubs International, starting at the local club level and ultimately being elected as President of Lions Clubs International for the 1995-96 year. During that year alone, he and his wife Dorothy visited 85 countries in all parts of the world and had meetings with a number of Heads of State.

During 1996-97, he served as Chairman of the Lions Clubs International Foundation. Building on work started with the Peoples Republic of China during his year as President and CEO, Dr. Wunder was able to form a partnership between the Peoples Republic of China and Lions Clubs International Foundation that resulted in 1.75 million cataract surgeries in China. He also worked with former President Jimmy Carter and the Carter Center Foundation to undertake a joint humanitarian service project in Sudan, in

northeast Africa, to significantly reduce river blindness in that country.

Dr. Wunder was a former chairman of the Kansas Commission for National and Community Service and was involved in several professional organizations and his church. He received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Emporia State University and the Outstanding Alumni Award from the U.S. Army War College.



PIP William "Bill" Wunder in his Army days. Contributed photo

Despite the many accomplishments and achievements in his remarkable life, Dr. Wunder remained true to his rural Kansas roots. He had a strong work ethic, was true to his faith and was selfless in what always seemed like an unlimited capacity to help others.

PIP Wunder always remembered his Kansas Lions and following his Immediate Past President year, he immediately started a fundraising effort to obtain a permanent home for the Kansas Lions State Office. Kansas Lions had been renting office space in an unsafe place in Wichita for several years. In 18 months, he raised enough funds to purchase the current beautiful building, at a much reduced price, and also furnish it. It is through his efforts that Kansas Lions have a beautiful State Office at 231 S. Tyler in Wichita.

Dr. Wunder was much loved and will be greatly missed by Dorothy, his wife of 62 years; their children and grandchildren, and many other relatives and countless friends around the world. He lived a full and rich life and has now gone home to be with God, where he will continue to be with us in spirit.

A memorial service for Dr. Wunder was held at Ascension Lutheran Church Aug. 19 in Wichita, followed by a private burial in Mitchell County. Memorial donations may be made to the Kansas Lions Foundation – Bill and Dorothy Wunder Fellowship or to the Lions Clubs International Foundation.

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Editor: Nancy D. Borst, P.O. Box 127, Goddard, KS. 67052; (316) 644-5430; ndbdesk@cox.net

Deadline for next issue: April 10, 2018

Please send your news to Nancy either via e-mail or snail mail.
Send original photos – please do not downsize them.

Let Nancy know if you have questions.

Eyeglass recycling: thousands of chances for new sight

We drove to Hutchinson Correctional Facility on Friday, Oct. 27 to deliver supplies and load their finished glasses. They are packed 500 pairs per large shipper box. We met District K Governor Randy St. Aubyn there and also received some glasses that had been collected in his district.

Next we drove to Wichita and the State Office storage room, which was loaded with the glasses that area clubs had dropped off there in the past month. We loaded the Winfield Correctional Facility glasses (large shipper boxes) that PDG Tim Hays of Arkansas City had transported for us. This saved the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation many miles and hours of driving. Thank you, Lion Tim.

We then drove on to McPherson to attend the Second State Council meeting. We collected many containers of glasses from all parts of the state and we had a FULL load coming home Sunday morning to Scranton. I did deliver nine large boxes of “useable eyeglass cases” to Lion Jim Huenegarde at the council meeting. He has an outlet for them at the Arc Store in Hays.

After sorting this load, we had 15 banana boxes full (6,000 pairs) of good, useable glasses; five banana boxes

of colored (dark) glasses (approximately 1,000 pairs); two banana boxes full of parts and pieces, broken glasses and salvage items; and 10 large shipper boxes of prison finished glasses that will be sent to Indiana in the future.

We also had four barrels of trash/packing material and eyeglass cases that could not be used. This will be sent to the landfill, north of Topeka. All cardboard boxes are knocked down flat and transported to the Osage County Recycle Center at Lyndon.

We have had several inquiries from area clubs and organizations that do mission trips to South America and other Third World countries. Those are still in the planning stages. We will furnish glasses for them to take if their plans materialize.

*Respectfully submitted,
PDG Bernard & Viola Lee*



A reminder that Operation Pioneer Spirit collects cell phones and chargers to benefit military service personnel via Cell Phones for Soldiers. The phones are sold, with proceeds used to buy calling cards.

For more information, contact PDG Tim Hays, Arkansas City Lions (LionTimHays@cox.net).

2017-18 Council of Governors

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District website:
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Follow MD 17

• on the Internet:
www.kansaslions.org

• on social media
Like “Kansas Lions” on Facebook

Calendar

Jan. 26-28, 2018
*Mid-Winter Rally/
Third State Council Meeting,
Manhattan*

May 31-June 2, 2018
*State Convention/
Fourth State Council Meeting, Wichita*

June 29-July 3, 2018
*Lions Clubs International
Convention, Las Vegas, Nevada*

District Conventions

District K
March 23-24, 2018, Hays

District A
April 20-21, 2018, Fort Leavenworth

District N
March 2-3, 2018, Wichita

EVER WONDER IF YOUR CLUB IS HEADING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION?



