OH5 PRIDE REPORT

DISTRICT GOVERNOR MIKE KEREK | JULY 2023 | LY 23-24



OFFICERS/CONTACT

District Governor | PDG Mike Kerek mjkerek@msn.com

1st VDG | Lion Toni Gray tgray@pilotdogs.org

2nd VDG | Lion Carl Gass carl.gass@yahoo.com

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Cabinet Secretary | Lion Gary Holloway gary.holloway.ohio@gmail.com

Send newsletter articles to: <u>districtOH5news@gmail.com</u> due by the 27th of the month

SAVE THE DATE

USA/CANADA Lions Leadership Forum Reno, Nevada Sept. 21-23, 2023

Cabinet Meeting Lions State Office Building 4074 Hoover Rd, Grove City Aug. 9, 9:30 a.m. Open invite, please RSVP if attending

> Pizza Party Training #1 Marion's Pizza in Tory, OH TBD- Sept. 14 or 28, 6-8 p.m.

> > Pizza Party Training #2 VFW Pleasant, OH Oct. 9, 6-8 p.m.

BE A HERO

DG Mike shares his theme for the year: Be Someone's Hero! <u>p. 2-3</u>

NEW FEATURE

We'll be showcasing a "featured club" each issue of the Pride Report! First up are the Reynoldsburg Lions! <u>p. 8</u>

PEACE POSTER

This year's theme and information. p.4

TRADING POST

Clean out your Lions storage! <u>p. 5</u>

TRIVIA & HUMOR

Introducing more new features- some fun for reading the newsletter! <u>p. 7</u>

DG MIKE KEREK | JULY 2023 | LY 23-24

Fellow OH5 Lions,

First, I want to congratulate and thank DG Debbie Luttrell for a great year! It has given our district a solid foundation to build upon.

I am excited to take on the role of District Governor again. I'm not going to lie, the idea of all the travel again is daunting. But the opportunities to connect with all of you as I make my way around the district completely offsets the hours on the road. I have come to know so many Lions over the years that there is no club where I feel like a stranger. That's a really good feeling. I really appreciate being made to feel welcome anywhere and everywhere.

We will have some serious challenges this year. We HAVE to turn the tide on the membership issue, and that is something only you and your clubs can do. I can, and do, ask people to help at events, come visit meetings, and once they are hooked, ask them to become a member. I've done that successfully 30 times as a Lion. I'm hoping that some of you can get that drive and start pushing.

We HAVE to get more service into some of our clubs. People join a service club to do service. There is no really good reason why your club can't have regular projects – Lion Jane Jarrow has a laundry list of projects that clubs big and small, old and young, sighted and blind, you name it, can do. There are numerous other ideas out on the web, and other clubs will share their ideas as well. YOU have to have the motivation. That's the beginning.

The new Lions Portal is coming, and that will have its own share of challenges. Secretaries, Club Administrators, Treasurers and Presidents will all have a new system to learn.

Compliance remains a perpetual thorn in the side. Like it or not, we have to comply with the laws, and reporting to the IRS, State Attorney General, Secretary of State, Unclaimed Funds, and sales tax are not choices. Whoever in your club is tasked with that job must take it seriously and perform timely to avoid fines. Etc. We can't just be the good guys anymore!

There is a lot that you and your club are responsible for, I know. But we cannot sit back and maintain status quo; the clubs that are doing that are dwindling, aging out, and dying. Your communities need you active and participative. If you are in a club that seems to be heading down that path and you want some help turning things around, ask!

There are several things we are doing a little differently this year. First, in addition to the Learn to Roar, (which was fantastic – kudos to PDG Jackie Miller and the training team, and Tolles was a great place to have the event!) we are also going to be having two "Pizza Parties" as well: one in Troy at Marion's Pizza, (date will either be 9/14 or 9/28, Lion Steve Kaplan is working on firming the date up,) and the other at the VFW in Pleasant on October 9. Both events will have the same format – social around 6pm, start at 6:30 for eating, then at 7pm have several short training sessions (15-20 minutes each) with resources handed out. Done at 8pm. This will give both the West and North sides of the district some training opportunities as well.

