



March 2011

District 17-O Lions

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Beacon of Change

Huff's Stuff



District Governor, Michele Hufferd

What a fantastic weekend we just had at the District Convention. For the 160+ people that attended this weekend, I hope you learned a few things, met some new lions, and most of all, had as much fun as I did.

Some of the highlights of the convention included the Blues Brothers on Friday night; J.P. Davies, the 2006 Olympic Bobsled team member; voting for new officers; ID Dick Sawyer; and Pianists from the KS School for the Blind.

Photos and information about the convention are scattered throughout this newsletter, so please make sure you read it all. It may make you feel like you were there!

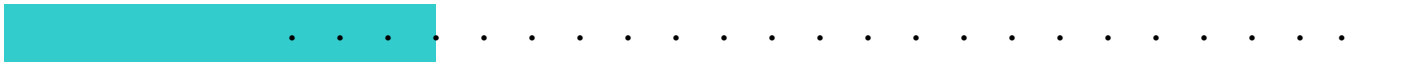
So...Eight months of this year is now gone. But...we still have four months to go. There is still a lot to do and I know our district can do it.

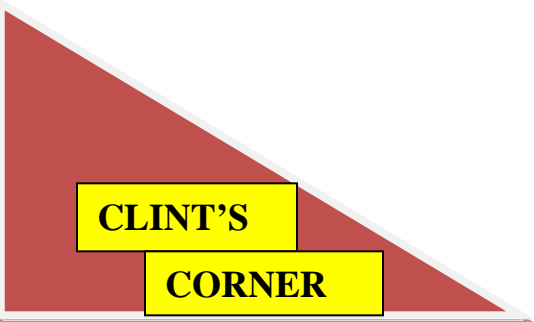
April is coming soon, and with it, President Scruggs' fourth service project. The environment is the focus for April's project. The district goal is to have 100% of our clubs participating in the project. President Scruggs is asking every club to plant a tree.

This should be a really easy project for all of us to work on. This is a "service" project, that means we actually do it ourselves, not pay someone to do it for us. If your club wants to plant a tree, but the manpower isn't there, please let me know and we will find help from other clubs so we can meet 100% club participation.

Our goal for the beginning of the year was to have 20+ members by the end of the year. We have been doing great in getting new members, but we've been losing more. We need to bring in 65 new members between now and the end of the year, without losing any more, to reach our goal. I know we can do it!! If you would like some help in having a new member function, please let me know.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my convention committee. They did a fantastic job and worked very hard to make our convention totally awesome! A special thanks to my mom Sylvia and dad Verle for acting as convention committee chairs, to my husband David for helping out and keeping me sane, to my aunt Nancy for working in the hospitality room all weekend, and to the Louisburg Lions Club for spending hours cooking and preparing all of the food that was in the hospitality room. It was the best ever!!





Points Contest Standings:

20 members or less:

- Everest - 2,805**
- Gardner - 12,005**
- Hiawatha - 19,345**
- Highland - 18,730**
- Horton - 2,575**
- Seneca - 7,230**

21-40 members:

- Lawrence - 52,060**
- Lyndon - 8,100**
- OP Host - 46,150**
- Robinson - 14,100**
- Sabetha - 16,465**
- Scranton - 18,800**
- Topeka Sunflower - 40,525**
- Troy - 10,135**
- Valley Falls - 7,175**

41+ members:

- Leavenworth - 63,575**
- Leawood - 39,713**
- Louisburg - 145,700**



There Is Still Room for Your Club's Points!

Numbers shown may or may not include current month, depending on when points are received.

If you have points that you do not see above, please contact Clint Vawter or myself. We may not have received them.

Our district convention is now in the history books. What a convention it was. What a great job Michele and her convention committee did. I have attended quite a few district conventions around the state, and this was without a doubt the best one I have attended. That is not to say that the others were not good, because they were. If you attended you know what a good time we all had. If you didn't attend, you missed a great opportunity. The highlights of the convention were the afternoon business meeting and election, and the Saturday evening banquet. I won't list all of the election results as I am sure that will appear elsewhere in the news letter.

As district governor elect, I am busy filling cabinet positions. If you are interested in serving on the cabinet, please contact me, my contact information is listed below. The two primary jobs I need to fill are cabinet secretary and newsletter editor. There are also some committee and zone chair spots open. I am also setting up my schedule of club visits. I plan to continue the District Governors Points Contest. I hope more clubs will participate than have been. Very few clubs reported points for this month.

A major change that has been brought about by Lions Clubs International is the end of the MERL Team and the beginning of the GMT (Global Membership Team) and GLT (Global Leadership Team) teams.

I am looking forward to a very good and prosperous new Lion Year.

