

Damascus

MD

LION'S TALE



June 2023

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The President's Message



I hope everyone enjoyed their Memorial Day Holiday, a time when Americans traditionally kick off their summer but more importantly honor those who gave

their lives serving our country.

Somehow a year has gone by and my term as your President is coming to an end. Prior President's told me that your term ends just as you get comfortable in the role, and I can certainly relate. I'm very appreciative of all the encouragement from fellow Lions over the past year and look forward to continuing some unfinished business with the board and supporting our new slate of officers including incoming club President Lion Charlie Stone when they are installed June 20th.

As you will read in this month's articles, the past month was quite a busy one for our club. While June will be a less active with events it's a great time to attend our dinner meetings, visit with other clubs or get involved with Celebrate Damascus events including our pancake breakfast, flea market and parade participation. Please help spread the word!

KL Joe

MAY EVENTS

WHITE CANE DAYS- May 2023

Damascus Lions: Congratulations! At Safeway East and West during the three days of May 3-5 2023 (30 shifts), we received \$2,204.35, for a shift average of \$73.48. These are excellent numbers. Absolutely every shift was important to our total. We had twenty-eight dedicated Damascus Lions performing storefront collections. Then, on Saturday, May 13, at our Damascus Shred Fest, we collected an additional \$1,156.00! Our grand total was \$3,360.35! Thank you, Storefront Lions; and thank you, Shredfest!

Think the word: "Lion" in front of all names in this article! As always, special thanks go to our White Cane committee members who served as both Managers of the Day and as Money Counters: Del Mayhew and Tom Jackson. Additional Money Counters were George Hibbard and Lion Partner Bonnie Mayhew.

Special Recognitions:

Nine **Over-\$100-in-One-Shift Awards** go to: Bob Ippolito, Charlie Hertel, Barbara Barry, Chris Fletcher, Bob & Colleen Newlin, Ray Molesworth, Tessie Gladhill, Bobbie Marr and John Washington. And let's recognize Chris Fletcher again for her fantastic work at the Shredfest!

Storefront Lions:

Here is the list of Damascus Lions who gave of their valuable time for one or more storefront collection shifts (multiple shifts in parentheses): Bambous, B. Barry, Fletcher(2!), Gladhill, Gosnell, C. Hertel(2!), T. Hertel, Howerton, Ippolito(2!), Mackay, B. Marr, W. Marr, Mayhew, Molesworth(2!), B. Newlin, C. Newlin, Passeur(2!), Peters, Sain, J. Schwab, W. Schwab, Snapp, C. Stone, Ch. Stone, K. Thornett, M. Thornett, Washington, and Woodfield. Thank you, one and all storefront Lions!

Lion Wayne Marr

BLOOD DRIVE –May 5

We hosted a blood drive on Friday May 5th, 2023 we collected 30 units of blood at Damascus Grace Fellowship Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

Lion Chris and Lion Joan worked the canteen all day talking to the blood donors and spreading the good word about joining the Damascus Lions Club!!

Thanking both ladies for their continued support of the drive. We missed you Lion Sue:)

This will be our last drive for the 2022-2023 Blood Collections. This put our Blood Collections for 2022-2023 = 249 TOTAL.

We have our next drive scheduled for Friday July 7th, 2023 at the Damascus American Legion. This will be our first drive for 2023-2024. This will be a very interesting day with the parade later that evening. The American Legion wants to be included in the local blood drives.

As of right now no drives scheduled beyond this!!
Lion Charlie Hertel

SHRED FEST – May 13

A little rain didn't stop 8 Lions and 2 partners in service from donating their time at this year's spring public shred event held at Damascus United Methodist Church. This year we served 120 people and collected \$1,206. All proceeds from the Shred Fest go to our White Cane Days fundraising for sight preservation. This event would not be nearly as successful without ongoing financial support from WesBanco Bank that covers the entire cost of the Shred truck service. A special thanks to Damascus UMC for providing a perfect venue for this type of event. Our next shred event will be held in Clarksburg in the fall.

