

**Damascus**

MD

# LION'S TALE



August 2019

[WWW.DAMASCUSLIONS.ORG](http://WWW.DAMASCUSLIONS.ORG)

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## **The President's Message**



*Can You Guess Where I am?*

Tell me and I  
forget, teach me and I  
may remember, involve  
me and I learn. --  
Benjamin Franklin

I love to learn new things and to participate in experiences that I learn from. For instance when I travel, I like to go on guided tours or listen to a speaker in the cities, parks and attractions I visit. I think our service as Lions is also a learning experience. Being involved in the community through our Lions service and through our programs, I have learned about other organizations, County services and local residents and businesses. With the programs I have planned this year, we will continue to learn about a variety of subjects. I hope you enjoy what the Program Director and I have planned for us.

I would also like to say thank you for all who participated in the Parade. In case you haven't heard (even though it was the hottest gossip at the Beauty Shop and at the Breakfast preparations), at 7:00 pm the night before the Parade I found out we did not have a ride. With the help of a member of the Tom & Ray's Coffee Club and Lion Roy Stanley, we pulled it off and looked good doing so! I would like to send a special thank you to Partner-in-Service Kathy Stanley and to her son, Kevin Stanley. We really do have a "Community that Cares"!

*QL Patricia McKenzie*

## JULY EVENTS

### July Pancake Breakfast- July 13

Celebrate Damascus brought hungry folks in early to partake of our smorgasbord breakfast. Ruppert Landscaping was our sponsor for the tickets as well as gave a generous donation. We witnessed the early morning coffee club skirting from table to table drinking their coffee enjoying the food as well as catching up on the overnight news! Many crowded around the tables with family as well. It was a nice weather day. We started running out of food at 10:15, the crowd had slowed down. By 10:40 we had scrambled eggs and pancakes as well as coffee and juice - Late comers were offered the two-item breakfast at \$5. We served 231 which is a record for the July breakfast. We worked a total of an estimated 210 hours to make it happen - Just think that is over 5 workday weeks. The bake table profited \$358. Our overall profit for the breakfast is \$2,741.20! Wow! Thank you to 24 Lions, 4 Partners-in-service, 2 Leos, and a prospective member who gave of their time, energy and resources to satisfy those morning appetites and resulting in reaching out to our Damascus Community.

Lion Mary Frances Gosnell

### Lions Flea Market - Celebrate Damascus 2019

Saturday began as a bright sunny day. As I arrived at the Damascus United Methodist Church - I stopped in at 5:30 am on the busy Lions preparing the Breakfast, dropped off some donuts & went out to greet the fleas for the flea market. The first ones to arrive were right on time at 6 am. Lion Tom Jackson while on his way to help with the pancake breakfast dropped off some goodies for our Lions Booth. Past King Lion Chris arrived with her truck of goodies for the Lions booth, which we unloaded & had ready to go by 8:30 am for the early buyers. The number of vendors were smaller - 9 paid & 2 for Lions. The crowd was steady for the best part of the day. Lion Vahe, John Washington & Jenny & possibly new members stopped by. Lion Marcia & Tom Jackson returned to help clean up shop. When all was done we got \$180 from spaces sold. \$209.85 from Lions Booth & had a special auction item at the meeting on July 16th that brought in \$118.00

more giving a grand total of \$507.85 from the fleas. Thanks to all who helped make it another success.  
Lion Tessie Gladhill

### Lions Camp Merrick

Damascus Lions Move On Down the Road... and Back Two o'clock in the afternoon may seem like an odd time to head out for dinner (not lunch), but when you're traveling 90 miles to dinner, that's when you need to leave. Five Damascus Lions joined 10 Leisure World Lions to participate in Dinner with the Campers at Lions Camp Merrick on Wednesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. A nicely air-conditioned bus is most definitely the way to make the trip. We sat back and chatted while the world passed us by. We arrived at camp around four o'clock and had a nice chat with 3 campers and a counselor during diabetic camp.

Simply put, the campers at Lions Camp Merrick love love love camp. It is the week during their year when they are just like everyone else, learn how to better cope with their diabetes, and forge deep and lasting friendships with other children who truly know what they deal with. For many of these campers, it is the first time since their diagnosis that they've been away from their parents for more than a school day. And for the parents, they can rest easy, knowing that their children are surrounded by people who know just what to look for and exactly what to do if there is an issue.

