

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS BEGIN TREE PLANTING TRADITION

The 2013 – 2014 Council of Governors (COG) planted two pink flowering crabapple trees at the Ohio State School for the Blind (OSB) on Sunday of the State Convention to complete their efforts to do a project for each of International President Barry Palmer's Four Core Initiatives. From the responses of the upcoming COGs and some past COGs, it may well have started a tradition and legacy for Ohio Lions and a beautification project for the school that will last for years to come.

When this year's COG decided to plant a tree, the question came up as to where to plant it? The OSB was the first location that came to mind because of the long-time cooperation and logical connections to the school. After meeting with the school's administrators and groundskeepers, it was agreed to plant flowering crabapple trees to replace and support the ageing and dying crabapples lining both sides of the main entry road to the school from High Street. The COG was able to purchase two trees to start what they hoped would be a continuing tradition for Ohio's COGs.

At the State Convention, the planting was announced and the proposal for a continuing project was presented to the incoming COGs and the PDG Association. The next two COGs immediately agreed to join the tradition and the PDG Association agreed to two more trees to represent their group. Several former COGs have discussed planting a tree for their year's also so at this time there are commitments for 8 more trees. The OSB has agreed that this area of trees will be dedicated and named "The Ohio Lions Council of Governors Grove". A page on the Ohio Lions web site will be created to explain the Grove and will list the contributing COGs and will reflect if any plantings were done as a memorial to a past Lion.

The OSB is thrilled to be the recipient of such a lasting tribute to the cooperation between the two organizations who work so hard for those who deal with vision issues on a daily basis.

If any past COG would like to have a tree planted in their honor, they can contact DG Bill Schultz (13K) who will be coordinating the program.

Tree costs at this time are \$100 for a 6 to 7 foot, balled and bur lapped tree. DG Bill will get the tree and have it planted for you. If any group or individual would like to participate in the digging and planting or have a ceremony to dedicate their tree, DG Bill will gladly arrange for that, too.