



# District 17N News

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

Find us on the web at [kslions17n.org](http://kslions17n.org) or on Facebook as KansasLionsDistrict17N



## Call to Convention

Follow the Yellow Brick Road to an “Oz-some” celebration of Lions service at the 2026 District 17N Convention in Goddard, February 27 and 28. All activities will be at The Goddard Church, 300 N. Cedar in Goddard.

International Director Bert Nelson and Lion Pamela from Minnesota are our guests for the weekend.

The convention kicks off with a Friday night social from 7 to 9 pm. Welcome ID Bert and Pamela at an informal meet-and-greet beginning at 7 pm. Come enjoy a cup of hot cocoa, some tasty cookies and enjoy the fellowship of Lions from across the district.

We’ll have a bit of fun during the evening with a trivia contest. We’ll play by tables/teams and have three rounds: Lions trivia, Kansas trivia and Wizard of Oz trivia. Prizes will be awarded to the top three teams!

### Saturday activities

Registration opens Saturday at 8:30 am, with coffee and doughnuts. The convention starts at 9 am with the convention meeting and elections as the first order of business. Convention delegates will be voting on District Governor, First Vice District Governor, Second Vice District Governor, and seats on the Kansas Lions Foundation, Kansas Band Foundation and Kansas Sight Foundation.

Voting delegates should bring a completed Delegate Form, found on page 4 to the convention.

We have a special presentation at 10 am, “The Wizard Behind Oz” with Chris Glasgow, curator at the Oz Museum and Columbian Theatre Foundation in Wamego. She will share the fascinating story behind L.

Frank Baum’s classic “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz.” This talk explores the unique appeal of this first truly American fairy tale, and its legacy on our culture from speech, to music, to media. This presentation pulls back the curtain on Baum’s crowning achievement.

“The Wizard Behind Oz” is part of Humanities Kansas’s Speakers Bureau, featuring humanities-based presentations designed to share stories that inspire, spark conversations that inform, and generate insights that strengthen civic engagement.



*Continued on page 2*

### Convention Checklist

- Order your Convention Book Ad – Deadline extended to February 10! See page
- Register for the Convention by February 15, 2026. Registration on page 9
- District Service Project: Bring non-perishable food items for The Goddard Church Food Pantry. Paper grocery bags are appreciated too!
- Bring a fun gift basket for the Silent Auction. Proceeds for the Sight Screener Maintenance Fund.

## Kansas Lions District 17N Leaders

District Governor	1st Vice District Governor	2nd Vice District Governor
Clark Lindstrom	Melanie Snider	Barb Schattak
Wichita Downtown Lions Club	Baxter Springs Lions Club	Lyndon Lions Club
316-258-2781	417-529-2138	785-221-7994
<a href="mailto:clindstrom@yahoo.com">clindstrom@yahoo.com</a>	<a href="mailto:lionmelsnider@gmail.com">lionmelsnider@gmail.com</a>	<a href="mailto:ksyorkies@gmail.com">ksyorkies@gmail.com</a>

# Convention

*Continued from page 1*

## *Meet ID Nelson*

ID Bert Nelson will be our guest for the weekend and present the keynote at lunch on Saturday. ID Nelson of New York Mills, Minnesota, was elected to serve as an international director of Lions International at the association’s 106th International Convention in Melbourne, Australia, June 21 through June 25, 2024.



Director Nelson has 15 years of experience as a financial services professional. He is a registered representative and licensed agent at New York Life Insurance and Annuity Corporation, where he provides financial advice and guidance. He has many notable achievements, including awards in annuity and life insurance and long-term care insurance sales.

Director Nelson joined the New York Mills Lions Club in 1991, where he is currently an active member. He has held several offices within the association including club president, club secretary, zone chairperson, district public relations chairperson, district governor, council chairperson and was a USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum planning committee member, among many other positions.

