

Damascus

MD

LION'S TALE



December 2023

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The President's Message



The colorful leaves have been falling from the trees with the help of sporadic winds. Rake, and rake some more to build the mound of leaves for collection; and stimulating an appetite just in time for Thanksgiving dinner. The cool weather is invigorating, as we move toward the Holiday season of caring and giving.

November started with the Tradesman Motorcycle Club (MC) Toy Drive at

Vanessa's in Taylorsville on November 4, 2023. Six Lions attended to show support for another successful effort by the Tradesmen MC. Several Tradesmen MC members will attend our January 16, 2024 meeting. On November 18th we returned to Valley Park Dr for Road Cleanup. After Thanksgiving, we collected boxes of can goods on November 27th and 28th gathered by folks at Damascus High School and JT Baker Middle School, respectively. On November 29th, five Lions went clothes shopping at Kohl's as part of the Holiday Giving Project. In the evening of the 29th, four Lions participated in the annual Wesley Grove UMC Community Tree Lighting ceremony.

December 2023 begins with several activities on December 2nd. Hanging of the Wreaths on Damascus Light Poles; vision pre-screening and Santa visiting at Gladhill Brothers Tractor. On December 10th, several Lions are carpooling to attend the Star Theatre Holiday Show, matinee in Mercersburg, PA. The main activity for December, the Holiday Giving Project serving 35 families, started the previous month with the Tradesmen MC Run for Toys and shopping for clothes. The actions heat-up December 14th-23rd with team assignments, contacting families, sorting canned foods, packing boxes (food and gifts), delivering the boxes to families, transporting excess food to the HELP closet, and clean-up.

Have Festive Cheer in the Holidays and Happy New Year!

KL Charlie

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Blood Drive - November 3

The Damascus Lions Club hosted our third blood drive for year 2023-2024 at the American Legion Hall on Friday November 3rd, 2023. We collected 27 units of blood for the American Red Cross.

This puts our total units for 2023-2024 = 112 Units. I would like to thank Lion Joan Paseur and Lion Chris Fletcher for helping work the blood drive. We set up and broke down the hall, put up signage, helped donors sign up for future drives, worked the canteen and spoke to our donors about Lionism and some of our upcoming events as we worked alongside the American Legion Staff.

Also, a special thanks to my Son in law Ivo for his first time donating blood with the ARC and for staying around and helping breaking down the drive and working with our Lions and the American Legion Staff. Our next ARC Blood Drive for 2023-2024 year will be Friday January 5th, 2024. This drive will be at the American Legion Hall in Damascus.

We are in need of new donors. Please ask a relative, friend or neighbor!!

Final Blood Drives for 2023-2024 are: Friday March 1st, 2024 and Friday May 3rd, 2024. These two drives will be held at the Damascus United Methodist Church.

Lion Charlie Hertel

HOLIDAY GIVING PROJECT MOVING FORWARD

This is a Service Giving Project of our Damascus Lions Club since the beginnings – 77 years! Many things have changed in making it happen but the real reason has not - Serving families of our Community! This is the type of Service Project District Governor Chris Wooters proclaims! It includes so many different aspects of SERVICE! Many different ages being offered assistance! Many people of all ages being recipients of our SERVICE!

We have signed up for 35 families this year for our Holiday Project – 88 children, 75 adults!

We put the project into motion on November 4 at Vanessa's Grill, Taylorsville, with the Tradesmen Motorcycle Club. They had a great response with lots of quality toys and cash.

Lions are asked to be generous in their contribution to "Albert's Jar" being passed around at the dinner meetings. We purchased an outfit for each of the children, 2 bath towels for each family as well as Gift Cards for perishable food items.

Lion Ray Molesworth has coordinated the Food Drives with the area schools for non-perishable foods.

We will have Signup sheets available again at the December 5 Dinner Meeting for Delivery Teams, sorting good on Wednesday, December 20, as well as prep jobs on the 21st and 22nd.

We need YOU! We will have fellow Lions to pack food for Teams that are not available to pack. Please let Lion Mary Frances know if you are unable to pack your food! A large vehicle or truck is helpful for Delivery Teams. Teams will be assigned 3 – 4 families for delivery. Teams will have 2-3 food boxes, bag of toys and another bag of clothes and gifts. A couple of bicycles have been spied in the toy collection!!

Tradesmen Motorcycle members will be on site Saturday morning, the 23rd, to help with loading and delivering. This is a great opportunity to express to them our gratitude for partnering with us!

The Project will take place at Gladhill Tractor, Route 27 and 80.

Our Schedule to put the project together is –
December 20 6:30 pm - Sorting the canned foods at Gladhill Tractor.

December 21 and 22 – Noon to 5 pm. Teams pack food boxes for families. Gifts and Toys will be packed as well. We can use help with a variety of chores.

December 23 8:45 AM – Teams deliver the food and gifts to their families. Teams will congregate around 7:30 for coffee and buns!

Thanks Damascus Lions for taking the time to faithfully and joyfully serve the families of our Damascus /Clarksburg Communities!

'Tis The Reason For The Season!

Mary Frances Gosnell
Holiday Giving Project Chair

Road Cleanup – Nov 18

On Saturday November 14 four Lions performed a road cleanup of our adopted road, Valley Park Drive. The trash was light this time since our September road cleanup was postponed til October. I want to thank the following: Lion Ray Molesworth, Lion Bob Ippolito, and Lion Barbara. Lion Tony Barry



work of the 46 lamp posts and the team had completed the project by 10:15am. The friends of the Lions who helped were Nick Doan and his family and John Barry. 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.

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

Lion Tony Barry



Holiday Wreaths – Dec 2

Lions Light Up Damascus

On Saturday Dec 2, 2023 the Lions club of Damascus continued a 35 year tradition by hanging the Christmas wreaths on the lamp posts throughout Damascus.



10 lions and 5 friends of Lions gathered at the Damascus McDonalds at 9am on Saturday morning and after a brief “how to” clinic given by Lion Tony Barry, they split up into 4 teams and began hanging the wreaths.

The Lions club normally hangs the wreaths on Black Friday, but postponed it this year due to the death of Lion Tony’s mother (aged 101). The weather cooperated nicely this year. The temperature was about 50 and the wind was calm. The 4 teams completed hinging 46 wreaths in about an hour. Lions Joe Howerton, Tony Barry, Ray Molesworth, Barbara Barry, Vahe Aghamalian, Nanda Alapati, Bob Ippolito, Jon Inglefield, Carol and Charlie Stone made short



The Tradesmen Motorcycle Jingle Bell Toy Run.

King Lion Charlie, Lion Carol, Lion Chris, Lion Mary Frances, Lion Nanda & Lion Joan attended the Tradesman Motorcycle Jingle Bell Run on Saturday November 4 at Vanessa's Corner Pub in Westminster.



Lions Attend Tree Lighting Service at Wesley



These Pictures are from Holiday Baskets a Long Time Ago – Guess who the people are !



Upcoming Events

December 2 - 10am-1pm, Cookies with Santa @ Gladhill's

December 5 – Dinner meeting, Wesley Grove UMC, 6:45 pm

December 13 -Board Meeting, Gladhill Brothers, 7 pm

December 20-23 – Holiday Baskets, Gladhill Brothers

December 19 – Holiday Party, Wesley Grove UMC, 6:45 pm

Time to Celebrate

December Birthdays:

Bob Breiner	12/5
Tony Barry	12/17
Del Mayhew	12/29

*Significant Birthday

Partners in Service

Tom Marley (Julie Sain)	12/12
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December Anniversaries:

None



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