



Mechanicsburg Lions “Roar”

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Our Motto: “One Club, One family, One goal” – Service

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Congratulations to Lion Lana on a Very Special Honor!

By Lion Vicki Alfieri



The Mechanicsburg Lions Club is proud to congratulate **Lion Lana** on receiving the **Lifetime Achievement Award from the Lions International Trading Pin Club (LITPC)**—an honor reserved for members who have demonstrated exemplary service to the organization throughout their lifetime.

The LITPC was established in 1973 and has become an important part of Lions fellowship and tradition around the world. While the club has grown tremendously over the years, its recognition programs remain very selective. Since the Lifetime Achievement Award was established in 2006, only seven members have received this prestigious honor and Lana is the first female to ever receive this award.

Lana was inducted into the LITPC Hall of Fame in 2019, and this year she was

selected for the Lifetime Achievement Award. The nomination was submitted by the award committee chairman, with the final selection made by the six current members of the Lifetime Achievement group.

Lana’s dedication to LITPC is truly remarkable. She served as LITPC Secretary for 20 years and as Secretary of the Scholarship Committee for 10 years. After taking a year away from the Scholarship Committee, she has once again volunteered to serve as its Secretary beginning July 1, 2026.

Even more special, Lana had no idea the award was being considered. She was completely surprised when her name was announced at the annual LITPC meeting in Hebron, Kentucky.

Congratulations, Lana! Your years of service, dedication and commitment to Lions are an inspiration. We are proud to have you as a member of our Lions family and are thrilled to celebrate this very well-deserved honor with you!

District Governor Visit – September 1st

We are excited to welcome our new District Governor, **Lion Patti Wurzbacher**, to our September 1st meeting! Joining her will be her husband, **Lion Wayne**, **2nd Vice District Governor Lion Ron Garman**, and his mother, **Lion Hazel**.

Having these District 14-C officers visit our club is a special honor! The District Governor visits each club during their one-year term to share news and updates from our three-county district and Lions International.

Let’s give them a warm Mechanicsburg Lions welcome! We hope to see as many members as possible on September 1st!



LION’S SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sept 15	Wayne DeFonzo
Sept 29	Paula Hunt Zizzi

SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

Candy Brockmole	1 year
Dean Brockmole	1 year
Mike Fenicle	18 years
Linda Willis	31 years



Message from Club President Patti Clark

As the summer season comes to an end, I'd wish to thank all who contributed to the success of our summer events. The York Fair, Community Day, National Night Out, One80 Ministries, Operation Wildcat, and the Sunday Market were all successful due to your dedicated support.

We anticipate a busy autumn with several upcoming events, including The American Red Cross Blood Drive, Boscov's Friends Helping Friends, Harvest Day, Pink Hands of Hope, Mission Central, and the Community Aid Coat Drive. This is only a portion of our planned activities, as an entire list would exceed the available space. The Lions of Mechanicsburg are in full swing of community service, truly embodying our motto, "We Serve." I am immensely proud to be a member of this organization.

Our yearly picnic is September 13th at Pleasant View Park. If at all possible, I'd love for you to come. This is a great opportunity to connect, get to know one another better and welcome our newer members. The more we know one another, the stronger our club becomes.

I'm looking forward to serving with you in the coming months.

Lion's Picnic in the Park

Date: Sunday, September 13, 2026

Place: Pleasant View Park

Time: 1:00 - 5:00 pm

Hamburgers, Hotdogs and Chicken
will be provided.

Needed: Grills, Sides (Mac & Cheese, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Pasta Salad & Coleslaw), Buns, Desserts and Drinks

**Sign-Up at our September 1 meeting or
contact JoAnn Webber or Kathi Burkhart**



Featured Lion of the Month – by Lion Patti Clark

Vicki Alfieri was born and raised in Cumberland, Md, and graduated from Frostburg State University. After college, she began her career in banking. In 1998, her job relocated her to the Harrisburg, PA area. She eventually moved from banking into the healthcare actuarial field and spent many years with Conrad Siegel Actuaries. She retired in 2021, and retirement gave her the opportunity to do something she had always wanted to do—spend more of her time volunteering and giving back to the community. The same year she retired, Vicki became a Lion. Five years later, she can honestly say that becoming a Lion has been

one of the most rewarding parts of her retirement. She enjoys being part of a group of people who care about their community and are willing to roll up their sleeves and get things done.

