



Newsletter

Bluffton Lions Club

www.ohiolions.org

www.blufftonlions.org

www.blufftonlionsfoundation.org

May 2015

2014-2015 Officers & Board Members:

President-Stephanie Larcom; V. Pres-Mitch Kingsley; V. Pres-John Rich; Secretary-Barbara Plaughter; Treasurer-Lowell Hostetler; Lion Tamer-Arliss Plaughter; Tail Twister-Greg Aversch; Board Members: 1 yr-Mark Alliman; 2 yr-Jim Bemiller; Foundation President-Dick Ramseyer; Editor-Barbara Plaughter.

June Birthday:

Jesse Blackburn	6/1	Pat Rodabaugh	6/7	Mark Alliman	6/23
Andy Armstrong	6/26				

June Anniversary:

Ted Cunningham	6/1	Andrew Rager	6/2	Jerry Szabo	6/10
Don Hostetler	6/11	Tom Edwards	6/19	Andy Armstrong	6/22
Dave Rodabaugh	6/22	Tim Closson	6/23	Dick McGarrity	6/23
Tracy Steele	6/25	Dimale/Don Snyder	6/27	Jeffrey Joseph	6/28

UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 2nd: Club meeting 6:00 PM at VOSH Pandora Sorting Center, Pandora Methodist Church. Induction of officers. Volunteer service after the meal helping prepare glasses for third-world missions.

June 16th: Program for the noon meeting will be Keral Oxley speaking on "Living Six Months on an Ocean-Going Freighter". Scholarship winners present.

June 19th: Festival of Wheels is coming up. See Dennis Morrison to volunteer.

June 21st: GOBA will come to Bluffton. See Mitch Kingsley to offer housing for the bikers. See Barbara Plaughter to help with serving breakfast June 22nd.

June 26-30: Lions International Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii.

July 7th: Lions picnic. Keep the date open for a fun time with food & fellowship.

MAY BOARD REPORTS:

Six scholarships were presented the week of May 11th to the students by members of the scholarship committee.

The GOBA committee will serve a breakfast for the bikers on June 22nd. They are asking for help with this project.

Lions survey goal #1 will be presented at the club meeting and included in the newsletter.

Remaining budgeted donations were approved by the board to be paid for a total of \$1,525....VOSH \$150, Pilot Dogs \$125, NW Eye Care \$250, Lions International Relations \$200, Girls/Boys State \$300, Mennonite Memorial Home \$500.

Nominating committee is working to fill the president position.

There is a need for eight Lions to work as flaggers at the Bluffton Lions Bicycle Ride to Remember. The webmaster has been changed to Todd Boblitt and the Bluffton High School computer class. All information needs to go through Lion Dick Ramseyer.

Bluffton Festival of Wheels flyer distributed to the board. There will be an increase in price for the sound system this year.

Dare to Dream Wine Tasting Auction is collecting items for auction. The goal set this year is \$17,000.

The Bluffton Pathway Board was reviewing the count of bike and pedestrians on the paths recently. The Bentley Road pathway options are being reviewed.

The Lions Way Trail Head Park has the shelter house ordered. The opening celebration will be in Sept.

May 5th Meeting:



Jonathan Andreas, PhD, Associate Professor of Economics, Bluffton University gave a program about the, World Economic of Oil. He spoke about the large oil producing countries of which the USA is one of the top. He explained in detail, why oil is important for global economics. It was noted by Andreas that the United States was & is the world top oil producer in 1996 & 2015. He explained that oil is the raw product that is used to manufacture vast numbers of products we use in our daily life. Many questions were asked of the speaker at the conclusion of the presentation by Lions members.

LIONS STATE CONVENTION 2015:



Ohio Lions Welcome Past International President, Jimmy Ross, to the Buckeye State for the 96th State Convention.

Past International President Jimmy Ross of Quitaque, Texas was elected to serve as 2006-2007 president of the International Association of Lions Clubs. Past President Ross was the guest speaker for the convention and a person who believes in serving. Here you see Past President Ross serving coffee to Bluffton Lion Arliss during the luncheon on Saturday. Past President Ross is a rancher and a retired judge. If you missed the convention, you missed a delightful time meeting and interacting with many interesting people.

MAY 19TH MEETING:

Laurel Neufeld-Weaver, MSW LIS-S, is the Clinical Director of Creating Hope Counseling, Bluffton Ohio. Her topic was, "Responding to the Crime of Human Trafficking in Ohio". Neufeld-Weaver helped



develop the Northwest Ohio Rescuer and Restore Coalition. Until she decided to go into private practice full-time, Laurel was employed as the Rape Crisis and Anti-Human Trafficking Program Director at Crime Victim Services. Laurel Neufeld Weaver discussed Ohio statistics for exploited children and shared personal stories about her working with victims. Her power point presentation showed information about Ohio exploited children. Her discussion helped give an understating to the crime of human trafficking, by sharing detailed information about...Statistic, Federal & State legal definitions, how trafficking occurs/types of trafficking, signs & indicators and

responding to survivors of trafficking.

Also at the club meeting information was shared with the Lions members from the survey taken a few months ago. District Governor Marv Crawford attended the club meeting to present a Club Excellence patch to the Bluffton Lions. This recognition from Lions Clubs International is for efforts made in improving the club.

Goal #1. To educate Lions on how people outside of our local community are helped.

The Bluffton Lions donated to the following programs with explanations of the service provided by each organization:

LCIF (Lions Clubs International Foundation) -- These funds help with disaster relief, grants are provided, eradicate measles, eye care services to the underserved, Lions Quest programs for students, humanitarian grants, and the Sure Sight auto refractors were provided by a matching grant along with the handicap playground in Wauseon.

VOSH (Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity) -- Funds used to purchase glasses prescriptions not available at the sorting center, equipment and supplies, cover expenses at the sorting center, ground transportation in third-world countries.

Ohio Sight & Hearing -- Supports sight and hearing projects, News Reel audio magazine, Prevent Blindness Ohio, Ohio Radio Reading Services of daily newspapers.

Pilot Dogs -- Dogs for sight or hearing impaired

Ohio Lions Foundation -- Disaster relief grants, Low Vision Reader grant program, Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Band, Ohio Lions Foundation Helen Keller Scholarship Program.

Ohio Diabetes Foundation -- All donations are used for diabetes eye research. This supports the Bryan Diabetes Fund

Ohio Lions Eye Research Foundation -- Grants go to various university research funds along with Eye Research Fellowships to graduate researchers working towards their PhD.

International Relations - These funds are divided for Amigos, Student VOSH and VOSH-Ohio for their international services.

NorthWest Eye Care Foundation – Provides payment for cataract surgeries to those unable to pay for this service. Provides low vision reading equipment in the home for those qualifying.

