



The Kansas Lions News

Vol. 65 No. 1 • Summer 2019 • Kansas Lions online: www.kansaslions.org

ALERT Team helps May 28 tornado victims

By Nicole Hance

On the evening of May 28, 2019, a mile-wide EF-4 tornado struck Linwood, Kan. Among the 130 homes and 159 out buildings affected by the tornado, several of our Linwood Lions members had moderate to severe damage to their property. After surveying their own damage, our members gritted their teeth, pulled up their boot straps and went out to serve our community.

Early the following morning, Linwood Lions were the first local organization to begin disaster-relief support by providing meals to volunteers, local residents, as well as county and state support personnel. Lions continued to provide support at the Linwood Fire House, which became the Command Center, by accepting, sorting and distributing supplies and meals. Later that day, Lions drove to the hardest hit areas, offering cold water and sand-

See **TORNADO** on next page



PDG Dan Funke and Lion Margy Sundstrom work the ALERT Trailer in Linwood. Photo by Rick Dodson



ALERT TEAM

preparedness • response • relief



The MD-17 ALERT Trailer set up at the Linwood Fire House, which became the Command Center after the tornado. Photo by Rick Dodson

More tornado-related coverage in this issue:

Lawrence Lions collect donations, Page 3

ALERT Trailer provides hundreds of items, help now needed to restock, Page 3

Think giving to LCIF doesn't help Kansas? Think again. Page 5

Tornado *Continued from previous page*

wiches, along with rakes, shovels, tarps, and trash bags to residents.

On Wednesday evening, the Kansas Lions Foundation's ALERT Trailer set up at the Command Center. During the following week, Linwood Lions, along with volunteers from other local Lions clubs, provided support to the Command Center and the Kansas ALERT team by issuing supplies and providing meals. Lions stepped up during this time to purchase supplies that were running low and accepting donations to be sorted and distributed.

Volunteerism is prominent in our surrounding area. Immediately after the tornado, strangers arrived with chain-saws to clear trees fallen across roads and driveways so that residents were able to survey the damage and county and medical personnel could make their assessment of the assistance needed and provide care to the wounded. The Linwood Lions cannot name all the businesses, organizations and individuals that provided support to our community. Pizzas, sandwiches, meals, paper goods, water, tools, cleaning supplies, and clothes poured in to support this recovery effort. Volunteers from as far away as Texas showed up to help where help was needed. Even though the county has completed the majority of its clean-up efforts, there remains strong evidence of the destruction from this storm.

The Kansas Lions Foundation distributed more than \$23,000 in goods to the Linwood tornado clean-up effort. Linwood Lions are committed to continue to support our members and other residents as this recovery effort continues for months and possibly years. The Linwood Lions Club



Lansing Lion and ALERT volunteer Rick Dodson captures a selfie with the response trailer in Linwood.

is hosting a barbecue on July 20 at the Linwood Community Center from 3-7 p.m. with proceeds going to help refill the ALERT Trailer.

The Linwood Lions Club cannot fully express our gratitude for the quick response from the Kansas Lions Foundation. We realize how fortunate we are to have a resource such as the ALERT Trailer, and will continue to work to rebuild our community as well as asking for donations to refill the ALERT Trailer so it is prepared for the next community in need. If you or your club would like to contribute, send donations to the Kansas Lions Foundation, PO Box 73, Humboldt, KS 66748. In the memo, write ALERT.

2019-20 Council of Governors

Council Chair

Patrick Laham (Merle)
 Augusta Lions Club
 1308 Bobbie Street
 Augusta 67010
 H/C 316.648.2078
 PatrickLaham@gmail.com

17-A
 Diane Hentges (David)
 Kansas City Downtown Lions Club
 812 N. Washington Blvd.
 Kansas City 66102
 C 913.708.5323
 dkhentges0503@gmail.com
 District website: kansaslions17A.org
 Convention:
 April 24-25, 2020/Concordia

District Governors

17-K
 Tom Baumann (Diana)
 Hays Lions Club
 2005 Northglen Lane
 Hays 67601
 C 785.871.1971
 tom.baumann@ymail.com
 District website:
<https://lionswowinks.org>
 Convention: March 13-14, 2020/Hays

17-N
 Marla Larison (Jess)
 Baxter Springs Lions Club
 3306 SE Boston Mills Road
 Columbus 66725
 H 620.674.8449/ C 620.674-1517
 lionmarlalarison@gmail.com
 District website:
kansaslions17n.org
 Convention: April 17-18, 2020/Chanute

Calendar

Aug. 10-11, 2019
First State Council Meeting, McPherson

Oct. 25-27, 2019
Second State Council Meeting, McPherson

Jan. 17-19, 2020
Mid-Winter Rally/Third State Council Meeting, Manhattan

June 5-6, 2020
State Convention/Fourth State Council Meeting, Topeka

Follow MD-17

• on the Internet:
www.kansaslions.org

• on social media:
 Like Kansas Lions
 on Facebook



Lions partner with business to restock ALERT Trailer

Area Lions clubs partnered with the Walmart on Iowa Street in Lawrence to help replenish the Kansas Lions ALERT Trailer, which responds to emergency situations across the state. The trailer helped victims of the May 28 tornado that struck Linwood and neighboring communities.

