



District 17N News



67 Lions clubs serving in south central and south east Kansas | July 2025

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

District Governor's Notes

Starting '25-'26 as a year of service with purpose and pride

We've celebrated the end of the 2024-25 Lion year and I want to thank each and every one of you Lions again for *Making Your Mark* through dedicated Lion service in the District's 67 respective communities. Some of you even served as Kansas Lion leaders on a District and State-wide level too and I thank you so very much for stepping up and doing all that you did for Kansas Lionism.



The District 17N 2025-26 Goals and Action Plans were submitted to Lions International a few months ago following my District Governor training in Chicago in February. The final drafts were reviewed and approved by PDG Shari, First VDG Melanie, Second VDG Barb, PCC Pam and State Secretary Dan. I hope you will embrace them as yours too so we can increase club membership, support the Lions Club International Foundation, encourage leadership development, and continue the wonderful community service activities throughout the District.

In support of Lions International's Mission 1.5, during my District Governor term, we have committed to achieve the membership growth targets established for our district by Lions International. They are to start at least one new Club and a positive increase in the district's membership by a net gain of least one new member by June 30, 2026.

We will strive to maintain existing membership retention which will start with a membership satisfaction survey to measure where we can improve and seek better club enjoyment and fun while serving at all times.

Next, we ask each and every Lion member to get at least one new

Continued on next page

Save the Date!

MD17 Council Meeting

Saturday, August 2
Wyngate by Wyndom
at Wichita Aiport
5500 W. Kellogg
Details on page 9

First District Cabinet Meeting

Saturday, August 9
Valley Center
Community Center
316 E. Clay
Details on page 4

USA/Canada Forum

September 18-20
Atlantic City, NJ
Info at

<https://lionsforum.org>

Kansas Fall Rally

Saturday, October 25
Lindsborg, KS

Kansas Lions District 17N Leaders

District Governor

Clark Lindstrom

Wichita Downtown Lions Club

316-258-2781

cflindstrom@yahoo.com

1st Vice District Governor

Melanie Snider

Baxter Springs Lions Club

417-529-2138

lionmelsnider@gmail.com

2nd Vice District Governor

Barb Schattak

Lyndon Lions Club

785-221-7994

ksyorkies@gmail.com

District Governor Notes

Continued from previous page

member to join their respective club. As an incentive, there will be a membership growth competition within the district. The club with the most new members during each month of my term, will receive my personal donation to the LCIF unrestricted fund in the amount of \$10 per new member up to \$100/month in the club's name. In the case of a tie, \$5 per new member per club will be donated up to a limit of \$100/month.

During my District Governor term, we will commit to raising at least \$33,000 for Lions Club International Foundation. During District Governor team official Club visits, we will continue with the "Bag of Bucks" to be passed among club members for contribution dollars to be collected and then donated into the unrestricted fund towards the club's total donations for the year.

We will encourage a 20% increase in personal donations from club leadership and members. We will strive to achieve a 25% higher level of giving from District leadership to give what they can when they can. There will be a concerted effort by the District and Club LCIF Coordinators to make donation forms available and increase opportunities to donate during events, projects, and fundraisers.

Increasing every Leo and Lion members' knowledge of the impact of giving to LCIF, especially during new member orientation, will contribute to our Foundation's local and global impact.

Knowledgeable district servant leaders will attract new members and inspire positive member experiences for Lions and Leos in our Kansas communities. During the first quarter of my District Governor term, we will promote and facilitate training for club officers and zone chairs.

Everyone should take advantage of the training available in the lionsclubs.org portal by selecting the «Learn» tab available on home page. There are also numerous YouTube training videos available by clicking the «training videos» tab on the opening page of Portal. Additionally we have Club Officer and other leadership training which can be accessed at kansaslions.org.

Our Global Leadership Team District Coordinator, PDG Stephen Langley will report the completed zone chair and club officer training using the Manage Training feature in the Portal. The goal is to achieve 75% of the district's club officers will have completed

their respective leadership role's training.

