

## ALERT trailer responds to Eureka tornado

Lions from District 17N and across the state were among early responders after a tornado hit the Greenwood County community of Eureka on the evening of Tuesday, June 26. The Kansas Lions Foundation ALERT response trailer arrived in Eureka early Wednesday afternoon.

17-N District Governor Indra Phillips made the request for a disaster grant of \$10,000 from the Lions Clubs International Foundation on Wednesday. The grant was approved June 28 and the money arrived in Kansas early the following week.

The ALERT trailer was stocked with rakes, shovels, trash bags, boxes, tarps, work gloves, brooms, buckets, nails, wood, diapers, and other miscellaneous supplies to be used to assist with the clean-up effort. Those supplies were quickly distributed and the trailer was restocked on Friday with tarps, rakes, nails and other needed materials.

This is the second time in two years that the community of Eureka has been hit by a tornado. According to the local newspaper, *The Eureka Herald*, the community was just wrapping up recovery efforts from the July 7, 2016 tornado.

The tornado that hit Eureka on June 26 was rated an EF-3. The tornado stretched one-quarter mile in width and had a wind speed of 152 mph. The National Weather Service issued a tor-



*These enthusiastic young volunteers were just two of many who helped Kansas Lions distribute clean up supplies in Eureka after the community suffered significant damage from an EF3 tornado on June 26. More photos on page 4.*

nado warning at 7:19 p.m., just two minutes before the tornado struck Eureka, traveling from the southwest to the northeast corner of town.

A preliminary damage assessment showed that 303 structures were in the tornado's path, with 167 of them suffering damage. Nineteen of the residences were a total loss and another 32 homes had severe damage. The remaining 116 homes were affected by

the storm. In addition, 20 commercial buildings were damaged, with eight being destroyed.

At least 1,300 customers were without electrical power for nearly two days. The Associated Press reported that eight people were injured. Kansas Gov. Jeff Colyer issued a disaster declaration for Greenwood County and the Red Cross opened two temporary shelters for those impacted by the tornado.

Local members of the Eureka Lions Club and ALERT Team members helped deliver tools, gloves, and other necessities, including water, to volunteers working in the area. The Kansas Lions Foundation ALERT team was ready to support volunteers in the cleanup effort.

"A huge salute needs to be given to the **Eureka Lions** members for step-

*See EUREKA ALERT on page 4*

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From the Council Chair –

# Time to look ahead into a new year

Aloha, Kansas Lions! First, I want to thank PCC Linda Leander for her leadership during our last year. She juggled so many balls but she always managed to make all of us her number one priority. She has been helpful in so many ways and we should all give her our most gracious gratitude for her leadership. Ron and I want to personally thank PCC Linda and Lion Ken for their true dedication to our Lions motto, *We Serve*. They have both been so instrumental in the success of Lionism in our State and have been and always will be true friends to us.

I would like you all to know that I am humbled to be your leader this year. To be your Council Chair is the greatest opportunity bestowed upon me as a Leader and I promise to fulfill my du-



CC Deb Weaverling

ties and responsibilities for all of you. For your information, in the State of Texas, you have to wait 16 years to be Council Chair and even then you may not be given the opportunity. I feel very lucky and appreciative for this opportunity. I promise to do my best to support you and continue the message from our IPIP Naresh Aggarwal: The Power of We, The Power of Service, and The Power of Action. His message resonated with so many Lions across the world and certainly in our State of Kansas.

Our incoming IP Gudrun Yngvadotir's message to all of us is *"Beyond the Horizon."* She says there's a world of service yet to be reached and we have the opportunity to reach out within our districts, clubs and selves to increase the humanitarian good across our state,

country and world. What a powerful message that I am sure will resonate with all of us as we move forward this Lions year, giving to others with the services we provide to our communities.

I will also be the Chairperson for the Global Action Team. The GAT is made of District GLTs, GMTs, GSTs and State GLT and GMT. We also are very fortunate to have PID Ed McCormick as the Area Leader GLT and PID Bill Phillipi as the Area Leader GMT. We will all work together to create a positive experience in increasing our membership, preserving retention, training, and services in our State. Look for what's coming up in the near future from the GAT.

Some things you don't know about me: at the age of 12 I was cast, as many other children were, in the movie, "Green Beret." This was my first job and while I don't remember much, I do

*Continued on next page*

## 2018-19 Council of Governors

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District website:  
kansaslions17n.org

### Follow MD 17

• on the Internet:  
www.kansaslions.org

• on social media.

## Calendar

- Aug. 10-12, 2018  
*First State Council Meeting,  
McPherson*
- Sept. 20-22, 2018  
*USA/Canada Forum,  
Columbus, Ohio*
- Oct. 26-28, 2018  
*Second State Council Meeting,  
McPherson*
- Jan. 25-27, 2019  
*Third State Council Meeting/  
Mid-Winter Rally, Manhattan*
- May 30-June 1, 2019  
*Fourth State Council Meeting/  
State Convention, Lawrence*



*Continued from previous page*

remember the big, tall, man with a huge voice, John Wayne. At the age of 15, I danced the hula (with my mom and sisters) at the grand opening of Disney's Polynesian Resort.