Lion Joe Howerton



ROAD CLEANUP- May 20

On Saturday May 14, six members of the Damascus Lions Club and one child of a Lion, performed a road cleanup of our adopted road Valley Park Drive. We collected 5 large bags of garbage. The grass on the north side of the road was too tall to walk through (although Lion Bob spotted a turtle!) Therefore we need to call the county to have them mow it. Nothing

interesting to report...just trash. I want to thank the following Lions; Bob Ippolito, Ray Molesworth, Carol Stone, Joe Howerton & son, Ben, and Barbara Barry.

Lion Tony Barry



2023 SCHOLARSHIPS

The Vernon R. Simpson Scholarships were presented to the recipients at the Damascus High School Awards Ceremony. The scholarships are for \$1,500 each for tuition.

They were presented to –

Sai Divvela – DHS - who plans to attend Johns Hopkins University for Computer Science and Math Degree

Ryan Gagen – DHS - who plans to attend Clemson University for a Business Degree

Cameron Gray - DHS - who plans to attend Georgia Tech for a Mechanical Engineering Degree

Lindsey Witmer – DHS - who plans to attend University of Delaware for a Business Degree

The Michael J. Thornett Unique Achievement Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500 was presented to

Kason Willis – DHS – who plans to attend Montgomery College for a Forestry Degree

The Unique scholarship is for a graduating student living in the Damascus School Cluster who is attending a 2 year or vocational school and who have attempted to overcome a unique challenge presented to them.

Due to the lack of applications for the Thornett Unique Achievement Scholarship, the Committee asked the principals of Damascus and Clarksburg High Schools to select a worthy recipient.

Thus, the Unique Principal's Awards were presented in the amount of \$1,500 each to -

Vassilios Zaranis – DHS – who will be attending Montgomery college

Danny Tejada – CHS – who plans to attend Montgomery College working towards a Nursing Degree

Congratulations to all the Scholarship recipients!

The Damascus Lions Club Scholarship Program began in 2000 from a Lion Michael Thornett suggestion that the Lions Club needed to spread Lionism awareness into education along with the Leo Clubs.

Since that time, Damascus Lions have invested \$96,000 in scholarships in 85 students in the Damascus School Cluster.

The Unique Achievement Scholarship originated in 2016. The funds were from the Damascus Lions Education College Loan program started in 1986 in honor of a longtime Lion and Treasurer, Lion Basil Burdette, by Lion Burdette's employer, Damascus Motor Co. The loan program continued to be funded from time to time by Damascus Motors. Upon closing down the program in 2015 with all the loans being paid in full, the monies were set aside for the Unique Achievement Scholarship Program. The scholarship was renamed in 2022 to the Michael J. Thornett Unique Achievement Scholarship. Since its beginning, the Scholarship has invested \$22,500 in 21 students who plan to attend a 2-year college or trade school. Lion Mary Frances Gosnell

YOUTH NIGHT – May 16

The Lions Club of Damascus celebrated its annual Youth Recognition Night at the Damascus United Methodist Church on May 16, 2023. Dinner was served by the church to 85 Lions and guests who were in attendance. Cash donations were given to the Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Damascus 4H, Clarksburg 4H, Damascus Post Prom Committee and Clarksburg Post Prom Committee. Each group provided an overview of their activities. The Damascus Lions Club sponsors Leo Clubs at Rocky Hill Middle School, Clarksburg High School, and Damascus High School. A representative from each Leo Club was on hand to receive the Leo of the Year award for each Leo Club.

Schools in the Damascus and Clarksburg Cluster were invited to nominate two students who had made

outstanding contributions to their school during the school year. These contributions included leadership, academic and community service activities. Those students were designated as “Rock Stars” and received an award from the Lions Club. The elementary schools (ES) participating were Damascus ES, Clearspring ES, Woodfield ES, Rockwell ES and Snowden Farm ES. The remaining elementary schools in the Damascus and Clarksburg Cluster declined their invitation to participate. Students from Rocky Hill Middle School (MS), Hallie Wells MS, John T. Baker MS, Damascus HS, and Clarksburg HS were also recognized as “Rock Stars”.