Service is the heart of our mission and association. Everyone wants to hear about your club's service activities, so be sure to report them as soon as possible using the Lions Portal. Every service project reported helps tell our story and measures our impact in the community as well as the world.

This can potentially grow our membership. To increase the impact and relevance of service in District 17-N, raise awareness of club service projects, and potentially attract like-minded service oriented prospective new members. During my District Governor term, District leaders will commit to promoting the importance of timely planning and reporting by all clubs and Leos providing service in their communities. The goal is to increase the percentage of clubs reporting service projects, how many people served, hours of service, and how many serving Lion/Leo volunteers into the Portal to at least 50%.

The first Lions International global cause focused on in the District will be diabetes awareness, prevention, and coping. We will continue to support club and member donations to provide scholarships to attend Camp Discovery, a summer camp in Kansas for youth dealing with diabetes.

The second global cause will be the Environment. There will be a District wide challenge to all MD 17-N Clubs and their leaders to create and execute a new fun environmental community service event/fundraiser/project/activity that they have never done before. Doing so will get the club's name submitted into a random drawing for a large artistic desktop lion statue to be awarded at the District Convention and all entries will be featured during the meeting to inspire other Clubs to do the same.

My District Governor pin and tag line for the 2025-2026 term is "Service with Purpose and Pride." I look forward to serving, supporting, and helping the members and Clubs in District 17-N as District Governor for the next year. I know my District Governor leadership team of 1VDG Melanie, 2VDG Barb, District Secretary Chris, and District Treasurer Kathleen are just as excited about the coming year as I am. 2025-26 is going to be a year of service with purpose and pride.

Thank you for being a Lion. I hope each of you will invite and bring someone in to be member of Lions Club this coming year so we all can enjoy being part of the world's greatest service organization.

Clark Lindstrom
17N District Governor 2025-2026

Let our passion for service flourish

During this last year I had the incredible opportunity to see District 17N Lions succeed in serving with heart, making positive impacts in your communities,



and improving people's lives in many ways, large and small. Thank you for this year. I am filled with gratitude to you for the opportunity to serve as your First Vice District Governor this coming year.

Let the new year begin - let's incorporate fun in both projects and meetings; let's visit with community leaders to learn about service gaps that our clubs may address; let's explore new directions our clubs may embrace;

let's participate/support all Kansas Lions clubs, the district and state activities; let's support our international organization. Let our passion flourish!

In the months ahead, I look forward to club visits, helping clubs become stronger, hearing your concerns, and supporting our membership. I'll also be working closely with our District Governor and the District 17N leadership team to achieve District goals and focus on the district project priorities.

If I can help you or your club, please reach out and give me that opportunity - I'm just a phone call, text or email away.

Melanie Snider

District 17N 1st VDG 2025-2026

Introducing 2nd VDG Barb Schattak

Hello, District 17N!

I would like to introduce myself to you. I am Barbara Schattak (you may call me Barb or Barbie) and I am honored to be your Second Vice District Governor for the year 2025-2026.

My husband Gary and I have been married for 41



years and are 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 five 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.

