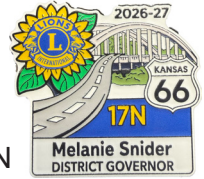




District 17N News

67 Lions clubs serving in south central and south east Kansas | July 2026

Find us on the web at kslions17n.org or on Facebook as KansasLionsDistrict17N



McCune Lions: Raising vegetables for community!

The McCune Lions Club partnered with the local school and the regional education service center approximately six years ago to create an educational gardening project for area youth. The Lions Club provided the location and helped construct the high tunnel greenhouse to provide students with a hands-on opportunity to learn about gardening and food production.

After the local school closed, the McCune Lions Club chose to continue the gardening project in partnership with the local garden club and the local church. Together, they maintained the project for two years. After that, the McCune Lions Club continued the project, ensuring the community to benefit.

Inside the high tunnel, raised beds of various sizes are used to grow tomatoes, peppers, green onions, several varieties of lettuce and radishes. Multiple growing methods, as well as effective irrigation/watering and plant nutritional systems are applied.

Most of the produce grown in the high tunnel is donated to residents, churches and families in need. A portion is also sold at the local farmers market, with all proceeds supporting Lions Club community service projects.

This year, volunteers planted 117 tomato plants. At the height of the season, the garden has

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Save the Date!

First State Council Meeting

Saturday, August 8

Gospel Assembly Church,
4230 N Oliver, Bel Aire
Registration on page 8

First District Cabinet Meeting

Saturday, August 15

Wellington Senior Center
308 S. Washington
Registration at 9:30 am
Sandwich Lunch \$15
Watch for more details soon!

Fall Rally

Saturday, October 24

McPherson

Week of

Service: Vision

October 8-18

For more information:

www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center/service/global-causes-initiatives/vision



Kansas Lions District 17N Leaders

District Governor

Melanie Snider

Baxter Springs Lions Club
417-529-2138

lionmelsnider@gmail.com

1st Vice District Governor

Barb Schattak

Lyndon Lions Club
785-221-7994

ksyorkies@gmail.com

2nd Vice District Governor

Joyce McDaniel

Valley Center Lions Club
316-259-4122

Lionjoyce.mcdaniel@gmail.com

District Governor Notes

A new Lions year begins

I am honored to serve as your District Governor this year and am excited to work alongside each of you.

A new Lions year is under-way—a new opportunity for the Lions of District 17N to use your gifts, talents, skills, and hands in service to your communities. Our International President, Mark Lyon, has chosen **“Rooted in Service”** as this year’s theme. I know District 17N will continue to strengthen and enrich our communities through the compassion and dedication that each of you brings to Lionism.

The International Convention in Hong Kong was an outstanding experience. It was filled with opportunities to share ideas, attend educational seminars, network with Lions from around the world, and learn about new initiatives and upcoming improvements, including enhancements to the e-Clubhouse. We also explored the “Learn” area of the Lions portal, celebrated our diversity, gained a greater appreciation for different cultures, and, of course, had some fun along the way. I returned inspired by the innovative ideas and the commitment to service shared by Lions from around the world, and I look forward to bringing that enthusiasm to District 17N as we work together throughout the year.

Lions Clubs International (LCI) has aligned district goal planning with the four areas of the Global Action Team (GAT): Membership, Leadership, Extension, and Service. In response, District 17N Leadership and



our GAT coordinators have established goals in each of these areas. As we move forward, we want to hear from you. Your ideas, suggestions, and experiences are valuable, and we encourage you to share them with us as we work together to strengthen our district.

Over the coming months, our GAT coordinators will be reaching out as we transition from the traditional “committee of one” approach to collaborative teams focused on each of the Global Action Team areas. By aligning our efforts with LCI’s Global Action Team structure, we can build a more connected, engaged, and effective district. Change often brings new opportunities, and I believe that by bringing more hands, hearts, and minds together, we will better support our clubs and expand our service to others.

I am currently finalizing the calendar of district events and meeting dates. Please look at your email and the district website for updates. I encourage each of you to participate, learn, share your ideas, and take advantage of the opportunities available throughout the year.

As your District Governor, I am here to support you and your club. Whether you need resources, guidance, or simply someone to listen, please know I am always willing to help. Thank you for your continued support and for the privilege of serving the Lions of District 17N. I look forward to working alongside each of you as we remain **Rooted in Service** and make a lasting difference in the communities we serve.

