



The President's Message

Happy Holidays Damascus Lions!

I can't believe we have only one month left of 2014 and I'm almost halfway through my second term ☺ As I'm writing this I am looking at the snow on the ground. We had a white



Thanksgiving! Our wood stove running and it is beginning to feel a lot like winter! December is always a busy month for everyone, but it is especially busy in the Barry house. We have 3 birthdays, Elizabeth is December 14, and Tony & Victoria are December 17! (Plus we have a niece in Ireland also born on December 17). December is also probably the busiest month for the Damascus Lions Club. Our holiday basket program requires many Lion hours. The many tasks include shopping, collecting food from local schools and organizations, sorting food, packing boxes, wrapping presents and delivering the finished product to people in our area. I really enjoy the Saturday before Christmas when deliver the holiday items to people in the community. The Lions gather, eat yummy warm cinnamon rolls, perhaps visit with Santa, and load up our many gifts in to our vehicles. We usually wish each other a Merry Christmas and exchange hugs and handshakes. It feels great to belong to such a caring organization!

Don't forget our Christmas party on December 16 at the Damascus United Methodist Church. Please bring a gift for our gift swap. Hopefully we'll have a visit from Santa and maybe that Green Fellow!

The New Year will be here before we know it. Our NBC 4 Health Fitness Expo is early this year on January 10 & 11. We are signed up for the first shift on Saturday, January 10. We usually take the metro to DC, work for a few hours, then go out to lunch as a group. It is a fun day and another way to spread the word of Lions. See Lion Jerry Mallack if you can attend.

If you have any ideas for guest speakers please share them with me or Lion Marcia. Perhaps there is a topic of concern you would love to hear more about at a Lions meeting.

The Holiday season is usually when we think of family and friends - Please also remember to Appreciate, Believe in and Care for your fellow Lions.

Happy Holidays!

KL Barbara

Fall 2014 Damascus White Cane Days

By Lion Wayne Marr, Chair

Damascus Lions: Congratulation! We raised \$1,739.12 last month during our Fall White Cane fundraiser. Thirty dedicated Damascus Lions performed storefront collections over thirty-two shifts. Please visualize the word "Lion" in front of every name in this article. Those fines are rough!

Special Recognitions:

Three Over-\$100-in-One-Shift Club recognitions:

- **Mary Frances Gosnell**, who collected \$120.82 at Safeway on Friday afternoon;
- **Fran Burlas**, who collected \$108.95 at Safeway, also on Friday afternoon; and
- **Sandy Gill (+ her doggy, again!)**, who collected \$102.69 at Safeway on Wednesday afternoon.

Many Lions worked multiple shifts (indicated with a "(2!)" or "(3!)" following their names below). Hooray to these Lions. Some of these multi-shifted Lions brought in over \$100 total when you sum up all their shifts.

The Bert Lahr Special Award for Most Courageous Lion goes to **Fran Burlas**, who, despite her delicate condition following a recent hospitalization, endured the elements for two hours to to do her part for this fundraiser. That's courage, Lions.

Here is the total list of Damascus Lions who gave of their time for one or more storefront collection shifts (multiple shifts in parentheses): B. Barry, Carr, Burlas, Davis, Fletcher(2), Gill, Gladhill, Gosnell, C. Hertel(2!), T. Hertel, Hibbard(2!), C. Holpuch, M. Holpuch, Jackson(2!), Mallack, Marr, Molesworth, Newlin, Peters, Rogers, Schwab, W. Schwab, Snapp, C. Stone, Ch. Stone, Suddath, Thornett, Ward(2!), Washington.

As always, special thanks go to our committee members who served as Managers of the Day and/or Money Counters: Ken Phillips, Del Mayhew, Tom Jackson, George Hibbard, and Vi Hibbard (a Lion Spouse!).

See picture on page 4.

