



The President's Message

Fellow Lions -

January is the month to reflect on what we, jointly and individually, plan to do for the rest of the year. Or at least we think about it! We dream of great happenings, doing laborious work, repairing and cleaning out, traveling and being with family and friends. We think of all the things we should or could do but never get around to it. And then we just sit and watch a football game or read a good book! We need a January in our lives at least once a year, don't you think?



Congratulations to Lion Ken Phillips for being voted the Damascus Lions "Most Valuable Player". Lion Ken will be honored at 22-C Night for his continued efforts with the Damascus Lions and Lionism.

My appreciation goes to –

- Lion Jerry Mallack for coordinating the NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo at the DC Convention Center. We certainly made a difference that day along with other Lions of District 22-C. There were referrals in the testing of eyes, the Glaucoma Testing, the hearing Tests and the Preschool Vision Testing. We touched many lives that day! Thanks for all the Lions who journeyed to the Expo.
- Lion Charlie Hertel for great Blood Drives. He had them at two churches and the large one on the ML King Holiday. See his article elsewhere in this newsletter - Thanks to all that helped including Charlie's family and all who came and gave blood. Again we have touched many lives - we have saved lives with our efforts.
- Lions Tess Gladhill and Jack Peters for coordinating the effort of cleaning out the Medical Loan Closet. Excess or obsolete equipment was taken to the New Windsor Outreach Service Center for distribution to Third World Countries while the crutches were taken to Johns Hopkins Children Center for the Haitians. Thanks to all that helped and those who provided trucks and delivered the equipment to New Windsor.

Our Membership Committee could use a bit of assistance. Have you asked your family members, your friends, your neighbors or that special cashier in the grocery store if they would like to know more about the Lions and their work in our community? Why not try it - it

can take a couple of years after planting the seed for it to grow!

We have several Fund Raisers coming up - the In-House Auction, Spring Pancake Breakfast, Big Band Dance and the Golf Tournament. Mark your calendars now so that you can support them.

Thank you, Damascus Lions, for all you do for our club, our community and our world!

January Blood Drive

By Lion Charlie Hertel, Chairman

Here is some updated information for the Blood Drives we had in January 2010. Thanks to all who helped with the drives.

St Paul's on 1/10/10 received 20 Units
 Damascus Lions on 1/18/10 received 107 Units

This was our 6th and 7th drives of the 2009 and 2010 year. Our next drive is Feb. 18, 2010 @ Damascus United Methodist Church from 1-7pm.

Celebrate Damascus Fireworks,

By Lion Tessie Gladhill

The fireworks display for Celebrate Damascus occurs on Friday night after the parade. In prior years, the fireworks have been funded by Damascus Chevrolet, but that is no longer the case. The Fire Department is raising money to continue this noteworthy event, which costs around \$7000. To make a tax exempt donation to this fund, send a check to

Chief Darron Long
 DVFD, 26334 Ridge Road
 Damascus, MD 20872-1947

Make the check out to Damascus Volunteer Fire Department and indicate that it is for the fireworks fund.

NOMINATIONS MEETING

By Lion Eloise Woodfield

The club by-laws require that the membership be notified of the scheduled nominations meeting 14 days prior to the meeting. **The nomination meeting will be the dinner meeting on March 2, 2010.** At that meeting the nominating committee will present a slate of officers and accept nominations from the floor to fill any openings or add additional candidates to the ballot. Please make every effort to attend that meeting and support your club.

Lion's Tale
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P.O. Box 267
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Lions Information: (202) LIONS22

Upcoming Events

Feb 2: Dinner Meeting - Spouse Night at Wesley Grove UMC
Feb 9: Board Meeting at the Recreation Center
Feb 16: Dinner Meeting at Wesley Grove UM Church
Mar. 2: Dinner Meeting (Prospective Member Night) at Wesley Grove UMC
Mar. 9: Board Meeting at Gladhill Bros.
Mar 15: Blood Drive at DVFD Activities Center
Mar. 16: Dinner Meeting (In-House Auction) at Wesley Grove UM Church
Mar. 20: Pancake Breakfast at Damascus UM Church
Apr. 6: Dinner Meeting (New Member Induction) at Wesley Grove UM Church
Apr. 13: Board Meeting at Gladhill Bros.
Apr. 17: Big Band Dance at the American Legion
Apr. 20: Dinner Meeting at Wesley Grove UM Church
Apr. 24: 22C Night at Greater Waldorf Jaycees Ctr

