



## The President's Message

In years past, we have had some entertainment, 1/2 hour or so, either by a soloist from a church or an ensemble from DHS music dept. If you would like the HS music - Lions Marcia and Charlie Holpuch can help with getting that. Santa is always present and Lion Gary Rogers is the best. Lion Charlie Hertel has volunteered to be the elf as he announced at the last meeting. So hopefully between Gary and Charlie, they can work that out. They usually give out candy canes to everyone.



Lion Charlie and Marcia Holpuch have done a gift exchange the last few years whereby everyone who wants to participate brings a \$10 gift and then the fun begins like a Chinese Bingo Gift exchange. They take charge of it. But we need to put in the Lions Tale that those who want to participate bring a \$10 wrapped gift. That should conclude a nice enjoyable evening.

The days are growing very short and many of us are very busy preparing for Christmas or Hanukkah. We are looking forward to happy times with family and friends. Our club has some traditional fun times ahead. Our Christmas party usually features entertainment, a visit from Santa and his favorite elf who give all good lions a candy cane, and last but not least, a gift exchange that will steal your heart (or your gift if another lion wants it). If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped gift (\$10 value.)

We enjoy having a lot of fun at our holiday meeting, but we must also be mindful of those who are experiencing uncertain or difficult times during the season. As Lions, we know that the true joy of the season comes in sharing what we have.

The Damascus Lions live out this joy, through our Holiday Giving Project. So don't forget to bring mittens and socks for children, teenagers, and adults to the Christmas Party on December 13 to be tree decorations and then useful gifts. These contributions combine with our stocking stuffers (due December 6), and our food baskets to 30 needy families to round out our Holiday Giving Project.

The year is drawing to a close and some of us may be trying to decide where we are going to give our final charitable donations for 2011. If you are looking for a way to help others and support the mission of the Lions Club to

help and support the blind, consider donating to the Lions Community Outreach Foundation. The LCOF is a member of the Combined Federal Campaign and the United Way of the National Capital Area. You might also consider setting up payroll deductions to LCOF (#29433) for next year.

Have a roarin' good time this month. But remember, it is easy to get lost in the business and busyness of this season. So don't forget to slow down and enjoy special times with family and close friends. Even the fiercest, most active lions rest, relax and purr now and then!

For the future: Every year, each Lions Club in the District chooses one nominee for the Bull Throwers Award. The deadline for submission of our candidate is April 1. The district award will be presented at the MD22 Convention in May. Be thinking of someone you think has been a hard working lion that should be considered for this award.

## Papa John's Discount Card Chairperson Needed

For the past two years, the club has sold Papa John's Pizza discount cards. The club gets to keep a substantial portion of the proceeds.

Our former chairman is unable to handle the cards this year. So the board of directors is looking for a new chairperson. The duties are mainly to keep track of the cards and funds and to interact with the local Papa John's. If you can volunteer, please contact KL Vicki or Lion Secretary Mary Frances.

## Attention Committee Chairpersons

By Lion Tom Jackson, Chairman Community Signs

The annual Community Sign committee will meet with the other four members soon to allocate the time slots for the calendar year 2012. Each time slot is one week long, Sunday through Saturday. We have to obtain slots at the meeting for the entire year. This means that any events that the Lions wish to advertise during 2012 must be requested now.

So all committee chairpersons should inform me of their needs for next year. This includes events like blood drives, white canes, pancake breakfasts and basket bingo. So please let me know the dates for your events. I can't promise that we'll get every slot we request, but I'll try.

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### Upcoming Events

- Dec 1 Senior Birthday Party @ Damascus Senior Center  
Dec 6 Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove UM Church  
Dec 13 Holiday Party @ Damascus UM Church  
Dec 14-18 Holiday Giving Project @ Damascus UM Church  
Dec 20 Board Meeting @ Gladhill Bros [NOTE CHANGE OF DAY]

### Birthdays

#### Lions:

- Dec. 1 - Happy King  
Dec. 5 - Martin Carr  
Dec. 7 - Bernie Duplan  
Dec. 15 - Helen Boyer  
Dec. 17 - Tony Barry  
Dec. 20 - Ollie Gray  
Dec. 21 - Jack Poole  
Dec. 23 - Lea Hough  
Dec. 29 - Del Mayhew

Partners-in-Service: (None known)

**Anniversaries: (None known)**

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### News about Members

On a sad note, Lion Barbara Berry's Mother passed on Wednesday, Nov. 23. Remember the family in your prayers.

