

# History of the Sunbury Lions Club

The following pages are snippets or summaries of information retrieved from the Lions Club International archives that Club secretaries have submitted over the years on their monthly activity forms sent to LCI.

The Sunbury Lions Club was formed in 1938. The membership list from 1938 is shown on the next page.

The first Ox Roast was held in 1944.

The first Christmas tree sale was held in 1965

Mary Kay Sidders organized the antique flea market as part of the sesquicentennial celebration in 1966 after which it was sponsored and organized by the Sunbury Lions Club.

The Ox Roast and Flea market were moved from the playground (JR Smith Park) to the square in 1969.

The most obvious thing about the Club was its focus on the local community, "We Serve" which continues to this present day.

The information & photos contained in these pages takes us only to the 1970's. As more information can be scanned into PDF type files it will be added to this document.

Please check an entry for 1964-1965. It states, "Purchased cigarettes for patients in the hospital". Times have changed! The original LCI document has patients spelled incorrectly as these reports were created long before MS Word and spellcheckers.

These pages were scanned from older documents so I am sure you will find other little mistakes. If you are so inclined you may send comments and or corrections to:

[dllett@yahoo.com](mailto:dllett@yahoo.com)

Club organized ---- August 26, 1938

Club chartered----- September 28, 1938

**CHARTER MEMBERS:**

Dr. R.P. Anderson

Darwin Baker

K.E. Barnhill

H.C. Bernhard

Henry Beaver

Rev. G.O. Bennethum

C.S. Burrer

K.O. Burrer

H.R. Fisher

D.C. Hoover

H.D. Kempton

Lament Kempton

Z. Monbarren

Carl Perry

H.O. Reese

C.A. Root

D.E. Simpkins

Dr. George Swickard

C.C. Welch

Everett Whipkey

O.W. Whitney

ISm. H. Whitney

Dr. W.R. Williams

R.F. Wilson

- Organized August 26, 1938
- 38-39 Celebrated Charter Night. Co-sponsored the annual Halloween Frolic Helped put over the Fall Festival during which the club operated a stand and raised \$6. Provided needy high school student with work and food after the school hours. Sponsored a Dance. Contributed financially and otherwise to the volunteer fire department care for the needy at Christmas. Gave \$10 and electric washer and kitchen ware to a woman whose home and possessions were destroyed in a fire. Cooperated with the C. of C. in purchasing a field for the municipal playground to be named Lions Field. Held Ladies Night. Sent Boy Scouts to the Outdoor and Sportsman's Show at Columbus. Entertained the Boy Scouts and Scoutmaster, and later went to the high school where they were inducted into the Boy Scout Organization.
- 39-40 Sponsored a 4th of July Celebration and realized \$200 toward the building of the Boy Scout Cabin. Co-sponsored the Fall Festival and operated a concession which netted \$90 for the playground fund and \$90 for the Boy Scout Cabin Fund. Entered a float in the parade which won first prize. Co-sponsored a Free Halloween Celebration and Dance and furnished a barrel of cider. Held Ladies Night. Held a Thanksgiving Dance. Helped provide food and clothing and toys for needy families. Gave \$15 to the Christmas Fund. Continued to sponsor the Scout Troop. Observed Founders Week. Sponsored a dinner for the Sunbury High School Championship Basketball Squad, Coach, and 125 fans. Sought \$3500 WPA Playground Project, and arranged to raise \$500 as the community share of the cost. Gave \$5 to the Home Economics girls toward the purchase of dishes. Entertained the football players at the Father-Son-Daughter Meeting.
