

Visit our Website:  
[www.lionsclubkc.com](http://www.lionsclubkc.com)

**Meeting Dates & Place:**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each Month in  
the Oak Room, Leawood City  
Hall.



## 2017-2018 Leawood Lions Officers

### President

Chris Wright

### Past President

Vania Castro

### 1st Vice President

Tina Seeley

### 2nd Vice President

Lee Shultz

### 3rd Vice President

Kevin Tomasu

### Secretary

Joe Charmella

### Treasurer

Tom Shearer

### Tail Twister

Dayton Koch

### Lion Tamer

Rick Waldenmeyer

### Club LCIF Coordinator

Tina Seeley

### Membership Chairperson

Don Greenwell

### 1st Year Board

Doug Westerhaus, Brian Harris

### 2nd Year Board

Jim Rochel, Dan Hutchins

### Newsletter Editor

Tom Willy

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## July 2017 Leawood Lions Newsletter

**June 30 – July 4:** Lions Clubs International Convention –  
Chicago, IL

**July 11:** Leawood Lions Club Meeting at 6:00 p.m. –  
Leawood City Hall

**July 19:** Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. - Leawood City Hall

**July 21-23:** 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Plains Leadership Institute  
– Maryville, MO

**July 29:** Swope Health Services Back-to-School Fair – see  
story below

**August 8:** Leawood Lions Club Meeting at 6:00 p.m. –  
Leawood City Hall

**August 16:** Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. - Leawood City  
Hall

**Bring your collected eyeglasses to club  
meetings.**



## ***National, State and District News***

**Great Plains Leadership Institute:** The Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute (GPLLI) will be held on July 21-23 at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Missouri. GPLLI is an intensive, professional, and valuable leadership program for Lions to learn skills for club, job, community and church, as well as for personal development. It is open to any Lion who has not served as District Governor. A registration form is attached to the end of this newsletter. The registration fee is \$200; however, \$200 scholarships are available from the PDG Clubs of our district and from MD-17. If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, you may contact PDG Al Kimmi ([aikimmi@rainbowtel.net](mailto:aikimmi@rainbowtel.net)) or PCC Beverley Nichols ([taximath@aol.com](mailto:taximath@aol.com)).

**LCI's Monthly LION Magazine:** The monthly Lion magazine is now available online at [www.LionMagazine.org](http://www.LionMagazine.org)

**District 17-A Website:** To keep up with District activities, visit the District 17-A website at <http://kansaslions17a.org>. You can also download the District Governor's newsletter from the site.

**Centennial Service Challenges -** Lions Clubs worldwide are celebrating **100 years of service** by serving more than **100 million people!** Between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2018, Clubs can make a difference in their community by participating in the four Centennial Service Challenge Campaigns (such as youth, vision, hunger, and the environment).

## ***Upcoming Programs and Projects***

**July 11<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting:** **Dick Wilson**, Morning Show host on the air at KCMO-FM, will be our guest speaker. Dick has been working in broadcasting in Kansas City for 45 years and his iconic voice has brought smiles to millions of faces in Kansas City and beyond. Dick lives in Independence and is a proud supporter of the local theater, arts, Kauffman Center, and Starlight Theater!

**July 29 -- Swope Health Services Back-to-School Fair:** Once again the Leawood Lions

will be providing valuable vision screening services as part of the Back-to-School Fair at Swope Health Services in KCMO.



At last year's Back-to-School Fair we provided Vision Screening for 463 children, and scheduled appointments for 89 children to receive full vision exams and set up for prescription glasses without cost to the families. We also handed out special Lions bookmarkers and a book to all 463 children. One of our happy customers is shown above with his book and Lions bookmark.

**Lion Peggy Jacobson**, Co-Chair of the Vision Screening Committee, has arranged for a grant to fund the purchase of children's books again this year for distribution to all the children who are screened.

In addition, The Vision Screening Committee plans to provide vision screening at the following locations.

- September 8 – Holy Spirit Catholic School
- September 12 – Project Homeless Connect KC
- Fall, 2017 – Bethany Lutheran School

## Club Reports & News

**Newsletter Recognized:** At the recent State convention, **Lions Tom Willy and Ken Habiger** were awarded Merit Award Certificates and a Merit Medal for exemplary work as co-editors of the Leawood Lions Newsletter. Congratulations Lions Tom and Ken!