Many of the counselors are former campers – they like camp so much, they don't want to ever leave. The responsibilities of the counselors are great. They help the campers track their sugar levels and to understand how to adjust their eating habits to maintain a healthy body. They keep notebooks for each camper, tracking their levels and meals and activity. This goes on all day long and we got to see it in action during dinner as the counselors wrote down what each camper was eating. We met many children with insulin pumps and rather hi-tech tracking tools. The meal we were served was very tasty – salad, roast turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, dessert – and mealtime began with a call out of how many carbs to count for each item on the menu. Turkey was free – and welcomed with a big shout out by the children. After dinner, the campers gather around the flagpole and if anyone had a "first" for the day, they run around the circle and get high-fives from everyone. A

first can be anything from doing their own finger prick to administering their own insulin shots.

The pool wasn't functional the day we were there, so there was a slip-n-slide (think industrial sized) brought in to help them cope with the heat. It was a huge hit with both the campers and the staff. We were treated to a tour of the grounds and got to see first-hand where some help is needed with the facilities. The question of 'what do you do with all the money we give you' never seems to go away. But the camp is like a house. You can't just buy it and then not maintain it. With 15 buildings on the property, there is always something that needs mending or maintenance. Paint, roofing, repairing beds, all these things take money and/or elbow grease and like laundry, it seems that they are never all done. When you can see and hear what it means to the campers, you just want to do more for them.

The ride home was perhaps a bit quieter than the ride down to camp, but none of us fell asleep. Coming home never seems to take as long as going there. Lions Chris Fletcher, Mary Frances Gosnell, Marcia Holpuch, Wayne Marr and Bobbie Warfield were in total agreement that the time was well-spent. Every Lion should make the time to visit Lions Camp Merrick while camp is in session.

Lion Marcia Holpuch



## Sight Conservation Committee Activities of the Past Year

The Damascus Lions Club expended \$1,602 for thirteen financially strapped eye care patients in the Damascus/Clarksburg area during the Lions 2018-2019 fiscal year. Six of these sixteen cases were schoolchildren. Our Sight Conservation Committee

budget was \$2,500. When an individual has a prescription and is asking for help in obtaining glasses, we refer the individual to Damascus Eyeballs in the Damascus Weiss shopping center. When an individual needs a vision exam and eyewear, we refer the individual to Mt. Airy Eye Care in Mt. Airy. Referrals come from county social services organizations, the Damascus Senior Center, school health staff, the vision providers, and directly from the individuals needing services. This is a very fine offering of our Club to the financially-needy residents of Damascus and Clarksburg. We can be proud of our sight conservation service to our community.

Lion Wayne Marr

## *Campers Enjoying Lions Camp Merrick*



## **DID YOU KNOW that Lion Martin Carr**

...

Served in the National Guard for 10 years

Met his wife in the church choir and chuckles to say he sang better (as he trained for 5 years as an operatic voice)

When he and his brothers were young their parents would drop them off at the funerals of strangers telling them it would help them if a family member died

He has 4 children, 12 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren

## Upcoming Events:

### The Damascus Community Fair

POPCORN, ICE CREAM CONTEST, ASSISTING WITH  
ENTIRES, MEMBERSHIP ALL AT THE DAMASCUS  
COMMUNITY FAIR  
Thursday, Sept. 5 at 4 p.m. thru Sunday, Sept 8 at 4  
pm Mark your calendar now!!  
Sign up at the September 3 meeting to help!

### Time to Celebrate

#### August Birthdays:

Tom Didone	8/11*
Charlie Holpuch	8/21
Patricia McKenzie	8/25
Sandeep Somaiya	8/27

\*Significant Birthday!