- 40-41 Held Ladies Night and Box Social, with the proceeds used for the Convention Fund. Sent a boy to Boys State. Gave \$6 to the Red Cross. Sponsored a drive to raise \$5000 for the Community Playground Project. Operated a concession at the Sunbury Fall Festival which the club assisted with and netted \$327. Repaired old toys and distributed Christmas Baskets of clothing and food to the needy at Christmas. Held Ladies Nights. Held Patriotic Meeting. Entertained two blind men who provided a program. Held the Safety Program. Sponsored the Pataskala Lions Club.
- 41-42 Examined seven persons and fitted six with glasses. Raised \$778 of \$1400 pledged for the club sponsored Community Playground; set light-poles, strung wire and sodded the football field. Held Ladies Nights. Co-sponsored the Fall Festival entertainments, and operated a concession; netted \$134 for the Playground Fund. Raised \$50 to provide Christmas Food and Clothing. Contributed to the Red Cross. Co-sponsored and netted \$103 for the Recreation Center. Cleared \$8 at Ladies Night. Attended the Civilian Defense School in Group.
- 42-43 Played Softball with Mount Vernon Lions Club. Held Patriotic Meeting. Sent telegram of congratulations to Billy Southworth for winning the National League Pennant, and arranged to honor him at a dinner dance. Conducted a Membership Development program. Raised funds for the disaster stricken family to which the club contributed \$50. Netted \$214 on the Billy Southworth Party during which War Bonds were sold. Sponsored a Halloween Frolic and netted \$33. - Held High School Football Banquet. Fitted one person with glasses. Working on the reorganization of the Boy Scout Troop. Provided one tonsillectomy. Entertained two service men from the Naval Cadet Training School at Ohio Wesleyan University. Contributed \$10 to the Red Cross. Arranged to have Coach and Champion Berlin Basketball Boys at the dinner. Assisted with tin can collection and scrap iron drive. Members purchased War Bonds. Purchased a \$100 War Bond.
- 43-44 Held Field Day and awarded \$40 in prizes to the children. Erected two Lions Welcome Signs. Met with the city council regarding keeping small children off the streets at night. Members arranged to enroll in the Blood Bank. Sent Christmas Gifts to the members in the service overseas. Established salvage headquarters. Held Scrap Drive and netted \$379 for War Fund. Sponsored the Fall Festival and Halloween Party; netted \$72 on White Elephant Sale and \$34 on Penny Pitching for the community playground. Arranged to sponsor the Boy Scout Troop. Erected shelving at the library. Promoted public subscription list for the needy family. Patriotic Meetings were held. Held Ladies Night, Valentine Party. Sponsored a Fellowship Banquet.
- 44-45 Put on a celebration on the last day of school. Held Patriotic Meetings. Sponsored the playground at a cost of \$1500. Netted \$2186 from the Ox Roast and Auction Sale for the purchase of a high school football equipment and Shelter Hut. Held Ladies Night. Sponsored a Boy Scout Troop. Held Memorial Service for a member killed in action.
- 45-46 Host to guests at Ladies Night. Staged a Minstrel Show. Held a Community Halloween Frolic. Held a Family Night. Entertained college professor and member of the social security board. Host to Hunters Club. Sponsored the Gahanna Lions Club.
- 46-47 Voted \$100 toward the improvement of the Community Hall. Sponsored a Halloween Frolic and raised \$500 from the Steer Draw gave prizes
- 46-47 cont'd. for the best costumes and treats. Sold tickets to the ball game to raise funds for the Playground Equipment. Bought two braille writers for the blind. Sponsored Santa Claus and Christmas treats for the children. Gave Christmas Baskets to the needy. Held Ladies Nights. Gave \$50 to the March of Dimes. Held a Banquet for the Basketball Team. Contributed \$500 toward the improvement of the Community Playground and Recreation Center.