**The Kansas Lions
Leadership Round Up
will get your club headed
in the direction for growth !**

**Plan to join us on March 17 in McPherson
for topics covering:**

- What is a Leader? Where to Find Them, How to Involve Them
(Presenter from Kansas Leadership Center)
- Building a Better Club with Volunteers (Presenter from KLC)
- The World Wide Web – A Look at LCI, Your State, District and Club
websites (PCC Hans Neidhardt)
- Facebook – Why Your Club Needs it and How to Set it up / MyLion
(PDG Chris Bauer & Lion John Scovill)

It all happens at the Best Western Motel in McPherson.

We will start at 9:00 a.m. and wrap up at 4:30 p.m.

The best part? It's FREE!

There is even a FREE buffet style roast beef lunch!

All event information and a registration form can be found at:

<http://www.kansaslions.org>

Mid-Winter Rally

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gered and important ecosystem (*read more on page 8*).

Throughout the day Saturday, be sure to visit informational booths and browse displays that will be set up near the meeting rooms. And it wouldn't be MWR without the hospitality room. Manhattan Lions, as well as other clubs in District A, will host this popular gathering place and will gladly welcome food and monetary donations.

Saturday's luncheon will fete our Peace Poster Contest winners and showcase our world-leading Kansas Leo clubs. This Youth Recognition Luncheon will be sponsored by the Kansas Lions Foundation. The meal will be the popular Mexican buffet. And a special guest you don't want to miss is expected (details still being finalized).

The program continues at 2 p.m. with International Director Bruce Beck giving a seminar on the "Power of We." He and his wife, Erin, are from Palisade, Minn.

Between now and January is the time to plan what you will donate to the annual Kansas Lions Band Auction, which will be held at 3:30 p.m. Saturday. Homemade items are among the most popular, so if you can contribute a pie, homemade jam or some other mouth-watering goody, please plan to do so for a great cause. Kansas Lions already are making plans to take an International Band to Las Vegas next summer, so financial support will be greatly appreciated. Saturday concludes with a 6:30 p.m. ban-

quet, where Lions once again will welcome and hear from special guest ID Beck.

Sunday features the Third State Council Meeting, which will gavel to order at 9 a.m. Come hear about the business and plans for the rest of the year. Before the meeting, all Lions are invited at 8 a.m. to a devotional time and meeting of the Past District Governors Club. And be sure as a hotel guest to enjoy the free breakfast.

How to reserve your spot

Now that you've heard about this event-packed weekend, here's how you can make sure you are part of it. First, reserve a room at the hotel by calling 785-539-5311. Be sure to ask for the Lions' block – that helps Lions with credit toward banquet and meeting rooms. Make your reservation by Jan. 12. The block will be cancelled after that date. Room rate is \$86.

Second, complete the meal reservation form found on the next page in this issue. All meals must be reserved by Jan. 19. Please return the form to Lela Gillispie, 1414 Givens Road, Manhattan, 66503. Checks should be made payable to Kansas Lions. Pick up meal tickets at the reservation table when you arrive at the hotel.

Third, if you plan on a display or you are a vendor, please also reserve a table by completing the form on page 8 in this issue. All vendor reservations must be made by Jan. 15.

Have a wonderful holiday season and plan to join Kansas Lions Jan. 26-28 in Manhattan. See you there!

• Mid-Winter Rally • Jan. 26-28, 2018 • Manhattan •

Kansas Lions will welcome ID Bruce Beck to Rally weekend

Lions Clubs International Director Bruce Beck and his wife, Erin, will be the special guest of Kansas Lions at the 2018 Mid-Winter Rally Jan. 26-28 at Manhattan.

Director Beck is from Palisade, Minn. He 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 24-28, 2016.

Director Beck is a retired law enforcement administrator.

He has been 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 and multiple district GLT coordinator. He was



International Director Bruce Beck

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, Zone Chairperson Excellence Award, four International President's Certificates of Appreciation and an International President's Award. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to his Lions activities, 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.

Director Beck and his wife, Erin, also a Lion and a Melvin Jones Fellow, have two daughters.

Kansas Lions Mid Winter Rally

**January 26–28, 2018
Manhattan, Kansas**



“Power of We”

Registration and Meal Reservation Form

	Number		Amount
Registration <i>(fee applies to all attendees except Leos)</i>	_____	@ \$10.00	\$ _____
Friday Dinner - Chicken Marsala	_____	@\$18.00	\$ _____
Saturday Lunch - Mexican Buffet	_____	@\$16.00	\$ _____
Saturday Banquet - BBQ Beef Brisket	_____	@\$19.00	\$ _____
<i>Gratuity included in all meal prices.</i>		Total	\$ _____

**Free continental breakfast available each morning to those guests registered at the hotel
Please Make your check(s) payable to "Kansas Lions"

Please list any special dietary needs: _____

Lions(s) Leo(s) guest _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Lions or/Leo Club _____

District : **K A N** *(please circle one)*

Mail Reservations to: Lion Lela Gillispie
1414 Givens Road
Manhattan KS 66503
(785) 532-8611
kayg7@cox.net

**Final Date for Meal Reservations
January 19, 2018**

**Room reservations must be made before January 12, 2018
Four Points by Sheraton phone number is 1-785-539-5311
Room rate \$ 86.00 per night**

Mid-Winter Rally Saturday seminar

Tallgrass prairie once covered 170 million acres of North America. However, most of this prairie has been turned into productive farmland. Today, less than 4 percent of the original acreage remains. The Kansas Flint Hills and the Osage Hills of northern Oklahoma are the last substantial contiguous stand of tallgrass prairie in North America.