In recognition of his service to the association, Director Nelson has received numerous awards including

Lion of the Year Award, The Al Jensen Award, an LCIF Helping Hands Award and multiple International President’s Awards and International President’s Medals. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to his Lion activities, Director Nelson has served as township treasurer, fire warden, and Holy Cross Catholic Church Council and Trustee member. He has also been a facilitator for multiple Regional Lions Leadership Institutes and Emerging Lions Leadership Institutes. Director Nelson is an avid hunter and enjoys playing games and cards with his family and friends.

Director Nelson and his wife of 40 years, Pamela, also a Lion and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have three adult children and three grandchildren.

We will also recognize our district Peace Poster winners and remember those Lions who have passed away in the last year.

## *PB&J Challenge*

We’ll have a little fun – and raise some funds for diabetes camp scholarships – with a Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich making contest. The twist here is that the sandwich maker is blindfolded and other team member(s) give directions on making a sandwich.

Make a free-will donation to participate in the fun! Prizes will be awarded to the team who finishes fastest and the “neatest” finished product.

## *Service Project*

Our District Service Project is to help stock the food pantry at our host location and provide stock for the Goddard Lions Club Blessing Boxes.

*Continued on next page*

### DELEGATE FORM

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

Lion \_\_\_\_\_

This certifies that the above named person is a duly elected

Delegate

Alternate

To the District 17-N Lions District Convention in Goddard, KS on February 28, 2026

And said Lion is in good standing with their club.

The Club President or Secretary attests to this appointment.

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

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

NOTE: This form must be presented upon registration at the District Convention. Clubs are entitled to one voting and one alternate delegate for every 10 club members, or major part thereof.

All Past District Governors have a vote, independent of club delegates

\*\*\*PLEASE HAVE THIS FORM COMPLETED AND BRING IT WITH YOU TO THE CONVENTION\*\*\*

# Convention highlights

*Continued from page 2*

Please bring nonperishable foods for The Goddard Church Food Pantry. The pantry serves more than 50 families in the Goddard community each month. The Goddard Lions Club has three Blessing Boxes around the community -- and is installing a fourth in April.

## Silent Auction

Clubs are encouraged to provide a gift basket for the Silent Auction. Showcase something from your community, share a favorite hobby, put together an indulgent food basket—the possibilities are endless! Bring your checkbook—you are sure to find a basket you just have to take home! Proceeds from the auction support the Sight Screener Maintenance Fund.

## Caps for Kids

Learn more about the Caps for Kids project to make hats for children who have lost their hair to cancer treatments.

Lion Lynda Falley will be set up with her Accuquilter to cut fabric for the caps, along with instructions for completing the caps. She is seeking donations of fabric and trims and will cut and bag kits during the convention to be taken back to your club. Bring donations of kid-friendly cotton fabric to the convention. "Fat quarters" will make two caps, according to Lion Lynda.

"If you don't sew, no problem," says Lion Lynda. "Share your kits with those who sew. Credit will



be given to others contributions in work and donated materials. Anyone can sew or pack and distribute kits."

Lion Lynda's goal is 500 caps completed by state convention on May 29. Completed caps will be donated to Children's Mercy

Hospitals in Kansas.



# Serving Oz by Storm



**District 17N Annual Convention  
February 27-28, 2026**

## Convention Program Advertising Order

**Deadline for ads is February 15**

Help us celebrate a great year of Lions service and welcome International Director Bert Nelson and Lion Pamela to Kansas with an ad in our Convention Program. The 2026 District 17N Convention Book will be printed as an 8 1/2" x 5 1/2" format booklet and included in each of the convention packets.

