



# DAMASCUS LION'S TALE



February 2013

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## The President's Message

There was a farmer who kept a lion on his farm. However, the lion developed a curious problem. Birds would nest in its mane! The farmer tried everything he could think of to make the birds leave. They refused to. (The lion couldn't even succeed in catching them himself!) One day, the farmer was working out in his yard, when he saw an old man walking down the road. Out of courtesy, he said 'hello' to the old man. 'Hello, how are you?' he replied back. 'Just fine', the farmer replied, 'Well, maybe not quite. Maybe the wisdom of your years can help me with a problem. I have a lion, and I have the problem of birds nesting in its mane'. The old man thought about it for just a moment, and replied 'That's a simple problem. Just take your lion out into your westernmost pasture and rub a cake of yeast into its mane. The birds will leave and never return'. The farmer, out of courtesy, thanked the old man for his bit of odd advice, and went back to what he was doing. Over the course of the next two months, the farmer stepped up his efforts to rid his lion of the troublesome birds. He tried bird repellants. He contacted experts at the University Extension. He read books, he researched the internet. But, nothing worked. The birds were still nesting in the lion's mane. Finally, one day out of exasperation, he decided to try the old man's trick. So, he took his lion out to the westernmost pasture on his farm, and rubbed a cake of yeast into its mane. Sure enough, the birds left and never returned. The farmer was happy that this crazy process worked, but never understood exactly why it worked. But, one day, the old man came walking down the road again. The farmer and the old man exchanged greetings. 'By the way, I tried what you suggested on my lion to get rid of the birds. it worked'. 'Works every time', said the old man. 'But, can you tell me why it works?' 'That's simple', replied the old man, 'You see, yeast is yeast and west is west, and never the mane shall tweet'.



As you can see things are kind of slow these days. But slow can be a good thing. It can give us time to catch our breath. It can give us time to put things into perspective. Like what should our focus be for the rest of the year. Here are a few:

1. Membership- We have had a loss of 10 members since I started last July. Is it because I have bad breath? Should I change my deodorant? These are all solid questions but are number one focus must be on keeping the

members we have and growing the club. I will be taking a 1 day seminar sponsored by the local building association to grow membership in the association have been told that this information can be used by other groups to grow their membership. The course will be held on Feb 21st and I hope to share what I have learned with the club. We have a Prospective Member Night on March the 5th. Let's help our membership chair Lion Chris Fletcher make this an event to remember.

2. Fund raising- Or as I like to say "fun" raising. Everyone needs to be involved form ideas to selling to whatever it takes to get it done.

3. Remember our lions who are ill or have had a loss. We are a tight knit community. Let's try to stay in touch.

Our February board meeting will be held at the Wesley Grove UM meeting room behind the room where we normally meet. On the 19th we will have DG Don Beeson as our guest. As most o you might remember, DG Don and his wife ended up at Wesley Grove instead of Damascus UM for our Christmas party. It should be easy for him to find us this time.

My boss likes to end our meetings by saying "go out and sell something". I would like to end this by saying 'go out and find us some new members!'

Thanks all! Let's have some fun!

Yours in Lionism,

KL John

## Pancake Breakfast

By Lion Joy Schwab, Chair

This year the date of the first Pancake Breakfast is the March 9th. The 3rd Saturday, our usual time, was already taken.

Please save this date. As usual, we will need a lot of help to make this fundraiser successful.

## An Awful Statistic

I just read that six out of seven dwarves are not Happy. The good news is that only one out of seven is actually Grumpy. (And, no, I did not get that from KL John.)

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<http://www.damascuslions.org>

Lions Information: (202) LIONS22

Apr 16 Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove  
UM Church  
Apr 26 22C Night @ Greater Waldorf  
Jaycees Ctr

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### Upcoming Events

Feb 5 Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove UM  
Church

Feb 12 Board Meeting: Wesley Grove UM Church

Feb 19 Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove UM  
Church

Mar 5 Dinner Meeting - Prospective Member  
Night @ Wesley Grove UM Church

Mar 8 Blood Drive @ Mountain View  
Community Church in Urbana

Mar 9 Pancake Breakfast @ Damascus UM  
Church

Mar 12 Board Meeting @ Gladhill Bros

Mar 16,17 NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo @ DC  
Convention Center

Mar 19 Dinner Meeting - In-House Auction @  
Wesley Grove UM Church

Apr 2 Dinner Meeting @ Wesley Grove UM  
Church

Apr 9 Board Meeting @ Gladhill Bros.