I'd like to tell you that Ron and I met on the beaches of Hawaii, but we met at Ft. Benning, Georgia. My Dad was in the US Army and Columbus, Ga. is where he and mom raised me and my three

siblings. Ron and I traveled after our marriage to Colorado, Arizona, Germany, Pennsylvania, New York and Kansas. I am an HR professional with more than 20 years of experience working for the federal government and city government. We

have three beautiful daughters and eight grandchildren. I currently work part time for an accounting firm in Leavenworth as the Office Manager. I have been blessed with so many opportunities and have been exposed to so many people. Life is good!

Please contact me if you need assistance, you have questions, or you want to share your good news with me. I am available and at your service. Never forget our motto, *We Serve*, and also, "Where there's a NEED, there's a LION!"

CC Deb Weaverling

## What is the Global Action Team?

What is the Global Action Team? This will be chaired this year by CC Deb Weaverling, who will assist the State & District GMT (Global Membership Team), the GLT (Global Leadership Team), and the GST (Global Service Team) leaders.

"Our mission is to help IP Gudrun in her passion to serve all Lions," Weaverling said. "We must invent new ways of doing things and we must make it fun."

Review your membership goals for your club, tweak them to make them better and then go after them. Saying and doing is of utmost importance. The Just Ask program

(can be found on the LCI website) is just that simple.

"If we don't tell non-Lions who we are, they will never know," Weaverling said. "Plan a membership drive in your club, make it competitive with your Lions and then reward your Lions for a job well done."

Plan a dinner and invite your community leaders, family, and friends. Have a great program that will be enlightening and heartfelt. Then talk about all the projects and services Lions can provide for your community. If you need assistance, seek the knowledge of your GMT: District K, PDG Mel Barnett; District A, PID

Ernest Young, and District N, PDG Terry Weldin.

The Global Leadership Team works hard to have training sessions for your club. The meetings have been held in your area the past year and will continue this year. Contact your GLT: District K, IPDG Randy St. Aubyn; District A, PCC Bobby Duvall, and District N, PCC Helen LeBlanc. All clubs will incorporate a "new member" orientation and then celebrate by having a special meeting introducing your new members to your club.

The Global Service Team works toward making sure clubs are meeting their service projects. Or if you need a service project in your community, you can confer with the GST in your district: District K, DG Reland Cole; District A, PDG Carleen Rajala, and District N, Lion Debra Funke.

If your club has been doing the same service project for years, you have the opportunity to change "how you have always done things." Examples include cleaning up your local park, planting a tree in your park, cleaning up a roadway in your community, cleaning up the yard of an elderly person in need, providing cans of food to your local food pantry, feeding the hungry in your community, or helping a youth in need.

Our goals for this Lion Year are to provide more training as needed, to increase our services to our community by re-inventing new projects and fundraisers, and to charter new clubs.

"I am confident we can do this, especially with our leadership in all teams," Weaverling said. "If we work together to accomplish IP Gudrun's goal, we can achieve so much. Thank you in advance for the work that you will do."



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**Deadline for next issue: November 10, 2018**

*Please send your news to Nancy either via e-mail or snail mail.  
Send original photos -do not downsize them. Let Nancy know if you have questions.*



*At left and below, the June 26 tornado wrought significant damage to the Eureka community.*

Photos courtesy of The Eureka Herald

## Eureka ALERT

*Continued from page 1*

ping forward to assist the ALERT Team,” said KLF President PDG Dan Funke.

The Kansas Lions Foundation has spent more than \$14,000 to purchase supplies for the disaster response. The Foundation is collecting cash donations to refill the trailer with needed supplies and give additional money to the Eureka Lions to help individuals in the community.

Donations can be made to the Kansas Lions Foundation and mailed to John Scovill, Treasurer, Kansas Lions Foundation, PO Box 73, Humboldt, KS 66748. Please note “Eureka tornado” in the memo line.

*The Kansas Lions News thanks The Eureka Herald for contributing to this story.*



*Kansas Lions Foundation president PDG Dan Funke is interviewed by a Topeka television station about the Lions’ ALERT Team response after the Eureka tornado.*

Contributed photo

## 2018 State Convention • June 1-2 • Wichita



Performers from Amira Dance Productions entertained Lions and guests after the Friday dinner at State Convention in Wichita. Below, members of the group pose with PID Ed McCormick (standing) and special guest PIP Sid Scruggs. Photos by Becky Funke



## Scruggs exhorts Lions to lead & inspire others to join them

By Nancy D. Borst

Leadership and service were on the mind of PIP Sid Scruggs III, who was the special guest at the 2018 State Convention.

He spoke about leadership in an afternoon workshop and then shared his thoughts on service at the concluding banquet.

There are many kinds of leaders but the true value of leadership is in how many new leaders are developed.

“If the person behind you does better than you, you’ve done a good job,” he said.

Mentoring members is critical, he noted. Each Lions member should recruit two new members – one to add to the club’s numbers and the other to replace him or herself. We should always recruit for quality, otherwise it’s just a “race to the back of the line.”

The problem with being focused on membership and keeping members is that we can forget about serving others, he told Lions Saturday night. We don’t always tell our story well enough. We need to make sure our message is not only spoken but also lived.

Scruggs said the two most important dates in a person’s life are the day of birth and the day we each know why nobody else can go where you do. He called the latter the “aha” moment.

“The Lions we lose haven’t had that moment,” he said.



PIP Sid Scruggs III conducts a workshop on leadership. Photo by Becky Funke

“We need to be alert to opportunities for kindness. Are you listening for the cry of a person who really has needs?”

All Lions should pursue service so there are no excuses, no regrets and no need for explanations.