DGE Clint Vawter
Phone: 785-836-7191
FAX: 785-836-7185
Email: clintv@aol.com

Nichols' Notes



Club Visits Can Energize Your Club

An active visitation program allows members of your club to glean ideas and encouragement from other clubs across the district. It's also a great way to have fun and fellowship and promote camaraderie among Lions from club to club.

My club, the Overland Park Host Lions Club, is fortunate to have a Club Visitation Chairman who takes the job very seriously. Lion Edson Parker tries to schedule two club visitations each month. He makes the contacts with club presidents to arrange a visit, then brings a sign-up sheet to club meetings for club members to indicate their intent of joining the team for a particular visit. We may have as few as two or as many as eight members visiting a club. Whether a club is large or small we come away inspired about the work of Lionism and the way that Lions serve in their respective communities.

What are some of the things we've observed or heard about during some of these visits?

- Leavenworth Lions have some kind of informational or entertaining program every single week. That's no small fete, to arrange a weekly program year-in and year-out! In addition, Leavenworth tail twisting is an adventure that all district Lions should experience at least once!

- The Kansas City, Kansas Club has officially chartered and is beginning to plan Charter Night festivities. Watch for information about the date so you can attend and help the club celebrate.
- The Shawnee and Overland Park Noon clubs are a great example of club collaboration. They are currently planning their fourth Trivia Night, which has become a major fund raiser for the two clubs as well as a fun evening for everyone involved.
- Congratulations to Linwood Lions for inducting their first woman member. I predict more women will join the club before long!
- We were at two different clubs for their Valentine's Day celebration—the Topeka Sunflower club and the Auburn club. Auburn Lions inducted two new members as part of that celebration, with two more newbies to be inducted at a later date.
- Valley Falls Lions use the youth of their community to provide programs for their club meetings and to assist with activities such as the Mobile Screening Unit.
- Osawatomie is another club that, while small, has hosted the Mobile Screening Unit very successfully.
- The program chair for our club came away with a great contact for a program after we visited the Lawrence club.
- At Bonner Springs we mingled with Lions from Leavenworth and Lansing as well as the Lions from Bonner Springs club, as we were not the only club to schedule a visit to Bonner Springs for that particular meeting!
- Both Leawood and Olathe Lions hosted zone meetings on one of their regular meeting nights, so we were able to visit with Lions from across our zone on both occasions.
- Attendance at some of the presentations that are part of the Topeka Lions' Travel Series, while not a club visitation per se, has given us the opportunity to visit with Topeka Lions as well as Lions from other clubs who take advantage of this great series.

I encourage all of you to make club visits a priority for the rest of the year and as you plan for next year. It's good for you, and it's good for the clubs you visit! (And it's a great way to earn points for the district governor's points contest!)

Lion Beverly

MONEY AVAILABLE

Lions, Lioness, and Leos (18 years of age and older) are able to get scholarship funds to assist with Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute (GPLLI) tuition fees. The Multiple District 17 PDG Club is offering two \$75.00 scholarships to the first two applicants from each district and PDG Mike Banta, mikejoycebanta@localnet.com, is the point of contact. District 17-O is providing eight \$100.00 scholarships to the first eight applicants and PDG Peggy Jacobson, pegjacob@aol.com is the point of contact. Those funds are made available upon successful completion of the GPLLI training. The earlier applicants obviously have an advantage in receiving funding support. More importantly, the participants in the GPLLI experience will receive excellent training, improved confidence, and excellent networking opportunities among Lions from five multiple districts.

This is the first year that the GPLLI tuition is applied on an incremental basis such that applications received through May 31, 2011 are charged \$125.00 tuition; whereas, those who apply after May 31, 2011 will be charged \$140.00. This incremental change is designed to encourage early applications, which permits the GPLLI staff to best plan for accommodating students.

Everyone should also be aware of the fact that the GPLLI staff is in the process of obtaining a distinctive lapel pin for all GPLLI graduates. All prior graduates and staff will be permitted to purchase a pin and future graduates and staff will be provided a pin as a part of the graduation ceremony. The GPLLI pin design contest was won by PDG Dale Rein who submitted the most outstanding design from among eight entries.

Those interested in obtaining additional information or application forms should contact PID Ernie Young at eyoungks@aol.com, or call 913-727-2082.

**YOUR CLUB
INFORMATION COULD
BE HERE!!**

After much thought, prayers and consideration, it is my intent to be a candidate for the office of Second Vice President of Lions Clubs International.

I have received the endorsement of my club, have asked for the endorsement of my district at the District Convention April 3 and have asked the State Council for endorsement by MD-17 for the office of Second Vice President of Lions Clubs International to be on the ballot and voted on by certified delegates at the State Convention Business Session June 4, 2011.

