

LION'S TALE

August 2022

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The President's Message



Dear Damascus Lions: I can't say my tenure has gotten off to the start I had hoped. You may have read that only two weeks after taking the gavel I was diagnosed with heart failure. This was obviously not something I anticipated at my age but I was heartened by an

outpouring of support from Lions, other friends and family. Initially I may be limited in some ways but I intend to fulfill my role the best I can.

It was wonderful seeing the return of Celebrate Damascus and participation by the Lions, just one more step back to normalcy!

A reminder that our first dinner meeting is at Montgomery United Methodist Church. We also have a Senior Birthday Party and Ice Cream dipping at the fair this month. A special thanks for Lions Sue Suddath and the Hertel's for making these events possible, please offer your time if you can. Ice cream dipping does not have as much support from other clubs this year so it's critical we have broad participation. Please note the most current calendar can be found not only in the Lion's Tale but in the email signature from any recent Damascus Lions Club email. There is also a link to submit service hours there whether related to Lions or not. Happy Summer!

KL Joe

JULY EVENTS

Lions Club Summer Picnic- July 5

Are we having a picnic or are we not having a picnic? That was the question on Tuesday July 5, for the Damascus Lions Club. As the time approached for the picnic, so did the rain in the early afternoon. But, by the 5:00 pm hour the rainy weather went on its merry way and only the clouds were hanging around, so picnic we did! After a somewhat brief meeting session, a group of 30 members, family and friends enjoyed a big ole fashion bar-b-que picnic from Mission Bar-B-Que of Germantown. Thanks to Mary Frances for the crackers, cheese & fruit appetizer plate to begin our meal as we mingled and talked. How about a big Super Sweet thanks to Sue for all of her homemade pies-lemon meringue, peanut butter. Her cakes-carrot, chocolate, coconut & pound complete w/ fresh strawberries & whipped cream. Plus, cookies too! Thanks again to the Stanley's – Roy for his transportation (in such a beautiful green & yellow gator umm.... wonder where he got that?) to get to and from the pool and picnic area, Kathy for the hospitality and hosting duties, Peggy Easterday for all her great talent of keeping everything organized. We all were so happy to enjoy an evening of fun and food at such a lovely home with a terrific view for our annual picnic again this year. For those of you who could not make it we are sorry because this is one of our events where you do not have to do anything but show up and eat and enjoy yourself.

Lion Tess Gladhill



Blood Drive - July 7 & 8

The Damascus Lions Club hosted a blood drive at the Damascus Grace Fellowship Seventh-day Adventist Church on Thursday July 7th and Friday July 8th, 2021. We collected 55 units of blood for the American Red Cross. I would like to thank

Lions Chris Fletcher, Sue Suddath, Bob Snapp, Ray Molesworth and Wayne Marr for helping work the blood drive. We put up signage, helped donors sign in, worked the canteen and spoke to our donors about Lionism and our upcoming events. Our next blood drives are on Thursday September 8th and Friday September 9th from 10am to 3:30pm.

Lion Charlie Hertel

Measures and Marking- July 7 Fleas and Rain – July 9

A really energetic and lively group of Damascus Lions (Tom, Jack, Warren, Mary Frances, Chris, & myself) showed up at the Damascus United Methodist Church front yard on Thursday promptly at 6pm (not 7pm, sorry Wayne) to mark off the flea vendor spots. Lion Warren and myself, with the trusty and bright paint markers and cans of paint began to mark the X's at each corner, as directed by Lions Tom, Mary Frances, & Chris who measured out the spots using Lion Tom's terrific tape measures. Within 30 minutes we had 20 perfect vendor spots marked and measured. We were ready for Saturday.

Now on to Saturday, the flea market and rain are not a good combination. It had rained on Friday night before the flea market and was just cloudy by 6am on Saturday as some of the flea vendors started to arrive and drag out their wares and set-up. We had 15 flea vendor spots spoken for including our Lions booth. A few of the vendors (3) had watched the weather better than some of the others and stayed away. Well, the rain started as a drizzle about 9am and picked up as the morning as the day passed. After about 1 and half hour or so later, four of our most rain resistant Lions (Mary Frances, Chris, Carol, Bob) began to pick up & pack up as the rain showed no signs of stopping anytime soon. As the day went on and only a few fleas coming around to spend money, the flea vendors followed the way of our Lions, we are such good leaders, decided to head out to a drier place. By 3:30pm there were only 2 really rain resistant flea vendors left (one being the girl scouts with the beautiful & delicious baked goods) they came prepared as scouts do, with a canopy that had side curtains which helped to keep them very dry all day- and another lady and her daughter with her jewelry of various kinds, began to pack it up and call it a day also.