Donations for Kansas Lions' humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, and community support were also accepted.

"We're excited to partner with our Walmart superstore on Iowa," said Lawrence Lions Club president Lori Kesinger. "Lions are dedicated to serving our communities, and Walmart is helping us help those affected by the tornado which recently hit Linwood, Eudora, and Lawrence, as well as replenishing the ALERT trailer for any future emergencies."

Lions from the Lawrence, Eudora, Valley Falls, Lansing, Olathe, and other area clubs braved the summer sun and high temperatures to volunteer Friday, June 28 and Saturday, June 29. Lions volunteers handed a list of needed supplies to shoppers so they could purchase items with their regular shopping and donate the items as they left the store. The Lawrence Lions Club has a foundation so monetary donations were tax deductible.

In less than nine hours, these Lions raised more than \$500 and filled two vans full of supplies for the ALERT trailer! Thank you to all Lions and their family members who participated.



Eudora Lion Phil Garrett is pictured here with a Lawrence Walmart manager and a Lions helper at a supply drive June 28-29 to restock the Lions ALERT Trailer. Contributed photo

Help needed to get response trailer ready for next disaster

By PDG Dan Funke

President, Kansas Lions Foundation

With more than \$23,000 in goods distributed in response to the Linwood tornado, the Kansas Lions Foundation is looking for support to refill the ALERT Trailer inventory. Clubs and individuals are encouraged to send donations to the Kansas Lions Foundation, PO Box 73, Humboldt, KS 66748. In memo, write ALERT.

Lions Clubs International Foundation made a \$10,000 grant for the Linwood area, but another \$13,000 came out of the Alert Trailer inventory, or donations from other Lions and Lions clubs. So far, approximately \$12,000 in donations have been received by the Kansas Lions Foundation to restock the ALERT Trailer.

We need to get the ALERT Trailer ready for another response. Shoppers used Foundation funds to buy tarps, rakes, hammers, shovels, dust masks, boxes, and other items of

which we are low in inventory. A generous donation of more than 150 buckets was made by a local business in Linwood.

The Foundation also spent more than \$1,000 to deploy the truck and trailer. These expenses come directly from disaster donations. Expenses include turnpike fees, lodging for the driver, meals, and gas. Insurance, tags, and truck and trailer upkeep is another \$600 a year that is funded by ALERT donations. As you can see, every donation counts to help us deliver relief when a disaster occurs in Kansas.

The most popular items dispensed by Lions at the ALERT Trailer were batteries, framing and roofing nails, personal care items, tarps, buckets, hammers, shovels and rakes. A full listing is included with this article.

If districts want to conduct a special project, they are encouraged to help us get items for the personal care

Continued on next page

Continued from page 3

kits. We especially need washcloths, combs, brushes, toothpaste (small), toothbrushes (individually packaged), deodorant, small packages of wet wipes and gallon bags. We have ample supplies of shampoo, lotion, and soap. Please do not put items together, as we want to pack everything together at one time.

We hope to assemble these bags at our First State Council Meeting Aug. 10-11 in McPherson. Please send a note to PDG Dan Funke, ALERT Chair at djfunke@cox.net with any questions or comments.

Item/Total Used from ALERT Trailer

409 spray/8
 Batteries AA 6 pk/60
 Batteries D 2 pk/40
 Batteries 9 volt 2 pk/9
 Batteries AAA 6 pk/16
 Batteries C 2 pk/32
 Blankets/6
 Bleach/24
 Body lotion/50
 Boxes, med./200
 Boxes, small/25
 Broom, push/40
 Broom, sweep/25
 Buckets/211
 Bug repellent/98
 Can opener/3
 Chainsaw/1
 Cleaning supplies/4
 Deodorant/50
 Dish soap/12
 Dog food/1
 Dust pans/24

Ear plugs/150
 Eating utensils, boxes/20
 Extension cords, 25 ft/27
 Extension cords, 50 ft/20
 First aid kit/7



First aid kit, Band Aids only/20
 Flashlights w/batteries/40
 Garden hose/12
 Gas containers 2 gal/10
 Gas for chain saws and generators/6
 Gloves/379
 Gloves, vinyl/55
 Hammers/60
 Hand sanitizer/25
 Hose, garden/12
 Laundry soap/30
 Markers/11
 Mop/8
 Nails, 1 lb, 3"/10
 Nails, roofing 1.5", 1 lb/50
 Oil, 2 cycle/13