**Vision Screening Update:** The Leawood Lions Vision Screening Team recently provided vision screening for 145 homeless veterans at the Heart of America Stand Down. All of the veterans received a pair of sunglasses, 25 received readers, and 46 will be receiving prescription eyeglasses. Many thanks to the following who helped to make this event happen.

- **Peggy Jacobson and Steve Everley**
- **Harry and Lois Malnicof and their granddaughter**
- **Dr. Kevin Tomasu**
- **Dr. Burt Schreiber**
- **Don Schultz**
- **Tom Shearer**
- **Dr. Mark Bunde**
- **Steven Raouf**
- **Jim Holtzmark**
- **Richard Barnes**
- **Nayantara Joshi**

In addition, the Team provided vision screening for 116 adults and children at the Heaven Sent Health and Wellness Fair. Eye exams were arranged for 58 persons, and readers, sunglasses, and reading books were handed out. Helping out at this event were **Lions Peggy Jacobson, Steve Everley, Chris Wright, Jim Rochel, and Harry & Lois Malnicof.**

**Legacy Project Update:** To complete a Centennial Community Legacy Project, two Leawood Lions Club highway signs were installed at the highest traffic points at the north and south boundaries of the City of Leawood (i.e. State Line/83<sup>rd</sup> Street and State Line/135<sup>th</sup> Street).

Because of the Club's partnership with the City of Leawood, the City provided without cost: (1) two metal poles; (2) sign installation; and (3) sign

maintenance to ensure that this project follows the City of Leawood's regulations regarding traffic signs. **Many thanks to the 2016-2017 Board Members who provided the funding for these signs**



North Boundary Sign at State Line Rd and 83<sup>rd</sup> St



South Boundary Sign at State Line Rd and 135<sup>th</sup> St

**2017-2018 Club Dues:** Annual dues of \$110 for individuals and \$160 for families (member plus spouse) are due in June. Please pay your dues ASAP. Make your check payable to Leawood Lions Club and send it to:

**Tom Shearer, Treasurer**  
**25770 W. 127<sup>th</sup> St**  
**Olathe, KS 66061-9233**



**Leawood Lions Newsletter Opening:** Co-Editor **Lion Ken Habiger** is retiring with this issue of the Newsletter. Please let **Lion Tom Willy** ([twilly@vomer.com](mailto:twilly@vomer.com) or (816) 668-2680) know if you are interested in helping out with our Club newsletter. Contact **Lion Tom** with any questions.

**Vision Screening Update:** **Lion Peggy Jacobson**, Co-Chairman of the Vision Screening Committee, reports that the Committee screened 4,134 people this past year. Most were children, but over a hundred-eighty were adults. The number of people screened who did not pass their screening was 538, or 13.0% of the total. The Vision Screening Committee provided, or arranged through grants, the following items or services for those screened.

- 259 pairs of eyeglasses
- 106+ pairs of readers
- Arranged for 3 cataract surgeries
- 255+ pairs of sunglasses
- 663 new reading books

If you enjoy being around kids of all ages, and would like to help with our Club's vision screening, please let **Lion Peggy Jacobson** know what days are good for you. In addition, if you have a school or church you would like the committee to contact, please let her know.

**Eyeglass Collection Update:** **Lion Steve Everley**, Chairman of the Eyeglass Collection Committee reports that the Club continues to collect and process a large number of eyeglasses. This past year he turned in approximately 21,000 pairs of eyeglasses, readers, and sunglasses to the Kansas State Lions.

**Lion Steve** reminds members that collected eyeglasses can be dropped off in the storage closet of the Oak Room at City Hall most weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. You can bring them to Club meetings in the Oak Room as well. Remember to discard eyeglass cases (except those that go with "readers"). This eliminates a lot of extra work for the sorters.

**Meal Reservations Reminder:** Remember to make a reservation if you expect to attend a club meeting and have a meal. Also, please consider

reimbursing the Club if you reserve but don't show, as the Club must pay for the meal whether or not you attend.

**Board Meetings Reminder:** Scheduled Board Meetings are being held once per month – on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Every Club member is welcome to attend.

**Committee Chairs** are reminded that a Committee report needs to be presented at each Board meeting. This can be in writing or orally. Written reports should be submitted at least one day before the meeting. Oral reports need to be included in the meeting agenda, so please provide your agenda request to the **Big Lion** at least 3 days before the meeting.

Please remember to contact the **Big Lion** to let him know if you are coming to a Board meeting. This is important to ensure proper room set-up.