**Club:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Ad size and cost (please indicate your choice):

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Full page (4.5 wide x 7.5 tall): \$50**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Half page: (4.5 wide x 3.7 tall): \$35**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Quarter page: (2.75 wide x 3.75 tall): \$25**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature on a Welcome page: \$10**

**We can create your ad for you! Please tell us what you want your ad to say:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please make my signature** (eg: Lion Becky Funke): \_\_\_\_\_

**Send specific logos or artwork in jpg format to newsletter17n@cox.net**

*Note: I have Lions Club logos*

**Have something ready to print? Send it to newsletter17n@cox.net**

**Make check payable to Kansas Lions District 17N and mail to**

**Lion Kathleen Burden  
4297 E Hwy 268 | Vassar KS 66453**

**Mail ad to**

**Lion Becky Funke | 9 Argon Dr | Goddard, Ks 67052**

**Questions? Call Lion Becky at 316-650-5824**

**or email newsletter17N@cox.net**



# Serving Oz by Storm



**District 17N Annual Convention**

**February 27-28, 2026**

**at The Goddard Church, 300 N. Cedar St., Goddard**

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

7 to 9 pm Social with ID Bert & Lion Pamela Nelson

Entertainment: Kansas/OZ/Lions trivia

Hot cocoa bar & cookies

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

8:15 am Registration opens

Coffee & doughnuts

9:00 am Call to order -- Welcome DG Clark Lindstrom and the Honorable George Liebe, Mayor of Goddard

9:15 am Convention business meeting & elections

10 am Speaker: "The Wizard Behind Oz" with Chris Glasglow, curator at The Oz Museum in Wamego

10:45 am Break

11:00 am Peanut butter sandwich competition

12:15 pm Luncheon

Buffet menu: Smoked meat: pork and chicken, Smoked Mac and Cheese, green beans, corn, garden salad and dressings, homemade bread, dessert with tea, water, coffee

Introduction of head table & special guests – DG Clark

Keynote with ID Bert Nelson

Presentations/Recognitions – DG Clark & ID Nelson

Peace Poster recognition – Lion Lor-

raine Stockwell

Necrology — PID Hans Neidhardt

2:15 pm Silent auction closes

3 pm Wrap-up





# Serving Oz by Storm



**District 17N Annual Convention**

**February 27-28, 2026**

**at The Goddard Church, 300 N. Cedar St, Goddard**

## Convention Registration

Help us celebrate a great year of Lions service and welcome International Director Bert Nelson and Lion Pamela to Kansas.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional attendees:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Club:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Convention Registration Fee    \$5            \_\_\_\_\_ # attending            \$\_\_\_\_\_

Friday night social            no charge    \_\_\_\_\_ # attending

Saturday lunch                \$20            \_\_\_\_\_ #attending            \$\_\_\_\_\_

Smoked meat (brisket and chicken), smoked mac and cheese, green beans, corn, garden salad and dressings; homemade bread; dessert.

Total enclosed    \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to Kansas Lions District 17N and Mail registration form and payment to:**

**Lion Kathleen Burden**

**4297 E Hwy 268 | Vassar KS 66453**

**Registration deadline is February 15, 2026**

### Hotel information

There are two hotels in Goddard

**Hampton Inn, 455 N Crowne Dr.; 316-453-0444**

*Note: Waterpark admission is not included in room rates*

**Rodeway Inn, 19941 W Kellogg Dr.; 316-794-3366**

**Many lodging options around Eisenhower Airport are less than a 15 minute drive from Goddard**



## Clark's Comments

# Let's be the light

*Life's most persistent and urgent question is, "What are you doing for others?" ~ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.*



February is Black History Month. At Lions International, Lions take pride in the service we have brought throughout the globe and the service that we continue to do with purpose. We instill our collective values in every service project, every service hour donated and every dollar donated

to LCIF to support the eight Global Causes and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Through diversity and inclusion, we can and will make our organization stronger and smarter with compassion and kindness toward others.

I continue to believe that diversity and inclusion will unquestionably build upon our respective clubs and association strengths. It can foster a better understanding of people unlike ourselves and potentially increase an appreciation for the differences, individual talents, and life experiences of others. I also believe we can better serve the world when we truly begin to embrace and be inviting to everyone who would like to serve others in need. Because together, we can serve more.

When we share the Lions International core values, mission, and do everything we can to unite members and potential new members, we elevate our service significantly. This is a standard we all need to set for ourselves to continue the promise of service to our communities, districts, and the world.