Melanie Snider
District Governor 2026–2027



**PEACE
POSTER**

lionsclubs.org/peaceposter
#peaceposter

Order Peace Poster Kits by October 1

With the start of the new school year, now is the time to order your 2026–2027 Peace Poster kit and organize a Peace Poster Contest at your local school or with an organized youth group in your community.

Theme for 2026–2027 is Harmony in Humanity. The international contest gives youth ages 11–13 the opportunity to be recognized at local and international levels — and awarded a grand prize of US \$5,000 — for their creativity in sharing their vision of the current year’s theme.

Order Peace Poster kits —digital or physical—lionsclubs.org/peaceposter. Watch future newsletters for details on how to submit your club’s entry to the district contest.

1st Vice District Governor

Looking forward to club visits; new Lion friends

Hello!

For our new members, I would like to introduce myself to you. My name is Barbara Schattak (you may call me Barb or Barbie) and I am honored to be your First Vice District Governor for the 2026–2027 Lions year.



My husband Gary and I have been married for 41 years and happily “retired.” Lion Gary works for farmers in the area, and I babysit grandkids when they need me.

We have two children: Keith (Andrea) Schattak and Kristy (Vince) Stark. We also have four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren who live close enough for us to spend time with them when we can. I do have a love of Yorkies, and we have three girls—Lilly, Nala and Betsy—who keep us on our toes.

Our Yorkies love to go camping with us when we go. You never know you might run into us at one of the lakes in the area.

I became a member of the Lyndon Lions Club in 2018 and have served as secretary, first and second vice president and president of my club. I also served as Zone Chair for two zones. I became the District Treasurer in 2022 and remained in this position for three years. It has been an honor to serve on the cabinet for four impressive District Governors.

In the last year I have visited several of the clubs in our area and have been impressed with how each club serves their communities and the world. Even though I will miss seeing these clubs this year, I am so excited to visit different clubs and meet more Lions.

I am looking forward to meeting and visiting you and your clubs and learning more about your great works as Lions.

District Governor Melanie, Second Vice District Governor Joyce, and I are excited about this upcoming year for Lions in District 17N and are here to serve you and your clubs.

Barb Schattak
1st VDG 2026–2027

2nd Vice District Governor

‘Together we serve’ in our communities, world

Hello Fellow Lions,

My name is Joyce McDaniel. I have been a proud Lions member since 1993. I began my Lions journey as a Charter Member of the Wichita Airport Lion Club and later transferred to the Wichita Southeast Lions Club.



During my years of service, I had the honor of serving as Club President from 1999–2000 and as Zone Chair from 2001–2002. I am currently a member of the

Valley Center Lions Club.

I am also proud to share that my daughter, Faith, is a member of the Kansas Lions Band Cyber Club, making Lions service a meaningful part of our family.

Thank you for your support in electing me as your Second Vice District Governor. I am truly honored by your confidence and look forward to working alongside my fellow Lions in the coming year. Together, we can strengthen our clubs, expand our service and make a lasting difference in the communities we serve.

Together We Serve.

Lion Joyce McDaniel
2nd Vice District Governor 2026–2027

International dues statements online now

Dues statements for July–December from Lions International are available on the Lions Portal. The club treasurer, secretary, and president can access the portal to get the statement.

If you need help to access the portal, contact

PDG Chris Bauer or PDG Dan Funke at the state office.

State and District dues will be billed by the district treasurer.

McCune garden

Continued from page 1

produced approximately 80 to 90 pounds of tomatoes each day, with production expected to continue for several more weeks.

The harvest has been exceptional. Bread trays used for collecting tomatoes hold approximately 25 to 30 pounds each, and some individual tomatoes weigh more than one pound. On one July morning alone, more than 30 pounds of tomatoes were harvested. To date, volunteers have picked well over 150 pounds of tomatoes, and with many plants still blooming, they expect to continue harvesting for several more weeks.

Maintaining the high tunnel requires a significant commitment. Lions Mackie McCole and PDG Gene Allen, both retired, devote three to four hours each day caring for the plants. The tomato plants have spread to nearly three feet wide, creating dense rows that require regular pruning, watering and harvesting.

Funds raised through produce sales help provide Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners, along with holiday gifts for local families who need a helping hand. The amount raised each year depends on community participation and the number of families served during the holiday season.

