



## Upcoming Events

### January 11

PDG Club Meeting  
Goddard Community Center,  
120 N. Main St., 5 p.m.  
RSVP to Willie Tolle.

### January 16-18

Mid-Winter Rally  
Holiday Inn—Salina  
Speaker: PID Steve Sherer,  
Ohio

### January 24

3rd District Cabinet Meeting,  
9-11 a.m. at Cornerstone,  
5318 E. 37th Street North,  
Wichita.

### Feb 26

Zone 5 Meeting (Derby,  
Haysville, Wichita Airport,  
Wichita Breakfast, Wichita  
Downtown, Wichita East/  
Southeast, Wichita North,  
Wichita Northwest, Wichita  
West, Wichita Westlink).  
7 p.m. at Cornerstone  
5318 E. 37th Street North,  
Wichita

### March 7 & 8, 2009

District Convention  
Airport Hilton-Wichita  
Speaker: ID Patty Hill

*Together in Service*

# MID 17N Newsletter

[www.kansaslions17n.com](http://www.kansaslions17n.com)

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## Serving Others: It's What We Do

*Governor announces candidacy for International Director*

It's not uncommon for Lions to serve others...it's what we do every day of our lives. We serve our communities, our district, our state, our country even internationally we serve mankind.

As a Lion for nearly a decade, I have often been asked the question, "When did you become a Lion?" referring to that moment in time when we experience the joy and fulfillment of helping others in need. After thinking about and discussing this question with other Lions, I finally came to a realization. The reason I feel like I've been a Lion for so many more than my ten years is that I had this moment long before I officially BECAME a Lion. Then I discovered this wonderful organization and realized I could be a part of something much bigger—a world-wide movement to serve others. What an amazing opportunity! As I have served within the organization, I have reached another conclusion—I believe that I can do much on the International level. Therefore, with this letter I formally submit my name as a candidate for the position of International Director of Lions Clubs International.

I have been endorsed unanimously by my Club, Wellington Noon Lions Club, and have submitted my letter of intent to District 17-N for action at the District Convention March 8, 2009 and will be asking for the endorsement by the Lions of District 17-N.



**DISTRICT GOVERNOR  
BRYCE DAY**

**Contact Information**  
1030 Mission Road  
Wellington, KS 67152  
Home: 620.326.8500  
Work: 620.326.5100  
Cell: 620.326.1999  
E-mail: [bryceday@sutv.com](mailto:bryceday@sutv.com)

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# Environmental Project deadlines near

The deadlines for the Environmental Contests are right around the corner.

Entries in the photo contest need to be in the hands of LuRay Watts, district environmental chair on January 1.

See the Lions International website for contest details.

The district winner will be entered in the state competition at Mid-Winter Rally in Salina. The state winner is then forwarded to the national competition. Last year's state winner is featured in the 2009 Lions International Calendar.

The reports for the first half

of the year for the Environmental Points competition are due January 15, 2009.

Submit both photo entries and Environmental Contest reports to Lion LuRay Watts, MD 17-N Environmental Chairperson, 715 N. Fairway, Wichita, KS 67212-4431.

If you need report forms or more information, contact Lion LuRay at 316-722-7699 or 316-253-7730 or by e-mail at 123lawatts@prodigy.net.

Ideas for club environmental projects are on the Lions International website at [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org).

A community-wide clean-up,

a tree planting or recycling project could earn your club \$50 in the district and state contests.

Lion LuRay also has MD-17 Kansas Environmental Pins for sale at \$5 each. You can purchase one at Mid-Winter Rally in Salina or contact her to purchase pins.