“Live that and we will inspire those around us,” he said.



### Collecting honors

Several Lions were honored with LCI awards at the convention banquet. Pictured here, left to right, are Wanda Weldin, Leadership Award; PDG Bernard Lee, Presidential Award; Dianna and Tom Baumann, IP Certificate of Appreciation; Becky Funke, Presidential Award; PDG Dan Funke, IP Certificate of Appreciation; Pat Agnew and PDG Gene Allen, IP Certificates of Appreciation. Not pictured: Matt Kerns, IP Certificate of Appreciation, and Ken Leander, Leadership Award.

Photo by Nancy D. Borst

# Jackie Stiles impresses on the court and in life

By Nancy D. Borst

Jackie Stiles could have coined the phrase, “small town girl makes good.” She rose from her roots in Claflin, Kan. to become arguably one of the most talented women ever to pick up a basketball.

PDG Craig Donecker, who introduced Stiles before her Saturday luncheon speech at State Convention, also is from Claflin. He said Stiles literally put the town of 600 “on the map.” One of Stiles’ jerseys still hangs in the high school gym, even though the local schools have merged with two other communities into a new school district.

“Her work ethic is second to none,” Donecker noted. Indeed, Stiles’ hard work – coupled with abundant instinct and talent for the game – is what made her so dominant on the basketball court.

A clearly humble Stiles said she was “selfishly focused” on basketball for much of her life. Her father was her coach and her love of the game began under his tutelage. She recalled that she knew as early as second grade that she was going to be a basketball player.

She played on an AAU team and there drew the attention of a Missouri State University coach, who told her she could play at the Division I level in college if she continued to work hard.

She began piling up awards and records in high school, becoming the leading scorer in Kansas high school history. She set a state record for a single game, 71 points. And her drive also made her a force in cross country, on the track and



*Claflin native Jackie Stiles shares her story with Lions.*

on the tennis court. She won 14 state gold medals in track and was state runner-up in tennis for three seasons.

Her rise to basketball fame had its pitfalls, however, including breaking her right wrist as a high school sophomore. But Stiles turned adversity into opportunity, using her down time to teach herself how to shoot left handed. Still, when her team reached the State Tournament semifinals, she had her “worst game,” going only four for 21 from the field.

“It would have been so easy to walk away,” she said. Instead, she vowed to make 1,000 shots every day, a promise she kept throughout high school.

“If it wasn’t for adversity, I’m not sure where I would be today,” she told Lions. “My work ethic changed.”

By the time she was ready for the next level, the next level was relentlessly pursuing her, and Stiles admits she did not handle the college recruiting process well. She endured 18 home recruiting visits in 19 days, with her mother cooking a meal for all of them. Her top three list of schools was Missouri State University, the University of Connecticut (aka UConn) and Kansas State University.

Stiles admitted she sought input from a psychic hotline before finally deciding to head to Missouri. That decision disappointed her home state fans but she “followed her gut” and heart and ended up having the best four years of her life.

“The only times I’ve really had trouble was when I did not listen to my instincts,” she said.

Her goal as a college player was to

*Continued on next page*



*Basketball great Jackie Stiles autographs a basketball from Missouri State University, her alma mater, for CC Deb and Lion Ron Weaverling. Photo by Nancy D. Borst*

*Continued from previous page*

make it to the Final Four. In her senior year, Missouri State won the conference tournament and was sent to New Jersey for the NCAA tournament. They first beat Toledo, then faced Rutgers, which was playing on its home court. But MSU prevailed and moved on to Spokane, Wash. to face top-seeded Duke. The Lady Bears pulled off that upset and punched their ticket to the Final Four by then topping the University of Washington.

That essentially took them home, to St. Louis. Unfortunately, that's where the fairy tale ended, in a loss to Purdue. But Stiles, famous for her tenacious play and spinning jump shots, was just getting started.

She was the fourth overall pick in the 2001 WNBA draft, going to the Portland Fire and achieving her dream to be paid to play basketball. The money wasn't nearly comparable to what male professional players earn but there was plenty of travel and nice hotels for this small-town Kansas girl.

It was entering her second professional season that her body began to betray her, she said. She had wrist surgery, suffered a torn rotator cuff and also an Achilles injury, playing much of the season at less than 100 percent. She had to go on injured reserve.

But as the season wound down, her team was only one victory away from the playoffs. Stiles dug deep down inside herself and found the strength she had always possessed. She said she told herself she was the best player and she was going to do what it took to win. She was going to play.

"My mind convinced my body I was my old healthy self," she said.

*"If it wasn't for adversity, I'm not sure where I'd be today."*

*-Jackie Stiles*

She hit her first six shots and played the best game of her professional career. But her body simply could not go on and she retired. She took her talents into a personal training/basketball lessons business and moved back to Springfield, Mo.

Her first opportunity to coach came at a college in Los Angeles. But Stiles was drawn back to her college roots and now is in her fifth season as an assistant coach at MSU.

Last fall, Stiles began having some trouble with her vision and depth perception. Again, she let her superstitious nature have a say, actually flipping a coin to decide whether to consult a doctor. Thankfully fate sent her to seek treatment and even helped out a bit by allowing her to get in quickly due to a cancellation.

The doctor found a mass behind her right eye and a specialist the next day diagnosed her with an exceptionally rare form of cancer, ocular melanoma. Treatment began in December 2017, with irradiated seeds implanted in the tumor. Stiles said she is fortunate she had symptoms because many who have this cancer don't know it until it is too late. She continues to have regular checkups and full-body scans.

