



DAMASCUS LION'S TALE



January 2014

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The President's Message

Happy New Year Damascus Lions!

I hope everyone got to relax over the holidays and spend time with family and friends. We had a house full, John was home from Michigan and Elizabeth is on winter break from college. We also spent some time with my family in New Jersey. December was a busy month for the Damascus Lions. I believe we had another successful



holiday giving project. The families Lion Tony and I delivered to were very grateful to receive such large quantities of food and wrapped presents. It is probably our biggest project of the year. I want to extend a special thanks to Lion Mary Frances for always doing such a spectacular job.

Well, it's January 1 and I am trying not to break my resolutions yet!! How about all of you?? Did you make any resolutions?? Maybe you'd like to share them on our January 7 meeting. I have a some exciting speakers lined up for the new year so be sure to attend our meetings. Who knows, you might learn something! Please print our Lions Activities Schedule so you can be reminded of meetings and other important Lion events. You should have a copy of it, Lion Ken emailed it to everyone. Looking ahead we have our NBC For Health Convention on January 11. It starts off early on Saturday but usually it's lots of fun and we end the day with lunch. See Lion Jerry if you'd like to attend. The wreaths look great this season thanks to Lion Tony and his crew. Unfortunately they have to come down soon. Rumor is, the light poles are being replaced soon. See Lion Tony if you can help take down the wreaths. Our in house auction is not too far away on March 18. This is our biggest club fundraiser so please start planning your donations now.

I can't believe half of the Lion year is over – it went by quickly. Remember, it's never too late to

show your fellow Lions that you Appreciate them, Believe in them, and Care for them.

Happy New Year!

KL Barbara

'Twas The Week Before-----

By Lion Mary Frances Gosnell, Chair

Although the TimeLine chronicled activity of the Holiday Giving Project for two months previously, the week before, activity started gearing up! Warm accessories of hats, mittens, gloves, socks and scarves decorated the Christmas Tree at the Lions Holiday Dinner Party as well as bags of Stocking Stuffers were piled around. The Christmas Party Room at the Damascus UM Church took a turn on Wednesday of a food storage warehouse as teams of Lions with truck loads of food emptied their collections along the wall waiting for the Lion Sorters to arrive that evening. Once all was sorted, the "grocery store" was neatly stocked. Thursday, the room was transformed into a service desk at a clothing store while wrappers were at work with an outfit for each of the 87 children being packaged. Then we had the opportunity to shop for the warm accessories for each family as well as other small gifts. Others Lions were packing their team's food boxes and helping to package fruit and other items. On Friday suddenly appeared a bag of toys for each family and two bicycles. Red stockings were stuffed by our Leo President and put in a laundry basket which had paper supplies for each family. The room was getting readied for delivery when two sleighs pulled up, unloaded their wares which was a beautifully decorated box of homemade cookies and breads for each family. Now we are ready for the delivery! Oh, we need to get the perishables early in the morning!

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Lions Information: (202) LIONS22

Birthdays

Lions:

Jan. 6 – Bob Newlin
Jan. 13 – Bob Williams
Jan. 19 – Fran Burlas
Jan. 23 – Katie Dougherty
Jan. 29 – Benjamin Lewis

Partners-in-Service:

None known

Anniversaries

None known

News about Members

Upcoming Events

JANUARY

7 Dinner Meeting - Wesley Grove UM Church
14 Board Meeting - Gladhill Bros.
21 Dinner Meeting - Wesley Grove UM Church

FEBRUARY

4 Dinner Meeting - Wesley Grove UM Church
11 Board Meeting - Gladhill Bros.
18 Dinner Meeting - Spouse Night Wesley Grove UM Church

MARCH

4 Dinner Meeting - Wesley Grove UMC
11 Board Meeting - Gladhill Bros
15 Pancake Breakfast - Damascus UM Church
18 Dinner Meeting and In-House Auction - Wesley Grove UM Church

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Our regular board of directors meeting for December was cancelled due to the weather.

Damascus Lights Up On Black Friday (Hanging the Christmas Wreaths)

By Lion Tony Barry.