## Club Meeting Report

**June 11th Meeting Program:** Our June meeting was a party to celebrate the milestones achieved by our Club during the 2016-2017 year. Our special guest speaker was **United States Senator Jerry Moran**. The meeting also featured the presentation of a **Melvin Jones Fellow Award** and the installation of 2017-2018 **Officers and Directors**.



The year-end celebration was held at the Lions Shelter in Leawood City Park.



**Lions Tina and Mike Seeley stayed busy checking in Leawood Lions and guests.**



**Over 60 Lions and guests attended the party.**



**Boy Scout Troop 10 posted colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.**



**Dinner was catered by Jack Stack BBQ.**



**Following the flag ceremony and Pledge of Allegiance, Big Lion Vania Castro kicked off the party by introducing guests.**



**The Kansas City Boys Choir provided entertainment during dinner.**





**Big Lion Vania made sure everyone was enjoying dinner.**

**Senator Jerry Moran**, a member of the **Hays Lions Club**, was our keynote speaker. The title of his talk was **“Lions Came First, then Politics.”** He stated that he was introduced to the Lions in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade when he lived in Hill City. Remembering that introduction, he joined the Lions when he was 22 years old. Senator Moran provided us with background information on his experiences in the Lions Club. He discussed the importance of our service organization and how Lions can positively impact the community. He stated that the best way to get things done was at the local level and that Lions can play a big part of that. Senator Moran resides in Manhattan, KS when he is not working in Washington, D.C.



**Senator Moran commented that he joined the Lions because he was introduced to the Lions when he was young.**

Following Senator Moran’s presentation, Big Lion Vania Castro presented a Plaque Recognition Award to the senator in appreciation of his remarkable speech.

**International Director Bill Phillipi** recognized **Leawood Lion Troy Rettig** as a **Melvin Jones Fellow**. This award is for dedicated humanitarian services, and is the highest award offered by **Lions Club International Foundation** to individual Lions.



**Lion Troy Rettig was presented with a Melvin Jones Fellow Award by ID Bill Phillipi, assisted by Lion Mayor Peggy Dunn.**



**ID Bill Phillipi presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Clark Castro for dedicated service to the Lions organization.**



In addition, **Big Lion Vania**, assisted by **DG Linda Leander**, presented Club Newsletter Merit Awards and a Merit Medal to **Lions Tom Willy and Ken Habiger**.

President's Appreciation Awards were presented by **DG Linda Leander** to the following.

- **Lion Mayor Peggy Dunn**
- **ID Bill Phillipi**
- **Lion Tom Willy**
- **PID Ernie Young**
- **Jacinta Tolinos**
- **Sebastian Castro**
- **PID Gene Vogel**
- **Lucas Seeley**
- **Micah Roening**
- **Nick Westerhaus**
- **David Westerhaus**
- **Harrison Powell**

- Increase Membership
- Increase Budget
- Centennial Service Challenges (Vision, Youth, Environment, Hunger)
- Legacy Project
- Create Excellence: Service, Leadership, Membership & Partnership

All goals were successfully completed during the past year. **Big Lion Vania** congratulated the club on a great year and looks forward to the continued growth of the Leawood Lions Club for years to come.



On behalf of the Leawood Lions Club, GLT Ken Leander presented a President's Appreciation Award to DG Linda Leander for her outstanding support and service to the Leawood Lions Club.

**Big Lion Vania Castro** reflected on the past year of our service organization. She outlined five goals for the 2016-17 year, which were as follows:



PID Ernie Young, assisted by Senator Jerry Moran and Lion Mayor Peggy Dunn, presented Big Lion Vania with a Certificate of Appreciation and the 2017 Lions Club International Centennial Proof Silver Dollar for her outstanding leadership of the Leawood Lions Club.



ID Bill Phillipi installed the new Leawood Lions Club Officers and Directors for the 2017-2018 year. Officers and Directors pledged to perform their duties to the best of their abilities.



**Lion Vania Castro passed the gavel to President Elect Chris Wright.**



**Incoming President Chris Wright presented a gift basket on behalf of the Leawood Lions Club to Lion Vania Castro for her service as President during 2016-2017.**

## ***Member News***

**Members Mending and Repairing – Keep these members in your thoughts and prayers:**

- Lion Joe Charmella**
- Lion Leroy Kashka**
- Lion Harry Malnicof**
- Lion Rick Waldenmeyer**
- Carolyn Schutty (Lion Chuck Schutty's wife)**
- Elizabeth Skillman (Lion Bob Skillman's wife)**



