



Newsletter

Bluffton Lions Club

www.ohiolions.org
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March 2024

2023-2024 Officers & Board Members:

President-VACANT; V. Pres-John Rich; V. Pres-Gene Long; V. Pres-Greg Denecker; Secretary-
Barbara Plaugher; Treasurer-Ed Yeager; Lion Tamer-Gary Graham; Tail Twister-Dennis Morrison;
Board Members: 1 yr.-Tracy Steele; 1 yr.- John Hochstetler; 2 yr.- Jan Emmert ; 2 yr.- Jackie Bourassa.
Editor-Barbara Plaugher

April Birthday:

John Hochstetler	4/1	Dwain Hall	4/8	Don Snyder	4/16
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April Anniversary:

Diane Almanon	4/22
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UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 2nd: Bluffton Lions Club meeting 6:30 PM Town Hall. To discuss Festival of
Wheels. Board to meet at 6 PM.

April 5 & 6: District Convention Hilton Garden Inn, Findlay.

April 8th: Scholarships in. If you want to serve on this committee, contact Lion Barbara
Plaugher.

April 11th : Citizen of the Year banquet 6 PM Kreider Room, Marbeck Center BU. Notify
Lions John Rich and/or Barbara Plaugher for reservations.

April 13th: Roadside clean-up at 8:30 am. Contact Lion Andrew Rager to assist.

April 16th: Bluffton Lions Club meeting at noon Town Hall. Speaker TBA. 50/50 Charity
Raffle.

April 20th: Pancake/sausage breakfast at the Senior Citizens starting 8 AM. Sign up with
Lion John Rich.

March Charity Raffle 50/50:

\$100 Sam Reineke ticket sold by Lion Ed Yeager
\$50 Katy Alexander ticket sold by Lion Greg Aversch
\$30 Bentley Grunswald ticket sold by Lion Mark Bourassa
\$20 Steve Grunswald ticket sold by Lion Mark Bourassa



MARCH BOARD REPORT:

The Board met with the general club on March 19th. Discussion on starting a LEO Club followed with a vote to approve. The LEO Club will be coordinated by Lion Jackie Bourassa and the Bluffton High School. A representative from the school will lead the LEO group.

Delegates for the District Convention on April 6th will be Lions Gene Long, Jackie Bourassa, Dick Boehr and Barbara Plaucher. We are allowed 5 delegates, anyone else interested in attending the convention, please contact the secretary.

The tornado disaster was discussed. The District has applied for a grant from LCIF for short-term disaster needs. Long-term needs will be covered with another grant from LCIF. A collection was taken at the meeting with \$250 collected, and more was coming into the treasure. A motion to donate \$1,000 from the Bluffton Lions administrative fund for the disaster was approved by those attending the meeting. If any lion cares to donate to the disaster, contact Lion Ed Yeager.

Other items covered was the Pancake/Sausage Breakfast for April 20th, Citizen of the Year on April 11th and roadside cleanup.

Two members shared their passions. Lion Mitch Kingsley has been carving wooden pieces. Ask him about it, quite unique and interesting. Lion Dennis Morrison shared his passion of metal detecting. He is known as "ringfinger", as he has found lost rings for many local persons. Photos below.



Lion Mitch Kingsley



Lion Dennis Morrison



90th CHARTER NIGHT:



The Bluffton Lions Club celebrated their 90th Charter Night on March 5th at the First Mennonite Church in Bluffton. International Director Ron Keller, as seen above left with wife Kitty, was our speaker. Lion Dick Boehr, our longest member, opened the meeting. Speakers from the club also consisted of VP Greg Denecker, VP John Rich, VP Gene Long and PDG Barbara Plaughter, as seen in photo on right lower. Bluffton Mayor Rich Johnson presented an official proclamation declaring the Bluffton Lions Club 90th anniversary would be celebrated throughout the year. Photo top right- Mayor Johnson and wife with VP Greg Denecker. There were numerous other guests from Ohio Lions Clubs assisting with the program -PDG Jeff Hatfield, PDG Dan Ritter and CC PDG Dave Stockum. The community provided wonderful door prizes that were solicited by Lions Jackie Bourassa, Tracy Steele and Dick Boehr. Piano music was provided during the celebration. The meal was served by Henry's of Ottawa. The Bluffton Club currently has 52 members and meets twice monthly at the Town Hall. The club is currently looking at establishing a LEO Club and is always open for new members. Projects coming up are – Festival of Wheels, Scholarships, Pancake/Sausage Breakfast, Citizen of the Year and we continue our 50/50 Charity Raffle throughout the year. The Bluffton Lions along with the village continue with the Pathway Project circling the village. One pathway is currently being constructed on County Line Rd #15.