April, 2021

Stronger

OH5 Pride Report

District Governor Jason Gray



Happy Spring! Together Well kind of, I quess it depends on what day you are looking at! The great news is that things are starting to look much brighter. As the flowers start to grow and as we get closer and closer to the end of all the COVID issues, I would encourage you and your clubs to evaluate what you learned from this last year. It was truly an unprecedented time and hopefully we have learned wonderful things about our families, our friends, our communities, and our clubs. We may have learned minor things, such as keeping more updated contact information for members. so they can more easily be contacted when something out of the normal happened. It may be more significant things, such as changing how fundraisers are held. Many clubs in our district where able to hold their fundraisers in new and exciting ways. Can we use those ideas to grow in new ways even when we are back to "normal?" I truly think we can and encourage you to do so. I think that if we look deep enough, we will be able to find lessons from this past year that will allow us to grow our friendships, our clubs and our communities.

Thank you for everything you do!

DG Jason

Check out the attached "Conference Edition" newsletter accompanying this post to learn more about our District OH5 Celebration (May 15, 2021), the MD-13 Statewide Convention (May 22-23, 2021) and the virtual LCI Conference (June 25-29, 2021). We hope you will consider attending all three!!!

Breaking News, Reminders, and Calls For Service

Announcement to Lions Clubs Regarding Pilot Dogs Executive Director Search

As many Ohio Lions know, for over 70 years Pilot Dogs has provided high-quality canine guides to persons in need. Pilot Dogs' current Executive Director Jay Gray has spent years forming a strong foundation for the organization—and enhancing the lives of thousands of individuals in the process.

Now, as Jay looks to his retirement this summer, the organization's Board celebrates his dedicated service (and years of outreach to the Ohio Lions Clubs), and looks forward to building upon his legacy. To that end, the Board has begun the search for



a new Executive Director. A search committee comprised of current and former Board members has been assembled. And Benefactor Group, a Columbus-based firm with a national reputation for nonprofit executive searches, has been retained to facilitate the process.

Selecting the next Executive Director of Pilot Dogs is an important chapter in the history of this beloved organization. The Board is committed to this important task and extends its gratitude to the Lions who have been generous supporters and dedicated volunteers to Pilot Dogs over the past decades. Lions who are interested in the search process, or the position of Executive Director, should visit the Benefactor Group website at http://bit.ly/pilotdogsprofile or contact Ron Guisinger (ron@benefactorgroup.com)

A Reminder from 1VDG Joe Jackson

Many clubs limit their membership by not inviting women; often the reason for not asking spouses to be members is: "one of our members said they will quit the club!" So the dilemma is double the size of your current club or lose a member with no vision. Easy answer, right?

We can also increase club size by looking for members with other interests such as SIERRA Club, Special Olympics, Diversity Issues, and School Programs (LEO Clubs). School groups can also be invited including non-public schools and home schooling families. In addition, there are several Career Centers in OH-5; perhaps a call to a High School Director would be appropriate.

Get Ready to Serve

Happy Easter, folks. Several members of my club have helped in service with the Tri Village club, while the Hilliard club is helping with our Bunny Candy handout. We are The Lions *overall* and think having joint service opportunities with clubs is a good way to aid in arranging service opportunities, especially now with many clubs silent. Need help? Reach Out.

We have clubs, it seems, being silent. Are we reaching out to members to see how we can be of help. With many clubs not having meetings of any kind, can we maybe have a Buddy list to call and check up on members. I would be glad to help.

I am looking forward to the LCI convention. It is affordable to many being virtual and what a time to meld with the world of Llons.

Ben Dawson

District GST Coordinator

"Learn to Roar"

What: "Learn to Roar" club-officer and general Lion training

When: Saturday, June 12th

Time: Classes begin at 10am, 11am, 1pm, and 2pm

Travel: None! It is on ZOOM

Cost: FREE!

