



OH 1 Lions



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January 2021 Edition

AM I THE BEST LION I CAN BE?

We have entered 2021! Many are so glad to see the end of 2020. Unfortunately, we still have the same problems and concerns. Clubs are still not meeting and my visitations are still in limbo. I'm trying to stay in touch with the District through email and zoom when possible. I am also trying to keep all of our clubs compliant with the IRS and OAG with the yearly filings. I have all of the clubs' chevron awards ready. My hope was to personally visit clubs with fifty years or more, but that's not working out either.



On January 2, 2021, our District, State and all Lions lost a longtime member PDG Donald Wittwer of Wapakoneta, Ohio. This year PDG Donald received a 60-year chevron. This was his 51st year as a PDG; a feat many of us may never reach. Lion Don was a Lions Lion. Although he spent the last few years in a nursing home, he still tried to remain active. I never was able to meet PDG Don in person. However, we did spend many hours on the phone, both for Lions' business, but mostly general conversation. Lion Don and his family were close friends of the Neil Armstrong family. Since I am a space enthusiast; he told me many stories of driving Neil Armstrong to events in Ohio and the memorabilia he was given by Armstrong. Finally, two years ago, CC Greg Hess sent a letter to all of Ohio PDGs asking to step up and help in leadership and as mentors. PDG Don called and

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asked me to apologize for him since he was no longer able to serve as he had in the past.

We've all joined this Association for one reason or another. So much has changed within our clubs and Association during the forty-four years I've belonged to Lions. Unfortunately, many Lions have lost that drive, that love and/or that energy that we all once had. Yes, all things change over time, but we need to serve our community and humanity in the same manner as we did 25, 50 and even 100 years ago.

The next time you put on your pin or see our Lions logo, think about what each part stands for, then ask yourself; "Am I the best Lion I can be?"

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! 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

Happy New Year, District MD13 OH1 Lions! Perhaps you have made some resolutions for 2021, perhaps you have already broken some. Top trending resolutions have strayed from the classic, "eat healthy" and "get more exercise," to things like, "curate your social media," and "prune your email," as more and more folks go online to counter isolation. But whatever you decide to do, remember LCI's slogan to put "Kindness in Action," and you won't go wrong.

2020 was a year that caught us all by surprise. We were following our plans and dreams as we usually do when a virus changed everything. Some folks became the frontline, fighting the virus in hospitals or staffing the grocery stores, some folks' jobs became so essential that they worked harder than ever, some could work from home, while some lost jobs and are still unemployed. At holiday time, many saw less of a fuss over who would cook the turkey and more simple appreciation of cherished loved ones, while some had to contemplate empty places at the table. Many saw empty shelves in the grocery department for the first time, and many communities saw more need for food assistance even after the shelves filled again.



Through it all Lions served. When Clubs couldn't meet or hold their usual service projects, Lions found new ways to show their kindness through technology, imagination, and dedicated effort. Many Lions stepped up to fill the need for food, delivering meals on wheels and holding food drives. Lions continued to serve with eyeglass collection, recycling, and vision screenings when they could. Clubs reported planting trees, building a wheelchair ramp, writing Christmas thank you notes to teachers, and raising funds selling take out barbeque chicken. Despite the vicissitudes of MyLion we now have the statistics of at least half of the Clubs in the District, so thanks to all for a great effort. In the Lion Year July 2020 to June 2021 that is only half over, the Lions of the District have already reported service to about 42,000 people.

If your New Year's resolution is to learn more about MyLion, please remember that there are Lions who can help, just ask your Zone Chair, a District officer, or even email this Newsletter. Maybe your Resolution could be to ask just one person to join your Lions Club as part of the Tri-State Membership challenge. The next of 2VDG Dave's series of articles on tips to grow membership is in this Newsletter and will be very helpful. Whatever goals you choose for this New Year, just remember that those close to you, your community, and the world need your kindness now more than ever. Let your kindness flow through all your actions this year and you will be a success even if you break your New Year's resolution!

Yours in Lionism,

1VDG Rebecca Dent-Weiss

STATEMENTS FROM 2VDG DAVE STOCKUM

Happy New Year! I am hopeful that we will find our way out of the Covid crisis this year, given the distribution of vaccines, careful attention to the guidelines offered by health professionals, and the grace of God. I hope this newsletter finds all in OH1 in good health and improving spirits. Sadly, in many cases, we find ourselves mourning the loss of those, Lions and not Lions, who have been struck by this deadly virus.

Thank you to the clubs and individual Lions who shared their time for and generosity with those in their communities, families and individuals alike. Certainly, the holidays are one of the times we as Lions look for ways we can make the celebrations better for everyone, especially those less fortunate than ourselves. We Serve.

The tri-state membership challenge continues, but the abatement of the initiation fee ended in December. At a membership forum zoom, International Director Steve Thornton, an OH3 Lion, was asked what the status of that action was, and he said it has been discussed



abating the fee for a longer term, but no decision has been made at this time. Last month I encouraged OH1 clubs to "Ask One," spouses and relatives among them. "Ask One" is basically a local plan. This month I am encouraging clubs to familiarize themselves with the Ohio Plan, a MD-13 approach. This plan is listed as one of the links at the Ohio Lions website, ohiolions.org. It is based on looking at your community and listing all potential Lions, contacting them as potential members, and following up on the initial contacts. Many Ohio clubs have used this plan successfully over the years. It can be repeated as many times as the club is willing to undertake it. The plan is simple if someone in your club (presumably the membership chairperson) is willing to study the plan and organize an Ohio Plan team for your club. I'll outline the international plan, NAMI, in next month's newsletter.

Best wishes for a safe and happy 2021. It is my hope that travel will open up this spring, and I will be able to visit all of the clubs in OH1, Region 2, as well as some of the clubs I haven't met in Region 1.

2VDG Dave Stockum

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Part three of three.

In the previous newsletters I shared the **Monthly Membership Reporting and Service Activities** in this article the PU101.

Reporting newly elected club officers is extremely important to ensure that the new District officers receive the information and material they will need for the coming year particularly the district directory. You may report the new officers using the MyLCI Website and the deadline is May 15, 2021, but you can report your PU101 before the deadline.

For example the Kenton Lions Club start their slate of officers in January and have the third reading by the second meeting in March and report next year officers on MyLion.

If you need my help or have questions, please contact me at wkeller2@columbus.rr.com or phone 567-674-9093 after 4:00 PM.

Yours in Lionism,
PDG Bill Keller



The Bellefontaine Lions provided 30 Christmas gift bags to Campbell Place in Bellefontaine on December 19th. Each resident received bags that included socks, puzzle books, personal care items, Christmas cards and a decorated Christmas cookie.

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.



A Message from PDG Dan Ritter: Please mail all donations for the Northwest Ohio Lions Eye Care Foundation to **PDG Dan Ritter, 4635 Township Road 235, McComb, Ohio 45858** (Address in current district directory is incorrect)

All other contacts, and requests for assistance, should go directly to our Foundation President, PCC Darlene Roll, 1385 Township Road 216, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311-9644. Thank you!

Waynesfield Lions created a 4' by 8' display for the local Library in December. It will be on display through January. The display highlighted club activities in all core project areas as well as local events.



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 January 28, 2021.

Submit your newsletter items to Newsletter Editor Jessica Reichley at newsletter@ohiolionsoh1.org or jlreichley@gmail.com

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