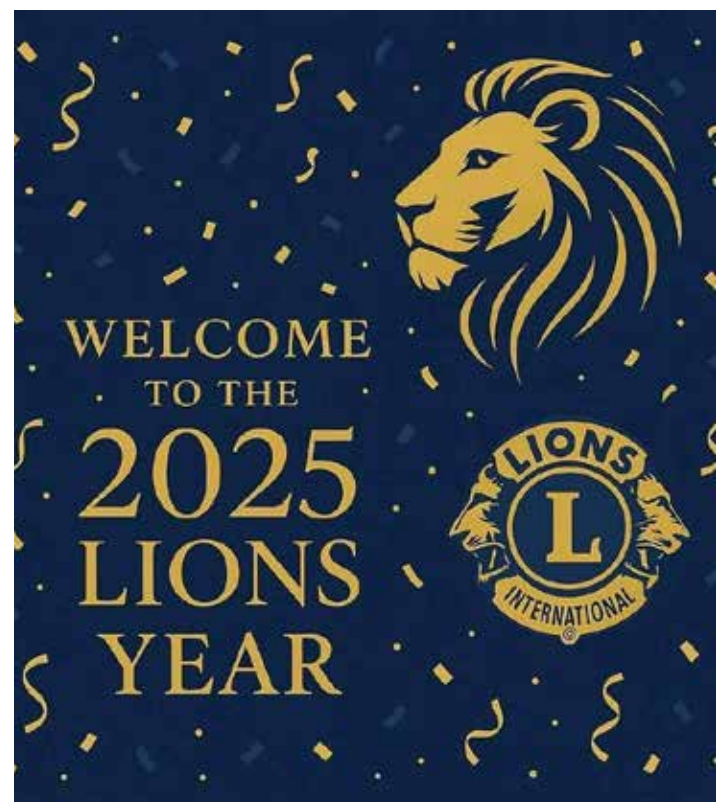
I am a member of the Lyndon Lions Club since 2018 and have served as secretary, First & Second Vice President, and President of my club. I became the District Treasurer in 2022 under PCC Lori Langley and remained in this position for three years. It has been an honor to serve on the cabinet for three impressive District Governors. Shadowing these great ladies, I feel I have learned so much.

This past year I served as Zone Chair for Zones 9 and 10. I enjoyed meeting everyone from my clubs and assisting where needed. I will miss seeing the members of these clubs and spending time with them. I know these clubs will do remarkable things in the year to come.

I am looking forward to meeting and visiting you and your clubs and learning more about your great works as Lions. District Governor Clark, First Vice District Governor Melanie and I are excited about this upcoming year for Lions in District 17N and are here to serve you and your clubs.

Barb Schattak

District 17N 2nd VDG 2025-2026



Get Tropical at 17N District Cabinet Meeting Saturday, August 9

Valley Center Community Center | 316 E. Clay
Cottonwood Meeting Room

Come dressed in your best tropical attire (no shorts please)

9 am Light breakfast 9:15 am Registration

9:45 am Call to order 11:45 am Lunch

Fried chicken & fixins'—\$12 per person

District Service Project:

Bring personal hygiene products to be
donated to [Simply Hygiene](#)

RSVP by August 6 to

Kathleen Burden, District 17N treasurer,
at kathleenburden@hotmail.com
or by phone: 913-486-7422

'Get Tropical' at first cabinet meeting

District Governor Clark Lindstrom invites District 17N Lions to "Get Tropical" for the first Cabinet meeting of the 2025-2026 Lions Year.

Come to Valley Center on Saturday, August 9, at the Valley Center Community Center in Lions Park at 316 E. Clay St.

Doors open at 9 am with a light breakfast of pastries and beverages provided. Registration opens at 9:15 am and the meeting starts at 9:45 am.

Lunch will be served at 11:45 am with a menu of fried chicken, mashed potatoes with either brown or white gravy, green beans, baked beans, roll/butter and dessert with water or tea provided. Cost is \$12 per person, payable at the door. RSVP for the meeting and meal by August 6 to Lion Kathleen Burden, District 17N Treasurer at kathleenburden@hotmail.com or 913-486-7422.

Attendees are asked to bring personal hygiene products to be donated to Simply Hygiene as a community service project. See the box on this page for suggested donations.

Simply Hygiene currently distributes to more than 210 schools and 96 organizations in the greater Wichita area, providing more than 92,000 people access to hygiene essentials each month.

From their website: "We have distributed millions of products so far into our community and excited to keep growing.

"Access to hygiene products can bring respect, equity, and overall well-being to our communities. Now more

than ever, we are committed to our mission of empowering people with essential hygiene products that promote health and hope."

In addition, attendees can bring any used eyeglasses to be taken to the State Office. Club leaders should pick up new member packets for 2025-26.

Bring some cash—we'll hold a 50/50 raffle to raise money for the youth diabetes camp scholarships for 2026 and a "Fun"draiser for LCIF.

Entry forms will be available for the 2025-26 Environmental Challenge. Clubs with new, never done before environmental projects can enter to win a donated art-quality, desktop sized lion statue and recognition at the District Convention in February 2026.

