

Damascus

MD

LION'S TALE



April 2022

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email damascus.lions.club@gmail.com

Damascus Lions Club 2021-2022 Officers

President:

Wayne Marr

waynemarr@aol.com

1st V. President:

Joe Howerton

joehowertonsales@gmail.com

2nd V. President:

Charlie Stone

charles.stone@nih.hhs.gov

3rd V. President:

Carol Stone

carol.stone@fda.hhs.gov

Secretary:

Marcia Holpuch

damascus.lions.club@gmail.com

Foundation Treasurer:

Mary Frances Gosnell

mgosnelldamascuslions@gmail.com

Club Treasurer:

Del Mayhew

ddmayhew@verizon.net

Membership:

Chris Fletcher

chriswfletcher@verizon.net

Editor:

Barbara Barry

barrybar24@gmail.com

The President's Message



Have you checked out our Damascus Lions Club on the MyLion application, which is downloadable to your mobile devices? If you would check it out today, you would see that our club secretary has been very busy uploading information about our club. The

information found there is quite current. Download and open the app, press "Q" or "Discover", then press "Clubs", then type "Damascus" into the search bar and hit the search button. You will see an entry for "Damascus 8816". Touch that, and Voila! You are into our club information. Every Lion in the world has access to this information.

Now just navigate: Overview, Activities, Members, and Officers. Our activities listed include our blood drives, road pickups, un-wreathing, un-hanging wreaths, eyeglass collections, holiday baskets, and on and on, in reverse chronological order. Then check out the Members tab. Every Damascus Lion is listed, but only Lion Patricia McKenzie has her picture there! I'll get my picture there very soon. For kicks, I touched the "Blood Drive of March 03" on the Activities tab. Then, under the Metrics tab, I discovered that 97 people were served, there were three volunteers, and 9 volunteer hours were donated. All this information was provided by Lion Charlie Hertel to Lion Marcia Holpuch, I'm sure. At a recent 22-C meeting, our zone chairperson applauded our Damascus Lions Club for the many service activities we engage in. All of the 100+ district attendees heard his praises. He mentioned no other club in his brief speech. He got his information from MyLion. Pretty cool.

KL Wayne

MARCH EVENTS

Blood Drive- March 3

The Damascus Lions Club hosted its last blood drive for year 2021-2022 at the Damascus Grace Fellowship Seventh-Day Adventist Church on Thursday March 3rd, 2022. The Friday March 4th, 2022 drive was cancelled due to a staffing problems. We collected 39 units of blood for the American Red Cross on Thursday. This brings our total units for 2021-2022 = 299.

I would like to thank Lion Chris Fletcher and Lion Sue Suddath for helping work the blood drive.

We set up and broke down the hall, put up signage, helped donors sign up for future drives, worked the canteen and spoke to our donors about Lionism and some of our upcoming events.

Our next American Red Cross Blood Drives for 2022-2023 year are on Thursday May 5th and Friday May 6th, 2022.

After that they are: Thursday July 7th and Friday July 8th, 2022

Thank You,
Lion Charlie Hertel

Kites Over Clarksburg- March 26

Kites Over Clarksburg was held on Saturday, March 26 at Ovid Hazen Wells Parks.

We experienced all kinds of weather - cold temperatures, blustery winds, sunshine and even snow! The weather didn't deter the festival goers. The sky was filled with an array of colors and shapes of all kinds of kites.

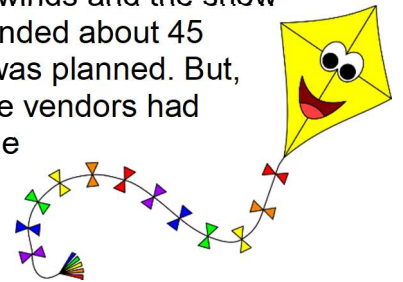
I would like to thank Lion Joe Howerton for joining me at the Lions information table. We spoke to a few visitors about the Lions Club and also to a few teenagers about the Leos Clubs. We had flyers about LCI's Ukrainian Relief, our Blood Drive on May 5th and 6th, and the Shred Fest on May 7th. I tried to put up our picture display of the activities of the

Lions Club but the wind was so strong that it would not stay up. The winds even blew the canopy away.