On Friday Nov 29, 2013 the Lions club of Damascus continued a 23 year tradition by hanging the Christmas wreaths on the lamp posts throughout Damascus. Seven lions and seven friends of Lions gathered at the Damascus McDonalds at 9am on Friday morning and after a hearty breakfast and a brief "how to" clinic given by Lion Tony Barry, they split up into 4 teams and began hanging the wreaths.

The hard work of Lions Tom Jackson, Ken Cook, Ken Philips, Del Mayhew, Gary Rogers, Tony Barry and Jack Peters made short work of the 40 lamp posts and the team had completed the project by 10:30am. The friends of the Lions who help were John Barry, Luke Murdock, Steven Lauback, Mike Bleinstein, Ryan Muise, Mariah Bennett and Nick Doan.

A special word of thanks to Lion Charlie Hertel who loaned his three step ladders to the Lions club for the execution of the project.

Thanks also to Lion Gary Bellison of Tom & Rays who offered hot coffee and sandwiches to those who helped.

The Lions will take the Christmas wreath down in early January.

Preschool Vision Screening

By Lion Ken Phillips, Chair

On Dec. 7, the club set up for preschool vision screening at Gladhill Brothers "Meet Mr. and Mrs. Santa" event in their showroom and shop. With a lot of good things to eat, other attractions and the combine slide in the shop, there was a great crowd. Mr. And Mrs. Santa arrived on a "deere" and the festivities began. In all the excitement there were 17

children screened for vision problems. A digital instrument was used to check for refractive errors in each eye and a separate test of the child's stereoscopic vision was performed. These tests can detect conditions that may lead to vision problems in the future. If a problem was detected, it was recommended to the parent that an eye doctor perform further exams.

Thanks to Lions Fran, Woody, Patricia, Jerry and Julie for working at the screening. A special thanks goes to KL Barbara for working the crowd in the Lion costume and directing some of our customers to us. Also thanks to Lion Tessie for providing the space and opportunity to do the screening.

A Note of THANKS

By Lion Lion Eloise Woodfield

It was a rainy evening, but brave lions came out to help support the community of Clarksburg at the Town Tree Lighting.

Thank you lions, Tess Gladhill, Fran Burlas, Chris Fletcher, Ronnie Poland, Dale Ryan, Eloise and Tuck Woodfield, King Lion Barbara Barry, and Tony Barry and also Gary Rogers, Ann Davis and Joann Woodson who helped with plans.

It was a wet evening, but weather didn't stop 60 people from coming to light the town tree, bringing in the Holiday Season.

Everyone enjoyed singing songs, hearing a brief history of the family of the year, and sharing memories of the past. All received gifts.

Candy and Oranges were handed out.

Again many thanks go to the Montgomery Co, Parks Dept., the 4H helping hands, and the Clarksburg Historical Society Inc.

"Together we can make it happen", because "I can count on you"

Holiday Baskets (cont)

Ten teams of Lions, Scouts, Family and Friends delivered the food and gifts, - 4 boxes, two large bags and a laundry basket - to each of the 30 families consisting of 72 adults and 87 children. It took 55 people plus the Tradesmen Motorcycle Club members giving of an estimate of 375 man-hours to pull this project together and deliver it. The cost of \$4000 does not take into consideration the toys, 2 per child and a family gift that were donated by the Tradesmen Motorcycle Club, the warm accessories and the stocking stuffers donated by the Lions and the Scouts, the 3 dozen cookies per family baked by the Goldstein Family and the toothbrushes donated by Drs. To and Rajani.

To name all those who assisted/ worked on the project would be difficult and I would be amiss if I missed any of those who worked so diligently to make it all happen. But I will say that Partners-In-Service were of a great asset in making it all come together. You know who you are. Thank You from all of us! Thanks to the Key Persons who chaired a portion of the project and thanks to all the Lions, Boy Scouts, other family members and friends for your help and support. The teams came back with some precious stories of their deliveries!

The Holiday Fund Team has been working the businesses for donations and passing the "jar" at meetings. The monetary response has been good!

Thanks to all who helped make Christmas a bit brighter for a lot of families of our area!