



OH 1 Lions



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December 2020 Edition

LOOKING BACK AND TO THE FUTURE

We are entering the final month of the first half of this Lions year. Some are thinking; "where did the time go;" while others are thinking, "it's about time". Most of our club presidents have adjusted to CDC requirements, etc., and their club is functioning as close to normal as possible.



As a district we are moving forward and supporting our individual communities. All clubs have paid their first half dues. Club treasurers need to start looking for second half dues by mid December. Second half club dues are due by January 15, 2021. OH1 needs to send our state dues in by January 31, 2021.

I have assessed the first half of OH1. Thirty-One clubs participated in the MD-13 "Fall into Service". OH1 received 9 peace posters from our clubs, despite school restrictions. OH1 Zone Chairs held zone meetings, in person or virtual. Virtual meetings mean learning something new for many club members. However, our attendance increased at each virtual meeting. Even though we lost 4 clubs; our membership is only down -35 (9 from deceased) as of November 29, 2020. This means the club members of disbanded clubs have transferred to other clubs. Good news.

Normally, the start of January is when clubs send their donations for our District and State projects. I realize donations are going to be down due the lack of clubs being able to hold normal fundraisers. I am still encouraging clubs to send a donation to the projects that your club normally supports.

The 2020-21 COG has joined the MD Indiana and Michigan to reverse our declining membership with a campaign called "Tri-State Lions Membership Challenge 2020-2021". This will be a friendly contest starting December 1st and ending on March 31st. All three MDs will share ways to increase membership. More information can be found in this and future OH1 Newsletters.

December is usually when clubs have their club Christmas parties. Please hold your festivities safely. No one knows what is ahead for us in 2021. As Lions we know how to serve smartly and safely.

From my family to yours we wish you a Happy Holiday and see you in 2021.

We Serve,

DG John Davis



Lions of Ohio,

I am excited to announce that we, the Lions of Ohio, have entered into a membership recruitment challenge with the Lions of Indiana and Michigan. This challenge will run from December 1st through March 31st. The objective is to bring more new members into Lionism and retain more members than the other states.

This is not just a contest, but also an opportunity. We can strengthen our clubs, improve our service to our communities, and have some fun along the

way. Even though we will once again be demonstrating to our neighbors that you don't mess with the Buckeyes, we will also be working with them. Together we will be sharing ideas to improve our organization and help our clubs thrive. The Governors and the MD13 leadership team are working to put together information to assist your club. We are putting a Zoom seminar together with Lions from around Ohio that have had success starting new clubs and recruiting new members.

Even with the current restrictions, your club can work on preparing for a membership event. Through email, Zoom, or even by phone you can compile lists of potential members and begin reaching out to them. Does your club have Facebook presence in your community? Work on developing one. If you need assistance, there are Lions who can help you. There are even some great free online tutorials on social media, websites, and basic computer use. Together we can make our organization stronger. Together we can help more people in our communities and around the world. Together we will be successful.

There will be more information to come. Including how we will recognize those that bring in new members. Let's not wait. Let's start today (just don't enter the new members into LCI before December 1st). If you or your club have questions or would like assistance, don't hesitate to contact your Zone Chair or your Governor team.

Yours in Lionism,
Council Chair Kenny Schuck
kennyschuck@gmail.com

GREETINGS FROM IVDG REBECCA



In a Zoom meeting the other day, GLT Coordinator Barry Brandt told a story of how, some years ago when he worked in a 20-story building, he would take the elevator every day. One day it occurred to him that he really didn't know the others who worked in the building. So, he began to take the stairs on occasion, and to visit the offices on other floors, getting to know the other folks and chatting about their various businesses. Anyone who had a plaque on the wall indicating they were involved in a service organization was fair game for an elevator speech about the Lions Club. In this way PDG

Barry was able to recruit several folks to become Lions. The Zoom was about this winter's new Tri-State Lions Membership Challenge. 2VDG Dave Stockum will be taking the point on this for the district and will kick off the drive with the first of a series of articles on the issue. Every lion was once a new member, every new member has a sponsor. How were you recruited, how have you as an individual or as a club successfully recruited new members? Think back, and please send your success stories to 2VDG Dave.

This month, our club had been excited to sell 50/50 tickets to support juvenile diabetes research at the Foundation basketball game between rivals Wauseon and Napoleon schools. We were disappointed when the game was cancelled. But fans remain loyal to their teams through thick and thin and IPDG Jackie Miller of OH5 shared a link to a great sports themed fundraiser on Facebook where fans can vote for their favorite college team with a donation to Ohio Lions Foundation. Maybe your club might want to think outside the penalty box and vote on your favorite hockey team?