Once the MyPortal comes into existence, we will be offering both trainings in various regions and also "curbside service," where we will come to you. I will remain as the District Administrator, so I will be able to assist you in data entry as well, but our zone chairs and others will have training as well to help the clubs. We want to blanket the district with at least the offer of help. (Once we figure it out ourselves. There may be a little lag time for the trainers to be trained.)

We will have a couple of Certified Guiding Lions who will be available to help clubs in trouble. Contrary to anything you may have heard or think, a CGL is NOT a babysitter, nor does he or she come in and take over your club. That person is a resource who has district resources available as well, someone who can offer suggestions that can make a difference. If your club is already having a tough time, it's worth taking a chance. (Based on availability.)

DG MIKE KEREK | JULY 2023 | LY 23-24

PAGE 3

We're trying to improve our communications and timeliness of same, and are looking at various ways of accomplishing a more effective package that anyone, from computer guru to complete novice, can successfully use.

There are several orientation templates for new members on our website already, but I want to develop a "Template for Lions Dummies." (We'll call it something different!) We have to do a better job of orientation to new members. (Perhaps our existing members as well!) You can't sell a product that you don't know, and you can't operate effectively without some basic knowledge, either.

There are a lot of underutilized services available on the district level that could assist your clubs and your communities. I welcome anyone who wants to learn more about the District Cabinet to attend a meeting or two. (RSVPs are required.) Our first Cabinet Meeting is going to be at the Lions State Office Building, at 4074 Hoover Rd, 9:30am on August 19.

I will be working this year with a stellar VDG duo in 1VDG Toni Gray and 2VDG Carl Gass. I am really looking forward to their contributions to our leadership team as we move through this year.

Finally, next year's theme will be, "**Be Someone's Hero.**" I'm not talking about life-altering changes, (though feel free if the mood strikes you!) but to make a difference, even a small one, in another person's day. A meal served, a coat or gloves on a cold day, a smile on a child's face winning a prize in a game. Basically, pay it forward, as often as you can. Make Lions personal.

I was reminded of the importance of that when I was in Marysville at their officer installation the other day. I had a 3rd grader give me the candy bar he won in the club raffle because he felt bad that I didn't win something. Yeah, he put a smile on my face. How could such a selfless act not?

He's going to be a good Lion someday.

Have a great summer, and hope to see you soon!

Be Someone's

HERO

DG Mike

THE 2023-2024 PEACE POSTER CONTEST

"Dare to Dream"

To a young person, a dream isn't just a wish, hope or desire — it's a path, a goal, an ambition. But achieving that dream takes hard work. So this year, we're asking young people to show how they'll turn their dream of a peaceful world into reality.

The 2023-2024 Lions Club International Peace Poster Kit is available to purchase and will allow you to get started early on identifying potential schools/teachers to host the contest. It will also give you or your Peace Poster Chair an opportunity to review and understand the specifics of the contest.

The important date to remember is that the Club winners have to be submitted to District Governor Mike Kerek by November 15th 2023.

To order the kit, search in your browser for - 2023-2024 Lions Club International Peace Poster Kit. It immediately went to the site where I could read about the contest and then to scroll down to order the kit(s). Each kit costs \$11.95. (You can also get the link by clicking here)

Reminder - the contest is open to students who will be 11, 12, or 13 years of age by November 15th, 2023.

Complete instructions and various awards, winners sticker and certificates are included in each kit.



1988-89 " Peace Will Help Us Grow" by Mustapha El Tawokji, 13 years old, Lebanon- Sponsored by Beirut Lions Club

DG MIKE KEREK | JULY 2023 | LY 23-24

PAGE 5

Introducing – OH5 Trading Post!

With this edition of the *Pride Report*, I am excited to introduce what we hope will become a regular feature of our monthly newsletter. Traditionally, a trading post provided an opportunity for folks to come together to exchange goods for services, or for other goods that were needed. Our trading post will provide a different opportunity – *something for*



nothing!!! If your Lions Club is like mine, my guess is that you have leftovers from service projects, or decorations from parties or fundraisers, or procedural guides for projects that could be carried out by others – all stored in "somebody's garage" or scattered through basements in your member's homes. Here's a chance to pass those extras on to other clubs who can put 'em to work – and get them out of YOUR garage!!!

