



Together in Service

MD 17N Newsletter

www.kansaslions17n.com

Volume 1, Issue 12 • June 2009

Upcoming Events

June 5

Charter Night,
Bel Aire Lions Club

June 13

District Cabinet meeting cancelled!

June 13

Wheelchair Day, Wichita East-Southeast Lions Club, 9 a.m.-2 pm, ARC of Sedgwick County, 2nd & St. Paul.

June 20

Club Officer Training, 9-11:45 am, Lions State Office, 231 S. Tyler Rd, Wichita. Please RSVP to VDG Dan Funke at 316-794-2570 or djfunke@cox.net

July 6-10

International Convention Minneapolis, MN

July 16-10

Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute Storm Lake, Iowa

September 24-26

USA Canada Leadership Forum Memphis, TN
www.usacanadalionsforum.org

Reflecting on a Year in Review

As I draft my final message as your District Governor, another page in my life has just turned, offering with it a new year of opportunity, energy and anticipation. Anyone who has kept up with me can appreciate my optimism, not just because of the achievements we've shared, but because of strides we accomplished in making this District a renewed District.

When I took office last July, I dedicated myself to helping members "Catch the Energy." I wanted my Governorship to reflect both my strong commitment to this organization and the commitment to the members of this District and State. I, for one, like energy, enthusiasm and passion in an organization. In order for us to move forward and build, we need more people in this organization to shake up the old guard and bring some new adventures our way. We need people with talent and skills to propel this organization into the 22nd century. We need people that have an appreciation of the work that goes into keeping the wheels of the association aligned and turning in the direction that will lead members toward continued success.

As your District Governor I pledge to pass along this spirit and sense of purpose that is embodied in this great association. I hope I was able to achieve this in some small way with each Lion I encountered at meetings, shared ideas with at visits to all the clubs in my district and through this monthly column. My sincere thanks to each of you for indulging me and hopefully catching my energy, enthusiasm and passion.

I want to thank those Lions in this District and State that have encouraged me and guided me through this last year. To the members of my cabinet that have worked so hard over the past year to help reshape our new district, thank you for helping me raise the bar of professionalism. Without your support it would have been a tough year. To Linda and Ed McCormick, Gene Vogel, Ernie Young, Toni and Richard "Buss" Brauer, Tonja Wienck, Tytus Cornejo and Stuart Tolle, thank you all for your positive influence and



**DISTRICT GOVERNOR
BRYCE DAY**

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Continued on page 2

Governor's message

Continued from page 1

guidance you gave and shared with me during this year and vision for the future of this organization. To my wife, Sally, thank you for supporting and encouraging me all these years and for always being a person true to herself. You have been an incredible First LADY to this district.

I'm proud of the success we have had this year and I look forward to working with District Governor elect Dan Funke and his appointed cabinet. I pledge my support always with energy, enthusiasm and passion that I hope will remain contagious.

**Together in Service,
DG Bryce**



Newsletter deadline

Something you would like to see in the next newsletter?

Deadline for the July newsletter is June 20. Send articles and photos to bfunke@active-agingonline.com.

Our goal is to have the newsletter distributed electronically before the first day of the month, with mailed copies going out about the same time.

The newsletter will be available on the website: <http://www.kansaslions17n.com>.

Thank you..

Wow. I don't know where to start. Never in my wildest dreams would I have imagined a month ago my life would be completely turned upside down in a matter of hours. We think to ourselves that things like brain tumors won't happen to us. Few things have stopped me in my tracks like this has. I can't put into words how difficult the last few weeks have been for me and my family. But, I CAN say that never have I felt more gratitude in my heart than I do right now for all of you who have offered your thoughts, prayers, cards full of encouragement, kind words, phone calls, visits and support. I am such a lucky man because I have had the opportunity to see how many people truly do care about me...what an overwhelming feeling. I really want you all to know what this means to me. Thank you all so, so much. It is this overwhelming show of support and encouragement that will continue to move me toward full recovery.