Stiles' work ethic has carried over into a new purpose. "I always try to find the positives. I'm not going to waste energy worrying about the scans," she said. "I vowed to pay it forward and do a small act of kindness every day."

At the end of each day, she asks herself: Did I get better? Did I make those around me better? Stiles certainly made the 2018 Kansas State Lions Convention better with her inspiring story.

## 2018 State Convention • June 1-2 • Wichita



### Miss Kansas meets Lions governors

Miss Kansas Krystian Fish also was a special guest speaker at the State Convention. She is pictured here with the 2018-19 District Governors, left to right, Patrick Laham, N; Reland Cole, K, and John Burns, A.

Photo by Becky Funke

## First State Council Meeting is Aug. 11-12

Kansas Lions will gather Aug. 11-12 in McPherson for the First State Council Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Best Western Holiday Manor Motel, 2211 E. Kansas Ave.

This meeting is open to all Lions. Come hear about state-level plans for the coming year. Meal reservations are due by Aug. 3. Anyone arriving Friday evening is invited to join in a time of fellowship, with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Breakfast is free with a motel room key and lunch is on your own both days.

State committees and the three Foundations will meet on Saturday. The hospitality room, hosted by District N Lions, will be open following dinner on Friday and most of the day Saturday.

Saturday's dinner will feature a buffet including the popular pot roast and trimmings. The council's business session is on Sunday, following breakfast and a devotional by the Past District Governors Club.

## First State Council Meeting

FREE breakfast if staying at Best Western

### Return by August 3

\_\_\_\_\_ Reservations for Friday dinner @ \$17.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ Reservations for Saturday dinner @ \$17.00 each

*Meal prices include taxes and gratuity*

Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: **Linda McCormick, State Secretary**

**231 South Tyler**

**Wichita, KS 67209**

**Phone: 316-773-2100**

**E-mail: [KansasLions@aol.com](mailto:KansasLions@aol.com)**

Checks payable to: **KANSAS LIONS**

## State Council Meeting schedule

### Saturday, Aug. 11

7:30 a.m. Kansas Lions Foundation, Harvest Room

8:30 a.m. Constitution & By-Laws, Golden Room

9:00 a.m. First & Second Vice District Governors and spouses, Sunset 1

10 a.m. Budget & Finance, Sunset 2; Audit, Golden Room

11 a.m. Health programs, Golden Room

Lunch on your own

1:00 p.m. GMT, GLT, GST District Chairs, Sunset 1

1:30 p.m. Public Relations, Harvest; LCIF, Sunset 2; State and International Band, Golden Room

2:30 p.m. Kansas Lions Sight Foundation, Harvest Room; Long Range Planning, Sunset 1;

Budget & Finance, Sunset 2

3:30 p.m. K-I, Golden Room; Environmental, Sunset 1

6:30 p.m. Dinner, Golden Room

### Sunday, Aug. 12

Breakfast on your own, free with motel room key

8:00 a.m. Devotional and Meeting by PDG Club, Harvest Room

9:00 a.m. State Council Business Session, Harvest Room



## 2018 Kansas Lions Band in the books, now on to 2019

Thank you, Lions! Your Kansas Lions Band students are the greatest. The students that come from all around the state do such a remarkable job in such a short time period. In just more than three days, they learn their respective ensemble pieces, full band concert selections, and some even go the extra effort to be part of the jazz band.

The 2018 Lions Band had 215 students signed up but six cancelled prior to registration. During registration, there were only four “no shows,” with another three going home during the week. The final concert band consisted of 202 students representing 95 schools. The top four schools represented were Dodge City (10), Hugoton (8), Baxter Springs (7) and Goddard (7). Kansas Lions were responsible for sponsoring 185 of the students. Local Lions’ sponsorship is a key element of the band camp’s success.

Multi-year students were recognized during the Friday night performances. There were 36 three-year, 9 four-year, and 2 five-year students. Josie Pierce and Aly Shamburg, both from Hiawatha and sponsored by the **Hiawatha Lions Club**, have been added to the “Fifth Year Students Hall of Fame.” Josie and Aly are the 18th and 19th students to achieve this recognition.

In an effort to be able to fit every student into one of the new uniforms, an additional 50 uniforms were purchased



*Kansas Lions Band Co-Chairs PCC Hans and Shari Neidhart join this year’s five-year students, Josie Pierce and Aly Slamburg, both of Hiawatha. Contributed photo*

at the end of last year. That gives us 350 uniforms to outfit the band. Our intent is to keep just a few of the larger sizes of the older uniforms on hand, just in case they might be needed. However, due to storage area available, we are still working on getting rid of the older uniforms. Lion Nancy Houghton and Lion Shari are busy making “band bags” and “hipsters” out of the old uniforms. This has allowed us to get the remaining old uniforms onto a single rack. Over time, we hope to be able to use or give away the majority of the old uniforms.

On June 11, Lion Shari and I traveled to Baker University to meet with Dr. Frank Perez and the summer camp/housing staff in preparation for the 2019 camp. Baker University is excited about our return and have some exciting new options to help enhance the camp. Dr. Perez is currently working to get his staff together. As you can see, there is no rest

to be had. These early meetings with the next camp location helps us prepare logistics and work out any issues well ahead of the camp.