To get the desired membership effect we all want, we need to look at the potential members on mass to answer the reoccurring questions on the membership satisfaction surveys taken thus far of how do we get more members, younger members, and members who are willing to help with community service projects time in and time out?

Service before self should continue to guide Lions as we serve our communities and help those in need. Instead of overthinking the worst situation, where we are losing members and Clubs faster than we can induct members and open new clubs, let's begin to overthink the best. Start thinking of and acting upon new ways to invite new members and help start new clubs with enthusiasm and cheerfulness Lions are

known for. Open your collective minds, attitudes, and Club cultures to all people regardless of age, race, color, creed, ethnicity, gender, religion, national origin, or disability. The need is now and I believe there are people out there willing to serve with us to make a difference. We truly need to expand our horizons. Consider the importance of partnerships and collaborations with other organizations, community leaders, and the beneficiaries of the service activities that we do. This alone can begin to build new relationships and create more awareness of our Lion activities.

Lions always serve best when we lead with our humanity, when we meet the needs of others in need with hands on community service, when we cross borders to build understanding, and when we embrace the idea that service is the path to belonging. Our path should be to continue to strengthen communities, to improve the health and well being of others, and help those needing our services and grants that will impact lives locally and globally while encouraging peace and international understanding.

*Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.* ~ Dr Martin Luther King

Let's all start being the light. We are moving forward with enlightened and motivated teams of Lions to help rebuild at least three District Clubs and start two new Clubs that could potentially bring in 70 new members to make a difference. Join our teams. Whether you're hoping for an early spring or a little more winter, Groundhog Day is the perfect reminder that optimism and positive thinking can brighten any season. Here's to fresh possibilities ahead no matter what the forecast says.

DG Clark

## Are you using the right logo?

When creating flyers, social media posts and other marketing materials for your Lions Club, make sure you are using the current Lions International logo.



Lions International provides downloads of logos for branding on the Member Resources Page: [www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/logos-and-emblems](http://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/logos-and-emblems).

There's also a handy guide on how to use the logos and other branding information here: [www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/brand-guidelines](http://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/brand-guidelines).



# Around the District

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



## Coming up in March

**Saturday, March 7 —**

**Hillsboro Pancake Feed**, 6:30 am to 11 am, Hillsboro Senior Center, 212 N Main.  
 \$7/ kids under 5 eat free

**Emporia Biscuit and Gravy Feed**, 7:30 am to 11:30 am, Emporia Senior Center, 603 E 12th Ave.  
 \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door.

**Westphalia Potato Bar**, 5 to 8 pm, Westphalia School Basement.  
 Freewill donation.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026**  
**7 AM TO 1 PM**  
**GODDARD COMMUNITY CENTER**

## Goddard Lions Club Pancake Feed



All-you-can eat pancakes or biscuits & gravy with a serving of Stroot's sausage, coffee or orange drink.

**Prices:**  
 \$8 adults  
 \$6 kids, ages 5 to 12.

All proceeds used for scholarships awarded to a graduating senior at both Goddard and Eisenhower High Schools.  
 Up to 3% may be used for administrative expenses.



69<sup>th</sup> Annual  
 Viola Lions Club



# SAUSAGE SUPPER

Sausage, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Applesauce, Dessert, and Drink

**Saturday, February 7, 2026**  
**02:00PM to 06:00PM**  
**Viola Community Hall**

**DINE IN or CARRY OUT**  
 ADULTS: \$15.00  
 CHILDREN: 5 thru 10 - \$8.00  
 CHILDREN 4 and Under - Free  
 Sausage and other pork products also available for sale

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:

*Viola Groceries* Viola, KS (620) 584-6655	*Hired Man's Groceries* Conway Springs, KS
*May Chiropractic* Clearwater, KS (620) 584-4777	*May Chiropractic* Harper, KS (620) 896-7777

\*Viola Lions Club Member\*      \*At the door on February 7<sup>th</sup> \*

Visa, Mastercard, & Discover accepted

**Wichita Northwest Lions Club**

# ANNUAL Chili FEED



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026**  
 11 AM - 3 PM  
 ABILITY POINT / 2919 W. 2ND

Ticket price includes:  
 All you can eat chili, condiments, 1 dessert, coffee, tea, or 1 soft drink.  
 Desserts and additional soft drinks are extra.