It is my intention to be a candidate of 2014 but with the endorsement I would be available for years prior to that date.

Ed McCormick, PID



MOBILE SCREENING UNIT

The MSU will be returning to the Kansas State Fair next September. For this to happen all of the Lions Clubs in Kansas need to help in this huge project.

How can a Club help?

1. By scheduling a time to help operate the MSU.
2. By donating to the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation.
3. By learning more about the MSU and its operation.
4. By scheduling the MSU to come to your location.

The Dates for the Kansas State Fair are September 8 – 18, 2011. The Fair is open from 9am to 9pm each day and the booth must be staffed all of this time. The MSU will be doing screenings from 10am to 6pm each day. It takes 7 -10 people per shift and there will be 2 shifts.

We will need your club name, a contact persons information and how many from your club can supply to help. Contact area people that can do blood pressure and diabetes checks to help at the Fair. Contact **Sylvia Reinhardt** or **Ron Bretz** about your club helping and to answer questions.

Retention 2011

If you are looking to make your Lion experience more meaningful, consider taking an office within your club. Growing into a leadership role offers at least the following perks:

C areer advancement
L eadership development
U nleash creativity
B uild a top team

O pportunity to make a difference
F un and growth
F ind your hidden talents
I nspire others
C hance to give back
E arn respect
R ecognition
S kyrocket your self confidence

(adapted from The Toastmaster magazine)

The **CLUB PRESIDENT** will conduct club and board meetings, appoint committees, and in general supervise carrying out the goals of the club, and is the club's liaison with the District cabinet.

VICE PRESIDENTS will, in order of rank, carry out the duties of the president when the president is unable to attend. Each vice president will oversee the work of committees as assigned by the president.

The **SECRETARY** will submit all required reports to LCI, district and government agencies, keep minutes of meetings and member records, handle correspondence, and be a member of the District Governor's advisory committee.

TREASURER will receive all monies collected by the club and deposit them in the approved bank, pay out monies as directed by the board, keep accurate records of all transactions and provide reports to the club monthly and other reports as directed.

The **TAIL TWISTER** offers activities which promote good will among members and get people involved and having fun. The **LION TAMER** takes care of the club's properties.

If you are interested in one of these positions, contact the nominating committee, or if not, let the president know on what committee you are interested in serving.

Upcoming Events

Mar 4-5, 2011

Robinson Melodrama

7:00 p.m.

""Granny Smyth Goes To Washington, or...She Was the Apple of His Pie" at the Robinson Bird Cage. Contact Robinson Club for reservations.

Mar 5, 2011

Olathe Noon Health Fair

Free to all. Contact Clayton

Wenger at 913 780-4477 for more information.

Mar 6, 2011

Robinson Melodrama

2:00 p.m.

""Granny Smyth Goes To Washington, or...She Was the Apple of His Pie" at the Robinson Bird Cage. Contact Robinson Club for reservations.

Mar 11-12, 2011

Robinson Melodrama

7:00 p.m.

""Granny Smyth Goes To Washington, or...She Was the Apple of His Pie" at the Robinson Bird Cage. Contact Robinson Club for reservations.

Mar 26, 2011

Topeka Sunflower Pancake Feed

7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

First Christian Church, 1880 Sw Gage
Topeka, Kansas.
Tickets are \$4.00 each

Apr 9, 2011

OP Host Pasta Dinner & Auction **5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

Overland Park Christian Church.
7600 W. 75th Street, OP, KS
Adults \$7.50; children 3-11 \$5.00.
Desserts \$2.00

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District Governor Visits

- Mar 5 – Prairie Village Club
- Mar 5 – Robinson Melodrama
- Mar 10 – Bonner Springs Club
- Mar 11-12 – DG Sorenson Dist Conv
- Mar 18-19 – DG Wienck Dist Conv
- Apr 1-2 – DG Smarsh Dist Conv
- April 8 – DGE Training Session
- Jun 2-5 - State Convention
- Jun 18 – Cabinet Social

Remember - - All articles or information for the newsletter should be sent to the editor, DG Hufferd, no later than the 20th of the month to be included in the next newsletter.

NEEDED: An occasional ride from Overland Park to Lee's Summit for work. If anyone is interested in helping out on occasion, please contact me. I'm willing to pay: \$10 per trip or \$20 per day. That would help to cover gas and other such expenses.

Kim Morrow, Prairie Village Lions Club.

Secretaries

Please remember to submit your MMR reports to International BEFORE the end of the month. It takes less than five minutes and is CRUCIAL to our reporting. Call me if you are having problems.