We invite you to offer up all your leftovers for use by other clubs in OH5. We will leave you to figure out how to get the items from/to each club. This space will merely offer up the possibility.



I'll start! The Tri-Village Lions Club has 8 large (make that LARGE!) sandwich board signs that we would be happy to give to another club (or two, or three other clubs – you don't have to take all of them if you don't need them!). The sandwich boards stand 4' high, and the sign board section is 36"x24". They are made of plywood, so they are heavy – which means they are also very sturdy. We used to set them out on the curb areas as folks were approaching an intersection at which we were collecting for White Cane Day. The pictures here show the front and back of the signs (back is blank) and you are free to cover over or repaint with anything you want. We don't want them back!!!

If your club would be interested in having one of more of these sandwich boards, please contact Lion Jane Jarrow at <u>lionjjarrow@gmail.com</u>. They are yours for the asking!!!

We hope others will get in the spirit of things and offer up items from your own club for our Trading Post. You can send information to me, or directly to newsletter editor Christina Beargie.

Lion Jane Jarrow (lionjjarrow@gmail.com)

OH5 Global Service Team Coordinator

Exciting news from LCI!

The "new" CUB program has been announced. This is a piece from their brochure & the CUB Guide: found under "CUB Program" on the LCI website. This special program is designed for kids ages 12 and younger to teach them the joy of volunteering and help them develop a lifelong dedication to helping those in need. Cubs don't need to be related to a Lions member to participate — they just need to be ready to help and have fun.

Cubs are children aged 12 of age or younger who are interested in service and show commitment to a given Lions club. A Cub club can be formed when five or more Cubs are working together with a Lions club. A Cub club may be held responsible for certain tasks at a Lions-planned event or may even plan their own events and hold their own fundraisers. If a Cub club forms, a Lion member should be designated as the contact to the Cubs and reported in MyLCI.

Please contact youth@ohiolions.org if you have any questions. (Please note - we are still working through the Guide and brochure, too!)







Be the first to send the correct answer to the Lions Trivia Question each month and win a \$10 Lions Money prize, to be spent on anything Lions related, from your DG! Please note, these questions will NOT be easy. Send answers to *districtoh5news@gmail.com*

LCIF's first grant in 1973 was for \$5000 for flood relief in South Dakota, but it wasn't the biggest that year. A district received \$26,809 to help with a great need. What country was it in, and what was the need?



The Lions Funnies



July Feature Club: Reynoldsburg Lions

The Reynoldsburg Lions Club jut celebrated 75 years of service to their community, having been chartered in 1948. In addition to the main club, they also have three Club Branches: the Whitehall Area, serving the Whitehall community; Giant Killer Nation, which has a Free Store and provides material needs to families; and Village of Hope, whose focus is emergency relief and support. They enjoy a very close working relationship with the City of Reynoldsburg, which goes back to the inception of the club and continues on today.

Some of the major projects and fundraisers over the years include Turkey Shoots, involvement with the precursor to WWE Wrestling, fed the soldiers of Civil Ward Reenactments, brought the Circus to town, have marshaled the Independence Day Parades for a number of years, auctions, co-produced "Reynoldsburg's Got Talent," and much more. They are one of the co-hosts for the OH5 District "Super Braxton 5K," raising money for pediatric cancer each year, provide warm clothes and necessities for the homeless in their "Care for the Cold" in January, have a community tent in the Tomato Festival, run the Community Easter Egg Hunt, help at 2 different National Night Out sites, are a large part of the Community Halloween Party, participate in the Christmas on the Town, have an annual school supply drive, and are involved in a number of smaller projects as well.



If you would like to be a featured club for the district, submit your club's story to districtOHNews@gmail.com today!



6th Annual Super Braxton

Pediatric Cancer 5K Run/Walk November 4, 2023

100% of net proceeds will go to pediatric cancer causes.

Reynoldsburg HS Summit Campus 8579 Summit Road, Reynoldsburg, OH





YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Braxton Long lost his 3 year battle with cancer on July 24, 2017 at the age of 8 years old. He loved life, was optimistic and kind by nature, and had a smile on his face to the end.