We would just like to say thank you again, Kansas Lions, for sponsoring the students and being so supportive of this great program. There is no doubt in our minds that without your support, there would be no Kansas Lions Band. In closing, we share two comments made by your students on their survey.

**Four-Year Student:** “It has been an amazing four years. I will miss coming every year. Love you guys and I can honestly say you changed my life for the better. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

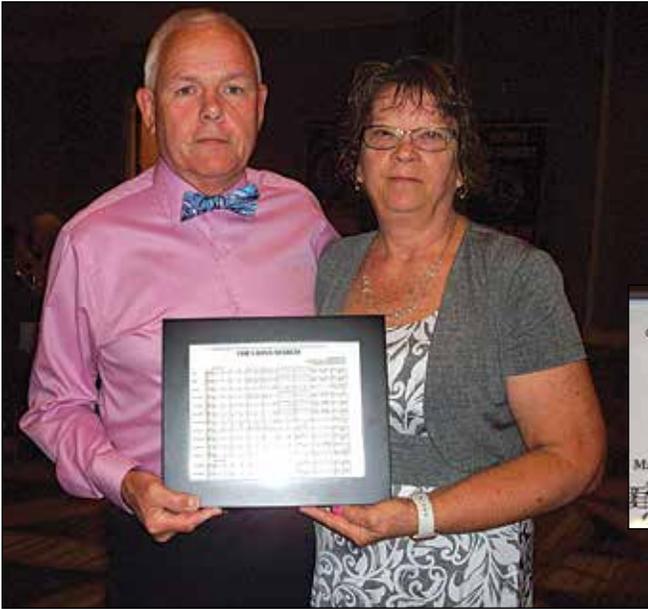
**First-Year Student:** “At first, I didn’t like it here. Maybe it was because it was my first time being away from home, but I slowly started to get the hang of it. In the end the long rehearsals were worth it and I am going to miss this place. It felt very welcoming and I hope to come back next year.”

Respectfully,

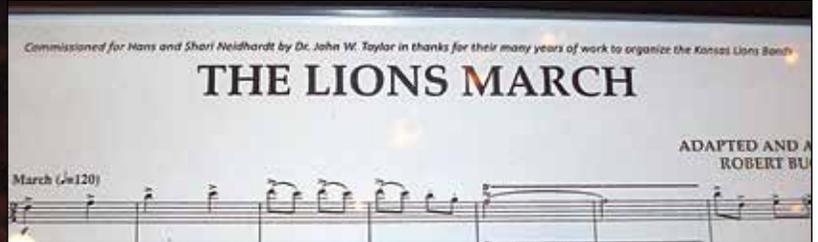
PCC Hans & Lion Shari Neidhardt  
Band Committee Co-Chairs



*Dr. John Taylor of Friends University (left) congratulates PIP Sid Scruggs on his stint as guest conductor at this year’s Lions Band concert. Photo by Rick Dodson*



LEFT: PCC Hans and Shari Neidhardt hold a framed copy of "The Lions March," a piece of music commissioned in their honor by Dr. John Taylor of Friends University. BELOW: Each copy of the march bears an inscription explaining this music was commissioned to thank the Neidhardts for their years of service to Lions Band. Photos by Nancy D. Borst



## New march honors longtime Kansas Lions Band leaders

Kansas Lions Band Co-Chairs PCC Hans and Shari Neidhardt give countless hours behind the scenes every summer so Kansas band students can shine at State Convention time. The pair do not seek the limelight for the work they love.

But this year, Dr. John Taylor of Friends University turned the tables on these selfless volunteers.

Taylor quietly worked with Lions Clubs International and composer Robert Buckley to commission a new piece of music titled, "The Lions March" in honor of the Neidhardts. The 2018 Kansas Lions Band performed the piece's world premiere as part of its concert June 2 in Wichita.

Taylor said he did this to honor all that Hans and Shari have done to promote the band program, which is one of the finest in all of Lionism.

Printed at the top of every copy of the sheet music is the following: "Commissioned for Hans and Shari Neidhardt by Dr. John Taylor in thanks for their many years of work to organize the Kansas Lions Band."

The Kansas Lions Band has been a frequent visitor to Friends University and over the years, Taylor and the Neidhardts have built a strong working relationship that has resulted in consistently successful band camps.

Never in their wildest dreams did this Lions couple imagine that a piece of music would be dedicated to them for all the world to hear and see. Taylor presented the couple with a framed copy of the march so they will always have a memento of this amazing honor. Congratulations, Hans and Shari.

*Piccolo players shine every year on "Stars and Stripes Forever," the finale of the Lions Band concert. This year's band concert was held at Central Community Church June 2 in Wichita. Photo by Rick Dodson*



## 2018 State Convention • June 1-2 • Wichita

# Leo clubs sort donated eyeglasses as service project

Members of the **Goddard** and **Mulvane Leo Clubs** gave several hours of service time at State Convention to assist Eyeglass Chair PDG Bernard Lee in sorting eyeglasses, frames and lenses.

The Leos learned how to distinguish valuable frames and usable glasses from trash under Lee's guidance.

Lee reported that after the convention work and additional work in Scranton, the following totals were accomplished:

- 6 banana boxes of dark sunglasses, 1,800 pairs;
- 25 banana boxes of good reusable glasses; 10,625 pairs;
- 2 banana boxes of salvage (broken glasses, parts & pieces);
- 3 55-gallon barrels of trash (wrappings, lenses, unusable eyeglass cases, other packing materials).