Oil, bar gallon/4
 Oil, chain qt/4
 Packaging tape, large roll/30
 Packaging tape, small roll/20
 Paper bags/5
 Paper towels/65
 Personal care package/25
 Personal care items donated by Lions/244
 Phone charger/12
 Plastic storage container/12
 Plates/20
 Propane, bottle/6
 Rake, leaf/173
 Rake, standard/71
 Razors, 3 pk/6
 Respirator masks (boxes)/10
 Rope 1/4" bundle/15
 Safety glasses/150
 Sanitizer/50
 Screws 2" box/4
 Shampoo/75
 Shaving gel/10
 Shovels, spade/60
 Shovels, square end/120
 Soap, bar/80
 Soap, laundry/20
 Sponges/20
 Sunscreen/100
 T-shirt bags/70
 Tarps, 10 x 12/40
 Tarps, 12 x 16/16
 Tarps, 20 x 30/10
 Tarps, 5 x 7/50
 Tarps, 6 x 8/150
 Tarps, 8 x 10/50
 Toilet paper/20
 Toothbrushes/30
 Toothpaste/20
 Towels/6
 Trash bags/20
 Washcloths/30
 Water, case/4
 Wipes, Clorox/40
 Zip lock baggies, gallon box/10



Here to help

Past District Governor Carleen Rajala and District Governors John Burns (left) and Reland Cole help staff the MD-17 ALERT Trailer in Linwood after the May 28 tornado.

Photo by Rick Dodson

Funds given to LCIF often find their way back to Kansas

Think your community will never see funds given to LCIF? Think again: \$1.3 million received in Kansas in past 51 years.

By Rick Dodson
MD-17 LCIF Coordinator

Most of you know that Lions Clubs International has inaugurated Campaign 100 to raise \$300 million by June 2021.

I will be working with your District Co-Coordinators to encourage individual Lions and clubs to participate each year of the campaign. There are numerous ways to participate. Ask your Coordinators to attend your club meetings and give you the information. Your coordinators are: District 17K – PDG Kathie Bell and PDG Don Keihl; District 17A – Lions Caroline Arter and Margy Sundstrom; District 17N – PDG Indrajit Phillips and PDG Bill Kincaid.

Each district had specific donation goals set for 2018-2019 and will set goals for the next two years. The goals are purposefully higher than our normal goals in order to help LCIF utilize the proceeds of Campaign 100 to expand and empower service throughout the world. My role is to support the District Coordinators to reach their goals. I have an overarching goal of getting 100 percent of the clubs in Kansas to contribute some amount during each year of the campaign. Because of our slow start last year, that goal wasn't reached, but I'm confident that we can accomplish this during the next two years. Please join me in pledging your club to make a donation.

As of the date of my submission of this article, the following donations have been reported for 2018-19: District 17K – \$14,410 (22 of 76 clubs participated); District 17A – \$31,870 (39 of 81 clubs participated); District 17N – \$14,256 (28 of 74 clubs participated)

Supporting LCIF to empower our worldwide service and disaster relief efforts should be all the gratification we need. However, it's natural to wonder



if Kansas benefits from the thousands of dollars we donate. Some Lions believe that almost all monies donated to LCIF go to support overseas projects. That's not the case. Constitutional Area I (which includes the U.S.) receives a disproportionate share of LCIF benefits compared to the total amount we donate.

Since 1968, MD-17 has received numerous grants for service projects and disaster relief totaling \$1,373,266.62. Here are some of those grants:

1993: \$5,000-\$10,000 disaster relief for flooding in Elwood and Wathena.

1998: \$10,000 disaster relief for flooding in Augusta.

2007: Disaster relief for flooding in Coffeyville (amount unavailable); \$15,000 for flooding in Osawatomie; \$25,000 for tornado in Greensburg.

2011: \$10,000 for tornado in Reading; \$71,000 Low Vision Grant for KanLovKids project.

2012: \$100,000 to expand Lions Quest.

2013: \$5,000 to buy books for children.

2014: \$10,000 disaster preparedness; \$10,000 disaster relief for tornado.

2016: \$10,000 matching grant for KLF Alert Trailers; \$10,000 for tornado in Eureka; \$42,900 matching grant to purchase 12 vision screening devices

for Kansas Lions.

2017: \$2,539 matching grant for a disaster warning project in Auburn; \$10,000 for wildfires in southwest Kansas.

2018: \$10,000 for tornado in Eureka; \$11,271 for a Lions Quest Community Partnership Grant for USD 430.

2019: \$10,000 for tornado in Linwood on May 28, 2019.

In the previous six years, Kansas Lions have donated \$277,111 and received approximately \$231,710 (84 percent return) for various service projects and disaster relief. As you can see, Kansans have benefitted greatly from the generosity of LCIF.

Isn't it time all clubs join in paying it forward, so LCIF can continue its great work in providing service in Kansas and throughout the world?

We started another Melvin Jones Fellow raffle at the State Convention last month. The raffle will be over at the end of the Council meeting in August. If all 50 slots are bought, a full MJF will be given to the winner. If not, whatever amount has been collected will be sent to LCIF as an installment in the winner's name. The winning Lion's home club will be credited with the amount. If you wish to obtain one of the remaining open slots, please contact me: telephone (913) 240-5302, email: rdodson@kc.rr.com.

R - O - A - R! *Local Lions 'serve'*

Lions buy animatronics dog for local memory care unit

Editor's note: Article reprinted with permission from the Pratt Tribune.

By Fran Brownell and Jennifer Stultz

Residents of Parkwood Village's Memory Care Unit in Pratt now have a dog to call their own, courtesy of the **Pratt Lions Club**. At a special dedication ceremony Wednesday, May 15, staff, administration (and Lions Club members) already found the animated Golden Doggie irresistible.