Vicki's passion for volunteering actually started several years earlier. In 2015, she began volunteering with Susquehanna Service Dogs (SSD) when her stepdaughter attended their summer camp. They started out as puppy sitters, but within the first month, they found themselves raising their first puppy! Today, they are raising SSD Esther, their sixth dog. Her involvement with SSD has grown over the years. In addition to Puppy Raising and Puppy Sitting, she serves as the Regional Coordinator for the Mechanicsburg, Carlisle, and York areas. She also helps with Whelping and Partner Retesting. If it involves organizing, dogs, or helping people, there's a pretty good chance Vicki will enjoy it!

For Vicki, serving her community means giving her time, talents, and heart to make a difference in the lives of others. It doesn't always mean doing something big. Sometimes it's volunteering at an event, helping someone who needs a hand, supporting a local organization, or simply being there when someone needs you. She feels this is what also makes the Lions Club special. It brings together service, friendship, and heart. Members come together to make a real difference in the lives of people in their community. Along the way, they have fun, build friendships, and support one another.

Her advice for someone who is considering joining the Lions Club is simple: come see what they're all about. They are a group of people who genuinely care about their community, enjoy spending time together, and are always looking for ways to make a difference. You don't have to know everything or be able to participate in everything. Everyone contributes in different ways, and every contribution matters. You'll make new friends, have some fun, and most importantly, you'll know that your time and efforts are helping others.

September and October 2026 Events

S	1	Regular Meeting: District Governor Patti Wurzbacher Visit
E		
P	1 & 15	Community Aid coat drive
T	6	Sunday Market
E	13	Fall Picnic Pleasant View Park 1:00 -5:00
M	15	Business Meeting
B	19	Legends Car Show
E		
R	28	Pink Hands of Hope Service Project

O	6	Regular Meeting: Guest Speaker: Nina Evans – Wreaths Across America
C	9	Regular Meeting
T	13	Halloween Parade
O	17	Streets of Treats & White Cane Day
B	20	Business Meeting
E	21	Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Fundraising event
R		
	23 & 24	Operation Wildcat Yard Sale
	25	Breakthrough T1D Walk

Weed Angels Descend on Pink Hands of Hope

By Lion Karen McKendry

On Thursday, July 30, three hardworking "**Weed Angels**" descended on Pink Hands of Hope with one mission: reclaim the front entrance and parking lot from the jungle of stubborn weeds!

Armed with gloves, determination, and plenty of elbow grease, the angels worked their magic, filling nearly **three large construction bags** with weeds and sending them off to "weed heaven."

The transformation was remarkable! Deb at Pink Hands of Hope was thrilled to see the storefront looking fresh, clean, and welcoming once again.

A big round of applause to our Lions Club volunteers for continuing to make a positive difference and helping keep Mechanicsburg beautiful—one project at a time. Thank you for another job well done!



Before



After



Community Day

By Lion Patti Clark

Community Day in the Park in Mechanicsburg is an annual family festival with live music, food trucks, local craft vendors, and a kids' zone. The Downtown Mechanicsburg Partnership hosts it, and the Lions Club of Mechanicsburg always helps out in the Kids Zone, and this year was no different. Several of our Lions were there to make sure kids could enjoy the inflatable slide and obstacle course.

We were short-staffed in the afternoon, so what did our Lions do? They worked a double shift to keep things running smoothly. We don't just help our community; we step in and help each other.



Lion Shirt Orders

Lion shirt orders will be taken at the next few club meetings.