Sally and I are so grateful to be associated with this amazing organization. God has truly blessed me with a renewed and motivated purpose in life. To my dear friends in this organization, know that I will be back just as enthusiastically and motivated as before.

A special thank you must be given to Linda and Ed McCormick, Toni and Buss Brauer, Tonja and David Wienck and April and Tytus Cornejo for all their love and support they have given Sally and me.

In "It's a Wonderful Life," Jimmy Stewart's character makes a profound statement. He says, "No man is a failure who has friends." Based on that ideal, I must be a wildly successful individual.

**May God Bless each of you...
DG Bryce and Sally**

New Hutchinson Club Holds Charter Celebration

New officers of the Hutchinson Noon Lions receive the charge of their respective offices during the Charter Night celebration for the new club on Saturday, May 2.

PDG Richard “Buss” Brauer challenged to new club to find unique ways to serve their community as guest speaker for the evening. Vice District Governor Dan Funke installed the officers of the new club.



Lion Matthew Barnett is the first member to sign the charter of the Hutchinson Breakfast Lions Club as Anne Smarsh, past council chair and Maize Lions Club member Richard Craft look on.

More than 60 people including representatives of the Hutchinson Breakfast Club, which is sponsoring the new club, and representatives of clubs from around the district helped celebrate the formal launch of the new club.

The Hutchinson Noon Lions first organized as a Branch Club of the Hutchinson Breakfast Club and has worked jointly with the Breakfast Lions on several projects.

Photos courtesy of JayDee Photography, Hutchinson



Fourteen members of the Bel Aire Lions Club were honored to be inducted into Lions Club International by International President Al Brandel during the Thursday night kick-off dinner of the state convention on May 28. In addition to Brandel and the new members, also pictured are Guiding Lions Ed and Linda McCormick. Charter Night for the new club is Friday, June 5.

Two District Clubs Win State Membership Contest

Congratulations to the Kingman and Halstead Lions Clubs for receiving first place in the Multiple District 17 Lions State Membership Contest. Both clubs were top in the state for their respective club size categories.

The membership contest was sponsored by MD 17 to recognize clubs with the greatest percentage of membership growth from January 1, 2009 to April 30, 2009.

The Kingman Lions Club who was in the 50 and over membership category had a 112% increase. Their goal was to get in one member a month stated Steve Wittty, Club Secretary.

The Halstead Lions Club who is in the 20 to 49 membership category realized a 145% increase in membership by adding a noon meeting to the club schedule once a month. By doing this they attracted area business leaders to their club that couldn't attend evening meetings.

Each of the clubs will receive a cash award from the state.

Congratulations, again your club's achievement.



We Serve

*New clubs....
New Lions...
More hands to
expand our service
in our community,
in our world!*

Be Prepared For Your Year as a Club Leader — Attend Club Officer Training

For
Presidents
Secretaries
Treasurers

Saturday, June 20, 2009
9:00 to 11:45 AM
Kansas Lions
State Office
231 S. Tyler
Wichita, KS

For Reservations Call
DGE Dan Funke
@ 316-650-0737
Or e-mail:
djfunke@cox.net
Reservation Deadline –
Wednesday, June 18, 2009

A year of revitalization

What a vibrant and exciting year our district has had under the enthusiastic and dedicated leadership of our District Governor Bryce Day. Although Governor Bryce has been recuperating from surgery these past few weeks, Lions has never been far from his thoughts.

Lion Bryce stated “We twisted the tail and made Lionism **exciting, fun** and together we all truly worked **miracles.**”

With two new thriving clubs: the Hutchinson Noon Club and the Bel Aire Club, and the formation of the Colwich Lions Club being worked on this week, the Lions of District 17N will be providing **miracles of service** for many years to come. Each one of our members is an everyday hero by giving of themselves and their time in service to others.