Our district's Lions training school will be offered to all Lions for free via Zoom. This is an excellent opportunity for everyone to see the benefits of

Learn secret wisdom

Save-the-Date for the next "Learn to Roar." Club officer and general Lion training will be held Saturday, June 12, 2021.



attending Lion's training without any travel or cost. There will be 12 different classes in total, three different ones scheduled each hour. Therefore, you can pick and choose topics of interest.

Do you know the difference between an efficient meeting and an effective meeting? When do you use MyLion and when do you use MyLCI? What service projects can your members do from home? What is the latest in vision assistance equipment? What is new with the IRS and the duties your officers must perform?

Think how better your club could operate with all this new information. Have all your officers and key Lions participate, learn, and get their questions answered, on June 12th. Look for the class schedule and zoom links, coming soon.

Memorial Tournament May 31-June 6, 2021

Would you like to Volunteer? You don't need to be a Lion to help! We have been asked once again to assist with the Memorial Tournament Litter control.

We need 20 Individuals for Wednesday. 10:00 am to 4 pm. Thursday Lion Kirby Witmer needs 40 Individuals, 20 in am and 20 pm Friday we need 40 Individuals 20 am and 20 pm Saturday PDG Ray Empson needs 40 also 20 in am and 20 pm Sunday PDG Jeff Hatfield needs 40 for 20 am and 20 pm



If you are interested and want to know more contact Captains Jay Gray at jgray@pilotdogs.org
Ray Empson at gempson@juno.com
Jeff Hatfield buckeyeguy5@hotmail.com
Kirby Witmer kirbyw7@outlook.com
Ray Byers rlbyers12@gmail.com

OUR CONTINUING MISSION AS KNIGHTS OF THE BLIND

From the Sight and Hearing Committee

If your club has already made donations to any of the sight and hearing agencies and haven't let us know, please send me an email and let me know your club made a donation, to which organization, and for how much so we can keep our records up to date. Send to pdgjackie@gmail.com.

The Sight & Hearing Foundation is working very hard with the State of Ohio to get them to accept our PlusOptix (preferred by the Foundation) and Spot machines for use in vision screenings in Ohio Schools. Currently, the State only allows the very antiquated manual process of screenings kids in the public schools and/or using the SureSight machine which only screens one eye at a time. The SureSight machines are obsolete and not being manufactured any longer. To that end, OH5 is requesting a club come forward that would be willing to help with a study being conducted through OSU on the benefits of treating far-sighted children at an early age - Kindergarten. This will get us closer to getting the State of Ohio to approve one or both of the PlusOptix and Spot machines. A club is needed that is willing to call schools in Franklin County and find one that is willing to allow us to do vision screenings. Someone from the State of Ohio will join you for the screenings to observe how it's done. You will be using our District PlusOptix screener and using the PASS2 Assessment along with general observation of students for these screenings. I will have Lion Lilane Fox contact whichever club is willing to assist us and provide you will more information re: these screenings. Anything we can do to get the State of Ohio to allow us to use updated technology for screening school children!! Please reach out and contact me ASAP if your club is willing to assist in this study. My email is above and my phone number is 614-530-1861.

Please keep our sight and hearing organizations in mind: Sight & Hearing Committee, Pilot Dogs, VoiceCorps, Newsreel, Paws with a Cause, PBO (Prevent Blindness Ohio), OH5 Eye Care Fund. Please let us know if you have any questions or need any assistance with sight and hearing. If we don't have the answer, we'll find it for you!

Enhanced Vision Has Low Vision Equipment

In this issue of our newsletter, we'd like to introduce Beverly Watkins of Enhanced Vision. Beverly has dedicated over 19+ years of her career to helping individuals with low vision and blindness to remain independent. She provides no-cost consultations determine a person's remaining vision as well as their specific needs and goals. This evaluation process helps narrow down which low vision aids and electronic magnifiers might be the best fit for them. Her extensive background working in the vocational rehabilitation field has given her the necessary experience and understanding that there is no "one size fits all" solution, which is why she offers a very diverse line of low vision adaptive solutions to choose from. Some of these solutions are small and portable, slightly larger than the size of a cell phone, while others may be larger and stationary. Here are just a few of the many ways that these solutions can help: Reading your mail, books, prescriptions, recipes, menus in a restaurant, help with grooming, viewing objects at a distance, seeing loved ones, watching television and performing hobbies.