"Each year, the seven Lions districts around Ohio host a Walk/5K to raise funds to fund research at Ohio hospitals and to assist families affected by childhood cancer. "(olpcf.org) Of course, you remember when our STEPS walk had to go virtual, and Lion Jessica Reichley & Lion Deb Crawford set up a successful online fundraiser. Well, now the Ohio Lions Pediatric Cancer Foundation has taken a step to further enhance their online presence. I urge you to check out olpcf.org, a great new site with a sleek modern look chock full of information for this important cause. And here's a hint: this website was done on Google Sites, a free and user- friendly platform so if you like it, your webmaster or would-be webmaster could contact the olpcf.org webmaster DG Kerry Parker of OH2 for advice.

If your club wants to meet virtually but has no access to a Zoom, please contact your Zone Chair or anyone in the District Cabinet as there are options available.

1VDG Rebecca Dent-Weiss

STATEMENTS FROM 2VDG DAVE STOCKUM

OH1 Lions,

The hibernation season is upon us. Most of Mother Nature north of the Mason-Dixon Line will be looking for a warm den to get out of the cold. Unfortunately, our nation has been in a relative state of hibernation since the Covid-19 Pandemic arose, and our association, the Ohio Lions, as



well as our brother states, Michigan and Indiana (yes, Michigan!) has been in a relative state of hibernation in respect to membership growth for the last few decades. Our State Council of Governors Chairman, PDG Kenny Schuck, has joined with the Council Chairs from Indiana and Michigan in a campaign to stop the trend of declining membership. The campaign is called the Tri-State Lions Membership Challenge 2020-2021 and will begin December 1, 2020 and run for three months. (See the article in the newsletter from CC Kenny.) We are going to see which state association can add the most members during this period. The hope is that a little friendly competition will spur Lions from our Midwestern region into a pattern of growth which we can then sustain throughout the coming years. Each of the next three months I will suggest a strategy, none of which will be particularly new, to make OH1 and Ohio Lions a leader in the challenge. If your club has ideas on how to increase membership or have had successful membership campaigns in the past, please share them with me, and I will add them to my articles in the coming months as well.

The idea for December is to recruit your spouse, your children, and those close to your family. The LCI still offers a family discount for members, but in addition to that, the International is accepting all new members in December without charging an initiation fee! This is the final month for that offer. Some clubs pay the half-year dues for new members out of their administrative accounts. With family discounts and half-year dues, new members in December could pay no more than \$30 to join the club for six months. If the club deemed it important enough to dip into administrative funds, these new Lions could get a great Lions' experience for next to nothing.

Obviously, there are two ideas being presented here. One, we all know that in many clubs much of the work done on projects is done by non-Lions – spouses and other family members! Let's get them into the association so they can enjoy all the benefits of membership, such as helping decide where our service will be directed, planning events, and enjoying the fellowship of regular meeting and greeting. Two, financially this is an excellent time for the family units to be filled. Discounts in annual dues and the temporary abatement of the initiation fee present the opportunity to give the family plan a try. The initiation abatement is there for all new Lions who join in December so if you

have someone in mind outside of your family, give them the opportunity to take advantage of this Holiday present from LCI.

Just one other point. When you get new members, give them a reason to stay members. Continue to do the work that has made Lionism such a valuable resource in our communities. Certainly since Covid reared its ugly spectre, shut-ins feel more isolated than ever. The coming winter weather will only add to that isolation. Phone calls, texts, letters, and other communication will certainly be a service they would appreciate. There will be snow in driveways and on sidewalks. Maybe neighbors will need some help getting groceries or other necessities and don't have the means, financial or physical, to secure them. I know Lions have been major supporters of food pantries, Holiday baskets, coat and mitten campaigns, and other efforts to lessen the sting of winter months. All our clubs have our winter agendas; don't let the pandemic stop us from fulfilling them. Take this challenge and build on it. That alone might help us meet the challenge Council Kenny has set for us with the Tri-State Lions Membership Challenge 2020-2021!

Best wishes for you and yours during the coming month. May you be safe, healthy, and happy in your families and your service.

2VDG Dave Stockum



The McComb Lions Club put up decorations at the McComb park. PDG Dan Ritter, Pat Ritter, Deb Crawford, Sue Davis, and Dennis Newell helped "light up" the community park for this annual community service project.

LCIF UPDATE

As I listen to the weather reports on the progress of tropical storm Iota pushing towards Central America, I think of friends our VOSH teams have made over the many years during missions in that area. According to the weather reports, Nicaragua and other Central American countries will have much flooding and mudslides, along with wind damage.

Another hurricane disaster named Mitch devastated Honduras and Nicaragua in 1998. Flood marks still showed water up to eight feet depth on buildings yet in 2000, as we were then able to travel after the disaster. People losing complete families as they were washed out to sea and the washing away of dwellings were products of Mitch.

Our VOSH teams have traveled multiple times into the impoverished countries of Central America to assist with vision care. We would go to the most remote areas and see people walking for miles out of the mountains to come to our clinics. Gracious and thankful people receive help with vision.