While the formation of new clubs is exciting, nothing could have been more fun than creating miracles through our 1st Annual Grand Gala for Leader Dogs for the Blind. Who would have thought that our district, with the support of the MD17, could have raised more money for Leader Dog than we raised in the past five years altogether. The Grand Gala was **FUN, EXCITING AND WE DID CREATE MIRACLES.**

Presently we have 1,400 members in the district. This reflects a minus 17 in membership for the year, but we are still adding members to our two new clubs in the district and several clubs have reported that they are gaining membership in June. Please keep up the great work and allow more Lions to spread their paws to provide more service to our communities.

On a personal note — As Vice District Governor I am proud to say that I have served under an energetic and enthusiastic District Governor who has made this year fun, exciting and has inspired each of us to be a Lion who provides Miracles of Service to their community and world.

Thank you Governor Day for making it a great year and we all pray for your speedy recovery as you lead Kansas Lions forward as our state’s Council Chair.



**Dan Funke,
District Governor Elect**

We're on the web: www.kansaslions17n.com

Visit our website for the newest information about Lionism in Distict 17N.

Resources to help you include a complete list of district leaders, a calendar of events, a place to read or download and print the district newsletter, links to sites of special interest to Lions and much more.

Club News & Notes

The **Moundridge Lions Club** fed more than 200 students, teachers and other community volunteers participating in a Community Work Day on May 2.

Visually-impaired students in Hutchinson enjoyed a picnic provided by the **Hutchinson Breakfast Lions**. More than 30 students and parents attended the event.

Goddard Lions Club awarded \$500 scholarships to three 2009 graduates of Goddard High School. Two were selected by an essay competition. The club also provides a scholarship for graduating seniors who has a parent who is an active member of the club.

If you know of someone with a manual wheelchair that could benefit from a FREE steam cleaning and tune-up, tell them about the **Wichita East-Southeast Lions Club** Wheelchair Day on Saturday, June 13 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the ARC of Sedgwick County, 2nd and St. Paul. Wheelchairs can be dropped off between 9 a.m. and noon and the Lions will steam clean and perform a safety check. Minor repairs will be done on the spot, more extensive repairs requiring parts to be ordered may require an appointment, but Lions will help see that those repairs are made. Cleaned and checked wheelchairs can be picked up by 2 p.m.

PCC Anne Smarsh Endorsed for International Director

On Saturday, May 30, 2009 PCC Anne Smarsh was endorsed by Multiple District 17 as a candidate for International Director of Lions Clubs International. Voting took place at the state convention in Wichita.

Lion Anne, a member of the Maize Lions Club and a past member of the Wichita Downtown Club has served in a variety of positions in Lions. She has been club treasurer, secretary, president and served on the board of directors. On the state level she has served as MD 17 Treasurer, governor, council chair and a variety of committees.



Lion Anne has also been a presenter at USA Canada Forum and the Great Plains Leadership Forum and for several professional organizations. Her knowledge in finance has been an invaluable resource in her many Lions activities as well as work.

Lion Anne is married to Lion Tom and they live near Colwich. Elections for International Directors will be conducted at the International Convention that is being held in Minneapolis, Minnesota July 6 – 10. More than 60 Lions from across the state of Kansas will be going to the International Convention to support Anne in her quest to be elected as an International Director.

From all of us in District 17N – Good Luck Anne

NOTICE to Presidents and Secretaries

Please remember that all membership reports are due on June 20, 2009 for this month **ONLY**. If you have a new member that you want to add after that simply go into the website and add member. You can file an up-to-date report before the 30th.

Note – If you are filing by paper and mailing your report, please do not send it to LCI. Just send the report to the DGE Dan Funke at #9 Argon Dr, Goddard, KS 67052. The mailed reports to LCI are not getting in the system until after the beginning of the month. To assure that all clubs have reported by the end of the month the Governor will enter your report in the computer from your paper report.

Please follow these procedures through the 2009-2010 Lions year to assure that all membership reports are turned in on time. Beginning with July all paper reports must be mailed to the Governor by the 20th of the month and all electronic reports must be filed by the 25th of each month.