



The President's Message

Happy Blizzard 2016
Damascus Lions!

Is everyone plowed out by now? As I am writing this, I am home on my 5th day due to the snow. The big question is, will Montgomery County open for Friday only? And we have Ground Hog day just around the corner, will we have MORE snow days!



I know it's cold and dark and many of you would rather stay home where it is warm, but please try to attend our dinner meetings. We have some good speakers lined up and I think it's one of the best meals in town. See you on February 2 and 16.

January was a pretty slow month. I think the Damascus Lions Club made a good appearance at the NBC 4 Health Fitness Expo on January 9. Those attended were Lion Wayne, Ken P., Marcia, Chris, Charlie Hertel, Jerry, Mike, Tony and myself. It was a busy morning consisting of a metro ride to the convention center, performing eye screenings and escorting the Lion around to all of the exhibits. Then we ended the day with lunch at Red, Hot and Blue!

Later that afternoon, Lion Tony and his crew took down the Holiday Wreaths. I guess the holidays are officially over.

March will be here soon. Don't forget about our in house auction the day before St. Patrick's Day. Start planning (or creating) your items to sell. This is our biggest club fund raiser and it keeps our dues to a minimum. See Lion Marcia with auction ideas or items. Please try to attend AND bring a guest or two. It is always a fun night.

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.

Even though it's cold and we're stuck inside don't forget about the Damascus Lions club - Please remember to Appreciate, Believe in and Care for your fellow Lions.

Happy Valentine's Day
KL Barbara



Taking down the Wreaths

By Lion Tony Barry, Chair

On Saturday Jan 9, 2016, 5 members of the Damascus Lions club took down the Christmas wreaths from the lamp posts throughout Damascus. Lions Tony Barry, Charlie Hertel, Ray Molesworth, Joe Howerton and Wayne Marr braved the cold at 2pm in the afternoon and removed the wreaths that were hung in November. It took the team about 2 hours to complete the task. The wreaths have now been stored away in the Barry Barn until next November when they will again be on display.

NBC4-Health and Fitness Expo

By Lion Jerry Mallack, Chair

The Damascus Lions Club participated in the NBC4-Health and Fitness Expo again this year, our shift was Saturday morning January 9th from 9:00-11:00 and many thanks to the members that gave up their Saturday morning to work the LCOF Vision and Hearing station at the convention center. Many thanks to President Barbara Barry and Lion Tony Barry, Lion Mike Thornett, Lion Wayne Marr, Lion Ken Phillips, Lion Charlie Hertel, Lion Chris Fletcher and myself, Lion Jerry Mallack. Secretary Marcia was under the weather and unable to attend; she wished us well and we wished her speedy recovery whereupon we started on our adventure; the day was balmy, the Metro Train ride was uneventful and for once arrived on time. Lions Wayne, Mike and Tony manned the vision station, Lion Chris worked as "your next" caller for the hearing station that was in the new LCOF's trailer. Lion Charlie worn our lion's suit and along with President Barbara and Lion Jerry, walked the convention floor to the delight of visitor's young and old! The vision and hearing stations were constant with visitors and before we knew it our shift was over and it was time to start for home. Before going our separate ways we shared lunch together at Red, Hot and Blue and a fun time was had by all.

Many thanks for giving up your Saturday to help with this worthy project.

Blood Drive Canceled

The Red Cross Blood Drive, scheduled for Jan. 28 had to be canceled due to the weather.

Lion's Tale
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Lions Information: (202) LIONS22

Birthdays

Lions:

Feb. 6 – Julie Sain
Feb. 21 - Ray Sicotte
Feb. 24 – Jolly Somaiya

Partners-in-Service

Feb. 10 - Sue Poole

Anniversaries

Feb. 17 - Kathy and Mike Thornett
Feb. 20 - Mary and Jim Belcher

News about The Club

Please update your roster books with the following new data:

Lion Woody Ward has a new email address: woodrow.ward1@gmail.com

And contact information for our newest Lion:

Joe Howerton
22 Faith Ct.
Damascus, MD 20872
cell: 301.370.5560
email: joehowertonsales@gmail.com

Joke

George gets an email from his next door neighbor, Frank. The email says:

“George, I have a confession to make. I feel really bad about this, but when you are away, I’ve been using your wife. It’s really preying on my conscience, and I want you to know I will never do it again.”

