



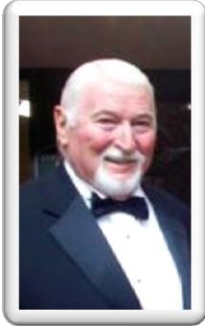
Beacon of Light

"Shine a Light on Service"



District S Newsletter - January 2012

Message from DG Mel



As we begin a new year we need to re-new our belief that we can still make a difference in our world. We still have 6 month to complete the objectives for this Lionistic year. If your club is going to plant one tree per member there is enough time this year to get the trees planted. Remember that when you plant a tree you are cleaning the air we breathe because trees are the lungs of this planet. Trees breathe in carbon dioxide and breathe out oxygen.

Much of this newsletter will be about Mid-Winter Rally and it is certainly going to be exciting and you should make plans to attend. It will be a time you can meet and exchange ideas with other Lions Clubs and your friends from other clubs.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mel Greene".

melgreene@columbus-ks.com

Message from 1st Vice District Governor Bill Kincaid

All club Presidents in District 17-S: I need help from Lions Clubs willing to host a cabinet meeting and the district convention in the 2012-2013 Lions year. The scheduled date for the District 17-S Convention is March 15-17, 2013. Our guest speaker will be Lion Carolyn Messier from Connecticut. The exact dates for the cabinet meetings are not set. The cabinet meeting will be in June 2013. Please contact me as soon as possible. The Augusta Lions Club has offered to host the August 2012 cabinet meeting. Thank you Lion Bill Buggeln. The Arkansas City Early Bird Lions Club has offered to host the November 2012 cabinet meeting. Thank you Lions Tim Hays and Ruben Garcia. I am planning our Lions year 2012-2013. If you know of any Lion in your club who has expressed any interest in serving as a chair of any committee or Zone, let me know as soon as possible. I would also welcome your input as to any Lion I should contact to ask if he/she would serve our district. I hope to see as many of you as possible at our Mid-Winter Rally January 13-15 in Salina.

Bill Kincaid 1st Vice District Governor, District 17-S

Here is a letter received from Rosalie Vorhees regarding the Tornado in Reading ,Ks.

Lions members are special people. I have always known that since I started attending district and state meetings with my husband. International directors were always telling about the good works of Lions around the world. I know that the hope for world peace is only going to be achieved by fraternal organizations like Lions, People who are working to improve the living conditions of all nations. People interested in helping others. People not concerned about making money for themselves, but making money to help improve the health and lives of others. It always made me feel special to hear the international directors talk about improving eye sight in India, helping with river blindness in Africa. I was a part of an international club that was doing great things. My small donation to a great organization was important. Then May 21, 2011 an F3 tornado hit the town where we live and we saw the wonderful Lions people in our state swing into action. Within 30 minutes of hearing of our disaster, Past District Governor, Terry Weldin was calling to see how we were and how could Lions help the city of Reading. We weren't much help as we were safely in Georgia attending a grandson's high school graduation. We started home the next morning after viewing pictures of the destruction of our town on the local news station on the computer. It was strange to see pictures of buildings in your town destroyed and try to figure out whose home that picture was. We were so thankful that the death number was only 1; that it wasn't our close neighbors. Of course, you feel bad because of feeling that way; also bad because you didn't really know the person who lost his life. After all, you have lived in Reading over 45 years and it is a small town.

Lion David Wienck was on the scene before anyone else and made an absolutely necessary foundation of relationships with the local authorities in Lyon County and with the Reading Lions Club members that were able to be contacted by him. I believe that without Lion David's early contacts we would have not been able to even gotten into Reading on Monday to begin the assistance that we provided. It was only through Lion David's personal contacts that we were able to get the proper credentials and get into Reading to get set up to provide assistance at all on Monday. Lion David and PDG Tonja showed great leadership in procuring the gas cards and the gift cards (which had been the means of providing assistance at other disasters). I feel that the Reading residents who received those were very grateful. Lion David and PDG Tonja assisted with procurement of supplies like the boxes that were picked up at Thomas Transfer and Storage.

Upon arriving home, a yard full of debris, a house with half a roof, sheds destroyed that contained our personal tools, garden equipment, wood supplies, a missing pet greeted us. Shortly our Lions friends from all over the state were there with hugs, glad that we were okay and offered to help. We are overwhelmed by everything that needs to be done.