"Parkwood is excited to add this new addition to our Memory Care," said Parkwood Residence Director Sharon Will. "I believe the residents will really enjoy interacting with their new pet. Studies have shown how interactive pets can help soothe and calm people with late-stage dementia."

Pratt Lions Club President Andy Lee and Lions Club Director Bill Proctor presented the new pup at the group's weekly noon meeting.



Golden Doggie, an animated pet for residents of Parkwood Village's Memory Care unit, is greeted by (standing, from left) Parkwood Residence Director Sharon Will and Parkwood Life Director Dana Pulec, and (seated) Lions Club members Darlene and Bill Proctor and Chelsey Rose. Photo by Fran Brownell

Proctor, and his wife Darlene, who live at Parkwood Village, came up with the idea of donating such an animated pet to the assisted living center based on his personal experience with a smaller dog and animated cat.

"I've kept this one in my closet since delivery, but I think this one is going to be very popular with his new family," Proctor said. "They're planning a naming contest for him."

Proctor, who has a smaller, similar dog, said that even though the animated pets are battery operated, they seem to almost develop personalities of their own.

The Golden Doggie donated to Parkwood is of the animatronic species, with characteristics of its living cousins, including a beating heart, cuddly soft fur, sparkling eyes and wagging tongue, but none of the mess or hazard of a real animal. The new pet doesn't require potty calls and won't shed or bark at the neighbors.

Will and Parkwood Life Director Dana Pulec, who oversees the Memory Care unit for Alzheimer's residents, said they were happy to accept the non-shedding furry bundle, purchased by the local Lions Club.

Pulec said her own mother suffered from memory issues and would have loved to have a pet like the Golden Doggie.

"I've seen people with dementia or Alzheimer's just come alive when they have something to pet, hold and feel like they can take care of," she said. "I've seen a similar animatronic baby doll that just helped give some a sense of worth."

One of the goals of interactive pets, according to information from the parent company Ageless Innovation, is to bring the power of play to people at all stages in their lives and to provide the delight and companionship of pets to owners.



The Bel Aire Lions Club recently recognized the leadership and service of Lion Gary O'Neal with a Melvin Jones Fellowship. He received a plaque and pin and his name will be added at LCI headquarters in Chicago. Pictured here are O'Neal (left) and Lion Andy Horner, LCIF Club Coordinator.

Photo contributed by Richard M. Caldwell

Volunteers still needed for 2019 State Fair MSU screenings

This year's Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson will be from Sept. 6-15. Kansas Lions volunteers still are needed to provide free health, vision and hearing screening for fair attendees.

The Kansas Lions Sight Foundation's Mobile Screening Unit will be set up in the Sunflower North Building. Here are the days and hours that volunteers will be needed for screenings:

- Sept. 7: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Sept. 8: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Sept. 9: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Sept. 10: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Sept. 11: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Sept. 12: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Sept. 13: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.



- Sept. 14: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Sept. 15: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Volunteers are again requested to be at the MSU location 30 minutes prior to the beginning of their shifts. We will stop screening at 6 p.m. but are required to have someone at the MSU location until the building closes at 8 p.m. (6 p.m. on Sept. 15).

The MSU committee would like to express our sincere appreciation to all the volunteers who have already offered their time for this Kansas Lions service project.

Please contact Lion Sylvia Reinhardt at e-mail poorfarmer@eaglecom.net or cell phone 620-921-0130 to set up time for your Lions club or individuals to assist with the 2019 State Fair screenings.

We Serve • We Serve • We Serve • We Serve • We Serve • We Serve

Lions project erects sign to attract visitors to Tescott

Editor's note: Thanks to Mark Luder and Kris Heinze, who contributed to this article.

The **Tescott Lions Club** wanted a way to help encourage travelers to stop in their town and led a community-wide effort to make that happen. After two years of planning and occasional setbacks, the club installed a new sign on K-18 in January that advertises local businesses.

Lion Hal Berkley told the Lincoln Sentinel newspaper that he thought the sign could help attract new people to turn off the highway.

"It should bring in strangers, with the new sign up, they'll actually know what we have in town," he said.

Committee chair Lion PDG Tom Weatherd said the project began with a contact to Todd Ohlde of Linn, who designed and constructed the sign. The sign features a special background that turns red over time to make the stainless steel lettering stand out to passersby.

The club had to get official permissions to erect the sign. Phil Aumick of Ottawa County Economic Development helped secure those permissions.

There were setbacks. The first sign blew off a truck trailer in high winds and was damaged so badly a new sign had to be created. When the second sign was complete and ready for installation, exceptionally wet weather made the ground too muddy. The sign finally was erected Jan. 9.

"We would like to thank Bill Hurtig and his crew for helping Ohlde stand the new sign into place along K-18 Highway," Weatherd told the Lincoln Sentinel.

Jennifer McClure, with the Bank of Tescott, also was happy to see the project completed.

Weatherd told the newspaper, "We want to thank all the



Tescott Lion PDG Tom Weatherd stands with a new highway sign. The club spearheaded this project. Contributed photo

businesses for their participation and a special thank you to everyone who supported the fundraising efforts for this project."