## Governor's Schedule

- January 3 ..... Arlington Lions Club, 7 a.m. Carolyn's Essenhau
- January 5 .....Hesston Lions Club, 6:30 pm Senior Center
- January 6 .....Cunningham Lion Club, 6:30 pm Community Building
- January 12 ... Marquette Lions Club, 6:30 pm Locaton tba
- January 16, 17 & 18, 2009 .....  
3rd State Council Meeting & Mid-Winter Rally  
Holiday Inn, Salina, KS
- January 22 .....Viola Lions Club, 7 p.m. Community Hall
- January 24, 2009 .....3rd District Cabinet Meeting  
Cornerstone, 5318 East 37th Street North, Wichita
- February 9-12 ..... Extension Workshop with John and Wanda Barnett. Location TBA
- March 7 & 8 2009 ..... District N Convention, Wichita Airport Hilton
- April 18 ..... Knight for the Blind, Grand Gala to benefit  
Leader Dogs for the Blind, Broadview Hotel, Wichita.
- May 28, 29 & 30, 2009 ..... 4th State Council Meeting &  
State Convention, Wichita Airport Hilton
- June 13, 2009 ..... 4th District Cabinet, Meeting  
Cornerstone Mortuary, 5318 East 37th Street North, Wichita
- July 6, 7, 8 9 & 10.....International Convention



## District MERL team

The District MERL team is here to serve the clubs in our district. Contact them for resources and programs.

### **MERL TEAM CHAIR & LEADERSHIP CHAIR**

DeAnne Heersche (Dan)  
121 West Helbert  
Mulvane, Kansas 67110  
H – 316.777.4060  
E-mail: dheersche@cox.net

### **MERL MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

Helen LeBlanc (George)  
222 North Meridian  
Valley Center, Kansas  
67147  
H – 316.755.2224  
W – 316.755.3334  
E-mail: hleblanc33@cox.net

### **MERL EXTENSION CHAIR**

Tom Smarsh  
15925 West 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
North  
Colwich, Kansas 67030  
H – 316.796.0953  
E-mail:  
tsmarsh@worldnet.att.net

### **MERL RETENTION CO-CHAIR**

Stuart Tolle (Joyce)  
102 South Gypsum; P.O.  
Box 168  
Roxbury, Kansas 67476  
H – 785.254.7355

### **MERL RETENTION CO-CHAIR**

Anne Smarsh (Tom)  
Maize Lions Club  
15925 West 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
North  
Colwich, Kansas 67030  
H – 316.796.0953  
E-mail:  
tsmarsh@worldnet.att.net

## *Kingman club shares successes*

**From Lion Jane Wallace**

One of the larger projects the Kingman Lions Club undertakes is the Kingman Basketball Tournament concession stand. We also feed all the players sandwiches and the snacks.

This project takes many hours over four days and many hands, and gives the club a lot of exposure. This year we think we gained one new member because of it. Next year we hope to encourage others

to help us.

For the first time in several years our club had a wonderful float in the Christmas parade. Thanks to the Wichita Downtown Lions Club for their generous loan of an existing float. We put lights on it and modified the wording and won a prize! Next year, with a little more work, it could be first

## **A message from the District Governor**

*Continued from page 1*

First I would like to state that I have or will have met the qualifications for this position. On the multiple district level, I am the current District Governor of District 17-N and also the current Vice Council Chair. In addition I am serving on the state Budget and Finance committee. I have chaired the State Convention committee, served as the district MERL team chair, retention chair, served as zone chair, and have been active in many other Lion committees. I have participated in the Great Plains Lions Leadership Forum and the USA/CANADA Forum on numerous occasions and have been asked to present at both of these leadership events in 2009.

My credentials aside, I believe the abilities which will directly benefit Lions Clubs on the international level are more personal. Above all else I am passionate about everything I do and I am dedicated to service. I put these traits into practice daily in my work in Lionism and in all areas of my life. I truly believe that, for this organization to continue to do the amazing work it does and maintain its status as the largest and finest service organization in the world, we must continue to seek positive change. I have demonstrated in my personal and business life, my own Lions club, my district, the multiple district and in the international organization that I know how to help make this happen.

