



May 2011

District 17-O Lions

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Beacon of Change

Huff's Stuff



District Governor, Michele Hufferd

I can't believe there are only two months left in this Lions year. We have accomplished so much, but there is so much more to do. I was hoping we would end the year on a positive note in membership, but as of today, we are down 42 members from last July. I believe that we can still show a positive membership growth by the end of the year if we all get out there and "Ask". If you aren't sure how to go about talking to someone about joining your club, look back through the newsletters and pick out someone listed as a new member sponsor. Give them a call and ask them how they do it. Working together and sharing experiences will build our membership.

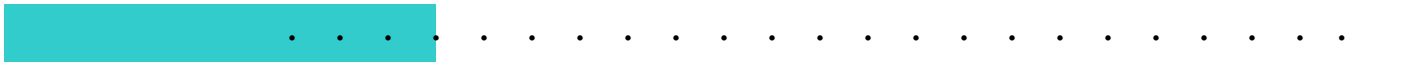
I've received some great pictures of our clubs performing their April service project. I'm so glad to see so many clubs participating! Service is what we are all about and its great we have a President who has planned such fantastic service projects this year. Secretaries – make sure you enter the project in your activities and mark the check box for the international service project so that our President knows our District is performing.

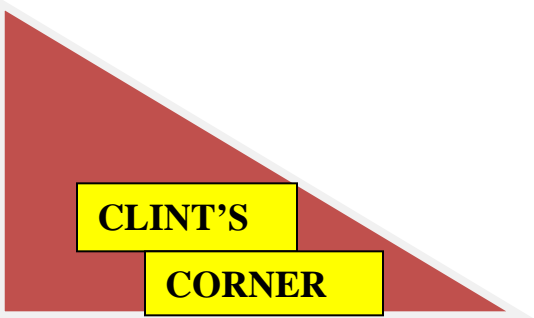
Even though the year is almost over, there are still a lot of things planned and coming up in the next two months. On May 21st is officer training. Even if you have attended before, you may want or need a refresher course. If you are a new officer, or a new lion just wanting to learn about the offices, please plan on attending the training. Things are constantly changing, and we could all use an "update".

Our State Convention is a month away. It is right here in our District and our International President will be joining us. Lots of fun and exciting things have been planned for this convention. Even if you can't make it for the entire weekend, please pick at least one or two things that may interest you and attend those. We would like to have a **HUGE** turnout not only from the State, but especially from our District.

After the State Convention, we will be having our last cabinet meeting/social on June 18th. Please plan on attending. We will be having more fun than meeting!! ☺

Although our four International service projects are complete – Don't Stop Now! Keep the service going. That is how we are going to get new members and build Lions in the state of Kansas. Service is what we do and it is who we are. "We Serve!"





Points Contest Standings:

20 members or less:

- Everest - 2,805**
- Gardner - 20,215**
- Hiawatha - 28,510**
- Highland - 25,350**
- Horton - 2,575**
- Seneca - 9,030**
- Shawnee - 20,215**

21-40 members:

- Lawrence - 70,485**
- Lyndon - 10,235**
- OP Host - 72,335**
- Robinson - 16,150**
- Sabetha - 17,465**
- Scranton - 21,100**
- Topeka Sunflower - 77,800**
- Troy - 10,815**
- Valley Falls - 12,975**

41+ members:

- Leavenworth - 88,290**
- Leawood - 62,773**
- Louisburg - 189,150**



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.

We are now only a month away from state convention, which means only about three weeks remain to get your registration and meal reservations in. The convention will be in Lawrence this year at the Holidome, the same location as our district convention. The convention committee has really been busy getting a great convention together. The list of special guests and speakers is unbelievable. Lions International President Sid Scruggs, III will be our special guest all weekend. When was the last time you had an International President that close to your club? Since our district is hosting, let's have a big turn out from 17-O. If you are a first timer at a state convention you could win a great prize. The Kansas Lions Band concert alone is worth coming to the convention. The concert will be at Baker University in Baldwin City. You can ride the bus from the hotel to Baldwin City, but advance reservations are necessary. Parking in Baldwin City is extremely limited.

I wish to personally thank the club secretaries who responded to our request to get their PU-101 reports in early. This will make the job of publishing the state directory much easier. I would ask that all clubs, Presidents and/or Secretaries check the current directory to make sure their club meeting day, location and time is correct. You don't want incorrect information listed in the new directory do you?

