



# THE SECOND TIME AROUND

## Final Edition

Kansas Lions District 17A Newsletter

### District Governor Margy Sundstrom

It's with a heavy heart, yet immense gratitude, that I write my final newsletter article as District Governor for the great Lions of District 17A.

What an incredible journey these past two years have been! When my term first began, "two years" felt like an eternity. Yet, here we are, in the final month of the 2024-2025 Lions year, and it feels like time truly flew by.



I want to extend my deepest appreciation to the incredible individuals who made this journey so successful and memorable:

- Lion Lori Kesinger, thank you for your outstanding work as editor throughout my two-year term, both as ADG and DG. Your dedication made our newsletters shine.
- PDG Rick Dodson, you were truly the best district secretary a DG could ask for. Your experience often meant you knew what I needed before I did, and for that, I am incredibly grateful.
- Lion Ron Nichols, we learned the ropes of the district treasurer position together, and you did a fantastic job. Thank you for your commitment and hard work.
- The Erics, I can't begin to list all of the things you did for me and the moral support you provided. THANK YOU!
- Lion Mike Sundstrom, we certainly put some miles on our vehicles, didn't we? Thank you for being the best driver ever throughout all our journeys.
- To my entire cabinet, there are simply too many instances to list, but please accept my sincerest thank you, thank you, thank you for ALL you did for our district. Your dedication and support were invaluable.

I'll cherish so many wonderful memories: visiting clubs, inducting new members, installing new officers, attending inspiring service projects, and participating in countless fundraisers across our district.

On June 30th, I know there will be tears in my eyes – sad that this chapter is closing, but overflowing with joy for the new friendships I've made and the incredible activities I had the privilege of being a part of.

As the late Bob Hope famously said, "Thanks for the memories."

DG Margy Sundstrom  
940-390-7430  
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## First Vice District Governor Irene Haws



Here we go! The 2024-2025 year is about complete. I want to congratulate and thank DG Margy Sundstrom for her two years of service as the Acting District Governor for 2023-24 and as the District Governor for 2024-25. The convention was amazing and so many Lions worked together to make it happen. I am excited that the district is up in membership this year too. There may be some member drops in local clubs that have not been removed on the Lion Portal. If your club has drops, please drop them now so you are not billed for members in July, plus it gives us real numbers to plan for the year ahead.

I enjoyed my time at the State Convention in Wichita at the end of May and meeting Past International President Douglas X. Alexander. I had a lot of fun reuniting with my Lion's friends from across the great state of Kansas!

Serving in a district leadership role has given me the opportunity to learn about the many clubs in our district and to learn about the uniqueness of the communities in which those clubs serve. I enjoyed meeting the club members and club leaders. Communities that have Lions Clubs are very lucky communities. Hopefully in the coming years we can bring Lions Clubs to those towns and communities that have lost a club or have a unique need that can be served by a Cyber-Club or a Specialty Club. The reward for serving others is a warm feeling.

Lions, if you have the opportunity to serve other lion leaders by being part of Zone Leadership, Mentors to Club Presidents, District Committee or District Service Projects, I encourage that you take that step. It will be amazing. I feel I have evolved in my leadership skills through training in Lions and have benefited both personally and professionally. It is an opportunity for personal development and professional development. Consider a leadership role and be part of the Mission to Grow Lions! I hope you have a wonderful summer enjoying your time with family and friends, enjoying your hobbies and connecting with others. Thank you for all that you do Lions, you are so appreciated!