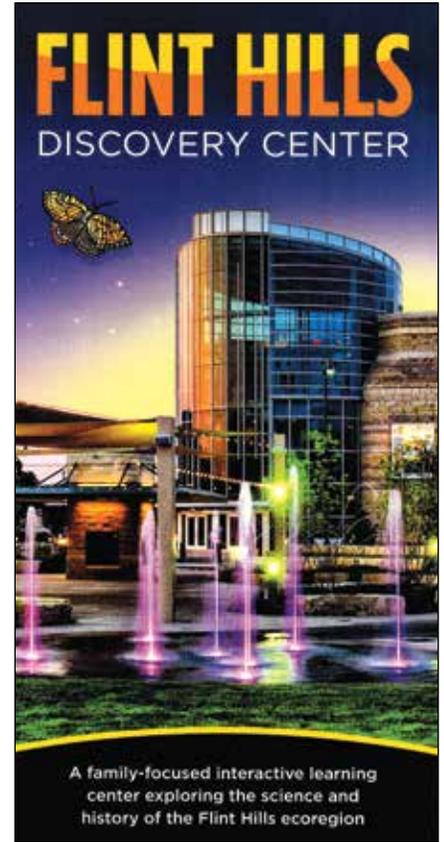
A representative from the Flint Hills Discovery Center in Manhattan will lead a special seminar Saturday morning at Mid-Winter Rally to help Lions understand the importance of sustaining this endangered ecosystem and to share the beauty of this area.

Kansas State University History Professor Jim Sherow explained the Flint Hills this way: "It is one of the most endangered ecosystems on the

face of the planet. If we learn how to sustain a human-grass relationship that gave rise to the tallgrass prairies, then we've learned how to sustain a living ecosystem. If we learn how to do that, perhaps we can also extend that lesson to the earth itself."

Plan to attend this seminar Saturday morning and educate or re-educate yourself about the tallgrass prairie and this area of Kansas. After this presentation, participants should better understand the value of burning the prairie each spring and the lessons learned from Native Americans.

The Flint Hills Discovery Center is a heritage and science center located in Manhattan dedicated to celebrating, exploring and inspiring people to care for the Flint Hills of Kansas.



Mid-Winter Rally • The 'Power of We' • Manhattan

Exhibitors / Vendors Table Request Form

Mid-Winter Rally Four Points by Sheraton, Manhattan Jan. 26-28, 2018

Name of Exhibitor / Vendor _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact Phone: _____ E-Mail _____

_____ **Electricity Requested** (Please check if needed)

_____ **Not for Profit or Lions Programs / Foundations and Pin Collectors**
(Please indicate if more than one table is needed)

_____ **For Profit Company**

Special Requests: _____

Exhibit Hours: Suggested hours are 3–6 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Saturday.

Area Description: One 8' table and two chairs. Electricity is limited – first come, first served.

Mail to: State Secretary Linda McCormick, 231 South Tyler, Wichita, 67209

or e-mail: KansasLions@aol.com; **Deadline: January 15, 2018. Tables must be reserved in advance.**



Kansas Lions Environmental Program 2017-218



If you submitted your activities reports on line to LCI, you do not need to fill out this form.

Please notify your District Environmental Chair

This form is available on line and from each District Environmental Chair. It now can be filled in on line and printed or saved. Committee chair or secretary need to submit each quarter to the district chairperson listed below.

The following is the point system: *(Submitted quarterly)*

Lion Member _____ **or Club Name** _____

District: 17-K 17-A 17-N **Quarter:** 1st 2nd 3rd 4th

<u>Photo</u> submitted to Environmental Photo Contest (Deadline 1-1-2017)	100 points	_____
<u>Cell phone</u> collection and delivery to district, per 10 phones	20 points	_____
<u>Eyeglasses</u> , prescription collection to district, per 10 pair	20 points	_____
<u>Hearing Aid</u> collection and delivery to district, per 10 aids	20 points	_____
<u>Start or maintain an Environmental program</u> (one time/year) <i>(trees, recycling, reusing, & reducing, clean-ups)</i>	20 points	_____
<u>Recycled materials</u> , 5 lbs. (not a business but for Lions) <i>up to 200 pts.</i>	10 points	_____
<u>Tree or shrub planted</u> and nurtured, per tree (no international project) <i>(not to exceed 200 points per quarter)</i>	10 points	_____
Lion member <u>talk to a civic group</u> on Environmental issues	20 points	_____
Lion member <u>talk to a city council</u> on Environmental issues	20 points/participating member	_____
<i>Tree planting included in this area.</i>		
Have a <u>non-Lion help</u> with an Environmental project (per person)	10 points	_____

(Maximum of 200 points for each line, per quarter)

Total Points *(report due quarterly)* _____

Submit quarterly to your District Environmental Chairman.

By Oct. 15 for July, Aug. & Sept; Jan. 15 for Oct., Nov., Dec.;

April 15 for Jan., Feb., March; and May 15 for April, May and estimated June.