I am in the process of developing my club visit schedule for next year. I will be contacting incoming presidents to schedule a visit soon.

Remember, the Lions International Convention is July 5-8, 2011 in Seattle, Washington. The international convention will not be back in the U.S. until 2015. It sure would be nice to see a large turn out from District 17-O.

I do plan to continue the governor point contest. I am considering a few minor changes, but will remain pretty much the same.

I am planning to have a contest so to speak in the monthly newsletter. Details will be in the July edition, but you could win some money. More on this later.

Nichols' Notes



A True Story. Could it Happen to Your Club?

From a small town Texas newspaper, November, 1994
Edited for space considerations

For 48 years the Loraine, Texas Methodist women prepared meals for the Lions Club. Forty-eight years! No telling how many tons of potatoes and beans were heaped upon the Lions' plates during that almost half-century. It all started in 1952 when the Lions Club was chartered in Loraine. Meals would be needed and the Lions were more than willing to pay the price for some good home-cooking. That's how the Methodist women entered the picture.

One of those Methodists was Effie Wheeler. She helped serve meals to the Lions for 21 years. She remembers the names of many of the Methodist women who participated in the meal preparation, but more than their names, she remembers their dedication. Take Mary Agnes Meadows, for example. She helped until she was 90 years old, despite a bad knee. "Let me stand against that sink, prop that leg up so I won't fall and I'll just keep washing dishes and wrapping silver," the elderly woman told her colleagues.

For 48 years the meals were waiting for the Lions when they arrived at their meetings. To spread the chores around, Mrs. Wheeler says cooking was done by teams. For a long time there were four teams, but in time it got down to two. Mrs. Wheeler said that once in a while someone would slip up. She recalled the time a lady forgot to fix the beans. "So here it was, 10 minutes before time to serve and the beans hadn't shown up and that was our basic meal. We ran over to the store and we bought six or eight cans of pinto beans, put a little butter in 'em and got 'em hot through and through. That was our only pretty bad situation."

Unfortunately the aging process crept up on the Methodist women. Their numbers dwindled and eventually only a few could carry the workload. On one of those days when most of the remaining Methodist women were feeling bad, Mrs. Wheeler (the organization's president) decided to ask the unthinkable: "It is time for us to stop serving the Lions?"

Once the decision was made to end the 48-year association, the next thing to do was to inform the Lions, which wouldn't be easy. "I don't know what we're going to do," was the club president's response. "It just broke our hearts," was the comment from the club's only remaining charter member.

When the ladies fixed the last dinner for the Lions, they cried in the kitchen. It was the end of an era. The Methodist women had earned \$1,000 to \$1,200 per year for fixing the meals and had put the money right back into the small community.

The Lions recruited two new cooks, and with those cooks honored the Methodist women with a special dinner to shown the Lions appreciation.

Unfortunately, the Lions, like the Methodist women, aged. Within two years the Loraine Lions Club would have to disband.

And now...the application. Does this sound all too familiar? Does the plight of the Methodist ladies sound like that of many of our clubs? Our members are getting older, but we're still trying to do the same projects we did when our bodies were much younger. We haven't recruited younger members to take up the slack when a little more muscle is required than we now have to offer. And, on the flip side....have we considered whether or not those projects we've always done (some that do require a lot of physical effort) are still meeting the needs of our community? Those are issues that the Loraine Lions Club needed to address as well. They took care of the meal situation but not the bigger issue of revitalizing their club. Sadly, a club with 50 years of service to a small community folded.

And, as Paul Harvey would say, here's the rest of the story. Effie Wheeler was my mother. I came across this clipping just a few days ago while going through her cedar chest to look for something else. I loved reading the story for sentimental reasons but also thought, "What a message for us as Lions." I hope you enjoy the story as much as I did.

Lion Beverly
2nd VDG

MONEY AVAILABLE

Lions, Lionesses, 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.

See the attached flyer for a Harvester's outing at the T-Bones. Lions versus Rotary, Kiwanis, etc., on who can bring the most food to the game. This could be a really fun night out for Lions! Anyone interested in pulling together a district event for this?

YOU ARE ELECTED OR APPOINTED. NOW WHAT?