The McCune Lions Club's high tunnel project demonstrates how a community partnership can provide education, fresh produce for those in need and funding for important local service projects—all made possible through the dedication of committed volunteers.



A look the tomato plants thriving in the McCune Lions high tunnel greenhouse.

Does your club's road sign need a refresh?

What message does your road sign send to the public? Does it reflect the energy of your club and portray a vibrant Lions Club? Paint fades. Edges weather. And sometimes the look is from a prior era. Is it time to replace your sign?

LCI has a limited supply of FREE 18-inch road on a first-come, first-served basis. If your sign is worse for wear or if you don't have one, check out this link:



<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center/marketing-events/marketing-public-relations/club-marketing/road-signs>.



PID Hans Neidhardt (left) presented Lion Gary O'Neal (far right) with a Presidential Leadership Award at the June District Cabinet Meeting. Lion Gary, a member of the Bel Aire Lions Club, also works with eyeglass recycling—and anytime helping hands are needed. Also pictured is Lion Jackie O'Neal.



Bel Aire Lion Ginny Caldwell, center, received a Melvin Jones Fellowship at a recent club meeting. PDG Dan Funke, left, presented the recognition, which was gift by PDG Richard Caldwell, right. A Melvin Jones Fellowship recognizes a gift of \$1,000 to the Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF). Recipients receive a wall plaque, label pin and their name is displayed on an electronic feed at LCIF headquarters.



Wichita Northwest Lions presented two Melvin Jones Fellowships at the club's June meeting. Above, Lion Lana Murphy accepts the recognition from President Peggy Dilsaver-Custer. Below, Lion Patsy Faber receives the recognition.





Around the District

Submit your club activities to newsletter17n@cox.net
Deadline is always the 25th of the month



We Serve



Parsons Celebrates 95 Years

Left: PDG Don Cunningham recognizes Debra Shaw as Lion of the Year at the Parsons Club's 95th Anniversary Dinner. Above: PDG Don Cunningham and PDG Chris Bauer look over a display of photos depicting the club's service.



Baxter Springs Lions handed out snack bars to participants in the Bike Across Kansas ride as they passed through the community in June.



Goddard Lions President Charlie Presnal and Lion Lori Mathews served up watermelon at the Goddard Lions Fourth of July celebration.



Goddard Lion Nancy Abin aka Barrel Train Engineer, provided fun for the kids waiting for fireworks on July 4.

Photos courtesy of Whiskey River Photography



Augusta Lions participated in the Fourth of July Parade.



Wellington Lions present the flag at a Wellington Heat baseball game.



1st State Council Meeting
Saturday, August 8, 2026
Gospel Assembly Church
4230 N Oliver • Bel Aire
Register Today!



Lions and Guests _____

Address: _____

City _____ Zip _____

E:mail: _____

District: _____ Club: _____

Number of People for Lunch _____ X \$21.00

Total Cost _____

_____ I have enclosed a check for the above amount.

_____ I will pay at the event by check or credit card

You can also make reservations online and pay by credit card by Zeffy:
www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/first-state-council-meeting
Notice – If you make reservations and do not attend you are still responsible for payment
Email or mail this form to the state office by **July 29, 2026**
kansaslionsoffice@gmail.com
Mail to: Lions State Office
231 S. Tyler Road, Wichita, KS 67209

Meeting Lodging

There is a block of rooms at the



Best Western Plus Park City Wichita North
990 Connolly Court, Park City

The Lions block rate is \$95 plus tax.

Includes breakfast

Call the hotel direct at 316-744-7711

or use the link below to make reservations

www.bestwestern.com

Make reservations by July 31, 2026 to be guaranteed a room

Special Note to All Kansas Lions

Several committees have been diligently reviewing the meeting schedules for the year, with the goal of enhancing your experience while also reducing costs associated with attending our Council meetings, Fall Rally and State Convention. This new format is designed to encourage greater participation among our members and ensure that our time together is used efficiently, with meetings concluding by 5:00 PM and the evening meal replaced by a delightful noon luncheon.

We believe these adjustments will foster a more engaging environment for all Lions. Please stay tuned for more details in the Kansas Lions News, which will be arriving in your inbox shortly. We are looking forward to seeing you at our upcoming council meeting on August 8, 2025, at Gospel Assembly Church in Bel Aire, where we will kick off the new season of collaboration and connection. Most meetings will begin at 8:30 AM and wrap up by 4:30 or 5:00 PM on Saturday, allowing us to maximize our time together.