Hays Lions Club grant

Workshop to help hearing, visually impaired veterans

The **Hays Lions Club** has received a grant from the Heartland Community Foundation to conduct a workshop for hearing and visually impaired veterans. This is being done in conjunction with the Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center. The workshop will be held Sept. 18 at the Sternberg Museum in Hays.

Many senior adults in rural Kansas, age 55 and older, are unaware of the services and resources available to them through the Veterans Administration and private sector. There are resources to help address challenges they experience because of combined low vision and hearing loss. For some, the losses in these two major senses are hard to describe and perhaps even harder to acknowledge. The magnitude and complexity of the everyday challenges can seem overwhelming.

The one-day workshop is based on a peer support model and is designed to provide information about low vision and hearing loss, which will in turn reduce the fear, isolation, helplessness and loneliness felt by many seniors who did not expect their “Golden Years” to be like this. The workshop is an event in which each participant can count on acceptance and accommodation for his or her hearing and vision loss.

Participants obtain information and an introduction in the following areas: coping with hearing and vision loss, enhancing independent living and communication skills, experiencing new technology, community integration and developing community sources, and sharing life experiences. Participants will also be screened to determine their level of hearing and vision impairment to advise them as to available resources through the Veterans Administration and other agencies. Bob Hamilton, Visually Impaired Service Coordinator, is working with the Helen Keller Foundation, which

will be providing presenters and assistance. Fort Hays State University leadership studies professor Seth Kastle (Army veteran) is committing some of his leadership class to help with the project. Vision and hearing screenings will be done by utilizing the Kansas Lions Foundation Mobile Screening Unit.

The number of rural senior citizens is growing throughout Hays and northwest Kansas and the number challenged with this dual cognitive disability is growing as well. Western Kansans have always placed emphasis on independent living, and when independence is lost, it many times results in isolation and loneliness for the individual. Awareness of specialty aides, opportunities to enhance communication with others with like challenges can help improve one’s independence. Census data identifies 1,597 veterans living in Ellis County in 2017, of which only eight have been identified with low vision and hearing loss and are currently receiving services through the Dole VA Medical Center in Wichita, which is the closest facility providing these services. There are a significant number of dual impaired veterans also living in Rooks and Trego counties that have needs.

The workshop will expand awareness of rehabilitation and specialty devices specifically for those with dual sensory impairments. It will provide education for the senior veterans’ families and communities where they live to understand and provide additional resources to those who are challenged. Many senior Kansans hold strong religious beliefs and are active in their faith-based communities. Involvement by the Hays Ministerial Alliance, with guidance from the Dole VA Chaplaincy Department, will be supportive of the project.

Others assisting with the workshop are the Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging, Blinded Veterans Association, Independent Living Center of Northwestern Kansas, Hays VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic and Hays Senior Center.

Global Action Team supports ‘New Voices’



One of the “New Voices” in the **Burlington Lions Club** is **Lion Kara Reynolds**. *Lion Kara is serving as 3rd Vice President and LCIF Coordinator for the club. Lion Kara is a busy leader in the community, as the director of Coffey County Public Transportation, which has a new expansion of facilities and services available to the citizens of Coffey County. Every Lions club needs new members and leaders to best serve their community and the ever changing needs facing the club.*

Contributed photo



Eudora honors longtime Lion

On June 3, 2019, the **Eudora Lions Club** presented PDG Earl "Bob" Slapar with a Distinguished Service Plaque for his loyalty and devotion to the objects and furtherance of Lionism as he goes into his 64th year as a Lion. Multiple District representatives and members of the Lawrence Noon Lions Club joined the celebration. Pictured here are Eudora Lions with PDG Slapar.

Contributed photo



Helen Skidmore of the Atchison Lions Club helps sell mints.

Lions mints sales help KLSF fund

Members of the **Atchison Lions Club** attended Mid-Winter Rally, District K and N conventions to offer clubs a chance to purchase partial cases of Lion Mints at cost. If any club would like to do so, rolls are 12 to a box at \$3 each. Flavors are sugar free peppermint, fizzy fruit, peppermint and wintergreen. Individual boxes of 750 pieces at cost are \$21 each. Flavors are wintergreen and peppermint. This is a chance to help the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation's Candy Day Fund. This fund helps in supporting up to two free cataract surgeries a month at the KU eye center.

Those clubs that wish to support this by making a purchase may write "Candy Day" in the memo on your check and make it payable to the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation. If your club would like more information, email Catherine Miller at lioncmiller@outlook.com or go to lionmints.net.

Peace Poster Contest kits available until October 1

Now is the time to plan to sponsor students in the next Peace Poster Contest and order the contest kit. A Kansas student won an LCI award in last year's contest – let's find the next Kansas award winner.

Lions clubs can order a contest kit until October 1. A kit is needed for each contest sponsored. Each kit contains: official club contest guide and rules, official school or youth group contest guide and rules, participant flyer to duplicate and give to participating students, sticker to place on back of winning poster and certificates for contest winner and his or her school or youth group. To order a kit by phone, call Club Supplies Sales at (630) 571-5466 or 1-800-710-7822.