Congratulations to all new Lions officers and committee chairpersons on your recent election or appointment. Success for your office or committee in 2011-2012 will now be dependent on you to set the proper pace for a successful year. You have the opportunity, so do your best to perform in a manner for which you can be justifiably proud. All of us can use some help to get prepared for a successful year and the Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute (GPLLI) is a prime source of help in getting prepared for success. You may register for GPLLI now and give yourself a decided advantage. GPLLI will be conducted July 22-24, 2011 on the campus of Doane College at Crete, Nebraska. Your cost for this outstanding learning experience is \$125 if registered by May 31, then \$140 for registration beginning June 1. Many districts and past district governor associations are providing assistance with those tuition costs, so check to determine what is available. You have agreed to serve in 2011-2012 and GPLLI is the way to enhance your potential for an outstanding year of service.

Contact PID Ernie Young, eyoungks@aol.com, for application forms. Your move!

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.

Lions all, with all the stir about planting trees this last month, buds got the blues because of all the rain. Nevertheless he is never far away from wishing well for all the Lions of District O. He was blue when he couldn't make trip over to work the Site Bus in Shawnee, and then not getting into the Jazz club fund raiser of the new KCK Downtown Lions Club. Actually it was a sellout not because he couldn't prove he's age. I'll be working on an ID later. Bud has a thorn in his crawl and he wishes to ask every Lion in the district to help with the cure. Even though we have had several successes so far this year it would be a really great deed if every club in District O to bring one new member into our great organization. Can you imagine the increase in our service to those in need. Just one member per club could cause a wave of energy to pass through of district like never before or at least in recent years. Bud says I'll buy a drink of choice for any member that brings in a new member during the month of May. That would be Happy Hour prices of course. Collectible at District, State conventions and Mid-Winter Rally. The race is on...

Richard Barnes

rjbarnes@mac.com



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

Beacon of Change is a monthly publication of the District 17-O Lions Clubs. District 17-O is affiliated with Lions Clubs International. The editor is Michele Hufferd, mbostick2001@yahoo.com or mhufferd@ymllc.com. Material for publication in the Beacon of Change should be sent to the Editor no later than the 25th of the month prior to publication.

Upcoming Events

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!

May 21, 2011

Leadership Training ... See

Information below

May 21, 2011

Auburn Texas Hold-Em

4:00 p.m.

Hanover Pancake House

1034 S. Kansas Avenue

Topeka, KS

\$20 for \$4,000 in chips. Contact

Gary Adkins at 785-256-7274

June 4 & 5, 2011

State Convention

Holidome in Lawrence

See registration form attached to this newsletter. Let's have a great showing from District 17-O for our International President!

June 9, 2011

Topeka Golf Tournament

Eyes Wide Open Classic

Cypress Ridge Golf Course

Contact Dr. Mark Saylor at

785-478-2540 or 785-213-8784

June 18, 2011

Cabinet Social

Location TBD

More Information will follow

June 25, 2011

Scranton Lions Parade

10:00 am

July 4-8, 2011

International Convention

Seattle, WA

District Governor Visits

- May 1 – Louisburg Car Show
- May 15 – Region 3 zone social
- May 20 – Install Prairie Village officers
- Jun 2-5 - State Convention
- Jun 18 – Cabinet Social
- Jun 22 – Install Gardner officers
- Jul 4-8 – Seattle, International Conv.

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.
morrowka@earthlink.net

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.

Greetings Lions,

The GPLLI pins are here!!!

1. The attached pin order form is needed with each order and will be used to support accounting, as well as a tool to verify prior GPLLI association. One pin is authorized per associate.
2. Checks or money orders should be forwarded with the order form as payment. We have no way to process credit cards and cash should not be mailed.
3. Anyone who orders a pin and does not get a response within 3 weeks should contact Ernie Young at eyoungks@aol.com.
4. Contact PID Ernie Young with any inquiries at the earliest possible opportunity.



NEW MEMBERS

Baldwin City:

Bill Demoss
Sponsor:

David Gustin
Sponsor:

Darrell Young
Sponsor:

Leawood:

Don Sharp
Sponsor: *Chris Wright*

Osage City:

Michael Handley
Sponsor: *Gary Griffith*

Randall Schubert
Sponsor: *Gary Griffith*

Troy:

Kyle Greaser
Sponsor: *Archie Sutherland*

KU Campus Club:

Samantha Hamby
Sponsor: *Michele Hufferd*

Emily Bergman
Sponsor: *Michele Hufferd*

Mark Madhaven
Sponsor: *Lori Kessinger*

CORRECTION ON SPONSOR:

Scranton:

Janice Guthrie
Sponsor: *Marie Hulsopple*

MAKE SURE YOU CHECK OUT ALL OF THE FLYERS SENT SEPARATELY! IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE THEM, PLEASE ASK FOR THEM FROM YOUR PRESIDENT OR SECRETARY!!!