From the free kids race where all children 12 and under win a medal, to princesses and Star Wars Characters, plenty of food, awards and a forgiving but accurate 5K route, this event is perfect for both the competitive runners and families out to walk alike!

Event Schedule 8:00-9:00 Registration (performing arts center) 9:00 Kids Fun Run (FREE) (event start location) 9:30 5K Start

Please note: registration cut-off for shirts is Oct. 15. We cannot guarantee your shirt size will be available after this date.



For more information, forms, or to register, please visit the District OH5 Lions site at district13oh5.org



100% of net proceeds will go to pediatric cancer causes.	6th Annual Super Braxton Pediatric Cancer 5K Run/Walk November 4, 2023 Reynoldsburg HS Summit Campus 8579 Summit Road, Reynoldsburg, OH	STEPS Lions for Pediatric Cancer Research		
7:30-9:00am F	Registration 9:00am Kids Fun Run (FREE)	9:30am 5K		
Registering for (Please Check One):				
I'm register	ing as a regular participant. (Age:)			
I am a former or current pediatric cancer patient, or immediate family member, registering to walk/run.(FREE, but still must register.)				
I'm registering as a Virtual Walker. (Walk on your own time, your own schedule, but you are still supporting the cause.)				
If using this form for multiple participants, please add each additional person in the lines below:				
	Age	Age		
 	Age	Age		
Contact Information	ation:			
Name:	Team Name (if applicable): _			
Address:				
City:	State:	ZC:		
Phone:	Email:			
Shirt(s) needed: Please note: shir	CMCLSMLXL _ t sizes are only guaranteed for participants who register	2XL3XL by October 15.		
Enclosed please (Additional donation	find my payment of: \$ Ck #: ons are appreciated and can be included in the check or mor	ney order.)		

\$30/person, which includes T-Shirt. Early Bird Discount: \$25/person if registered by 10/15/23! Former and current Pediatric Cancer patients and their immediate families are free, but must still register. Make checks payable to **Reynoldsburg Lions Club Charitable Fund** and mail to *Super Braxton Pediatric Cancer Run, c/o Reynoldsburg Lions, P.O. Box 575, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068.* Contact reynlions@outlook.com with questions, or visit district13oh5.org. Hosted by the Reynoldsburg Lions Club & the Reynoldsburg HS Leos Club. Sponsored by District 13 OH5 Lions.



100% of net proceeds will go to pediatric cancer causes.

Super Braxton

Pediatric Cancer 5K Run/Walk

November 4, 2023

Event Sponsor Form





Please Check one of the Options Below:

_____ GOLD \$1000 (list on website with link; sponsor banner at event; PA announcement before/during/after event; promotional materials in packets, name on event shirts)

_____ SILVER \$500 (list on website with link; company name on banner; promotional materials in packets, name on event shirts)

BRONZE \$250 (list on website with link, named on sponsor banner, name on event shirts)

MILE MARKER \$100 (company name on mile markers, similar to golf hole sponsors)

In Kind or Other Amount (we are in need of snacks, water, etc.)

Contact Information:

Name:			
Company Name (if applicable):			
Address:			
City:		_ State:	_ZC:
Phone:	_ Email: _		
Enclosed please find my payment of: \$		_ Ck #:	

This donation is tax deductible. Please check here if you need a letter.

Make checks payable to **Reynoldsburg Lions Club Charitable Fund** and mail to *Super Braxton Pediatric Cancer Run, c/o Reynoldsburg Lions, P.O. Box* 575, *Reynoldsburg, OH* 43068. Contact **reynlions@outlook.com** with questions, or visit **district13oh5.org**. Sponsored by District OH5 Lions. Hosted by the Reynoldsburg Lions Club & the Reynoldsburg HS Leos Club.

FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

What is the Super Braxton Pediatric Cancer 5K Run/Walk?

This is a fun event that allows for competition, opportunities for friends and families to spend quality time together, and give everyone a little exercise, all the while knowing that every person who participates is helping to fight pediatric cancer.

There are seven events available state-wide that will be held this Fall as part of the STEPS Walk program sponsored by the Ohio Lions Pediatric Cancer Foundation, of which this is one of.

Where do the proceeds of the walk/run go?