### Christmas Wreaths

By Lion Tony Barry, Chair

Lions Del Mayhew, John Washington, Tony Barry and Barbara Barry installed 46 Christmas wreaths and bows on the light poles in Damascus on Friday November 25, 2011. The lions were assisted with the task by friends of Lion Charlie Hertel; CJ Muise, Ryan Muise, Michael Blatzhein, Rob Golden and Lion Tony's Son, John Barry. The weather was warm which made the task enjoyable for all. The wreaths look nice and add a festive atmosphere to the town.

### November 2011 Blood Drive Report:

By Lion Ken Cook, Chair

Over the course of two drives in November, we collected 63 units of whole blood and performed a total of 57 hours of service. The November 1st blood drive collected 35 units with 20 hours of service and November 21st collected 28 units with 37 hours. I would like to thank Lions Charlie Hertel, Joy Schwab, Warren Schwab, Bill Mahylis, Julie Sain, Tom Jackson and Marcia Holpuch for making these drives a success. With the multiple medical crises in my family over the last few months, I was not able to devote sufficient time to the November 1st drive and want to give a special thank you to Lion Charlie Hertel for taking the lead on that drive in my absence.

I have spoken with our INOVA representative about our recent donor turnout and, we are both becoming increasingly concerned that some donors are faithful to the American Red Cross and not giving INOVA a chance. It has been suggested by the INOVA rep that if the turnout continues its downward slide, that we may have to go back to the American Red Cross to satisfy those donors who are loyal to the American Red Cross. I am puzzled by this because I have received nothing but positive feedback on INOVA versus the American Red Cross.

Our next blood drive is January 16th and I hope to bring the numbers up. Beginning in July of next year, we are adding a summer blood drive at the Izaak Walton League on Mullinix Mill Road.

## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

November 8, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Second Vice President, Barbara Barry at 7:10. King Lion notified the Secretary that she would be late due to an employment appointment.

Lions in attendance were Dotterer, B. Barry, T. Barry, Stone, Gosnell, Thornett, Jackson, Carr, Mayhew, Peters, Rogers, Gladhill, Phillips Schwab, and Holpuch.

The minutes of the last Board Meeting were approved as printed in the November Lions Tale.

Treasurer's Reports by Lion Tony Barry, Club Report and Lion Mike Thornett, Foundation Report. The reports were approved as presented.

The President asked for Officers to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> District Advisory Meeting – a Five Star Requirement to have 3 attend. King Lion and Lions Marcia Holpuch and Barbara Barry plan to attend.

Also reported that the club received a check from Montgomery Agricultural Society for \$1,883.88 for ice cream dipping.

Secretary Report - several Lions have not paid their dues for this six months. After several attempts with email, a letter will be sent stating if no response by December 1, they will be taken off the rolls of our membership.

Boy Scout Kyle Demmerale, who is a member of Troop 445 which the Lions Club sponsors, requested a letter be sent to King Floor Service for his Eagle Project. He plans to tile the basement floor of the Thrift Shop where his Troop meets and in doing so, the floor company has requested the sponsor to present a letter stating they are a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization to assist in the cost of the tile. Opinions from two CPAs were affirmative to this request.

Received a donation from American Charities which was made through payroll deduction giving.

Secretary asked for a designation of the year pins that the Lions give out - are they Years of Service Pins or Perfect Attendance Pins. If Perfect Attendance pins, does the membership know what is entailed in attaining Perfect Attendance and how do we plan to monitor it. After much discussion, the subject was tabled for the Board to think about it and bring their thoughts back to the December Board Meeting. Also we need to look at International Bylaws as well as the Club Bylaws to direction as well.

Membership Committee – Lion Joy Schwab read a resignation letter from David Warfield. The Board approved it in good standing!

Lion Tony Barry is paying the Annual Membership Fee for the Leo Clubs. Clarksburg High School Leo Club continues to be on the bill. Lion Mary Frances will close the CHS Leo Club with International. Three Leo Clubs are active, Rocky Hill Middle School, John T. Baker Middle School and Damascus High School. We are assessed \$90 per year per club.

We have a very creative and artistic entry for the Peace Poster Contest from Rocky Hill Middle School. It will be sent to the District for further judging. The student will be invited to a Lions Meeting to be acknowledged.