Please mark your calendars for June 18, 2011 for our last cabinet meeting – social. It will be held at the Highland Park United Methodist Church, 2914 S. E. Michigan Ave (29th and Michigan) Topeka, Kansas. It will be a day of fun and celebration. I hope that everyone plans on attending to celebrate the fantastic year our District has had. Hamburgers, hot dogs and all the fixings will be available for \$8.00 per person. Please watch for more information coming soon.

The community forest is all around us. It's made up of the trees in our yards, in our parks, along our streets, surrounding our public buildings, shading our parking lots, and growing along our streams. The Heartland Tree Alliance is your resource in the Kansas City region for information about trees, and ways to take action on behalf of our community trees. Our mission is to engage people of the greater Kansas City region to take action and advocate for a healthy community forest. We organize planting events, pruning events and tree care workdays so people can get involved and have a direct affect on the region's trees. If your community would like assistance in coordinating a planting event, please contact Noelle Morris, Program Director at Bridging the Gap:

Noelle.morris@bridgingthegap.org

Your group will be responsible for raising funds to purchase the trees (anywhere from \$500 to \$1,500). We will choose the tree species, size and location for planting including coordinating the volunteers and day-of activities. There is no stress on your part ... our team does most of the work!

www.heartlandtreealliance.org

Noelle Morris

Program Director, Bridging The Gap
816-561-1061, ext. 115

noelle.morris@bridgingthegap.org

www.bridgingthegap.org

*Connecting Environment, Economy,
Community*

Lions!

Have You Been *INSTITUTIONALIZED*?

District 17-O needs to know who among our members has been trained for leadership service. We are developing a database of all Lions who have attended any of the following growth and development opportunities:

Great Plains Lions Leadership *Institute*;
Emerging Lions Leadership *Institute*;
Senior Lions Leadership *Institute*;
Faculty Development *Institute*;
Certified Guiding Lions training (*within the last three years*).

In July 2011, a new Lions Clubs International leadership program—called Global Leadership Team (GLT)—will go into effect. One responsibility—among many—of the GLT is the involvement and use of LCI institute graduates in leadership functions and programs at the district, zone and club level.

Another GLT responsibility is the identifying of potential officers and leaders—the key to future success—in our clubs.

Your cooperation is essential in helping the GLT District Coordinator plan appropriate leadership development programs for club officers, Zone Chairs and elected district officers. A cadre of trained leaders who can assist in conducting workshops will spread the workload and enhance the identification of future leaders throughout our 13 counties.

You've been *institutionalized*? Then your help is needed.

Please send your name and contact information (US Mail and e-mail addresses, phone numbers, etc.) to PDG Neal Nichols, currently the 17-O Leadership Chair, as soon as possible. E-mail him at pdgneal0708@aol.com.

Second-Hand Notes by 2nd VDGE Jerry Loney

Greetings, District O Lions! This Lion's year will soon be over, but there is still time to add to your membership. Just ASK – use your Awareness, your Skills, and your Knowledge about the Lions organization. Tell people what the Lions have done for you and what you get out of this great organization.

Use those six magic words to talk to potential members about Lions: “what this means to you is” and then tell them. Remember, all people listen to the ‘WIIFM radio station’. It means “What’s In It For Me?” Tell them and they will want to become a member of the world’s largest, civic volunteer organization. Tell them and they will become hooked by your enthusiasm and joy from being in the Lions club and they just may want to have what you have – membership in the Lions Clubs International!

Famous football coach Vince Lombardi stated, “The secret, in a word, is ..., heart power. Capture the heart and you’ve captured the person... Get people to fall in love with your company (organization).” Use your enthusiasm and joy in this organization to sell it!

On another note, please plan on being a part of the Year-End Convention June 2nd, 3rd, and 4th at the Holidome in Lawrence (same location where we had our District Convention). After all is said and done, we will be able to say, “*A good time was had by all!*”

Our guests will be Lion IP Sid Scruggs and his wife, Judy! Let’s make them feel welcome by having as many Lions there as possible.