DISTRICT CHAIRPERSONS:

District K - Louise Greenberg - gberg@ruraltel.net

District A - Ken Leander - leanderl@hometelco.net

District N - Rasitha Phillips - indrajit610@hotmail.com

State Chair Marla Larison - lionmarlalarison@gmail.com

Environmental photo entries due Jan. 1; winner determined at MWR

The 2017-18 Environmental Photo Contest is open to Lions and Leos. Here are the rules.

-All photos depicting a nature theme (plants, animals, weather event, etc.) are welcome.

-Photos should be original and unaltered.

-Photos should depict the environment in Kansas where the Lion or Leo club serves.

-Photos should be printed on high-quality photo paper and measure 8"x 10".

-All photographers accept responsibility for the cost of taking and processing all photos.

-Lions clubs and Leo clubs are invited to submit one photo to each to the district by Jan. 1, 2018.

-Photos will be voted on at Mid-Winter Rally in January 2018.

-Contest photos become the property of Kansas Lions. Kansas Lions reserves the right to disqualify entries that do not meet contest criteria or that may be viewed as inappropriate or objectionable.

-An award will be presented to the winning photographers and the photos will be featured in The Kansas Lions News.

-At all levels of the competition, photos will be judged impartially, based on originality, artistic merit, and technical quality.

-Email contest questions to:

District K: Louise Greenberg, gberg@rural-tel.net

District A: Ken Leander, leanderl@hometel-co.net

District N: Rasitha Phillips, indrajit610@hotmail.com

State Chair Marla Larison
lionmarlalarison@gmail.com



Lions Environmental PHOTO CONTEST

Note: Lions International will be making rules available in late 2017 for a new International Contest that will focus on Service Projects.



Inman Lions B-I-N-G-O

The **Inman Lions Club** held a bingo fundraiser Saturday evening Nov. 18 at the Inman Grade School. This was a successful project for the club.

Pictured at left, Lion Shivawn Schierling prepares to serve yummy desserts.



Pictured at right (left to right) are District N 1st VDG Patrick Laham, Inman Lion Jim Toews (who also is mayor of Inman), and Inman Lions President Craig Druecker.
Photos by Reland Cole

Tonganoxie Lions officially join the Kansas 'pride'

The **Tonganoxie Lions Club** held its charter night on Saturday, Sept. 16. The actual charter date is July 10, 2017.

The event attracted 80 great Lions from around the state. PID Bill Phillipi was the guest speaker and he welcomed the new club's 21 members to Multiple District 17 (Kansas) Lionism.

Tonganoxie Lions President Margy Sundstrom said, "We look forward to many years of service to our community, our state, and internationally. You will see us around Tonganoxie serving."



ABOVE: Happy new Tonganoxie Lions at their charter night celebration.

LEFT: Tonganoxie President Margy Sundstrom is ready to lead the new club.

BELOW: The Tonganoxie Centennial Charter, signed by the new members. Contributed photos



R – O – A – R! *Local Lions 'serve'*

Garnett Lions share the 'Power of We' with their community

It is important that members of our community see our service. In the times in which we live, each community has its struggles to stay vital and to meet the significant needs of the community. It helps with projects that are Lions centered when Lions are perceived to be "pulling on the rope together" alongside community members that are not Lions. The



"Power of We" is evident in that way.

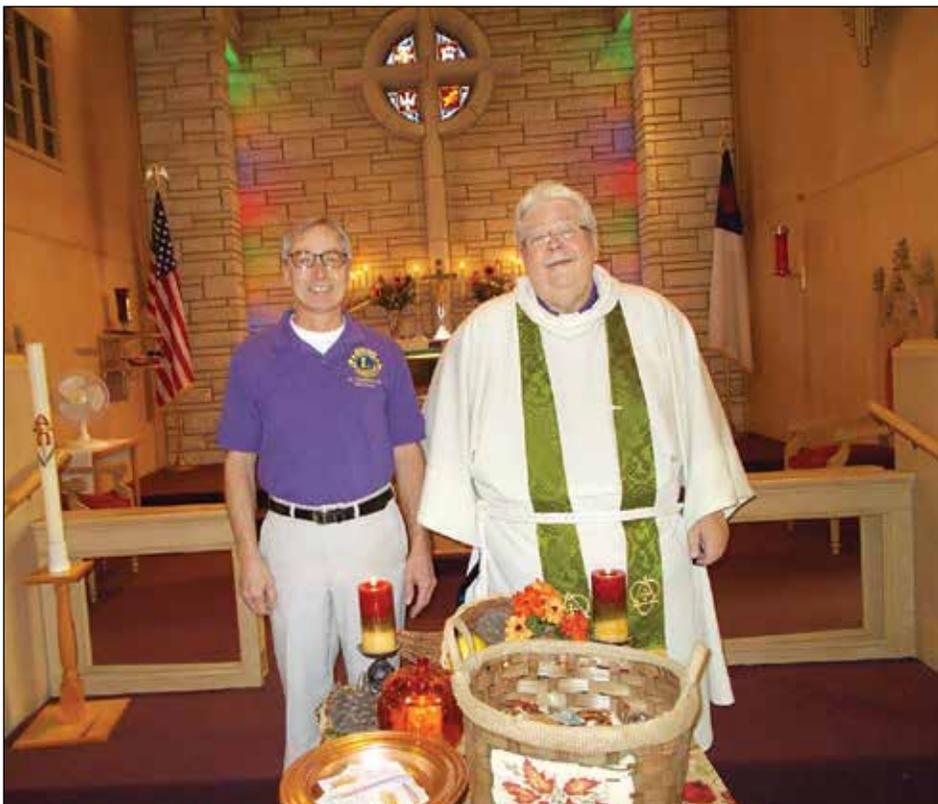
Members of the **Garnett Lions Club** serve in many ways and one of those is being a part of the Prairie Spirit Rail Trail Association. Lions Skip Landis and Delton Hodgson are serving as

members of that association and are an active part of the effort to keep the Prairie Spirit Rail Trail an attractive feature of their community.