Ohio Lions Foundation Awards \$3000 Helen Keller Scholarship

We are pleased to inform you that we have selected the recipient of the 2021-2022 Ohio Lions Foundation/Helen Keller scholarship award. One applicant stood out from the rest as being an outstanding student and exhibiting financial need. This year's recipient of \$3,000 is Alex Mitov.

Alex is a freshman, Computer Science major from Bowling Green, OH. He graduated from Bowling Green High School with a 3.895 GPA and also received a Certificate of Completion from the Information Technologies Academy at Penta Career Center. He first attended BGSU in the spring of 2019 as a high school student taking College Credit Plus classes. He was then admitted as a degree-seeking student in the fall of 2020. He currently has a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Alex has Leber's congenital amaurosis which is responsible for his vision loss. He is completely blind with very little light perception. Consequently, he uses academic accommodations to successfully complete his coursework. He is approved for: extended time for exams and quizzes (time-and-a-half) exams in audio format or read aloud, scribe for exams, computer for exams, recording of class lectures and discussion, alternative formatted texts/classroom materials, assistance with completing scantrons, and use of his personal Braille note taker device.

In his free time, Alex enjoys watching Netflix and participating in RallyCap Sports.

Our staff have been impressed by our interactions with Alex. He is very tech savvy and is a wonderful self-advocate. He is an outstanding role model to all of our students with disabilities.

On behalf of BGSU and Accessibility Services, thank you so much for your continued financial support of our students with visual impairments.

From Scholarship Award Winner, Alex Mitov

Dear Ohio Lions Foundation,

I am writing to thank you for the \$3000 worth of scholarship funds that I recently won. I am a first-year student pursuing a B.S. in Computer Science. This funding will be extremely valuable in helping me pay for necessary educational expenses such as tuition, books, and other fees. I intend to use the knowledge I learn along the way to help others wherever and however I can, having a great time as I go. I am very passionate about working with computers, financial literacy, and being a blessing to those around me. A \$3000 investment now will return a great deal of value to the community in the future, and I am grateful and excited to be part of this journey. Again, thank you for funding this scholarship and selecting me as the winner.

OHIO

LIONS

Est. 1985

Sincerely,

Alex Mitov

Voicecorps

Voicecorps reading service provides news and information to people with blindness and other disabilities; presents to local clubs, too.

Voicecorps reading service was established in Columbus, Ohio in 1975 to serve people living with blindness or vision impairment and who have difficulty reading due to chronic disability or medical conditions. Voicecorps audio broadcasts serve to keep listeners informed and aware of daily events, news and information.

The reading service provides special radios that contain its signal at no charge to listeners. One flip of the on button and an individual can hear the latest news read aloud from The Columbus Dispatch, Delaware Gazette, central Ohio weekly neighborhood newspapers and all types of magazines such as Time, Newsweek, Columbus Monthly, TV Guide and other popular periodicals and books. Voicecorps is also available on Amazon Alexa Dot and Echo smart speakers, or streaming from its website.

Voicecorps Ambassadors can present to your Lions Club

Voicecorps enjoys sharing its history and mission with community groups and service clubs by having its team of Voicecorps Ambassadors present at virtual, Zoom meetings during the pandemic. Lions Clubs in central Ohio seeking to invite a Voicecorps Ambassador to present at a virtual club meeting can get on the schedule by contacting Shari Veleba, Voicecorps Marketing Coordinator, at sveleba@voicecorps.org, or by calling Voicecorps and leaving a message at (614) 274-7650 Ext. 17. Voicecorps is currently not sending Ambassadors to in-person meetings, but that will change when COVID-19 conditions improve.

Prior to the pandemic, volunteers completed their reading at Voicecorps studios, located on Columbus' West Side. But during the pandemic, Voicecorps trained its volunteer readers to conduct their "live" and taped readings using technology from the comfort of their own homes.