"Thank you to all of the clubs that brought used eyeglasses to the Convention for the KLSF," Lee said.



*Above, Leos from Goddard and Mulvane contributed a valuable service when they learned the process and helped sort eyeglasses at State Convention. That process included distinguishing useful items from trash and how to pack banana boxes (below).*

Photos by Nancy D. Borst



**New Member Inducted**

Kansas Lions welcomed new member Dorothy Smith from Salina (second from right) at State Convention. Smith was sponsored by her sister, PCC Helen LeBlanc (right). LeBlanc said Smith has been helping her with Lions duties for the past few years so the time had come to officially welcome her as a Valley Center Lion. Conducting the induction was PIP Sid Scruggs (second from left), who was joined by Valley Center Lions Club President Jim Gregory. Photo by Rick Dodson



**2018 State Convention • June 1-2 • Wichita**

***Lions let the ideas flow via convention roundtable discussions***

One of the Saturday seminars at State Convention invited Lions to share ideas and successes in roundtable groups.

Each table had a facilitator and a general topic to tackle, with ideas compiled on large sheets of easel paper. Lions thus could see ideas already shared as they rotated from table to table.

The following lists are compiled from those roundtables. Since this was a brainstorming activity, there is no detail on these lists, but rather the information serves as ideas hopefully to create a spark for local clubs. The bold heading on each list was the general topic for that table.

**Service**

- Vision Screening
- Recycling
- Community, park, highway or trail cleanup
- Provide eye exams and eyeglasses
- Partnership to extend service in community
- Work with city/county to provide services
- Holiday food baskets, gifts for needy
- Provide funds for children to attend special needs camps such as diabetes and/or deaf and hard of hearing

- Assist Health Nurse w/expenses
- Name plaques on all projects
- Recycle
- Install park benches and tables
- Collect and lend out medical equipment such as wheel chairs, walkers, crutches
- Easter Egg Hunt in community
- Ronald McDonald House cleanup and repairs
- Sponsor and support scout organizations
- Support a family with disaster using local funds and KLAT funds from the Kansas Lions Foundation
- Food for Food Pantry
- Crisis baskets for schools
- Pay for haircuts for kids that are in need
- Sponsor community gardens
- Yellow Dot sponsorship
- Build or buy playground equipment for community or schools
- Handicap playground equipment build / buy and install
- Lions partner with other groups in the community to provide funds and willing hands to do community service

**Membership**

- Energy

*Continued on next page*



*PIP Bill Philippi facilitates one of several roundtable discussions at the 2018 State Convention. Each table was given a topic and Lions rotated through all the tables, sharing their ideas for ways to make Lions even better.*

Photo by Becky Funke

*Continued from previous page*

- Active, accomplishing things in club
- Just Ask
- Invite prospective members to help with service projects and showing involvement
- Who to ask? Parents. Service minded-individuals: target people who may have connections with other groups. Lions hunt: bringing back lapsed members.
- Communicate Lionism, membership and what we do
- Limit meetings and be specific and on task
- Family memberships
- Recruit non-members to projects
- Marketing Lions and opportunities
- Meeting frequency and interesting programs
- Active Tail Twister
- Keep members involved
- More flexibility with involvement
- Provide child care during meetings
- Explanation of service to all members
- Ask prospective members what service is to them
- Marketing Lionism
- Service value – time
- Visible signage, marketing
- Make it known what Lions do
- Worthy projects
- Involve others
- Fun
- Be visible as a Lion
- Collaborate with other organizations

### **Fundraising**

- Car show
- Food concessions
- Flag line along street
- Pecan sales
- 50-50 raffles

- Trash bag sales/delivery
- Golf tournaments
- Barbecue. Ham and bean feed and pancake feeds
- Fireworks stand
- Placemats for feeds – fundraiser and supplying information about club
- Festivals
- Make fundraising fun

### **Leadership**

- Bribe
- Pay for GPLLI
- Involve everyone in club
- Define roles
- Finding Lions who have passion
- More one-on-one training; make training simple; Web training, Go to Meeting for zones; Training to club, not club to training
- Mentoring
- SOPS for job details
- Let new members run with jobs
- Don't shoot down ideas
- Orientation at club level
- Get new members to grow with club
- Don't throw new members into huge jobs
- Use LCI for club programming
- Highlight club leaders
- Encourage members to move into office
- Allow flexibility

### **Young members**

- Respect young people
- Drop the “club” from names
- Involve in club activities
- Look for new club members where members age out of

*Continued on next page*

## Leawood Lion Castro earns LCI Certified Instructor status

Lion Vania Castro, a member of the **Leawood Lions Club**, has done Kansas Lions proud by completing the Lions Clubs International (LCI) Certified Instructor Program in June 2018.

Lion Vania was one of 30 students selected from 200 countries. From the enrollment of 30 students, Lion Vania was one of only 18 selected for certification for the Lions Certified Instructor Program (LCIP). This outstanding achievement certifies Lion Vania to present training for LCI at local, regional & national; the Faculty Development Institute; the Emerging Lions Leadership Institute; Advanced Lions Leadership Institute; any Forums, and International Conventions in the future.

Lion Vania is the first Lion to be certified as an LCIP certified faculty member from Kansas. She also earned the Club Excellence Award for her outstanding service as President of the Leawood Lions Club and is currently serving as a zone chairperson for Kansas District 17-A.