## **Birthdays**

### *Lions:*

Feb. 16 – Ruth Johnson

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

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## **News about Members**

We've been trying to update our roster book and found a number of changes:

Barbara Barry's preferred email address (the one she looks at every day) is [Barbara\\_S\\_Barry@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Barbara_S_Barry@mcpsmd.org). Please update your membership directory.

Please change Joseph Hutchinson's work phone to 301-391-6047.

Add Vicki Dotterer's home phone as 301-972-0822.

For Ken Cook, change the cell number to (C) 240-277-9568, and for Carol Cook, the numbers are (W) 301-820-3143 and (C) 240-498-7437.

Add John Washington's cell: 301-717-7395

Ray Sicotte's work number is 301-662-4700.

Add Chris Fletcher's cell: 301-717-6763

Tom Didone's work phone is now 240-773-6600

Katie Dougherty's new address is 8606 Tupelo, Laurel, MD.

John Holpuch has a new cell: 301-300-9266

Nick Holpuch is now Staff Sgt.; contact Lion Marcia if you need the current address (it changes).

The Schwab's cell phones are Warren's: 301-252-0091, and Joy's: 301-252-0156.

Ruth Johnson's new email is [rjohnson@yourdcb.com](mailto:rjohnson@yourdcb.com).

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

The following are the minutes of the Damascus Lion's Board meeting held on January 8, 2012.

Attendees: John Washington, Rev. Vicki Dotterer, Carol Stone, Barbara Barry, Tony Barry, Martin Carr, Tom Jackson, Mary Francis Gosnell, Tess Gladhill, Joy Schwab, Marcia Holpuch, Ken Phillips

**Board minutes:** No amendments to December board minutes.

### Club Treasurer's Report:

Club treasurer's report was reviewed with nothing out of the ordinary. The treasurer is a bit concerned about dues; behind by about \$770 \*(hopefully at least 10 outstanding). The Club treasurer's report approved

### Foundation Treasurer's report:

Review of Budget and Checking Account reconciliation report for month of December, 2012.

- \$50 from scholarship payment
- \$125 submitted to Club in honor of Lee Sellers
- \$84.50 mint sales
- deficit of \$380.00
- Income to exceed expenses on Holiday giving project with several checks coming in - \$3500 to start next year
- Donation Jar collections \$4,227.50

The Foundation report approved

### Secretaries report:

2<sup>nd</sup> dues notice via hand mailings and emailings to members who have not paid dues appears to have been a success; maybe only 2-3 member dues still remaining

Jan – July 2013 dues are coming in from dues mailing

Secretary will update email addresses and resubmit activities calendar and submit dues invoice to all Lions.

Membership updates

Two Lions' status was change from Active to Member at large

- Lion Alice Denell has moved to Tampa, Fla.
- Lion Nick Holpuch is oversees in service

Resignations in good standing were accepted for three Lions; The Secretary will send out letters to members accordingly

- Lion's Su and Shue Wang
- Lion Dennis Babb
- Lion Michael Payne

One Lion was changed from Active to Privileged member

- Lion Happy King, for whom we need updated address

Membership seminar to be presented January 23 by Lion's International

Convention Registration information received and to be distributed via website

### Fundraisers:

Secretary brought up Square Dance fund raiser idea more details still being looked into further.

Marcia Holpuch threw out a "speed" camera idea. (haha)

Martin Carr still collecting phone collection

Candles, Golf gift cards and spring bulbs also up for consideration

### General:

As mentioned above, an additional \$125 submitted to Lion's in honor of Lee Sellers. \$100.00 given to Lion's Club in honor of Lee Sellers by David and Andrea Wray.

\$250.00 given to 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist church from Lion's members in honor of Lee

### Medical Equipment

Need Strong guys to help deliver and pick up beds

### New Business

Jim Belcher is still

Ray Sicotte's wife is in hospital

Secretary has spoken with Terri Sherwood at Wesley Grove regarding Ken Phillips idea about carry outs for \$15.00 to Lions when we don't reach 45.

Terri says this is doable.

Ken Phillips mentioned that the niece of JoAnne True, who is in a wheelchair at Wesley Grove, is asking for a Leader Dog. Several lions will look further into this.

Needs more followup

In regard to Damascus Community Fair, Damascus Health and Safety

Past president, Vicki Dotterer to coordinate and round up Nominating committee members

Mary Frances Gosnell updating Membership book - many original forms signed incorrectly or don't exist.

**More Pictures from the Holiday Basket Project**

Courtesy Lion Gary Rogers