My “Lion Life” may not be as long as some but let me say that I am convinced that “the life in my years” far outweighs the years in my Lion life. Not one minute of my time as a Lion has been wasted. I have been very actively learning all I can, making things happen, working to improve the organization and dedicating myself to helping others. In living my “Lion life” to the fullest, I have demonstrated that I have what it takes to bring the kind of positive change we need to help our organization grow and thrive.

Every Lion is called to serve in the way they believe they can be most valuable, utilizing their individual skills and talents. I believe I am most useful to our great organization in a leadership and organizational capacity. Anne Frank stated, “How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.” I know I can make the most positive impact by acting now. And it is for these reasons that I am choosing to submit my name as a candidate for International Director.

Together in Service,  
DG Bryce Day

## It's time for some good food

Whether it's pancakes hot off the griddle or a steaming bowl of chili, if Lions are involved, it's sure to be good food and a good time.

The **Clearwater Lions Club** will host it's annual Pancake Day on **Saturday, Jan. 24, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at the Masonic Hall on west Ross St. It's all-you-can-eat pancakes at \$6 for adults, \$4 for kids, under age 5 free.



You can enjoy pancakes a week later with the **Kingman Lions Club**. They will be flipping pancakes on **Saturday, Jan. 31, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.** at the VFW Hall on south Main Street.

New to the event this year is a Silent Auction. Among the auction offerings is two gift certificates for a home-baked pie a month, donated by a club member with a reputation as a great pie-maker. Lion Jane Wallace, president of the Kingman Club promises there will be competition for those certificates—she intends to buy one of them herself. There will be other unique items offered as well and the club is holding a drive to collect eyeglasses.

The chili cooks of **Wichita Airport Lions** and **Pleasant Valley Clubs** are tuning up their recipes for a Chili Feed on **Saturday, Feb. 7, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.** at Central Community Church, 6100 W. Maple. Advance tickets are available from any Wichita Airport or Pleasant Valley club members.



The **Viola Lions Club** will host it's annual Sausage Supper on **Saturday, Feb. 7 from 3 to 7 p.m.** in the Viola Community Center, on Hwy 49, just about one-half mile south of Hwy 4-42. Enjoy and all-you-can eat meal of tasty sausage, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, cole slaw, applesauce, bread and your choice of an array of cakes.

**Goddard Lions Club** will host it's annual Pancake Day on **Saturday, Feb. 21, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.** at the Goddard Community Center, 120 N. Main. The Pancake Feed raises money for the annual Wilbur Floyd Community Service Scholarship.



## We Serve

*Lions are an international organization of 1.3 million men and women in over 202 geographical locations globally. We as Lions contribute more than 76 million hours to service annually. That equates to 31,000 people working full time annually.*

# 17-N District Convention

**March 7-8, 2009**

**Saturday night: FUN**

**Sunday: Fun and Business**



**Join District 17-N Lions from nine Kansas counties as we share fun, fellowship, learning and convention business. Oh, wait! Food, too!**

**Saturday night fun: (come and find out)**

**Sunday seminars (Increase your knowledge)**

**Sunday convention business session  
(elect next year's leaders)**

**Meet our International Director Patti Hill  
from Canada**

**Enjoy the evening celebration banquet**

**Location:**

**Wichita, KS**

**Airport Hilton Hotel**

**2098 S. Airport Rd**

**Convention co-chairs: Shelly Hansel**

**Tom and Anne Smarsh**

**Phone: 316-393-3808**

**e-mail [t.smarsh@worldnett.att.net](mailto:t.smarsh@worldnett.att.net)**

# Recruit high school musicians for 2009 Kansas Lions and International Band

*“Without music life would be a mistake.” ~ Friedrich Nietzsche ~*

**By Shari Neidhardt**

## **Chair, State & International Band Committee**

The Kansas Lions Band Committee is busy working the logistics for the 2009 Kansas Lions State and International Band camp.

