

DAMASCUS LION'S TALE

February 2008

WWW.DAMASCUSLIONS.ORG

Volume 58 - Number 8

The President's Message

It is with **heavy** heart your King must inform you of the imminent death of the Damascus Lions Club. It was a dark day in January when we had our prospective member night and only 35 of you showed up. WOW! What a turnout. There were 2 new people here to see how we conduct our meetings. Let's see, it must have been snowy, rainy, cold and stormy night...no wait...it wasn't!



Well, anyway, if we wait long enough the problem will just go a w a y...

Back to the present, let's not forget that we are having the Pancake Breakfast on March 1st. It's early this year - but a lot of things are going to be early. Easter is March 23rd. WOW, I can't ever remember it being before my birthday. Sure cuts down on the presents, oh, wait, that's not Easter.

Did you give blood? It doesn't hurt. Look at all the smiling faces on our website photo gallery. Everyone seems so happy and they get food too. Thanks to Lion Charlie Hertel for all your years of service. Thanks to Ledo's for the pizza to feed the helpers, thanks to the Leos for helping out and thanks Damascus for your blood. (And the ever-present Lion Mary Frances was there giving out popcorn.)

I wonder who is going to get the President's Lion award this time?

Say, if you haven't looked at our website lately (www.damascuslions.org) you may see someone you weren't expecting. Our webmaster has done a great job and the photo gallery is especially interesting. Are you in any of the photos? It's good to reminisce on a cold winter's day and see the fun we've had so far this year. You can access the online membership roster with the following login information:

User Name [blocked on website issue of the LT]

Password: [blocked on website issue of the LT]

If you see any mistakes or broken links - or have photos or information you would like to have posted

on the website - please email it to admin@damascuslions.org.

We still have five months to go and many more activities: White Cane Day, Highway Clean up, Pancake Breakfast, Big Band Dance (that's April 19th, please change you calendar), 22-C Social, Golf Tournament, Give more Blood, Youth Night and remember to start putting together something interesting for our auction. It's just around the corner and you may get to buy back what you sold last year. Wouldn't that be great - or not!

So let's review again...we're not dead yet, just slowly fading away. Some of our Lions spend the winter in Florida, although I can't imagine why. Some move away - like to Thurmont or Ohio. Hey, I know - we could say that in order to leave this club, you must find a new, younger replacement. I don't know...if you have a better idea, I am open to suggestions.

Until then...I remain your faithful King, President, Lion Gary.

January Blood Drive

By Lion Charlie Hertel

We collected 103 units of blood at our last drive on Monday Jan. 21, 2008 for Lions year 07-08. This brings our yearly total to 431.

Thank You to all who helped with this drive. Thank You Lion Mary Francis for the popcorn. Thank You to Lion Marcia for the Avon basket. Thank You to the Damascus High School Leo's Club for all the support in the canteen. Thank You to my family for all there help (Mom & Dad) (Tammy) (Nieces: Lynly & Hayley). Thank You to Ledo's for the great pizza pies. Thank You to Lion Tom for the signage. Thank You to my ARC coordinator, Pamela. Thank You to all the Lions for making calls, helping setup, working in the canteen and giving blood.

Our next drive is Monday March 17, 2008.

Reminder: Secretary Ken needs to know about your community work so he can include it in his monthly report. Give a call or send an email.

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Upcoming Events

Feb. 5 – Dinner Meeting at Wesley Grove UMC (6:45)
Feb. 12 – Board Meeting at the Rec. Center (7:00)
Feb. 19 – Spouse Night at Wesley Grove UMC (6:45)
Mar. 1 – Pancake Breakfast at Damascus UMC
Mar. 4 – Dinner Meeting at Wesley Grove UMC (6:45)
Mar. 11 – Board Meeting at the Rec. Center (7:00)
Mar. 17 – Blood Drive at DFVD Activities Bldg.
Mar. 18 – Dinner Meeting/Auction – Wesley Grove (6:45)
Mar. 22 – Road clean-up; 8:00 at McDonalds
Apr. 1 – Dinner Meeting at Wesley Grove UMC (6:45)
Apr. 8 – Board Meeting at the Rec. Center (7:00)
Apr. 9–12: White Canes
Apr. 15 – Dinner Meeting at Wesley Grove UMC (6:45)
Apr. 19 – 22C Social at Waldorf Jaycees

For an early view and for a full color edition of the newsletter, go to our website at www.damascuslions.org.

Birthdays

Lions:

Feb. 20 - Ken King
Feb. 21 - Ray Sicotte

Partners-in-Service

Feb. 6 - Julie Sain
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

Joke (?)

Submitted by Lion Marcia Holpuch

A woman was leaving a convenience store with her morning coffee when she noticed a most unusual funeral procession approaching the nearby cemetery. A long black hearse was followed by a second long black hearse about 50 feet behind the first one. Behind the second hearse was a solitary woman walking a pit bull on a leash. Behind her, a short distance back, were about 200 women walking single file. The woman couldn't stand her curiosity. She respectfully approached the woman walking the dog and said, "I am so sorry for your loss. I know now is a bad time to disturb you, but I've never seen a funeral like this. Whose funeral is it?"

"My husband's."

"What happened to him?"

The woman said, "My dog attacked and killed him."

"Well, who is in the second hearse?"

"My mother-in-law. She was trying to help my husband when the dog turned on her."

A poignant and thoughtful moment of silence passed between the two women. "Can I borrow the dog?"

"Get in line."

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

1/8/2008

King Lion Gary Rogers called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Present were Gary Rogers, Eloise Woodfield, Mary Frances Gosnell, Charlie Stone, Sue Suddath, Bill Mahylis, Martin Carr, Del Mayhew, Tucky Woodfield,, Dale Ryan, Marcia Holpuch, Joy Schwab, George Hibbard and Ken Phillips.