Please note: We will **not** have sample shirts available to try on. The shirts run **true to size**, so you should feel comfortable ordering your usual size. Not sure what size to order? Here's a fun way to get to know your fellow Lions—ask someone who looks to be about your size what they ordered! (Just be sure to keep it lighthearted!)

If you have any questions, see **Diane Hartzell or Jill Paukert**.

Pill Bottle Donating/Recycling

By Lion JoAnn Webber

I wanted to thank all the Mechanicsburg Lions Club members for your participation in donating / recycling pill bottles. The "pill bottle collection" service project began earlier this year and we provided 918 bottles to Matthew 25 Mission in Ohio. These pill bottles will be included in their future health care packages earmarked for needy communities. Your donation fulfills the dual needs of improving medical care in developing countries and caring for our environment. A heartfelt thanks for your participation!



Lions Roar at the York Fair!

By Lion Karen McKendry

Another York Fair is in the books, and once again the Mechanicsburg Lions had a fantastic time lending a helping hand!

Working alongside fellow Lions from clubs across our district, our volunteers greeted fairgoers with scanners in hand, helping keep the entrance lines moving and making sure everyone got off to a great start. A brand-new ticket scanning system kept us on our toes with a few technical hiccups, but our Lions met the challenge with smiles, patience, and teamwork.

In all, **17 Lions and 3 family members** volunteered their time scanning tickets, handing out fair brochures, and welcoming thousands of visitors. Most of us enjoyed beautiful weather throughout our shifts...although a couple of our volunteers received an unexpected "refreshing shower!" Thankfully, everyone kept their spirits high, proving that a little rain can't dampen Lion pride.

Beyond the fun and fellowship, our time at the York Fair also benefits our club. Because this project does not collect funds directly from the public for fund raising, we had chosen to have the proceeds go directly into our **administrative fund**, helping support the operation of our club.

A huge **thank you** to everyone who volunteered and represented the Mechanicsburg Lions so well. Your dedication, teamwork, and willingness to serve made this year's York Fair another roaring success!



Bosco's Friends Helping Friends

By Lion Mike Clark



The Bosco's Friends Helping Friends event is scheduled for October 21st. I will distribute the coupons at our September meeting, and we will be present in the store on the day of the event. We will be scheduling additional in-store sale days shortly.

Last year, we exceeded our fundraising goal, generating over \$1900 for Beacon Lodge.

Your assistance in maximizing coupon sales is highly valued and appreciated.

National Night Out

National Night Out 2026 was held on Tuesday, August 4. This annual community engagement initiative fosters collaboration between law enforcement and local residents, strengthens neighborhood bonds, and enhances community safety through various family-oriented events, including block parties, barbecues, and safety demonstrations.

Our Lions volunteers provided vision screenings at two locations: Soldiers & Sailors Park in Mechanicsburg and Stony Ridge Park in Silver Spring. We conducted 14 vision screenings at Silver Spring, resulting in no referrals, and 21 screenings in Mechanicsburg, with one referral. Numerous children participated in a raffle to win Police Dog or Fireman Bear stuffing kits.



Lions Bring Fun, Food and Friendly Competition to One80 Ministries Game Night

By Lion Karen McKendry

It was another fun-filled evening for the Mechanicsburg Lions Club as club members teamed up with One80 Ministries for a lively Game Night! Game Night's mission is simple but important: provide a safe, welcoming place where people in the community can gather, enjoy a light meal, play games, and—most importantly—enjoy good companionship.

The Lions kicked off the evening by serving up hearty meatball subs, chips, and delicious root beer floats. With full tummies and plenty of energy, everyone was ready for some friendly competition! The evening's theme was **"Minute to Win It,"** featuring a variety of fun and challenging games, including putting, Skee-Ball, "Pull It," ping-pong-ball tic-tac-toe, and several other games that had participants laughing, cheering, and giving it their best shot. The smiles and appreciation from those who attended made it clear that the evening was about much more than games and food. It was about friendship, fellowship, and creating a welcoming community where everyone can feel included.