AT LEFT, Garnett Lions Skip Landis and Delton Hodgson help decorate the Prairie Spirit Rail Trail for the Christmas season by adding electric lights. ABOVE, the two Lions pause to show light strings still to be added.

In serving alongside others in their community, Garnett Lions demonstrate "The Power of We."



Giving thanks

The Otis Lions Club helped supply the community ThanksGiving Dinner. It was held Nov. 19 at the Lutheran Church.

Pictured here are Lion Reland Cole and Pastor Bruce Adamson, who also is the Lions club's secretary.

Contributed photo

Fredonia working to restore city's lighted holiday star

On Dec. 23, 1955, the **Fredonia Lions Club** turned on the lights to the new rotating star on Fredonia's South Mound. This project was made possible by local machinist & blacksmith extraordinaire Loren Ludlum, who is credited with its construction. Two separate lighting circuits allowed the structure to have a lighted rotating star from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day and a lighted cross during the Lenten season.

In 2007, the motor allowing rotation was no longer repairable and the prevailing opinion was that the star would need to remain stationary until the motor could be completely rebuilt. After some 50 years of relatively maintenance-free operation, wear and exposure to the elements of nature caused problems. In 2008-09, much work and expense was invested into maintaining the light installation, but the star has not moved since.

During an inspection by Lions club members in early 2017, it was discovered that the entire structure has deteriorated to the point that it is not feasible to perform further repairs, including re-

pairing the framework, which has extensive rust.

A new design has been donated by TCI Fabrication & Industrial Services, including a red-white-and-blue American flag that will be added to the lighted star and cross displays. New LED lighting will be used and framework will be designed to current industrial standards, with 180 degree rotation for the star. Plans are also being designed to include rotating cameras atop the structure so that Fredonians near and far can see their hometown online.

Fredonia Lions have been seeking donations for the project. The goal is approximately \$40,000.

"Every donor gets us closer to saving a local landmark that can be seen from Highway 400 and is such a nostalgic sight in our hometown," the Lions club noted in its funding appeal.

Any funds raised above the amount



Photo by Greg Holmes

needed will stay in a fund for future repairs and upgrades to local parks.

We Serve • We Serve

Colwich honors student

The Colwich Lions Club honors a Student of the Month in the community. Honoree Maria Werth, kindergartner at Colwich Elementary, attended the October club meeting. She is pictured here with Colwich Lions President Maryann Morrison.
Contributed photo



Baxter Springs HS students & Lions unleash 'Power of We'

The "Power of We" was put into action recently in Baxter Springs. Lion Danny Spaulding suggested the club dedicate the profits from its October Pancake Feed to send Baxter Springs High School band members to Kansas Lions State Band in June. The club agreed and the plan was set in motion.

In cooperation with the USD 508 superintendent and with band instructor Louis Morgan, the band members and Leo club members sold tickets at the high school. Donations were accepted from community members for the project.

On Oct. 14 it all came together and at this time, the **Baxter Springs Lions Club**, BHS Band, Leos and community have raised enough funds to send 10 members to Kansas Lions State Band! This is a perfect example of a community coming together behind a project to make it successful.

— From 2nd VDG Marla Larison



ABOVE, BHS band students and Leo members pick up orders to serve customers the morning of the pancake feed. Twenty students showed up to help that morning.

BELOW are Lions Craig Heslin Sr., Cathy Bolek, Dennis Webb, Lion President Machel Smith at the grill and Lion Ray Hefley. Contributed photos



Pictured are the **Milford Lions** and students with their robots. Milford Lions: Randy Brooks, Allan Rothlisberg, Rod Persing, Bob Bork, Bev Greenwood, Principal Phyllis Boller, Sandy Rothlisberg and Gary May. Student coders from left to right: Emily Huehl, Aiden Vallon, Harrison Booher, Brooke Draper and Addison Booher. Photo by Stacy Moritz

Milford Lions boost robotics

Milford Lions were introduced recently to coding for robotics at Milford Elementary. The November Lions regular meeting was held at the school. Teachers, students and parents presented how their coding skills on a laptop computer controlled the robotic movements. Students helped Lions with a hands-on experience of making the robots dance and sing.

The Lions club donated \$500 to enhance and assist the Robotics and STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) programs at Milford Elementary. The Robotics Club meets after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

**Centennial Legacy Project
Level 2 – Provide
a Community Gift**

The **Topeka Sunflower Lions Club** took on the project of cleaning up, repairing and adding two benches to the children’s playground at the Ronald McDonald House in Topeka. The bench that Ronald McDonald sits on was in need of repair so the club removed Ronald and rebuilt a new wooden bench for him so children would be able to have pictures taken with Ronald. Contributed photos



Sunflower Lions celebrate White Cane Safety Day

The **Topeka Sunflower Lions Club** was at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library on Sunday, Oct. 15 to recognize White Cane Safety Day. Lions passed out small white canes to children and an informational sheet, with a white cane taped to it, to adults visiting the library that day.