- 47-48 Provided White Canes for 12 persons. Sponsored Football Game and netted \$100. Sold popcorn at games with proceeds toward the installation of bleachers. Staged the Childrens Halloween Party, Gave \$28 worth of food to the Friendship Train. Sponsored a Halloween Frolic, operated concessions and held Street Dance; netted \$300. Sacked candy for 500 children. Distributed baskets to the needy. Paid the final payment of \$350 on Bleachers. Gave \$23 to the March of Dimes. Held Ladies Nights. Held Community Cantata. Transported students to Veterans Hospital to provide entertainment. Sponsored the Symphonic Choir. Organized the Boy Scout Troop. Backed community drive for better telephone service. Sought industry for the town. Held Athletic Banquet for the Boys.
- 48-49 Raised \$450 for the Boy Scouts. Fitted one person with glasses. Installed bleachers at the playground. Decorated the town for the Baseball Player of Boston Braves. Netted \$144 from an Auction for Childrens Christmas Party; gave treats. Netted \$75 from a Concert. Held Ladies Night. Provided transportation of entertainers to the Veterans Hospital. Staged Farmers Night.
- 49-50 Assisted the Boy Scout in raising funds for the Winter Camp. Operated two concessions at the Fall Festival and netted \$60 from the Bingo Game. Repaired glasses for three children. Staged a Minstrel Show and grossed \$335. Held a Childrens Christmas Party and gave treats. Sponsored Farmers Night. Provided food baskets to the needy families. Co-sponsored the Red Cross Blood Mobile Unit and enrolled club members. Provided transportation to the Veterans Hospital. Contributed \$50 to the Carl Jones Fund. Backed two teams in the District Bowling Tournament; one which is the winning team.
- 50-51 Assisted other clubs in sponsoring Halloween Frolic. Distributed sacks of candy to children. Collected toys and donated with the Christmas baskets to the needy families. Held Ladies Night and dinner dance.
- 51-52 Held Father and Son Night. Staged Fishing Trip. Held Bean Supper and White Elephant Sale and netted \$453. Spent \$375 for the school band instruments and remainder for the bank uniform fund. Held a Halloween Festival. Provided Christmas treats for the children in the first four grades. Held Ladies Nights. Sponsored a wrestling match and realized \$200 for the School Band.
- 52-53 Sponsored a Halloween Frolic. Sponsored a Bean Supper and White Elephant Sale, realizing \$207 and gave \$50 to the high school band director for an electronic timer. Held Family Night. Distributed Christmas Treats to the children. Staged Valentine Party. Staged a Wrestling Match and realized \$75.
- 53-54 Constructed shelter house. Held Valentine Party. Spent \$23.20 for glasses. Sponsored a basketball tournament and netted \$212.85. Assisted with the Ox Roast and netted \$1-254 for the shelter house.
- 54-55 Constructing Shelter House. Held Ox Roast and Netted \$555 toward the construction of the shelter house. Assisted other organizations in staging Halloween Frolic. Held Ladies Night. Fitted two persons with glasses. Held Family Night Christmas Party. Sponsored a visit of Santa Claus for three weekends provided treats for children of the community. Sponsored a visit of Santa to patients of the Ferris Rest Home. Held a banquet for the Big Walnut Basketball and Football Teams.
- 55-56 Sponsored Ox Roast, and realized about \$700. Donated \$200 to the band boosters. Donated \$25 to the Little League junior baseball. Held Halloween Frolic. Held Football Banquet. Sponsored Santa's visit and gave treats. Held basketball tournament; grossed about \$100. Held Ladies Night.
- 56-57 Held Ox Roast; netted \$580, proceeds toward the sponsoring of the High school band to Cleveland to play at half time ceremonies at the Browns Games. Held Ladies Night. Held Halloween Frolic. Sponsored Christmas Treats for the community children. Realized \$99 from a band trip to Cleveland. Gave \$100 toward the playground improvement.
- 57-58 Fitted two persons with glasses. Held Ladies Nights. Sponsored an Ox Roast; realized \$637.45. Staged Halloween frolic. Furnished candy for the children during the holiday season. Provided Christmas Baskets for the needy families. Sponsored a skating rink at a cost of \$500. Spent \$48 for the eye glasses. Donated \$25 to the Little League. Sold Light Bulbs.
- 58-59 Donated \$25 to the Little League. Sold Light Bulbs. Sponsored the construction for a swimming pool. Realized \$542.45 from Ox Roast. Gave \$100 to the Little League Football Organization and \$50 to the United Fund. Fitted four persons with glasses. Supported school levy. Donated \$25 to the Eye Research Fund. Donated Funds and sacked candy for Santa to give to the children during his visit. Erected Lions Welcome signs. Sponsored three teams in the district bowling tournament. Donated \$20 to the fire disaster-stricken family. Sponsors minstrel show and grossed \$1173.50. Sponsored planting of a tree at the school on Arbor Day. Sponsored a marble tournament and presented trophies to winners. Held Ladies Night.
- 59-60 Sponsored safety check for cars. Donated \$10 to Ohio CARE. Sent one boy to Boys State. Donated \$25 to Little League Baseball program. Held Ox Roast and grossed \$1635.71. Served food at Success Acres Horse Auctions and grossed \$843.05. Donated \$50 to the United Drive. Fitted six persons with glasses. Entertained the Big Walnut Varsity Football Players at dinner. Gave \$70 to the Big Walnut Little League Football Team. Bought two eye charts for the Sunbury Elementary School. Toured Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric Company. Held Ladies Nights. Gave five Christmas Baskets to needy families at a cost of \$37.50. Provided candy for Santa to distribute to children during his visit. Provided eye glasses frames for one person. Sponsored three teams in the district bowling tournament. Stone driveway and parking lot at ice skating rink at a cost of \$113.80. Sponsored a minstrel show and realized \$930 for the Big Walnut High School Athletic field. Donated \$50 to the Eye Research Fund and \$25 to CARE.
- 60-61 Donated \$50 to the Big Walnut Little League Baseball Association.