Help Voicecorps find "the next person in need" by asking yourself and your friends and family, 'Who do you know who needs Voicecorps?" For more information, visit www.voicecorps.org.

READ FOR VOICECORPS... FROM HOME!

"VOICEcorps enriches lives by reading printed news and information to people who are blind, have low vision, or other conditions that prevent reading."

Readers read from local and national publications, live or recorded on days, evenings, and weekends. You can read/record for Voicecorps without leaving home, and it can be done through your smart phone - no fancy equipment needed!

(From Voicecorps site, www.voicecorps.org)

Contact us at **614-274-7650** to set up an interview, to get to know you better. All readers will have an audition so we're sure to get the best voices on the air for our listeners. A few hours a week or a few hours a month? You decide! You'll be matched up with a volunteer job that fits your schedule and your interests.

What a fitting way for Knights of the Blind to provide / as the pandemic =

Audio access to the world



Live the life you want.

2021 Scholarship Program

National Federation of the Blind of Ohio

The National Federation of the Blind of Ohio joyfully announces the opening of our 2021 scholarship program intended to benefit blind college students beginning March 1, 2021. In the fall of 2021 NFBO will offer scholarships to outstanding blind students who currently live in, or are attending college in, the state of Ohio during the 2021-2022 academic school year.

Scholarship winners must attend the entire National Federation of the Blind of Ohio (NFBO) state convention during the month of November and participate in all activities sponsored by the Ohio Association of Blind Students (OABS). In addition, scholarship winners will be required to meet with the Scholarship Committee during the state convention. The 2021 state convention will be held at The Double Tree Columbus – Worthington, November 5-6-7, 2021. Scholarship winners will be notified no later than August 15, 2021. All convention expenses will be provided for each scholarship winner. These expenses include, transportation, hotel accommodations, registration, and banquet fees. For more information on the NFBO state convention, please visit http://www.nfbohio.org.

Applicants do not need to be members of NFBO to apply for these scholarships.

To be eligible for these scholarships, all applicants shall:

- •Be certified as being legally blind.
- •Be a resident of the state of Ohio or be a full-time student at an Ohio college or university.
- •Be pursuing a full-time postsecondary course of study during the 2021-2022 academic school year.
- •Participate in the entire NFBO 2021 state convention and all scheduled OABS activities.
- •Complete all application requirements by Sunday June 20, 2021, no later than 11:59 p.m.

Application materials can be submitted electronically to Jordy D. Stringer jssocil@gmail.com

or students can complete an electronic version by visiting nfbohio.org.

Please make sure all applications are complete. The National Federation of the Blind of Ohio's scholarship committee does not accept responsibility for incomplete applications. Each application will be reviewed by the committee, and candidates will be notified of their awards by e-mail. All decisions made by the scholarship committee are final.

Questions can be directed to:

Jordy D. Stringer, Chairman, Scholarship Committee, National Federation of the Blind of Ohio jssocil@gmail.com

(614) 531-3945

Richard Payne: President, National Federation of the Blind of Ohio

Rchpay7@gmail.com

National Federation of the Blind of Ohio Scholarship Application

Application must be submitted by June 20, 2021.

Name:	Email:			
Date of Birth:	Address:			
Phone Number:	Cumulative GPA:			
Major / Proposed Major:	Institution to be attended in Fall 2021:			
Name of the state officer or chapter president who has interviewed you:				

- Transcripts from all past post-secondary institutions attended through May 31, 2020 or high school transcripts if not yet attending college AND
- Three (3) letters of recommendation:
 - At least one of the first two letters needs to be from someone that can address your academic
 performance and achievements. The third letter should be from a leader of the National
 Federation of the Blind of Ohio. Please visit NFBohio.org or contact President Richard Payne at
 rchpay7@gmail.com or Jordy Stringer Jssocil@gmail.com to find an appropriate interviewer.