George jumps up in a jealous rage, grabs his gun, charges in the kitchen and shoots his wife. He goes back to his home office and reloads his gun. He’s about to head over to Frank’s to shoot him, when he gets a second email from Frank: “I hate auto correct. It should have said ‘wifi.’”

Upcoming Events

Feb 2 - Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove UMC
Feb 9 - Board Meeting @ Gladhill Bros.
Feb 16 - Dinner Meeting - Spouse Night @ Wesley Grove UMC
Mar 1 - Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove UMC
Mar 8 - Board Meeting @ Gladhill Bros.
Mar 15 - Dinner Meeting - In-House Auction @ Wesley Grove UMC
Mar TBD - Pancake Breakfast @ Damascus UMC
Apr. 5 - Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove UMC
Apr. 12 - Board Meeting @ Gladhill Bros.
Apr. 16 - 22C Night @ Comfort Inn, Bowie, MD
Apr. 19 - Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove UMC

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
12 Jan 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by King Lion (KL) Barbara Barry.

Attendees: B. Barry, M. Carr, T. Gladhill, M. Gosnell, G. Hibbard, M. Holpuch, T. Jackson, P. McKenzie, R. Molesworth, J. Sain, J. Schwab, W. Schwab, M. Thornett

The minutes of the Dec. meeting was approved.

Club Treasurer Report: Approved.

Foundation Treasurer Report: Approved.

Treasury Summary:

	<u>Club</u>	<u>Foundation</u>
Income	1307	4394
Expenses	1607	3300
Net	-300	1094

LCOF is meeting on Thursday. Lion Mary Frances will be attending.

Lion Wayne submitted the 6 month report on eyeglass assistance. Requests are down from previous years.

Lions Mary Frances, Charlie & Marcia Holpuch served as judges for the Cub Scout Fellers Cake Bake. Much sugar was had by all.

Lion Julie reported on progress on the Community Shred to be scheduled for May 7th in conjunction with Damascus Community Bank at Damascus United Methodist Church. It will run from 8:30am to 1pm with the shred truck operating from 9 to 12 or until it is full. The bank will create flyers for the event and advertising will be done thru the Mt. Airy Messenger and Everything Damascus. A donation jar will be put out with collections to be given to the church for one of their projects. Julie will follow up with size and price for a generic and changeable sign for the club to advertise events.

Lion Joy Schwab confirmed the following dates for events at Damascus United Methodist Church: Pancake breakfasts: 3/19, 7/9 & 10/15; Youth night 5/3 and Holiday Dinner 12/20.

Lion Tom Jackson needs dates for the year for the sign committee.

Lion Cheryl has resigned from chairing Youth Night. Lions Barbara and Tammy will step up to manage the event.

Lion Marcia will follow up with Carl Vail on the status of the Relay for Life. No information has been received yet this year.

Lion Mike presented the audit and tax return for the Foundation. No exceptions were noted on the audit and the tax return will be submitted this month by Lion Mary Frances. The submission of the audit was approved and Mike was commended for his work on behalf of the Foundation.

A donation of \$1000 was received in memory of Lion Dave Davidson with paperwork for matching funds which will be submitted this month.