100% of the net proceeds will go to pediatric cancer causes through two programs. **STEPS: Lions for Pediatric Cancer Research** is a statewide Lions Clubs initiative that focuses on donating to Children's Hospitals across Ohio for the specific purpose of pediatric cancer research. There are six children's hospitals we donate to as a state; in OH5, we concentrate on Nationwide and Dayton. **Run4Ruth** is a Leos program that helps families of pediatric cancer patients.

Are our donations tax deductible?

If you register for a race, no, though you are still providing for a very worthy cause, and we would love to see you! However, if you donate or are an event sponsor, and you donate through the Reynoldsburg Lions Charitable Fund, a 501(c)3, these are tax deductible donations.

What is the schedule?

We will have registration open from 8:00-9:00am. Kids Fun Run (see below, it's free!) will start at 9:00am. The 5K Run/Walk will start at 9:30am.

Who are the Ohio Lions?

We invite you to visit our "About Us" are, and even better, check out the Ohio Lions website at http://www.ohiolions.org/ for additional information. Lions Clubs are 100% volunteer, with a motto of "We Serve" that has lasted for 100 years.

Do I need to be some great athlete to participate?

Absolutely not. The 5K walk/run is all about having exercise and fun with the family, friends, or total strangers. There will be some who are a little more competitive, and we'll let them start out up front, but you can jog, walk, trot or roll (as in wheelchairs, strollers, etc – no bikes!) through the course.

Is this a professional level event? Is it USATF certified?

No, and we aren't pretending to be, either. While we will operate as professionally as we can, please don't come anticipating elaborate gimmicks or costly hooks to draw in the public. After much discussion, it was decided that we wanted to put as much money as possible toward the cause that we feel very strongly about – pediatric cancer research and assistance. We are volunteers who happen to

believe that the general public can enjoy themselves, exercising and enjoying fellowship together, knowing they are making a difference at the same time, and can do so without the glitz and glamour, all of which eats up money.

Are there age limits?

Nope. This is a family friendly event. Anyone who can walk, run or roll through the course is welcome. Strollers, wheelchairs, and service dogs are all allowed. Competitive runners will be lined up at the front for safety reasons.

When is the deadline for registration?

Online registration will end <u>one week prior</u>. However, to get an event shirt in your size guaranteed (which will be available to be picked up at check-in) you <u>must</u> register no later than October 15, either through mail or online. You can register on race day as well, but there will not be a shirt available guaranteed in your size. All registrants will be provided with water, snacks, and other items.

What do I need to bring?

If you registered on-line, we ask for you to bring your ID. All participants are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing suitable to the weather conditions. Please also bring any PPE (i.e. masks) that Ohio Law requires at the time of the event.

When should I arrive?

If you are already registered, please be present at least 30 minutes prior to the race to allow for time to check in. If you are registering same day, please arrive an hour before the race to ensure we can get everyone taken care of prior to the starting gun.

Are pets allowed?

Other than service animals, we cannot have any four legged friends joining you that day. Sorry! All service animals are welcome provided they are clearly identifiable as such. (i.e. harnesses, covers, etc.)

If you do have a service animal, please notify the volunteers at check-in.

Can I just come and cheer on the walkers?

Absolutely! Love to have you out there.

What happens if there is bad weather?

Unless you are a wicked witch, you won't melt. Obviously, if there is seriously inclement weather, such as thundershowers or tornadoes, we won't be walking...or running. Check your area's weather. Our website, **district13oh5.org**, will announce any changes to schedules on the day of each event.

I like to "jam" when I walk. Can I bring my radio with me?

If you have ear buds, feel free to bring your phone, ipad, ipod, walkman, or boom box. Listen to country, jazz, rap, rock, or whatever you are into. If you do NOT have ear buds, please leave the sound off. Not everyone has your taste in music.

Along those lines...for the safety of those around you, please do not text and walk. Seriously. If you feel the burning need to text, "pull over" to the side. Too many people, too many chances for collisions. While it might not be a traffic accident, it can still hurt!

What is the policy on tobacco products?

Summit High School is a tobacco free zone. In keeping with school policy, we ask that those products stay in your vehicles.