The information was well received, with at least one person saying, “I learned something new today after reading the flyer.” The club’s efforts also were publicized in an article in the Topeka Capital-Journal.

Kansas adopted the Kansas White Cane Law in 1969. The law was amended in 2002 to expand access rights for guide and service dogs and their partners.

“The white cane is not just a tool that can be used to achieve independence; it is also a symbol of the blind citi-

zens in our society,” said Philip Strong, an advocate for pedestrian safety at the American Council of the Blind.

Introduction of the white cane in the United States is attributed to Lions Clubs International. In 1930, a Lion watched as a blind man attempted to make his way across a busy street using a black cane. Realizing the cane was barely visible, the Lion decided to paint it white.

In 1931, LCI began a national program promoting use of white canes by the blind. The first White Cane Ordinance was passed in 1930 in Illinois, granting blind pedestrians protections and the right-of-way while carrying a white cane.

A joint Congressional resolution was signed into law in 1963 proclaiming Oct. 15 as White Cane Safety Day.

Plan now to attend your District Convention this spring

District K • March 23-24, 2018 • Fort Hays State Student Union

District K Lions will begin their convention with a social gathering at 6:30 p.m. March 23 at Thirsty's in Hays. Convention registration begins at 8 a.m. March 24 at the Fort Hays State University Student Union, with the convention concluding around 4 p.m. that afternoon.

International Director Joyce Middleton and her husband, Lion Martin, will be the special guests. ID Middleton is from Bridgewater, Mass. She was elected to serve a two-year term as a director in 2016. She is a computer engineer.

A charter member of the Bridgewater Community Lions Club in 2008, and a Lion since 2002, she has held many offices within the association, including club president, LEO advisor,

district membership, leadership, extension and retention chairperson, zone chair, cabinet secretary, district governor, multiple district GMT coordinator and council secretary. Director Middleton was also co-chairman of the multiple district Youth Camp & Exchange program and a chairperson of the Peace Poster Contest.

In recognition of her service to the association, she has received numerous awards, including three International President's Certificates of Appreciation and three International President's Medals. She is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to her Lions activities, Director Middleton has been active in numerous professional and community organizations, including the Gen-



ID Joyce Middleton

eral Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts and the National Braille Press.

Director Middleton and her husband, also a Lion and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have one son and one daughter, who also are Lions.

District A • April 27-28, 2018 • Fort Leavenworth

The Kansas Lions District A convention will be April 27-29 at the Frontier Conference Center at Fort Leavenworth.

Special guest will be International Director Sam Lindsey Jr. of Texas. ID Lindsey is a chief financial officer from Hilltop Lakes, Texas.

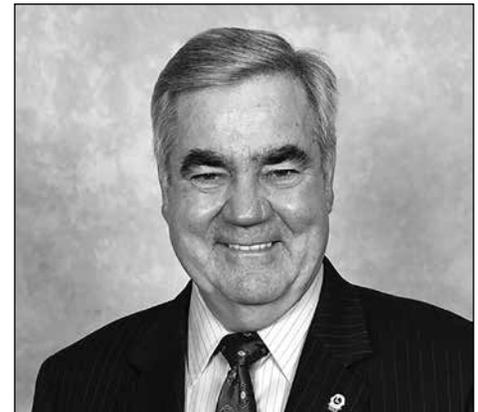
Registration will start at 4:30 p.m. April 27, followed by a Hawaiian-themed buffet, bar and entertainment; a LEO dinner, and other activities. The PDG "Pound Auction" also will be held Friday evening. Saturday's events include a guest speaker, Kansas Lions foundations and ID seminars, a Strides walk, Youth Luncheon, Necrology Service and other events.

During the convention, there will be an opportunity for attendees to participate in a bus tour of Fort Leavenworth. On Saturday afternoon, the tour will include stops at the Frontier Army Museum, the Memorial Chapel and the Buffalo Soldier Monument. If there is sufficient interest, a second tour will be scheduled for Sunday morning, but the only stop will be the Buffalo Soldier

Monument.

IHG (Holiday Inn Express) on Fort Leavenworth has a block of 60 private rooms available for \$69 per night. All rooms have a queen bed with a sleeper couch and a kitchenette. Handicapped accessible rooms are available, and if needed, a rollaway bed can be requested. Formal reservations will be part of the convention registration process starting in February, but a written (email) advance reservation before then will hold you a room. To hold a room, please send your name, Lions club name, and number in the room to Lion Karen Harris at karen.harris@att.net (this is not a formal reservation). If you wish to stay outside the Fort, please make your own reservations directly with your preferred hotel.

Please note: There is always a possibility that military situations may cause cancellation of all or part of the hotel reservations. This probably is unlikely, but if it happens, convention organizers should be able to provide notification in sufficient time to assist in getting reservations at hotels in the local area.



ID Sam Lindsey Jr.