Participants of the Festival were asked to bring can food to be donated to Germantown/ Damascus Help or used glasses and hearing aids to be donated to the Damascus Lions Club. (12 pair of glasses were collected.). For each item that a person donated, they would receive a raffle ticket to enter to win prizes from local sponsors. 2 Gift cards were donated for the raffle by the Lions Club. One of the gift cards that was raffled off was won by ours truly. I donated the card back to be raffled off later in the day. Wouldn't you know it, I won the same card again at the second raffle!

Because of the high winds and the snow flurries, the festival ended about 45 minutes earlier that was planned. But, even after most of the vendors had packed up and left the park, there were some die-hard kite flyers still out in the field.

Lion Chris Fletcher



Lions Visit Thurmont Bingo- March 19

On Saturday March 19 Lions Carol Stone, Chris Fletcher and Barbara Barry traveled up Route 15 to Thurmont to play Bingo and support the Thurmont Lions Club Bingo Fundraiser. Lion Carol reserved our tickets ahead of time which turned out to be a good move. Most Bingo enthusiasts understand what cards to buy, what games will be played (regular bingo, letter L, etc.) and it is a must to purchase the King Tuts. My definition of the Bingo King Tut is, they are like the Lottery Scratch-Offs except you tear off the numbers to see your prize. A friend of Carol's did very well with her King Tuts.

The Thurmont Lions Club also sell their home made foods and desserts adding to their very profitable night. We were able to enter a drawing for many baskets of goodies. Lion Carol won the Dog basket. Lion Chris and Lion Barbara actually won a game of Bingo – a first for Lion Barbara! It was a fun night for all!

Lion Barbara Barry



Auction Night- March 15

Going once...

After a 2 year hiatus, it was a joy to resume our in-house auction this year. We had 10 pre-registered donors and 4 more arrived with contributions to the auction listing. We were fortunate to have visitors from New Market who were interested in seeing just how we do our auction. They weren't just observers, they were buyers, too! We had a total of 18

bidders in the house and a catalog of about 70 items. That's not counting each and every wine glass, just the boxes. The kitchen crew even got involved this year, both as donors and buyers. What a fun time! Lion Charlie kept things moving along at a good pace and we finished up at a decent time. One of the kitchen staff made a donation of \$5 and said he hadn't had such a good time in a long while – and he was just watching.

Here's how we did...

Total Sales: \$1,275

Total Donations: 202

Total Income: \$1,477

Not bad for such a small crowd. Give yourselves a hand and start setting aside items for next year.

Lion Marcia Holpuch

22C Night –April 2

Several Caravans made their way from Damascus to Waldorf Maryland on Saturday night April 2, to attend this years District 22C Night to honor our District Governor Bill Lavelly. Thirteen Damascus Lions made there presence known at this formal event. Those Lions were: Lion Vahe Aghamalian and his partner in service, Barbara, Lion Eloise Woodfield, Lion Mary Frances Gosnell, Lion Chris Fletcher, Lions Marcia & Charlie Holpuch, Lions Barbara & Tony Barry, Lions Carol & Charlie Stone and KL Wayne & Bobbie Marr. Once we greeted our fellow lions we made our way to our table(s) to enjoy the festivities. The U.S. Armed Forces Color Guard did the Presentation of Colors followed by the National Anthem and Pledge to the Flag. Then we sat back and enjoyed the lovely music by the 22C Honor Band directed by Craig Potter, Assistant



Director of Bands from the University of Maryland. Our one and only Lion Charlie Holpuch played his tuba along with the band!