I can't attend, but I really want to participate. Is there a way?

As a matter of fact, there is! We have a category called **"Virtual Walkers."** If you can't make it to the real thing, we offer you the chance to register anyway as a walker. Whether you live two hours or two time zones away, ANYONE can be a virtual walker. You can do the walk according to your own schedule and know you made a difference!

What is the cost of the event?

\$25/person is the registration fee for walkers/runners for Early Bird registration prior to October 15. \$30/person from October 15 to day of the event. \$15/walker 6-8 years old. Children 5 and under are free, but no shirt. Note: Pediatric cancer patients and immediate family members are free, including immediate family members of children who have lost the battle, but **they must register by paper registration that is mailed in or given to one of the Reynoldsburg Lions** – there is no option on-line available.

How can my kids participate?

Any child may participate in the 5K, and the registration form goes over the rates. However, we also acknowledge that younger children may have a tough time with a 5K.

You may have to have someone watch your young child while you run in the main event, (they can cheer you along!) but we also want them to have a chance to show support...so we will have a much shorter "run" for them before the 5K begins so they can be a part of the festivities for the day. Any child 8 and younger (or thereabouts) who wants to get into the "Fun Run" simply has to be at the starting area at 9:00am. This is free for all kids who want to participate.

How can I volunteer?

If you are an Ohio Lion, contact your district governor. All others can email us through the address provided on the website and we will point you in the right direction.

Even if you do volunteer, all donations are welcome and appreciated!

What is the refund policy?

There will be no refunds for this race.

- Entries are non-transferable.
- Race Management reserves the right to cancel or modify the event due to unfavorable conditions.
- Registration fees are not refundable in the event of cancellation due to "Acts of God."

In the event of a cancellation, people who registered on-line and ordered a shirt will still be able to get the shirt. Details will be posted on the website at **district13oh5.org** as to when and how.

What if I need help during the event?

Volunteers will be clearly identified, and you are welcome to ask any of them for assistance. Our goal is to make this a successful experience for all!

How are you protecting against COVID?

Anyone who is not feeling well the day of the race, or is not comfortable with being around other people at this time, is asked to stay away from the event – please consider registering as a virtual walker! We will follow any and all applicable local, state and federal mandates at the time of the event. Please note that if you are more comfortable wearing a mask, please provide your own; but unless there is a mandate in place, we will not be requiring them.

What if I have a super cool question that is not listed here?

Email us and ask away! We'll respond as quickly as we can. If it's "super cool" enough, we might even add it to the list!

An Old-Fashioned Pancake Breakfast!!! With the Tri-Village Lions Club Saturday, July 22, 2023

GREAT

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM Grandview Heights High School Building 1587 3rd Ave., Columbus, 43212 **\$8/person, \$4/Children 5-12** (Children Under 5 eat FREE)





FOOD! PANCAKES, SAUSAGE, EGGS, COFFEE, TEA, MILK, JUICE

A SILENT AUCTION AND SOME <u>AMAZING</u> RAFFLE BASKETS



If you can't join us on July 22nd, perhaps you would like to make it possible for <u>others</u> to eat that day. See next page!!! The Tri-Village Lions Club is determined to focus on issues of Hunger in our community this year. As a first step, we are reaching out to the support the families who rely on the Heart-to Heart Food Pantry, here in the Tri-Village Area. We would like to offer them the opportunity to share in an old-fashioned Lions pancake breakfast – and you can help!!!



Our annual pancake breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, July 22. Tickets are \$8/adult, \$4/children 5-12. We invite the Lions of OH5 to help send hungry families from the Heart-to-Heart Pantry to the breakfast. A donation of \$20 will buy tickets for two adults and one child (or one adult and 3 kids!). *AND*... THE TRI-VILLAGE LIONS CLUB WILL MATCH YOUR DONATION. Won't you help us show some Lions' hospitality to hungry families in the Tri-Village area?!?

Send your check for \$20 (made out to the Tri-Village Lions Club) to: Lion Jane Jarrow 2938 Northwest Blvd Columbus, OH 43221, OR... contact Lion Jane Jarrow at <u>lionjjarrow@gmail.com</u> NO LATER THAN July 7th and let her know "the check is in the mail!