Products requested by Simply Hygiene

Bar soap	Body wash
Conditioner	Deodorant
Diapers (sz 3,4,5)	Feminine products
Laundry detergent	Lotion
Shampoo	Toilet Paper
Toothbrushes	Toothpaste

Make a cash donation to
Simply Hygiene with this Venmo Link:
<https://www.venmo.com/u/simplyhygiene>

How and when to report service

We recommend reporting a service activity in the Lion Portal as soon as possible after you complete your service. The Lion Year ends on June 30, but reports can continue to be entered for that year until July 31.

You can collect the data needed to report an activity with the Service Activity Information resource, which includes a list of our global causes and project types. Training resources and additional information about the Lion Portal can be found on the Member Resource Page: <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/digital-products/portal-updates>.

It's also important to make sure your club information is correct in the Portal. Update officers, including telephone numbers and email address. Make sure your meeting dates, times and place is up-to-date. That information is needed as soon as possible for the MD17 directory.

Still need help with reporting? Contact PDG Chris Bauer at lionchris@sbcglobal.net or 620-473-2406.

Welcome to the Pride

New members in June



New Member

Sponsor

Augusta Servant
Patti French
Mary Upton

Goddard
Lori Mathews

Independence
Daniel McDill

Osage City
Wyatt Bailey
Luke Kerns

Wichita Northwest
Mishelle Heinen
Diana Kaufman

Erick Mathews

Ray Rothgeb

Vernon Bailey
William Kerns

Sandra Childs
Sandra Childs



Over 9 Million Views So Far!

We want to send a BIG thank you to the **Lions Clubs International Foundation** Board of Trustees & Staff for their ongoing support of the Tell-A-Thon!

Because of their dedication, we get to celebrate and share the inspiring stories of our **#servantheroes** around the world. Their leadership sparks even MORE service—and we're just getting started.

Haven't see the **#tellathon** yet? Go to <https://lionsvirtual.org>

We're building a global team of #ServantHeroes — & YOU are invited!

Create Your #ServantHero Portrait

1. Open Servant Hero Creator app inside of ChatGPT @ <https://bit.ly/ServantHero>
2. Select one of the prompts:
 - Make me a #Servant Hero!
 - Discover your superpower
 - Create my #ServantHero baseball card
 - Change a Service Activity Picture into a #ServantHero Picture

Answer the questions, be prepared to upload a selfie or picture — so your hero looks like you!

3. Save & Share your image on social media with #ServantHero

Be inspired by #ServantHeroes from across the globe @ lionsvirtual.org

Help fund more #ServantHero service @ lionsclubs.org/givetoday





Around the District

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



Lions Gary O'Neal, Scott Helmke, Steve Fisher and James Schmidt looking over boxes with 25,000 pairs of eyeglasses ready for distribution. Bel Aire Lions Gary and James provided the Bel Aire Lions trailer and a truck to transport the eyeglasses from the Lions State Office in Wichita to Salina.



First Vice District Governor Melanie Snider (left) presented a Melvin Jones Fellowship to Parsons Lion Verlyn Bolinger (right) at a recent meeting.



Ginny Hill, center, was named Lion of the Year by the Independence Lions Club during its final meeting of the 2024-25 year. Hill was chosen for the honor by her fellow Lions for her work in organizing the monthly Clothes Closet at the New Life Baptist Church. Joining Hill in receiving the honor were President Ray Rothgeb, left, and PDG Lori Langley, right.



Mike Hamilton, left, president of Valley Center Lions, presented Lion Mark Burks with Membership Key for the sponsorship of two new members.



Emporia Lions had some help putting up flags along an I-35 overpass on Flag Day, Saturday, June 14.



PDG Don Cunningham received the International President's Medal at the District Cabinet Meeting.

PDG Don served as the District Diabetes Awareness Chair and established a scholarship fund to send youth from our district to a diabetes camp.

Presenting the medal at the recent cabinet meeting are, from left: PID Ed McCormick, DG Shari Neidhardt, Don, and ID Hans Neidhardt.



Lions from across District 17N attended Charter Night for the new Augusta Servant Lions Club.