Our Lions friends soon had our house covered with plastic, windows covered to protect us and our belongings from the elements. Lions from Emporia were there with offers to stay at their home until we could figure out what we were going to do. There were boxes to pack up your belongings, credit cards for gas and supplies from state lion members. We are now seeing the love and care of Lions first hand. It was a humbling feeling and a very special feeling knowing that you are a part of a very special organization. It didn't stop there, Lions came for days after that with towels, sheets, food, offers of help in rebuilding our town. Lions International sent that check for \$10,000 to help us out. Marvin and Elfrieda Funk made numerous trips to spend that money according to international rules to help residents of Reading with their recovery. I knew that is the way that Lions honor their motto "we serve". When you are a part of the people being served, it gives you a new respect and feeling of admiration for the organization that you belong to. Then Reading Lions Club started to receive checks to help with rebuilding Reading from clubs all over the state. We still haven't figured out how to use these funds as FEMA is supposed to help the city of Reading rebuild our City Park and community building. We are waiting to be sure that we use the money to help the people of Reading in the best way we can. We will be sure to let you know how we use them. We can only as this time say, thanks for all your help, prayers, and hugs, and caring. You helped to make this time easier for us. You went the extra mile with us toward recovery. Thanks so much.

Warren and Rosalie Voorhees
Reading Lions Club
P. S. Our cat came home okay.



Reading Tornado damage.
11 Emporia Lions bringing supplies



Emporia Lion Sally Conard, Emporia Lion Nina Haight, PDG Marvin Funk, Alert Chair David Wienck, PCC Tom Badger, PCC Bill Phillipi setting up to assist in front of the school



Emporia Lion Nina Haight bringing supplies



Help Relieve Hunger in Your Community

International President Tam encourages us to believe that the world can be changed when we come together as Lions. During January, you can make a difference by joining our "Relieving the Hunger" Service Action Campaign. As part of this campaign, we're providing resources to help you assess local needs, mobilize your club, and plan a project. Consider organizing a community food drive, delivering food baskets to families in need, or planting a school vegetable garden. [Find out about project resources.](#)

Training for the Welch Allyn SureSight Autorefractor

Schools will be starting the second semester of the school year in January and that means planning for the screening of children that will start preschool or kindergarten next year. I contacted the Garnett Lions Club President Ron Anderegg and he shared with me that Garnett Lions were on top of that scheduling already.

Lions Clubs all around our district need to contact their local schools and offer the opportunity for FREE vision screening using our equipment, Remember we have three screeners to better serve our families with young children: One in the northeast Lyon, Coffey, Anderson, Linn, Greenwood, Woodson, Allen and Bourbon; One in the southeast Elk, Wilson, Neosho, Crawford, Chautauqua, Montgomery and Cherokee; One in the west Marion, Chase, Butler and Cowley.

To schedule a screening in your community contact

- PDG Terry Weldin for Northeast area weldicat@hotmail.com 620-364-5371
- PDG Kenny VanCleave for Southeast area kvfarmers_2000@yahoo.com 620-763-2551
- 1stVDG Bill Kincaid for West area billsherkincaid@cox.net 316-775-2456

Is your club wanting to be trained how to use the Welch Allyn SureSight Autorefractor so that your club can schedule and provide vision screenings? Please contact PDG Terry screening training opportunity.



Pictured below are Garnett Lions awaiting training.



Lion Bill Barnes providing screening

Take advantage of a great opportunity to expand your knowledge about low vision evaluations and the collaborative project involving Kansas Lions, Kansas State School for the Blind, and the Kansas Optometric Association--with funding from LCIF.

[KanLovKids](#), the statewide low vision project which has received a SightFirst grant from LCIF, will hold a low vision clinic in Salina on Friday, January 13. This clinic has been scheduled on the day the Mid-Winter Rally begins so that Kansas Lions will have an opportunity to observe a low vision evaluation, which is quite different from a vision screening or a typical eye exam. We hope many of you will take advantage of this opportunity.