Lions Ken Phillips and Joy Schwab are to present a plan for remembering Lions and their families to the Board for approval.

Lion Gary Rogers asked if we wanted to continue with the Papa John's fund raiser and if so, we need to find a chairman.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Mary Frances Gosnell,  
Secretary

### **Thanksgiving Baskets**

By Lion Mary Frances Gosnell, Chair

Thank you to all of you who worked with the Thanksgiving food and delivery to make it another successful project. I am amazed with the energies and cooperation that you put forth! You are a great group of folks to work with. Ya git in thar an' ya gitter dun! No fooling around!

Seriously, Lion Chris profiled all the families and obtained so much info for us - some corrections as well as some incite into the family situation.

Lion Bob Newlin again coordinated the School Food Drives with Rocky Hill Middle School coming thru with approximately 2500 items and Damascus High School with approximately 1200 items. We take half of the DHS Food Drive while the Legion receives the other half. Thanks to all the "food movers".

Lion Joy coordinated the sorting of food and packing it into the boxes with the help of 8 other Lions - there was no socializing, you all kept your hands busy and had completely filled all the food boxes in 2 and half hours.

Lions Warren and Rusty made up the boxes, bagged the apples and kept the cardboard under control. Lion Bob Snapp assigned all the boxes to the families. Lion Warren went with me to Safeway to get the non-perishables on Friday. Lion Ray met me at Safeway on Saturday to get the perishable items.

And then to make it all happen, 9 teams of Lions, family and friends loaded up their vehicles and made the deliveries on Saturday AM.

We were finished Saturday by 9:30.

We clocked over 150 hours on this project, with approximately 40 people involved and spent \$1,471.00 on food. Butler's Orchard donated the apples, Huang Distributors donated 2 dozen dinner rolls and the Goldstein Family baked and elegantly prepared a special pumpkin loaf package for each family. Hyatt Building and Supply, namely Phil Green, graciously let us use the room, used their pallets and loader to move the food for us and have stored the non perishables that we did not use until Christmas. When you see any and all of these donors, please express our appreciation.

Again - Thank you to all of you! It sure makes a project so satisfying when all of us put our efforts forth to serve! I am so grateful for all of you and the Lions Club!

**Christmas Giving Project**

By Lion Mary Frances Gosnell, Chair

Now onto the Christmas part of our Holiday Giving Project.

The clothing shopping will be done on Wednesday, November 30. I have 6 Lions and Partners-in-Service helping with the Shopping.

At the December 6 dinner meeting, Lions will be bringing stocking stuffers for each family. Items needed were handed out at the last meeting. At the Holiday Party on December 13 at the Damascus UM Church, we are asking the Lions to bring socks and mittens/gloves for children and adults for a Mitten Tree. We will include these items with our gifts as well.

The Tradesmen Motorcycle Run brought in more than 75 items which have been inventoried and packed for each child in a family along with a check for \$330.00. We will use this money for baby gifts and teenage gifts.

At the December 6 meeting we will have a sign up sheet for the Christmas project that will start on Wednesday, December 14. See the Timeline elsewhere in this Lions Tale. We will need sorters on Wednesday night, wrappers and packers on Thursday and Friday with the delivery on Saturday. All of this will take place at the Damascus UM Church.

For the Christmas food, each team will be responsible for packing the food into their own boxes. This is different from Thanksgiving. Should you be unable to pack your food, please let me know. I should have Lions or Leos that can do that for us.

Give me a call or email me with any questions or concerns

**HOLIDAY GIVING PROJECT TIME LINE**

Damascus Lions - 30 families

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
Dec. 6		Lions bring stocking stuffer items to meeting
Dec. 6		Sign Up Sheets for duties and Delivery Teams for Christmas Delivery
Dec. 13		For the Christmas Party, Lions bring Stockings and mittens to hang on the Christmas Tree
Dec. 14	12 Noon	Pick up food from John T. Baker Middle School
Dec. 14	2:00 PM	Pick up food from NRC
Dec. 14	2:00 PM	Move food to Damascus UM Church
Dec. 14	8:00 PM	Sort food at Damascus UM Church
Dec. 15	Noon to 5 pm	Teams Pack food for families and Wrap gifts at Damascus UM Church
Dec. 16	Noon to 5 pm	Teams Pack food for families
Dec. 17	8:00 AM	Delivery teams pick up food and gifts from Damascus UM Church and deliver to families