10 years and older:  
**\$10.00**

Children 6-10:  
**\$ 5.00**

All You Can Eat

PROCEEDS BENEFIT VARIOUS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS AND ORGANIZATIONS.



# Scholarships available for Diabetes Camp

Lions Club members in District 17-N are looking for youth with a diagnosis of Type I diabetes who are interested in attending summer camp! Youth ages 8 to 16 are eligible to attend. Scholarships are available.

Camp Discovery Kansas is sponsored through the American Diabetes Association. A day at camp will consist of fun camp activities (swimming, challenge course, card/board games, fishing, arts & crafts), building confidence, learning skills to manage their diabetes and making lifelong friends.

Camp Discovery is an overnight camp held from

June 7 through 12, 2026 at Camp Tawakoni near Augusta.

Interested families may contact Lion Don Cunningham, District 17-N Diabetes Awareness Chair at (620) 238-3616 or [cunning98@yahoo.com](mailto:cunning98@yahoo.com) or Lion Elaine Hudson at [louehudson@gmail.com](mailto:louehudson@gmail.com).

Registration opens for camp on February 12 and typically fills up within a few weeks. A small deposit is required at registration.

See application below for scholarship funds.



## District 17-N Lions Health Program Diabetes Camp Scholarship Application

Date of this Application \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City State Postal Code

Have you attended an ADA camp before?  Yes  No How many times? \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last

E mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone H \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the camp you want your youth to attend:  Camp Discovery **Wichita. Area**  Camp Planet D **KC Area**  
See the information below for details

Why do you need assistance? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

There are 2 camps operated by the American Diabetes Assoc. in Kansas /Missouri. approval, complete the Lions Dist. N application and submit it to Lion Don Cunningham

- To Register go [WWW.diabetes.org/camp/camp-discovery-kansas](http://WWW.diabetes.org/camp/camp-discovery-kansas) OR [WWW.diabetes.org/camp/camp-planet-d](http://WWW.diabetes.org/camp/camp-planet-d)
- Look up one of the camps below and click on the registration icon then follow the prompts.

<b>Camp Discovery</b>	near Augusta, Kansas	<b>Camp Planet D</b>	near Lawson, Mo
Date	June 7-- 12, 2026	Date	July 12 – 17, 2026
Age	8 - - 17	Age	7 - - 17
Registration begins	Feb. 12, 2025	Registration begins	Feb. 12, 2025
Cost \$1650 - 50% ADA	\$825	Cost \$1400 - 50% ADA	\$700
Family Register	\$150	Family Register	\$150
Dist. 17-N Lions Scholarship	\$675	Dist. 17-N Lions Scholarship	\$550

**The family needs to email a copy of the ADA Invoice to the Lion listed below.** He will instruct the District 17-N treasurer to cut a check to the family to pay the rest of their camp fee.

Lions Contact information: Lion Don Cunningham E mail: [cunning98@yahoo.com](mailto:cunning98@yahoo.com) Phone: 620-238-3616 315 S. 32<sup>nd</sup> St Parsons, KS 67357 or Lion Elaine Hudson (620)423-1144 [louehudson@gmail.com](mailto:louehudson@gmail.com)

Amount of scholarship \_\_\_\_\_ Date approved \_\_\_\_\_ Initial of LHP Chair \_\_\_\_\_

# LCIF – Our Foundation

A new year, new challenges, and so many new opportunities to help others. Because of Lions donations, LCIF is able to do so much around the world and Kansas Lions have always been there to support our foundation.