Two of the eleven eye care professionals who are participants in this program will be teaming for these evaluations. They are Dr. Linda Lawrence of Salina, and Dr. Joseph Maino, who provides low vision evaluations at Kansas State School for the Blind. The clinic will be at the following location:

Office of Dr. Linda Lawrence - 1410 E. Iron, Ste 6 - Salina, KS 67401

Evaluations have been scheduled for the following times: **8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.** Because the examination rooms are not large, no more than 2 observers can be accommodated at any one time. If you would like to sign up to observe at one of the time slots, please contact Beverly Nichols at taximath@aol.com (913-642-7520). Lions close to the Salina area might want to sign up for a morning slot, while those of you driving in from a greater distance might want the afternoon. (Or, you might come in on Thursday night and be able to observe a morning evaluation.) If a time slot is already full Beverly will contact you to schedule an alternative time.

Please take advantage of this opportunity so that you can "spread the word" in your part of the state. Lions need to be cheerleaders for this project.

What Is Public Relations?

Public relations involve all forms of communication; written, verbal, and non-verbal. It includes writing news releases and distributing promotional flyers... Equally important are actions often taken for granted, such as wearing the Lions lapel pin or marching in parades.

Good public relations and informing the public that your Lions Club built the park, conducted the vision screening or collected the eyeglasses for recycling will help foster the community support.

Public relations can even support your club's membership efforts. People want to belong to a successful and reliable organization. By actively promoting your club and its worthwhile activities, you'll be projecting a positive image in the community and showing that your club is worth joining.

Tell the people in your community and around the world, that the Lions are doing a good job.

Currently and until March 17th, our District is sponsoring Newsletter, web site, and brochure contest. All clubs in the District can compete for the money. For further information contact LionTimHays@cox.net .

Baxter Springs Lions Club

At our Dec. 19 meeting Marla Larison, Co-chair Ks. Route 66 Historic Byway spoke to the members about the status of the recently designated byway. She showed the members the Corridor Management Plan that includes a picture and history of the ballparks in Baxter Springs. The land for the ball parks at 14th & Lion's Rd. is owned by the Baxter Springs Lion's Club. Marla explained that up to this time all work and expenses of the committee has been paid for by committee members but at this time needed some assistance getting information printed and planning a ribbon cutting for the spring. A motion was made and passed to donate to the Byway Committee. The committee was very appreciative of the generous donation. Any interested members were invited to attend the January 4, 2012 meeting at The Grace House, 1302 S. Main, Galena, Ks. at 6. p.m. More information on the Byway program can be found at www.ksbyways.org.



Colony Lions Club

Colony Lions Club keeps the Christmas spirit up in their community and support the local school district by purchasing 30 poinsettia plants raised by the students in the school district. The plants were distributed to members of the community. They also organized a visit from Santa Claus to the children through a parade.

The Colony Lions Club is sponsoring, as a community service, an AARP Driver Safety Program to be held from 8 am to 5 pm February 18 in the Colony Community Room for all individuals that want to earn a discount of up to 10% on their car insurance. There will be a lunch break. AARP members pay \$12 and nonmembers pay \$14. Contact PDG Terry Weldin 620-364-5371 to enroll. This course will be held regardless of enrollment and there is plenty of room in the facility. Two have already enrolled.

Humboldt Lions Club

The Humboldt Lions Club recently rebuilt a wheelchair ramp for Robert Ball. Ball is confined to a wheelchair and on oxygen. The original ramp built by an out of town construction firm was too short causing the ramp to be too steep. When Ball went up the ramp, the front wheels would come off the ground and going down he had trouble stopping. That's when the local club stepped in. Members from the Humboldt Lions Club corrected the incline ratio by installing new posts and adding a longer ramp. Mr. Ball now has a safe way to get in and out of his home.



Hillsboro Noon Lions

Members of the Hillsboro Noon Lions have an annual project just before Christmas. Instead of a Christmas Dinner or party they wrap the Angel Tree Gifts for children. The Angel Tree project is sponsored by Hillsboro State Bank and provides hundreds of gifts for children in the area that would otherwise have a rather bleak Christmas. The gift wrapping took place December 14 with help from the Hillsboro Leo Club and other community volunteers. Each of the large white bags represents gifts for one child — all need to be wrapped.



Westphalia Lions Club

Westphalia Lions Club gave out 22 fruit plates to the elderly and we donated \$130 to the school for Christmas treats.