Erected basketball equipment at Sunbury Elementary School. Donated \$25 toward prizes for floats during 4th of July Parade. Sponsored a square dance after the 4th of July Celebration. Sponsored a food booth at the Success Acres Horse Sale and realized \$841.22. Held Ox Roast and realized \$236.52. Held Ladies Night. Donated \$50 to the United Fund and \$35 to Sunbury Grade School at a cost of \$376.18. Provided seven Christmas baskets for needy families at a cost of \$45. Sponsored Santa Claus visit and distributed candy to children. Gave \$75 to Eye Research Fund and \$20 to CARE. Fitted 13 persons with glasses. Bought shoes and stockings for girl at a cost of \$11.48. Sponsored a minstrel show and grossed \$1815.50. Sponsored Easter Egg Hunt for pre school children. Replaced roof on shelter house at Football Field at a cost of \$425. Gave \$50 to Pilot Dogs Inc.

61-62 Held Ladies Nights. Gave \$200 to Boys Baseball League and \$25 to Galena Community Club. Held Car Safety Check. Fitted 10 persons with glasses. Realized \$467.84 from Ox Roast. Operated concession at horse sale and realized 189.58 and \$606.12. Operated concession at Ox Roast and realized \$71 for community playground fund. Sponsored school essay contest on school levy and supported school levies. Cleaned youth skating rink. Gave \$25 to Little League Football Program. Provided six Christmas Baskets for the needy families at a cost of \$52.25. Sponsored Santa Visit and distributed candy to children and Rest Homes in community. Donated \$100 to Eye Research fund and \$25 to CARE. Provided eye examinations for needy at a cost of \$10. Sponsored girl to Girls State. Sponsored minstrel show and realized \$1042.26. Donated \$30 to for disaster stricken family. Entertained Big Walnut Basket ball Players and coaches. Sponsored Easter egg hunt. Supported school bond issue. Provided and repaired glasses at a cost of \$27.22.

62-63 Bought and repaired four pair of glasses at a cost of \$43.26. Held Ladies Night. Participated in Memorial Day Parade. Spent \$86.52 for glasses. Donated \$20 toward local fireworks for 4th of July Celebration. Operated concession at 4th of July celebration and netted \$130.60. Donated \$25 to Little League Baseball Program. Held Ox Roast and realized \$480. Donated \$100 to Ohio Research Fund. Fitted additional 13 persons with glasses. Provided eye examination for one person. Gave \$50 to the United Drive. Operated concession at Horse Sale and realized \$400. Gave \$100 to Ohio CARE. Sponsored Santa's visit and distributed candy to children and to Rest Homes. Provided five Christmas Baskets for needy families at a cost of \$50. Entered three teams in the district bowling tournament. Sent boy to Boys State. Held Easter egg hunt. Gave \$20 to Pilot Dogs Inc. and \$10 to Delaware County Children's Home.