Due to the convention being on a military base, there are Department of Defense (DOD) security requirements. Non-DOD identification card holders driving a vehicle on post will have to obtain a vehicle pass. Passengers 16 years of age and older require a valid photo identification. For more information about these procedures, please contact Lion Dick Wright at rwright68@kc.rr.com or Lion Rick Dodson at rdodson@kc.rr.com.

Specific information on vehicle passes and housing, including a list of hotels off base, will be provided by February.

District conventions *(continued)*

District N • March 2-3, 2018 • Doubletree Hotel, Wichita

Past International President Mahendra Amarasuriya and his wife, Lion Kushlani, of Colombo, Sri Lanka, will be special guests at the District N convention March 2-3, 2018 in Wichita.

Amarasuriya was elected president of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association's 90th International Convention, held in Chicago in 2007.

He is a graduate of the University of Ceylon with a Bachelor of Science degree. He has participated in the Top Management Course at the International Institute of Management in Lausanne, Switzerland. He has also acquired considerable experience in the field of management over the last 40 years as a director and chairperson of many prestigious companies in Sri Lanka.

Past International President Amarasuriya is the chairperson of the Commercial Bank of Ceylon Limited and three other blue chip companies, as

well as a board member of many other blue chip companies in Sri Lanka. He also is a past chairperson of the International Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka, Employers' Federation of Ceylon, the Employees' Trust Fund Board, the Institute of Management of Sri Lanka and the National Agribusiness Council of Sri Lanka.

A charter member of the Lions Club of Galle (pronounced Gaul), he has held many offices within the association, including district governor from 1978 to 1979, council chairperson from 1979 to 1980 and international director from 1991 to 1993.

In recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards, including many membership awards, the Master Key Award, eight International President's Certificates of Appreciation, eight International President's Awards, the Leadership Award and the Ambassador of Good Will



*Past International President
Mahendra Amarasuriya*

Award, the highest honor bestowed upon association members. He has also received the 100% District Governor Award, the Extension Award and the 15-Year Perfect Attendance Award. He and his wife are Progressive Melvin Jones Fellows.

The convention will be held at the Doubletree Hotel at the Dwight D. Eisenhower National Airport in Wichita.

FYI: 2018 LCI Convention registration rates go up Jan. 1

Even though it's approximately seven months until the 2018 Lions International Convention in Las Vegas, it is not too early to get your registration and hotel reservations made through LCI. This is the most convenient way to get this done, and you will then be assured of being in the Luxor, which is the Kansas Lions hotel site.

Rates for registration are cheaper right now than they will be after Jan. 1, 2018 and who doesn't like to get a bargain? LCI will take care of all the

details for you, and you will be receiving your convention confirmation after your check or credit card payment is made. You can either call LCI or go to LCI's website and download and print the registration form (and don't forget to mail it in with your check or other payment method).

Then in May, you will receive your convention information and necessary items that you will need to take with you to Las Vegas. However, your identification badge for the convention will

not be in that packet. You need to be present at the hotel in order for your badge to be printed on site. No one is allowed into the convention without the proper badge.

If you have any questions, please contact me or you can call LCI and speak directly to the convention people there. Either way, you need to register and get that hotel room secured. More details are in the November district newsletters.

– Immediate PCC Fran Smith

Where
to find
Kansas
Lions
online

Kansas Lions	www.kansaslions.org
Kansas Lions Foundation	www.kansaslionsfoundation.org
Kansas Lions Sight Foundation	www.lions4sight.com
Kansas Lions Band Foundation	www.kansaslions.org/Kansas_Lions_Band.html

Remember to like "Kansas Lions" on Facebook!



The Kansas Lions International Band marches in the parade at the 2017 LCI Centennial Convention in Chicago. Contributed photo

Now is time to be excited about 2018 Lions Band

What is the key to success? Preparation, preparation, and of course, more preparation. It is easy to put off something until a later date and time. But to do so might place the desired outcome into jeopardy.

Lions continues to communicate with Dr. John Taylor at Friends University, who is in the process of getting his team together for the 2018 Kansas Lions Band. His budget and several other key parts to making the 2018 camp a success have been discussed. Additionally, contact has been made with Dr. Perez at Baker University to start the logistics for 2019. He is very excited to have the Kansas Lions Band camp return to Baker. His youthfulness and interaction with the 2016 students was remarkable. The committee is looking forward to working with the Baker staff.

The cost for State Band camp will remain at \$250 per student. Two key factors allow us to stay at this cost. Dr. Taylor's budget has been the same for several camps and Lions has been approved to use USD 206 school buses again next summer. First Student bus company was contacted as a backup. They would charge Lions approximately \$4,500.

After the recent mass shooting in Las Vegas, we reached out to our past band students who are on Facebook to see if they thought that we should continue to plan for an International Band trip to that city for the 2018 LCI Convention and whether students would support such a trip. The

response was a resounding "YES." Therefore, coordination with the various travel agencies has been ongoing.

The Band Committee decided to use Educational Tours, Inc., which has supported the band for several years, including on our Chicago trip last summer. Assuming we can get a sufficient number of students, the International Band trip to Las Vegas will encompass seven days (five nights in Las Vegas) via motor coach bus. The Band Committee has reviewed the pricing of the proposed trip and has set the cost of the International Band trip at \$1,300 per student. International Band students will receive a \$400 discount from the Kansas Lions Band Foundation (KLBF). Therefore, the cost of the International Band trip would only be \$900 per student. Total overall cost to attend both State and International Band will be \$1,150, which includes the KLBF discount.