Since we are returning to Wichita and Friends University (site of the 2008 band camp), the task is somewhat easier than working an entirely new location.

Once again under the direction of Dr. John Taylor, the Kansas Lions State Band camp will run from May 26 to May 30, with the Saturday morning concert at Central Community Church on West Maple.

If we have at least 60 band students sign up for the Kansas Lions International Band, they will remain at the Friends University campus and rehearse Saturday afternoon and Sunday (May 30-31) under the direction of Robert Foster.

The Band Committee urges clubs to start now in recruiting your high school musicians. Cost to send your students to camp is \$200 per student for Kansas Lions State Band and an additional \$600 if your student plans to be part of the Kansas Lions International Band (total cost of both events is \$800.00 per student). We have been able to keep the costs reasonable due to the generosity of the Kansas Lions Band Foundation.

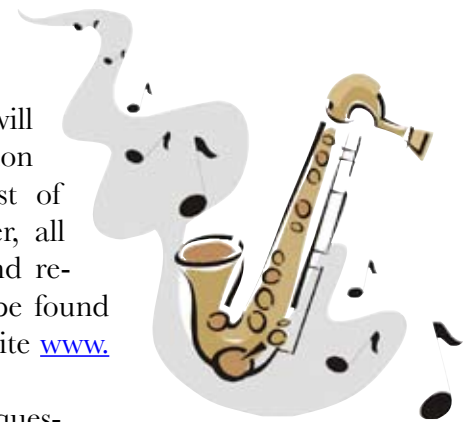
A recurring “comment” from the student surveys speaks to the lack of information and contact from the local Lions clubs. As community leaders, each of us should know of a student (whether a relative, friend, or

a contact from other sources) that would make a great addition the Kansas Lions Band program.

Even if your club cannot help them financially, please pass on their information to the Band Committee so we can possibly work sponsorship via other clubs.

Lions Clubs will get more information soon after the first of the year. However, all the information and required forms can be found on the Lions web site [www.kansaslions.org](http://www.kansaslions.org).

If you have any questions, please contact me at 7400 NW Ayr Road, Potwin, Kansas 67123, or (620) 752-3644 or [hsneidha@wheatstate.com](mailto:hsneidha@wheatstate.com) or go to our website at [www.kansaslions.org](http://www.kansaslions.org).



## **Mid-Winter Rally Auction benefits Band Foundation**

One of the highlights of Mid-Winter Rally is always the Band Foundation Auction, held on Saturday afternoon.

The Band Foundation gratefully accepts the donation of unique and useful items to be auctioned or sold at the Country Store.

If you have something to donate, contact PDG Willie Tolle, president of the Kansas Lions Band Foundation at 620-345-8346 or [tollehouse@mtelco.net](mailto:tollehouse@mtelco.net)

## **Pig roast a success for CSFII**

The Wichita Airport and Pleasant Valley Lions Clubs teamed up on Saturday, October 3rd for their first “Pig Roast”. Over \$2000 was raised for Campaign Sight First II. The evening featured a dinner including roast pork, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, and baked apples. PDG Laura Olson-Oxley presented a program on Helen Keller, music was provided, and humorologist Jae Pierce Baba entertained the attendees.

### ***Key Dates***

#### **STATE BAND**

- May 26 – Registration and “chair position” selection
- May 29 – Jazz Concert and Social
- May 30 – State Band Concert at Central Community Church

#### **INTERNATIONAL BAND**

- May 30 & 31—Initial rehearsal at Friends University, Wichita, Kansas (May 30th & 31st)
- July 4—Second rehearsal at Desoto High School, Desoto, Kansas
- July 5-10—International Trip – Minneapolis, MN



