



THE LIONS CLAUSE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE

COLUMBUS NORTHEAST LIONS CLUB

Volume 59 Issue 11

June 2009

Editors: John & Martha Strahan

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 16 Installation Meeting, Monaco's
6:30 p.m.
June 26, June 27 Special Olympics at
The Ohio State University

MISSION STATEMENT OF LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL

To empower volunteers to serve their
communities, meet Humanitarian needs,
encourage peace and promote
international understanding through
Lions Clubs

LION RICK SAYS:

My year (and a half) as your president is almost over. It's been a good Lion's year. Our projects were successful and we were able to serve a lot of people. I couldn't have done it without a lot of help from a lot of people. I thank you all and a big thanks to Lion John for publishing our newsletter.

I wish Lion Mark success in the coming year and pledge him my support, as I am sure all of you will.

Last, I encourage all of you to participate in our Special Olympics project. This is a time when we give something of ourselves to others. If you

haven't signed up to work, you can still do it at the Installation Dinner.

Lion Rick

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 15 Tom Echart
June 28 Donna Kellogg

JUNE PROGRAMS

June 16 Installation
**(This is the only meeting
this month.)**

INSTALLATION MEETING

The Installation of officers for the 2009-2010 year will take place at the June 16 meeting at Monaco's. The menu for the meal will be flank steak, redskin potatoes, vegetable medley, salad and dessert. It is possible to have a breast of chicken if you don't like steak. The cost of the meal is \$20 per person but this is the only meeting we are having in June.

Lion Bill Riggs of the Westerville Lions Club will serve as the installing officer.

During the coming week, Lion Van will be calling each of us to check on our attendance, whether we are bringing guests and whether we want steak or chicken.

EYESIGHT COMMITTEE MEETS

The EYESIGHT Committee met at the office of Chairman, Lion Dave Atkin on Saturday, May 23. He reviewed the schedule for the project and urged the sale of ads. The deadline for the ad sales is August 25. The deadline for articles to Lion John is August 10. Proof reading of the paper is scheduled for September 1 and the sale of the paper at our designated sites is September 18 & 19.

One of the suggestions made at the meeting to promote our Lions Club and the newspaper was to meet with Northland Area Business Association..

LION RALPH STACY

Ed. Note: In the past several issues of the CLAUSE we have met and learned something of our new Lions. It was suggested that the new Lions might like to know something about our senior Lions. I agree. So here is Past District Governor Lion Ralph Stacy giving his story.

I was born in a log cabin on a dairy farm about 2 miles northeast of a little town known as Old Fort in the northern part of Seneca County. My first two years of life I milked and spread manure. The farm was in Seneca County adjoining Sandusky County on what used to be State Route 53.

I lived in the Old Fort School District and attend this school the twelve years, graduating in 1939. While in school I participated in 4-H, Vocational Agriculture, Future Farmers of America and sports (Basketball, Baseball and Track).

Upon graduation from high school the Superintendent told me "if I

didn't go to college, he would kick my ass." My folks didn't have money for me to go to college.

I enrolled at OSU and received a \$200 Sears scholarship. That and working at various jobs took care of most of my college expenses. At that time all men students had to take R.O.T.C. first two years.

With the world situation being what it was at that time I decided to continue the R.O.T.C. the additional two years with the possibility of becoming an officer upon graduation. Upon the ending of the graduation ceremonies, we went down to the train station. We boarded a train for Fort Sill, Oklahoma for Officer Candidate School.

After 12 weeks we graduated and were made 2nd Lieutenants (12 week wonders). Following that I spent four weeks in a survey officer training course (I never had a math course in College). Then I spent a short time in an odometer training program. Following this I was assigned to the 99th Division Artillery as an assistant S-2, which was located at that time in Mississippi.

Very soon after I joined the 99th, the Division moved to Camp Maxey, Texas. I was an Aide-de-Camp to General Black, and he wanted his Aides to be married. (Since I did not drink, I became the "designated driver" for him.)

In June of 1944 I was able to get a seven day leave. I returned to Columbus and Alice and I were married on June 4, 1944.....2 days before D-Day battle. We had met and dated while we attended OSU.

The Division trained at Camp Maxey until September 1944, when orders were received to go to the European Theater. While traveling from Camp Maxey to Camp Mile Standish on the Nickel Plate Rail Road I looked the

train window and saw the silo of my home, about ½ miles from the train.

While stationed at Camp Miles Standish, I had leave to visit Boston before going to the ETO.. Since Alice's brother was attending Radar School at M.I.T. in Boston, I thought it would be an opportunity to say "hi." While walking toward his place I ran into both her brothers (her older brother John was on leave, having come back from Navy assignment in Brazil and on assignment to the Pacific Theater of Operations.) . Of course, no one was to know where our unit was going, but her brothers called Alice and told her "they had run into me." Her first question, "Did you hurt him?"