Please share your good wishes and congratulations to Lion Vania for representing Kansas Lions in such a remarkable fashion.

—PID Ernest Young



Above, **Leawood Lion Vania Castro** is pictured with **Jon Montgomery**, division manager, leadership development, Lions Clubs International at the Las Vegas convention this summer. Castro is one of 34 LCIP certified Lions worldwide to date. At left is a copy of Castro's Certified Instructor Certificate of Achievement. Contributed photos

## We Serve • We Serve

*Continued from previous page*

organizations such as Leos, Scouting, etc.

- Start a Leo Club
- Promote one major project
- Involve non-Lions in service projects
- Send Lions information to band students and parents
- Inform high school students about Lions projects and invite them to join
- Involve college students
- Evaluate your meeting location
- Recruiting in clusters
- Get involved in committees, but not necessarily leadership
- Mentor new members
- Give recognition
- Find their interests and expand on that
- Meet in location with nursery; Leos provide child care
- Meet the needs of the community that young people

will support

- Cater to the interests of others
- One membership meeting/one board meeting
- Build your resume with leadership training
- Get young people involved in project before asking them to join
- Facebook/website/My Lion, keep it up to date
- Social media
- Keep families involved. Encourage them to bring kids

If you have ideas in any of these areas, don't keep them a secret! Share them with your club, your zone, your district and with Kansas Lions.

Please send your club's stories to *The Kansas Lions News* for other Lions. Your ideas help other clubs foster their own ideas and projects.

Together, We Serve.

## Meet the 2018-19 District Governors for MD-17



**District K**  
**Reland A. Cole**

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colebody@carrollswweb.com



**District A**  
**John Burns**

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**District N**  
**Patrick Laham**

Augusta Lions  
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C 316-648-2078  
PatrickLaham@gmail.com

I was born and raised in Great Bend, attending grade school through high school there. I then traveled to Hutchinson to attend Hutchinson Junior College, receiving an Associate of Arts Degree. I then attended Friends University in Wichita, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree before also attending Cleveland Chiropractic College in Kansas City.

Currently I own two businesses in Great Bend. In 1987 I started, with the help of my parents, Cole Body Shop LLC, a collision repair facility. Later, in 2008, I started my second business, called Cole Body House Maintenance. It is a handyman repair business. Together I have been running these two businesses in Great Bend.

I am a single man who enjoys working on certain projects, traveling and just trying to enjoy life; for the most part, I do.

*Continued on next page*

Hello, fellow Kansas Lions. I am John Burns, District Governor of 17-A. I am excited and looking forward to this coming Lions year. I have a great DG team and cabinet to work with and expect to have a very successful and productive year.

I am a relatively new Lion. I will be celebrating my 10th year this September as a member of the Olathe Lions Club. I have been in leadership from my second year, having served as Vice President/President for three years, Zone chair for two years, 2nd VDG, 1st VDG and now Governor. I am a graduate of the Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute and have completed my masters program on Lions University.

I am a military veteran. I am married to Becky, who also is a Lion and membership chair of our club. We have one son, who is a doctor in Overland Park, and three grandchildren, all of whom

*Continued on next page*

Greetings from Augusta to all my Lions friends! Many of you may know me as Diabetes Awareness Chair, or from my work in District N, Zone 7. Or perhaps I made a visit to your club to present a recognition or to hear a special program, or just as a hungry Lion at a pancake feed or chili supper. I do love visiting Lions clubs throughout the District and the state.

I have been in training for this new responsibility for three years. I recently completed three intense days of training at the District Governor School at the Lions International Convention in Las Vegas.

Here is my Lions story: I am retired from Wichita State University since 2010. Before working as Printing Department Supervisor at WSU, I taught printing and graphic design for 15 years for Wichita USD 259 and Wichita Area Technical College. I am married

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### Got news?

Send it to  
The Kansas  
Lions News.

E-mail: [ndbdesk@cox.net](mailto:ndbdesk@cox.net)

Mail: Nancy Borst, PO Box 127, Goddard 67052

**Deadline for next issue: Nov. 10, 2018**

Please send your news to Nancy either via e-mail or snail mail.  
Send original photos – do not downsize them.  
Let Nancy know if you have questions.

## District K

*Continued from previous page*

I have been a Lion for about 16 years. I have been a Club President a few times, Club Secretary for a brief time, Zone Chair, Environmental Chair, on the Multi-District Audit Committee, etc., 2nd Vice District Governor, 1st Vice District Governor, and finally District Governor of 17-K this year.

I am honored to be a District Governor. My goals are to fill our cabinet positions, and also have Club Officer Training and Zone Chair Training in several locations in our District. The major goal is to help those clubs with fewer than 15 members, gain new members. We will offer Membership Training to those clubs and any club that feels it needs help to grow their

membership.

How we will do this you ask? We will bring together at a membership training location, people in the state and out of state who have had major success in recruiting new members into their clubs. They will teach us, step by step, how they recruit and how they retain the new members. It will be a one-on-one type of teaching.

Most clubs do very well when it comes to fundraising. But when it comes to recruitment, they agree they are lost. The District is here to help you and your club with this problem. If you need help in this area, let us know. Thank you very much.

Your 17-K District Governor, Re-land A. Cole

## District A

*Continued from previous page*  
are in or through college.

