



Olympia Host Lions

SPRING 2022



Olympia Host Lions meets weekly Tuesday from Noon to 1PM • First Baptist Church 9th E. & Washington, Olympia, WA

TURNING APPLES INTO COMMUNITY SERVICE

By Jan Weatherly

Have you ever thought about how Olympia Host Lions can afford to donate to causes we believe in? Or how we get the money to run our projects? Or where the money comes from when we are asked to help someone in need?

Well, that is the entire point of the Lions Apple Sale – to fund the work we do. We need all Lions to support the apple sale at some level!

This year Olympia Host sold 700 boxes of apples out of the total 2146 boxes sold. Our partner organizations – like other Lions clubs and Camp Leo - sold just over 1400 boxes.

And when all the dust settled, we made \$16,800. A nice chunk of change, but less than half of our all-time high. We are leaving a whole lot of money on the table.

So here is the point:

- Some Lions sell lots of apples, but everyone can buy a box for themselves.
- Those big sellers would sell more apples if they had help delivering the apples.
- Our online Marchketing is picking up speed, but those new customers need a Lion to personally deliver that box and call them back next year to get that sale again.

That's where all our new Lions and many of our tried-and-true members come in. We need you to buy a box for yourselves and, if you are physically able, help others who are selling lots of boxes to deliver those boxes. THAT'S TEAMWORK AT IT'S BEST.

Please join the apple team and help grow our apple sale back to our old numbers. Just let Jan know you want to be involved by email at Jan.Weatherly@aol.com or text to 360 489-4277.

With your help we just might boost our own club sales over the 1000 Marchk once again. Sure, that is a stretch goal, but Lions can do anything when we all work together.



BENCH RAFFLE CLOSES SOON



Just a few days left but if you act fast you can still get in on the Olympia Host Lions' Trex Bench Raffle and help to fund the Lions Low Vision Resource Center in Olympia.

Tickets are just \$5.00 for the chance to win a beautiful 48" Trex Yacht Club style bench in the premium Rainforest Canopy green color. This bench sells online for more than \$425.00.

To enter, just call or email Olympia Host President Michael Petty by February 25 and tell him how many tickets you want. Then send him a check and he will tell you your ticket numbers - and even send you your tickets if you wish.

But don't delay. Tickets are limited and the bench raffle drawing will be held Marchch 1 during the Olympia Host Lions meeting.

This bench could be yours! Call Michael today at 360 259-3276 or email him at mkpetty@comcast.net to get your chance to win this beautiful bench.

Fund Our Club Projects When You Shop at Amazon

Want your money to go further? When you purchase items on Amazon using the Smile program, Amazon will make a donation to Olympia Host Lions. Just be sure to sign in to Amazon at Smile.Amazon.org rather than the regular Amazon page and select Olympia Host Lions Club Foundation as the charity of your choice.

To make it even easier you can just enter this link in your browser bar and you will be taken right to the Olympia Host account at Amazon.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-4596733>

It costs you nothing! Amazon will donate a small percentage of your purchase price to our Foundation. Then we get a check from Amazon every three months for whatever has accrued during the past quarter.

Want easy step by step instructions for getting signed in to your account through Amazon Smile? Email us at OlympiaLions@gmail.com and ask to have the instruction sheet emailed to you. (Then you can share with a friend or neighbor too!)

Support
Olympia Host Lions
Club Foundation.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO THE OLYMPIA HOST LIONS



Say Hello to Clair!

Hi. I am new to Olympia, I moved here from Kingston WA, where my husband and I lived on our 5-acre farm. This place was a shared dream come true for us. He wanted the land and I wanted a place for horses. It was our paradise.

Unfortunately, my husband developed stage four cancer and it became very clear to us that we could no longer keep the farm. With the help of family and friends we packed up all of our belongings, rehomed my horses and made our way south.

You might be asking, why Olympia? For me, good public transportation is a must, because I am partially sighted and cannot legally drive. It was very important to David that we get settled in to our new home before he passed. Well, we moved in August and the man who made my life so very complete, took his last breath on November 4, 2021.

During our 24 years of Marriage, we raised four kids; two of his, one of mine and one of ours. I managed all of the household scheduling and finances since he worked full time and I did not.