Together, let’s continue to empower our leaders and strengthen the bonds within our community!

KANSAS LIONS STATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS AGENDA

AUGUST 8, 2026

****FOR THE LIONS WHO HOLD MULTIPLE COMMITTEE POSITIONS, WE HAVE DONE OUR BEST TO ALLOW YOU TO ATTEND AT LEAST A PORTION OF THE COMMITTEES YOU SIT ON.**

COMMITTEE	TIME	ROOM
ALERT TEAM	Zoom	To be Announced
LCIF	8:00 - 9:00	B - Classroom
K-I	8:00 - 8:30	E - Chapel
KANSAS LIONS SIGHT FOUNDATION	8:15 - 9:30	D – General Meeting Room
LCIF	8:30 - 9:15	B - Classroom
CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS	8:30 - 9:15	E - Chapel
BUDGET & FINANCE	9:30 - 10:30	A - Classroom
AUDIT	9:15 - 10:00	B - Classroom
GLOBAL ACTION TEAM (ALL)	9:30 - 10:30	D - General Meeting Room
KANSAS BAND FOUNDATION	10:30 - 11:30	E - Chapel
K-I	10:30 - 11:30	B - Classroom
HISTORICAL	10:30 - 11:30	A - Classroom
LUNCH – D - General Meeting Room	11:30-12:30	Program – International President’s Goals
LONG RANGE	12:45 – 1:45	A - Classroom
HEALTH AND DIABETES	12:45 - 1:30	B - Classroom
KANSAS LIONS FOUNDATION	12:45 - 2:00	D - General Meeting Room
COMMUNICATION/MKTG/PR	1:30 - 2:30	E - Chapel
INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY	1:45 - 2:30	A - Classroom
BUDGET & FINANCE	1:45 - 2:15	B - Classroom
GOVERNOR’S REVIEW (If Needed)	2:20 - 2:50	B - Classroom
STATE COUNCIL MEETING	3:00 - 4:00	D – General Meeting Room

*****These committees are having Zoom Meetings before the Council Meeting*****
KANSAS LIONS STATE AND INTERNATIONAL BAND FALL RALLY
STATE OFFICE STATE CONVENTION
ENVIRONMENTAL
ALL COMMITTEE NEED TO SEND MINUTES TO kansaslionsoffice@gmail.com within a week.



Moundridge's Fishing Derby created lots of smiles on a sunny Saturday in June.

Welcome to the Pride

New members in June



New Member

Sponsor

Augusta Servant

Roxanne Dean

Harry Stockwell

Derby

Anne Phillips

Brock Stuhlsatz

Garnett

Greg Gwin

David Branton

Jerry Wilkinson

David Branton

Independence

Susan Cooley

Charlotte Caflisch

Ronald Hale

Jackie Hale

Maize

Joanna Kilgore

Larry Zimmerman

Neodesha

John Dost

Chris Bauman

Ottawa

Cary Rohr

Teri Howard

Pittsburg

Tanya Lloyd

Lori Langley

Scranton

Carl Freund

Gerald Fischer

Valley Center

Carolyn Peterson

Jason Peterson

Gene Peterson

Jason Peterson



MD 17 SERVICE PROJECT

ALERT!

 **COUNCIL MEETING
AUG. 8 WICHITA**

TRAILER NEEDS:

-  Shovels, leaf rakes, tarps (all sizes)
-  Roofing nails 1½ inches and 2 inches
-  Large brooms
-  Chain oil for saws
-  Rope tie down tarps
-  Tree saws
-  Hack saws to cut pipe
-  Batteries AA and D
-  Duct tape



YOUR ITEMS MAKE A BIG IMPACT!

BRING CLEANUP ITEMS TO STATE COUNCIL MEETING

Augusta Lions Club Pancake Feed

Saturday August 1st from 8:00 am to 12:00 Noon

At the Augusta Historic Frisco Train Depot, 618 State Street

Pancakes, Sausage Links, Orange Juice, Milk and Coffee

A Free-Will Donation will be greatly appreciated

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES



Proceeds will be used for community service projects including:

Eyeglasses for children in need

Scholarships to Butler Community College

Kansas Lions State Band Camp