These countries have Lions clubs that have also assisted with our vision clinics and were a valuable asset. Lions serve around the world. We are all one family in the lion's organization.

Our organization Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is continuing with the Campaign 100 fundraising project. This project is to be extended another year until June 30, 2021 due to Covid's interference. Funds from this project go to disaster relief and humanitarian causes such as hurricanes and storms. It also goes toward vision, to eradicate or reduce preventable blindness and to improve quality of life for those with vision disabilities.

Funds go for youth, to serve the youth through improved access to quality education. Diabetes is one cause that lions are helping to increase public awareness. Another cause is childhood cancer.

I am informing you that your club or any individual who would donate towards LCIF to be aware that your funds go 100% towards the area most in need. This has been a year of many disasters with fires in the west to hurricanes in the south. Tropical storms in the islands and earthquakes around the world.

Funds are also distributed in grants to designated clubs for community projects. Our district in Ohio has received grants for tornado and flood damage; vision center; playgrounds for handicapped children and many more. The funds that you provide also can come back to our district.

I received a message from Rev. Bolivar Sanchez that he and his family have a safe area to stay during the storm. After the storm, then the clean-up begins. He was such a great assistance during a couple of our missions into Honduras and I continue to communicate with him. Here's hoping that all goes well for the gracious people of Central America.

We Serve,

PDG Barbara Plaugher
District LCIF Coordinator

PEACE POSTER CONTEST 2020-2021
"PEACE THROUGH SERVICE"

OH1 PEACE POSTER WINNER & CANDIDATES



Asia Fraley, 13

Sylvania Sunrise Lions Club

"A young woman showing kindness and service by delivering groceries to an older woman during the pandemic."

OH1 Peace Poster Participates

Hudson Phillips, 12

Bluffton Lions Club

Eric Koenig, 12

Bryan Lions Club

Logan Stoepfel, 11

Glandorf Lions Club

Ryli Rohrs, 12

Holgate Lions Club

Kelsey Van Cleave, 12

Middle Point Lions Club

Alexus Utrup, 11

Ottawa Lions Club

Liesl Pinkelman, 13

Perrysburg Sunrise Lions Club

Kelsy Connolly, 12

West Unity Lions Club





2021 Ohio Lions Winter Retreat

January 15, 16, 17, 2021

REGISTRATION FORM
SALT FORK STATE PARK RESORT
CAMBRIDGE, OH

REGISTRATION:

Full registration paid by December 1, 2020 will be **\$120.00**. Full registrations December 2, 2020-January 4, 2021 will be \$140.00. No registrations will be accepted after January 5, 2021. Make all checks payable to: "THE OHIO LIONS" and specify LIONS WINTER RETREAT in the memo line and return with this registration form to: Ohio Lions, 4074 Hoover Rd., Grove City, OH 43123; Fax: 614-808-3170; Email: ohiolions@gmail.com. Or use your credit card and go to www.ohiolions.org & use PayPal. NO REFUNDS AFTER January 6, 2021.

Please provide an Email address to receive updates on the Winter Retreat!

District

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED: \$ _____ **I/WE will be attending the Sunday Breakfast(Y/N)** _____
Children's meals available: Total number of children: _____ (price per meal to be determined)

SPECIAL NEEDS: Please List any special dietary needs required, including the need for a Diabetic Meal.

Registrant's Name: _____

Needs: _____

Registrant's Name: _____

Needs: _____

Session Facilitators

____ Yes, _____ would help as a session facilitator at the Winter Retreat.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Hotel reservations must be made through the hotel by phone **1-740-435-9000**. Room reservations prior to December 10, 2020 may be made by requesting the Ohio Lions group rate of \$109.00/night plus tax. After December 11th the room rate may increase. The State Office will not accept hotel reservations or room deposits.

Check out www.saltforkparklodge.com for all of the winter events and resort amenities that are offered at the lodge. Make this a family outing!!!

DISTRICT CONVENTION

Susan Davis: Committee Chairperson, Deb Crawford: Co-chair

The district convention will be held on April 23-24, 2021, at the Hilton Garden inn in Findlay, Ohio. The sight has been secured and plans are being formulated. We will have a STEPS walk around the pond on the property as well as traditional sessions and services.

District Governor John Davis notified me that International Director Larry L. Edwards and his wife, Susan, will join us for the weekend. They are from Pennsylvania. He is a retired bank executive and member of the Harris Township Lions Club. If you want to know more about ID Edwards, read the next newsletter.



For additional pictures, videos, and OH1 Lions updates during the month, be sure to check out **Ohio Lions 13 OH1** on Facebook!

Deadline for the December Newsletter is December 25, 2020.
Submit your newsletter items to Newsletter Editor Jessica Reichley at
newsletter@ohiolionsoh1.org or jlreichley@gmail.com

DISTRICT OH-1 LEADERSHIP

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