#### Partners in Service

Joanne Breiner	8/16
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#### August Anniversaries:

George & Viola Hibbard	8/15 (60 yrs)
Dale & Scott Ryan	8/21 (37 yrs)
Warren & Joy Schwab	8/31 (59 yrs)

## Upcoming Events

**August 6** – Dinner meeting, Montgomery Methodist  
Church, 6:45 pm

**August 13-** Ice Cream Dipping, Montgomery County  
Fair for more information contact Lions Tammy or  
Charlie Hertel [chtelco@aol.com](mailto:chtelco@aol.com)

**August 17-** Road clean up, for more information  
contact Lion Tony Barry [daniel8bary@gmail.com](mailto:daniel8bary@gmail.com)

**August 20** - Board Meeting / Gladhill Bros

**August 22** – Blood Drive for more information  
contact Lion Charlie Hertel [chtelco@aol.com](mailto:chtelco@aol.com)

#### Lion's Tale

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# July Board Minutes

Damascus Lions Club ~ Board of Directors Meeting ~ 9 Jul 2019

Gladhill Brothers

Board Members:					
P. McKenzie, 1 <sup>st</sup> VP	X	Del Mayhew, Club Treas.	X	V. Aghamalian, Dir.	
C. Stone, 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP		C. Hertel, Tail Twister		J. Redifer-Allen, Dir.	X
W. Marr, 3 <sup>rd</sup> VP	X	T. Barry, Asst. T-Twister		C. Stone, Dir.	
J. Sain, 3 <sup>rd</sup> VP	X	W. Schwab, Tamer	X	T. Gladhill, Dir.	X
M. Holpuch, Secretary	X	J. Peters, Asst. Tamer		J. Howerton, Dir.	
S. Suddath, Asst. Sec.		G. Hibbard, Chaplain	X	J. Schwab, Dir.	X
M.F. Gosnell, Fdn. Treas.	X	T. Hertel, Membership		C. Fletcher, IPP	X

The board meeting was called to order by QL Patricia McKenzie.

**Treasurers Reports:** The June club report was submitted and approved. Foundation reports for May and June were submitted and approved. Lion Mary Frances reported that there is a CD coming due tomorrow for \$15K and should we renew, for 1 year or 2? No information on rates was available, but there is not a current need for the cash, so she is to use her best judgement.

Club	Foundation May	Foundation June
Income	606	3,685
Expenses	2,247	4,725
Net	-1,641	-1,040

## Secretary Report:

- Note that Bob Newlin's phone number is incorrect in the new roster book.

## Committees:

- **Flea Market:** Will be staffed starting at 6am. Need fleas and helpers.
- **Parade:** Meet at 6pm at DHS. Theme is Fire Safety and 1<sup>st</sup> Responders. To bring decorations for the truck and Lion George's granddaughter, Erica, has agreed to wear the Lion costume.
- **Pancake Breakfast:** Helpers and baked goods are needed
- **DVFD 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** QL Patricia to select a plaque to present at their party.

## Old Business:

- **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** The committee on history will be assembling some interesting tidbits in notebooks. Lion Marcia has a stack of sheet protectors to donate to the cause rather than buying new ones.
- **Campaign 100:** 2 Lions have made a pledge to this program. If there are others, please speak with Lion Mary Frances

## New Business:

- **Where Angels Play Foundation:** We received communication from them regarding building a playground in Gaithersburg in memory of the Gemmel family in September. This could be a community service project. More information is needed, how much money needs to be raised, how many helpers are needed, date(s), and who is responsible for ongoing maintenance and where does that funding come from?
- **Next dinner meeting:** Will be held at Country Meadows in Frederick, where Lion Martin Carr resides. Cost is \$15/person. We will have a game night. Warren will bring the PA system if needed.
- **Damascus HELP:** We will continue to collect food for Damascus HELP during this year.



- **Scholarships:** A thank you was received from Victoria Aghamalian for her scholarship. All checks were mailed out today.
- **Charitable Registration:** We have been approved for this year by the state of Maryland.
- **Medical Closet:** We need a couple more volunteers to help with transportation and assembly/pick up of equipment. It is more than a one-man job. We get requests from all over the region – well beyond our service area. Lion Julie suggested that we refer those that are not in our area to MediRents. Our agreement for storage of medical equipment has been located and is dated 1984 when we agreed to the sum of \$1,000 per annum. Motion made and passed to make a one-time donation of \$2,500 to the DVFD in recognition of their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and celebrating 35 years of medical equipment loans. QL Patricia to make that presentation at the banquet in September.

The meeting adjourned at 8:01pm  
Respectfully Submitted,  
~Marcia Holpuch, Secretary

## Parade Pictures !

