

Damascus



MD

LION'S TALE



January 2018

WWW.DAMASCUSLIONS.ORG

VOLUME 68 – NUMBER 7

email damascus.lions.club@gmail.com

Damascus Lions Club 2017-2018 Officers

President:

John Washington

Washlow80@aol.com

1st V. President:

Chris Fletcher

chriswfletcher@verizon.net

2nd V. President:

Patricia McKenzie

Patricia.a.mckenzie@verizon.net

3rd V. President:

Carol Stone

carol.stone@fda.hhs.gov

Secretary:

Joe Howerton

joehowertonsales@gmail.com

Foundation Treasurer:

Mary Frances Gosnell

mgosnelldamascuslions@gmail.com

Club Treasurer:

Del Mayhew

ddmayhew@verizon.net

Membership:

Marcia Holpuch

Mk.holpuch@gmail.com

Editor:

Barbara Barry

Barbara.Barry2@verizon.net

The President's Message



Happy New Year to all of my fellow Lions and thank you for all of your hard work. Just a quick reminder, please make sure you pre-pay for your meals. Looking forward to a great 2018!

KL John

DECEMBER EVENTS

HIGHWAY CLEANUP – December 9

On the first snowy day of the winter seven members of the Damascus Lions Club participated in a trash cleanup of Valley Park Drive. Four large garbage bags of trash were collected. We got it done in record time, before the snow could hide the trash! The following Lions participated in the event on Saturday



morning; Ray Molesworth, George Hibbard, Chris Fletcher, Tony Barry, Barbara Barry, Joe Howerton, and Del Mayhew and one Lion cub, Ben Howerton.

Lion Tony Barry

Safeway and CVS Recognitions - December 12

The Damascus Lions Club, represented by King Lion John Washington, First VP Chris Fletcher, and Wayne Marr, presented plaques to the store managers of Damascus Safeway and Damascus CVS. The plaques stated the following: "The Damascus Lions Club / Honors Damascus Safeway (CVS) / in Appreciation of Many Years of Outstanding Partnership in Service to the Damascus Community / December 2017". These two stores have worked with our Club for many years to provide service to the community. It was time to give them some formal recognition.

Lion Wayne Marr

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA December 16- Lion Tess

The morning of December 16, 2017 was cold, brisk and sunny. My sister, niece & I had volunteered to help place the wreaths on the graves at Arlington Cemetery along with the hundreds of others. We started out on the metro at West Falls Church-near my niece's house, but we had to wait for several metro trains before we could get on one. Then we waited another 25 minutes to get into the cemetery. We also had to wait in long lines to pick up the wreaths from the wreath trucks. Finally we took the wreaths to 3 graves and left them. We went back to the trucks several times for more wreaths. At one point we found 3 wreathless graves that were actually wives of military that were laid to rest. They also have served our country in their own way. In the process we had laid some on Marylanders to honor our home state. At this point we were near the JFK burial site, as we walked up to it some of the Kennedy family arrived and had a wreath laying service. They moved to the site of RFK and then to Teddy's grave and did a small ceremony at each one.

These graves were each a little to the left of JFK and marked only with a white cross. The crowd we had been following continued on with us in tow to the USS MAINE MAST MEMORIAL, the actual mast from the USS MAINE. It was there to honor the dead from a mysterious explosion that destroyed the USS MAINE as it was docked in Havana Harbor on Feb 15, 1898 killing the sailors and marines that were on board at the time. Some of the bodies are buried here and some are buried at the Key West Florida Cemetery. After that small ceremony we moved to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and watched the noon changing of the guard along with a wreath laying ceremony. *Wreaths Across America*, the sponsor of the wreath laying event, actually laid the wreath on the Tomb. Meanwhile the President's Helicopter flew past!

We then went back to my niece's house and picked up my brother-in-law and niece's husband, and made our way into DC for dinner at Old Ebbitt Grill which was very, very good. Afterwards we ventured out to look at the National Christmas Tree and other holiday lighting around town.

I would highly recommend participating in this event if you have the opportunity.

Lion Tess Gladhill

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA December 16- Lion Barbara

Lions Wayne, Bobbie, Chris, Jenny and myself all piled into Wayne's SUV and headed down to the metro station around 7:30 Saturday morning. I handed out a few extra metro cards, we increased the fare on them and headed through the turnstiles. Well, everyone went through the turnstiles except me! My card wouldn't work. So to make a long story short...After missing the Metro at Shady Grove, getting lost in a crowd of people at least twice, I finally caught up with the rest of the Lions. We must have arrived at Arlington later than Lion Tess and her group because we did not encounter the

long lines that she did. After decorating a few graves with wreaths we walked around and found Jenny's father's grave and Bobbie's parent's grave. We ran into crowds on our way back at the metro station. I just kept my eye on the yellow Lion vests and did not get lost!

It was a beautiful, cold day. And in my opinion it was also a very reverent experience. Like Lion Tess said "I would highly recommend participating in this event if you have the opportunity."

Lion Barbara Barry



HOLIDAY BASKETS

"Twas the day before Christmas Eve and all thru the Gladhill Showroom was a cluster of Lions, family members, friends and BSA Troop 445 waiting for the food, toys, clothes and gifts to be loaded into their sleighs. Even Santa was ready! Seems as though 8:30 – 9 o'clock was the magic time for the sleigh bells to jingle. But not before getting a bit of coffee and refreshment to carry them through their sleigh ride journey!