The 2019-20 contest theme is "Journey of Peace." The LCI website notes, "History has shown that all too often peace is not guaranteed. While this is unfortunate, it also allows us the powerful opportunity to figure out how to achieve peace, individually and in our communities. And who better to map out the 'Journey of Peace' than our youth?"

Students ages 11, 12 or 13 as of November 15 are eligible. Here are the deadlines:

October 1: Deadline to purchase kits.

November 15: Postmark deadline for a club to send a winning poster (one per contest sponsored) to the district governor.

December 1: Postmark deadline for a district governor to send one winning district poster to multiple district council chairperson.

December 15: Postmark deadline for the multiple district council chairperson to send one winning poster to the Public Relations Department at International Headquarters.

February 1: International winners notified on or before this date.

Meet the 2019-20 MD-17 District Governors



Tom Baumann
Hays Lions Club
2005 Northglen Lane
Hays 67601
C 785.871.1971
tom.baumann@ymail.com



Diane Hentges
Kansas City Downtown Lions Club
812 N. Washington Blvd.
Kansas City 66102
C 913.708.5323
dkhentges0503@gmail.com



Marla Larison
Baxter Springs Lions Club
3306 SE Boston Mills Road
Columbus 66725
H 620.674.8449/ C 620.674.1517
lionmarlalarison@gmail.com

District K

Greetings, fellow Lions.

I am very excited to be the Governor of District 17K for the 2019-2020 Lions year. First Vice District Governor Diana and I have been preparing for this for the past two years. We've made many friends visiting clubs throughout the District and hope to make many more in the coming months.

I started this journey in 1990 by joining the Norton Lions Club. I was president of the Norton Lions Club twice. Diana and I have many great memories of Norton where I chaired the Christmas Basket project for 28 years and Diana was my most valuable assistant.

My job took us to Hays last year when I went to work for Jeff Pinkney, CPA. We transferred our membership to the Hays Lions last March and have made many great friends there.

As I write this, Diana and I are on a flight from Kansas City to Detroit on our way to the International Convention in Milan. We are looking forward to completing my DG training and see-

Continued on next page

District A

Greetings, Lions of Kansas. It is my honor to serve District 17A as Governor for Lions year 2019-20. My name is Diane Hentges and I was born and raised in Kansas City, Kan./Wyandotte County. I am an original Dotte!

I have spent my professional career in social service. After graduating from college with a bachelor of science in sociology, I attended the University of Kansas and received my master's in social work. For 35 years, I worked for Catholic Social Service/Catholic Charities. Some of my early years were spent in child welfare working with adoptions and foster care.

In 1975, I assumed responsibility for the Refugee Resettlement Program. The responsibilities included recruiting training and supporting individuals and groups who would serve as volunteer sponsors and mentors for the arriving refugees. Most non-profits require staff to wear multiple hats. So, in addition to directing the Resettlement Program, I also assumed responsibility as the so-

Continued on next page

District N

My name is Marla Larison and I will be serving as the 17N District Governor for the year 2019-20.

I have been a member of the Baxter Springs Lions Club since 2010. Over the years I have served my local Lions club in various offices, including President, Secretary and Club Membership Chair. Positions held on the District level have included Public Relations, Peace Poster Chair, Zone 1 Chair for two years and Vice District Governor.

Currently I am serving as State Environmental Chair for MD-17 and as a Director on the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation while enjoying my role as First Vice District Governor this past year. I am a Certified Guiding Lion and assisted with the organizing and charter of the Galena Route 66 Lions. It was an honor to be named a Melvin Jones Fellow in 2019.

My spouse is Past Council Chair Jess Larison and we have three children and nine grandchildren, who range in age from 7 to 27 years of age. We live in

Continued on next page

District K *continued*

ing many of our Lions friends.

When we get home there is much work to do. Diana and Lion John Scovill of the Humbolt Lions are working on a new website for the District. After 14 years of service, PDG Denny Smith has given up the website and the District newsletter. Lion Jennifer Stultz of the Pratt Lions Club will be our newsletter editor.

Some of my goals are to provide training to at least 40 percent of the incoming club officers, start at least two new clubs, increase membership in the District, and start a new service project in the District. My Global Action Team of PDG Randy St. Aubyn, IPDG Reland Cole and PDG Don Keihl will be helping me with these goals.

Diana and I are pleased to have Second VDG Linda Skipworth of the Atwood Lions join our team this year. The three of us are looking forward to starting our visits to your clubs as soon as we return from Milan.

You will be hearing more about our plan to achieve the District goals in the next month. I look forward to working with all the Lions in our District and Multiple District this year.

District N *continued*

the country and enjoy just being at home and watching the local wildlife. I was raised on a farm in Kansas and am very proud of my background.

During my working years I was a convenience store district manager for two different chains before retiring to assist my spouse with his business. In my spare time I enjoy genealogy, quilting and working in my greenhouse.

I am one of the organizers of the Ks. Route 66 Historic Byway Committee and member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Cherokee County Genealogy Society.