Wichita Downtown President Joe Keathley, left, presents a gavel to newly installed Augusta Servant Club president PDG Tom Smarsh. Wichita Downtown is sponsoring the new Augusta Club.



District Governor Shari Neidhardt watches as a new Lion signs the Augusta Servant Lions Club Charter.



OFFICERS INSTALLED—William Skaggs, Lion Tamer; Ken Brinkman, First Vice President; Harry Stockwell, Secretary, and Amanda Krack, Treasurer, from left, officers in the new Augusta Servant Lions Club are installed by District Governor Shari Neidhardt, far right. Not pictured are PDG Tom Smarsh, President; PID Anne Smarsh, Membership, and Bret Corby, Tail Twister.

Special Note to All Kansas Lions

I am excited to share that several committees have been diligently reviewing our meeting schedules for the year with the goal of enhancing your experience while also reducing costs associated with attending our Council meetings, Mid-Winter Rally and State Convention.

As part of this initiative, we are implementing several changes, including transitioning the Mid-Winter Rally to a Fall event, aptly named the Fall Rally. 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 soon. I am particularly looking forward to our upcoming council meeting on August 2, 2025, at the Wingate by Wyndham Wichita Airport, 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! Looking forward to your attendance.

Dan Funke, State Secretary

CABINET MEETING SERVICE PROJECT

Both Alert trailers need to be restocked after responding the tornadoes this spring. Please bring donations of travel size personal care products, diapers & baby wipes and disinfecting wipes.

KANSAS LIONS STATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS AUGUST 2, 2025

****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.**

<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
ALERT TEAM	7:45 -8:30 am	A
K-I	8:00-8:30 am	C
KANSAS LIONS SIGHT FOUNDATION	8:30-9:30 am	A
LCIF	8:30-9:15 am	B
CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS	8:30-9:15 am	C
BUDGET & FINANCE	9:30-10:15 am	A
AUDIT	9:15-10:15 am	B
GLOBAL ACTION TEAM (ALL)	9:15-10:15 am	C
KANSAS BAND FOUNDATION	10:30-11:30 am	A
LONG RANGE PLANNING	10:30-11:30 am	B
PUBLIC RELATIONS	10:30- 11:00 am	C
LUNCH	11:30 am-12:30 pm	
Speaker – Holly Lofton, Director, Lindsborg Convention & Visitors Bureau		
ENVIRONMENTAL	12:45-1:30 pm	A
HEALTH AND DIABETES	12:45-1:30 pm	B
KANSAS LIONS FOUNDATION	12:45-1:45 pm	C
INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY	1:30-2:15 pm	A
BUDGET & FINANCE	1:30-2:15 pm	B
HISTORICAL	2:15-3:00 pm	B
GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (If Needed)	2:30-2:45 pm	C
*STATE COUNCIL MEETING	3:00-4:00 pm	A and B



1st State Council Meeting Registration August 2, 2025



Wingate by Wyndham Wichita Airport | 5500 West Kellogg, Wichita, KS 67209

Lions and Guests: _____

District: _____ Club: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Number of People for Lunch _____ X \$20.00

Total Cost _____

_____ I have enclosed a check for the above amount. Make check payable to Kansas State Lions and mail to Lions State Office, 231 S. Tyler Road, Wichita, KS 67209.

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

You can also make reservations on line and pay by credit card by using Zeffy:

<https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/1st-council-meeting>

ALL FOOD RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY JULY 28, 2025

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 28, 2025

kansaslionsoffice@gmail.com | 231 S. Tyler Rd, Wichita KS 67209

**Headquarters hotel is the
Wingate by Wyndham Wichita Airport
5500 West Kellogg, Wichita, KS 67209**

Rates: \$92.00 for King – \$102.00 for Double Queen

Reservations due July 23, 2025

Online:

www.wyndhamhotels.com/hotels/17899?checkIn-Date=08/01/2025&checkOutDate=08/02/2025&group-Code=081525LIO

By Phone: 316-942-2181

Make sure to use code 081525LIO

Price includes breakfast