Lion Marcia then presented some of the band members with scholarships, see article below. We all enjoyed the dinner consisting of delicious chicken and rice or beef and roasted potatoes. After the meal there were plenty of introductions and presentations. Most of us would agree that the Keynote Speaker, Gwen White, was one of the highlights of the evening. She had all of us laughing in our seats to her southern humor. And it was touching how she tied it all together by making it about community service.

The clock was ticking as we needed to be finished by 9 pm but Governor Bill assisted by FVDG Maxine Hooker and Don Beesom were able to make some very impressive Presentations. Yours truly, Lion Barbara Barry received the District 22C Honor Roll Recognition AND my partner in service, Lion Tony Barry received the Ambassador of Service from the Heart Award!!!!

Our drive home encountered little traffic and most of us were home by 10:30 pm. A great evening was had by all!

Lion Barbara Barry

(See Pictures on page 5)

22C Night – Honor Band- April 2

The 2022 22-C Night welcomed the return of the Honor Band. It was an elite group this year, with only 13 students. As usual, Damascus nominated a dozen students, but only 3 participated. Of those 3, 2 were graduating seniors and eligible to audition for scholarships. Both of the seniors played in the band the last time the band played in 2019. There was no C-Night celebration in 2020 or 2021. We still solicited nominations from the high schools and commitments from students for those 2 years and we continued

to hold virtual auditions and presented real scholarships even though there was no 22-C Night affair. Students who were underclassmen were given credit as though they had played. After all, it wasn't their fault that there was not an opportunity to play.

Both Damascus students won scholarships:

Nicholas Spring, Bassoon, \$1,000

Kevin Bowers, Percussion, \$1,500

In order to be eligible for a scholarship, students must have played in the band at least one year prior to their senior year and be a graduating senior. Auditions are held and judged by University of Maryland music graduate students. They score the auditions on 6 criteria, including musicality, tone, phrasing, dynamics, and playing scales. They do not know what school the students attend and their decisions are as objective as they can be.

When Lion Joe McClelland passed away last summer, his family designated the Honor Band to receive memorial donations. Donations were received from clubs and individuals across the country who had been touched by Lion Joe and his many years of service. These donations totaled nearly \$1,000. Lion Joe chaired the Honor Band in excess of 30 years. He was dedicated to the band and the students who participated. In recognition of Lion Joe's dedication, the Joe McClelland Memorial Scholarship was presented to Kevin Bowers of Damascus. Kevin was the only member of the band who played or registered to play all 4 years of his eligibility.

Nick is already registered to attend Virginia Tech this fall.

Our Damascus club has always been a generous contributor to this program.

Lion Marcia Holpuch



Top Left: Lions Chris, Vahe and spouse Barbara, Lions Barbara, Eloise, Mary Frances and Key Note Speaker, Gwen White.

Middle Left: Band Director Craig Potter and the District 22C Honor Band

Bottom Left: Lions Marcia & Charlie Holpuch, Band director Craig Potter, and the scholarship recipients.

Top Right: The Damascus Lions Club!

Middle Right: Lion Tony Barry receiving his ambassador of Service from the Heart Award

Time to Celebrate

April Birthdays:

Marcia Holpuch	4/7
Tom Jackson	4/18
John Ampiah-Addison	4/24

Partners in Service

Jennifer Molesworth (Ray)	4/11
Kathy Stanley (Roy)	4/22
Cathy Hyman (Rob)	4/30

April Anniversaries:

Bob & Joanne Breiner	4/25 (35 yrs)
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Upcoming Events

April 5 – 6:45pm, Dinner meeting at Wesley Grove UMC

April 13 – 7:00 pm Board meeting at Gladhill's

April 19 – 6:45pm, Dinner meeting at Wesley Grove UMC

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P.O. Box 267

Damascus, MD 20872-2250

Damascus Lions Web Site:

<http://www.damascuslions.org>

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