Although this was not one of our better days for the annual flea market, we still added \$280 for flea vendor spots & \$51 of sales, which were Lions donated treasures, to our till of money for the Damascus Lions Club. Thanks again to all Lions who helped me out.
Lion Tess Gladhill

Celebrate Damascus Parade- July 8

It was a wonderful evening to Celebrate Damascus. Ten Lions gathered at the DHS parking lot to decorate our float. There was no particular theme for this year's parade, so we highlighted some of the service activities that we provide to the community: Medical Equipment, Wreath Hanging, Road Cleanup, Eyeglasses and Hearing Aid Collection, Supporting Youth, and Blood Drive. After decking out the float, we enjoyed a delicious dinner consisting of subs, popcorn, cookies and water. Thank you Lion Mary Frances! Lion Tony drove his "new" truck decorated with the sign that read "Damascus Lions Care In memory of Chief Emeritus S. Darren Long". That sign will be donated the fire department. And Lion Roy drove the gator and wagon. Lion Charlie donned the Lions costume to the delight to both young and old. A special thanks to Lion Roy, who provided door-to-door service for those of us who had parked back at the beginning of the parade route. Thank you to all the Lions who came out to participate in the Celebrate Damascus Parade: Lions Wayne and Bobbie Marr, Tony and Barbara Barry, Charlie and Tammy Hertel, Roy Stanley, Mary Frances Gosnell, Jack Peters and Chris Fletcher.
Lion Chris Fletcher



Frederick Keys Ballgame – July 22



It was a hot Friday night in Frederick as many Lions and friends and family attended the Frederick Keys game. Before the game we had a tented picnic that included pulled pork, hotdogs, and hamburgers with all the fixin's

(condiments, onions, tomatoes, lettuce etc). It eventually cooled down enough for us to enjoy the game from the bleachers. Unfortunately the Keys did not win, but the display of fireworks at 10 pm was magnificent. I want to thank those for attending ~ it was a fun night for everyone!

Lion Tess Gladhill



Sight and Hearing Conservation Committee - 2021-2022

The Damascus Lions Club expended \$927.00 over the past year to help nine financially-strapped eye care patients in the Damascus/Clarksburg area. Six of the nine vision cases were children. Our Committee budget was \$2,500. When an individual has a vision prescription and just needs help in obtaining glasses, we assign the individual to Damascus Eyeballs in the Damascus Weiss shopping center. When an individual needs both a vision exam and eyewear, we DID assign the individual to Mt. Airy Eye Care in Mt. Airy. Both of

these providers give us special low rates for the cases they receive from our Club. Our vision cases come to our attention from: county social services organizations, the Damascus Senior Center, school health staff, vision providers, and directly from individuals needing services. In June, Mt. Airy Eye Care informed me that they did not want to receive any further referrals from our Lions Club. I have engaged Montgomery Village Eye Center for those patients who require both exams and glasses. This change actually works well for us, because this new (to us) provider has staff on hand who speak Spanish. We greatly needed a Spanish-speaking provider. In mid-fiscal year, our District 22C decided that it had the funds to support sight conservation expenditures on patients who reside in the 22C area, but who do not reside precisely within the realm of any particular club in the district (in our case: within Damascus or Clarksburg). This decision will be very helpful to the administration of our sight conservation program. 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 and hearing conservation service to our community.

Lion Wayne Marr

Road Cleanup - July 23

On Saturday, July 23, 4 members of the Damascus Lions Club performed our bimonthly road cleanup of our adopted road, Valley Park Drive. The tall grass on the south side of the road made it impossible to pick up any trash. I have reached out to the county in hopes they will send out a grass cutting crew. Nothing significant was found in our endeavors. Our next road clean up is September 3 – we may try to tackle a section of “downtown” Damascus. I want to thank Lions Ray Molesworth, Bob Ippolito and Barbara Barry.

Lion Tony Barry



Upcoming Events:

Pancake Breakfast

Mark your calendars for our famous Pancake, Sausage and Scrambled Egg Breakfast for Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022. It will be held at the Wesley Grove United Methodist Church Educational Building. Breakfast will be served from 7 am to 11 am.

The Breakfast Committee has met and is making plans. Each member will be contacted to encourage a commitment in assisting with the preparation, cooking and serving.

The price of a ticket is \$15 and will be available at the August 2 meeting for presale.

Our plea for help is in realizing that our abled body members are dwindling, thus, we will need a longer commitment time from all. Our preparation work begins on Friday at 9 am and our cooking starts on Saturday at 5:30 AM. Both days should conclude around noon.

We encourage Lions to offer assistance with advertising, pre selling tickets, bake table donations and preparing the smorgasbord menu for our community. Sign-up sheets will be available at the Sept. 6 meeting.

Our committee looks forward in continuing this traditional fund raiser started by our forefathers. Our hope is that you will see it as a worthwhile commitment as well.

Lion Mary Frances Gosnell

The Damascus Community Fair

The Damascus Community Fair will be held September 9, 10 and 11 at the Damascus Vol. Fire Dept. Activities Grounds. Damascus Lions will be popping fresh popcorn for the fair goers to enjoy! We have provided this treat to fair goers for over 20 years. Membership Chair Chris will be on hand to talk to fair goers about Lions and how they serve the community.

We will need Lions to help us from 8 am to 8 pm Friday, 11 am to 8 pm Saturday and 11 am to 3 pm Sunday. It takes 4 Lions to keep the process moving smoothly at all times. A sign-up sheet is below for the time slots for members to sign up and it will be available at the Sept. 2 Dinner Meeting as well.

Lion Tess Gladhill can use help with the entries on Thursday evening as well.

DAMASCUS COMMUNITY FAIR POPCORN SIGNUP SHEET

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2022

8 AM – 11 AM 4 Lions

1 PM – 6:30 PM - 4 Lions

6:30 PM – 8 PM 4 Lions

Time subject to change due to school tour decision!		

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2022

11 AM – 2 PM – 3 Lions

2 PM – 5 PM – 4 Lions

5 PM – 8 PM 4 Lions

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

11 AM – 1 PM – 4 Lions

1 PM – 3 PM - 4 Lions

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Ideally, need 4 people per shift

Sign- up to take Entries Thursday, Sept. 8

4 pm – 6 pm

6 pm – 8 pm

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