Humboldt Lions Club

The Humboldt Club adopted two children this year - a boy and a girl, through The Humboldt Chamber of Commerce Adopt-A-Kid Project. The Humboldt Lions Club and guests enjoyed a catered meal Christmas Party with tap dancing entertainment.

Garnett Lions Club

The Garnett Lions Club Each year our Lions Club hosts a Children's Christmas Party. We invite young children to this event. For each child we bring, we furnish a gift for Santa to present to them. We serve refreshments, read a couple of Christmas stories sing Christmas songs and Santa arrives to hand out presents. All of these activities are done by our members. We had 20 children and 35 adults at this event.

Yates Center Lions Club

Yates Center Lions adopted/provided Christmas assistance for two children through the Yates Center Chamber of Commerce Adopt a Child program.

Cedar Vale Lions Club

On December 1st the Cedar Vale Lions Club hosted the Cedar Vale 2nd Grade students for our annual Christmas party. We served them Christmas dinner, and then while we were all singing "Here Comes Santa Claus" that jolly ole' elf appeared to talk with the kids and give them all a special present. He Lion Marvin Shultz did the honors of being Santa again this year. The 2nd grade class (all 7 of them!) with Santa On December 3rd we held our annual soup and chili supper. All the proceeds of \$392 was used to help purchase toys and clothing for kids on the Angel Tree.



Burlington Lions Club

Burlington Lions Club placed an entry in the Burlington Christmas parade. The theme was "Christmas Wish List" and the signage on the car was "LIONS WISH SIGHT FOR ALL". The 2011-12 Peace Poster Contest winner Rebecca Howard was in the convertible along with PDG Terry Weldin.





Members of Ark City's Early Bird Lions Club delivered 40 new coats to IXL School Monday. With temperatures dropping, the coats came just in time. They will be distributed to students who need them. The group does fundraisers throughout the year to help community members in need through a variety of service projects. IXL student representatives excitedly donned a few of the coats for a photo op before thanking the Lions Club members for their gracious donation.

Alisha Call
Public Relations
USD 470 - Ark City

Lions Sponsorships needed for the 2012 Lions State Band

2012 Lions State Band - Friends University

Directed by Dr. John Taylor

Asst. Director (TBD)

Jazz Director (TBD)

June 5 - 9, 2012

Costs of 2012 Kansas Lions State Band: \$225.00

Notice: There will be no 2012 Kansas Lions International Band

[Camp Rules, Guidelines, and What to Bring to Camp](#)

[International Band Director - Robert Foster Jr Bio](#)

[Kansas Lions Band Brochure](#)

[2012 State Band Application](#)

[2012 Medical Release Form](#)

Future State Band & International Dates/Locations:

- 2012 State Band - Friends University - Jun 5-9
- 2012 International Band - Busan, Korea - Jun 22-26
- 2013 State Band - Friends University - May 28 to Jun 1
- 2013 International Band - Hamburg, Germany - Jul 5-9

For Additional Information Contact

Hans and Shari Neidhardt

7400 NW Ayr Road

Potwin, Kansas 67123

hsneidha@wheatstate.com

(620) 752-3644

Mid-Winter Rally

The annual **Mid-Winter Rally** of Kansas Lions will take on a Southern flavor as they play host to Past International Director Haynes & Donna Townsend of Dalton, Georgia, January 13-15, 2012, at the Ramada Convention Center in Salina.

The Kansas Lions Council of District Governors holds four meetings each year to assess progress towards goals for community service by the 7000 Kansas Lions who serve with the 290 clubs from all parts of the state. In addition, most of the State Committees and Lions Foundation Boards will meet to evaluate annual goals.

The Kansas Lions **Council of Governors** is the controlling authority of Kansas Lions. They are: DG Ralph Rodgers of 17-L (west); DG Marion Schroll of 17-I (north-central); DG Clint Vawter of 17-O (north-east); DG Helen LeBlanc of 17-N (south-central); and DG Mel Greene of 17-S (south-east). The Council Chairperson is Michele Huffard of Louisberg.

The International Association of Lions Clubs is the world's largest community service organization with 1.35 Million members in 45,000 clubs, in 206 countries of the world. In Kansas there are 7,000 Lions serving in 290 clubs, all dedicated to serving their hometown communities.