A big thank-you to everyone who helped make the evening such a success! We're already looking forward to the next Game Night!



Lions Step Up to Support Community Aid!

By Lion Karen McKendry

August 8 was a busy—and very rewarding—day for our fellow Lions who volunteered at the Community Aid Sale! The store and parking lot was packed with shoppers looking for “Back to School” clothing and other great finds. Our Lions were right in the middle of the action. They helped bag purchases for cashiers as checkout lines stretched around the store, straightened merchandise, and assisted shoppers by answering questions and lending a helping hand wherever needed. The experience was a positive one, with Lions sharing comments such as:

“It was great helping a great organization who helps so many people.”

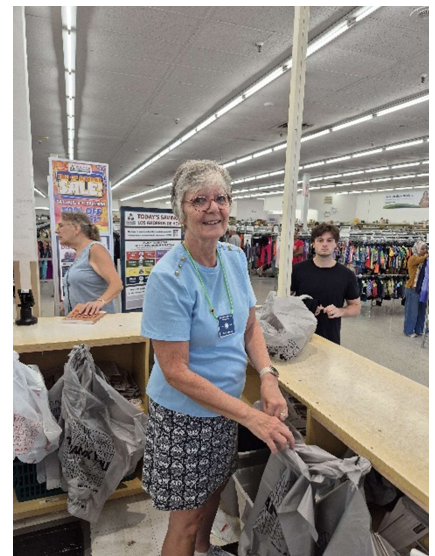
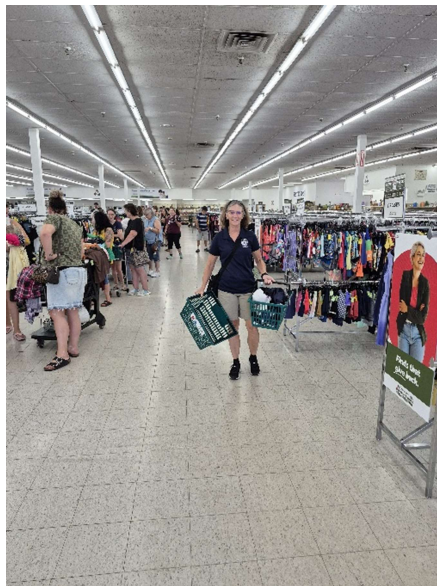
“Although tiring, I’m glad I helped there.”

“We were frequently thanked for helping there.”

And perhaps the most memorable: **“We got our steps in!”**

As a partner with Community Aid, our club is invited to assist with one of their store events each year. Based on the enthusiastic feedback from our volunteers, this was a wonderful service opportunity—and a great way for our Lions to strengthen our partnership with an organization that does so much for our community.

Thank you to all of our Lions who volunteered and represented our club so well! Your time, energy, and positive spirit made a difference.



Lions in Action: Help Make a Difference at New Hope Ministries

By Lion Karen McKendry

Every Friday afternoon, Mechanicsburg Lions members are making a difference in our community by volunteering at the Food Bank at New Hope Ministries. We are committed to providing **1–2 volunteers each Friday from 12:30–4:00 p.m.** to help serve our neighbors in need.



Our dedicated Lions help wherever they are needed—from the end of the line, where they check out food items, bag groceries, and load them into vehicles, to the storeroom, helping keep everything organized and ready to go.

We Need You!

The Food Bank always needs additional volunteers, and this is a wonderful opportunity to put the Lions' spirit of service into action. Whether you volunteer regularly or simply want to give it a try, **your time can make a real difference for families in our community.**

Interested in helping? Getting started is easy:

1. Complete the volunteer application on the New Hope Ministries website:

<https://www.volgistics.com/appform/926601804>

2. On the **first line**, indicate that you heard about New Hope Ministries through the **Mechanicsburg Lions Club**.

3. This will expedite your application, and **no interview is required**.

Consider giving it a try! Come join your fellow Lions, lend a helping hand, and experience firsthand the difference a few hours of your time can make in the lives of our neighbors.