# “RACING FOR SUCCESS”

## MID-WINTER RALLY 2009

In conjunction with the Third State Council Meeting

January 16-18, 2009 — Holiday Inn, Salina

For hotel reservations call 785-335-2247 by December 17

Look for full details in the upcoming issue of the Kansas Lions News

### MEAL RESERVATION FORM

LION/LEO/GUEST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

LIONS OR LEO CLUB \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

LIONS CLUB \_\_\_\_\_

#### Friday, January 16, 2009

Dinner 6:30 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$13.00

#### Saturday, January 17, 2009

Breakfast FREE if staying at Holiday Inn

Lunch 11:45 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12.00

Banquet 6:30 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$16.00

Banquet - Two choices...Loin of Beef Medallions **or** Baked Salmon with Dill Sauce  
\_\_\_\_\_ Beef \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon

#### Sunday, January 18, 2009

Breakfast FREE if staying at Holiday Inn

Checks payable to Kansas Lions.

DEADLINE FOR ROOM RESERVATION: December 17, 2008 NO Exceptions

DEADLINE FOR MEAL RESERVATION: January 9, 2009 NO Exceptions

Meal Reservations to: Lion Marilyn Sorenson, 1040 Union Road, Scandia, 66966  
E-mail: [herrmanhouse@nckdirect.com](mailto:herrmanhouse@nckdirect.com), phone 785-335-2247

# Anne Smarsh Announces Candidacy for International Director

Where else can one gain service, fellowship and leadership opportunities—all in one package? Since 1992, when I was asked to join Wichita Downtown Lions Club, opportunities have presented themselves in this, the world's largest service organization.

It's my privilege to announce my candidacy for International Director. My home club, Maize Lions, has endorsed my candidacy. At our

district convention on March 7-8, 2009 I'll be asking for endorsement by the Lions of District 17N.

One of my goals as International Director will be challenging our clubs to enhance their service by working with local leaders, assessing community needs and developing solutions that strengthen our communities. I'll ask clubs to consider new or different approaches to developing project plans that accom-

plish those challenges.

Another goal will be mentoring, encouraging and training Lions to become leaders. Our leaders will use their skills to build strong teams of Lions committed to volunteer service. By providing action service and leadership opportunities, our Lions leaders grow personally, too: at home, at work and in the faith community.

My service record in many Kansas leadership roles demonstrates my commitment to the Lions of Kansas and the world. My leadership development was gained with the help of many Lion mentors and through the great networking, service and training opportunities we have. My service experience was gained by taking action to meet community needs. I consider my "best day as a Lion" as the second day Tom and I spent in Greensburg, serving tornado victims and relief workers. Over and over we heard, "We can never repay you. Thank you for helping us." It's not about repayment, is it? It's about giving when the need exists.

I've told several people that I'm not "running for office"—I'm interviewing for a job, a job that involves working to enhance service around the world! Please know that I will do my best to make a difference as International Director. My husband, Lion Tom, and I look forward to serving the Lions of Kansas in yet another role.

Thank you for your consideration. I am grateful for your support. I will give my best.

Lion Anne Smarsh,  
Maize Lions Club, Kansas MD-  
17N

SAVE THE DATE....



Mark your calendars now for

APRIL 18, 2009

*"A Knight for the Blind" Gala Event for Leader Dogs for the Blind*

*This special evening is being held to support a very special organization that provides dog guides for the blind and vision impaired at no cost to the recipient despite the thousands of dollars it costs to raise and train these precious and special animals.*

*The results, however, are priceless as those individuals who receive the dogs are able to gain their self-confidence, a sense of safety and live independent lives.*

*Held at the historic Broadview Hotel, the event includes a wine and cheese hour, dinner, entertainment, inspirational speakers and fun and fellowship.*

*You can be a part of this black-tie evening, which will be full of entertainment, information, and emotion for a \$100 per plate donation*

*For more information or to make reservations, contact:*

*DG Bryce Day, Event Chair*

*1030 Mission Rd*

*Wellington, KS 67152*

*877.326.6100 [bryceday@satr.com](mailto:bryceday@satr.com)*

*Reservations requested by April 6, 2009*