



Newsletter

Bluffton Lions Club

www.ohiolions.org
www.blufftonlions.org

May 2026

2025-2026 Officers & Board Members:

President-Jackie Bourassa; V. Pres-Greg Denecker; V. Pres- Dwain Hall; V. Pres-Ed Yeager;
Secretary-Barbara Plaugher; Treasurer-Scott Hoff; Lion Tamer-Mark Bourassa; Tail Twister-Dennis Morrison; Board Members: 1 yr.-Mark Bourassa; 1 yr.- Jerry Szabo; 2 yr.- Brigitte Hoff; 2 yr.- Andrew Armstrong. Editor-Barbara Plaugher

June Birthday:

Jesse Blackburn	6/1	Kiley Rutzler	6/5	Andy Armstrong	6/26
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June Anniversary:

Andy Rager	6/2	Don Hostetler	6/11	Tom Edwards	6/19
Natalie/Andy Armstrong	6/22	Clair Winebar	6/22	Dick McGarrity	6/23
Jackie/Mark Bourassa	6/25	Tracy Steele	6/25		

UPCOMING EVENTS:

JUNE 2nd: Club meeting at the Pandora Eyeglass Sorting Center at 6 PM. Members will be preparing glasses for upcoming missions. Scholarship winners will share their future plans. Pizza and drinks. Please RSVP.

JUNE 9th: Board meeting 5:45 PM. Location to be announced.

JUNE 16th: Club meeting Town Hall at noon. Speaker will be Deb Harvitt. Topic will be “Declutter by Deb”. Scholarship winners will be present. Lunch by Lion Greg \$7.

Installation of new officers.

JUNE 19th: Festival of Wheels. To volunteer contact Lion Ed Yeager.

50-50 CHARITY RAFFLE:

- \$100 Nancy Yeager ticket sold by Lion Ed Yeager
- \$50 Luke Denecker ticket sold by Lion Greg Denecker
- \$30 Dave Siefker ticket sold by Lion Barbara Plaugher
- \$20 Scott Hoff ticket sold by Lion Brigitte Hoff



Board Minutes for May:

The Lewis Family McDonald’s fundraiser raised \$600 designated for the playground project. Pancake Breakfast set for Saturday, May 16th. Scholarships presented to 4 Bluffton High School seniors and 2 Pandora-Gilboa students. Officer training on-line Saturday, June 6th.

PATHWAY COUNT: Lions helping with the pathway count: Patty Navin, Dwain Hall, Denny Morrison, Andy Armstrong, Mark Bourassa, Jackie Bourassa, Dick McGarrity, Jan Emmert, Laura Dagani, Zack Kohli, Brigitte Hoff, Natalie Armstrong, Ron Lora, Clair Winebar, Don Burris, Mitch Kingsley, Ed Yeager, Jesse Blackburn. Each lion member donated 2 hours to assist with counting traffic along the seven miles of pathways throughout the Bluffton Village for the spring count.

MAY 5TH CLUB MEETING:



Speaker for the May 5th meeting was Dan Groman. He presented information on the Bluffton Ohio Historical Society and the plans for a building to house the many local artifacts.



MAY 16TH PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Lions Don Burris and Brigitte Hoff



Lions Greg Denecker and Cindy Lee

MAY 19TH CLUB MEETING:



Amy Byers, Executive Director of the Bluffton UMCA was the speaker for the noon club meeting on the 19th of May. Bluffton, Lima and Hardin YMCA work in coordination. Bluffton has 2,000 members with 425 Silver Sneakers. The Bluffton YMCA does partner with the Bluffton pool and many programs were explained by Amy.

UPDATE OF THE ALL-INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND:

For the past year and a half, we have been focusing on our Building Joy Together campaign to raise funds to build an all-inclusive playground at Bluffton's new Legacy Par. Our goal is to create a space where every child can play, learn, and grow.

We are well on our way to reaching our ambitious goal of raising \$600,000 for the project. We currently have over \$320,000 pledged by 57 local individuals, families, and community partners. We are very proud that Lions are leading the way on this initiative. Over half of the pledges have been made by Bluffton Lions, along with the Lima Host Lions Club and the Kalida Lions Club. We are also thrilled to announce that we are the recipients of a grant from Lions Club International Foundation. We are hoping to receive the full \$150,000 that is available. We will find out the total amount to be awarded in the near future.

We are almost there? If you have not yet pledged to be a part of this amazing project, there is still time. Every dollar counts. We would love to be able to say that we had 100% participations from our Bluffton Lions. Now is the time to help us maintain momentum and ensure we cross the finish line together as a club. Thank you for helping us build joy together. Provided by President Lion Jackie Bourassa