For the previous 8 weeks, preparation was being made to put the project in order for the deliveries. The Tradesmen Motorcycle Club had their Toy Run, the families were notified by mail that our Lions would be delivering food and gifts, Lion Chris had talked to each family verifying info, Shoppers invaded Kohl's for an outfit for each of the 52 children and towels for each family as well as gift cards for the Teens, Lion were purchasing warm winter items for the families, gifts were being wrapped while the toys were sorted, Lions were asking the community to support our project either financially or by donating fruit and toothbrushes, while the Leo Clubs and NRC were holding canned food drives and Lions were signing up to work in all capacities to make the project successful. And during that time, we spent approximately 325 hours making it happen - Not counting the Leo Clubs time, the Tradesmen time nor the Gladhill employee's time.

It took more than 60 people to make the project happen – 28 Lions, 10 family member, 6 friends, 7 Boy Scouts and 10 – 12 Gladhill employees; Many working numerous days and times.

The out-of-the -pocket cost of the project was \$3,000. And to date, we have received \$2,210 in donations from Lions and merchants. Also donations were made by Butler's Orchard, Water's Orchard, Damascus Dental, Gladhill Bros., Safeway, Starbucks, The Tradesmen Motorcycle Club, and, of course, Kohl's generous 30% discount. Looking at the big picture – the project's estimated value as a \$ 11,000 plus one.

Thanks to all for giving of their time and energies to help others especially during the most busy time of the year! Much appreciation to ALL for a project with volunteers in abundance and thirty Happy Families! I continue to be honored to work with such wonderful people!

Lion Mary Frances Gosnell

Coordinator Holiday Giving Project

Very Funny...

A man and a woman were having dinner in a fine restaurant. Their waitress, taking another order at a table a few paces away noticed that the man was slowly sliding down his chair and under the table, with the woman acting unconcerned. The waitress watched as the man slid all the way down his chair and out of sight under the table. Still, the woman dining across from him appeared calm and unruffled, apparently unaware that her dining companion had disappeared. After the waitress finished taking the order, she came over to the table and said to the woman, "Pardon me, ma'am, but I think your husband just slid under the table." The woman calmly looked up at her and replied firmly, "No he didn't. He just walked in the door."

Damascus Lions Foundation

Happy Holidays Damascus Lions Club Members.

As the end of 2017 is approaching, have you thought about making a contribution to the Damascus Lions Foundation, Inc., a 401(3)c nonprofit organization. All monies received by the Foundation go back into the community.

Making a donation to the Damascus Lions Foundation, Inc. will help tremendously with our fund raising efforts. And with the tax law changes, your donation this year may make the most effective impact.

Consider making your donation towards a "Phantom Fund Raiser" without taking up any of your time or your energies!

Thank you for your consideration!

Happy New Year! Mary Frances Gosnell

Time to Celebrate

January Birthdays:

Bob Newlin	1/6
Bob Williams	1/13
Fran Burlas	1/19
Katie Holpuch	1/23
Ben Lewis	1/29

Partners in Service

None

January Anniversaries:

None

Upcoming Events

January 2 - Dinner Meeting/ Wesley Grove UM Church

January 9 - Board Meeting / Gladhill Bros

January 16 – Dinner Meeting/ Wesley Grove UM Church

Lion's Tale

Monthly publication
of The Lions Club of Damascus
P.O. Box 267

Damascus, MD 20872-2250

Printing by Dovetail

Damascus Lions Web Site:

<http://www.damascuslions.org>

[Damascus Lions Facebook](#)

<http://www.Facebook.com/DamascusLions>

Lions Information: (202) LIONS22



December Board Minutes

Attendees: Lions Patricia McKensie, Mary Francis Gosnell, John Washington, Tom Jackson, Tess Gladhill, Joy Schwab, Warren Schwab, Del Mayhew, Sue Saddath, Martin Carr, Joe Howerton

Meeting called to order 7:00PM

Board approved prior meeting minutes with no revisions.

Treasurers Report

Del Mayhew distributed the Treasurer's report and provided an overview. Report was approved by the board as presented.

Foundation P&L - Mary Frances Gosnell distributed the P&L and provided an overview. Report approved as presented.

Secretary's Report – Joe Howerton reviewed community correspondence received and sought assistance from the board to ensure LCI 5 Star reporting accuracy.

Committee Reports

Holiday project – Mary Frances Gosnell

Toys sorted including 4 bikes. Remaining items donated to Tessa's toys for tots. 10 Teams are ready to go. Pickup will be the 21st or 22nd and deliveries 23rd and there are enough volunteers committed. Santa will be visiting at least 2 of the bike recipients.

Mary Frances Gosnell suggested we invite the Tradesmen motorcycle club that collected the toys to a club meeting. Tess Gladhill invited Boy Scouts that assisted with cleaning up the medical equipment. (January 16th)

New Business

Tom Jackson reminded the board to submit any events we want advertised on the town signs.

White Cane will be April 25th – 28th not in May. Calendar needs to be updated.

Old Business

There is an opening on the board due to Neville Levi's seat. Marcia proposed Jennifer Renford-Allen as replacement board member. Board approves if Jennifer is willing. (Update-Jennifer Renford-Allen has agreed to serve)

The board approved that outstanding membership dues are waived for Helen Boyer.

Mary Frances recommended we reuse old award plaques received from former Lions.

Fundraising - There was an open discussion on future fundraising efforts. Pancake breakfast is not as successful and the event takes too much for the return.

Joe Howerton will reach out to Julie Swain about the future of Shredfest specifically securing a new truck sponsor.

Patricia McKenzie suggested big money bingo as a potential event.

It was agreed that a fundraising committee was necessary and will be formed.

Meeting adjourned 8:06PM – Secretary Joe Howerton