Before I had a family, way back in my 20s, I owned and operated food service businesses in California. At one point I had 9 employees and ran a very successful cafeteria and snack shop in The Cal Trans building in Oakland CA.

When I was born, the youngest of five kids, my parents noticed my eyes were not focusing and I was not responding to visual cues. Well long story short nine eye operations later I have useable vision, not good vision, but it is what I am used too.

When I found out about the Corbin Low Vision Resource Center, I thought it was a perfect fit for me. As I was wanting to volunteer in the community. I do look forward to working with the club in whatever areas I am needed.



Welcome to the Lions, Bill Yount!

Bill and his wife Andrea have been Married 27 years and have three children have 3 children, Hannah (26) Lauren (24) and Maxton (19), and our first grandchild Beckett. The Younts moved to Olympia from Illinois 15 years ago. Bill holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration and currently owns/operates a Farmers Insurance agency in Olympia. He enjoys camping, golfing, and gardening.



Debbie and Aaron Hays

Married couple Deb and Aaron Hays have joined us and brought with them a plethora of skills. They have already created videos of our Low Vision Resource Center for us to use when speaking to other clubs or at health fairs. They brought US Naval Sea Cadets to help load apples during our pickup dates last November. In addition to our Lions Club they also volunteer with the Red Cross Disaster Relief and US Naval Sea Cadets. We are delighted they decided to add us to their busy schedule.



Meet Jan Dirckx!

A world traveler and volunteer, Jan Dirckx is fluent in Dutch, French and English. As an RN, and tropical disease specialist, Jan has worked in refugee and immigration services, cancer research, radiology and as a translator. He has volunteered from the Congo to Sierra Leone to Belgium to the United States. Jan was born in Belgium and became an American citizen in 2019.

We look forward to getting to know you and enjoying your help with our many projects!

Odds and Ends:

Please add the following information to your address book:

Our Web Site:

Olympiahostlions.org

The new LVRC Address:

2600 Martin Way E. Suite C
Olympia

Located in the ARC Complex.

In Person Meeting Location
First Baptist Church on the
corner of 9th and Franklin

We will begin meeting in person
again on Feb. 15, 2022

From the Club President Michael Petty

Here we are at the beginning of 2022 and I am amazed at what has happened during the first 6 months of this Lion's Year.

We added 4 new members during the July-December 2021 period (another since the first of January 2022),

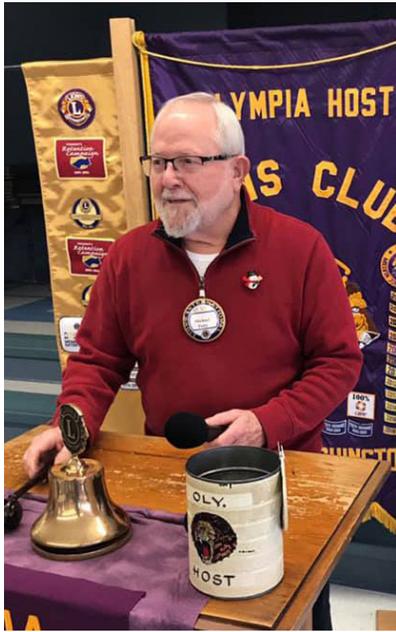
We had a very successful Fuji Apple Sale with a net profit of over \$16,000 to benefit community organizations

We have continued to collect hundreds of pounds of plastic as part of the TREX recycling project

We started a raffle for a Trex Bench. Our goal is to sell 1,000 tickets to benefit the Corbin Low Vision Resource Center.

We started meeting again at the First Baptist Church in face-to-face albeit short lived. The surge of the Omicron variant of COVID in Thurston County saw us reverting back to Zoom in order to keep our members healthy.

We completed a major renovation of the LVRC at 2103 Harrison



Ave, NW, and established two days/week to be open for clients – Wednesday and Saturday, 10:00 – 2:00 by appointment.

We had an extremely successful Grand Re-opening of the LVRC on December 11th with attendees from the VA Hospital in Lakewood and Seattle, an Olympia City Council member, local optometrists and doctors as well as representatives from other area healthcare providers who focus on low vision. A very big thank you to all who helped in this event and the renovation.

We were the host club for one of the Zone C2 meetings held via Zoom.