THIRD STATE COUNCIL MEETING AND MID-WINTER RALLY 2012

January 13-15, 2012 Salina, Kansas

HEADQUARTERS: Ramada Inn - 1616 West Crawford - Salina, Kansas - Phone: (785) 823-1739

Come be a part of the Mid-Winter Rally January 13-15, 2012. There will be seminars, information, learning opportunities, food, fun, fellowship, and Lions activities.

Reservations for rooms MUST be called in by December 30, 2011!! Ramada is requiring advance reservations. so **we are strongly encouraged to call in as soon as possible.** Our block will be cancelled after that date. When calling in for a room reservation, please ask for the **Lions block** and rate. It is \$65.00 After that date, rooms are on a first come basis and at the regular price. **Please request the Lions block as this assures Lions credit toward the banquet and meeting rooms.**

ADVANCE MEAL RESERVATIONS REQUIRED FOR ALL MEALS. Meal reservations due January 6, 2012. Please see reservation form in this issue.

IMPORTANT: Please register with the Lions Information table to pick up tickets and at the International Convention table to vote on the 2012-2013 State pin and District set, all located across from restaurant.

All tickets must be picked up by Saturday 4:00 p.m. If tickets are ordered, but not picked up and payment given, the Lions Club or Lion that ordered them will be billed for the reservations

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13.....

1:30 p.m.	2011- 2012 First Vice District Governors and spouses	Lobby Boardroom
3:30 p.m.	Second Vice District Governors/spouses	Lobby Boardroom
6:30 p.m.	Dinner- and fun evening of entertainment	See registration form

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14.....

Breakfast Buffet – FREE if staying at Ramada Inn.

Special Seminars

Interactive booths – Learn and receive one on one assistance and materials

Lunch - Recognizing our Leos and Peace Poster Contest winners. **Special Speaker...**

Banquet - 6:30 p.m. **Guest Speaker....Judge Haynes Townsend, Past International Director, Georgia**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16..... Third State Council Meeting – business and reports 9:00 a.m.

Deluxe Breakfast Buffet – FREE if staying at Ramada Inn. Devotional/PDG Meeting – 8:15 a.m.

HOSPITALITY ROOM..... Hosted by District 17 I Friday and Saturday - Second Floor Deck Area

Hospitality Room closed during meal functions and during the Entertainment Friday night...go enjoy the fun!

MEAL RESERVATIONS: Lela Gillispie, 1414 Givens Road, Manhattan, 66503, C-785-532-8611, 3-mail: kayg7@cox.net.

DEADLINE JANUARY 6th Checks payable to Mid-Winter Rally.

Presidents & Secretaries Please Copy and give to prospective candidates

10th ANNUAL GREAT PLAINS LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
Provided for the Lions of Multiple Districts 5, 9, 17, 26 and 38
Doane College—Crete, Nebraska
July 13-15, 2012

Registration Form - One Form Per Attendee - Please type or print LEGIBLY

Name _____

Badge Name _____
Last First Initial

Address: _____
Street/PO Box City State/ Zip/PC

Phone () _____ () _____
Home Business/Cell e-mail

Sub District No _____ Years in Lionism _____ Highest Office Held _____

Registration Fee is \$130.00 US if received by the Registrar by May 31, 2012, and must accompany the application form. Beginning June 1 the base fee increases to \$145 US. Make checks payable in US funds to GPLLI and along with the form mail to Registrar PID Gary Fry, PO Box 606, Mitchellville, IA 50169. Sorry, no refunds can be made for cancellations.

Applications will not be accepted without full payment in US dollars.

Your Registration Fee includes seven meals, all Institute costs and dormitory rooms (double occupancy) at Doane College. Please note that the dormitories are smoke free. A limited number of single occupancy rooms are available at an additional cost of \$30.00. You will be permitted to request a specific roommate. Check in at the dormitory is permitted from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Friday, July 13th and check out must be completed by 3:00 PM on Sunday, July 15th

The following information must be completed before registration will be accepted. _____ Single occupancy room requested (Add \$30.00 to registration fee).

_____ Diabetic Diet requested.

_____ Vegetarian Diet requested.

_____ Wheelchair Access required.

_____ Vision Impaired (List what accommodation(s) needed.) Please list any other special requests.

Questions about the Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute may be directed to: PID Gary Fry Registrar, PO Box 606, Mitchellville, IA 50169-0606. 515-967-4645 or frygj35@msn.com