Birthdays

Lions:

Feb. 20 - Kenneth King
Feb. 21 - Ray Sicotte

Partners-in-Service

Feb. 10 - Sue Poole
Feb. 23 - Gail Davidson

Anniversaries

Feb. 15 – Su and Shyue Huang
Feb. 17 - Kathy and Mike Thornett
Feb. 20 - Mary and Jim Belcher

News about Members

LUNCH GATHERING

Want to go for a Dutch Treat Lunch? Meet me on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 1 pm for lunch at Tom & Ray's! Just for fun - If I don't show up – enjoy lunch anyway!

Mary Frances

NEW MEMBER

Please update your roster books:

Denell, Alice (Robert) (H) 301-704-5401
8251 Hawkins Creamery Road (W) 301-774-6400, ext 6382
Laytonsville, MD 20882
adenell@sandyspringbank.com Bank Manager

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Jan. 12, 2010

King Lion Mary Frances Gosnell called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. In attendance were Lions Mary Frances Gosnell, Ken Phillips, Mike Thornett, Tony Barry, Marcia Holpuch, Barbara Barry, Ray Molesworth, Tom Jackson, Martin Carr, Bill Mahylis, Tess Gladhill, Warren Schwab, Joy Schwab and George Hibbard.

The minutes of the December board meeting were published in the January Lions Tale. With no corrections or additions, the minutes were approved as published.

The club financial report was presented by Lion Tony Barry. A monthly income of \$1040.37 was reported and expenditures of \$1446.61. The year-to-date data show a deficit of approximately \$1914. The report was approved as presented.

The foundation financial report was given by Lion Mike Thornett. An income of \$1932 and expenses of \$746 were reported. To-date figures show a net income of approximately \$1467. The report was approved as presented.

In the secretary report, Lion Ken Phillips reported that the club has received several thank you notes from families supported through the holiday basket project and medical closet. It was reported that the club has 4 members who have not paid their dues for the first half of the lion year. The secretary was directed to contact these members by letter and if no response is received by Jan. 31 drop them from the roles.

Lion George Hibbard presented the audit reports for the club and foundation accounts. The books and records were found to be in order and after brief discussions the reports were accepted as presented.

King Lion Mary Frances reported that District 22-C was still looking for lions to attend the leadership institute in February. To encourage attendance, the board approved the club to pay for two participants if members volunteer to attend.

Lion Joy Schwab, membership chairman, presented Cheryl Wyatt for membership. Her application was accepted and induction is planned for Feb. 2. Perspective member night is planned for March 2.

OLD BUSINESS

Lion Tess Gladhill reported that the fire department would like us to clean up and organize the medical closet in the basement of the activities building to give them

better access to the plumbing in the building. Tess reported that we have a lot of equipment that we could get rid of. She was directed to organize such a clean up and solicit help at the next dinner meeting to accomplish this needed effort.

The plans for our participation in the NBC4 Health Expo were reviewed and a call for more help from the club was made.

NEW BUSINESS

Lion Joy Schwab is looking to update the membership brochure. She will be looking for some new photos and suggestions for new material to be included in the brochure.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40.

Submitted by Ken Phillips, Secretary.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

By King Lion Mary Frances Gosnell

The nominating committee (Lions Eloise Woodfield, Gary Rogers, Ken Phillips, Tuck Woodfield and Marcia Holpuch) has started filling out the slate of officers for the 2010-2011 Lion year. They would like to hear from you. Take a look at the list of officers on the back of your club roster and if there is an office there that you would like to hold let one of the committee members know. Remember for the club to be strong, we need members who are willing to take part in leading. Step up and take a position; it doesn't take a lot of time and it can be very rewarding.