We embarked our ship at night and sailed from Boston to South Hampton, England. The 99th left South Hampton for Le Havre, the unit I was in was put on an LCT. The North Sea was too rough and we sat in the Harbor for one week.. We were finally put on an LST to Le Havre. Upon arrival in Le Havre we loaded into vehicles and drove direct to the front line to join our unit. This happened just before the Battle of the Bulge. We struggled through the Bulge.

When the war ended I volunteered for Military Government, spent some time in Military Government Headquarters in Munich. Also spent time in a small town, Miesbach in Bavaria. When I got enough points I returned to the good old USA and was discharged in November 1946.

Upon returning I accepted a job on a Dairy Farm which lasted a year. Next came a year as a Veteran's Agricultural Instructor. Next was three years as a Vocational Agriculture

Instructor at the Scipio-Republic High School.

During this period we purchased a 160 acre farm and started a farming operation. After struggling at farming for a few years, in 1956 I was offered and accepted a job with the United States Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration (FmHA). My first assignment was as a County Supervisor for five counties and the assignment was increased to seven counties. In 1964 I was transferred into the FmHA State Office in Columbus as a Farm Loan Officer. I later served as Chief of Farmer Programs. I served in this position until I retired in April, 1984.

I joined the Tiffin Lions Club in 1960. When we moved to Columbus in 1964 I transferred to the Columbus Northeast Lions Club. I have remained active during this period, serving on the Board of Directors, Club President twice and as Lions District 13-F Governor in 1989 -1990.

In 1992 the year of AmeriFlora at Franklin Park a lot of effort went into raising funds and developing a Sensory Garden. Following AmeriFlora the Sensory Garden was moved and expanded 5 times at the Ohio State School for the Blind (OSSB).

Alice and I were married in Columbus, Ohio on June 4, 1944. We have five children. The two oldest daughters, Judy and Jean both have disabling health problems and are in Nursing Homes. Our oldest son, John is employed and lives in Houston, Texas. Our second son, Michael is a self employed architect living in Columbus. Our youngest daughter, Donna works as an interior designer for the University of Cincinnati Hospital.

The three older children graduated from OSU and the two

younger graduated from the University of Cincinnati. We have 12 grand children, four of which are public school teacher, one is the editor of the FAMILY TREE MAGAZINE, two are still in college, the remainder being employed in various jobs.

My retirement years provided an opportunity to serve and help in the Lions Club, Church and Community. It has been a real joy.

Ralph Stacy

MAY 12 MEETING

The program for the evening consisted of reports from the latest projects of the club. Lion Kirk reported the White Cane Sale netted over \$1200. Lion Linda reported that 265 dozen roses were sold. Lions Eileen and Sal reported on plans for the Memorial Tournament and Lion Dave had materials for the newspaper sale.

Lion Ray reported that with the help of several youth he picked up 900 pair of good sun glasses. Several pairs were auctioned to members for \$25.

MAY BOARD MEETING

Reports were received from the White Cane and Rose Committees. The profit on the rose sale was \$1846. Lion Kirk reported that he had 400 Navy tee shirts and some shorts for give-a-ways at the Special Olympics.

Nine members were in attendance at the State Convention.

Lion Kirk suggested that the club give a pair of sun glasses to each of the Ohio School for the Blind band members to wear when they perform in the Rose Bowl Parade. OSSB Superintendent, Lion Lou was very pleased with this offer.

Lion PDG Ralph made some suggestions for service projects that the club might consider for the future.

MAY 26 MEETING

District 13F Governor, Lion Bob Stagger attended the meeting. After a few short remarks he presented special awards to Lions Van and Ray. Lion Van received an International Certificate of Commendation for his work on club extension. Lion PDG Ray received the International Leadership Award. Gov. Bob said that this was the 3rd highest award a Lion could receive from International. CONGRATULATIONS LIONS!!!

Lions Van and Dave presented a short skit on the correct way to sell ads for the newspaper. All members are urged to start selling ads NOW.

COMMUNICATIONS

Some time ago, Secretary, Lion Ray received a letter of thanks from Eagle Scout candidate Devin Wycoff for the club's donation toward his Eagle Scout project, park benches.

INTERNATIONAL

The International Convention is the association's premier event for all worldwide members. This year, it will be held July 6, 2009, to July 10, 2009 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. We have planned a great five-day event, including a concert by the Beach Boys, a gala "Hero Awards Dinner", and a keynote address from former U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell.