*Irene Haws*

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**2024-2025  
District  
Leadership**

**District Treasurer Ron Nichols**

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**2nd Vice District Governor Roger Yost**

yostfarms@hotmail.com | (620) 397-3108

**Global Membership Team Eric Strimple**

estrimp81@msn.com

## Available Shifts at the State Fair

Fellow Lions, the State Fair will be here before we know it. Please consider signing up for one or more of the dates and times listed below. This a wonderful opportunity to show everyone what Lions do. Contact Jackie O'Neal [glammother@yahoo.com](mailto:glammother@yahoo.com)

or 316-734-2176

Friday Sept. 5th

9:30 a.m. 5 volunteers needed

1:30 p.m. 5 volunteers needed

Sat. Sept 6th

1:30 p.m. 5 volunteers needed

Sun. Sept.7th

9:30 a.m. 6 volunteers needed

Wed. Sept 10th

9:30 a.m. 2 volunteers needed

1:30 p.m. 1 volunteer needed

Thur. Sept 11th

9:30 a.m. 4 volunteers needed

1:30 p.m. 6 volunteers needed

Fri. Sept 12th

1:30 p.m. 3 volunteers needed

Sat. Sept.13th

1:30 p.m. 3 volunteers needed



## Second Vice District Governor Roger Yost



Have you looked at your past year as a Lions?

Have you completed what you wanted to?

Have you made your mark?

Have you stayed visible as a Lion?

Have you participated in club service?

Have you participated in District activities?

I hope you all have been active in your own way. As we move forward into another Lion year, lets look deep into what could have been done and what is being done. Review projects that have failed. Find the reasons why. Are they still workable, feasible? Don't give up.

Our district has shown growth toward the end of this year. New members mean new ideas, new service, a chance to attend even more. Get the new Lions involved don't be afraid to change our way of doing things. Listen with an open mind. The future is an unknown, let's welcome the change.

**REMEMBER, WE SERVE.**

The greatest pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do.

~Walter Bagehot

Roger Yost 1 st VDGE 17A

[Yostfarms@hotmail.com](mailto:Yostfarms@hotmail.com)

620-397-3108 (leave msg I will return the call)

If you are making a \$100 donation to support the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation, you will receive this beautiful pin to show your dedication! Contact PDG Terry Weldin to become a "Knight of Sight" today!





## Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute

Great Plain Lions Leadership Institute  
(GPLLI)

Where: Baldwin City, Kansas

Date: June 27-29, 2025

GPLLI Location: Baker University, Check-in at the Harter Student Center, 615 Dearborn St, Baldwin City, Kansas will take place from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. on Friday, June 27, 2025. Adjournment and checkout, by Noon on Sunday, June 29, 2025.

COST: US \$220 per attendee if payment received by April 30, 2025. Cost increases to US \$240 beginning May 1, 2025. Registration covers lodging (Friday and Saturday nights), seven meals, and all course materials. Lion attendees may request to room together if desired.

Mail completed application and full payment to ID Hans Neidhardt, 7400 NW Ayr Road, Potwin, Kansas 67123.

Sponsors: Multiple Districts 3 (Oklahoma), 9 (Iowa), 17 (Kansas), 26 (Missouri)

Go to <https://kansaslions.org/gplli> to download the application and get more information about GPLLI.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at [margaret1226@gmail.com](mailto:margaret1226@gmail.com) or 940-390-7430.

Learn new things and make new friends.....

DG Margy Sundstrom

## LCIF Donations Challenge

As Multiple District 17 LCIF Coordinator, I'm issuing a challenge to Kansas Lions. One of the State LCIF goals this year is to increase the number of individual Lions making personal recurring LCIF donations. Hopefully, my challenge will help us meet this goal. The challenge for first time recurring donors, not current recurring donors. I made a similar challenge at the Mid-Winter Rally, and we've already presented a MJF to the winner.

**We set a goal to collect \$2,500 for our charitable Foundation at our State Convention. We raised \$10,669, so the Foundation Coordinators in the State had our hair (scalp?) colored. I think it's water soluble.**

PDG Rick Dodson  
[dodsonr23@gmail.com](mailto:dodsonr23@gmail.com)



Thank You  
LCIF  
Supporters





# STATE CONVENTION



Kiss a fish raised more than \$500 for LCIF.





