



Newsletter

Bluffton Lions Club

www.ohiolions.org

www.blufftonlions.org

www.blufftonlionsfoundation.org

February 2014

2013-2014 Officers & Board Members:

President-Mitch Kingsley; V. Pres-Chad Grieser; V. Pres-Stephanie Larcom; V. Pres-Rachel Webster; Secretary-Elaine Brubaker; Treasurer-Lowell Hostetler; Lion Tamer-Arliss Plaugher; Tail Twister-Greg Aversch; Board Members: 2 yr-Mark Alliman & Phil Zimmerly; 1 yr-Ron Lora & Katie Keifer; Foundation President-Dick Ramseyer; Editor-Barbara Plaugher

March Birthdays:

Katherine Keifer	3/5	Burton Yost	3/5	Omar Khokhar	3/11
Mitch Kingsley	3/19	Corrinne Boehr	3/23	Neil Reichenbach	3/24

March Anniversary:

Ron Lora 3/22



UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 4th - Program TBA

March 7-8 – District 13-A Convention at Perrysburg Holiday Inn French Quarter.

March 18th – Topic of program is Mennonite Home Communities with Lions Doug Luginbill and Laura Vogt.

March 29th - Pancake/Sausage Meal with the Senior Citizens begins at 7 am.

April 3rd – Lions serve Community Meal @ Senior Citizens

April 5th – District Training for new officers @ Holgate 9 am til noon.

April 15th – Mark your calendar for the “Citizen of the Year” evening program.

BOARD REPORT:

The Senior Citizen Pancake Meal will be March 29th. Festival of Wheels committee plans are progressing well for June 20th. Discussion on a food tent with cotton candy at the Arts and Crafts Fair, May 10th.

The Lions served 50 community members at the Community Meal in February. The Lions will also serve another Community Meal on April 3rd.

Tyson Veidt and Jay Bricker have submitted resignations from the Lions Club. These resignations were accepted by the Board.

Nominating committee report – positions of Lion Tamer and VP for Finance still are needed to be filled.

Scholarship committee report – The Shopping Spree will be April 19th. Ticket sales will start the last of March.

Discussion on the District Convention to be held on March 7 and 8. The Bluffton Lions can have 8 delegates for voting at the convention.

FEBRUARY 4TH MEETING:

The program at the February 4, 2014 Bluffton Lions Club meeting was Bluffton Police Chief Rick Skilliter who gave an update on the Bluffton Police department. The department is comprised of eight full-time officers, seven part-time officers and two auxiliary officers. The department provides 24/7 patrol throughout the community, which includes the 288 acre campus of Bluffton University. Officers



routinely patrol using cruisers, bicycles, and on foot. All Bluffton police officers must complete, at a minimum, the State of Ohio Basic Peace Officer training program. Additionally, all officers must maintain State of Ohio First Responder certification. The combination of these two certifications allows us to provide quality emergency services response throughout the community, whatever the emergency. All full-time, and the majority of part-time officers, have completed a Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) program, which better prepares them for dealing with emotionally charged incidents. Officers, by virtue of being on duty 24/7, are frequently the first to arrive at the scene of an emergency, and are trained

and equipped to initiate a response/care plan. Chief Skilliter extended an invitation to Lions members to stop by the police department for a tour, bring a concern to his attention, or simply see how local tax dollars are utilized in the process of providing public safety.

FEBRUARY 18TH – 80TH CHARTER ANNIVERSARY:



Approximately 60+ Lion members and guests gathered at the First Mennonite Church on February 18th to celebrate 80 years of Lionism. A delicious meal was served by Henry's Catering followed by the program. Our speaker was Past International Director Bruce Murray from Ontario, Canada. He served as International Director in 1981-83. He will be remembered by his sense of humor, words of wisdom and great personality. One interesting fact is the various types of dog programs that he was involved in establishing in Canada...dogs for the blind, dogs for the deaf, dogs for the diabetic, dogs for the epileptic, dogs for the autism and others. Each dog is trained to respond to issues that are involved with the diagnosis of his master. These specific programs have been established only in Canada with training of the dogs. PID Murray has worked with programs for the youth, founding the first International Youth Camp and serving on the Board of Lions Quest for Canada. As a leader, he believes that "If it is to be, it is up to me". Above you see Tail Twister Lion Greg along with Lion Dennis selling tickets for door prizes:

A special "Thank You" to all the local businesses who donated door prizes for the 80th Charter Anniversary.....