There will be lots of great seminars and workshops to attend and booths to view. Don’t forget that the Kansas Lions State Band plays on that Saturday morning! Cool!

Take Care, District O Lions! In Lionism, Lion 2nd VDGE Jerry



There is still time to fill those crayons! Please plan on sending your crayon money to DG Hufferd by June 1st. If you are writing a check, please make it payable to “KU Endowment” with KU Cancer Center in the memo line. Thank you!

KANSAS LIONS BAND:

Has your Lions Club gotten a high school band student for the Kansas Lions State Band this year? It’s not too late; the deadline is May 13th so there is still time to send one.

KANSAS LIONS BAND FOUNDATION:

As of the 1st of April District 17-O has had 14 Lions Clubs make a per member donation of at least \$1.50 to the Kansas Lions Band Foundation. Is your Lions Club one of them? I have been asking all the 17-O Lions Clubs to support KLBF by making a per member donation. I would like to show the other Districts, in MD 17 that 17-O can be 100% in supporting the KLBF. I would like to thank the following 17-O Lion Clubs for there support.

**Baldwin City
Effingham
Eudora
Gardner
Highland
Lansing
Lawrence
Leawood
Lyndon
Osawatomie
Overland Park Host
Robinson
Sabetha
Topeka Sunflower
Troy**

**PCC Bobby Duvall 17-O Director
Kansas Lions Band Foundation**

The combined zone social for Region 3, Zones 1 and 2 will be held on Sunday, May 15 at 4:00 pm near Scranton, Kansas. ZC Gary Adkins and ZC Tom Badger will be hosting the social at 17859 So. Wanamaker Scranton, Kansas. **All Lions are invited as well as spouses and significant others** are invited to join us at the "farm." Food and drink will be provided but please bring lawn chairs. In the event of rain, we may be a little crowded, but the social will continue.

Getting to the "farm" might be a little challenge for those coming from the east. Highway 56 is closed just west of the 4 Corners (junction 75 and 56) for a bridge replacement. The marked detour is miles out of the way and unnecessary. The alternative is going 2 miles south on highway 75 from the 56 intersection to 173rd street. 173rd is the first road to goes right from highway 75. If you are coming from the south from highway 268, go 8 miles north on highway 75 to 173rd street. Continue 3 miles on 173rd until it intersects with highway 56 south of Scranton. Go one mile on highway 56 and turn left on Wanamaker. Watch for a sign. South on Wanamaker to the first house on the right hand side of the road.

If you are coming from Topeka, it is best to come down Auburn Road to Burlingame. At the 4 way stop in Burlingame, go east 4 miles to Wanamaker and turn right.

There will be no meeting at the social, just a time to get acquainted and enjoy the fellowship. Please pass this along to all members of your club and extend the invitation. We do ask that you let either Lion Gary or Lion Tom know how many from your club will be attending. We would like to know by May 10 the number attending so we can plan accordingly.



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT!

Please plan on attending the Leadership Development Training scheduled for May 21, 2011. The location is Highland Park United Methodist Church, 2914 S. E. Michigan Ave (29th and Michigan) Topeka, Kansas.

All 2011-12 presidents, secretaries, and treasurers should plan to attend, but others officers and/or potential leaders are welcome.

The day will begin at 9:00 a.m. with a continental breakfast. There will be a mid-morning snack and lunch will be \$3.00. Contact PCC Bobby Duvall email: terrybobd@aol.com Phone: 785-862-6208. Meal reservations are due May 18. The leadership sessions will last until about 2:30, no later than 3 p.m.

All materials will be provided.

Discussion leaders will be PDG Neal Nichols (presidents/vice presidents. DG-E Clint Vawter (secretaries); 1st VDG-E Beverly Nichols and Lion Sylvia Bostick (treasurers). Beverly will also present a short session on using Microsoft Excel spreadsheets.

If you have anything that you need to learn to fulfill your duties, please join us!

Lawrence Noon Lions Club is hosting the Hospitality Room at the State Convention June 2,3,4 at the Lawrence Holiday. We'd like the "goodies" to be very special but we need some help. Often food donations end up being lots of cookies and muffins. We know that we have many diabetics among us, so we need to consider their needs. Could your Club help us with a money donation so that we could provide fruit and veggie trays all 3 days as well as other suitable snacks? Send your checks to Mary Margaret Rowen, 1005 N 1116 Rd, Lawrence, KS 66047.