I look forward to meeting more Lions this year and I just want to say I appreciate the opportunity to serve as the 17-N District Governor for 2019-20. Please don't hesitate to contact me: I work for you.

District A *continued*

cial worker for the Home Health Program and eventually served as the director for 10 years. During my time with home health, I trained community volunteers to serve as respite volunteers for homebound individuals. The last part of my career at Catholic Charities focused on quality assurance and risk management and training staff and volunteers.

I then worked with members of the Shepherd Center, organizing health and wellness programs. At Children's Mercy, I established the social work office at a new clinic. Finally, it was time for my dream job: director of the Volunteer Center at the United Way of Wyandotte. This job allowed me to become involved in multiple levels of volunteer management. I had the opportunity to train volunteer managers and volunteers locally and regionally. I had the privilege to be appointed by two governors to serve on the Kansas State Volunteer Commission for six years, and I was the first president of the Kansas Association of Volunteer Directors.

My professional life provided numerous training and growth experiences. I was a member of the second class of Leadership 2000, trained in goal setting and measurable outcomes (S.M.A.R.T goals), and trained at the Kansas Leadership Center.

I have been married for almost 50 years to PDG David and we have two adult children who are married and live in the KC area. We have been blessed with three grandchildren; Audrey, 17; Leo, 11, and Nathan, 11. It is great to be near family and be involved in their many activities. When not involved with family and Lions, David & I like travel and tend to our house. The house will soon be a hundred years old, and we have lived in it for 49 of those years.

I first became acquainted with Lions when PDG David was asked to join the

Turner Lions. They encouraged spouses to attend the twice monthly dinner meetings. I was so impressed with the focus on service to your community. Wives often helped with service and fundraising activities. I was excited to join the club in 1991. In 1995 and then again in 2006, I served as club president. About this same time David & I became Guiding Lions.

With the blessing of the Turner Lions we started a branch club that eventually became the KC Downtown Lions Club. This is the club we now belong to, and David serves as secretary/treasurer and I am the tail twister and membership chair.

I have been honored as the Lion of Year, I am a Progress Melvin Jones Fellow, and a Claude DeVorss Fellow. I have served as zone chair and regional chair. In addition, I have served on district committees for fundraisers such as Circle the City and various district convention committees. I had the privilege to serve on the State M.E.R.L (Membership, Extension, Retention & Leadership) team 2006-2009. I have also served on the State Finance Committee. I have taken advantage of local, regional and national training offered by Lions. I am a graduate of GPLLI.

I am anxious to begin visiting clubs as soon as I return from the Lions International Convention. I have found that the Lions in our district are dedicated Lions who truly "SERVE." It is so rewarding to learn about the varied services provided by our Lions. This is the best part of being a District Governor. First Vice District Governor Rick Dodson or Second VDG Vania Castro will each be visiting clubs in our district so every club will have a visit from one member of the governor's team.

My goal for this Lions' year is simple: do more service with more Lions. I am confident that by working together we can recruit more Lions. As a District, we will rally support for LCIF.

I look forward to meeting fellow Lions in District 17A and sharing my perspective on what Lions do and how we can reach out and do more. "Where there is a need, there is a Lion."

First State Council Meeting Meal Reservation Form

FREE breakfast if staying at Best Western

RETURN BY AUGUST 5

_____ reservations for Friday dinner @ \$17.00 each

_____ reservations for Saturday dinner @ \$17.00 each

Prices include tax 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

Please make checks payable to: KANSAS LIONS

First State Council Meeting August 10-11 at McPherson

Kansas Lions will gather Aug. 10-11 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 for Friday and Saturday dinners are due by Aug. 5 (please complete and return the meal reservation form). Anyone arriving Friday evening is invited to join in fellowship, with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Breakfast is free with a motel room key and lunch is on your own both days.

Meetings and the hospitality room are all in the Holiday Center building. State committees and the three foundations will meet on Saturday. The hospitality room, hosted by District N Lions, will be open following dinner Friday and most of the day Saturday.

The council's business session is on Sunday, following breakfast and a devotional by the Past District Governors Club.

The motel is located at the junction of I-35 and U.S. Highway 56. Room reservations are due by July 26. You may make a reservation by calling the motel at 620-241-5343. The room rate for Lions is \$69.

Council meeting agenda

Friday, Aug. 9

Following dinner, review meeting for State Council, First & Second VDGs

Saturday, Aug. 10

7:30 a.m. Kansas Lions Foundation, Harvest Room
8:00 a.m. Constitution & By-Laws, Golden Room
9:00 a.m. First & Second Vice District Governors & Spouses, Sunset 1; International Convention, Sunset 2
9:30 a.m. Kansas Lions Band Foundation, Harvest Room
10:00 a.m. Audit, Golden Room
10:30 a.m. Budget & Finance, Sunset 2
11:00 a.m. Health Programs, Golden Room

Lunch on your own – hotel restaurant open

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. 11

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

The Kansas Lions News is published periodically by the Kansas Lions Foundation, 231 S. Tyler Road, Wichita, KS. 67209.