63-64 Donated \$235.31 for twelve pair of glasses, \$274.50 for the repair of the Shelter House ceiling, \$43.08 to place trash barrels in the town square, \$145 for a PA System for the Community Playground, \$50 to the United Fund, \$25 to the Big Walnut Little League Football, \$75 for seven Christmas Baskets, \$50 for Eye Research Fund, \$20 for the 4th of July Fireworks, and \$50 to the Edmund Hay Collection. Made \$200 from the Food Booth, about \$350 from the Ox Roast. Held a Car Safety Check. Installed a traffic light on a dangerous intersection. Held Broom Sale. Sponsored an Easter egg hunt. Sponsored a girl to Girls State. Sponsored an Adult Recreation Program. Held Christmas Party. Held Ladies Nights. Sent 63 pair of glasses to Eyes for the Needy. Placed We Serve Books in the Doctors Office. Repaired one pair of glasses. Celebrated the 25th Anniversary.

64-65 Donated one pair of glasses, \$25 to the Eye Research Fund, \$25 to the Pilot Dogs, and \$10 to the Ohio Council for the Blind, Inc. Made about \$600 from the Ox Roast, and \$400 from the Broom Sale. Purchased a spread and rolled 329 tons of gravel as base for the community tennis court and basketball court combination. Sponsored a Boy to Boys State. Distributed ten baskets of food to the needy. Furnished Cups as an activity in the Blood Mobile visit. Held Ladies Night. Purchased a book for the Public Library as a memorial. Purchased cigarettes for patients in the hospital. Sold \$300 worth of Candy for Halloween.

7-65 - 12-65 Donated \$25 to the Little League Baseball Organization, \$10 to the Sequestantial Committee, \$25 to the United Fund, and \$25 to the Athletic Field Speakers. Made about \$200 from "Dunkin", \$350 from the Ox Roast, \$155 from the Fruit Cake Sale, and \$600 from the Christmas Tree Sale. Distributed Food Baskets to the needy. Held Ladies Night. Paid for eye examination for Serida Cooper, and Miss Me Clintic.

## 1960—1969

Presidents: Howard Bricker, Ted Forman, Roger Higgins, Willie Bryant, Ken Cook, Lou Guidotti, George Main, Lester Mercer, Frank Bergaudine, Ken Growl.

The first broom sale by the club was in 1963. The club started selling Christmas trees in 1965.

During the 1960's the club built an ice rink for the town. Today it would be located at the end of Ohio Street.

During the 1960's the club built a combination basketball/ tennis court at the high school.

The club participated in the Sesqui-Centennial celebration in 1966.

In 1969 the club started holding the Ox Roast/Flea Market on the Village Square, instead of the playground.

During this period, the log cabin on the square was built by the club.

Minstrels were again held during this period.

The 25th. anniversary of the club was celebrated by a dinner-dance at the Granville Inn on August 24, 1963.

President Crowl and other members went to the International Convention at New Orleans.

#### 1970----- 1979

Presidents: Harold Ault, Mark Lieurance, Glenn Evans, Richard Sechrisc, Martin Baranek, Raymond Brown, Bill Low, Bob Searles, Wally Dravenstott, Dan Shaw.

During the 1970's a permanent ox roast pit was built at the playground.

The club received the Beaver Award from the F. F. A. in 1971. It is given for outstanding work by a club in the community.

The 35th. anniversary of the club was held at the United Methodist Church on November 12, 1973.

The 40th. anniversary of the club was held at Berkshire Lake Party House on September 23> 1978.

In 1979 the Lion of the Year Award was changed to the Carlton S. Burrer Award and Charles Clark was the first recipient.

In 1977 a raffle was held. The 1st. prize was a motor bike. The winner was Roger Bricker of Galena.

The club donated \$100.00 toward building of the new Delaware County Children's Home.

A Memorial Day 8KM run was held in 1978 and sponsored by the club.

A beef raffle was held in 1976.

The club donated to Dollars for Scholars.

The club helped the Porter Township Fire Department to purchase a resuscitator.

Donated to Pilot Dogs.

Sent old glasses to the Amigo Project.  
The club provided glaucoma and blood pressure screening along with the local Senior Citizens group.

Started a Lioness and Leo club.

Helped F.F.A. finish drive at Ruffner Park in Galena.

Started holding meetings at new United Methodist Church in 1971.

Club along with community tried to get a park for the community.