Lions Barbara Barry, Wayne Marr, Charlie Hertel and Mike Thornett spoke briefly about their experience in Lionism and the meaning of Lionism. Lion Kevin Yates, Damascus High School Principal, provided his insights into the current and future activities of our young people. The evening was concluded with the singing of “God Bless America” led by Lion Julie Sain.

Lions Mike Thornett and Ray Molesworth

(See more pictures on pages 5 & 6)



BUSY JULY ACTIVITIES

Mark your calendars now for the July 6 - 7 & 8 Lions Activities during Celebrate Damascus. We need all Lions on Board to make it happen. It's a great time to make a presence in our town. So, mark your calendars now! It is a busy time for Lions!

The Planned Activities as of now –

July 6 - 6:30 set up for Flea Market DUMC

Get groceries for Pancake Breakfast

July 7 - Cook and set up dining room for breakfast 9-12 at DUMC

Blood Drive at American Legion 9 am set up - Clean up 3:30

Celebrate Damascus Parade Float meet at DHS at 5:30

July 8 - Pancake Breakfast 5:30 am to noon, DUMC.

Need cooks and servers and clean-up crew.

Also :

Goodies for Bake Table

Lions Flea Market , DUMC– set up 8 am need help from 9 - 4p.m. and with cleaning up
Montgomery County Police Drug Take-Back – Space at Flea Market

Critical Power, Inc. Battery Collection –
Keep our landfills healthy! – Space at Flea Market
Sign Up at the June 6th meeting to help. You can solicit vendors for the Flea Market – contact Lion Tess. Also see Lion Warren for Pancake Breakfast tickets to sell to your friends and neighbors.
Mark your calendars now! Let's GO LIONS!

Lions Tess Gladhill, Charlie Hertel and Mary Frances Gosnell

Road Cleanup Picture



Shred Fest Picture

Pictures from Youth Night





Time to Celebrate

June Birthdays:

Charlie Hertel	6/16
Jenn Cano	6/17
Vahe Aghamalian	6/26
Eloise Woodfield	6/28

Partners in Service

Bonnie Mayhew (Del)	6/19
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June Anniversaries:

Bob & Colleen Newlin	6/16 (5 yrs!)
Ken Mackay & Amy Young	6/18 Getting Married!
Kim & Graham Moore	6/29 (16 yrs)

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Upcoming Events

June 6 – Dinner meeting, at Wesley Grove 6:45pm.

June 14- Board Meeting / Gladhill Bros

June 20 – Damascus Lions Installation Night
at Montgomery Country Club, Laytonsville MD
for more information contact Lion Bob Snapp at 301-788-6701

Looking WAY Ahead

Week of July 2, there will no dinner meeting due to the holiday

July 7 – 8: Damascus Days! Parade on Friday July 7, for more information contact Lion Tess general@gladhillbrothers.com

July 8: Flea Market for more information contact Lion Chris ChrisChrisWFletcher@verizon.net

July 8: Pancake Breakfast at DMUC for more information contact Lion Mary Frances MgosnellDamascusLions@gmail.com

See flyer on page 9

August 15 – Ice Cream Dipping, All day at the Montgomery County Fair grounds. For more info contact Lion Tammy Hertel Tammy_Hertel@mcpsmd.org

DAMASCUS LIONS

JULY 8 – EVENTS



PANCAKE, SAUSAGE & SCRAMBLED EGG

BREAKFAST *7 AM – 11 AM \$15 ADULTS \$ 7 CHILDREN*



CELEBRATE DAMASCUS FLEA MARKET



9 AM – 4 PM RENT A SPACE - \$ 25

MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE

DRUG TAKE BACK 10 am -2 pm



Bring your old prescription and over the counter drugs



CRITICAL POWER, INC.

BATTERY COLLECTION 10 am – 2 pm

Collecting all batteries except commercial batteries.

All at Damascus U M Church July 8 during Celebrate Damascus

HELP DAMASCUS LIONS CLEAN UP THE ENVIRONMENT