



## 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 full house with all 3 kids home.



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. I want to extend a special thanks to Lion Mary Frances and her elves 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 6 meeting. We need speakers for this half of the year. Please let me know if you have someone in mind who would like to speak at a meeting so I can put you on the calendar. Our Lions Activities Schedule will be out soon, print a copy of it so you can be reminded of meetings and other important Lion events. Looking ahead we have our NBC 4 Health Convention on January 10. It starts off early on Saturday but it's lots of fun and we end the day with lunch. See Lion Jerry if you'd like to attend. The wreaths and new light poles look great this year thanks to Lion Tony and his crew. Unfortunately they have to come down soon. See Lion Tony if you can help take down the wreaths. Our in house auction is not too far away on March 17. I will definitely bring some Irish Cheer!! 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

## Preschool Vision Screening

By Lion Ken Phillips, Chair

On December 6 as Lion Tess's elves prepared for the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Santa at Gladhill Tractor, Lions Ken and Wayne setup shop for preschool vision screening. Lion Fran arrived to help in registering the children. The many attractions brought in a great crowd of parents and children with a number interested in getting the eye screening. Most of those interested were able to get the screening. A couple could not settle enough for screening, however we were able to screening 10 children from 2 to 5 years of age. All passed according the test equipment. Thanks to Lions Wayne and Fran for their help and to Lion Ken Cook for coming by for moral support. A special thanks goes to Lion Tess for providing the venue for doing the screening.

## NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo

By Lion Jerry Mallack, Chair

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 10<sup>th</sup> 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!

I will be emailing time and location for car polling to the Shady Grove Station for our shift from 9-11:00. The following have volunteered so far, but more are needed: President Barbary Barry, Lions Tony Barry, Wayne Marr, Ken Phillips, Marcia Holpuch, Charlie Hertel, Mike Thornett and Jerry Mallack.

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### Upcoming Events

**Jan 6** – Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove UM Church  
**Jan 10 & 11** – NBC4 Health and Fitness Expo  
**Jan 13** - Board Meeting @ Gladhill Bros  
**Jan 20** - Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove UM Church  
**Feb 3** - Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove UM Church  
**Feb 10** - Board Meeting @ Gladhill Bros  
**Feb 17** - Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove UM Church

### 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

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### News about The Club

Lion Joy Schwab has been transferred to Lorient Mt. Airy for her rehabilitation. She had surgery following her fall and it took 2 plates and some screws to put her back together again. She has been up out of bed for short walks but says she has a long way to go before she feels like herself again. Feel free to pop in to see her.

In other member news, we were notified that Lion Dave Davidson is now at Potomac Valley Nursing Home in Rockville. His partner-in-service, Gail, had a heart attack while in rehab at Lorient, was moved to Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, and, at last report, is very ill. Attempts to reach the family for an update have been unsuccessful.

Keep these Lions in your thoughts as we head into the New Year.

### New Year's Resolutions

I have resolved to stop procrastinating, starting in 2016.

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 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, D. Mayhew, P. McKenzie, R. Molesworth, J. Schwab, M. Thornett, T. Barry

The minutes of the November meeting were amended to correct the Net activity for the Foundation account. The amount should be +2661, not -2661. The minutes were then approved.

Club Treasurer Report: Approved.

Foundation Treasurer Report: Approved.

**Treasury Summary:**

	Club	Foundation
Income Nov	275	1968
Expenses Nov	1215	2012
Net Nov	-940	-44

Club Treasurer Tony Barry noted that the account for the club funds has been changed to a non-interest-bearing account. This change will result in a loss of interest income (budgeted at \$2.00 for this year) but will allow the balance to fall below the bank minimum of \$1500 without penalty (\$15 fee). The general balance of the club account has fallen. Better attendance at meetings or more members opting for prepaid meals would help. An anonymous survey will be sent to poll the membership about meetings. Alternately, club dues will need to be increased.

Foundation Treasurer Mary Frances noted that a donation of \$250 was received from the grandson of Lion Bill Mahylis.

Secretary Report: Letters will be sent to outstanding dues members.