Health and Fitness Expo

By Lion Jerry Mallack, Chairperson

The NBC4 Health and Fitness Expo was held Saturday, January 16, 2010

Eight members of the Damascus Lions Club worked the first shift with the Lions Community Outreach Foundation's Vision and Hearing Bus located at the Washington DC Convention Center. The set up and coordination was lead by LCOF President Charlie Kears who did an excellent job in coordinating Glaucoma Screening conducted by certified personnel and located at the Lions site. Vision, Glaucoma Screening and Pre-School Screening was located outside the LCOF Bus with Hearing Screening and consultation with specialist conducting the Glaucoma Screening done within the bus.

Thanks to those that signed up and attended from our Club: King Lion Mary Frances Gosnell and Lions Tony

and Barbara Barry, Charlie Hertel, Jerry Mallack, Wayne Marr, Gary Rogers, and Mike Thornett.



Scholarship Applications

By King Lion Mary Frances Gosnell

It's time for scholarship applications.

The Damascus Lions Club Foundation has Scholarships available for students of Damascus and Clarksburg High Schools.

The R. Vernon Simpson Scholarships began in 2000 awarding three \$500 Scholarships. R. Vernon Simpson was Vice Principal and teacher of Damascus High School and the John T. Baker Middle School is named after his father-in-law. Lion Ray (as we knew him in the Lions) was an energetic, creative and respected individual, whether he was at school or at the Lions or working for his church.

The R. Vernon Simpson Scholarship will be awarded to seniors of Damascus and Clarksburg High School as selected from the applications submitted. The applications will be judged based on scholastic achievement, leadership, character, citizenship, school activities, work experience and community activities. The student must be in the upper 50% of the class and be attending an accredited college as a full-time student. The Board of Directors of the Damascus Lions Club will select the recipients. The scholarships awarded are for \$1000 each. Scholarship applications are due April 15, 2010.

Applications for the Scholarships can be obtained from the Damascus Lions web site or Lion Mary Frances Gosnell – 301-829-1002 or at the High School Career Centers.

Student Loan Program

By King Lion Mary Frances Gosnell

The Damascus Lions Club offers Student Loans to graduates of Damascus High School and graduates of a Damascus Lion's family who are seeking education beyond High School.

The Basil B. Burdette Student Loan Fund began in 1980 by Damascus Motor Company in tribute to their loyal employee, Mr. Basil B. Burdette. Mr. Burdette was the bookkeeper (menial word for what he accomplished) for Damascus Motor Company as well as a Charter member of the Damascus Lions Club. Mr. Burdette was the Lions Treasurer for years. Damascus Motor Company offered to pay Mr. Burdette's Lions dues and meals for him as he represented the company in the Lions Club but only for Mr. Burdette to say "No, Thank You!" Mr.

Burdette was a proud man! Thus, the Basil B. Burdette Student Loan Fund began!

The Basil B. Burdette Student Loan Fund has placed loans totaling over \$100,000 to approximately 75 students reaching for High Education. All the loans over the past 28 years have been paid in full or are in an active status. One loan in the amount of \$1500 was uncollectible.

The fund was not only initially funded by Damascus Motor Company but has been funded as late as in the early 1990's by Damascus Motors. The Damascus Lions have funded the Student Loan Fund several times also.

The Basil B. Burdette Student Loan Fund offers Student Loans in amounts of \$500 to \$2000 per year or an aggregate of \$8,000 to any one applicant depending upon the Lions budget and the number of applicants. The loans are approved by the Damascus Lions Club Board of Directors. Repayment of the loans will begin no later than 6 months after termination or completion of the student's education for which the loan was made for. The loan bears an interest rate of 3% per annum and the interest will start accruing upon the 6 month payment policy.

Applications are available from Lions Barbara Barry or Mary Frances Gosnell and are at the DHS Career Center. Applications are due May 1, 2008

Holiday Giving Thank You

From Jill Ochs and the Holiday Giving Team

The club received the following letter thanking us for our participation in the Holiday Giving Project:

Thank you for being a sponsor for the 2009 Holiday Giving Project. With your help we provided 232 families, in the greater Damascus-Clarksburg area with Thanksgiving dinner and 294 families with Christmas gifts and food.