List all post-secondary institutions attended and cumulative grade point averages:

List an post-secondary institutions attended and cumulative grade point averages.				
Institution	GPA			
List all academic accomplishments and honors:				

Honor / Accomplishment	Reason for Honor

List all community service activities you have participated in:

Elst all community service activities you have	sartiespacea iii.	
Organization	Community Service Activity	

Please discuss how you learned about this scholarship program:

^{*}Attachments required:

Personal Essay: Limit to 700 words maximum. Please address the following or similar questions: In the following essay, please answer the following questions:

- tell us about yourself.
- How have you dealt with your blindness?
- What are your educational and vocational goals?
- What makes you stand out from the crowd?
- What are your dreams and aspirations?
- What else would you like for us to know about you that is not covered in your application?

OUR CLUBS ARE SPRINGING BACK TO LIFE!!!



Sunbury Lions Club



PO Box 672 Sunbury, Ohio 43074

Serving the Sunbury / Big Walnut Community Since 1938

Marla Evans – President

Jon Gray – 1st Vice President

Gary Clark - Treasurer

Dear Friend of the Sunbury Lions Club,

It is once again time to begin preparations for our **4**th **annual Reverse Raffle** fundraiser. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, we feel it would be in everyone's best interest to hold the event online via Facebook Live instead of meeting in person. This year's event will be held **Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 6:00 PM**. The Sunbury Lions Club appreciates your past support of our club and hope that you will be able to support us again with this year's Reverse Raffle. The purchase of a ticket entitles you a chance to win one of **20 cash prizes totaling \$7,650.00**, with the top prize being **\$5,000.00**. As in previous years, we will limit our ticket sales to 300 tickets. Tickets typically sell out quickly so we encourage you to purchase your tickets early. Prizes may be modified if all tickets are not sold. You do not need to have access to Facebook in order to win.

Tickets for the 2021 Reverse Raffle are available for \$50.00 by returning the enclosed form in the self-addressed envelope. **Tickets purchased before March 24, 2021** are eligible to win one of **three Early Bird tickets** worth **\$50.00** each. After the Early Bird tickets are drawn, those tickets will be returned to the hopper for the regular drawings.

This event is the main fundraiser for our club as it raises fund to support Honor Flight – Columbus, the Ohio Fallen Heroes Memorial in Sunbury, and other organizations in Central Ohio that promote health and well-being for sight related causes including guide dogs for the blind, eye tests and glasses for the less fortunate in the Big Walnut school district, as well as supporting camp sessions for individuals with disabilities and health concerns.

If you supply us with your email address, we will email a list of winners at the end of the event.

The Lions International motto is **WE SERVE**! We ask you to help us serve by participating in our annual Reverse Raffle.

Thank you!

The Sunbury Lions Club

Ticket # Assigned	

Sunbury Lions Club 2021 Reverse Raffle Ticket Order Form April 24, 2021 at 6:00 PM online on Facebook Live

					(number) of Reverse Raffle tickets @ \$50.00
form and the num	nber of .00 Ea	tickets rly Bird	in each nar	ne. Ticket forn	ent names, please print the names on the back of this are received by March 24, 2021 will be eligible to win swill be returned to the hopper to participate in the
PLEASE PRINT	LEGIBI	L Y (If yo	ou go online	to www.sunbu	rylionsclubofohio.org, this form will be a fillable PDF)
Name:					
Address:					
City, ST ZIP:					
Telephone Numb	er:				
Email address: _					
NEW for 2021:					
each). <u>All</u> does not a prizes of \$	five fi agree to 200.00 ng my i	nal tick o split, v o, \$300.0 name, I	ets MUST a we will draw 00, \$400.00 hereby agre	agree to split. v the remaining), \$1,000.00, an ee to split the re	the remaining five prizes (total \$6,900.00 / \$1,380.00 In the event one or more of the remaining five tickets tickets one at a time, and award the remaining five ad \$5,000.00 in that order. The emaining prizes at the end of the drawing. Additional
Signature					
Please return this	form a	long wi	th your payı	ment to any Sui	nbury Lions Club member or mail it to:
Sunbury Lions C c/o Gary Clark 2651 Maple Leaf Centerburg, OH	Ct	everse	Raffle		
Tickets will be ret have any question					ipt of this form and your enclosed check. If you 4) 620-9405.
Club use only: Date Received:	/	1	Cash	Check #	Amount Received:



PROSPECT LIONS



1st Annual Golf Scrambler Fundraiser

SATURDAY, MAY 22, 2021~~KINGS MILL GOLF COURSE WALDO, OHIO

START TIME: 1:00 pm -Tee Times Every 10 Minutes

Golfers Fee \$75
Due at Registration

REGISTRATION DEADLINE MAY 12, 2021



FIRST TEAM AWARD \$50 EACH GIFT CARD

AWARDS INCLUDE:

- ✓ LONGEST DRIVE ~~ Front Nine & Back Nine \$25 each
- ✓ CLOSEST TO PIN ~~ Front Nine & Back Nine \$25 each
- ✓ Longest Putt ~~ Front Nine & Back Nine \$25 each
- ✓ Mulliyan Sale ~~ \$20 per foursome

(FOOD WILL BE SERVED THROUGHOUT THE DAY)



TO REGISTER & RECEIVE YOUR TEE TIME

Contact: LARRY CRAFT ~~ 419-366-6917

<u>LLRCRAFT@GMAIL.COM</u> OR KING MILLS GOLF COURSE

Prospect Lions President Ben O'Dell ~~ 740-360-7015

Benjamin odell@yahoo.com



PROSPECT LIONS CLUB

Serving the Prospect Community Since 1945

On May 22, 2021 the Prospect Lions Club will hold its 1ST Annual Golf for Scholarships Fundraiser at Kings Mill Golf Course in Waldo, to raise funds for Student Scholarships and other non-profit community and state organizations who yearly relay on funding from the Prospect Lions Club to serve those in need.

The Prospect Lions Club for many years has sponsored a multitude of community fundraising events that were cancelled this year due to Covid19 pandemic. Our traditional and successful fundraisers include our summer Saturday morning Hamburger Stand, traditional 4th of July Chicken Barbecue Dinners, Grilled Hamburgers & Hot Dogs, Fresh French Fries, Ice Cream and More. Also, NASCAR Auction & Dinner Event, Light Bulbs & Broom Sale, and other recognized and well attended events throughout the year.

The funds raised each year have generated the revenue needed to support Prospect's 4th of July Fireworks, Halloween Parade, St. Paul's Food Pantry, Prospect Baseball for Youth, needed eye exams, student scholarships, Pilot Dogs Inc., Ohio Lions Eye Bank, Central Ohio Diabetes Association, and many more.

The entry fee is only \$75.00 per golfer and includes a cart, food, and various prizes. Tee times will be scheduled every 10 minutes starting at 1:00pm.

Prospect Lions is asking for your HELP by sponsoring a hole and have your business name place at the hole OR -- by organizing a foursome of your golfing friends to join you in playing as a foursome at \$300.00

We need your SUPPORT and INVOLEMENT to make this fundraiser a Huge Success for the students and Prospect's on-going community family centered events.

Please provide the names of your foursome & contact their information:

	Name	Phone	Address
1.			
2.			
3			
<i>J</i> .			
4.			

Once completed we will contact YOU with YOUR Tee Time!

The Prospect Lions are confident with your support of our NEW Golf Fundraiser we will be able to continue our traditional long-standing community events enjoyed for years by so many families and also have the funds needed to help children, youth, and adults with vision, hearing, and serious health problems.

Thank You for your interest and support. By working and helping each other we can continue to make a difference in the lives of others. If you have any questions -- please do not hesitate to call President Ben or 2nd Vice President Lion Larry.

All the Best and Look Forward to seeing YOU on May 22, 2021 - Kings Mill Golf Course Prospect Lions Ben O'Dell --- Cell # ~~ 740-360-7015

2nd Vice President Lion Larry Craft -- Cell# ~ 419-366-6917