Lion's Tale
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P.O. Box 267
Damascus, MD 20872-2250



President: Barbara Barry
e-mail: Barbara_S_Barry@mcpsmd.org
301-461-4726 (C)
Editor: Tom Jackson 301-253-6316
wtjackson@alumni.unc.edu
Printing by Dovetail
Damascus Lions Web Site:
<http://www.damascuslions.org>
Damascus Lions Facebook
<http://www.Facebook.com/DamascusLions>



Lions Information: (202) LIONS22

Upcoming Events

- Dec 2 Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove UM Church
- Dec 4 Senior Birthday Party @ Sr Center (Sue Suddath)
- Dec 9 Board Meeting @ Gladhill Bros.
- Dec 16 Holiday Party – Spouse Night Damascus UM Church
- Dec 17 - 20 Holiday Giving Project @Damascus UM Church

Birthdays

Lions:

- Dec. 5 - Martin Carr
- Dec. 7 - Bernie Duplan
- Dec. 15 - Helen Boyer
- Dec. 17 - Tony Barry
- Dec. 21 - Jack Poole
- Dec. 29 - Del Mayhew

Partners-in-Service:

- Dec. 20 – Joe Wyatt

Anniversaries: (None known)

News about the Club

Welcome Baby Hernando!

Lion Jennifer (Hyde) Cano is the proud momma of baby Hernando Cano III, born Saturday, November 8th at 10:03pm. He came into the world at 8lb. 3oz. and was 20” tall. Grammy and Grampy Lions Carol & Charlie Stone couldn’t be happier!!

NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo

The date of the expo this year is January 10 & 11 at the convention center. We will be working the first shift on Saturday the 10th from 9am to 11:30am. We will be manning the LCOF Mobile Health Unit. If you are not familiar with the equipment, you are still welcome to come – we need people to staff the registration table, provide “traffic control” and you can learn the operations on-site if you like. Contact Lion Jerry Mallack to join in the fun!

Holiday Party

Our holiday party celebration will be Tuesday, December 16th at Damascus United Methodist Church. RSVP to Lion Gary Rogers if you do not prepay your meals. We will have the gift exchange as in past years. Bring a wrapped gift (\$15) if you would like to participate.

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
11 Nov 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by King Lion (KL) Barbara Barry. The following Lions were present at the meeting: B. Barry, M. Carr, T. Gladhill, M. Gosnell, M. Holpuch, T. Jackson, D. Mayhew, P. McKenzie, R. Molesworth, J. Schwab, W. Schwab, M. Thornett

The minutes of the October meeting were and approved.

Club Treasurer Report: Approved. Foundation Treasurer Report: Approved.

Treasury Summary:

	<u>Club</u>	<u>Foundation</u>
Income Oct	1924	4851
Expenses Oct	2906	2190
Net Oct	-982	-2661

The future of the Clean Up Damascus and Bench Funds were discussed. Clean Up Damascus funds can be used for any community improvement project. Lion Marcia will bring the history of the bench fund to the next board meeting, including the cost of each bench and installation estimates.

Secretary Report: There are still about eight members who have not paid dues for this half of the year. Lion Marcia will call the outstanding members.

Old Business:

White Cane Drive raised about \$1,700. There was competition for fund raisers at Safeway. This amount is short of last year, but still a good drive.

Donations were approved as follows: Friends of the Library, \$100; Samaritan Women, \$100; Nathan's Ridge, \$180. Nathan's Ridge sent correspondence to KL Barbara stating that their needs include drug testing kits @ \$9 each as well as repair work in their bathrooms at the house. All 3 of these groups have made presentations to the club this fall.

New Business:

Lion Mike Thornett made a presentation to the club for an Arts & Crafts Festival as a fund raiser. This would be a joint effort between Faith Connections, Thor Teams and our club. Projected revenue totals range from \$12,000 to 21,000 considering a variety of variables. Lion Mike has prepared documents to present to the Damascus Recreation Center for approval/acceptance. One of the variables is the cost of rental of the facility (\$7,000) which may be waived and would make a big difference in the net proceeds. Lions Club participation would include staffing

ticket & refreshment areas, traffic control and general promotion of the event throughout the community. The proposed date of the event is May 16, 2015. The board approved support of this event.

KL Barbara has spoken with Weis grocery and they are happy to have a collection box located in the store for canned food donations. Lion Tess will provide the box, which will be emptied regularly prior to the holiday basket program. It will be placed in Weis from December 1 – 15.