Perhaps the most significant event happened on January 7, 2022. The space that the LVRC has been renting on a month-to-month basis for the past four years was leased to a new tenant resulting in a 30-day notice to vacate. We are very fortunate to have a new (and perhaps better) location already identified. We will move into our new location at 2600 Marchtin Way E, Olympia by the end of January and will be open for clients at that location on February 2nd. A big thank you to everyone involved in the relocation process.

Although we are not meeting in-person at this time your leadership team continues to meet and plan for the next six months. It is my hope and I am sure yours as well that we will be back to some kind of normalcy before the end of this lion's year.

Think positive, be positive and live positively.

Michael K Petty,
President, Olympia Host Lions Club

President Michael Petty will soon be Zone Chair for our District

After a very successful and stressful two-year presidency of the Olympia Host Lions Club, our own Michael Petty is moving on up. All during the past two-year Covid Pandemic, Michael has managed to keep us together, projects on target and goals met. He has coordinated our move to our new facility for the Corbin Low Vision Resource Center, been invited to speak at various locations and held weekly meetings and celebrations via ZOOM.

We offer our hardy congratulations to Michael and his board for their hard work and dedication to the club and its members.

Student Screening:

Once again, approximately 700 students at five schools have been screened for vision and hearing loss. Thanks go to John Calhoun, who organizes and oversees this project every year. John has already booked the equipment for January of next year and welcomes any and all volunteers. You can also contact him for information on how to volunteer at LERC.

Nisqually Grant!

Thanks to the grant writing skills of our devoted treasurer, Andre Stepelton, our club has received a 3,000.00 grant from the Nisqually Tribe and has already been invited to apply again next year!

The Asian Pacific Cultural Vision Screening Event is coming up!

We have been invited to participate in this event being hosted by the Hope Vision Foundation on February 26, in Tacoma. We will have a booth to promote the Corbin Low Vision Resource Center. If you would like to volunteer at this 'first' for our club, contact president Michael Petty.



Past President Violet Hofman is retiring!

After almost 22 years at the Olympia Union Gospel Mission, Violet is passing the baton to the younger generation and taking life easy for a while. Violet has been the manager of the Olympia Union Gospel Mission Vision Clinic

Since 2008, and has been a valuable resource for the Corbin Low Vision Resource Center. Our club refers and subsidizes low-income clients who need glasses and hearing aids to Violets organization and she will definitely be missed.

Meanwhile, she is looking forward to sleeping in (at least once) and traveling with her husband, Don. We wish her well in this new chapter of her life.

Greetings Fellow Oly Host Lions

As your Treasurer, I would like to advise all our members that we have come to the conclusion of collecting the proceeds from our Apple Sales this past fall. I must say that I am proud of all the work our members did to make this project such a success. The resulting profit, after costs, provides nearly \$17,000 in funding available for donations to worthy community projects.



This compares to \$22,411 distributed last year, and \$25,347 the year before. It is easy to see that COVID has had an impact on our fund-raising ability over the past couple of years.

Your Board made decisions over these "Covid Years" to

address food insecurities in our community. The majority of the Oly Host donation funding went to programs that assisted folks in need with prepared meals, or food supplies handed directly to folks that showed up at local food banks.

This year, we would like our members to weigh in on their thoughts about where our hard-earned money can do the best job at helping our community. Your Board recognizes that needs in the community are as important now as they have been in the last two years, and it is the Board's intention to address possible distributions as soon as possible.

So – I would like to invite all of our Oly Host members to submit thoughts and suggestions for worthy causes in our community. The Board will be looking at this agenda item during our next Board meeting on Thursday, March 10th. In order that I may assemble suggestions and share them with the Board ahead of the Board meeting, I would ask that you send your ideas to me no later than February 28th at:

Thesigmagroup@comcast.net

We are really looking forward to your thoughts and suggestions.

With Deepest Regards

Andy Stepelton – Treasurer
Olympia Host Lions Club



By Kathleen Anderson

I have a thing I have always thought of as my 'deep pockets'. When something joyful, exciting or touching happens to me or someone I care about, I put it away in my deep pockets.

When sad or hurtful things come my way, I visit my deep pockets to remind myself that it wasn't always like this and better days are ahead.

