



Newsletter

Bluffton Lions Club

www.ohiolions.org

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March 2013

2012-2013 Officers & Board Members:

President-Barbara Plaughter; V. Pres-Tom Edwards; V. Pres-Elaine Harris; V. Pres-Don Hostetler; Secretary-Elaine Brubaker; Treasurer-Lowell Hostetler; Lion Tamer-Arliss Plaughter; Tail Twister-Greg Aversch; Board Members: 2 yr-Katie Keifer & Dale Metzger; 1 yr-Howard Shelly & Mark Alliman; Foundation President-Dick Ramseyer; Editor-Barbara Plaughter

April Birthdays:

Bob Harris	4/12
Don Snyder	4/16
Jim Bemiller	4/26

April Anniversaries:

Charles Amstutz	4/11
Diane Almanon	4/22

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 2nd – Dennis Morrison is the speaker on “30 Years of Metal Detecting” for the noon meeting at Maple Crest.

April 16th – Michael Gibbs will present a program on The Titanic Memorial Cruise at noon at Maple Crest.

Board Report:

Secretary Elaine is keeping attendance records with the hope to recognize perfect attendance Lions next year. Perfect attendance also includes project participation in place of meetings.

Scholarship applications are arriving. The Shopping Spree collections will go towards the scholarships.

Rob McDaniels was approved by the board for membership with instillation the second meeting in April.

The Health Fair will be in conjunction with the Arts and Crafts Fair.

Tail Twisting for the local food bank will be completed in March.

A letter of resignation was accepted by the board from Eric Fulcomer, moving out of the state.

A letter of resignation was accepted by the board from Reid Foust for health/financial reasons

A letter of resignation was accepted by the board from Bob Barnett for health reasons, effective in July.

Certificates of appreciation will be awarded to Bob Barnett and Dick Weaver recognizing them as Emeritus Members allowing them to attend meetings with no dues to be paid.

Award from LCIF for the Reading Action Program compliance.

District Convention tickets will be available for purchase for prizes to be presented at the convention. By purchasing these tickets you help in funding the convention.

OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 2013-2014 ARE AS FOLLOWS: President – Mitch Kingsley; VP of Membership – Chad Grieser; VP of Programs – Stephanie Larcom; VP of Financial Affairs – Sarah Foster; Secretary – Elaine Brubaker; Treasurer – Lowell Hostetler; Lion Tamer – Arliss Plaughter; Tail Twister – Greg Aversch; Past President – Barbara Plaughter; Board Members 2years – Phil Zimmerly & Mark Alliman; 1 year – Katie Keifer & Dale Metzger.



Lions Donate to Bluffton Community Assistance Program

The Bluffton Lions Club has been collecting funds at their club meetings starting in January with the goal... to raise \$500 for the Bluffton food bank, just in time for Easter. At their Citizens of the Year meeting on March 19th the goal was reached. The club's tail twister, Greg Aversch, has created many interesting ways to collect funds, such as charging for silverware to eat lunch, charging to check your coat at the meeting, creating a "stand-in" as seen here when he was unable to attend a meeting, and the best one was to be the elevator operator at the Citizens meeting on the third floor of Town Hall. A \$500 check was presented to the food bank coordinators, Jamie Crawfis and Sarah Shank, on March 22nd by Lion Greg. Great job Greg!

Shopping Spree Project:

A project to collect funds for the Bluffton Lions Scholarship program was started on March 5th and completed with the drawing of the shopping spree winner on March 22nd. Doug Long, son of Lion Gene Long was our winner. Proceeds remaining from the shopping spree will go to the scholarship fund with distribution in May. Thanks to Lion Jim Bemiller calling many of our Lions to donate 2 hours to sell tickets at the Community Market, the project has been a success. Those helping were Lions Denny Morrison, Doug Lugibill, Don Hostetler, Daryl Shields, Phil Zimmerly, Arliss Plaughter, Brendon Matthews, Lowell Hostetler, Tyson Viedt, Mark Alliman, Dick Ramseyer, Rachel Webster, Stan Clemens, Sarah Foster, Howard Shelly, Stephanie Larcom, Tracy Steele, Elaine Harris, Barbara Plaughter, Praveen Vohra, Gary Graham, Jay Bricker, Andy Armstrong, Tom Edwards, Burton Yost, Jan Emmert, Katie Kiefer, Tammy Whitlow. What a success with all the great Lions help.

March 5th Meeting:

Bluffton Lions Club members heard two very interesting presentation about the distribution of food to the needy at their March 5, 2013 meeting.

The first speaker was Gary Bright, CEO of the Ohio Food Bank...it's service includes Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Seneca, Shelby, Van Wert & Wyandot Counties. Bright gave an overview of who makes the deposits & withdrawals from the West Ohio food bank and information about the West Ohio food bank – programs & services. WOFB is a major player in obtaining, storing and distributing a large variety of food products to community pantries, schools, and senior citizens through its 11 county network.

This was followed by a presentation from Jami Crawfis, Co-director of the Bluffton Food Pantry. Crawfis spoke about the range of client services offered and the day of the month and hours clients are allowed to access food from the pantry. It was stated that Bluffton University did a study to determine for the Pantry whether there was a need to be open more often...the conclusion was, no change was needed. The Bluffton Pantry does not access food through WOFB... needs are meet through local donations of cash & food products.



Jamie Crawfis on left & Gary Bright on right.

March 19th Citizens of the Year Meeting:

The Town Hall third floor meeting room was crowded with Lions and well wishers to help Bob and Beverly Amstutz celebrate their special evening as Citizens of the Year. History of the Amstutz's involvement with the community was repeated by many in the room and recognition of their contributions to the community was applauded. Fred Steiner gave interesting input how they worked to save the Town Hall from destruction. Lions Fred and Pat Rodabaugh along with Elaine Harris also spoke in regards to their involvement with the new Citizens. The meeting was coordinated by Lion Bill Croft and his committee. It was an interesting evening along with the good food served by Henri's.



Lion Bob talking to his sister with Beverly and her sister looking on.

March 23rd Pancake & Sausage Breakfast:



Lion Dick McGarrity recognizes the sponsors of this year's charity car raffle at the pancake breakfast.



Lion John Harris flipping pancakes!



Lions Dan Diller, Jerry Szabo and John Rich.