The minutes from the December Board Meeting were read, reviewed and approved as read.

Bill Mahylis presented the Club Treasurer report. After some discussion the report was accepted as presented. As in past reports, income continues to run slightly behind budget but expenditures are also behind budget with a net of \$ 1830.00 for the year to date.

Mike Thornett presented the report for the Foundation. Both Income and Expenses were reported to be within budget. The report was accepted as presented.

George Hibbard presented the results of the Audit Committee's review of the Club and Foundation Financial status as of the end of 2007. The committee concluded that the year-end data fairly and accurately represented the assets and financial activities and transactions during 2007. The reports were accepted as presented to the board. A copy of the reports can be made available to any member who would like to review it.

The board voted to remove three members from the club roles. George Bolling was transferred to the Thurmont Club. Ira Kogod has moved out of the area with no forwarding address and was removed. Roy Flowers emailed his resignation and was removed.

Under old business, the donation to Damascus High Music Department was again tabled because Lion Charlie Holpuch was not available to speak to the board about the planned trip and the fund raising efforts that are ongoing.

Joy Schwab reported that she is still working on the details for the establishment of a Hyatt Award.

Under new business, King Lion Gary recommended that members consider attending the Leadership Training at Emmitsburg in February.

Reminders for upcoming events were given. On February 28th, there will be a Region Social in

Clarksburg. The Big Band Dance is scheduled for the 19th of April and will be on the same night as 22-C Night. On May 3-4, the Club will again participate in the Relay for Life event.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50.

Submitted by Ken Phillips, Secretary

Bull Throwers Award Committee

By Lion Ken Phillips

The Bull Throwers Award Committee is still looking for recommendations from the membership for Lions to be considered for this award. Look at last month's Lions Tale for details but, in summary, nominees have to have been Lions for 10 years with outstanding service to the Club, the Community and the District. Get your recommendations to Lion Ken, Lion Marcia or King Lion Gary.

Nominating Committee Notice

By Lion Ken Phillips

The Nominating Committee (Past Presidents Ken, Marcia, Tucky, Mary Frances and John) will be meeting in February to develop a slate of officers for 2008-2009. If you want to volunteer or suggest someone for a position, let the committee know. The slate will be presented to the club at the first meeting in March and published in the March Lions Tale. The election will take place during the meeting on April 1st.

Holiday Wreaths

By Lion Charlie Hertel

Holiday Wreaths were removed just after the new year by Lion Barbara Barry and spouse Dan, along with help from their son. Barbara and family asked for no help from our club; in fact, some of us did not even know they were down.

The wreaths looked really good this year. Thanks again to Barbara and family, all the bulbs working and that made the wreaths bright!! Thank you to the Lions.

Spring Pancake Breakfast

By Lion Joy Schwab

Our pancake breakfast will be on March 1, rather than the date in the calendar. It will be at Damascus UMC as usual; serving hours are from 7am to 11am. But we need help from about 6am until noon for set-up and clean-up. I'll be gathering volunteers at the February 5 dinner meeting.

Community Sign Committee Report

By Lion Tom Jackson

The Community Sign Committee meeting was held Saturday, Jan. 26. At that meeting plans were made to refurbish the signs (the display area has seriously deteriorated) and the 2008 allotment of signage weeks was made to the member clubs.

We Lions have 11 weeks: Jan. 13–19 (blood drive); Feb. 24–Mar. 1 (spring pancake breakfast); Mar. 16–22 (blood drive); Apr. 6–12 (White Canes); Jun 1 – 21 [3 weeks] (Golf tournament and blood drive); Sept. 7–13 (blood drive); Oct. 12–18 (if need for the fall pancake breakfast); Oct. 26 – Nov. 1 (if needed for the pancake breakfast); and Nov. 16–22 (blood drive). I was unsure when the fall pancake breakfast will be held.

With 5 members now – the Damascus Heritage Society has just joined – nearly all the other weeks are allocated to some other club.

Test to see how smart you really are.

The following short quiz consists of 4 questions and will tell you whether you are qualified to be a professional. Scroll down for each answer. The questions are NOT that difficult. But don't scroll down UNTIL you have answered the question!

1. How do you put a giraffe into a refrigerator?

The correct answer is: Open the refrigerator, put in the giraffe, and close the door. This question tests whether you tend to do simple things in an overly complicated way.

2. How do you put an elephant into a refrigerator?

Did you say, Open the refrigerator, put in the elephant, and close the refrigerator? Wrong Answer!

Correct Answer: Open the refrigerator, take out the giraffe, put in the elephant and close the door. This question tests your ability to think through the repercussions of your previous actions.

3. The Lion King is hosting an animal conference. All the animals attend.... except one. Which animal does not attend?

Correct Answer: The Elephant. The elephant is in the refrigerator. You just put him in there. This question tests your memory.

Okay, even if you did not answer the first three questions correctly, you still have one more chance to show your true abilities. Here it is:

4. There is a river you must cross but it is used by crocodiles, and you do not have a boat. How do you manage it?

Correct Answer: You jump into the river and swim across. Have you not been listening? All the crocodiles are attending the Animal Meeting. This question tests whether you learn quickly from your mistakes.

According to Anderson Consulting Worldwide, around 90% of the professionals they tested got all questions wrong, but many preschoolers got several correct answers. Anderson Consulting says this conclusively disproves the theory that most professionals have the brains of a four-year-old.

We've heard that a million monkeys at a million keyboards could produce the complete works of Shakespeare; now, thanks to the Internet, we know that is not true.

Robert Wilensky