Many of the items in my deep pockets have come when I least expected them and from sources that surprised and delighted me.

Deep pockets aren't about me – they are about the gifts that come from others, often strangers, that made me feel warm and fuzzy inside.

For example...one day I was at a stop light in California when I noticed an elderly man with a cane was trying to get across the street. I say trying, because an Olympic runner cannot make it all the

way across a street with one stop light in California, without the crossing meter hand coming up when you are halfway there.

As it happened, there were two islands on this street, so he made it safely to the first one. I was behind other cars at this point. When I reached the right turn where the other island was located, the light was green and I could see the elderly gentleman had made it to the second island. I motioned for him to finishing crossing the street and he hurriedly stepped off the curb and started across.

Then he did something that made my heart sing. He stopped for just a second when he was in front of my car, turned and blew me a kiss, before hurrying on to the other side.

That old gentleman probably never gave me another thought but it was a gesture I will never forget – and into my deep pockets it went.

Often, we may not realize when we touch others. It can be a smile, a hug or a kind gesture or word when they need it the most. And it often comes when we are volunteering.

Whether it is spending time with a low vision person to find visual aids that will improve their quality

of life, handing out water to runners helping to raise funds for a good cause, feeding the hungry or building a house for the homeless, we touch other lives.

We have many opportunities to 'touch' every day. The Lions Clubs are dedicated to it. If you have not already done so, speak to your sponsor or any board member to see how to help. Filling your deep pockets is the greatest gift of all.

Moments to Remember

Hope Vision Foundation + ASIA PACIFIC CULTURAL CENTER

Tacoma Vision Fair

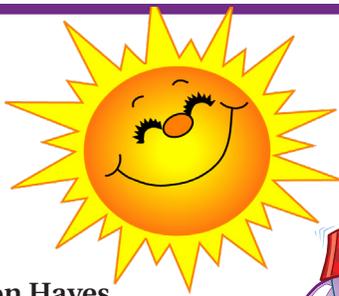
Join Hope Vision Foundation and The Asia Pacific Cultural Center for an afternoon focused on your vision and eye health.

What We Offer	Should You Attend?
Get a Free Screening Vision Exam	Has it been more than a year since you have had an eye exam?
Learn about eye conditions and low vision	Do you or someone you know have vision loss?
Find adaptive devices and connect with resources	Do you need help connecting to community vision resources?

Saturday Feb 26th 2022 | 2-5pm

Asia Pacific Cultural Center
4851 S Tacoma Way, Tacoma, WA 98409
Translators will be on site, no insurance needed.

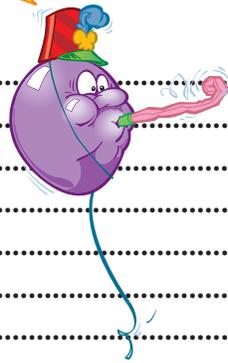
Register at hopevisionfoundation.org/get-involved/



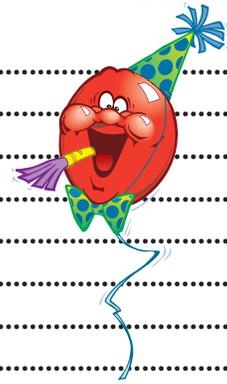
Olympia Host Sunshine Program

We wish the following Olympia Host Lions a wonderful birthday and a year of health and happiness!

Aaron Hayes..... March 3
 Michael Petty..... March 7
 Kathleen Anderson March 9
 John Wilson March 17
 Wayne Roice March 26
 John Bergvall March 31
 Bob Barker..... April 20



Mark Furman April 20
 Barak Gale April 22
 Jan Dirckx April 24
 Bill Lynch..... April 28
 Lloyd Sell April 28
 Darrell Weaver..... May 18
 Jo Horst May 19
 Andrew Beattie..... May 29



A reminder...If you know of an Olympia Host member who is experiencing illness or the passing of a family member, please let us know at cathweaver@comcast.net Now, more than ever, we need to care for each other.

Happy spring!

Cathy Weaver, Director

Olympia Host Lions Sunshine Program

Thanks to Lions Deb and Aaron Hays for bringing along the Sea Cadets to our apple distribution center. They made light work of loading cars and trucks for delivery!