- Bluffton Hospital – Umbrella, Leather Travel Bag, Cooler on Wheels & Glass Candy Jar
- Bluffton Aeration Services – Portable Restroom Weekend Rental
- Bluffton American Legion - American Flag
- Bluffton News - 2 Commemorative Books on Bluffton History & Copies of Highlights Magazine
- Bluffton Paving - 23 caps
- Bluffton Public Library - Peter and the Star Catchers – 3 Book Series
- Bluffton University - 4 Mugs
- Common Grounds - \$20 Gift Certificate
- Diamond Manufacturing - Cooler
- Diller's Flooring & Interiors - Carpet & Rug Dry Cleaning Kit
- Edward Jones - Hats, Coffee Mugs, Personal Financial Organizer
- Forever-In-Stitches - Quilt valued at \$175
- Family True Value Hardware - Flash Light
- Greg's Pharmacy - Candle & Calendars for all attending
- GROB - Grill Utensil Set
- Jeanne's Kitchen - \$10 gift certificate
- Linda Garrett - Christmas Ribbon Wreath
- Luke's Bar & Grill - 2 \$25 Gift Certificates
- Promo Hits - Travel Cooler with Snacks
- Richard Boehr Co - 2 Insulated Coffee Mugs, 5 alarm clocks & Commemorative Plate
- Shirley's Gourmet Popcorn - 75 bags of Chicago Style Popcorn for all attending
- Sports Warehouse - \$10 Gift Certificate
- Swiss Community Historical Society - 2 Historical Books
- Curling Iron - Hair Product Gift Bag
- Village Cut & Curl - Hair Product Gift Basket with Haircut Certificate
- Webb Insurance - Carbon Monoxide Alarm
- Mennonite Home Communities - Mug with Pens, Coffee & Clips.



Funds received from purchase of tickets for the door prizes will go towards expenses of the Charter Anniversary. The winner of the quilt was Lion Corrinne Boehr.

LCIF's Response to a Major Catastrophe

Over the past 10 years, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) has provided more than US\$100 million for disaster-relief programs worldwide. When a major catastrophe happens, like the recent typhoon in the Philippines, Lions around the world are quick to support fellow Lions and their communities.

When you give a donation to LCIF's Disaster Relief fund, your contribution may be used for many different types of needs. Not every disaster is the same but typically there are three different phases of a major catastrophe.

□□□□□□ Immediate Needs

Donations from Lions and friends around the world provide immediate basic needs such as water, food, clothing, and medicine to the affected area. Lions Clubs in the

local area begin applying for Emergency Grant assistance to fund immediate needs projects such as food distribution at a community center. Many times Lions will work alongside religious institutions and fire stations to deliver these basic needs.

□□□□□□ Mid-Term Needs

Once recovery planning begins, a local committee of Lions is established to begin the process of evaluating the mid-term needs and identifying appropriate relief projects to implement. Following SuperStorm Sandy that hit the East Coast of the United States in 2012, the Lions of New Jersey received funding from LCIF to make basic home repairs for low income individuals who did not have insurance and did not receive any Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds to make homes habitable again. Donations may go to fund a mid-term need project such as this when you give to support Disaster Relief.

□□□□□□ Long-Term Needs/Rebuilding

Once a clear plan for recovery has been put in place by the government, local communities, and other community organizations, Lions begin participating in the rebuilding process. Lions have been very instrumental in the rebuilding process in Haiti following the earthquake in 2010. LCIF provided US\$1.4 million to construct new homes for 600 Haitian families who were initially housed in Lions tent cities following the earthquake. Donations may fund rebuilding projects like this significant project in Haiti. Other examples of long-term needs are rebuilding of schools and construction of hospitals and health centers.

Financial support provided by Lions and friends around the world is disbursed to the affected area incrementally. Funds go directly to the Lions Relief Committee to support their disaster related projects. Financial reporting is required with each grant and must be submitted to LCIF following a project.

Support following disasters and major catastrophes around the world are funded through LCIF's Disaster Relief area of giving. This month, consider making a donation to Disaster Relief to help support Lions and LCIF respond to disasters throughout the world. For more information about disaster relief efforts by Lions and LCIF, please visit www.lcif.org.

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If you are interested in giving a personal, tax-exempt donation, please contact.....
LCIF Coordinator – Barbara Plaucher.