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

Deadline for next issue: Nov. 1, 2019

*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.*



Lions Environmental PHOTO CONTEST

Winning photographs



Animal Life: Daniel Martinez, Topeka Sunflower Lions Club



Plant Life: Stanley Jantz, Great Bend Evening Lions Club

We Serve • We Serve • We Serve • We Serve • We Serve • We Serve



Urban or Natural Landscape: Chris Bauer, Humboldt Lions Club



Weather Phenomenon: Marcy Weldin, Burlington Lions Club

These photographs were selected by Kansas Lions who voted for their favorites at Mid-Winter Rally. For more information about the contest, contact DG Marla Larison (her contact information is on page 10).

Environmental Photo Contest winners *continued from previous page*



Environmental Service Project: (tie) Louise Greenberg, Smith Center Lions Club (left) and Daniel Martinez, Topeka Sunflower Lions Club.

Lions honored by awards at statewide gatherings

Congratulations to these Lions, who have received awards at Mid-Winter Rally or State Convention.

Melvin Jones Fellow

- Gerald Allen, McCune Lions Club
- CC Patrick Laham, Augusta Lions Club
- Daniel Martinez, Topeka Sunflower Lions Club

President's Certificate of Appreciation (4th highest LCI award)

- PCC Bev Greenwood, Milford Lions Club
- PDG Carleen Rajala, Shawnee Lions Club
- PDG John Lee, Kismet Lions Club
- PCC Deanne Heersche, Mulvane Lions Club
- Debra Funke, Goddard Lions Club

LCI Leadership Award (3rd highest LCI award)

- PDG Randy St. Aubyn, Hutchinson Breakfast Lions Club
- Scott Helmke, Wichita Northwest Lions Club

Presidential Medal (2nd highest LCI award)

- PCC Deb Weaverling, Leavenworth Lions Club
- Vicki Phillipi, Marysville Lions Club



Lion Daniel Martinez of the **Topeka Sunflower Lions Club** receives a Melvin Jones Fellow award from state secretary Linda McCormick at State Convention. He is the first Native American from the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation to receive the award. Photos by Rick Dodson



Vicki Phillipi receives her award from husband PID Bill and ID Tom Gordon.



The 2019 Kansas Lions Band students and staff pose for a group photograph before the Saturday concert at Baker University on June 1.
Photo by Greg Alexander

A final note about Lions Band

In the past we have provided data and a variety of student comments from the band camp survey for this edition of The Kansas Lions News. However, this time we would like to share a short “Thank You Note” that we received from one of the students. Sarah Kelley is a third-year student from Garden Plain and plays the clarinet and baritone saxophone. The following is what she wrote in her note.

Dear Mama Shari and Hans,

I wanted to give you two a huge thanks for all you did to make KSLB camp happen. Your dedication to give hundreds of students across Kansas a week they will never forget, friendships that will only grow, skills that they will use forever, connections to people who will help them throughout their lives, and the love from two of the most amazing role models ever, is truly honorary. Every year, I look forward to being a participant of the band and having the chance to grow in more ways than musically. I'm so blessed and thankful for the hard work you two put into this program. You have given me, along with many others, the care, excitement, and support we sometimes lack. I appreciate all that you do year-round to gather up chaperones, teachers, professors, and sponsors to make that week so monumental. The time, effort, work, and love you pour into us kids is treasured. I look forward to keeping in touch and “Can't Wait” for June 2020 to experience camp one last time! With love and thanks. Sarah Jane.

There were three students from Garden Plain High School participating in the 2019 Kansas Lions Band. Even though there is no Lions club in Garden Plain, we were able to find sponsors for all three. Because of the generosity of Lions, Lionesses, Leos and others, we have never had to turn any student away seeking financial sponsorship. Sarah's sponsorship had a very special meaning. Daren Wisman (father of Gregory, Geoffrey, and Galen, all three participated for four years and have served many years as chaperones) passed on early in 2018 and there were some funds to go to-



Fifth year student Destiny Howell with Lions Band Camp directors Shari and Hans Neidhardt. Photo by Greg Alexander

ward a college scholarship in the family name. Darren loved music and the three boys decided that the funds would have much more meaning if they were used to send a student to Kansas Lions Band. Sarah was the first of such students to be sponsored by the Daren Wisman Family.

Although the note was sent to Shari and I, we could not do what we do to make the Kansas Lions Band program such a success without the Lions of Kansas (each and every one of you). Your support of the band program has such a positive impact on each of the students. I realize as Lions we rarely “toot” our own horn, but know that these band students appreciate the opportunity that is provided to them by you. The two simple little words (Thank You) do not truly reflect the impact Kansas Lions have on the students.

*PCC Hans & Lion Shari Neidhardt
Kansas Lions Band Committee Co-Chairs*



Kansas Lions Foundation
 Kansas Lions State Office
 231 S. Tyler Rd.
 Wichita KS. 67209

Non-Profit Standard
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit No. 300
 Wichita, KS.
 67276



State Convention snapshots

The 2019 State Convention included a chicken plop on Saturday afternoon (left); ID Tom Gordon and wife Gillian learning to do the hula Friday evening (lower left), and a special birthday luncheon on Saturday (lower right).

Photos by Rick Dodson and Merle Laham