The International Convention is only eight months away. The band program needs your support and help now by recruiting students. Flyers were to go out in late November or early December and information will be posted on the State Lions website.

As always, we close with a quote: "A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty." –Sir Winston Churchill

*Respectfully submitted,
PCC Hans and Shari Neidhardt
Kansas Lions Band Committee Co-Chairs*

Old uniforms key to creative band fundraiser

What do you do with 225+ old band uniforms? You turn them into a fundraiser to support the Kansas Lions Band program, of course.

Thanks to the ingenuity and sewing prowess of Lion Nancy Houghton and Lion Shari Neidhardt, a new fundraiser concept is underway. Not only does the project make use of the old band uniforms, but it will also generate needed funds to help support the State Band and International Band programs.

At the Friday night Jazz Concert (back in June), our International Band Director Christopher Dean was presented with the first large carrying bag, made completely out of an old band uniform. Then Lion Nancy displayed the first “hipster” bag as we got ready to take the International Band to Chicago. Low and behold, the concept of making these bags as a fundraiser came to be.

One of each style of bag will be available during the Kansas Lions Band Foundation auction at the Mid-Winter Rally in January in Manhattan. We hope to have some others produced for sale as well.

Orders for either style can be placed now. Simply contact Lion Shari Neidhardt at 19faith58@gmail.com to secure your bag. The large laptop style



The “hipster” bag (left) sells for \$35. The large, “laptop” bag (below) sells for \$100. After material expenses, all proceeds go to the Kansas Lions Band program. Contributed photos



bag costs \$100. The “hipster” bag costs \$35. Material costs will be taken from sales, with the remaining funds going to the KLBF to help support future

band needs. Bags can be mailed for a small additional fee.

Show your Kansas Lions Band pride and support this top notch band program – order a bag today.

USA/Canada fun

Eighteen MD-17 Lions attended the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Portland, Ore. from Sept. 21-23. Many wonderful seminars were presented and the featured speakers were fantastic.
Contributed photo





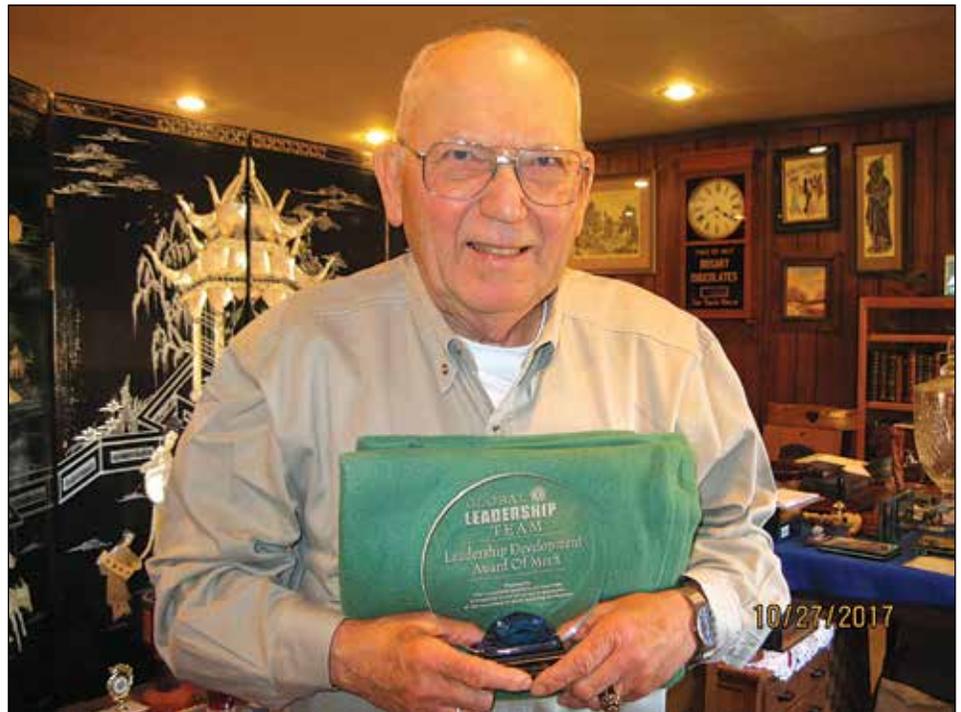
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GLT-D Recognition

Ken Leander just celebrated 45 years of service to Lions. Ken has been the GLT-D 17A coordinator from 2014 to 2017. PDG Craig Donecker, MD-17 GLT chair, was a major support during these years. The three District Governors who worked with Lion Ken and helped make this award possible were PCC Bev Greenwood (2014-15), PDG Carleen Rajala (2015-16) and PDG (current CC) Linda Leander (2016-17). He received the Leadership Development Award of Merit and certificate from Immediate Past International President Chancellor Bob Corlew.

Contributed photo



In appreciation

Immediate Past Council Chair Fran Smith (right) receives a Certificate of Appreciation during the Second State Council Meeting in October. Presenting the certificate is current Council Chair Linda Leander.
 Contributed photo