As of February 3, Kansas Lions have donated \$92,806.77. The donations were made possible by 86 clubs (or Lions in those clubs). What a great start, but with 195 clubs within the Multiple District, we have the opportunity to build on our LCIF donations for the 2025-2026 year. Your donations large or small allow LCIF grants to be a reality. The following LCIF “Story of Pride” is just one example of how the grants make a positive impact.

District 13 OH4 received a \$60,000 diabetes grant to renovate 12 cabins at Camp Ho Mita Koda, a camp for diabetic children located in Newbury, Ohio. The cabins needed new roofs, new wiring, insulation, fans,

doors, and interior siding. Lions have volunteered at the camp planting trees, updating lighting in the dining hall, cutting & stacking wood for the camp fire ring, and volunteering at special events.

The camp was founded in 1929, making it the oldest camp for kids with diabetes in the United States. The camp was one of the first locations where insulin was used and clinically tested. Activities offered include, rock climbing, kayaking, swimming, archery, paintball, diabetes education, high/low ropes challenge course, canyoning, arts & crafts, hiking, team sports, and so much more. Surrounded by friends and a well-trained staff, every camper learns to ‘stretch’...physically, mentally, emotionally and socially. Self-assured in these new skills, campers come away with a strong foundation for life, increased capabilities, new-found independence, and understanding of their ever-changing personal T1D journey.

Kansas has also been a recipient of many LCIF grants. But have you ever considered other benefits that our donations provide? For every \$1,000 a club/lion donates can be used to recognize someone for their service or support of the community projects and activities. What a great way to honor a Lion, a non-Lions, or business. During a recent Portal review of Multiple District 17 “Status of Installments” there were 55 clubs that had the potential to recognize someone with a Melvin Jones Fellowship or a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship.

Another benefit that many Lions are not aware of is the District and Club Community Impact Grant (DCG). Through the DCG program, 15 percent of “unrestricted” contributions to LCIF are transformed into grants that fund local projects. Clubs are eligible to receive a DCG grant if they donated at least \$5,000.00 during a Lions year and Districts are eligible once donations total at least \$10,000.00. Six current Kansas clubs have the opportunity to request a DCG impact grant.

Kansas Lions do not have to be part of a major LCIF grant program to reap benefits from the donations made. If you have any questions or looking for assistance regarding LCIF donations or grants, contact your District LCIF Coordinators, PID Bill Phillipi, or myself.

*PID Bill Phillipi and IPID Hans Neidhardt  
MD 17 LCIF Co-Chairs*



## DeVorss Fellowship benefits Sight Foundation

Claude M. De Vorss from Wichita was International President for 1964-1965. In his honor, a Fellowship was established to benefit the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation.

The CMD Fellowship requires a \$1,000 donation to KLSF and may be paid by a club or an individual Lion. While most CMD Fellowships are paid with a lump sum, an installment plan is available.

Installment credits must be paid in increments of \$250. Payments are made to the KLSF with a memo indicating use for a CMD Fellowship. Send the installment payment to the CMD Fellowship coordinator, currently Lion Rick

Dodson, 306 Bambi Ct, Lansing, KS 66043. Venmo payments may be made to Ricky-Dodson-2 with a note added that it is for the CMD Fellowship.

Full payment of \$1,000 must be made within 5 years from the date of the first installment. Donors will be reminded of their credit status when they have donated \$500 and \$750 with the due date for the balance of payments. Lion Dodson will forward the installment payments to the KLSF Treasurer and provide an annual written report to the KLSF Board of Directors of the status of credits along with a list of all CMD recipients.

## Childhood cancer is LCI focus for February

February is Childhood Cancer Awareness month on the Lions International calendar.

Did you know that every two minutes a child is diagnosed with cancer over the world. One in 285 children in the U.S. will be diagnosed with cancer by age 20. In the U.S. 1 in 10 will die. Nine of 10 diagnosed children live in low to middle-income countries. These statistics are from the Childhood Cancer flyer on the Lions International website.