**Old Business:**

KL Barbara reported that contrary to earlier statements, Weis was not able to put a can donation box in their store for the holiday giving project. The store did provide her with a gift card in the amount of \$250 in support of the project. Lion Mary Frances will use it as she is able. Perishables have already been ordered from Safeway. Any excess value will be used at the next Pancake Breakfast.

Lion Wayne Marr submitted the mid-year report on vision assistance. Requests continue to come in and expenses to date are very close to budget projections.

Lion Mary Frances has everything ready for the Holiday Basket project.

Lion Mike Thornett reported that the Art Festival fundraiser in the spring is moving forward. He is still waiting for a commitment from the Montgomery County Recreation Department on providing the Damascus Rec Center at no cost. David Thror and Ted Gira, two local artists, are putting the word out among the art community and visiting with local art associations to generate vendors for the event. Decision date is January 15<sup>th</sup> to know if there are enough artists on board to make the event viable.

Lion Marcia provided history on the benches. The cost was \$875 per bench with a 2 year price guarantee dated 2/28/2011. The remaining funds will be spent on a bench and installation in memory of Damascus Lions. Potential location would be in front of Lion Patricia McKenzie's office.

220 children attended the morning with Santa at Gladhill Brothers. 10 preschool screenings were done with Lions Fran Burlas, Ken Phillips, Ken Cook and Wayne Marr working the event.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marcia Holpuch, Secretary

## **Holiday Basket Project**

By Mary Frances Gosnell, Chair

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

Oh, that was the December Lions Tale message..... But we put all those talents to work to make our Holiday Giving Project one to be proud of. Let's think of the project in numbers –

- We served 78 children and 89 adults, a total of 167 people
- We served 30 families
- We coordinated food drives with schools and NRC Employee Club netting some 6000 items
- A member of the NRC Employee Club made 100 pot holders
- We received over 90 toys from the Tradesmen Motorcycle Club Jingle Bell Toy Run including two bicycles
- We worked approximately 390 hours to make the project a success
- Thirty three Lions, 2 partners-in-service, 4 family members, 9 Boy Scouts and 12 friends of Lions worked on the project
- We purchased 152 clothing items for the children and had 4 items donated
- We purchased 30 pounds of butter, 30 gallons of milk, 30 dozen of eggs and 300 pounds of potatoes
- We purchased 60 dozen dinner rolls and 60 loaves of bread
- We had 3 dozen of cookies for 30 families – 90 dozen homemade cookies
- We had mittens, gloves, socks or hats and scarves for each of the 78 children donated by Lions
- We filled a stocking for each family with 10 different items – a total of 300 items donated by Lions

- Two bushel of apples (approximately 160) were donated by Butler's Orchard
- We had 360 oranges purchased from Laytonsville Lions
- 170 toothbrushes donated by Damascus Dental Group
- Lions donated \$ 451.61 in cash thru "Albert's Jar"!

And so the project is complete for 2014 at a cost of \$ 3,954.18. The Holiday Giving Fund is still in progress and counting.

Thank you to key people in the project –

- Lion Chris Fletcher who profiled every family in a very timely manner and followed the project to the end
- Lion Bob Newlin who followed thru with the school food drives with much success
- Partners-In-Service Jennifer Molesworth and Bonnie Mayhew who helped with toys, shopped for clothes and coordinated the wrapping of the clothes
- Ray Molesworth who gets the food boxes, who waits in the sideline for my beckon and call, goes to the store with me to get the perishable foods and then helps pack it in the boxes and takes the extra food to the HELP Closet
- Last but not least – all Lions, yes, all of you, who have been a real support group with the whole project.

The Holiday Giving Project is one that the Damascus Lions can take pride in knowing that thirty families in the Damascus/Clarksburg area were served this Holiday Season!

Thank you Lions for a GREAT HOLIDAY GIVING PROJECT!

I have tried to evaluate the project as to the real value of all the items given to the families – Should you like to put a value on this year's Holiday Giving Project, email me with a number by January 10. We will see who is closest and announce the winner at the January 20<sup>th</sup> meeting!