The meal policy draft was discussed with some modifications. Lions Tom and Mary Frances will review LCI policy on the number and type of activities required by a prospective member prior to installation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marcia Holpuch, Secretary

Christmas Basket Report

By Lion Mary Frances Gosnell, Chair

This year we served 29 families with 141 members – 82 children of which 15 were 12 years old and older and 59 adults. We had ten teams of Lions, families and friends who delivered to the 29 families the following –

- Outfit for each of the 57 children and a \$25 Gift Certificate to the 15 teens
- \$25 Safeway Gift Certificate and 2 loaves of bread for each family
- 2 plus Toys for each child donated by the Tradesmen Motorcycle Club included 3 bikes, 5 snow saucers and 2 scooters plus games or activity for each family
- Holiday package of 3 dozen homemade cookies by the Goldstein Family
- Toothbrush for every family member donated by the Damascus Dental Office.
- Tube of Toothpaste for each family purchased by Lions for each family.
- Dozen apples for each family donated by Butler's Orchard
- Gloves, Mittens, hats and socks for each child donated by individual Lions
- Two large boxes of nonperishable foods(estimated to contain in excess of 100 items) by NRC Employees, Rocky Hill Middle School Leo Club, John T. Baker Middle School and Damascus High School Leo Club Food Drives
- Box of Candy Canes for each family donated by Safeway

It took us about 2 months to put it all together –

- The Tradesmen Motorcycle Club planned and executed the Toy Run
- We received the family names and Lion Chris Fletcher contacted every family verifying and gathering information we needed to make the project a successful one – a Key Element!
- A letter was mailed to each family telling of their impending delivery
- Lion Bob Newlin started his Food Drive inquiries and planning through NRC Employees, Rocky Hill Middle School Leos, Damascus High School Leos and John T. Baker Middle School
- Tradesmen delivered toys to our storage site in Mt. Airy – Back Acre Holdings location and Family partner, Carl Dixon, was the doorkeeper for us!
- Letters were written to Damascus Dental for Toothbrushes, Butler's for apples, Safeway for candy canes and to all members of the Lions Club telling them about the project and encouraging monetary donations
- Partners-in-service, Bonnie Mayhew and Jennifer Molesworth, assisted in sorting the toys and packed them for each family.
- Lion Bob Newlin and 7 Lions moved food from the four locations to the dining room at Damascus UM Church. Estimated to have handled in excess of 7000 pieces, which took some 20 Lions, Family and friends sorted the 7000 plus pieces of foods – Looked like a warehouse!
- Lions Ray Molesworth and Jack Peters along with Partner in Service Dave Gill made up the boxes while Lion Joy Schwab labeled them
- Teams started food shopping for their families and packed their food boxes. Didn't have to go through the cash register and pay was the plus!
- Wrappers, Lions Joy Schwab, Sandy Gill and Chris Fletcher, Partners-in-Service Bonnie Mayhew and Jennifer Molesworth and Friends, Mary Jane Walter and Roseanne Tedder wrapped the clothing, sorted it and packed into the Family bags. Lions Warren Schwab and George Hibbard packed food for two Teams who could not come in the afternoon.

- Purchased diapers for 8 families with children under 2 years old
- Picked up order and Gift Cards from Safeway and negotiated for free coffee from Starbucks for Saturday morning.

Then teams finished packing their boxes and Lions Bob Snapp, Jack Peters, Wayne Marr and Tom Jackson packed for two teams that could not pack their own. With all the food packed, then a few final chores and organizing was completed ready for delivery – lights went out awaiting The Lions and Santa arrival early Saturday morning and 25 Lions, 4 Partners-in-service and family members, 7 members of BS Troop 445 and 8 friends of Lions, enjoyed a Koffee Klatch provided by Safeway Starbucks, loaded their sleighs and headed out on their journey with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus in tow. Teams returned, with their delivery receipts in hand, telling of their experiences

Finally the surplus food was then packed and delivered to the HELP Closet to continue serving the community needs. Tables and chairs were stored away and the doors locked!

A crude estimate of the encompassing efforts of the job for reporting for our club to the District and International Level was -

- Project involved 53 people of which 35 were lions plus the 50 or so Tradesmen
- Project encompassed in excess of 325 hours of our time
- Project actual cost to the Lions - \$ 3,600
- Value of the project estimated to be over \$14,000
- 2015 Giving Fund efforts were successful as in previous years we were taking a considerable loss – Collected \$4,427 of which The Tradesmen donated \$500. NRC employees donated \$300 and the members of the Lions Club over \$2,000.

And so, we're all done, until next Christmas.