Many families we served are single parent families that are struggling to make ends meet while providing for the needs of growing children. Christmas gifts and bountiful meals are often luxuries they simply cannot afford. Other families served through Holiday Giving included elderly adults, people with disabilities and many who have been caught in the economic downturn and now find themselves without an adequate income. For these families, knowing that someone cares for them and remembers their needs during the holidays brings them hope for a better future. The impact of this project goes beyond the food and gifts that are provided by touching the hearts of many isolated and struggling families.

This year, 42 different churches, organizations, businesses and individuals were sponsors; providing hope, love and joy to so many children and adults. We estimate that our community invested over 1,300 volunteer hours and provided in excess of \$65,000 in gifts and food. Together, we made a significant impact on our growing community.

Thank you again for the help, patience and support you provided our clients through the Holiday Giving Project.

Cleaning the Medical Loan Closet

By Lion Tessie Gladhill

Friday morning, January 29, started out at a chilly 15 degrees. But still six of our hardy and well bundled up Lions showed up around 9 o'clock to help me clear out and clean up the medical loan closet of its overflowing contents. Within a little over an hour we had 2 full size pick-up trucks and two trailers loaded - Thanks Lion Warren and Lion Tony for bringing them.

We also had two smaller pick up trucks - Thanks to Lions Tuck and Eloise Woodfield and Lion Tom Jackson. All except for Lion Tom's truck (loaded with only crutches) headed out to the BRETHERN CENTER in New Windsor, MD, to be distributed throughout the world as needed. Lion Tom's truck went to Hopkins Children Center in Baltimore to be sent to Haiti which became quite an adventure as told here by Lion Tom. (Tom's Story). Thanks to Lions Tom, Tony, Warren, Eloise, Tuck and Mary Francis. Your time and help is very much appreciated by me and you have helped to make a difference in someone's life.

Tom's Story: I got to the Children's Center without any difficulty. There was even a place to park right in front of the main door. I should have known that was too easy. The stock room they were storing the crutches in was overflowing. So they sent me to the main hospital. When I got there, first the officers out front didn't know anything about crutches being delivered there. After I explained the Children's Center said they couldn't take any more, they sent me inside to talk to the chief of security. The chief said, yep, they had been taking the overflow, but now they were overflowing and had no more room. So she called the lady who was coordinating the whole thing. The lady was still at home, but about to leave for work. But she wanted me to deliver them to her home if I would. I said fine. So I traipse off to somewhere in NE Baltimore (I saw parts of Baltimore I didn't know existed, plus I went by Pimlico) to find this lady's

townhouse. I got there just as she was leaving. She wanted to keep track of how many pairs we delivered (67 it turns out) and she wanted me to tape the pairs together so they don't get separated. Her garage was already overflowing. She had collected nearly 1200 pairs, counting ours. Anyhow, trying to match up the pairs got to be an adventure because some didn't seem to match any of the others, plus the tape used to hold them together froze so it wouldn't unwrap. Anyhow, they all got delivered, and I am now familiar with parts of Baltimore that few of us have seen.

[Editor's note – I took a few more pictures but they turned out to be quite fuzzy. My cell phone's camera isn't very good.]



Community Sign Report

By Lion Tom Jackson, Chairman

The Community Sign Committee held its annual meeting on January 23 to allocate the weeks among the member organizations – Lions, Legion, Izaak Walton League, Heritage Society and Friends of the Library (new this year). Because the membership is now full at five, it was harder to allocate the weeks that everybody wanted. Unfortunately some of our events got left out.

We wound up with the following weeks: Jan. 10–23 (Blood Drive), Mar. 14–20 (Blood Drive and Pancake Breakfast), May 2–8 (White Canes), May 23–29 (Golf Tournament), June 6–7 (Blood Drive), Sep. 19 – Oct 23 (five weeks for Blood Drive, Pancake Breakfast, and White Canes plus anything else we want), Nov. 14 –22 (Blood Drive).