What is your club doing to educate you and your community about the spread of childhood cancer?

Ideas for you club to use. The LCI website has an project sheet for you to consider listing several projects a club might use. Just go to the LCI website: [www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-global-causes/childhood-cancer](http://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-global-causes/childhood-cancer) and you will find a large amount of information for you to use.

If you need more information please contact me for help.

*Lion Vern Failor  
Lions Health Program*

## Service ideas for February

I know all of us have had a family member or friend who has been diagnosed with cancer. It is especially hard when that friend or family member is a child. Gary and I have friends who lost their daughter to this disease when she was 3 years old. It was devastating for our community as she was loved by all of us.



Since then, I have been keenly aware of children and their families who are struggling with their children having to be in hospitals when they should be out playing games with other children.

February 15 is International Childhood Cancer Day, and September is Childhood Cancer month. These children are in cars traveling to treatments or are in the hospital with just their favorite toy or blanket with nothing to do. We can lift their spirits by providing them with games, puzzles, a soft toy, or anything

which they can play with while traveling and it is easy to clean.

In researching games, I find card games, magnetic tiles, or a magnetic game travel set for kids, travel games of any kind, or activity books, there are many options for us to choose from. Even a blanket or cap that is just theirs to have and take with them to treatments will make them feel special.

Our district has a service project in motion to make chemo hats for children with cancer. Our goal is to have 500 made before the end of June. These hats will be donated to Children's Mercy and other cancer treatment centers for kids.

If you are interested in helping us sew these hats, please contact Lynda Falley at (785) 735-4579 to have her mail you some hats to make.

As Lions we serve, lets put a smile on these little faces.

*Barb Schattak  
Second Vice District Governor*

## NOTICE: 2025-26 District 17-N Environmental Project and Random Prize Drawing extended to 4th District Cabinet Meeting in June

Due to only a few entries received by the due date, the Global Service Team has decided to extend the drawing entry due date to June 1, 2026. The actual drawing for the art quality Lion Statue will be at the last District Cabinet meeting June 13, 2026 in Burlington. That gives much more time and good weather for each and every Lions Club in the District to be thinking of, planning and participating in at least one new environmental service project for 2025-26.

This year, there is an emphasis on “new.” We look forward to having many, if not all, of the District 17 N Clubs participate. The purpose is to increase the impact and relevance of Lions Clubs’ service in the District, raise awareness of club environmental activities, and potentially attract environmentally like-minded prospective members to join our clubs. This will also hopefully increase the number of Lion and Leo members reporting community service from 40% to at least 50% or more.



District Clubs are being challenged to create a new, exciting, and “fun” environmental community service project/event/ fundraiser/ project/activity that has not been done before by the Club based upon your community’s needs. After doing so, you are to promptly provide the needed details and information to be provided below. Mail this entry form postmarked by June 1, 2026, to the District GST(-Global Service Team) Lion Kathy Pratt, PO Box 131, Towanda, KS 67144. Also, please enclose a printed picture of the club Lions participating in the new environmental project. All entries will be displayed at the District 17-N 4th Cabinet Meeting. There will be a random drawing of all entries for the artful desk sized Lion statue pictured above. Hopefully we can learn from each other and share environmental project service ideas. Contact us if you have any further questions; 316.932.2659 or DG Clark 316.258.2781. Please complete the following:

1. **Club Name and City:** \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Concise Description of Environmental Project** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date Service Project Was Entered in the Portal:** \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Name of Lion Submitter:** \_\_\_\_\_

4. **Phone # & Email of Submitter:** \_\_\_\_\_

By the way, Lions International has just re-announced a special service week for clubs worldwide to address the critical cause of helping the environment to coincide with Earth Day from April 18-26 in 2026. The theme is “Protecting Tomorrow, Today!” By participating, Clubs and members will become part of creating positive change and making a difference in communities around the globe together.

So, get involved, plan a new Club environmental service project, help drive collective action for a better future April 18-26, and enter to win the Lion statue!