# ALERT TRAILERS AT WORK

DG Diana Bauman District 17-N

May 19, 2025

THANK YOU LIONS!!!!!! I was sitting here last night not knowing who we should help. 18 tornadoes touched down – most in our district. We waited until morning to see who needed us most. The Alert Truck and Trailer in Hays was taken to Grinnell and the Wichita Alert Truck and Trailer headed to Plevna. PDG Tom (Hays Lions) and IVDGE Jeremy (Goodland Lions) took the truck to Grinnell. Justin (Colby Lions) met them there. They gave away items needed and then jumped in to help. DGE Lou and Patty (Stafford Lions) headed to Plevna to meet Secretary Dan. Lots of clubs and people have called to help – many outside our district! Thank you all! A lot of homes are just gone. Cars/trucks on I-70 were twisted and thrown. And nobody died or was seriously injured! Miracles do happen! I cannot say enough about Lions. Amazing people join Lions! Love you all! Thanks for always reaching out to help others.



Storms leave damage to Grinnell school buildings



**Service Opportunity  
via State Library of  
Kansas**

**Dear Kansas Library Community and Readers of all Kinds,** Our friends in Grinnell, Kansas, faced an EF-3 tornado May 18 that destroyed many homes, a church, a school and the school library. Grinnell is small (260 pop.) and understands the powerful influence classroom and library books will be to the children and community as school resumes in a few months. The director of the public [Moore Family Library, Grinnell KS](#), has asked for help to rebuild the school's library and classroom collections with donations of gently used children's picture books, chapter books or young adult materials. Book donations can be sent to the [Northwest Kansas Library System](#), 2 Washington Square, Norton, KS 67654. Donated materials will be delivered to Grinnell and waiting for the students in their "makeshift school" this fall.



# KANSAS LIONS BAND

## *Friends University - Wichita*



Wow! This concert every year is incredible! Lions Band is legit.

The total band ensemble this year had 185 students from all over Kansas, representing 71 high schools. Band was comprised of 30 clarinets, 30 flutes, 25 percussionists, 24 trumpets, 35 saxophones, 16 trombones, 6 French horns, 13 tubas & baritones, 5 bassoons, & 1 oboe.

These kids are the best in the state & come together to form a band for one week each summer. Schedules range from 7am–10pm. Sleep, eat, rehearse, repeat. These guys are all band! 🎵🎵

Friday night was a sectional concert in the auditorium, where they played with their own sections — clarinets together, flutes together, etc. This morning was the big concert in the gym, where they all perform together, TEN long songs!

These kids are so cool! Being in their presence is a blessing & an honor. & man, they know how to have fun! They know who they are, they are so talented, & most importantly are the kindest kids. They don't care what each other looks like, they are just kind. KIND. They cheer for each other randomly, clap, shout out, make impromptu music. It's an experience just to be in the same room.

We say THANK YOU to our local Waterville Lions Club for always sponsoring Kloee 3 consecutive years, this as her last one. & now offering the opportunity on to Elsee this time too. Super special they could do it together.

Tifanie Jean Martin 💙💛🐾



**PIP Douglas X. Alexander directing "Don't You Hear Those Lions Roar."**



4 Year  
Band  
Students



# AROUND THE DISTRICT



Memorial Day Flags  
at Eudora  
Cemetery



Lion Eric Strimple had the privilege of awarding the 2025 Earl R. "Bob" Slapar Scholarship. This year's recipient was Andrew Lord. Congratulations, Andrew!



## SAVE THE DATE



## NEW SERVICE INITIATIVES FOR 2025-2026

FROM INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT-ELECT A. P. SINGH

**MENTAL  
HEALTH &  
WELL-BEING**

OCTOBER 4-12, 2025



OCTOBER 4-12, 20

**HUNGER**



January 3-11 2026

**ENVIRONMENT**



APRIL 18-26, 2026

Please have clubs/districts plan accordingly.



Bennington Lions Club holding their certificate of appreciation provided to them by DG Margy Sundstrom. Job well done Bennington Lions!



NEW Leawood Lions – Welcome

Topeka Service Clubs are working together for the #CelebrateCommunity Blood Drive. Saturday, June 28, 11 am to 3 pm at West Ridge Mall. to schedule a time go to [donate.savealifenow.org](https://donate.savealifenow.org)



## Blood Drive

Let's go  
donate!