I look forward to the opportunity to visit many clubs and share experiences with them. I know there will be challenges. But I know with the leadership and membership we have in our district, we can overcome them and provide exemplary service to the cities and towns we serve.

I will be placing special emphasis on

retaining current memberships, gaining new members, LCIF donations and diabetes awareness, along with our other initiatives.

I wish all clubs the very best this coming year and hope to see many of you on my visits or at a meeting during the year.

In Lionism,  
17-A District Governor, John W Burns

## District N

*Continued from previous page*

to my lovely wife, Lion Merle, who is a District N Environmental Committee member. We will celebrate 42 years of marriage this October. We have three adult children, and six grandchildren.

I have been a Lion since 2009, having served the Augusta Lions Club as a board member, Tail Twister, Program Chair, Membership Chair and Club President. This year I am serving as Eyeglass Collection Chair and on the Club Vision Screening Team.

I am a 2013 graduate of the Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute and a 2015 graduate of the Advanced Lions Leadership Institute. I have received the International President's Certificate of Appreciation. I have served District 17N for four years as Diabetes Awareness Chair, and one year as Zone Chair. Lion Merle and I are both Certified Guiding Lions.

I am a Butler County K-State Extension Master Gardener and I serve on the Board for the Augusta Community Garden. I am a huge fan of KU athletics (including football).

We have a great Leadership Team in place. Lions Marla, Chris, and I are dedicated to making our District the best it can possibly be. We have developed a club visit schedule, and we are going to hit the ground running. If you are not one of the clubs I will be visiting, please invite me to one of your meetings as a program, and I will share our experiences with you.

I have made it known that my favorite thing to do is to visit and get to know Lions everywhere. That was one of the best things about the International Centennial Convention: seeing old friends from all over the world and making new ones.

I hope to see you all somewhere down the Lion trail this year, and I will be attending as many District and club events as I possibly can. Let me know what your club is doing, and I will try to make it to your event. Thank you all for your service to your communities. We Serve.

### Where to find Kansas Lions online

Kansas Lions	<a href="http://www.kansaslions.org">www.kansaslions.org</a>
Kansas Lions Foundation	<a href="http://www.kansaslionsfoundation.org">www.kansaslionsfoundation.org</a>
Kansas Lions Band Foudation	<a href="http://www.kansaslions.org/Kansas_Lions_Band.html">www.kansaslions.org/Kansas_Lions_Band.html</a>

**Remember to like "Kansas Lions" on Facebook!**



### Back to school

Members of the **Wellington Noon Lions Club** and District N DG Patrick Laham recently toured Cowley College's Sumner County campus. This college is a state-of-the-art facility that will be open this fall in Wellington. Wellington is excited to have this educational opportunity for young and also non-traditional students. Photos contributed by Lion Betty Zeka



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## *Volunteers still needed for Mobile Screening Unit at State Fair*

With Lions Clubs International emphasizing Diabetes Awareness this year, the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation is working to get more Lions clubs to utilize the Mobile Screening Unit to provide individuals the opportunity to be checked for potential high blood sugars. The KLSF will provide public service announcements and other promotional material to help publicize the MSU in your community.



The MSU will again be offering free screenings at this year's Kansas State Fair Sept. 7-16 in Hutchinson. We still need volunteers to assist with this service project, either Lions clubs or individual volunteers.

Please call Lion Sylvia Reinhardt at 785-200-6132 or 620-921-0130 to help with these screenings. You are given a full day's gate pass to the fair for working one 4.5 hour shift.



*Donations made to the Kansas Lions Foundation following the 2017 wildfires were used to assist the City of Englewood in Clark County with major repairs to this backhoe, which was damaged when the wildfires went through the small community. Pictured, from left, are Olsen Whisenhunt, mayor, and Harry Davis, city council member.*

Contributed photo



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## **Plan now for the 2019 Lions Leadership Round Up**

Seventy-seven Lions from around the state gathered to invest a day in Lionism this spring at the 2018 Leadership Round Up in McPherson.

With some excitement, expectation, uncertainty, and even doubt, they began the day with registration, followed by an inspiring kick-off by PID Bill Phillipi. The participants dived into a curriculum that included topics such as the World Wide Web, Facebook, MyLion, leadership and nurturing volunteers. The day wrapped up with a motivational closing by PID Ed McCormick.

This quote from a participant is indicative of how many felt about their experience: "Wow! This state level session

was great. Travel was long but worth it. One day is adequate but maybe look at holding this twice a year with different topics each time. Thank you!"

Another said, "I really appreciated today. The event was able to furnish the basic info with enough details to be worthwhile. Good job – day well spent!"

Will we do this again next year? One of the Lions indicated that we should by saying, "I think every Lion in the state should attend the Leadership Round Up. The information that was presented was awesome." Plan now to attend the 2019 Round Up.

–PDG Craig Donecker



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**Hawaii comes to Leavenworth**

*District A Lions gathered at Fort Leavenworth in April for their convention. Special guest ID Sam Lindsey and his wife, Lion Joyce, are pictured here with a group of Hawaiian dancers who performed at the convention.*

*The group included then DG and current CC Deb Weaverling.*

*Photo contributed by Deb Weaverling*



**International family**

*Members of the Kansas Lions "International Family" (those who have served on the LCI level) posed at State Convention with PIP Sid Scruggs (center). They are, left to right, PID Ed McCormick, PID Gene Vogel, PID Bill Philippi and PID Ernest Young. Photo by Becky Funke*