Lion Del announced that the NBC4 Health & Fitness expo is scheduled for January 10 & 11, 2015 at the convention center in DC. Our club will participate as in past years and it will be reported to LCI to be included in the World of Service totals.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Marcia Holpuch, Secretary

Damascus Lights Up On Black Friday

By Lion Tony Barry

On Friday Nov 28, the Lions club of Damascus continued a 24 year tradition by hanging the Christmas wreaths on the lamp posts throughout Damascus. Six lions and five friends of Lions gathered at the Damascus Tom and Ray's at 9am on Friday morning and after a hearty breakfast donated by Lion Gary Bellison of Tom and Rays and a brief "how to" clinic given by Lion Tony Barry, they split up into 4 teams and began hanging the wreaths.

This year Damascus has all new light poles which call for a new way of hanging the Christmas wreaths. The new poles are quite a bit taller than to old ones and instead of hanging the wreaths in the crook of the pole we hung then on the shaft of the pole using the electrical boxes for support. Lion Tony had tested the new hanging method prior to the Friday event and it proved to be a little easier than the old method.

The hard work of Lions Del Mayhew, Gary Rogers, Tony Barry, Jack Peters, Chris Fletcher and King Lion Barbara made short work of the 40 lamp posts and the team had completed the project by 11:00am. The friends of the Lions who helped were John Barry, Mike Bleinstein, Ryan Muise, CJ Muise 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 donated breakfast to all who helped hang the wreaths.

The Lions will take the Christmas wreaths down in early January

Holiday Giving Project

By Lion Mary Frances Gosnell, Chair

Holiday Giving Project is upon us and it sure takes a mound of talent. To serve 30 families, some 78 children and 89 adults, and to have Santa's sleigh overflowing, demands a lot of attention from a lot of volunteers and a lot of giving from the heart!

Talents - let us think - interviewers, family counselors, mind readers, Interpreters, shoppers, coordinators, packers, wrappers, gift consultants, truckers, haulers, movers, leaders, followers, cardboard engineers, analysts, custodians, workers, volunteers, adjusters, sleigh drivers, Santas, jokesters, sorters, and on and on. That is what it takes to make this project a winner! Lots of Talent! And we will put all these talents to work!

The toys are sorted and the items needed to stuff the stockings for each family will be given out at the first meeting in December. These items are purchased and donated by Lion members. The shopping team is ready and will be doing their shopping for an outfit for each of the children on Wednesday. Lions are asked to bring socks, mittens and hats and all ages to the Lions Christmas Party Dec.16. We will decorate the Mitten tree with them. The school food drives are being organized and the perishable foods will be ordered soon. Now is the time to put our efforts forth.

The TimeLine leading up to delivery on Dec. 20 is included in this newsletter. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the meeting on Dec. 2 awaiting your name to become part of the talent needed to make this project happen. Lion Bob Newlin needs trucks and Lions to make the food drive movements from the schools and NRC on Dec. 17. That evening, Wednesday, Dec. 17 at 8 PM, we will meet at the Damascus UM Church to sort the foods. Thursday, Dec. 18 and Friday, Dec. 19, we will be at the church from 1 pm to 5 pm packing our family food boxes, wrapping clothing and sorting gifts. Saturday, Dec. 20, we will see the Teams load their sleighs and head out to the families after partaking of some coffee and sweets.

For those who sign up for a Delivery Team, your family names and information will be sent out to you by email before December 12. This will give you time to contact your family and locate them.

So you see, we need all of our talents to make this happen. Please make an effort to help in any way that you possibly can – the Sign-up Sheet will be on each table at the Dec. 2 meeting or email Lion Mary Frances of when and where you can help.

HOLIDAY GIVING PROJECT TIMELINE

- Dec 2 Sign-up Sheet to volunteer for Delivery Teams and other duties.
- Dec 2 Distribution of list of items needed to fill stockings that Lions can donate
- Dec 3 Shop for children's clothes
- Dec 16 Bring Mittens, stockings and hats for children to Holiday Party
- Dec 16 Pickup foods from the schools. Lion Bob Newline will coordinate
- Dec 17 7:30pm Sort canned goods at Damascus U M Church
- Dec 18 1-5 pm Teams pack food boxes for families Wrap Children's clothing at Damascus U M Church
- Dec 19 1-5 pm Teams pack food boxes for families Lions pack up all other items for delivery at Damascus U M Church
- Dec 20 8am Delivery Teams pack food boxes into their sleighs at Damascus U M Church and deliver to families
- Dec 20 9:30am Clean up and move surplus food to Help Food Closet