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**May 1, 2011
Louisburg Car Show
On Broadway in Louisburg**

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Car Show, Silent Auction, Food, DJ, Lots of Fun and MORE... Come Join Us!

**June 4 & 5, 2011
State Convention**

Holidome in Lawrence
Be on the lookout for information for the best State Convention yet!

**June 18, 2011
Cabinet Social**

Location TBD
More Information will follow

**June 25, 2011
Scranton Lions Parade
10:00 am**



Over \$900.00 was raised on theme baskets and crayons on the meal tables at the convention for the KU Cancer Center!!

NEW MEMBERS

Atchison

Angela Skidmore
Sponsor: William Skidmore

Auburn:

Ellen Caster
Sponsor:

KCK Downtown:

Sue Gamble
Sponsor:

Joseph Maino
Sponsor:

Linwood:

Betty Chellgren
Sponsor: Steven Chellgren

Spring Hill

Thomas Troutman
Sponsor:

Valley Falls

Kurt Oborn
Sponsor: James Durand



At the District Convention, the Shawnee Lions Club won the Most Unusual Theme Basket award for their rendition of "Redneck First Date". Congratulations! Below is a report from "Bud" on his first day with the Shawnee club.

Report on Bud's first outing with the Shawnee Lions Club. After being referred to as a BEAR, it took me some time to calm him down. Bud refused to use his seat belt and being of unknown age I figured it would be ok if we happened to be stopped on the trip home from a most rewarding District O Convention. The fog didn't seem to affect his disposition during the short trip. I was thankful he didn't insist on stopping at every or any Mickey D's for refreshment. We have been watching TV for a while now and he seems to be relaxed. I can only hope he doesn't have a restless night due the fact he has been shut up in a spare bedroom for the last year. Can you imagine how stunted his mental growth has been coupled with the "bear" slur? Well rest assured he is in good hands now. We are planning a trip to the lake next week and I sure he will enjoy the serenity. Our granddaughter is having a belated Birthday celebration because of our attendance at the Lions District O Convention. I must admit I was somewhat concerned at his attraction of those folks from Arizona. He may have been thinking of a warmer climate. Oh yes you can be sure he'll be attending the March 12th performance of the Robinson Melodrama. Well it's late and I need my rest after all the stress in my world. I hope I can sleep. I'm so excited about Bud's first Sunday in the new world. I'm planning a small Bible study. Well that's sum of our first journey in the best Lions District O of the best MD 17 of the best Service organization in this world. Thanks for listening.

PS. I had to send this to someone as a witness just in case someone tries to harm him again. I think I'll pick someone different each week to report to. That way no one is subjected to the hazard that is solely my responsibility.

Richard Barnes rjbarnes@mac.com



Doesn't Bud look happy??



Richard Barnes Accepting Bud!!

**GARDNER LIONS CLUB
“CHICKEN NOODLE SUPPER”
“QUILT DRAWING”**

**Saturday March 19, 2011 4-7pm
Sacred Heart Parish - 122 E. Warren**

*** Chicken & Noodles ***

(Child Option - Hot Dog with Bun)

Mashed Potatoes - Vegetable - Dessert

Adults - \$7 in advance, \$8 at door

Children 10 & under - \$3 2 and under - FREE

*** Handmade Quilt Drawing ***

81”x96” Goddess of Purple Light

Ticket Donation - \$1 each, 6 for \$5, 15 for \$10

To contact your local Lion - 913-522-0029

Web site:

eclubhouse.org/sites/GardnerKS



You are invited to the KANSAS CITY, KANSAS
DOWNTOWN LIONS Charter Night

March 25, 2011
6:30pm
Kansas School for the Blind
1100 State Ave, Kansas City, Kansas
Tickets \$20.00
RSVP by March 20, 2011
David or Diane Hentges
812 North Washington Blvd., KCK 66102
913-342-8878 or dhentges@kc.rr.com.





**Officers for Upcoming Year –
2011/2012**

- District Governor –Clint Vawter
- 1st Vice District Governor - Beverly Nichols
- 2nd Vice District Governor – Jerry Loney
- KLF: 2 yr – Jerry Loney
- KLBF – 2 yr – PCC Bobby Duvall
- KLSF – 3 yr – Andy Hoedl



DG Michele Hufferd is presented the Woody Edgington Award by Chris Wright, President of the Leawood Lions Club for bringing in 10 new members in 2010.



Lions David and Diane Hentges receive the International President's Appreciation Award for their work in starting the new KCK Downtown Lions Club.



Three pianists from the KS School for the Blind entertained at Saturday night's banquet. They are raising money to go to the National competition. Buckets were passed and they raised \$389.25 for their trip.



